

Alumni News from the IUP Geoscience Department

GEO-TIDINGS

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Hey, what's been happening?

If it seems like it's been a long time since you last got a Geo-Tidings, that's because it has been. We were going to blame the Y2K meltdown for our missing 2000 issues, but that didn't work out. So our only excuse is how busy we've been. What's been going on back at the Geoscience Department to keep us so busy? The answer, as you might expect, is quite a lot!

Our first project for the year 2000 was to hire another permanent faculty member. The approval of this additional position in our department after we had just hired Dr. Keith Putirka was a big vote of confidence from our dean, and we wanted to make the most of this opportunity. So for the second year in a row, we began an international search, this time for an environmental geophysicist / hydrogeologist. Our search ended successfully with the hiring of Dr. Bernd Kulesa, who is our first international faculty member. Bernd joined the department this January, right after Dr. Frank Hall announced his retirement. So we will be hiring yet another new faculty member this coming fall to teach Structure, Field Geology and/or Geomorphology.

Our second challenge has been finding the time to keep up with all the research grants being awarded to the department. John Taylor has been especially busy, with grants from both the National Science Foundation and the American Chemical Society funding several active biostratigraphic research projects. Connie Sutton was awarded a NASA grant to establish and run a teaching information center at IUP. And Steve Hovan helped put together a proposal to revamp science teaching throughout the entire SSHE system. That six million dollar grant from the National Science Foundation will run for the next three years.

A third thing that's kept us busy has been moving some of our classes onto the internet. Karen Rose Cercone and Connie Sutton have both created new Distance Education classes, using the web to teach students from across the country. This spring, we hope to also post student research presentations from Geoscience Day to our web site and to put Geo-Tidings online as well. So, we hope you forgive us for skipping an issue of alumni news. The up side is that we have more notes from alumni than usual. Our apologies in advance if any of the news is a bit dated...send us an update and we'll try to get it out before the next millennium!

Staff Updates

Dr. Bernd Kulesa

Dr. Bernd Kulesa has brought the department much-needed new expertise in the fast-changing world of environmental geoscience. Dr. Kulesa uses techniques such as ground-penetrating radar and electro-magnetic scanning to locate plumes of contamination in the subsurface. Those of you who remember Paul Prince fondly will be happy to know that Bernd's first love, though, is glaciology. So we once again have expertise in that area as well!

Dr. Kulesa did his undergraduate work in Germany and obtained his PhD at the University of Wales where he used geophysical techniques to study glacier dynamics. His post-doctoral research in Germany focused on environmental problems. Bernd is currently teaching Geophysics with an environmental focus. He also plans to teach Plate Tectonics, Hydrogeology and Glaciology.

Dr. Karen Rose Cercone

In order to use our new faculty position to bring in an environmental geophysicist, we had to find someone on the staff who would take over teaching earth science to elementary education majors. Fortunately, Dr. Karen Rose Cercone decided that she would enjoy that challenge. She has been having fun teaching the basics of earth science to students who are often afraid of it.

Dr. Frank Hall

After three decades in the department and long service as department chair, Dr. Frank Hall decided to retire this past fall. Since his wife Gwyn had already retired from elementary school teaching in the spring, they are now both free to travel the country, visit relatives and enjoy their retirements together. The Geoscience Department wishes both of them the very best!

Alumni Encounters

GSA in Denver

This year's GSA was held in Reno Nevada and IUP Geoscience was again well represented. Although only one faculty member (Taylor) was able to make the cross-country trip to attend, alumni donations helped two undergraduates, Bryan Sell and Kelly Dreibelbis attend their first national GSA meeting where they had the chance to attend presentations, talk with faculty from potential graduate schools, and network with some of the alumni in attendance.

Bryan was also a coauthor on Taylor's talk describing a new trilobite zonation for Upper Cambrian rocks in the central Appalachians. Fellow trilobitologist Dave Brezinski '78 was the third author. Poster sessions included plenty of presentations by IUP alumni: John Repetski '69, Tom Repine '74, Jim Loch '83, Tom Van Biersel '83, and John Dembosky '92 coauthored poster papers on topics as diverse as Ordovician biostratigraphy, tectonics, environmental chemistry, and science education. Jayne Park '96 spoke on the results of her master's research in geochemistry.

