



PROFILE

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FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD ART SNOKE

The University has just completed another academic year, and the Department is quieting down after another busy semester. Several weeks ago, I led a large group of students across the stage of the Arena Auditorium at the College of Arts & Sciences Commencement to be recognized for their completion of a degree in Geology & Geophysics. Our undergraduate and graduate enrollments are as high as they have been for a decade or more. The size of our faculty has grown significantly in the past five years, and we have especially expanded our strengths in Quaternary studies, geochemistry, and geophysics. Some of the classic strengths of the Department in structural geology, sedimentology, and petrology are still major topics of research interest for our incoming graduate students. This Fall semester twenty-two graduate students will matriculate at the University and provide a new infusion of student talent into our Department. Our graduate students continue to come from all parts of our nation and several foreign countries.

Our faculty and students continue to be recognized for their achievements. Professor **Steve Holbrook** is the recipient of the 2010 Presidential Award for Excellence in Research (see later item in the *PROfile*). Associate Professor **Mike Cheadle** was selected by the 2010 graduating class for an "A&S Top Ten Teacher Award." The Association of Women Geoscientists–Laramide Chapter selected four of our women geoscientists for their yearly Outstanding Student Award. **Lauren Harrison** and **Virginia Marcon** were selected as undergraduate-student awardees, and **Jen Goyette** and **Claire Lukens** as graduate-student awardees. Each year the G&G faculty chooses several graduating undergraduate and graduate students for our Outstanding Student Award. This year the Outstanding Undergraduates are **Paul Pribyl** and **Sean Schaub**; the Outstanding MS graduate students are **Claire Lukens** and **Carly York**; and the Outstanding PhD graduate students are **Dan Jones** and **Josh Stachnik**. **Paul Haselhorst** was selected for an A&S Board of Visitors Outstanding Service Award for Students. Finally, Professor **Paul O. McGrew** was posthumously awarded the 2010 A&S Outstanding Former Faculty Award. Paul's family and friends were at the awards ceremony to honor his career at UW.

Three of our undergraduate students made presentations for Undergraduate Research Day: **Lauren Harrison**, **Paul Haselhorst**, **Paul Pribyl**. Undergraduate research supervised by a G&G faculty member is an area we would like to expand in future years.

Activities associated with the UW Geological Museum occupied a significant part of my time this past semester. As Chair of the "Committee to Reinvent the UW Geological Museum," I orchestrated a self-assessment of the museum through the Museum Assessment Program (MAP) of the American Association of Museums. This extensive self-study was completed April 30th, and in early June a MAP Surveyor will visit campus for a site visit. The Surveyor's recommendations will be the basis of a new, forward-looking strategic plan that will be developed for the Geological Museum during AY2010–11. Additional information about the Geological Museum and an ongoing fund-raising campaign is described later in the *PROfile*.

Best wishes for an enjoyable and productive summer! ❖



Art Snoke

FACULTY & DEPARTMENT NEWS

Research Professor **Kevin Chamberlain** and Senior Research Scientist **Susan Swapp** have recently published a paper in *Chemical Geology* that details a new method for dating mafic rocks, which they have been developing in collaboration with the National SIMS lab at UCLA. A second paper on this method, co-authored with Dr. **Norbert Swoboda-Colberg**, is slated for spring publication in a special issue of *Precambrian Research*.

Chamberlain also recently received a \$144,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to investigate “Tectonic significance of ca. 1.6 Ga deformation in SW Laurentia and new insights on a protracted Mazatzal orogeny.” The project is a collaboration with scientists at Northern Arizona University and the University of Massachusetts and focuses on the deformational histories of shear zones exposed in basement rocks of southern Wyoming and northern Colorado.

In May, Associate Professor **Mike Cheadle** presented a keynote lecture on Oceanic Core Complexes at an American Geophysical Union Chapman Meeting in Cyprus.

Cheadle also recently received one of the “A&S Top Ten Teacher Awards” as chosen by the graduating class of 2010. This is the second time Cheadle has received the award.

