

**GEOBULLETIN**  
**AU5 28TH, 2009**

Geobulletin is distributed weekly, on Wednesday by E-mail. Contributions are requested! Anything and everything (well almost) that you want to see in print. If you have a news item, a request, an announcement etc. email it to [geodept@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:geodept@geology.wisc.edu). or leave it at the reception desk, Room 236 by noon on Mondays.

**Welcome from the Chair**  
**Cliff Thurber**

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the start of the fall semester. I look forward to working with all of you.

You probably have noticed the change in our department's name, from Geology and Geophysics to Geoscience. To give you a bit of background, since the formation of the Department of Geology, Mining, and Metallurgy in 1870, there has been a series of ten name changes associated mainly with program divisions and mergers, leading up to the 1967 change to Department of Geology and Geophysics. The current faculty believe that "Geoscience" is a more unified and inclusive term than "Geology and Geophysics" that captures the range of subdisciplines now represented in the department, including geochemistry, geobiology, hydrogeology, geomicrobiology, astrobiology, and nanogeoscience, as well as geology and geophysics. Paraphrasing Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz*, we aren't just in geology and geophysics anymore. We consider Geoscience to be a forward-looking name for our department for the 21st century. Note that for now, there will be no changes to the names of our degrees: they remain Geology and Geophysics at the undergraduate level and either Geology or Geophysics at the graduate level.

A special welcome goes to the 20 new graduate students joining our department this fall:

- Meagan Bosket
- Nicolas Garibaldi
- Christopher Gellasch
- Shannon Graham
- Edward Greiner
- Heather Jordan
- Caitlin Keating-Bionti
- Matthew Kogle
- Benjamin Linzmeier
- Aaron Masters
- Daniel Murray
- Raiza Quintero
- Joshua Roberts
- Zhizhang Shen
- Sarah Siewert
- Eric Skarman
- Carolyn Streiff
- Deborah Weinstein
- Mo Zhou
- Chunxiao Zhu

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There will be a chance to meet and greet the new graduate students on Friday, August 28 at the first of our regular "Weeks End" seminars starting around 5 PM on the 4th floor balcony.

Other new members of the Weeks Hall community who are joining us this fall include post-docs Tabrez Ali (geophysics), Hun Bok Jung (nanogeoscience), Seth Kruckenberg (structural geology), and Rudraswami NG (geochemistry), and also visiting professor Yaron Katzir (geochemistry). Welcome to all, and my apologies if there is someone I have overlooked.

For those of you who are new to the department, please take the time to introduce yourselves to our excellent office and technical staff. These are the people who work hard both in visible places, like the main reception office, as well as behind the scenes, to keep our research and educational programs running smoothly.

Below is a list of staff, indicating their primary responsibilities and their contact information if you need their help.

### **Office Staff:**

Shirley Baxa (Payroll & Benefits), Rm. 221, [sbaxa@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:sbaxa@geology.wisc.edu)  
Christine Damon (Secretarial, Travel), Rm. 236, [chrisk@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:chrisk@geology.wisc.edu)  
Jane Fox-Anderson (Student Records), Rm. 213, [jefoxand@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:jefoxand@geology.wisc.edu)  
Judy Gosse (Accounting), Rm. 217, [judy@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:judy@geology.wisc.edu)  
Jansi Prabakaran (Office Reception, Information), Rm. 236, [jprabak@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:jprabak@geology.wisc.edu)  
Michelle Szabo (Department Administrator), Rm. 225A, [michelle@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:michelle@geology.wisc.edu)

