THE HEAD’S PERSPECTIVE

Rankings: Imperfect as they are, rankings by various organizations continue to attract attention and are used by students to get a sense of the relative reputation and performance of different Universities. The US News & World Report 2010 rankings for graduate programs in Earth Sciences were released recently – this organization does not rank Atmospheric Science programs. Purdue tied for 39th in the nation, up from 46th in 2006 when this organization last did rankings. This makes Purdue the highest ranked Earth Sciences graduate program in the state (Indiana University ranked 45th, and Notre Dame 89th). It is great to see us moving up in the rankings, and with the pace of recent expansion of our research productivity, reputation and graduate student population I would predict significant continued improvement in these types of rankings in the future.

Other numbers and recognition: EAS external funding continues an amazing pace of growth – awards for the first nine months of the 09-10 fiscal year are at $5.95M; by comparison, the total for the entire 08-09 fiscal year was $4.51M. This tremendous growth in external financial support allows more of our students to be supported on research grants, provides the resources for continued new discoveries through research, and supports important work that we do with teachers, colleges and communities in Indiana and beyond. Our graduate population for 09-10 is also up 20% compared to 08-09, and our undergraduate majors are up 6% in 09-10 compared to 08-09. However, we are more than just numbers! A very well-deserved and impressive external recognition announced last week was Professor Terry West’s election as a Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers, an honor bestowed on only a small fraction of ASCE members.

WISP TRAVEL GRANT WINNERS

Congratulations to Courtney Creamer, Jessica Griffin, and Yini Ma for receiving the Graduate Women in Science Programs Travel Grant for Spring 2010. Each recipient receives $500 towards the cost of professional travel.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Monday, April 19
• EAS Primary Committee, CIVL 3201 (11:30 a.m.)

Wednesday, April 21
• EAS Executive Committee, CIVL 2173 (10:30 a.m.)

Monday, April 26
• EAS Faculty Meeting, CIVL 3201 (11:30 a.m.)

EAS SEMINARS


Refreshments at 3:30 p.m. in CIVL 2201

Thursday, April 22, at 3:30 p.m. in CIVL 1252: “The Geology and Archeology of Athens, Greece.” Prof. Paul Marinos, National Technical University of Athens, Greece

Refreshments at 3 p.m. in CIVL 2201

For more information, see the EAS online calendar.

RECENT PRESENTATIONS

On April 8, 2010, Charlotte Kendra Gotangco Castillo gave a research report entitled “Advancing quantitative understanding of the feedbacks between climate change, deforestation, and land-use decisions: “Putting people into CCSM4” at the Mesa Lab Main Seminar Room, National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), Boulder, Colorado.

Terry West attended the 44th annual meeting of the North-Central/South-Central Sections of the Geological Society of America, held this year in Branson, Missouri, April 11-13, 2010. Dr. West chaired the technical session, T34, Applied Geology: Engineering, Environmental, Geotechnical and Hydrogeology consisting of ten oral presentations. He also presented a paper co-authored by K.H. Cho, a former Ph. D. student currently employed by P.B. Consultants, Indianapolis, Indiana, entitled “Combined Geological Conditions Result in Slope Instability and Failure: Two Case Study Examples.” The two case histories involved Evansville, Indiana
and Valdez, Alaska. About 100 GSA members and students attended this session.

Casey Kennedy and Gabe Bowen attended the 4th Forensic Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry Conference in Washington, DC from April 12-14. Casey presented a talk entitled “Characterizing Temporal Variations in the Isotopic Composition of Human Drinking Water” and Gabe gave a poster with the title “Surface Water Isotope Models for Retrospective Geolocation of People and Products.”

UPCOMING MINI-WORKSHOP: OVERVIEW OF THE NSF CAREER PROGRAM
Wednesday, May 5, 2010
10:30 AM – Noon
Stewart Center, Room 314

The Office of the Vice President for Research is hosting a mini-workshop for untenured faculty in all disciplines who are interested in developing a proposal for the NSF CAREER competition. Read more...

