

## Department of Geosciences and Environment Newsletter

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### Announcements

We would like to thank everyone for their hard work in assisting with the semester transition. With the semester, our faculty worked to update our labs manuals. We would like extend acknowledgement to the lab manual development led by Dr. Bishop for Geology 1580—Natural Disasters, Dr. Ladochy for Geography 1600—Physical Geography, Dr. Ramirez and Dr. Rezaie-Boroon for streamlining and developing new material for Geology 1550—Oceanography.

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We are excited to announce the reactivation of Gamma Theta Upsilon, International Geographical Honor Society. Dr. Kris Bezdecny is managing the new chapter of GTU and has already inducted seven members for this academic year. For more information about GTU, please email: [kbezdec@calstatela.edu](mailto:kbezdec@calstatela.edu).



*GTU Inductees Fall 2016*

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### Student Accomplishments

At the Annual Banquet on June 4, 2016 the department was privileged to provide scholarships to several of our outstanding students thanks to the generosity of our alumni, faculty, and community donors.

#### **Geology Undergraduate Awardees:**

Gabriella Figuero: Chance Dana Scholarship  
 Kasandra Lineweaver: Chance Dana Scholarship  
 Alissa Magana: Aaron Waters Scholarship  
 Samantha Porrata: Martin Stout Scholarship

Brianna House: Perry Ehlig Scholarship  
 Anjela Mariano: Perry Ehlig Scholarship  
 Kimberly Ochoa: Perry Ehlig Scholarship  
 Brandon Reyes: Martin Stout Scholarship  
 Cindy Zhang: Colburn Scholarship

#### **Geology Graduate Awardees:**

Mayra Martinez: Martin Stout Scholarship  
 Ariel Shores: Robert Stone Graduate Research Scholarship

James Wright: Bean Weber Scholarship

#### **Geography Undergraduate Awardees:**

Scott Lopez: John Kirchner Scholarship  
 Christiana Saldana: Ali Modarres scholarship, GTU Scholarship

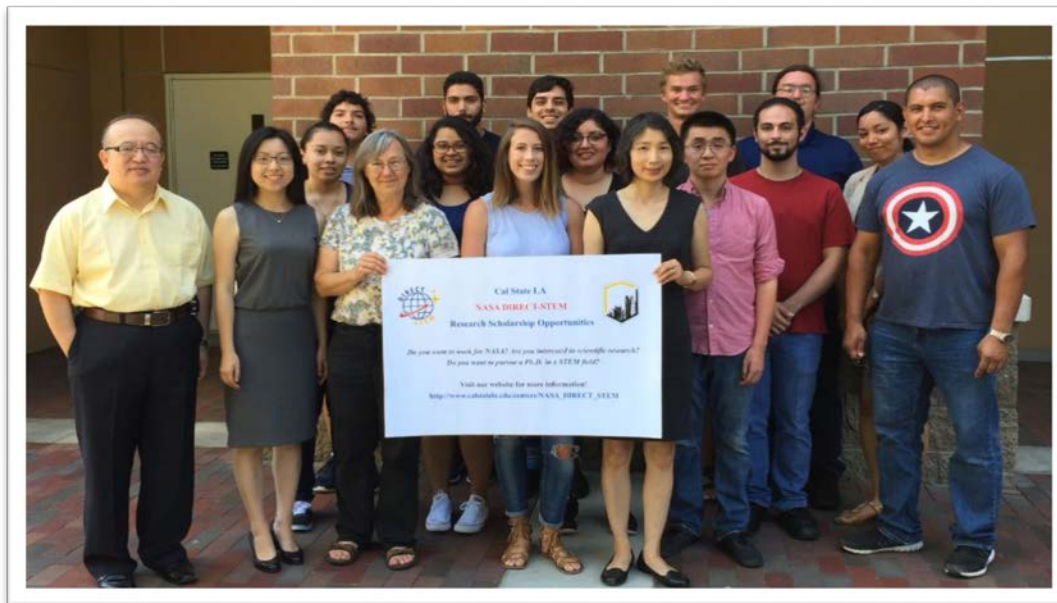
#### **Geography Graduate Awardees:**

Barry Martinez: Etzel Percy scholarship  
 Martin Ponce: Etzel Percy scholarship  
 Deanna Nash: Etzel Percy Scholarship,  
 GTU Scholarship, John Rees Scholarship

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## NASA DIRECT-STEM

Headed by Dr. Hengchun Ye, the NASA DIRECT-STEM grant housed within the department has seen unprecedented success in its first year and half (2015-2017). This summer, ten research students were awarded paid summer internships to work at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory including several Geography MA students: Barry Martinez, Deanna Nash, and Beatriz Aguilar.



For the 2016-2017 academic year, the program has welcomed nineteen research students and fifty-four pre-trainee students to DIRECT-STEM. We have partnered with UC-Irvine faculty to host multi-disciplinary seminars each semester that are open to the students and the public. For more information on the upcoming seminars please visit:

[http://www.calstatela.edu/centers/NASA\\_DIRECT\\_STEM/upcoming-events](http://www.calstatela.edu/centers/NASA_DIRECT_STEM/upcoming-events)

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## Travel

Dr. Stephen LaDochy participated in the Fog, Fog Collection & Dew Conference in Wroclaw, Poland, July 2016.





