Greetings, Friends and Family of the UW-Eau Claire Department of Geology!

The academic year 2018-2019 has been an important one for our Department, to say the least. The close of this year marks the end of Dr. Kent Syverson’s nine-year innovative reign as head of our Department. Through his stewardship of the Responsible Mining Initiative (RMI), Dr. Syverson has helped us add valuable educational opportunities in the workplace to our rigorous, field-based geology and collaborative research programs. These efforts are fulfilling the needs of our students, university, alumni, and community partners. Bravo to Kent for focusing our efforts on strengthening our partnerships with stakeholders from the mining and environmental consulting industries, as well as fellow state and academic institutions. Over the past several years, we have seen unprecedented participation in the form of alumni donations and industry-sponsored internships and scholarships. Kent’s approach to relationship building has won the attention of our administration, and it took little cajoling to convince them to reassign a portion of Kent’s valuable time toward mentoring other Departments in building similar collaborative relationships. This coming fall, we are fortunate that the College of Arts and Sciences has agreed to support a one-semester teaching appointment for recent alumnus Daniel Brennan (’15), who is now a PhD candidate at Curtin University in Western Australia. He will cover some of Kent’s introductory teaching responsibilities.

This past year was especially significant for our Department in that we completed our seven-year Program Review. Kent’s successful approach toward stakeholder outreach received high praise from both the internal and external review committees during the review process. They were impressed by things such as 1) having fifteen students participating in paid internships with government agencies, mining companies, and environmental consulting firms (see separate stories); and 2) awarding UW-Eau Claire geology majors more than $31,500 in grants and scholarships to help defray the increasing costs of their college education. The RMI also spearheaded the formation of our annual Geology Department Advisory Board Meeting, in which stakeholders from industry and government convene to provide valuable input regarding the direction of our program array. Their attention and insight have already spurred new initiatives within our Department, and we are committed to following through on their recommendations to enhance and reinvigorate the Environmental Science emphasis within our program.

Meanwhile, our faculty remain fully committed and engaged in collaborative research with our undergraduate students. Every member of our faculty is currently actively collaborating with our geology majors on exciting research from around the globe. Last year, eight UW-Eau Claire geology students travelled to present their research at professional meetings at the following seven conference venues: the GSA meeting in Indianapolis, IN; the ILSG in Terrace Bay, Ontario; the SME conference in Keystone, CO; the Microanalysis Society conference in Minneapolis, MN; the Wisconsin AWRA meeting in Deleveran, WI; the Research in the Rotunda event in Madison, WI; and the WISA meeting in Eau Claire, WI. We owe infinite thanks to the UW-Eau Claire Office of Research and Sponsored Programs for funding student research and travel activities, but much of our success is due to the generous support of you all, both with your time (which I consider of primary importance) and with your financial support. Keep your updates coming to us! We remain incredibly proud of the accomplishments of our students and alumni, and vow to serve you as best we can moving forward.

Dr. Phil Ihinger
DEPARTMENT & COURSE UPDATES

DEPARTMENT’S 7-YEAR REVIEW
By Kent Syverson

Geology underwent its regularly scheduled seven-year review during the 2018-19 academic year. The Internal Review Committee and External Reviewer reports were very positive and recognized the hard work and dedication of both our faculty and students. We thank the Internal Review Committee (Patricia Cleary, Chemistry; Eric Jamalske, Economics; David Lonzarich, Biology) and External Reviewer (Dr. Carey Gazis, Central Washington University) for their efforts.

The Internal Review Committee and External Reviewer reports were very positive and recognized the hard work and dedication of both our faculty and students.

The reviewers stressed that the department was operating at full capacity, making sabbaticals, retirements, faculty leaves, etc. very difficult to manage. The External Reviewer also recommended restoration of the Field Geology Coordinator position (a recommendation supported by the Academic Policies Committee). Reviewers encouraged the department to develop a 5-year staffing plan to prepare for retirements and to re-examine the Environmental Science emphasis. The department was commended for its involvement with collaborative research, internships, other high-impact practices, and liberal education.

GEOL 312 FIELD TRIPS
By Robert Hooper

Mineralogy and Petrology I continues to be the major’s gateway course and the first extended field work with two long weekend field trips. The first field trip in early October is to the Mid-Continent Rift (MCR) in northern Wisconsin/UP Michigan, and the second trip is a five-day trip to the Black Hills. These field trips not only introduce students to some excellent geology, but also increasingly represent the first real camping experience for many students. This is also the first time many students have ever driven vehicles in “challenging” conditions. The MCR field trip this year had reasonable weather, but the entire summer and fall in the upper Midwest were wetter than normal, so high water limited access to some of the best outcrops in river valleys. At our first field trip stop in the MCR, one student driver decided to park a vehicle off the road but chose a depression in glacial till that was basically a swamp. It took us a couple hours to pull the SUV out of the swamp because it was buried to the side doors in clay-rich goo!

The road to the top of Mt Whittlesey (Banded Iron Formation) was accessible until recently using 4-wheel drive, but it washed out two years ago. While Mt Whittlesey is still a world-class exposure of the BIF, this stop now requires a thirty-minute hike to access the best rocks. One of my favorite field trip stops has been at Saxon Falls, which cuts across the subaerial Porcupine basalt flows and interbedded volcaniclast conglomerates. Thunderstorms in summer 2018 raised water levels on the Montreal River to the point where the entire hillslope above Saxon Falls slumped and removed the old-growth pine forest. This old access is now a 60-foot-tall cliff which makes accessing the section of rocks impossible from the south side of the river, but it made a great outcrop if one can get down to the Montreal River. Other great field stops have been made impassable because of washed-out bridges and road closures which limit travel on the USFS roads. There are still enough quality outcrops in the MCR to run a spectacular 3-day field trip, but the weather is constantly working to make field-site access a challenge!

FIELD CAMP I UPDATE – NEW MEXICO
By Robert Hooper

Geology 470 (Field Geology I) continues to operate out of the Black Range Lodge in Kingston, NM, in January. This past year Bob, Sarah Vitale (first half), Phil Ihinger (second half) and two TA’s (Samantha Kleich and Tyson Noffke) led a group of 21 students in this capstone field experience. While travel to and from the Black Range was difficult because of winter weather across the central United States, we had an extremely successful field trip. We delayed our departure from Eau Claire to miss a winter weather warning in Texas and New Mexico but still hit some icy roads in New Mexico and passed trucks in the ditches on the interstate. There was snow all the way from Tucumcari to Socorro, NM, but just as we turned off toward Kingston, we ran out of the snow and had dry roads and good field conditions. On the way back we hit a major snowstorm in Missouri, and they don’t seem to plow roads in Missouri (they prefer to let it melt)!

Weather is constantly working to make field-site access a challenge!

The field trip the Black Hills has always been scheduled for the third weekend in October and usually the weather cooperates. This year was an exception with a cold front dropping snow in the Black Hills a few days before we arrived and another snowstorm at the end of the field trip cost us one day of field work. We had three days of good field weather and on Friday afternoon we were even swimming in Sheridan Lake, which is always a treat. We were able to hike through the Harney Peak Batholith, spend one day working on the metamorphic aureole around the batholith, and work on some of the Tertiary volcanics in the NW Black Hills. By Saturday afternoon however, the snow came back with a vengeance, so we headed home a day early. Planning field work around the weather is always a learning experience for geology majors, so overall the fall field trips were great learning experiences.
We are currently making some changes in the field camp sequence to enhance learning experiences for all students. Over the last three years we have also, for the first time, assessed the course so we have data to track our progress in improving the student experience.

This year, an extended January Winterim session permitted a revised field schedule to provide students with several half days of “free” time and gave students time to decompress and enjoy the local alpine hiking around Kingston. We revised the schedule for the stratigraphic section and added a directed mapping experience. We also made the Apache Gap exercise a full three-days and added half a day to the Rattlesnake Canyon mapping exercise. With extra time spent mapping in the field, we have seen tremendous growth of student field skills and better attitudes in the lodge.

The 2019 Field Camp II started with hot, sunny weather then ended with rain, snow, and more rain in the last exercise. Gotta love that unpredictable Montana weather! Instructors Robert Lodge, Phil Ihinger, and teaching assistants Adam Wiest and Tyson Noffke brought a group of 17 students to the Iron Wheel Guest Ranch near Whitehall, MT. The Iron Wheel is now under new management. John and Sherry Cargill have officially retired and moved into a new place just up the hill from the main ranch and the Iron Wheel is being operated by their son Scott and daughter-in-law Jody. The new owners were wonderful hosts and have lots of new and exciting things planned for the Iron Wheel. And most importantly, they hope to have us back next year! The students were active this year: there were rounds of volleyball, soccer, lawn darts, horseshoes... then some Nintendo and Netflix. Don't worry! The students were professional and worked hard... but we got rained out of the field a few times.

Scott and Jody Cargill continued a long tradition of cooking dinner for our last evening at the ranch – a massive 27-pound rib eye roast! The students didn’t leave much behind for the Belle (Jody’s dog). Our annual tour of the Butte Cu-Mo Mine operated by Montana Resources was a day well spent. Mine geologist Amanda Griffith gave us another great tour in the little white tour bus?! Turns out the old little yellow school bus from years past (the one with bad suspension and sketchy transmission) finally died. RIP little bus – may you continue to launch students to the ceiling in your next life. We also toured the Lewis and Clark Caverns and the Mineral Museum at Montana Tech on rainy days. Overall, the students had a great field camp!

We have seen tremendous growth of student field skills and better attitudes in the lodge.

