Greetings from the Chair

Hello everyone! I hope 2009 is starting out well for you. Things in the Department of Geology at BGSU are humming along smoothly, and things are going well for me.

There is news in the department. Enrique Gomezdelcampo and his wife, Carol, welcomed a wonderful baby boy, Julián, to their family. For some reason, Enrique doesn’t look like he’s getting enough sleep anymore… Jeff Snyder and his wife, Fran, also saw their family grow, with the birth of their third child, Janie. The School of Earth, Environment and Society also grew; the environmental health program was merged with the Center for Environmental Programs; the combined unit is now the Department of the Environment and Sustainability. The Department of Geology also hired a new instructor many of you may be familiar with: Chris Pepple, who received both his BS and MS in Geology from BGSU. Chris was hired to help teach the GeoJourney program in the summer; he also teaches introductory courses during the year. For those interested in oil and gas, they drilled a successful gas well just outside Bowling Green. Bob Vincent was instrumental in locating the site for the well and getting the well drilled; it was nice to be able to take students out to see what really happens when a well is drilled. Jim Evans received an award given to one person from the university each year to recognize outstanding service to the university. Jim certainly earned the award, having served on a number of important departmental and university committees. Congratulations, Jim! Bob Vincent, on the other hand, had some problems. He suffered from chest pains in late December and, to make a long story short, had open heart surgery in January. He’s recovering well and, less than a month after surgery, is back to work. You may have seen the cover story in the BGSU magazine earlier this year about one of our alums, Dino Bruce Young, and his adventures collecting dinosaur fossils (many of which he unselfishly donates to the department; Thanks Brucel).

Things are changing rapidly at the university. We have a new president, Carol Cartwright, and a new Dean in the College of Arts and Sciences, Simon Morgan-Russell. We will also have a new Provost starting later in the year. The university also bought a new software package, PeopleSoft, to keep track of all university...
Greetings from the Chair  ...continued from page 1

records. The learning curve is rather steep; fortunately, Pat Wilhelm, the department secretary, is on top of things and can get everyone the information they need. The new software required that we renumber all our courses, adding a 0 at the end; 104 becomes 1040, causing endless confusion. Like everyone who works for a public university, we are feeling the pinch of budget cuts. Fortunately, the Department of Geology looks to be in decent shape, at least in the near future.

I had an exciting year. It began when I took several days off in January to serve on a jury for the federal district court system. I learned more about industrial boilers and how not to run them than I ever wanted to know! I also took a few days off in the summer to take two weaving classes in Pennsylvania; weaving is a favorite hobby of mine. I didn’t advise any graduate students in 2008, but it looks like I will have three new students this year. All are interested in environmental geochemistry, in particular metal contamination of agricultural soil, metal contamination in river sediments, and metal contamination in reservoir sediments. I also hope to work with Jim Evans looking at sediment chemistry before they remove the Ballville Dam. I continue to work with Bob Vincent and his students on his sewage sludge project, helping them as they collect analyze samples for metal contamination. I’m also teaching both graduate and undergraduate courses. This year, I taught small groups of students in GEOL 1040 in both the summer session and the fall semester, and GEOL 3220 (environmental geology) in the spring.

I hope that you had a good year, and as always, stop by if you are in the area. Our annual Spring Banquet will be held on April 8th. It would be a great excuse for you to make a visit and let us know what you are up to!

Sheila Roberts  
Chair/Associate Professor  
sjrober@bgsu.edu

Cover photo: 
2008 field camp students made it to the top of the dune in the Great Sand Dunes National Monument!
NIKKI ELKINS  
nelkins@bgsu.edu

Hi. The past year has been one of many new beginnings. I have been developing new courses for geology, including a forensic archaeology course. I have also begun work on creating a blended Geology 104 course to combine aspects of online instruction with on-campus labs. I believe strongly in the hands-on approach to learning and toward that effort GeoJourney continues to be a success here at BGSU. In 2008, GeoJourney ran as a joint program with the University of Georgia in the summer and as a fall program with 19 BGSU students. For summer 2009, GeoJourney will be a summer program. I would like to expand GeoJourney into multiple semesters and to eventually design an upper level undergraduate program. This semester I have started teaching Geology 100 in the Chapman Learning Community – working with an entirely freshman class has been rewarding and hopefully I can convert a few of them into geology majors!

