

December 8, 2008

THE HEAD'S PERSPECTIVE

Founders Atmospheric Science Undergraduate Scholarship Endowment

An undergraduate merit scholarship endowment fund honoring the founders of the department's atmospheric science program, Professors Phillip J. Smith, Ernest M. Agee and Dayton Vincent



We are very pleased to announce that the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences will be establishing the *Founders Endowment* for support of undergraduate student scholarships in atmospheric science. The Founders Atmospheric Science Undergraduate Scholarships, to be supported by the endowment, are named in recognition of the three founders of the EAS department's atmospheric science program and curriculum, Phillip J. Smith, Ernest M. Agee and Dayton Vincent. Professors Smith, Agee and Vincent all began their careers at Purdue in the Department of Geosciences (now Earth and Atmospheric Sciences) during the first years of the department, and developed the atmospheric science program in the department (in cooperation with Professors James Newman and Robert Dale from the Agronomy Department). Phil Smith arrived at Purdue in 1967 and was one of the founding members of the department. Ernie Agee and Dayton Vincent joined the department in 1968 and 1970, respectively. Prof. Vincent retired from Purdue in 2001 but is still active in many departmental events. Prof. Smith went on the half-time early retirement program in 2004 and will fully

retire from the university in May of 2009. Prof. Agee continues as a member of the atmospheric science group and the department and maintains his very active teaching and research programs.

The complete text of the *Founders Endowment* announcement is provided later in this newsletter.

We would like to see the *Founders Endowment* grow to a level that would provide at least two scholarship awards in atmospheric science each year. This is a very special opportunity to recognize Professors Smith, Agee and Vincent, AND to create a scholarship fund that will serve our atmospheric science students in perpetuity. We would be very pleased to receive contributions to this endowment fund from EAS faculty and alumni or other friends of EAS. Currently, there is an opportunity, provided by a Purdue donor, to provide one-to-one matching funds for merit scholarship gifts through the Purdue Presidential and Trustees scholarship program. This is a great opportunity as it doubles that impact of a gift!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Monday, December 8

- EAS Faculty Meeting, CIVL 3201 (11:30 a.m.)

SEMINAR

Monday, December 8, at 3:30 p.m. in LILY 2-425:

"Global Biomass and Bioenergy Use and the Environmental Consequences." Qianlai Zhuang, Department of Earth & Atmospheric Sciences and Department of Agronomy, Purdue University

(3:15 p.m. for pre-visiting, coffee, refreshments)

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

OUR RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Crow, S.E., T.R. Filley, M. McCormick, K. Szlavecz, D.E. Stott, D. Gamblin, and G. Conyers, 2008: Earthworms, stand age, and species composition interact to influence particulate organic matter chemistry during forest succession. *Biogeochemistry*, DOI 10.1007/s10533-008-9260-1 (online; 21 Nov 2008).

Michalski, Greg, Michelle Kasem, Jason A. Rech, Sabine Adieu, William S. Showers, Bernie Genna, and Mark Thiemens, 2008: Uncertainties in the oxygen isotopic composition of barium sulfate induced by coprecipitation of nitrate, *Rapid Communications in Mass Spectrometry*, **22**, 2971-2976.

RECENT PRESENTATIONS

Greg Michalski gave a talk entitled, "Multiple Isotope Forensics on Nitrate in the 2007 Poisoning of Wild Horses in Southern Nevada" at the International Symposium on Isotopomers. The symposium was held in Tokyo, Japan, October 6-10, 2008.

Terry West gave two invited talks on Monday, December 1, 2008 for the Department of Earth Sciences, Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. The first one given to a combined class was entitled, "Solid Waste Disposal, Past, Present and Future" and the second, for the Departmental Seminar, "Rock Slope Stability, Description and Analysis."

SCIENCE / ENVIRONMENT NEWS

December 2, 2008

[Carbon Detectives Are Tracking Gases in Colorado](#) By SUSAN MORAN Scientists are tracking where greenhouse gases come from and where they go over time in order to learn how to budget emissions for the long term.

A NOTE FROM OUR ACADEMIC COUNSELOR

Career Opportunities

The CCO is launching [BanyanLink](#), the first college-exclusive professional networking website. Part professional network, part social network, BanyanLink (named for the "self-networking" banyan tree) is being billed as the Internet's first Progressional Networking™ Website. Different from the usual professional networking site, and more focused than a social network, BanyanLink is intended to foster students' and new professionals' ambitions by helping them to connect and collaborate with peers, the CCO, and prospective employers. [Learn more...](#)

CCO has added a new online resource - [Education Portal](#). This resource offers 38 videos on Career

Exploration/Counseling, Job Search, and Post Graduate choices. Click on Articles or Videos in the top menu and find many additional resources.

Summer Research Internships

Links to find program information, deadlines, and other related details are below. Many have January or February deadlines; you can use your semester break to apply!

