

March 1, 2010

THE HEAD'S PERSPECTIVE

Outcome of the Beverage Experiment: Many thanks to all who participated in the evaluation of alternatives for a hot beverage dispenser in 2201. After full investigation of all claims of ballot stuffing and dubious behavior by PACs, the Keurig system came out ahead. We now have a machine installed, and have established the following norms for use:

- To cover costs, a contribution of \$1 per cup is needed. This can be made by putting money in the container by the machine each time you get a beverage, or by paying ahead – a monthly contribution of \$20 equates to an average of one cup a day (heavy users like me need to put in \$40 per month). Please make monthly contributions to Dee; a list of those using the monthly payment option will be available by the machine, in case you cannot remember if you have made a recent contribution. This is still way cheaper than wandering off to local coffee shops and you can enjoy stimulating conversation with EAS colleagues in the relaxing atmosphere of the multipurpose room!
- There is no charge for a beverage during the speaker reception prior to the weekly EAS seminar.
- Please do not enter 2201 to get a drink while meetings, presentations, or other scheduled uses are in progress. CIVL 2201 is normally open from 8am to 5pm, so the beverage service is not typically available in the evenings.

EAS Efforts in Haiti: Andy Freed and Sarah Stamps gave an outstanding presentation last week on the EAS team's recent work and experiences in Haiti (Eric Calais is still in Haiti). It reinforced the importance and challenges of the science the group is pursuing, and provided us with a deeper appreciation of the devastation as well as the resilience and optimism of many Haitians. I found Andy and Sarah's account of the plight and goals of displaced students particularly poignant; the team is now working on ideas for ways that EAS and the Purdue community can help with short and long-term needs for Haitian students. There are also plans in the works for a presentation by Eric, Andy and Sarah to the larger Purdue community later in the Semester.

EAS Expo: A highlight of the EAS academic year is the EAS Expo later this week: Prospective new graduate students will be in the department for tours and meetings on March 5th, and there is a great program of presentations and posters by current students on March 6th. I look forward to seeing many of you there! (See the [program](#))

UPCOMING MEETINGS

****TODAY** Monday, March 1**

- EAS Faculty Meeting, CIVL 3201 (11:30 a.m.)

Thursday, March 4

- EAS Leadership Committee, CIVL 2173 (1 p.m.)

EAS SEMINAR

Thursday, March 4, at 3:30 p.m. in CIVL 2201:

"The Isotope Biogeochemistry of Nitrous Oxide: From Soil Ecology to Ecosystem Sensor Engineering." Dr. Nathaniel Ostrom, Michigan State University

Refreshments at 3 p.m. in CIVL 2201

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

SPATIAL STATISTICS AND STATISTICAL CLIMATOLOGY SEMINAR

Tuesday, March 2, at 3:30 p.m. in BRNG 1232:

"Evaluation of Climate Simulations and Extreme Weather Predictions." Prof. Michael Baldwin, EAS, Purdue University

RECENT PRESENTATIONS

PhD candidate, Angel R. Torres-Valcarcel, gave a talk entitled, "Energy Conservation" at the Loiza County Recycling Office, Loiza, Puerto Rico on February 25. The talk was to explain and discuss different energy sources and how to save energy.

Angel also gave a radio interview on the show *Science Certainty* (WALO 1240 am Humacao, Puerto Rico) on February 19. The subject of discussion was "COSUAM's Sustainable Schools Program." The interview was to explain and discuss details about COSUAM's Sustainable Schools Program.

FACULTY AND STAFF AWARD WINNERS



Pictured (l-r): Brenda Bowen, Tim Filley, Nancy Stewart, Jon Harbor and Dean Jeff Roberts (Not pictured: Sonia Lasher-Trapp and Dev Niyogi)

Customer Service Award

EAS Department Nominee: Nancy Stewart

Nancy Stewart is recognized as a dedicated counselor for the EAS undergraduate students. She provides excellent academic advice for students who have a wide range of interests and genuinely cares for each student and gives them individual attention. Nancy also provides excellent advice and guidance to the department's faculty in monitoring and enhancing the EAS academic programs, reviewing graduation requirements of EAS majors, maintaining data on undergraduate student numbers, and providing input for selecting students for scholarship or award recognition.