JOHN FARMER  
jfarver@bgsu.edu

Well nothing much has changed since last year- I am still working with the wind. NOTE- I am ‘working with’ not ‘full of’. I started working with the Coastal Ohio Wind Project last January. The primary objective of the project was to find the best location on the Firelands campus for a wind turbine and to get the WTG constructed. The more I worked on the project, the more it became evident that only a small turbine could be used due to the proximity of a small public grass-runway airport. If we used a smaller turbine then we would lose our federal funding. BGSU has decided to pursue a public-private partnership to fund the Firelands turbine which converts construction funding into more research funding. So instead of constructing a turbine, I am now the PI of a research group involved BGSU faculty, Peter Gorsevski (SEES) and Vern Bingman (Psychology/Biology) as well as two research groups in engineering at UT. We’re going to be looking at using a combination of sensors (radar and ir) to determine avian interactions in the vicinity of WTGs. In addition, we’ll be expanding on work documenting the path and timing of migratory bird movement along the north shore of Lake Erie. Part of the collaborative effort with UT will be adapting and testing a design for a two-bladed, downwind, teeter-hub WTG. All of these projects are focused...Continued on page 4

JIM EVANS  
evansje@bgsu.edu

Greetings! I am pleased to report that last year four of my students finished their master’s degrees and are now gainfully employed, most of them in the oil industry. I have four new students: Allan Adams is looking at the dynamics of the Huron River in Ohio, which alternates between bedrock-controlled reaches and alluvial reaches (where channel avulsions are common); Colleen O’Shea is finishing work on the McDermott Member of the Animas Formation in SW Colorado, which was a volcanically-influenced fluvial unit; Laura Webb is looking at historical changes in rivers in NW Ohio by examining the implications of pre-settlement buried soils; and Senthil Yuvaraj is starting a project on the 3-D geometry of the Pictured Cliffs SS in SW Colorado, a potential natural gas reservoir. As you can see, my students and I share quite varied interests!

Grants Committee, an ODNR advisory panel for Lake Erie coastal erosion, a USEPA peer review committee, and the advisory panels for several dam removal projects. The authorization has just come through to remove the Ballville Dam (Sandusky River at Fremont) which will be the largest such project ever conducted in the Midwest.

For those of you who recall my family, Heidi is now studying food security issues and rural cooperatives in Cochabamba, Bolivia and we won’t see her for at least six months. Emily is almost done with high school and ready to depart BG. The empty nest beckons! Please keep in touch!

JOSEPH FRIZADO  
frizado@bgsu.edu

Well nothing much has changed since last year- I am still working with the wind. NOTE- I am ‘working with’ not ‘full of’. I started working with the Coastal Ohio Wind Project last January. The primary objective of the project was to find the best location on the Firelands campus for a wind turbine and to get the WTG constructed. The more I worked on the project, the more it became evident that only a small turbine could be used due to the proximity of a small public grass-runway airport. If we used a smaller turbine then we would lose our federal funding. BGSU has decided to pursue a public-private partnership to fund the Firelands turbine which converts construction funding into more research funding. So instead of constructing a turbine, I am now the PI of a research group involved BGSU faculty, Peter Gorsevski (SEES) and Vern Bingman (Psychology/Biology) as well as two research groups in engineering at UT. We’re going to be looking at using a combination of sensors (radar and ir) to determine avian interactions in the vicinity of WTGs. In addition, we’ll be expanding on work documenting the path and timing of migratory bird movement along the north shore of Lake Erie. Part of the collaborative effort with UT will be adapting and testing a design for a two-bladed, downwind, teeter-hub WTG. All of these projects are focused...Continued on page 4
on removing obstacles to deploying wind turbines in Lake Erie. I’ve just been notified that additional funding for the project is forthcoming which should allow us to broaden our research base even more.

