

CONTACT

**WHEATON COLLEGE
GEOLOGY
DEPARTMENT**

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W H E A T O N G E O L O G Y
C O N T A C T

Hello! This is the first of many regular opportunities to share the status of the Wheaton College Geology Program. God willing, we will be a full-fledged department again soon.

I want to keep you, our alumni and other friends informed as to the ups and downs of our current situation. Please feel free to share your suggestions (including criticism) with us.

Near the end of my first four semesters at Wheaton College I can see two sides of the present situation. There are the results of negative enrollment trends and of administration decisions that almost destroyed Wheaton Geology. On the other side there are also reasons for hope.

Need for Majors

I have no inclination to emphasize negatives, but let the spirit of openness prevail. You should know the truth. The Geology Program must have broad support to make a successful go of it. The greatest need at present is for majors. We are down to two seniors, one junior, one sophomore, and two freshmen. Although our service courses are thriving, we will never be a viable program without a critical mass of majors (goal - only five per class, a total of at least twenty). Note the enclosed brochure and flyer. These are promotional materials designed to recruit (mostly) high school students and Wheaton underclassmen. Trying to change the basic vocational attitudes of Christian students is more job than one person can handle.

New Initiatives

Other moves to reverse the current predicament include:

- 1) The production of a promotional video (completion by Fall 1988);
- 2) Proposals for several grants (Shell, Amoco, etc.) to be designated as merit scholarships. We must have the capability to attract talented students;

- 3) Several interdisciplinary programs incorporating geology with other disciplines are now available. Each of these (Earth-Science Secondary Education, Geochemistry, Geophysics, Natural Resources, and Environmental Science) should appeal to students with different interests and goals;
- 4) The award of a Pew Foundation Grant (\$1.1 million for three years) to Wheaton as part of a five-school cluster facilitates undergraduate research. Wheaton's Science Division will have a total of ten grants available for each summer's research. The award also provides for some faculty summer research and the development of interdisciplinary science courses;
- 5) Geology has acquired new equipment such as a complete video capability (camcorder, VCR, monitor, etc.), x-ray diffraction (with Chemistry), magnetometer and susceptibility meter, stream table, structure lab, and scanning electron microscope (with Biology);
- 6) Each semester we will run optional Saturday and break-time field trips to many areas of geological interest (Mazon Creek fossil collecting, Wisconsin Precambrian terranes, the Field Museum, Thornton Quarry reef, Indiana Dunes, and beyond);
- 7) Our Dean has provided temporary support for a lab instructor. This frees some of my time to devote to more promotion in the Fall. Having an enthusiastic doctoral candidate around will help us look like a real department;
- 8) New research partnerships have been established with faculty at Northern Illinois and Northwestern Universities;
- 9) An advisory council comprised of seven individuals from academia and industry has been established to lend professional expertise;
- 10) You, the many friends of Wheaton Geology are essential components of a comeback. I covet your prayers, suggestions, and any other effort on our behalf.

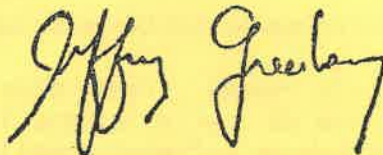
Faculty

A few years ago, back in the days of thirty plus majors, Don Boardman demonstrated the need for the addition of a fourth faculty member. Instead of increased staffing to four, College leadership pruned the faculty down to two. Upon the retirement of Dave DeVries in 1985, Jerry Haddock was left alone to shoulder an incredibly heavy teaching and maintenance load until I arrived. Jerry has a few years before retirement, but physical troubles have caused some disability in his teaching. Students have realized our weakness and several have transferred to other schools or changed majors. The bottom line is that we dearly need an additional professor to adequately cover the course load and to inspire students. We also need to keep Jerry's many other talents with us. Since the College has chosen not to bolster our position for the next several years, we must pursue alternatives. In the good old days of high oil prices, Wheaton may have secured enough support to fund an endowed faculty chair. This is now a long, long shot, but we need it more than ever. If any of you know of people who are devoted to the continuance of Wheaton Geology and who have a little spare change, please let me know.

