

wellesleyweek

4-11
may
2009

wellesley geoscience studies celebrated at annual meeting

Wellesley students, professors and alumnae celebrated 30 years of Wellesley geoscience studies when they attended the Northeastern section of the Geological Society of America meeting in Portland, Maine, recently.

The Wellesley delegation consisted of current students and faculty, several of whom presented research posters and papers. David Hawkins, geosciences, presented a paper titled “Strategies for Paleomagnetic Investigation of Intrusive Complexes in the Northern Appalachians” along with Margaret Thompson, geosciences emerita, and Bob Wiebe of Franklin and Marshall College. Britt Argow, geosciences, led a workshop during the conference and presented the paper “Beach Processes on Vieques, Puerto Rico, USA: Effects of the Las Rompeolas Pier” with student researchers Asha Stenquist '09 and Cyndhia Ramatchandirane '11.

According to Emily Estes '10, who presented the project “Hydrous Ferric Oxide Transport During Flood Events” with Dan Brabander, geosciences, the conference provided a valuable forum for sharing her work. “Explaining the research we’ve done to such a wide range of people made me think more intentionally about what I’ve done —

I had to understand all aspects in order to articulate it,” she said. “The feedback we received has pointed out several new and exciting directions we can take the work.”

At the conference, researchers also paid tribute to the career of Margaret Thompson, dedicating technical sessions in her honor.

At a dinner gathering, Wellesley students, faculty and more than 25 alumnae met to celebrate Thompson’s work and teaching.

“The conference really emphasized how significant the work she’s done is and what an impact she’s had on several generations of students,” Estes said.



Dan Brabander, Emily Estes '10 and Kathleen McCarthy '08 celebrated the career of Margaret Thompson, geosciences emerita.

senior susan wang wins 114th hoop rolling contest

Wellesley College senior Susan Wang of McLean, Va., and Seoul, South Korea, is the winner of the 114th annual hoop rolling competition. Wang, who will graduate June 5, was met at the finish line by President H. Kim Bottomly and Dean John O’Keefe, where she was presented with a bouquet of white roses filled with spring greenery, in honor of the 2009 class color, green. In keeping with tradition, she was promptly carried by her classmates to the edge of Lake Waban and tossed into the chilly water.

“Needless to say, it was freezing cold,” Wang reported. “I only got dropped in to my knees, but everyone wanted me to go in further, so I went all the way in.” Wang said it reminded her of orientation to Wellesley, four years ago, when all of the new students in her residence hall cel-



ebrated by jumping in the lake.

Traditionally, the winner of the contest, which first began in 1895, was said to be the first in her class to marry. These days, victory is seen as a sign that the winner will be the first to achieve success, however she defines it.

Wang is an economics and French major and is president of Beebe Hall. Wang has also recently been elected to Phi Beta Kappa and Omicron Delta Epsilon, the international honor society in economics. She won the Distinguished Mentor Leadership Award last year and received First-Year Academic Distinction.

Hundreds of Wellesley College seniors, many dressed in academic gowns, made this year’s 1/8 mile dash, rolling old-fashioned wooden hoops in a race to the finish line.

dreaming of the book

In Shakespeare’s play *Cymbeline*, a character receives a supernatural book in a dream, and finds that it reveals to him a prophecy of his future. For Sarah Wall-Randell, English, the incident provides intriguing insights about how books and the idea of self were understood during Shakespeare’s time.

Wall-Randell will lead a Wellesley community discussion during a colloquium, “Dreaming of the Book in *Cymbeline*,” Thursday, May 7, at 4:15 pm in Founders 106.

A chapter from Wall-Randell’s book in progress, *The Immaterial Book in Early Modern England*, will be circulated prior to the colloquium, when students and faculty will be invited to give feedback on what they have read. For more information and a copy of the chapter, call x2585.

