

UC Geology Career Days Speakers 2019

John Thaeler – Instigatour (Thursday, 10:30)

John retired in July 2019 as Chief Executive Officer for Vitruvian Exploration IV LLC, a private equity funded, independent oil and gas exploration and production company located in The Woodlands, TX. John's passion was to deliver high value growth by leading E&P organizations through the identification, capture, exploration and development of oil and gas resources, while occasionally enjoying a nice cabernet. From 2012 to 2017, John helped led VEX II and III as COO/CEO to successful sales of its Oklahoma assets. From 1999 to 2012 as SVP of Exploration with Southwestern Energy, he led many E&P activities, including the discovery and development of the Fayetteville Shale, which transformed SWN from a small, utility-based company into the 3rd largest natural gas producer in the U.S. Before joining SWN, John held various technical and managerial positions during a 20-year career at Occidental Petroleum Company where he worked in Africa, the Middle East, Central and South America, and the continental U.S.



In 1977, John escaped from Cleveland State University with his B.S. degree. With much encouragement from his wife Helen, John worked diligently to receive his M.S. in Geology from UC in 1979, working closely with Drs. Maynard, Potter and Pryor to get out and get a job. Not knowing when to quit, John followed all this with an M.B.A. from the University of Houston. He remains a long-standing member of AAPG. In 2013, John was greatly honored to be recognized as a University of Cincinnati Distinguished Alumni. John's remaining passion is to give back to the department, and in 2014 the Thaeler Careers 101 Fund was kicked off with the goal of helping UC Geology prepare students for jobs in industry.

Daniel Sturmer – Assistant Professor, UC Geology, Faculty organizer (Thursday, 10:30)

Dan Sturmer is the Paul Potter Assistant Professor in Basin Dynamics in the Department of Geology at the University of Cincinnati. Dan has been in this role since January 2017. This is the 3rd Career Days that Dan has organized.

Dan earned a B.A. in Business Administration and a B.S. in Geology from California State University, Fullerton in 2003 and 2004, respectively. This was followed by an M.S. (2007) and a Ph.D. (2012) in Geology from the University of Nevada, Reno. Dan worked at Shell Exploration and Production Company from 2012 to 2015 in the Deepwater Gulf of Mexico Regional and Miocene groups. In 2016, Dan joined David Mohrig's lab at the University of Texas at Austin as a postdoc working on experimental generation of



hybrid (turbidite-debrite) flows. Dan's work focuses mainly on interactions between sedimentation and tectonics, especially in the Late Paleozoic and Cenozoic basins in Nevada and Utah.

Wayne Goodman - Consulting Geologist, M.S., University of Cincinnati, 1976 (Geology: Paleontology/Sedimentology) (Thursday, 11:00)

Wayne's U.C. thesis focused on the micropaleontology and sedimentology of the Lower Borden Group of Kentucky/Indiana under the tutelage of Dr. Richard Davis (paleontology), Primary Advisor, and Associate Advisors Dr. Ken Caster (paleontology) and Dr. Wayne Pryor (sedimentology). His B.S. degree was received in 1972 from Ashland (OH) University, where he was that school's first geology major, reportedly sometime in the Pleistocene.



Wayne began his professional career with Shell Oil/Houston in 1975, where he was chiefly engaged in exploration and development of Silurian (Niagaran) reefs in the Michigan Basin, a continuing area of specialty/expertise. (He also met his bride of 42+ years, Marty, also a geologist, in a Shell in-house training class! A noteworthy fringe benefit!) After joining Tenneco Oil, Denver, in 1979, as a geologist and middle manager in the Rocky Mountain region, the energy industry's implosion of 1986 suddenly left both Wayne and Marty out of work. He then left the world of corporate employment forever and became a consultant, as founder of Northern Lights Energy, in Denver till 1996, and in Gaylord, MI since. Today, at age 67, Wayne remains actively engaged in the energy business, as Consulting Geologist/Partner at Core Energy LLC, Traverse City, MI, a company engaged in both energy exploration and, notably, in enhanced oil recovery (EOR) projects utilizing human-derived CO₂. Core operates 10 EOR projects (all in rejuvenated Silurian reefs) in northern Michigan and captures about 25 million cubic feet of CO₂ daily that would otherwise be vented to the atmosphere. This is the largest CO₂ EOR project in the eastern U.S. The EOR work also has kept Wayne actively engaged in the topic of CCUS (carbon capture, usage, and sequestration), in which capacity he has recently served as a consultant at Battelle Memorial Institute, Columbus.

