

May 2012 News Notes

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SES Students Participate in Research Forum

Seven undergraduate majors in Geological Sciences presented results of their B.S. thesis research projects at the April 20, 2012 Natural and Mathematical Sciences Undergraduate Research Forum at OSU. Seventy-five student poster presentations, representing the breadth of majors in science and mathematics, were given at the forum held in the Physics Research Building atrium. Kelsey Bisson was one of the 12 prize winners for best presentation. Congratulations, Kelsey! Among the Earth Sciences faculty and staff, Mike Barton, Joel Barker, Anne Carey, Berry Lyons, and Wendy Panero served as judges at the forum. Geological Sciences students presenting (left to right in the photograph), expected graduation year, project titles, and faculty research mentors are:

Andrew Tenison, 2013, "Katla: Pressure of Crystallization and Magma Chamber Depth," Prof Michael Barton advisor.
Zachary Cotter, 2013, "Environmental Remediation of Aquifers by Utilizing Oxidant Bearing Sodium Silicate Solutions," Prof Frank Schwartz advisor.

Jeffrey Thompson, 2013, "A New Method for Evaluating Convexity of Morphological Characteristics," Prof Bill Ausich advisor.

Kelsey Bisson, 2013, "Temporal Variability of Dissolved Inorganic Carbon in Streams at the McMurdo Dry Valleys, Antarctica," Prof Berry Lyons advisor.

Cody Trigg, 2012, "Organic Carbon Burial Inferred From $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ Trends During the Middle to Upper Ordovician: Implications for Global Cooling and Biodiversification," Prof Matt Saltzman advisor.

Cara Nadler, 2013, "Climate Influences on Small Lakes and Wetlands in the Rainwater Basin," Prof Frank Schwartz advisor.

Alex Rytel, 2013, "The Impact of Variation in Stream Flow on the Ecology of a Closed-Basin Lake in Antarctica," Prof Berry Lyons advisor.



SES at AAPG Meeting in Long Beach

Eight SES students attended the American Association of Petroleum Geologists meeting in Long Beach, California last week. Support for student travel came from generous contributions of Jory Pacht (1980, PhD), and from the Ohio State College of Arts & Sciences, as well as SES. As many of you know, SES hosted an Alumni breakfast on Tuesday (April 24). If you were at the Alumni breakfast, and have a photograph taken there that you'd be willing to share, please forward to Betty Heath. Finally, SES students Alex Swift and Verena Schopf were awarded AAPG Michael S. Johnson grants. Congratulations Alex and Verena!

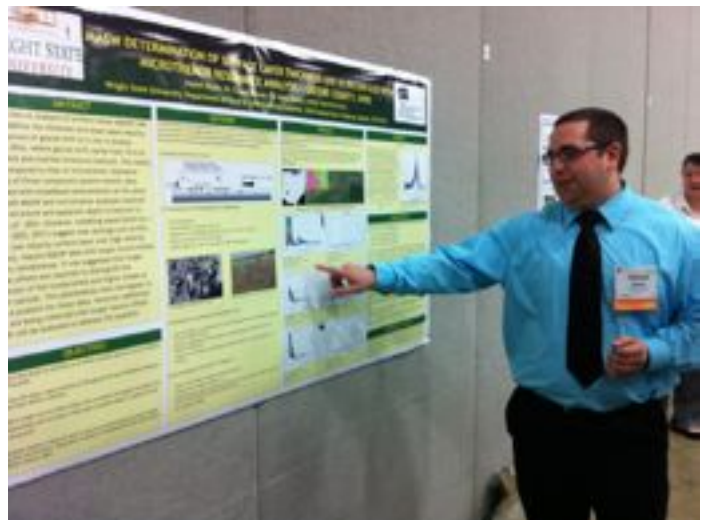
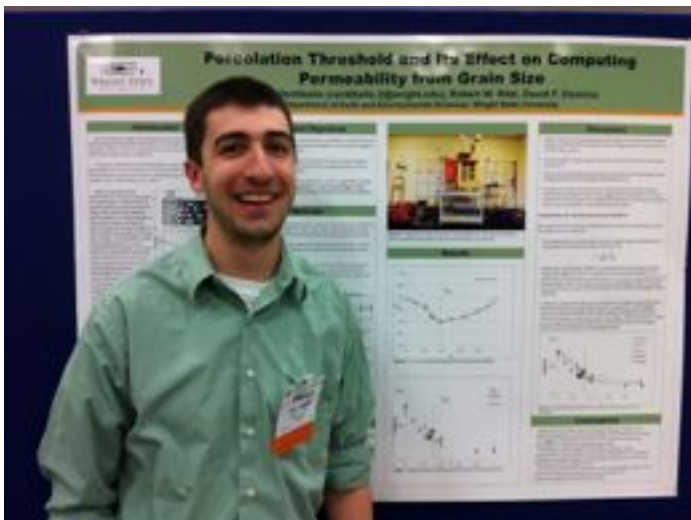
Next month in this newsletter, we will feature interviews with some of the SES students who were able to travel to AAPG. Stay tuned!

