Department of Geosciences and Environment Newsletter

Announcements

We would like to thank everyone for their hard work in assisting with the semester transition. With the semester, our faculty worked to update our labs manuals. We would like extend acknowledgement to the lab manual development led by Dr. Bishop for Geology 1580—Natural Disasters, Dr. Ladochy for Geography 1600—Physical Geography, Dr. Ramirez and Dr. Rezaie-Boroon for streamlining and developing new material for Geology 1550—Oceanography.

We are excited to announce the reactivation of Gamma Theta Upsilon, International Geographical Honor Society. Dr. Kris Bezdecny is managing the new chapter of GTU and has already inducted seven members for this academic year. For more information about GTU, please email: kbezdec@calstatela.edu.

Student Accomplishments

At the Annual Banquet on June 4, 2016 the department was privileged to provide scholarships to several of our outstanding students thanks to the generosity of our alumni, faculty, and community donors.

Geology Undergraduate Awardees:
Gabriella Figuero: Chance Dana Scholarship
Kasandra Lineweaver: Chance Dana Scholarship
Alissa Magana: Aaron Waters Scholarship
Samantha Porrata: Martin Stout Scholarship

Geology Graduate Awardees:
Mayra Martinez: Martin Stout Scholarship
Ariel Shoresh: Robert Stone Graduate Research Scholarship

Geography Undergraduate Awardees:
Scott Lopez: John Kirchner Scholarship
Christian Saldana: Ali Modarres scholarship, GTU Scholarship

Geography Graduate Awardees:
Barry Martinez: Etzel Pearcy scholarship
Martin Ponce: Etzel Pearcy scholarship
Deanna Nash: Etzel Pearcy Scholarship, GTU Scholarship, John Rees Scholarship

Brianna House: Perry Ehlig Scholarship
Anjela Mariano: Perry Ehlig Scholarship
Kimberly Ochoa: Perry Ehlig Scholarship
Brandon Reyes: Martin Stout Scholarship
Cindy Zhang: Colburn Scholarship

James Wright: Bean Weber Scholarship
Headed by Dr. Hengchun Ye, the NASA DIRECT-STEM grant housed within the department has seen unprecedented success in its first year and half (2015-2017). This summer, ten research students were awarded paid summer internships to work at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory including several Geography MA students: Barry Martinez, Deanna Nash, and Beatriz Aguilar.

For the 2016-2017 academic year, the program has welcomed nineteen research students and fifty-four pre-trainee students to DIRECT-STEM. We have partnered with UC-Irvine faculty to host multi-disciplinary seminars each semester that are open to the students and the public. For more information on the upcoming seminars please visit: [http://www.calstatela.edu/centers/NASA_DIRECT_STEM/upcoming-events](http://www.calstatela.edu/centers/NASA_DIRECT_STEM/upcoming-events)

**Travel**

Dr. Stephen LaDochy participated in the Fog, Fog Collection & Dew Conference in Wroclaw, Poland, July 2016.
Dr. Kim Bishop led at the Association of Engineering Geologists 2016 Annual Meeting. The trip took place in September and was titled "Giant Landslides of the Kona and South Coasts, Island of Hawai‘i".

The department had three student along with Dr. Bezdecny present at the 79th annual Association of Pacific Coast Geographers (APCG) conference in Portland, OR, Oct 5-8. Deanna Nash presented a well-received poster while Jason Scott and Christiana Saldana gave paper presentations. Christiana was recognized with an APCG Women’s Network Travel Grant, awarded at the conference; her paper, titled “Loftification: The Refurbished Gentrification Dynamic,” was awarded the APCG President’s Award for Outstanding Paper by an Undergraduate Student.
Dr. Hibbs led a group of hydrology and engineering graduate students to geologic and hydrologic sites across Central Arizona, Fall 2016.

Apache Trail and Sedona

Conference Participation and Publications


Barry Martinez, Attended 23rd Annual on Teaching and Mentoring – Tampa, Florida, October 26th-30th.


Beatriz Aguilar: won travel award to visit University of Michigan for potential Ph.D. program.


Dr. Jingjing Li


Dr. Hengchun Ye: participated as a panel reviewer, NSF Meeting in Washington, DC October 27-29, 2016.

• Research highlighted in the *CSU Magazine*. Read the article here: [https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/research/highlights/documents/csu-research-print.pdf](https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/research/highlights/documents/csu-research-print.pdf).

Dr. Staryl Glynn-McCabe: Hosted guest lecture in conjunction with the Honor’s College for HNRS 3400. Guest speaker, Lawrence Schick, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Water Management.

Dr. Kristine Bezdecny, Dr. Steve Ladochy, Dr. Pedro Ramirez: CTEL hybrid class grant

Dr. Li: I got the Assigned Time Award from CSULA 2016-2017 Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities Grant Program. My proposed work was entitled "Evaluating Satellite Precipitation Measurements: from Current-generation to Next-generation."


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**2016 Geosciences and Environment Graduates**

**Spring 2016 Graduates**
Balcerzak, Alexandre  
Chamnaniri, Netchanok  
Creley, Carly  
Jarujareet, Pantiwa  
Lee, Jinny  
Murakami, Chika  
Oh, Chang  
Rahmani, Alireza  
Santilena, Rosa

**Summer 2016 Graduates**
Demeter, Geza  
Harrison, Michael  
Rojas Salazar, Edith

**Fall 2016 Graduates**
Garcia, Rosmeary  
Hertler, Thurston  
Panasyan, Mariam