In January 2017, sixteen F&M students participated in a 5-day “Energy Field Trip” in Denver, Colorado. The trip, sponsored by F&M alumni and the Geoscience Founders Society, brought together students from geoscience, environmental science, environmental studies, and business majors. Denver-area alumni hosted the students and led seminars on the business and science of the energy industry that were part of the excursion. Site visits included tours of the U.S. Geological Survey Core Research Center, the National Renewable Energy Lab, and drilling rig and well completion tours. Students were also able to take in the American Museum of Western Art and the National Western Stock Show and Rodeo. The trip was capped off by an alumni dinner at the Brown Palace Hotel. See page 11 for more photos and details. The Earth and Environment Department and the Business, Organization and Society Department would like to thank all those who helped make the trip such a resounding success and great experience for the students.
Greetings from the Director

Dear Alumni and Friends of the Department,

What a terrific year it has been! I want to thank you for being part of the Geoscience Founders Society and for your devotion to making it a continued success. The donations made to the Society over the past year have had an immediate and positive impact on students and faculty in the Department. The history of exceptional education in the Department is alive and well and your gifts ensure that we remain on the leading edge!

Perhaps the biggest event of the past year was the completion of the Energy Field Trip to Denver. The trip was wildly successful and would not have been possible without the financial support provided by the Geoscience Founders Society. Perhaps more impressive was the way our passionate alumni-network dedicated their time and talent to make the trip an exceptional educational and networking opportunity for the students. It is truly extraordinary to see alumni and students from class years that span five decades of time and from different disciplinary backgrounds, work as a team to see this trip come alive and succeed!

The generosity of our alumni was also on display this year as several of our graduates took time to come to campus to engage current students with Friday Light Lunch presentations, present information at the College job fair and in career fora, or just meet with students in one-on-one discussions. These activities create important opportunities for professional development of students and enliven and raise the profile of the Department and College. Others have quietly worked to support the Department with anonymous gifts and directed donations. The faculty, staff, and students are deeply grateful for all of your support.

Finally, let me add that donations to the Society play a key role in creating so many of the opportunities for current students highlighted in this newsletter. Gifts also enhance the Department’s ability to carry out our educational mission. You will find an envelope in this newsletter that provides an easy way to support the Society or renew your annual dues for $25. Your annual dues and extra gifts to the Geoscience Founders Society benefit the Department directly by supporting student-faculty research, assisting needy students in paying for field camp, helping students attend professional conferences, and in strengthening our alumni network. I also encourage you to support the Franklin & Marshall Fund as you can.

The students, staff, and faculty of the Department extend a sincere thank you for your continuing support and for giving back to F&M in any way you can.

Best regards,
Christopher J. Williams

Email: chris.williams@fandm.edu
Phone 717-358-3814
A Note from the Geoscience Founders Society President

Dear fellow Alumni and Friends of the Department:

The Geoscience Founders Society continues on its mission of support to the Department and its students. This support embraces a variety of forms; some financial, but other examples include providing summer internships for students and curriculum suggestions prompted by technical need and advancement in the private and public sector employment of geoscientists. One new enterprise has been the Society’s role as a catalyst in facilitating permanent employment opportunities for students by alumni. Simply stated, it is an ambition of the Society to encourage alumni and friends of the Department, that’s you, to give serious consideration to hiring Franklin and Marshall College graduates for permanent employment by your respective companies.

The Society thanks you for your contributions of time, talent, and treasury. One alumnus recently donated his considerable library holdings, voluminous data sets, and tools including one Brunton Compass. As is the case with any gift, the Department graciously accepts each and is highly appreciative of each gift and/or financial donation. So please know the only limit to rendering a meaningful donation to the Department is your own creativity.

Many of us anticipate the attainment of our first $1,000,000 goal to the Society’s endowment fund. To date we are past the halfway mark which yields a net of approximately $27,000 annually for student support and special needs of the Department. This year several needy students received financial support to attend summer field camp. It is a Society goal to support every needy geoscience student in their required attendance to a qualified field camp. Ultimately, the Society endeavors to enable each senior a debt-free graduation.

Our Director, Chris Williams, continues to provide exemplary leadership in his capacity for which we are most appreciative. He and the other Board members are collaborating on a September 6th event at the College where information about the College’s Wilhelm Project will be presented by participating students and alumni. This project affects assessment of mineral rights for nearly 2000 acres of land in Somerset County, Pennsylvania deeded to the College in the late 19th century. During the past three years student interns and alumni have completed a variety of tasks in establishing commercial value to the mineral rights. A more formal notification and invitation will be forthcoming and will include the opportunity for alums to socialize. We believe this occasion will be a most interesting and fun time for convening alumni, especially those proximal to Lancaster.