FIELD CAMP II UPDATE-MONTANA
By Robert Lodge

The 2019 Field Camp II started with hot, sunny weather then ended with rain, snow, and more rain in the last exercise. Gotta love that unpredictable Montana weather! Instructors Robert Lodge, Phil Ihinger, and teaching assistants Adam Wiest and Tyson Noffke brought a group of 17 students to the Iron Wheel Guest Ranch near Whitehall, MT. The Iron Wheel is now under new management. John and Sherry Cargill have officially retired and moved into a new place just up the hill from the main ranch and the Iron Wheel is being operated by their son Scott and daughter-in-law Jody. The new owners were wonderful hosts and have lots of new and exciting things planned for the Iron Wheel. And most importantly, they hope to have us back next year! The students were active this year: there were rounds of volleyball, soccer, lawn darts, horseshoes... then some Nintendo and Netflix. Don't worry! The students were professional and worked hard... but we got rained out of the field a few times.

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Field Geology II students in Whitehall, Montana, June 2019. Some students received Adopt a Field Camper funding based on financial need.
PHASE I OF PHILLIPS HALL REPLACEMENT FUNDED BUILDING

Modified from Chancellor's Blog (6/27/19) using information from Eau Claire Leader-Telegram story (7/5/19)

Governor Tony Evers signed the 2019-21 state budget on July 3rd, which includes $109 million for phase one of a UWEC Science and Health Sciences Building to replace Phillips Hall, plus $1 million additional planning money for phase two of the project.

Funding for phase one of the Science and Health Sciences Building is a major milestone for UWEC as we continue our work to enhance our well-deserved reputation for excellence in the sciences and health sciences. Phillips Hall has served the university well for decades — and, as several lawmakers have pointed out, we have “squeezed everything out of the building” possible.

Regional legislators came together in a bipartisan manner to support funding for the Science and Health Sciences Building. They demonstrated throughout the budget process the ability to work together for the good of our region.

[Editor’s note: This is breaking news. Geology does not know the timeline, if we will be in phase one or two of the building project, or what Geology’s space might look like.]

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RESPONSIBLE MINING INITIATIVE UPDATE

By Kent Syverson

In November 2013, the University of Wisconsin System awarded UWEC Geology a $451,000 Economic Development Incentive Grant for the Responsible Mining Initiative (RMI). This grant was awarded to prepare highly qualified graduates for work in the mining industry, the environmental consulting industry, and in regulatory agencies such as the DNR.

The RMI continues to have a positive impact on students. In April twelve students obtained MSHA 24-hr New Miner training on campus—a great resume builder for those wishing to work in mining, environmental consulting, or a regulatory agency.

Twelve students obtained MSHA 24-hr New Miner training on campus.

In addition, fifteen students completed a 1-cr VULCAN special topics course, thanks to support from Maptek and instructor Brian Mahoney. We placed our first intern with Milestone Materials (a division of Mathy Construction), and for the first time we placed two true freshmen in entry-level internships where they are learning on the job while making good money during the summer. Here are two other telling statistics: Geology scholarships and grants in 2013 ($2500) vs. 2019 ($31,500), and the number of paid internships in 2012-13 (4) vs. 2018-19 (15). Approximately one-third of the 2019 internships are in hydrogeology and environmental geology, and the rest are in nonmetallic or metallic mining/exploration.

These successes have required much relationships-building with industry. In May, we held our 4th Geology/Responsible Mining Initiative Advisory Board meeting on campus. Fourteen external stakeholders attended the event and we obtained valuable feedback about our curriculum (see separate story) and fundraising. Faculty have attended professional meetings in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Toronto, and Texas to network with potential stakeholders. Lots of work, but it has been exciting to see students benefit from these new opportunities (see separate articles about internships, scholarships, and donations). Thanks to all partners with the Responsible Mining Initiative!

The Responsible Mining Initiative is providing amazing opportunities for our students. The scholarships reduce student debt. The internships provide a valuable window to the working world. When internships and scholarships/grants are added to field experiences and our strong collaborative research program, the Dept. of Geology is offering an undergraduate education not available at other universities. This is preparing our STEM graduates for the work force and graduate school. If your company might want to partner with the RMI through an internship, donation, or speaker, please contact Kent Syverson or Brian Mahoney.

Fifteen students completed a 1-cr VULCAN special topics course

(below) Veronica Aranda ‘18, Northern Industrial Sands intern, hard at work in the wet plant control room (summer 2018).
1. 2019 Field Camp II - geologists have impeccable style!
2. Natalie Brock (right) with Dr. Taryn Lopez (UWEC Geology ’03 and research volcanologist with UA - Fairbanks and the USGS Alaska Volcano Observatory
3. Natalie Brock, a participant in the 2018 International Volcanological Field School, at Mt. Griggs in Katmai National Park, Alaska
4. Research in the Rotunda event, Madison, spring 2019
5. Dee Vang and Emily Finger present their research in the Wisconsin Rotunda
6. Chloe Malin and Jonah Shoemaker-Gagnon install piezometers to study nutrient loading in Mud Lake, Barron County

7. Overlooking the mine pit in Butte, MT, 2019 Field Camp II

8. Hang En Cave, Vietnam. Brian Mahoney and Lori Snyder visited this cave - the third-largest cave in the world

9. The globe came to us as well! Camille Heninger, a graduate student at Univ. Alaska-Fairbanks, attended our Field Camps I & II this year and was a great addition to the crew!

10. Geology intern, Evan Lundeen, with Kraemer Mining & Materials in Minnesota (summer 2018)
The spring Geology banquet is a fun time to eat a fine meal, present awards, recognize graduating seniors, say goodbye to classmates after another year, and reminisce about field trips gone by! This year ~95 students, parents, faculty, and stakeholders assembled on May 11, 2019, at the American Legion in Eau Claire for the event.

The Evan Lundeen family!!

Geology brothers

The Jacobson and Hook families

The Austen Fairbanks family.

Geology sisters
THREE INTERNS ATTEND FRAC SAND CONFERENCE IN SAN ANTONIO, TX

By Kent Syverson

Kent Syverson and three UWEC Responsible Mining Initiative (RMI) interns attended the sold-out 7th Annual Frac Sand Supply & Logistics Conference in San Antonio, TX, Oct. 25-26, 2018. More than 700 people attended the event!

Interns (L to R in photo) Desmond Nielsen, Veronica Aranda, and Chloe Malin helped the meeting organizer, Mr. Pete Cook, with meeting setup and logistics in return for free registration and lodging at the Marriott Hill Country Resort (a fancy place). We all participated in the Equipment Expo to see the latest products for last-mile sand solutions. Thanks to Pete Cook and the Petroleum Connection for sponsoring the RMI interns!

HOFFMAN CONSTRUCTION SPONSORS MSHA TRAINING ON CAMPUS

By Brian Mahoney

In partnership with Hoffman Construction, the Responsible Mining Initiative offered its fourth annual Mining Safety and Hazard Administration (MSHA) 24-hour New Miner Training in April 2019. Twelve students participated in the three-day course. Gary Kaas of Hoffman Construction led the course, and his years of experience as a Safety Officer in mining and construction provided an outstanding background for the training, including a Badger Mining Corp. site visit in Taylor. Pete Fasching of HeartQuest Trainers provided an intensive, hands-on first aid course to complete the training. The course was excellent and helps our students obtain jobs in mining and environmental consulting following graduation. We hope to make this training an annual event. Thanks to Hoffman Construction for sponsoring this training session.

4TH ANNUAL GEOLOGY/RMI ADVISORY BOARD MEETING HELD

By Kent Syverson

The 4th Annual UWEC Geology/Responsible Mining Initiative Advisory Board meeting was held on May 21, 2019. Fourteen outside stakeholders (including eleven alumni) from Wisconsin, Minnesota, Colorado, and Idaho discussed curriculum, attended a poster session with our geology student researchers, and met Responsible Mining Initiative interns.

Much time was spent discussing ways to strengthen Geology’s Environmental Science emphasis. In addition, Board members were impressed with the quality of the collaborative research conducted by Blugold geology majors (the poster session is always a highlight for attendees). Internship placement and fundraising strategies were also discussed.

We thank all the professionals who attended the Advisory Board meeting. Attending such an event requires valuable time from people who are very busy with important projects, so we are grateful for their investment in our program. Participants included Todd Lindblad (Badger Mining Corp., ’13), Greg Beckstrom (Pace Analytical, ’84), Audrey Boerner (Eau Claire City-Council Health Dept., ’11), Ken Bradbury (State Geologist, WGNHS), Mark Ciardelli (Foth, ’04), John Guhl (SEH Inc.), Dale Kerner (Midas Gold, ’96), Mark Massicotte (Covia Corp.), Claudia Moore (Smart Sand Inc., ’17), Breck Johnson (Anadarko Petroleum, ’04), Tina Pint (Barr Engineering, ’99), Bob Servais (Milestone Materials, ’04), and Roberta Walls (WDNR).

We thank all of the professionals who attended the Advisory Board meeting

Geology and Responsible Mining Initiative Advisory Board, 2019.
2019 COVIA (FORMERLY UNIMIN) FRESHMAN GEOLOGY SCHOLARSHIPS ANNOUNCED

For the fifth year, Covia (formerly Unimin Corp.) has funded a merit-based, annual scholarship for high-potential incoming freshman who are majoring in Geology. This year five recipients were selected, and each will receive $1000. This year’s winners are Carter Hellenbrand (Stoughton), Kaine Johnson (La Crescent, MN), Cole Michaelsen (New Auburn), Jonathan Sargent (Cudahy), and Renner Stubbe (Wausau). Congratulations to these recipients, and we look forward to their arrival on campus this fall!