Other alumni in attendance included Heather Reynck '98 and David Neely '98. Special thanks to Heather for making the arrangements with GSA to set a room aside for an IUP alumni gathering, which was attended by many of the people mentioned above, and former faculty member Sarah Hanson.

Once again, thanks to everyone whose donations made this possible! Alumni donations also helped Yvonne Branan, Christa Ziegler and Shaun Malin attend last year's GSA meeting in Denver.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

IUP Alumna Wendy Straatman creates new field scholarships for students!

Wendy (Metcalf) Straatmann graduated from IUP in 1992 and received her masters from the University of Missouri in 1994. She recently devised a creative way to benefit both her alma maters, by funding scholarships for IUP students to attend the University of Missouri's summer field camp. Wendy generously contributed up to \$1000 for the scholarships, and the rest was provided by the University of Missouri as a one-for-one match. The joint donation was intended to help IUP undergraduates who were not otherwise be able to afford field camp, and also to draw more qualified students to Missouri's outstanding field camp.

What motivated Wendy to start this program? She remembered that her own attendance at field camp was made possible by encouragement from IUP alumnus Mark Yanosky. In Wendy's words, "Mark may not completely realize that he was in a great way responsible for my attendance to MU's field camp. I believe I was "whining" that I could not attend field camp because I didn't have a sleeping bag. Mark gave me the kick in the butt I needed and deserved."

If enough IUP students are able to take advantage of this opportunity, Wendy plans to continue it as a formal MU scholarship. "By providing scholarships through MU I can kill two birds with one stone so to speak by helping both of my Alma Maters." She encourages other IUP alums to consider founding similar "double-alumni" programs with the graduate schools and/or field camps they attended after IUP.

The Geoscience Department is pleased to report that IUP student Bryan Sell was able to take advantage of the MU scholarship this year. He was also supported by the first Walt Granata Field Camp Fellowship awarded by the department!

IUP Alumni Eric Horcheimer recruits promising new majors for Geoscience!

Earth & Space Education alumnus Eric Horcheimer recently encouraged one of his best high school students to join IUP as a Geoscience major. Christie Roth is a freshman geology major who is doing very well in the introductory course sequence and is already actively participating in the Geoscience Club as well. We need more majors like Christie to keep the department strong and active in the exciting years to come, as our new young faculty develop their research programs. All you IUP alumni educators out there, don't forget to suggest us as a possible college for your students who are interested in the earth sciences.

Steve J. Smith '02, Geology Major conducts summer research projects!

This past summer, Steve traveled west with two faculty members. The first trip was in June with Dr. Keith Putirka to the states of Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana to do reconnaissance for a regional field trip to the area, and to meet with Dr. Mel Kuntz of the USGS at Craters of the Moon in Idaho. Steve went along to take some lava samples near the Monument for his senior research project this spring.

The second trip was in July with Dr. John Taylor to the states of Wyoming, Montana, and Colorado. Steve helped him break some rock in search of those elusive Late-Cambrian to Early-Ordovician trilobites and conodonts. Steve had the opportunity to meet with three other students from Colorado College and the University of Puerto Rico. The second trip had nothing to do with Steve's research project, but he says it was helpful in giving him some knowledge of what to expect from field work out in the real world (not to mention what weather to expect when John Taylor is on a field trip....)

ALUMNI NEWS

Al Baker '73

I just recently received a letter concerning IUP's upcoming annual telethon to which I always contribute. I will request that they provide this year's donation to the Walt Granata Fund. Hope all is well in the woods of Pennsylvania. We're ducking hurricanes and tropical storms here in Louisiana.

Alex Boughamer '98

I am a lecture assistant for Geo 101 here at Idaho. The professor asked me if I wanted to give a lecture. I wasn't obligated, but I wanted to do it anyway. There are 400 students in his class! I bet there was only 300 there since it was on a Friday. The topic, well that is my specialty. It was on the formation of caves and speleothems as well as hazards and some benefits. I could have talked all day though. The weirdest thing happened though at the end to of the lecture, something that I have never experienced before in any lecture that I ever went to--I received applause. They could have been appauding because it was over, however, I think I did a pretty good job and they enjoyed the slide show.

