

The KU Geologic Record



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New Facility Gets \$5 Million Boost from Chesapeake

Chesapeake Energy Corporation has pledged \$5 million to fund an interactive high-tech auditorium that will anchor the new Energy and Environment Center. The pledge ensures that the advanced interactive auditorium will be one of the most technologically sophisticated classrooms in the nation.

“As a KU graduate, I am particularly pleased to present this pledge from Chesapeake to move the center closer to becoming a reality,” says Steve Dixon (BS '80), Chesapeake chief operating officer and executive vice president of operations and geoscience.

“Environmental responsibility is taken seriously at Chesapeake,” he says, “and we constantly seek to enhance our techniques and processes to promote safe and continuously improving exploration and production. We look forward to the discoveries, insights and ideas that will emerge from the students in this program, ideas that will help Chesapeake meet the challenges posed by the increased demand for energy around the globe. We consider this pledge an investment in our industry's future leaders and in the advancement of America's vibrant energy industry, as well as an extension of the successful relationship we have with KU and our commitment to the state of Kansas.”

The pledge won high praise from KU Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little and Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean Danny Anderson. Geology Chair Luis González says Chesapeake's commitment will touch many lives. “KU Geology is deeply grateful for Chesapeake's financial support,” Luis says. “This pledge will help transform the careers of the students and researchers who will use this facility.”

Geoscientists Help Build a Better KU

Associate Dean Bob Goldstein, Chair Luis González and Kansas Geological Survey Interim Director Rex Buchanan helped develop KU's new 2012-2017 strategic plan. The geosciences and the proposed Energy and Environment Center play key roles in one of KU's new strategic initiatives. During the planning process, Bob served on the Energizing the Educational Environment Work Group and the Elevating Doctoral Education Work Group. Luis served on the Summit Planning Group for one of the strategic initiatives, and Rex served on the Engaging Scholarship for Public Impact Work Group and took part in the strategic initiative review process.

SEPM Awards Paul Enos Top Honor

The Society of Sedimentary Geology has given Emeritus Distinguished Professor Paul Enos its highest honor, the Twenhofel Medal.

The award, from the world's largest society of sedimentary geologists, recognizes outstanding contributions to sedimentary geology and a career of excellence that notably advances scientific knowledge in the field.

Paul retired from KU in 2003, but continues today with an active research program and by teaching field courses. He is among the first geologists to describe modern carbonate systems. At KU, he had a 21-year career as a full-time member of the faculty. He served as the Haas Distinguished Professor of Geology at KU from 1982 through 2000.

Paul is a Ghawker from his undergraduate days. He earned a BS in geology from KU in 1956. He got his MS from Stanford University in 1961 and PhD from Yale University in 1965. He also worked for Shell Development Co. and the State University of New York in Binghamton, N.Y. in 1970.

This is the 6th time a geologist with KU ties has won the Twenhofel Medal, which has only been awarded to 41 people. The first person to win the medal was R. C Moore, the founder of the *Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology* and a KU faculty member from 1916 to 1962. Other KU winners are Alfred G. Fischer, a faculty member from 1948 to 1951; John Imbrie, a faculty member from 1951 to 1952; and alumni Carl O. Dunbar (BS '12 and a year of graduate study) and William L. Fisher (MA '58, PhD '61).

The medal is named for William H. Twenhofel (1875-1957), a University of Wisconsin professor who is considered the father of sedimentary geology. Twenhofel, by the way, taught geology at KU from 1910-1915 and served one year as the Kansas state geologist.

Please join us in congratulating Paul.

KU Geology Great Louis Dellwig Dies

All involved in KU Geology were deeply saddened to learn of the death on April 30 of Louis F. Dellwig, a giant of the Department. Louis was 90.

Louis served the Department and its students as a professor from 1953 to 1992. His primary area of research was the study of evaporates. Among many other things, he studied salt deposits in Germany in 1963, 1971 and 1986 with the help of Fulbright grants.

In 1964, Louis helped found the Remote Sensing Laboratory and the Center for Research at KU. His research in remote sensing was devoted to the study of geologic interpretation of radar and other remote imagery.

Fondly remembered by the many masters and undergraduate students he supervised, Louis also served as director of Field Camp and taught numerous courses.

