

August 2013 News Notes

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SURE Final Poster Session

The ten undergraduate majors in Earth Sciences participating in the 2013 Shell Undergraduate Research Experience presented their research results at a final poster session on Thursday, July 25. Over the three hours of the poster session, dozens of students, faculty, and staff visited and talked with the students about their research. Among the attendees were Executive Dean of Arts and Sciences David Manderscheid, associate vice provost for research administration Jan Weisenberger, and Earth Sciences alumnus and Shell geoscientist, Ted Godo. Pictured (left to right) are Joe Lonsert, Christian Gomes, Michael Kellum, Amy Wiley, Mackenzie Scharenberg, Christina Zerda, Amber Huston, Harold Elston, Mario Gutierrez, Daniel Ardrey, Anne Carey, and Ted Godo.



Alumni change lives

Kelsey Dailey (B.S. with Research Distinction, 2013) received support from the Friends of Orton Hall fund, which is sustained by alumni contributions. Here, Kelsey describes how FoH helped advance her career and enrich her academic experience.

Last November, I had the opportunity to attend my first professional conference and present my undergraduate research at the Geological Society of America's Annual Meeting in Charlotte, NC. This was one of the few experiences I've had in my young geoscience career that made me feel like I was truly a part of a global community of scientists, and it left me excited for my education and career prospects in upcoming years. The poster session I participated in brought me into contact with scientists young and old with advice and criticism that greatly contributed to my development and confidence as a researcher. However, my participation in the meeting would not have been possible without The Friends of Orton Hall Fund, which supported my travel and registration fees, lodging, and food for the four-day trip. Throughout my undergraduate career in the School of Earth Sciences, I have been blessed with many opportunities and experiences that students in other departments often never receive, due significantly to funds like those of The Friends of Orton Hall.

Workshop for teachers promotes geoscience careers

Sixteen local area high school teachers attended a week-long workshop led by Jason Cervenec, at Byrd Polar Research Center, and Prof Michael Durand of SES. The workshop gave teachers instruction and tools for a hydrology module in their classrooms. Teachers performed hands-on experiments and measurements of precipitation, infiltration, runoff, and soil moisture. A professional panel, including SES alumnus Peter MacKenzie (B.S. 1994) discussed geoscience careers with the teachers. There was a field trip to the Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park (<http://www.metroparks.net/parksbattelledarbycreek.aspx>), learned the basics of stream biology, and made a streamflow measurement. Finally, teachers took a guided tour of the Olentangy River 5th Ave dam removal, and learned about the beneficial affects on river biology and flood management, as well as future river development plans. The goal of the NSF-sponsored project is to develop tools to promote geoscience careers in classrooms.



Left: Jason Cervenec helps teachers measure surface and groundwater “streamflow” from a terrarium watershed (left). Right: Bryon Ringley (Stantec) and Laura Shinn (OSU) explain the 5th Ave Dam Removal project.

Prof Krissek joins IODP advisory committee

Prof Larry Krissek has accepted an invitation to serve a 3-year term as a member of the U.S. Advisory Committee for Scientific Ocean Drilling (USAC), the national advisory committee for U.S. participation in the International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP). The term starts in October 2013.