THE HEAD’S PERSPECTIVE

First, many congratulations to Professor Paul Shepson who was honored as a new Fellow of the American Geophysical Union last week at the 2011 Fall AGU Meeting in San Francisco. Only one in a thousand members is elected to Fellowship status each year. He was honored for “exceptional creativity in the study of the atmospheric chemistry of isoprene and of the role of snow and ice surfaces in the atmospheric chemistry of the Arctic.” This is a well-deserved honor and brings great visibility to Purdue and to all that Professor Shepson has achieved. He looked rather sharp in the tuxedo too!

As we head into finals week I hope that all goes well for you and that after a semester of hard work you have a great holiday break and New Year. In addition to the chance to spend time with family and friends, the break is an opportunity for a change of pace, to relax and recharge, and perhaps a time to try something new or just to catch up on things you have been wanting to do for some time. For some, the end of the semester also means a transition to new opportunities. Our EAS students graduating this month are moving on to a wide range of employers and in some cases are going on to pursue even higher degrees. Congratulations on your achievements! We wish you well in your future endeavors, and please come back to visit the department and Purdue on a regular basis!

DECEMBER 2011 GRADUATES

Julianne Bell – Ph.D.
Advisor: Brenda Bowen
Thesis Title: Spectroscopy, Mineralogy, and Morphology of a Jarosite-Bearing Landmark Butte within the Jurassic Navajo Sandstone

Monica (Laureano) Bozeman – M.S.
Advisor: Michael Baldwin/Dev Niyogi
Thesis Title: Land Surface Feedbacks on the Post-Landfall Tropical Cyclone Characteristics using the Hurricane Weather Research and Forecasting (HWRF) Modeling System

Ping Fu – M.S.
Advisor: Jonathan Harbor
Thesis Title: Paleo-glaciations of the Shaluli Shan, southeastern Tibetan Plateau

Melissa McMullen – M.S.
Advisor: Hersh Gilbert
Thesis Title: The Depth Extent of Mantle Processes Contributing to Surface Topography of the Western U.S., as Constrained by the 410 km and 660 km Discontinuities

Benjamin Schwedler – M.S.
Advisor: Michael Baldwin
Thesis Title: Observations and Simulations of Multiscale Convective Systems in the South Asian Summer
Yi-Chi Wang – Ph.D.
Advisor: Wen-wen Tung
Thesis Title: Observations and Simulations of Multiscale Convective Systems in the South Asian Summer

UPCOMING MEETINGS
Wednesday, December 14
• Retirement Celebration / Seasonal Gathering, CIVL 2201 (2:30-5 p.m.)

OUR RECENT PUBLICATIONS

RECENT PRESENTATIONS
Harshvardhan gave two talks last week at the Centre for Atmospheric Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi: “Aerosols: the Uncertain Component of the Climate System,” November 28 and "Air Quality in the Future (and in the Past),” November 29.

NAS APPOINTMENT
Eric Calais has been appointed to serve on the U.S. National Committee for Geodesy and Geophysics at the National Academy of Sciences.

ISMR MEETING
Terry West and undergraduate student Dane Dudley co-authored a poster paper on December 5, 2011 at the Indiana Society of Mining and Reclamation (ISMR) meeting in Jasper, Indiana. The poster was titled “Engineering Geology Study to Determine Source of Elevated Arsenic Values in Groundwater Near Mt. Vernon Indiana”. The two-day conference (5th and 6th) was attended by about 150 coal mine employees, consultants, industry representative, state employees and university personnel. Along with the poster session, three workshops were sponsored plus a full-day technical session. Dr. West serves on the fourteen-member Executive Committee of ISMR, appointed by the Director of Indiana Department of Natural Resources, which plans the annual meeting for early December each year.

FACULTY POSITION IN CLIMATE MODELING
Purdue University in conjunction with the Purdue Climate Change Research Center (PCCRC) invites applications for a faculty appointment in the area of climate modeling. This is a full-time, tenure track assistant professor position with an appointment in the department or departments most appropriate for the successful candidate. Read more...

TENURE-TRACK ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN
EARTH SCIENCE EDUCATION
NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Northern Illinois University Department of Geology and Environmental invites applications for an anticipated tenure-track position in Earth Science Education. Read more...