In March, Professor **Carrick Eggleston** gave two invited talks at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, titled: “Mind the Gap: Can Semiconducting Minerals Oxidize Water?” and “How can bacteria respire using rocks?”

In January, Professor **Ron Frost** was featured in UWTV’s *Wyoming Signatures* Series where issues from his upcoming book, *Religion versus Science: Where Both Sides go Wrong in the Great Evolution Debate*, were discussed.

In January, Professor **W. Steven Holbrook** received a \$472,262 grant from the Office of Naval Research for his research project titled, “Seismic

Oceanography: Non-linear internal waves in the South China Sea and Three-Dimensional Maps of Ocean Temperature and Turbulence.”

In April, Holbrook also gave a talk titled, “Tides, Turbulence, and Ocean ‘X-Rays’: Adventures of a Wyoming Oceanographer” as part of the UW President’s Speakers Series.

Holbrook also recently published a paper in *Geophysical Research Letters* titled, “Images of internal tides near the Norwegian continental slope.” The paper was selected as an “American Geophysical Union Journal Highlight,” and a figure from the paper was used as the cover illustration on the January 2010 issue of the journal.

For Thanksgiving, Professor **Barbara John** and Associate Professor **Mike Cheadle** were invited to the “Geosciences ’09” meeting—a joint Geological Society of New Zealand, and the New Zealand Geophysical Society Annual Conference—held in the quaint Victorian town of Oamaru, on the South Island, New Zealand. John was an invited speaker for a special session on Deformation and Fluid Flow, honoring Professor R.H. Sibson’s retirement from the University of Otago.

Emeritus Professor **Paul McGrew** (1909–1983) recently received a posthumous “Outstanding Former Faculty” award from the UW College of Arts and Sciences. While a professor at UW, he directed 29 Master’s theses and five Ph.D. dissertations.

In March, Assistant Professor **Bryan Shuman** and undergraduate student Paul Pribyl—along with Assistant Professor Tom Minckley (Department of Botany), and Assistant Professor J. J. Shinker (Department of Geography)—published “Rapid Hydrologic Shifts and Prolonged Droughts in Rocky Mountain Headwaters during the Holocene” in *Geophysical Research Letters*.

Shuman also recently received the 2010 Henry Cowles Award for Excellence in Publication from the Association of American Geographers (AAG). The award

is in recognition of an article Shuman published in 2009 in the journal *Ecology* titled, “Woodland-to-forest transition during prolonged drought in Minnesota after ca. AD 1300.”

The article details sedimentary evidence for a severe drought that appears to have initiated a counter-intuitive shift from woodlands and prairie to dense deciduous forest in Minnesota. The results underscore the potential that climate change can produce ecological “surprises.”

The award is named after Henry C. Cowles, who was trained as a geologist and became one of the prominent pioneers in ecology and biogeography. He is particularly famous for his work at the University of Chicago developing the idea of succession based on plant communities in the Indiana Dunes along Lake Michigan. The award is given based on nominations and selections made by the Biogeography Specialty Group of the AAG.

Associate Professor **Kenneth W. W. Sims** (along with CO-PIs Kevin Chamberlain and Carol Frost) recently received \$874,255 from the National Science Foundation to cover the purchase of a state-of-the-art multi-collector inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometer (MC-ICPMS) to pursue diverse geochemical, environmental and geochronological research at UW. This new analytical investment will lead to a substantial improvement in UW’s capabilities to conduct cutting-edge research. The MC-ICPMS will also provide essential research experiences for graduate and undergraduate students using state-of-the-art facilities, as well as serving other regional, national, and international researchers.

Isotopic measurements provide natural sciences with a quantitative tracer of chemical processes and sources. Improvements in the precision of isotope measurements open up new avenues of scientific inquiry and significantly enhance our understanding of natural processes. Multi-collector inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry

is a relatively new technique for the measurement of isotopic compositions at high precision and as such this instrumentation has important implications for Earth, ocean, and environmental sciences.

