The OSU Geosciences Club Visits Nepal
By Anita Grunder

Most of the Group setting out from Muktinath. 8127-m-high Dhaulagiri in the background. From upper left to right: Jeff Lee (photo credit, co-instructor of OSU field camp, central Washington Univ professor, structure), Kera Tucker, John Nabelek (OSU COAS Geophysics), Andrew Burleigh, Darrick Boschman, Nick Legg, Corey Carlson-Ham, Patrick Burns, Mark Ingman, Andrew Meigs (OSU Geo structure), Nick Meigs, Jon Sanfilippo, Marc Nabelek, Nick Davis, Peter Nabelek (petrologist, prof at U. of MO, Columbia). Standing center to right: Merissa Burleigh, Anita Dilles, Mackenzie Mark-Moser, Lucy Salinas, Jacob Miller, Hillary Walkup, Celene Christiansen, Jill Simon. Kneeling, left to right: Trek assistant Lakba, Anita Grunder (OSU Geo petrology), Kiya Wilson, Andrew Elliott, Scott Ceciliani, trek leader Chandra, Mollie Ebner, Anne Trehu (OSU COAS Geophysics).
Imagine that between Corvallis and Portland, the land rises to over 8000 m, the highest peaks in the world. Seem crazy? Welcome to Nepal, where such world-class relief greets you. After a long flight from Portland to Kathmandu, 24 students and 11 faculty plus friends boarded a fleet of vans and drove down down down to the tropical Terai region of Nepal, near sea level. Even though we had studied Nepal in a seminar series in Winter term, nothing prepared the group for the great variability of this country. All the steep, steep hills are terraced and every one of the thousand curves in the road turns up another view of small farms, villages, toiling water buffalo, people carrying heavy loads, brightly dressed women and vegetation zones ranging from tropical to alpine - capped by icy peaks.

The focus of the trip was to examine firsthand the effects of the collision of two continents, India and Asia, by way of a traverse from the Terai lowlands of Nepal to Muktinath, where Nepal borders the Tibetan plateau. John Nabelek of COAS was our principal guide. He knows Nepal well after having conducted a giant seismic profile across this great collision zone with NSF-funded project Hi-Climb spanning Nepal and into Tibet. The trip was bristling with expertise. Linda Smith, an expert in water resources in the Terai joined us there.

![The South Tibetan Detachment - ductilely deformed rocks below and brittlely deformed above. Jeff Lee pictured for scale.](image)

Exploration of the lowlands included a visit to a village with a cistern water system, and a close look at the Siwalik Group sediments which are being shed from the Himalaya almost as fast as they are themselves being uplifted along the Main Frontal Thrust, where earthquake activity from this massive collision of plates has been focused. In Chitwan National Park, we rode through the jungle on elephants, drifted down a river in dugouts with monkeys and crocodiles on the banks, and had an escapade playing with an elephant in the river.

Leaving the Terai, we drove up, up, up across the Main Frontal Thrust and the Main Boundary Thrust to Pokhara where shops sell every kind and brand of trekking gear. One group of trippers flew to Jomsom and began trekking. Winds aborted the third flight so an epic drive ensued via van, big bus, little bus and 4WD to catch up in Muktinath, at 3800 m. Muktinath is home to a Buddhist and Hindu sanctuary and provided us the first clear and fantastic view of several peaks over 8000 m. A gorgeous near-full moon set over Dhaulagiri to kick off our 5-day trek from Muktinath back down to near Pokhara. Did anyone get altitude sick? Yes, indeed, and worse... some mysterious gastrointestinal ailment swept through the ranks, leaving a wake of theories on the cause. Judicious ingestion of tea and antibiotics and a few respite from trekking in an accompanying 4WD allowed all parties to benefit from the great traverse from folded Tethyan marine sediments related to Asia (and locally full of ammonite fossils) across the South Tibetan Detachment- an awesome brittle-ductile transition we put our fingers on down into the high-grade metamorphic core of the Himalaya intruded by tourmaline-bearing granites and across the Main Central Thrust back into low-grade Lesser Himalayan marine sedimentary rocks related to India.

![Trekking: Rhododendron and Magnolia with view onto Nilgiri (7061 m)](image)

These textbook geological features were set in deep valleys with glistening icy peaks looming over them. We walked through great stands of old-growth
rhododendrons, with trunks over a meter in diameter and over 10 meters tall, in full and glorious bloom. We walked up and down countless steps and were ever so grateful that porters were doing most of the carrying.

All too soon, we were back to Kathmandu, where we toured the world heritage site of Durbar Square and rounded out the souvenir shopping. A long flight home via Seoul gave the first culture shock. From spare lodgings in Kathmandu we ended up in luxurious accommodations at the Hyatt for the 18-hour layover. Back to Portland, where faithful colleagues met the plane and drove us back to Beaverland. The slightly stupefied and smiling people in the hall are the ones that just came back from the trip. IT WAS FANTASTIC in every way. Thanks to all who helped make this possible through financial and moral support. Where to next?

