

November 5, 2007

THE HEAD'S PERSPECTIVE

A Sense of Community

It is my belief that an academic department such as EAS should have a strong sense of community – a feeling of belonging, of loyalty; a somewhat common sense of purpose, vision and direction. Related concepts are departmental teamwork and camaraderie. Social psychologists define Sense of Community as:

“the perception of similarity to others, an acknowledged interdependence with others, a willingness to maintain this interdependence by giving to or doing for others what one expects from them, and the feeling that one is part of a larger dependable and stable structure” (Sarason, S.B., 1974, *The psychological sense of community: Prospects for a community psychology*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, p. 157.) – from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sense_of_community.

“a feeling that members have of belonging, a feeling that members matter to one another and to the group, and a shared faith that members' needs will be met through their commitment to be together” (McMillan, D.W., & Chavis, D.M., 1986, *Sense of community: A definition and theory*. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 14(1), 6-23.) – from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sense_of_community.

Similarly, the *Building Strong Geoscience Departments* website (<http://serc.carleton.edu/departments/index.html>) identifies the following characteristics (and others) of a “thriving geoscience department”:

“They appear to know where they want to go and can articulate this to others; their vision is clear and compelling.”

“They are willing to take charge of their own destiny.”

“They are congenial and collaborative; they work hard and have fun; they are good colleagues and others come to their defense; they don't whine. The department as a whole, students, faculty and staff are happy and productive.”

(Continued on next page)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

****TODAY** Monday, November 5**

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

SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

"Recent Advances in Understanding and Mitigating Rockfall in Yosemite National Park."
Greg Stock, Yosemite National Park Service

Refreshments at 3 p.m. in CIVL 2201

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

RECENT PRESENTATIONS

Kevin Gurney presented "Hestia: Modeling and mapping of global CO₂ emissions" to the headquarters of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Washington DC on October 19th.

Kevin Gurney presented a public talk at IUPUI entitled, "Climate Change Science" on October 30, 2007.

PRESS CONFERENCE

Kevin Gurney held a press conference with the deputy mayor of Indianapolis and Jeff Vitter on the partnership between the city of Indianapolis and Purdue on the Hestia project led by Dr. Kevin Gurney. The press conference took place on October 30 at the Eagle Creek Park in Indianapolis.

NEW PROCEDURE FOR WEB REQUESTS

Beginning Monday, November 5, all requests related to the EAS website should be sent to eas-webmaster@purdue.edu. These requests will go into a ticket system maintained by the College of Science. Please use this address instead of e-mailing IT staff members directly. This will allow us to provide a higher level of service to you.



HEAD'S PERSPECTIVE *(Continued from page 1)*

"Successful recruiting of faculty leads to a diverse faculty with appropriate balance of skills and interests. They mentor their young faculty. Their staff like to work there and stay a long time."

So what does all of this mean for EAS? It is very easy in today's hectic and demanding world for students, faculty and staff to focus only (or too much) on one's own responsibilities and goals – to spend most of our time in our offices working on our own studies, projects, tasks, etc. Each of us feels the need to focus on the most important efforts and to devote the majority of our time to those efforts. However, developing (and displaying) a sense of community and departmental teamwork can improve the institution (the department, college and university) and improve the academic and work experience for each of us individually. Four approaches to enhancing our sense of community immediately come to mind:

Communication – enhanced professional and informal communication between members.

Participation, such as attending (as often as possible) seminars, meetings, receptions, meeting with visitors, and other departmental events.

Volunteering – we are often asked to participate in college, alumni or other events; or there are departmental needs that go beyond the traditional teaching and research functions.

Whenever possible, maintain a positive attitude and convey a positive view of colleagues, the department, college and university. There will always be challenges, but we can address them in a positive way. Related to conveying a positive and forward-thinking view, I was very pleased to observe at the EAS grad student recruiting booth and at the alumni reception at the recent GSA meeting several of our graduate students (as well as faculty and staff) enthusiastically talking with potential graduate students to explain our programs and to answer the potential students' questions.

