

## International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS)

**Dr Laurance Donnelly**

*Chair, IUGS Task Group on Forensic Geology*

### **1 Aim and objectives of the IUGS Task Group on Forensic Geology**

The aim is **to develop forensic geology internationally and promote its applications**

The objectives are to:

1. Collate and disseminate data and information on forensic geology applied to policing and law enforcement, criminal, environmental and civil investigations.
2. Promote international meetings, seminars, conferences and training.
3. Develop a 'Committee' to act as principal advisers, collaborators and active participants.
4. Develop an international network whereby each 'member' will act as a principal contact in their respective country for the collation and dissemination of information on forensic geology.
5. Collate, make available and where appropriate review any existing documentation and publications in forensic geology.
6. Produce a document endorsed by the Committee to be called '**A Guide to Forensic Geology**'.

### **2 Proposed work plan**

The IUGS Task Group on Forensic Geology became established in Paris, at UNESCO Headquarters, on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2011.

The 5 years plan for the Forensic Geology Working Group is as follows:

- Task 1: Establish a committee and bank account.
- Task 2: Establish a web site for the management of the IUGS Forensic Geology Task Group. This will be populated with relevant data, information, contacts and key events.
- Task 3: Make arrangements for at least one meeting per year in 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 & 2015 in different regions of the world to discuss key issues in Forensic Geology, raise awareness, promote research, teaching, training and the operational deployment of forensic geologists.
- Task 4: Publish a document on '**A Guide to Forensic Geology**'.
- Task 5: First draft of 'A Guide to Forensic Geology' by early 2012 (to be confirmed).
- Task 6: Final draft of 'A Guide to Forensic Geology' by early 2013 (to be confirmed).
- Task 7: Presentation of draft of 'A Guide to Forensic Geology' for comments and approval to publish by late 2013 (to be confirmed).
- Task 8: Peer review of 'A Guide to Forensic Geology' by early June 2014 (to be confirmed).

- Task 9: Translation of 'A Guide to Forensic Geology' into other languages in 2014 (to be confirmed).
- Task 10: Global distribution of 'A Guide to Forensic Geology' from 2014 onwards (to be confirmed).

### 3 Finances

The Task Group should be self supporting.

The Task Group will receive part funding from IUGS.

The Committee members should be supported by their own organisations or personally.

Funds will be sought from other sources, particularly to support Committee members from developing countries and for the organisation and conduct of meetings, but, at this formative stage, it is not yet possible to give a detailed account of any funding sources. It is intended that finances should be discussed by the Committee members so that approaches can be made to potential funding organisations.

### 4 Governance

A Committee will be established. It will consist of representatives from major geographical regions of the world to give global coverage. This will include representatives of academia, industry, consultancy and the police. The Committee will consist of geologists that are appropriately qualified and experienced in forensic geology, selected forensic geoscientists, police officers and/or law enforcement agents (in active service or retired). Committee members should aim to meet at least once per annum and maintain regular e-mail dialogues between meetings. The agreed committee members are as follows:

Position	Name	Country	Affiliation
Chair	Laurance Donnelly	UK	Wardell Armstrong & FGG
Vice-Chair	Rob Fitzpatrick	Australia	CSIRO
Treasurer	Duncan Pirrie	UK	Helford Geosciences LLP & FGG
Secretary	Marianne Stam	USA	California Department of Justice
Webmasters	Jan Mahoney	USA	CSIRO
Information Officer	Elisa Bergslien	USA	Buffalo State College,
Geoforensic Law Enforcement Advisor	Mark Harrison	Australia	Australia Federal Police
Training and Publications	Alastair Ruffell	Ireland	Queens University Belfast
Communication	Lorna Dawson	Scotland	Macaulay Institute
Geological (trace) Evidence Advisors	Skip & Christopher Palenik	USA	Microtrace
Honorary Committee Member	Raymond Murray	USA	Forensic Geologist, Montana
Officer, USA	Bill Schneck	USA	Washington State Patrol Crime Lab
Officer, Latin America	Carlos Molina Gallego	Colombia	Instituto Nacional de Medicina Legal y Ciencias Forense
Officer, Europe	Rosa Maria Di Maggio	Italy	Servizio Polizia Scientifica
Officer, Russia	Olga Gradusva & Ekaterian Nesterina	Russia	Russian Federal Centre of Forensic Science
Officer, Middle East	Ahmed Saeed Al Kaabi	UAE	Abu Dhabi Police
Officer, Japan and Asia	Ritsuko Sugita	Japan	Criminal Investigation Bureau of National Police Agency
Officer, Australia and Pacific	James Robertson	Australia	University of Canberra
Officer, Africa	Roger Dixon	South Africa	Forensic Science Lab., South African Police Service
Officer, Canada	Shari Forbes	Canada	University of Ontario Institute of

			Technology
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## 5 Contact Details

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