

Temple University
1901 N 13th St
Philadelphia PA 19122

Dept of Geology Newsletter – Summer 2006

Geology faculty has been in the news this year. Dennis Terry won the prestigious Lindback award for teaching (http://www.temple.edu/temple_times/12-8-05/terry.html). The Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Foundation of Philadelphia endows the award, which recognizes outstanding teachers at colleges and universities in southeastern Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey.

Laura Toran was named a fellow of the Geological Society of America for her contributions to research in hydrogeology (http://www.temple.edu/temple_times/1-19-06/toran.html)

We will be adding a new faculty member to the department in Fall 2006. Allison Tumarkin-Deratzian studies the biology of extinct vertebrates through examination of their extant relatives and/or ecological analogues. She got her Ph.D. from University of Pennsylvania and joins our department as a lecturer after teaching geology at Vassar College.

The American Institute of Professional Geologists sponsored a student chapter at Temple University. This is the first student chapter in Pennsylvania. Sponsorship includes membership for the students and a generous donation for club activities. The geology club continues to be involved in campus activities and recruitment.

For our fall 2005 field trip we explored geology in Pennsylvania and nearby New Jersey. We visited coal reclamation site (see photo), an underground coal mine in Scranton, the Stirling Hill Mine in New Jersey, and the Delaware River Water Gap. Check the web site for details on the Fall 2006 trip.



Temple University
1901 N 13th St
Philadelphia PA 19122

Speaking of the web site, we have undergone a new web design. The new web site has more photos, more news, and a job site. If you know of jobs for students and alumni that you would like to post, send them to ltoran@temple.edu. If you are looking to change jobs, check back often. Bookmark www.temple.edu/geology.

Don't miss the upcoming National GSA Meeting right here in Philadelphia! Temple Geology will be sponsoring several sessions at the meeting, a booth in the graduate school poster area, and an alumni party. Check the department web site for details. We hope to see many alumni at the meeting. Feel free to stop by and visit the department while you are in town.

Pennoni Associates recently gave a generous donation to our fund to help support undergraduate field camp and graduate student research. Alumnus Jamey Stynchula (BS 1994, MS 2005) has been working at Pennoni Associates since 2002.

Research Highlight

Faculty members Jon Nyquist and Laura Toran recently received a 3 year NSF grant to use geophysics to detect groundwater recharge and discharge zones in lakes and streams. The project makes use of a new geophysical tool, the marine resistivity profiling, which allows resistivity measurements underwater. Resistivity can be used to map lake and river sediments in greater detail than previously available, and in some cases can directly detect differences in water chemistry that indicate ground water. The new tool has been used to map a bedrock transition in Burd Run near Shippensburg PA and to map groundwater discharge at Lake Lacawac in the Poconos (see photo). Both undergraduate students and graduate students are involved in the project.

Nick Papacostas installing a temperature sensor on Lake Lacawac as part of his URIF (Undergraduate Research Incentive Fund) project.

