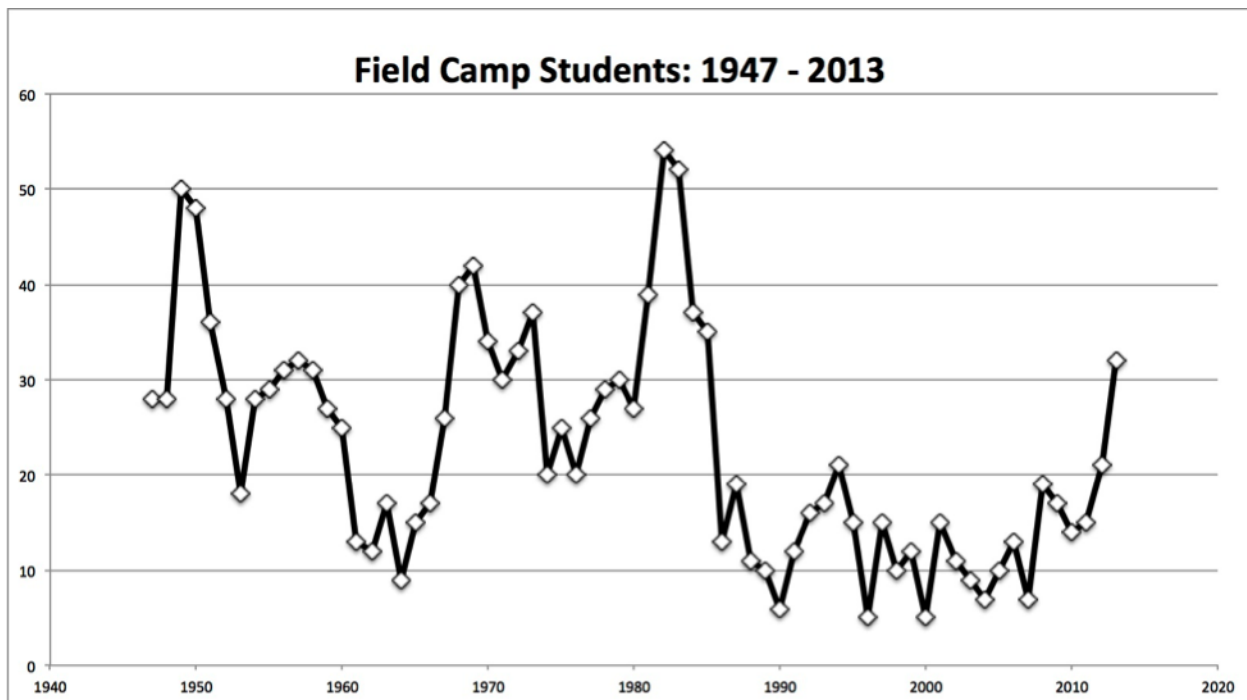


March 2013 News Notes

- Field Camp enrollment surges
- Prof Bill Ausich named OSU Distinguished Scholar
- POLENET Project completes the 2012-13 Antarctic field season
- Reiner Rummel to receive honorary Doctor of Science degree
- SES professors feature prominently in book
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Field Camp enrollment surges

The School of Earth Sciences has an expanding number of majors in geology and earth science and they are certainly responding to the siren call of Ephraim, Utah! For the first time since 1985, our enrollment in Field Geology will exceed 30 students. Given the long period with much lower numbers, the surge is challenging our ability to handle the logistics and instructional needs of such a large group. With the students brimming with enthusiasm for the adventure, we are working hard to find a way to support them all! Stay tuned for news from the group in Ephraim this summer.....



Prof Bill Ausich named OSU Distinguished Scholar

Prof Bill Ausich was designated as an OSU Distinguished Scholar in February, 2013. The award was announced and presented in the context of a surprise visit by University President Gordon Gee to the SES. From the [OSU University Awards](#) site: “The Distinguished Scholar Award, established in 1978, recognizes exceptional scholarly accomplishments by senior professors who have compiled a substantial body of research. The award is supported by the Office of Research. Recipients are nominated by their departments and chosen by a committee of senior faculty, including several past recipients of the award.” Congratulations, Bill!



POLENET project completes the 2012-13 Antarctic field season

The Antarctic NETwork (ANET) component of the Polar Earth Observing Network (POLENET), led by faculty member Terry Wilson, had a successful season ‘on the ice’. The final field team members have just arrived back in Columbus, from a season that started the beginning of November, 2012! Project teams traversed much of the continent to maintain and upgrade our remote GPS and seismic stations, using Twin Otter and Basler fixed-wing aircraft and helicopter support from McMurdo Station, South Pole Station and the WAIS Divide field camp. Team members this year came from Ohio State, Penn State, Washington University (St. Louis), Central Washington University, the UNAVCO and IRIS/PASSCAL facilities, and our field safety guides hail from New Zealand. Nearly 35 remote sites were visited and we were very pleased that our final phase-I GPS system was installed at a previously elusive site in the Hudson Mountains. The project website is currently being updated, check it out in a few weeks at www.polenet.org.



Reiner Rummel to receive honorary Doctor of Science degree

Professor Reiner Rummel will receive the University's Doctor of Science Honorary Degree at the OSU Commencement Ceremonies in May 2013. Prof. Rummel is a world-renowned geodesist, scholar, and scientist, who began his post-doctoral research (1974-1976) in the Department of Geodetic Science at the Ohio State University. Throughout his career, and most notably in recent years, Prof. Rummel is known for his work in gravity gradiometry. He was involved from the start in the European Space Agency (ESA) satellite mission, GOCE (Gravity field and steady-state Ocean Circulation Explorer) and is the principal investigator for the mission itself (launched in 2009). In addition to his leading role in bringing GOCE to fruition, Professor Rummel pioneered the vision now being realized for a Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS).

SES professors feature prominently in book

Knell, S.J. 2013. *The Great Fossil Enigma - The Search for the Conodont Animal*. Indiana University Pres, Bloomington, 413 p.

The Great Fossil Enigma, presents a thorough, compelling history of the sometimes torturous quest to uncover the geological and biological significance of conodonts, which are the single best biostratigraphic fossil for the Paleozoic. Professors Walter C. Sweet, Stig M. Bergström, and their Ohio State students figure prominently in this story.

Brevia

Julie Brown (adviser: Prof Berry Lyons) has been selected to attend the Isotopes in Spatial Ecology and Biogeochemistry (SPATIAL Short Course) at the University of Utah, this summer. The course deals with "current research themes in large-scale ecology and environmental Earth science." Congratulations Julie!

Jeff Pigott (adviser: Prof Wendy Panero) has been awarded an East Asia and Pacific Summer Institute (EAPSI) fellowship to work with Prof Kate Wright at Curtin University in Australia this summer. Congratulations Jeff!

Ben Vander Jagt (adviser: Prof Michael Durand) has been awarded an East Asia and Pacific Summer Institute (EAPSI) fellowship to work with Dr. Arko Lucieer, at the University of Tasmania, Australia. This is a program sponsored by NSF and the Australian Academy of Sciences. Congratulations Ben!