POSTER PRINTING HOURS FOR AGU

In anticipation of the increased demand on the poster printer immediately before AGU, there will be signup sheets to reserve the printer from December 3-10. The printer may be reserved in one-hour increments. EAS IT staff members will work extra hours during the final weekend before AGU to provide support for last-minute printing. As always, we suggest printing early in case of a poorly-timed printer failure.

MAC OS X 10.5 LEOPARD AVAILABLE

Mac OS X 10.5 Leopard for personally-owned computers is now available for purchase at the BoilerCopyMaker (located in the Purdue Memorial Union). The cost is \$85 per copy. An initial stock of 50 copies is available, and more will be ordered if those sell quickly. A limit of three copies of Leopard per person is being imposed. Apple doesn't really care how many you would buy for your personally-owned Macs, but the economics lesson is this: It's cheaper to buy the five-license "family pack" if you have three or more machines (\$199 direct from Apple).

Computers that have been enrolled in the Apple Maintenance Program (which includes all former CLUE machines) will be upgraded after the beginning of the year. For those machines that were not enrolled, information regarding the campus license cost will be made available in next week's newsletter.

IT'S A BOY!



Ryan and Andrea Sriver's baby, Preston Joseph Sriver, was born at 9:28 a.m. on Monday, October 29th. He weighed 9 pounds, 2 ounces and measured 21 inches long.

Both Andrea and the baby are recovering nicely.

END OF SEMESTER DEADLINES

December 1, 2007 – is the last day for degree candidates to pass their final examinations.

December 3, 2007 – signed candidate audit/certification forms should be returned back to the Graduate School as soon as possible, but no later than this date.

December 3, 2007 – final examination report forms must be received for all graduating students by the Graduate School, Room 170, Young Hall (YONG). Students for whom a final report form is not received will not be able to graduate in December.

December 7, 2007 – Ph.D. candidates must submit their dissertation via Electronic Thesis Deposit (ETD). Ph.D. candidates must also turn in all required forms at their mandatory, scheduled, final deposit appointment in the Thesis/Dissertation Office, Room 170, Young Hall (YONG).

December 7, 2007 – Master's candidates must deposit one bound copy of their thesis at their mandatory, scheduled, final deposit appointment in the Thesis/Dissertation Office, Room 170, Young Hall (YONG).

Master's and Ph.D. candidates with "Confidential" theses/dissertations must also submit their departmental copies to the Graduate School. Deposit appointments can be made by calling 765-494-2600, or email gradinfo@purdue.edu.

Graduation deadline dates are located on the web at: <http://www.gradschool.purdue.edu/calendar>.

A NOTE FROM OUR ACADEMIC COUNSELOR

Learn More about Graduate Programs

Tuesday, November 6: Graduate School and Professional Fair in the PMU Ballrooms, 11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Science Journalism Laureates

Thursday, November 8: Hear and meet the Science Journalism Laureates visiting the Purdue campus.

3 p.m. – University Convocation for the Purdue community – Open session in **Lawson Commons**. Delivery by Laureates of their 200 word statements about what they want to say to scientists. Immediately after the ceremony, Laureates will meet and talk with the audience at an informal reception.

5 p.m. – Optional informal meeting of Laureates in the **East Faculty Lounge (Union)** to recap Laureate discussion of the day.

Purdue alumna Moira Gunn (MS '72 and PhD '74), host of National Public Radio's Tech Nation and BioTech Nation talk programs, is a founding laureate

and co-host of this year's Science Journalism Laureates Program. In addition to Gunn, the founding laureates are:

- Clive Cookson, science editor for the *Financial Times of London*.
- David Ewing Duncan, science journalist for *Discover*, *National Geographic* and PBS's *Nova*.
- Joel Garreau, journalist and editor for the *Washington Post*.
- Simon Grose, science and technology editor for the *Canberra Times*.
- Joan Leach, science communications program at the University of Queensland.
- Sabine Louet, news editor of *Nature Biotechnology*.
- Apoorva Mandavilli, senior news editor of *Nature Medicine*.
- Nuala Moran, editor of *Science and Business* and correspondent for BioWorld.
- Jason Pontin, editor in chief of *Technology Review* and columnist for New York Times.
- Jeff Young, senior editor of the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.