Assistant Professor **Ye Zhang** recently gave a talk at the annual Ground Water Summit titled, "Dealing Explicitly with Complexity: Evaluation of Hydrogeologic Framework Models in Capturing Subsurface Flow and Solute Transport in an Experimental Stratigraphy." The summit was hosted by the National Groundwater Association.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR KENNETH SIMS' WORK PUBLISHED IN NATURE

Associate Professor **Kenneth W. W. Sims** and his colleague and former student, J.J. Standish, now at Harvard University, recently published an article in *Nature Geoscience*. The article is titled "Young off-axis volcanism along the ultraslow-spreading Southwest Indian Ridge." Their research provides understanding on an important part of the ocean floor and the construction of mid-ocean ridges between South Africa and Antarctica.

In the paper, Sims and Standish show that unexpectedly young lava flows on the Southwest Indian Ridge are connected to faults under the ultraslow-spreading ridges, or underwater mountain ranges, in the area.

Their work also demonstrates that ultraslow-spreading environments, which have not been very well-explored, are distinct from faster spreading ridges.

The mid-ocean ridges of the world are connected and form a single global mid-oceanic ridge system that is part of every ocean, making the mid-oceanic ridge system the longest mountain range in the world.

In addition to mapping and measuring the chemistry of the lavas from the Southwest Indian Ridge, the work of Sims and Standish helps advance the study of mid-ocean ridges on Earth. A mid-ocean ridge demarcates the boundary between two tectonic plates, and consequently is termed a divergent plate boundary.

SPRING 2010

"We actually know more about volcanism and magmatism on Mars than we do here, because we can see Mars more clearly than we can see into our oceans," says Sims. "It's been a world of discovery to look at mid-ocean ridges and ocean crusts."

Of Sims' and Standish's research, Cambridge University professor John MacLennan says, "Widely dispersed, young lavas observed at an ultraslow-spreading ridge provide impetus for the redevelopment of models of oceanic magmatism."

You can read the paper by going to the *Nature* website at, <http://www.nature.com/ngeo/journal/vaop/ncurrent/full/ngeo824.html>.

OTHER DEPARTMENT NEWS

As of Fall 2010, the Department of Geology and Geophysics will regularly offer "Water, Dirt and Earth's Environment" (GEOL/ENR 1500), a new introductory course in environmental geology. The course is worth 4 credits, fulfills the SE requirement of the University Studies Program, and is cross listed as part of the University's Environment and Natural Resources curriculum. Topics focus on water and soil both as hazards and as life-sustaining resources. Students explore surface processes and climate change over both geological and human timescales and discuss case studies that illustrate the environmental tradeoffs of resource use. Hence this course is appropriate for students seeking a deeper understanding of environmental and natural resources issues. Enrollment in a laboratory section is required.

Advisors and students should take note that, as of Fall 2010, the Department of Geology and Geophysics will begin offering Mineralogy (GEOL 2010) as a 3 credit course in the Fall. Until now, GEOL 2010 has been a 5 credit course, typically offered in the Spring. As before, GEOL 2010 is still a required course in the Geology major.

The change in GEOL 2010 represents the first of several curriculum revisions to be implemented over the next year or so. In another change, Petrology (GEOL 2020) will be offered regularly (starting in Spring 2011) as a 2 credit course that is required in the Geology major. Previously, GEOL 2020

was a 4 credit elective offered every other year.

Together, the changes in GEOL 2010 and GEOL 2020 represent a "zero-sum" curriculum revision to students. As before, when only GEOL 2010 was required by the major, students still have to take 5 credits worth of courses on the fundamentals of geologic materials. The major difference is that they will get more exposure to identifying and understanding the origins of rocks, and less exposure to optical properties of minerals.

A more advanced petrology course, GEOL 4025 Igneous and Metamorphic Petrology, will be taught in the Fall or Spring depending on demand. This course will include optical techniques for identifying minerals and studying rocks as well as geochemical techniques for understanding the origin of igneous and metamorphic rocks.