2019 COVIA SOPHOMORE GEOLOGY SCHOLARSHIPS ANNOUNCED

For the fifth year, Covia (formerly Unimin Corp.) has funded a merit-based scholarship for geology majors who will be taking Mineralogy-Petrology in the following fall semester. One $1250 scholarship has been awarded to Elinor Davis (Andover, MN) for the 2019-20 academic year.

RICHART WINS BECKSTROM GEOLOGY MAJOR SCHOLARSHIP

This year’s recipient of the Beckstrom Geology Major Scholarship is Katherine Richart (Plymouth, WI). This $1000 scholarship, established in fall 2005 by alumnus Greg Beckstrom ('84), is awarded annually to a comprehensive geology major who has completed Mineralogy-Petrology I. The awardee must have an excellent academic record and a demonstrated financial need. Thanks to Greg for his continued support of this scholarship.

TWO JOSH CARLISLE APPLIED GEOLOGY SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Josh Carlisle (UWEC Geol '02) of Denver, CO, donated money to establish the Josh Carlisle Applied Geology Scholarship. Recipients must have interest in applied geology careers. The first recipients of $1000 Josh Carlisle Applied Geology Scholarships are Elliot Draxler (left, Eau Claire, intern with Lundin Mining) and Evan Lundeen (right, St. Paul, MN, intern with Foth Environmental). Josh conducted research with Dr. Bradford Burton at UWEC. He graduated with a BS degree in Geology and a Minor in Business Administration and immediately started working in industry. Josh and his family live in Colorado where he works for Extraction Oil & Gas. Thanks to Josh for his generous donation!

DAVID L. RISCH GEOLOGY RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP (ENDOWED) AWARDED FOR FIRST TIME

David L. Risch (UWEC Geology ’78) of Katy, Texas, donated $30,400 to endow a $1000, annual, merit-based geology research scholarship. Recipients must be comprehensive geology majors with outstanding academic records, have an established Geology research track record, and plan to continue their engagement in research at UWEC in the coming academic year. The first recipient of the Risch Geology Research Scholarship is Trevor Nelson (Hammond, right).

David received a BS in Geology and Physics at UWEC and an MS in Oceanography at Texas A&M. He began his 31-year career in the energy industry as an exploration geophysicist initially with Phillips Petroleum Co., then Schlumberger, and retired from BHP Petroleum in 2013. Thanks to David for endowing this new scholarship!
The Wisconsin Industrial Sand Association (WISA) donated $5000 to the UW-Eau Claire Responsible Mining Initiative in memory of Rich Budinger, former president and spokesperson for WISA and a wonderful friend of the UWEC Geology program. Rich passed away in June 2018. He was the first person to attend the UWEC Spring Geology banquet to announce a major donation to the department (spring 2012).

This money will be used to Adopt a Field Camper ($500, one student) and fund two and one $1500 WISA Geology Scholarships during the 2019-20 and 2020-21 academic years, respectively. We thank WISA for choosing to honor Rich in this way--Rich had a heart for preparing geology students to do evidence-based investigations. The check was presented by WISA representatives Lauren Evans and Aaron Scott (former colleagues of Rich who are both with Covia).

The 2019-20 recipients of $1500 WISA Geology Scholarships are Shelby Short (Hackensack, MN) and Madeline Palubicki (Mondovi). Shelby and Maddie will be in MinPet I this fall.

Nolan Rodriguez (UWEC Geol ‘18) donated money to establish the H2O Well Drilling & Pump Service Geology Scholarship. Recipients must be non-freshman comprehensive geology majors with outstanding academic records. The first recipients of $500 H2O Well Drilling & Pump Service Geology Scholarships are Jacob Erickson (Maplewood, MN) and Chelsea Moran (Little Falls, MN).

Nolan received a BS in Geology’s Environmental Science emphasis. He participated in an entrepreneurial capstone experience where he developed a business plan for a well drilling business. He now operates H2O Well Drilling & Pump Service. It is highly unusual for a recent alumnus to establish a new scholarship, and we thank Nolan for his generosity!

Field camp experiences have become increasingly expensive for students. This scholarship, established by the department in 2006, is intended to lessen the financial burden of field camp for excellent students. The scholarship also honors the contributions of Dr. Paul Myers and Dr. Ronald Willis, geology professors at UWEC who worked very hard to establish a strong field component in our young geology program.

Emily Finger (Helenville, right), Regan Jacobson (Park Falls, pictured in photo in upper right), Cole Larke (Madison) are recipients of this year’s Myers/Willis scholarships. Recipients were selected based on performance excellence at Field Camp I in New Mexico. Each student received $400 to defray expenses for Field Camp II in Montana.

The Geology Dept. hopes to offer Myers/Willis scholarships to more students each year as the scholarship fund balance rises. We encourage all alumni who have benefited from our field experiences over the years to contribute to this fund. In addition, this is a great way to honor Paul and Ron for their dedication to our field program! See page 27 for information about contributing to this important scholarship fund.

This year Geology majors were awarded three prestigious university-wide scholarships at UWEC! Trevor Nelson (Hammond) received the $1700 George & Geraldine Rossman Fund for the Physical & Biological Sciences. Dr. George Rossman is a UWEC alumnus who teaches at Cal Tech. Emily Finger (Helenville) received the $1500 Leoba Hoban Scientific Research Scholarship and the $2500 Kell Container Corporation Scholarship. The Kell Scholarship is awarded to an undergraduate student who is involved in student-faculty research collaboration at UW-Eau Claire. Emily is conducting hydrogeology research with Dr. Sarah Vitale. These scholarships are an external recognition of the quality of our Geology majors.

Emily Finger with research mentor Sarah Vitale

Regan Jacobson

Rich Budinger
(1972-2018)

Maddie Palubicki (left) & Shelby Short (right)

WISA check presentation

WISA FUNDS SCHOLARSHIPS IN MEMORY OF RICHARD BUDINGER

TWO H2O WELL DRILLING & PUMP SERVICE GEOLOGY SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

MYERS/WILLIS FIELD CAMP SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

GEOLOGY MAJORS RECEIVE UNIVERSITY-WIDE SCHOLARSHIPS

"Rich Budinger (1972-2018)"
Greetings to all. I just got the reminder from Lorilie that it’s time to send in my news update, so I better get this to her. Right now, I’m in the northern Peruvian city of Lambayeque with Dr. Eric Torres from Education Studies. He has a group of education majors who are working with high school students in English classes, and we are working to set things up for science education majors to participate in this global experience. This has been a great way to start the summer as I just wrapped up a sabbatical I had during the spring semester.

Last fall, the semester followed a well-worn path with the teaching of Earth Science and Water Resources. Research in the fall involved a group of six hard-working students that included three geology majors: Allie Cook ('18), Sam Kleich ('18), and Ryan Willgoths ('19). This was the fourth year of a multi-year study of waste disposal habits. We continue to work with other sustainability-minded stakeholders on campus to change habits. Next year will see more outreach work and closer collaboration with the Student Office of Sustainability.

I used my sabbatical time to re-focus my research on a few projects. I spent time at Michigan State University collaborating with a colleague on a plate tectonics visualizations study. I also have been working on a manuscript that—based on survey data—adds to the understanding of what is needed when a mining operation is seeking to obtain a “social license to operate.” I also used some of my time this spring to put the finishing touches on a 22.5-ft-long geologic time scale that will be displayed in the Chippewa Moraine Ice Age Interpretive Center. Carly Mueller ('18), Elizabeth Brunner ('17), and Cathy Karlovich ('17) had invested much effort on it and I am glad that their excellent work is finally going to be displayed. I also figured that there was never going to be a better time than during my sabbatical to start incorporating some exercise into my weekly routine, so I trained for and ran the Eau Claire half marathon. I’m glad I did it and plan to keep on running. (It has been a bit of a challenge here in Lambayeque with the narrow streets, mototaxis, the unwritten rules as to who has the right-of-way, and a different concept of personal space than I am used to experiencing on the road.)

Francine remains committed to and enjoys the challenges of being the secretary at Meadowview Elementary. Patricia is going to be a freshman at Memorial High School in the fall. She continues to enjoy ice skating, being active in 4-H, and playing the oboe. My proud parent plug is that she will be playing her oboe for the second consecutive year in the Wisconsin Middle Level State Honors Band in October.

The coming year promises to be full of new adventures, and I wish everyone of you the best on your journeys.

KAREN HAVHOLM
Assistant Vice Chancellor of Research
havholkg@uwec.edu

Greetings, alumni and friends! Well, the biggest family news is that we have another doctor in the family! Our daughter finished her Ph.D. at University of Alberta and is now on the job market. She has a summer gig at a zinc mine in Alaska where she is working with Blugold geologist Alex Hutter ’16. Because they both missed their respective graduations, their colleagues gave them each a mortarboard made of a hard hat with a plastic board attached and a piece of flagging tape hanging down. Looks like they had a lively ceremony north of the Arctic Circle!

Not much has changed for us here in Eau Claire. We are enjoying our cabin on the Chippewa River in the Ladysmith area; it is an ongoing home remodeling project. Work-life remains about the same. One exciting project this year has been working on a bid to host the National Conference on Undergraduate Research in 2023. That would be 4500 students coming to Eau Claire to present their research on our campus. Would be fun AND challenging if we are selected.

It has been great to see a few of you as you stop by campus. Thank you for your ongoing support to the department and the university.
I still really look forward to introducing students to geological field work in some of the most amazing areas around the country.

Robert Hooper, Professor

This has been tough year from a personal standpoint as I have attended to multiple family issues in Michigan. I probably made ten visits to Michigan over the past year which always means driving through Chicago. The coming year must be quieter in terms of taking care of family members. I now also have two grandchildren (both toddlers) in New Jersey and have spent several long weekends travelling out east. Both grandkids love picking up rocks wherever we go, so maybe there are more geologists in training!

