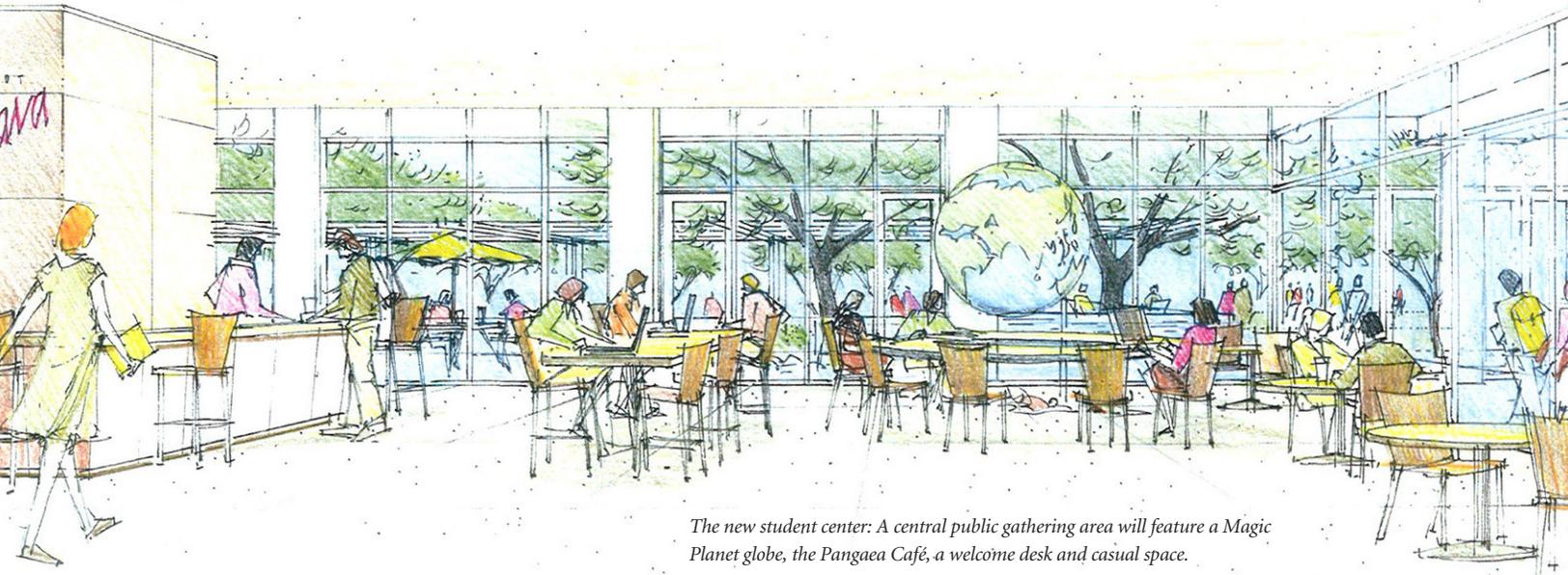


Inside: Submit
alumni notes to
win tickets

Advancing Excellence

Update from the Development & Alumni Office at The University of Texas at Austin's Jackson School of Geosciences - No. 4, Summer 2010



The new student center: A central public gathering area will feature a Magic Planet globe, the Pangaea Café, a welcome desk and casual space.



Alumni and Friends of the Jackson School,

It is my pleasure to send you this edition of *Advancing Excellence*, the supplement to our annual newsletter highlighting the many ways your support is helping the school.

This issue highlights progress on our new student center. The Jackson School is known for fostering a strong sense of community, and yet for years we have not had a central gathering place that draws our community together. All this will change with the new student center. Thanks to the vision and generosity of our donors, we are well on our way to transforming the Jackson School and creating a world class center that will promote education, research and collaboration across the school.

Warmly,
Sharon Mosher

The Heart of Our Community: A New Student Center

We're building a new student center at the Jackson School that is worthy of the nation's preeminent program in the geosciences.

"It will bring all the integral parts of the school closer together than they have ever been before and enrich the experience of future Longhorns," said Steven Gohlke, geoscience student and president of the school's Undergraduate Geological Society.

The Jackson School boasts a legendary community of students, scientists, faculty, and alumni. Within the halls of the Jackson Geosciences Building, lifelong friendships are forged, successful research collaborations are launched, and lives are changed by countless interactions every day. That strong sense of community emanates far beyond its walls as alumni have fanned out across the world, joining the upper ranks in industry, academia and government.