Wayne and Marty have two sons, ages 36 and 31, both based in southwestern Michigan. Neither of them wanted to be "geeky scientists" like their parents, but both are productive, interesting young people with evolving careers in other endeavors and cool grandkids to spoil. Wayne is active in U.C. Geology-related projects, including as an evaluating committee member of the Pryor/Motl Scholarship Fund (for undergrad majors), a co-founder of the Paul Potter Scholarship (graduate student in sedimentology/basin analysis/paleoecology) and as a member of the Department's Alumni Advisory Council.

Natashia Metz – Environmental Scientist, APTIM (Thursday, 11:45)

Natashia Metz (previously Pierce) is an Environmental Scientist working with a local consulting firm, APTIM. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Geology at Cornell College and continued on to receive her Master of Science in Geology at the University of Cincinnati. She has been working for APTIM since September of 2013. Her work includes groundwater and soil monitoring as well as regulatory compliance for companies like Walmart and CVS. She currently lives in Greenhills with her husband, Bryan, and cat, Carly. In her free time, she serves on the Greenhills Village Council, teaches Cardio Drumming classes at a local nursing home, and volunteers with the Girl Scouts.



Jason Dortch – Geomorphologist, Kentucky Geologic Survey (Thursday, 13:30)

Jason's research mainly consists of quantifying temporal and spatial changes in rates and magnitudes of surface processes in high mountains. This includes flux of erosional debris, singular and continuous events, and cyclical catastrophic processes in places like California, Alaska, India, Iceland, Bolivia, Argentina, and now Kentucky.



He obtained multiple skill sets at Cincinnati and Toronto, including: field-work, geochronology, mapping, coding, GIS, graphic design, writing [kind-of]. These skills combined with natural insanity and stubbornness has enabled him to published 25 peer-reviewed papers in decent journals.



In his spare time, Jason likes to irritate his wife, work with metal, weld, restore cars, carpentry one piece of wood to another, pretend he is a lumberjack, collect chainsaws, and eat curry.

Jason has a strong desire to pick up blacksmithing because hitting hot ductile steel with a B.F. hammer sounds like fun.

Like many geologists, Jason has had a wildly erratic career path. After finishing high school, he spent four years as a Toyota Mechanic, while taking six years to earn his B.S. in Geology at the University of California, Riverside.

In 2004, Jason began his Master's Degree at the University of Cincinnati then continued on in the Ph.D. program working with Drs. Owen, Dietsch, Caffee, Schoenbohm, Lowell, and Nash.

In 2009, he obtained a black & white cat, which he named Anorthite and then promptly photocopied in the main 5th floor office. In 2010, Jason started a post-doc at the University Of Toronto with Dr. Schoenbohm, after which he got a job at the University of Manchester, England in 2012.

After being in post for five years and obtaining ‘tenure’, he left Manchester for a post-doc position at the Kentucky geologic Survey in 2018. In 2019, Jason obtained a Geo-IV position at the survey, which is equivalent to Assistant Professor for all you academics out there.

Brenda Hunda – Curator of Invertebrate Paleontology, Cincinnati Museum Center
(Thursday, 14:45)

Dr. Brenda Hunda received her B. Sc. with Honors in Paleontology from the University of Alberta in 1997, her M. Sc. in Earth Sciences from the University of Alberta in 1999, and her Ph.D. in Earth Sciences from the University of California, Riverside in 2004. She is currently the Curator of Invertebrate Paleontology at the Cincinnati Museum Center and Adjunct Professor at the University of Cincinnati. Her position includes exhibit design, educational programming development, community outreach in the form of lectures and workshops, curating the largest collection of Upper Ordovician fossils in the world, developing a scientific research program that includes international travel, and playing in the one of the highest diversity fossil sea bottoms in North America.



Steven Carroll – Hydrogeologist, Golder (Friday, 10:00)

Steve has been a professional geologist and hydrogeologist for about 28 years, with the last 13 years having mostly been focused on mining hydrogeology, specializing in characterization and design for pit dewatering and slope depressurization. He has extensive experience interpreting subsurface geological data and hydrogeological information in the field and in the office, striving to apply realistic stratigraphic and structural geological concepts to hydrogeologic and engineering problems. Graduating with a B.S. in geology from Glasgow University in 1987, Steve went on to graduate studies at Aberdeen University (an all Scottish education!) graduating with a Ph.D. in 1991. Since graduating he has worked in various areas of the earth sciences as a government scientist, as a consultant in the groundwater, environmental remediation, metals mining and mineral



exploration businesses with junior mining companies, technology vendors and oilfield service companies. Currently working with Golder Associates Inc, in Houston, TX, Steve has previously worked as field (hydro)geologist and project manager with WSP, Schlumberger Water Services, Water Management Consultants, SteamTech Environmental Services, Golden Phoenix Minerals and the British Geological Survey.

