THE HEAD'S PERSPECTIVE
Undergraduate research has long been recognized as a very effective way for students to learn more about science and how it is done, as well as to develop a wide range of analysis, time management and communication skills and to explore their interests in the field. We have had many of our undergraduate researchers present the results of their work at professional conferences and in journal publications, and their research experiences have helped motivate and prepare them for successful careers in the Earth and Atmospheric Sciences and other fields.

An exciting new initiative at Purdue, developed with significant leadership from our own Professor Greg Michalski, is the new Journal of Purdue Undergraduate Research (www.jpur.org). The Journal has been established by Purdue University Press to publish outstanding research papers written by Purdue undergraduates, professional students, and high school students involved in research programs at Purdue. Greg Michalski serves as the Chair of the Faculty Advisory Board for the Journal.

If you are an undergraduate working on a research project, or are faculty, staff or a graduate student who is mentoring an undergraduate student research project, please visit www.jpur.org and consider submitting a short article proposal by the February 15th deadline for the inaugural issue of the journal. The Journal will provide participating students with an amazing opportunity to learn about the scholarly publishing process. It is also a great marketing tool for attracting prospective students to Purdue. It would be outstanding if we had several EAS undergraduate research articles in the first issue of the Journal of Purdue Undergraduate Research!

Jon Harbor (jharbor@purdue.edu)

EAS SEMINAR
Thursday, January 27, at 3:30 p.m. in CIVL 1252:
"Cratered Terrain Evolution, Regolith Development, and Slope Processes on Rocky Asteroid Surfaces." James Richardson, EAS, Purdue

Refreshments at 3 p.m. in CIVL 2201
For more information, see the EAS online calendar.

OUR RECENT PUBLICATIONS


SEISMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
On January 7, Eric Calais was elected to the Board of Directors of the Seismological Society of America. His three-year term will begin in April 2011.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC VIDEO
Darryl Granger is featured in a National Geographic video on the World's Biggest Cave, in Vietnam. The next airing is on the National Geographic Channel, Thursday, January 27 at 10 pm.

DEADLIEST EARTHQUAKES
A new episode on earthquakes including the events in Chile and Haiti premiered the week of January 17 on PBS television. It highlighted several of UNAVCO's collaborators and projects, including Mike Bevis (OSU), Eric Calais (Purdue) and an appearance by UNAVCO's Freddy Blume. Read more...
**CIC/SUMITHSONIAN FELLOWSHIP**

EAS graduate student Ms. Yini Ma, who is pursuing her PhD with Tim Filley on how the chemistry and stocks of soil organic matter in temperate forests is impacted by invasive European earthworms, was awarded the CIC/Smithsonian Fellowship. This award was presented to six students nationally to support research with the Smithsonian Institution. Each of the twelve CIC Universities chose one PhD-seeking graduate student to enter into the competition. Yini will spend the next year in the Baltimore area working with collaborators at Johns Hopkins University and the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center carrying out experiments to measure gas flux from forest soils undergoing disturbance by the invasive species, determine if this phenomenon stabilizes or destabilizes soil carbon pools, and determine impacts to microbial community structure and function. The fellowships carry a stipend of $30,000, plus $4,000 in research expenses.

**INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL PROCEDURES**

Please see the following webpage for the latest requirements regarding international travel procedures:


**SCIENCE FAIR JUDGES NEEDED FOR LOCAL SCHOOL**

Klondike Middle School is seeking judges for its Science Fair to be held Thursday, February 17th. The morning round of judging will be from 8:30 - 11:30 and the afternoon judging from 12:30 - 3:30. They will provide breakfast and lunch to the judges. Undergrads, grads, post docs, faculty and staff all welcome to volunteer! For more information and to volunteer contact Sue Nall at snail@tsc.k12.in.us.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

The college of education along with the P-14 Stem Education Program is hosting the spring 2011 Purdue P-12 Engagement Symposium “Purdue and the schools”. The date is March 1 at the Hall of Discovery and Learning Research. The time frame is 8:15am to 2:30pm. We will have a working lunch where we will launch the web portal with a demonstration. There will be a poster session for faculty who would like to participate.

**EAS WISP MEETING**

February 1st at 12 -1 p.m. in CIVL 2201
Topic: The Stress Saver Program from the Student Wellness Office

**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PHYSICS (GEOPHYSICS)**

University of Alaska Southeast

The Department of Natural Sciences at the University of Alaska Southeast in Juneau, Alaska seeks an Assistant Professor of Physics (Geophysics) to start in Fall 2011. The successful candidate will be responsible for teaching, research and service. Read more...

**A NOTE FROM OUR ACADEMIC COUNSELOR**

Conversations Roundtable

Do you enjoy meeting and talking with people from other countries? If so, please join one of the informal undergraduate roundtable discussions. FREE pizza and soft drinks will be served. The Oral English Proficiency Program (OEPP) sponsors a
course (ENGL 620) for non-native English speaking graduate students who are preparing to be instructional TAs at Purdue. Roundtable Discussions give ENGL 620 students the opportunity to practice speaking English in a casual setting. Discussion topics vary, but may include such topics as what undergraduates are looking for in a TA, American culture, and what you like to do in your free time. Four different Roundtables are scheduled each semester. This semester, the dates are **February 21, 22, 23, and 24**, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more Information or to volunteer, visit the OEPP website at [www.purdue.edu/oepp/](http://www.purdue.edu/oepp/) and click on the “register” button.

