Welcome to all EASC alumni, students, faculty and staff. It’s a pleasure to bring you the current Geocetera newsletter on behalf of the Department of Earth Sciences. First and foremost, the unfortunate break-in and theft of my computer this summer does not appear to have led to any occurrences of identity theft. This should come as considerable relief to many of you. Apparently the thief merely wiped the hard drive and probably sold it. A silver lining to this event is that it spurred us into putting additional security onto office and laboratory doors, which should go a long way to deterring future break-ins.

Our new field trip bus is now in full service and the short yellow bus has found its new home at the Bamfield Research Station on Vancouver Island. May it continue to jar the spines of its riders for many years to come. Based on anecdotal evidence, the new bus has even received the approval of Dr. Mike Roberts! I had the pleasure of riding in it to Salt Spring Island this fall, and I can attest that new students in the program will have no idea how good they have it.

I’m also pleased to inform you that our department has adopted an instrumental role in helping to host the upcoming Geological Society of America Annual Meeting, being held in Vancouver from Oct 19-22, 2014. Dr. Dan Gibson is currently serving on the joint technical program committee for the GSA and Dr. John Clague is a councilor for the GSA. In addition, I am indebted to Dr. Shahin Dashtgard and Dr. Brent Ward for agreeing to serve as Field Trip Co-Chairs for the conference. Dr. Glyn Williams-Jones and I have taken on the role of General Co-Chairs for the meeting. I hope to organize an alumni-faculty-student social get together during the meeting, so I hope that all of you will be able to attend. We’ll have further updates about this as the conference approaches.

Finally, I’d like to draw your attention to a new Alumni Appreciation initiative at SFU. Go to www.sfu.ca/appreciation and have a look at the site. There, you will see opportunities to upload short stories about former SFU graduates or to search for stories about your colleagues. I know that many of you have been sending info about yourselves to Robbie Dunlop for our alumni lists, and some of this information is likely to find its way into the “appreciation grid”. However, the system is designed to be seeded by any and all of you, and so I encourage you to visit the site and consider adding to the grid.

This is a great opportunity for EASC to maintain a close connection with one another, and to celebrate the many successes of our graduates as they pursue their careers.
Jeff Zurek won the Graduate International Research Travel Award for Spring 2014. Jeff also won the Society of Exploration Geophysicists Scholarship for Fall 2013.

Sarah Makin won the Province of BC Graduate Research Fellowship for Fall 2013.

The Vice-President, Research (VPR), will be supporting undergraduate students who are working with faculty members who hold research grants (independent of source) through the VPR USRA program.

Congratulations to:
Ryan Rolick (Thorkelson)
Swetha Venugopal (Allen)

Ann Clayton won the University Women’s Club Trust Fund Graduate Scholarship in Earth Sciences Award for Fall 2013.

Megan Dewit (Williams-Jones)
Rob Green (Marshall)
Jeanette Klassen (Allen)
Kyle Siemens (Flowers)
Stephanie Van Pelt (Ward)

Rajesh Vayavur won the Petro Canada Graduate Scholarship in Earth Sciences for Fall 2013.
AWARDS & HONORS

Travel & Minor Research Award

The purpose of the Travel and Minor Research Award is to support the travel component of the scholarly activity of a graduate student related to their research. Congratulations to the following:

Jaap Verbaas  Spring 2013
Vincent Twomey  Spring 2013
Sarah Hashmi  Summer 2013
Jolene Hermanson  Summer 2013
Andrew LaCroix  Summer 2013
Patricia MacQueen  Summer 2013
Rajesh Vayavur  Summer 2013

Earth Sciences/Geography Scholarship

Robert Greene received the Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Sommer Scholarship in Earth Sciences/Geography.

Graduate Fellowship

Eric Roots won the Natural Resources Bursary from the Geological Survey of Canada. Congratulations Eric!

Geoffrey Bradshaw Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is awarded by the Yukon Foundation to a graduate student in a Geology program.

Congratulations to Logan Brown for winning the Geoffrey Bradshaw Memorial.

Congratulations to Jeremy Hanson for receiving the APEGBC Scholarship in Earth Sciences.

Jeremy also won the Earth Sciences Undergraduate Scholarship.

Congratulations Jeremy!
AWARDS & HONORS

Canadian Institute of Mining & Metallurgy

Jeremy Hanson and Swetha Venugopal for winning student book Prizes.