SES at North-Central GSA Meeting in Dayton

A number of SES faculty, graduate students, undergraduate students, and staff gave talks and posters at the North-Central GSA meeting in Dayton last week. Many SES alumni also attended the meeting; Prof. Anne Carey spotted two of our very recent alumni in the GSA poster halls.

Steven M. Verdibello (photo on left), B.S. 2010, Geological Sciences, presented the results of his M.S. thesis research at Wright State University at the 2012 North Central Geological Society of America meeting in Dayton, Ohio on April 23, 2012. Steve will defend his thesis this spring and then plans to return home to Westchester County, New York, where he will be looking for work in environmental consulting. At Ohio State, Steve's senior thesis research was conducted under the direction of Professor Ralph von Frese and concerned earthquake risk in the western seismic zone of Ohio.

Daniel R. Blake (photo on right), B.A. 2009, Geological Sciences, presented the results of his M.S. thesis research in geophysics at Wright State University at the 2012 North Central Geological Society of America meeting in Dayton, Ohio on April 23, 2012. Daniel will defend his thesis this spring and he then plans to seek employment, possibly with the Ohio Geological Survey. Daniel was an intern in the 2009 Shell Undergraduate Research Experience and for that program he worked under the direction of Professors Jeff Daniels and Frank Schwartz studying the effect of supercritical carbon dioxide on brines of the Illinois Basin.



Awards

Prof Mark Kleffner (Lima campus) has earned the Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching. Kleffner is also an SES alumnus (M.S. 1976). Recipients are nominated by Ohio State alumni, current students, as well as colleagues; awards are decided on by a committee of alumni, students, and faculty. The award was presented during Kleffner's class by Alumni Association President and OSU football legend Archie Griffin and Vice Provost Mike Boehm. More details can be found in the OSU Lima press release ([link](#)). In the photo below, Griffin (left) and Boehm (center) present the award to Kleffner (right).



On April 26th, Profs. Ellen Mosley-Thompson (Geography) and Lonnie Thompson (Ph.D. 1976) received the 2012 Benjamin Franklin Medal in Earth and Environmental Science in a week long celebration in Philadelphia, the first couple to receive this medal since the very first couple to receive this award, Marie and Pierre Curie. Funded in 1824 the Franklin Institute's Awards Program is recognized as the oldest and most comprehensive science and technology honor bestowed in the country and around the world. The list of Franklin Institute Awards Laureates is a roster of science and technology's most important and influential names over the last two centuries, men and women who have deepened human knowledge at both the basic and the applied levels. This list includes Albert Einstein, Rudolph Diesel, Marie and Pierre Curie, Thomas Edison, Jane Goodall, Orville Wright, Stephen Hawking and Jacques Cousteau, just to name a few.

Additionally, Lonnie & Ellen received the College of Arts and Sciences, Distinguished Alumni Award in recognition of outstanding professional accomplishments in ceremonies at the Blackwell on April 27, 2012.

