Cincinnati: Beneath the Streets, Under the Cleats

- NAPC Conference 2009
- 4 Day Field Trip: Cascade Volcanoes

In Love & Geology
Jay Zambito IV and Sarah Kolbe
Dear Alumni,

Hope everyone is doing really well and that your year was as successful as ours. It is really hard to believe that another academic year is almost over and that it was a year that I have not written a letter for The Upper Crust. This is probably because we have all been so busy with numerous teaching, research and professional activities, and it seems like we have hardly had any time to take a breath. It is no understatement to say it has been a fun and productive year, and this is a good opportunity for us to reflect on it and tell you a little about our achievements. However, please read through The Upper Crust to learn more about what we have been doing. You might also like to read about our activities in our weekly informal newsletter, Rolling Rocks, which you can download from our department website. I compile Rolling Rocks every Thursday evening and then rushing to e-mail it out early on Friday morning; so please forgive me for my awful use of the English language and any mistakes that it may contain. Hopefully it gives everyone a flavor for what is going on in the Department.

As you probably know, I agreed to take on the headship last September after serving as Acting Head for a year. This was a very easy decision to make because we have all been so busy with the wonderful research and teaching that is being done in my colleagues' laboratories for organic geochemistry and stable isotopes, two new laboratories for organic geochemistry and stable isotopes, and many of our students have received several grants. Also, this year, several of our students have won awards for their research within our university and externally. The details of all these are outlined in the pages that follow. Our students frequently present at national meetings, and some at international meetings, and it is not uncommon that before graduating they have already published one or more papers in the leading journals. In short, our graduates are a very impressive bunch of young scientists who undoubtedly have very successful careers ahead of them.

Our undergraduate program continues to thrive, and we currently have about 55 majors. We attribute this healthy enrollment to the revived interest in geology as a consequence of increased awareness and the importance of environmental geology, a new freshman seminar series that we have recently developed, and the increased academic and social involvement of graduates and faculty with undergraduate students.

Our colloquium program continues to thrive. We have brought in many eminent speakers this year including, for example, Professors Dolf Seilacher and Steve Stanley. We also have had many field trips over the year. Our fall field trip took us to the Cascades where we examined volcanic landforms, debris flows, fossil beds and glacial deposits. In late June, Krista Smilke and Dave Meyer will be leading a field trip with about a dozen undergraduates and graduate students to Florida and the Bahamas to examine the geology and biology of ocean margins. It seems like we have field trips to local areas every other week, and many times during each week in the Spring.

Our research is flourishing. This year we have obtained over $1,000,000 of new funding from federal agencies including NSF and NASA. Rarely a week that goes by without us adding them to Rolling Rocks and/or next year's edition of this newsletter. Also please talk with our Alumni Advisory Committee and us about what we can do to help keep you informed of our activities and/or any way you can be involved in our department.

I should like to thank Warren Huff again this year for his extraordinary efforts to maintain contacts with all of you, and together with Tim Phillips for their hard work in compiling and producing this newsletter.

Best wishes,
Lewis Owen

Faculty & Staff News
In Love & Geology
Alumni News
4-Day Field Trip: Cascade Volcanoes
NAPC Conference 2009
Geology Colloquium 2009 - 2010
Letter from the Department Head

Clearly our graduate program continues to flourish. This past year we have graduated eleven students, five with Doctorates and six with Masters degrees in geology. This coming year we will be taking on ten new graduate students at both Masters and Doctorate level. Our graduates have been incredibly successful in the past year in obtaining grants from such organizations as the Geological Society of America and the Paleontological Society, and many of our students have received several grants. Also this year, several of our students have won awards for their research within our university and externally. The details of all these are outlined in the pages that follow. Our students frequently present at national meetings, and some at international meetings, and it is not uncommon that before graduating they have already published one or more papers in the leading journals. In short, our graduates are a very impressive bunch of young scientists who undoubtedly have very successful careers ahead of them.

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Lewis Owen
This past year has seen the continuation of three project areas that I’ve involved with. Brian Nicklen is making good progress on his dissertation research in the Guadalupe Mountains National Park in west Texas. The three GSSP Stratotype Sections and Points (GSSPs) for the Middle Permian (Guadalupian) are located in Guadalupe Moun- tains National Park in west Texas and are being studied by three GSSP. The stratotype area will be established. Brian is generating U-Pb age data with the very helpful cooperation of the Park geologist, Dr. Gordon Bell. In addition, the Isotope Geochemistry and Geochronology Laboratory at the University in Geneva, Switzerland has graciously provided Brian with the facilities and support to do his zircon dating.

Work continues with colleagues Carl Brett and Pat McLaughlin on our NSF-funded Silurian project. This work involves a test of conceptual models for the Silurian period (443-417 million years ago) in three disparate, although related areas that have potentially broad application throughout geologic time, namely: a) the linkage of sea levels cycles between active foreland basins and continental platforms; b) timing, dimensions, and geographic span of migrating depocenters, foredeeps and forebulges in response to tectonic startup; and c) the synchronous or asynchronous behavior of shallow marine bivalves in response to these processes.

I’m involved in a collaborative project with Dr. Wenbo Su of the China University of Geosciences (Wuhan) in which we are using Mesoproterozoic K-bentonites to interpret the tectonic and paleogeographic histories of several of the major cratonic segments of northern China.

Beyond this, I continue as an associate editor for both the American Mineralogist and Clays and Clay Minerals as well as serving as Secretary to the Clay Minerals Society. Finally, on a personal note, I still get together with some friends once a week to play bluegrass music. It’s just plain fun.

ATTLA KILINC

2009/2010 academic year has been very different for me. Despite the fact that I have had colon cancer surgery followed up by chemotherapy, I was able to continue my teaching and research. My chemotherapy ended in June and everything is fine.

On the teaching front, I continue to teach Graduate Research (the only required graduate course for all graduate students) and Environmental Volcanology in the fall quarter. In the winter quarter I taught the Physical Geology and in the spring quarter I taught Modern Methods of Mineral Isotope Geochemistry and Geochronology.

This academic year Attila Kilinc had three visiting sci- entists working with him. Demet Kiran Yildirim from the Istanbul Technical University, who has spent a year with me on her doctoral research project. We presented three posters in the GSA and AGU meetings. Dr. Erkan Bozkurtoglu, a post-doctoral scientist for six months and continued his ion research project. Dr. Tawab Khan, a Fulbright scholar came also to work with me on 65 million years old volcanic rocks in Pakistan. While we were working on this project, a new volcanic activity started. This is really exciting and we are working as fast as possible to get a paper on this activity after 65 million years.

During the spring, Annie Miller was visited for a few days by Peter Allison (Imperial College, London), to discuss and plan the collaboration on the petrology and physical hy- matics of the Laurasian seaway during the Jurassic.
I continue my work on understanding environmental change in conjunction with the Permian-Triassic boundary mass extinction event. I will return to China to collect additional boundary sections in the field this summer, adding to sections sampled during the past few summers. I will also be teaching a short course at the China University of Geosciences in Wuhan as well as attending the International Geology Conference in the same city in May and June. My Ph.D. student, Wan Zhenzhu, passed her oral prelims this past February and is making good progress on her study of C isotopic variation in Devonian land plants and its relationship to water-use efficiency. More information about these projects is available at my website (http://homepages.uc.edu/~algeot/), and I can be contacted at Thomas.Alegeo@uc.edu.

With NAPC safely in the rearview mirror (see article elsewhere in the newsletter), it’s been nice to be able to focus a bit more on research! Shortly after the meeting, Michael Poole (University of Chicago) and I did a final set of analyses comparing rates of diversification and mass extinction in epicontinental seas versus open-ocean-facing settings in the Permian through Cretaceous, and we sent it off to Science, where it was published in November. To help underwrite continued research on this topic, I submitted a grant proposal in September to NASA’s program in Exobiology and learned recently that it will be funded for the next three years. At about the same time as the Science paper came out, I published a paper in Paleobiology analyzing the Phanerozoic history of the global geographic differentiation of marine biotic composition through the Phanerozoic (dubbed geodispersity). If nothing else, this paper was noteworthy because it contains three color figures that bear more than a passing resemblance to primitive string art (superimposed on paleo- geographic maps)! Several of my former students were co-authors, including: Kate Bulinski (Belarmine University), Devin Buick (University of Hawaii), Chad Ferguson (BP Houston), and Austin Hendy (Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama).

Speaking of Devin and Chad, they both defended their doctoral dissertations last summer, and Jackie Wittner defended her M.S. thesis. Jackie is now a Ph.D. student at Virginia Tech, where she is working with Mike Kowalewski on a project on the Po Plain of Italy (bet she doesn’t miss those Cincinnati ten- taculitoids!).

Sarah Kolbe, who passed her Ph.D. preliminary exam in February, has taken a leadership role in an interdisciplinary project that I’ve gotten involved in with colleagues in biology and ecology to investigate transitions in plant composition at random as a consequence of one field trip to southern California. This was to visit Emiko Kent (with whom I continue my work on understanding environmental change in conjunction with the Permian-Triassic boundary mass extinction event), who passed her Ph.D. preliminary exam in November. We are working on a NSF project on the Chamen Fault, which straddles Pakistan and Afghanistan. I have had about half a dozen papers published and have another half dozen or so in press.

I particularly enjoyed working with Jason Dortch, one of my doctoral students, this year as we worked on writing several research papers on the Himalaya and Alaska as part of his doctoral research. Jason successfully defended his dissertation in May and will be joining Lindsay Schoebohm on a post-doctoral fellowship in Toronto that starts in September. With Lindsay, Jason will be working on tectonic geomorphology in Argentina and will be continuing some of his Himalayan work.

In August 2009, a film crew from the History Channel visited our geochronology laboratories. They filmed me at work in the lab and interviewed me about our work in the Himalaya. As a consequence I appeared on an episode on Mount Everest in the series “How the Earth was Made”. This first aired on the History Channel in January. You might like to watch the show if you are interested in what we are doing in the Himalaya and want to see how obvious I was in front of the cameras. You can download it from the iTunes store for $1.99.

This coming summer, I plan to spend a couple of weeks in the Pamirs introducing Kate Hedrick to the region. Kate will stay on in Tibet after I leave and will spend about six weeks in the field as part of her doctoral studies at Swarthmore. In September, Craig Diestch, Bill Haneberg, Amy Townsend-Small, Jason Dortch, our new graduate student Todd Longbottom will join Milap Shukla (UNLV), Markus Fuchs (Bayreuth University) and I in Nanda Devi to undertake a study of the glaciation and landscape evolution. The project is supported by a grant that we received from the National Geographic Society. I am hoping this field work will help me lose the 10 lbs. that I gain in Argentinan.

A view of Mustag Ata in the Pamir and of us collecting samples for cosmogenic nuclide surface exposure dating on a moraine displaced by the Karakoram Fault.

With the departure of Nate to Bowdoin College last fall, Mary Jo and I are now officially empty-nesters (and a one-vehicle family, ….. we are minimin-l ess for the first time in 17 years). Nate had a great first year at college, and we’re looking forward to having him home for the summer. Vanessa is nearly done at Tufts University, but has held off two courses short of graduation so she can play basketball next year; she has an extra year of eligibility after shredding her ACL during her freshman season.

And Chico lives on
Dear Colleagues,

I am very pleased and excited to let you know that Ms. Krista Smilek has just signed the contract to join us as Academic Director. She will start on Monday, August 24.

Krista has just completed a Masters in Geology at the Ohio University in Athens. She is focusing on paleontology, and actually started her Master’s degree in education, but got so stimulated by geology she decided to pursue a career in it. She completed her Masters in under two years having to do many extra courses to qualify for a degree in geology. Krista has a BS in Biology, which I hope will help her strengthen our links with biology and enhance and help develop a joint degree between biology and geology. The references for Krista are outstanding, all expressing her organizational and person skills, and all the work she did as Head TA at the Ohio University. We are also excited about Krista’s other skills: she has organized diving expeditions and many other outdoor experiences with high school age kids, which will hopefully lead to some innovative and exciting field experiences for our students and help attract freshman into our program.

I am sure you will all welcome her to our department and include her in all our activities.