One of many group Haiku:
Green flats to white peaks
Popping Cipro like candy
Trip to change a life

Jill Simon, Mollie Ebner and Mackenzie Mark-Moser show OSU spirit on Poon Hill by spelling OSU (sic).

The Faculty Senate voted just last week to approve the merger between Geosciences and the College of Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences, to create the new College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences. Effectively, our department no longer exists.

Nonetheless, as geographers and geologists within the new unit, it is a hugely exciting time. Our new college is dedicated in its entirety to the mission of furthering earth sciences research and education. We have only two undergraduate majors in the college – Earth Sciences, with geography, geology and earth systems tracks, and Environmental Sciences – so that resources can be focused more finely on the undergraduate enterprise. For example, we now have a new professional advising center with three full time advisors, and are set to hire an internship coordinator, all of which will offer greater opportunities for our undergrads.

Our numbers are growing too. As you’ll see elsewhere, we hired three new geographers in geospatial fields – Bernie Jenny, an Assistant Professor of cartography; Helen Jenny, GIS and soil sciences; and Jim Graham, who likewise specializes in GIS. Moreover, our long drive to fund a Yeats Chair has been successful, and the search has begun. [Please see full article, elsewhere.] We also bid Bob Lillie best wishes as the newest emeritus member. He moved on in classic Bob style, with a kegger/BBQ/tailgate party on the lawn of a local eatery. He’ll continue to stay affiliated with the department teaching some of his signature courses, especially Geoscience Communication and National Park Geology and Preservation.

In many ways, life will go on as before. The geography graduate program will live on in the Geography, Environmental Science, and Marine Resources Management group, and the Geology program carries on in the Geology and Geophysics group. With new colleagues and new resources, each is poised to thrive.

Working out the merger details took an inordinate amount of time and commitment from our faculty. Nonetheless, we found time to continue in our pursuit of excellence. Some of last year’s accomplishments (with apologies in advance for acronyms):

Faculty Awards:
- Our big news was that we were collectively granted the university Family Friendly Faculty Award. This is traditionally given to one faculty member through nomination, but our faculty and staff received so many
nominations that the award was given to the department as a whole. We are proud and honored.

- Peter Clark, was awarded the College of Science Loyd Carter Award for Outstanding and Inspirational Teaching for his grad classes. Note that last year Peter was named an AGU Fellow for his research. When our faculty receive recognition for both their teaching and their research, something is definitely going right.
- The works of Pat Corcoran and Bob Yeats were covered extensively in the wake of the Japanese quakes and tsunami. For a particularly descriptive (and scary!) description of what similar activity would wreak on our coast, see this article describing the “full rip nine.” http://www.outsideonline.com/outdoor-adventure/nature/Totally-Psyched-for-the-Full-Rip-Nine.html
- Dawn Wright was awarded both a Leopold Leadership Fellowship, and was named the 2011 recipient of the Higher Education Distinguished Teacher Award from the National Council for Geographic Education. Dawn is on a two year leave of absence acting as Chief Scientist for ESRI, the nation’s premier GIS software company.
- Ed Brook was selected as one of Google's Climate Science Communication Fellows
- Kaplan Yalcin was interviewed for his expertise on distance education: http://www.kval.com/news/local/123668889.html?

Staff Awards:
- Melinda (Peterson) Jensen received the 2009 Gladys Valley Award for Exemplary Administrative Support.
- Stacey Schulte received the 2010 Gladys Valley Award for Exemplary Administrative Support.

Student Awards:
- Brian Chaffin, a PhD student of Hannah Gosnell’s, was awarded the prestigious EPA STAR Fellowship.
- Shaun Marcott had one of his papers from his PhD dissertation published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences
- Scott Ceciliani was selected for the 2011 USGS/NAGT Summer Internship program based on his performance at field camp last summer.
- Jay Zarnetske was a recipient of the 2011-2013 Gaylord Donnelley Environmental Postdoctoral Fellowship for his proposed research at Yale University.
- Matt Vogt, senior geography major, for being named by the Daily Barometer as one of the “25 Most Influential People at OSU.”
- Alison Koleszar won an Outstanding Student Paper Award at the 2010 AGU Fall based on her poster presentation “Conditions of magma mixing as recorded in amphiboles from Mount Hood, Oregon”.
- Jill Smedstad won the 2011 Graduate Student Writing Retreat at the Cabin at Shotpouch Creek.
- Ricardo González-Pinzón won two awards recently: a CUAHSI Pathfinder Fellowship, and an HJ Andrews LTER Graduate Research Grant.

As you see, it is a busy, productive time. As we move into the next stage of our evolution, one thing will not change – we want to stay connected with you! All the things you remember and love about us will continue. As one alum noted when asked whether he would be able to identify with our new iteration: “When my daughter got married, she changed her name. I love her just the same as always.”

This newsletter too will evolve, but we will find ways to stay in touch. Please do write, let us know how you’re doing and, as ever, see if you can find ways to support our mission. It’s exciting times, and we’d like you to be a part of it.

