

VITA  
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**Texas Professional Geoscientist License No. 682**  
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#### Education

**Ph.D., Geology**, concentration – Karst hydrogeology, geomorphology, and geochemistry. The Pennsylvania State University; May 1994.

**M.Sc., Geography**, concentration – Karst hydrogeology and environmental geology, Western Kentucky University; July 1985.

**B.Sc., Geology**, The University- of Texas at San Antonio, December 1982.

#### Employment

**1987 - present:** Owner of George Veni and Associates; geologists, hydrologists, biologists and environmental management consultants.

**2007 - 2023 (retired 30 April 2023):** Executive Director, National Cave and Karst Research Institute, Carlsbad, New Mexico.

**1990 - 1995:** geography teaching associate, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, The University of Texas at San Antonio.

**1989 - 2006:** Adjunct geoscience professor, Center for Cave and Karst Studies, Department of Geography and Geology, Western Kentucky University.

**1983 - 1987:** graduate research assistant and consultant for several local, state and federal hydrogeologic projects in Kentucky, Pennsylvania and Tennessee.

#### Honors and Awards

**Distinguished Lecturer for 2022-2024:** *The World Below: An Introduction to Caves and Karst; Sinkholes: Where They Occur, How They Form, and How to Minimize Their Impacts; The Sunless Seas of Karst Aquifers.* Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Honors Society, <https://www.sigmaxi.org/programs/lectureships/2022-2023-lecturers>.

**Inclusion in “Scientists in planetary cave and lava tube research”:** *From Cave Man to Cave Martian: Living in Cave on the Earth, Moon and Mars*, Manfred “Dutch” von Ehrenfried, 2019.

**Flag Expedition Status**, for Deep Guano, Deep Science project at Bracken Cave, Texas. The Explorers Club, August 2016.

**Fellow of the Explorer Club**, October 2012.

*plus one scholarship, one fellowship, one honorary membership, one honorary directorship, one book dedication, seven grants, four research awards, five cartographic awards, and 17 miscellaneous awards and honors.*

**Research Publications, Books, and Reports**

- 2024, (with Despina Dora, Georgios Lazaridis, Konstantinos Vouvalidis, and Konstantinos Tokmakidis). Cave morphometric analysis: a review. *Progress in Physical Geography*, 1-22, <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/03091333241269199>.
- 2023, (with Thomas L. Kieft, Devyn Del Curto, Zoë Havlena, Eshani Hettiarachchi, Isabelle Lakis, Emma Nourse, Cassandra Skaar, Joseph Ulbrich, George Veni). Potential for mitigation of cave lampenflora using benzalkonium chloride or UV-C. *Geoheritage*, 15(68), <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12371-023-00839-4>
- 2023 (editor). Florida's karst landscapes and Roles of karst in flood control and water supply management in west-central Florida. Guidebook for the 17<sup>th</sup> Multidisciplinary Conference on Sinkholes and the Engineering & Environmental Impacts of Karst, National Cave and Karst Research Institute Field Guide 3, Carlsbad, New Mexico, 53 p., <https://www.nckri.org/publications/field-guides/>.
- 2022, (with Daniel Jones, Victor Polyak, and Harvey DuChene). New Mexico's sulfuric acid caves. *Earth Matters*, New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources, Summer, p. 1-5, [https://geoinfo.nmt.edu/publications/periodicals/earthmatters/22/n2/em\\_v22\\_n2.pdf](https://geoinfo.nmt.edu/publications/periodicals/earthmatters/22/n2/em_v22_n2.pdf).
2022. International Show Caves Association pre-congress field trip: the show caves of west Texas and southeast New Mexico. Guidebook for the 9<sup>th</sup> International Show Caves Association Congress, National Cave and Karst Research Institute Field Guide 2, Carlsbad, New Mexico, 57 p., <https://www.nckri.org/publications/field-guides/>.
2022. Foreword. Peșterile Munților Bihor: Caves of Bihor Mountains – Romania. Liviu Vălenaș and Eugen Kamp, Clubului de Speologie „Z”, 240 p.
2022. Groundwater and the International Year of Caves and Karst: explore, understand, protect. *Groundwater*, Guest Editorial, 60(2):158-159, <https://doi.org/10.1111/gwat.13146>.
2022. Foreword. Caves and Karst of Thailand. Department of Mineral Resources, Thailand, p. 5-6.
- 2022, (with Thomas L. Kieft and Evelyn Byrd). Toxicological study of fluorescent hydrologic tracer dye effects on cave bacteria. *Groundwater*, 60(2):404-409, <https://doi.org/10.1111/gwat.13160>, <https://ngwa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/gwat.13160>.

