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## **Student Chapter Annual Report Cover Page**

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VicePresident:	Margarita Melfou	melfoumv@geo.auth.gr	
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# ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023 AUTh SEG STUDENT CHAPTER



Submitted by:

Ioanna Alpi, President

and

Elisavet Varvari, Secretary

September 2023



## ARISTOTLE UNIVERSITY OF THESSALONIKI AUTh SEG STUDENT CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORT FORM 2022-2023

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

**YEAR REPORTED:** 2022-2023

CHAPTER NAME: AUTh SEG Student Chapter

STUDENT CHAPTER WEBSITE: https://authseg.wordpress.com

STUDENT CHAPTER E-MAIL ADDRESS: segweb@geo.auth.gr

STUDENT CHAPTER FACEBOOK PAGE:

https://www.facebook.com/AUTh.SEGStudentChapter

STUDENT CHAPTER INSTAGRAM: https://www.instagram.com/auth\_seg/ STUDENT CHAPTER YOUTUBE:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUug7pNrc\_VWHwUO2KBmkqA/feature d STUDENT CHAPTER ACADEMIC SPONSOR: Dr. Vasilios Melfos, Professor,

Department of Mineralogy, Petrology and Economic Geology, School of Geology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece

**STUDENT CHAPTER SPONSOR:** Dr. Thomas Sant, Exploration Manager, Conico Ltd

	Name	Title	E-mail address
1	Ioanna Alpi	President	ioannalpi@geo.auth.gr
2	Margarita Melfou	Vice President	melfoumv@geo.auth.gr
3	Elisavet Varvari	Secretary	evarvari@geo.auth.gr
4	Anastasios Kyriakos	Treasurer	axkyriak@geo.auth.gr
5	Eftychia Peristeridou	Other Exec. Member	peristee@geo.auth.gr

### **Outgoing Executive Committee 2022-2023**

#### Newly Elected Executive Committee 2023-2024

	Name	Title	E-mail address
1	Anastasios Kyriakos	President	axkyriak@geo.auth.gr
2	Nikoleta Passali	Vice President	npassali@geo.auth.gr
3	Eftyxia Peristeridou	Secretary	peristee@geo.auth.gr
4	Eleni Intzevidou	Treasurer	intzevie@geo.auth.gr
5	Margarita Melfou	Other Exec. Member	melfoumv@geo.auth.gr

The Student Chapter of the Society of Economic Geologists (SEG) of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTh) had 35 members at the end of the academic year 2022-2023. Seven of them are student members of the SEG.



## Members of AUTh SEG Student Chapter

	First Name	Academic Status
1	Ioanna Alpi*	Master's Student
2	Margarita Melfou*	PhD Candidate
3	Elisavet Varvari*	Master's Student
4	Anastasios Kyriakos*	Master's Student
5	Eftychia Peristeridou*	PhD Candidate
6	Christos Stergiou*	PostDoc Researcher
7	Aikaterini Katsoulari	Undergraduate Student
8	Aikaterini Tsiri	Undergraduate Student
9	Alexandra Kyrou	Undergraduate Student
10	Alexandros Mpampatzianis	Master's Student
11	Alexia Theocharaki	Master's Student
12	Anastasis Ladas	Master's Student
13	Anestis Politis	Undergraduate Student
14	Christina Mytiglaki	PhD Candidate
15	Chrysa Chrysakopoulou	PhD Candidate
16	Constantinos Christoforidis	Undergraduate Student
17	Despoina Diamanti	Undergraduate Student
18	Dimitra Perperi	Master's Student
19	Dimitrios Papadopoulos	Undergraduate Student
20	Eirini Karampa	Undergraduate Student
21	Eleni Intzevidou	Undergraduate Student
22	Eleni Pegioudi	Undergraduate Student



23	Ioanna Kampanou	Undergraduate Student
24	Ismini Ermeidi	Undergraduate Student
25	Kalliopi Evgenia Dimitropoulou Elezi	Undergraduate Student
26	Katerina Selimollari	Undergraduate Student
27	Niki Mandraveli	Master's Student
28	Nikoleta Passali*	Undergraduate Student
29	Soultana-Kyriaki Kovaiou	PhD Candidate
30	Spyridon Strongylis	Master's Student
31	Stavros Sotiropoulos	Undergraduate Student
32	Symeon Koutsouridis	Undergraduate Student
33	Theodora Chatzakou	Undergraduate Student
34	Veroniki Tsoupersli	Undergraduate Student
35	Virginia Karagiannakou	Undergraduate Student

\*Full SEG member (2022/2023)

The AUTh SEG organized and took part in several events throughout the academic year 2022-2023. The following sections provide more details for each event.

