

EEES NEWS

Student News

Fall, 2008

Chaquetta Greene, one of our undergraduate Geology students, has been chosen to receive the American Geological Institute's Minority Scholarship for the academic year of 2008-2009.

<http://www.agiweb.org/mpp/index.html>

Members of **Dr. Devol's** research groups have made several presentations:

Ayman Seliman and **Amy Hixon** gave presentations at the 236th ACS meeting, August 2008, Philadelphia, PA. The presentation given by Ayman was "Adsorption Behavior of Selected Radionuclides: a Comparison of the Effect of Complexation with EDTA and Six of its Degradation Products". Amy's presentation was "Development of a Colorimetric Test for Quantification of Uranium in Drinking Water".

Tara Matheny presented "Polonium-210 Determination in Water Using ZnS(Ag) Disks," **Aurelie Soreefan** gave a talk on "Treatment of Water Samples Before Polymer Electrolyte Membrane Electrolytic Reduction of H₂O/HTO Prior to Counting Tritium Gas," **Ayman Seliman** presented "Preparation of Polymer-Coated, Scintillating Ion-Exchange Resins for Monitoring of ⁹⁹Tc in Natural Waters," at the 54th Annual Radiobioassay and Radiochemical Measurements Conference, October 27-31, 2008.



September 11 – **Jim Chamberlain** gave a presentation to the Chemistry Club on "Industrial Ecology – A New Green Playground for Chemists!" About 20 enthusiastic chemistry students were in attendance.

Dave Hisz and **Dr. Larry Murdoch** conducted a field project at a USGS research site in New Jersey. **Dave** presented a poster at the American Geophysical Union (AGU) meeting describing the project.

October 25-26 – Four EEES students went backpacking in the Ellicott Rock Wilderness Area under the expert guidance of **Richie Hall**. The students were **Richie, Alex Beebe, Phung Pham, and Jim Chamberlain**. After a (grueling) 7 ½ mile hike across several ridges, the group entered the Chattooga River gorge and set up camp along the river. The brisk October evening was tamed by a long, lingering campfire under a sky of stars. The group packed it all out again the next day, through winding, wooded trails of yellow and red leaves of maple and oak.



October 25 –**Dan Matz** and **Dr. Shelie Miller** ran in the Sphinx Run Fest, Greenville, SC.

November 7-9 – **Jim Chamberlain** took a group of 5-6 undergraduate engineering students to participate in the Engineers Without Borders Southeast U.S. Regional Workshop in College Park, Maryland. The Clemson group is leading a breakout session on “Preparing for a Site Assessment Trip” and will also be presenting 2 or 3 posters on their work in El Salvador.

Looking for a way to build camaraderie among faculty, students and alumni? Why not run together in a race? Or better yet, why not COMPETE against each other in a race? That is what nine current and former members of EEES did on December 13, 2008, when they took part in the Charlotte Thunder Road Marathon as three separate relay teams. Faculty team: **Treavor Kendall, Brian Powell, Shelie Miller**; Student team: **Dan Matz, Amy Hixon, Tara Matheny**; and Alumni team: **Darryl Jones, Dina Mauldin, Jim Chamberlain**. Each team had a runner that covered one of three distances – half-marathon, 5 kilometers, and 10 miles – with the total being a full marathon. The student team took off with a blazing start and was still leading by the second stage of the race. However, the faculty team, calling themselves “The Tenure Track Club”, fought back tenaciously and jolted into a hair-thin lead at the end of the race, winning (among the three teams) with a total finish time of 3:56:16. The student team was second with a time of 3:58:00, and the alumni team was third with a finish time of 4:13:00. Everyone had a great time, and the EEES department has resolved to make this event the beginning of an annual affair. A trophy, nicknamed the *Tenacious Tiger Award*, was established and awarded to this year’s faculty team. However, both students and alumni are already planning on reclaiming the prize in next year’s race!



Front row (left to right): Dina Mauldin, **Jim Chamberlain**, **Tara Matheny**

Back row (left to right): **Darryl Jones**, **Treavor Kendall** (with Alden), **Brian Powell**, **Shelie Miller**, **Dan Matz**, and **Amy Hixon**

The Students and Staff hosted a frightfully delicious lunch on Halloween!!