The rest of my time seems wrapped up in working at the Center for Regional Development. I’m working with Bruce Smith (SEES-Geography) and Mike Carroll (Economics) utilizing my GIS skills on social/economic problems. I just published a paper on spatial statistics used for delineating economic clusters and presented a paper on determining supply chain potential in support of wind turbine manufacturing in Ohio at the Western Regional Sciences Association meeting in Napa. Quite the field trips, but after the first few stops the rest is a blurrrrr. oops blur- I seem to be slurring my speech. The paper shows how to find areas of high potential to support manufacturing wind turbines using a 13-layer weighted surface model (ala DRASTIC - what goes around, comes around, just somewhere else)

At the same time, I haven’t stopped teaching but have cut back quite a bit. I do miss teaching in the lab but it is stimulating interacting with a wide variety of colleagues on projects outside traditional Geology. SEES is meant to broaden our students’ educational outlook and experience without diluting the basic degrees. I “see” that approach as useful, I hope more of our students will also.
The year began for me in Antarctica. I awoke to the sound of the wind buffeting my tent, a reliable indicator of nasty conditions and the promise of a long day of reading, napping and conjuring-up meals. At the time I was with a group of 3 other scientists, 3 students and 2 guides at Minna Bluff located in the southern Ross Sea. Our field party had been camping for about three weeks on an expedition to map and sample the geology of this 50-km long volcanic peninsula. We finished our work two weeks later and I returned ‘home’ to my family in Christchurch, New Zealand, where we’ve been living during my sabbatical leave hosted by the University of Canterbury. I arrived back from the ‘Ice’ during my kid’s summer vacation and thus left home immediately for more camping – oh joy! But this time we were traveling to the warm beaches along the top of the South Island (e.g. Abel Tasman & Golden Bay). It was a very nice time to thaw, unwind and heal as well as to become reacquainted with my family after 3+ months away.

The research is still simmering along, although at times I need help to fan the flames. I have two students finishing up who are both looking at fluid-related problems. One in the Pennsylvania Piedmont where the localization of Alleghanian shearing has been proposed to be caused by fluid infiltration, and the other in the Maryland Valley and Ridge where fluid inclusions may hold the key to unraveling the thrust history. On the personal side, my youngest daughter is graduating this Spring from BGSU and will be off to vet school at OSU next Fall. Finally, empty nesters.
The study is on the geology of a portion of the active Erebus Volcano, Ross Island, Antarctica that Brian and I worked on in 2003. In early August, my Master’s student, Mary Scanlan, successfully defended her thesis on the petrographical and geochemical characteristics and genesis of co-mingled lavas that we discovered at Minna Bluff in 2007. She presented her study at the annual AGU meeting in San Francisco in December and it was well received. I now have two new graduate students working with me, Will Emery and Joanne Antibus. Will is going to be mapping and describing stratigraphic sections of volcanogenic deposits in Colorado to decipher the eruptive history and timing of extrusion relative to extension in the northern Rio Grande Rift. Joanne is undertaking a geochemical study (e.g., oxygen isotopes) of altered volcanic rocks from Minna Bluff in order to evaluate paleoenvironmental changes in Antarctica between 12 and 8 million years ago. I am still actively involved in the ANDRILL program for scientific drilling in Antarctica and I encourage you to visit the website (http://andrill.org/) to learn more about it and to also find some really nice educational outreach materials! Besides teaching the usual classes on geological hazards, volcanology and petrology, I am now the undergraduate advisor for the department.

This is my first year here as faculty within the department, and I truly enjoy teaching. This last fall I became a part of the GeoJourney Program as an instructor, teaching physical and historical geology to an excellent group of 19 students along the trip. These students truly made this a great first year teaching experience for me. I am currently teaching introductory classes and labs for the department, and getting ready for the next trip out this summer. I plan to do follow-up research on quartz cementation experiments this upcoming year, following the return of GeoJourney this summer. Hope you all have a good year ahead.

The past year has been particularly eventful and busy. I assumed the full field-camp directorship with Kurt Panter’s New Zealand sabbatical. I also became the department’s graduate coordinator/advisor. At home, we welcomed a new baby girl. Next year, I look forward to analyzing numerous diatom samples from Lake El’gygytgyn in Siberia (see http://www.icdp-online.org/contenido/icdp/front_content.php?idart=2113 for drilling progress).

Greetings! Yes, I am still here and continue to teach. During the current academic year, I have taught courses in life through time, geologic history of man, geologic history of dinosaurs, micropaleontology, and biochronology, as well as advising paleobiology senior projects. There are ten students in the undergraduate paleobiology program, but eight of them are seniors. Apparently, prospective students no longer have a convenient way to find out about the program. Beta Upsilon chapter of Sigma Gamma Epsilon was installed 50 years ago this April and has been continuously active ever since.

