From left: Graduate Students Joe Petsche, Brigid Doran, Jimmy Wetenkamp, Jamie Smith, Renee McFarland, and Sharon Terwilliger indicating one sense of share on a detachment at Mosaic Canyon in Death Valley N.P. on a field trip for Advanced Structure.

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Dear Friends and Colleagues:

The 2005-2006 academic years continues to be one of significant changes and opportunities for the Department. Major changes in personnel and curriculum dominate the activities of the faculty, staff, and students. Many of the changes being considered and implemented will have impacts on the future of the Department decades into the future. I would like to briefly review a number of the more important changes.

Changes in faculty are taking place that will impact the future of the department. Professor Deborah Harden retired at the end of the fall 2005 semester after contributing immeasurably to the department since 1985. She is not disappearing but will be involved in the Faculty Early Retirement Program (FERP) for several years providing the department the opportunity to continue to have her skills in the classroom. I will be retiring at the end of the spring 2006 semester having been with the department since 1976. Like Professor Harden, I anticipate participating in the FERP program. Given the retirements of Professors Stevens, Harden, and Williams, the Department was extremely fortunate in getting permission from the University to search for two new tenure-track faculty members. The specific areas of expertise being sought involve combinations of paleo-oceanography, paleo-biology, etc. and applied geology (geomorphology and engineering geology). Unfortunately these two searches have just been concluded without new faculty being added. A number of offers to excellent candidates were made but for various reasons in particular the cost of housing in the area none of the offers were accepted. It is hoped that we will be able to roll the searches into next year with more satisfactory results. In addition to finding replacement faculty with expertise in applied geology, my retirement promotes the need to locate a new department chair a position that I have had the privilege to hold for more than a quarter of a century. The department has recommended to the President that Professor Richard Sedlock be appointed to that position. Another personnel change that is important to the department is the search for a new dean for the College of Science which is in the process of being concluded. Interim Dean Vida Kenk will be stepping down at the end of the spring 2006 semester.

The department has just completed the Program Review, a major review conducted of each academic department in the university every five years. The self-study element provides all faculty members, staff, and students the opportunity to review and evaluate what has taken place in the past five years. This combined with the observations of an independent external reviewer provides the opportunity for the department and university administration to determine where the department has been, and where it is going and evaluate the resources required to reach those goals. We received a very favorable review from our external reviewer, Dr. Diane Carlson from California State University Sacramento. The College and University are in the final stages of completing their elements of the review.

This year the department is implementing the first new courses resulting from the major revision of the undergraduate curriculum. This
revision involves more that just rearranging the course offering but requires the creation of almost a half dozen new courses to meet the changing needs of the students and the geological profession.

Professor Miller, our graduate advisor, reports that the number of applications from potential graduate students is up dramatically with applications from across the country. Interestingly the number of applications from students with non-traditional backgrounds i.e. not geology undergraduates continues to grow. Many have undergraduate degrees in soils.

Budget issues continue to impact the department. The proposed state budget appears to help arrest the declines that have been experienced in recent years and additional student fee increases apparently will be limited. However, the declines in resources that have occurred in recent years continue to impact the department.

The employment opportunities for our graduating students continue to be good. Employers continue to return seeking additional employees. Currently the demand exceeds the supply.

Hopefully as you review this newsletter, you will learn more about activities within the department. We encourage you to provide us with information about yourself and your activities so we can include those data in future issues.

Sincerely,

John W. Williams
John W. Williams, Professor and Chair
Prof. Dave Andersen

Dave Andersen, like everyone else in the Department, had a busy spring 2005 preparing for and participating in the GSA meeting in San Jose. There were two sessions on the geology of the Santa Clara Valley, which Dave has been working on for years, so the meeting was an excellent opportunity to interact with other researchers. Dave's coauthors on one poster were Ellen Metzger and graduate students Nathan Ramstetter, Nan Shostak, and Karen Locke; another poster showcased work with Keil Albert and Pete Holland. Dave also was the treasurer for the GSA meeting, so paying the bills and finally closing the books on the meeting went on for months. Fortunately, the meeting was a success financially, as well as scientifically.