In the meantime, excelsior!

Best to all,

Aaron Wolf
Professor and (for just a while longer) Chair

A Vision for the College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences

by Mark R. Abbott, Dean, CEOAS
15 July 2011

Understanding the Earth as a system requires a comprehensive approach to both research and education. Building on a firm foundation of the natural sciences, the College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences (CEOAS) will develop new
interdisciplinary approaches to understand the connections between the primary systems of solid earth, ocean, and atmosphere. Moreover, human activities are now shaping the planet, and understanding the role of social systems will be critical to understanding the Earth.

Forty years ago, our models of the upwelling system off the Oregon coast was based primarily on the strength of local winds, which would bring cold, nutrient-rich waters to the surface, thereby stimulating phytoplankton growth and supporting a rich ecosystem. We soon recognized that distant forces, such as El Niño, have significant impacts on Oregon’s ocean productivity. As research continued, we recognized that our ocean was affected by both local and global-scale forces, and that these connections are not simply between the ocean and atmosphere. Oregon’s coastal rivers deposit quantities of iron into the marine sediments, which are resuspended during the summer upwelling season, thus stimulating phytoplankton growth. We now need to consider what is happening in coastal watersheds and how nutrients are carried into coastal estuaries and eventually the ocean. But the connections do not stop between the land, ocean, and atmosphere. Human activities, such as logging and land development can affect the amount of nutrients that enter the rivers and estuaries, and global-scale processes, such as increasing carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, will have profound impacts on our coastal ocean. CEOAS is uniquely positioned to tackle these interconnected and complex problems.

There are many other examples that demonstrate the need to bring together all of the components of the Earth system. And CEOAS will bring this vision to its undergraduate and graduate education programs as well. Our vision is “an honor college for the Earth sciences” that will give students a sound foundation in scientific knowledge and incorporate meaningful research opportunities into their educational programs. We will pursue innovative approaches, from intensive course modules that pursue interdisciplinary problems in depth to advanced information technology that will allow students to explore mobile and data-intensive science projects. It will also foster collaborative teams that are necessary for interdisciplinary research.

CEOAS is building on two strong and highly-respected academic units. We will not abandon these historic strengths or our commitments to undergraduate and graduate education. But we will seek out new opportunities as well. The new Earth science undergraduate degree program will retain options in geology and geography but will have an additional option in Earth systems. The Environmental Sciences undergraduate degree is developing a strategic plan that will align with the new college. Our graduate programs in Geology, Geography, Ocean/Earth/Atmospheric Sciences, and Marine Resource Management will continue while exploring new curricula and new opportunities for integration.

This is an exciting time for OSU and for the new college. Our faculty, staff, and students are building a new enterprise for the study of our home planet. I hope all of you will continue to be engaged, and I welcome your thoughts and ideas as we embark on this journey!

Department of Geosciences Board of Advisors Activities 2011 – A Year of Transition and Change

By Denny Tower, Chair
(BS Geology 1969, MS Geology 1971).

As most years, 2011 just seemed to blaze by, and the Geosciences Board of Advisors is looking forward to the fall meeting in Corvallis. This will be our first opportunity to learn first-hand how the merger with COAS is progressing. The past year we have been active in maintaining alumni outreach, providing support to the Geosciences Chair in faculty hiring initiatives and acting as a sounding board for the department as the merger discussions with COAS took off in earnest.

Alumni Connections: The primary event this year was a wonderful reception in Seattle in conjunction with the national convention of the AAG (American Association of Geographers). This event was organized primarily by Professor Dawn Wright of OSU Geosciences and co-hosted with our friends from down south at the UO. Cleverly dubbed the Platypus (think about it) reception by Dawn, it drew more than a hundred AAG attendees and local alumni from OSU and UO. The word must have gotten out early because there were also a fair number of students from Portland State who dropped in to enjoy free food and drink. By the end we just about had to throw people out to keep the drinks and food tabs from grossly exceeding budget. The ultimate irony was that after having put in so much effort in coordinating the organization and planning of the event, Dawn came down with a nasty flu bug and missed the entire AAG and reception. Dawn, thanks again, you did a great job!
Faculty Hiring Initiatives: The Board of Advisors status as engaged professionals and alumni provides a type of “bully pulpit” that we use to voice our support for department priorities in conversations with University administration. In the area of faculty hiring we were pleased to learn that the Board’s number one hiring priority for a position in Geographical Information Science / Geo-Visualization was approved and advanced to the interview stage. The Board continues to support the prioritization of an Earth Systems History position to be an essential part of the Solid Earth Discipline group and would bring the under-represented elements of stratigraphy and sedimentology to the core disciplines in CEOAS.

