

September 7, 2010

THE HEAD'S PERSPECTIVE

In Purdue's fall calendar, Labor Day seems to be about when we are all pretty much in swing with the semester, after the first two weeks of new arrivals and getting up to speed with classes. The EAS seminar series got off to a great start with Professor Bill Zinsmeister's presentation on the BP Oil Spill, and we have an excellent schedule of speakers for the rest of the semester (you can see the full listing on the calendar on the department's web page). There are also many other seminar series and special lectures you might be interested in – both in other departments and in research centers with strong EAS ties such as the Purdue Climate Change Research Center, the Energy Center, the Purdue Water Community and the Center for the Environment.

Other great opportunities you might want to take advantage of include a great series put on by the Center for Instructional Excellence. I can highly recommend the upcoming workshop "Everything You Need to Know About Teaching According to George Bodner" on September 9th. Professor Bodner is the Arthur Kelly Distinguished Professor of Chemical Education and has been teaching chemistry at Purdue for more than 35 years. More info at <http://www.cie.purdue.edu/>.

As an important expansion of his geophysical work in Haiti, Professor Eric Calais has accepted a one year assignment as a science advisor with the United Nations Development Program to lead an effort to reduce the risks and damage from earthquakes in Haiti. This is an important component of the Disaster Risk Reduction Program in Haiti, and we are very proud of his accomplishments and the important impact that this work will have in Haiti. The critical role of science in society was also highlighted in a workshop focusing on emissions trading, organized by the Purdue Climate Change Research Center last spring – a summary report highlighting the main lessons learned along with a video of the presentations has just been released and is available through the PCCRC web site. In addition, Purdue recently launched a new initiative focused on enhancing Purdue's role in policy, the Global Policy Research

Institute (GPRI; <http://www.purdue.edu/research/gpri/>) headed by Professor Arden Bement (former director of the National Science Foundation). A seed grant program has already been announced by GPRI, and other opportunities are in the pipeline.

Lots of great opportunities to learn and to contribute.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Friday, September 10

- Computer Committee, CIVL 2201 (10:30 a.m.)

Monday, September 13

- EAS Primary Committee, CIVL 3201 (11:30 a.m.)

EAS SEMINAR

Thursday, September 9, at 3:30 p.m. in CIVL 1252: "Using geodetic, geologic, and seismic data to constrain asthenospheric flow beneath Central SE Asia." Dr. Lucy Flesch, EAS, Purdue University

Refreshments at 3 p.m. in CIVL 2201

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

OUR RECENT PUBLICATIONS

McGuire, A.D., D.J. Hayes, D.W. Kicklighter, M. Manizza, Q. Zhuang, M. Chen, M. J. Follows, K. R. Gurney, J.W. McClelland, J. M. Melillo, B. J. Peterson, and R. G. Prinn, 2010: An analysis of the carbon balance of the Arctic Basin from 1997 to 2006, *Tellus*, DOI: 10.1111/j.1600-0889.2010.00497.x.

RECENT PRESENTATIONS

Terry West attended the 61st annual meeting of the Highway Geology Symposium (HGS), from August 23 to 26, 2010, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, where he presented the oral paper, "Road and Housing Construction on Reclaimed Coal Mine Spoil Undergoes Settlement Damage in Southwest Indiana." The paper was coauthored by Dr. Nils Johansen, Professor at Southern Indiana University, who is a Purdue alumnus in engineering geology. Dr. West also attended the Steering Committee of HGS, the governing body of the organization, where plans were made for next year's meeting in

Lexington, Kentucky. Dr. West served as Chairman of HGS, from 1979 to 1983 and hosted the annual meeting of the organization at Purdue University in 1967. He received the Medallion Award from HGS in 1983. Only 33 of these highest awards given by HGS have been granted in the 61 years of the organization.

Wen-Yih Sun presented a paper entitled, "Numerical Simulations over Mountains" (with W.-R. Hsu, P. Haines, M.-E. Hsieh, S.-H. Chen, and D. Grove) at the Hydrospheric Atmospheric Research Center, Nagoya University, Japan, on August 27.