Finally, I respectfully query everyone to consider their potential commitment to the Society. Please contact any of us on the Board with your thoughts and ideas.

With my warm regards,
Lane D. Schultz

Email: lschultz@endlessmountainenergy.com
**Geoscience Founders Society Members**

**Annual Dues:** $25  
**Lifetime Membership:** $1000  
**Founders Circle -- Garnet:** $5,000  
**Topaz:** $25,000  
**Emerald:** $100,000  
**Diamond:** $1 million

**Officers**

**President:** Lane Schultz ’66  
**Vice President:** Craig G. Robertson ’70  
**Secretary:** David H. Lehman ’68

**Founders Circle - $5,000 or more**

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- Harvey Belkin ’65
- Betsy Beyer
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- Jennifer Smith Boylan ’87
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- Robert Brant ’93
- Roger L. Burtner ’58
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- Jim Gill ’68
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- Jim Gill ’68
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- Catherine Cross Roman ’77
- Joseph Schrock ’68
- Richard Sheppard ’56
- Scott Sklenar ’80
- Sarah Clemens Smith ’77
- Richard Stewar ’09
- Eve Amelia Craig Stautter

**Current Members**

- Jillian Albus ’17
- Charles Barnosky ’71
- David Boyer ’76
- Anne Bricker
- Lillian Cai ’17
- Emmanuel Charles ’84
- Nina Chasnow ’17
- Monica Chemier ’17
- Stephen Colodny ’17
- Susan Howes Conrad ’81
- Steven DiBenedetto ’98
- Philip Dinterman ’98
- Alyssa Dorman ’17
- Grover Emrich ’52
- Michael Fedosh ’77
- Tim Folkomer ’72
- Holli Frey ’99
- Thomas Gardner ’71
- William Gaugler, Jr. ’74
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- Allison Gross ’17
- Evan Gross ’17
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- Jonathan Otto Magee ’17
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- David Matz ’64
- Jack McDonald ’62
- Richard Mitterer ’60
- Carson Morris ’17
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- Noel Nakamura ’17
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- Margaret O’Neal ’83
- Peter M. Powers ’93
- Justin Ries ’98
- Catherine Cross Roman ’77
- Joseph Schrock ’68
- Richard Sheppard ’56
- Scott Sklenar ’80
- Sarah Clemens Smith ’77
- Richard Stewar ’09
- Eve Amelia Craig Stautter

If you don’t see your name listed, we have not received your dues from July 2016 - June 2017.

Please make checks payable to: Franklin & Marshall College

Mail to:

Dr. Chris Williams, Department of Earth & Environment  
Franklin & Marshall College  
PO Box 3003  
Lancaster, PA 17604-3003
Welcome F&M Class of 2017
New Members of the Geoscience Founders Society!

GEOSCIENCE
Evan Gross
Matthew Kershner
Jonathan Magee
Carson Morris
Stephen “Beck” Tabor

ENVIRONMENTAL
STUDIES
Jillian Albus
Lillian Cai
Allison Gross
Madison Hemenway
Coleman Kline
Lucas Ludgate
George Pekeshe
Brielle Stander
Zhaoying Zhou

ENVIRONMENTAL
SCIENCE
Monica Chenier
Haley Plante

JOINT STUDIES
Nina Chasnow
Alyssa Dorman
Aaron Hoffman
Stephen Colodny
Lea Senft
Noel Nakamura

2017 DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS

Nancy Juerges Geomorphology Award: Monica Chenier ‘17
Wise-Beutner Structural Geology Award: Stephen “Beck” Tabor ‘17
Lloyd S. Yeakel Memorial Award in Geology: Evan Gross ‘17
Richard A. Sheppard ‘56 Award Jonhathan Otto Magee ‘17
Burlingame Environmental Studies Research Award Ellie Ezekiel ‘17

Environmental Studies Award: Lillian Cai ‘17 & Brielle Stander ‘17
Environmental Science Award: Haley Plante ‘17
Class of 1987 Black Memorial Award: Morgan Torstenson ‘18
Geology Award: Evan Gross ‘17
David T. Black Memorial Scholarship: Logan Lewis ‘18
EARTH & ENVIRONMENT 2017 DEPARTMENTAL HONORS

