February 2, 2007

Dear Purdue EAS Alumni and Friends of EAS,

As you know, the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences (EAS) at Purdue is celebrating its 40th anniversary during 2007. A major part of the EAS 40th Anniversary Celebration is our alumni and awards event to be held **April 12-14, 2007** on campus. Please note the dates as we had to change from our originally planned dates due to the availability of speakers and space. For updates, information, and a RSVP form regarding the 40th Anniversary Celebration (including travel and lodging), please check the EAS web page at **http://www.purdue.edu/eas**. A RSVP form has also been included with this letter.

The Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences (originally called Geosciences) was founded in 1967 with 5 faculty members from the Civil Engineering Department and 4 new hires. Today EAS has over forty faculty members with several faculty having joint appointments with other departments reflecting the multidisciplinary nature of the geosciences and the current trend in science in general. EAS has granted a total of more than 1350 degrees (BS, MS and PhD) to students over the past 40 years.

Today, the department has very active research programs in three focus areas – *Geodynamics and Active Tectonics* (GAT), *Atmosphere-Surface Interactions* (ASI), and *Climate and Extreme Weather* (CLEW) as well as in traditional areas of geochemistry, geophysics, engineering geology, and atmospheric science. Many of our faculty and graduate students are also involved in research and education in one or more multidisciplinary or departmental research centers including: Purdue Climate Change Research Center, Center for the Environment, Computational Science and Engineering Program, Cyber Center, Center for Research and Engagement in Science and Mathematics Education, Discovery Learning Center, Purdue Rare Isotope Measurement Laboratory, Purdue Stable Isotope Facility, Indiana State Climate Office, Center for Computational and Applied Mathematics, GeoMathematical Imaging Group, and Purdue Interdisciplinary Center for Ecological Sustainability. More information about these focus areas and centers can be found on the EAS website: http://www.purdue.edu/eas.

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Here is a brief summary of the schedule for the **EAS 40th Anniversary Celebration**:

Thursday, April 12, 2007
- Seminars by our 2007 Outstanding Alums, late afternoon
- Informal reception, 7:30pm (location to be announced)

Friday, April 13, 2007
- Science Symposium, "The Geosciences in Today's World", 8am - 5pm
  - (Room 322, Stewart Center; 16 science talks and a poster session)
- EAS 40th Anniversary Banquet and Awards Ceremony, 6:00pm
  - (Buchanan Suites, Ross-Ade Stadium)

Saturday, April 14, 2007
- EAS Alumni Advisory Board meeting, morning

As part of the 40th Anniversary Celebration program, we are preparing a printed program for the banquet and a research overview, *"Four Decades of Discovery in Earth and Atmospheric Sciences"* with short contributions from all of our current and former faculty representing 40 years of faculty and student research. This program and research overview will be distributed to all of our alums.

We are very excited that Dr. Tim Killeen has agreed to be our keynote speaker for the symposium on Friday, April 13, 2007. Dr. Killeen is the Director of the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) and is also the current President of the American Geophysical Union (AGU). We have invited about 15 other speakers for short science talks to round out the symposium. Our list of speakers includes several of our alumni and some former and current faculty members. There will also be a poster session which provides an opportunity for the EAS faculty and graduate students to display their latest research.

It promises to be a great celebration and a fun time for Purdue Earth and Atmospheric Sciences students, alumni, current and former faculty and staff, and friends of EAS. We hope to see you at our 40th Anniversary event!

Sincerely,

Lawrence W. Braile
Professor and Department Head
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cc. Claire Chandler, EAS Director of Development
Suzanne Zurn-Birkhimer, Assistant Department Head