Best wishes,

Lewis

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**Krista Smilek**

Aug. 7, 2009

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**Thomas Lowell**

UC Geologist Studies Historic Patterns of Climate Change

UC geologist Tom Lowell is part of a team studying the effects of melting ancient glaciers. The research has implications for global warming, as published this week in “Science Express.” Lowell, a professor of geology in the McMicken College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Cincinnati, is part of a team that for years has been researching the melting of ice sheets along what is now the border between Canada and the United States around the Great Lakes region. [http://www.uc.edu/News/NR.aspx?id=11831](http://www.uc.edu/News/NR.aspx?id=11831)

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**BARRY MAYNARD**

Big geological event last year was leading the department, this trip to Oregon. Had a great time setting up in September when it was sunny and running it in October when the rains had started. Big event for this year is a scheme being promoted by Paul Potter and me, along with Mark Bowers in engineering, to drill and core two holes through the complete Cincinnati section on the campus. We would run a complete set of geotechnical and geochemical properties on one core and preserve the other as a stratigraphic reference section. Our hope is to produce an engineering and geological record at high frequency for this critical interval, replacing the fragmented and largely covered type sections, and keying physical and chemical properties to the detailed sequence stratigraphic pattern. We have most of the project in hand except the wire-line logging. If anyone wants to volunteer running the logs to have first access to the log-rock correlation data, please let us know.

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WVXU’s Mark Perzel interviewed Attila Kilinc, a professor in UC’s Geology Department, about Iceland volcano Eyjafjallajokull, which erupted on April 14, 2010. [http://www.uc.edu/News/NR.aspx?id=11811](http://www.uc.edu/News/NR.aspx?id=11811)

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**Bill Hanenberg**

A few of you may already know me from my years as a graduate student in the department during the 1980s (MS ’85, PhD ’89). I have to admit that coming back to Cincinnati wasn’t on my to-do list for this millennium, or even the next one, but my wife Lisa received an attractive offer here and we decided to make the move. So, after a decade at New Mexico Tech and then another decade as an independent consulting geologist in Seattle, we headed east to the Queen City in 2009.

My day job is still my consultancy. I work mostly as a senior level specialist in engineering geology and applied structural geology on projects involving things like airborne lidar, 3-D digital outcrop modeling, virtual mapping, geologic hazard assessment, and computational geology throughout the country and, when the opportunity arises, internationally. I also accepted an invitation to join the department as an Adjunct Professor, in which capacity I’ve been organizing the weekly colloquium series, teaching structural geology, and continuing to collaborate with the department’s active Himalayan research group. I’ve particularly enjoyed the opportunity to teach structural geology and develop a series of all-digital lab exercises using some cutting edge software this spring. No more pencil-smudged drawings or tracing paper stereo net overlays! In addition to being geologically fascinating, semi-regular Himalayan trips have motivated me to get into fairly good shape and I recently finished (albeit slowly) my second consecutive Cincinnati Flying Pig Marathon. I’m also volunteering my time on the board of trustees for The Hillside Trust, a local non-profit group that has had ties to the department since the days of Richard and Lucile Durrell.

This coming year I will be going on the road as the 2010-2011 AEG-GSA Rick Riccobono Distinguished Lecturer in Engineering Geology, so perhaps I’ll have the chance to meet some of you in my travels or at a conference. In the meantime, I’ll be here enjoying the fact that this time around I can afford to live in a house with air conditioning during the summer.

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**Glenn Storrs**

Glenn Storrs is once again spending the summer out west as he leads the Cincinnati Museum Center Dinosaur field school to Montana. This will be the eleventh anniversary of community involvement in the project and the twelfth year at the site. The program invites community members, who pay a program fee to cover costs, to join paleontologists on-site at a dinosaur excavation as active participants in the excavation of a Jurassic sauropod bone bed. This catastrophic assemblage represents a herd of juvenile animals killed by drought and buried as a result of an ancient debris flow. The crew learn the basics of hypothesis construction and testing, data collection, and dinosaur excavation, as well as regional history and ecology. A discussion of the evolution of North America is facilitated by visits to unparalleled exposures of Archean to Tertiary rocks in the Beartooth Mountains and the northern Bighorn Basin. For additional information visit [http://www.cincymuseum.org/information_center/programs_events/dig_for_dinos.asp](http://www.cincymuseum.org/information_center/programs_events/dig_for_dinos.asp).

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**Lewis Owen**

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With the help of Mackenzie English, Glenn recently collected a large sample of cannel coal from the famous Ohio Diamond Coal Co. tip at the former Linton, Ohio. Preliminary examination of the material indicates that among the specimens are partial examples of the coelacanth Rhabdoderma elegans, teeth of the freshwater xenacanth shark Orthocanthus compressus, and other Pennsylvanian fossils. The tip was spurred by the discovery by Mac of a rare fossil amphibian, the neotridean Phyonius marashi, in unprocessed samples collected by Glenn fifteen years ago! With any luck, the new collection will turn up similar surprises and in a more timely manner!

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**Lucille Durrell**

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of diplodocid sauropod dinosaur is represented by a fabulous skull, now in Cincinnati, that was collected by a team from Marietta College from Utah’s San Rafael Swell. Paul Barrett from London’s Natural History Museum will visit in the autumn to collaborate with Glenn and Larry Witmer of Ohio University in the study of this unique specimen. He hopes to edit, along with Carl Brett and Brenda Hunda, the field trip guides for this past year’s NAPC as a Museum Center book later this year.

Devin Buick, PhD (Miller)

Chad Ferguson, PhD (Miller)
Graduated Summer 2009
Dissertation titled “Environmental change and moluscan death assemblages: an assessment of ecological history along a carbonate bank in Florida.”

Jacalyn Wittmer, MS (Miller)
Graduated Fall 2009
Thesis titled “The regional and global diversity of tentaculitoids: a new look at the spatio-temporal and paleogeographic history of an enigmatic group.”

Gokce Ustunisik, PhD (Kilinc)
Graduated Summer 2009
Dissertation titled “Application of magma recharge, plagioclase zoning and crystal size distribution (CSD) theory to natural solid-liquid equilibria.”

Bradley Deline, PhD (Brett)
Graduated Summer 2009, Dissertation titled “The effects of scale, community structure, and environment on Ordovician through Early Silurian Laurentian crinoid disparity.”

Justin Stroup, MS (Lowell)
Graduated Spring 2009, Thesis titled “Glacial Lake Ojibway, lacustrine stratigraphy and implications for drainage.”

Joanne Ballard, MS (Lowell)

Kathryn Hedrick, MS (Owen)
Graduated Summer 2009 and now working on PhD, Thesis titled “Towards defining the transitional in style and timing for quaternary glaciations between the monsoon-influenced Greater Himalaya and the semi-arid Transhimalaya of Northern India.”

Ghazanfar Khattak, MS (Owen)

Jason Dortch, PhD (Owen)
Graduated Spring 2009, Dissertation titled “Rates of landscape development in the Transhimalaya of northern India: a framework for testing the links among climate, erosion, and tectonics.”

Mike Oestreich

The Geology Club continues to be a fun, community-oriented organization. During the 2009-2010 school year, the club was able to provide volunteers for two major geology-oriented events plus it organized a student-run 3-day field trip, continued the development of our website, the graduate-undergraduate student mentoring program, and the tradition of hosting the departmental holiday party and spring picnic.

UC’s main website announced that the Science and Engineering Expo, which took place in the spring, was the most successful ever. The Geology Club was proud to be a part of the event, hosting two tables with posters, fossil displays, and our venerable old geode crusher, which was put to good use to the delight of hundreds of high school- and younger-aged children. Based on the interest in our booth at the Expo, we were cordially invited to participate in a similar but much larger local event called Space Day. Unfortunately Space Day took place at the same time as the annual Geofair (http://geofair.com/) and we did not have enough volunteers to staff both events this year, but it was encouraging to know that off-campus educational groups are interested in working with the Geology Club in the future. The Cincinnati Geofair was a major event as usual with the club doing more work than in previous years. With the many volunteers we fielded over 3 days doing load-in/load-out, plus working the show itself, we estimate spending approximately 50 volunteer-hours for the event.

Spring was a busy time for the Geology Department, but our club was able to organize and operate a 3-day field trip to Oneota State Park in southwest Pennsylvania over Memorial Day weekend. The well-attended trip involved numerous stops at outcrops along the way, interrupted only by a day spent whitewater rafting (and occasionally swimming in) the Youghiogheny River. The trip was a success, and we hope to be able to run more student-organized field trips in the future.

Our inter-campus website continues to operate smoothly with only minor changes, as does the mentoring program. There are so many new undergraduates that graduate mentors now have several “mentees” each. Last year’s hat and water bottle sale has been quite successful as we are now sold out of nearly all items. Our water bottles have already appeared in photos from all over the country, and with this summer’s field season might turn up in places like Argentina, India, Greenland, and Scotland.

The Geology Club appreciates all those who helped make ‘09-10 a successful year for us, and we look forward to building on that next year and beyond.


**Theses/Dissertations Defended**

PhD
- Devin Buick — postdoc at University of Hawaii
- Gokce Ustinisik — postdoc at SUNY Stony Brook
- Chad Ferguson — geologist at BP
- Brad Deline — tenure-track faculty position at the University of West GA
- Jason Dortch — postdoc at the University of Toronto

MS
- Jackie Wittmer — PhD student at Virginia Tech
- Justin Stroup — PhD student at Dartmouth
- JoAnn Ballard — U.S. Government
- Kate Hedrick — PhD student at UC (Choose Ohio First)
- Nathan Marshall — entering the PhD program at the University of Utrecht

**PhD Qualifying Exams Passed**
- Zhenzou Wan
- Sarah Kolbe
- Esteban Sagredo
- John Nealon

**Student Grants and Awards**

**GSA**
- Emiko Kent, Tom Schramm, Tanya DeValle, Esteban Sagredo

**URC**
- Tom Schramm

**SIGMA X**
- Bill Honsaker

**Paleontology Society**
- Tanya DeValle — The Richard Osgood Award
- Zhenzou Wan — The Schopt Award

**GS3A**
- Emiko Kent, Brian Nicklen, Tanya DeValle

**Dry-Dredgers**
- Tom Schramm — A Paul Sanders Grant

**International Throughflow Project:**
- Nathan Marshall

Jay Zambito: Received a Research Scholarship from the DAAD (Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst = German Academic Exchange Service) to spend some time in Germany this summer collaborating with a colleague at the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg. And next year he will be on a Distinguished Dissertation Completion Fellowship from the Graduate School.

**Undergraduate Student Honors and Awards**

**Graduate Teaching Assistant Awards**
- Sarah Kolbe
- Nathan Marshall

**Departmental Good Spirit Award**
- Zhenzhu Wan

**Kenneth Caster Award**
- Anne Lagomarciano

Special Thanks
- Annie Lagomarciano, Jay and Sarah Zambito, Zhenzou Wan, and others for a very successful Graduate Recruitment Weekend.

**Graduate Poster Forum**
- Brian Nicklen won one of 8 outstanding poster awards in Physical Sciences and Engineering
- UC Science & Engineering Expo
- Cincinnati GeoFair

**Recognitions**

Graduating with Departmental Honors: Emily Welder

Graduating with High Honors:
- Joel Hecker, Phi Beta Kappa
- Sara Oser, Phi Beta Kappa

Keck Program Participants
- 2009-2010: Sara Oser, Jessa Moser (09 alumna)

**Pryor-Moti Award**
- Spencer Young
Two graduate students find love and success in UC's Department of Geology.

The couple that conducts fieldwork together stays together.

Or so must be the motto of Jay Zambito and Sarah Kolbe, two PhD students in the Department of Geology who married last fall. The two even spent their two-week honeymoon traipsing through Caribbean islands collecting samples for one of Kolbe’s research projects.

“It's the life of a graduate student,” Kolbe says with a laugh. “We're pretty busy.”

The two met at the University of Cincinnati when Kolbe enrolled in the graduate program a year after Zambito arrived—Kolbe from a Fulbright trip at the University of Copenhagen immediately after earning her BS from William and Mary, and Zambito from the University at Buffalo where he spent his master's studying a portion of the evolutionary stasis period preceding this mass extinction.