A celebration of Louis's life will take place at the Rumsey-Yost Funeral Home, 601 Indiana St., Lawrence, Kan., at 2 pm on June 25. Contributions in his honor can be made to the Louis F. and Bets Dellwig Field Camp Scholarship, www.kuendowment.org.

A complete obituary will be in the fall issue of the *GHawker* magazine.

KU Geology Takes Over the World (or at least, AAPG, SEPM and SEG)

With the election of Evan Franseen, professor of geology and KGS scientific fellow, as president of SEPM, KU geoscientists will lead two of the most important geoscience organizations. A third major organization – the Society of Exploration Geophysicists – is poised to select a Ghawker as its president-elect.

Evan is serving a three-year term — first as president-elect, then president, then past president — of SEPM, the Society for Sedimentary Geology. Evan joined KGS in 1989 and the Department in 2007. SEPM's 3,500-members makes it the largest organization of sedimentary geologists in the world.

Edward "Ted" Beaumont (MS '77), senior geologist with SM Energy, Tulsa, Okla., is president elect of the 36,000-member AAPG, the American Association of Petroleum Geologists. Ted will serve as AAPG president in 2012-13.

Ted was an exploration geologist with Cities Service Oil Co., and AAPG science director before working as an independent consultant and then joining SM Energy.

Meanwhile, the election for president-elect of the 32,000-member SEG is guaranteed to put a Ghawker in office. Don Steeples, McGee Distinguished Professor, is going head-to-head against Brad Birkelo (MS '86) in the election. Not only are both men strongly connected to KU, but Don was Brad's advisor. Don describes Brad as his "close friend and pheasant-hunting buddy." Stay tuned for the results.

KICC is Going Strong

In April more than 45 people from nine companies attended the second annual meeting of the Kansas Interdisciplinary Carbonates Consortium at KU.

Two years ago Principal Investigators Professor Bob Goldstein, Professor Evan Franseen and Associate Professor Eugene Rankey joined forces with eight other Geology faculty, KU's Tertiary Oil Recovery Project and the KGS to create the consortium, which helps industry partner with KU. Companies pay a yearly fee to gain access to all deliverable products. That funding supports consortium research and training programs.

KU professors and students presented at the conference. W. Lynn Watney and John Doveton of KGS led a core and well-logging workshop on the Mississippian Lime. Bob and Evan led a three-day Mississippian Lime field seminar. Student presenters were involved in helping run all aspects of the conference.

A Wonderful New Box

Randy Stotler, assistant professor, has a handy new piece of equipment. Randy has taken delivery of a Picarro L2130-i Analyzer that measures Oxygen 18 and Deuterium isotopes. The new analyzer, which only became available last summer, can be taken into the field. It weighs 50 pounds.

"The big advantage of this instrument is the capability to analyze both $^2\text{H}/^1\text{H}$ and $^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O}$ isotopic ratios at the same time, without any preparation," Randy says. "Typical analyses on a mass spec require converting the hydrogen bound in water to H_2 and the O to CO_2 or something similar, which takes quite a bit of work."

AWG Provides Student Support

After a record fundraising year, The Osage Chapter of the Association for Women Geoscientists has awarded \$4,350 in research funding and scholarships to KU students.

Led by Erin Saupe and Cori Myers, the student chapter serves KU and eastern Kansas. This year AWG’s activities enabled the chapter to support eight Geology students and one Geography student. Recipients must give a brown bag lunch seminar on their research results.

The chapter also created a new scholarship, the Sean S. Thomson Service Scholarship, in honor of a generous donor who died this year. Charity Lander and James Lamsdell were named the first winners of the new scholarship, which honors students who promote science literacy in the community or women in the geosciences.

Show Off Your Drill Hawk

AWG has found a unique way to raise money. Grad student Aimee Scheffer is painting iron drill bits that were used to drill wells in Kansas with KU crimson and blue. She adds Jayhawk decals and offers the newly adorned drill bits for a donation. Each bit weighs about 15 pounds. Donations have ranged from \$100 to \$200 per drill bit. Shipping costs between \$15 and \$20. To order your drill bit, email aimee.scheffer@gmail.com.

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