Yet visitors to the building will immediately see there is a disconnect between the spirit of the institution and the way we have designed and allocated space. This building with its state of the art classrooms and laboratories, a world class library, extensive offices, and conference rooms—key elements in education and research—has no space dedicated to enhancing community. Yet community is the vital spark that makes this school so unique.

Continued page 2

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

JACKSON

SCHOOL OF GEOSCIENCES

Student Center — Cont'd



Left: An open-air courtyard with the Brundrett Rock Garden allows the school to entertain guests on a grand scale while providing additional gathering space for the community. Right: The Barrow study area, a “no cell phone” zone where students can comfortably engage in quiet conversation or study.

We envision a modern and inviting student center housing academic advisors, career counselors, tutors, and student computing and work areas. We see a space to showcase the best of the school for visitors from school children to politicians to research partners to business executives. Most importantly, it will be a casual space designed for interaction between all members of the community, the school’s family room if you will. Ultimately, we will create a space uniquely designed for the geosciences that embraces our close-knit feeling of community within the larger university campus.

Chuck Williamson (Ph.D. ’78), former CEO and chairman of Unocal, now serves in leadership positions with Talisman, PACCAR and Weyerhaeuser. He noted that it can be difficult to find your place in a university as big as UT and a school as big as the Jackson School.

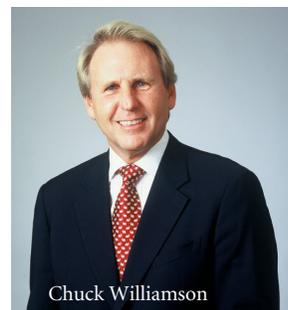
“I’ve learned that no matter where you are, whether in industry, in a university, or in other organizations, it’s important to have a gathering space,” said Williamson. “It provides a ‘home room’ and a sense of belonging.”

He said such a gathering space also helps people build relationships.

“If you have strong relationships with people, there’s more free communication, which leads to broader education and better idea generation,” said Williamson. “It allows you to take the conversation deeper than in the hallway or the classroom.”

We’re off to a fantastic start. Before publically launching our fundraising campaign this month, we began with a “soft launch” in which we received commitments for over \$1 million from donors to support the creation and naming of specific features within the student center (see Donors sidebar).

We currently estimate the entire project to require approximately \$8 million. A group of alumni have formed a fundraising committee to help secure the remaining funding. Committee members are Richard Chuchla (M.A. ’81), chair,



Chuck Williamson

Honoring One Geologist’s Love of Nature

When Jesse Brundrett (B.S. ’53, M.A. ’55) graduated from high school he went to work on a seismograph crew for a local oil company. He loved being outdoors and took an intense interest in nature.

“It was a natural for him,” says his wife Ina Brundrett, a long time donor to the university. “He wasn’t afraid to get his hands dirty. It was really his passion.”

When he returned home from serving in World War II, he took advantage of the G.I. Bill and enrolled in the University of Texas where he earned a bachelor’s and then a master’s degree. His professors urged him to stay on for a doctorate, but he was itching to get back in the oil field. He went straight to work for Humble Oil and rose through the ranks, retiring as district geologist.

“Education was very important to my family and so it’s been important to me as well,” says Mrs. Brundrett. “Jesse could not have done what he did or been as successful as he was [without



Screen shot from the Jesse Brundrett tribute video on the Jackson School Web site at http://www.jsg.utexas.edu/vids/ina_brundrett/.

Key Features

- Magic Planet Globe
- Pangaea Cafe
- Student Services
- Career Services
- Courtyard
- Barrow Study
- Jesse Brundrett Family Rock Garden
- Writer in Residence

Brian Reinsborough (M.A. '93), Don Sheffield (B.S. '58), Bryan Wagner (B.A. '84), and Chuck Williamson (Ph.D. '78).

Williamson is contributing funds to build a café within the center dubbed Pangaea, representing its ability to bring together the entire community in one "Jackson supercontinent."

He added the new student center will enhance one of the school's natural strengths—community.

"Many of my strongest memories from graduate school were from the old Fourth Floor student lounge," said Williamson. "I learned as much there as in the classroom from my colleagues. It was the size of a bedroom. We can do a lot better now and our students deserve better."



Richard Chuchla

The project must be approved by the university's Board of Regents, which could take up the issue as early as November. If approved at that point, construction could be complete as early as August 2012.