Fall Seminars

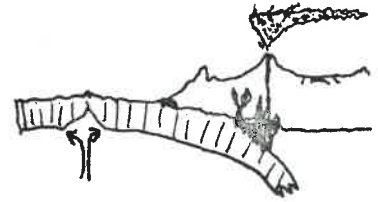
I will leave you with a final bit of before-the-fact news. I am organizing a series of Fall seminars on the theme "The Intergration of Science and Scripture." Wheaton faculty in Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Philosophy, Bible, and Anthropology will lead six evening sessions, emphasizing discussion not lecture or debate. The sessions include: an overview; theological/philosophical considerations; the origins of the universe and life; geological questions of age, fossil record, and the Flood; biological aspects of evolution; and the nature of mankind. Our targeted audience is christian leadership (clergy, teachers, media, youth workers, etc.); their participation is by invitation only. Levels of interest in this area are quite high. It has been a serious mistake to leave evangelical ministries alone with only the propaganda of certain bible - "science" groups. People both within and outside the Church need to realize that spiritual wisdom and scientific knowledge are not contradictory realms of truth.

That's it for now. I appreciate this opportunity to fill you in on our status. Let me hear from you when you can. If you are in the Wheaton area, come by and say hello.



Jeffrey K. Greenberg
Assoc. Professor and
Coordinator of Geology

When the time comes
to decide -----



MAJOR IN GEOLOGY

It is for those who love the outdoors and a chance to study **Creation** in all its aspects. It is for those who are drawn to a life of serving the **Lord** through helping humanity and the environment. **AND**, it is for those who thought they were afraid of science.

Geology offers programs which are

Enjoyable
Challenging

Flexible
Christian Service Oriented

Majors, minors and interdisciplinary concentrations in

Geology
Earth Science Teaching
Geochemistry

Environmental Science
Natural Resources
Geophysics

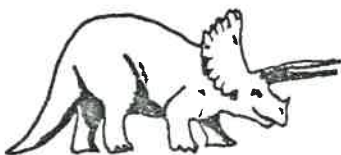
Other areas of study in the field or lab may include

Global History
Economics
Math/Computer Analysis
Plate Tectonics

Paleontology
Energy
Earth Structures

GEOLOGY - A great Wheaton tradition with excellent grad school and employment opportunities; internships and research financial aid is available.

Come by Breyer 308-309 or call X5063



1. An Enjoyable Challenge

As the world accelerates into a demanding technological future, qualified individuals are critically needed to guide this progress with integrity. Geology is at the heart of many global concerns in such vital areas as energy, mineral and water resources, environmental protection and management, and land-use planning. Geologists in increasing numbers must be prepared to serve in all facets of the earth sciences.

The diverse features of the Earth make the study of geology a fascinating and challenging pursuit. Towering mountains, deep ocean basins, massive flowing glaciers, explosive volcanoes, and vast deserts are all the subject of our quest to understand Creation.

2. A Career Well Rewarded

Various national publications (for example, The *Career Resource Digest* of the National College Placement Association) list *geoscience* among the better fields of science employment opportunities, especially when future job prospects are considered. Salaries for experienced geologists (including geophysicists and geological engineers) are near the top of the scales for science and technology.

3. A Broadly Based Major

A liberal arts education in geology is both a desirable route to earth-science careers and good preparation for graduate school. However, students need not feel limited by their choice of major. Wheaton Geology alumni attest to the flexibility of the liberal arts background while

they praise the content of their degree program. A Geology major learns critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and an understanding of natural interactions. These are assets for people involved in all areas of life.

4. A Design for Godly Service

Students should be assured that choosing geology as an enjoyable, employable major need not be selfish. For too long Christian young people have been steered away from a future in science. Of all interests, perhaps science has been seen as the least "spiritual." In reality, there will always be a tremendous need for Christian geoscientists to serve where biblical values are often lacking, such as in science education or environmental stewardship.

Those who want to serve as missionaries should be aware that the Lord is increasingly making use of "tentmakers." American geologists work in nations such as Nepal, Saudi Arabia, Bulgaria, Ethiopia, and Turkey. In their service-oriented jobs, scientists can have access to people unreachable by any traditional missionary. The Christian geologist aids the improvement of people's physical existence. Having earned credibility, he can share the good news of Christ's grace.