Wen-Yih Sun presented a paper entitled, "Numerical Simulations over Mountains" (with W.-R. Hsu, P. Haines, M.-E. Hsieh, S.-H. Chen, and D. Grove) at *The Third International Workshop on Next-Generation NWP Models: Bridging parameterization, explicit clouds and large eddies* in Jeju Island, Korea on August 29-September 1, 2010.

Jon Harbor was the lunchtime speaker at the Lafayette Rotary Club on August 31st, and gave a talk titled, "Perspectives of a Traveling Earth Scientist: The Tibetan Plateau." Jon also gave presentations in August at the Central Asian Institute of Applied Geosciences in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, "Glacial Geomorphology and Glaciation of the Tibetan Plateau and Tian Shan" and at the Department of Resource and Environmental Geography, Peking University, China, "Getting into Graduate School in the US."

UPCOMING OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES!

Thursday September 9: Working with Stream Tables. High School students visiting campus and doing activities with water tables. Group arriving between 9:00 and 9:30 a.m.

Thursday September 16: Make a Splash Water day. We will be doing water activities with local 3rd and 4th grade students at Ross Park. This event is held with the Lafayette Parks Department. We will be there from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; you can meet us there for part of the day or join us for the full day!

Tuesday October 5: Science networking symposium "Ask the Expert!" at the Pike High School Media Center in Indianapolis. Session one is 2:30 – 4:15 p.m.; session two is 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. Come share your scientific experience with high school students, PK-12 teachers, administrators, counselors!

If interested in helping with any of these opportunities, contact Steven Smith (mrsmith@purdue.edu).

NEW PEOPLE IN EAS

Zhijun Zhao Visiting Scholar



Zhijun Zhao is from the School of Geography, Nanjing Normal University, Jiangsu Province, China. He obtained a Ph.D. from the Department of Geography, Lanzhou University in 2000, and is interested in long-term landscape evolution, Cenozoic stratigraphy and Quaternary environment change. Zhijun teaches Geomorphology to undergraduates, Global Changes and Quaternary Geology to graduate students in Nanjing. Currently at Purdue he is working with Prof. Granger on cosmogenic burial dating and paleo-erosion rate reconstruction of late Cenozoic molasse deposition along the northern margin of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau. This work may contribute to the understanding of the interaction between tectonics, climate and land surface processes for the High Asia.

Michael King Graduate Student

My name is Michael King; I am currently a new graduate student in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at Purdue University. As a research subject for my thesis project, I am interested in examining the chemical and isotopic composition of aerosols (fine particulates) collected from air on the Navajo Nation and Southern Ute Reservation as a way of assessing sources of air pollution in the region. I did my undergraduate studies at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas. For the past four years I have worked for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe Environmental Programs Division, primarily in air quality monitoring and fields directly related to air quality.

EAS TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT NEWS

Science IT is pleased to announce the new EAS interactive directory in the corridor outside the department head's office! This directory makes use of the Samsung touch screen LCD panel, and features faculty, staff, and graduate student information including pictures, office and phone numbers, interest areas, etc. for EAS personnel. A special thanks to James Wheaton, a Science IT student that developed the interface to the Exhibio software to make this work. If you have questions or problems with the interactive directory, please send an email to eas-help@purdue.edu.

EAS LIBRARY'S NEWEST BOOKS

Click [here](#) to see a list of new books in the EAS library in the last two weeks.

PHYSICAL HYDROGEOLOGY POSITION AVAILABLE

The Department of Geosciences at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) invites applicants for a tenure-track faculty position in physical hydrogeology at the rank of Assistant Professor with a start date of August 2011. [Read more...](#)

MISC OPPORTUNITIES

September 28 Workshop: "OVPR Research Development Services and SPS Pre-Award Services Workshop" 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., lunch provided, Stewart 218. Register at <http://www.purdue.edu/research/vpr/global/events/events.php?id=635¢er=26>.