WellesleyWeek is published each Monday during the academic year by the Office for Public Affairs. All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. For directions, go to www.wellesley.edu/CampusMaps/. Phone numbers are dialed 781 283-xxxx. Campus-sponsored event listings are welcome via an online form at www.wellesley.edu/PublicAffairs/WellesleyWeek/Forms/wellswkform.html or e-mail wellesleyweekcalendar@wellesley.edu. Submissions can be mailed to WellesleyWeek, Office for Public Affairs, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley, MA 02481. Deadline for calendar submissions is noon on the Monday prior to publication. For paid subscriptions, call 781 283 2373. View **WellesleyWeek** online at www.wellesley.edu/PublicAffairs/WellesleyWeek/archiveweek.html. For more events, go to <https://calendar.wellesley.edu/wv3> for the online campus calendar.

news

wellesley college junior wins medal of honor scholarship

Wellesley College junior Andrea Herbin has been awarded a \$4,000 scholarship from the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation and the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) for her outstanding academic and leadership abilities.

The scholarship recognizes outstanding Reserve Officer Training Corp. (ROTC) students committed to serving in the U.S. Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps. Only one student from each branch is selected from the nation.

Herbin represents the Army. ROTC units around the nation nominate their top student for selection.

“I feel incredibly honored to be receiving the Congressional Medal of Honor Scholarship,” Herbin said. “It’s an amazing recognition from my Army ROTC unit, which nominated me for the award; from AFCEA; and from the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation. I am both awed and truly grateful to have this honor bestowed upon me.”

A student at Wellesley majoring in inter-

national relations and minoring in Russian, Herbin attends Army ROTC at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

“Andrea is a superior leader,” said Lt. Col. Timothy J. Hall, professor of military leadership, Army ROTC, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. “She is a leader among her peers and strives to improve herself and those around her. She embodies the values and ideals set forth in the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation and AFCEA.”

Herbin has also been accepted to a study-abroad opportunity at Smolny College at St. Petersburg University in Russia, where she will study from August to January. Herbin said the Medal of Honor award supports her future plans.

“AFCEA’s mission is tied closely with my career goals, particularly regarding its work within the intelligence community, and this opportunity to be recognized by an organization whose mission is so clearly tied with my own goals is very exciting,” she said.



colleagues

in the news

connie bauman, PERA, published an article “Building a Diverse College Community While Shaping Up” in the April issue of *Wellness Management* of the National Wellness Institute. The article focuses on Wellesley’s Spring into Shape program, an annual 10-day spring fitness program that has been the catalyst for encouraging new and diverse participants to engage in a variety of activities that lead to a balanced lifestyle. This year’s Spring into Shape event will begin May 12. To find out more, visit www.wellesley.edu/Wellness.

karl case, economics, was quoted in the article, “New to the Market,” in *The Boston Globe*. As falling home prices, a tax incentive and low mortgage rates lure first-time home buyers into the market, Case said the best bargains are to be found in homes priced under \$261,000. “The lower end is where the action is,” Case said. “They are not finding bargains in Newton, Brookline and Sudbury.” Case was also recently featured in *The San Diego Union-Tribune* article, “Blue Skies Are Seen for Housing Market.” “I’m optimistic,” he said. “I think we’ll see housing turn around before other people do. I think we’ll see it turn up this year or next before the rest of the economy improves.”

laura pappano, writer-in-residence at the Wellesley Centers for Women, has launched a new blog about gender equity in sports at <http://fairgamenews.com/>. The site exists to challenge inequities in athletics and to encourage sports as a tool for equality, not a vehicle for reinforcing sex-based stereotypes.

filomina steady, Africana studies, presented the paper “Internationalizing Africana Studies from a Gendered and Empowerment Perspective” at a recent conference celebrating the 40th anniversary of Africana Studies at Vassar College. She also recently was the special guest at Harvard University’s African Languages Theatre Night where students studying Swahili at Wellesley presented a funny skit about an old man and his hat, which in Swahili is “Mzee na Kofia Yake.”

faculty and alumnae discuss their work in africa

Tiffany Cheng ’02 traveled to Kenya with the hope that if she could help some of the world’s neediest slums today, she could promote peace, justice and transformation in future generations. She envisioned creating a space for children that could house both education and health resources.

“My dream is to have one entrance — school to one side, health center to the other — and the culture of health becomes part of the main discourse,” she said in *Ed. Magazine*. “When you struggle to eat every day, you don’t necessarily think much about a nagging cough.”