Evan Gross ‘17
Inferring Local Paleoclimatic Conditions from Sediment Infill of a Relict Thermal Contraction Polygon Discovered Near Carlisle, PA
Advisor: Dorothy Merritts

Haley Plante ‘17
Effects of Environmental Conditions on Hesperodiaptomus arcticus phenology in Alpine Lakes of the Canadian Rocky Mountains
Advisor: Janet Fisher (BIO)

SPRING RESEARCH FAIR 2017

Evan Gross ‘17 (GEO)
Inferring Local Paleoclimatic Conditions from Sediment Infill of a Relict Thermal Contraction Polygon Discovered Near Carlisle, PA
Advisor: Dorothy Merritts

Danielle Moloney ‘18 (BIO major/Env. Studies minor)
Anthropogenic Impacts on Molluscan Size Distributions in the Northern Gulf of Mexico
Advisor: Paul Harnik

Lea Senft ‘17 (Env. Studies/Public Policy - Joint Studies major)
The Present and Future of the Science-Policy Interface: IPBES as a Case Study
Advisor: Elizabeth De Santo

Alec Snyder-Fair ‘18 (Geosciences/BIO Joint Studies major)
Reduction of Shear Stress and Bed Load Due to Wetland Restoration
Advisor: Dorothy Merritts
Elizabeth De Santo and Lea Senft ‘17 attended the 5th Plenary session of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) in Bonn, Germany (March 2017). They were part of the IUCN delegation (International Union for Conservation of Nature, the world’s largest conservation organization). It was covered in F&M News here: https://www.fandm.edu/news/latest-news/2017/03/27/research-takes-senior-professor-to-bonn-un-conference-on-biodiversity

In April, Lea gave an oral presentation on her research at the Closer Look Research Fair: Past issues and future trends of the science-policy interface: IPBES as a case study. Lea graduated with an Environmental Studies and Public Policy joint major. She is going to be an intern with the EPA in DC this summer and she’s starting a Master’s program at American University in the fall (Master of Arts in the International Affairs: Natural Resources/Sustainable Development program).

Andy de Wet This year I enjoyed my first year as Chair of E&E. It was quite challenging but also rewarding. I taught GIS and Introductory Environmental Geology and advised Otto Magee ‘17 on an independent project related to my recent Keck/NSF funded project in Iceland. A paper titled “Plateaus and sinuous ridges as the fingerprints of lava flow inflation in the Eastern Tharsis Plains of Mars” with Jake Bleacher ‘00 as first author, appeared this spring in the Journal of Volcanology and Geophysical Research. This summer I am looking forward to two weeks of fieldwork in Greenland with my oldest son and recent PhD recipient Greg. We will be taking F&M student Jared Brush ‘18 with us and the work will focus on the Eastern Viking Settlement in the area around Narsarsuag and Igaliku.

Carol de Wet spent a busy year teaching a general education course about ancient and modern reef systems, and Sedimentology & Stratigraphy. She finished her term on the Tenure and Promotion Committee and is active with the Geological Society of America’s Diversity Committee and Public Service Committee. Oldest son, Greg, successfully defended his PhD, adding to the list of Dr. de Wets, and youngest son, Cameron, graduated from Bowdoin College. Daughter Emily leaves for a year of anthropological field work in Cape Town, South Africa. I will be working with a Hackman Scholar at F&M and writing up a couple of other research projects over the summer.

Paul Harnik This summer, Kevin Cerna ‘18 (GEO), Danielle Moloney ‘18 (BIO), Esmeralda Rodriguez ‘20 (undeclared), Taina Perez ‘20 (undeclared), and Jared Benjamin ‘20 (undeclared) are joining me for a week of fieldwork in coastal Louisiana as part of an ongoing project in my lab focused on the historical ecology of marine communities in the northern Gulf of Mexico. Our crew will be sampling living communities of marine mollusks on the continental shelf and comparing them with the remains of past populations preserved in sediments on the seafloor to better understand the effects of natural and anthropogenic eutrophication on marine communities.