Robert E Brown '69

Sorry to hear about Dr Prince. We long ago types still remember the change from ISC to IUP. I haven't taught school in many, many years but find I have used the training a lot over the years. I have put classes together and taught mapping in 7 countries in Europe and Africa during my time with Mobil Oil (soon to be XOM or Exxon Mobil). Even the mentoring I do can be said to fall back on my time at IUP and the Geoscience Department. Texas is just a little to far away to "drop in" on homecoming so I wish all well at the party.

John Dembosky '93

Hi! Hope all is going well in Indiana! I just wanted to let you know that I received the messages from April about the Geobanquet. I was happy to see it scheduled on Oct. 1, but then disappointed that it was really Oct. 8. From Oct. 6-Oct. 10 is our annual Bancroft, Ontario, trip. At least half of my Structural Geology lab is going and I planned to go to collect minerals, have fun, and, naturally, take the pocket transits for the students! There's an amazing mylonite in a roadcut to get an oriented sample. There are "undeformed" clasts in this mylonite big enough to comfortably sit in.

Barbara Eiswerth '85

We finally made the big move and sold our old house a couple months ago. We are still getting settled into the new home, I continue to write the dissertation with no regrets so far, and William is getting acquainted with his new company this week. He is now with Space Imaging.

Tod Elford '96

I am pleased to report I have found success in my life. This is a brief synopsis. After graduating from IUP I worked several small jobs until I entered a masters program at University of Pittsburgh. Brandy and I were wed in July 1997. We were pleased to have Professor Park and family come as a witness. By 1998 I graduated "Pitt" with a Masters of Arts in Teaching Earth and Space Science. I secured the position of a earth and space science teacher at Sharon High School in the fall of 1999. As I type we are in the process of buying our first house.

Amy (Kime) Frantz '91

I have a new job working for the Army Corps of Engineers in Huntington, WV. I work in the Environmental Analysis Group in the Planning/Management Branch, writing Environmental Assessments and Environmental Impact Statements for internal work that the Corps proposes to perform. This work is very specific because we have whole departments that do geology, Hazardous, Toxic and Radioactive Waste, etc. It's very exciting but a lot different from working as an environmental consultant. No overtime allowed. Yeah! I didn't realize how much I had learned in the business over the last nine years. (It doesn't seem that long ago we were in the Bahamas!) Anyway, I should have my MS from Marshall by Dec. 2001 in Environmental Science. I can't wait for the homework to be over!

Barry Franz '76

I am still alive, but with two teenagers and a wife that hops around the country giving seminars and papers, it's quite busy. Currently, I am Principal Engineer for Civil & Environmental Consultants in Cincinnati.

Keith Howell '96

I'm still with Sperry-Sun Drilling Services International in the Middle East and let me tell you I know what hot is now. There are days where it can easily hit 120 degrees. On a good note my job allows me to see a great deal of the world, so far I've visited London and Holland on my trips back home. I've had the chance to eat goat during the holidays in United Arab Emirates for their version of Thanksgiving called Ead. One day you wake up and see goats all around the city and the next day they are all gone and then when it comes time for dinner you find out where all the goats have gone to.

David Kielbowick '88

New update from the ultimate oceanography student (my grades were always below sea level). Went to teach a military seminar in Vilnius Lithuania in November. I received a nice letter of appreciation through the American Embassy in Lithuania. Then off to Germany on the 26th of March...biggest deployment of Pennsylvania guard troop since the Korean War for a big computer wargame exercise called Warfighter. By the way my father (an IUP grad of about 1964) came out of retirement to handle my classes for three weeks.

