

geoscience

alumni newsletter

VOL. 1 NO. 1 • WINTER 2010

Touching the heart, *inspiring* the mind

A \$3 million three-year endowment campaign for the Judson Mead Geologic Field Station



At a reception held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America in Houston last fall, the first phase of a multi-million dollar endowment campaign to implement a 10-year strategic plan for the IU Geologic Field Station was announced.

The goal of the first phase is to raise \$1.5 million by June 2010. If phase I is successful, initiation of Phase II will immediately follow.

We are pleased and excited to report that donors have committed to more than \$1.3 million in five-year pledges, contributions, bequests, and life-income gifts in just the first year of the campaign. Over 80 percent of this total comes from former students at the field station who did not receive degrees from Indiana University. This reflects the fact that

nearly 75 percent of alumni received their degrees from over 200 other institutions; the Indiana University program is truly a national one, and with the introduction of the AAPG-facilitated program for students from developing countries, the Judson Mead Geologic Field Station will soon have international stature.

If, like so many others, your heart and mind were touched and inspired in life-changing ways through your experience in Montana, your contribution will help to ensure that future generations of students and adult learners will share in the same experience, thereby making our vision reality.

To support the campaign or learn more, please visit www.indiana.edu/~iugfs or e-mail the department's Director of Development Lee J. Suttner at suttner@indiana.edu.

FROM THE CHAIR

From MSB II to the High Sierra

Greetings, alumni and friends of the Department of Geological Sciences!

I hope you will enjoy this new format for sharing news about the department. I have been filling in as interim chair for the fall semester, as



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Simon Brassell took leave from chair's duties to attend to an unexpected family medical issue.

To our relief, Simon's emergency has ameliorated and he returned to the chair's office this January 2010.

I'm pleased to share some exciting departmental news in this issue: beautiful new labs in Multidisciplinary Science Building II (MSB II); the forthcoming renovation of our teaching laboratory and classrooms in the Geology Building; notable faculty and student achievements; advances at the IU Geologic Field Station in Montana; and two stimulating experiences for undergraduates in Scotland and the High Sierra.

Michael Hamburger,
Professor and Interim Department Chair

IN THIS ISSUE:

-  STUDENTS IN THE FIELD
-  ALUMNI EARN OWEN AWARD
-  CLASS NOTES

MSB II opens

On Oct. 22, 2009, roughly 65,000 square feet of lab-space was formally opened. MSB II will house our biogeochemistry, isotope and chemical labs as well as the nano-scale SEM. **Lisa Pratt** successfully ensured that MSB II would adequately support diverse research needs. Tangible evidence already is the much higher resolution obtained by our nano-SEM in its new vibration-free home.

Owen Award

The Owen Award is the highest honor that our Department can bestow upon its alumni. Recent recipients include: 2007–2008 winner **Mark Leonard**, BS'77, MA'80, president and CEO of Leonard Exploration, and a former senior vice president of Shell Oil; **David DesMarais**, MA'72, PhD'74, senior research scientist at the NASA Ames Research Center, the 2008–2009 awardee; and **Wayne M. Bundy**, BA'50, MA'54, retired from the Georgia Kaolin Co., who will receive the 2009–2010 award this spring.

Student highlights

Hsui-Wen Wang, who won the international Bruker AXS award three years ago, has again shown her mettle in winning the 2009 Mineralogical Society of America's Edward H. Kraus Crystallographic Research Award.

Michael Cheshire received the Robert L. Bates Scholarship from the Industrial Minerals Forum and the Gerald V. Henderson Industrial Minerals Memorial Scholarship from the Society of Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration.

Michelle Lawing received the Estes Memorial Grant from the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology and attended the NSF-sponsored Paleobiology Summer Intensive Course as an invitee.

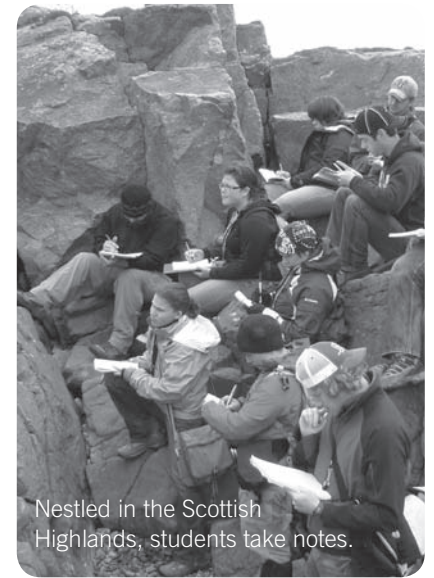
Rituparna Bose received a Dunbar and Schuchert Research Grant from the Yale Peabody Museum as well as a Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Grant from the American Museum of Natural History.

Emily Gercke received the Alexander Sisson Award and an Outstanding Mention from the Geological Society of America.

Rituparna Bose, **Richard Bykowski**, **Michael Cheshire**, **Emily Gercke**, **Michelle Lawing**, **Hsui-Wen Wang**, and **Hongji Yuan** received extramural travel grants.