“Jay is an excellent scientist with a well-focused research prospectus,” says Zambito’s advisor and Geology Professor Carl Brett. “In all my dealings with Jay I have found him to be a very bright, ambitious and motivated student.”

Zambito, beginning his fifth year at UC, researches an extinction interval during the middle of the Devonian Period of the Paleozoic Era. He spent his master’s studying a portion of the evolutionary stasis period preceding this mass extinction, and is now focusing his dissertation on the follow-up period of extinction and new speciation.

“Once we have an idea of exactly what the extinction levels are and what is driving the extinctions, we can understand what’s driving the extinctions,” Zambito says. “One of the things that has been hypothesized to be responsible is climate change, in particular global warming.”

Zambito will visit Scotland this summer to look at the record of climate change preserved in the Old Red Sandstone, then Germany to work in a lab to reconstruct temperature changes during this extinction.

Kolbe holds an interest in paleontology like Zambito, but her research has taken an interdisciplinary route so far not traveled in the department.

Working in conjunction with UC’s Departments of Biological Sciences and Geography, Kolbe is looking at the impacts of urbanization on forests in southwest Ohio.

“Our group is looking at a number of different forest sites from really urban sites close to Cincinnati to the more rural and wild outer areas,” Kolbe explains. “We’re trying to pick apart what environmental factors influence those communities and how they’re structured. Which of these variables are natural and which are related to human disturbances? Which of the human impacts are having the greatest effects on these urban forests?”

She’ll spend her summer studying characteristics of leaf physiology, including photosynthetic rates and stomata density, to uncover how they adapt to changes resulting from human disturbances.

“One of the neat things about Sarah’s work is that it’s moved her into the environmental realm. She’s taken a leadership role in our uniquely interdisciplinary project that has won her the respect of faculty in three different departments,” says Arnie Miller, geology professor and Kolbe’s advisor. “Sarah has been the point person for a wide array of data analyses. I think her analyses of leaf physiology and characteristics, and how they change with climatic and even atmospheric conditions along the urban gradient, will be truly groundbreaking.”

Zambito and Kolbe are earning those praises all over the department. They have both received funding by the Paleontological Society, the American Museum of Natural History and UC’s University Research Council, as well as graduate teaching awards. In addition, Zambito has obtained funding by the Evolving Earth Foundation and a distinguished dissertation completion fellowship by UC. He is also the graduate student representative for the Paleontological Society. Kolbe has earned her own set of accolades, including funding by the Paleontological Research Institute, the American Philosophical Society, the Geological Society of America and a grant-in-aid from the Society of Sigma Xi—a competitive, science-wide competition.

Both are quick to return praise to the department.

“UC is the best place to be a graduate student, especially in geology,” Kolbe says. “They are so supportive in giving feedback on projects, making sure we have funding to do fieldwork over the summer.”

“UC is the best place to be a graduate student, especially in geology,” Kolbe adds. “The faculty here and the department in general do everything possible to help the students have a successful career.”

And a successful marriage? Just an added bonus!
In the 1930’s Nevin Fenneman, who was then Head of the Department of Geology & Geography, published a series of advisory notes to students in the department. You might enjoy reading what he had to say. They are posted at http://homepages.uc.edu/~huffwd/Fenneman_Notes/Notes_to_students.htm

There is a different kind of interest in subjects which we know we are going to need and which are studied for that reason. In this case our hopes and ambitions clothe the subject with interest. It might or might not attract us otherwise, but when the mastery of something becomes part of our successful career we go at it with a will often quite unconscious of whether we like it for its own sake or not. A good deal of geology is studied in this way.

Dr. Nevin Fenneman

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Dr. Nevin Fenneman
August 18, 2009

To: Lindsey Theobald, A&S Development Office
From: Warren D. Huff, Professor of Geology

Dear Lindsey,

I would like to submit the name of Prof. Aurel T. Cross as a candidate for the McMicken College Distinguished Alumni Award. Prof. Cross received his MS in 1941 and PhD in 1943, both from the University of Cincinnati. Since 1986 he has been Professor Emeritus of Geology and Botany at Michigan State University in East Lansing, MI. Rather than submit the standard nomination form I have chosen to attach a very extensive biography of Prof. Cross written by Prof. Tom Phillips in 2006 and published in the International Journal of Coal Geology. As Prof. Phillips eloquently points out, Prof. Cross is truly a world-class scientist and educator and has a remarkable record of achievement as a scholar. A photo of him at one of our departmental alumni receptions in 2008 is shown below. Prof. Cross is the one in the center. If additional information is required, please let me know.

Warren Huff

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Tom Klekamp, Aurel Cross and Bob Garrison.

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THE CINCINNATI of 1918

Published by the student body of the University of Cincinnati

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**Distinguished Alumni Award Nomination**

**40’s**

**Aurel T. Cross (MS ‘41, PhD ‘43)**

**August 18, 2009**

To: Lindsey Theobald, A&S Development Office

From: Warren D. Huff, Professor of Geology

Dear Lindsey,

I would like to submit the name of Prof. Aurel T. Cross as a candidate for the McMicken College Distinguished Alumni Award. Prof. Cross received his MS in 1941 and PhD in 1943, both from the University of Cincinnati. Since 1986 he has been Professor Emeritus of Geology and Botany at Michigan State University in East Lansing, MI. Rather than submit the standard nomination form I have chosen to attach a very extensive biography of Prof. Cross written by Prof. Tom Phillips in 2006 and published in the International Journal of Coal Geology. As Prof. Phillips eloquently points out, Prof. Cross is truly a world-class scientist and educator and has a remarkable record of achievement as a scholar. A photo of him at one of our departmental alumni receptions in 2008 is shown below. Prof. Cross is the one in the center. If additional information is required, please let me know.

Warren Huff

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**50’s**

**Larry Lattman (MS ‘51)**

Hi,

I just received the Upper Crust for Spring 2009. I read it with mixed emotions - delighted to hear of the Department’s activities and accomplishments but deeply saddened by the passing of Kees DeJong. Gordon Frey taught me introductory exploration geophysics and I “read” metamorphic petrology with him, i.e. we both read Tyrell’s text and worked through it together! They were both delightful gentlemen. I’ll be 86 this November and it does not seem right to me that persons younger than me should pass away. That’s why I feel particularly badly about Kees.

Nothing much new with Hanna and me. We are both busy with all sorts of pro bono efforts. I lead birding tours at the local Nature Center and they are becoming very well attended. I cannot help but toss in some geology while birding. We will be going up to Churchill, Manitoba this November to enjoy polar bears, etc.

We do hope all is well with your families. Best to you both. Please remember me to Maynard, Miller and Nash.

Larry

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**Edward S. Gilson Jr. (BS ‘51, MS ‘53)**

Published in the Lexington, KY Herald-Leader on April 30, 2009.

GILSON Edward S. Jr, 83, died Mon, April 6, 2009 after a short illness. He was the son of the late Edward S. Gilson, Sr. and Elva M. Gilson. He was an attorney in Lexington. Gilson is survived by his two sons, Andrew (Becky) Gilson, and Edward V. (Laurie) Gilson, two grandchildren, several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife, Susan V. Gilson. Gilson was a veteran of the US Army in the Second World War, and earned Bachelor’s and Masters’ degrees from the University of Cincinnati and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Kentucky Law School. He practiced law in Kentucky for over thirty-five years, and was active in his practice until his illness this year. A memorial service will be held at 10 am May 2, 2009 at the First Presbyterian Church, 171 Market Street, Lexington. In lieu of flowers, a memorial fund has been set up in Gilson’s name at the American Diabetes Association.

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**David Sommers (BS ’59)**

Hello Warren:

I guess over the years we have corresponded, but I also met you briefly at the Department 100 year Anniversary a couple years ago. However, I probably corresponded more with Arnie Miller. First, let me compliment the Department on the fine issue of Upper Crust. It is really professional as well as newsworthy interesting. It is amazing to me all the important research that is now being conducted in the Department on worldwide basis. Keep up the good work.

The basic reason for the email is to notify you that the missing person’s name (#3) on the photograph on page 20 of the 1971 GSA meeting in Washington, D.C. is me! I am surprised that John Pojeta didn’t recognize me as he was in grad school at UC while I was a senior and I recall we talked extensively at that meeting. I think at that time I was working as a consultant with a company that no longer exists as such and was merged with a larger company known now as URS Corporation.

I am still actively involved as a professional geologist working mostly on an interesting project in Alaska. I serve as the senior scientist/advisor for a Native-owned environmental consulting firm, APC Services, LLC (APCS), in Anchorage. The Native corporation owning APCS is the Alaska Peninsula Corporation (APC) with vast land holdings adjacent to the Northern Dynasty-Anglo American partnership’s controversial Pebble Project for a proposed copper-gold mine (vulcanic porphyry deposit) near Iliamna, Alaska.

In 2009, APCS conducted monthly stream discharge measurements for 17 surface water stations and collecting monthly water samples for analyses from these stations on these major salmon-spawning surface water streams that drain through the Pebble Project and through the Native APC lands. Almost all stations are outfitted with continuously recording transducers monitoring water levels every 15 seconds. In addition, APCS has done biological work tracking tagged salmon and is currently managing a remote camp for the fish catchment studies involving construction and daily use of two towers for observers to continuously count salmon for two months.

Other than that, I am becoming more involved in my Gemology work. About 6 years ago I started classes to become a certified Gemologist, which I now am. I also started to facet gemstones in my spare time and see this as my future hobby-vocation as I gradually phase out the professional geology work over the next year or two. I plan trips to Tanzania and other places to find raw material and possibly even prospect to find a gem deposit and just have lots of fun doing all this.

Well, that fills you in a bit on David Sommers, so I will sign off now.

Sincerely,

David
FRED SCHWARTZ (BS ’59)
Hi Warren,

Trust you are doing well. We are taking the family on a beach fossil collecting trip in a couple of weeks. Do you think that the Paleontology group at UC would like to add to their Moone marine collection? Guy Detorres, the Oregon Fossil Guy is leading this trip for our family and tells me that the beach cliff where we will be collecting is a pretty rich strata. (Editor's note: Some photos from Fred's trip are posted here)

Fred M. Schwartz

Moolack Beach, North of Newport, Oregon.

Kicking cobblestones on top of Astoria Formation.

GERALD SCHABER (PhD ’65)
Warren,

I have been more or less overwhelmed with media requests etc. for months leading up to the 40th Anniversary of Apollo 11. But Apollo 15 probably meant the most to me because I was very active in the (1) selection; (2) detailing geologic mapping of the landing site by Hadley Rille; (3) geologic field-training of the prime and backup crews; (4) in designing the crew's lunar traverses; and (5) designing and seeing to the production of the Lunar Geologic Map Package that they took to the lunar surface and used on board the first lunar rover Apollo.


http://www.publicbroadcasting.net/knau/news.news.main/article/013/1530442/KNAU.and.Arizona..News/Flagstaff%E2%80%93role.in.Apollo.11

http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/blog/2009/jul/20/apollo-11-moon-landing-space-exploration

Jerry

FAREWELL TO WENDY

With great reluctance we bid farewell to our friend and close supporter Wendy Beckman in the University Communications office. After six years of serving as our primary link to both the campus and the public news media she is leaving UC to seek other opportunities. We will miss her greatly and we wish her well and much success in her future endeavors.

The following obituary appeared in the December 9, 2009 edition of the Bloomington, IN Herald-Times:

NORMAN C. HESTER (MA, PhD ’68)

MAY 21, 1933 — DEC. 7, 2009

Norman Curtis Hester, 76, of Bloomington, went home to be with the Lord after a long battle with Leukemia, on Monday, December 7, 2009, at the Bloomington Hospital.

Born, May 21, 1933, in Jefferson-town, KY, he was the son of Thom- as Jefferson and Frieda (Roemele) Hester.

Norman was a U.S. Navy veteran, serving during the Korean War. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Louisville, and a Master’s Degree and Ph.D. in Geology from the University of Cincinnati.

Norman was a professor of Geology at Eastern Ken-tucky University, University of Illinois Geological Survey, Assistant State Geologist at the University of Kentucky, Indiana State Geologist and Professor Emeritus. He finished out his career with CUSEC, a division of the USGS.

