

October 5, 2009

AN INTERIM PERSPECTIVE

The department has never been more vibrant, due to the exciting events of recent days (highlighted by EAS alumni recognitions and participation in a number of campus activities). Marline Breece and Mark Longacre have been honored as EAS Outstanding Alumni (see photos elsewhere in this newsletter). Drew and Indira Feustel have returned to their alma mater to participate in Science Week (organized by the Purdue Science Student Council), including a public lecture by Drew in Fowler Hall describing his incredible trip into space to help repair the Hubble Space Telescope. The new images from Hubble (just released by NASA) provide incredible views of "deep space" with views of galaxies and stars that once again suggest "we are not alone." The events surrounding Drew's accomplishments and return to campus have touched so many components of what is important to EAS, including outreach to hundreds of elementary and middle-school students that were no doubt inspired by Drew's accomplishments.

Faculty, students and staff have either participated or assisted in all events, including the meetings of the Dean's Leadership Council that featured a poster session for undergraduate student research projects. EAS posters were presented by David Zelinsky (advisor – Prof. Baldwin) and Russell Martin (advisor – Prof. Haq).

Finally, both President Córdova and Dean Roberts deserve special recognition for engaging with our department and continuing to embrace the importance and challenges of the geoscience disciplines to the campus-wide community. – Ernie



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Monday, October 5

- Primary Committee, CIVL 3201 (11:45 a.m.)
Full discussion and voting meeting (mandatory attendance)

Tuesday, October 6

- COS Faculty Meeting, LWSN 3102 A/B (4 p.m.)

Wednesday, October 7

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

Friday, October 9

- ATMS Tea, CIVL 2201 (2:30 p.m.)

EAS SEMINAR

Thursday, October 8, at 3:30 p.m. in CIVL 1252:

"Mechanics of V-shaped Conjugate Strike-Slip Faults in Collisional Orogens and the Nature of Corresponding Continuum Deformation." Prof. An Yin, University of California, Los Angeles

Refreshments at 3 p.m. in CIVL 2201

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

OUR RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Fajardo-Cavazos, P., Langenhorst, F., Melosh, H. J., and Nicholson, W. L., 2009: Bacterial spores in granite survive hypervelocity launch by spallation: Implications for lithopanspermia, *Astrobiology* **9**, 647-657.

Gluhovsky, A., and E. Agee, 2009: Estimating Higher-Order Moments of Nonlinear Time Series. *J. Appl. Meteor. Climatol.*, **48**, 1948-1954.

RECENT PRESENTATION

Professor Larry Braile was one of three instructors at the 2-1/2 day IRIS AS-1 Seismograph Workshop that was held September 18-20, 2009 in San Antonio, Texas. There were 27 K-12 teachers in attendance at the workshop. The teachers will all soon be operating an AS-1 educational seismograph (provided by IRIS) in their classroom. An example of an AS-1 seismograph record can be viewed at: <http://www.iris.edu/amaseis/schools/as1imgs/WLIN.gif> (West Lafayette, Indiana station; image updated every 10 minutes). Prof. Braile's presentations

were: *Introduction to Seismic Waves; Recognizing Patterns in Seismograms; Where Do Our Waves Come From? (Using the Seismic Waves Program); What is Moment Magnitude?; and Calculating the Magnitude of an Earthquake from AS-1 Seismograms (and structured practice).*

Gabe Bowen gave an invited lecture at Southern Methodist University on September 25. The title was "Carbon cycle perturbation and feedbacks at the Paleocene-Eocene boundary."

PLANNING MEETING

Sonia Lasher-Trapp attended a planning meeting for the field campaign "Ice in Clouds Experiment - Tropical" (ICE-T) at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) in Boulder, Colorado, on 24-25 September.

AEG NEWS

Terry West attended the 52nd annual meeting of the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists at Lake Tahoe, NV/CA from September 20-26, 2009. He and former EAS student, Dr. J.C. Choi (Professor, Department of Environmental Geosciences, Pukyong University, Pusan, South Korea) authored an oral presentation in the Technical Symposium on Dams entitled, "Overtopping of Earth-fill Dam in Southwest Indiana Yields Failure in Rural Area." Dr West also received a Presidential Citation for service to AEG and a prestigious award, the Karl and Ruth Terzaghi Mentor Award, presented during the awards ceremony at the annual banquet. Dr Abdul Shakoor, former EAS student (Professor of Engineering Geology, Kent State University) acted as the Citationist for the award. Details concerning this award are presented on the EAS monitor on the second floor outside of the main office.

