

Media Release
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**ADELAIDE TO BE NATIONAL CENTREPIECE OF EARTH SCIENCE WEEK
BY HOSTING INAUGURAL GEOSCIENCE CONVENTION**

Adelaide is to be the central focus of Earth Science Week in Australia in October this year.

The city will witness the largest gathering of local and Asia-Pacific region geoscientists seen in Australia since 2012, when it hosts the inaugural Convention of one of the foremost Geoscience advocacy groups, the Australian Geoscience Council, from 14-18 October.

More than 2,000 delegates are expected in Adelaide over the five day forum, with headline speakers including an address by renowned US academic, Professor Matthew Huber from the Department of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences at Purdue University, Indiana.

Key areas of attention at the Australian Geoscience Council Convention (AGCC 2018) will be the untapped potential of Australia's regional north, smoothing out the booms and busts in our resources cycles, and the better management of our energy generation, feedstocks and energy security.

Main plenary sessions will address major issues currently impacting Geoscience, including the Earth's past and future climate; life origins and evolution; future resource security; geohazard risk and mitigation; and the future role of Geoscience in our society.

The scientific program's five themes and 55 sub-themes will focus on Geoscience topics across the key disciplines of mining, energy, engineering, environment and other related resource development skillsets.

Big Issues and Ideas in Geoscience

In particular, the Convention's program has set aside a full day – Tuesday 16 October – to enable robust promotion and discussion on the central theme of "*Big Issues and Ideas in Geoscience*".

The *Big Issues and Ideas* day is designed to highlight the fundamental role that Geoscience has as a major field of science throughout the Australasian-Pacific region, according to Convention Chairman, Dr Bill Shaw.

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“It is Geoscience that delivers the maps that support decision making, GPS positioning on people’s mobile phones, through to environmental monitoring and understanding the nation’s resource wealth,” Dr Shaw said.

“The Convention is not just about an opportunity to discuss scientific developments and emerging technologies, but new approaches to education and communication,” he said.

All eight members of the Council are backing the Convention, sponsored by Geoscience Australia. The members are themselves leading Geoscience industry groups and organisations in Australia, representing the interests of more than 8,000 professionals.

The Convention will occupy the entire East Building of the Adelaide Convention Centre.

For more information, visit www.agcc.org.au.

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ABOUT THE AGC

The Australian Geoscience Council (AGC) is the Peak Council of geoscientists in Australia. It represents eight major Australian geoscientific societies with a total membership of over 8,000 individuals comprising industry, government and academic professionals in the fields of geology, geophysics, geochemistry, mineral and petroleum exploration, environmental Geoscience, hydrogeology and geological hazards.

Their objective is to:

- Provide expert apolitical advice to governments on matters involving the Geosciences and their application;
- Promote the development of scientifically sound policies for effective Geoscience education and research; and
- Provide the Australian public with a greater appreciation of the economic, environmental and cultural values of the Geosciences.

The AGC comprises:

- Association of Applied Geochemists – Australian Branch (AAG)
- Australian Geoscience Information Association (AGIA)
- Australian Institute of Geoscientists (AIG)
- Australian Society of Exploration Geophysicists (ASEG)
- Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AusIMM)
- Geological Society of Australia (GSA)
- International Association of Hydrogeologists Australia (IAH)
- Petroleum Exploration Society of Australia (PESA)