A high point of Dave's summer was his involvement in the discovery and excavation of a fossil mammoth in San Jose. The fossil was found in the Guadalupe River less than a mile north of the San Jose airport. Dave actually wasn't the first person to notice the fossil, but he was the first to recognize that it was a mammoth. The discovery received a lot of attention in the news media, and the site was visited by hundreds of onlookers. While the bones and tusks were being excavated by paleontologists from the University of California Museum of Paleontology, Dave and Nan Shostak studied the sediment around the fossil for evidence of the environment in which it was buried (a natural levee), and they collected samples for radiocarbon dating. Several samples have been submitted, but at the time of this writing the results are not yet available.

Dave currently is President of the Pacific Section SEPM (Society for Sedimentary Geology) and is preparing for the society's annual fall field trip. This year the trip will be led by Dick Brown and will cover the geology of the Palos Verdes Peninsula. The trip will commemorate the 60-year anniversary of the publishing of USGS Professional Paper 207, Geology and Paleontology of the Palos Verdes Hills, by Woodring, Bramlette, and Kew. It should be a very interesting trip, and Dave hopes to see several of you there.
Teaching classes that she developed while on sabbatical last spring, **Paula Messina** is happy to be back on campus this academic year. In its first iteration as a “mixed mode” course, Earth Systems Science (Geol 103) adapts Ellen Metzger’s original curriculum for mostly-online delivery using interactive Flash modules. Paula’s spring 2005 travels to Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, and southern California contributed to several USGS educational Websites (accessible through the following USGS portal: http://3dparks.wr.usgs.gov/).

As an appointee to both the Geology Department and Science Education Program, Paula continues to wear several hats. Paula was an invited guest at two NASA Earth Science Community meetings held in Monterey, CA and Orlando, FL, where she participated in the development of NASA’s “Roadmap to the Future” for geoscience education. She was also selected to join a task force of leading geoscience educators from state and federal agencies; as part of that group, she has started planning for the development and implementation of a college level capstone course in Earth systems science for high school students. Such a course is already being offered by several secondary schools around the country, including Bellarmine College Preparatory in San José under SJSU’s sponsorship.

Paula’s graduate student, **Jennifer Mendonça**, continued field work with **Matt McMackin** in the Avawatz Mountains (Southern Death Valley Fault Zone); Jenn presented her preliminary results at the Friends of the Pleistocene meeting in fall, 2005. Paula continues to work with international educational TV (PBS, Natural
History of New Zealand, and most recently, the producers of the Japanese program entitled “Wonders of the World”) on several projects that feature geologic phenomena of the Death Valley region. She is looking forward to catching her breath from a very busy academic year in May, when she hopes to tend to her severely-neglected garden!

Prof. Ellen Metzger

Ellen Metzger reports that this year brought more than its share of excitement in the form of Hurricane Katrina, which continues to affect family and friends in her hometown of New Orleans. Katrina has certainly underscored the need to understand and prepare for Earth hazards!

The Bay Area Earth Science Institute (BAESI), a professional development program for K-12 teachers that Ellen co-directs with Richard Sedlock, is still going after 16 years! BAESI has expanded through a grant from the National Science Foundation to establish the South Bay Geo-Diversity Project (SBGD). The SBGD aims to increase the participation of underrepresented students in geoscience education and research through teacher workshops, class visits to San José City College and the National Hispanic University, field trips for students and their parents, and an internship program. SBGD interns Cliff Pearson (B.S. ‘05), Sean McCullough (SJSU Geology undergrads) and Maria (Xochi) Gutierrez (recruited from San José College) recently completed a geologic trail guide for visitors to Henry Coe State Park.

Ellen continues her work on crustal xenoliths found in Miocene volcanic rocks of the Diablo Range and graduate student Pavel Kosovichev is nearing completion of his thesis, an investigation of Tertiary volcanic rocks north of Pacheco Pass and their associated hydrothermal mineralization.
For Jonathan Miller, the past year was eventful to say the least. As mentioned elsewhere in this letter and in the last newsletter, the Department hosted the joint Spring 2005 Cordilleran GSA/Pacific Section AAPG meeting, and Jonathan was co-Chair of the meeting with Mel Erskine from AAPG. By all accounts, the meeting was a resounding success (great technical program, great field trips, excellent exhibits, and both societies in a strong financial position when it was over). We had the highest number of attendees at a Cordilleran meeting in over a decade. It is no small feat to undertake such an event, and the glowing reviews from all corners of the Cordilleran section and from GSA's national headquarters are a testament to the hard work and dedication of nearly everyone in the Department (Faculty, Staff and Students) and everyone on the local committee.