The Dalradian of Scotland

A two-week, dawn-to-dusk G420 regional geology field trip took 12 undergraduate and graduate students to the Scottish Highlands. **Bob Wintsch** and **Simon Brassell** led the students' exploration of Paleozoic sedimentary sequences south of the Highland Boundary Fault, elucidation of the metamorphic fate of these different protoliths, and interpretation of the attendant regional structures fashioned by an extensive tectonic history. Fieldwork extended farther north and investigated the Proterozoic Lewisian complex overlaid by massive Torridonian sandstones, and all paid homage to the Moine thrust at Assynt.



Nestled in the Scottish Highlands, students take notes.

BROOKS PROCTOR

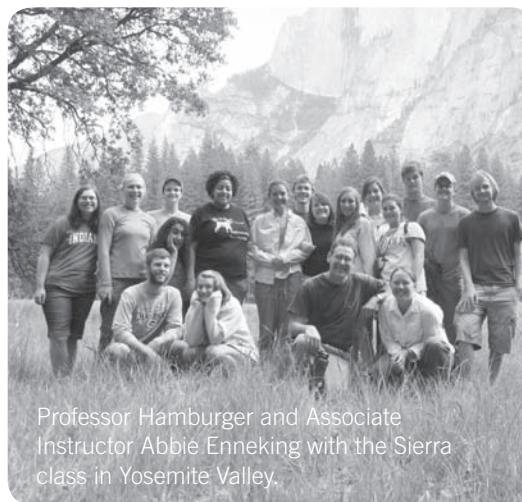
Judson Mead Geologic Field Station

At the Judson Mead Geologic Field Station, the past two summers saw the largest G429 classes in recent times. Plus, students in G329 and G103, high school students from Atlanta, a U.S. Forest Service seminar, and a new AAPG-sponsored course for international students kept the Station ultra busy. The American Association of Petroleum Geologists sponsored eight young geoscience students from Nigeria, who learned geological mapping while experiencing snow for the first time. See the November 2009 issue of *AAPG Explorer* for their story.

Visits by IU College of Arts & Sciences Dean **Bennett I. Bertenthal** and Associate Dean **Rob de Ruyter** have strengthened the partnership with the College, new buildings have been constructed, and an endowment campaign (story on page 1) is in progress.

On the administrative side, **Joanna Wall** has taken over from **Cindy Hale**, who decided to spend more time in her hometown of Bloomfield, Ind. **Glenna Roessler**, resident manager for the Judson Field Station, resigned in September 2009. A formal search for her replacement is in progress.

Volcanoes of the Eastern Sierra Nevada



Professor Hamburger and Associate Instructor Abbie Enneking with the Sierra class in Yosemite Valley.

MICHAEL HAMBURGER

For seven summers in a row, **Michael Hamburger** has been initiating about 15 IU undergrads to the excitement of studying tectonics, volcanoes, and earthquakes in the Sierra Nevada Mountains while immersed in the most spectacular exposures of active geological processes in the world. The field course explores the moon-like landscape of Death Valley, the high walls of granitic batholiths and glacial landforms at Yosemite National Park, volcanic landforms at Long

Valley Caldera and environmental issues at Mono Lake. Each year, several of the new initiates decide to become geosciences majors.

Faculty highlights

After four years as president of the Association Internationale Pour l'Etude des Argiles, **David Bish** stepped down and is the newly elected vice-president and president-elect of the Mineralogical Society of America.

Kaj Johnson, our youngest faculty member, received the first Tectonophysics Outstanding Young Researcher Award and was honored at the American Geophysical Union meeting in December 2009. Johnson is working on a variety of crustal deformation problems in California, Taiwan, and Tibet.

The Society of Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration honored **Haydn Murray** for his "lifelong contributions to the Industrial Minerals Industry," and sponsored a special symposium in his honor. The Clay Minerals Society named him a "Pioneer of Clay Science."

David Polly and his associates discovered the world's largest snake: *Titanoboa cerrejonensis*, at 2,500 lbs. and 48 ft., reigned the Paleocene tropical rainforests in Colombia.

Lisa Pratt is the inaugural IUB Provost's Professor, a new titled appointment. Her IU career is studded with such jewels as heading NASA's Astrobiology Institute, men-



Pratt

toring dozens of students, and inspiring freshmen to learn about Earth. She has been president of the Bloomington Faculty Council and coordinated the scientific underpinnings of IU's two multidisciplinary science buildings.

Edward Ripley taught a course on Magmatic Ni-Cu and PGE Ore Deposits to more than 100 'students' in India. The course was a part of the International Symposium on Magmatic Ore Deposits, where Ripley was treated like a *Maharaja* as the guest of honor.

The Geological Society of Houston invited **Jürgen Schieber** to present 2009 Robert Sheriff Distinguished Lecture. There, he received the Energy Minerals Division's President's Certificate for Excellence in Presentation at the 2009 AAPG Annual Meeting. He has constructed two unique "clay" flumes that produce primary sedimentary structures in clay-sized sediments.

