

May 4, 2009

THE HEAD'S PERSPECTIVE

End of the Semester

The spring semester and the 2008-09 academic year are winding down. We hope that the semester has been productive and enjoyable for you, and that you are looking forward to summer.

Congratulations to the EAS undergraduates who are receiving the Bachelor of Science degree this May. Commencement is May 15. There will be a College of Science reception for all CoS graduates, family and friends, and faculty and staff on Friday, May 15, 2009 at 2:30 p.m. in the Stewart Center, Rooms 302 & 306. The EAS Bachelor of Science degree recipients for this semester are: Andrew Arnold, Jace Bauer, Kyle Bergman, Meredith Ervin, Bradley Hegyi, Elizabeth Johnson, Zachary Mangin, James Mathews, Jesse Nusbaumer, Joshua Pace, Dominic Pezzute, Thomas Sandquist, Amanda Sheffield, Brittany Simpson, Jacob Stengel, Samantha Wilde, and David Zelinsky. Congratulations and best wishes in your continued education or careers! One of our graduating seniors, Amanda Sheffield, has been selected Third Team, *USA Today* All USA-College Academic Team. The announcement was made by *USA Today* on April 29. Congratulations Amanda!

Also, congratulations again to all of our award winners who were announced at the EAS Awards Banquet on April 16. We were also privileged to have Bill Reid, Founder, President and CEO of Gold Resource Corporations and a Distinguished College of Science Alumnus visit the department and present a seminar on April 16. In addition, Mark Lester, Vice President, Exploration for



Bill Reid



Mark Lester

Chesapeake Energy Corporation, also presented a departmental seminar and was honored as a College of Science Distinguished Alumnus for 2009 at a dinner on April 17. Thanks to Bill and Mark for their visits and seminars and congratulations to Mark as our most recent Distinguished Alumnus.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Friday, May 8

- Executive Committee, CIVL 2173 (8:30 a.m.)

Monday, May 11

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

Wednesday, May 13

- Leadership Committee, CIVL 2173 (9 a.m.)

THESIS DEFENSE

Wednesday, May 6, at 10:30 a.m. in CIVL 3201:

"Fractured Conglomerates: Implications of Brittle Deformation in the Titus Canyon Formation, Southwestern Nevada and Southeastern California." MS Defense for Christie Lindemann; Advisor: Ken Ridgway

OUR RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Agee, E., and E. Jones, 2009: Proposed Conceptual Taxonomy for Proper Identification and Classification of Tornado Events. *Wea. Forecasting*, **24**, 609-617.

Cushman, J. H., M. Park, and D. O'Malley, 2009: Chaotic dynamics of super-diffusion revisited. *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, **36**, L08812.

RECENT PRESENTATIONS

Prof. Qianlai Zhuang gave an oral presentation at the 2009 EGU in Vienna, Austria, April 19-24th, 2009: Zhuang, Q., J. Melillo, J. Reilly, A. McGuire, R. Prinn, A. Shvidenko, N. Tchepakova, A. Sirin, S. Maksyutov, A. Peregon, D. Kicklighter, E. Parfenova, and G. Zhou, Changes of Land Cover and Land Use and Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Northern Eurasia, *Geophysical Research Abstracts*, Vol. 11, EGU2009-0, 2009, EGU General Assembly 2009.

Alex Gluhovsky gave an invited presentation entitled, "Subsampling confidence bands for trends in atmospheric time series" at the European Geosciences Union Meeting, April 20-24, Vienna, Austria.

Laura Bennati-Rassion and D. Sarah Stamps presented at the 2009 NSF MARGINS Rupturing

Continental Lithosphere Workshop: Synthesis and New Perspectives, April 30 – May 2, 2009:

Laura's poster presentation: Post-rifting relaxation processes in the Afar Region [Ethiopia] from GPS measurements and numerical modeling.

Sarah's poster presentation: Present-day Strain Rates and Dynamics of Africa and the East African Rift.

IIASA INVITATION

On April 22nd, 2009, Prof. Qianlai Zhuang was invited to visit the International Institute for Applied System Analysis (IIASA) in Laxenburg, Austria and discussed with scientists at the Forestry Program of IIASA on the topic of "Investigating the impacts of climate change, wildfires, and permafrost degradation on carbon and water dynamics in northern high latitudes."

ASSOCIATE EDITORSHIP

Dev Niyogi has become an associate editor for AGU's journal - Water Resources Research. He also currently serves as an associate editor for the AMS Journal of Applied Meteorology and Climatology and a review editor for Climate Research.