### **Technical Staff:**

Ben Abernathy (Computer), Rm. 147, [ben@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:ben@geology.wisc.edu)  
Brian Beard (Radiogenic Isotope Lab), Rm. 309, [beardb@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:beardb@geology.wisc.edu)  
Mary Diman, (Graphic Artist), Rm. 239, [diman@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:diman@geology.wisc.edu)  
John Fournelle (Electron Microprobe), Rm. 306A, [johnf@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:johnf@geology.wisc.edu)  
Brian Hess (Thin Section Lab), Rm. 206, [hess@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:hess@geology.wisc.edu)  
Brian Jicha (Rare Gas Geochronology Lab) Rm. 335, [bjicha@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:bjicha@geology.wisc.edu)  
Jim Kern (Ion Microprobe Lab) Rm. 130-134 [jkern@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:jkern@geology.wisc.edu)  
Noriko Kita (Ion Microprobe Lab) Rm. 145, [noriko@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:noriko@geology.wisc.edu)  
Patrick Kuhl (Computer), Rm. 156, [pkuhl@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:pkuhl@geology.wisc.edu)  
Neal Lord (Electronics), Rm. 146, [lord@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:lord@geology.wisc.edu)  
Peter Sobol (Electronics), Rm. 146, [psobol@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:psobol@geology.wisc.edu)  
Mike Spicuzza (Stable Isotope Lab), Rm. 337, [spicuzza@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:spicuzza@geology.wisc.edu)

### **Librarians:**

Marie Dvorzak, Rm. 440, [mdvorzak@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:mdvorzak@geology.wisc.edu)  
Toby Lathrop, Rm. 440, [alathrop@library.wisc.edu](mailto:alathrop@library.wisc.edu)

### **Building Manager:**

Michelle Szabo – Primary Building Manager, Rm. 225A, [michelle@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:michelle@geology.wisc.edu)  
Brian Hess – Back up Building Manager, Rm. 206, [hess@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:hess@geology.wisc.edu)

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**ORIENTATION FOR NEW GRAD STUDENTS** is Friday, August 28, 2009 -- 1:00-3:00 PM in Room A259. An orientation program for new TA's will follow. All new graduate students are expected to attend. New TA's are required to attend this session and the TA orientation session that follows (from 3-5 PM).

**NEW TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT SYSTEM** -- As some of you already know, the university has adopted a new on-line system for travel reimbursement. The way the new system works, we need to go through an internal process of review before the expense report is submitted. The procedure will be as follows:

1. The traveler fills out the draft report on-line and saves it in the system
2. The traveler prints out the draft report and provides it to the person whose funds will be covering the costs
3. That person approves or requests changes to the report and emails Christine acknowledging approval [and if the traveler is the person providing the funds, steps 2 and 3 get merged, so to speak]
4. The approved report is submitted through the system and is sent to Christine, and the trip receipts are provided to Christine
5. Christine completes the report processing

The expectation is that this system will speed up travel expense processing substantially (taking days instead of weeks), and reimbursement funds will be deposited directly to your bank account the same way paychecks are processed.

**PANDEMIC PLANNING** -- Estimates of the odds of a severe H1N1 pandemic striking the U.S. in the fall range between 1 in 4 and 1 in 2. As a result, there are significant planning efforts going on throughout the UW system for dealing with the potential consequences. A significant effort will be needed to maintain department operations, especially in terms of "social distance" teaching, if a pandemic strikes. Expect to hear more about this over the next few weeks.

**REMINDER** -- The department offices on the 2nd floor will be closed on Monday, September 7th in observance of Labor Day. They will reopen Tuesday morning.

**FACULTY/STAFF MEETINGS** -- The first faculty/staff meeting of the year will be held Wednesday, September 9, 2009 at 3:30 pm in the 2nd floor conference room. The remainder of the meetings for the first semester will be at the same time, same room and are scheduled as follows: October 14, November 11, and December 9. Council meetings will normally be held on the Wednesday one week or in some cases two weeks prior to the faculty/staff meeting.