STUDENT NEWS

Graduate students **Jorden Hayes** (Ph.D.) and **Amit Padhi** (Ph.D.) recently won first place at the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG) Knowledge Bowl competition in Denver, Colo. The competition preceded the annual 3D Seismic Symposium co-hosted by the Rocky Mountain Association of Geologists and the Denver Geophysical Society.

On April 22nd, graduate students **Curtis Chopping**, **Steven Hansen**, **Dawei Mu**, and **Amit Padhi** gave oral and poster presentations at the annual Graduate Research Symposium. This year the symposium was hosted by the UW School of Energy Resources and showcased graduate student achievements in energy research.

Graduate student **Nicole Schoolmeesters** (M.S.) was recently the recipient of both a Graduate Research Fellowship from the Wyoming NASA Space Grant Consortium and a Graduate Research Grant from the Geological Society of America. The awards, in the amounts of \$15,000 and \$2,996 respectively, will help fund her research thesis titled, "Cooling history of the Atlantis Massif and Kane Oceanic Core Complex at the slow-spreading Mid-Atlantic Ridge." Schoolmeesters is advised by Associate Professor Mike Cheadle & Professor Barbara John. ♦

UW GEOLOGICAL MUSEUM UPDATE

UW GEOLOGICAL MUSEUM ACCEPTED INTO MUSEUM ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Two important deadlines have been outlined in the process of reinventing the University of Wyoming Geological Museum.

The committee charged with reinventing the Geological Museum, comprised of UW faculty and administrators, at the end of 2009 submitted an application to the Museum Assessment Program offered by the American Association of Museums, and it was notified not long after that it had been accepted into the program.

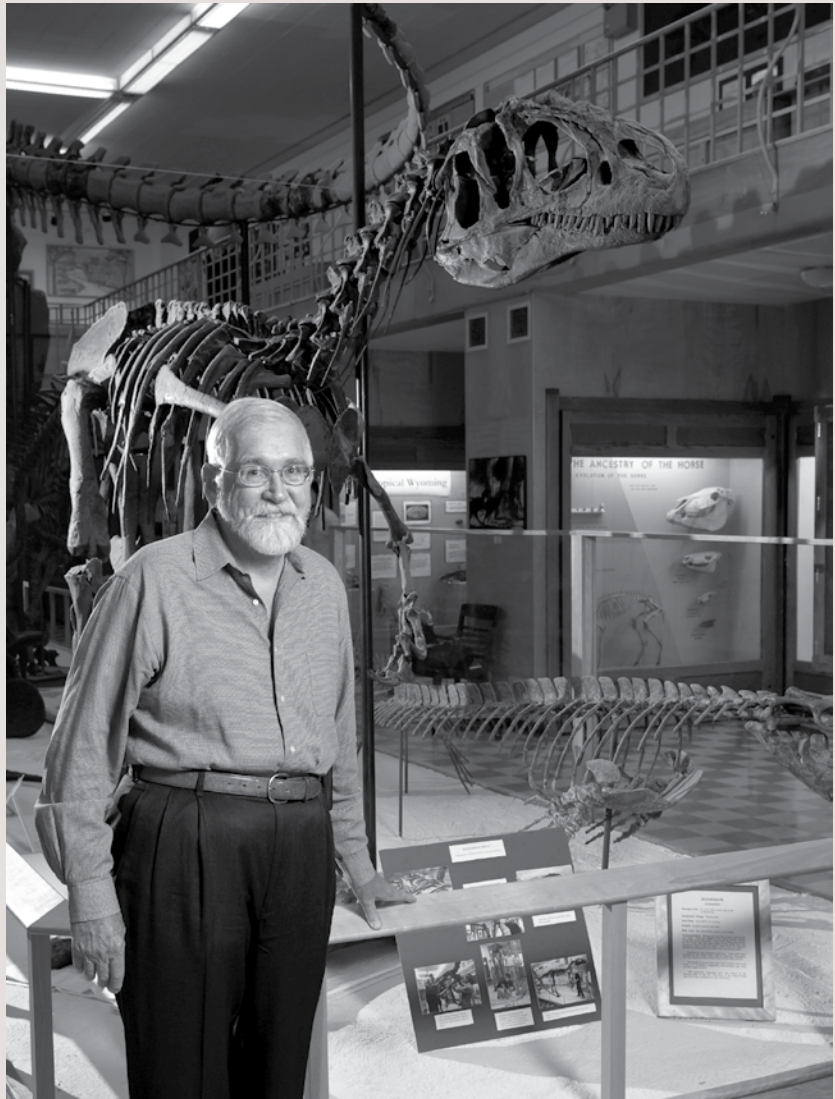
The program is designed to help museums develop plans for effective operations and management—the same task assigned to the committee, headed by UW Geology and Geophysics Department Head **Art Snoke**.