Education Majors:
<http://www.scied.science.doe.gov/scied/PST/about.htm>

Programs offered by NASA.
http://education.jpl.nasa.gov/higher_ed/undergrad.html

The College of Science maintains a database with information like this plus several more:
<http://www.science.purdue.edu/careers/internships/index.asp>

Course Evaluations

Starting this semester, Purdue will begin phasing in CoursEval 3.0, an online program for end-of-semester instructor and course evaluations.

CoursEval 3.0 replaces the current paper-and-pencil PICES system for several courses but not all. The new system is being phased in and is consistent with the end-of-semester instructor and course evaluation guidelines as approved by the University Senate in 1999 (Senate Document 97-9 Revised).

Results are returned to faculty just hours after the deadline for submitting campus grades; the value to students is that this rapid turnaround allows sufficient time for instructors to modify and improve their courses based on the feedback received before the next semester begins.

Other advantages are that the online system is "greener" (less paper) than the old system and offers open ended questions. Each semester students will have a two-week window in which to complete and submit their surveys. The dates for this fall are Dec. 1-13. Students should have received an online notice.

Nancy

November 14, 2008

Founders Atmospheric Science Undergraduate Scholarship Endowment

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The Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences (EAS) will be establishing the *Founders Endowment* for support of undergraduate student scholarships in atmospheric science. The Founders Atmospheric Science Undergraduate Scholarships, to be supported by the endowment, are named in recognition of the three founders of the EAS department's atmospheric science program and curriculum, Phillip J. Smith, Ernest M. Agee and Dayton Vincent. Professors Smith, Agee and Vincent all began their careers at Purdue in the Department of Geosciences (now Earth and Atmospheric Sciences) during the first years of the department, and developed the atmospheric science program in the department (in cooperation with Professors James Newman and Robert Dale from the Agronomy Department). Phil Smith arrived at Purdue in 1967 and was one of the founding members of the department. Ernie Agee and Dayton Vincent joined the department in 1968 and 1970, respectively. Prof. Vincent retired from Purdue in 2001 but is still active in many departmental events. Prof. Smith went on the half-time early retirement program in 2004 and will fully retire from the university in May of 2009. Prof. Agee continues as a member of the atmospheric science group and the department and maintains his very active teaching and research programs.

Together these three founders of the department's atmospheric science program have provided over 112 years of service (and counting) to EAS, the College of Science and Purdue University! In addition to their efforts in establishing the atmospheric science program at Purdue, and their many research accomplishments, Professors Smith, Agee and Vincent have taught and mentored virtually every undergraduate and graduate student in atmospheric science during the past 40 years. Thus, the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences takes great pride in honoring Professors Smith, Agee and Vincent in establishing the *Founders Endowment* to support undergraduate student scholarships in atmospheric science. This endowment will also establish the first scholarship fund specifically for high achieving undergraduates in atmospheric science. Our initial goal for the endowment fund is to raise \$112,000 – one thousand dollars for each year of service of the founding faculty. Eventually, we expect the endowment to exceed \$500,000 allowing the funds to provide scholarship support for at least two high achieving undergraduate students in atmospheric science each year. Brief bios of Professors Smith, Agee and Vincent are provided below:

Professor Phillip J. Smith

Phillip Smith received his B.S. (1960) in mathematics at Ball State University and M.S. (1964) and PhD (1967) in meteorology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The latter degrees were obtained after serving in the United States Air Force for three years. Upon completion of his PhD, Dr. Smith came to Purdue to initiate degree programs in atmospheric science in the new Department of Geosciences (now Earth and Atmospheric Sciences). Throughout his career, one year of which was spent as a Senior Postdoctoral Fellow at the National Center for Atmospheric Research, Dr. Smith's research and teaching have been in dynamic and synoptic meteorology, with special interests in the energetics and dynamics of extratropical cyclones. He has supervised 11 Ph.D., 30 M.S., and 14 B.S. Honors theses and, with his students, has published over 50 research papers in refereed journals and delivered numerous presentations at national and international conferences and university seminars. Dr. Smith's teaching efforts have been recognized by the Earth and Atmospheric Sciences

Outstanding Teaching Award (1998), Top Ten Teacher in the College of Science (2004), and the prestigious Teaching Excellence Award (2006) given annually by the American Meteorological Society (AMS). He has served the Society as chair of the Committee of Judges for Undergraduate Awards, the Board on Meteorological and Oceanographic Education in Universities, and the Subcommittee on AMS Fellowships and Scholarships and, in addition, served for seven years as an Editor of *Monthly Weather Review*. Dr. Smith has also been recognized as a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society and is a member of the Royal Meteorological Society (FRMets) and the American Geophysical Union.

