

The Department of Geology University of Kentucky

The Round Up (1971)



This could be it

News From Miller Hall

Many things about the campus look different these days, but you can still locate several of us in the same old building. However, it looks like you should not prolong your visit indefinitely if you want to see us in the old surroundings. We apparently have the go-ahead to move as soon as some renovation is accomplished in Bowman Hall (see cover). It could be that we will move by the end of summer. We will not have sufficient space for our laboratory requirements in the new quarters, but the plan is to house much of the laboratory activity in one of the research laboratory surge buildings not too far removed from our headquarters. At any rate we will each have an office in a common building and the library will be more safely housed regarding the fire hazard.

Financial Assistance From Alumni and Other Sources

It is a real pleasure to acknowledge the response of a number of you to an appeal by one of your group for donations to a non-restricted fund (The McFarlan Fund) for use for things which cannot be taken care of from direct state appropriations. We are spending these funds as received and not setting it aside in an endowment so that your contributions are quickly put to good use. To date disbursed funds have largely gone directly to students who have need for cash for such things as partial payment of the cost of short courses offered at various institutions, travel expenses for field work in connection with theses preparation, thesis sections, assistance in travel by students to professional meetings for the purpose of presenting papers, etc. The fund is administered by a departmental committee which carefully weighs both merit and need of individual requests. It is our hope that this sort of money will continue to be available. Our short experience in disbursing such funds has indicated already that they are a major

factor in encouraging excellence in scholarship. In case you are unaware as to how you may be a part of this program, you can contribute through the regular alumni fund gathering by simply designating such a contribution as a gift to the McFarlan Fund.

We have also been fortunate in receiving some special funds. For a number of years now the Chevron Company has been making a contribution for assistance to a senior student and a like sum for departmental use. This year a second petroleum company, Texaco, has initiated a three year gift program. In addition to these, one of our alumni has established a scholarship fund to aid needy students in geology and related fields. Our sincere thanks to all of you.

Outside Speakers Program and Visiting Professors to Miller Hall

We have had an active year with respect to visitors to the department. In the fall, Dr. Robert Shrock the eminent paleontologist and Professor Emeritus of M.I.T. spent a week with us and then returned again this spring for a second week as a visiting professor. We also had the good fortune of a two week stay in the spring by Prof. Martin Buerger as a visiting professor. Dr. Buerger is the world renowned crystallographer who is also Professor Emeritus of M.I.T. and currently working at the University of Connecticut.

For the past couple of years we have had a regular program of invited speakers spread through the school year to enrich our seminar program. This past year we have had the following persons on the program.

Professor Richard Brown from Carleton University Ottawa, Canada who spoke on Structures of the Northern Appalachians.

Professor John Connoly of the University of South Carolina who spoke on Deep Sea Sediments

Professor Ron Seeger of Western Kentucky University who discussed Crypto-volcanic Structures

Professor Garrett Briggs from the University of Tennessee who spoke on Sedimentation Structures in the Ouachitas

Professor Kurt Bostrom of the Miami Marine Institute who discussed Sedimentary Geochemistry and Sea Floor Spreading

Professor Brian Glennister of the University of Iowa whose talk was entitled Paleobiology of Permian Ammonites

Professor Yoe Palletier of Indiana University whose topic was The Control and Significance of Potassium in Hornblende

Sigma Gamma Epsilon Newsletter

A hearty hail and howdy-do is extended to our alumni forefathers, who have already trod the trail of geological enlightenment to a meaningful goal of enrichment (and financial uplift from that impoverished level, ubiquitous to a student's existence).

Last April our chapter offered the "Tarr Award" which has not been presented since 1965. The recipient was Bruce M. Survant, our current vice-president. Bruce received an engraved Estwing rock hammer which was donated by Dr. Vincent E. Nelson (a professor who stays on the "young side.").

Last semester we integrated a tutoring service directed toward the freshmen course level. These sessions are held a day or two before a major test, in Miller's Rickety Hall. The students are asked to "donate" fifty cents.

Bruce Survant is in the process of compiling a photo scrap book. Pictures of past and recent events such as field trips, initiations, and social events are being amassed. Perhaps some of you old timers can add to our scrap book.

If you do find a representative addition, please be sure to include names of people and places. A group picture has been made of this year's active members by Al Wellings, a recent initiate.