Swetha also received the Greater Vancouver Mining Women’s Association Award in Earth Sciences.

President’s Research Stipend

Korhan Ayranci won the President’s Research Stipend for Summer 2013. Congratulations Korhan!

Andrea Wolter and Anne Clayton attended the Young Canadian Geotechnical Engineers conference in Montreal. Anne won the best Rock Mechanics Paper Award.

Allan Dakin Award

Isabelle Larocque won the Allan Dakin Graduate Award for Fall 2013.

Congratulations to Jeff Crompton who won the W. Garfield Weston Award for Northern Research for Fall 2013.

Mary Ann Middleton won the Graduate Studies Research Award.

~ 4 ~
Congratulations to Dr. Diana Allen for receiving the C.J. Westerman Memorial Award from the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC.

For significant contribution to professional geoscience with demonstrated outstanding community service and advancing public recognition of professional geoscience in BC with a high level of dedication and integrity.

Dr. Brent Ward will be awarded a Fellowship with Geoscientists Canada. The Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia would like to thank Dr. Ward for his exemplary dedication and would like to formally recognize this honor and his achievement at a luncheon on November 28, 2013.

The Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC has elected a new Council for the 2013-2014 term. Congratulations to Dr. John Clague who was elected as Vice President.

NEW FACES IN THE DEPARTMENT.....

Kevin Gillen continues in the department as a Limited Term Lecturer up to the spring 2014 semester.

Dr. Carl Mendoza, visiting professor from the University of Alberta

Dr. Francis Gauthier, Postdoctoral Fellow, Centre for Natural Hazard Research

Dr. Marc-Andre Brideau new adjunct in EASC, BGC Engineering
Kenneth Lupogo presented his PhD Oral Exam on September 18, 2013. Title: "Characterization of blast damage: An Integrated field-numerical modeling approach".

Logan Brown presented his Colloquium on "Cosmogenic dating of the penultimate glaciation in the Ogilvie Mountains, Yukon Territory" on May 14, 2013.

John Mayer presented his Colloquium May 1, 2013. Title: "Uncertainty analysis in open pit slope characterization".

Ann Clayton presented her Colloquium on "Characterization and Analysis of the Mitchell Creek Landslide, a Natural Large-Scale Rock Slope Instability in North-Western British Columbia" on April 29, 2013.

Jeff Crompton presented his Colloquium on "Investigating the Link Between Bedrock Geology and Glacier Dynamics in the Donjek Range, Yukon, Canada" on April 17, 2013.

Simon Foster presented his Colloquium April 12, 2013. Title: "Characterizing Groundwater - Surface Water Interactions in a Mountain to Ocean Watershed, Lake Cowichan, British Columbia".

Isabelle Larocque presented her Colloquium on “The Sensitivity of Coastal Bedrock Aquifers to Climate Change: A Case Study for Salt Spring Island, BC” on April 12, 2013.

Sarah Hashmi presented her Colloquium on "Quaternary geology and drift prospecting in the Mt. Polley area (NTS 93A)” on April 11, 2013.

Jaap Verbaas presented his PhD Oral Exam on April 8, 2013. Title: "Paleo-Mesoproterozoic evolution of the Yukon territory”.

Anja Frank presented her Colloquium on “SO2 CO-Contaminant Impacts on Geological Storage of Carbon Dioxide” on March 28, 2013.

Ryan Preston presented his Colloquium February 25, 2013. Title: "Applications of Photogrammetry to Displacement Detection in Rock Masses”.

Eryne Croquet presented her Colloquium on “Environmental significance of MIS 3 Paleosols in southwestern BC” on June 6, 2012.
## STUDENTS

### GRADUATE DEGREES

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<tr>
<th>Student</th>
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<tr>
<td>Michelle Hanson</td>
<td>Sedimentological and paleomagnetic study of glacial Lake Missoula lacustrine and flood sediments</td>
<td>April 4, 2013</td>
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<td>Brittan Jones (MSc)</td>
<td>Integrated Ichnology and Sedimentology of Mixed River- and Wave-Influenced Delta Complexes, Upper Cretaceous Basal Belly River Formation, Central Alberta, Canada</td>
<td>May 16, 2013</td>
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<td>Joanna Czarnecki</td>
<td>Palynology and geochemistry of sediments in the tidally influenced lower Fraser River, British Columbia</td>
<td>August 29, 2013</td>
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<td>Fuqiang Gao (PhD)</td>
<td>Deep-seated gravitational slope deformations near the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, east-central Alaska Range</td>
<td>September 3, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laurie Welch (PhD)</td>
<td>Simulation of failure mechanisms around underground coal mine openings using discrete element modeling</td>
<td>September 6, 2013</td>
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<td>Marit Heideman (PhD)</td>
<td>Flood hazard and risk in Lillooet River valley, British Columbia</td>
<td>September 9, 2013</td>
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<td>Ivanka Mitrovic (MSc)</td>
<td>Evolution of the Coast-Cascade Orogen by tectonic thickening and magmatic loading: the Cretaceous Breakenridge Complex, southwestern British Columbia</td>
<td>September 18, 2013</td>
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The following students completed in Spring 2013 (Undergraduates)

