Dr. Steve Hovan Selected to be IUP’s 2007 University Professor

Yes, our very own Steve Hovan has been selected as IUP’s 2007 University Professor!

The Geoscience Department welcomes Dr. Katie Farnsworth as our newest faculty member this summer. Dr. Farnsworth fills the position of sedimentary petrologist that was left vacant by Dr. Darlene Richardson’s recent retirement. We’ll let her introduce herself to you in her own words:

I came here from Indiana, PA 15705

By the end of this academic year, Dr. Farnsworth will be teaching an upper-level course: Sedimentary Petrology, and will be working on a project that will look at the relationship between climate change and sea level rise.

The Geotidings privacy policy is to share email addresses of alumni on these pages only when they have specifically asked to be included. For more information, please contact Karen Rose Cercone (kcercone@iup.edu) and Ken Coles (kcoles@iup.edu). This page was last updated on August 24, 2007.
Ken Coles

Ken Coles reports that he had a busy year in 2005 – in spring, he was given responsibility for two extra courses for science students in order to accommodate a sudden increase in student enrollment. In the fall, he served as Head of Department, supervising and performin...
Kalin McDannell has been awarded a prestigious McNair Scholarship. The McNair program is aimed at increasing the number of doctoral students who come from low-income families, first-generation college students and/or minority groups. As part of his first Summer as a McNair Scholar, Kalin presented a talk on his research proposal at a national meeting of McNair Scholars in Buffalo, NY. This was one of only four invi-
tations offered to the eighteen first-year IUP McNair Scholars!

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT: Kalin McDannell

Kalin’s research aims to establish the filling history of a small, intra-arc basin that is forming in response to ongoing faulting. The first step, which Kalin initiated this summer, is documenting the longitudinal profiles of the streams that transect the basin. He has used this approach in conjunction with air photo analysis to identify possible fault extend and to fine tune the areas for subsequent work. The next major step will be detailed mapping of multiple generations of stream terraces and sampling sediments for luminescence and radiocarbon dating. Success will depend on careful documentation of the geomorphologic and spatial context of the sediments and/or carbonate sampled for geochronology. We’re thrilled with Kalin’s success in the McNair Scholars program and proud to have him representing us in this prestigious program.

2007 Field Course: Carbonate Geology of Florida & Bahamas

A group of eight IUP geoscience stu-
dents traveled with Dr. Steve Hovan this past May to southern Florida and Andros Island to learn first-hand about carbonate sedimentology. Among the highlights of the trip was a visit to the Kennedy Space Center and a trip up to Jupiter Key to observe corals in for-
nation. The trip was made possible for Joseph Stellick by alumni dona-
tions to the summer field scholarship pro-
gram.

TEACHER UPDATES!

Dr. Taylor is happy to announce that the Geoscience Department now has two members who are even older than he is … and unlike Dr. Cercone, they never forget to keep their office hours! Thanks to the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Smock of Treasures of the Earth, these replica specimens are now displayed in the lobby of the department’s new and improved Weyandt Planetarium, where they attract at-
tention from passersby and help us introduce geology students better understand dinosaurs.

MAINE GEOSCIENCE OFFICE RENOVATIONS IN PROGRESS!

Thanks to the perseverance of Steve Hovan and the support of our dean and provost, our hard-working and always cheerful secretary April Moular now has a fully-renovated and enlarged department office to work in! The renovations of this Walsh office complex made possible for a chairperson’s office, a meeting room, two faculty offices (for Kate Farnsworth and Jan Lewis) and a large, air-conditioned computer lab for our students to use. We hope to have a grand opening celebration and dedication of it on Friday of Homecoming Weekend.

Our thanks to the Prince Oceanography Fund or the Walt Gieger Geology Fund, contact the Foundation for IUP through the link below!

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT: Dr. Alan Andrew

Dr. Andrew, a recent alum of our program, is to give a keynote speech at the upcoming AGU (American Geophysical Union) conference in Seattle on the topic of “Climatological Fundamentals of the Arctic Ocean.”

Alumni Donations

Make It Possible!