Graduate Student Mentoring Award

EAS Department Nominee: Sonia Lasher-Trapp

Dr. Sonia Lasher-Trapp has made significant contributions to the development of future scientists through leadership and guidance. She encourages creative discovery with a genuine excitement about new scientific knowledge.

She was very supportive in the foundation of the EAS Graduate Student Association and serves as the faculty advisor. She also attends functions for the EAS Women In Science Program.

Engagement Award

EAS Department Nominee: Dev Niyogi

Since his arrival at Purdue in 2005, Dr. Niyogi has engaged the stakeholder community in Indiana and beyond by bringing climate information as a resource for the public and economic partners through the branding of the Indiana State Climate office.

Dev has also worked with the education community and provided the science perspective to develop climate change curriculum material that can be used by middle school teachers. This material developed in collaboration with other teachers and geosciences education collaborators is one of the first of its kind and has also been downloaded by over 100 users.

Dev has engaged with the broader community not only through his advisory role as the State Climatologist but has also been highly effective in relating the impact of the Purdue research to the broader community.

Leadership Award

EAS Department Nominee: Tim Filley

Evidence of Dr. Filley's leadership is seen in numerous places, ranging from Chair of the EAS Graduate Committee to a principal author and leader in drafting the EAS Strategic Plan (2009-14). Tim also serves as Associate Head of the EAS department, and his dedication to high quality performance in our educational and research programs is second to none. Further, Tim's leadership and work ethic is contagious, and serves as a role model for all faculty colleagues.

Undergraduate Advising Award

EAS Department Nominee: Brenda Bowen

Dr. Bowen has a positive influence on many of our EAS undergraduate students through her course offerings and as her role as a mentor for undergraduate students conducting research in her lab. Brenda is active in discussions regarding improvements to our undergraduate curriculum and has revised the EAS 112 curriculum.

Our students consistently comment that they want, and are eager, to enroll in her classes.

LINK BETWEEN ASTEROID IMPACT AND MASS EXTINCTION IRONCLAD

Jay Melosh is part of a major summary report on the asteroid impact that killed off the dinosaurs 65 million years ago. This report is partly a response to recent claims that the Chicxulub impact in Yucatan did not coincide with the extinction. What the summary shows (through the collaborative efforts of 41 authors in 12 countries – of which he is one) is that the evidence in favor of a coincidence is overwhelming and that other explanations for the demise of the dinosaurs can be dismissed. [Read more...](#)

SUSTAINING NEW SYNERGIES INITIATIVES FORUM

On Monday, April 5, all faculty and staff are invited to attend a College of Science Brown Bag Forum on Sustaining New Synergies Initiatives from 12:00-1:00 p.m. in STEW 310. Al Diaz and Ken Sandel will give a 25-30 minute presentation about the current budget challenge and then those attending will have the opportunity to ask questions. All are encouraged to attend if you would like more clarity on the issues and possible solutions that the University is considering.

SUSTAINING NEW SYNERGIES TASK FORCE

Julie Talz of the Sustaining New Synergies Task Force will be sending weekly communications on issues and efforts related to the SNS task force. See Julie's [email](#) from Friday, February 19, for a summary of information to date. Please note that she will be asking questions regarding activities in areas so that she can facilitate a sharing of best practices by our faculty and staff.

TEACHING FOR TOMORROW AWARDS

Teaching for Tomorrow Awards – 2010. Please see the [description](#) of this program. Be sure to note the paragraph on the second page which outlines the specifics of the nomination, “a one page statement of why they would like to be part of this program and a two page vitae that includes courses taught.”

Applications should be sent directly to Angie Teel at teel@purdue.edu no later than March 19 for timely delivery to the Provost’s office by the required deadline.

EAS COFFEE MUG

GO BROWN AND GREEN? If you are going to take advantage of the new department coffee and tea service, why not go GREEN too? Buy your EAS ceramic coffee mug (washable and guaranteed for a 1000 uses unless you drop it!!!) \$4 from Dee (CIVL 2169B).



