January 2013 News Notes

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Prof Jezek measures Greenland ice sheet velocities

In 1980, Professor Ian Whillans established a network of glaciological measurement sites across the southern Greenland Ice Sheet. Observations included measures of ice sheet surface velocity and ice sheet elevation. Since then, Whillans' sites have served as benchmarks for monitoring ice sheet change. In fact, repeated observations by OSU surface teams, NASA aircraft including missions by Operation IceBridge, and NASA's ICESat have periodically remeasured the sites resulting in an over 30 year time series of ice sheet change. These observations were recently compiled by Prof Emeritus Ken Jezek who showed that the dramatic changes known to be occurring around the ice sheet margin have begun to propagate deep into the interior. In part because of the ice elevation trends and in part because of the long duration, detailed time series of measurements at these positions, Bea Csatho, formerly with the BPRC and now the science team lead for NASA's ICESat-2, has suggested that Whillans' original sites be considered for detailed ICESat-2 calibration/validation studies. With luck, Whillans network will continue to provide reference data for major scientific programs into the next decade.

For more details, see: Jezek, K.C., 2012. Surface elevation and velocity changes on the south central Greenland ice sheet: 1980-2011. J. Glac., vol 58, no 212.

Orton museum looking for dinosaurs

The Orton Geological Museum, in conjunction with the Cincinnati Museum Center, is looking for landowners in the American West who would be willing to allow us to look for and excavate dinosaurs and other fossils on their property. Such fieldwork would be a great learning opportunity for our students as well as providing specimens for research and exhibit for both museums. If you are interested please contact Dale Gnidovec, Curator of the Orton Geological Museum at gnidovec.1@osu.edu

Prof Thompson travels to China to receive awards

Prof Lonnie Thompson will be traveling to Beijing, China January 15-20 to accept three awards. The awards are:

2012 Chinese Academy of Sciences Award for International Scientific Cooperation of the CAS. Beijing, China

2012 Friendship Award from the State Council of the People's Republic of China for promotion of cooperation and friendship between the USA and China.

2013 International Science and Technology Cooperation Award of the People's Republic of China. Ceremony Great Hall of the People, Beijing, China January 18th, 2013.

Prof Bevis & Mr Caccamise awarded honorary doctoral degrees

Prof. Michael G. Bevis and Mr. Dana J. Caccamise II were awarded honorary doctoral degrees by the Escuela Militar de Ingenieria of Bolivia (EMI). These degrees were awarded January 8th, in La Paz, Bolivia.

These honorary doctoral degrees are being awarded to these distinguished researchers in recognition of their major contributions to the Geographical Military Institute of Bolivia, the Military Engineering School, and the geodetic infrastructure of Bolivia. Below: Bevis (left) and Caccamise (right) with General Javier Carpio the Director of EMI.



Congratulations to the newest SES alumni

Congratulations to graduates from SES in December 2012! Those who graduated in Autumn semester are:

Undergraduate

Shaun Bartels (B.A. Geological Sciences)

Mark Bastawros (B.S. Geological Sciences)

John Bucklew (B.A. Geological Sciences)

Rohan Dasgupta (B.S. Geological Sciences)

Sara Peters (B.A. Geological Sciences)

Alexander Rytel (B.S. Geological Sciences)

Sarah Starkey (B.S. Geological Sciences)

Graduate

Stephen Levas (Ph.D. Geological Sciences - adviser Prof Grottoli)

Brandon McAdams (M.S. Geological Sciences - adviser Prof Carey)

Zachery Oestreicher (Ph.D. Geological Sciences - adviser Prof Lower)

Ruisi Ren (M.S. Geodetic Sciences - adviser Alan Saalfeld)

Kyle Snow (Ph.D. Geodetic Sciences - adviser Prof Schaffrin)