Chen Zhu recently returned from the University of Oslo, Norway, where he was a senior Fulbright fellow.

classNOTES

Before 1960

Lowell E. Gladish, BS'54, retired in 1991 as director of underground gas storage for Citizens Gas & Coke Utility in Indianapolis. After retiring, he did consulting work in Denmark, assisting in the development of a gas-storage field for the city of Copenhagen. Gladish writes that he "spends his winters in Florida and his summers in Indiana, with lots of golf in both places." He lives in Jasper, Ind., with his wife, Marilyn.

Maxwell A. Meise Jr., BS'57, MS'61, MAT'73, is a Town Councilman for the town of McCordsville, Ind. A retired teacher, he is also an ex-officio member of the town's planning committee, zoning committee, and parks board. Meise lives in McCordsville with his wife, Judith (Sommers), BS'72.

Robert L. Cullers, BS'59, MAT'62, retired as a professor at Kansas State University in 2007 after many years teaching mineralogy and petrology, as well as courses in groundwater geochemistry. His ongoing research is on terrigenous rocks (some dating to the Proterozoic era) from Russia and Colorado, with attention to kimberlites and lamproites of Kansas. Cullers lives in Manhattan, Kan.

1960s

Mike C. Mound, MA'61, PhD'63, is manager of business development for ABB Switzerland Limited. In April 2008 his company honored a paper he wrote that promoted the organization's process-automation and automation-products divisions. Mound lives and works in Baden, Switzerland.

Ronald W. Tank, PhD'62, is professor emeritus of geology at Lawrence University in Appleton, Wis., having retired in 1991. He lives in Appleton.

1970s

Scott W. Rogers, BS'71, is the regional geoscience manager for Europe and the Mediterranean for Noble Energy Compa-

ny Inc., in Sevenoaks, England. He has held various positions with the company, which has its headquarters in Houston.

Rogers has also worked for Marathon, Amoco, Celeron, and Mountain Valley Petroleum. He currently heads Noble's geoscience program, which includes all of Europe, the North Sea, and Israel. Contact Rogers at srogers@nobleenergyinc.com.

Tom Plymate, BS'76, MA'78, has been a member of the geology faculty at Missouri State University for more than 20 years and currently serves as head of the geography, geology, and planning department. He writes that he has been a long-time collaborator with **Thomas D. Moeglin**, BA'71, researching the geology of the Comanche Peak Wilderness in northern Colorado. Their research has been published in the journal *Rocky Mountain Geology*. Plymate lives in Springfield, Mo.

1980s

In July 2008, Col. **Seth P.**

Bretscher, BS'83, returned from a one-year deployment in Afghanistan, where he served as chief of airpower combat operations for the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force Headquarters in Kabul. This was his fourth deployment in support of combat operations in Afghanistan since Sept. 11, 2001. In August 2008, Bretscher was assigned to Fort Hood, Texas, where took command of the 3rd Air Support Operations Group. He and his wife, Janelle, live in Harker Heights, Texas, with their daughter, Kristen. Bretscher's son, Steve, is a student at IUPUI, where he is a member of the Jaguar men's swimming team. Seth was an I-Man in swimming for the Hoosiers.

Scott D. Broekstra, MS'86, is an attorney for the law firm Mika Meyers Beckett & Jones in Grand Rapids, Mich., focusing his practice on environmental law and complex commercial litigation. He has been featured in *Super Lawyers, Corporate*

Counsel Edition magazine and was selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers of America. Broekstra lives in Grand Rapids.

1990s

Joshua T. Brown, BA'90, is vice president of national accounts at Incentive Solutions Inc., an incentive marketing company in Atlanta. Previously, Brown worked at USMotivation for 18 years, where he was a sales executive serving clients in the pharmaceutical, insurance, and financial-services industries.

Jamie Budack Dameron, BS'93, JD'04, is an associate for Baker & Daniels in Indianapolis. She concentrates her practice in environmental law and real property litigation. Previously, Dameron was an environmental consultant in Indiana and Ohio and managed environmental cleanups in Kentucky, Missouri, Illinois, and Michigan. She lives in Indianapolis.

2000s

Jeremy E. Fine, BA'05, is a geographic information system analyst for SAIC Inc. He lives and works in St. Louis.

Tenaya I. Hurst, BA'05, writes, "I've performed in *The Kentucky Cycle, Hair, Guys and Dolls, Cocoanuts*, and other shows with large theatre companies." Combining degrees in theatre and drama, geological sciences, and anthropology, she describes herself as a "Geo-AnthropActress." Hurst's self-produced "sexy geological cabaret," *Tenaya Rocks*, has been produced on several occasions since 2004, most recently from October to November 2008 at Stage Werx in San Francisco. For more on Hurst's theater and film work, visit her Web site, www.tenaya-hurst.com.

Elizabeth A. Hasenmueller, BS'06, is a graduate student in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo. She plans to receive her PhD in 2011.

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