Title	:	**Geologic Field Trip Guidebooks; A Project to Identify Indexing Gaps**
Author(s)	:	Lura E. Joseph, University of Illinois, USA
Theme	:	Uses and Applications of Subject based Grey Literature

Geologic field trip guidebooks are very important, yet grey literature. Guidebooks contain general information about the regional geologic setting, as well as specific information about each stop on the trip. Most include maps, photographs, illustrations, and a road log so that the trip can be replicated. Field trip guidebooks can range from a set of illustrations and pages copied from other publications, to more formal, bound publications. Most geologic field trip leaders provide a guidebook for trip participants, but usually make no effort to ensure that a copy ends up in a library where it will be available for future use. Often, only limited numbers of a guidebook are produced, and those published by small associations and surveys can be difficult to identify and purchase; some are only available to trip participants. Indexing of guidebook series is often sporadic and incomplete.

Geologic field trip guidebooks are valuable both to professional geologists and to students beginning studies in an unfamiliar area. Also, when putting together a field trip, consulting guidebooks from previous trips can reduce the amount of work for the trip leader. Guidebooks also contribute to the historical record of the various geological societies that regularly hold field trips. Field guides are valuable as records of ephemeral features such as dunes, beaches, and river channels. A particular guidebook may be the only place that certain information or data are ever published.

There are three online resources commonly used to identify and locate geologic field trip guidebooks: GeoRef and OCLC WorldCat (both by subscription), and Geologic Guidebooks of North America Database (GGNAD), published online by American Geological Institute (AGI) in cooperation with Geoscience Information Society (GSIS). Indexing of the various guidebook series is woefully incomplete, and the gaps continue to increase.

This paper will report results of a six-month sabbatical project to determine mutual and unique gaps in three major indexes used to identify and locate geologic field trip guidebooks. Information from this project will be used to reduce indexing gaps in GeoRef and the GGNAD.