

January 7, 2008

THE HEAD'S PERSPECTIVE

Happy New Year and Welcome Back to a New Semester!

We hope that you have had a great holiday "break" and that you're anxious for the Spring 2008 semester. Of course, it will be another busy semester with classes, research and other activities. In addition, the University is engaged in an important strategic planning process to develop a plan for the next five or so years. Similarly, the College of Science has just launched a strategic planning process with the objective of having the main aspects of the plan completed by sometime in May. As you are aware, the EAS strategic plan dates from 2003 and there have been many changes in the department since then. Therefore, we will be developing our own, more focused strategic plan this semester. If you have specific ideas for the plan that you would like to contribute, please let us know. Also, we will need to form a committee to work on the plan, so if you would like to volunteer (or nominate someone else), that would be great.

I hope that you have a great semester!

ADOBE CONNECT WEBSITE CHANGING

The website for the Adobe Connect (formerly Breeze) video conferencing utility changed on Wednesday, December 19, 2007. The new URL is: <http://gomeet.itap.purdue.edu>.

The old URL will redirect to the new site until the end of the Spring semester. Please update your bookmarks accordingly.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Monday, January 14

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

OUR RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Trapp, R. J., N. S. Diffenbaugh, H. E. Brooks, M. E. Baldwin, E. D. Robinson, and J. S. Pal, 2007: Changes in severe thunderstorm environment frequency during the 21st century caused by anthropogenically enhanced global radiative forcing. *Proceedings, National Academy of Sciences*, **104**, 19719-19723, doi: 10.1073/pnas.0705494104.

RECENT PRESENTATIONS

Graduate Angel Acosta-Colon presented his research, "Detecting the Presence of a Sub-Porosity in an Open Fluid-Filled Fractures" on Monday December 10, 2007 at the 2007 Fall Meeting of American Geophysical Union in San Francisco.

Piotr Przybylski presented a poster at the AGU Conference in San Francisco in December titled: "Calibration of Pre-M25 Marine Magnetic Anomalies: Magnetic Polarity Composite of Late Callovian through Kimmeridgian."

Robert Nowack was a session chair at the 2007 Fall American Geophysical Union meeting for a session entitled "Continental Collision: The Lithospheric Scale". He also was an author on the following presentations:

Chen, W.P., T.L. Tseng, R.L. Nowack and S. Hung (2007) Mantle Lithosphere Beneath Tibet: A Synthesis with Special Reference to Result from Project Hi-Climb, Fall Annual Meeting, American Geophysical Union, Dec. 10-14, San Francisco.

Nowack, R.L., W.P. Chen and T.L. Tseng (2007) Imaging the Crust and Upper Mantle beneath the Hi-CLIMB Seismic Array in Tibet using Gaussian-Beam Migration of Radial Receiver Functions, Fall Annual Meeting, American Geophysical Union, Dec 10-14, San Francisco.

FROM OUR BUSINESS OFFICE

Recent Proposals

- Baldwin, Michael E. and Trapp, Robert J.: Establishment of warm-season WRF model climatologies at convection-permitting resolution. National Oceanographic & Atmospheric Adm. – \$289,620
- Bowen, Brenda B.: Summer Research Fellowship: Evaluating the history of eolian and interdune fluid-sediment interactions and mass transfer in an acid and redox influenced diagenetic system: Mollies Nipple, GSENM. Petroleum Research Fund/American Chemical Society – \$8,000
- Calais, Eric: Collaborative research: Testing magma-assisted rifting models in the East African Rift. NSF – \$221,238
- Filley, Timothy R.: Lignin as a Facilitator, not a Barrier, during Saccharification by Brown Rot Fungi. University of MN – \$158,674
- Gurney, Kevin R.: Exploration of the mechanistic relationship between improved regional North American inverse carbon fluxes and climate variability/trends. NICCR – \$341,945
- Haase, Jennifer S.: SGER: Flight Tests and Validation of the New HIAPER GISMOS Radio Occulation System. NSF – \$76,876
- Ogg, James G.: Supplemental Funding: Collaborative Research: An Astronomical-Calibrated Time Scale for the Mesozoic Era. NSF – \$10,000
- Riggs, Eric M.: Understanding Geologic Problem Solving in Advanced Undergraduate Field Mapping-Track 1. NSF – \$149,930
- Tung, Wen-wen: Collaborative Research: Pseudo-ensemble approach to quantify predictability in nonlinear multiscale systems with applications to tropical cyclone prediction. NSF – \$142,819