Your generosity allows us to offer scholarships based on merit to geoscience students who would otherwise not be able to take a regional field class at IUP. Your funds also sent IUP students on a ship-based learning program and helped them both attend and present projects at AGU and ACSM meetings. Your generosity to the Prince Oceanography Fund or the Walt Gieger Geology Fund, contact the Foundation for IUP through the link below!
Richard Parr ’75

An interesting anomaly in the oil business, I have worked for the same company (Getty/Texaco/Chevron) for the last 27 years, and have worked in over 20 countries (involving well log interpretation and well management). I have had the opportunity to work on a variety of projects including; exploration, production, reservoir characterization, petroleum geology, and gas storage. I have seen a lot of the world. I have been most impressed with the dedication of the people. I have worked on some large projects. I was involved in the early development of the South Louisiana Field and the West Texas field. I have been pretty good at my job over the years. I prefer working with Houston summertime rather than the New York City winters. I have been working for 27 years at the same company, and I now have accumulated ~2,300 jumps, including being a part of the Texas State Record for largest freefall formation. This was done just this past spring of 150 up by us in Houston. PA winters, or at least that’s my rationale. Wendy and I get to do a bit of traveling on our own also. New Zealand and hiking the Blue Rim in general. That was my favorite part about living in Knoxville, TN. I remember on one of our undergraduate field trips on our way through Tennessee thinking...I could only have fun...how fun things go. David Brezinski ’78

My last name is indeed a geologist immediately after college in TT in Texas for over 27 years in our oil exploration group. From there I went to the University of Houston (1977) for graduate school. Spent about 10 years in the industry as a geologist doing all sorts of things in South Texas. I then finished a Ph.D. at Stanford University. I then accepted a position with MDR and moved to Georgia. I am currently working on a mine in Georgia and doing some assessments. The Department of the Interior and (not just in the geology) the State of Ohio has been very good to me. Houston has been a good place to live over the years. I prefer putting up with Houston summers rather than the New York City winters. I have been working for 27 years at the same company, and I now have accumulated ~2,300 jumps, including being a part of the Texas State Record for largest freefall formation. This was done just this past spring of 150 up by us in Houston. PA winters, or at least that’s my rationale. Wendy and I get to do a bit of traveling on our own also. New Zealand and hiking the Blue Rim in general. That was my favorite part about living in Knoxville, TN. I remember on one of our undergraduate field trips on our way through Tennessee thinking...I could only have fun...how fun things go. John Jell ’80

As a geologist I have worked for the same company (Getty/Texaco/Chevron) for the last 27 years, and have worked in over 20 countries (involving well log interpretation and well management). I have had the opportunity to work on a variety of projects including; exploration, production, reservoir characterization, petroleum geology, and gas storage. I have seen a lot of the world. I have been most impressed with the dedication of the people. I have worked on some large projects. I was involved in the early development of the South Louisiana Field and the West Texas field. I have been pretty good at my job over the years. I prefer working with Houston summertime rather than the New York City winters. I have been working for 27 years at the same company, and I now have accumulated ~2,300 jumps, including being a part of the Texas State Record for largest freefall formation. This was done just this past spring of 150 up by us in Houston. PA winters, or at least that’s my rationale. Wendy and I get to do a bit of traveling on our own also. New Zealand and hiking the Blue Rim in general. That was my favorite part about living in Knoxville, TN. I remember on one of our undergraduate field trips on our way through Tennessee thinking...I could only have fun...how fun things go. Mike Bateman ’83

We are pleased to report that Dave’s groundbreakingwork on urbanization and land development, featured in our last issue of Geot-

John Salvino ’85

These are the highlights of my life: In 1997, Dr. J.C. Frye presented a Memorial Award to David for his outstanding research on the Geology of the Frederick Valley in Maryland. Dr. Frye said, "This outstanding work..." David was proud to accept the award and said, "I am flattered and gratefully recognize the efforts of those who have made this possible." Dave was recognized for his excellent research on the Geology of the Frederick Valley in Maryland. Dr. Frye said, "This outstanding work..." David was proud to accept the award and said, "I am flattered and gratefully recognize the efforts of those who have made this possible." Dave was recognized for his excellent research on the Geology of the Frederick Valley in Maryland. Dr. Frye said, "This outstanding work..." David was proud to accept the award and said, "I am flattered and gratefully recognize the efforts of those who have made this possible."
Alumni from the 1990's

John Dembsky '92
I've been teaching at Methodist University in Fayetteville North Carolina since 2005 after finishing my PhD at Pitt. Finally got that Associate title this past year. I've been teaching some really fun courses where you have to learn to do things like GIS. The nice thing is that my position at NETL is permanent so I have the security of already having a job when I get my PhD. It's been fun. I'm still collaborating with VT on some experiments, however, and was able to travel to Bern, Switzerland to present some things from my paper. She is named after the beach in Maui we were married on.

Jeff Miller '92
I'm still living and working in Tanzania now of all places. Followed my girlfriend here in 2006 and have been living the good life, working as a regulator of contaminated sites for the state government (so much better than consulting!)… and don't have much else going on other than the occasional rock climbing or snowboarding trip, although I did make it back to IUP to catch up with my old IUP friend Chad Hurley (of UTube fame and fortune!). WLA is in the middle of the construction project, so don't have much else going on other than the occasional rock climbing or snowboarding trip, although I did make it back to IUP to catch up with my old IUP friend Chad Hurley (of UTube fame and fortune!).

