

April 19, 2010

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

Monday, April 19, at 4 p.m. in CIVL 2201: "The Terrestrial Planets and Asteroid Belt: Understanding Planet Formation in the Inner Solar System." Dr. David O'Brien, Planetary Science Institute, Tucson, Arizona

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.

Presenter: *Phil Smith*

Recipients: *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.

Presenter: *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.

Presenter: *Brenda Bowen*

Recipients:

<i>Jacob Banitt</i>	<i>Josiah Maas</i>
<i>Paul Brandt</i>	<i>Bryce O'Neill</i>
<i>Daniel Burgin</i>	<i>Casey Reid</i>
<i>Kandace Gleason</i>	<i>Joseph Woznicki</i>
<i>Alyssa Hendricks</i>	<i>Justin Wright</i>
<i>Kayla Hudson</i>	

GRADUATING AND OUTSTANDING FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENTS

Senior Student Recognitions

Recognition of all graduating seniors

Presenters: *Professor William Zinsmeister and Nancy Stewart, EAS Undergraduate Counselor*

Recipient:

<i>Amanda Bullock</i>	<i>Robert Miller</i>
<i>Micah Chase</i>	<i>Drew Perry</i>
<i>Emily Cornett</i>	<i>Dustin Pittman</i>
<i>Amanda Eggink</i>	<i>Daniel Sheehan</i>
<i>Nicholas Farny</i>	<i>Adam Simkowski</i>
<i>Jessica Gebhard</i>	<i>David Solomon</i>
<i>Steven Goedde</i>	<i>Christopher Stewart</i>
<i>Brenton Kraemer</i>	<i>August Veron</i>
<i>Luke Little</i>	<i>Phillip Wolf</i>
<i>Russell Martin</i>	

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.

Presenter: *Wen-wen Tung*

Recipients:

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.

Presenter: *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/~iugfs/>.

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

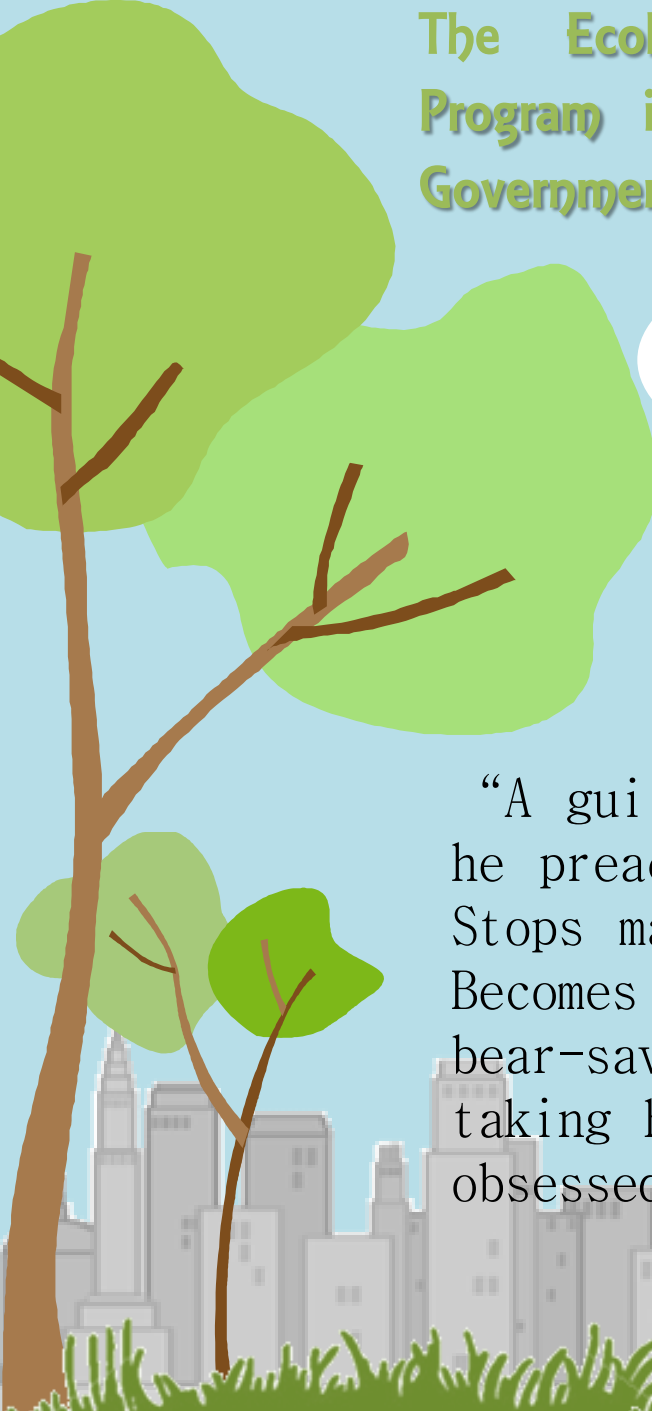


HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

Maarten de Hoop – April 20

Dayton Vincent – April 23

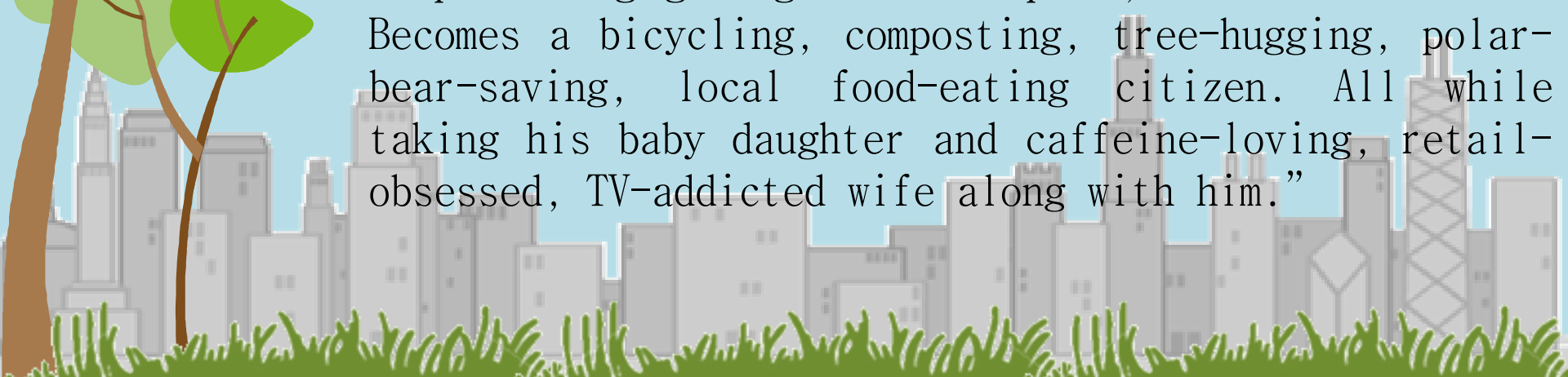




The Ecological Sciences & Engineering Interdisciplinary Program in conjunction with the Purdue Graduate Student Government Environmental Film Series Present:

NO IMPACT MAN

EARTH DAY 2010 (APRIL 22)
LYNN 1136, 4:00PM



“A guilty New York liberal decides to practice what he preaches for one year. Turns off the electricity. Stops making garbage. Gives up TV, taxis & take-out. Becomes a bicycling, composting, tree-hugging, polar-bear-saving, local food-eating citizen. All while taking his baby daughter and caffeine-loving, retail-obsessed, TV-addicted wife along with him.”



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
Purdue personnel should enter 7265 in the "coupon code" box.

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>.