FIRST PLACE WINNER

EAS Doctoral Student, Souleymane Fall, won First Place at the Ecological Science and Engineering poster competition on September 25, for his poster entitled, "Lower Tropospheric Temperature Variability over the USA: A GIS Approach." The annual competition is sponsored by Purdue Discovery Park's Center for the Environment. Souleymane is currently a Bilsland Fellow and 2009 winner of the Outstanding Doctoral Student Award in EAS.



EAS TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT NEWS

Scratch storage available in Linux lab

In order to meet the disk space needs of instructional activities in the 4th floor lab, the EAS Technology Support staff has set up a scratch space server accessible from the Linux machines in CIVL 4247. Beginning on Monday, October 12, space will be available to all users in /class/scratch/a.

10 GB quotas are set on this space, and all data will be deleted at the end of each semester (quotas are subject to change based on usage). Because this is set up as scratch space, there are no backups and disk failure may lead to the loss of data. It is intended that this space will only be used as working area for lab assignments and that source and result data will be stored in a more permanent location.

For usage guidelines, please see the EAS Technology Support website (<http://www.purdue.edu/eas/resources/it/faq/scratch.html>).

Linux kernel updates October 13

In order to maintain a secure computing environment, all EAS Linux machines will receive the latest version of the kernel package at 7 a.m. on Tuesday, October 13. This update will require a reboot. Please schedule your jobs accordingly. If you have any questions, please contact the EAS Technology Support staff at eas-itap@purdue.edu.

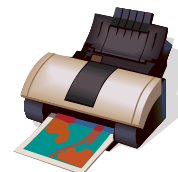
Printing on Transparencies

When you open the print dialog box, select the printer you want then click the "Properties" button next to it. In Properties, select the "Paper" tab. Under "Type," select "Transparency."

Why is this important?

In order to print very quickly, higher-end printers fuse the ink to the page using very high temperatures (up to 400 degrees Fahrenheit) for very brief periods (up to about half of a second). This is also why pages directly out of the printer are so warm!

This process works great for paper, but not for plastic transparencies which will begin to melt under these conditions. By setting the paper type to transparencies, the printer will know to cool the fuser to a more appropriate temperature.



A NOTE FROM OUR ACADEMIC COUNSELOR

ACTION * TRAVEL * TRAINING Spend a Semester with Greenpeace

Register now for the spring Greenpeace class; the deadline for applications is **October 12th**. Apply at: www.greenpeace.org/got. The semester is offered in the Washington D.C. and San Francisco Greenpeace offices. Contact program staff with questions at got@wdc.greenpeace.org or 877-450-3517 ext. 320.

This Week in Career Development

Perfecting your Interview Skills - for International Students

Monday, October 5, 2009, 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. in GRIS 166

Resume Table

Monday, October 5, 2009, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. in Lilly Lobby

Internship Information

Student Conservation Association Internship Information Session, Monday, October 5, 4:30 p.m. in AGAD 128. The Student Conservation Association is the oldest and largest provider of conservation internships and offers over 2000 expense paid opportunities each year.

Acing the Interview

Tuesday, October 6, 2009, 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. in UNIV 101

Purdue Agriculture Fall Career Fair

Tuesday, October 6, 2009, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. PMU Ballrooms and Lounge Exhibit Areas

InterNETworking

Wednesday, October 7, 2009, 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. in UNIV 101



October Break: October 10 - 13, 2009 (no classes)

Have a good break.

Nancy

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

Wen-wen Tung – October 8



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>.



PHOTOS FROM OUR RECENT ALUMNI EVENTS



Marline Breece receiving the Outstanding Alumna Award



Mark Longacre receiving the Outstanding Alumnus Award



Memorabilia and gift exchanges with Drew Feustel at the EAS reception.

I am very pleased to introduce our special guest for today's reception. Dr. Andrew Feustel is an alumnus of the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences. In May, he was a mission specialist on the Space Shuttle Mission STS 125 that serviced and upgraded the Hubble Space Telescope. Many of you were here in this room on the afternoon of May 11 at our launch party as we watched the launch of the space shuttle Atlantis. President Córdova joined us at the launch party. I still remember being somewhat nervous before and during the launch, and in fact during the entire mission. I also remember that, about 30 seconds after the launch that we were watching live on a big screen, President Córdova spoke up and said "that's a big boiler up!" We all agreed.

During the 13 day mission of STS 125 in May, Drew performed three spacewalks, or EVAs, with his astronaut partner John Grunsfeld. Feustel and Grunsfeld replaced several Hubble components to repair and upgrade the telescope. The mission was a great success, and recently, the images collected by the space telescope have confirmed that the telescope is operating flawlessly and with improved capabilities. Drew has also been selected as part of the crew for the STS 134 mission to the international space station, currently scheduled for July or September of 2010. It gives me great pleasure to introduce to you Drew Feustel. – Larry Braile