*plus 101 research papers and books published, and nearly 510 speleological exploration and related reports published from 1976 to the present.*

**Papers Presented at Conferences**

- 2024, (with Michael Jones, Wendy Dickerson, and John Cooper. Mapping the Geography of Underground Ecosystems, Austin and San Antonio Areas, Texas, USA [Poster]. 2024 TxDOT Environmental Conference, Corpus Christi, Texas.
2024. A practical guide to conserving karst groundwater. Keynote Address. The 5<sup>th</sup> Asian Trans Disciplinary Karst Conference Abstract Book, Eko Haryono, ed., Yogyakarta, Indonesia, p. 14.

- 2023, (with Issam Bou Jaoude, Victor Polyak, Rena Karanouh, Yemane Asmerom, and Ali Haidar. Paleoclimate Reconstruction of a Speleothem from the El-Kassarath Cave, Lebanon. Geological Society of America Convention, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, <https://gsa.confex.com/gsa/2023AM/meetingapp.cgi/Paper/393397>
2023. The vital role of speleological databases in karst management. In: Land L, Kromhout C, Suter S, editors. Proceedings of the 17<sup>th</sup> Multidisciplinary Conference on Sinkholes and the Engineering and Environmental Impact of Karst: National Cave and Karst Research Institute Symposium 9. Carlsbad, New Mexico, p. 41-48, <https://nckri.org/publications/symposia/>.
2022. The importance and state-of-the-art of the International Year of Caves and Karst. Importance, State of the Art, and Prospective of Utilization and Protection of Resources in Karst, Belgrade, Serbia, virtual lecture.
- 2022, (with Despina Dora, Georgios Lazaridis, Konstantinos Vouvalidis, and Konstantinos Tokmakidis). Morphometric and statistical analyses of caves in the Lefka Ori massif (Crete, Greece). Abstracts of the XXII International Congress of the Carpathian-Balkan Geological Association, Plovdiv, Bulgaria, p. 167.
2022. Initial geoarcheological survey of caves at Chichén Itzá, Yucatan, Mexico. Proceedings of the International Congress of Speleology, Le Bourget du Lac, France, vol. 5, p 283-286.  
*plus 184 additional conference papers.*

#### **Expedition, Research, Advisory, and Other Related Experience**

- 1996 - present: Member of 6 doctoral (biology, geography, and geology) and 2 masters (biology and environmental science) research committees (New Mexico Tech; The University of Texas, Austin and San Antonio; Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and Harokopio University, Greece).
- 1989 - present: Instructor of 36 classes in 26 courses for 16 universities/programs.
- 1989 - present: 187 peer and 8 book reviews for professional publications and organizations.
- 1986 - present: 320 lectures to 188 organizations; featured/noted in 222 digital and print newspaper and magazine articles, 51 television news, radio, and Internet reports, webinars, and programs.
- 1984 - present: Geologist for 18 geologic and archaeological expeditions to USA, Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean; sponsored by National Geographic Society, Explorers Club, National Speleological Society, National Science Foundation, U.S. Agency for International Development, et al.
- 1980 - present: Conference chairman or committee member to 60 conferences; organizer of 56 field trips.
- 1977 - present: officer, director, committee member, or advisor to 34 local to international organizations; President of the International Union of Speleology, 2017 - 2022.

*plus current officer for one state and one international organization, committee member/ advisor to multiple organizations, and geologist, coordinator, or advisor of several multidisciplinary karst research projects.*

***A complete vita is available upon request.***