The fall 1970 initiation was quite successful. We initiated eight new members with a short formal ceremony and a long informal get-together, at which the inebriation coefficient approached the saturation level. These festivities were held in the garden of Dr. Thomas Roberts' residence. However, rain forced us to inundate his living quarters with our motly presence. Two of our initiates are of the female gender - an unusual but most welcome occurrence. They are Evelyn Etter and Susan Camenisch and they are quite active in our organization, and in student affairs. Evelyn has been elected secretary of the Graduate and Professional Student Association and Susan was our representative at the National S. G. E. Convention held in Norman, Oklahoma this year. Susan's representation was superb and her impression upon the Convention was outstanding as has been reflected in the many accolades we have received concerning her fine work in Oklahoma.

We held a party in the last week of January at Stuart Jackson's residence. Stu is a new associate member and is currently employed by Cominco American, who are searching for zinc-lead deposits in Central Kentucky. Our chapter holds meetings every two weeks and we are currently planning for our annual Spring Picnic, and the election of new chapter officers. We are also looking for innovative ideas which will allow us to better serve our fine geology department. Any suggestions?

Staff Miscellany

Some significant changes in staff patterns have occurred during the year. Bill Dennen assumed duties as Acting Dean of the Graduate School in September. He is slated to continue in the position this next year. John Thrailkill says

he has been demoted and has assumed duties as Assistant Chairman to take over many of Dennen's departmental duties. Bill Blackburn has been promoted to Associate Professor. We have filled a new position in the department with the addition of John Cutler. Dr. Cutler received his Ph.D. degree in 1968 from Columbia. His special interests are bryozoa and biometrics. He comes to us from Idaho State University and will begin his duties in September.

Three members of the department has been involved in Fulbright Lectureships this year in Ecuador. Vin Nelson spent the fall semester in that country lecturing at the Polytecnic Institute in Guayaquil and also spent some time in Quito with students of Central University. Tom Roberts left for the south the first of January and will return in August. His Fulbright stint is at Central University and he is also attached to U.S.A.I.D. Ecuador to assist in departmental planning at Central. Bill Dennen took off for Quito on May 10 for a 4 week Fulbright lectureship in Geochemistry at Central University.

We have two Ecuadorians attached to our department as research associates. They arrived at the beginning of the spring semester and will return to the Polytecnic Institute in Guayaquil at the end of the summer. The Kentucky Geological Survey in conjunction with the U.S.G.S. is also training two advanced students from Central University.

Bill Blackburn and Bruce Moore spend most of last summer in Australia looking for ore deposits and have returned again this year for more of the same. They haven't let the rest of us in on their findings as yet. Moore is planning to remain down under for the fall semester to write up some of his earlier studies of the Tasman geosyncline.

The Fishers send the following communication to all. Larry Fisher who made his first trip to Colorado field camp at the age of four months is a

freshman this year and plans to be back at camp this summer. He is not that interested in geology, but those trout are waiting and there is this thing about avoiding the draft if. . . Both should start at U.K. this coming fall. Ginny spends about thirty hours a week welcoming newcomers to Lexington and although she gets paid, she is not yet independently wealthy. Youngest chuck, goes into junior high in the fall. How does a young guy get these old kids? Dad gave two papers at the Southeastern G.S.A. last spring and has had two more published this fall-- autographed reprints going cheap. I have finally gotten into paleo; calculating the axial ratios of the fluorapatite in conodonts. Bill Dennen and I have a \$30,000 NSF grant and I am just starting work on non-formilary elements in fluorite.

John Thrailkill keeps out of trouble with his added administrative duties. He says he vacationed at Crested Butte last summer. That means he really digs that high altitude field work. He has begun a research project on computer simulation of limestone aquifers.

Lois Campbell is doing her bit to keep us relevant. She has been preparing material for a new course she will teach in the fall entitled Environmental Geology. It is a sophomore level course and has quite an advance enrollment.

Bill Blackburn reports that he has had graduate students bursting the walls of the Cabot Lab during the year. He served as a visiting scientist in the Americal Geophysical Union program this spring delivering lectures and all that goes with it at Ohio State, Mt. Union, Kent State, and Miami University.

Bill MacQuown is developing a course in carbonate petrology. His preparation has included attending institutes at the University of Missouri and Miami University in Florida. This June he is attending a N.S.F. sponsored conference examining modern carbonate sediments in Florida and the Bahamas.

Bill Brown is as difficult as ever to latch onto for long enough to tell us of his activities. He hasn't slowed down a bit. He served as Chairman of the Southeastern Section of G.S.A. this past year. You might find him over in the Virginia Piedmont this summer where his field interest continues or up in Grayson, Ky. finishing up a quadrangle for the U.S.G.S.

Erv Lyons says we have a curriculum ready for a degree in Geological Engineering or Engineering Geology. We don't know if it should be administered in the Arts and Science College or College of Engineering.

Phyllis and Vin Nelson will be in residence on Cement Creek from June 12 to August 6. If you can get up that way they would really enjoy the visit.