All the faculty love seeing alumni and catching up on old friendships. Please stop by the department if you are travelling through Wisconsin!

PHILLIP IHINGER, Professor

Greetings! As you've probably already noticed, my biggest 'news item' made the front page of our newsletter this year, so I'll keep this short and sweet. This past year saw quite a change in my teaching schedule, as I tried teaching our National Parks course in the fall for the first time (>315 students). 'Woof!' is all that needs to be said, given that there is no TA help for the endeavor. During January, I tag-teamed with Sarah Vitala as 'Second Instructor' at Field Camp I in New Mexico (Thank you, Bob and TAs Sam Kleich and Tyson Noffke, for running another very successful field camp experience for our majors!). Along with MinPet II, I taught a successful Global Environmental Change class (with a manageable 22 students!) in the spring. And after another wild-and-crazy end-of-semester, I headed out to Montana with Rob Lodge to teach Field Camp II, again stationed at the Iron Wheel Lodge. The new owners (son, Scott, and his wife, Jody) have taken great steps to update our favorite MT hangout after purchasing the lodge from John and Sherry, and they helped make our 17 students feel at home, along with Superstar TAs Adam West and Tyson Noffke.

Meanwhile, I've had great fun collaborating with students this past year on a variety of research projects. This year's CERCa (Research Day) included two studies on the geochemical characterization of 18th century glass: 1) on turquoise-colored, French-sourced, Native American trade beads collected from Ft. Mackinac, MI; and 2) on turquoise-colored glass fragments collected from the historic glass-making region in central France. Analytical aspects of this work were presented last week at the annual Microanalysis Society meeting by Dee Yang ('19), Jackelyn Anderson ('18), and Katherine Langfield ('21), and they will present other cool aspects of this work at September’s GSA conference in Phoenix, AZ. This year's CERCa celebration also included: 3) Elliot Draxler's ('19) presentation on the origin of magmatic sulfide deposits at Eagle Mine; 4) Tyson Noffke ('19) and Trevor Nelson's ('20) presentation on the role of fracture geometry on the growth of hydrothermal quartz crystals; and 5) Colleen Olson’s ('21) presentation on finite element modeling of contaminant diffusion in post- and syn-crystallizing crystals in the hydrothermal environment. I continue to be amazed by the quality of work conducted by our Blugolds.

As for my family, Ghislaine successfully completed her editing certificate at UC-Berkeley, Mati successfully completed her first year at SciencePo in France, and Evie is excited about her undefeated softball team's prospects in the playoffs! In July, Tricia, the girls, and I will spend 3 weeks together in southern France. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the upcoming GSA in Phoenix.

PHILLIP IHINGER, Professor

Greetings! As you've probably already noticed, my biggest 'news item' made the front page of our newsletter this year, so I'll keep this short and sweet. This past year saw quite a change in my teaching schedule, as I tried teaching
One goal of the Responsible Mining Initiative is to provide practical work experiences for our undergraduate students through paid internships. We now have four Responsible Mining Initiative internships where Blugold geology majors are given hiring preference over students from other universities! 

*Smart Sand Inc.* has hired at least one UWEC Geology intern annually since 2014 and they have hired three of these graduating students into full-time positions!

Our efforts to enhance internship opportunities have been a resounding success. Three students continued their summer 2018 internships part time into the academic year. During the past academic year and this summer, 15 students have had/will have paid internships with metallic and non-metallic mining companies, environmental consulting firms, and governmental agencies and earn ~$113,000 in wages. This large number of paid internships is highly unusual for an undergraduate geology program.
LUNDIN MINING
Marquette, MI
Elliot Draxler | Geology Intern
Metallic mining
Pictured with Lundin Mining’s Chris Nimon (L, UWEC Geol ’16)

LUNDIN MINING
Marquette, MI
Emily Finger | Geology Intern
Metallic mining

MILESTONE MATERIALS (A DIVISION OF MATHY CONSTRUCTION)
Onalaska, WI
Parker Alsteens | Geology Intern
Non-metallic mining
Pictured with Milestone Materials’ Bob Servais (R, UWEC Geol ’04)

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY
Twin Cities
Duabchi Vang | Environmental Intern

CURTIN UNIVERSITY
Idaho
Austin Fairbanks | Field Geology Intern

TECK
Montana
Katie Richart | Geology Intern
Metallic Mining
tour through the Archean Superior Province in northeastern Minnesota. The mine tour at Soudan Mine Underground State Park and the underground train ride (not a subway) is always a hit. My Physical Geology class is always fun, even with the shortened semester that I had (see new arrivals below). I love to spread the word that geology is a pivotal part of our lives.

At home, the Lodge family had our first boy, Bruce Wilson, in January. You are reading that right, another baby! That’s four! Big sisters Hillary, Claudia, and Meredith are loving having a little brother. My beautiful, amazing wife Cassie somehow manages to keep all those kids in one piece while I’m at the office or on field trips - everyone happy and healthy while I’m at work – did I mention that she’s amazing?? Hillary just finished kindergarten and Claudia starting 4K in the fall. Meredith is walking, talking, and climbing everything she can. Needless to say, the Lodge family home is a very lively one.

J. BRIAN MAHONEY, Professor mahoney@uwec.edu

Nothing marks the end of the semester and the arrival of the summer like Kent’s stream of email reminders to get your newsletter items submitted! [Editor’s note—July is not the end of the semester, Brian!] The Department is about to undergo a monumental shift as Kent steps down as Chair, and Phil Ihinger takes the reins. I thank Kent for his long and illustrious service – the Department has made great strides during his tenure. I would also like to offer Phil my full support in what will undoubtedly be a period of significant change in the Department. It has been a busy and hectic year, and I have lots to report!

Our research program continues to expand into new and uncharted territory! A major focus over the last year was a detailed stratigraphic analysis and detrital zircon geochronology campaign in the Belt Supergroup in Idaho, Montana and British Columbia. We essentially doubled the number of detrital zircon analyses in the lower Belt Supergroup, which has dramatically expanded our understanding of subsidence patterns and mineralization events within the basin. This ongoing collaborative effort with Teck, Inc. is focused on a modern reexamination of the Belt basin to understand syndepositional Pb-Zn mineralization.

Colleague Dave Kimbrough from San Diego State University and I were awarded a $300,000 National Science Foundation grant to continue our work in the south-central Andes. The focus of the grant will be the role of the Choiyoi Group, a 500-km-wide, 3000-km-long succession of rhyolitic volcanic rocks, in the end Permian extinction events. The Choiyoi Group is equivalent to 125 Yellowstone eruptions occurring simultaneously about 260 million years ago, and we suspect the climatic impact of such massive eruptions may have had a causative effect on mass extinction. The grant will involve taking three cohorts of students to Argentina in each of the next three years to conduct stratigraphic, geochemical and geochronological transects across the volcanic system. Should be most interesting!

Dave Kimbrough from San Diego State University and I were awarded a $300,000 National Science Foundation grant to continue our work in the south-central Andes

J. Brian Mahoney, Professor

Sarah Vitale and I continue to pursue water contamination issues in western Wisconsin. We recently received an ~$40,000 grant from the Groundwater Research & Monitoring Program, and a $10,000 grant from the UW System Undergraduate Water Fellows Program to expand our regional surface-water and groundwater chemistry study. Our current focus is on the potential for phosphorus transport in the groundwater system and its potential role in lake eutrophication events. We have 6-7 students working on different aspects of the project, so stay tuned for preliminary results within the next few months.

I was invited to be part of a UWEC delegation visiting universities in Oman to develop collaborative research and educational opportunities. The delegation spent a week in January touring the country and visiting Sultan Quabus Univ. in Muscat (think UW-Madison) and the Univ. of Nizwa in Nizwa (think UW-Stout). Fascinating country and culture, and I look forward to the developing collaborations with Omani colleagues. UWEC will be hosting an official Omani delegation in September to enhance our collaborations. Lots of opportunities for UWEC students, hopefully starting with a 10-day field trip to the Oman Ophiolite in March 2020!!! Let me know if you are interested!

Lori and I took some personal time and spent about three weeks in Vietnam in December and January. It was an outstanding trip, despite a typhoon landing on the day we arrived and chilly conditions in the north. Vietnam is a tremendous place with a deep and fascinating history, spectacular countryside, outstanding cuisine and amazingly friendly people. Highlights include a visit to the ancient city of Hue, a trek into the jungle to spend the night in the world’s third-largest cave, a few nights in the wild backstreets and alleyways of Hanoi, an overnight on a classic junk on Ha Long Bay, and a deeply personal visit to a Buddhist temple to say farewell to an old friend. It was quite an adventure!!!

LORI SNYDER, Senior Lecturer snyderld@uwec.edu

Hello Everyone! Another year gone by and time again for updates from the Geology Department. As time rolls on, I am continuously impressed and gratified with the laudable accomplishments of our faculty, students and alumni. Thanks to all of you for caring and sharing.

The Department is going through a few changes. Our outgoing Chair, Kent Syverson, has been a steady and reliable leader for many years and I would like to thank him for his service in that capacity. Under his guardianship, we have implemented the Responsible Mining Initiative, dramatically increased internship and scholarship opportunities, and established an advisory board. We are excited for our incoming chair, Phil Ihinger, who has agreed to take the helm and steer through uncharted waters toward a new science building on campus. We anticipate some curricular changes in the Environmental Science emphasis as we continue to evolve with young faculty, an engaged advisory board, and changing needs of society.