**CHAIR'S PET PEEVE** -- I ask that everyone use a bit of care and courtesy when using the department printers. Please do not print on the department color printer unless your material actually uses color (and if possible, print only the color pages on the color printer if the material is mostly black-and-white/gray-scale). And try to avoid printing that multi-page PDF file on the 36" plotter! Otherwise you might be nominated for a department "OOPS" award. Once you submit your print job, try to pick the material up reasonably soon so that things don't pile up too deep on the printers, and also if something goes wrong (paper jam, spent toner, etc.) you can catch the problem sooner rather than later. Finally, when you retrieve your printed material, please treat the material printed by others with the same care you would like for your material - either just leave the material on the printer where you found it, or else neatly stack it in front of the printer. Thank you!

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### WEEKS LECTURE SCHEDULE DATES

Fall 2009

Sept. 11 (F)	- Ed Brooks	(SPONSOR: Anders)
Sept. 14 (M)	- Ed Medley	(SPONSOR: Jean)
Sept. 18 (F)	- Mark Zoback	(SPONSOR: Chuck)
Sept. 25 (NOON F)	Ian Dalziel	(SPONSOR: Basil)
Sept. 25 (3:30 F)	- Stephanie Prejean	(SPONSOR : Cliff)
Oct. 2 (F)	- Charlie Bacon	(SPONSOR: Clark)
Oct. 9 (F)	- OPEN	
Oct. 16 (F)	- OPEN	
Oct. 23 (F)	- Chris Marone	(SPONSOR: Harold)
Oct. 30 (F)	- Lorraine Lisiecki	(SPONSOR: Anders)
Nov. 6 (F)	- Scott Tyler	(SPONSOR: Herb)
Nov. 13 (F)	- Rob DeConto	(SPONSOR: Anders)
Nov. 20 (F)	- OPEN	
Nov. 27 (F)	- THANKSGIVING	
Dec. 4 (F)	- OPEN	

SPONSOR	SPEAKER	GENERAL TOPIC AREA
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1. Clark	Roger Summons (MIT)	Molecular biomarkers
2. Clark	Chris House (Penn State)	Astrobiology
3. Clark	Charlie Bacon (USGS)	Crater Lake caldera evolution
4. Nita	Carrick Eggleston (Wyoming)	Geobio/geochem
5. Nita	J.-F. Gaillard (Northwestern)	Geobio/geochem
6. Cliff	Stephanie Prejean (USGS)	Volcanism
7. Singer	Joshua Feinberg (U Minnesota)	Geomagnetism
8. Tobin	Chris Marone (Lamont)	Fault mechanics
9. Chuck	Mark Zoback (Stanford)	SAFOD
10. Feigl	Emily Brodsky (UC Santa Cruz)	EQ triggering
11. Wang	Brian McPherson (Univ. Utah)	Carbon sequestration
OR Wang	John Wilson (New Mex Tech)	*** ONLY AS backup to McPherson - Carbon sequestration
12. Wang	Scott Tyler (U Nevada-Reno)	Fiber-optic T sensing in caves
13. Shannon	Robert Gaines (info needed)	
14. Anders	Rose Came (UT-Austin)	Quaternary ocean circulation
15. Anders	Lorr. Lisiecki (UC-Snt Brbra)	Plio-Pleistocene climate change
16. Anders	Rob DeConto (UMass-Amherst)	Cenoz. glac. thresholds
17. Anders	Ed Brook (Oregon State)	Ice core records of greenhouse gases
18. Laurel	John Craddock (Macalester)	Microstructure
19. Basil	Julie Newman (Texas AM)	Mantle deformation
20. Basil	Mike Williams (UMass-Amherst)	Structure/metamorphism
21. Laurel	Dave Montgomery (UW-Seattle)	Geomorphology



August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009

TO: NEW TEACHING ASSISTANTS AND PROGRAM/PROJECT ASSISTANTS

FROM: Luis A. Piñero, Assistant Vice Provost for Workforce Equity and Diversity *Luis A. Piñero*

