

January 19, 2010

## THE HEAD'S PERSPECTIVE

The traumatic situation in Haiti following the recent earthquake has brought into sharp focus the need for help and support in many ways. It has also highlighted the key importance of the science that we do in EAS. As described in more detail at <http://www.purdue.edu/newsroom/research/2010/10/0115CalaisFreedHaiti.html>, a team led by Eric Calais and with major contributions by Andy Freed used high resolution GPS and numerical modeling to assess conditions on major faults in the northeastern Caribbean. In 2008 this NSF-funded work concluded that there was the potential for a magnitude 7.2 earthquake in Haiti and a magnitude 7.5 earthquake in the Dominican Republic. However, given the range of other needs and priorities in Haiti, and the short lead time, recommendations for ways to prepare for such an event had not been implemented when the earthquake struck. The research group is now finalizing plans to return to the earthquake site to measure aftershocks and post-seismic response, and there is heightened awareness of the importance of using science to guide emergency preparations and planning in this as well as other areas of earthquake hazard.

At the last faculty meeting in 2009 we approved a new EAS strategic plan. This semester we will move ahead aggressively with implementation and our departmental committees will use the plan to help set their agendas for this semester. The plan reinforces the value of approaches that have been very successful in supporting the growth and success of our students, staff, alumni and faculty. It also commits us to a series of new initiatives and approaches intended to significantly enhance our educational programs, the support we provide for EAS members, and the funding and impact of our research. Our previous strategic plan had a large effect on EAS, and I am confident that our new plan will be equally important in continuing to grow the success and impact of our department.

This newsletter is distributed to all EAS faculty, staff and students, and is also available on our web site, and was established several years ago to enhance communication in EAS and to cut down on the huge number of emails that we were all receiving. If there

is information that needs to go out urgently, or that needs to be restricted to a subset of our community, then sending email to one of our departmental lists works fine. If the information is not immediately time sensitive or confidential, please put it in the newsletter.

## EAS SEMINAR

**Thursday, January 21, at 3:30 p.m. in CIVL 1252:**

"The World of Peak Oil: Myths Versus Realities."  
Prof. William Zinsmeister, EAS, Purdue University

*Refreshments at 3 p.m. in CIVL 2201*

For more information, see the EAS online [calendar](#).

## RECENT PRESENTATIONS

Charlotte Kendra Gotangco Castillo gave a talk entitled, "Thinking Outside the Carbon Box: Science and Policy Issues of Tropical Deforestation-Climate Feedbacks" at the Ateneo Innovation Center, Quezon City, Philippines, on January 11, 2010.

## HONOR ROLL – FALL SEMESTER 2009

Many of our faculty colleagues have made the department's Teaching Honor Roll for the 2009 Fall semester (based on student evaluation instructor ratings) as noted below. **Congratulations!**

### Service Courses (=> 4.0)

Larry Braile	EAS 100	4.1
Jerry Krockover	EAS 102 (Sec. 1)	4.1
Jim Ogg	EAS 104	4.1
Andy Freed	EAS 106*	4.8
Andy Freed	EAS 106H	5.0
Gabe Bowen	EAS 106*	4.2
Jeff Trapp	EAS 106*	4.2
Eric Riggs	EAS 111	4.5
Kevin Gurney	EAS 113	4.4
Ernie Agee	EAS 138	4.1
Jim Ogg	EAS 151	4.1

### Undergraduate/Graduate Courses (=> 4.5)

Sonia Lasher-Trapp	EAS 225	4.8
Harshvardhan	EAS 320	4.5
Saad Haq	EAS 352	4.7
Darryl Granger	EAS 353	4.8

Mike Baldwin	EAS 391 (Meteor.Intern.)	5.0
Ken Ridgway	EAS 391	5.0
Mike Baldwin	EAS 391 (Team Forecasting)	5.0
Jeff Trapp	EAS 523	4.7
Ki-Hong Min	EAS 535	4.8
Bob Nowack	EAS 557	4.6
Barbara Cooper	EAS 584	4.5
Dev Niyogi	EAS 591 (Land Surface..)	4.5
Gabe Bowen	EAS 591 (Isotope...)	5.0
Ken Ridgway	EAS 591 (Crustal...)	4.8
Brenda Bowen	EAS 591 (Diagenesis..)	4.9
Lucy Flesch	EAS 591* (GAT)	4.5
Andy Freed	EAS 591* (Writing...)	4.9
Matt Huber	EAS 591* ( " )	4.8
Eric Calais	EAS 591 (GPS)	4.8
Greg Michalski	EAS 591 (Stable...)	4.8
Hersh Gilbert	EAS 591* (Lithosphere..)	4.5
Lucy Flesch	EAS 591* ( " )	4.5
Qianlai Zhuang	EAS 591* (Terrestrial..)	5.0
Kevin Gurney	EAS 591* ( " )	5.0
Ken Ridgway	EAS 591 (Native American..)	4.8