Throughout his career, he had a passion for geology that never wavered. Though he received many awards, two were quite special to him. The Saggionaro of the Wa-loose and The Distinguished Hoosier Award (presented to him within the last weeks of his life).

Family was the cornerstone of his life and these are his beloved survivors, his wife of 49 years, Ruth (Collins) Hester; daughters, Cheryl Lynn Kerr (Kevin), Cindi Marie Kerr, Ryen Elizabeth Kerr, Reagan Marie Lewis, Marie Kerr, Ryen Elizabeth Kerr, Reign Marie Lewis, Eryn Shaw (Misty), Eliza Craig Langford (Amanda), Danielle Mann (Jason), Matt Stigger, Nick Langford (Kelly), Ashlee Keith Kerr; his brother Rod Hester (Barbara); sis- ter Pat Spierdowis (Walt); nieces and nephews, Steve Hadley Rille; Greg Hester (Carrie), Susan Humbert (Steve), Paul Hester (Kim), Terra Murphy (Jerry), Lisa Volz (Alan), Craig Langford (Amanda), Daniele Marr (Jason), Matt Stigger, Nick Langford (Kelly), Eyn Shaw (Misty), Eliza- beth Dendy (James); and many loved great-nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Paul Hester (Kim), Terra Murphy (Jerry), Lisa Volz (Alan), Craig Langford (Amanda), Daniele Marr (Jason), Matt Stigger, Nick Langford (Kelly), Eyn Shaw (Misty), Elizabeth Dendy (James); and many loved great-nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Don Hester and nephew Mark Hester.

Services will be on Friday, December 11th, at 1 p.m. at The Funeral Chapel of Powell, Deckard and Costin, 3000 E. Third Street, Bloomington, with Tom Ellisworth officiating.

Visitation will be held on Thursday at The Funeral Cha- pel from 4-8 p.m.

Memorial Contributions may be made to Youth For Christ.

Online Condolences may be made to the family at www.pdcfuneralchapel.com.
Here’s proof that pioneering earth scientists get no respect. I was with some of the grandkids at a museum here in western Colorado and saw this photo, which was part of an exhibit relating to earthquakes. The statue had been standing on the campus at Stanford University, I believe, when it was toppled by the great San Francisco quake of 1906. The visible parts of the statue appear remarkably intact, but I can’t imagine that the buried part was wearing much of a smile after impact.

We leave for Cincy on October 6th so I can attend my fiftieth high school reunion. I’ll try to swing by campus while in town to say hello.

Best regards,

Hank

END OF LETTER

Dr. Rowan came home to join his wife every day for lunch. He enjoyed fishing in the Chesapeake Bay for rockfish from his second home in Reedeleville, VA. Survivors include his wife of 51 years, Frances Ferguson Rowan of Reston; two sons, Yorke Rowan of Chicago and Shannon Rowan of McLean; three sisters; and seven grandchildren.

Lawrence C. Rowan (PhD ’64), 76, an expert in using remote sensing to map the geology and mineral deposits of the Middle East and other world regions, died May 2 of cancer at his home in Reston. Dr. Rowan joined the astrogeology branch of the United States Geological Survey in the mid-1960s. He worked in Flagstaff, Ariz., using photographs taken by spacecraft to map the surface of the moon in preparation for the Apollo lunar mission. In 1972, he moved to Reston, now home to the national USGS headquarters. He became an expert in using remote sensing to study plate tectonics, mineral resources, landslide hazards and pollution. He wrote or co-wrote more than 70 scientific papers. He retired in 2004 and remained active as an emeritus scientist. He received a distinguished service award from the USGS and the William T. Pecora Award, given jointly by NASA and the Interior Department in recognition of achievements in the field of remote sensing.

Lawrence Calvin Rowan was born in Charlottesville and raised in Lovingston, in Virginia’s Blue Ridge Mountains. He graduated in 1955 from the University of Virginia, where he also received a master’s degree in geology in 1957. He received a doctorate in geology from the University of Cincinnati in 1964. Through the years, Dr. Rowan came home to join his wife every day for lunch. He enjoyed fishing in the Chesapeake Bay for rockfish from his second home in Reedeleville, VA. Survivors include his wife of 51 years, Frances Ferguson Rowan of Reston; two sons, Yorke Rowan of Chicago and Shannon Rowan of McLean; three sisters; and seven grandchildren.

Letter to Warren Huff

Thanks for letting me know about Norm Hester. We were in Harvey Sunderman’s Optical Mineralogy class along with Larry Rowan, Bob Jones, Jorge Portugal, Phil Ziegler, and Gerry Schaber. You know those fellows and can well imagine the chemistry among us. It may have been the all time greatest class for Sunderman because of all the laughs generated by us.

Editor’s note: Ed has also sent some photos from his UC days.

Donna and I went to Spain with some friends and spent 10 days on the island of Menorca about 160 miles off the coast of Barcelona. We had a ball and found the geology very interesting, particularly the carbonate ramp on the southeast side of the island. Of course the clothing - optional beaches were also interesting. I had a hard time adjusting to the 3 or 4-hours of siesta time at first but found out it was a great time to catch up on some reading. The little outdoor cafe next to the condo was but found out it was a great time to catch up on some reading.

We are both looking forward to Denver the end of October for GSA and have been contemplating driving out with some of her girlfriends for a week of relaxation. We are both looking forward to Denver the end of October for GSA and have been contemplating driving out with some of her girlfriends for a week of relaxation. We are both looking forward to Denver the end of October for GSA and have been contemplating driving out with some of her girlfriends for a week of relaxation. We are both looking forward to Denver the end of October for GSA and have been contemplating driving out with some of her girlfriends for a week of relaxation.

Hi Warren,

Here we are - another year gone. Each year seems to be passing faster than the year before and there seems to be less and less time to get the things accomplished that we want to accomplish. Last June Donna and I went to Spain with some friends and spent 10 days on the island of Menorca about 160 miles off the coast of Barcelona. We had a ball and found the geology very interesting, particularly the carbonate ramp on the southeast side of the island. Of course the clothing - optional beaches were also interesting. I had a hard time adjusting to the 3 or 4-hours of siesta time at first but found out it was a great time to catch up on some reading. The little outdoor cafe next to the condo was but found out it was a great time to catch up on some reading.

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I'm able to continue to work (I don't think I could ever really retire). We are getting ready to go to the Virgin Islands in about 3 weeks with our daughter and her family. Donna is leaving right afterward for San Diego with some of her girlfriends for a week of relaxation. We are both looking forward to Denver the end of October for GSA and have been contemplating driving out with some of her girlfriends for a week of relaxation. We are both looking forward to Denver the end of October for GSA and have been contemplating driving out with some of her girlfriends for a week of relaxation. We are both looking forward to Denver the end of October for GSA and have been contemplating driving out with some of her girlfriends for a week of relaxation. We are both looking forward to Denver the end of October for GSA and have been contemplating driving out with some of her girlfriends for a week of relaxation.

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and she gets to know the staff better and can follow the progress of kids through the system. She rides her bicycle to one of the schools that is about 8 minutes away by that method. She is a hiking partner during the summer and got in a few hikes that were more strenuous than I cared to do. Hopefully they can keep that going this fall.

Kristen is now a Sophomore at Rocky Mountain High School. This year it became a 4 year school and is very crowded. This is her first year at the actual High School building which is just over 2 miles up the street. I think she’s a little intimidated, but has lots of friends to commiserate with. She has her temps and has put in a number of hours driving Maryann and me around town, into the mountains and up into Wyoming.

Sean is gone!! I brought him into the dorms last week. He’s staying in the Honors Dorm, which is presently the nicest and newest on campus. He has one roommate from Longmont, CO, and is on a co-ed floor with young ladies right next door. Hmmmm, they never had that when I was in school! He is still working at the CSU Engines and Energy Conversion Lab and has developed some new design for their charcoal stoves that they are actually thinking of patenting. It’s a little strange not having him around, but last year with school, work and friends, he wasn’t here much anyway.

Ok, enough about the family. Hope you are all doing well!

Roy Van Arsdale (MS ’74)

Colleagues,

Many of you knew that I have been working on a book about the Mississippi River valley with an emphasis on the New Madrid seismic zone. I am happy to tell you that it has been published as GSA Special Paper 455. Although I have not yet received my complimentary copy I have been told that it looks good. It remains to be seen if it reads as well as it looks.

Regards,

Roy

2009 AAPG Public Service Award

Almost Single handedly, Professor William B. Harrison, III, brought into existence a first-class, well equipped, modern core and subsurface data repository at Western Michigan University. The only large repository of its kind in Michigan, the facility archives more than 400,000 feet of core from Michigan wells. These cores were previously archived at sites both inside and outside of Michigan. In addition to cores, the archives include impressive collections of geological publications, geologic and subsurface maps, drillers’ reports, electrical/mechanical logs, mudlogs, porosity and permeability analyses, and assorted other well data. Most of these essential data would otherwise have been completely lost, or, at best, scattered at multiple sites throughout the state and elsewhere and thus would not have been available or easily accessible to industry and academic researchers. The Repository is designed to serve the entire public domain—petroleum and mining professionals, engineers, members of governmental agencies, the general public, and, of course, students. Researchers from other states and from Canada are very common.

In 2008, the Michigan Geological Repository for Research and Education (MGRRE) welcomed some 66,500 on-line visits to its web pages, and on-site visits from about 130 students from several universities, about 200 K-12 students, and over 400 professionals. Since the formal opening of the new facility in 2006, Bill has conducted over 20 interviews with the media and has led numerous workshops that have focused on selected geological formations, resource plays, and important themes of Michigan geology. His long involvement with the Petroleum Technology Transfer Council (PTTC), in conjunction with others, has been instrumental in the development of the Repository, he has shown that he is indeed an outstanding "citizen of geology," who richly deserves the AAPG’s Public Service Award.
Ralph Ewers (MS ’72)
Warren,
The now not so new digs of the department are marvelous, but most of my memories of the department were associated with Old Tech Building. They include folks back as far as John L. Rich, don’t recognize it, Nevin M. Fennemann, but as a grade school youngster I met Otto von Schlichten and several other early faculty members at the legendary Baden Café there in Corryville. My father worked nearby, lunched there, and struck up acquaintance with them. I lunched there with him occasionally on Saturdays and met the geologists.

I had a special interest in Otto von Schlichten. The Second World War was concluded on my 9th birthday, with him occasionally on Saturdays and met the geologists.

Jordon (continued)

of the world. At the time of the MS degree Almerio’s art deco apartment fronts on Rio’s Guanabara Bay and is directly at the base of Sugar Loaf, a spectacular setting. We took our knowledge and experience in the major U.S. shale plays in search of possible shale-gas resources worldwide. In addition to reviewing commercial, marketing, and political risks with our partner Statoil (Norway), we analyzed the following data in our initial screening of 300 basins: size of basin, age, lithology, %TOC, %VRo, thickness, depth, and availability of outcrop/well data and samples. We attended numerous international conferences, and held meetings with government and private clients to review the data, and then ranked the basins, which resulted in 50, then 10 basins, having what we considered to be excellent shale-gas potential. We are currently working out the details in our preferred basins.

As for me, Dr. Huff, I’ve had a variety of technical and managerial positions in over 30 years working for major and independent petroleum companies and service organizations. After receiving an MS in Geology from UC I began my career in 1979 in the research facility at Cities Service Company in Tulsa and, later, as an explorationist in Cities Service International. I later worked as a Supervisor of Regional Studies at Reservoir, Inc., and then at ARCO in Research and in International Operations for over 11 years, where I was Supervisor of Development Geology in Pano and Manager of Reservoir Geology.

After short tenures with ORYX Energy Company, Ventas Exploration Services, EQC Resources, and as a petroleum consultant, I joined Chesapeake Energy Corporation as a senior geologist, where I now work in the Unconventional Resources Group, after having nearly 100 wells drilled in the Granite Wash of the Texas Panhandle. I’ve been fortunate to have worked on many diverse projects, and co-authored over 50 papers and abstracts on aspects of sedimentology, sequence stratigraphy, trace fossils, organic-rich black shales, outcrop logging techniques, and exploration and development geology.