My year had a much-needed alteration in the Fall semester when Phil Ihinger taught GEOL 201 (National Parks), a course with an enrollment of >300 students! I think it was a good experience for both of us. It gave me an opportunity to focus on course revisions and gave Phil a chance to take his extensive knowledge and theatrical skills to a larger audience and experience the challenges of high-enrollment courses. GEOL 122 (Future of
Global Energy) was offered with full enrollment during Winterim. The University is in the process of changing Learning Management Systems (from D2L to Canvas), which is challenging in an online course.

The big excursion of the year was a three-week trip to Vietnam, which is a very engaging country. The culture, food, history and people are amazing! Despite the inclement weather, we had a wonderfully diverse and memorable range of experiences. From visiting the War Remnants Museum in Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) to a 12-km hike through dense jungle to the world’s third-largest cave to an excellent cooking class in Hoi An, Vietnam was an amazing experience.

I hope this year was a great one for you and your loved ones and wish you the best in the coming year!

LORLIE STEINKE, Academic Department Associate steinklm@uwec.edu

Greetings! Things continue to remain busy in the department office and at home. My time is divided between expense reports, travel arrangements, budgets, schedules and spoiling my granddaughter Opal (which of course is my favorite way to spend my time)! I greatly enjoy getting updates from our graduates throughout the year, so please keep sending me messages about your lives, and don’t forget that everyone is always welcome to stop by the office if you are in Eau Claire

KENT SYVERSON, Professor syverskm@uwec.edu

Greetings from Eau Claire! I have now completed my 27th year in the department. I still enjoy teaching college students very much! The past year I taught Geomorphology, Oceanography, and the Responsible Mining Seminar. On May 27th I handed over chair duties to Dr. Phil Ihinger. I became chair in 2010, so it was a big relief to turn over the meetings, assessment reports, etc. to Phil! To celebrate, my wife and I took a 21-day Alaskan cruise with Holland America. I was a geology naturalist and gave many formal lectures and supplied scenic cruising commentaries in gorgeous fjords. It was a fun time! I’m not retiring, however! I’ll be teaching in the fall and continuing efforts to expand internship and scholarship opportunities for our students.

On May 27th, I handed over chair duties to Dr. Phil Ihinger

Kent Syversen, Professor

Life is never boring. My fall semester was a whirlwind, as always—grading papers always keeps me hopping. In October I accompanied three Responsible Mining Initiative interns to the 7th Annual Frac Sand Supply & Logistics conference in San Antonio, TX. In the spring I was fortunate to have an excellent slate of speakers for the Responsible Mining Seminar, and I was also working to organize things for Chair Phil.

I continue to seek more internships, scholarships, and other educational opportunities for our students. I am thankful for industry stakeholders who have assisted our students. The 4th Advisory Board meeting held in mid-May was extremely valuable—we always receive great input from the stakeholders.

In May I attended the International Glaciological Society meeting in Madison, WI. I presented the results of Carter Boswell’s ArcGIS project to evaluate evidence for a calving embayment in the Penobscot River valley. I received excellent feedback and continue to work on a journal manuscript discussing our findings. I am still actively consulting in the Wisconsin and Texas frac sand industries. I even made a whirlwind trip to visit a sand facility in the Permian Basin (TX) in January. I have also been part of a multidisciplinary team using geotechnical data to evaluate evidence for a perched water table.

My family and I had a good year. One of my daughters completed her first year of teaching Spanish at Sheboygan Falls High School. My other daughter and son continue their post-secondary educations and we think we see light at the end of the tunnel! We attended the Syversen family reunion in northwestern MN and I watched (on TV) my UMD Bulldogs win their second NCAA hockey championship in a row! I continue to slowly write about my Alaskan geology adventures for family and friends.

I will be around Eau Claire much of the summer. If you are around, please visit the department!

SARAH VITALE, Assistant Professor vitalesa@uwec.edu

It has been a very full and exciting second year! In mid-June, my husband Matt and I welcomed our second child, Emmett. Our daughter Madeline (4) is a very proud big sister. I continue to teach Environmental Geology, and Hydrogeology I and II. I also joined Field Camp I for the first time this past January. I enjoy having variety in my teaching experiences, both in the classroom and the field. In October we had the pleasure of hosting the GSA Hydrogeology Division Birdsall-Dreiss Distinguished Lecturer, Dr. David Boutt from UMass-Amherst—a great experience for our students!

Water research at UWEC is thriving. I have been working with Brian Mahoney to investigate phosphorus sources and migration in surface and ground water in western Wisconsin. Our work on this has moved forward substantially thanks to a small army of excellent research students. This past year we received a $39,000 State of Wisconsin Groundwater Research & Monitoring Program grant through UW System (collaborating with UWEC alumna Anna Baker ’09 at the USGS) to fund students and continue the phosphorus work in 2019-2020. We also received a $10,000 Undergraduate Water Fellows Program fellowship through UW System to expand the project and fund an additional student.

I accompanied several research students to professional meetings this year, including the GSA meeting in Indianapolis and the Wisconsin American Water Resources Association Meeting in Delevan (Duabchi Yang ’19, Emily Finger ’20, Jonah Shoemaker-Gagnon ’19, and Chloe Malin ’19). Duabchi and Emily were invited to present their work on long-term groundwater level trends in Wisconsin at Research in the Rotunda in Madison this spring. It was an excellent opportunity to showcase their research in front of state legislators. Emily was also awarded the prestigious Kell Container Corporation Scholarship through the UWEC Office of Research and Sponsored Programs for student-faculty collaborative research. This is my first year I have research students graduating. It’s very bittersweet, but I’m looking forward to fresh faces in the classroom and in my research program in the upcoming academic year!
EMERITUS FACULTY NEWS

PAUL E. MYERS, Professor Emeritus
paul.myers600@gmail.com

Don Schleicher ’85, Professor Emeritus Dr. Paul Myers, and Dr. Lung Chan (UWEC 1984-94) at spring 2019 wedding in Philadelphia

I am a long-term “alumnus” of UWEC, having spent 38 years of “undergraduate study” at UWEC. Since “graduation” I have been teaching in Panama at very low wages - practically none at all. So, I can’t understand why, after all those years of education I can’t even make a living teaching in Panama. Some would say I am a “slow learner”. I guess maybe I should take Field Camp. Dr. Syverson tells me you REALLY need that course to graduate “properly”. Maybe that’s why I’m not paid much here in Panama. Well, if one of you other former UWEC students could fork over a little cash for my Field Camp, I could finally get my DIPLOMA. You’d like that wouldn’t you? I’ll be waiting - and hoping. Paul Myers, Hopeful Future Geology Graduate of ’19.

[Editor’s note—Yes, field camp is critical for paid geology employment! Also, Paul’s son and grandson (a UWEC Geology major) are in a photograph in this newsletter!]

JOHN TINKER, Professor Emeritus
inkerjr@triwest.net

Hello to everyone. I had a good year. I will mention two experiences for you. My wife Christine volunteered me to give a talk to the Chippewa Valley Learning in Retirement Group. I agreed, and Christine and I came up with the following title for the presentation “Geologic Time and Your Time: You Are Not As Old as Dirt”. About 85 people attended. I presented geologic cross sections and then asked the audience to determine the geologic history. I wanted to know how much they knew about rocks, so I asked them to give me any name of a rock. A woman yelled out “schist”. I said one had to be careful pronouncing that word. I do not know why she knew or picked that metamorphic rock, but I said it was related to a nice gneiss and several people laughed. As I did at UWEC, I tried to get each of the 85 people to answer/ask/respond to one part of the interaction. I had fun and by the numerous questions and comments, I think those in attendance had fun and learned a little geology.

We both had fun, but geologic time has taken some pep out of my legs

John Tinker, Professor Emeritus

My second experience was taking my seventeen-year-old granddaughter to the South Unit of the Theodore Roosevelt National Park in North Dakota. We went to re-measure the erosion stakes that I used for my Ph.D. dissertation 51 years ago. It had rained a few days before we arrived and it misted part of the first day we worked. Our cohorts, slippery montmorillonite and greasy bentonite, made the Sentinel Butte Formation hillslopes a mess. I can still hear my granddaughter giggling behind me as I crawled up the steeper hillslopes. We both had fun, but geologic time has taken some pep out of my legs.

Again, I say hello to everyone. Work hard, stay healthy, and have a good year. Please keep in touch with the UWEC Geology Department and Dr. Syverson.

AWARDS

EXCELLENCE IN GEOLOGY AWARDS
IN 2018-2019

The “Excellence in Geology” Award recognizes the academic achievements of the outstanding graduating geology major, both in coursework and in faculty/student collaborative research. The winners of the Geology Excellence Award for 2018-2019 are Samantha (Sam) Kleich and Duabchi (Dee) Vang. Congratulations to both Sam and Dee!

Sam is a native of Tomahawk, WI. Sam discovered an interest in geology while attending UW-La Crosse and transferred to UWEC to obtain a Geology degree (General Emphasis). Sam participated in a research project with Dr. Robert Hooper examining the geochemistry of soot particles. She presented her research at the national AGI conference in New Orleans. She also conducted sustainability research with Scott Clark. Sam held a paid internship with Lundin Mining (Eagle Mine) in UP Michigan last summer and has been working for them following graduation. She was the recipient of a Fairmount Santrol Responsible Mining Scholarship and a Myers/Willis Field Camp Scholarship.

Dee is a native of Onalaska, WI. Dee transferred to UWEC from UW-La Crosse and is graduating with a major in Geology (General Emphasis). She has participated in several research hydrogeology research projects with Dr. Sarah Vitale and a research project on trade bead geochemistry with Dr. Phil Ihinger. She has presented this research at NC GSA, national GSA, AWRA, the Research in the Rotunda event in Madison, and the Microanalysis Society meeting in Minneapolis. She was the recipient of the Michael F. Fredrich Scholarship (the largest scholarship in the College of Arts and Sciences). Following graduation, Dee has a paid environmental internship with the MN PCA.

