

## May 2013 News Notes

- Record number participate in Structure trip to Appalachians
- Prof Reiner Rummel visits SES and receives honorary degree
- Congratulations to SES award winners
- Congratulations to SES graduates
- Prof. Lonnie Thompson featured in *Economist* article

### Record number participate in Structure trip

A combined Structural Geology class of 33 students and an advanced structure seminar of 15 students, plus instructor and a couple others thrown in, and we ended up with 52 people on the Structure trip this year! We were fortunate to pass a very stormy first night in a motel, then had 2 beautiful nights camping. The trip made a loop from Columbus to Kingsport, Tennessee, to measure folds and fault arrays in a spectacular outcrop cutting the Bays Mountain synclinorium, onward to the Blue Ridge at Linville Falls, Boone and Mt Jefferson, North Carolina, to the fold-thrust structures around Blacksburg, Virginia, then back to Columbus. The group was enthusiastic about both the structures and the camping, with more singing around the campfire than sleeping!



Structure group at lunch stop, Bays Mountain (top). Strikes & dips (left). Peppers were delectable (but not enough for 50 of us!).

## Prof Reiner Rummel visits SES and receives degree

On 5 May 2013 on the occasion of the 403rd Commencement Ceremony of The Ohio State University, Prof. Reiner Rummel, well known around the world in the Geodesy community, received an Honorary Doctor of Science Degree from OSU in recognition of his lifelong career in Geodetic Science, particularly his work in gravity field modeling that culminated recently with the launch of a satellite gravity mapping mission that he was in large part responsible for initiating and guiding to fruition. The ceremony was all the more eventful as the commencement speaker was President Barack Obama, who also congratulated the honorees. Prof. Rummel's visit to OSU was extended in order that could visit the School of Earth Sciences to give a lecture on satellite gravity gradiometry, as well as talk with students and faculty about his and their research work.

Prof. Reiner Rummel received his Ph.D. degree at the Technical University Darmstadt in 1974 with a focus on mathematical statistics and its application in the field of Physical Geodesy. Immediately afterward he accepted a two-year Post-Doctoral research position in the Department of Geodetic Science at The Ohio State University under the guidance of Prof. Richard Rapp. At the age of just 35 years he was appointed as full professor of Physical Geodesy at the Technical University of Delft, The Netherlands; and 13 years later in 1993 he accepted a position as full professor and head of the Institute of Astronomical and Physical Geodesy at the Technical University of Munich.

Prof. Reiner Rummel is internationally recognized as one of a handful of world-class leading scientists in the field of Physical Geodesy, in general, and Satellite Geodesy, in particular. His focus in scientific research is the determination of the Earth's gravity field with utmost accuracy and resolution derived from dedicated satellite missions. His seminal work at OSU as a post-doctoral researcher in the 1970s propelled him to achieve the highest distinctions in the European and global geodetic, mathematical, and geophysical communities. Yet he has not forgotten his early association with OSU and has visited frequently to work with colleagues and present well-received seminars. His prolific career culminated with the recent launch of a geodetic satellite, the Gravity field and steady-state Ocean Circulation Explorer satellite (GOCE), which is a European Space Agency mission that he co-proposed and led as principal investigator. Data from this satellite will serve to improve our understanding of ocean currents and sea level rise. In addition, Prof. Rummel was one of the principal architects of the Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS), which today forms a central theme for geodesy, as well as a platform for many scientific investigations into climate change and the study of natural hazards.

Left: Prof. Rummel receives an honorary doctorate from President Gee. Right: Prof Rummel is congratulated by President Obama.



# Congratulations to 2013 SES award winners

---

The SES end-of-year banquet was held at the Faculty Club on April 16th. The following awards were presented to SES students. Congratulations to all SES award winners!

## Undergraduate Book Awards

Abigail Crock  
Shannon Hibbard  
Brittany Van Wagenen

## Undergraduate Scholarship Winners

*Buschman:* Will Blocher  
Zachariah Cowan  
Jacob Harrington  
Mackenzie Scharenberg  
Jordan Scheuermann

*Goldthwait:* Benjamin Grove  
Jacob Harrington  
Tyler Liston  
Julia Young

*Lieberman:* Will Blocher  
Erin Lathrop  
Colin Whyte

*Rector:* Natasha Lewis  
Christina Zerda

*Shipley:* Will Blocher  
William Eymold  
Ronald Lidderdale

*SGE:* William Eymold  
Rachel Koons

## Dist. 1st Year Graduate Student "Estwing Award"

Rachel Anderson  
Selena Cole  
Davey Wright

## Dist. 1st Year Graduate Student in Geodetic Science

Jinmei Pan

## Dist. Graduate Student Teaching Award

Justin Baumann  
Matthew Hawrylak

## Dist. Senior Ph.D. Student "Spieker Book Award"

Ellyn Enderlin  
Deborah Leslie  
Verena Schoepf  
Alexa Sedlacek

## Dist. Senior Ph.D. Student in Geodetic Science

Chunli Dai  
Benjamin VanderJagt

## Graduate Book Awards in Geodetic Science

Yohannes Budi Sulistioadi  
Yuanyuan Jia  
Fei Wang  
Emily Wheelock-Davis

## Johnson Graduate Student Awards

Mark Peter (Earth History)  
Maya Wei-Haas (Water, Climate and Env.)  
Kun Shang (Geodetics)

## Heiskanen Award

Jianbin Duan

# Congratulations to the 2013 SES graduates!

---

Congratulations to the 15 newest alumnae and alumni of the School of Earth Sciences undergraduate program. Students who received their baccalaureate degrees at the May 2013 commencement are listed below, including those who earned the new Research Distinction merit by defending the senior theses in front of a committee of Earth sciences faculty. Students earning Honors Research Distinction defend the theses in an oral examination conducted by a faculty committee that also includes a representative from the Arts and Sciences honors faculty. Congratulations to all!

Kelsey Bisson, B.S. with Honors Research Distinction

Abigail Crock, B.S.

Kelsey Dailey, B.S. with Honors Research Distinction

Charles Diamond, B.S., with Research Distinction

Loren Rosenbeck, B.S.

Nathan Gress, B.S.

Wayne Malangone, B.A.

John Michalak, B.S.

Jeremy Myers B.S. with Research Distinction

Cara Nadler, B.S. with Honors Research Distinction

Victor Perez, B.S., with Honors Research Distinction

Matthew Rine, B.S., with Research Distinction

Andrew Tenison, B.S. with Research Distinction

Jeffrey Thompson, B.S. with Honors Research Distinction

Cody Trigg, B.S. with Honors Research Distinction

## Prof Lonnie Thompson featured in *Economist* article

---

Prof Lonnie Thompson's "Third Environmental Pole" project appeared in *The Economist*, in an article entitled "Pole-Land". The project is a collaboration between Thompson and his Chinese and German colleagues. Congratulations Lonnie! Read the story at [this link](#).