Debbie, my wife of 32 years, and I live in Edmond, Oklahoma. My son Lucas is a junior in Mechanical Engineering at Oklahoma State University and daughter Melissa has a degree in Interior Design, working and living in Dallas.

Best wishes,

Doug

JUDITH KUNTZ (MS ’72)
Dear Prof. Huff:

I read with interest Wayne Goodman’s recounting of Dr. Caster’s Paleo Seminar (Spring 2009 Upper Cretaceous) which triggered flashbacks to my own varieties of field trials by fire, and the extinguishing relief frequently enjoyed with fellow students at Mother’s Tavern. I also have a correction for the picture on page 20 (Who’s Who?) of UC students at the 1971 GSLA meeting in Washington D.C. The last person on the right in the back row (#17) is misidentified as Andy Harman - it’s actually me, another flashback from 38 years ago.

After leaving UC, I spent 29 enjoyable years after graduation as a geologist working on a wide variety of engineering and environmental studies, ranging from seismic suitability of proposed and existing Midwest nuclear power station sites in the 1980s to the fate and transport of spilled crude oil from the Exxon Valdez in Alaska in the early 90s. Two of the nuclear plant projects I worked on involved stratigraphic age dating: one site near Morris, IL and the other near Rockford, IL. The projects were about 5-6 years apart (1975-77 and 1981-82, if I remember correctly), and your fellow geologist Dennis DeJarnette was clearly an expert third-party data analysis and critique on behalf of the ISGS. The Morris site, within the Sandwich fault zone, involved the Penn, Spoon Shale horizon during drilling fault blocks of Ord. Ft. Atkinson Limestone. It was critical we show that last displacements were older than 35,000 years, and we successfully demonstrated to the NRC that the faulting occurred 250+ million years ago.

The other project was at the Byron station site under construction at the time, and in jeopardy of delaying, or not getting, an operating license if sinkholes at the site were due to post-Pleistocene displacements of underlying Ordovician bedrock. There were some antagonists stirring the pot here, so we began the trenching investigation in a fishbowl. I quickly wanted the ISGS to provide independent verification of the start in this situation, and Dennis came with Leon Fullmer.

The whole argument hinged upon showing that the glacial clays in the bottoms of the sinkholes were undisturbed, and through supplementary directional drilling, we also demonstrated that the bedrock was not like Swiss cheese (phantom caverns we called them) as our opponents claimed. Leon took the lead on age dating for the State on this one, and again, we were successful. My longest tenure of 20 years was with Exxon Valdez in Anchorage (lesson: don’t go to temporarily re-locate to Anchorage (lesson: don’t go")
CINCINNATI AND ITS PLACE NAMES — BELLEVUE, CORRIVILLE, EDEN, FAIRVIEW, MT. AUBURN — ARE USED THE WORLD OVER AS THE SCIENTIFICALLY PRESCRIBED IDENTIFIERS FOR FOSSIL LAYERS. COME AND FIND OUT WHY — AND GET SOME HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE — AT AN UPCOMING UC EXHIBIT.

Construction recently began on a new University of Cincinnati football practice field — the Jefferson Avenue Sports Complex — and that work will almost certainly uncover a small treasure trove of fossils for geologists.

So, the timing could not be better for an unusual exhibit — “Cincinnati: Beneath the Streets, Under the Cleats” — to run April 1, 2010, to May 14, 2010, in the University of Cincinnati’s Philip M. Meyers, Jr. Memorial Gallery, located in the Joseph A. Steger Student Life Center.

Get up close and hands on with fossils — the shells and skeletons of plants and animals like coral, sea lilies, sea stars, brachiopods (shellfish), trilobites, mollusks and more. Touch and see a 16-foot long “Cincinnatian” layer of fossils. The layer is so named because these fossils from the Ordovician period are similarly identified worldwide by the local place names where they were first uncovered in the 19th century; the Bellevue, the Corryville, the Eden, the Fairview and the Mt. Auburn layer. There are also layers known as the Miamitown, Waynesville, White-water and more.

Most local residents who have picked up fossils in their back yards don’t realize the rarity of what — for them — is a commonplace experience. Most of the world has nothing to rival the fossil riches of our region, and fossils from Cincinnati can be found in every major museum in the United States and overseas.

So, why was Cincinnati so lucky? Well, it can be ascribed to “location-location-location.”

• The abundant marine life that settled into the region’s sea beds during the Ordovician period wasn’t subsequently buried deeply.
• Major mountain ranges didn’t emerge in our region to disrupt fossil and rock formations.
• But a very gentle uplift did occur (known as the Cincinnati Arch). This gentle uplift (a ripple of the rise of the Great Smoky and Blue Ridge mountains) continually eroded soil, stripping away layers above the Ordovician fossils embedded in the region’s hard limestone, which itself was resistant to erosion.

And so, making fossils from 450 millions years ago readily available today throughout the Cincinnati region.

In fact, so famous are the Ordovician fossils and rocks of the Cincinnati region that geologists worldwide use the term “Cincinnatian” for the fossil layers that date back some 450 million years (250 million years before the dinosaurs lived) when a shallow sea covered North America. And major layers within that “Cincinnatian” are readily available today throughout the Cincinnati region.

The illustration by John Agnew of the shallow sea that was Cincinnati 450 million years ago. The illustration was completed for the book, “A Sea Without Fish: Life in the Ordovician Sea of the Cincinnati” by UC’s David Meyer and MSJ’s Aurele La Rocque and Mildred Fisher Marple, Ohio Fossils, 1977.

...Cincinnati with profuse exceptional fossils in its Ordovician hills. — John McPhee, Rising From The Plains, 1986

In contrast to these barren deposits are others in which fossils are abundant or actually form most of the rock. Limestone from the Cincinnati region south-eastern Indiana are crowded with shells. — Carroll Lane Fenton and Mildred Adams Fenton, The Fossil Book, 1987

Any museum worth its weight in salt has a collection of Cincinnati fossils. — Cincinnati Magazine, 1996

The Cincinnatian is famous for the abundance and quality of the fossils. All sea marine invertebrates, but there is a tremendous variety. — Erich Rose, New York Paleontological Society, 2000

The Upper Ordovician of North America is the Cincinnati Series, named for the richly fossiliferous beds...surrounding Cincinnati, Ohio. — William I Ausich, Fossil Crinoids, 2003

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And so, making fossils from 450 millions years ago readily available today throughout the Cincinnati region.
The northwest coast of America was formed over what, to Midwesterners used to thinking in 10 million year increments, was an incredibly brief and incredibly active period in the recent geological past by the movement of the Juan de Fuca oceanic plate beneath the continental North American plate, a movement that produced the vast amounts of andesitic volcanic material that now covers western Washington and Oregon and provide the rich soils for the fruit and wine growing regions along the Willamette and Columbia River Valleys. Combining these events with a major eruption of Miocene flood basalts and catastrophic Pleistocene erosion and you have some of the most spectacular scenery and some of the best spots for the study of volcanic processes in the USA. Taking advantage of the Geological Society of America annual meeting in Portland, the UC Geology Department took 47 faculty, graduate and undergraduate students, and alumni on a tour of these world-class sites.

Starting with a fogged-in Mt St Helens, the sun came out for the Columbia Gorge. We stayed on the slopes of Mt Hood, travelled to the spectacular Newberry volcano and the intracanyon flows of the Crooked River. The third day again saw heavy rain for visits to several lahars and finally sunlight again at the Columbia Gorge Hotel where erosional remnants of the powerful Missoula floods are on display.
**Wayne Goodman (MS ’76)**

Hi, Warren and Lewis,

Before we all break for the holidays, I was just wondering what’s transpired to date on resumes and follow-ups for the two faculty position searches. (Editor’s note: two successful hires) Keep me apprised if the department wants any input from the Alumni Committee in the near term. I was sorry to see Coach Kelly lost to Notre Dame—whether you consider it a plus or minus, it’s fact that success in athletics stirs the alumni and gets the public at large talking about the university like nothing else can, and Brian was always good for a notable sound bite to go along with the results he brought. (Not to mention that the campus is a lively place for the kids when there is a team of national stature.)

There’s little of consequence to report from “up north,” except that we have nearly 2 feet of snow on the ground and winter came at us rather quickly as we flipped from November to December. Things are busy here, and I’m getting a daily dose of new mind candy from the projects we have in play at the present!

I’m sure that Paul has shared with you the fact that “coaches and athletics” is something Paul combines, and government is something very special to him. Those of you who have been here for a long time also know that Paul has a life-long liaisonship relationship linking industry, academia, and government is something very special and his prominence as an alumnus of your department is a story probably not trumpeted enough! If Paul hasn’t shared with you our nomination packet, ask him!

Best wishes,

Wayne

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**Lou Sabo (Class of ’74)**

Prof. Huff,

(Re: The Grand Canyon) Santa Fe RR built, owned and ran everything for the park service until 1954. They contracted Fred Harvey Company who provided hotel and restaurant service on their RR line to do the same at the canyon while they designed and built almost everything that is there. In 1954 they gave utility buildings to the NPS while the lodges, barns and all other related buildings for practically nothing to the Fred Harvey Company. Most of the modern expansion was done while they owned it until 1968 when a company from Hawaii bought them out.

By 1988 they were absorbed by a real estate company who divided their operations into divisions by the late 1990s. The U.S. park concessions division filed bankruptcy about 2002 and renamed itself Xanterra, LLC. In 2007 they bought the Grand Canyon RR that runs between Williams and the park, and here is where oil comes in. That guy that bought the mineral rights in western Wyoming and then made a killing when they developed (not discovered) huge gas reserves in the 70’s and 80’s bought it early last year. All the rustic architecture comes from the Santa Fe ownership, which is sorely missed.

Most of the buildings there were as a Porter at Maswik Lodge from 3p - 11p. I filled in at Bright Angel and El Tovar on others. I believe I logged at least two miles every eight-hour shift at Maswik. One evening I was called to a room. When the guest pulled the covers back on the bed a baby squirrel jumped out. Not able to direct the critter out of the room (he was going in circles) the guest was given an other room. The doors are open while attendants make up the rooms.

You can see some of my photos at [http://lousabo.net/](http://lousabo.net/). The only thing NPS operates is the entrance gate, park HQ, ranger office, back country desk and ranger talks at the rim or amphitheater. Yavapai Observation Station, the Information Center and Van Camp’s Studio are staffed by the Grand Canyon Association, who also publishes many excellent books on the canyon. I do not know who operates Lookout Studio. Another contractor operates the shuttle bus service but not the Fred Harvey tour buses and another contractor operates the General Store. NPS operates and maintains the housing developments there for all but Xanterra employees. If you view the park from the rim you will see how big the residential housing development is - it is HUGE. Lord only knows where they work because as you said Xanterra operates most everything.

Best wishes,

Lou

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**THE NEWS**

The Official Student Journal of the University of Cincinnati

In this, “The Cincinnati of 1918,” we have sought to make the interesting resume of a year the lasting remembrance of a lifetime. In form and arrangement we have followed time-honored custom, in the belief that in so doing we more deeply root the quiet dignity of tradition. In accord with the spirit of the day, as well as under stern compulsion of necessity, we have reduced the size of the work. Due to thrifty planning and studied compactness, we believe that “The Cincinnati of 1918” contains a portion of those frank joys and youthful sorrows which we are able to grasp from the fleeting path of time, and, having grasped them, to render their impress for the coming years.

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**40 YEARS AFTER KENT**

Mike Effler

Grüße/Regards,

for achieving AAPG’s Public Service Award. Very well deserved.

Alumni News

Suddenly I had a good turnout of UC alumni at the AAPG and give my grapes while we are at and head out to Napa Valley for off to smell the roses and maybe some and I have decided to take some time from BP effective March 31st. It was a fi- nancial intelligence test and I took it Pass! Fail and it looks like I passed! Becki and I have decided to take some time off to smell the roses and maybe some grapes while we are at and head out to Napa Valley for some R&R during the month of April. I hope you have a good turnout of UC alumni at the AAPG and give my congratulations to Bill for achieving AAPG’s Public Service Award. Very well deserved.