Donations at all levels bring us closer to our goal. To learn more about our vision for the student center and how you can

contribute, please contact Ann Flemings, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, 512-471-1993 / aflemings@jsg.utexas.edu.



Magic Planet Globe

A six foot diameter globe will be the focal point of the main public area, a space where students can engage in study or socialization, while providing the opportunity to meet formally and informally with their advisors and staff. The globe can display weather patterns, tectonic plate shifts, volcanic activity, locations of field expeditions, and much more. In the evening, the orb will glow as it is viewed from the East Mall, leaving no doubt about the location of the earth sciences within the Forty Acres.

Donors

Our heartfelt thanks to the following donors who have already committed to fund the creation of specific features within the student center:

- Tom & Jan Barrow (Barrow Study)
- Jesse & Ina Brundrett (Jesse Brundrett Family Rock Garden)
- Richard & Betsy Chuchla (Advising Office)
- Henry & Ann Hamman (Advising Office)
- Chuck and Cathy Williamson (Pangaea Café)



Ina Brundrett with Jackson School undergraduate Steven Gohlke at the 2010 Jackson Societies dinner.

that]. The University of Texas just changed our life completely. He was always very proud to be a Texas Ex."

In honor of her deceased husband, she recently established a fund to create the Jesse Brundrett Family Rock Garden. With her help, the existing rock garden will be transformed into a spectacular dry-bed arroyo flowing through the exterior courtyard and into the interior of the student center. Here, teachers and their students can learn about geological terminology and begin their pursuit toward becoming stellar earth scientists.

"Jesse would have loved the rock garden," she says. "It's important to me that this is a focal point, a place where the students could go and meditate, visit or study, to be in an atmosphere of nature. This would fit in with what he would love."

The Jackson School development office recently honored her gift by creating the following video:

http://www.jsg.utexas.edu/vids/ina_brundrett/.

2011 Northern Italy Tour

for UT Jackson School grads, April 27 - May, 10, 2011



Tour the region with special guest Professor Emeritus Robert L. Folk

Andiamo! In partnership with the TexasExes Flying Longhorn Program, the Jackson School Friends and Alumni Network is pleased to announce a private, chartered tour of Northern Italy designed exclusively for JSG alumni and with special guest Professor Emeritus Robert L. Folk! This will be a small group – only 24 seats – so make your reservations soon.

Dr. Folk has performed a majority of his research in the hills of Italy. Many graduate students will remember spending time with him there. We hope you will take advantage of this unique opportunity to visit Italy and learn about the geological make up of the land first hand, and enjoy lively geological discussions over a good glass of Chianti.

The very word “geology” was coined by an Italian, Ulisse Aldrovandi, so we’ll see some spectacular exposures in this classical area. Our leisurely exploration of Italy’s varied northern regions offers a refreshing (and geologic) perspective on a well-known land.

We’ll commence this celebration of Italian living with a relaxing three-night stay on Lake Maggiore in the company of Dr. Folk. We’ll

tour the lake region, including Ascona and Stresa. In Milan, we’ll visit the awe-inspiring marble Duomo. And from the fertile Pleistocene Po plain we’ll ride up into the Alps - gneisses and schists!

Next, the Italian Riviera with turbidites and ophiolites. We’ll travel along the rugged Ligurian coastline from the Italian Riviera resort town of Santa Margherita to the five picturesque towns of Cinque Terre, and we’ll travel by boat to the renowned and beautiful resort town of Portofino.

After touring Pisa, we’ll arrive in Florence, a living monument to the Renaissance. A pile of thrust sheets squished eastward into Tuscany, they split apart to let the sea into basins during Pliocene, giving the world lots of good wine country. We’ll discover the exquisite walled city of Siena, savor an authentic winery tour and tasting in Chianti, and tour the fortress-like town of Volterra. This remarkable journey comes to a close in romantic Venice with its complex maze of canals and its unforgettable St. Mark’s Square.

Cost: \$4,495 includes air from Houston

Deposit: \$850

Tour Operator: Odysseys Unlimited

For more information, visit <http://www.odysseys-unlimited.com> or contact Janice Garcia, Texas Exes (garcia@alumni.utexas.edu, 512-471-3801 or 800-594-3900).

Honoring a Giant in Geology: The Bill Muehlberger Graduate Fellowship

We are excited to announce the creation of the Bill Muehlberger Graduate Fellowship to honor a living legend in the Jackson School. Former students, in partnership with his family, felt that the best way to pay tribute to such an influential man was to establish a graduate fellowship in his honor. Funds will be awarded to an outstanding graduate student in structural geology and allow them to focus on research in resolving structural geology or tectonic problems.