A NOTE FROM OUR ACADEMIC COUNSELOR
Graduate Support for Undergraduates
The Charles C. Chappelle Fellowship provides a one-year fellowship to students with undergraduate degrees from Purdue for their post-graduate research at Purdue University. Chappelle Fellows are selected on the basis of character, intellectual ability, and promise of degree attainment. The Chappelle Fellowship provides a stipend, Graduate School Fellow Scholarship, payment of most fees, and a medical insurance supplement. The flyer is at the end of this Newsletter; application due January 27, 2012.

Calendar
December 12 - 17 Final Exams
December 18 Winter Commencement
December 20 Fall grades posted in myPurdue (late in the day)
January 9, 2012 Spring semester classes begin

I hope exams go well and have a great semester break.

Nancy

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!
Ling Wang – December 29
Suzanne Zurn-Birkhimer – December 31
Harshvardhan – January 1
Qianlai Zhuang – January 2
Wishing you safe and happy holidays!!!
CHARLES C. CHAPPELLE GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS
The Graduate School

Deadline: Friday, January 27, 2012

The Charles C. Chappelle Fellowship provides a one-year fellowship to students with undergraduate degrees from Purdue for the furtherance of post-graduate research at Purdue University. Chappelle Fellows are selected on the basis of character, intellectual ability, and promise of degree attainment. The Chappelle Fellowship provides a stipend, Graduate School Fellow Scholarship, payment of most fees, and a medical insurance supplement.

Application and Selection Process
Students must submit the following material by uploading them to Blackboard Vista as one pdf file. View the Submission Guidelines on the Graduate School website for all the details on how to load your application.
1. a curriculum vitae or a resume which includes the last 5 digits of your PUID;
2. an essay (1000 words or less) addressing Purdue’s impact on the student’s development through one, two or three of Purdue’s missions of learning, discovery and engagement;
3. an official Purdue transcript – Mailed to the Graduate School Fellowship Office, Young Hall Room 160
4. A letter of recommendation from a Purdue faculty member. Email the letter as a pdf to the Graduate School Fellowship Office fellowships@purdue.edu by the application deadline. The letter must be submitted separate from the Graduate School Application.

Selection of Chappelle Fellows is conducted by members of the graduate faculty, utilizing materials in the Graduate School admission application and the Chappelle Fellowship application.

Proposals are evaluated based upon:
- intellectual ability;
- scholarly activities and abilities;
- engagement within the university and community;
- adherence to program guidelines;
- Purdue Impact essay.

Student Eligibility
Recipients of Chappelle Fellowships must possess a Purdue undergraduate degree, need to have completed and submitted a graduate school application, be admitted to Purdue in a degree-granting graduate program at the time of the award (student does not have to be admitted at the time of application), be enrolled in a Purdue degree-granting graduate program for less than one semester, and must demonstrate superior academic achievement and scholarly abilities.

Award Provisions
The tenure of the Chappelle Fellowship is one year, and the Graduate School provides:
- Stipend of $18,000;
- Graduate School Fellow Scholarship;
- Medical Insurance Supplement;
- Graduate Appointment Fee;
- Repair and Rehabilitation Fee;
- International Student Fee (where applicable).

Award Terms and Conditions
Recipients must:
- be enrolled and maintain status in a degree-granting graduate program at Purdue;
- register for at least eight credits in both the fall and the spring sessions and for at least six credits during the summer session. Fellows who are not registered during the summer session will not receive a stipend in June and July;
- maintain satisfactory academic and scholarly performance and progress and satisfactory work performance;
- maintain a valid e-mail address with the Fellowship Office;
- submit an Academic Progress Report each semester to the Fellowship Office;
- adhere to the Graduate School Fellowship guidelines.

Contact Information
The Charles C. Chappelle Graduate Fellowships are administered by the Graduate School. Consult the Graduate School Fellowship Manual at http://www.gradschool.purdue.edu/funding for complete details regarding the Charles C. Chappelle Graduate Fellowship and other Graduate School Fellowships. Questions may be addressed to the Fellowship Office, Graduate School, at 4-2598 or fellowships@purdue.edu.