**Informal Groups**

Want to improve your English conversation skills? Join conversation groups where you can practice your speaking and listening skills in a friendly environment, discuss language learning strategies, learn about language and culture, meet interesting people, and have fun! Groups meet from January 10th through April 29th in HEAV 226 on the following dates and times: M 2:00-3:00, T 1:30-2:30, W 11:00-12:00, R 12:00-1:00, and F 10:30-11:30.

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**Study Tip of the Week**

Research findings by Jeffrey D. Karpicke, a Purdue assistant professor of psychological sciences who studies learning and memory, show that the time students invest in rereading or reviewing their notes would be better spent practicing retrieval, such as self-testing, to ensure better learning. The author describes “learning [as] fundamentally about retrieving, and our research shows that practicing retrieval while you study is crucial to learning. Self-testing enriches and improves the learning process… and putting the [study] material away and practicing retrieval is such a potent study strategy.” Read the complete article [here](#).

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!**

Alex Kubacki – January 28

Tom Tharp – January 28

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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/info_tech/index.php](http://www.purdue.edu/eas/info_tech/index.php).

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).
2011 Graduate Student Research Expo

February 12, 2011
CIVL 1252
8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

!! Call for Presentations, Posters, and Judges !!

Showcase your research in a 15-minute presentation or poster format and see what other graduate students are doing in the department.

Faculty needed to judge presentations!

Please send title, abstract and format to:

Mallie Toth
toth2@purdue.edu
Deadline for abstracts: February 1, 2011
To keep up with the pace of today’s fast evolving scientific and technological world and to promote the internationalization of higher education in Taiwan, Academia Sinica established the Taiwan International Graduate Program (TIGP) in 2002, in collaboration with a consortium of key national research universities. The interdisciplinary Ph.D. programs offered by the TIGP are designed to provide advanced scientific training and research environments for international young talents who wish to do advanced research, to think critically and experience a mature international academic setting.

Ph.D Programs

The interdisciplinary Ph.D. programs available for the 2011 fall semester:

1. Chemical Biology and Molecular Biophysics
   http://www.sinica.edu.tw/~tigpcmb/

2. Molecular Science and Technology
   http://tigp.iams.sinica.edu.tw/MST.htm

3. Molecular and Biological Agricultural Sciences
   http://www.sinica.edu.tw/~ibawww/mba/mba.html

4. Molecular and Cell Biology
   http://www.imb.sinica.edu.tw/mcb/

5. Bioinformatics
   http://tigpbbp.iis.sinica.edu.tw/

6. Nano Science and Technology
   http://www.phys.sinica.edu.tw/TIGP-NANO/

7. Molecular Medicine
   http://www.ibms.sinica.edu.tw/mmp/

8. Computational Linguistics and Chinese Language Processing
   (this program will not admit new students in 2011)

9. Earth System Science
   http://www.rcce.sinica.edu.tw/TIGP-ESS

* In the near future, TIGP is planning on setting up more interdisciplinary Ph.D. programs in disciplines such as Neuroscience and Astronomy.

TIGP?

- TIGP is under the supervision of Academia Sinica, a government-funded foremost research institution with a proud tradition and international recognition.
- TIGP, in cooperation with top research universities in Taiwan, offers highly specialized, inter-disciplinary Ph.D. programs at cutting-edge of science and technology.
- TIGP offers all-English tutoring and research environment, world-class faculty and state-of-the-art facilities.
- TIGP offers graduate fellowships NT$32,000/month (~USD1050/month) to each student admitted to the program for up to 3 years.

Requirements

1. Bachelor's Degree and/or Master's Degree
2. English Proficiency Test Score
3. GRE Score (optional)
4. Transcripts
5. Three Letters of Recommendation
6. Statement of Purpose

1. TIGP offers admissions for the fall semester only.
2. The official application deadline is March 31, 2011.
3. Application can be submitted through the on-line application system (http://www.tigp.sinica.edu.tw; available from December 2010) or by post to TIGP Admissions office (see below for contact information).