Dorothy Merritts With alumnus support that honors former F&M professors John Moss and Dale Ritter, and in particular their commitments to student field work and research, Dorothy has been working with up to half a dozen students each year on the Quaternary history of the mid-Atlantic region. One of these students, Evan Gross ‘17, began his field work during the summer of 2016 and continued with a senior thesis that culminated in honors this spring. Noel Potter, retired professor of Dickinson college and a former student of John Moss, served on Evan’s honor’s committee. The title of Evan’s thesis was “Inferring Local Paleoclimatic Conditions from Sediment Infill of a Relict Thermal Contraction Polygon Discovered Near Carlisle, PA”. Evan found that sand within the boundaries of a thermal contraction polygon was blown in from the Tuscarora sandstone, the nearest outcrop of which is a mile to the north, as the Laurentide ice sheet retreated northward at end of last full glacial conditions ~17,000 years ago. He also gave an oral presentation on this work at the spring 2017 research fair, and presented a poster on the work at a Penn State geomorphology conference in April 2017. Another student involved in the mid-Atlantic region work, Alee Snyder-Fair ’18, began his field work on sediment transport at the recently restored Big Spring Run wetland-floodplain restoration site in the summer of 2016 and expanded his work to the whole Big Beaver Creek watershed during the summer of 2017. He will continue his research for a senior thesis during the 2017-18 academic year. Four other F&M students began new summer research with a five-week field season in 2017: Jonathan Meissner ‘18, Logan Lewis ‘18, Dori Coplan ‘17, and Diane Wagner ‘17. Jon and Logan are continuing their work as senior theses this fall. The entire crew of six summer research students was joined by Evan Gross after graduation and alumnus Evan Lewis ‘16, himself a former member of the Moss-Ritter research group, for the 2017 field season. Evan Lewis is a research associate in the department for 2017-18 and will continue to help current students in their research, particularly with GPS field instruments and GIS analysis back in the lab.

Bob Walter This past academic year, following on the work of Amy Moser ‘14 and Carli Studnicki ‘16, graduating senior Beck Tabor ‘17 conducted an independent research project on bedrock fractures, tectonic inheritance and their possible link to groundwater flow in the Piedmont and Ridge and Valley of central Pennsylvania. Beck’s project was co-advised by Zeshan Ismat, and related to another independent research project by Jake Longenecker ‘17 (advised by Tim Bechtel). Jake’s research has culminated in an article just published in Geophysical Research Letters, and which is available via Open Access here: http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/2017GL073790/epdf. Zeshan and I are compiling the work done by Amy, Carli and Beck, which we plan to submit for publication this summer.

Also this summer, Dorothy Merritts and I are co-advising Hackman Scholar Yuning Bai ‘18, who is conducting an independent research project on carbon and nutrient cycling at our Big Spring Run floodplain-wetland restoration experiment. Yuning’s work is a continuation and expansion of Dora Xu’s ‘16 thesis research, and both are part of our on-going multi-partnership effort to monitor the effects of the novel restoration completed at BSR in 2011. Results to date show substantial improvements in sediment and nutrient load reductions, carbon storage, denitrification processing and aquatic habitats... all good news for clean water initiatives in Lancaster County and the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
During the fall and spring, work continued on the Wilhelm Tracts Resource Assessment Project. In 1878, Peter Wilhelm gifted three parcels of land in Somerset County jointly to F&M (2/3) and the Lancaster Theological Seminary (1/3). The surface rights were sold long ago, but F&M still retains the subsurface (mineral and oil & gas) rights. Work has progressed on understanding the mining opportunities for the limestone resource on one of the parcels. This project has been funded by gifts dedicated specifically to this project by several department alumni and has produced a detailed understanding of the site geology and the limestone reserves in the parcel. This has been achieved by partnering current students with F&M alumni and faculty, professional geologists, and mining engineers.

The focus on the most recent work has been on characterizing the geochemistry of Loyalhanna Formation limestone and the overlying Deer Valley Formation limestone. To this end, Geoscience major Grace Ni ’18 conducted an independent study project with Professor Carol de Wet to better understand the depositional environment of the Loyalhanna based on petrographic and geochemical analyses. Grace worked with continuous core and air-track drilling samples collected in 2016 in her study.

This summer, two students from F&M’s Business, Organizations and Society Department are investigating the market potential of the limestone resource and developing a presentation for prospective quarrying companies that might wish to lease or purchase the mineral rights.

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This spring marked the 30th Annual Keck Geology Consortium Research Symposium. Franklin & Marshall is a founding member of the multi-college Keck Consortium that provides high quality research experiences for undergraduates. Hosted by Wesleyan University at the end of April 2017, the symposium showcased two Keck research projects run by F&M professors.

