

November 2012 News Notes

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Shell Scholarships for Earth Sciences Undergrads

School of Earth Sciences undergraduate majors Kelsey Bisson (B.S. 2013), Victor Perez (B.S. 2013), and Christina “Chrissy” Zerda (B.S. 2014) are winners of \$5000 Shell Oil Company scholarships for the 2012–2013 academic year. Kelsey’s and Victor’s scholarships are renewal scholarships this year based on their continuing high level of academic achievement. Chrissy’s scholarship was awarded for the first time this year and she will be eligible to renew it next academic year.

Kelsey is currently pursuing research on the temporal variability of carbon in streams of the McMurdo Dry Valleys of Antarctica, a project under the direction of SES Director and Professor Berry Lyons. Kelsey was a geosciences intern with Shell Oil Company, Upstream Americas Exploration and Production in Houston for the summer of 2012. She has applied for a Fulbright Fellowship and hopes to study subglacial processes as a graduate student at the University of Bristol, England next academic year. Victor has completed one research project on the organic geochemistry of some novel compounds isolated from waters of Old Woman Creek in northern Ohio, under the direction of Professor Yo Chin and he was a participant in the Shell Undergraduate Research Experience internship program in Summer 2012. Victor has recently begun a project on crinoid taphonomy under the direction of Professors Bill Ausich and Yo Chin. Victor plans to combine his interests in organic geochemistry and paleontology in studies of paleoecology in graduate school next year. Chrissy is pursuing

a research project under the direction of Professor Mike Barton on the magma chamber underneath the East Pacific Rise along the western coast of Central America. She spent Summer 2012 at field camp in Ephraim, Utah and she is currently an undergraduate teaching assistant for mineralogy and petrology.

Ohio State is one of only 22 universities nationwide whose students are eligible to apply for Shell scholarships. The School of Earth Sciences congratulates our students on their scholarships from Shell. From left to right: Kelsey Bisson, Victor Perez, and Chrissy Zerda.



Prof James Head presents 2012 Bownocker Lectures

On 27 September Prof James Head from Brown University presented the two 2012 Bownocker Lectures. Jim is a world-recognized authority on planetary geology, and is known for his research on Mercury, Venus, Mars as well as the Moon; Prof Head is the Louis and Elizabeth Scherck Distinguished Professor of Geological Sciences at Brown. Jim has won numerous awards and honors over the years including GSA's GK Gilbert Award and the European Geosciences Union's Runcorn-Florensky Medal. He presented two lectures, "The Climate History of Mars: A Geological Perspective" and "The Geological Evolution of the Terrestrial Planets". At right: Professor and Chair Berry Lyons presents the Bownocker medal to Prof James Head.



1982 Field Camp Reunion

The Ohio State University Geology and Mineralogy Department Summer Field Camp class of 1982 will hold a 30-year reunion (actually, it's 31 years) July 18-21, 2013 in Ephraim, Utah. We plan to visit many of our field sites, hike in the desert, socialize, and tell tall tales of our field camp days. Families and friends welcome. For information, contact Mike Strobel at Michael.strobel@por.usda.gov

Prof Howard Pincus (1922-2012)

Howard Jonah Pincus, age 90, passed peacefully Wednesday October 17, 2012. Howard completed masters and doctoral degrees in Geology at Columbia University, where he also was elected to the Sigma Xi scientific research society. After Columbia Howard's professional career included positions rising from instructor to full professor and chairman of the Department of Geology at Ohio State University (1949-1967); geology research supervisor at the U.S. Bureau of Mines in Minneapolis, MN (1967-1968); full professor of geology and civil engineering and dean of the College of Letters and Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (1968-1987) where he also received the university's first Alumni Award for Teaching Excellence; and consultant in geology, rock mechanics, tunneling, and energy storage in rocks in San Diego, California (1987-2009). During his professional career Howard published well more than 100 articles, papers in technical journals, and chapters in scientific and educational books, as well as serving with the National Science Foundation, National Academy of Engineering, National Academy of Sciences, International Association of Engineering Geology, and as a member of the American Society for Testing and Materials, which awarded him both Merit and Frank W. Reinhart awards.

Howard is survived by his loving wife of 59 years Maud, children Glenn and Philip, daughters in law Jill and Kathleen, and grandchildren Katherine, Lindsay, Thomas, and Alexandra.