FUNDING

NSF Dear Colleague Letter: Guidance on Rapid Response Research (RAPID) Proposals: Effects of the January 2010 Haitian Earthquake <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2010/nsf10024/nsf10024.jsp>.

GOLDANSWERS

GoldAnswers is a self-service technical support site with Purdue-specific information. ITaP Communications has created an editorial calendar for a new article every two months discussing ways that faculty and staff can easily find GoldAnswers tips and recommendations on everyday work circumstances. The first concerns checking in on work business while away from the office. The link can be found here: <http://www.itap.purdue.edu/newsroom/detail.cfm?newsId=2102>.

EAS TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT NEWS

Words from Our New Linux Admin Alex Kubacki

“I am a proud graduate of Purdue with a degree in Electrical Engineering Technology, and have worked for Purdue since graduation. I have experience supporting staff, faculty, and graduate students both in the Computer Science department and with the College of Liberal Arts in collaboration with Science Administration IT, and look forward to learning about the many interesting endeavors I will be supporting in the department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences.”

Welcome to Our New ITAs

With our old ITAs graduating/leaving, we recently hired three new ITAs. They are Joshua Zehner from Computer Science, Rahul Mohandas also from Computer Science and Jun Yu from Computer Graphics Technology. They all come with different skills/experience. Welcome to EAS!

Power outage Tuesday, March 16th

The EAS side of CIVL will have all power shut off from 5 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 16.

All EAS Linux and Solaris machines, including the departmental file server (hypocenter), will be powered off at 4:30 p.m. in preparation for the 5 p.m. scheduled power outage. Please ensure that all processes have completed and applications are closed in preparation for the power outage.

Windows and Mac users, please save all open files, close all applications, and shut down your system around 4:45 p.m. Hypocenter will receive routine patching after power is restored.

Central servers will be powered back on between 7:00 and 8:00 p.m. Please power on Linux and Windows workstations at your convenience.

If you have any questions, please contact eas-itap@purdue.edu.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

If you or someone may be interested in working with US Department of Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs as a Mining Engineer or Geologist then please view/pass on the following link. If you have technical questions related to the positions, please call Bernadette Tsosie at 505.863.8356. If you have questions whether your package contains the required information, please call Matilda Kanuho at 505.563.5130.

Job Announcement Number: CRPA-D1002

Who May Apply: Public Candidates-Open to all qualified candidates outside the federal workforce (non-federal employee)

<http://jobview.usajobs.gov/GetJob.aspx?JobID=86445258&JobTitle=INTERDISCIPLINARY+POSITION%3a++MINING+ENGINEER%2c+GS-880-9%2f11%2f12%3b+OR+GEOLOGIST%2c+GS-1350->

[9%2f11%2f12&q=geologist&where=gallup+nm&brd=3876&vw=b&FedEmp=N&FedPub=Y&x=51&y=14&AVSDM=2010-02-22+17%3a43%3a00](http://jobview.usajobs.gov/GetJob.aspx?JobID=86445258&JobTitle=INTERDISCIPLINARY+POSITION%3a++MINING+ENGINEER%2c+GS-880-9%2f11%2f12%3b+OR+GEOLOGIST%2c+GS-1350-9%2f11%2f12&q=geologist&where=gallup+nm&brd=3876&vw=b&FedEmp=N&FedPub=Y&x=51&y=14&AVSDM=2010-02-22+17%3a43%3a00)

OPEN PERIOD: Monday, February 22, 2010 to Monday, March 15, 2010

GRADUATE STUDENTS...

Who do you turn to when you have problems with your advisor, lab, classes, administration...? Come meet your graduate student ombudsman on March 4 at 6 p.m. in BRNG 2280. An Ombudsman is a person who handles complaints, a mediator; a spokesperson for the rights of a particular individual or group.

IMPORTANCE AND SATISFACTION SURVEY

Today, March 1, 2010, Purdue's Office of the Vice President for Student Services will launch the 2010 Student Importance and Satisfaction Survey to all students, including graduate students, enrolled at Purdue. The purpose of the survey is to obtain feedback regarding the various services, programs, and events offered at Purdue.