This is my first year here as faculty within the department, and I truly enjoy teaching. This last fall I became a part of the department’s undergraduate advisor. Besides teaching the usual classes on geological hazards, volcanology and petrology, I am now the undergraduate advisor for the department.
My students and I are still performing research on the sludge project, with University of Toledo, and the Great Lakes project. I will chair a special session at the IAGLR (International Assoc. for Great Lakes Research) meeting at the U. of Toledo in May, 2009, that will highlight 5 papers of important recent results from our Great Lakes research. We are mapping cyanobacteria blooms in the Great Lakes with more confidence every year and it increasingly looks like higher nutrient loads (particularly phosphate) are the root cause of cyanobacteria blooms in Lake Erie, at least. A new company, Blue Water Satellite, Inc. (BWSI), started operations on Feb. 17, 2009, to exploit the BGSU patent for mapping cyanobacteria blooms in drinking water reservoirs from LANDSAT satellite data. BWSI is receiving good attention from several states that are concerned about cyanobacteria blooms and its first sales are expected in March, 2009. BGSU will likely receive its first royalties in April or May, 2009.

Surprisingly, I had my first ever angina attack on Dec. 9, 2008, and on Jan. 9, 2009 had my congenitally defective aortic valve replaced at Cleveland Clinic. I am recovering well, and started teaching classes on Mar. 5, 2009. The doctors say that I should be better off by this summer than I ever was before the operation, because now I have a non-leaking, above-average-performing new valve. I will be on sabbatical next year, when I will be working for BWSI and another spin-off company for a year and not teaching. So, I will still be around if you need to reach me. We could use more good students who wish to major in geology, both undergraduate and graduate. Jobs have never been easier for our Dept. of Geology graduates to find than now, recession notwithstanding. Send us your kids and grandkids, and we won’t disappoint them.

Undergraduate research is dominating the paleontology scene this year at BGSU. Paleobiology concentrator Ben Linzmeier is working on an Honors thesis, in collaboration with fellow Geology undergrad Shawn Wallace, that investigates the paleontology and geochemistry of the Pennsylvanian Buckhorn Asphalt of Oklahoma, a shallow marine carbonate unit that was impregnated with hydrocarbons shortly after deposition. This unique situation has preserved beautiful mollusk fossils with original aragonitic (mother-of-pearl) shells that are 310 million years old. Paleobiology concentrators Liz Ferrer and Leigha King are both studying dinosaur biomechanics using finite element analysis. And Ben, Liz, Leigha, and Matt Knauss are tackling the stabilization and conservation of some mastodon skeletal elements, originally discovered in Wood County in 1884, that have been languishing in the Overman Hall basement for years. The mastodon remains will be part of an exhibit on the fossils of Wood County that the students are preparing for the Wood County Historical Center and Museum. I’m not sure when they have time to go to class, but we certainly appreciate our undergraduates’ enthusiasm and hard work!

Meanwhile, I’m on Faculty Improvement Leave (a.k.a. sabbatical) this academic year, and have been focusing on two research projects. First, I’m learning more about Geographic Information Systems and spatial statistics so I can expand on the GIS-compatible database of Cretaceous Western Interior ammonoid occurrences we’ve been building to better understand the paleobiogeography and evolutionary dynamics of this fascinating group. Second, I’m leading a team of biologists and paleontologists from across the country to prepare a large grant proposal to study the evolutionary relationships of all the modern cephalopods (squid, octopus, etc.) and connect them back to their fossil ancestors… getting a crash course in molecular phylogenetics and squid anatomy in the process! Calamari, anyone?
Faculty Grants and Contracts

