

January 8, 2007

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## THE HEAD'S PERSPECTIVE

Welcome to the Spring semester and the year 2007! I can clearly remember late 1999 and all of the concern about changing to the year 2000 (Y2K). It seems like such a short time ago and yet seven years have gone by. I hope that each of you had a great holiday break and that you'll have a very Happy New Year.

Of course this will be another busy semester with classes, research, meetings, etc. In addition, the Spring semester is important to EAS for recruiting new undergraduate and graduate students. Faculty in our research focus areas recently updated our graduate research program CD that we've distributed at meetings and sent to prospective graduate students. The CD information is also available online ([http://www.purdue.edu/eas/academic\\_programs/graduate/online\\_cd/index.htm](http://www.purdue.edu/eas/academic_programs/graduate/online_cd/index.htm)) so if you know of prospective students or are contacting colleagues at other departments, you can easily pass along this link. This year we will have additional funds for supporting students at both the undergraduate and graduate level. The Chesapeake Energy Corporation has provided scholarship funds to EAS for both undergraduate and graduate students with interests in exploration geology and geophysics. Chevron Corporation has also provided graduate student scholarship funds to EAS for students interested in exploration geology and geophysics. Thanks to the hard work of Ken Ridgway and Suzanne Zurn-Birkhimer and other faculty at Purdue, the Sloan Foundation has agreed to fund Native American students in graduate education in the STEM disciplines at Purdue. You will be hearing more about this very significant program in the near future.

Finally, near the end of the Spring semester, our department will be celebrating its 40th anniversary with a science symposium, departmental awards dinner and ceremony, and other events. A 40th anniversary committee has been working hard on the arrangements for this event and you will be hearing more about it very soon.

## RECENT PRESENTATIONS

Darrell Leap, Professor Emeritus, is a US Navy veteran and presently the Adjutant of Post 38 of the American Legion in West Lafayette. He was one of two veterans invited by Purdue to speak at the Veteran's Day ceremony, November 10, in the Great Hall of the Purdue Memorial Union where he spoke on the subject, "Freedom Isn't Free".

Darrell is also a composer of sacred and secular choral music and in 2001 he composed a patriotic hymn, *God Save the Flag*, using words written by the American poet, Oliver Wendell Holmes in 1865. The Purduettes sang a beautiful rendition of his hymn at the Veteran's Day ceremony.

Terry West, President of the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists, made his first visit to an AEG section meeting on December 19, 2006 at the North Central Section of AEG in Chicago. The title of his presentation, following the banquet dinner, was "Mass Wasting in a Disturbed Terrain, Abandoned Coal Mine Site, Southwest Indiana". Thirty members and guests were present for the talk. AEG has 25 sections in North America (Montreal and Alaska beyond the lower 48 states) plus a section in South Africa. President West plans to visit as many of the chapters in the U.S. that time and AEG finances will allow during his term of office which ends in September 2007.

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## EAS ALUMNI GATHERING SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Please join us for an evening of reminiscing and refreshments. Catch up with former mentors, old friends and fellow alums.

Tuesday, January 16, 2007  
6:30 - 8:30 pm  
Marriott Rivercenter Hotel  
Conference Room 12  
San Antonio, Texas

Held in conjunction with the 87th AMS Annual Meeting.

## OUR RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Li, Y.K., Napieralski, J., Harbor, J. and Hubbard, A., 2007: Identifying patterns of correspondence between modeled flow directions and field evidence: An automated flow direction analysis. *Computers and Geosciences*, 33(2), p.141-150.

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## FROM OUR BUSINESS OFFICE

### Recent Awards

Gilbert, Hersh J.: Mantle Composition and Dynamics as Inferred from the Structure of the Upper Mantle Discontinuities. NSF – \$47,165  
Nowack, Robert L.: Collaborative Research: Imaging the Continental Lithosphere with Earthquake Sources. NSF – \$132,999  
Zhuang, Qianlai: Collaborative Research: Impact of Permafrost Degradation on Carbon and Water in the Boreal Ecosystems. NSF – \$756,584

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## IT'S A GIRL!