Jonathan's graduate students Chel Dodge and Seth Burgess both presented some of their Masters thesis research at the Cordilleran meeting, and Jonathan co-led a GSA field trip in southern Nevada after the meeting. Two of Jonathan's graduate students (Bridget Wyatt and Anthony Schuetze) completed their theses last year, and Jonathan anticipates having two more (Seth Burgess and Shelly Ericksen) finish this Spring. Jonathan's research in southern Nevada is continuing, and grad student Jamie Smith is currently doing detailed mapping and isotope geochemistry in Aztec Wash pluton looking at the interaction between magmas in the shallow crust and host rock blocks engulfed in the pluton. Jonathan taught Tectonics with Dave Andersen, and Advanced Petrology with Ellen Metzger in the Fall of '05, and is co-teaching the new undergraduate petrology this Spring with Dave and Ellen. In addition, Jonathan is teaching the new Earth, Time and Life class (Geology 7) this Spring, and has taken over as the new undergraduate advisor from Richard Sedlock. Jonathan is especially looking forward to his sabbatical leave next Spring which will be spent at vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam. On a personal note, Jonathan and Suzy Brooks (B.S. ’00) were married on October 1, 2005 and they honeymooned over the Christmas Break in Costa Rica in December. The highlights for the two of us were watching Arenal erupt at night with a 6-pack of beer on the side of the road (true geologists!), zip-lining through the rain forest canopy (what a rush!), and spending a week on a sparsely populated beach on the Nicoya Peninsula doing absolutely nothing!
Prof. Bob Miller

Bob Miller continues to keep busy with his teaching and research. One of the highlights of his year was teaching the 50th anniversary field camp of SJSU. The camp went to eastern Nevada for four weeks and the eastern Sierras for the final two weeks as has been the norm for the past 20 years. When the group arrived in the Schell Creek Range, Bob was in for quite a surprise. Rainfall was 480% of normal last year and with the associated snowmelt streams were at record highs. Blown culverts made the road to the regular campsite impassable and an alternative U.S. Forest Service campsite was used. Students developed stream-crossing skills and several of the map groups became proficient at snowball throwing. Otherwise, besides the usual small bumps (e.g., stuck vehicles), field camp was uneventful (always appreciated) and the group consisted of an exceptionally pleasant cadre of 11 students.

After a short rest following field camp, Bob spent a relatively abbreviated field season conducting research. He initiated field work associated with a new NSF-supported project on linking deep and shallow level processes in a continental magmatic arc, as represented by the Cretaceous to Eocene North Cascades. M.S. student Brigid Doran is working on the structure of the Eocene Swauk basin as part of this project, and M.S. student Zach Michels is studying the structure of high-grade metamorphic and plutonic rocks in another part of the North Cascades. Bob also conducted field work in the Sierras where he shared a camp with M.S. student Joe Petsche. Joe finished his field research on the structure and emplacement of the Sentinel Granodiorite and associated rocks.

As with many of the faculty, Bob played an active role at the Cordilleran Section Meeting. He served as the technical program chair for the meeting and co-chaired a session on crustal sections in the Cordillera. Bob also gave a talk on emplacement of plutons in the Sierra Nevada batholith. Two of Bob’s M.S. students, Renee McFarlan and Joe Petsche, presented posters on their thesis research, which focus on the structures of plutons in Yosemite National Park.

Bob was a participant in a lively week-long GSA field symposium in the Sierras that focused on the assembly of plutons. He also presented a talk at the national GSA meeting in Salt Lake City and went on an associated field trip that concentrated on laccolith construction in the Henry Mountains of SE Utah.

M.S. students Renee McFarlan, Ante Mlinarevic, and Joe Petsche have kept Bob busy editing their theses this semester. LeAnne Teruya successfully completed her thesis on the significance of multiple foliations in plutons, as exemplified by the Tuolumne Intrusive Suite in Yosemite National Park. She is now a lecturer in the Department.
June Oberdorfer is on sabbatical this year, spending the time converting her GE course, Geology and the Environment, into an on-line format for offering in the Fall. The challenge is finding ways to have the students be active learners rather than passive learners. All those field photos collected over the years have come in very handy.

