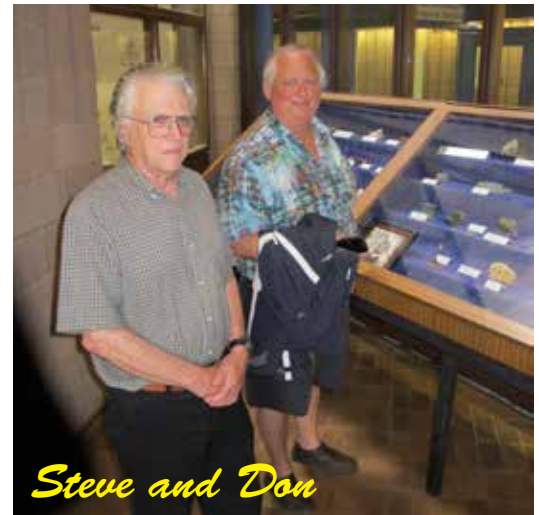


LAKEHEAD  
GEOLOGY

# Lakehead University Geology Department Alumni Newsletter #8

*August, 2014*

We are always happy to visit with our alumni and this past summer were able to take Don Stauss (*Class of '85*) for a tour of the department. Don was visiting Thunder Bay with his family and took time out to visit with Drs Kissin and Hollings. We were also pleasantly surprised when Paul Nielsen (*Class of '74*) got in touch after noticing that his Honours thesis was not on our list. First off, it was great to find out that someone has been looking that closely at the web site, but more importantly it was great to fill a gap in our collection. Paul's thesis, supervised by Dr. Jim Franklin, was on "The Geochemistry of the Lyon Lake-Claw Lake Sulphide Bearing Graphitic Shale, Sturgeon Lake Area, Ontario". Please drop us a line if you notice that your thesis has been missed from our list!



*Steve and Don*



*Paul*

## *Lakehead's 50th*

With Lakehead's 50th Anniversary coming up in 2015 we are launching an appeal for Yearbooks, photos or other memorabilia from your time at Lakehead. We do have scans of some yearbooks and class photos posted in the **alumni section** of our site, but would love to fill some of the gaps. If you have anything you would like to share please get in touch.

## *Research highlights*

Interesting work was recently published in Precambrian Research by Robert Riding, Philip Fralick and Liyuan Liang. They showed that photosynthesis was operating at least 300 million years earlier than previous evidence could verify. This indicates that the rise in atmospheric oxygen levels prior to the Great Oxygenation Event at 2.4 Ga was gradual, something that was suspected but for which there was no evidence before this paper. The publication also points to the possibility that photosynthesis was producing some oxygen on Earth 3.5 billion years ago. The research has been covered in **New Scientist** and **Nature World News**.



*The late winter in Thunder Bay this year meant that the second year field school in April was something of a challenge with everything from blizzards to snow covered outcrops.*



Please contact [peter.hollings@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:peter.hollings@lakeheadu.ca) if you have a story to share

## Student success

MSc students Adrian Arts and Monica Karman were awarded prizes for the best student oral presentation and best poster presentation, respectively, at the 2014 Institute on Lake Superior Geology conference held in Hibbing, MN. The conference was attended by approximately 250 geoscientists from universities, government and the private sector from around the Lake Superior region.



Monica and Adrian with the other student award winners and one of the judges, Rob Cundari (Class of '10)



## International visitors

We are seeing an increasing number of international visitors in the department these days, including undergraduate exchange students from Brazil and South Korea. One of the Brazilian students, Arthur Raboni, has spent his summer working with Dr Zurevinski, assisting her and her students with their field work. Also over the summer Dr Gurmeet Kaur from Panjab University Chandigarh, India has been working with Dr Mitchell on a study of lamproites and para-kimberlites from the Dharwar craton, eastern India. Dr Kaur plans to return to continue the study next summer. In September, PhD student Dengfeng Li from the Guangzhou Institute of Geochemistry in China will be coming to Thunder Bay to spend a year with Dr. Hollings' porphyry research group. He will be joined later in the year by Dr. Mingjian Cao from the Institute of Geology & Geophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing.



Dr Shannon Zurevinski with Brazilian exchange student Arthur Raboni at the Tamaka Gold property, near Dryden.



In addition we have been sending our students overseas, MSc student Emily Smyk has just returned from Tasmania where she was making use of the Laser Ablation ICPMS facility at CODES. While there Emily had a chance to visit the spectacular orbicular granites out on the west coast.



Want to know more? Please visit our web site at [www.geology.lakeheadu.ca](http://www.geology.lakeheadu.ca)