Nancy

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

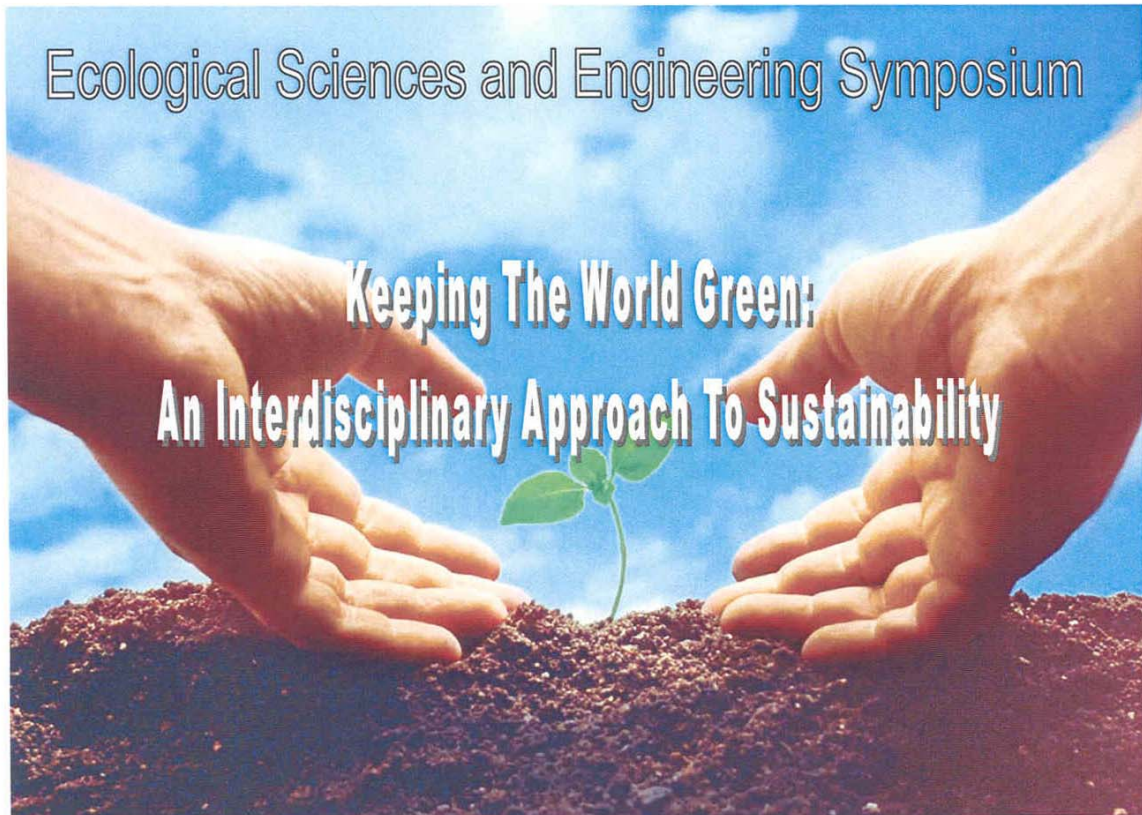
Tim Filley – November 10



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/). 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.





Graduate Student Environmental Research Poster Presentation and Competition

November 9th, 2007

STEW 218 1:30-3:30 PM

Submit poster abstracts to environment@purdue.edu by November 1st, 2007

\$250 1st Place, \$150 2nd Place, \$75 3rd Place

For information about the symposium, invited speakers, and abstract
instructions: www.purdue.edu/DP/ese/symposium

Discovery Park
Center for the Environment