ACTIVE EXTERNAL GRANTS AND CONTRACTS FOR 2008

- Quantifying the Role of Mayflies in Transfer of Toxic Metals in Western Lake Erie Basin – John Farver and Jeff Miner (Biology), Ohio Lake Erie Commission
- Employing Trace Element Contents of Otoliths for Fish Stock Discrimination and Habitat Use – John Farver and Jeff Miner (Biology), Ohio Sea Grant
- Collaborative Proposal: Late Cenozoic Volcanism and Glaciation at Minna Bluff, Antarctica: Implications for Antarctic Cryosphere History – Kurt Panter, NSF
- Collaborative Research: Constraining the Petrogenesis and Mantle Source of Adare Basin Seamount Lavas – Kurt Panter, NSF
- Collaborative Research: Millennial-Scale Arctic National Climate Change for the Last 3.6 My: Scientific Drilling at Lake El’gygytgyn, NE Russia – Jeff Snyder, NSF
- Monitoring of Agricultural Sewage Sludge – Robert Vincent, USDA
- Monitoring of Lake Erie Water Quality with Remote Sensing – Robert Vincent and George Bullerjahn (Biology), NOAA
- Validation and Calibration of Remote Sensing Data – Robert Vincent, U.S. Department of Interior

Colloquia

DEPARTMENTAL COLLOQUIA FOR 2008

William Renwick, Department of Geography, Miami University, The impact of dams on sediment and carbon budgets
Erich Guy, Army Corps of Engineers, Major Rehabilitation Evaluation for Bolivar Dam in Ohio
Ron Walden, Dominion Transmission, Inc., Underground Gas Storage Geology in the Appalachian Basin Region
Nathan Harris, BGSU, Sedimentological response of the 2007 removal of a low-head dam, Ottawa River, Toledo, Ohio
Andrew Clark, BGSU, Lake Erie Holocene coastal evolution near the Portage River, Catawba Island, Ohio
Bob Wintsch, Indiana University, Deciphering the tectonic assembly of the New England Appalachians: insights from structure, and geochemistry
Charles Nittouer, Department of Earth and Space Sciences, University of Washington, The ties that bind Source to Sink: within and between New Guinea and New Zealand

Students

M.S. THESES COMPLETED IN 2008

Kelsey Garner (advisors: Joe Elkins and Sheila Roberts)
Why Students Take Photographs on Geology Field Trips: Connections Between Motivations and Novelty Space.

Nathan Harris (advisor: Jim Evans)
The use of Hydraulic Modeling to Predict Fluvial Adjustments Following the Removal of the Secor Dam, Toledo, Ohio.

James Hayes (advisors: Joe Elkins and Peg Yacobucci)
Evaluating the Impact of Animated Topographic Fly-Through on Students Geographic Novelty Space During a Geology Field Trip.

M.S. GRADS:

Kristen Bischoff (advisor: Bob Vincent)

Matthew Bradford (advisor: Bob Vincent)

Andrew Clark (advisor: Jim Evans)
An Interpretation of an Asymmetric Wave-Influenced Deltaic System on the Mouth Of The Portage River Near Port Clinton, Ohio.
Jessica Lawrence (advisor: Peg Yacobucci)
A Total Evidence Analysis of the Evolutionary History of the Thunnosaur Ichthyosaurs.

Huidong Liu (advisor: Enrique Gomezdelcampo)
Environmental Change in Former and Present Karner Blue Butterfly Habitats.

Brett Miller (advisors: Joe Elkins and Jeff Snyder)
Comparison of δ¹³C Values of Soil and Speleothem Carbonates in Central USA: Implications for Paleovegetation Studies.

Zachary Mueller (advisor: Jim Evans)
Anticipated Effects of Removing the Grand Rapids-Providence Dam, Maumee River (NW Ohio) Using Hec-Ras Models.

Ganesh Neupane (advisor: Bob Vincent)
A Comparison of Natural Earthquake Occurrence and Predicted Earthquake Occurrence in Seismologically Active Areas for Determination of Statistical Significance.

Emmanuel Nwaodua (advisor: Jim Evans)
Subsurface Facies Analysis of the Rose Run Sandstone Formation in South Eastern Ohio.

Christopher Pepple (advisor: John Farver)

Stephen Sabo (advisor: Charlie Onasch)
Use of 3D Resistivity Imaging for Groundwater Exploration in Fluvial Environments.

Mary Scanlan (advisor: Kurt Panter)

UNDERGRADUATE GEOLOGY MAJORS GRADUATED IN 2008
Shannon McVey

Alumni and Friends Support
The Department wishes to thank these alumni, faculty, and friends for their generous support of the department and its programs during 2008.