Last Spring June spent a week working on another Submarine Groundwater Discharge field intercalibration experiment. This time the site was Mauritius, a small volcanic island in the western Indian Ocean. It helped to recall everything she learned about groundwater flow in basaltic islands while in graduate school in Hawaii. One very large, near-shore seep (hundreds of gallons per minute of cool, fresh water welling up into the ocean) was almost undoubtedly related to flow through a lava tube. A small hurricane complicated field work, but overall it was an amazingly beautiful setting to work in. The following week was Spring Break, so June took off with a friend to nearby Madagascar to chase after lemurs in the rain forest and appreciate a very different kind of beauty.

Graduate student John Radyk is finishing his studies and has taken a job with Weiss Associates working on environmental restoration at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Chanie Wossen Abuye is working as a hydrogeologist at the Santa Clara Valley Water District. Daughter Catarina has taken a job as an Assistant Photo Editor at the New York Post in New York.

Prof. June Oberdorfer

Prof. Don Reed
At the time of the last newsletter, Don Reed was just returning from a semester-long sabbatical leave at the Romberg-Tiburon Center, a marine laboratory on the edge of San Francisco Bay, operated by San Francisco State University. Since his return, Don has offered his online oceanography course in the spring, summer, fall, special, and winter sessions – all experiencing high student demand. Beyond the university, Don was invited to present a paper on the development of virtual research experiences, as part of the course, at the NAGT/NSF workshop on Teaching about the Ocean System using New Research Techniques, held at the University of Washington in July 2005. Shortly after this workshop, Don next traveled to Hood River, Oregon to add his expertise to the Advisory Panel of the EarthEd project. He also presented his work in creating online learning resources in oceanography at the research seminar at the Romberg-Tiburon Center in March 2005.

In 2005 Don traveled to the offices of the National Science Foundation (NSF) in Arlington, Virginia and the Washington University in St. Louis, and in early 2006 to Honolulu, Hawaii for his duties on the steering committee of the NSF MARGINS program, a multidisciplinary initiative to understand the complex interplay of processes that govern the evolution of continental margins. Don served as co-organizer and chair of a special symposium on “Teaching About the Ocean System” at the 2005 fall meeting of the American Geophysical Union in San Francisco. During this meeting, he served as a judge of student papers presented at the meeting. At the level of the CSU, Don served as a facilitator for a day-long workshop for the Tenure-Track Focus Group at the Chancellor’s Office in Long Beach. Don continues to contribute to efforts in K-12 teacher education through a presentation on the Indian Ocean earthquake and subsequent tsunami at the Coastal Ecology Teacher Workshop at the Romberg-Tiburon Center in April 2005.

On a personal note, Don and his family were recently featured on the Curb Appeal program of the HGTV channel, which tracked the progress of a redesign of the front of their home.

Prof. Richard Sedlock
Out of the country
(on sabbatical)
University of Southern Mississippi to give several talks on topics as wide ranging as seismic hazards in California to professional ethics.

**Corine Stewart** presented her landslide research at the annual student night meeting of AEF in March. **Nan Shostak** showed her research work as a poster at the 100th Anniversary Earthquake conference, in San Francisco in April. **Jimmy Wetenkamp** and **Mark Swank** had portions of their research efforts presented at the same conference.

On the family scene, he and Margaret spent 10 days in the greater Mexico City area in late December having spent Christmas with their son, Adam, in Thousand Oaks, CA where he works as a biochemist for Amgen, the pharmaceutical company.
Trish Marinas

The new face you see in the Geology Department office belongs to Trish Marinas. She was previously employed at SJSU for 14 years working first in the School of Education’s Teacher Education Division and then in the School of Social Sciences’ Communication Studies Department.

In 1995 Trish left SJSU to reside in Charlottesville, VA to be near her son. She happily went on vacation for ten years, but the Bay Area has always been close to her heart and last year she decided to come home again to San José.

She recalls her first day on board as memorable. Wandering down the hall, a voice called out, “Hi, are you Trish?” This was her introduction to Ginny Smith. Since then, as now, Trish says Ginny has managed to help her find her way when she seemed lost. Alphonse Odisho has been of great help as well, particularly in getting her out of many “jams”. So far, he has saved Trish countless times from being electrocuted as she tries to pry paper from the copier with a letter opener. She also thanks John Williams and the Geology faculty for giving her a warm reception during her “internship”.

Trish’s hobbies include reading, watching classic movies, walking, and cooking for friends. In addition to California and Virginia, she has lived in Seattle, Las Cruces, and Chicago. To describe her feelings about returning, Trish says “Goodbye Monticello, magnolia and dogwood trees, and ice storms. Hello, Tower Hall, redwoods and sequoias, and gorgeous weather (except for an earthquake or two)!"