Also, I wanted to let everyone know that even us sub-oceanographic students can bring honor to the Geoscience Department. David Kielbowick Jr. was named Teacher of the Month for May 1999 at L.C. Bird High School of Chesterfield County Virginia. The principal Joe Tylus cited me for (among other things) leading the school in use of the internet in research, utilizing on-line testing & quizzing and establishing an earthscience web site designed by and for students(check it out at www.earthscience.homepad.com.)

I am also currently working on a pilot program for a pre-engineering specialty center at my high school. For this year I am trying to have a monthly chat feature where students would meet in my chat room and have guest scientists join us for question and answer and discussion of the world around us. If any one is interested in participating please let me know. Any earth science grads looking for a teaching job, please contact me, and I also hope to hear from old friends and others interested in keeping up to date. Thank You IUP..even though my grades did not suggest as much...I did learn a lot from the Department. The memory of Pappy and his antics live on thru me. I am a better teacher for it.

Bill Klingensmith '70

I am a former student , BS Chemistry ED 1964 and M.Ed. 1970 in Earth Science. I took a course in palentology in 1968 especially trilobites. Just getting back into it with my wife. I live in Akron , OH and work as a consulting technical service chemist for people making rubber products.

Joe Krupansky '00

I got a job back in June with a Company called Schabel Engineering Associates, and I am now a staff geologist in our geoscience department. The work I'm doing is outstanding. I'm doing near surface investigations of bedrock, using a dipole-dipole method of resistivity. I also do a lot with seismographs. I set up in quarries, construction sites, and recently I worked on a super fund site monitoring sheet pile driving for a major clean up. I spent two weeks in the Poconos, doing rock core drilling, test pits and something called airtracks for engineering purposes.

When I am in my office, I do everything on excel, and I want to thank Dr. Putirka for the amount of hours you had me on there, it has helped me greatly. Also I wanted to let everyone know that Geophysics and the geotechnical fields are growing very rapidly. There is a shortage of people who know how to use equipment, so if you can some how jstart a geophysics class it would be very beneficial to the department. I have worked on sites where townships would not allow any construction to begin unless there was a subsurface investigation first.

I really enjoy what I do, and I plan to go back to school in a year or so, and my company will pick up the bill. Tell people hello from me and that I am alive and well, and make sure all the students are doing 30+ pages of Excel labs a week, they hate it now but it's a valuable asset for the future.

Douglass J Kuhns '84

The fall colors in Pennsylvanian sound great....that's one thing I really miss here when the majority of the deciduous trees are Aspens which turn yellow (where are the red's, purples, etc.) It sure is nice to hear from the department; there are many days I reflect back on IUP and the fun times I had with everyone.

Philip Lacey '74

I am part of a cadre of teachers who do physical oceanography (hands-on) activities for teachers. It's called the Maury Project out of the American Meteorological Society. Any chance of me presenting to pre-service or veteran teachers out there?

Tom Marks '79

I started Marks Environmental, Inc. in Jan. 99 and had a great first year. I thoroughly enjoy the autonomy that being self employed allows. Also it's nice to get paid for as hard and smart as you work. I have been doing quite a variety of projects from soil and groundwater remediation to helping several foundries develop beneficial use options for waste foundry sand. I still get to do some "real geology" on some projects and always enjoy those projects the most. I have a very challenging sedimentologic puzzle down in the Coastal Plain stuff in MD and a fractured bedrock groundwater remediation site in eastern PA. I also do routine groundwater sampling at several sites. It's has a grunt work component to it but it pays well when your a one man show and I always (almost always) enjoy working outdoors. That's one of the main reasons that I went into geology in the first place. I married my senior year girlfriend, Elizabeth, in 1979 and we have two great kids. Matt is 15 and Sara is a freshman at Pitt (Bio Major, close but not geology). Time flies doesn't it?