CEOAS: The big ticket item all year was the discussion of and then the consummation of the merger of Geosciences with COAS to form CEOAS. This truly is a “sea change” for Geosciences and the faculty, students and alumni. Your Board of Advisors has been supportive of the merger and stayed actively informed during the process. Areas that the Board took a particular interest in included undergraduate and graduate teaching and academic discipline identification. In our view, instruction is a core strength of the Department of Geosciences, and the Board wanted to make sure that everything was being done to maintain this. Further, given the very competitive labor markets that we live in these days and the use of search tools to screen resumes of prospective employees, the Board made a particular point that degrees should clearly reflect academic disciplines that are most commonly looked for by employers. The Board was very impressed by the involvement and commitment of the staff and faculty from both Geosciences and COAS to put the merger plan together. This led to early buy in to the whole process and recognition that a superb College could result.

The Board of Advisors: The ongoing role of the Board of Advisors in the merged organization is still being defined. However, Deans Bloomer of Science and Abbott of COAS (now CEOAS) have strongly supported an ongoing role for the group. It is anticipated that this will be the process to identify alumni from COAS to join the Board will commence. Currently it is expected that the role of the Board will remain much as it has been and that is to be a sounding board for issues that involve the full spectrum of students, faculty and staff. The BOA does not take an active fund raising role and we anticipate that there will be no change in this area. We do support alumni outreach wherever we can and urge alumni to stay connected with their university. Our goal is to be a value added group.

The Board is starting to plan for another faculty/alumni field trip for the summer of 2012. My own preference is a trip along the Columbia and up into Idaho to learn about the Ice Age Missoula Flood deposits and topography. Along the way we could check out the fruits of the “loess and gravel terroirs” in the Walla Walla wine region. But this is just one person’s view, so suggestions are being solicited.

I’m also pleased to announce that Gary (Gus) Gustafson BS Geography 1972 OSU: MA Resource Geography 1973 OSU, has agreed to join the Board of Advisors.

As Brian Butler said in this space last year “The Board seeks your ideas on ways to help sustain the relationship between alumni and the Department (now College). We value your suggestions and interest-- let us hear from you! Send this Newsletter on to a classmate!

Alumni News

Faron Anslow (PhD Geology 2008) completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of British Columbia and, starting in 2011, became the Climatologist for the Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium at the University of Victoria, where he conducts quantitative studies on the impacts of climate change and climate variability in the Pacific and Yukon region.

Louis Arighi (MS Geology 2004) This past fall, Louis’ wife started as an Assistant Professor of Political Science at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland. They have been living there for about 9 months now, and are finally somewhat settled in. He’s been working on his French, taking an intensive course, and looking for a job in Geneva.

Andrew (Cody) Beedlow (MS Geology 2011) finished his thesis on the mass balance of the Collier Glacier, Oregon. In September, 2011, he joined the Glaciers Group at the Geophysical Institute of the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, where he is starting a Ph.D. on mass balance monitoring of glaciers in Alaska.

Ken Bevis (PhD Geology 1995) is an Associate Professor at Hanover College, Indiana, where he continues to do research on Pleistocene mountain glaciation in the western U.S.
Barbara Burkholder (MS Water Science 2008) currently works at the St. Anthony Falls Laboratory in Minneapolis, Minnesota as a research scientist and event coordinator. She is the lead coordinator for the Upper Midwest Stream Restoration Symposium, which aims to bring together researchers, consultants, regulators, and watershed district managers to exchange knowledge and share lessons learned on stream restoration projects in the Midwest. Barbara also works with the National Center for Earth-surface Dynamics (NCED) on educational outreach, including organizing a monthly public science happy hour and running the NCED exhibit booths at local and national conferences. She recently was the project coordinator on the construction and presentation of a NCED experimental flume at the NSF Hazards Research Showcase on Capitol Hill in Washington DC.

Anders Carlson (PhD Geology 2005) completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and is now an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geoscience, University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Lica Ersek (PhD Geology 2008) is working as a Marie Curie Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Department of Earth Sciences, Oxford Univ., U.K.

Jim Essman (MS Geology 2003) is an exploration geologist with Newmont Mining Co.

Sebastian Geiger (MS Geology 2000) has been granted the Chair in Carbonate Reservoir Simulation at Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh, Scotland. His chair is part of a new five year, £1.1m funding package from the CMG Reservoir Simulation Foundation that will establish a world leading Reservoir Simulation Group in Carbonate Reservoirs at Heriot-Watt University's Institute of Petroleum Engineering. Sebastian earned a PhD at the ETH Zurich in 2004 in Computational Geology and has been a Lecturer at Heriot-Watt for approximately 5 years. Through this promotion, Sebastian has become the youngest-ever Professor at the Institute.


John Jenson (PhD Geology 1993) is a Professor at the Water and Environmental Research Institute of the Western Pacific, University of Guam, where, in addition to studying water resources on western Pacific islands, he continues to do research on ice sheets.

Michelle Kinzel (MS Geography 2009) is working for the Instructional Technology and Development Team at Cal State San Marcos, supporting the use of GIS among faculty and students across campus. She maintains an online magazine, GIS in Education (located at: http://www.scoop.it/t/gis-in-education), and contracts with different groups throughout southern California to create GIS educational activities and events.

