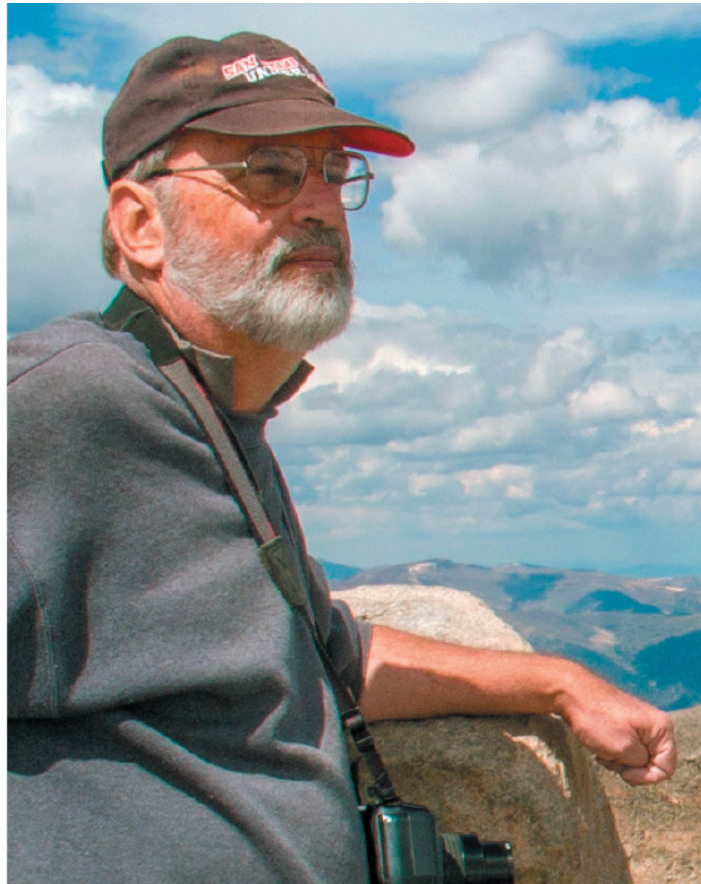


SAN DIEGO GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

A public benefit 501(c)3 nonprofit educational corporation
Doing Business As (DBA) San Diego Association of Geologists (SDAG)

CHARTER



MICHAEL J. WALAWENDER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

**FUNDING COSTS THAT SUPPORT UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE
GEOSCIENCE DEGREES IN HARD ROCK TERRAIN RESEARCH**

THE PURPOSE OF SDGS ORGANIZATION'S FUND CHARTER

A San Diego Geological Society, Inc (SDGS) Fund Charter is a document adopted by the Organization's Board of Directors (Board). The Charter describes (as applicable):

- the history of a fund,
- donor intent,
- the purposes for which the fund may and may not be used,
- the Board's goals for the fund,
- administrative operating criteria, and
- financial operating criteria

A Fund Charter demonstrates the Board's commitment to prudent management of the Organization's resources and compliance with applicable accounting and legal standards. Within the framework of SDGS governance, a Fund Charter is a policy document that may be amended or interpreted by the Board through a simple majority vote. A Fund Charter may refer to other documents that further describe the history, nature, and operations of a fund. Formal resolutions and motions of the Board that are of historical significance and apply to this Fund Charter are attached as Appendix Four.

This Charter for the Michael J. Walawender Scholarship Fund of the SDGS Organization was duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the SDGS on August 21, 2026.

By:

signed 08/21/26 by
Diane Murbach - SDGS Secretary

FUND CHARTER MICHAEL J. WALAWENDER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The San Diego Geological Society, Inc (SDGS) Organization's Michael J. Walawender Scholarship Fund was established by the SDGS Board of Directors on September 26, 2011, to fully or partially reimburse costs of undergraduate and graduate students performing geologic research in hard rock terrain.

A primary function of SDAG is to support academic opportunities in geology and related sciences. The by-laws of the San Diego Geological Society (SDGS dba SDAG) specify the support of academic opportunity ranging from elementary through graduate levels. The SDAG scholarship program has supported academic research in higher education by awarding scholarships annually to students from two-year and four-year undergraduate and master's level programs.

Initial funding for the Michael J. Walawender Scholarship Fund was provided by monies collected from a donation bowl at monthly SDAG meetings. The funding increased at meetings where donations could be provided for beverages. After SDGS began accepting donated geology books and maps, they were offered to members if they provided a contribution. Today all funds from these donated books and maps are designated to the Walawender Scholarship Fund. As the fund grew SDGS Sponsors requested their contributions be designated to this fund. SDGS may be able to add net proceeds from the sale of two SDAG books written by Michael (see Appendix Two) to this scholarship fund in the future. Once funded, scholarships are provided as funds allow.