Left to right: **Stephen Moysey** and daughter, Anya, **Joel Kohn**, **Sandra Sanderson**, **Dan Matz**, **Merik Selbes**, **Shelie Miller**, and **Darryl Jones**



To kick off the Holiday Season some of the Students decorated the Remembrance Tree. The remembrance tree was started in 1992. Each Faculty, Staff and Student is asked to bring in an ornament that represents them to hang on the tree. Each year as the tree is placed in the lobby and each ornament is hung it is fun to remember all the folks that have graced these doors

From rear to front: **Darryl Jones**, **Audrey Bone**, and **Merik Selbes**

The Student Holiday Party, Friday night December 5th, was great fun. Students and faculty members attended the party with their families. In addition, **Dean Gulari** and **Dr. L.G. Rich** and his wife were also present. The students host this party each year at the Alumni Center on campus during the Holiday Season. They prepare dishes from their home countries and share with the Department and their families. The entertainment is a video that the students produce usually taking a “playful jab” at one or more of the faculty. This year we had double the entertainment with the video and music by “The Shelie Miller Band”.

THANKS STUDENTS FOR SUCH A WONDERFUL EVENING!!!



The Students and Staff got together for a baby shower for **Xin Xu**. Xin and her husband Bin Cao are expecting a little girl in February. They are living in New York until the arrival of the baby. Xin will return to Clemson to defend and graduate in August. **Dr. Beth Carraway** is her advisor.



Horace Davenport Padgett Jr. and Pat Milam Padgett of Anderson announce the engagement of their daughter, **Amanda Milam Padgett**, to John Frank Stevenson. Amanda graduated from Clemson University with a BS in Chemical Engineering, she is currently pursuing a M.Sc. degree in EEES and she works a health physicist with Duke Energy at the Oconee Nuclear Station.



Tess Brothersen and new daughter Alessandra
Tess is working with a consulting firm in Kansas City, Missouri. She will be finishing up her Ph.D. under **Dr. Cindy Lee** this semester.



December Graduates:

Lee Farrell	MS	Advisor: Tanju Karanfil
Baishu Guo	MS	Advisor: Treavor Kendall
Amy Hixon	MS	Advisor: Tim DeVol
Joon Lee	Ph.D.	Advisors: Mark A. Schlautman and Fred Molz
Michael Shade	MS	Advisor: David Freedman

Staff News

Mary Shirley and **Jan Young** organized a food drive to help The Clemson Community Care. Faculty, Staff and Students made generous donations. Thanks everyone for your kindness.

Several of the Faculty and Staff took our Department Lab Manager, **Bruce Herczogh**, to lunch on December 18th for his retirement party. Bruce has been with Clemson and this Department for 31 years; he has been responsible for all department teaching and research laboratories and laboratory safety, analytical equipments, and L.G. Rich Building facilities. The Department is in the process of hiring a replacement for Bruce's position which was recently approved by President Barker.



Faculty News

Dr. Shelie Miller received National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER Award for her project (\$400,000) entitled “Creation of Predictive and Dynamic Life Cycle Assessment Tool”. This is the most prestigious awards of NSF “in support of junior faculty who exemplify the role of teacher-scholars through outstanding research, excellent education and the integration of education and research within the context of the mission of their organizations.”

Dr. David Freedman was awarded the 2008 Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors (AEESP) Outstanding Publication Award. This very prestigious recognition by the AEESP is given annually to recognize the author(s) of a “landmark environmental engineering and science paper that has withstood the test of time and significantly influenced the practice of environmental engineering and science.” The citation for the paper is:

Freedman, D. L., and J. M. Gossett. 1989. Biological reductive dechlorination of tetrachloroethylene and trichloroethylene to ethylene under methanogenic conditions. *Appl. Environ. Microbiol.* **55**(9):2144-2151.

David Freedman presented a poster at the SERDP/ESTCP Partners in Environmental Technology Technical Symposium and Workshop, held in Washington, DC, December 2-4, 2008. The title of his poster was “An Elusive Search for Microbes that Anaerobically Oxidize Vinyl Chloride.” Anthony Reid, a MS degree candidate, was a co-author on the poster, along with **Jessica High**, who graduated with an MS degree in August and is now working for CH2MHILL in Charlotte, NC.