Erik Klemetti (PhD Geology 2005) was a postdoc at the University of Washington followed by the University of California Davis working with Kari Cooper on Cascades and New Zealand volcanoes doing U-series dating to look at short time-scale magmatic processes. He is now an assistant professor at Denison University in Ohio and is currently researching pre-Sierra Nevada magmatism and magmatic processes at Lassen Peak using zircon geochronology/chemistry. He has a blog about volcanoes called Eruptions (located at http://www.wired.com/wiredsciences/eruptions/) that is very popular, with over 300,000 visits a
month and close to a million visits during the Iceland eruption of 2010. Erik has been seen talking about volcanoes in the New York Times, AP, MSNBC, the Christian Science Monitor and Fox News thanks to the blog. He and his wife Susan recently welcomed a baby boy, Esa.

Joe Licciardi (PhD Geology 2000) completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and is now an Associate Professor in the Department of Earth Sciences, University of New Hampshire.

Brett Lord-Castillo (MS Geography 2007) is working for the St. Louis County (Missouri) Police Department Office of Emergency Management as an information systems designer and GIS programmer. In the spring of 2008, Brett played a crucial role in flood relief efforts, and as a result, he received the Department's Award of Excellence for outstanding performance during that emergency.

Ian Madin (MS Geology 1987), with a thesis on the flanks of Nanga Parbat in the Karakoram of northern Pakistan, is chief scientist of Oregon Dept. of Geology and Mineral Industries. His team just completed a paleoseismic trench excavation at Blue Ridge, northeast of Mt. Hood, that provided evidence of Holocene faulting, which will be factored into the hazard evaluation for western Oregon. He has also supervised the acquisition of LiDAR imagery in western Oregon, which can be used to produce a bare-ground image of the ground to identify landslide and fault scarps.

Shaun Marcott (PhD Geology 2011) defended his dissertation on Holocene climate and glacier variability. He has since started working as a postdoctoral research fellow in Ed Brook's ice-core lab at OSU, where he is measuring the CO$_2$ content of the newest ice core from Antarctica.

Richard A. Marston (MS Geography 1976) Distinguished Professor and Head of the Department of Geography at Kansas State University, has been named a Jefferson Science Fellow for the 2011-2012 year. He will spend the year in Washington, D.C., providing foreign policy advice to the U.S. government. He is a former president of the Association of American Geographers.

Justin Milliard (MS Geography 2010) entered flight training in Pensacola, FL, flying various types of aircraft and moving toward certification as a Naval Aviator (eyesight problems precluded being offered the pilot gig). Because of downsizing in the military, he took a job in exploration geology with South American Mineral Exploration (SAMEX), a firm headquartered in British Columbia. This has involved field work near Copiapó, Chile, developing properties in Au, Ag, and Cu, and now involves developing a property with stratabound Au and IOCG deposits. When in the U.S., he lives in Elko, Nevada, with his fiancé and former graduate student, Ajeet Johnson (MS Geology 2011), who works as an exploration geologist for Newmont out of Elko.

Duane Nellis (MS Geography 1977; PhD Geography 1980) received one of the OSU Distinguished Alumni Fellows Awards in November 2011. He is President of the University of Idaho, and was formerly Provost at Kansas State University; Dean of Eberly College of Arts and Sciences at the University of West Virginia; and former President of the Association of American Geographers.

Debbie Reusser (PhD Geography 2010) is a research geographer with USGS and duty station leader of the Western Research Fisheries Center at Hatfield Marine Science Center, Newport as well as courtesy faculty member in OSU Geosciences. She leads a team conducting research in aquatic non-indigenous species and climate change effects on ecosystem services in Pacific Coast estuaries. She and her husband, Henry Lee, developed a new approach for setting ballast water standards that is now being evaluated by the Environmental Protection Agency. Their white paper, “Density matters: Review of approaches to setting organism-based ballast water discharge standards,” was evaluated by the National Academy of Sciences and has been invited to be published in a reviewed journal.

Vincent Rinterknecht (PhD Geography 2003) completed a Postdoctoral fellowship at the Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory and is now a Lecturer in the School of Geography and Geosciences, University of St. Andrews, Scotland.

Jed Roberts (MS Geography 2007) works for the Oregon Dept. of Geology and Mineral Industries as their geospatial data coordinator. Jed is responsible for managing DOGAMI's digital and information libraries, including LiDAR data, and works with geological models for landslide susceptibility, watershed hydrologies, and tsunami inundation. He is a certified floodplain manager and is DOGAMI's Flood Mapping Coordinator.