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CONGRATS, GRADS!

RECENT GEOLOGY GRADUATES
Fall 2018, Spring & Summer 2019 (unofficial list)

ANDERSON, JACKELYN
COOK, ALEXANDRA
EILRICH, SCOTT
HESSBURG, JEFFREY
HOOK, GLEN
JACOBSON, REGAN
KLEICH, SAMANTHA
LARKE, COLE
LYDON, ZACHARY
MALIN, CHLOE
NELSON, BENJAMIN
NIELSEN, DESMOND
NOFFKE, TYSON
OLSON, MAILE
SCOTT, RACHEL
SEMINGSON, LUKE
SHOEMAKER-GAGNON, JONAH
VANG, DUABCHI
WALTER, BETTY
WILLGOHS, RYAN

CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2018-19!
Please stay in touch! Make sure we have your email address.
Jackie Anderson '18. Jackie has been a Geologist with Arcadis in Minneapolis, MN, since February 2019. She works on groundwater and vapor remediation projects around the Twin Cities area.

Mitchell Banach '17. Mitchell writes, “The State of Wisconsin recently issued my PG license. I owe a big thank you to the geology department staff who helped me reach that milestone. Both exams were challenging, and I was at somewhat of a disadvantage by having close-to-the-minimum coursework credits required, but those courses gave me a sufficient foundation to supplement with a study guide and other resources.” [Editor’s note—Mitch shared his experiences with the PG process with the Geology Club this spring.]

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Mitchell Banach '17

Ryan Bartingale '06. Ryan is a registered professional engineer in Colorado. He obtained his PE registration in 2016. Ryan writes, “I went to graduate school at Colorado School of Mines in Golden, CO, for geological engineering and graduated in 2009. I am currently working as a consultant in the mining industry.”

Samantha Bartnik '16. Sam is attending graduate school at New Mexico State Univ. and is a Geoscience intern with ExxonMobil in Houston during summer 2019.

John Beck '07. John is a Senior Rock Engineer at CMOC International in Tucson, AZ.

Kris Benusa '12. Kris is a Project Environmental Scientist at The Foth Companies based out of the Lake Elmo (MN) office.

Kaelyn Blotz '18. Kaelyn is a geologist at Arcadis in the Milwaukee area.

Taylor (Crist) Pierce '12. Taylor is a geological engineer working at Bay West LLC in Colorado.

Dan Dahlman '99. Dan is an International Regulator Affairs Manager at Ecolab in Lake Elmo, MN. Dan writes, “I spent the winter (2018) in Singapore learning our Asia Pacific business, but am back now with the family. Jody and I each travel about 50% of the time, so it makes for a hectic household some weeks. Always an adventure though! Love seeing the newsletter every year!”

Corrie Floyd '11. Corrie writes, “I am still a Geologist at the Minnesota DNR where I continue to focus on development of construction aggregate resources on Minnesota’s School Trust Lands. My wife, two daughters, huskies, and I live near St. Paul. Hit me up if you’re ever in town!”

Eli Fredrickson '17. Eli is a Field Geologist with Haley & Aldrich in Phoenix, AZ. Eli collects field data and oversees drilling activities, well construction, and well development.

Lynn Galston '08. Lynn is a Data Integration and Stewardship – Network Coordinator with Equinor in Houston, TX.

Katy Grant '14. Katy has been working as a Geologist with Arcadis in Minneapolis, MN since January 2015. She spends most of her time managing local groundwater and soil remediation projects. Her primary technical focus is hydrogeology and contaminant fate and transport. She also spent the first part of the 2019 in Southern California working on the Woolsey Fire clean-up project. She spends the remainder of her time doing yoga or hanging out with her giant cat, Jasper.

Kristen Gunderson-Inden '95. Kristen writes, “I have gone back into consulting and am now at Stantec in Mequon, WI (northern Milwaukee suburb). I will be doing a lot of environmental compliance work for clients (audits, permitting, reporting). Life is busy but good. Our son, Max, just turned 6 and both of us joined the Wauwatosa Curling Club this year and are having a blast with our new winter sport.

It is cool to see a 52- lb kid throw a 42-lb stone on the ice
Kristen Gunderson-Inden '95

It is cool to see a 52-lb kid throw a 42-lb stone on the ice (and hopefully this will get him thinking that rocks – or at least the fancy granite the stones are made of – are cool).”

Melissa Hackenmueller '18. Melissa is a Junior Geologist with GHD in the Twin Cities. She does groundwater sampling and some drilling.

Douglas Hallum '96. Doug writes, “Hydrogeology on the High Plains is about the Ogallala Aquifer and its Paleogene/Neogene strata. I broke out of that box this year by drilling two test holes into the Permian (Cedar Hills Member of the Salt Fork Fm.), hosting a successful AAPG Mid-Continent Section Field Conference on Carboniferous Cyclothsoms, and taking a closer look at the Chamberlain Pass Fm. in Nebraska and age-correlated units in South Dakota. Work never ends. Paula is still practicing floral design, so I’m off the hook for flowers. It’s good that she likes collecting rocks. We had a very special visit in June when my godchild, daughter of Steve Peterson (UWEC Geology ’97), graduated from high school. We ended 2018 with a visit from my dad for a hunting trip to the Nebraska Sandhills... in a blizzard! It was a good year.”

We ended 2018 with a visit from my dad for a hunting trip to the Nebraska Sandhills... in a blizzard!
Douglas Hallum '96

Michelle Haskin '98. Michelle is a Teaching Assistant Professor in the Department of Geological Sciences at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Steven Hoaglund '03. Steven reports, “I’m now a senior exploration geologist at EOG Resources in Oklahoma City. It was a great opportunity for continued professional growth and I couldn’t pass it up, even if it further delays our inevitable move back home. In other news, Jenny and I are expecting our 2nd son sometime in October. Our two boys will be roughly 22 months apart when he arrives, so life will be pretty interesting for the foreseeable future. We’re extremely thankful for our expanding family.”
Andie (Andrea) Holm ’14. Andie is a Certification Specialist at MOSA (Midwest Organic Services Association) and writes, “After working for a few years as a geologist at Selman and Associates and a chemical lab technician at WRR (Waste Recycling and Remediation), I moved into agriculture, my intended industry. I currently work as a certification specialist for MOSA to certify operations and products as organic based on USDA National Organic Program standards. My degree did a great job preparing me for this work as I write technical certification letters and hike all over the countryside during farm inspections.”

I moved into Agriculture, my intended industry.

Andie (Andrea) Holm ’14

Mark Holmes ’97. Mark writes, “I recently retired after 32 years in government at the federal, state, and local levels. During the last 21 years I utilized my hydrogeology knowledge gained from UWEC and UMD. I was Water Resources Manager for the City of Goodyear, Arizona, Water Advisor for the City of Mesa, AZ, Water Resources Director for the Town of Chino Valley, AZ, and Hydrologist III with the Arizona Dept. of Water Resources. Since retiring, I have started an LLC and continue to work on water resource projects. Currently, I am assisting a client developing the largest energy storage project in the SW United States (larger than the Hoover Dam). You can download the video from my One Drive link here: https://1drv.ms/v/s!Am461utCWCEtCl8ne2Ow07hdf59 or view it on my project LinkedIn page. I am finally able to live on my Northern Arizona ranch – it has been very exciting to live where it is cooler than the Phoenix Valley and work on the ranch in my free time. I am also engaged in a few other water projects with the Town of Chino Valley (my neighboring community).”

I recently retired after 32 years in government at the federal, state, and local levels

Mark Holmes ’97

Lucy Horst ’18. Lucy writes, “I am currently working for Halliburton’s Gulf of Mexico division as a Logging Geologist (I am writing this from offshore right now). I work on offshore oil rigs catching cutting samples and assisting with mud logging, describing oil shows, and well control/monitoring.”

Matt Hostak ’89. Matt reports, “No longer formally ‘employed’ (since 2014), but am still fully ‘occupied’ with many things, most of which involve service to others. I spend most of my ‘labor’ hours volunteering with Habitat for Humanity in Oshkosh. I consider myself VERY fortunate and VERY blessed in every way.”

Will Howard ’18. Will is a Geologist I (ore control) at Barrick GoldStrike in northeastern Nevada.

Alex Hutter ’16. Alex writes, “I am up with the exploration team at Red Dog on a seasonal contract. Lots of exciting work happening up here this season. I just received word today that all paperwork has been processed and I will receive my MSc degree from Memorial Univ. of Newfoundland at the end of this month. Glad to hear more UWEC students are heading up to MUN.”

Breck Johnson ’04. Breck is a Geoscience Manager with Anadarko Petroleum Corporation in Denver, CO.

Craig Koch ’82. Craig writes, “I obtained a BA in Secondary Education from UW-Milwaukee in May 1985 and an MSE in Physics/Education from UW-Oshkosh in 2010. Have been teaching Chemistry, Physics, Robotics and whatever else they throw at me since 1985 at Hilbert High School in Hilbert, WI. Next year will be my 35th, and most likely last, year teaching. My wife and I like to travel to areas where we can hike in the mountains and spend time with our 2 grandchildren. This year we will visit northern Arizona and last year we were in Yosemite at the start of the fire. The previous year we began in the Alpine regions of Austria, went into northern Italy, Germany, Switzerland and ended in Chamonix, France, at the foot of Mt. Blanc.”