MORE ABOUT WHEATON GEOLOGY

A Great Tradition

For almost 60 years, Wheaton's Geology Program has maintained a tradition of excellence in

education. Even at the school's beginning in 1860, geology and mineralogy were among those courses required of Wheaton College's first students.

Founder Jonathan Blanchard realized that a working knowledge of the Earth is an integral part of Christian education. The continuation of this early commitment to the study of geology has given Wheaton a distinction among evangelical institutions. Graduates of the Geology Program have gone on to become leaders in university teaching and research, industrial management, in consulting firms, and in government agencies.

Curriculum and Degree Program

The modern Geology Program at Wheaton provides course work on two levels: general education-introductory and courses for more advanced students. The lower-level curriculum offers Physical Geology, Historical Geology (both lab-oriented), Environmental Geology, World Resources, Paleontology, and Oceanography. Upper-level courses include Chemistry and Physics of the Earth, Mineralogy, Structural Geology, Sedimentation/Stratigraphy, Igneous Petrology/Petrography, and Field Methods/Studies. Independent research and special-topics classes are also available to qualified students. The Geology curriculum is constantly improved through yearly modification.

Students with multiple interests may decide to concentrate in Geology as a minor in combination with their major in another field. For some students another desirable option is the creation of their own individualized major. An *interdisciplinary major* lets students design an integrated program of courses chosen from two or more disciplines. For example, study in Geology and Biology may be combined for an environmental emphasis; Geology and Education could contribute

a strong base for prospective science teachers; or Geology, Economics, and Political Science could be integrated for natural-resource policy.

Supporting Sciences

Wheaton has a well-deserved reputation for strength in the physical and biological sciences. The College's Science Division includes Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, and Computer Science, in addition to Geology. Major and minor programs in Geology require a core of supporting science courses that round out a student's training.

Research and Internships

Research projects and internships are available to upperclassmen. There are many different ways to participate in research. Independent projects may be arranged, or interested students can become involved in faculty investigations. Project work may be field oriented, lab oriented, or a combination.

Internships as actual work experiences are valuable assets for students planning to become professional scientists. Each year government and the private sector offer a number of limited-term positions to motivated scholars. Wheaton College's own HNGR (Human Needs and Global Resources) Program has given Geology majors a chance to share their time and talent as interns among needy people worldwide.

Campus Facilities

Offices, classrooms, and laboratories of the Geology Program contain all the resources necessary for instruction and basic research. Analytical instrumentation includes student and research petrographic microscopes, X-ray diffraction (with Chemistry), transmission electron microscope (with Biology), elementary reflection seismograph, gamma-ray spectrometer, and

emission spectrograph. Other facilities include a rock preparation room with saws and thin-section equipment, water/sediment sampling apparatus, complete structural geology and sedimentology labs, a rock/mineral/fossil reference collection, a darkroom, video instruction equipment, and a microcomputer room.

Science Station

The College is blessed with a 70-acre science station in the South Dakota Black Hills. This modern facility is the summer focus of biology and geology field courses. The station's natural environment is uniquely suited for learning and research in the land of Mount Rushmore.

Field Trips and Seminars

A Wheaton Geology education includes travel to areas of special scientific interest. Field trips often occur during Christmas and spring break to such places as quarries; fossil localities and museums in Illinois; the ancient crystalline rocks of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan and Canada; the Appalachian Blue Ridge Mountains; the Big Bend region of West Texas; and the Rockies.

In addition, students and faculty take time each semester to hear guest speakers at Chicago-area universities.

The Next Step Is Yours

If you would like more information, please write or call us. If you are in the Wheaton area, drop by for a visit. Our offices are in the Breyer Lab Building.

Contact:

Dr. Jeffrey Greenberg or

Dr. Gerald Haddock

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WHY MAJOR IN GEOLOGY AT WHEATON COLLEGE?

The best counsel in advising any Christian student about a potential vocation is to pose a four-fold "CAN I" question.

- 1. CAN I enjoy doing it and still be challenged?**
- 2. CAN I make a living doing it?**
- 3. CAN I still make use of this education if my career interests change? and most importantly,**
- 4. CAN I serve God in this career?**

With regard to Geology, the answer can be:

Yes, Yes, Yes, and Yes!

Read inside and judge for yourself.