Martin Roy (PhD Geology 2003) completed a Postdoctoral fellowship at the Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory and is now an Associate Professor in the
Paul D. See (BS Geology 1949) passed away in Seaside, Oregon, on December 30, 2010. He was 84. He is survived by his wife, Shirley Evelyn Ball, a daughter, Dana, her husband, and a grandson. From 1950 to 1963, Paul worked as a paleontologist for Shell Oil Co., after which he returned to Oregon to take up a second career as an educator. He taught science and math at Warrenton High School, then joined Clatsop Community College as a professor of geology and electronics. He was dean of instruction at Clatsop from 1970 until his retirement in 1987. He then began a third career as a consultant in geological hazards until his retirement in 2000. He continued to offer field trips, workshops, and seminars, and he helped form Citizens for Sensible Land Use and served on their board for eight years. He had recently published a book, Ornery Country Kid, a collection of stories about growing up on the Clatsop Plains during the Great Depression.

DWP Land Management in the Crowley Lake basin is nurturing new native growth.

Over the last 20 years, through management of livestock grazing and recreation, the DWP has staged a comeback of vegetation in the Long Valley, California. The Crowley Lake Tributary Stream Enhancement Program has been producing results with renewed native growth along the streams. The “Alive” article is available to view online at: https://www.cityemployeesclub.com/AliveMainPage.aspx?VolumeNumber=0&IssueNumber=0

Jeremy Shakun (PhD Geology 2010) is working as a NOAA Climate and Global Change Postdoctoral Fellow, during which he has spent time at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory, and most recently Harvard University.

George Sharp (BS Geology 1967, MS Geology 1969) completed a career as a geologist with Weyerhaeuser and now is an independent geological consultant in Washington. He is a member of the Geosciences Board of Advisers.

Tiffany (Townsend) Smith (BS Earth Science 2009) returned to her hometown of Annapolis, MD, and was an intern at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in the Hydrologic Sciences branch. She married a “Beaver” in 2010 and began a Ph.D. program in the Dept. of Earth and Planetary Sciences at Johns Hopkins University, focusing on land-surface hydrology, fresh water resources and remote sensing in the Nile River basin.
Volcanic Ramblings Part 2: A Dedication
by Lockwood DeWitt (BS Geology 1988)
August 29, 2011

I'd like to start off the more methodical portion of this "Volcanic Ramblings" series with a heart-felt dedication to Harold "Sharkey" Enlows, who first showed me many of the stops we made on this trip on the 1984 Petrology series spring excursion. Enlows could be curt and abrasive, but in his way, he was a very caring Teacher. He wasn't affectionate, but he simply wouldn't accept less than what he believed a student was capable of. His nickname arose not from fear, but from the respect and fondness his students felt toward him.

One example: I was not the most responsible student in the history of studenting (I've always said, "I'm an excellent learner, but I'm a terrible student."), and frequently missed early morning classes. The petrology/petrography series lectures fell into that category. So when the test for metapet rolled around, and I was confronted, on the first page, with the question, "Describe the mono-mineralogical problem with respect to metamorphic rocks," I mentally shrugged and skipped it. Sharkey typically sat in his office and did other paperwork while classes took tests, and when we finished, we took our tests to him and dropped them off. He glanced up when I dropped mine off. I turned to go, but he brought me to a sharp stop with "Hold it, DeWitt!" I knew that tone. I turned, and he had his finger on the hole where an answer should have been. I muttered, "I think I must have missed that day," to which he responded, "You did. But you can figure this out. Take this (he shoved the paper back at me) and go sit down until you do."

I had it sussed even before I got back to my seat. If you have only one mineral phase in a nice clean metamorphic rock- like a quartzite or marble- it's nearly impossible to say anything quantitative about the T & P history it's been through. Metapet depends on finding how differing elemental components have been partitioned into differing mineral phases; only one phase, no partitioning. So within a couple minutes I was back in his office, waiting, embarrassed, while he made a great show of reading my answer, then flipping through the rest of the pages to make sure there were no other blanks. He rolled his eyes at me and said, "Good. You're sharp. Don't let lazy get in the way."

When I graduated, some years later, I made a point to visit most of my profs to explicitly thank them for the effort they'd put into my education. I do believe most of them were close to teary-eyed (I know I was); too few students make that small effort of their own. But I didn't make that happy trip to Sharkey's office. Why? Because unbeknownst to us undergrads, he had been diagnosed with and in treatment for cancer for the entire year we'd had him as a teacher. In summer of 1984, just a month or so after we finished his class, and less than two after he took us on what remains to this day one of the best field trips of my life, the disease took him. One of my biggest regrets is that I never had a chance to express my respect, thanks, and admiration to his face. He wasn't my "favorite" prof, but he's the one who made me work the hardest, and from whom I learned the most.

And that's no small compliment.

So for each of the stops we made on our Volcanic Ramblings that I saw first under Sharkey's tutelage, I'll just skip over the long-winded intro, but preface the post with a dignified "In Memoriam: Harold "Sharkey" Enlows." It feels like the least I owe him.