- Christopher Butz
- Bonn Coyuco
- Teresa Cruz
- Quinn Harper
- Jeanette Klassen
- Sean MacDonald
- Raymond Wladichuk
- Max Ryan
- Leandre Tan
- Benjamin Vatour
- Derek Walsh
The SFU Glaciology Group hosted the Annual Meeting of the Northwest Glaciologists 18-19 October 2013 on the SFU campus. This gathering has taken place since 1972 and has rotated in recent years between UBC, the University of Washington and Portland State University. This year is the first time it has been held at SFU. Over 50 people attended, half of whom were graduate students. Attendees came primarily from the ‘Pacific Northwest’, but from as far as Alaska and Colorado. In keeping with tradition, the talk schedule was put together the first morning of the meeting from scraps of paper or index cards where participants had written down talk titles. Much ground was covered in two days of oral presentations, ranging from UAV development for glaciological applications to Antarctic meteorite hunting. Six presentations were given by members of the department including graduate students Flavien Beaud, Jeff Crompton, Lena Schlichting, and Derek Turner, as well as PDF Rolf Sidler. A Conference Grant from the SFU VP-Academic made it possible to rent the IRMACS theatre, while “our in-house” coffee-break caterers Allison Westin and Hazel Wong worked behind the scenes to keep meeting delegates fueled between sessions. All aspects of the meeting, combined with some anomalously fine autumn weather, made a positive impression for SFU on our colleagues.
In the meantime, the department took delivery of a 2014 Freightliner Thomas Built bus - although still officially nameless, it is big, and red. Its inaugural trip in September was to Merritt for the first of two EASC 206 field school trips led by Robbie Dunlop. This Fall has been a very busy semester for field trips and so far the new bus has received glowing reviews from faculty, staff, and students. Here’s hoping for many years of great service...

After nearly 20 years of faithful service and countless days and hours spent on a multitude of EASC field excursions across western North America, the department has said farewell to the yellow Bluebird bus. Brent Ward led EASC 209 (Environmental Geoscience) on one last Bluebird trip to Coquitlam before it was handed over to the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre on Vancouver Island.

To mark the occasion, the ESSU helped organize a farewell social in late October which was well attended by faculty, staff, students and alumni. Bye Bye Bluebird...
NEW EARTH SCIENCES STUDENT PRIZE

I’m pleased to inform you that EASC has received a new prize for undergraduate students. The Edelmayer Endowment Fund was established in 2013 seeded by a generous gift from Jambo Geoconsultants Ltd., with matching funds from the Faculty of Science, the Department of Earth Sciences, and an anonymous donor. The endowment fund supports the Edelmayer Undergraduate Award in Earth Sciences.

Henry and Mathilda (“Tillie”) Edelmayer were enthusiastic fossil collectors, rock hounds, and lapidarists. Though not formally trained in the geosciences, their love of geology and paleontology were readily imparted to friends, colleagues, and fellow enthusiasts, including their grandson, James MacEachern. The Edelmayers established and maintained a small geoscience museum in their home, which attracted numerous visitors from North America and around the world. Upon retirement, their collection of rocks, minerals and fossil specimens were donated to the newly formed Department of Earth Sciences at Simon Fraser University, with the aim of helping to train a new generation of geoscientists. The Edelmayers were always passionate in sharing their excitement about planet Earth’s history to others, and this award is dedicated to supporting like-minded young geoscientists.

The award is intended for lower division undergraduate students majoring in Earth Sciences with good academic standing and demonstrated leadership, service, outreach, or promotion of geoscience to the community.

The department is hoping to grow this fund, so if any of you are inclined to donate money to SFU, please consider putting your gift towards this new award.

James