Cheng went on to found and now serves as executive director of Dignitas Project, a nonprofit aimed at improving education outcomes for children and families in Kenya made vulnerable by poverty and disease.

Cheng will participate in “Wellesley in Africa,” a panel of Wellesley alumnae and faculty, Tuesday, May 5, at 4:15 pm in Pendleton Atrium.

Other panelists will include Elizabeth Senecal ’04, who recently returned from serving in a Peace Corps project that worked with sustainable agricultural development; Robert Paarlberg, political science, author of *Starved for Science: How Biotechnology is Being Kept Out of Africa*; and Adrienne Lucas, economics. Each will make a presentation, discuss experiences and answer questions on work in Africa. For more information, contact stung@wellesley.edu.

calendar

monday may 4

gathering. Meditation. 12:30 and 7 pm, Multifaith Center meditation room, Houghton Chapel. Sponsor: Buddhist community, Religious and Spiritual Life. Info: x2793.

esl tutoring. 6-8:15 pm. Sign up in PLTC small conference room. Info: x2480.

tuesday may 5

japan table. 12:30, Tower Court private dining hall. Sponsor: Japan Club. Info: japanclubmail@wellesley.edu.

gathering. Meditation. 12:30 pm. (See 5/4 listing.)

panel. "Wellesley in Africa." Students and professors discuss work and research in Africa. 4:15 pm, Pendleton Atrium. Sponsor: WASA. Info: WASAmail@wellesley.edu. (See story, page 2.)

wednesday may 6

gathering. Meditation. 12:30 pm. (See 5/4 listing.)

french table. 12:30 pm, Tower private dining room. Sponsor: French. Info: x2413.

lecture/tour. "Hazardous Waste on Campus?" Speaker: Patrick Willoughby, physical plant. 12:30 pm, Wang 415. Sponsor: WEED. Info: weedmail@wellesley.edu.

meeting. College Government Senate. 5:45 pm, Academic Council Room, GRH. Info: CGmail@wellesley.edu.



The work of Wellesley College seniors Courtney Richter, Ran Tao and Kendra Terry will be displayed during the senior thesis exhibition, *Again and Again*, May 15 through June 5 at the Jewett Art Gallery. An opening reception will be held Friday, May 15, at 4:45 pm in the gallery. Richter's prints and yarn installation in the exhibition are an exploration of a visual evocation of memory. Tao's work addresses convergence in an increasingly global and technological society, with the goal of promoting cultural understanding by allowing others to perceive the memories of her own childhood as familiar and natural. Terry's project, shown above, is a study and practice of how we make sense: how we form concepts and believe philosophies and ideas about the world around us. For more information, call x2056.

gathering. Unitarian Universalist worship circle. 6 pm, Multifaith Center, Houghton Chapel. Sponsor: Religious and Spiritual Life. Info: x3484.

reading. English Department Creative Faculty Reading featuring Frank Bidart, Margaret Cezair-Thompson, Colin Channer, Dan Chiasson, Susan Meyer, Adam Schwartz and Marilyn Sides. 7-9:30 pm, Punch's Alley. First 30 people to arrive get a free drink coupon. Sponsor: English. Info: x2608.

thursday may 7

spanish table. 12:30 pm, Tower Court private dining room. Info: x2402.

american sign language table. 12:30 pm, Wang dining room. Sponsor: Disability Services. Info: x2434.

colloquium. "Dreaming of the Book in *Cymbeline*." Speaker: Sarah Wall-Randell, English. 4:15 pm, English Department common room. Info: x2591. (See story, page 1.)

esl tutoring. 5-7:15 pm. (See 5/4 listing.)

lecture. "It Isn't Easy Being Green: Dissecting and Manipulating Plant Growth." Speaker: Jennifer Nemhauser '93, biology, University of Washington. 5 pm, SCI 278. Sponsor: Biological Sciences. Info: x3154. (See story, page 4.)

gathering. InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. 6:30 pm, Wang 413. Sponsor: Religious and Spiritual Life. Info: x2685.

student bingo night. 8 pm, Tishman Commons, Wang. Sponsor: Student Activities. Info: x3795.

friday may 8

gathering. Muslim Friday prayers. 12:30 pm, Multifaith Center prayer room, Houghton Chapel. Sponsor: Religious and Spiritual Life. Info: x2655.