Bill Muehlberger’s shadow looms large in the field of geology. He published the definitive *Tectonic Map of North America*, for which he received the 1998 Best Paper Award from the Structure/Tectonic



Bill Muehlberger

Division of the Geological Society of America. He has conducted field investigations all over the world. He helped train nearly every class of astronaut from Apollo through Skylab and on to recent shuttle crews. He was principal investigator for Apollo 16 and 17, the two missions in which astronauts carried out significant geological research.

Muehlberger began teaching geology at the University of Texas in the early 1950s. During his tenure as professor and chairman of the Department of Geological Sciences, he supervised more than 80 master’s and doctoral students. For his work over the years, he has received the Medal for Exceptional Scientific Achievement and the Public Service Medal from NASA, as well as the Houston Oil and Minerals Corporation Faculty Excellence Award. In 2009, he was inducted into the Jackson School’s Hall of Distinction. He is currently professor emeritus in the Jackson School.

We have already raised commitments of close to \$90,000 from a few of his former students and from his family, but we need your help to achieve our goal of \$250,000.

If you are interested in contributing to this fund, please contact: Kimberly Rose, Assistant Director for Development, Jackson School of Geosciences, 512.232.8085/216.470.5624, KKassor@jsg.utexas.edu.

Scenes from Recent Alumni Events



2010 Jackson Societies Dinner

This March the school inducted 11 new L.T. Barrow Founders Circle members (contributions of \$100,000 or more since 2005) and five Hill Society members (cumulative contributions of \$10,000 or more).

Top left: Ann (Plan II B.A.'59) and Henry (B.S.'60) Hamman were inducted into the L.T. Barrow Founders Circle.

Top right: Jim Gibbs, Geology Foundation Advisory Council member, was welcomed into the L.T. Barrow Founders Circle.

Middle left: Frank (MBA '87) and Judy (BBA '82) Lee, new L.T. Barrow members, created a scholarship in honor of parents Frances and Fred Oliver (B.S. '51).

Bottom left: Peter Flawn inducted Marilee and Bill Fisher into the Hill Society.

Bottom right: Carol Pitts (Education B.S. '54), new L.T. Barrow Founders Circle member with husband Jerry (not shown), with Advisory Council member Weyman Crawford (B.S. '50), and wife Carol.





2010 AAPG Alumni & Friends Event

Top left: Kadira Singh (M.S. '10) and current doctoral students Carla Sanchez (M.S. '06) and Ryan Phelps (M.S. '06).

Top right: Current doctoral student Dolores Van Der Kolk and Lorena Moscaredelli, Ph.D. '07.

Immediate right: Steve Laubach (center), senior research scientist at the Bureau of Economic Geology.



Upcoming Alumni Events

Continuing Ed Lecture and Lunch, "Haiti: Rapid Response," Sean Gullick

Thursday, July 1
Corpus Christi
11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m., Corpus Christi Town Club

Jackson School Alumni Reunion

Friday & Saturday, August 6 & 7
Austin, Texas
Details online at www.jsg.utexas.edu/alumni/reunion.html

SEG Alumni Reception

Tuesday, October 19
Denver, Colorado

GSA Alumni Reception

Monday, November 1
Denver, Colorado

Alumni and Friends Tailgate Party

Saturday, November 13
Austin, Texas
UT v. Oklahoma State, 2 Hours Prior to Kick-off

AGU Alumni Lunch

Wednesday, December 15
San Francisco, California

Continuing Education Lectures and Receptions

Coming this fall to your chapter
Houston
Dallas/Ft. Worth
Midland
San Antonio
Corpus Christi
Stay tuned for upcoming dates!

For further event details, visit us online at www.jsg.utexas.edu/alumni or contact Julie Paul at jpaul@mail.utexas.edu or 512.471.2223.

The University of Texas at Austin
Jackson School of Geosciences
1 University Station, C1160
Austin, TX 78712-0254
www.jsg.utexas.edu

Calling All Geologists!

Jackson School Reunion

August 6-7, 2010 • Austin, TX



*Reconnect with Faculty
Renew old Friendships
Rediscover the 40 Acres*



All alumni, friends, faculty, and staff from all years
are invited - Register now at www.jsg.utexas.edu.