Assistant Professor Paul Harnik ran a three-student project focused on the historical ecology of marine mollusks in the northern Gulf of Mexico. The research investigated anthropogenic impacts in coastal ecosystems through live-dead analysis of marine mollusks from sediments on the continental shelf. F&M Geoscience major Morgan Torstenson ’18, presented her independent research project entitled “Assessing the effects of nutrient runoff on bivalve egg size in the Gulf of Mexico”.

The second F&M Keck research project was run by Professor and Chair of the Department, Andy de Wet and Christopher Hamilton of the University of Arizona. The six-student project focused on tephrastratigraphy of the 1783-1784 Laki eruption in Iceland. F&M student Otto Magee ’17 presented his two-semester research project on “An investigation of the relationship between ‘Aā and spiny Pāhoehoe at the Holuhraun lava field in Iceland.”
Senior Reception

At the end of the semester the staff, faculty, and students came together to celebrate the success of our senior majors with a reception at Iron Hill Brewery where the seniors were formally welcomed as new members of the Geoscience Founders Society. The Department also instituted a new tradition this year by distributing graduation cords for graduates in each of the three majors and for graduation with honors. The color scheme adopted is Royal+Orange for Geosciences, Royal+Red for Environmental Science, Royal+Kelly Green for Environmental Studies, and Royal+Gold for Honors in any major. It was a very special moment for the seniors as they realized they were on the threshold of graduation!
Many thanks to alumni who have contributed their time over the past year to enliven the Department and the College. We especially thank those who participated in events such as Friday Light Lunch presentations, job fairs, and supporting student research.

**Friday Light Lunch Presentations:**
- Justin Herbert ’09 “Slip discrepancies along the southern San Andreas Fault system”
- Amy E. Hofmann ’05 “Rethinking the Ti-in-zircon geothermometer”
- Carl Mohrbacher, ’80, “Hydrology and Water Issues in Arid Lands”
- Amy Moser ’14 “Dating fault zone processes, an example from the southernmost San Andreas Fault”
- Mary Little ’75 “Two decades of precious metals exploration in the Deseado Massif, Southern Argentina”
- Adam Love ’96 “From F&M Geosciences to an Environmental SCI Expert – an alumni story”
- Shelly Xia ’14, Adam Polis ’15 and Alex Peterson’16 “From F&M to Solar City”

**Careers, Internships, and Research**
- Lily Diehl ’11 and Sharon Burkett ’88 participated in the F&M Career Fair.
- Jim Gerhart ’73 continued mentoring independent research students.
- Erika Jozwiak ‘14, Scott Rownd ‘12, Katharine Targett ‘10, Nora Theodore ’13 participated in an alumni panel on environmental careers.
- Dave Lehman ’68, Craig Robertson ’70 and Lane Schultz ’66 assisted student interns on the Wilhelm limestone project in Somerset County, PA.
Denver, CO - Energy Field Trip

The Denver Energy trip would not have been possible without the amazing network of alumni and friends of the Department and College. The students on the trip were hosted by several Denver-area alumni families and this made for a truly welcoming and inclusive experience for the students. The alumni who presented seminars and lead tours of energy industry facilities demonstrated their professional excellence and devotion to lifelong learning. Special thanks go to: Dave Lehman and Michael Arnold for initiating the concept for the trip; Jack Rosenthal for coordinating the logistics of this trip and on-the-ground planning; Professors Stan Mertzman and Alan Glazer for their efforts as faculty leaders; F&M alumni Alex Claypool, Dave Eby, Stephanie Gaswirth, Mary Little, and Jeff Winick for presentations; and Mary Mazzuca, Executive Director of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving for supporting the alumni dinner. (photo credits: Stan Mertzman)

1 - Stan Mertzman with Amy Lunt ‘95 and Jeff Winick ‘98
2 - Dave Eby ‘69 and Mary Little ‘75
3 - Jack Rosenthal ‘06 and Lisa Lehman ‘01
4 - Jack Rosenthal ‘06 with F&M student participants
5 - Coleman Kline ‘17, George Pekeshe ‘17, Monica Chenier ‘17, Rachel ‘07 and Dan Alpert
6 - F&M students tour the American Museum of Western Art
7 - Stephanie Gaswirth ‘97
8 - Mike Arnold ‘08, F&M Trustee, with F&M student participants
Mark your Calendars!

Franklin & Marshall College
Homecoming Weekend
October 20-22, 2017

We hope to see you on campus!
Details at: https://www.fandm.edu/alumni-connections

Send your alumni news updates to: dkadyk@fandm.edu
Visit us on the web: http://www.fandm.edu/earth-environment

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