## Activities and Field Trips for the academic year 2022-2023

#### 1. 1<sup>st</sup> Open Day of the Faculty of Sciences

On 5<sup>th</sup> of October 2022 the 1<sup>st</sup> "Open Day" of the Faculty of Sciences was held in the AUTh Campus, where research and student groups presented selective activities, in order to inform the academic community about their work and projects. The AUTh SEG Student Chapter participated at the event, presenting a variety of mineral and rock samples and informing the public about their various uses.



The event was successful, as numerous students and academic stuff from the Department of Geology, and from other Departments of the Faculty of Sciences, were impressed by the samples and were informed about the activities of the AUTh SEG Student Chapter.



Figure 1. The minerals and rocks presented in the 1st "Open Day".

#### 2. Field trip to the ore deposits and the Troodos Geopark of Cyprus.

The AUTh SEG student chapter organized a field trip to the ore deposits and the Troodos Geopark of Cyprus, between 26th and 30th of October 2022. The field trip was financially supported by the SEG through the Round I 2022 of the Stewart R. Wallace Funding. The participants consisted of 2 Ph.D. Candidates, 7 Master's, and 4 Undergraduate students, accompanied by the Chapter's Academic Advisor, Professor Vasilios Melfos, joined by Assistant Professor Grigorios-Aarne Sakellaris.

The field trip started on Thursday, October 27, 2022 with a visit to some very well-known VMS deposits, more precisely the Agrokipia, Kokkinopezoula-Mitsero, Kokkinoyia and Alestos VMS deposits, where Dr. N. Adamides and Mr. D. Vattis introduced us to the geology of the area and the history of these mines. We also visited the Skouriotissa VMS deposits where Mr. K. Xydas, Director of Hellenic Minerals, gave us a brief presentation about the mines, and focused on the formation



of the ore bodies, before providing us with the required safety gear (Fig. 2c). The last stop of the day was at the Apliki VMS deposit, one of the most representative examples of Cu-bearing massive sulfides deposits globally. Mr. G Kalogeropoulos, Quarries Director of Hellenic Copper Mines, accompanied by Dr. N. Adamides, talked about the geology and the exploitation of this deposit (Fig. 2d)



**Figure 2.** a. The "Agrokipia" VMS deposit and the members of the AUTh SEG student chapter, b. The members at the Kokkinopezoula Vms deposit, c. The students with the staff of the company "Hellenic Minerals" at the Skouriotissa mine, d. Dr. N. Adamides explaining to the students the geological characteristics of the Apliki.

In the second day of the field trip we visited the Troodos Global Geopark Visitor Centre where Mrs. Constantina Theofylaktou, the geological officer of the Geopark, presented the spectacular Troodos ophiolite sequence and the related geology of Cyprus (Fig. 3a).





**Figure 3.** a. Mrs. Constantina Theofylaktou, the geological officer of the Geopark, presenting the spectacular Troodos ophiolite sequence, b. The members of the chapter at the entrance of the visitor center.

The same day we visited the abandoned Amiantos mine, where Dr. Ernestos Sarris, Associate Professor at the Department of Engineering at the University of Nicosia, guided us through the old facilities and talked about the history of the mine (Fig. 4). The Amiantos mine is of an opencast type, where chrysotile asbestos has been exploited from 1904 until 1988. Chrysotile is the most common type of asbestos and resulted from the serpentinization of the Troodos ultramafic rocks.



*Figure 4.* Associate Professor Ernestos Sarris discussing with the students about the history of the mine and the formation processes of asbestos.



On the last day of the field trip we visited different geosites of the Troodos Geopark, with the help of an experienced geologist, Mrs Eleutheria Eleutheriou, including the pillow lavas of Maroullena river, the Memi VMS deposit, a sheeted dyke complex, Lagoudera Plagiogranite and the cumulative rocks of the ophiolite sequence. The first and very interesting stop was at the Maroullena River, where there is a spectacular exposure of the Lower and the Upper pillow lavas of the Troodos ophiolite sequence, cut by vertical dykes. There we had the opportunity to find samples of greenish celadonite and observe chalcedony veins. Afterwards, we visited the Memi VMS deposit and collected beautiful samples of pyrite (Fig. 5b).



*Figure 5.* a. The students examining the Lower pillow lavas with greenish celadonite and chalcedony veins, b. The students looking for pyrite samples at the massive sulfide deposit of Memi.