Shaun Malin '00

I am a grad student at Clemson University now. Grad school is going great. I'm currently taking my last semester of classes, looking forward to getting into my thesis. My advisor is thinking about sending me to Texas to do some remediation on a site, if we can get clearance to test out his newest methods of remediation. First doing a site characterization, and then doing the remediation. His name is Dr. Murdoch and he did his thing at PSU oddly enough. He owns his own company that does hydrofracturing and remediation, which I will get in on and make some serious cash this summer. Dr. Murdoch and Dr. Falta are top notch, cutting edge research on remediation. They are amazing. Looks like I came to the right place. So that's the latest. As hard as they are, I really enjoy the classes I'm taking this semester. They are all interesting and right up my alley. I'm teaching three undergraduate labs as well, different course than last semester. For spring break this year, my sister and I are heading to Ireland to backpack. Flying into Dublin on St. Patrick's Day! I told her as long as we stop by the town of "Malin" and see Giant's Causeway, I'd be content.

Dave Martin '85

You may not remember me but I took classes from 1980 until 1985 - Fred Park was the department head back then. Currently I am employed at Baker Environmental as a geologist/project manager for the past 8-years working on site investigations at Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, Yorktown, VA. Previously, I used to live in Boston, MA working as a seismic consultant and then with a geotechnical engineering firm. I would like to be kept abreast of the Geoscience Department happenings and offer any help in giving graduates an idea of what to expect in the real world.

Diane (England) Miller '88

Hi! Just wanted to let you know that I and my family have moved back to Pittsburgh, where my husband has been in charge of opening up one of the new Target stores this past spring. I have retired (so to speak) from the environmental consulting world. For the foreseeable future I will stay at home and do the Mom thing. My son, Jimmy, is in second grade and his baby sister arrived this past February. So I think I will have enough to keep me busy. I am hoping that when the time comes I can maybe find something to do involving REAL geology - i.e. rocks and fossils. I've had enough of that unconsolidated coastal plain stuff. I'm also hoping to be able to participate in more department activities now that I'm only 1-1/2 hours away and have free babysitters (retired parents)!

Jeff Mills '75

I learned in December that there is an Albuquerque Geological Society and I have since joined and attended one meeting. I didn't realize there was such an organization, but have met some interesting geo types already. Unlike Houston, hardly any are involved with oil and gas although some are retired from that industry. There are several prominent members who are with the New Mexico Tech in Socorro and they are involved with mining, etc. There are also some members working with Sandia National Laboratories, mostly in environmental work as far as I can tell. I always hear from Wild Bill Hoover at Christmas, and he seems to be doing well. It's funny but his daughter is about to graduate college as a Wildlife Biologist and our Brandon is a Sophomore at Texas Tech in Wildlife Management. There are a lot of similarities between that field and geology. Much is based on field observations, many of the theories are common sense and field work outdoors is crucial.

Gary L Neuder '82

We were still in the merger holding pattern as of March 2000. I suspect the FTC and Exxon have locked horns. Exxon's motto seems to be "when in doubt litigate".

Those of us in Nigeria feel we'll still have jobs - at least through round one. Exxon has a very small presence here, while we're #2 next to Shell. I feel for my compatriots in the States though, especially in Dallas where I believe thousands will be harvested. Do we have any alums at Exxon?

I'll make my contribution to the alumni fund and earmark it to Geoscience in December - once I see what's up with the merger and me. I always appreciate hearing from Dr. Taylor and other alumni. One of these days, I hope to get back to IUP for a visit.

Timothy Nuss '88

I hope that my wife and I will be able to attend departmental future events. We just need some notice, as we had our first child this past October, and weekends away will take some pre-planning from now on!

Barbara (Hanneman) Osgood '97

I'm still an Environmental & Materials Scientist at RJ Lee Group. This spring, however, I got accepted into the University of Pittsburgh's Ph.D. program, working with Dr. Chen Zhu in geochemistry and microscopy. I will be learning how to use the Field Emission SEM and to do research this summer. I will be looking at samples from the coastal plain of Virginia (clays with an iron oxyhydroxide coating), Navajo sandstone (hematite, goethite, and clay coating on quartz and feldspar) and iron oxyhydroxide precipitates from experiments. It sounds so exciting. I will be spending much of the summer reviewing my geochemistry and hydrogeology notes!