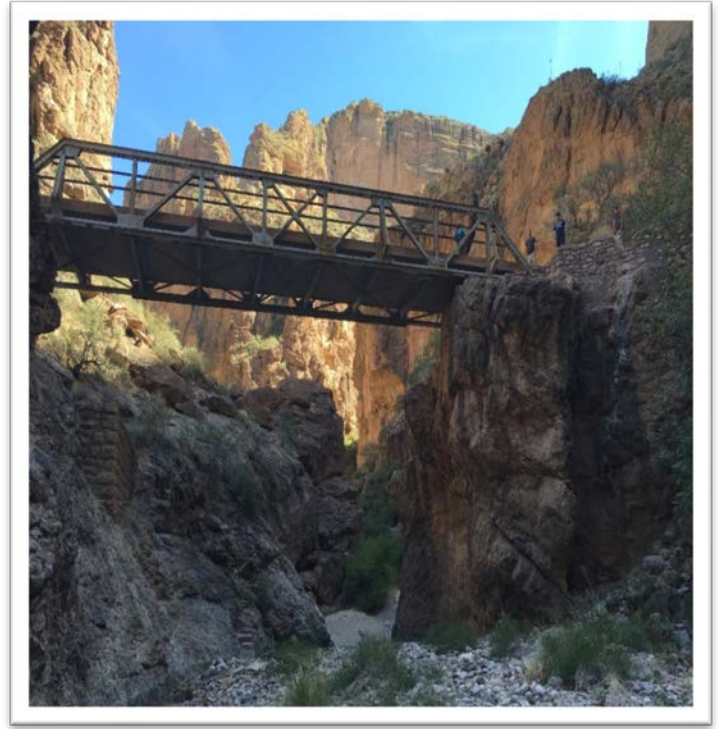
Dr. Kim Bishop led at the Association of Engineering Geologists 2016 Annual Meeting. The trip took place in September and was titled "Giant Landslides of the Kona and South Coasts, Island of Hawai'i".



The department had three student along with Dr. Bezdecny present at the 79<sup>th</sup> annual Association of Pacific Coast Geographers (APCG) conference in Portland, OR, Oct 5-8. Deanna Nash presented a well-received poster while Jason Scott and Christiana Saldana gave paper presentations. Christiana was recognized with an APCG Women's Network Travel Grant, awarded at the conference; her paper, titled "Loftification: The Refurbished Gentrification Dynamic," was awarded the APCG President's Award for Outstanding Paper by an Undergraduate Student.



Dr. Hibbs led a group of hydrology and engineering graduate students to geologic and hydrologic sites across Central Arizona, Fall 2016.



*Apache Trail and Sedona*

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### Conference Participation and Publications

**Gabriela Martinez**, Poster Presentation “A Regional Framework for Evaluating Hydrologic Sensitivity to a Changing Climate using Best Management Practices, American Geophysical Conference, San Francisco, Dec. 2016

**Barry Martinez**, Attended 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual on Teaching and Mentoring – Tampa, Florida, October 26<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>.

**Deanna Nash**, Poster Presentation “Spatial and Temporal Variability in Precipitation Characteristics in the Western United States”, at the American Geophysical Union, San Francisco, CA. Dec, 2016.

- Poster Presentation “Variability in Precipitation Characteristics in the Western United States”, American Pacific Coast Geographers Conference, Portland, Oregon. October 5-9, 2016.

**Beatriz Aguilar**: won travel award to visit University of Michigan for potential Ph.D. program.

Dr. Barry Hibbs: Organized and served as the guest editor of a theme issue of the Journal of Contemporary Water Research and Education, Universities Council on Water Resources, covering the theme topic "Groundwater in Urban Areas." Two former CSULA graduates students, Kathleen Kuepper and Yola Wong, made the cover of the theme issue. <http://www.calstatela.edu/sites/default/files/users/u74181/ucowr-title.pdf>

Dr. Jingjing Li

- Conference presentation: Li, J., Liu, H., 2016, Comprehensive Evaluation of GPM and TRMM: A Case Study of the Winter 2015-2016 over California, 2016 Fall Meeting of the American Geophysical Union, Abs. with programs, p. H23F-1647.

- Manuscript submission: Yang, T., Tao, Y., Li, J., Zhu, Q., Su, L., Zhang, X., 2016, Multi-criterion Model Ensemble of CMIP5 Surface Air Temperature over China, *Theoretical and Applied Climatology*. (Submitted)
- Proposal awarded: PI on proposal “Evaluating Satellite Precipitation Measurements: from Current-generation to Next-generation” (3-unit Assigned Time Leave), Awarded by CSULA Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities Grant Program (2016-2017).

Dr. Hengchun Ye: participated as a panel reviewer, NSF Meeting in Washington, DC October 27-29, 2016.’

- Research highlighted in the *CSU Magazine*. Read the article here: <https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/research/highlights/documents/csu-research-print.pdf>.

Dr. Staryl Glynn-McCabe: Hosted guest lecture in conjunction with the Honor’s College for HNRS 3400. Guest speaker, Lawrence Schick, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Water Management.

Dr. Kristine Bezdecny, Dr. Steve Ladochy, Dr. Pedro Ramirez: CTTEL hybrid class grant

Dr. Li: I got the Assigned Time Award from CSULA 2016-2017 Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities Grant Program. My proposed work was entitled " Evaluating Satellite Precipitation Measurements: from Current-generation to Next-generation.”

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### 2016 Geosciences and Environment Graduates

#### **Spring 2016 Graduates**

Balcerzak, Alexandre  
 Chamnaniri, Netchanok  
 Creley, Carly  
 Jarujareet, Pantiwa  
 Lee, Jinny  
 Murakami, Chika  
 Oh, Chang  
 Rahmani, Alireza  
 Santilena, Rosa

#### **Summer 2016 Graduates**

Demeter, Geza  
 Harrison, Michael  
 Rojas Salazar, Edith

#### **Fall 2016 Graduates**

Garcia, Rosmeary  
 Hertler, Thurston  
 Panasyan, Mariam