#### 3. 1<sup>st</sup> members' meeting for the academic year 2022-23

The first meeting of the AUTh SEG Student Chapter for the academic year 2022-23 was held on November 11, 2022, at the Department of Mineralogy, Petrology, and Economic Geology. The students that participated in the field trip in Cyprus presented information about the visiting sites and what they learned during the field trip. Some of the topics that the students presented involved the VMS deposits of Skouriotissa, Apliki and Kokkinopezoula-Mitsero, the Amiantos abandoned mines, as well as the ophiolite sequence of Troodos and the mining history of Cyprus.





*Figure 6.* Members of the chapter a. Margarita Melfou, b. Eleni Pegioudi, c. Alexandros Mpampatzianis and d. Ioanna Alpi during their presentations about the field trip topics of Cyprus

In the second session of the meeting, Ioanna Alpi, President of the student chapter for the academic year 2022-23 outlined the chapter's long-term goals for the new academic year.

#### 4. 3<sup>rd</sup> Flea Market AUTh-Christmas Edition

The AUTh SEG Student Chapter participated in 3<sup>rd</sup> Flea Market - Christmas Edition, which was held on December 8-9, 2022 at the AUTh campus. Numerous student chapters had the chance to participate and present their organization and raise money for their future goals by selling a variety of items.

The AUTh SEG Student Chapter sold spectacular rock and mineral samples from the collections of the students (Fig. 5). Some of these specimens were relatively uncommon and had exquisite forms and colors. Numerous university students stopped by the AUTh SEG student chapter's booth as they were captivated by the beautiful and intriguing mineral and rock samples.





*Figure 7.* The stand of the AUTh SEG student chapter at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Flea Market - Christmas Edition in thecampus.

#### 5. 2<sup>nd</sup> members' meeting for the academic year 2022-23

The 2<sup>nd</sup> members' meeting of the AUTh SEG Student Chapter was held on February 13, 2023. Eleni Pegioudi, an undergraduate student and member of the student chapter, had the unique opportunity to attend the second "Michael Fitzgerald Student Mapping Course" in the Copper Flat mine in New Mexico, between 6<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of May, 2022, and gave a presentation about the Porphyry-Breccia System of the mine, as well as her overall experience while participating in this course.

In the second session of the meeting, the members of the Chapter cut the 2023 Vasilopita, wishing good luck and a prosperous New Year. A piece of blue agate (the banded variety of chalcedony) was offered to the member who got the



#### lucky piece.



Figure 8: Eleni Pegioudi presenting the porphyry-breccia system of the Copper Flat mine.

#### 6. 1<sup>st</sup> Scientific Meeting for the academic year 2022-23

The 1<sup>st</sup> scientific meeting for the academic year 2022-2023 was held on February 20, 2023 and featured the 2022 International Exchange Lecturer of the SEG, Keiko Hattori and Jeffrey Hedenquist. Keiko Hattori is a professor at the University of Ottawa, where she teaches courses on mineral deposits and geochemistry. Her ongoing and past research includes element recycling in subduction zones and geochemical and mineralogical studies of porphyry Cu-Au, epithermal Au-Ag, Kuroko base metal, orogenic Au, and unconformity-type U deposits. Her talk was entitled "Tectonic setting and igneous" rocks associated with high-grade epithermal gold deposits". Jeffrey Hedenquist is one of the world's leading experts on epithermal gold systems. He conducted research with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research-Chemistry Division in New Zealand and the Geological Survey of Japan for 10 years each on geothermal energy development and volcanic discharges, as well as the formation of epithermal gold and porphyry copper deposits. His talk was entitled "Lithocap alteration, Epithermal gold mineralization and transition to the tops of Porphyry deposits: Dogma versus discovery". The academic advisor of the chapter, Professor Vasilios Melfos, presented also the "Energy Transition Metals in Greek deposits". The meeting was sponsored by the Society of Economic Geologists and the Special Account for Research Funds of AUTh and attracted more than 100 people (Fig. 10b).





**Figure 9.** a. Jeffrey Hedenquist during his presentation about the "Lithocup alteration, Epithermal gold mineralization and transition to the tops of Porphyry deposits: Dogma versus discovery", b. Professor Keiko Hattori during her presentation "Tectonic setting and igneous rocks associated with high-grade epithermal gold deposits", c. Professor and Academic advisor Vasilios Melfos presenting the "Energy Transision Metals in Greek deposits".