The survey will be available on March 1st, and conclude on April 9th. Students will receive an e-mail with a link to the online survey. All students who fully complete the survey will be entered into a random drawing for prizes donated by local merchants. For a preview of prizes, please [click here](#).

NEW FALL COURSE

This fall Alex Gluhovsky is teaching a new course, EAS 591/ STAT 598 "Chaos and Complexity in Atmospheric and Climate Dynamics" (TTh 10:30-11:45 CIVL 4251). The course is intended for graduate and strong upper-division undergraduate students who have taken an introductory statistics course (such as STAT 511 or EAS 591S).

Description: Complexity is an emerging major scientific field (Stephen Hawking said that the 21st century "will be the century of complexity") at the crossroads of nonlinear dynamics, statistics, environment, and other areas. Complexity theory focuses on how complex systems may exhibit novel "simple" behaviors (via what is called self-organization) that cannot be understood by studying their parts in isolation. Such systems are ubiquitous: climate and geological systems, economies and world-wide web, biological organisms, nano-systems and neural networks. Chaos theory (a part of complexity theory) shows how simple systems may give rise to complex behavior. Topics in the course will include dynamical systems, chaos, nonlinear time series, deterministic and probabilistic descriptions (as two aspects of a same reality), extreme events, atmospheric and climate dynamics.

GRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS AVAILABLE SOCIETY OF PETROPHYSICISTS AND WELL LOG ANALYSTS

The Foundation of the Society of Petrophysicists and Well Log Annalists (SPWLA), an international organization dedicated to the science of formation evaluation in oil, gas, and minerals applications has funds available for graduate student grants during 2010. Application deadline is due on April 1, 2010 and the award effective on October 1, 2010. Grant information and application forms are available at www.spwla.org under the Foundation button.

NASA OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENT AIRBORNE RESEARCH

NASA seeks highly motivated advanced undergraduate and early graduate students for participation in a summer 2010 research program in Earth system science using its DC-8 flying laboratory. The Student Airborne Research Program (SARP), is managed by the National Suborbital Education and Research Center. For more information go to: <http://www.nserc.und.edu/learning/SARP2010.html>. Deadline for applications is **March 12, 2010**.

A NOTE FROM OUR ACADEMIC COUNSELOR

Australia HTM Maymester 2010 Callout

Monday, **March 1**, 2010 Stone Hall, HTM Café, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Program Highlights: City Tours of Sydney, Brisbane and Cairns; Great Barrier Reef; Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary; Vineyard and winery tours of Hunter Valley and more. This is open to all majors. For more information please contact: Dr. Jonathon Day 496-2084 (gjday@purdue.edu) or Dr. Carl Behnke 494-9887 (chefcarl@purdue.edu).

Disney Internships

Callouts on Monday, **March 1**, 7:00 p.m. Smith Hall, Room 108 and Tuesday, **March 2**, 7:00 p.m. Smith Hall, Room 108. Apply online at disneycollegeprogram.com. Click on *Walt Disney World*® Resort or *Disneyland*® Resort. For more details about the Disney College Program and Purdue University – please visit: www.purdue.edu/disneycp/.

Big Ten Expo Career Conference

Friday, **March 12**, 2010, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Union Station, Indianapolis, Indiana. The Career Expo is open exclusively to students and alumni of Big Ten Universities. Students can register online at <http://www.bigtencareerexpo.com/registrant>.

- Employers will have openings for internships and full-time jobs.
- Business casual attire is encouraged for students and employers.
- Registered participants can log in to see employers and job openings.
- Participants will be able to update and print resumes at the on-site Cyber Cafe.
- Giveaways and drawings will be held throughout the day for participants.
- Attend the games (just a few blocks away) or run/walk in the Big Ten 5K.
- Network with students/alumni in your school's designated downtown restaurant.

Contact: Donna Imus
careerexpo@indianasportscorp.com (317) 636-1420,
On-campus contact: Tim Luzader
tluzader@purdue.edu (765) 494-3985.

