

January 28, 2008

## TEACHING HONOR ROLL

Several of our faculty colleagues have made the department's Teaching Honor Roll for the 2007 Fall semester (based on student evaluations; overall instructor rating) as noted below. Congratulations!

### Service Courses (=> 4.0)

Larry Braile	EAS 100	4.0
Jerry Krockover	EAS 102 (two sections)	4.5/4.7
Jim Ogg	EAS 104	4.5
Steven Fritz	EAS 105	4.1
Noah Diffenbaugh	EAS 106	4.8
Andy Freed	EAS 106	4.6
Tim Filley	EAS 109	4.5
Ernie Agee	EAS 138	4.5
Jim Ogg	EAS 151	4.3
Bill Zinsmeister	EAS 151	4.2
Tom Tharp	EAS 191T	4.0

### Undergraduate/Graduate Courses (=> 4.5)

Darryl Granger	EAS 391A	4.8
Sonia Lasher-Trapp	EAS 421	4.8
Phil Smith	EAS 423	4.6
Ken Ridgway	EAS 542	4.8
Andy Freed	EAS 591A	4.9
Noah Diffenbaugh	EAS 591A	4.8
Gabe Bowen	EAS 591B	4.9
Paul Shepson	EAS 591C	4.6
Dev Niyogi	EAS 591M	5.0
Jeff Trapp	EAS 636	5.0
Harshvardhan	EAS 638	5.0

The following TAs have made the Teaching Honor Roll for 2007 Fall semester by achieving a score of 4.5 or higher as rated by their students. Congratulations!

Nahyr Rovira-Figueroa	EAS 102 labs	4.7 and 4.6
Roger Cohen	EAS 109 labs	4.8 and 4.6
Kathryn Schreiner	EAS 109 labs	4.9 and 4.8
Ruben van Hoodonk	EAS 109 lab	4.5
Christie Lindemann	EAS 111 labs	4.9 and 4.8
Russell Balliet	EAS 111 lab	4.7
Patrick Brennan	EAS 111 labs	4.9 and 4.9
John Witmer	EAS 111 lab	4.8
Andy Cyr	EAS 312 lab	4.7
Dane Brown	EAS 312 lab	4.6
Karen Kosiba	EAS 431	4.9

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### Friday, February 1

- Graduate Committee Meeting, CIVL 3214 (10:30 a.m.)

## SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENT

**Thursday, January 31, at 3:30 p.m. in CIVL 1252:**  
"Analogical Thinking and Model-Based Reasoning in Geosciences." Prof. Duncan Sibley, Michigan State

*Refreshments at 3 p.m. in CIVL 2201*

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

## RECENT PRESENTATIONS

Gerald H. Krockover, "Reforming Undergraduate University Science Courses," Symposium on Reform in Undergraduate Science, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, January 18, 2008.

The following poster presentations were given at the 88<sup>th</sup> Annual American Meteorological Society Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, January 20-24, 2008:

[A Statistical Analysis of Trade Wind Cumulus Properties Relevant to Warm Rain Formation.](#)  
Amanda Sheffield

[Evaluating the performance of WRF model high-altitude forecasts.](#) Mike Baldwin

[Profiling the Atmosphere with an Airborne GPS Receiver System.](#) Feiqin Xie

[Multivariate cluster analysis for automated identification of precipitating weather systems.](#)  
Mike Baldwin

## TAC APPOINTMENT

Gilbert Rochon has been appointed to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for South Africa's Center for High Performance Computing (CHPC), which recently expanded to include an IBM Blue Gene Supercomputer.

## EDITORIAL APPOINTMENT

Lucy Flesch was named to the Editorial Board of *Geology*.

### ISOSCAPES 2008

Gabe Bowen is co-organizer of an upcoming conference on spatial analysis and applications of isotopic data that will be held in Santa Barbara this April 7-10. The meeting is expected to draw between 100 and 150 scientists representing the Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Hydrology, Ecology, Biogeochemistry, Anthropology, Forensic Science, and Government regulatory and intelligence agencies. Included in the agenda is a 1/2-day workshop organized by the staff of the National Ecological Observation Network (NEON), which will offer information on NEON's plans for a ~\$300 million network of observatories to monitor the USA's ecosystems and to solicit feedback on the incorporation of isotopic and geochemical measurements in NEON's design. If you are interested in learning more about the application of isotopes to study spatially explicit processes (e.g., biogeochemical fluxes, atmospheric and oceanic circulation, the movement of organisms and goods) sign up to join us by January 31st! More information and registration is available at <http://isoscapes2008.org>.

