

Alumni and Friends of the Department of Geology and Geophysics:

The Spring semester started off with three bad weather days! This made many people (faculty, students, and staff) feel like they lived through the movie *Groundhog Day* as we were continually starting the semester. Saturday classes are being held to make up for lost class time.

As I am sure that some of you have already heard – Dr. Jeffrey Nunn retired from LSU G&G in January. After thirty-three years (or so) Dr. Nunn retired and joined Chevron in Houston. Now an Emeritus Professor, Dr. Nunn will stay involved with advising graduate students and research in the Department.

Our student population is growing. As an indication of our undergraduate population, there are 58 students in Mineralogy and 40-45 students in Biosphere, in Structure, in Sedimentology, and in Igneous-Metamorphic Petrology. Our graduate population is up to 60 students, which is a nice size for the number of faculty that we have. The graduate population is comprised of a good balance of PhD candidates and MS candidates, both populations are looking to LSU G&G to prepare them of careers in the oil and gas industry. And we are doing just that. In addition, there are a few PhD candidates who are planning careers in academia, and we are preparing those as well. We have struck a good balance that is needed to insure our long-term health as a department.

The IBA Team is being guided by Dr. Phil Bart and all of the current Applied Depositional Geosystems (ADG) Fellows are team members. In fact, we had enough students interested this year to split up our group into two teams! Each team is focused on getting ready for the competition and generally can be found in the “fishbowl” computer laboratory working through the data and getting their presentation ready.

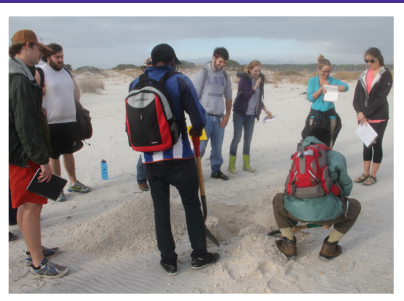
Field Camp applications are pouring in. We will be running camp later this year as we need to have the structural integrity of the bridge assessed after the damaging flood. If there is damage, there will need to be repairs. We are also working on installing new waterlines as the old waterlines were ripped up and washed down the valley during the flood. Dr. Amy Luther is heading out to camp early to conduct a dry-run of the camp opening process and spend some time gearing up for the students.

Thank you for your continued support of the department, our programs, and of course, the students! Please pass this e-letter along to other G&G alumni who might not have received it. On that note, please remind alumni that we rely on you to keep your contact information up-to-date! You can contact Chris Henry (chenry@lsu.edu) if you need to change your contact information.

I hope to see you at AAPG in Houston! The department will be recruiting at a booth in the expo hall and hosting an Alumni Reception on Monday evening. See details to the left.



Carol M. Wicks
Department Chair



NOVEMBER: Students in Tiffany Roberts' Coastal and Shallow Marine Depositional Systems course enjoy their time on the beach during a field trip to Fort Morgan, Alabama.



DECEMBER: Students eagerly awaiting to walk across the stage and receive their diplomas at the LSU College of Science Fall Commencement ceremony.



DECEMBER: Members of the LSU Geology Club pose during a field trip to Big Bend National Park.

* UPCOMING EVENT *

AAPG Convention - Houston
G&G Alumni Reception
Monday April 7th, 5:30 - 7:30pm
Hilton Americas Hotel, Room 339AB

Email chenry@lsu.edu for more information