PURDUE UNIVERSITY
The College of Science Alumni Association cordially invites you to the
College of Science
Spring Commencement Reception
Sunday, May 16, 2010
11:30 a.m. ~ 1:00 p.m.
Purdue Memorial Union
South Ballroom
101 North Grant Street
West Lafayette, Indiana

RSVP by May 10
Please register at: http://purdue.qualtrics.com/SE?SID=SV_cZyrEnBOxN10F3C&SVID=Prod

Questions: College of Science 765-494-1857 or ScienceEvents@purdue.edu
Please let us know of special needs.

Parking is available at the Grant Street parking garage across from the Purdue Memorial Union.

EAS ANNUAL AWARDS PROGRAM
April 15, 2010

INDUSTRY-SUPPORTED AWARDS

Chesapeake Energy Graduate Scholarship
Established by the Chesapeake Energy Corporation. Awarded to a graduate student who shows outstanding achievement in scholarship, research and/or service.
Presenter: Mark Lester
Recipients: Ryan Neufelder, Tonya Richardson

Chesapeake Energy Undergraduate Scholarship
Established by the Chesapeake Energy Corporation. Awarded to an undergraduate student who shows outstanding achievement in scholarship, research and/or service.
Presenter: Mark Lester
Recipients: Rebecca Bobick, Shawn Dedeker, Joseph Dixon, Kristen Werling

Mobil Oil Geology Graduate Award
Awarded to a graduate student who wishes to pursue a career in the geology field
Presenter: Gabe Bowen
Recipient: Justin VanDeVelde

Chevron Corporation Graduate Student Research Support
Awarded to a graduate student who wishes to pursue a career in an energy-related industry.
Presenter: Ken Ridgway
Recipient: Christine Kassab (was awarded fall 2009)

FRIENDS OF EAS AWARDS

Henry Silver Graduate Scholarship
Established in honor of Henry Silver, a 1934 Purdue Alumnus. Presented to a graduate student in environmental geosciences including environmental aspects of Atmospheric Science, Hydrogeology, and Engineering Geology.
Presenter: Gabe Bowen
Recipients: Umarporn Charusombat, Kristine Nielson
Terry R. West Scholarship
Established in recognition of Dr. West’s 40 years of teaching geology at Purdue University. Presented to students pursuing a degree in the applied geological sciences, involving engineering/environmental geology, hydrogeology, or geophysics.
Presenter: Terry West
Recipients: Julianne Bell, Paula Giryn

William J. Hinze Graduate Award in Exploration Geophysics
Established in recognition of Dr. Hinze’s 75th Birthday and for his contributions as a professor in EAS for 25 years. Presented to students studying exploration geophysics including the investigation or application of geophysical techniques that are used to determine Earth structure and properties.
Presenter: Larry Braile
Recipients: Laura Bennati, Jessica Griffin, Sribharath Kainkaryam

Cedric J. Newby Award
Established in honor of Cedric J. Newby, a 1923 graduate of Civil Engineering who worked as a Plane-table Engineer and was Head of the Humble Oil Exploration Section at Humble Oil and Refining Company in Houston. Presented to students pursuing a degree in solid-earth geosciences leading to professional employment as a geophysicist.
Presenter: Robert Nowack
Recipients: Ali Bakir, Julianne Bell, Laura Bennati, Patrick Brennan, Nicholas Farny, Richard Fisher, Ping Fu, Jessica Griffin, Sribharath Kainkaryam, Christine Kassab, Ryan Neufelder, Raul Ochoa

Dr. and Mrs. William R. Gommel Award in Atmospheric Science
Established to recognize an outstanding junior in the Atmospheric Science major based on academic merit.
Presenter: Harshvardhan
Recipient: Kevin Van Leer

Hydrologists Helping Others
Established to support foster involvement by Purdue students in water-related projects in distressed areas by providing national and international travel grants.
Presenter: Mike Baldwin
Recipients: Jacob Ohlemiller, Aiman Shamsul