India and Thailand are sites for the first two projects sponsored by the Geoscientists Without Borders (GWB) program, and Clemson researchers will lead the way in India addressing the severe water crisis in rural areas. The GWB program sponsors efforts to apply geophysical technology to address the needs of people in developing countries around the globe, specifically targeting projects designed to have a humanitarian impact on communities. **Dr. Stephen Moysey** expects to go to the area in the spring with environmental engineering and science graduate student **Dan Matz** who will then spend six months working with villagers and Foundation for Ecological Security staff in the watershed.

Dr. Tim DeVol received a 1 year grant (\$101,146) from the Department of Energy, Office of Biological and Environmental Research, Office of Science. The title of the grant is “Radionuclide Sensors for Subsurface Water Monitoring.”

Dr. Larry Murdoch was awarded \$50,747.00 from the National Science Foundation for the project titled: "DUSEL Experiment Development and coordination."

Dr. Tanju Karanfil received a supplement grant (\$50,000) for the on-going project entitled "Leaching of Inorganic Constituents and Total Organic Carbon from Tires" with Dr. Abdulaziz Khan of Civil Engineering.

EEES and Dr. Tanju Karanfil hosted a reception for alumni at the Water Environment Federation's meeting in Chicago (WEFTEC). This is an annual event held at WEFTEC, usually held jointly with Virginia Tech. Several EEES and Virginia Tech alumni came together. The next reception will be in Orlando (WEFTEC 09).

Dr. Richard Warner has established the **Dr. David S. Snipes Memorial Student Assistance Endowment**. Dr. Snipes was a professor of geology at Clemson University from 1968 until his retirement in 1998. Toward the end of his career, he became actively involved with ground water research, primarily at the Savannah River Project in lower South Carolina, and was known for expertise in hydrology. He was the author of numerous scholarly scientific articles on all facets of geology. He was also the driving force in the formation of Clemson University's annual hydrology symposium. In his honor, this symposium now bears his name. The Dr. David Snipes Memorial Endowment will provide assistance for graduate students who are majoring in hydrogeology.

Dr. Cindy Lee, and her husband, Mr. Riley R. Stevens, have provided a gift to establish the **Dr. Alan W. Elzerman Seminar Series**. Seminars will be held each semester that will feature alumni speakers, one from the Environmental Engineering and Science program and one from the Hydrogeology program. The series honors **Dr. Alan Elzerman**, who is an internationally-acclaimed environmental scientist. **Dr. Elzerman** joined the Clemson faculty in 1978, and over the past 3 decades has worked tirelessly both inside, and outside the university to further the cause of environmental science and policy.

Alumni News

Dr. Claudia Gunsch (EE&S MS '00) received National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER Award. She is currently an assistant professor at Duke University. **Dr. David Freedman** served as Claudia's advisor.

Dr. Stephen Graef (EE&S Ph.D. '76) Steve Graef retires after 17 years with Renewable Water Resources, ReWa, (formerly Western Carolina Regional Sewer Authority) on January 17, 2009. During retirement, he will serve as a part time special consultant to the Executive Director of ReWa. He also plans to provide some private consulting affiliations that do not conflict with ReWa. His wife Catherine and Steve are currently involved in a community project and they look forward to some elderhosteling.

Russ Miller (B.S. in Geology (1996) and M.S. in Hydrogeology (1998)) and his wife Kyley had their second child Hadley Brooks Miller on November 3, 2008. Hadley weighed a healthy 8 pounds 11 ounces and has one older sister named Gracen who is 3. Kyley is the Assistant Director at the Christ Church Pre-school in Greenville, SC. Russ, after working eight years at Kestrel Horizons in environmental/management consulting and obtaining his Masters in Business Administration, joined Merrill Lynch as a Financial Advisor in 2006 and focuses on working with engineers/scientist. Russ can be reached russ_miller@ml.com.

*The next issue will be published in May 2009. Please send your submissions to Jan Young (ej@clemsun.edu) by **April 24, 2008**.*

THANK YOU!