Here's a spur-of-the-moment photo I took when we stopped for gas out near I-5, on our way out of town, looking back over Corvallis to the iconic profile of Marys Peak.
In the spring of 2004, a small group of Geoscience faculty (John Dilles, Bob Lillie, Andrew Meigs) naively proposed that an endowed Professorship be established in Active Tectonics and Earthquake Geology to honor the long, varied and distinguished career of R. S. Yeats. In spite of the fact that this ambitious group knew nothing about professorships or fundraising, they convinced the department it was a good idea, enlisted the OSU Foundation’s support, worked with Sherm Bloomer, Dean of the College of Science (COS), and launched the project. A two-day reunion and field trip at the Oregon Coast for more than 40 of Bob’s colleagues, friends, and former students in the spring of 2005 stands out as one of the many high points of the fundraising effort. As a result of this hard work, the Department is pleased to announce that we are actively searching for a new faculty member to fill the Yeats Professorship in Active Tectonics and Earthquake Geology. The new faculty member will join our faculty ranks at the beginning of the 2012/2013 academic year. This new position in the department will be a regular faculty position supported by OSU and will receive a considerable stipend based on earnings from the more than $500K donated by the devoted alumni of Bob Yeats and the department. Generous commitments to this endowment came from Bob’s former Ohio University students and from Oregon State students. We seek an emerging leader in the fields of active tectonics and earthquake geology to fill the position; the individual will also contribute to our long-standing emphasis in field-based research and teaching. This historic milestone would not have been achieved without the continued support and encouragement of the Department, the College, the OSU Foundation, the OSU administration, and, most importantly, our loyal alumni.

New Alumni, 2010-2011

Alder, Jay, Geography, PhD 2011
Allen, Patrick W., Geography, BA 2011
Arntt, Tara L., Earth Science, BS 2010
Austin, Karen E., Geology, BS 2011
Beedlow, Andrew C., Geology, MS 2011
Bennett, Colter J., Geology, BS 2011
Bromley, Sarah A., Geology, MS 2011
Burleigh, Andrew W., Geology, BS 2011
Casprowick, Rema, Geography, BS 2010
Ceciliani, Scott C., Geology, BS 2011
Cernuschi, Federico, Geology, MS 2011
Christensen, Celene L., Geology, HBS 2011
Cox, Shannon E., Geography, BS 2011
Dodder, Kristin K., Geology, BS 2011
Dretke, Tyler J., Geology, BS 2010
Farmer, Alexander J., Geography, BS 2011
Fischer, Amy N., Earth Science, BS 2011
Fite, Rickey B., Geography, BS 2011
Follett, Stephanie L., Geography, BS 2011
Foster, Patrick D., Geography, BS 2011
Gass, Tyler M., Geology, BS 2011
Haberle, Chris W., Geology, BS 2010
Hanson, Tyler R., Geography, BA 2011
Hatcher, Kendra L., Geography, MS 2011
Hayward, Jessica, Geology, BS 2011
Highland, Steven A., Geography, PhD 2011
Jackson, Carolyn T., Geography, BS 2011
Johnson, Ajeet K., Geology, MS 2011
Keeley, Jeffrey A., Geology, BS 2011
Kelly, Wendy S., Geology, MS 2011
Kent, Jacqueline L., Earth Science, BS 2011
Koepfle, Chad T., Geology, BS 2011
Kules, Nicholas, Earth Science, BS 2010
Lieuallen, A. Erin, Geology, MS 2010
Little, Lacey M., Geology, BS 2011
Loewen, Matthew W., Geology, MS 2011
Lundeberg, Robert H., Geography, BS 2010
Marcott, Shaun A., Geology, PhD 2011
McFadden, Andrew K., Geography, MS 2010
McMullen, Brian J., Earth Science, BS 2011
Merrill, David G., Earth Science, BS 2011
Poynor, Blake R., Geography, BS 2011
Raiford, Kelvin L., Geography, MS 2011
Rubenson, Madeline R., Earth Science, BS 2011
Salisbury, Morgan J., Geology, PhD 2011
Shakun, Jeremy D., Geology, PhD 2010
Shub, Staci R., Geology, BS 2011
Sims, Terrence W., Earth Science, BS 2011
Smoluk, Alexis, Geography, MS 2011
Stephens, Abigail E., Geology, MS 2011
Thompson, Matthew A., Earth Science, BS 2011
Tierney, Casey, Geology, MS 2011
Awards to Geoscience students 2010-2011