Kenneth “Tres” Henn, III – Geological Team Lead, USACE (Friday, 13:00)



Kenneth “Tres” E. Henn, III is a Professional Geologist with the Louisville District office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). He earned a bachelor degree in 1993 from the University of Cincinnati, Geology Department. In 1991, he began his career with USACE at the Ohio River Division Laboratory in Forest Park, OH as a part-time co-op student while registered full-time at UC. There he learned, and later lead, laboratory techniques in rock mechanics, soil mechanics, concrete materials, and riprap and armorstone testing. In 1997, he was transferred to Louisville District where he spent 1.5 years in Environmental Engineering before re-assignment to the Geotechnical and Dam Safety Section, where he has spent the majority of the past 20-years. He has conducted investigations, designs, construction oversight, and risk assessments on a multitude of Reservoir and Navigation projects throughout the Ohio River Valley and across the country. He has specialized in grout curtain design and construction, cutoff wall design and construction, design and construction of concrete gravity structures involving rock mechanics, and risk assessments of Potential Failure Modes which may detrimentally impact USACE structures. He is currently the Geological Team Lead for the Rough River Dam Rehabilitation, Kentucky and the New Lock Replacement Project at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

Edwin F. Barth, PhD, PE, CIH, REHS, RS, BCEE – Environmental Engineer, U.S. E.P.A. (Friday, 13:45)



Dr. Barth is an Environmental Engineer – International Expert Category - for the USEPA’s Office of Research and Development in Cincinnati, OH

Dr. Barth received his BA in Microbiology/Pre-Medicine from Miami University, his MS in Environmental Health Engineering from the University of Notre Dame, and his PhD in Environmental and Occupational Health from the University of Cincinnati’s College of Medicine. While at Notre Dame he performed biological treatability studies on the Love Canal, NY landfill leachate. While at the Medical College he performed research on bioaerosol generation and exposure, Bronchiolitis Obliterans associated with Popcorn Worker’s lung, and was selected as the College of Medicine’s Teaching Assistant of the Year.

Dr. Barth has passed the National Board Exams and is as licensed Professional Engineer, Certified Industrial Hygienist, and Registered Sanitarian, and is a Board Certified Environmental Engineer by Eminence as recognized by the American Academy of Environmental Engineers.

Dr. Barth started his career as an Environmental Engineer in Rockville, MD designing water distribution and wastewater treatment systems with a focus on biological nutrient removal, constructed wetlands and aquaculture systems.

Dr. Barth has been with the USEPA since 1984 and has provided technical support to over 200 Superfund sites, and serve as an expert witness to the US Department of Justice. He also serves on EPA's National Remedy Review Board which reviews all Superfund remediation plans which are expected to cost more than \$50M.

He has authored or co-authored over 40 peer-reviewed journal publications and EPA Technical Guidance Documents. He has been an invited speaker for international conferences involving environmental health in South Korea, Germany, Australia, Crete, and Taiwan.

Dr. Barth is an Adjunct Instructor at Miami University's College of Education, Health, and Society and the Institute for the Environment and Sustainability, the University of Cincinnati's College of Medicine, the University of Cincinnati's College of Arts and Sciences, and Thomas More College. His Miami University research involves the study of heart rate variability (HRV) as influenced by environmental stressors.

Rachel Dolbier – Production Geologist, Shell Oil Company (Friday, 14:45)



Rachel joined Shell in 2012 and is currently a geologist and Well Delivery focal for the Permian Unconventional asset, in addition to the subsurface coordinator for the team's East Slash Ranch area. The Permian Basin is presently the world's largest oil producer, and Shell is executing a fast-paced drilling program to develop its acreage. Rachel is focused on consolidating new and existing geologic and reservoir data in order to realize high-grade opportunities that can keep pace with the rig schedule. Previous roles within Shell include exploration geoscientist on the Gulf of Mexico team, where she integrated seismic data with limited well data to enable the identification of prospective plays, culminating in the project delivery of Stones SW, a deepwater exploration well (sadly a dry hole). Her first stint at Shell was as an operations geologist on the Permian asset, successfully planning and drilling over 25 horizontal wells.

Prior to Shell, Rachel was the administrator/curator of the W.M. Keck Earth Science and Mineral Engineering Museum and the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), home to an outstanding collection of minerals, ores, fossil specimens and photographs, and many mining related relics. While at UNR she implemented and led many different earth science outreach and education activities, serving the student population, educators and the general public.

Rachel obtained her BSc in Geology and Petroleum Geology from the University of Aberdeen (Scotland) in 1991, where she met her husband Steve Carroll. After working in the environmental and other industries for a number of years, she returned to school for a MS degree at the University of Nevada, Reno, which she completed in 2001.