### DREAMWEAVER TRAINING TO BE OFFERED

The EAS IT staff, in response to requests from faculty and staff, will be holding a Dreamweaver training session on Tuesday, February 5, from 10:30 a.m. until 12 p.m. This session will cover basic usage of the Dreamweaver website development application, and is intended for people with no web experience. A more advanced Dreamweaver training session will be announced in the coming weeks. This session is open to all EAS faculty, staff, and students. Advance registration is required. Please send an e-mail by February 1 to [pparamit@purdue.edu](mailto:pparamit@purdue.edu) to register. For more training opportunities, see <http://www.purdue.edu/eas/resources/it/training.htm>.

### REMINDER ABOUT REQUESTING TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

Technology support requests that are not related to the EAS website should be sent to [eas-itap@purdue.edu](mailto:eas-itap@purdue.edu). Due to how the ticket system handles incoming e-mail, "eas-itap@purdue.edu" should be the only address in the To: field (and it must be all lower-case). It is not necessary to include individual IT staff members in your request e-mail. Requests relating to the EAS website ([www.purdue.edu/eas](http://www.purdue.edu/eas)) should be sent to [eas-webmaster@purdue.edu](mailto:eas-webmaster@purdue.edu). As a reminder, answers to commonly asked technology questions can be found at <http://www.purdue.edu/eas/resources/it>.

### PURDUE POLICE OFFER LAPTOP REGISTRATION

Beginning January 28, laptop registration will be available through the Purdue University Police Department's website ([www.purdue.edu/police](http://www.purdue.edu/police)). You will be able to register your laptops' model and serial number to aid in investigations if your laptop is stolen. The EAS IT inventory already has this information and more for University-owned laptops, but you are encouraged to register any personally-owned laptops. Remember that laptops are very easily stolen. If you have a University-owned laptop (purchased through startup or grant funding) and it has not been inventoried, please bring it to CIVL 4252 between 10 a.m. and noon on Wednesdays or make an appointment to have it inventoried by contacting [eas-itap@purdue.edu](mailto:eas-itap@purdue.edu).

### ITAP SECURITY ANALYSTS TO PROVIDE MONTHLY ANSWER SESSIONS (Source: Purdue News Service)

Do you have a burning question about your computer security that you would like to ask one of the Information Technology Networks and Security staff? Do anti-virus installations or firewall configurations have you confused? Maybe you are concerned about wireless technology and would like to see if your laptop is properly configured to be secure in a wireless environment. Asking those questions is now easier.

Now through June, security analysts and Identity Access and Management Office staff will be available once a month to answer questions in person.

Dates for in-person advice are January 30, February 27, March 26, April 30, May 28 and June 25.

Staff will be available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at an information table in the west lobby of Stewart Center.

For more information, contact Cherry Delaney at 49-61288 or [cdelaney@purdue.edu](mailto:cdelaney@purdue.edu).

### IT STAFF OFFICE HOURS FOR THIS SEMESTER

The EAS IT staff will once again hold open office hours this semester. From 10 a.m. until noon on Wednesdays, you can stop by CIVL 4252 to discuss technology issues with the staff, or just get to know them a little better.

### A NOTE FROM AN ALUMNUS

I just completed my doctoral studies from the University of California, Berkeley this past December. Since last September, I have been teaching medical students at Ohio University's College of Osteopathic Medicine.

The research on dinosaurs that I started while as an undergrad and then Master's student under Bill Zinsmeister is going well... my latest paper on dinosaur sexual maturity has just been published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

Andrew (Drew) Lee, BS-1999; MS-2001

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### A NOTE FROM OUR ACADEMIC COUNSELOR Presenting Research, Literally...

If you are looking for a way to present your undergraduate research, here are two great ways:

Purdue's 2008 Undergraduate Research and Poster Symposium, Monday, **March 31**. Deadline for registration is March 19. See full page at the end of this Newsletter for more details. [Note: Student presenting EAS related research was one of the winners in 2007!]

Butler University's Undergraduate Research Conference, Friday, **April 18**, 2008. Deadline to register is February 22. Visit <http://www.butler.edu/urc> for more information.

### Presenting...Research

Astrobiology Summer Program at  
Penn State University

A ten-week research experience for undergraduates June 8 - August 16, 2008. Deadline to apply is **February 15**, 2008: <http://evo.bio.psu.edu/asp/>.