Professor Ernest M. Agee

Ernest Agee earned his BS (1964) in mathematics and physics at Eastern Kentucky University and MS (1966) and PhD (1968) in atmospheric science at the University of Missouri-Columbia. He subsequently joined the newly established Department of Geosciences at Purdue University in September 1968 to help implement the new BS degree curriculum, as well as plans that established MS and PhD programs in atmospheric science in 1970. Dr. Agee initiated Purdue University's membership in UCAR (University Corporation for Atmospheric Research) and later was elected to two successive terms as a member of the UCAR Board of Trustees. He has served on numerous scientific committees within the AMS, AGU, IAMAP, IUGG, NCAR, IBM, and NOAA and he continues to serve today as Purdue's Scientific Representative to UCAR. Dr. Agee received invitations as a distinguished scientist to visit and lecture at Utrecht University, Max-Planck Institute for Meteorology-University of Hamburg, University of Tokyo, NASA, NOAA and NCAR (including the summer program for Women and Minorities). Dr. Agee was elected to Fellow status in the AMS in 1982, named a Sagamore of the Wabash in 1990, honored with the EAS Outstanding Teaching Award in 2004 and the Graduate Student Mentoring Award in 2007. He has supervised 11 PhD, 26 MS and 6 BS Honors degrees as well as 9 postdoctoral students (all of whom achieved a broad field of accomplishments from professors to research scientists, forecasters to support scientists and program directors to statesmen; including one space shuttle astronaut and one recipient of an Honorary Doctorate from Purdue). Dr. Agee has over 60 research papers in refereed journals, including over 30 with former students, ranging from topics on severe storms and climate change to Great Lakes meteorology. Dr. Agee is currently a member of the AMS, AGU, and AAAS, and during his tenure at Purdue he has served 12 years as either Head or Associate Head of the EAS department.

Professor Dayton Vincent

The year 2009 marks Dayton Vincent's 50th anniversary in the field of atmospheric science. Dr. Vincent spent four years as a weather forecaster in the USAF and received his MS and PhD degrees in meteorology from Oklahoma (1964) and MIT (1970). He spent 31 years as a faculty member in EAS before retiring in 2001. His research interests focused mainly on the disciplines of tropical meteorology and large-scale weather and climate systems in the Southern Hemisphere. Dr. Vincent coauthored 2 books, 2 atlases and 1 AMS monograph in these disciplines, and was an author or coauthor of 60 refereed and 60 other scientific publications. Dr. Vincent also supervised 9 BS (honors), 26 MS and 13 PhD theses. During his career at Purdue he became involved in AMS activities. He was asked and agreed to chair the AMS Committees on Tropical Meteorology (1981, 1982) and on Meteorology and Oceanography of the Southern Hemisphere (1994-1998), as well as the AMS Board on Meteorological and Oceanographic Education in Universities (1989-91). Dr. Vincent's research and service work contributed to his being elected a Fellow of the Society (1984), elected to the Council (1993-94), and in being selected for the Charles Franklin Brooks Award for outstanding professional service over many years (2001). In 1989, he spent a sabbatical at the Institute for Meteorology in Cologne, Germany. This led to the formation of a faculty/grad student exchange program and from 1990 to 2005 more than a dozen exchanges between Cologne and EAS took place. Finally, throughout his career he has enjoyed his association with students whether it be in the classroom, lab or at a social event. Now, in his "senior years", he looks forward to the alumni get-togethers each January at the AMS annual meeting. Dr. Vincent feels fortunate to have such a rewarding experience in EAS and is especially pleased to play a role in the Founder's Scholarship.

PLAN TO JOIN US

at the AGU Fall Meeting!

Purdue University Reception

Alumni, friends, and students, you are invited to attend an informal reception during the 2008 Fall Meeting of the American Geophysical Union (AGU) in San Francisco this December. Join us at the ThirstyBear Restaurant for tapas and drinks on Thursday, December 18, 2008. Come renew old acquaintances, make some new ones, and let's raise a glass to toast Suresh Rao, Purdue's newly elected AGU Fellow!

The event is co-hosted by the Department of Earth & Atmospheric Sciences and the Purdue Climate Change Research Center.

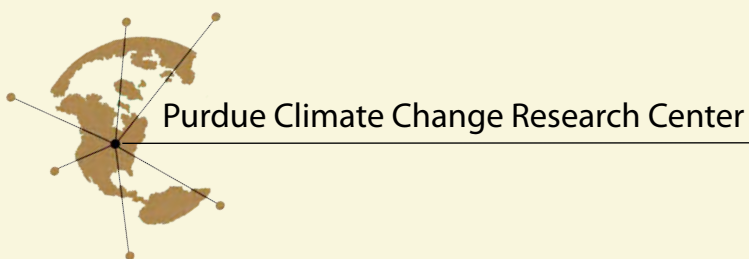
When: Thursday, December 18, 2008

Where: ThirstyBear Restaurant, Billar Room, 661 Howard Street, San Francisco

Times: 7pm - 9pm

Other: For more information contact Dee Gillespie at gillesp@purdue.edu or Rose Filley at rfilley@purdue.edu.

On-site cell 765-479-7540.



ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER:

This weekly newsletter is the place to look to keep up with departmental happenings, announcements (seminars, student group events, scholarship and award deadlines, departmental committees), job and grant opportunities, and anything else you need to know about the department. It should cut down on the glut of email and other forms of separate announcements – **if it is in the newsletter, we assume you know about it** and no other reminders are needed. Past issues will be available on our departmental web site (www.purdue.edu/eas/). 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 newsletter.

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>.