Prof CK Shum was awarded the European Geophysical Union 2012 Vening Meinesz Medal in Geodesy for his pioneering work on the recent developments in geodetic techniques that have made profound contributions to the Earth Sciences through the precise measurement of mass transports within the Earth system. The award was presented at the EGU meeting in Vienna last week.

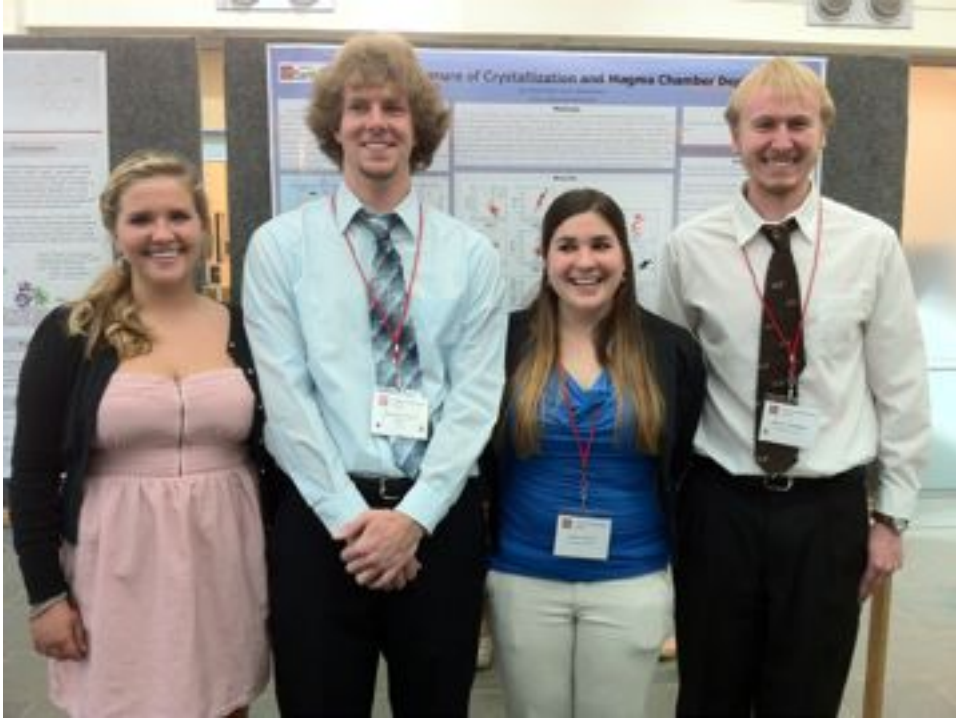
Additionally, Prof Shum has been elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

Graduate student Verena Schoepf (advisor Prof Grottoli) received funding from the PADI foundation (\$9,600) to pursue boron 11 isotopic studies on coral skeletons from ongoing ocean acidification experiments.

Graduate student Molly Semones (advisor Prof Yo Chin) received an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship.

Sigma Gamma Epsilon elects new officers

The Sigma Chapter of $\Sigma\Gamma E$ at Ohio State, the Earth Sciences national honorary society, on April 17, elected officers for the 2012–2013 academic year. Pictured from left to right are Abby Crock, president, Andrew Tenison, vice president, Kelsey Bisson, treasurer, and Jeffrey Thompson secretary and past president.



Brevia

Bob Stewart (ExxonMobil) visited SES in April, and taught a short course on basin analysis for students.

A book co-authored by Prof. Larry Krissek and his former student alumnus Kristen St. John (Ph.D. 1998) has just been published: *Reconstructing Earth's Climate History: Inquiry-Based Exercises for Lab and Class*, by Kristen St. John, R. Mark Leckie, Kate Pound, Megan Jones, and Lawrence Krissek. Published by Wiley-Blackwell.

Prof Ann Cook (who began at SES earlier this year) has purchased an X-ray computed tomography (XCT) core scanner, which arrived at SES last month.

Prof Dave Cole finalized the installation and training of the PANalytical X-ray diffractometer.