deadline. Registration for Employee Wellness Program's Spring Into Shape week. 4 pm; register as a participant or team. Info: x2015.

gathering. Shabbat. 6 pm, location TBA. Sponsor: Hillel. Info: x2687.

films. *10 Things I Hate About You*, 7 pm; *She's the Man*, 9 pm, Collins Cinema. Sponsor: Film Society. Info: eglatter@wellesley.edu.

concert. Prism Jazz ensemble. 7:30 pm, Jewett Auditorium. Sponsor: Music. Info: x2028.

saturday may 9

films. *She's the Man*, 7 pm; *10 Things I Hate About You*, 9 pm, Collins Cinema. Sponsor: Film Society. Info: eglatter@wellesley.edu.

concert. Tupelos Spring Concert. 8 pm, Tishman Commons, Wang. Info: kkim@wellesley.edu.

save the date

With this issue, *WellesleyWeek* ceases publication for the academic year. Please keep the following dates in mind, and enjoy the summer!

5/12: Works in progress concert. 4:30 pm, Wang 104. Sponsor: Music. Info: x2077.

5/13: Last day of classes.

5/13: Academic Council. 12:30 pm, Academic Council Room. Info: x3583.

5/14: Reading period begins.

5/15: *Again and Again*. Senior thesis exhibition opening. 4:45 pm, Jewett Art Gallery. Info: x2056. (See story, this page.)

5/18-5/22: Final exams.

5/20: Administrative Council. 11 am, Academic Council Room. Info: x3337.

6/5: Commencement. 10:30 am, Academic Quad. Info: x2373.

concert. Yanvalou 20th Anniversary Concert. 8 pm, Jewett Auditorium. Sponsor: Music. Info: x2028.

sunday may 10

gathering. Protestant Bible study, 10:30 am; worship service, 11:30 am. Multifaith Center, Houghton Chapel. Sponsor: Religious and Spiritual Life. Info: x2656.

gathering. Catholic Mass. 4 pm, Multifaith Center, Houghton Chapel. Sponsor: Newman Catholic Ministry. Info: x2688.

gathering. Puja service. 4-6 pm, Multifaith Center meditation room, Houghton Chapel. Sponsor: Hindu community, Religious and Spiritual Life. Info: x2794.

monday may 11

gathering. Meditation. 12:30 pm. (See 5/4 listing.)

ongoing

exhibit. *Prints in an Age of Artistry: Selections from a Private Collection of 16th- and 17th-century Italian Prints*. Davis Museum, through 6/14. Info: x2034.

exhibit. *Michal Rouner: Border*. Davis Museum, through 6/14. Info: x2034.

don't miss ...

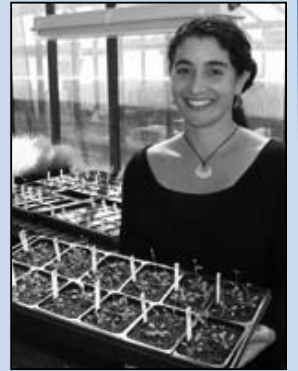
wellesley alumna details her path to her passion

Alumna Jennifer Nemhauser's time at Wellesley was pivotal in the development of her passion — plant system biology, the study of how organisms function as integrated units.

Nemhauser '93, an assistant professor of biology at the University of Washington, will discuss her research and career path during the lecture "It Isn't Easy Being Green: Dissecting and Manipulating Plant Growth" Thursday, May 7, at 5 pm in Science Center 278. A reception will be held in Sage Lounge at 4:30 pm.

"The central question of my lab is how do small molecule hormones interact with one another and with environmental cues to regulate plant growth," Nemhauser said. "Ultimately, we are hoping to discover ways to engineer higher yield crops to help humanity prepare for a future of increasing demand for food and less arable land."

During her lecture, Nemhauser will also discuss her path from Wellesley to becoming an assistant professor, emphasizing the critical moments in her career — including her honors thesis with Kaye Peterman, biological sciences, and the two years she spent as a technician at the Whitehead Institute. Her lecture is the conclusion of the Biological Sciences Alumnae Research Seminar series. For more information, call x3154.



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