\*Course was co-taught

The following TAs have made the Teaching Honor Roll for the 2009 Fall semester by achieving a score of 4.5 or higher as rated by their students. **Congratulations!**

Nahyr Rovira-Figueroa	EAS 102 (sec.2)	4.5
Kimberly Hoogewind	EAS 109 (2)	4.8
Courtney Creamer	EAS 109 (5)	4.7
Stacy Story	EAS 109 (6)	4.7
Erica Erlanger	EAS 111 (5)	5.0
Melissa McMullen	EAS 111 (8)	4.7
Raul Ochoa	EAS 111 (9)	4.6
Stacy Story	EAS 243 (4)	4.8
Heather Houlton	EAS 312 (2)	4.6
Heather Houlton	EAS 312 (4)	4.5
Dan Arthur	EAS 431 lab	4.6
Nathan Hitchens	EAS 433 lab	5.0

#### FROM OUR BUSINESS OFFICE

#### Pre-Award Center Manager to attend February 1 Faculty Meeting

Jessica Lawrence, Center Manager for the College of Science and College of Nursing, Pharmacy, and Health Sciences Pre-Award Center, will be attending the February 1, 2010 EAS Faculty Meeting to talk about the new Pre-Award Center and answer any questions that you may have.

***Please plan to attend this important discussion.***

#### Federal Government Approves New Facilities and Administrative Rates

The federal government has approved new facilities and administrative (F&A) rates to become effective July 1, 2010.

The rates apply to Purdue University sponsored programs conducted at the West Lafayette campus for the four-year period beginning July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2013.

The link below provides details and instructions for implementation of the new research facilities and administrative rate (54% of modified total direct costs effective 7/1/10) and outlines which grants will be impacted by this change.

<http://www2.itap.purdue.edu/elist39/docs/DOC010810.pdf>

**If you have questions related to the impact of this change, please contact the EAS Business Office at [easbo@purdue.edu](mailto: easbo@purdue.edu).**

#### RFP FOR SEED FUNDING PROGRAM FOR RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS WITH FACULTY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

This Year the Program Focuses on Water Resources in Africa and Developing Nations. Some Example Target Areas for Research Include:

- Water Supply and purification technology
- Water and Agriculture
- Creating a sustainable water supply system
- Developing local Leadership & Entrepreneurship with respect to water supply and management
- Reducing the total cost of water to Residents

**Please plan to attend a meeting on March 1, 2010 from 10:00 to noon in Burton Morgan, Room 129.**

In order to promote inter-university research collaboration, the meeting is intended to give Purdue and Notre Dame faculty the opportunity to learn about each other's research and research interests and to consider synergies. The characteristics of an RFP will be discussed.

Questions may be directed to Candiss Vibbert at: [vibbert@purdue.edu](mailto:vibbert@purdue.edu).



## FORECAST GAME BEGINS TODAY

The next round of the Purdue University Forecast Game begins today. The Forecast Game is open to all Purdue students, staff, and faculty. Test your skills against your friends and Mother Nature herself. To sign up, e-mail [bcotton@purdue.edu](mailto:bcotton@purdue.edu). For more information see <http://wxp.eas.purdue.edu/forecast>.



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## CONGRATULATIONS

Courtney Creamer has been awarded a 2010 College of Science Graduate Student International Travel Grant for participation in the European Geosciences Union General Assembly 2010, Vienna, Austria, May 2-7, 2010. Congratulations also go to her advisor, Tim Filley.

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## GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AWARDS COMPETITION

The Purdue University Chapter of Sigma Xi, the scientific research society, is conducting a **Graduate Student Research Awards Competition** in the format of a scientific poster session.

