



LAKEHEAD
Lakehead University Geology Department
Alumni Newsletter #9
 GEOLOGY

December, 2014

Seasons Greetings

The faculty, staff and students of the Geology Department would like to wish all our alumni a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. It's been a busy few months here in Thunder Bay as despite the current down turn in the minerals industry interest in our programs remain high and we are maintaining our near record enrolments. For a number of years we have been teaching our First Year Geology classes by video conference to students at the Orillia campus, but this year for the first time we have been able to hire a sessional instructor to teach the class in person. We hope that the increased face-to-face contact will lead to more transfers into the main program in Thunder Bay. Once again there will be a Lakehead presence at both Roundup and PDAC in 2015, so if you would like to get together for coffee or a beer, drop us a line and we can set something up.

New field school

For the past couple of years, in addition to our regular field school, Dr. Amanda Diochon has been running a second field school with a more environmental focus to cater to students in our Water Resource Science and Environmental Earth Science programs. The students spend a week in Pukaskwa National Park collecting samples and data and then another week in the lab in Thunder Bay analysing and processing those samples. The



Students prepare to ground-truth terrain polygons delineated in the lab (aka bushwhacking and digging shallow soil pits).



students have also been helping repopulate the northern most occurrence of Pitcher's Thistle which thrives in the sand dunes of the Park. Students scattered seeds over an area last year and this years class was able to return and monitor the progress of this non-invasive species-at-risk. The field school has received rave reviews from the students and is an exciting addition to our programming.



Identifying canopy tree species



Erin Wepruk, a WRS student, receives instruction on filling out the data sheets used to assess the physical environment and the presence/absence of invasive fish and plant species.



Back in the lab

Please contact peter.hollings@lakeheadu.ca if you have a story to share



SEG Student Chapter

Lakehead's Society of Economic Geologists student chapter is in it's second year and going strong. They have had a busy year organising a field trip to the Slate Islands, trivia nights and two short courses. The first, a two-day geophysics course was taught by Dr. Alan King and attended by over 60 students and industry geologists. The second brought Dr. Jim Franklin back to Thunder Bay to give a one day course on "Exploration guidelines and litho geochemistry of VMS deposits". The students have more

activities planned for the upcoming semester culminating in an ambitious combined trip with the CODES SEG student chapter to Iceland and Sweden over the summer.

International collaboration

As part of Lakehead's drive to strengthen our international ties Dr. Pete Hollings recently paid a visit to Henan Polytechnic University in Thunder Bay's sister city of Jiaozuo. In addition to fruitful discussions about exchanges of students and staff, Dr Hollings was also able to visit the spectacular geology of the Yuntaishan UNESCO listed Geopark. On the same visit Pete also spent time with geologists at Hefei University and Guangzhou Institute of Chemistry, building on existing ties with those two groups.



Dr. Jim Franklin lectures to a packed house during the second SEG Student Chapter short course



Photo gallery

Kyle Stanfield, Director of Environment and Sustainability for New Gold Inc. with the winners of the 2014 New Gold scholarship Natalie Zwanenburg and Sarah Davis.



Jennifer Smith (Class of '85) sent along this photo of herself with Brian Scott (Class of '85) and, on the right, Brian's wife, Deb Scott (nee Sullivan, Nursing Class of '86). The photo was taken on top of Table Mountain in Cape Town South Africa in Feb, 2014.



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 are also looking for help identifying folks in some of the photos we have. Can you name any of the students in this photo?



Want to know more? Please visit our web site at www.geology.lakeheadu.ca