FIELD GEOLOGY AWARDS
Michael C. Gardner Memorial Award
Funded by relatives and friends in the oil industry in memory of EAS geology graduate student Michael Gardner. Presented to a graduate student whose research is field-oriented in the areas of structure/tectonic and stratigraphy/sedimentation.
Presenter: Eric Riggs
Recipients: Clément Bataille, Ping Fu, Christine Kassab

Ned Smith Memorial Field Camp Award
Presented to students attending a field camp in earth sciences and who have demonstrated academic proficiency in their field of study.
Presenter: James Ogg
Recipients: Nicholas Black, Micah Chase, Shawn Dedeker, Cheyne Geverd, Paula Giryn, Joshua Holland, Justin Pflug, Drew Perry, Christopher Stewart, Zachary Umperovitch, Phillip Wolf, Kristen Werling

GRADUATE STUDENT EXPO AWARDS
(sponsored by Shell)
Presenter: Tim Filley

Outstanding Presentations
David Blair: “Testing mechanisms for the formation of a ring of graben in central Raditladi Basin, Mercury”
Justin VanDeVelde: “Hydrology of the early Eocene Lake Flagstaff, central Utah”

Outstanding Posters
Daniel Mendoza: “The Vulcan Project: Total emissions of fossil fuel carbon dioxide, 2002”
Stacy Story: “Chemical sediments from acid saline lake systems in Western Australia”

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS
Kathryn Pokorny Scholarship
Established in memory of Kathryn Pokorny, who was to be a freshman in EAS in Fall 1999 to fulfill her lifelong dream to become a meteorologist. Awarded to an incoming undergraduate student.
Recipient: Alyssa Hendricks (awarded Fall 2009)

Henry Silver Undergraduate Scholarship
Established in honor of Henry Silver, a 1934 Purdue Alumnus. Presented to an undergraduate student in environmental geosciences including environmental aspects of Atmospheric Science, Hydrogeology, and Engineering Geology.
Recipient: Casey Reid
Wilton Melhorn Undergraduate Scholars Award
Established in honor of Wilton Melhorn, a former EAS faculty member and Department Head. Awarded to an undergraduate student who excels in academics.

Recipient: Josiah Maas

EAS Founders Scholarship
An undergraduate merit scholarship honoring Ernest Agee, Phillip Smith, and Dayton Vincent; the founders of the Department’s atmospheric science program.

Recipient: Phil Smith

Recipient(s): Paul Brandt, Kandace Gleason, Kayla Hudson, Joseph Woznicki

Mark and Carol Lester Earth & Atmospheric Sciences Scholarship
A merit-based endowed scholarship established by Mark and Carol Lester to support an exceptional student entering the department.

Recipient: Mark Lester

Recipient: Justin Wright

Trustee and Presidential Scholarships

Merit-based scholarships awarded in Fall 2009 for incoming freshman with superior academic records in math, science, English, social studies and foreign language.

Recipient: Brenda Bowen

Recipient(s):
- Jacob Banitt
- Paul Brandt
- Daniel Burgin
- Kandace Gleason
- Alyssa Hendricks
- Kayla Hudson
- Josiah Maas
- Bryce O’Neill
- Casey Reid
- Joseph Woznicki
- Justin Wright

GRADUATING AND OUTSTANDING FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENTS

Senior Student Recognitions
Recognition of all graduating seniors

Recipient: Professor William Zinsmeister and Nancy Stewart, EAS Undergraduate Counselor

Recipient(s):
- Amanda Bullock
- Micah Chase
- Emily Cornett
- Amanda Eggink
- Nicholas Farny
- Jessica Gebhard
- Steven Goedde
- Brenton Kraemer
- Luke Little
- Russell Martin
- Robert Miller
- Drew Perry
- Dustin Pittman
- Daniel Sheehan
- Adam Simkowski
- David Solomon
- Christopher Stewart
- August Veron
- Phillip Wolf

College of Science Faculty and Staff Awards
Customer Service Award for Staff recognizes outstanding customer service within the College of Science.