Alphonse Odisho

Alphonse Odisho, technical support staff, continues to support the faculty, staff and students with their educational endeavors, research programs and graduate thesis projects. He is trying his best to organize the field trips and also summer field camp for the students to test their acquired knowledge of field techniques. During the past year he tried to open up some laboratory space for the department’s incoming Electron Microprobe, which will be a great asset to our programs. His family life is going very well. His wife, Juliette, works for El Camino and O’Connor hospitals as a nurse. Their 10 year old son, Anoeil, is in the fourth grade. He plays
basketball, soccer and piano. Their older son, Anobel, now 23 years old, will start his third year of medical school at the University of California, San Francisco. He loves history, nature, hiking and photography.

starting with finding a temporary campsite at 11:30 pm the first night. Late May snow falls combined with a quick thaw at the end of May washed out the road to the normal campsite at Kalamazoo. Luckily the camp grounds at Bird Creek didn’t suffer the same fate and we enjoyed the amenities such as pit toilets for the first three weeks. Other challenges included forgetting parts of the showers plus the pots and pans at SJSU, locking herself out of the College of Science pickup truck, and coordinating among three different cooks. All in all in turned out to be a good field camp and Ginny enjoyed the time to get to know the cooks & students.

On other notes Ginny was again the co-leader for the SJSU Staff Artique with alumnus John Hawk, (M.S. 2001). The 11 th Annual Staff Artique in December promoted the creativity of staff members on campus in a two day event. Although there were fewer people through the Student Union most participants found the event enjoyable.

Ginny is still actively involved in the Bay Area’s Chapter of AWG, Association for Women Geoscientists, as their webmistress.
Helge Alsleben (M.S., 2000) received his Ph.D. from the University of Southern California in 2005, and is in his first year as an assistant professor in structural geology at Texas Christian University (TCU).

Phil Eager reports that he went out of business in 1993 and laid everyone off. So he went to the University of Texas and got an MBA in Management. He tried being a Financial Consultant for a while, but discovered he was uncomfortable with the compromises that were necessary to be successful in that business. He is now an independent geologist using geology and business to put together oil and gas prospects.

Robert W. Elayer (B.S. Geology 1969, M.S. Geology 1974) After spending almost 20 years with Morrison Knudsen in Boise, ID I was transferred to Las Vegas to work on the Yucca Mountain waste repository project. Five years later, I took a job with Bechtel SAIC on the same project. After almost 30 years in geology I retired in March of this year. We traveled around for 6 months and took a job with Tidewater Contractors, Inc. to help them with their safety program. Not exactly geology but I am having fun and we wanted to move to the Oregon coast. I have also had a part-time photography business for the last ten years. Am going to try and retire again in several years and do more fine art photography.

Brian Ho (M.S. Geology 1990) moved from the Bay Area in 1993 and has been living in Camarillo, California since then. One of the projects he’s working on is a groundwater contamination problem in Henderson, Nevada, which is just south of Las Vegas. The Frenchman Mountains are a short distance away and every once in awhile, he makes a side trip through the Spring Mountains.

Bill Hughes (B.S., Geology 1984, M.S.Geology 1988) Currently working as a project manager for remediation projects on the East Coast.

Mary Leech (B.S., 1994) started her position as an assistant professor in igneous and metamorphic petrology at San Francisco State University in Fall 2005.

Since leaving California and after four years with Exxon and 22 years with Arco, Bob Olson (M.S. Geology 1970) moved onto working West Africa with an independent oil man, Vanco Energy. A year later he went to work for CMS Oil & Gas as the VP Exploration worldwide. He then sold the company in September 2002 and has since been independent. He has struck up a relationship with a small independent oil and gas company, Carrizo, and with one partner they have taken the company into the North Sea. In the last year they successfully acquired 200,000 acres in the UKCS. (offshore Southern and Central North Sea) Anyway, they are having a great time working up opportunities using released well data and 3-D seismic.

Geoff Tick (B.S., 1996) has been an assistant professor in hydrogeology at the University of Alabama since 2004. Geoff earned his Ph.D. at the University of Arizona.

