



DOWN TO EARTH



Newsletter of the Department of Earth Sciences, U.W.O.

Friday, September 9, 2011

2011 Georgian Bay Geo- Traverse

The 2011 Georgian Bay Geo-Traverse will be run from Thursday September 29th to Sunday October 2nd, 2011 and will be led by Drs. Guy Plint, Norm Duke and Cam Tsujita. This trip is designed specifically for students in 2nd year Earth Science programs, and 18 student places are available. The purpose of the trip is to allow students to see examples of sedimentary, metamorphic and igneous rocks exposed around Georgian Bay. The various stops will complement classroom material discussed in Earth Science courses 2200, 2201, 2206, 2260 and 2265.

The trip will proceed anti-clockwise from London, eastward to Hamilton, then north to Sudbury, returning via Manitoulin Island and the Bruce Peninsula. Nights will be spent in motels in Collingwood, French River and Little Current. Transport will be in 3 minivans. Students are responsible for their own breakfasts and suppers. The department will provide picnic lunches. Accommodation and transport costs are also covered by the Department, through generous private donations. Each participant will be required to pay a \$100 deposit as an indication of commitment, refundable on their return, provided acceptable standards of behaviour are maintained! Inconsiderate and unseemly behaviour will result in forfeit of the deposit. The field trip will not be assessed. However, participants will benefit by taking notes and sketches to help them remember what was seen!

Because this trip is supported by the Department, students who miss Earth Science

classes on the 29th and 30th September will not be penalised.

Participation is on a first-come, first pay basis, with priority given to 2nd year students. Please see Kevin Jordan, B&G room 1036 to sign up. Detailed itinerary information and a field guidebook will be provided to those who sign up.

Guy Plint

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CFI provides \$2.1 million for research

University of Western Ontario researchers Gordon 'Oz' Osinski and Bob Linnen need to look deeper than anyone else has done before.

Osinski, a planetary geologist, and Linnen, an economic geologist, are developing the Earth and Planetary Material Imaging and Analysis Laboratory at Western. At the facility's core will be a field emission electron microprobe, a powerful device capable of analyzing rock and mineral compositions down to a few hundred nanometers. Few researchers worldwide have seen that far down.

And now, thanks to funding provided through the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), Western – and, in turn, Canada – will stand at the forefront of terrestrial and extra-terrestrial geology for decades to come.

“This is going to be a very unique facility in all of North America,” Osinski says.

The microprobe will be the first of its kind in Canada, and one of only four in North America (with three of those in the hands of industry).

Osinski and Linnen were among eight Western researchers working on five projects who recently received more than \$2.1 million in CFI funding. The awards were announced by Susan Truppe, MP for London North Centre, on Thursday, Sept. 1.

“Research projects like those being conducted by these researchers here today are taking place across Canada. This work plays a critical role in mobilizing Canada’s science and technology advantage,” Truppe says. “These projects will help realize the full potential of our natural resources, ensure a cleaner, safer environment and create and help support many new, high-quality jobs.”



Congratulations...

To our recent successful graduate completions Laura Thomson (MSc GP/PS); Jie Ren (MSc GL), Carl Ozyer (PhD GL), Reynold Sukara (MSc GP) and Pathikrit Bhattacharya (MSc GP).

To our recent major scholarship winners:

NSERC

Candace Brintnell
Olivia Greaves
Monika Haring
Heather Henry
Rachel Schwartz-Narbonne

OGS

Pathikrit Bhattacharya
Gordon Campbell
Dave Cooper
Ryan Hladyniuk
Jenine McCutcheon
Tim Officer
Andrea Prentice
Maija Raudsepp
Alaura Singleton

Tom Ulanowski

QEIGSST (formerly OGSST)

Nicolle Bellissimo
Jeremiah Shuster

KEGS Foundation Scholarship

Innocent Ezenwa



Colloquium Series Schedule

All colloquia will be held in B&GS 0153 at 3:30 PM unless otherwise noted.

Sept. 9th: Poul Emsbo, USGS, The Genesis of Carlin-type Gold Deposits: An Unconventional View

Sept 16th: Greg Slater, McMaster U, Signatures of Life? Probing modern systems to understand signatures of biological and abiological processes over Earth’s geologic history, in meteorites and beyond.

Sept 23rd: Doreen Ames, GSC, The Sudbury Impact Structure

Sept 30th: Dave Good, Stillwater Exploration, Canada. An Exploration Strategy for Cu and PGE in the Coldwell Complex: Finding Magma Conduits in a Rift-Related Ring Dike Complex

October 7 : Lee Hunt, CSEG Distinguished Lecturer, Quantitative Interpretation, New Challenges, & Economic Value

For the most up-to-date colloquium schedule, visit <http://www.uwo.ca/earth/news/colloquium.html>.