Mike Effler (MS ’76)

Sandy and I lived in New Orleans for 11 years and always enjoy coming back but this year we are in Han- nover Germany where I am working on an assignment with ExxonMobil. My congratulations to Bill Harrison for achieving AAPG’s Public Service Award.

Mike Effler

TYLER (MS ’74)

Hi Warren,

It was nice to hear from you. Glad to hear you are keeping your hand in the music biz. You must be the grand old man of the department by now!

TC and I are still performing, even though we are far apart. I am slated to be down in Houston and San Antonio 3 or 4 times between now and summer and she will be coming to Colorado three times. We perform in Guildford and Oxford, England in July for a couple of weeks.

Come stay with us in Westcliffe, if you get out this way. I have a dobro hanging on the wall that could use some playing. I am on the board of the radio station here, KWMV, and am doing a show twice a month so trying my hand at DJing. I have also started a house concert series in my home for traveling singer/songwriters. Life is busy which is good.

Best regards, Gary

(Editor’s note: Most of you know Gary through his career as a petroleum geologist with ExxonMobil, but for those of you who have not followed his parallel mu- sic career you might check out his latest CD at www.amazon.com/Maybe-Its-Because-Missing-You/dp/B001490FBK/ref=sr_shvl_album_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1279200530&sr=1-31)

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Thank You!

Alumni News

UC GEOLOGY HOSTS THE NINTH NORTH AMERICAN PALEONTOLOGICAL CONVENTION

By Arnie Miller

During June 2009, shortly after the previous edition of the Alumni newsletter went to press, we were privileged to host NAPC 2009 on campus at UC. An amazing ar- ray of people collaborated to produce what was the best-attended and most ectec- tic NAPC ever, with some 550 partici- pants from more than 25 countries. As chair of the organizing committee, I will be eternally grateful to all of them.

During the weekend meeting, there were:

• 33 (!) symposia, technical sessions and post- er sessions covering all manner of things paleontological (in all, some 500 presentations).

• A broad slate of regional field trips, overseen and organ- ized by Carl Brett, before and after the meeting and on a ‘break day’ at midweek. More than half of the meeting registrants participated in at least one field trip!

• A special “Education-and-Outreach” day built into the meeting on Thursday, overseen by Dave Meyer. This was open to area teachers, who got to participate in a morning plenary session, noon-time “hot topics sessions”, and spe- cial afternoon symposia, focusing on the Evolution-Creation- ism controversy and other issues related to public face of evolution and paleontology, including a workshop on the teaching of paleontology in classrooms.

• A Thursday-evening banquet in the rotunda of the Cincin- nati Museum Center at Union terminal, during which regis- trants were provided with free admission to museum exhibits and a pair of Omnimax movies.

A special Tuesday-evening party for graduate students and postdocs organized by Ph.D. candidate Jay Zambito, who is currently the national graduate-student repre- sentative to the Paleontological Society Council. Those of you who know the bar scene around UC will be pleased to learn that the party, at- tended by more than 100 people (mostly) under the age of 30, was held in the back- yard area of Fries Café.

• Exhibits hosted by the Dry Dredgers, each of the three State Surveys in the re- gion, the Cincinnati Museum Center, several paleontological societies and Institutes, and a range of private companies, including several book pub- lishers.

So many people affiliated with UC and with various institu- tions throughout the region and beyond were instrumen- tal to the success of the meeting that it would be difficult to acknowledge them all in this brief article. But I did want to mention the work of our own graduate and undergradu- ate students who shouldered the day-to-day logistics of the meeting with great aplomb, anticipating and solving any number of problems as they arose. Our students are a cre- ative, dedicated bunch!

A number of meeting-related items (the program and ab- stract volumes, field trip info, photos, etc.) have been ar- chived at the NAPC 2009 website: http://www.napc2009.org/.

In addition, various blogs and news articles were written about the meeting, several (but not all) highlighting the visit of 70 registrants to the Creation Museum located in Peters- burg, Kentucky. A partial list is provided below.


In the Blogosphere:
http://thisisthefiction.blogspot.com/2009/06/what-i-did-at-napc.html
http://thisisthefiction.blogspot.com/2009/06/what-i-did-at-napc.html

A somewhat whimsical review of the meeting written by Nikita Jacobsen and Martha Koel (University of Plymouth, UK), and can be found on Page 50 of the Palaeontological Association Newsletter: http://newsletter.palass-pubs.org/pdf/News72.pdf
Upper Crust

Bill Haneberg, Consulting Geologist and University of Cincinnati

Barry Maynard, University of Cincinnati
Four Day Field Trip & GSA Annual Meeting

Ralph Ewers, Ewers Water Consultants
“Shallow Groundwater and DNAPL Movement Within Slightly Dipping Limestone, Southwestern Kentucky”

Patricia Gensel, University of North Carolina
“Advances in Understanding Tempo and Mode of Early Land Plant Evolution”

Dolf Sellicer, Yale University
“Evolution in the Deep Sea”

Susan Eriksson, UNAVCO
“Geodesy— It Ain’t What It Used To Be!”

Paul Potter, University of Cincinnati
“Global Miocene Events and The Modern World”

Drew Andrews, Kentucky Geological Survey
“Origin of the Kentucky River Palisades: Pleistocene Geologic Controls on a River System”

Phil Meyers, University of Michigan
“Mediterranean Sapropels: Near-Modern Analogs for Deposition of Mesozoic and Paleozoic Black Shales”

Craig Johnson, U.S. Geological Survey
“Overview of Giant Deposits of Zinc, Lead, and Silver in Carboniferous Sedimentary Rocks in the Western Brooks Range, Alaska”

Tom Algeo, University of Cincinnati
“Advances in the Use of Trace-Metal Proxies for Pale-oceanographic Research”

Sarah Johnson, Northern Kentucky University
“Tumultuous Flow and Debris Avalanches, Columbia River Gorge, Oregon”

Arne Winguth, University of Texas-Arlington
“The Paleocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum: Mysteries of a Hothouse World”

Pamela Hallock Muller, University of South Florida
“Goldilocks and the Three Biogenic Carbonate Minerals: What Determines ‘Just Right’?”

Peter Mozley, New Mexico Tech
“Importance of Microbes in Calcite Cementation of Clastic Sediment”

Alexander Stewart, St. Lawrence University
“Soldier and Scientist: a Geologist in Afghanistan”

Arjun Heimstath, Arizona State University
“Eroding the Earth: Quantifying Rates and Processes”

Kate Freeman, Pennsylvania State University
“Plants, Rain and Climate in Plio-Pleistocene East Africa and Links to Early Hominid Evolution”

Steven Stanley, University of Hawaii-Manoa
“Relation of Phanerozoic Stable Isotope Excursions to Climate, Bacterial Metabolism, and Major Extinctions”

Laurel Goodwin, University of Wisconsin
“Toward Predicting Fault-Zone Architecture and Permeability Structure in Classic Sediments and Sedimentary Rocks”

Abdul Tawab Kahn, University of Balochistan
“Geology of Volcaniclastic Sediments in the Ziarat area, Pakistan”

George Rieveschl Jr. Geo Lecture Series: Interdisciplinary lectures for the physical and life sciences on earth processes and their consequences for humanity. Each lecture is sponsored by two or more disciplines from the physical and life sciences, open and free to all the University community and general public. There will be ample opportunity to meet the speaker. This series is named for Dr. George Rieveschl, Jr., a Cincinnatian, UC PhD in chemistry and inventor of Benadryl.

2009 Geology Colloquium 2010

The History of 1918

In the year 1914, at the month of September, on the 11th day of the month, the First World War began. It was a turning point in the life of the village, since it was known for the “Prof.” Dr. (Philip) H. Noyes, professor of botany, taught the students of the school and was one of the leaders in the community. The Noyes were the first family to go to war, and whether they went, the war was over for the cause of 1914 was champion.

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“Old Chief” the skeletal elephant in the Geology museum, wears a cotton beard and tinsel necklace to his belated holiday spirit. The “ghost of Christmas past” rides appropriately on “Old Chief’s” back.
Dear Prof. Huff,

I have received the recent newsletter. I remember Dr. DeJong well. The humpin' to Please 69 trailer photo was as I recall taken while on structural geology trip to the Appalachians. I can remember seeing the trailer (from the van) and Dr. DeJong liked the photo background!! I can identify Bill Haneberg, Bill Harrar, BIG Ben, Cathy Johnson, Sally (?), Carol (grad assist) (ash research with Dr. Huff). I also remember Dr. DeJong asking us in the field (near Grandfather Mtn.) ....How does one find a fault (or was it fold propagated fault!!) without an outcrop anywhere in site? I started looking in mini burrows (holes)!! and then scraped deleterious material from the ground surface.....bingo.....a soil contact, red to the east and brown to the west. Dr. DeJong congratulated me. Hope you are well.

Kramer

Almerio Franca (PhD '87)

Dear Prof. Huff,

The newsletter picture on page 19 showing UC group of students was on the way going to Turkey Pen Re-sort in Tennessee during the four-day field trip in 1984. I still have the negative and a slide - I took it using a tripod, of course and still have good memories of that field trip, the first one I took just after arriving in Cincinnati for my Ph.D. I am sending you this message because you asked for more information about the picture. I am honored that Prof. DeJong used to have it on his office. Here the people I remember: the names (sorry for some misspelling). Prof. Larsen was also in that trip. However he drove his car. You can see his old car parked by the road in one of the pictures I have sent you.

Here are some more pictures from the same field trip (photos). I have identified one more student in the group picture: Tom McComb (the guy with the red cap - just underneath the number 66 in the truck).

I am still with Petrobras. I have been working as the rock lab manager since early last year. It has been a great experience working with more than 100 people and hundreds of meters of cores from our important offshore pre salt discovery in carbonates. The reservoirs are in water depth around 2000 meters and low salt layers as thick as 2000 meters.

Happy new school year.

Almerio (continued)

I am glad that Professor Paul Potter is active and in good health – I have seen him quite often in Brazil. In his last trip last November, we had the pleasure to meet Douglas Jordan, currently with Chesapeake Energy.

All the best,

Almerio


Michael Roberts (MS '84)

Warren:

Greetings to you as well. I had seen Dr. Potter's abstract along with Peter Szatmari in the program but wasn't sure if he would be there (AAPG meeting in Rio). Much to my surprise as I left the registration desk and turned around, he was walking by. We had several nice chats during the conference. He gave a very thought provoking presentation on the middle Miocene and how the many tectono-stratigraphic events during that time period have shaped the modern world. Overall, a very nice conference. Convention center was a bit remote but Rio is a very fun city and I did see many other colleagues who I have lost contact with.

As for me, I’ve been working several major projects a year doing New Venture work, which usually involves a new country entry or a major investment in a country
Pat Okita (PhD ’87)
Letter to Barry Maynard
Hi Barry,
Graham Wheelock (MS ’87) and I got together for a couple of hours in DC today! He was in town for a brief meeting and low and behold I was in town too. Graham is still living on airplanes as he searches for dollars and diamonds. I’ve been more fortunate in staying near home since last Fall with only short trips to Egypt, Trinidad, Canada, Golden, and Albuquerque. Both of our families are doing well – the kids are teenagers!
All the best,
Pat

Graham Wheelock and Pat Okita, Wash., D.C.

Mary Riestenberg (PhD ’87)
(From David Nash)
Hi Warren,
Mary Riestenberg sent me the attached photo a while back. It was taken by Bell’s Tavern by Cave City, Kentucky. One of the photos in the set is dated 10-1995 (which would be about right since my son Nathan looks to be four years old). Mary and I both brought a class down so not all the folks are ours (although I think the majority were). I recognize Fred Fredrick, Sophie Su, and Michelle Overway. Others look familiar but I can’t place the names.

David

Jeffrey Spencer (BS ’80)
Jeff recently left Black Pool Energy and is now working for Midstates Petroleum, prospecting in South Louisiana. He still commutes to Houston from the small town of Bellville, TX where he resides with his wife and two daughters. Jeff is the current vice-president of the Petroleum History Institute and was the 2010 co-chair for their Oil History Symposium and Field-trip in Lafayette, Louisiana. Tentative plans are to hold the 2011 symposium in Marietta, OH.