Both a self-study and a site survey are scheduled to be completed in the first half of the year.

“The Museum Map Assessment Program through the American Association of Museums is designed to provide professional input into how a museum of any size can meet its mission given its financial situation, personnel, physical facilities, and display materials,” Snoke says. “This type of advice from museum professionals is exactly what the committee needs to move forward with a plan to reinvent the UW Geological Museum.”

What comes after that is key to the museum’s future success, Snoke says, and it depends on private fundraising.

The museum closed briefly last summer due to budget cuts to public funds, drawing attention from fans of the museum from around the world. When the museum reopened in August with a part-time schedule, it was with the help of private funds from the UW Foundation. Shortly after that, noted UW supporters Brainerd “Nip” and Anne Mears donated \$570,000 to support the museum. Matched by Wyoming state endowment funds, the gift now totals \$1.14 million.



Department Head Art Snoke.

A second fund, in memory of noted geologist S.H. Knight, was created later in 2009. To date, \$90,000 has been raised, and because of fund matching rules, it is now eligible for matching state funds.

“For the perpetuity and overall success of the museum, it is essential that the available state matching monies associated with the Geological Museum S.H. Knight Memorial Fund are used to their fullest extent. If we can develop an endowment of about \$2.5 million, then the Geological Museum can have a yearly operating budget of about \$100,000,” Snoke says.

“If we don’t reach that endowment goal, we will continue to have limited hours, will not be able remodel antiquated displays, and will not be able to hire professional personnel for the museum. We sincerely hope that the supporters of the UW Geological Museum, both individuals and corporations, will step forward with generous financial donations to help us reinvent the Geological Museum.” ❖

CONTRIBUTIONS TO GEOLOGY Now ELECTRONICALLY AVAILABLE ON GeoScienceWorld

The Department of Geology and Geophysics at the University of Wyoming (UW) recently completed a major electronic conversion of the scientific journal *Contributions to Geology*—the predecessor journal of *Rocky Mountain Geology* (RMG), a peer-reviewed scientific journal published biannually by UW. The entire 36-year collection can now be accessed on RMG's electronic archive on GeoScienceWorld [www.geoscienceworld.org], a nonprofit corporation formed by a group of leading organizations dedicated to making geoscientific research and related information more easily and economically available via the internet.

The 'Contributions' archive consists of all 68 issues that were published from 1962 to 1998, including four special papers. All articles are now available for download at <http://rmg.geoscienceworld.org/archive>.

"We are excited to complete this massive conversion as it will simultaneously offer easy access to this extensive collection to academics, researchers, and students from across the globe, and also create a permanent and complete archive of the journal," says **Brendon Orr**, Managing Editor of RMG. "Several issues have gone out-of-print over the years and now each and every article from 'Contributions' is readily available on the web."

Two Emeritus Professors from the Department of Geology and Geophysics, **Donald W. Boyd** and **Jason A. Lillegraven**, served as coeditors of the journal through much of its publishing history.