Richard Parrish '75

I am still alive and well in Houston and continue to keep Texaco profitable in the international arena. For the past 10 years I have been involved in the international exploration department, primarily in South America. I have been located in our Houston office all that time, with occasional trips to the field. To date, I've been associated with Texaco's exploration efforts in Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Venezuela, Panama and Trinidad, mainly as project manager. I have not looked at a carbonate rock in 19 years at this company. Tertiary clastics is where it's at.

All is well at the homefront. We live in Bellaire five minutes from Texaco's office. Paula continues to help Enron to become the biggest energy company of the next century through her creative accounting methods. And we have a family of four Golden Retrievers that Paula shows in various competitions. I suppose you know Jeff Mills gave up this fickle business and moved to New Mexico to try another pursuit. I do not hear from any of our other comrades.

Patrick J Perfetta '96

Hope all is well in Indiana! Houston is....well....hot! The job makes it worthwhile though. I'm sending along a photo for all you teachers out there to use to illustrate cross-cutting relationships in stratigraphy.

Heather Renyck '99

I just have to tell you about the results of our regional Science Olympiad competition. The kids took first place in 17 of the 24 events, 2nd in 5 of them, 3rd in one and 4th in one. I am so proud of them! No team in this state has ever done that well! We advance to state which will be held at IU's Bloomington campus on March 24. That will be the real challenge!

Tom Schlosser '89

I was a geology major that graduated in 1989 after taking Stratigraphy with Doc Taylor and Geology of the American Southwest with Dr. Cercone. I thought I'd drop a note to say hi. As it turned out I did absolutely nothing with my geology degree. After pursuing a couple dead-end jobs in landscaping and property management, I went back to school to pursue a career in computers. I currently have my own computer consulting business and work full-time for a start-up ASP (Application Service Provider). I am happily married with two kids and one on the way.

Mark Sievers '95

After graduating from the University of Virginia with a MS in Civil (Environmental) Engineering and a fun job search, I am now working in Tysons Corner, Virginia (right outside of Washington DC) at KEMRON Environmental Services as a Project Scientist/Engineer. Currently I am working on a Remedial Investigation Report and overseeing UST removal and just wrote a last-minute geologic setting profile of an area to the west of Pittsburgh for my boss. In the future I will be getting into GIS and groundwater modeling.

Kathy Sibo '75

We tried doing a little rock hunting in the Adirondacks this year. Some of the road cuts are really mined out wherever there were veins of crystals, probably from other geologists. Did you know that there are or were moonstone collecting locations up there? Apparently one or more are closed now, but I may have found a piece in the lake gravel. Haven't checked it enough yet to tell for sure. I've got a pound or more of the stuff from India, but finding some in NY is pretty neat. Are they still making field trips up there? Have you been up there lately?

Wendy (Metcalf) Straatmann '92

I seemed to have made some kind of achievement last weekend while attending the bi-annual Missouri University Geology Board meeting - I have become the first woman vice-chair of the board. The board has been around for a very long time (1960ish) so it was about time. Actually, women have only been on the board for the last five years. The mid-west is slow to evolve in some ways! I'm also pleased to announce our family's newest arrival: Grant Leo Straatman.

Jason Taylor '98

I am now in Portland Oregon doing graduate work in engineering geology. Let me tell you I miss those sedimentary rocks. Oregon is nothing but basalt. I just decided on my thesis and will be proposing it soon to my department. It should be pretty neat. I am looking at the slope stability of a dam lake that was created when the debris avalanch rumbled down Mount St. Helens when it erupted in 1980. Hope your semester is going well and just wanted to say that I think IUP did a great job in preparing me for graduate school.

Joe Tedeski '92

My electronic database project at the PA DEP was given the Secretary's Award this year! Here's an excerpt of the letter we got from our department chief: "Congratulations on being selected as a Secretary's Award Winner. This is truly a special honor and being selected is one way of the Bureau and the Department to show that you all are the best of the best and your leadership by example is something everyone can look up to. I know and appreciate the extra effort that was given by all to make this unique project happen...I can not think of a more deserving team to lead the way into the new millennium...Kudos!"

Matt Valentine '87

I would love to attend the banquet this year. Unfortunately, my wife is travelling for her job and I'm in charge of our two kids (Charlie is 6 and Abby is 3). I did have a good time at the last banquet I attended (1998 Geoscience Day). Please tell Mr. Park that I wish him best regards and sorry that I couldn't make it up this year.