Ric Kopp ’75. Ric writes, “I have been fortunate to be in the oil and gas business for 42 years – what a wonderful career and journey it has been and hopefully will continue. Have seen a lot of ups and downs, but since starting on this path at UWEC it has been great. A new company started last year after an acquisition is moving forward and starting a recompletion program of 35 wells drilled in the late 1970’s-early 1980’s which were making only 55 barrels per day. After evaluation and working on reopening and fraking these wells, production increased to 2300 barrels of oil per day. Also kicked off a vertical and horizontal drilling program to add new production to this old field. I am doing detailed geologic evaluation in an old field using newly acquired 3-D seismic to bring new reserves in what was considered a depleting area. Jacqueline and I continue to enjoy doing all sorts of activities with the grandchildren – sports, school programs, skiing and camping are great pastimes and keep us young. Looking forward to another visit to Eau Claire area this coming fall and a visit with the UWEC faculty which I have always enjoyed in past years.”

Adam Krieger ’09. Adam is an Account Executive-Commercial Business Team member at ESRI in the Twin Cities. Adam writes, “My UWEC degree introduced me to GIS and how applicable it can be to many facets of the professional world. I was very fortunate to be able to take this passion and start working for ESRI. My role is to work with companies and help them leverage geography to positively impact their business.”

Mike Kristoff ’11. Mike writes, “I’m back!! Although I’m over in Hammond (close to Baldwin, WI), I work for ERN, an environmental consulting firm in Minneapolis. I started in Houston as a geologist focusing on groundwater remediation at refineries, chemical plants, and manufacturing facilities. I traveled quite a bit throughout Texas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma. I transferred back to the area in September 2018, and while I still perform that work, my job responsibilities have shifted.”

I was in Houston when Hurricane Harvey went through and my house flooded

Mike Kristoff ’11

Most of my time now is spent creating maps and animations for contaminated sites and
Rachel Lair ‘18. Rachel is an Environmental Scientist with Summit Envirosolutions, Inc. in Savage, MN.

Steph Larsen ‘01. Steph and her husband welcomed new baby Soren into their lives. Big sister Brigid is 2.5 years old and loves her brother! Steph and her family moved to northern New York last summer, and love being close to Lake Champlain. They recently bought an 80-acre farm, and plan to spend their free time raising yaks.

I have been learning to geosteer wells

April Leistikow ‘14

Taryn Lopez ‘03. Taryn writes, “Through my current position I help co-teach a volcanology field class in Katmai National Park in years with large class sizes. This past year UWEC geology student Natalie Brock joined the field school. While I wasn’t needed to teach this year, I had the pleasure of meeting Natalie in Anchorage at the US Geological Survey’s Alaska Volcano Observatory.”

This past year UWEC geology student Natalie Brock joined the field school

Taryn Lopez ‘03

Alex Lutze ‘17. Alex is a Senior Laboratory Technician at the Minnesota Geological Survey.

Chloe Malin ‘19. Chloe was hired before graduation as a Field Geologist with AECOM in Duluth, MN.

Tim Molitor ’13. Tim has been a Geologist with Arcadis in Minneapolis, MN, since July 2018. Katy Grant (UWEC ’14) is his boss! He spends his free time hanging out with son, Elliott, who was welcomed in November 2018.

Ben Nelson ’19. Ben was recently hired as a hydrogeologist at METCO in La Crosse, WI.

Chris Nimon ‘16. Chris works as a Geologist at Eagle Mine in Champion, MI.

Joshe Olson ‘13. Josh is a Water Resource Planner with the Kansas Water Office. Josh writes, “The Kansas Water Office is responsible for the planning and implementation of water-related projects in the state. So far, I’ve been helping with the logistics for a water injection dredging demonstration in a Kansas reservoir (water and sediment monitoring, reservoir velocity measurements, communication and public outreach strategy), a pilot study for recycling produced water from oil drilling, and other water management projects. The job has an emphasis on project management and coordination and is focused primarily on water supply projects, which I appreciate. We work with many agencies, politicians, contracted water supply customers, and the general public, so there is a substantial social element as well.”

Steve Peterson ’97. Steve is the current Associate Director for Hydrologic Investigations at the USGS Nebraska Water Science Center. Steve received a B.S. in Hydrogeology from UWEC and an M.S. in Geology from Northern Illinois University.

He worked as a hydrogeologist for the Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District from 1999-2005, during which he had an instrumental role in groundwater modeling and the Nebraska Cooperative Hydrology Study. In 2005, Steve joined the USGS Nebraska Water Science Center as a Hydrologist. In that capacity, Steve led the NEWSC groundwater modeling program and took the role of groundwater modeling team lead in 2010. Steve assumed responsibilities as Associate Director for Hydrologic Investigations in 2016.

Justin Poirier ’16. Justin is pursuing a second degree in Geotechnical Engineering at UW–Milwaukee.

Sarah (Prindiville) Engelhardt ’04. Sarah works as a Geologist/3D Modeler at O’Brien & Gere (OBG) in Milwaukee.

Heidi Rantala ‘97. I took a new position at MN DNR in the fisheries research group. Officially, I was hired as a lake/landscape ecologist, and I will be looking at stressors in Minnesota lakes as they pertain to fish habitat. I’m very excited to use my training in this capacity, and I can’t wait to make contributions to better understand Minnesota lakes! I’ve also been busy cross-country skiing (yay, Duluth) and signed up to run Grandma’s Marathon.”

I've also been busy cross-country skiing (yay, Duluth) and signed up to run Grandma’s Marathon.

Heidi Rantala ‘97
Tom Rasmussen ’83. Tom works at Wood Environment and Infrastructure, Inc. (Wood) with colleague Duane Paul ’84. For many years, Wood has been dealing with emerging contaminants. These include per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and other substances that have been defined by the US EPA as chemicals or materials that have a perceived, potential, or real threat to human health or the environment, lack published health standards, and/or have newly available science or pathway information. PFAS fate and transport is a growing field for young hydrogeologists with computer modeling skills.

Kenneth Ritt ’14. Kenny is a Human Resources Manager at Eliana Homes in the Milwaukee area.

Colton Sander ’18. Colton is an Environmental Technician with Oakridge Engineering in Chippewa Falls, WI.

Michele (Skahaug) Maxson ’06. Michele writes, “I have been promoted to Senior Environmental Specialist with Covia and have moved to our Huntersville office in North Carolina. We service locations in AL, OH, NC, SC, TN & VA with 2-3 more states coming in June, so I am extremely busy on the east coast. I love the weather here in North Carolina with mountains 1-2 hours away and the ocean 3-4 hours away. Last weekend we emptied our last box, so now we can enjoy everything. I came across my college boxes and went down memory lane with my geology pictures and rock samples. Funny how I still remembered where they all came from and their mineral components. My daughter could not believe so many rocks had such unique stories. It has been a pleasure being part of the Advisory Board and visiting UWEC to see the changes. I hope to get back to the area from time to time and tour the new Science Building.”

Jonah Shoemaker-Gagnon ’19. Jonah was recently hired as Staff Hydrogeologist/Geologist I with Brown and Caldwell in the Boise, Idaho, area.

Christopher Stovern ’14. Chris is a CMT Technician at Braun Intertec Corporation.

Ashley Thompson ’18. Ashley is a Quality Assurance Control Specialist with Turnkey Processing Solutions at Wisconsin Proppants in Hixton, WI.

Gregory Valitchka ’12. Gregory is the Director of Hospitality and Production at Analemma Wines in Hood River, Oregon.

Betty Walter ’19. Betty studied abroad in South Africa in fall 2018 to complete her UWEC education. She is now a Staff Geologist with ARCADIS in Helena, MT.

Zacharie Zens ’16. Zach earned his MS in Economic Geology from New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology. He is a geologist at Rio Tinto in Mesa, AZ.

The Earth Science Seminar Series continues to bring excellent speakers to campus. It allows faculty and students to interact with other scientists working on a broad range of research topics, and it also permits us to “show off” our department and research equipment to the visitors….! Below are the talks presented during this academic year. Seminars schedules are posted on the Geology website. In addition, if you live in the area and would like to receive e-mail announcements about upcoming seminars, please contact Dr. Scott Clark at clarksco@uwec.edu. If you work for a company that would like to sponsor the seminar series or contribute money to defray speaker costs, please contact us!


Dr. Phil Ihinger, Professor, Dept. of Geology, UWEC, “Are you thinking about going to grad school?” Also showed Through the Valleys—A short film and hosted a discussion on what you need to do to prepare yourself for grad school,” 10/12/18.

Dr. David Boutil, Associate Professor, Dept. of Geosciences, Univ. Massachusetts-Amherst, GSA Hydrogeology Division Birdsall-Dreiss Distinguished Lecturer, “Do you know where your catchment ends? The role of inter-basin groundwater flow and hydrogeologic transience in hydrologic processes,” 10/23/18.

(continued on page 25)
The Twenty-Seventh Annual UW-Eau Claire Student Research Day (now part of CERCA) was held April 29-May 3, 2019 in Davies Center on the UWEC campus. This event showcases faculty/student collaborative research occurring on campus. The Geology Department has been very well represented throughout the years, and this year was no exception. All students noted below presented posters this year. We are very proud of our students!

Note: Students who presented posters at professional conferences are also indicated. Student travel to conferences was supported with money from the Geology Advancement Fund and the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs.

**Tyson Noffke and Trevor Nelson with Phillip Ihinger.** “Using Infrared Spectroscopy to Distinguish Prism from Rhombohedral Sector Zones in Hydrothermal Quartz Crystals: Implications for Growth Dynamics.”