BILSLAND DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP

The Bilsland Dissertation Fellowship provides support to outstanding Ph.D. candidates in their final year of doctoral degree completion. Bilsland fellows are expected to devote full-time effort to the completion of all doctoral degree requirements and to receive the doctoral degree at the conclusion of the fellowship tenure. A Bilsland Dissertation Fellowship provides a \$18,000 stipend, payment of tuition and most fees, and includes a medical insurance supplement. The Bilsland Dissertation Fellowship may be administered as two six-month awards or as a one-year award.

Recipients of Bilsland Dissertation Fellowships must be enrolled as Ph.D. candidates in a degree-granting doctoral program at Purdue and have

demonstrated superior academic abilities and scholarly achievements. The recipients must have completed all degree requirements, except for the dissertation.

If you are interested in applying for the 2008-09 Bilsland Dissertation Fellowship, please submit the following to Kathy Kincade, CIVL 2169D, **by Thursday, January 10:**

- a one-page write-up of your research and indicate your anticipated date of graduation,
- an updated CV, and
- a supporting letter from your Advisor which also indicates your anticipated date of graduation.

Additional information on this and other Fellowships may be found on the Graduate School's website.

A NOTE FROM OUR ACADEMIC COUNSELOR

Spring Convocations

As a student you can purchase tickets for the following events at a reduced rate (\$10 each). Vouchers available in MATH 231.

Jon Faddis & Chicago Jazz Ensemble – Friday, January 18, at 8 p.m. in Loeb

Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegel – Friday, January 25, at 8 p.m. in Loeb

Evita – Sunday, January 27, at 4 p.m. in Elliott

Eric Bibb & Ronnie Baker Brooks – Thursday, January 31, at 7:30 p.m. in Loeb

The Velveteen Rabbit – Saturday, February 2, at 3 p.m. in Loeb

Academy of Ancient Music – Thursday, February 7, at 7:30 p.m. in Loeb

The John Jorgenson Quintet – Thursday, February 14, at 7:30 p.m. in Loeb

Annie – Sunday, February 24, at 5 p.m. in Elliott

Nochel Flamenca with Soledad Barrio – Friday, February 29, at 8 p.m. in Loeb

2008 IRIS Undergraduate Internship Program

- conduct research with state of the art geophysical data and leading researchers at IRIS institutions (Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology)
- develop an understanding of scientific inquiry, including designing and conducting scientific investigations, defending scientific arguments, and preparing publications
- gather, manage, and convey information, using various skills, strategies, resources, and

- learn, use, and evaluate technologies for the collection and study of geophysical data.

This paid experience features a week-long orientation program, the use of a variety of virtual communication technologies to help you stay connected with other interns during your 8- to 10-week research placement, and an opportunity to present your research at a scientific meeting. Details and application online at: <http://www.iris.edu/internship/>. Deadline to apply is **February 1, 2008**.

Chicago Botanic Garden's Fellowship Opportunity

Chicago Botanic Garden is looking for qualified persons (post graduation) to participate in the Conservation and Land Management Fellowship Program. This fellowship is a five-month paid position that will assist with duties that may include: plant and animal monitoring, endangered species management, **geographic data acquisition**, etc. Fellows also will participate in a one-week training course held in late May 2008 in Chicago, Illinois. There is a \$750/2-week pay period stipend.

Interested applicants should apply by **February 1, 2008**. Please contact cscott@chicagobotanic.org or visit

<http://chicagobotanic.org/research/conservation/blm/index.html> for further information.

Tour Guide Callout

Purdue University will be holding a tour guide call out on **Wednesday, January 9, 2008** at 6:30 p.m. in Beering Hall (BRNG) Room 2280.

Nancy

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/). 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.

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>.