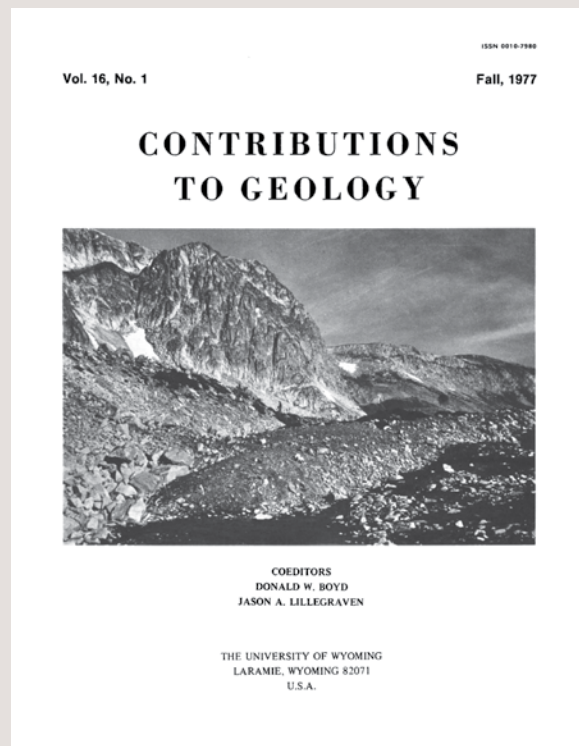
"True to the former series title, the 68 issues in question contain many important contributions to geological knowledge," says Boyd. "Thanks to its new availability in electronic form, this

body of literature will now be put to use by a much wider readership."

"I offer my warmest and most sincere congratulations to Managing Editor Brendon B. Orr and his GSW colleagues for bringing this task to reality," says Lillegraven. "It's a start toward a still larger goal of having the archive for RMG eventually rival that for the 'Linnean Society of London Collections Online' (involving over 12 terabytes of immediately accessible information). I'm very happy to have had the honor of serving with my friend Donald W. Boyd in keeping things moving with *Contributions to Geology*—and later with RMG—after Ronald B. Parker initiated the whole show. I see a bright future for RMG, under the guidance of **Arthur W. Snoke**, as a journal of regional importance in which publication of real data will continue to be encouraged."

"The compilation of all past issues of *Contributions to Geology*, published by UW is a major achievement," says Snoke, Head of the Department of Geology and Geophysics and Editor-in-Chief of RMG.

"This project has captured the legacy of the only peer-reviewed scientific journal published by UW. Numerous important and commonly cited papers were published in *Contributions*, and now they can be electronically accessed throughout the world and will provide a lasting scientific record distinctly related to the Department of Geology & Geophysics and UW. Importantly, *Contributions* forms the base upon which the present peer-reviewed UW geologic journal, *Rocky Mountain Geology*, was conceived and developed."



Cover to *Contributions to Geology* Vol. 16, No. 1. Glacial debris north of Lake Marie in the Medicine Bow Mountains, Wyoming. Medicine Bow Peak is visible in the background (right center). Photo courtesy of Charles G. Oviatt.

In addition to being able to access individual articles on GeoScienceWorld, interested customers can also now purchase the entire digital archive of 'Contributions' on CD or DVD for \$50.

"We are excited to offer this digital collection to those who would like to have all 68 issues of 'Contributions' in electronic format available at their fingertips," says Orr.

The digital archive includes individual article PDFs, along with files for the cover and table of contents. Customers can purchase the archive on two CDs or one DVD.

For more information about the journals *Contributions to Geology* and *Rocky Mountain Geology*, including order, submission, and subscription information, please visit <http://pubs.gg.uwyo.edu>. ❖

ALUMNI NEWS

NOTES

Alumnus **Wally Bothner** (Ph.D., '67), long-time professor at the University of New Hampshire, was honored at the March, 2010 joint meeting of the northeastern and southeastern sections of the Geological Society of America. The program included a symposium titled "It all starts in the field: In honor of Wallace A. Bothner."

