



Association of Earth Science Editors 49th Annual Meeting Lawrence, Kansas, October 6 to 9, 2015

(Updated July 17, 2015)

The Association of Earth Science Editors' next annual meeting will be held in Lawrence, Kansas, October 6 to 9, 2015. Please join us for what's bound to be another great meeting, hosted this year by the Kansas Geological Survey, who hosted the 35th annual meeting back in 2001. We're looking forward to visiting the Great Plains state again and partaking in some of that famous Midwest hospitality. Arrive early, stay longer...see KU Jayhawks play Iowa State and Baylor, visit historic sites or museums, or spend time just shopping in beautiful downtown Lawrence.

AESE meetings are a great way to learn about geoscience editing, publishing and communication. Meetings are generally small in size and provide unparalleled opportunities to network with other editors, publishers and educators working in the geosciences.

This latest update contains information on

- [registration](#)
- [Lawrence](#)
- [getting to Lawrence](#)
- [hotel location and rates](#)
- [opening reception](#)
- [technical program and Call for Abstracts](#)
- [field trip](#)
- [banquet](#)
- [Web sites and recommended reading](#)
- [stay connected](#).

Any further updates will be distributed to members via email and also posted on AESE's Web site (www.aese.org). Be sure to check the Web site regularly if, for some reason, you are not receiving communication otherwise.

Registration

The [registration form](#) is now available and can be found at the end of this document and also on AESE's Web site. The deadline for early registration is September 1, 2015. Payment can be made either by mailing a check or money order to AESE's Business Office Manager (Mary Ann Schmidt), or online, using PayPal or a credit or debit card. Instructions can be found at the bottom of the form.

General Information about Lawrence

Lawrence, located in the middle of the continental United States, just a 30 minute drive west of Kansas City, is a multifaceted, culturally diverse city, offering all the attractions of a big city but with small-town hospitality. Just this year, it was named, by *USA Today*, as one of the "Ten Best Dynamite Day Trips" near a major urban center (Kansas City). Its downtown is a vibrant shopping, dining and entertainment district, with Massachusetts Street being thought of by many as one of the most beautiful main streets in America. The



University of Kansas campus

University of Kansas, located within the heart of the city, is thought to be one of the Nation's most beautiful, and it has had a major influence on the city since its founding in 1866.

The city's inspiring seal of a phoenix rising from ashes, and its motto, *From Ashes to Immortality*, reflects its determination to rebuild after Confederate guerrillas, in the Quantrill Raid of 1863, turned the free-state capital into a bloody and blazing inferno, leaving close to 200 men dead.

Getting to Lawrence

Lawrence is located on Interstate 70, about a 30 minute drive east of Topeka, the state capital, and west of Kansas City. Air travellers will want to set their sights on Kansas City International Airport (in Kansas City, Missouri); from there, it is a 45 minute drive to Lawrence by car.

The [eExplore Lawrence](#) Web site has detailed [transportation information](#) on how best to get to Lawrence. Additional information on [shuttle services](#) to and from the airport is available on the Kansas City International Airport Web site.

The Eldridge Hotel—Meeting Headquarters

Meeting central will be the charming, historic, recently renovated—and reportedly haunted!—Eldridge Hotel, located on the most historic corner in Kansas (Seventh and Massachusetts streets) right in the heart of great shopping and restaurants.

Hotel History

The hotel has certainly weathered the tests of time. Colonel Shalor Eldridge built the hotel after the original building on this site—the Free State Hotel—was burned to the ground by pro-slavery sheriff Sam Jones in 1856. After Quantrill's raid in 1863, which left the hotel in ashes once again, the Colonel promptly rebuilt the hotel, this time giving it the name The Hotel Eldridge, and until 1925, it was considered one of the finest hotels west of the Mississippi River. Deteriorating, the hotel was restored to its former elegance by a group of Lawrence business leaders, but by the late 1960s, downtown hotels were falling out of vogue, and the hotel was forced to close its doors in 1970, the building converting to apartments. In 1985, a Lawrence developer, with support from the city, resurrected the hotel, completely rebuilding the top 4 floors and converting them into 48 two-room suites. In 2004 the hotel was auctioned off to a group consisting of University of Kansas alumni and local investors, whose vision was to restore the historic hotel to its 1925 grandeur.

They say it is Colonel Eldridge's attachment to the hotel that keeps his spirit still lurking, specifically in room 506, which holds the building's original cornerstone. But fear not, he is a friendly ghost....