Patrick Galvin (BS ’80)
Hey Warren,
It has been a little while since we last corresponded and years since I saw you at the Irish Festival at old Coney Island. Jeffrey Spencer suggested that I send you an email knowing the alumni newsletter was about to come out. I read about Kees DeJong’s passing in the last newsletter with great sadness. He was a good guy and a good geologist. I will never forget his great attitude, his stories, his enthusiasm for life and all things geology and our inability to be able to distinguish whether he was saying foid or fault with his Dutch accent.
He and I were linked in another way. One of his sons was a student at Hughes High School and my first cousin was on the faculty there. This was in 1978 or so and Hughes had a program along the lines of a ‘school without walls’. It allowed students a great deal of independence and discretion regarding attendance and the performance of class work. Apparently Kees’ son took full advantage of the freedom offered within that format and then went well beyond that point. I had no idea that his son attended Hughes but I soon learned of it. With that as background, I had started up the stairs in the old Geology building heading to class one day when Kees saw me from the top of the stairs and he started calling to me as he ran down to meet me on the landing. He asked ‘are you related to Gene Galvin?’ and I said that I was at which point he gave me a big hug, shook my hand, hit me on the shoulder and said ‘he just kicked my son out of school so please tell him thanks for me the next time you see him!’ Kees recognized that his son needed a kick in the pants and my cousin had given it to him. Pure Kees.
To update you I am working at Merit Energy, a privately owned company funded by university endowments and other institutional investors, which then invests that money in oil and gas assets. I have been in Dallas since 1991 and here at Merit for 2.5 years after spending 7+ years at Nexen Petroleum. My current responsibilities focus entirely on our offshore Gulf of Mexico properties. I still see Joel Palin once in a while and frequently wonder whatever happened to Lars Beck.
Thanks a bunch,
Pat
LISA DAMERON (MS ’96)
Lisa Dameron (MS ’96) is trying to incorporate as much geology as she can into the 3rd grade curriculum at Crystal River Elementary School at the base of Mt. SOPris in Carbondale, Colorado. Although her career expectations have shifted a bit since her days at UC, she still loves immersing herself in the learning environment. These days she studies rocks up close and personal as she tries to climb them. Her favorite is a sandstone conglomerate that leaves great hand-holds as the cobbles erode. She enjoys visiting Cincinnati over the holidays and summer vacation.

(In a letter to David Nash)

Frank Koucky was my thesis advisor. I remember him as an eccentric intellectual. His appearance very much belied his genius! He would lecture for the entire period, not one for question-and-answer, often filling two or three chalkboards full of notes and drawings. I think I still have my Mineralogy and Petrology notebook somewhere...they are anthologies of his stories from Cyprus and Montana. I always remember him as a very kind man. A fellow student of mine asked, “Did you get the B or the B-?” I don’t think he liked grading very much. He is one of the true characters I have known.

Life in the Roaring Fork Valley is still good. Our class just returned from a field trip to Aspen. The kids had fun pointing out all the restaurants, resorts, and mansions where their parents work. We saw a great skit on side trips to Cincinnati.

On a happier note, I have successfully completed my first year of vet school at WSU. This summer I was able to take a 5-week clinical rotation in the large animal part of the teaching hospital. A great experience...very “All Creatures Great and Small,” as I had the full range of species as patients: sheep, goats, pigs, cows, alpacas, etc. Second year starts in late August, and I have used my down time this summer to read the Harry Potter series. Just started the seventh book this week.

I was in Ohio for a family visit over Memorial Day weekend, but didn’t leave myself much extra time for side trips to Cincinnati.

Hope you are having a great summer.
Cathy Ratcliff

JUAN CARLOS GARCIA (PhD ’92)
Letter to David Nash

Hello David!

After long vacations now I just read your message. Thank you very much for your answer. Well yes, we miss and will miss Kees. I have sweet and profound memories of my stay in Cincinnati. Believe me, for me, it’s like a dream. I realize that without Kees’s help would be impossible to arrive and survive in UC. Above all, he protected me and encouraged me to finish in one only year my MS studies. It was just madness!!

I received the latest alumni newsletter yesterday and was shocked and saddened to read of Dr. DeJong’s death. Even after all of these years and, even after moving on to a new career, I still have very fond memories of his classes and field trips. It is a great loss for the department and the university. Please pass my sympathy along to his family and friends.

On a happier note, I have successfully completed my first year of vet school at WSU. This summer I was able to take a 5-week clinical rotation in the large animal part of the teaching hospital. A great experience...very “All Creatures Great and Small,” as I had the full range of species as patients: sheep, goats, pigs, cows, alpacas, etc. Second year starts in late August, and I have used my down time this summer to read the Harry Potter series. Just started the seventh book this week.

I was in Ohio for a family visit over Memorial Day weekend, but didn’t leave myself much extra time for side trips to Cincinnati.

Hope you are having a great summer.

Cathy Ratcliff

Do you have any recollections of field trips, social events, classroom experiences or other experiences during your UC days that you would like to share with your alumni colleagues?

Send them to Warren Huff, email: WARREN.HUFF@UC.EDU or Dept. of Geology, UC, Cincinnati, OH 45221 and we’ll include them in next year’s issue.

JUAN CARLOS GARCIA (CONTINUED)
As for my family, yes my elder son Juan Carlos, he studied his Business Administration career in several places: he started at the Hermosillo Technological Institute, then at Ciudad Juarez, when we moved to neighbor city of El Paso, next we succeeded to obtain an scholarship for the University of Texas at El Paso. His story was not so good because at every new school they did not recognize previous studies from other universities and then he had to start again even from zero. Finally, he finished his career at the former Universidad del Noroeste at Hermosillo now the Universidad del Valle de Mexico. He got married 7 years ago and gave me my first granddaughter. I did not have a good job, but the one my son had was even better.

The Annual Meeting this year will be in Denver, Colorado and we will host an alumni reception on Monday, November 1 from 7:30 – 9:30 pm. Further details on hotel location and room will be coming in July 2010, so keep an eye out for your invitation.
and I intend to return in the winter of 2010 to labo, has lost his battle hazards) and the upper-level Igneous & Metamorphic department is still doing great things. a great meeting this year, and I'm glad to see that UC's Hi Warren, CHr i s tOpHe r Be r g not be taken for granted.” Have a look and let Stewart visited the department recently and brought us up to date on a variety of things he has been doing, include posting a blog at http://www.barred4life. Juan Carlos García y Barragán STEWART EBERSOLE (MS '97) Stewart visited the department recently and brought us up to date on a variety of things he has been doing, including posting a blog at http://www.barred4life.blogspot.com/ that begins, “Emerging from the fog of war that was the American Hardcore rebellion of the 1980’s, few bands have experienced as much post-humous popularity as southern California’s Black Flag. Shrouded in myth and illuminated as the inventors of the Punk Rock DIY ethos (yes, the entire thing), their 1980’s, few bands have experienced as much post- evolutionary paths. She presented a poster at GSA summarizing her work so far. I’ve got two other students who are just getting started up, hopefully we’ll have something to bring to Denver next fall, if not Baltimore in the spring. Best regards, Chris ERIKA ELWICK (PhD '98) Letter to Barry Maynard Hi Barry, Sorry to forward bad news, but I thought you would like to know. Erika Geological Survey and Faculty Colleagues: It is with sadness that I report that our good friend and colleague, Dr. Norman Hester, has lost his battle with leukemia. He passed away just shy of 66, early this morning. The past few years had been difficult for him, and he had been in the hospital for the past week or so. Dr. Hester had served as the Director of the In- diaan Geological Survey for 13 years until 1998, and he was a faculty member of the Department of Geological Sciences at Indiana University. He had been a great friend and inspiration to many of us over the years. John Steinmetz Director, Indiana Geological Survey BENJAMIN LECHLER (BS ’99) Dr. Nash, Long time, in case it has been too long to remember, class of 99,” witness and photo documentarian of du- tile deformation of the Dept van rear bumper on the KY-kast field trip. Hope all is well with you and in the Dept.; I was sorry to hear about Kees, he was a great teacher and will be missed. Since we’ve last spoke I attended grad school at New Mexico Tech (thanks for recommending it by the way!) and have been working for CH2M HILL doing environ- mental/water resources consulting in Santa Ana, CA for the last 7+ years. My girlfriend and I are considering a move back to the Croatian area and I was hoping, since you are the reining engineer geologist in the Dept., that you could give me some advice on consult- ing firms in town. I likely have more options than my girlfriend right now, a small,往外, on a good hydro position don’t hold back) who is a geologist specializing in engineering geology/geotechnical type work. Out here she does a lot of tunnel work and seismic evaluations. Take care, BJ Lechler MARK KREKELER (MS '98) Mark's annual student newsletter is posted at http:// webpages.ucsd.edu/~huffwd/Alumni/Krekeler_News- letter_2010.pdf. It begins, I hope this letter finds ev- eryone well. It has been a bit since I compiled one of these. Things progress well at Miami University. We have the new Transmission Electron Microscope up and running nearly. We have generated data that has been part of manuscripts that are currently in review. I had a total of six student co-authored presentations at the Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America in Portland. The GSA meetings are always a high point for the academic year and this meeting was in a particularly unique setting being in Portland. This enables a field trip to the Mt. St. Helens area. Although the volcano itself was “fogged in” we had a great time looking at the surrounding geology. All of our posters and presentations were well received. A poster on the first occurrence of silver, gold and platinum in the Vuc- cutan received some attention and several experts in the field commented on the unusual nature of the find. Joe Hutnik, Dave Aldridge, Cindy Taelepis, Dr. Erin Argylan and I intend to return in the winter of 2010 to carry out further exploratory work. The initial find is not of economic grade but we have hopes for finding the precise source and refining the geologic setting, which may lead to more economically meaningful results. RICHARD SCHULZT (PhD ’91) Letter to Barry Maynard Barry: Hope things are going well for you and this note finds you looking forward to spring, as I am. I greatly en- joying academia over the last several years after nearly ten years in the environmental consulting world. I was just recently granted tenure and promotion at Elmhurst College, now at the end of my sixth year. I am finding myself doing more and more online teaching with tech- nology and all of that comes with obtaining my online teaching certificate from the Sloan Consortium. Teach- ing has consumed my life now that I have found my passion and meaning in life. I was fortunate enough to receive the Distinguished Teaching Award (DTA) at the College Experience level from the National Council for Geographic Education (NCGE) in Fall 2008 and have made many lifelong colleagues in the discipline of geography and with the GIS community. My background in geo- chemistry and geology has come in very handy as I teach GIS and earth sciences at a four-year liberal arts college. We are now in the sixth year of our new Bachelor of Science Program at Elmhurst College with plans for expanding course offerings. We are also proposing a major in ap- plied geospatial technologies (AGT) for undergraduate students at Elmhurst College. On a personal note, The Schultz family is doing well as my daughters Erin (9, 4th grade) and Kayleigh (5, kindergarten) grow up ever so fast. My wife of ten years, Leigh, is now considering going back to school to complete her degree. Seems like just yesterday that I was studying black shales and completing my dissertation at UC back in 1991. I hope all is well, Barry. My best to the folks in the Geology Department. I look forward to hearing from you soon. Rich ADAM WOODS (MS '93) Hi Warren, So nice to hear from you. The past year has been very eventful for me in terms of both my family and my career. In the span of 2 weeks in May, I became a father (Wyatt Woods was born on May 28, and is a happy, healthy little guy), I got tenure, and I turned 40. Wyatt has been a lot of fun; I really enjoy being a Dad and watching him discover the world. My life at Cal State Fullerton has been good but hectic (things don’t actually slow down once you get tenure). I’ve spent the last year continuing my research on environmental conditions in aftermath of the Permian-Triassic mass extinction, which continues to surprise me in terms of how rich and strange this period in Earth history was. I always look back on my time in Cincinnati fondly; best wishes to everyone! Adam
Laura Gildin (BS ’02)
Hi Dr. Kilinc, Huff and Nash,
I can’t remember when I last emailed with you guys. But I wanted to let you know that I’m still in the Phoenix area and doing well. I think I mentioned that I had gotten the job with Nammo Talley here in Mesa. I work in Research (doing mostly analytical chemistry and some R&D work). I’ve really been enjoying it and I really like Nammo as a company. So on the work front, I’ve been very happy.