John Anderson, Jr
David & Constance Atwater
Bank of America
Glenn Bear
Cabot Oil
B&B Oil (Petrox)
Chevron
William and Susan Craig
Jerome and Virginia Cuzella
Robin Diedrich and Mary Ann Dyka
Jim Evans
Exxonmobile
Eugene and Barbara Filipow
Jane Forsyth Memorial
Susan Goldstein
Milton and Donna Good
Tom Gorman
Raimund Hahn/ Cynthia Artist
Dick and MaryAnn Hoare
Gary Hoose
IBM
Henry and Elizabeth Jacques
Kevin and Merrill Jacques

Brian and Janet Jeffs
Jams and Virginia Jolly
Eugene and Gloria Kindt
Roger and Barbara Kussow
Macy’s
Toby and Robin Mancuso
Thomas and Jackie McClain
Charles and Christine Onasch
Kurt Panter
Dan and Mary Pfeiffer
Bernard and Gayle Regel
Thomas Rennebaum
Raritan Resources
Sheila Roberts
Mary Lou and Richard Sanders
Kenneth and Phyllis Scott
Carol Thatcher
Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club
Eric and Annette Telljohann
Pat Wilhelm
Tom and Janice Wolery
Peg Yacobucci
Ken Yokohama
The department is fortunate to have many scholarships for both undergraduate and graduate students. Thanks to the generosity of alumni who endowed the awards and those who help them grow through annual giving, student support is at a record level in the department. Your contributions to any of these scholarships go directly to the students.

**Departmental Scholarships**

**THE CONRAD AND DEANNA ALLEN AWARD**
Given to an outstanding undergraduate student going to field camp

**THE DAVID V. JACQUES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**
Recognizes academic excellence of an undergraduate student

**M.S. LOUGHEED SENIOR GEOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP**
Recognizes academic excellence of an undergraduate student

**TOLEDO GEM AND ROCKHOUND CLUB SCHOLARSHIP**
Recognizes academic excellence of an undergraduate student and gives consideration to financial need and students from NW Ohio

**MANCUSO FIELD STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP**
Supports students going to field camp

**THE RICHARD D. HOARE GRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP**
Supports graduate student research

**FURMAN ECONOMIC GEOLOGY RESEARCH FUND**
Supports graduate student research in areas of economic geology and minerals research

**PRACTICAL GEOPHYSICS INC. SCHOLARSHIP**
Supports student research in the area of field geophysics

**DENNIS L. RODER GEOLOGICAL FIELD EXPERIENCE SCHOLARSHIP**
Supports a Junior or Senior completing a field experience

**Departmental Award and Scholarship Winners – 2008**

**Student Awards**

**OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT**
Shannon McVey

**LOUGHEED SCHOLARSHIP**
Ben Linzmeier

**LOUGHEED BOOK SCHOLARSHIP**
Colleen Varga and Allison Bryan

**DAVID V. JACQUES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**
Shawn Wallace and Liz Ferrer

**DENNIS L. RODER GEOLOGICAL FIELD EXPERIENCE SCHOLARSHIP**
Ben Linzmeier, Liz Ferrer and Shawn Wallace

**CONRAD AND DEANNA ALLEN FUND**
Tim Hampel

**TOLEDO GEM AND ROCKHOUND CLUB SCHOLARSHIP**
Leigha King and Rosie Nyland

**CHARLOTTE PARKER BOOK SCHOLARSHIP**
Jeremy Jeffrey

**MANCUSO FIELD STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP**
Liz Ferrer, Shawn Wallace, Rosie Nyland, Ben Linzmeier, and Tim Hampel

**OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT**
Nathan Harris and Mary Scanlan

**RICHARD D. HOARE RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP**
Steven King

**PRACTICAL GEOPHYSICS, INC. SCHOLARSHIP**
Cosmas Kijujo

**FURMAN ECONOMIC GEOLOGY RESEARCH FUND AWARD**
Jenn Markham

**DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE AWARD**
Jessica Lawrence and Andrew Clark

**SWEETY MAZUMDAR OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT TEACHING AWARD**
Colleen O’Shea

**DEPARTMENTAL RESEARCH AWARD**
Colleen O’Shea and Megan Castles

**Alumni Award**

**DOROTHY J. STOUT DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD**
Thomas (Toby) Mancuso
Scholarship Winners

Outstanding Undergraduate Student winner, Shannon McVey

David V. Jacques Memorial Scholarship winner, Shawn Wallace and Liz Ferrer

Lougheed Book Scholarship winners, Colleen Varga and Allison Bryan (L to R)