Bev (Lundin) Gregory '96
I've been teaching at Methodist University in Fayetteville North Carolina since 2005, after finishing my PhD at Pitt. Finally got that Associate title this past year. It's been "fun". My next big thing is to start a secondary geoscience education degree here at MU. Should be interesting to see how that one works. I've never had a science education degree at all. I did get back up to the Augustus to see April, Taylor and Lewis, even say it to Stave. Looks like the construction is going well!

Wendy (Weiff) Strappe '92
I am the Product Manager for ArcGIS contract resources as the Division Vice President & General Manager for Appalsche. However, just to confuse you, I am also President of North Coast Energy, Inc. We are currently in the process of moving to Alviso, Ohio. I have never imagined that I might be living somewhere else. Fortunately, there seem to be a lot of houses for sale here!

Mike Cypcar '97
I am now working for EXCO Resources as the Division Vice President & General Manager for Appalachia. However, just to confuse you, I am also President of North Coast Energy, Inc. We are currently in the process of moving to Alviso, Ohio. I have never imagined that I might be living somewhere else. Fortunately, there seem to be a lot of houses for sale here!

Scott Muncie '94
After years of fiddling with bits of money as a software developer, I made the decision to drop out and re- turned to academia, for a while, running the laser ablation ICP-MS lab and the isotope-compositional facilty at Virginia Tech. I also helped out with the Raman microprobe facility and put together a web page for the lab that can be viewed here. Unfortunately, I recently had to take another job in computers to pay the bills, but my wife's job may be in jeopardy. I'm still collaborating with VT on some experiments, however, and was able to travel to Bern, Switzerland to present a paper with them this past summer. My wife Cathy and I have one daughter, Malena, seen here. She was named after the beach in Maui we were married on.

Mark Zellman '99
I am working now with the USGS in Washington DC and living in a nice (other small) apartment in Dupont Circle, I welcome any news from my friends across the country. I hope you are all doing well. Please email your most recent contact information so I can send you letters composed on strange antiquated typing devices!

Jen (Dovin) Gregory '96
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I'm still working for William Lettis and Associates as a Geologic Data Analyst from 1997 to 1999. In 2000 I put the out-of-print Map 61 publication online for the geologists of the world to print from the Internet. In 1996 I put the out-of-print Map 61 publication online for the geologists of the world to print from the Internet. The Internet has been a really convenient of their PC. That online publication is still available here. The Internet has been a really convenient of their PC. That online publication is still available here.

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Travis Kuhl '98
I was hired into the IT department of the National Energy Technology Lab and finishing up my PhD. I passed my Ph.D. stuff. I am just working on research now. The civil and environmental engineering department at CMU is demanding, yet nurturing, place to be. Mike Gregory is a geology alum and Jeff Miller is my Temp Director at the MSE Lab... great people to work with. I am now working on research now. The civil and environmental engineering department at CMU is demanding, yet nurturing, place to be. Mike Gregory is a geology alum and Jeff Miller is my Temp Director at the MSE Lab... great people to work with.

Heather Renyck '99
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my first article in print, as the time. The biggest news for me lately is that I have just defended my PhD! I spent a week back in Houghton, MI where I got to see a lot of really come to enjoy my time here. Getting the opportunity to put together a Geomorphology class was a wonderful experience. I was education of the remainder of my thesis as well. IUP has offered me a part-time position teaching some introductory labs again this fall. I'll

Gulf, east of Saudi Arabia). It's very exciting to work with the international community and as a result I am learning Arabic (2 hours a day, few oil fields in Iraq... and if all goes well, I'll get to go to Abu Dhabi (for those that don't remember their geography, it's on the Persian

I'm working at ExxonMobil down here and love it! My first project is in the Middle East / Caspian Sea regional database working with a

I have been working as an environmental remediation consultant for an engineering/geotechnical firm called Kleinfelder, formerly Geo-

Things are going great and I use what I learned from IUP everyday. Best wishes to the geoscience department and my fellow students!

I finished my masters degree in Fall of 2006 and moved to Houston in early 2007 to work as a geologist for El Paso Energy on a project evaluating a massive skwagga in West Texas. I was so glad to leave southern California, but happy to get back to the petroleum industry!

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I have completed my first full year as an Orbit Analyst with the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) in St. Louis, MO. Though it is a good job, the actual work is not what I envisioned it would be, so I am currently looking to move into another industry to work with either GIS or remote sensing. I am still open to any position that may come along that deal with studying volcanoes, so if an opportunity presents itself, I may take what comes along. During some of my training with the agency, I traveled to Colorado Springs, CO and Washington, DC. In order to keep up with some of the latest sci-

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