** We want to hear from you **
Email us at alumni@geosun.sjsu.edu
It has been a busy year for the SJSU Geology Club! The club has heard some wonderful speakers, and helped out in the community. Geology Club President **Sean McCullough** helped some local Cub Scouts get their Geology Badge with a talk and tour of Los Trancos Park on Nov. 5, 2005. The Geology Club also had a successful T-shirt sale with the wonderful design by Geology Graduate Student, **Joe Petsche** (design above logo minus “club”)

Please visit the club website to see events and speaker information. http://geosun.sjsu.edu/~geoclub/index.html

### Spring 2006 Speaker List

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Speaker/Topics</th>
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<tr>
<td>1/30/2006</td>
<td>Seth Shostak: SETI Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/6/2006</td>
<td>Nicole Bonuso: Digging Deeper into the Marine Evolutionary Faunas: Taxonomic</td>
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<td>2/20/2006</td>
<td>Chris Mattinson, Stanford Univ.: Late Cretaceous to Paleocene metamorphism and magmatism in the Funeral Mountains</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/27/2006</td>
<td>Bernard Chouet, USGS: Volcanic Processes Imaged From Broadband Seismic Data</td>
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<td>3/6/2006</td>
<td>Dr. Kurt Burmeister, Univ. of the Pacific: Influence of mechanical stratigraphy on 3D structural architecture; northern Appalachian fold-thrust belt</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/13/2006</td>
<td>Laura Rademacher, Univ. of the Pacific: The impact of wildfire on soils and hydrology in the San Bernardino Mtns.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/20/2006</td>
<td>Paul Belasky, Ohlone College: The real geopoetry, or why we are geologists - the Russian perspective</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/3/2006</td>
<td>Jim Hawley, Lockheed Martin: My Career as an Astrogeologist</td>
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San José State University
GEOLOGY DEPARTMENT
Proudly Presents
2005 to 2006 Graduates

Bachelor’s Degree:
Deborah Bazar
Shama Ejaz
Clifford Pearson
Sharon Terwillinger

Master’s Degree:
Kimberlie S. Perkins
Anthony Schuetze
LeAnne Teruya
Bridget Wyatt

CONGRATULATIONS!!!
Masters of Science Degrees and Thesis Titles

PERKINS, KIMBERLIE S.
AQUIFER REHARGE ESTIMATES BASED ON UNSATURATED ZONE MEASUREMENTS, NEW JERSEY
ADVISOR: Dr. JUNE OBERDORFER
2005

SCHUETZE, ANDREW (ANTHONY).
PETROLOGY OF MIocene VOLCANIC ROCKS IN THE RESTING SPRING RANGE, CALIFORNIA
ADVISOR: Dr. JONATHAN MILLER
2005

TERUYA, LEANNE
MAGMATIC FABRIC RELATIONSHIPS AT TWO CONTRACTS IN THE TUOLUMNE INTRUSIVE SUITE
ADVISOR: Dr. ROBERT MILLER
2005
(Selected as one of the two outstanding thesis at SJSU for 2005 – 2006)

WYATT, BRIDGET
PLIO-PLEISTOCENE DEFORMATION AT ALVORD MOUNTAIN, CENTRAL MOJAVE DESERT, CALIFORNIA
ADVISOR: Dr. JONATHAN MILLER
2005
Scholarship Winners

Darwin Summer Field Camp Awards

Zach Michels (2005)
Amy Vandiver (2006)

Graduate Thesis Awards

Jennifer Mendonca (2005)
Karen Locke (2006)

Tom Harris Geology Scholarship Award

Amy Vandiver (2006)

Association of Women Geoscientists

Amy Vandiver (2006)

Californian Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Amy Vandiver (2005)
In Memoriam of

TOM HARRIS

Published in the San Jose Mercury News on 5/11/2005.

Tom Harris, Beloved son of David and Carol Harris, died on May 9, 2005. Tom was born on May 20, 1970, and was a 1988, graduate of Live Oak High School in Morgan Hill, California. He received his A.A. in Music from Gavilan College and was working toward a degree in Geology at San Jose State University.

Tom was a gifted musician, artist and performer. The bassist for the alternative rock band, "The Chant," which performed locally for over a decade, Tom was recognized for his guitar skills in Bassist Magazine. Tom appeared on stage and performed in the orchestra on numerous occasions with South Valley Community Theatre. He is remembered by local audiences for his portrayal of Ellard in the Center Stage production of The Foreigner.