The purpose and scope of the SDGS Michael J. Walawender Scholarship Fund, established by the SDGS Board in 2011, and formalized in the Fund Charter approved by the Board in 2026, are as follows:

The purpose of the Fund is to provide scholarships on a yearly basis, when funds are available, to degree-seeking undergraduate and graduate geoscience students performing geologic research in hard rock terrain (or closely related igneous-metamorphic studies), utilizing both principal and earnings. Awards are made based on a Letter of Nomination from the student's advisor addressing relevant geoscience courses, academic performance in coursework and research, and the outstanding nature of the research, along with a Research Abstract that includes the specific research question, significance of the study, the study goals, methods used in the study, key results, interpretations, and conclusions. The student should also describe the extent of their own fieldwork and explain how the work relates to hard rock terrain. Did the student perform the sampling, fieldwork, lab work and research, or rely on someone else's work for data acquisition? Selected recipients are expected to present their research at a spring SDAG meeting.

The Board finds that the Michael J. Walawender Scholarship Fund Purpose and Scope made a part of this Fund Charter are consistent with the Organization's mission and authority. The Board believes that the Michael J. Walawender Scholarship Fund serves a valid need, supporting students advancing geology in the greater San Diego, California area, that will advance scientific knowledge in the profession of geology. In adopting this Fund Charter by motion on August 21, 2026, the SDGS Board accepts the purpose and scope stated above.

Additional information is provided in the attached appendices.

Appendix One	Gift Instrument
Appendix Two	Biographical Information
Appendix Three	Scholarship Recipients
Appendix Four	Board Resolutions and Motions

FUND MANAGEMENT AND DONATIONS

The fund management will be in accordance with the current SDGS Fund Management Policy and SDGS Investment Policy, and subsequent updates. Donations accepted will be in accordance with the current SDGS Gift Acceptance Policy and subsequent updates.

Fund distribution will be in accordance with the Gift Instrument in Appendix One.

FUND ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATION

General Conditions

Scholarships from the SDGS Michael J. Walawender Scholarship Fund are intended to support costs for a scholarship program for undergraduate and graduate geoscience students.

Scholarships from the Michael J. Walawender Scholarship Fund may be used by recipients to support the direct costs to aid the degree-seeking students studies.

The definition of a “scholarship,” found in Section 1.117-3 of the Treasury Regulations, generally means “an amount paid or allowed to, or for the benefit of, a student, whether an undergraduate or a graduate, to aid such individual in pursuing his studies.”

Consistent with the SDGS Organization’s status as a 501(c)(3) public charitable and educational organization under the Internal Revenue Code, scholarships from the Michael J. Walawender Scholarship Fund are true charitable awards intended to aid students in pursuing their geoscience studies and are not provided in exchange for any services rendered to the Organization. Accordingly, the Organization will not issue Forms 1099-NEC or 1099-MISC for any scholarships or other charitable grants awarded to individuals. In addition, the Organization will not award scholarships to support any publications, materials, or activities that constitute lobbying, political campaign intervention, or attempts to influence legislation or elections.

Applicant Conditions

In applying for a scholarship from the SDGS Organization, the scholarship applicant agrees to:

- Use the funds received from the SDGS directly for the proposed use;
- Use the funds in accordance with applicable law and regulation;
- Avoid activities in the use of the funds that would jeopardize the SDGS Organization’s tax-exempt status;

- Track the receipt and expenditure of scholarship funds to determine your responsibility for any taxable reporting;
- If selected for the award, you are expected to present your research's final report at a spring SDAG meeting in the year following the award. This presentation is intended to further the educational and scientific mission of the Organization and is not compensation for services;
- Acknowledge the financial support as from "SDAG" in any publications and presentations that make use of the work supported by the scholarship;
- Provide the Organization with one paper copy or offprint of any publication that incorporates work supported by the scholarship, and with references to any electronic publication that incorporates work supported by the scholarship; and
- Scholarships are not payments for services. The recipient is responsible for tracking how the funds are actually used and reporting any taxable portion on their tax returns. Recipients should consult their tax advisors regarding taxability of the scholarship.

Donor Intent

Recognizing donor intent, the establishing gift to the SDGS Organization is classified as an asset without donor restriction. Additional gifts from any donor and any fund transfer from any SDGS Organization program or support fund will be classified as an asset without donor restriction. Earnings from contributions are classified as an asset without donor restriction. See the Gift Instrument in Appendix One for additional information.

Scholarship Fund Operational Protocols

1. The Board contemplates funding scholarships that can be carried to completion within one year of initiation unless a specific exception is approved by the Board.
2. Each year the Board will determine the amount of funds available at the mid-year July Board meeting for award at the December SDAG meeting.
3. Scholarship applications will be reviewed by the Scholarship Committee, which will make a recommendation to the Board. The Board shall approve the appointment of the Scholarship Committee.
4. Scholarships will be approved by a motion made at a Board meeting.
5. Disbursements from the Michael J. Walawender Scholarship Fund will be made payable to the student.