Toledo Gem and Rockhound Scholarship winners, Leigha King and Rosie Nyland

Lougheed Scholarship winner, Ben Linzmeier

Charlotte Parker Book Scholarship Jeremy Jeffrey

Conrad and Deanna Allen Fund winner, Tim Hampel
Scholarship Winners CONTINUED

Dick Hoare with Richard D. Hoare Research Scholarship winner Steven King

Furman Economic Geology Research Fund Award recipient, Jenn Markham

Sweety Mazumdar Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award recipient Colleen O’Shea

Mancuso Field Studies Scholarship winners, (L to R) Liz Ferrer, Shawn Wallace, Rosie Nyland, Ben Linzmeier, Tim Hampel, and Doc Joe

Dennis L. Roder Geological Field Experience Scholarship recipients (L to R), Ben Linzmeier, Liz Ferrer and Shawn Wallace

Departmental Service Award recipients, Jessica Lawrence and Andrew Clark

Departmental Research Award recipients, Colleen O’Shea and Megan Castles

Practical Geophysics, Inc. Scholarship Cosmas Kujjo

Dorothy J. Stout Distinguished Alumni Award Thomas (Toby) Mancuso

Outstanding Graduate Student Award recipients, Colleen O’Shea and Megan Castles
Our Staff

The department wishes to recognize the hard work of its classified staff, instructors, and work study students, without whom we could not function.

Bill Butcher
Staff Geologist

It has been 32 years since I started offering tech support to the staff and students in the Department of Geology. Time sure flies when one is totally confused. These days computers rule! Most of my time in now spent setting them up, keeping them running and making them do all kinds of useful geographical, environmental and societal things (a subtle plug for SEES). My most recent “little” project was adding a Linux-based data collection system to our OhioSeis network station. For a good time, go to http://bgso-1.bgsu.edu. You can download endless streams of seismic data with GPS time lock 24/7/365. It’s more fun than You Tube! ‘Nuf said. The NASCAR season is finally underway and I am gearing up for another year of geo-technical bliss. Now what could be better than that? Have a great year!

Pat Wilhelm
Departmental Secretary

Believe it or not March begins my 9th year as the department secretary. It has been a very busy and challenging year thus far. I have just finished scheduling the department fall 09 classes in the new People Soft program for the first time. Even after extensive training it was quite a challenge. Next up will be enrolling students for the first time in the new system. Spring means it’s time to prepare for the banquet, assist with field camp preparations, prepare grad assistantship offers, create the online course evaluations and the list goes on. I do enjoy the variety and being busy certainly helps the cold dreary BG winter days go by faster. According to the calendar spring is almost here, hopefully Mother Nature cooperates. I spent Christmas break this year at Walt Disney World with my oldest daughter and her family, we were very lucky in that it never rained and temps were in the 80’s our entire trip. The only downside was not having the rest of the family especially the little ones with us to enjoy the Disney magic. We are planning a trip for them in 2010. I have been ready to return on more than one occasion this long cold winter. I will be blessed with my 6th grandbaby in June so naturally I will taking some time away from the office to help care for mom, baby and the three siblings already at home.

Paula Steinker
Instructor

Jeremy Jeffery
Student Worker
**Class Notes**

**ALLAN BAISCH | B.S. 1959**  
Wadeff@yahoo.com  
Allan is retired now, living in Hemet, California.

**ROD BIGGS | B.S. 1977**  
Rod works for the company Dominion E & P, as the V.P. of Operations. His duties include oil and gas drilling, completion, pipelines, production and safety.

**ALAN COULSON | B.S. 1992**  
atlainz@yahoo.com  
Alan lives in Columbia, South Carolina, and works at Furman University as a full-time lecturer. His duties are instructing EarthSci courses, and he just defended his dissertation on stable isotopes of cretaceous marine vertebrates.

**BETH CUNNINGHAM | B.A. 1973**  
AND FRED CUNNINGHAM | B.S. 1968, M.A. 1972  
thermofern@aol.com  
Fred and his wife live in Lantana, Texas. Fred is now retired.