Abstracts Due: **5:00 pm, Friday, February 5, 2010**  
Competition Date: **Wednesday, February 17, 2010;**  
**12:30 - 4:00 pm and 6:00 - 9:00 pm**

There will be a first prize of \$200, provided by Sigma Xi and The Graduate School, and recognition for other outstanding posters in each of the four research areas:

- Physical Sciences
- Life Sciences
- Engineering
- Behavioral and Social Sciences

There will be one prize awarded for each approximately 15 posters in a research area. In recent years, this has resulted in two top awards in both Life Sciences and in Engineering. To participate:

1. Submit an abstract of your research by **5:00 pm, Friday, February 5, 2010**. These will be published in a booklet. Forms may be submitted electronically at the web site listed below. Those who submit abstracts will receive detailed information about poster preparation.
2. Present a poster at the 2010 SIGMA XI GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AWARDS COMPETITION POSTER SESSION in Stewart Center, Rooms 214/218 on **Wednesday, February 17, 2010**.

The session will run from **12:30–4:00 pm and 6:00–9:00 pm**. (judging). Presenters are requested to hang their posters by 4:00 pm and to be at their posters from 6:00–8:30 pm to answer questions from the judges. Judging will be conducted by a panel of faculty selected from each of the above research areas.

3. Posters selected for award will be displayed at the Annual Sigma Xi Initiation Banquet to be held in the Purdue Memorial Union on April 8, 2010. In addition, all award winners and those highlighted for Honorable Mention will be invited to attend the banquet in recognition of their outstanding research endeavors.

Applications, in electronic format, may be obtained and submitted at the following web site from January 11 to February 5, 2010:

<http://www.purdue.edu/research/sigmaxi/>

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## HELPING STUDENTS LEARN AWARD

Each year the Class of 1922 alumni sponsor an award for Outstanding Innovation in Helping Students Learn. Faculty, administrative/professional staff, and graduate students are eligible for consideration for this \$6,000 award.

The information about this award, along with the cover sheet which must accompany nominations, can be found [here](#).

The deadline for submitting nominations for the Helping Students Learn Award is **5 p.m. on Friday, February 19**.

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## A NOTE FROM OUR ACADEMIC COUNSELOR Spring Schedule Modification Dates

Monday, **January 25**, is the last day to drop a class in myPurdue without it appearing on your record. NOTE: If you are enrolled in a course that has as a co-requisite the class you want to drop, you will receive an error message.

Monday, **February 8**, is the last day for sophomores and above to drop a class with just advisor signature and a W (and paperwork to Hovde Hall). After February 8 you will need instructor and advisor signature and a "grade." Students classified as freshman have until March 22 to drop with just advisor signature and paperwork to Hovde; grade will be W.

**March 22** is the last day for anyone to drop a spring class.

**Butler University 22nd Annual Undergraduate  
Research Conference**

Butler University 22nd Annual URC (Undergraduate Research Conference) will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana on Friday, April 16th, 2010. Butler University invites undergraduates involved in research projects to present their work at the conference. **Submission Deadline: Friday, February 19th, 2010.** For more information, visit [www.butler.edu/urc](http://www.butler.edu/urc).

**Job Fair Workshop**

Monday, **January 25**, 4:30-5:30 p.m. in GRIS 160. If you think you might attend job fairs, here's a chance to get some important tips.

Nancy

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!**

John Cushman – January 19



**THE WEEKLY NEWS**

This newsletter will now be used as the primary information source for current and upcoming events, announcements, awards, grant opportunities, and other happenings in our department and around campus. Active links to additional information will be provided as needed. Individual email announcements will no longer be sent unless the content is time-sensitive. We will continue to include our publications, presentations and other recent news items as well. Those using paper copies of the newsletter should go to our newsletter archive on the EAS website at [www.purdue.edu/eas/](http://www.purdue.edu/eas/) and **Click on News** to access active links as needed. Material for inclusion in the newsletter should be submitted to Gina Richey ([grichey@purdue.edu](mailto:grichey@purdue.edu)) by **Friday noon** of each week for inclusion in the Monday issue. **If it is in the newsletter, we assume you know about it and no other reminders are needed.**

For answers to common technology questions and the latest updates from the EAS Technology Support staff, please visit <http://www.purdue.edu/eas/resources/it>.

Also, as an additional resource for information about departmental events, seminars, deadlines, etc., see our departmental calendar at <http://calendar.science.purdue.edu/eas/seminars>.