A motorcycle enthusiast, Tom worked as a quality control engineer at Indian Motorcycle Company from 1999 to 2002. He participated in Indian's cross-country Centennial Ride in 2001, riding from Maine to Chicago on an Indian Motorcycle Chief and rejoining the ride with his partner-in-crime, Allison, in San Luis Obispo.

In 2001, Tom's love of science brought him back to school at S.J.S.U. to pursue his dream of becoming a geologist. While attending university, Tom was employed by Kaiser Permanente, Santa Teresa. Tom was an avid outdoorsman, who loved camping, rock collecting, hiking, bicycling, rock scrambling and sailing in the San Francisco Bay. His favorite destinations included Yosemite, Death Valley, Pinnacles State Park, Henry Coe and Uvas Canyon Park. He was often accompanied on his adventures by his beloved German Shorthair Pointer, Brodie.

Tom is survived by his parents of Gilroy, California, his girlfriend Allison Hodgdon of Los Banos, his brother David Harris of Fresno, his sister Nancy Harris of Berkeley and his uncle, cousins and grandmother in Amsterdam, New York.

A memorial scholarship has been established in honor of Tom at San Jose State University. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Tom Harris Geology Scholarship SJSU Foundation, San Jose State University, Office of Development & Alumni Relations, One Washington Square, San Jose, California 95192-0257.
Department Student Scholarships

Max Crittenden Scholarship

The Crittenden Award was established in 1984 to honor Max Crittenden, Jr. (B.A. Geology, 1940) by providing geology students with scholarships. Well known for his ready smile and enthusiastic sense of humor, Max devised the now famous map symbol Frdk (funny rock, don't know) while mapping Franciscan rocks in the Diablo Range. He had a long and distinguished career with the U.S. Geological Survey and is the author of numerous articles on the geology of Kentucky, the Wasatch Mountains of Utah, and other topics.

Students who have received the Max Crittenden Scholarship have been selected on the basis of academic achievement, need, potential and service to the department.

Darwin Field Camp Scholarship

Through the generous support of Tom Bell and Amy Glasmeier a scholarship was established to support students attending San Jose State University's summer field camp. The award was established in part to repay the scholarship support that Tom received to attend the summer camp while a SJSU student, and to reflect Tom and Amy's recognition of the importance of field camp in a geologist's professional career.

Norman Dolloff Scholarship

Phyllis B. Dolloff and her son, David, established this fund in memory of her late husband and his father, Norman H. Dolloff, who was a professor in the Geology Department at San Jose State University from 1946 until he officially retired in 1973. During that time he contributed outstanding leadership as the department chair. Friends, relatives, and former colleagues of Dr. Dolloff contributed to the initial fund and have helped to maintain it.

The purpose of the fund is to provide a scholarship to one or more deserving geology majors at San Jose State University. The student may be either an undergraduate or graduate student, who in the judgment of the faculty committee choosing the recipient, is likely to complete a BA, BS, or MS in Geology at the University with some degree of distinction.
Graduate Thesis Award

The Graduate Thesis award is provided by the general scholarship donations to the department. The award is given to a graduate student to cover thesis related costs such as travel expense.

Tom Harris Geology Scholarship

The Tom Harris scholarship was established as an endowment to recognize Tom’s love of geology and the outdoors by his family in May 2005. This is the first year that this scholarship has been awarded. Please see page 19 for more information about Tom Harris.

Calvin & Francis Stevens Scholarship

Mrs. Antonette Broyles and her daughter, Lucia Broyles Gilbertson, established the Calvin and Frances Stevens Scholarship fund in 1997. This fund is designated for a student of Geology at San Jose State University because of the great value the Broyles and Gilbertson families place on education, and their fondness for the Stevens family.

The funds are to aid deserving students to help defray the expenses incurred in geologic field work, especially in California and Nevada. This can include helping to support a student attending the SJSU Geology field camp.

Congratulations Nan!!

Congratulations! On behalf of the Awards Committee of the Seismological Society of America, I would like to inform you that you have been selected for a Student Presentation Award for your presentation “High-resolution analysis of 1906 earthquake intensities in the city of San José, California”. This is definitely an honor and most deserved.
Scholarships Given By Independent Organizations

The Department wishes to thank the following organizations for their generous support and contributions to the department’s undergraduate students for the following Scholarships and Awards.