1400 Jobs in Fort Knox, Kentucky

The Center for Career Opportunities will be hosting four [Fort Knox Jobs](#) information sessions on Tuesday, **March 9th**. Sessions begin at 2 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 5 p.m., and 6:30 p.m. There are job openings in numerous field including HR, IT, Business,

Finance, Marketing, Research Analyst, and many other areas. The information sessions will cover types of jobs, qualifications, salary and benefits, and how to apply. Your college degree may substitute for experience. Each session will last 45 minutes with opportunities to network with presenters between sessions. Must be U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident.

Purdue Robert Noyce Scholars Program – Money to Teach

The Next Generation of Outstanding Rural Schools STEM High School Teachers

Who is eligible?

- STEM majors in the Colleges of Science, Technology and Engineering
- Current sophomores should apply to start in their Junior year, continuing through Senior year
- All students majoring in STEM disciplines are eligible, including:
- Outstanding STEM majors in the teacher certification track
- Students in the regular major but willing to switch to the secondary (high school) teacher certification track of their majors
- Students with no clear teacher certification track willing to work with program staff and College advisors to construct a plan of study leading to secondary teacher licensure
- **3.0 or better GPA**

The Program

- Candidates will receive 2 years of support at \$15,000 per year toward tuition, fees, room and board at Purdue
- Candidates commit to 2 years of service in partnering high-needs rural schools *for each year of scholarship support*, during which they will still be actively mentored by program staff and teaching mentors on site.
- Candidates should have a dedicated commitment to teaching their discipline at high schools in high-needs rural districts in Indiana.

****Rolling Application Deadline**** More information [here](#).

Colorado Ecosystems Field Studies Course

This is not a field camp but is a field course on the Colorado Front Range ecosystem with investigations of geology, geography, climatology, ecology, wildlife, botany, and field research methods. For more information on the summer 2010 course from the University of Colorado visit: <http://coefs.org/Documents/CEFS%202010%20Syllabus.pdf>.

Reminders:

The Undergraduate Research and Poster Symposium is **Wednesday, April 7, 2010** from 2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. in the PMU ballrooms. Students are asked to write an abstract and create a presentation poster to illustrate their research. Monetary awards are given in five main categories: Physical Science, Life Science, Social Science/Humanities, Mathematical/Computational Science, and Innovative Technology/Entrepreneurship/Design. The registration deadline is Wednesday, **March 10, 2010**. Register by **March 3, 2010** to be considered for the "Best Abstract Award." For more information go to

<http://www.science.purdue.edu/for-current-students/undergraduate-students/urps.html>.

Also: ***How to Prepare an Effective Poster Presentation*** – **Dr. Mark Hermodson** – as the name implies this is a presentation on creating an effective research poster for displaying undergraduate research. If you are planning to participate in the Purdue Undergraduate Poster Symposium in April, this presentation will be very helpful. It is 6:00 – 7:00 p.m., **March 4, 2010**, WSLR 116.

Nancy

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

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/ 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) 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>.



Women of Color in the Professoriate: Toward Authentic Inclusion

A Multidisciplinary
Faculty Forum

Tuesday, March 2, 2010
Stewart Center 302

10:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m.
Panel & Discussion

*Dialoguing the Experiences of
Women of Color in the Professoriate*

Featuring Xae Alicia Reyes, Ph.D., University of
Connecticut, and Angela Jaime, Ph.D.,
University of Wyoming

1:30 p.m.-2:45 p.m.
Keynote Address

*"Sisters" in Science: Moving Beyond Race
and Gender Toward Authentic Inclusion*

Diann Jordan, Ph.D.,
Alabama State University

3:00-3:45 p.m.
Talking Circles

4:00-5:00 p.m.
Reception

Sponsored by the Diversity Resource Office



Purdue is an equal access/equal opportunity university.



Xae Alicia Reyes, Ph.D.
Associate Professor,
Education and
Puerto Rican Latino Studies
University of Connecticut



Angela Jaime, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor,
Education and American
Indian Studies
University of Wyoming



Keynote Speaker

Diann Jordan, Ph.D.
Professor of Biology
Alabama State University