

Advancing Excellence

Update from the Development & Alumni Office at The University of Texas at Austin's Jackson School of Geosciences - No. 6, Summer 2011



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.

As many of you know firsthand, persistence is one of the most important traits for a successful scientist. It's equally vital for educational leaders, and so with this issue we persist in seeking funds for our new student center. I am confident this center will have a major impact on the school, helping present students work together more effectively and helping us continue to recruit the best new students to the discipline. If you've been considering a gift to the center, please act now, as we attempt to close our final funding gap to complete this transformative project by the fall of 2012.

As always I extend my grateful thanks to the many donors and supporters who are advancing both the student center and our school as a whole. Thanks to your generosity, we are well on our way to making the Jackson School the country's preeminent geoscience program. I hope you enjoy the rest of your summer and I look forward to catching up with many of you at our fall alumni events.

Warmly,
Sharon Mosher

Recent Gifts Lift Student Center Campaign Over \$4 Million

Help us close the fundraising gap for an August 2012 opening

Since we publicly launched the campaign last year, more than 300 alumni and friends have signed on to complete this transformative project by the fall of 2012. Due to the amazing generosity of our alumni and friends, we are half-way to our fundraising goal. Thank you for getting us to this point.

We're not done yet. We continue to need your help in closing the final gap to complete this project.

Our students and community deserve a gathering place worthy of one of the nation's preeminent geoscience programs. Despite our strong brand-name and central location on the UT Austin campus, the Jackson School does not have a space where our people can casually network. That will change with the new student center.

The outstanding design and central location of the center will provide a hub for the geosciences on campus and a "family room" for the school. The center will help students have more direct access to faculty and research scientists. It will foster camaraderie between students, faculty, research scientists and alumni. And it will build pride as a showplace which provides opportunities for

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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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SCHOOL OF GEOSCIENCES

Below left: Our courtyard on the east mall offers a pleasing welcome to the home of the geosciences. Right: The Louis M. Pearce, Jr. Family Commons will nurture our community of students, researchers, faculty, and alumni. The Magic Planet Globe will dynamically model major earth events such as tsunamis, ocean currents, plate tectonics and volcanic eruptions.



Proudly Named Spaces

The Louis M. Pearce, Jr. Family Commons
sponsored by an Anonymous Donor

Janice H. & Thomas D. Barrow Study

Jesse L. Brundrett Family Rock Garden

Elizabeth G. & Richard J. Chuchla
Graduate Advising Office

Dorothy W. and Bill C. Cotner Career Lounge

Jereld E. McQueen Student Leaders
Collaborative Space
sponsored by Finkelstein Partners, Ltd.

Ann H. & Henry R. Hamman Graduate Advising Office

The Unconventional Play Room
sponsored by Kathy A. & Richard A. Leach

Marian B. & John C. Maxwell Plate Tectonics Office
sponsored by Patricia & David H. Lehman

David F. & David T. Martineau Career Services Suite

Nancy E. & David A. Pustka Office Space

Nancy C. & Don B. Sheffield Conference Room

The Gondwanaland-a-Job Interview Room
sponsored by Kathy C. & Steve P. Weiner

Pangea Café
sponsored by Cathy J. & Chuck R. Williamson

The Stephen E. Clabaugh Granite Cove
Multiple donors—visit www.jsg.utexas.edu/support
for the complete list

RK DeFord Graduate Advising Suite
Multiple donors—visit www.jsg.utexas.edu/support
for the complete list

“The student center will transform the college into a welcome oasis for the entire UT geosciences community.”

— **David and Nancy Pustka**

collaboration, idea generation and future growth. The visibility of this new center will help the school continue to attract the best and brightest to our discipline.

Donors Steve (M.A. '81) and Kathy (B.S. '83) Weiner, who met when they were geology students, sponsored an interview room with a unique geological name, the Gondwanaland-A-Job Interview Room.

“We saw the need for an area where the students can sit and talk between classes and meet informally with professors,” said Steve, “so we contributed to the student center as our anniversary gift to each other.”

Recalling their past experiences at the school, many alumni have stepped up to the plate to help us create this vital feature of the school's community.

“Professor DeFord was my graduate advisor,” said Geology Foundation Advisory Council member Toby Carleton (B.S. '51, M.A. '52). “We are supporting the Ronald K. DeFord Graduate Advisory Suite not only to honor his memory, but to help advance his goals of teaching, supporting and advising graduate students in geology. I think such an addition will attract more and better students to the graduate program.”

David (B.S. '76) and Nancy (BBA '75) Pustka cited similar interests in transforming the facilities to attract top students while enhancing the educational experience for all.

“The completion of the student center in the Jackson Geosciences Building will guarantee to all who learn and teach here a first-class synergistic environment,” said David, “and will transform the college into a welcome oasis for the entire UT geosciences community.”

If you've been considering a gift, we need your help now to speed us toward completion.

Donations at all levels bring us closer to the goal. To learn more about our vision for the center, how you can contribute, and specific naming opportunities that remain, please contact Ann Flemings, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, 512-471-1993 / aflemings@jsg.utexas.edu.

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— **Steve and Kathy Weiner**



Scenes from Recent Alumni Events

Celebration of Philanthropy Dinner & Hall of Distinction Induction

In the presence of 160 friends and alumni, the Jackson School welcomed 51 of our most loyal donors into the Hill Society and L.T. Barrow Founders Circle. The school also celebrated the induction of Milo Backus, Ronald DeFord, Maurice Ewing and Johan Udden into the Hall of Distinction.

Top left: Dr. Leon Long sharing his wisdom with junior Anine Pederson.

Top right: David F. Martineau (B.S. '60) and David T. Martineau (M.S. '97) expressing their gratitude and a little humor upon induction into the L.T. Barrow Founders Circle.

Middle left: Steve (M.A. '81) and Kathy (B.S. '83) Weiner are welcomed back to Austin and into the L.T. Barrow Founders Circle.

Middle right: Jerry (B.S. '61, M.A. '63) and Joy (B.S. '60) McQueen, honored with a named space in the new student center, enjoying the evening's festivities.

Bottom left: Dean Mosher offers Rusty Goetz (M.A. '77) a warm welcome into the Hill Society.

Bottom middle: Bonnie Weise (B.S. '74, M.A. '79), incoming FANs president, proudly accepts her Hill Society honor.

Bottom right: Bill Gipson (B.A. '48, M.A. '49), a Hall of Distinction member, accepts his new honor into the L.T. Barrow Founders Circle.

More photos and information can be found at: picasaweb.google.com/jsg.alumni.utexas.edu



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Upcoming Alumni Events

Friends and Alumni Network Board Meeting

Friday, September 9th
Austin, Texas

Geosciences Career Fair

Wednesday, September 14th
Austin, Texas

Register your company today!

Student/Alumni Mock Interviews

Thursday, September 15th
Austin, Texas

SEG Alumni Reception

Tuesday, September 20th, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
San Antonio, Texas

GSA Alumni Reception

Monday, October 10th, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Geology Foundation Advisory Council

Thursday – Friday, November 3rd-4th
Austin, Texas

Jackson School Scholars Luncheon

Friday, November 4th, 12:00 p.m.
AT&T Conference Center, Austin, Texas

Jackson School Tailgate Party and Student Fundraiser

Saturday, November 5th
2 Hours Prior to Kick-off
Texas Memorial Museum, Austin, Texas
UT v. Texas Tech

AGU Alumni Lunch

Wednesday, December 7th, 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.
San Francisco, California

It's a Click Away Help Us Close the Gap for the Student Center

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the "Make a Gift to JSG" button.

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