NEW JERSEY OUTSTANDING EARTH SCIENCE TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Ms. Shelly Witham (BS – Paleontology – EAS Department; MS – Science Education – EDCI Department) has been named the 2009 New Jersey Outstanding Earth Science Teacher of the Year by the National Association of Geoscience Teachers.

GUGGENHEIM FELLOWSHIPS

The John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation has awarded fellowships to support research and artistic creation to five professors at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Guggenheim Fellows are appointed "on the basis of stellar achievement and exceptional promise for continued accomplishment," according to the foundation's news release announcing the awards.

This year's UNC recipients - all in the College of Arts and Sciences – included one of EAS's former PhD students:

Martin Doyle, Ph.D., associate professor of geography and member of the UNC Institute for the Environment: A history of American rivers.

The foundation's 2009 winners include 180 artists, scholars and scientists across 62 disciplines, selected from almost 3,000 applicants.

SPRING GRADUATES



Dan Arthur, M.S.

Advisor: Sonia Lasher-Trapp

Dan will continue to work in the Cloud Microphysics Group with Dr. Lasher-Trapp to pursue his Ph.D.



Yueyang Jiang, M.S.

Advisor: Qianlai Zhuang

Yueyang will continue to pursue his Ph.D. with Prof. Zhuang.



Karen Kosiba, Ph.D.

Advisor: Jeff Trapp

Karen has accepted a postdoctoral research position with the Center for Severe Weather Research in Boulder, Colorado. She also has been granted a courtesy appointment at the University of Colorado-Boulder.



Paytsar Muradyan, Ph.D.

Advisor: Jennifer Haase

Paytsar is going to pursue a PhD degree working with her current adviser Jennifer Haase. Her studies will be sponsored by the Faculty for the Future fellowship during the next academic year.



Emre Unal, Ph.D.

Advisor: Bill Zinsmeister

Emre has been employed at Chevron Corporation in Houston, Texas since summer 2008.

SUMMER 2009 FACULTY SCHOLAR PROGRAM

ITaP's Teaching & Learning Technologies (TLT) is soliciting applicants for the Summer 2009 Faculty Scholar Program. The program is open to all qualified full-time faculty holding the rank of Instructor through Professor on the West Lafayette campus. The Summer 2009 Scholar will receive a grant equivalent to one month's salary.

A PDF containing program details is available at: <http://www.itap.purdue.edu/tlt/announcements/FacultyScholar2009.pdf>.

EAS TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT NEWS

NFS Access to fortress.rcac (/archive) to be removed on May 14

NFS access has been a contributing factor in several unplanned DXUL (fortress) outages, and maintaining an exports list across the entire campus causes system management problems and is not recommended by the DXUL vendor. Additionally, NFS access encourages certain types of user behavior that are incompatible with the archival nature of the system and can cause several serious performance and stability issues.

As a result, RCAC is discontinuing NFS access to fortress. EAS will be removing fortress mounts (/archive) on the morning of May 14, 2009. Other methods of accessing fortress data (e.g. scp and sftp) will still be available. If you have questions or problems accessing your fortress account, please contact rcac-help@purdue.edu.

Hypocenter and Linux patching on May 14

Hypocenter will be unavailable from 6-8 a.m. on Thursday, May 14, in order to perform routine security updates. During this time, all file shares and network printing will be unavailable.

Coinciding with the hypocenter outage, EAS Linux machines will receive a security update at 7 a.m. on May 14. This update will force a reboot. Please schedule your jobs accordingly. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the EAS Technology Support staff at eas-itap@purdue.edu.

USA TODAY'S COLLEGE ALL-STARS

Amanda Sheffield, a Purdue senior with a major in Atmospheric Science and a minor in Physics, has been selected Third Team, *USA Today* All USA-College Academic Team. See the announcement [here](#) from *USA Today*. Amanda was also named our outstanding senior in ATMS, and has been working in Sonia Lasher-Trapp's lab for several years as a Research Assistant. This is a wonderful recognition for Amanda and for Purdue!

Please note – this will be the last newsletter for the 2009 spring semester. The next issue is planned for June 1. The newsletter will then continue on a monthly basis through the summer. The weekly schedule will resume with the August 24th issue.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

Jon Harbor – May 5

Bill Zinsmeister – May 6

Dan Shepardson – May 26



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>.