**Natalie Brock with Robert Lodge.** “Petrogenesis of Archean (2.7 Ga) Mafic Volcanic Assemblages near Ely, MN.”

**Elliot Draxler with Phillip Ihinger.** “Origin and Evolution of the Sulfide-Rich, Mafic Igneous Intrusion at Eagle Mine, Upper Peninsula, MI.”

**Jeffrey Hessburg with Robert Lodge.** “Volcanic Setting of the 1.8-1.9 Ga. Eisenbrey Cu-Zn Deposit, Rusk County, Wisconsin.”

**Glen Hook, Madelynn Gorg with Sarah Vitale.** “Evaluating Groundwater Quality and Behavior at UW-Eau Claire Campus.”

**Glen Hook with Robert Hooper and Sarah Vitale.** “Septic contamination of groundwater in subdivisions built on fractured bedrock.”


**Chloe Malin, Jonah Shoemaker-Gagnon with Sarah Vitale and J. Brian Mahoney.** “An assessment of nutrient loading through lacustrine groundwater discharge in Mud Lake, Wisconsin.” Also presented at the GSA meeting in Indianapolis, IN, Nov. 4-7, 2018; the Wisconsin Industrial Sand Association (WISA) meeting in Eau Claire (Feb. 20, 2019); and the Wisconsin AWRA meeting in Delevan, WI, Feb. 28-March 1, 2019.

**Duabchi Vang, Katherine Langfield with Phillip Ihinger.** “Characterization of 18th Century French Glass from Saint-Nicolas-des-Biefs, Auvergne-Rhone-Alpes, France: Chemistry and Infrared Spectroscopy.” A version of this poster also presented at the Microanalysis Society meeting in Minneapolis, MN, June 24-27, 2019.

**Duabchi Vang, Emily Finger with Sarah Vitale.** “Assessment of long-term and recent trends from USGS groundwater level records in Wisconsin from 1947 to 2017.” Also presented at the GSA meeting in Indianapolis, IN, Nov. 4-7, 2018; the Wisconsin AWRA meeting in Delevan, WI, Feb. 28-March 1, 2019; and Research in the Rotunda event in Madison, April 17, 2019.

**Chloe Malin, Jonah Shoemaker-Gagnon with Sarah Vitale and J. Brian Mahoney.** “An assessment of nutrient loading through lacustrine groundwater discharge in Mud Lake, Wisconsin.” Also presented at the GSA meeting in Indianapolis, IN, Nov. 4-7, 2018; the Wisconsin Industrial Sand Association (WISA) meeting in Eau Claire (Feb. 20, 2019); and the Wisconsin AWRA meeting in Delevan, WI, Feb. 28-March 1, 2019.

**Colleen Olson with Phillip Ihinger and Paul Thomas (Dept. of Physics).** “Simulating Crystal Growth with Contaminant Diffusion.”

**Daniel Weber with J. Brain Mahoney.** “Regional geochemical analysis of Lower Paleozoic strata, western Wisconsin.”

**Duabchi Vang and group with their poster (above) & Regan Jacobson with her poster (below)
ADOPT A FIELD CAMPER

CAMPAIGN UPDATE

By Kent Syverson

In 2017 we initiated an “Adopt a Field Camper” campaign to defray rising tuition costs for Field Camp I students. Dr. Paul Myers and Ric Kopp (’75) pledged matching money in memory of Professor Emeritus Ronald Willis, who died in a tragic car accident in July 2015. I’m pleased to report that many other alumni, friends, and companies donated $22,600, in both large and small gifts, to Adopt a Field Camper through the Myers/Willis Geology Field Camp Scholarship fund!

The impact? Funds were distributed based on financial need to twenty-one G470 students. All tuition expenses ($1100) were paid for seven students with “High” FAFSA financial need, 75% of tuition paid was for two students with “Medium” need, and 50% of tuition paid for one student with “Low” need. Each field camper, regardless of need, received at least $100 in “adoption” money. We also used $3900 to defray Field Geology II expenses for nine students with financial need. WOW!

If you have adopted a child, you know that adoption is a long-term commitment! More field camp students will be leaving for New Mexico and Montana next year, and we hope alumni and friends consider a donation of any size to Adopt a Field Camper and provide grants and scholarships for Field Geology I and II students. Because of generous matching money, your donation will have twice the impact for all students attending field camp. Donations can be made at https://impact.uwec.edu/AdoptFieldCamper or by sending a check to the UWEC Foundation with a subject line mentioning “Geology–Adopt a Field Camper.”

MATHY CONSTRUCTION CO. AND MILESTONE MATERIALS SPONSOR HALF OF THE 2019 FIELD CAMP!

For the second year in a row, Mathy Construction Company and Milestone Materials (a div. of Mathy) have sponsored twenty-one Field Camp I students in January 2019. This sponsorship reduced the costs for each student attending our three-week field camp in New Mexico and helped defray increasing tuition costs. Mathy Construction and Milestone Materials–both based in Onalaska, WI—provide production and placement of hot mix asphalt and are leading suppliers of construction aggregates throughout the Midwest. The companies are major supporters of the Responsible Mining Initiative at UW-Eau Claire and have a long-standing relationship with faculty members in the Department. Mathy/Milestone has hired several Blugold Geology graduates in the past including Bob Servais, Milestone Materials’ geologist and UWEC Geology ’04 alumnus, whom represents Mathy/Milestone on our Advisory Board.

“Mathy and Milestone value their relationship with the UW-Eau Claire Geology Department

Bob Servais ’04

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“Mathy and Milestone value their relationship with the UW-Eau Claire Geology Department.

Bob Servais ’04

EARTH SCIENCE SEMINAR SERIES (CONT. FROM PAGE 23)

Anna Baker, Hydrologist at USGS Upper Midwest Water and Science Center and UWEC alumna ’09, “Erosional hotspots and their role in nutrient loading to rivers in agricultural landscapes,” 11/30/18.

Dr. Karen Gran, Associate Professor, Dept. of Earth & Environmental Sciences Institute of the Environment Fellow, Univ. of Minnesota-Duluth, “Cleaning up the muddy Minnesota River: Incorporating geomorphic history into watershed management,” 12/07/18.

Dr. Tony Runkel, Chief Geologist, Minnesota Geological Survey, “Geology controls on groundwater and surface water nitrate concentrations in the Paleozoic bedrock-dominated landscape of southeastern Minnesota,” 2/15/19.


Alumni, friends, and companies donated $22,600, in both large and small gifts, to Adopt a Field Camper

Sponsored 2019 Field Camp I Students
During the past year, 58 individuals/companies donated $79,416 to the Geology Foundation accounts. All gifts, large or small, are greatly appreciated! Please consider giving something back to your undergraduate department.

Due to state budget cuts, alumni gifts to the department’s advancement funds are becoming increasingly critical. Therefore, we have been working with the Foundation Office to establish a named lecture series, new scholarships, etc. If you are interested in establishing a scholarship within the Department of Geology, here are a few basic guidelines from the Foundation Office.

-All gifts to the UWEC Foundation are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. You may use cash, checks, credit cards, stocks or other tangible assets to fund a scholarship.

-There are two types of scholarships: the annual scholarship, which is funded each year, and the endowed scholarship, where principal is invested and only the income is used for the annual scholarship award.

- A minimum commitment of $500 is required to establish an annual scholarship fund.

- A minimum investment of $30,000 is required to establish an endowed fund; there is no maximum.

- The scholarship name is determined by the donor(s). Most name a scholarship after their family or the name of a loved or honored one. Some have endowed scholarships in the name of a favorite professor.

-Donor(s) may help develop scholarship criteria with the assistance of a development officer. Preferences rather than requirements are most often expressed. Preferences may involve academic major, financial need, academic promise, first-year student or upper-division status.

- IRS regulations prevent donors from designating family members as recipients or from selecting the recipients themselves. Donors will be notified of the recipients.

If you would like more information about establishing a scholarship, please contact the Foundation Office at 715/836-5630. We ask that if the UWEC Foundation Office calls you asking for a donation, please remember the Geology advancement funds! If you work for a corporation or a geology-related firm, please inquire if your company has a matching program for contributions to academic geology departments.
Our Geology Department Advancement Fund is the primary support fund for the department. It is used to support a wide range of activities in the Department including student travel to national meetings, special research and instructional equipment, faculty recruitment, and the seminar program. If you choose, your gift can also be applied in part or total to individual scholarship award funds. See information above for minimum commitments for establishing your own scholarship. Undesignated funds will be credited to the Geology Department Advancement Fund.

Mailing Address:
UW-Eau Claire Foundation
Schofield Hall 214 | 105 Garfield Ave
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004

Give Online:
connect.uwec.edu/donate
and select a Geology fund option.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE EMAIL

$ _______ Geology Department Advancement Fund (#279)
$ _______ Myers/Willis Field Camp Scholarship Fund (#1633) (Adopt a Field Camper)
$ _______ Emeriti Faculty Scholarship Fund - Unnamed (#1632)
$ _______ Dr. John R. Bergstrom Scholarship (#2475)
$ _______ Hydrogeology Advancement (#2271)

$ _______ Total Contribution (tax deductible)

_____ My employer (or my spouse’s) will match this gift.

EMPLOYER

_____ I have made plans to benefit the Geology Department through my estate. Please have someone contact me.

_____ Please send me information about how I might make provisions in my estate to benefit the Geology Department.

Please indicate how you wish your contribution to be recorded:

☐ Record jointly with my spouse _____________________________

☐ Record in my name only

☐ In memory of ___________________________________________

PAYMENT METHOD

☐ My check is enclosed (made payable to UW-Eau Claire Foundation)

☐ Credit card gift

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ AmericanExpress

NUMBER EXP. DATE

SIGNATURE DATE