**RYAN DICKERSON | M.S. 2007**  
Ryan lives in Fayetteville, Arkansas and works on GIS.

**BRETT NEFF | M.S. 1998**  
bneff@enercon.com  
Bret is currently a Sr. Project Manager and Leader of the Geosciences group at Enercon Services in Houston. Enercon is an environmental consulting and engineering firm that specializes in permitting and design etc. of new nuclear facilities.

**CHRIS PEPPLE | B.S. 2005, M.S. 2008**  
Ccpp21@hotmail.com  
Chris is the newest faculty member in our department. Chris was a GeoJourney instructor in the fall and is teaching intro Geology in the spring.

**THOMAS PETERS | M.S. 1968**  
peterstjf@yahoo.com  
Last year, Peter worked mainly on a gold property in Montana, the old Garnet district. He went on a couple oil and gas wells, and joined RMAG. Dan Kneipper had a paper in their bulletin a couple of months back. As for this year, he found some work in southeastern Europe (precious and base-metals).

**DAN E. PFEIFFER | B.S. 1967, M.A. 1972**  
pfeifferfamily@aol.com  
Dan works for the company Energy Investment Partners, LLC as a Geologist-Exploration Manager, in Michigan. His duties are to generate and develop oil and gas projects.

**TOM D. RENNEBAUM | B.S. 1970, M.S. 1978**  
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Tom works for a small consulting outfit. His company’s contract with Barrick at the Bald Mountain has recently ended. The year 2009 may be very challenging…although the price of gold is still robust, the problem is that small exploration companies rely on investors for their exploration funds, so unless they have some sort of cash flow (producing mine), then they will have trouble funding their proposed programs this year. This means that Tom may or may not be steadily employed this coming year.

**MEGAN SEITZ | B.S. 2005**  
seitzmeg@msu.edu  
Megan recently passed her comps. She had one week of written exams and then a few hours for the orals, and they went fairly well. She went back to the Mammoth Site last summer, and worked in the lab and bone bed full time, without having to lead tours and work in the gift shop. She even found a tusk. It was a wonderful experience, and in the summer-end evaluation, her supervisors compliment her on her knowledge of paleontology, and how she knows that comes in a large part from Peg Yacobucci. She also went to SVP last fall, and met Glenn Storrs.

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**CHRISS WRIGHT | M.S. 2006**  
Chris works for Marshall Miller Associates.

**BRUCE YOUNG | B.S. 1976**  
paleoguy@comcast.net  
Dino Bruce Young is now retired. He was a paleontology volunteer for twelve years for the Denver Museum of Nature and Science where he helped to find over sixty old reptiles, a few turtles, and three T-Rex teeth from three different regions. Bruce now has his own service “Paleo-Survey Services”. In the last five years he has had four clients. He has walked their properties to find turtle, fossil plants and dinosaur fossil material. Bruce prepped all the specimens and returned them to the landowners. Bruce is presently working on property for the City of Westminster where he has found some twenty one fossil sites. Bruce’s only charge to his clients is the cost of gas. Bruce states his real reward is “in the discovery and preparation of the samples.” When not in the field Bruce still visits elementary schools to talk about his favorite subject, dinosaurs and fossils. Bruce has been married for eighteen years and is the father of five and has six grandchildren.
GEOLOGISTS AT WORK

Undergraduate Liz Ferrer takes a strike and dip at Lime Creek.

Graduate student Louis Sanderson examines a hand sample near Saguache, Colorado.

Undergraduate Kyle Knight collects data in Durango, Colorado.

Neyda Cordero-Rodriguez (Texas Tech) takes a reading at the Durango road cut while Liz Ferrer (BGSU) prepares to record it.

Shawn Wallace contemplates the view at Coal Bank Pass.
Kyle Knight demonstrates his hand lens skills.

Ray Rossman is proud of his June snowman at Coal Bank Pass.

We made it to the top of Mount Yale!

Using tabled PCs at field camp.

Hard at work in the lodge.

Graduate student and Camp Manager Jessica Lawrence gets a closer look at Balcony House, Mesa Verde National Park, while undergraduate Waldo…er… Ben Linzmeier looks on in the background.