Linda and Scott King are happy to announce the arrival of their newly adopted daughter, Rachel Noelle King, on December 2, 2006. Rachel weighed 7 lb., 1 oz., and is 20 inches long.



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## COLLEGE TEACHING WORKSHOPS

"College Teaching Workshops, Series 1: Basics of Teaching" sessions are designed to improve the teaching skills of Purdue faculty, staff, and graduate teaching assistants.

Beginning January 16, Center for Instructional Excellence staff will once again offer this ten-workshop series. Register online for any or all of the sessions at:

<http://www.cie.purdue.edu/workshop/register/index.cfm>.

A brochure is also available at: <http://www.cie.purdue.edu/search/files/CTW-1%20Fall2007.pdf>

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## A NOTE FROM OUR ACADEMIC COUNSELOR

### Summer Internships for Women

The Program for Women in Science and Engineering at Iowa State University offers an eight week Summer Intern Program for undergraduate women in science, technology, engineering, and math. The internship provides hands-on research experience under the supervision of Iowa State faculty and staff; participants will also attend seminars, write a research paper, and summarize the research in a formal poster presentation. Undergraduate interns will work for eight weeks, beginning June 4, 2007 and ending on July 27, 2007 and will be paid a stipend of \$3,500 for the entire program. For more information and application instructions go to: <http://www.pwse.iastate.edu/oncampus/summerintern.html>, or contact Lora Leigh Chrystal, Program Coordinator at [lchrysta@iastate.edu](mailto:lchrysta@iastate.edu) or 515-294-5278.

### Scholarship Opportunity through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

The 2007 NOAA Ernest F. Hollings Scholarship Program will provide selected undergraduates with academic assistance for fulltime study during their junior and senior years (up to a maximum of \$8000 per academic year), and a 10-week fulltime summer NOAA internship position (\$650/week, housing subsidy, and travel expenses). The Hollings Scholarship Program increases undergraduate training in oceanic and atmospheric science, research, technology, and education. Hollings scholars will be selected from applicants majoring in a broad range of disciplines including biological, **physical**, and social sciences; mathematics; engineering; computer and information sciences; and **teacher education**. Direct questions to: [StudentScholarshipPrograms@noaa.gov](mailto:StudentScholarshipPrograms@noaa.gov). Applications are available online at: <http://www.oesd.noaa.gov>. DEADLINE: February 9, 2007.

### IRIS Summer Undergraduate Internship at the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology

Interested in working on a paid, seismological research project this summer? Research projects may involve the deployment of seismic instruments in the field (within the US or internationally), and/or analysis of seismic data in a lab setting with the ultimate goal of producing results to be presented at a national scientific meeting.

Selections will be based on the sum of each applicant's recommendations; coursework in math, physics, and geoscience; and the alignment between projects and prospective intern's interests. Experience or coursework in seismology or geophysics is not a requirement for successful candidates. For more information or to apply (due mid-February), visit: <http://www.iris.edu/internship/> or Contact Michael Hubenthal, [hubenth@iris.edu](mailto:hubenth@iris.edu).

### 2007 DHS Scholarship and Fellowship Program Announcement

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announces program guidelines for the 2007 competition cycle of the DHS Scholarship and Fellowship Program. Students interested in pursuing the science and technology necessary to lead the unified national effort to secure America should apply. Areas of study include: **physical sciences**, mathematical sciences, computer and information sciences, life sciences, social sciences, psychology, and engineering. Funding available for Fall 2007; full tuition and monthly stipend provided; U.S. citizenship required. Complete information is available online at <http://www.orau.gov/dhsed/>. All applicants are expected to apply using the online application. Questions regarding the DHS Scholarship and Fellowship Program can be sent via e-mail to [dhsed@orau.org](mailto:dhsed@orau.org). The last competition cycle provided financial support for approximately 100 Scholars and Fellows. DEADLINE: January 23, 2007, 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

### Dates and Deadlines

January 12 – Last day to add a class without any signatures. (February 5 – Last day to add a class with signatures)

January 15 – No classes in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

January 22 – Last day to drop a class without it appearing on your record. (February 5 – Last day to drop a class without signatures for sophomores and up)

Nancy

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!**

Matt Huber – January 10



### 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.