Alumnus **Ben Edwards** (M.S.c. '93) and **Kim Felknor-Edwards** (B.S.c. '92) are firmly settled back in Carlisle, Pennsylvania after a two-year stint running the Dickinson College Norwich Science Program, at the University of East Anglia, in Norwich, United Kingdom. Ben has just survived his first semester as Department chair of the Geology Department at Dickinson College, and Kim is completing course-work to become certified to teach secondary mathematics. Ben continues to focus on using the products of glaciovolcanism as paleo-climate proxies, mainly in British Columbia (BC) but also slowly starting in Iceland as well, with smaller projects

examining lithospheric xenoliths in northern BC, magma storage on Montserrat (WI), local diabase dikes, and even a bit of martian volcanology/petrology. Kim is filling in between classes as a substitute teacher. They are staying quite busy trying to keep up with the activities of daughters Teagan (14) and Kaelan (12). Life is pretty full, but Kim still finds time to read and cross-stitch, and Ben harasses south Pennsylvania smallmouth bass and trout at least once every month or so.

We're about two or three hours from many major East Coast cities, so if you're traveling out east don't hesitate to stop by Carlisle.

Alumnus **Gene L. DelMauro** (M.A. '53) is in retirement and enjoying life with his wife Jo, four children, and three grandchildren. Gene switched his oil exploration career in '59 to a most rewarding career in education, teaching at both public and university institutions, spending 30 years in public schools and in conjunction 37 years at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, Conn. Gene requests

that he would like to receive news from friends and colleagues by writing to him at the following address:

Gene L. DelMauro
35 Lent Rd.
Hamden, CT 06517

Last year, alumnus **Copeland MacClintock** (M.S. '57) was one of three Yale employees recognized for their 45 years of service at the University's Long-Service Recognition Ceremony.

Cope came to Yale in 1963 after receiving his Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley.

OBITUARIES

Keith W. Algier (EX '50), passed away Oct. 24th, 2009 at his home in Cameron Park, Calif. He was born in Worland, Wyo., in 1923. He attended school in Worland and the University of Colorado, enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1942 where he served with an Engineering Battalion in the China, Burma, and India Theater of operations until 1946. He subsequently attended UW, the American Institute

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☐ Yes, UW is named in my will.

☐ Yes, my company matches my gifts. I have included a form from my company.

Thank you! Your gift to the Geology and Geophysics Department is tax deductible as provided by law. For your records, our IRS tax identification number is 83-0201971.

* Donations of \$1,000 or more qualify the donor for the President's Society. To learn more, please go to www.uwyo.edu/foundation and click on "Annual Giving" under Quick Links.

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of Foreign Trade in Phoenix, Ariz., and the University of New Mexico where he earned a Ph.D. in history. Algier's teaching career was marked by being named as a Ford Foundation Fellow in 1968. In the early 1980s, his colleagues selected him to serve as their representative on the university's board of regents. He is survived by his wife, four daughters, and sister.

Floyd Donald "Don" Andrews (B.S. '63), passed away Nov. 24th at Campbell County Memorial Hospital. He was born Dec. 5, 1926, in Harrison, Neb., to Andrew and Agnes L. (Marking) Andrews. He lived on the family ranch near Harrison until 1957. He graduated from Sioux County High School in 1945 and served two years in the U.S. Army stationed at Fort Riley, Kan., and Okinawa. In 1957, he moved to Laramie to attend UW. He married Kay Bourrett in 1956 and they had three sons. The couple later divorced. Andrews married Roberta Rowe in Lusk and they also later divorced. He moved to Gillette in 1965 and worked for the Wyoming Highway Department as superintendent of the water treatment plant in the early 1970s and later in the oil fields. He is survived by his three sons, eight grandchildren, one great-granddaughter, one sister, three nephews, and one niece.

John "Jack" Reese Ellis (B.A. '41), passed away on Dec. 4th, 2009. He was born on Sept. 28th, 1918 the only child of Violet Ruth (Collette) Ellis and John Reese Ellis. John married Juliette Joan Adams, daughter of John Willard and Helen Korth Adams of New York City on Jan. 30, 1943. He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife, Joan (June 2009). Ellis is survived by his children, Susan Ellis of Christiansted, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, Deborah Brummett of Boulder, Colo., and Celeste Marsh and John Ellis, Jr. both living in Grand Junction. Other survivors include three granddaughters (Sandra Trumble, Ashley McKinnon, and Katherine Brummett), two grandsons (Jason and Christopher Brummett), two great grandsons (Cole and Conner Trumble), and one great granddaughter (Jessica Brummett).