The Astrobiology Summer Program at Penn State, University Park engages undergraduate students in independent research under the guidance of one or more astrobiologists (specific disciplines include astronomy, biochemistry, biology and **geology**). Students will also have the opportunity to participate in a field trip to the Washington, D.C. area that focuses on space exploration, attend weekly seminars and laboratory tours, stargaze, and participate in discussion groups and a research symposium.

Travel (up to \$500) and living expenses will be covered and participants will receive a stipend of

\$4000 for the summer. Applicants should have a research interest in astrobiology and be contemplating a career in science. Students must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents between their freshman and senior year at a college or university other than Penn State. Women and students from underrepresented groups are encouraged to apply. For more information visit the web site or contact: Dr. Carla Ann Hass, Program Coordinator, Astrobiology Summer Program, 208 Mueller Laboratory, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802-5301, [cah19@psu.edu](mailto:cah19@psu.edu), 814-863-4708.

### Precision Digital Geologic Mapping on the Maine Coast Using Sea-Kayaks, GPS, Total Stations, Aerial Imagery, GIS & Traditional Field Methods May 24 - July 19, 2008

An eight-week research internship position in precision digital outcrop surface mapping, structural analysis, geologic interpretation, database construction and spatial analysis in GIS for junior-level undergraduates.

The summer NSF-REU Site program at the University of Southern Maine is an opportunity for nine undergraduate students to learn precision digital survey techniques as applied to geologic mapping in coastal Maine while working on a research project for presentation at a professional meeting. This program introduces students to the regional deformation associated with Late Paleozoic Norumbega strike-slip shearing in the Northern Appalachians, sea kayaking as a way to access island exposures, traditional field methods and digital survey instrumentation for precision outcrop surface mapping of geologic structures. Digital survey data and available aerial imagery will be compiled for database construction and spatial analysis in a geographic information system (GIS) to provide a basis for geologic interpretation, structural analysis and tectonic modeling. Results are reported in student abstracts and posters at the Northeast Section Geological Society of America (NEGSA) meeting (spring 2009).

Students receive a stipend of \$2400, travel reimbursement and support to attend the NEGSA meeting to present their work and 6 credits for their field experience (GEY360/GEO360 - Field Mapping in the Island Environment: Data Collection to GIS). When not camping in the field, dormitory accommodations are provided at the University of Southern Maine's Gorham Campus.

### *Eligibility*

This program is designed for undergraduate students who have completed their junior year in a geoscience major, geography major with a geology minor, or other applicable degree program. Background coursework in geology and/or geography, prior field experience and established GIS computer skills are highly recommended. Training is provided in all areas.

### *Application Procedure*

Submit: 1) the completed application form\*; 2) a copy of your college transcript, and; 3) a letter of recommendation from your faculty mentor to: Dr. Mark Swanson, Department of Geosciences, University of Southern Maine, Gorham, ME 04038. For more info email [mwsanson@usm.maine.edu](mailto:mwsanson@usm.maine.edu) or call 207-780-5024.

### *Deadline*

Completed applications for these positions must be in hand by Monday, **March 31**, 2008. Applicants will be notified via e-mail by Friday, April 4, 2008.

\*See me ([nstewart@purdue.edu](mailto:nstewart@purdue.edu)) if you would like an application form.

### **RISE**

Apply for paid summer research internships in Germany through the Research Internships in Science and Engineering (RISE) program. The RISE program gives students in the fields of biology, chemistry, **earth sciences**, engineering and physics the chance to spend a summer working with German doctoral students on important research projects. All

participants receive stipends from DAAD to help cover living expenses, and the partner universities and research institutions help in finding housing. You need two years of college, and speaking German might not be required. Want to know more? Visit the [RISE website](#) or contact [Michaela Gottschling](#). The deadline for application is **January 31**, 2008.

### **Reminder**

**February 4** is the last day for sophomores and above to drop a class without instructor signatures; first-year students have until March 17, which is the last day for any changes to spring schedules.

Nancy

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!**

Tom Tharp – January 28



### **ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER:**

This weekly newsletter will be 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 department web site ([www.purdue.edu/eas/](http://www.purdue.edu/eas/)). Material for inclusion in the newsletter should be submitted to Gina Richey ([grichey@purdue.edu](mailto:grichey@purdue.edu)) by **Friday noon** of each week for inclusion in the Monday newsletter.

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>.