Staying at the Eldridge Hotel

The Eldridge is an all-suites hotel. A block of rooms (Deluxe King, Premiere King, Premiere Double, and ADA Compliant Queen suites) has been reserved at the hotel for meeting attendees, at the special rate of \$125 per night (plus taxes) for the four room types for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights (see note below regarding Friday night's rate). The **cut-off date** to obtain the group rate is **August 22, 2015**, so be sure to book before then. Remember to mention AESE when booking.

Please note: the rate for the night of Friday, October 9, will be \$209 (Deluxe King) or \$230 (Premiere King, Premiere Double and ADA Compliant Queen suites) (plus taxes) because of a University of Kansas football game on Saturday (please see note below regarding sharing rooms), and when you call to book the room, your credit card will be charged in full for Friday night. You will get a full reimbursement if you cancel before 45 days of the meeting.

Each suite includes a sitting area, bar area with sink and compact refrigerator, flat screen television, hair dryer, iron and ironing board, and complimentary wireless Internet access. Some rooms (Premiere Double) may have a sofa bed/cot, and there are a limited number of rollaway beds available (\$10 each). If interested in either of these, please inquire about availability when calling to make reservations. The hotel has two restaurants: Jayhawker Bar (serving lunch and happy hour meals), and TEN Restaurant (breakfast, lunch, dinner).

Room Sharing

Interested in sharing a room? In an effort to make this meeting as affordable as possible to everyone, we'd like to introduce a room-sharing initiative. If you are wanting or willing to share a room with someone—either for the entire meeting or just Friday night—and don't have a roommate in mind, please contact either Marg Rutka marg.rutka@ontario.ca or Karen MacFarlane Karen.macfarlane@gov.yk.ca and we'll make every effort to coordinate. Anyone willing to share their suite, please, we'd love to hear from you; perhaps consider getting a Double Suite.

Hotel Contact Information

The Eldridge
701 Massachusetts Street
Lawrence, KS 66044

Phone: 785.749.5011
Toll Free: 800.527.0909
Fax: 785.749.4512
Email: info@eldridgehotel.com
Web: <http://eldridgehotel.com>



Eldridge Hotel on Massachusetts Street, downtown Lawrence.

Opening Reception

The opening reception will be held Tuesday, October 6, from 7:00 to 9:30 pm in the [Jayhawker](#), the Eldridge's bar located on the main floor. Appetizers will be served. (...Tuesday drink specials: \$5 wines by the glass).

Technical Program

We're looking for abstract submissions! Details about the technical program and how to submit an abstract can be found in the [Call for Abstracts](#) document on the [AESE Web site](#). The submission deadline is July 31st. A list of *Confirmed Talks* will be kept up-to-date on our Web site. Please help us spread the word about how great this meeting will be.

The technical program is starting to take shape, with talks confirmed on the following subjects (see *Confirmed Talks* document on AESE's Website).

- publishing trends
- editing fundamentals; improving readability, clarity
- principals of design for effective communication
- geoscience outreach
- publication ethics
- publication challenges
- challenges facing professional societies
- geology and geoscience issues

Talks on other topics are most welcome. The technical program will take place on October 7 and 8.

Field Trip

The field trip will take place on Friday, October 9, leaving in the morning (7:30 am) and returning to Lawrence around 3:00 pm. Stops are planned at a road cut near Topeka to look for fossils; the Flint Hills Discovery Center in Manhattan, Kansas; and possibly a van tour of the Konza Prairie Biological Station and its bison herd.

Flint Hills Discovery Center www.flinthillsdiscovery.org

The Flint Hills is a band of hills formed by the erosion of Permian-age limestones and shales, encompassing over 50,000 km² in much of eastern Kansas, from near the Kansas–Nebraska border south into northeastern Oklahoma. Some of the limestones contain numerous bands of chert, or flint, and because chert is more resistant to erosion and dissolution than the limestone, weathering of the limestone has resulted in a soil that is clayey and full of cherty gravel. On these rocky uplands that are the Flint Hills, the nature of the soil and its thinness make plowing and, therefore, farming difficult, so the area became a principal grazing region for bison and now cattle.

The Flint Hills has been designated as a distinct ecoregion—and one of the world’s most endangered ecosystems —because it is the last major stand of the tallgrass prairie in North America, the last 4%, much of it unplowed, retaining its native characteristics. The tall grasses in this region are primarily switch grass, bluestem and Indian grass.