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

Amanda Prewitt Award. Geosciences female sophomore or junior who has shown an enthusiasm for a career in the earth sciences: Kera Tucker
Jess Johnson Student Writing Award. Undergraduate who has demonstrated excellence in the classroom and an aptitude for writing: Jarnett Adrian, Elizabeth Elder (Geography), Jeff Keeley (Geology)
Samuel M Evans Jr Memorial Award. Geology sophomore demonstrating excellence of scholarship and professional motivation: Kyle Krawl
Earl L Packard Achievement Award. Geology junior who is scholarly and professionally motivated: April Wilcox
Award for Excellence in Geology. Outstanding graduating senior in geology: Andrew Burleigh and Celene Christensen
Christian John Hunt Memorial Scholarship. Geography undergraduate with high degree of personal integrity reflecting honesty and respect for others: Cynthia Armentrout, Natalie Danielson, Yuritsy Gonzales-Pena, Leslie Urban
Chris & Marguerite Hunt Memorial Research Scholarship. To engage undergraduate students in a broad range of geosciences research: Leslie Urban
Richard Chambers Award. Support for an undergraduate research project in Geology or Earth Science: Kera Tucker, Jon Sanfilippo
Arthur Parenzin Undergraduate Scholarship. Support for a new incoming undergraduate student to study Geography at OSU: Jill Simon (yr 2 of 4)
Earth Science Excellence Award. To a graduating senior in Earth Science for excellence: Olivia Poblacion
Award for Outstanding Service to the Department. To a student who has made outstanding contributions to the department (as deserving): Jon Sanfilippo

GRADUATE AWARDS

Lance Forsythe Memorial Fellowship. Graduate student from Geology, Geography, or Marine Geology exhibiting breadth and independence of thought: Morgan Salisbury
George & Danielle Sharp Fellowship. Graduate student in structural geology or sedimentary geology: Nick Legg
Jess Johnson Student Writing Award. Graduate student who has demonstrated excellence in the classroom and an aptitude for writing: Jill Smedstad, Colleen Sullivan (Geography), Stephanie Grocke (Geology)
Serrurier Student Assistance in Natural Resources. Brian Chaffin
John Pine Memorial Fellowship. To support a geography graduate student for their first professional meeting: Jill Smedstad
Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award. For superior performance in teaching as a graduate student: BJ Walker (Geology), Brian Chaffin (Geography)

Editorial
By Bob Yeats

As you will read in Aaron Wolf’s and Mark Abbott’s reports, this is the last year we will be the Department of Geosciences in the College of Science. Starting this year, we are part of the new College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences (CEOAS), combining Geosciences with the former COAS. Mark Abbott, current dean of COAS and our new dean, has expressed his views on the future of Geosciences elsewhere in the Newsletter.

I am not sure what this means for the newsletter, but I conclude that the changes mean we should have new editorial leadership, and so this is my swan song as editor. I became the editor with George Moore, who did much of the heavy lifting; after George’s tragic automobile accident, Melinda Jensen took over producing the newsletter. We have used the newsletter to keep you up to date on changes in our academic and research programs, with current information posted on our website.

Our alumni have supported us for many years. We have been the envy of the College of Science because of your loyalty, starting back when Ed Taylor was building up the mineral collection and later when we needed to upgrade the summer field station at Mitchell. We have benefited from the wise
counsel of our Board of Advisors, consisting of leaders in the earth sciences who meet from time to time to help us meet changes in demand for our graduates. Your strong support says to potential budget cutters: Don’t mess with us.

Going back to when I arrived as chair in 1977, the only thing that is the same is we are still in Wilkinson Hall, built with a lift-slab construction prior to the upgrading of Oregon seismic standards. Doc Wilkinson’s picture is on the wall in the lobby, a recognition of the contribution he made to geology in Oregon, especially the field camp. In 1977, we were two small departments, Geology and Geography, and there was not much interaction between the two, although I became good friends with Geography chair Dick Highsmith. Our big problems were keeping the summer field camp going when the Legislature was looking to save money by cutting State support to summer programs. Keith Oles, Harold Enlows and I would troop over to President MacVicar’s office, and he would always find a way to keep the field course as an essential component of education of geology majors. Mac was a true friend of our department. He believed in us.

Another feature of the early days was the lack of interaction between Oceanography and Geology, although in the mid-70s, Cy Field and Julius Dasch had a joint project with COAS scientists as part of the Nazca Plate project. Slowly, the barriers came down, and now the seamless connection between COAS and Geosciences has made the transition to CEOAS a breeze. The VIPER group is a good illustration. Their promotional literature for prospective students emphasizes what graduate students and faculty members do, not where they are located in the university structure. Similar interactions take place in climate change, earthquake science, and environmental science. These are research groups, but they work in an environment where high-quality teaching is expected, enabling our graduates to fill leadership roles in society, including the petroleum, mining, and environmental industries.

Speaking of leadership roles, it was a pleasure to write about the careers of our graduates, who are making contributions to our society far beyond their numbers. You are amazing, and we can take pride in the small role we have played in your success. Go Beavs!

Writing about our alumni was mixed with sadness with the passing of Paul See last December. I knew Paul early in my own career when he was a paleontologist with Shell. His career—three careers, actually—is an inspiration to us all. We will miss him.

I close on a personal note. I was humbled when my students from OSU and Ohio University combined with other OSU alumni to organize a fund-raising drive to endow a professorship in earthquake geology. Recruiting for this position will take place this year. The successful candidate will join a team of world-class scientists, helping to build OSU as a first-rate institution, one of the best in the country for earthquake science.

Bob Yeats

Field Camp Memories – 1985
Photos sent in by Matt Vaughn, BS Geology 1988
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