Adam and I are closing on our first house this week! I’m not sure if I told you that we got married in December. We went to Vegas, it was a lot of fun and very low key, which is exactly what we both wanted. But anyway, we found a great house on the edge of the desert in Mesa (mountain views to the north and east) so we’re really excited about that.

I’m also still really enjoying the area. In addition to the mountains and the hiking, we get things like coyotes walking down the street (especially out at the new house). So it’s kind of neat. And the new house is only 30 minutes from hiking in the Superstitions, so it’s perfect for weekend outings.

Hope you’re all well. Speak to you soon.
Laura

Chad Ferguson (PhD ’09)
Chad completed his doctoral work in paleontology, under Arnie Miller, graduating in September 2009. After graduation, Chad served as adjunct faculty in the department for a quarter before joining BP America, in Houston TX, as a geologist in BP’s Gulf of Mexico Deep Water Exploration unit. He writes, “We have a new baby boy! Cole Anders Dryth Fergusson, born 8/12/09, 7lbs 5oz, 20.5 inches. Mother and baby are doing great.”

Sean O’Hair (BS ’00)
Dr. Kilinc,
Since my graduation, I have been living in Louisiana working in the oilfield as a specialized engineer where I was performing oil well surveying and logging of geological information. I was very sorry to hear of the recent passing of Kees and I know his loss has left the department bereft of a certain color. Please extend my condolences to the family. Kees was a peculiar personality and a respected professor and I am saddened that he is gone.

Thank you,
Sean M. O’Hair

Jayme Csonka (BS ’07)
Greetings Dr. Huff,
I moved to Louisville 3 weeks ago and plan to stay here until I have things worked out for a PhD program next fall. In the meantime, I’ll be doing some research with Kate Bulin at Bellarmine and scraping by as an artist who plans to finally complete all those half-finished projects I have going on.

I hope things are well in Cincinnati. Since I’m just down the road, you can likely expect to see me a few times over the next year. I wish everyone the best with their work and help deliver those lessons to the kids. The fun thing is… they aren’t restricted with their creativity yet and this means we have seen some really fun ideas generated. More rocks and minerals, weathering experiments, soil analyses, water quality measurements… all kinds of really exciting hands-on stuff.

Anyway - that’s enough about what we are doing - when you get a chance let us know what’s up in Cincinnati and hopefully we will see you at GSA.
Jayme

Meghan Welch (BS ’08)
We are delighted to announce that Audrey Marie Welch was born at 3:02 AM on 9-9-09. She weighed 8lbs 1oz and is 20 inches long. Meghan

Sean Cornell (PhD ’09)
Hi Warren,
I hope all is well. I saw that your students will be giving a talk at GSA. I hope to be able to attend that talk. Will you be there? I will be presenting along with two of my students this year. Feels very weird to say “my students,” but it is exciting.

In terms of us, everything here is going very well. Exceedingly busy with teaching, service work, and the little research that we can accomplish. Taught five classes in the spring, and two classes this summer. One of the summer classes was a field class called Coastal Environmental Oceanography which took place for 14 days at Wallops Island, Virginia and 8 days at the Keys Marine Lab in Florida. It was a great class, but it prevented me from participating in the NAPC in Cincinnati. This fall I am teaching our normal four class load: two of Intro to Geology, Historical Geology, and an upper-level Mineral and Rock Resources course for undergraduates and graduate students. It filled in no time and have 27 students in Angel’s class and 28 in mine and they are enjoying their schools. Angel is still teaching high school and is now certified to teach both Special Education Classes as well as English. They also asked her to go for certification in Social Studies - which I am sure she is not going to do as she is looking to start her M.S. As for the kiddos, Jenna and Ethan (our twins) are now in first grade, and Hannah is in second. I have been working with their teachers quite a bit and wrote an Environmental Education Grant to the Commonwealth’s DEP. We heard a few weeks ago that our proposal was funded for $10,000. So we are now busy getting that program off the ground. Lots of equipment (microscopes, weather gauges/sensors, etc.) and books. It is a lot of fun as we get to involve the college students (Earth Space Science and Biology Majors) with the K-5 program at their school. College students are developing lessons and materials to teach to the new environmental standards (Ecology and Environment; Science and Technology), and help deliver those lessons to the kids. The fun thing is… they aren’t restricted with their creativity yet and this means we have seen some really fun ideas generated. More rocks and minerals, weathering experiments, soil analyses, water quality measurements… all kinds of really exciting hands-on stuff.

Anyway - that’s enough about what we are doing - when you get a chance let us know what’s up in Cincinnati and hopefully we will see you at GSA.
Sean

Rebecca Hamilton (BS ’04)
Hi, Dr. Huff -
I just wanted to drop a note and wish you well at GSA in Portland this week, if you’re attending. Although I had been looking forward to seeing some of my old UC profs and classmates in my new hometown (I moved here in 2006) at the convention, my work unfortunately sent me to Wyoming this week and I won’t be back until late Friday night. On the off chance that anyone is staying until next weekend, please let me know! I’d love to meet up with any Bearcats, old or new, and take them out to a few fun spots around town. Otherwise, have a great week in the Rose City and best wishes for thought-provoking lectures, fascinating poster sessions, and awe-inspiring field trips into the stacked, black rocks of the beautiful Columbia River Basalt.
Sincerely,
Rebecca Hamilton

Utku Solpuker (PhD ’08)
Hi Dr. Huff,
How are you? I hope every thing is OK. I don’t know if you got the news but Marion and I have baby. He is named Aksel and he is healthy and happy.
Regards,
Utku Solpuker

Ivan VanDongkelaar (BS ’09)
Hi Dr. Huff,
How’s everything been going back at UC? At UWM it’s been mostly paperwork, and some classes. It looks like I’ll finally get to start working on research next week or the week after.

One of the classes I ended up signing up for is an X-ray class here with Dr. McHenry that my advisor, Dr. Dornbos, recommended. It does XRF and XRD, but focuses on powder and glass samples. One of the other students in the class is an archeology student, and he mentioned that he was looking to analyze some ceramic artifacts. This made me think of your clay mineralogy and one of the final presentations in the class, I think that it was on Angel Mound. His name is Marcus Schulerburg. Thanks,
Ivan VanDongkelaar

Melissa McMullen (BS ’09)
Hello Dr. Huff,
How are you doing? I hope the year has been going well. Pursue so far has been interesting, and this past semester I took some very neat classes. This spring I went to Argentina with Dr. Ridgway as part of a tectonics course. It was a great trip and we saw a lot of really exciting geology. This summer I am a participant in the SAGE (geophysics) program at Los Alamos National Laboratory (http://www.sage.lanl.gov/). Our first week was generally technology, GPS, gravity and seismic techniques. This week has been all field work. We have two sites. One is an archeological site where we are imaging a pueblo that was occupied around 400-1800. It is completely buried eroded now, but some of the room blocks are now marked by elongated hills. Our second site is in the San Domingo Basin within the Rio Grande rift. Each day we work on a different technique. So far seismic has been my favorite, though part of that is because there are a lot of cows in the area that like to chew on the cables, so a major role in the group is chasing the cows back into the hills. Next week we will be processing all the data that we have collected and giving a brief presentation on some of the results. It will be interesting to see if we find anything. I would recommend this program to students in our department, especially ones with a strong math or physics background. It provides good exposure into multiple geophysical techniques along with their practical application.
Sincerely,
Melissa McMullen
**Matthew Forney (BS ’04)**

Dr. Huff,  
I am currently finishing up a sea tour aboard the NOAA Ship *Fairweather* as a Uniformed officer. On the *Fairweather*, we conduct hydrographic research to map the sea floor and update navigational charts in Alaska. In addition, the ship installs tide gauges to better understand the tides and currents in specific locations.

In September, I will be on the beach in Anchorage as the Navigation Manager of Alaska. This assignment will entail working with the Alaska Marine Pilots, Coast Guard, and Harbormasters to assess the needs of NOAA Office of the Coast Survey’s customers.

NOAA has a program available to Teachers and Professors that you and your colleagues may be interested in. Please share the following link with anyone that you may know that you think would be interested: [http://www.facebook.com/sicaab74-e2z-AjBB60xzw2GhkU7UA;teacheratsea.noaa.gov](http://www.facebook.com/sicaab74-e2z-AjBB60xzw2GhkU7UA;teacheratsea.noaa.gov)

I hope all is well in Cincinnati and that you have a wonderful summer.

Cheers!  
Matt Forney

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**Jonathan Wetterich (BS ’06)**

Hi Warren,  

I have been working as a Data Analyst at ADS Environmental Services for the past three years. ADS develops products and services for the waste water industry. I have recently been working in conjunction with the Cincinnati Metropolitan Sewer District on Green Infrastructure projects and their Flow Metering projects.

Thanks,  
Jon Wetterich

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**Ryan Wilson (BS ’09)**

Hello Dr. Huff,  

Hope all is well in Cincinnati, the past year has been very exciting for me at IU. I am finishing up my thesis research this summer working on a comparative analysis of the Upper Devonian Geneseo Shale of New York and the Blocher/Troutdale members of the New Albany Shale in Kentucky and Indiana. I have received two grants-in-aid to support my research (Indiana University Grants-In-Aid and AAPG Grants-In-Aid). In addition to my thesis, I am working on many side projects with the Mud Flume, SEM research focusing on porosity in shales and mudstones, assisting Dr. Schieber in running field trips for AAPG and ExxonMobil, and am attending a cruise at the end of the summer to the Santa Barbara Basin with Scripps Institution of Oceanography. You can visit this website to learn more about the cruise: [http://caltechoecs.ucsd.edu/researchers.html](http://caltechoecs.ucsd.edu/researchers.html).

Cheers,  
Ryan Wilson

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**Paul Arnott (BS ’08)**

Dr. Huff,  

This spring I was able to shift my work schedule around so I could coach a rowing program at Cincinnati Country Day School in Indian Hill. That was an incredible experience for me to work with some great kids, and to reconnect me to the rowing community in Cincinnati with which I was starting to lose touch. Despite being a HUGE time sink I can’t wait to be back on the water next season starting in March.

How are things with you and around the department? Drop me a line when you have a chance.

Cheers,  
Paul

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**Trisha Smrecak (MS ’08)**

Hi Warren,  

Hope all is well with you in Cincinnati. I’m still in Ithaca, NY working at PRI and the Museum of the Earth. It’s nice to see Carl now and again when he swings through, and hopefully our chapter in a book will get published soon, as we worked pretty hard on that long distance. I recently co-authored a short guide to climate change science with Warren Almon and Rob Ross here, so it has been a fruitful job for my CV so far.

I’ll be teaching a lab at SUNY Cortland this fall. No lecture yet, but there’s hope in the spring. It’s a foot in the door, anyway. One thing I’d like to do is modify some of their labs to incorporate Google Earth. They have expressed some interest and the rest of the lab is pretty well set for me, so I’d like to make this contribution to the group.

Hope you enjoy your summer!!  
Trish Smrecak

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**Ana Londong (PhD ’08)**

Dear Dr. Huff,  

Things have been going well for me since I graduated; I’ve been a faculty member at Saint Louis University for two years now, teaching mostly to Environmental Sciences and Geology majors, and soon to Civil Engineers. Research has taken me back to Peru, my former dissertation area; I have been working on paleoclimate and tectonism in the southern Peru Desert, and I continue to work with the group of archaeologists in anthropogenic landscape modifications. One of these projects involves dating of alluvial terraces using 10Be, so I made my way back to UC last week and visited the Cosmogenics Lab. Work in the lab went well, hard work lots of running around, but I am grateful the doors were open to an alumnus. Thanks to Lewis for that.

I am back in Peru now, just starting my new field season. Weather is nice, bright and sunny with a cool breeze. I’ll have quite a busy time, collecting more samples for cosmogenic dating, so I’ll probably visit the department again in the future (any excuse to visit good friends and enjoy a cup of Graeter’s ice cream).

Take care,  
Ana