Scholarships will be awarded on an objective and nondiscriminatory basis. No awards will be made to members of the SDGS Board of Directors, officers, substantial contributors, or their immediate family members. The Scholarship Committee will evaluate applications based on the criteria set forth in this Charter, and the Board will retain final approval authority. The Organization will maintain records sufficient to substantiate that awards were used for their intended educational purposes. Accounting terminology used in this Fund Charter is intended to conform to Accounting Standards Codification (ASC).

SCHEDULE FOR REVIEW OF CHARTER

The Board may maintain this Charter unchanged or make revisions at any time. This fund Charter shall be reviewed by the Board at least every five years, on a schedule to be determined by the Board.

APPENDIX ONE GIFT INSTRUMENT

SDGS Board's goal for the use of the Fund

The Scholarship Fund is intended to pay direct costs for degree-seeking undergraduate and graduate geoscience students performing geologic research in hard rock terrain. Direct costs include tuition, fees, books, supplies, equipment, room and board, travel, and research.

SDGS Board's goal regarding the initial fund corpus

The Fund is permitted to spend down the funds to meet the goals of the Fund and is not required to maintain a specific balance.

The original fund corpus is unrestricted.

SDGS Board's goal regarding additional donations and income.

Additional donations and income to the Fund are unrestricted.

Maximum individual scholarship or maximum total award

There are no restrictions to a maximum individual scholarship award or maximum total award for the year. The intent is to provide flexibility to adjust the awards based on the actual costs awardees are incurring and the funds available that year.

APPENDIX TWO

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Michael J. Walawender

Michael earned a B.S. degree in Geology from Syracuse University, an M.S. degree in Geology from the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, and a Ph.D. in Mineralogy and Petrology from The Pennsylvania State University. He began his career in the mining industry looking for metallic ore deposits in Labrador, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Colorado before coming to San Diego State University in 1972.

Michael was a professor at SDSU and was Head of the Department of Geological Sciences from 1989-1995. He supervised nearly 100 Masters and Bachelor thesis on a wide variety of topics generally centered on the nature and origin of the Peninsular Ranges Batholith. He also published scientific papers in a wide variety of national and international journals and led numerous field trips for both students and professional geologists throughout the Peninsular Ranges of Southern California.

Michael, husband of Sonja Walawender, passed away at the age of 71 on September 13, 2011, at home, surrounded by family and friends. Born in Auburn, New York, he was the son of the late Adam and Julia Walawender. Michael was a professor of Geological Sciences at San Diego State University for 32 years prior to his retirement. Michael had a great love of teaching and following the progress of his students. He returned to Auburn in his retirement to be close to family and enjoy the beauty of the Finger Lakes area.

Michael is the author of the book *“The Peninsular Ranges: A Geological Guide to San Diego’s Back Country.”* The first edition published by Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company in 2000, went out of print and the publishing company elected not to reprint the book. SDAG recognized the importance of this book, invested in redrafting the graphics, adding color, and published the second edition in 2022 to honor Michael.

Michael is also the author of the book *“Roadside Geology along Sunrise Highway.”* Michael was developing this guidebook before he passed on. He knew the book was going to be published by SDAG prior to his passing and was very happy about the news. A team of SDAG geologists wanted to leave a legacy to Michael and worked on this book for a year after he died, publishing the book in 2012.



APPENDIX THREE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The SDAG Walawender Scholarship Recipients table below provides the awardees presented by year, amount, recipient name, university/degree, title of the recipient abstract with any other historic data known at the time of this version.

University acronyms: University of California, San Diego/Scripps Institution of Oceanography (UCSD/SIO); San Diego State University (SDSU); University of San Diego (USD); Southwestern College (SWC).

This table can be updated in this Walawender Charter without SDGS Board of Directors action. This version is dated August 21, 2026.

SDAG Date Awarded	WALAWENDER Amount	SCHOLARSHIP Name	RECIPIENTS University / Degree	Title of Abstract / Data Source
2011	\$500	Thomas DeCarlo	USD (Undergrad)	<i>Rayleigh-Based Multi-Element Coral Paleothermometry: New Developments and Applications (Spoke at April 2012 SDAG meeting)</i>
2011	\$500	Steven Byrum	SWC	<i>Fossil Curation with the San Diego Natural History Museum & Anza-Borrego State Park (Spoke at April 2012 SDAG meeting)</i>
2017	\$1,000	Jennifer Maria-Benavides	UCSD/SIO	<i>Understanding ore deposit formation through direct chemical tracing of Au-Ag mineralization in the Fire Creek Deposit, Northern Nevada Rift</i>
2018	\$1,000	Sandra Slead	UCSD/SIO (Graduate)	<i>A Sentinel study of Okmok Volcano using InSAR time series analysis</i>
2022	\$1,000	Jasmine Peach	SDSU (Graduate)	<i>Structural, petrological, and geochronological characterization of the Mesozoic high-grade metamorphic rocks of the Cordillera Real in the Pimampiro-Monte Olivo-Sigsipamba Area of northern Ecuador</i>

**APPENDIX FOUR
BOARD RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS**

Initial Charter approved by Board of Directors 6-0 Motion Approved August 21, 2026.