

**Minutes of the ETGUI Meeting
Wednesday, December 17, 2008
Sheba Restaurant, San Francisco**

- **Present:** Alemayehu Jemberie, Endawoke Yizengaw, Mekonnen Gebremichael, Henok Alemu, Manahloh Belachew, Mergia Sonessa, Menberu Bitew, Mulugeta Dugda, Yonas Demissie
 - The meeting was called to order around 8:00 pm.
- **Welcome and State of the Union (Alemayehu, Endawoke, Mekonnen)**
 - Alemayehu welcomed old and new members to the meeting.
 - Alemayehu introduced the Union to the new members. Endawoke and Mekonnen added to the introduction.
 - Alemayehu opened the floor for discussion. Below are the suggestions made during the discussion.
- **Mulugeta**
 - Senior researchers (e.g., Dr. Gidey) need to be **invited to join** ~~included in~~ the Union
- **Yonas**
 - Website needs frequent updating
 - Members should be engaged in ETGUI activities
 - Discussion forum should exist
 - Transparency is essential
- **Manahloh**
 - He began by informing the union that he studied the GRE book that ETGUI donated to AAU in preparation for his GRE exam which eventually landed him to the US. He made the following suggestions.
 - A huge need exists for books and journal papers at AAU
 - Journal papers produced by Ethiopians need to be delivered to AAU
 - ETGUI should have a working relationship with local professional associations, such as Ethiopian Geosciences Society
 - ETGUI's website should contain a research interest of its members, as well as AGU abstracts of its members
- **Mergia**
 - Let us divide tasks among all of us,
 - ELT should give tasks to individual members with a time table
 - The outcome of the tasks should be frequently posted on the web
 - GRE/TOEFL books should be given to other Ethiopian Universities as well
 - Post AGU student opportunities on the web
- **Menberu**
 - ELT should take responsibility and give tasks to individual members
 - Do not discriminate between student and employee **on membership fees.**
- **Henok**
 - Post scholarship information on the web
 - Link ETGUI with ESA
- **Endawoke**
 - Let us give copies of our theses to Ethiopian Universities.

The meeting was adjourned around 10:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mekonnen Gebremichael
Dec. 25, 2008