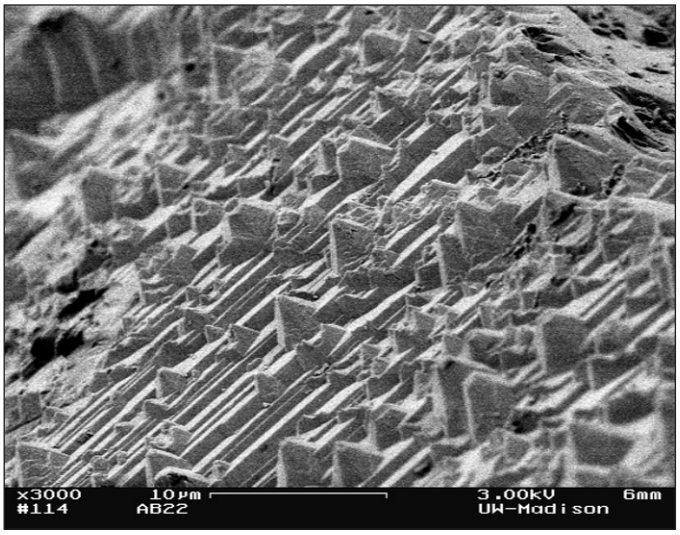
encountered while working in western China.

At the other end of the cultural and climatic scale is the Brooks Range of northern Alaska, where Marwan Wartes is working on his PhD. His project, generously supported by Anadarko Petroleum Co., involves the Lower Cretaceous Fortress Mountain Formation in the Brooks Range foothills. This unit contains chert-pebble conglomerate facies that represent the earliest coherent record of coarse-grained clastic sediments to be shed from the Brookian orogen, and is also a potential petroleum reservoir. Marwan is working its sedimentology and reservoir properties, as well as trying to link chert clasts to specific "allochthons" in order to better understand the structural evolution of the Brooks Range. During the time I spent with him in the field I was impressed by the greatly increased level of exploration activity in the Brooks Range foothills, which apparently was being driven in part by talk of building a gas pipeline. We shared a camp with Anadarko, the Alaska Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys, and the U.S.G.S., which altogether totaled about 25 people and three helicopters.



Micron scale pyramids of anhydrite deposited upon anhydrite phenocrysts within the Pinatubo magma chamber prior to eruption. Photo by John Fournelle.

❖ Chuck DeMets

The past year was wonderful across the board for my family and professional life. My family and I enjoyed several relaxing vacations, mostly to northern Wisconsin for assorted skiing and fishing and to Massachussets for family visits. Our three kids are wonderful travelers and a joy. We also added a new family member, one who is furry, enthusiastic, and very energetic: Pandora, a golden retriever. Although managing chaos is a contradiction in terms, it seems to be how my wife and I spend much of our time.

My research efforts in 2001 were considerable and far-flung. I spent two weeks in March working in Jalisco, Mexico with staff member Bill Unger. I sent another staff member Neal Lord to Jamaica in February to work with my Jamaican colleagues on a multi-year seismotectonic study and to Oaxaca, Mexico in June to work with my Mexican colleagues on a new multi-year earthquake hazards project. I bought four new GPS receivers and sent these to Jamaica and Mexico for permanent, continuous observations in the field areas where I'm working. The goal in each of these field areas is to study and model zones of active faulting, with a goal of better understanding the mechanics and kinematics of active crustal deformation. In June, Raytheon Corporation enticed my talented post-doctoral fellow Tim Masterlark to move to South Dakota, leaving me searching hard for a bright new graduate student with an interest in faulting, earthquakes, and field work in warm sunny tropical locations.

❖ John Fournelle

2001 saw the fruition of three projects I have been working on with others here in Weeks Hall. First, a new project with Ilya Bindeman and John Valley, focusing on a suite of samples I collected in 1989 at Fisher Caldera in the Aleutians. These are the first low $\delta^{18}O$ samples from the Aleutians, and a paper on this project appeared in late 2001 in *JVGR*. Second, the senior thesis manuscript of Ryan Jakubowski—reporting on our discovery of magmatic vapor deposition of anhydrite was submitted to American Mineralogist. I had wrapped up one major loose thread in July,

Postcard-perfect to a geologist—one of Chuck DeMets' high-precision GPS positioning antennae seems to be enjoying a day at the beach near Oaxaca, Mexico. Photo by Neal Lord.