## VISION

We will raise the profile of Geoscience to be pre-eminent in Australia and to be recognised as one of the great fields of general science with Physics, Chemistry and Biology.

# **MISSION**

The role of the AGC is to foster close relations between Geoscience learned societies and professional associations in Australia and to take concerted action for promoting Earth Sciences and their applications in the best interests of both our constituent organisations and the nation as a whole.



The Australian Geoscience Council comprises the following Australian Geoscience societies:



Petroleum Exploration Society of Australia Australian Geoscience Council Inc.

The Council of Earth Science Societies in Australia



# **STRATEGIC PLAN 2015 – 2020**

with

### **Examples of Specific Initiatives**

www.agc.org.au

# THE STRATEGIC PILLARS OF THE AGC

### **1. GEOSCIENCE EDUCATION**

#### 1.1 Support Public Education about Geoscience

- Initiate "Mawson Day" to recognise geoscience achievements
- Support the National Rock Garden
- Identify and promote geoscience champions as National Treasures

#### 1.2 Support Primary School Education

• Identify and support outstanding programs and their champions

#### 1.3 Support Secondary School Geoscience

- Australian Earth & Environmental Science Olympiad
- Teacher Earth Science Education Program and Earth Science Western Australia
- GeoEdLink newsletter for teachers
- Support the use of the Geoscience Australia Education Centre as a resource

#### 1.4 Support Tertiary Geoscience Education

- Manage the AGC/AAS Travel Fund for Young Geoscientists
- Support Australasian University Geoscience Educators Network

#### 1.5 Support continuing Education in Geoscience

• Encourage communication, consistency and mutual support between member organisations

#### 1.6 Policy Framework for Geoscience Education

• Collect and promote survey data on the status of geoscience education

## **2. GEOSCIENCE ADVOCACY**

#### 2.1 Proactive advocacy on key issues

- Endorse and promote the UNCOVER initiative
- Raise awareness at State and Federal level regarding geoscience training, employment and research funding issues. Gain leverage from member surveys
- Initiate touring speaker series for public lectures

# **2.2** Assist member organisations to communicate with the broader community

- Retain a media advisor who can be used by the AGC on behalf of membership groups
- Develop a policy for communication of issues that considers:
  - Apolitical representation
  - Advocacy to governments
  - Raising public awareness
  - o Facilitation, coordination, leadership
  - Social media
- Identify spokespersons with relevant expertise who can provide objective commentary on issues such as:
  - o Climate change
  - $\circ$   $\,$  Long-term water security
  - $\circ~$  Dry-land salinity and soil loss
  - o Geotourism
  - $\circ~$  Fracking and coal-seam gas
  - Long-term resource security

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## **3. GEOSCIENCE SUSTAINABILITY**

# **3.1** Facilitate synergy between member organisations

- Provide a forum for sharing of issues and information between member organisations
- Identify and develop leverage points for member organisations
- Explore and facilitate opportunities for resource sharing between member organisations
- Provide leadership, opportunities and forums to further the interests of Geoscience in Australia
- Improve connections and support between AGC, member organisations and academia
- Coordinate communication about third-party funding requests

#### 3.2 Governance of the AGC

- Review AGC operations (roles, constitution, etc.)
- Website content and social media presence

#### 3.3 Ensure the viability of the AGC

 Maintain financial resources above a sustainable level and develop a regular income stream

#### 3.4 Promote alignment with key stakeholder groups

- Young professionals, women in geoscience, other special interest groups (e.g. indigenous)
- Geoscience projects in developing countries; e.g. IUGS Resourcing Future Generations
- Collaboration with other overseas volunteer schemes; e.g. Engineers Without Borders