*Figure 10.* a. The Executive Committee and the Academic Advisor of the chapter with Mr. Jeffrey Hedenquist and Mrs. Keiko Hattori, b. The audience at the 1<sup>st</sup> scientific meeting watching the presentation of Mrs. Hattori.

#### 7. 2<sup>nd</sup> Scientific meeting for the academic year 2022-23

The second scientific meeting for the academic year 2022-2023 was held on May 11, 2023 at the Department of Mineralogy, Petrology, and Economic Geology and featured two invited lecturers, Ferenc Molnar, Associate Professor at Eotvos Lorand University and Gabriella B. Kiss, Senior Lecturer at Eotvos Lorand University, who presented the "Porphyry and Epithermal systems in Hungary" and "Introduction to fluid-rock interaction in submarine volcanic-hydrothermal systems: mineralogy, geochemistry, ore deposits". The academic advisor of the chapter, Professor Vasilios Melfos, also gave a presentation with the title "Tectonics and Metallogenesis in NE Greece: the case of Maronia". The meeting was very interesting and students from both the AUTh SEG student chapter and the Eotvos Lorand University SEG student chapter attended.





**Figure 11**. a. Associate Professor Ferenc Molnar during hid presentation "Porphyry and Epithermal systems in Hungary", b. Senior Lecturer Gabriella B. Kiss during her presentation "Introduction to fluid-rock interaction in submarine volcanic-hydrothermal systems: mineralogy, geochemistry, ore deposits".

#### 8. Field trip in Thrace, with the Eotvos Lorand SEG student chapter

The Eotvos Lorand SEG student chapter, along with the academic advisor of the AUTh SEG student chapter, Vasilios Melfos and two AUTh SEG members, Margarita Melfou and Anestis Politis, went on a field trip in Thrace, Greece from 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2023. The field trip involved the visit of several different mineralizations from deep intrusion related to shallow epithermal level systems. The prospects visited were: the Kimmeria intrusion-related system, the Maronia porphyry Cu-Mo system, the Perama Hill epithermal system, the VMS Xylagani system and the Triadi chromite mineralization.





*Figure 12.* The Eotvos Lorand SEG student chapter, with Associate Professor Ferenc Molnar and Senior Lecturer Gabriella B. Kiss, along with the two members of the AUTh SEG student chapter.

#### 9. 3<sup>rd</sup> Members' meeting for the academic year 2022-2023

The 3<sup>rd</sup> members' meeting of the AUTh SEG student chapter was held on May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at the Department of Mineralogy, Petrology, and Economic Geology. Spyros Fragkou, a graduate student of the department of Geology of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and a valuable former member of the AUTh SEG student chapter, presented the "UV Fluorescence as an exploration tool in Carbonate Replacement Deposits". Spyros is currently a master's student in the department of Geological Sciences at the University of British Columbia, in Canada, having received a full-time scholarship. He holds the position of International Trip Representative on the UBC SEG student chapter. The topic of his master thesis revolves around the characterization of the cryptic alteration of the carbonate replacement deposits of Kassandra District in Halkidiki, N. Greece.

#### 10. Field Trip with the SEG SC of Masaryk University, in Czech Republic

Another member of our student chapter, Despoina Diamanti, an undergraduate student in the 4<sup>th</sup> year of the AUTh department of Geology, had the chance to participate in the annual field trip of the Masaryk University SEG student chapter, in Czech Republic, which was held from September 4<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023. This field trip



focused on the Energy raw materials of the Czech Republic. The students visited several interesting locations, such as the underground research facility in the former Rožná uranium mine, the underground active black coal mining near Ostrava, the active oil and gas mining in Hodonín, the active uranium leaching site under decommissioning in Stráž pod Ralskem, the active open pit brown coal mining Bílina, and many more.



*Figure 13.* The Masaryk University Brno SEG student chapter, along with our SEG SC member, Despoina Diamanti, in the Ledvice Power Station in Czech Republic.

## Future Plans for the Academic Year 2023-2024

- SEG-SRW-funded field trip to Naxos island scheduled for October 26-29, 2023
- 2nd Open day of the Faculty of Sciences (AUTh), in which our chapter will expose spectacular mineral and rock samples.
- Participation in the upcoming AUTh flea market with the aim of financial support for the implementation of outdoor exercises.
- Presentations from chapter members that will participate in upcoming SEG field trips.
- Several lectures are planned from academic and professional speakers.
- Invitation of the 2023 SEG Lecturer.
- Application for the 2024 Stewart R. Wallace Fund, Round I.