The Flint Hills Discovery Center, in downtown Manhattan, opened to the public in 2012 and is housed in a beautiful “green” building with large swaths of windows offering sweeping views of the downtown skyline. The center celebrates the importance of the geology, ecology and rich cultural history of the Flint Hills through permanent and temporary exhibits, documentaries, lectures, walking tours and educational programs. During our visit, a special exhibit, *Flint Hills Masters*, will be on, a collection of paintings and sculptures by more than 50 artists from around the world, celebrating and interpreting a sense of place and reverence for the Flint Hills landscape.

Konza Prairie Biological Station <http://www.konza.ksu.edu/>

The Konza Prairie Biological Station is one of four tallgrass prairie preserves in the Flint Hills. These 8616 acres of tall grass prairie are owned by the Nature Conservancy and Kansas State University, and managed and operated as a biological, field research station by the university’s Division of Biology, with the three-fold mission of long-term ecological research, education and prairie conservation. This protected area supports abundant and diverse species of plants, birds, reptiles and amphibians, fish, invertebrates and mammals, and is home to a herd of about 300 bison. Grazing, along with controlled burning and occasional drought are important in maintaining this grassland. The station is open to students and scientists from around the world; their research results assist grassland managers around the world.



The Flint Hills

(Photo from the Kansas Geological Survey website at <http://www.kgs.ku.edu/>. All Rights Reserved.)



Flint Hills Discovery Center



Bison herd grazing near controlled burning of tallgrass

Banquet Speaker

Jim Hoy, author and retired professor whose career often focused on the Flint Hills of Kansas, will be our banquet speaker. Hoy taught English, modern languages, and journalism at Emporia State University. His writing blends history, folklore, and memoir as he tells stories of the tallgrass prairie and its people. His work includes *Flint Hills Cowboys: Tales from the Tallgrass Prairie* and *Cowboys and Kansas: Stories from the Tallgrass Prairie*. Earlier this year, the Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation in Manhattan, Kansas, named Hoy and his wife, Cathy Hoy, recipients of the Friends of the Flint Hills award for their contributions to the cause of conserving the Flint Hills.



Konza Prairie

Web Sites and Recommended Reading

History of the Eldridge Hotel

[A room with a “boo” at Lawrence’s Eldridge Hotel](#)
[Eldridge Hotel – History and Hauntings](#)
[The Eldridge Hotel’s Story](#)

Information about Lawrence and events

[eXplore Lawrence](#)
[Downtown Lawrence](#)
[The Chamber, Lawrence, Kansas](#)
[University of Kansas Athletics](#)
[The Best of Lawrence](#) ; see this year’s [winners](#)

Flint Hills

[Flint Hills Discovery Center](#)
[Splendor of the Grass: The Prairie’s Grip \(great article, giving a feel for the landscape\)](#)
[Konza Prairie Biological Station](#)
[Konza Prairie Trip Part 3 – Questions About Frequent Prairie Burning](#)

Kansas geology

[Science in your backyard: Kansas \(USGS\)](#)
[GeoKansas \(KGS\)](#)
[Kansas geological map](#)

Kansas Parks

[Kansas State Parks guide](#)
[Kansas state parks](#)

Stay Connected for Up-to-Date Meeting Information

AESE Web site – <http://www.aese.org/shell.html>

AESE on Twitter – <https://twitter.com/AESErocks> (@AESErocks)

AESE on Facebook –

NEW *AESE Lawrence 2015* group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/818594164915460/>

(closed group for discussing travel plans, the program, things to see and do in Lawrence, etc.)

Regular AESE Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Association-of-Earth-Science-Editors/105615002834833>

AESE Blog – <https://geoeditors.wordpress.com/>

AESE on Pinterest – <http://www.pinterest.com/associationearth/>

The annual meeting is open to AESE members and non-members, anyone interested in earth science or science editing and communication. If you have any questions, would like more information, or have an idea for a talk, session or workshop, please contact the technical program chair, Marg Rutka at marg.rutka@ontario.ca. Program updates will be posted regularly on AESE's website at www.aese.org. Follow us, also, on Facebook, Twitter (@AESErocks), LinkedIn, or Pinterest for meeting updates as they happen.

Thanks are extended to Konza Prairie Biological Station and Flint Hills Discovery Center for use of photos from their Web sites.

About AESE

The Association of Earth Science Editors is an organization of editors, journal managers, and others concerned with publication in the earth sciences. The goals of the organization are to strengthen the profession of earth science editing; to foster education and improve communication in the earth sciences that will lead to more effective dissemination of earth science information to the scientific community, educators and students, and the public. Our members include editors of most of the North American earth-science journals, editing and publishing personnel with state/provincial and federal geological surveys and with commercial firms, editors of reports prepared for geological consultants and others interested in earth-science publishing.