Ellis graduated as a geologist from the University of Wyoming and completed his master's coursework before leaving to serve in WWII. Jack attended seamanship school in Groton, Conn., and received his commission as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy during the war, serving in the South Pacific on both destroyers and submarines. After the war, Ellis spent most of his career in oil, gas, and uranium exploration. His career centered primarily in Wyoming, Montana, and Colorado. During the 60's, Jack mined uranium in Wyoming's Gas Hills Uranium District where the "Jack Ellis Camp" topographic marker testifies to his former base of operations. In 1967 Ellis and his family moved from Casper to Grand Junction, Colo. to work for the U.S. Department of Energy. He served as the National Uranium Resource Evaluation Program Manager until his retirement in 1980.

Frank Paulsen Mort (B.A. '37, M.A. '39), passed away Jan. 3rd, 2010. Born in Tate, Neb., Mort was the son of Clarence Ward and Frieda Mae Mort. He graduated from Venango High School in 1930 and shortly thereafter began dating his future wife, Evelyn Estella From. They married Aug. 12, 1936. While attending UW, Mort played on three hockey teams and became a member of the Sigma Nu Fraternity. After college, he became an accomplished petroleum geologist and worked for a number of independent oil operators, as well as Shell Oil. Over the years they lived in Texas, Oklahoma, and Colorado, and eventually settled in Sterling, Colo., in 1963, where they lived for the next 46 years, owning and operating Western Agri Realty. Mort was very active in the Sterling community where he became a member of the Rotary Club, the Elks Club and the Sterling Country Club. He is survived by his wife of 73 years, one daughter, six grandchildren and 10

great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother, and one daughter.

Emmett Bartlett "Bart" Olson (B.S. '57), passed away Sept. 5th, 2009. He was born Dec. 20th, 1929, to Emmett and Doris (Rhode) Olson in Sheridan, Wyo. He was raised and attended school in the Sheridan area. He attended Sheridan Community College for one year before entering the Army. Olson served during the Korean Conflict. He returned to Sheridan and married Arlene Robinson in 1954. After attending UW, he moved to Worland, Wyo., for a short time before settling in Cheyenne with his family. He worked for the State of Wyoming for over 33 years, building roads across Wyoming. After he retired, he and his wife moved to Sundance, Wyo. He is survived by his wife, four children, one brother, and six grandchildren.


Leonard M. Taucher (B.S. '52, M.A. '53), passed away on Sept. 7th, 2009. He was born Dec. 22, 1924, in Rock Springs, Wyo., the son of Anton and Mary Jersersek Taucher. He was a graduate of Rock Springs High School in 1942. He was a World War II veteran of the U.S. Air Force serving as a navigator-bombardier in Europe. He married Mildred L. Brecko Sept. 22, 1954, in Rock Springs. She preceded him in death in 2005. He was employed by ARCO as a geologist from 1953 to 1971. He was then employed by AMC from 1972 to 1977 and then worked as a consultant from 1977 to 1994 when he retired. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, WGA, PBK, the UW Alumni and St. Anthony's Catholic Church. He was also a member of the Golden K (Kiwanis) and survived as a volunteer at the Wyoming Medical Center and Meals on Wheels. He is survived by two sisters and numerous nieces and nephews. ❖

GATHERING NEWS!

We always enjoy hearing from our alumni! Please let us know where you are and who you've become!



You can e-mail updates to ggeditor@uwyo.edu

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Persons seeking admission, employment, or access to programs of the University of Wyoming shall be considered without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, veteran status, sexual orientation, or political belief.



*Spring 2010 Student Award Recipients, from left to right: **Claire Lukens** and **Carly York** (outstanding masters students), Department Head **Art Snoke**; **Sean Schaub** (outstanding undergraduate), **Josh Stachnik** (outstanding Ph.D. student in geophysics), **Paul Pribyl** (outstanding undergraduate).*