

Scientific Notation

Purdue Science Student Council

November/December
2004

Taking the Next Step– Grad. School Fair

Over forty graduate school and professional programs were on campus on November 2 to expose students to the various opportunities they have upon graduation from Purdue. The annual graduate and professional school fair, sponsored by the Purdue Science Student Council and Liberal Arts Student Council, was themed “The Next Step.” There was something for everyone, with law schools, dental schools, engineering, and science programs filling the Union ballroom. Representatives from several of the schools commented on how impressed they were by the large student turn-out and the caliber of students that came. Schools represented at the fair included Cornell University, Indiana University, Northwestern, Penn State, and the University of Michigan.

Students who visited

the fair were eager to receive information and were impressed by the variety of programs in attendance. Chris Kenrick, a Junior in the College of Science, said, “I learned a lot about schools and graduate programs I had never been exposed to before. I look forward to continuing to research several of the programs I learned about at the fair.”

Jim Radtke, a Junior in the College of Engineering, commented, “All of the school representatives were very helpful and encouraging. I would recommend the fair to anyone considering graduate school.”

According to some of the students that I talked to, the most popular reason to attend the fair was just to obtain information about different graduate schools. Also, many of the students, including myself, were just there to see about different options for courses of study. The

fair was held in the North Ballroom in the Union, and each graduate school had a table and a representative. Students were able to ask questions about courses of study with the school representatives, and many of the schools had forms available for students to fill out so they could get on the mailing lists of schools they were interested in.

Choosing a graduate or professional school is a challenging process. The fair was a great way to learn more in a low-key environment. It continues to expand each year as representatives enjoy their experience interacting with Purdue students. “The Next Step” beyond graduation can be decided by exposure to schools at the Graduate and Professional School Fair.

-Allison Mayer

-Kathryn Schreiner

Student Profile

Name: John Michael Perry

Year: Senior, graduating May, 2005

Major: B.S. in Chemistry (ACS)

Minor: Psychology

Favorite class at Purdue: CHM 374, 2nd semester Physical Chemistry, and Inorganic Chemistry

Undergrad. research? Yes, with Dr. Garth Simpson, non-linear optics

Is it a worthwhile experience? Yes

Plans after graduating: Grad. School

One thing you wish you had done at Purdue, as an undergrad. :

“None. Wishing I’ve done something I haven’t indicates regret. Regret forces you to live in the past. One shouldn’t live in the past, it’s not healthy.”

EAS Course Offers Unique Experience

EAS 351, “Structural, Tectonic, and Basin Analysis,” is more than just another geology course. The class, required for all Purdue geology students, is centered on a seven day field investigation in the Appalachian Mountains of North Carolina, Tennessee, and Kentucky.

Leading up to the trip, Professor Ken Ridgeway uses lectures and labs to teach students about sedimentary structures and deformation which will be seen in

the field. During the week in the field, students are taken to sites which combine to illustrate a general transect of a mountain belt. Field work includes measuring and examining stratigraphic beds, taking measurements on the direction beds are dipping, and examining folding and faulting of various rock types. Upon returning to Purdue, students analyze data gathered in the field, and use it to construct a depositional and tectonic history of the Appalachian Mountain belt. The course culminates with a detailed re-

port on the field area.

EAS 351 is a unique experience, designed to introduce students to field techniques and field geology. Most students in the class are in their junior year of the geology curriculum, and the class proves helpful in preparing them for a 6-week field camp which is taken during the following summer. The types of field techniques learned in this course are also the basis of many potential graduate school projects.

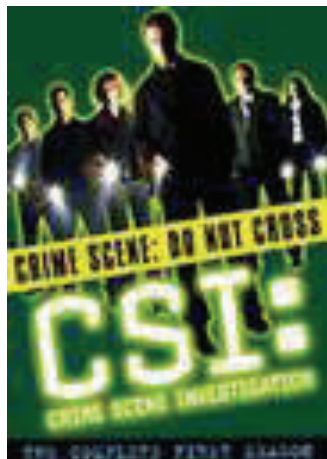
- Justin Fitch

Have a great Winter Break!

Be sure to look for Purdue Science Student Council’s callout for spring semester!



Forensic Science Minor Now Available!



Are you one of the many fans caught up in CSI? If so, make sure to take a look at the newly approved forensic science minor now available to all students in the school of science.

Sixteen credit hours are required, including some lab work, and then you'll be on your way to solving murder mysteries! Although that may be an exaggeration, you will definitely have a basic knowl-

edge of crime scene techniques, processing evidence, and the latest methods of forensic investigation.

Because of this, a minor in forensic science could complement a number of majors, but is open to anyone that just wants to learn! Earning a minor greatly expands the diversity of your coursework (who wants to study chemistry all the time, anyway?) and can greatly add to your experience

here at Purdue. For more details, visit Purdue's Health Sciences website at www.healthsciences.purdue.edu/academics/undergraduate/minors

-Abby Carr

Minimize distractions and get some sleep!

Finals are coming!

While the thought of all those exams may make you want to pack up and leave for Christmas a week early, it doesn't have to be so bad. There are three important things that you can do to relieve some of the stress.

First, tackle big projects early! Divide long papers, chapters to read, projects to complete into small manageable

chunks. Work on it one chunk at a time. If you get papers finished early, you'll have time for someone to proofread them.

Second, minimize distractions. Find a place to work away from your computer if it is not needed, so you aren't tempted to browse the internet or IM. I find that the libraries are the best place to go when I need to get a lot of

work done quickly. If you need more activity and background noise when you study, bring music or check out a coffee house.

Third, get some sleep. All of the coffee in the world is no substitute for eight hours of sleep. You'll need to be able to think quickly for exams which is difficult to do when exhausted.

-Elizabeth Kruse,

New Computer Science Building to Touch Entire Purdue Campus

-taken from Purdue News
<http://news.uns.purdue.edu>

Purdue University announced it will name its new computer science building for alumnus H. Richard Lawson and his wife Patricia A. Lawson, whose \$4.7 million donation will help students and faculty make continued use of one of the world's most ubiquitous and useful tools. The Lawesons' gift forms the largest single private contribution to the \$20 million facility, to be built beginning this fall at the

corner of Third and University streets. The university raised \$7 million in private funds from 430 donors to leverage an additional \$13 million from the state of Indiana to fund the 100,000-square-foot building, which is scheduled to open in time for classes in fall 2006.

Purdue President, Martin C. Jischke said the building's impact will be felt across campus. "Regardless of academic major, regardless of professional specialty, you have to know computing if you are going to succeed in today's world," Jischke

said.

"There was a time when computers were the province only of the programmer, the code writer, the technical expert. That time is past.

Whether you work with images, sounds, words or numbers, computers are the tool that can best help you reach other people with your work."