RE: Graduate Assistants' Equity Workshops

During Fall 2009, UW-Madison will again offer professional development session for Teaching Assistants (TAs) and Program/Project Assistants (PAs) focusing on diversity, discrimination, and harassment. The sessions are presented by the Office for Equity and Diversity and the McBurney Disability Resource Center, in collaboration with the Theatre for Cultural and Social Awareness (TCSA) and the Office of Human Resource Development (OHRD). Participants are provided information about relevant laws, policies, regulations, and resources; explore the practical applications of these policies to classroom and learning environments; and participate in facilitated conversations designed to promote interdisciplinary collaboration and excellence through diversity. The sessions promote the development of competencies that sustain and strengthen our position of preeminence in research and higher education. We strongly encourage you to attend and participate.

Under the current collective bargaining agreement between the Teaching Assistants Association (TAA) and the State of Wisconsin, TAs who attend a workshop and have taught the requisite number of semesters receive the "experienced" rate of pay at the start of the next instructional period. However, the TAA and the State have reached a tentative agreement on a new contract that eliminates the Regular Teaching Assistant level and ensures that all TAs will be paid at the experienced level. Under the new contract, if approved, attendance at one of these workshops is critical to TAs because attendance will be required in order to be reappointed as a TA beyond one additional semester. It is important to note that the tentative agreement must be approved by the State legislature before it goes into effect. Legislative action on the contract will likely occur in September. Even though PAs are not affected by these provisions, they are welcome and encouraged to attend and participate.

The schedule of sessions, electronic copies of the materials referenced during each presentation and on-line registration are available at: <http://www.oed.wisc.edu/workshop.html>. Please register online to ensure that the reserved rooms can accommodate the anticipated audience size and that adequate supplies of handouts are available for each session. We can only accommodate approximately 40 registered participants at each Fall 2009 session. Therefore, we may be unable to accommodate participants who do not register online prior to the scheduled session date and time. If you do not register online, we may need to ask you to attend another session. A hard copy of the schedule of session is attached.

Individuals who need an accommodation because of a disability should call the Office for Equity and Diversity for assistance at the numbers listed below.

Office for Equity and Diversity  
179A Bascom Hall University of Wisconsin-Madison 500 Lincoln Drive Madison, Wisconsin 53706-1380  
608/263-2378 Fax: 608/263-5562 Wisconsin Telecommunications Relay Service 7-1-1 www.oed.wisc.edu

If you need child-care assistance, please call Community Coordinated Child Care (CCCC) at 271-9181 for information about available day-care facilities. CCCC is a community-based resource and referral service with complete listings of licensed child-care facilities throughout Dane County.

Please contact your department to inquire about specific forms or other requirements for documenting your attendance at these sessions. TAs and PAs who have attended one of these sessions at UW-Madison in the past, need not attend again.

Thank you.

Attachment  
(schedule of session dates and times)

xc: Academic Personnel Office

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**SCHEDULE FOR FALL 2009 SEMESTER**

**GRADUATE ASSISTANT EQUITY WORKSHOPS FOR NEW TEACHING**

**ASSISTANTS**

Section 1: Friday, September 11, 9:30-12:30 at the 21 N. Park Street, Welcome Center (Rooms 1106 and 1108)

Section 2: Tuesday, September 15, 5-8 pm at 220 Ingraham Hall

Section 3: Thursday, September 17, 5-8 pm at 220 Ingraham Hall

Section 4: Monday, September 21, 5-8 pm at Memorial Union

Section 5: Tuesday, September 22, 9-noon at Memorial Union

Section 6: Friday, September 25, 9:30-12:30 at 21 N. Park Street, Welcome Center (Rooms 1106 and 1108)

Section 7: Wednesday, September 30, 5-8 pm at Memorial Union

Section 8: Monday, October 5, 5-8 pm at Memorial Union

Section 9: Monday, October 12, 5-8 pm at Memorial Union

Section 10: Thursday, October 15, 5-8 pm at 220 Ingraham Hall

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ **HAVE A GREAT WEEK END!** ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

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