Stephen Van Horn '81

Stephen was awarded a tenure track position in the geology department at Muskingum College, Michigan this past year. The Geoscience Department wishes him the best of luck!

Janet M. (DeSalvo) Wenturine '99

I'm currently teaching freshman earth science at Yuma High School, which is like a small college campus. There are eight or more buildings with four security guards and one police officer on campus at all times. Yuma is just beautiful. I feel like I'm on vacation yet, and I'm still living out of boxes, but it's great! It's very sandy here and I keep thinking that the beach is just around the corner. There are palm trees everywhere, but then you see the cactus and you know you're in the desert. Yuma is also famous for its sand dunes. Last week, I got caught in a bad monsoon storm near Tucson. A large piece of plywood flew from out of nowhere and broke my windshield. I no sooner got out of that and then I experienced my first dust storm. It's like a blizzard, only dirty! Then, I went into K-mart the other day and it was so beautiful outside--the sun was shining and the skies were clear. I was only there for about twenty minutes and when I came out, we were having a major dust storm. It reminded me of how you can go shopping at the mall back home and then when you go to leave, there's a blizzard going on.

Thomas I Watkins '75

For the last 2 years, I've been the plant manager of our New Madrid Power Plant. As you may suspect, it's a far cry from geology, although I'm reminded of my roots on a daily basis, since this 1200 MW facility with full-time 190 employees is indeed located in the "famous" New Madrid fault zone. The only other tie I still have with geology is that a few years ago Governor Carnahan appointed me to the State Geology Board for professional registration. I have about 1 year left on the term before I step aside and let someone closer to the profession take over.

Mark Zellman '99

California is great. I'm really loving it out here. So far I've been doing a ton of soil and water sampling, that's about it. Other than that, I've been all over the place. I go into the city and Stanford area quite a bit. I've got friends in both downtown San Francisco and Palo Alto. I've also been heading to the mountains a lot. I just got back from a weekend in the Sierra's. We went into Yosemite, then over Sanor Pass, to Mono Lake. From there we headed south to Bishop. We turned around there and headed home. On the way back we stopped at Mammoth to check that all out. Everything in those mountains is volcanic. Wow, it's a totally different geology here. I just started reading a California geology text because not knowing how this stuff came to be, and what most of the stuff is out here, was driving me nuts! I'm now working for IT. My position is Engineering Scientist II. The funny thing is that this place has its home base in Pittsburgh and I'm working for them out here in Concord, California. I'm disappointed that I've not felt an earthquake yet, but I'm sure the time will come that I do. I just hope I'm not on the bay bridge, in the BART under the bay, or on an elevated highway when one hits...

IUP Geoscience Fund Donation Form

To help you direct your donation to the correct IUP account, please cut off and attach this form. Make your check out to the Foundation for IUP, and put the appropriate account number on the memo line of the check. Remember, gifts to the Foundation for IUP are tax-deductible! If you've already sent in a gift, we thank you and welcome any additional support you can give.

Name: _____ Year of Graduation: _____

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Mail to: **The Office of Annual Giving, 313 Sutton Hall, 1011 South Drive, IUP, Indiana PA 15705-1041.**

Alumni News

What's new with you? Please let us know what recent milestones have occurred in your life, whether professional, personal or comical! And don't forget to keep us current with your new addresses, name changes, and email changes.

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

News for next Geo-Tidings:

Mail your updates to Geoscience Dept. Indiana Univ. of Penn., Indiana PA 15705-7087
You can also email your address and news updates to jftaylor@grove.iup.edu. Thanks!

DON'T FORGET GEOSCIENCE DAY: APRIL 27, 2001

On the last Friday in April, we'll be having the usual program of student research talks during the day and an evening banquet with awards for the graduating seniors. Plan now to attend! To make your reservation for the banquet, you can email our secretary April Mazur (amazur@iup.edu) or Geoscience Club president Steve Smith (theicewolf@home.com).