Recipient: Nancy Stewart, EAS Undergraduate Counselor

Engagement Award for Faculty recognizes demonstrated excellence in innovation and impact in engagement.

Recipient: Dev Niyogi

Graduate Student Mentor Award for Faculty recognizes excellence in effectively nurturing the professional and personal growth of graduate students.

Recipient: Sonia Lasher-Trapp

Leadership Award for Faculty recognizes excellence in leadership that improves the environment for faculty, staff, and students and promotes diversity and inclusiveness in the College.

Recipient: Tim Filley

Undergraduate Advising Award for Faculty recognizes excellence in advising and mentoring undergraduate students in their professional and personal growth.

Recipient: Brenda Bowen

Outstanding Undergraduate Students (sponsored by ExxonMobil)
Awarded to undergraduate students demonstrating outstanding scholarship and/or service.

Recipient: Wen-wen Tung

Recipient(s):
- Senior (ATMS), Dustin Pittman
- Senior (Solid Earth), Nicholas Farny
- Junior, Kevin Van Leer
- Sophomore, Kandace Gleason
- Freshman, Kayla Hudson

Outstanding Graduate Student (sponsored by ExxonMobil)
Awarded to a student demonstrating outstanding scholarship and research achievement as well as excellence in teaching and/or service.

Recipient: Ken Ridgway

Recipient: Emily Finzel

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!!!
2010 CHARLES VITALIANO GRANT-IN-AID
The Indiana University Geologic Field Station is pleased to announce that they are offering a $2000 Grant-In-Aid to support student research on the geology and geophysics of western Montana and adjacent areas during the summer of 2010. For more information see the grant description and the grant application that is due May 31, 2010. To learn more about the facilities, you may visit their website at http://www.indiana.edu/~iuqfs/.

2010 FORD COLLEGE COMMUNITY CHALLENGE
Ford Motor Company Fund will be running a third round of the Ford College Community Challenge (Ford C3) in 2010. Read more...

GEOLOGY FIELD POUCH
Pouches “designed by a geologist” great for field camp, graduate work, and all professionals in the field. Read more...

EAS LIBRARY’S NEWEST BOOKS
Click here to see a list of new books in the EAS library in the last two weeks.

A NOTE FROM OUR ACADEMIC COUNSELOR
Fall/Summer 2010 Registration Times

| Current Freshman | April 19 8 am – April 24 12 pm |
| OPEN to all      | April 26 8 am – June 12 pm      |
|                  | AND                              |
|                  | July 26 8 am – August 29 12 pm   |

No Fear Job Search – Working Offline
Tuesday, May 11, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. PMU, Lafayette Room (2nd floor). This is an all day, interactive event with employers and CCO consultants for seniors graduating now through December 2010. Registration begins April 29th at 12 noon at www.cco.purdue.edu.

Happy Earth Day (April 22).

Nancy

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!
Maarten de Hoop – April 20
Dayton Vincent – April 23
**The Gavriel Salvendy International Symposium on Frontiers in Industrial Engineering**  
April 23–24, 2010

Cultural Factors in Decision Making and Action

**Distinguished speakers to present on cultural factors in decision making and action at Purdue, April 23-24**

Interim Head for Industrial Engineering, Joseph Pekny and Organizing Committee Chair, Robert Proctor cordially invite you to attend the first Gavriel Salvendy International Symposium on Frontiers in Industrial Engineering

April 23-24, 2010  
Stewart Center, Room 302  
Purdue University  
West Lafayette, Indiana

**Symposium Agenda & Registration @ [www.conf.purdue.edu/FRONTIERS](http://www.conf.purdue.edu/FRONTIERS)**  
Purdue personnel should enter 7265 in the “coupon code” box.

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**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/](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) 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](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](http://calendar.science.purdue.edu/eas/seminars).