California Federation of Mineralogical Societies

The California Federation of Mineralogical Societies of which the Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society is a member gave a $2,000.00 scholarship for a student entering his or her third or fourth year of studies as a geology major. The society requested the department faculty to award the scholarship to an undergraduate based on academic achievement.

Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society

The Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society provides the department with a scholarship to one or more undergraduate student based on merit and service to the department. The student(s) selected by the faculty are requested to attend the January meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Gem and Mineral Society and host a booth at the Society’s annual show at the Santa Clara Fair Grounds in San Jose, CA. Society members conduct rock sales yearly to support these scholarships.

Association for Women Geoscientists - San Francisco Bay Area Chapter.

The AWG Outstanding Student Awards Program is awarded to an outstanding woman student who will graduate in the year the award is made. The award is given to help further the association’s motto “To encourage the participation of women in the geosciences.” The geoscience departments from nine Bay Area Universities each choose their recipient. The selection is based on the student’s academic distinction, contributions of excellence to classmates, teachers and advisors, and overall promise as future geoscience professionals.
Contributions to the Department

The faculty and students extend our thanks to those making contributions during the recent years. If we have inadvertently omitted your name, please notify us and accept our heartfelt apologies.

Crittenden
The Crittenden Family

Darwin Summer Camp Fund
Thomas Bell
Amy Glasmeier
Parke & Claire Snavely

Emeritus Faculty Fund
Carmen Maddock
Bob Miller
Paula Quintero
David and Susan Sparks
Calvin and Francis Stevens

Carmen Maddock

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Thank you
Your donations allow us to provide students with scholarships, and to help defray the cost of travel, thesis research, and field camp. In recent years, when our equipment budget has been meager, contributions enable us to purchase supplies and to replace obsolete equipment. Right now, our needs range from new lab computers and disk drives to Brunton compasses and petrographic microscopes. We greatly appreciate all contributions and support given to our programs. If you make a contribution, it may be designated to any of the above funds. Please make your donation payable to the Fund of your choice.

It's great to know you can count on some people...
Students from the Spring 2006 Geophysics class learn to take gravity measurements. Left: Sean McCullough (ugrad), Stephen Meninger (ugrad), Brigid Doran (grad), and Sergio Schirripa (ugrad). (Photos by Don Reed)

Undergraduate student, Roscoe Roatch, and Graduate student Zach Michels discuss their GPS coordinates taken with department equipment. (Photos by Don Reed)

Undergraduate Student, Carol Morris, takes a gravity measurement with equipment on loan from UC Santa Cruz on a Geophysics class field trip around campus. (Photos by Don Reed)

Lecture and photographer, Matt McMackin leads an ex-curricular field trip to Death Valley on Spring Break 2006.
Left: A typical view of Duncan Hall’s loading dock prior to a department field trip. Left, Carol Morris (ugrad) and right Cindy Schultz (grad).

Right: Undergraduate students (left to right) Melissa Hooton, Jonathan Sleeper, Cliff Pearson, Daniel Yokoshima listen to a lecture from Richard Sedlock in the field at Owl Canyon.

Left: Former undergraduate Deb Bazar discusses the geology at Owl Canyon with Richard Sedlock.

Right: The camp site for the 2005 field techniques class at Owl Canyon, Spring 2005.

These photos contributed by undergraduate, Lawsen Lew.
Bones and tusks of fossil mammoth in the Guadalupe River near the San Jose airport.

Field camp students standing on the Snake Range décollement.

Visitors to the mammoth site watch as the fossil is prepared to be taken to the laboratory.

A view into the “Office Tent” used at Field camp. Students are busy working on their first report.
Beside works, we also have fun!

These are 2005 department Christmas pot-luck party photos hosted by Prof. Debbie Harden. (Photos by Andre Sarna)

The top (two) photos are at Prof. Debbie Harden retirement party hosted by Ginny Smith (photos by Paula Messina)
Thanks to all who continue to keep in touch. Next year, notification of the availability of the Newsletter on our website will be by e-mail, therefore, please provide us with your current e-mail address and take a few moments and let us know what’s new by completing the following:

E-mail to: alumni@geosun.sjsu.edu

Or send to:
San José State University
Department of Geology
One Washington Square
San José, CA 95192-0102

Name

Address

City
State
Zip

Email Address

Phone #

Web-site

Degree received from SJSU Year

Degree received from SJSU Year

Current Employer:

Updates, News, Career changes
(In other words What’s up with you?)