For general enquiries of TIGP and application, please contact TIGP Office:

- Ms. Nancy Yang
  TEL: 886-2-2789-8050

- Ms. Alice Lee
  TEL: 886-2-2789-9696

TIGP Admissions Office, Academia Sinica
128 Academia Road, Section 2
Nankang, Taipei 115, Taiwan
FAX: 886-2-2785-8944
E-mail: tigp@gate.sinica.edu.tw

For enquiries concerning specific Ph.D. program, please contact program coordinator/assistance:

Bioinformatics (Bioinfo.)
Coordinator: Dr. Wen-Lian Hsu
Program Assistant: Ms. Elsa Pan
Tel: 866-2-2789-3799 ext. 2210
E-mail: elsapan@iis.sinica.edu.tw

Chemical Biology and Molecular Biophysics (CBMB)
Coordinator: Dr. Po-Huang Liang
Program Assistant: Ms. Cathy Wang
Tel: 866-2-2785-5696 ext. 1164
E-mail: cathyw@gate.sinica.edu.tw

Earth System Science (ESS)
Coordinator: Dr. George T-F Wong
Program Assistant: Ms. Claire Chen
Tel: 866-2-2653-9885 ext. 856
E-mail: clairein@gate.sinica.edu.tw

Molecular and Cell Biology (MCB)
Coordinator: Dr. Nan-Shih Liao
Program Assistant: Ms. Jennifer Wu
Tel: 866-2-2789-9972
E-mail: mbastigp@gate.sinica.edu.tw

Molecular and Biological Agricultural Sciences (MBAS)
Coordinator: Dr. Lie-Fen Shyr
Program Assistant: Ms. Jennifer Wu
Tel: 866-2-2652-2928
E-mail: mbastigp@gate.sinica.edu.tw

Molecular Medicine (MM)
Coordinator: Dr. Yi-Ling Lin
Program Assistant: Ms. Annie Lo
Tel: 866-2-2789-9114
E-mail: Stepsofsun@ibms.sinica.edu.tw

Molecular Science and Technology (MST)
Coordinator: Dr. Chia-Seng Chang
Program Assistant: Ms. Flora Wu
Tel: 866-2-2362-4938
E-mail: jennifer@gate.sinica.edu.tw

Nano Science and Technology (NST)
Coordinator: Dr. Chia-Seng Chang
Program Assistant: Ms. Flora Wu
Tel: 866-2-2789-8794
E-mail: lhwu@phys.sinica.edu.tw
Apply today to one of NASA’s summer research opportunities!

NASA One Stop Shopping Initiative (OSSI) for Recruiting Interns, Fellows and Scholars

For more information, please contact: UNCFSP/ NASA One Stop Shopping Initiative, Phone: 1-800-231-9155, Email: nasaossi.uncfsp.org

We are very excited about our collaboration with NASA on a great new initiative! Students may apply now to one of NASA’s summer research opportunities on or before March 1, 2011. Through the agency’s new Student On-Line Application for Recruiting Interns, Fellows and Scholars (SOLAR) System (http://intern.nasa.gov), undergraduate and graduate students in STEM fields can search and apply to a variety of NASA opportunities. Visit the SOLAR Launchpad at http://intern.nasa.gov. Through this website, students can register, complete one application, and apply to up to 15 specific research opportunities. We encourage qualified students to begin their application today! A completed application must include the following:

- General Information
- Education and Work Experience
- (1) Resume
- (1) Transcript
- (1) Letter of Recommendation (Students should allow enough time to request the Letter of Recommendation, and to have it submitted by the Recommender by March 1st. An application is not complete until the Letter of Recommendation is received by the system.)

As a NASA One Stop Shopping Initiative (OSSI) recruitment specialist, UNCF Special Programs Corporation (UNCFSP) has the important and privileged role of informing, mentoring and preparing interested students to take advantage of the valuable education and career advancement opportunities being offered by NASA. If you have questions or need assistance with completing your application, please call us at 1-800-231-9155 or email: nasaossi.uncfsp.org for assistance.

For more information, please contact: UNCFSP/ NASA One Stop Shopping Initiative, Phone: 1-800-231-9155, Email: nasaossi.uncfsp.org

UNCFSP/ NASA One Stop Shopping Initiative
Phone: 1-800-231-9155
Email: nasaossi.uncfsp.org
To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing today on behalf of the Indiana University Rho Chapter of Sigma Gamma Epsilon, the student honor society for the Earth Sciences. We are an undergraduate and graduate student organization looking to establish a means for students in the earth sciences to present their research, explore career options, and expand their scientific knowledge.

Annually, the Rho Chapter of Indiana University hosts the Crossroads Conference, a small, regional event that invites students from other regional Midwestern schools to present their work in a low-pressure, friendly atmosphere where student research is at the forefront. We encourage upper-level undergraduate and graduate students to submit abstracts for oral or poster presentation, providing a much needed theater in which students can practice and refine their presentation techniques for the future. This year’s theme is “Change with Time” and will encompass scientific work from all fields of geology and environmental science.

We would appreciate your help in encouraging students from your department to participate in this conference by passing this email flier through your email listserv. It contains information regarding the conference, abstract submission, and awards available. The deadline for submission is January 28th, so please pass this information along as soon as possible. Please contact me at adpjohns@indiana.edu if you have any questions.

We look forward to hearing from you and having the opportunity to host students from your department.

Sincerely Yours,

Adam Johnson
President
Rho Chapter
Sigma Gamma Epsilon
Indiana University Department of Geological Sciences
Bloomington, IN 47405

1001 E. 10th Street
Bloomington, Indiana 47405
phone: 812-855-5581