NASA Request for Information (RFI). Deadline: September 12 for responses related to 1) Space Technology Research Grants, 2) Innovative Advanced Concepts, and 3) Game Changing Development. [Read more...](#)

Undergraduate Research: Click [here](#) to find a listing of funding opportunities, by agency, that have the potential to engage undergraduates in externally-funded research.

EXXONMOBIL INTERVIEWS SEPTEMBER 21-22

ExxonMobil will be on campus **September 21-22** to interview M.S. and Ph.D. students who are interested in petroleum geoscience-related careers in areas associated with: Exploration, Production, Geophysics Specialties, and Research. They will be interviewing students for both regular employment and internships. See posted flyer for additional details.

Please submit an application, your resume and copies of your transcripts online at (www.exxonmobil.com/apply) one week prior to interviewing. To sign up for an interview time, please see Kathy Kincade in CIVL 2169D.

In addition, Lisa Roehl, Recruiter for ExxonMobil, will also present an overview on Monday, September 20 at 5 p.m. in CIVL 2201. All interested faculty and students are invited to attend.

GRADUATE STUDENT OPPORTUNITY

Periship dissertation fellowships in hazards, risk, and disasters. 2011 Deadline: February 1, 2011. The Program will also be available in 2012

The Public Entity Risk Institute (PERI) and Natural Hazards Center at the University of Colorado with support from the National Science Foundation (NSF) has established a program that awards dissertation fellowships for work in all aspects of natural and human-made hazards, risk, and disasters in all disciplines. Up to six grants, up to \$10,000 each, will be awarded in 2011 to doctoral students to support their dissertation work on natural and human-made hazards, risk, and disasters in any relevant field of the natural and physical sciences, social and behavioral sciences, specialties in engineering, or interdisciplinary programs such as environmental studies. The grants are flexible and can be used for data collection, travel for field work, or for presentation of findings at meetings, purchase of software, data entry assistance, statistical analysis services, or a combination of these or other similar purposes (but, NOT for stipends or tuition). For more information, go to: <http://clas.ucdenver.edu/periship/index.html>.

JOB FAIR OPPORTUNITY

The Rocky Mountain Rendezvous of Geoscience Students and Employers (RMR) job fair is being held for the 8th time this year on the campus of the University of Wyoming on October 8-11. [Read more](#)

A NOTE FROM OUR ACADEMIC COUNSELOR Industrial Roundtable 2010

September 14-15, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. each day on the Memorial Mall. If it rains, they will move the fair and announce the location. If you're interested in a permanent job, a summer internship, or just want to explore industrial possibilities for future reference, this is the largest job fair of the year. EAS majors are not listed in the website as the majors being sought; however, companies who work in energy, environmental, geotechnical, and consulting are possibilities as are organizations such as the Peace Corps, military, and government agencies. You can always approach a company and ask if they have staff in your area of interest. As an example, Parsons Corporation has in the past posted jobs for geologists.

You will need resumes, business casual or business formal clothes, and I recommend doing research on the types of companies listed above to see if they might be a fit. There will be booklets near the time

of the fair which help identify what companies are attending. This page will provide useful tips: http://www.purdueesc.org/fairs/ir_student_faq.php.

Also:

Learn how to work a Job Fair! IR Prep Night will be held Thursday, **September 9th**, from 6:30 - 7:30 in PHYS 114. Dinner will be provided.

Spring 2011 Study Abroad

September 15 is the application deadline for most spring study abroad programs. Note: Application needs to be started but not necessarily completed

by that date; and if a program does not fill, there *might* be some latitude on the application process.

Common Reading Nominations

Any member of the Purdue (faculty, staff, students, alumni) and local communities is welcome to submit a title for consideration. Nominations may be submitted at www.purdue.edu/sats/commonreading. The deadline for submission is **October 15**, 2010, after which the Common Reading Committee will begin its review process.

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>.

