GRADUATION 2020

Ceremony starts at 4:00 p.m.
WELCOME
Rice Undergraduate Geosciences Society Field Trip

Mona Loa Observatory, Hawaii
February 2020

Made possible by Judy and Michael Johnson
This picture was taken on Mars on Sunday
Special topics in Earth Sciences (ESCI 557-3):

Unconventionals: from subsurface carbon to reservoir characterization
The Pan Family Fund
for Postdoctoral Scholars

Poh-Hsi Pan, Ph.D., 1969
Wanda Pan, Yi-Yin Pan, Golden Pan
Human Impacts on the Earth Fund
Mary Anne & William Dingus

earthscience.rice.edu/giving
Naod Y. Araya
Kyle C. Bartsch
Jason A. Mendez
Jared E. Nirenberg

Awarded Distinction in Research & Creative Works

Senior honors thesis: *Glacially-controlled variations in the biological pump of the Ross Sea in the Mid- to Late Pliocene*

Image Credit: IODP/Joides Resolution
Jacquelyn A. Richards
Jackson J. Stiles
2020 Professional Masters in Subsurface Geoscience

Eagle Ford Shale (Photo: Roy Luck)
Geyser, Iceland
(Photo: Valerie Payre)
Glacial river, Iceland
(Photo: Trevor Cole and Indiana Drones)
Cathodoluminescence of feldspar

(Photos: Eytan Sarton-Bierig)
2020 EEPS
Doctor of Philosophy
Antelope Canyon, AZ
(Photo: Debadrita Jana)
2020 AWARDS
Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award

Awarded to the undergraduate student with the most excellent academic record and overall outstanding performance.

Jared Nirenberg
Jackson Stiles
Eugen Merten was a leading geophysicist and seismologist with Shell Oil Company. He was always interested in young people and their education. His daughter and Rice alum, Lore Merten Watt, established the endowment in memory of her father. Other family and friends from Shell have contributed to the endowment.

The award is given to the most outstanding junior level geology and/or geophysics student. It is based on the most outstanding academic results during the previous fall semester.
Department of Earth, Environmental & Planetary Sciences Service Award

Marble Caves, Patagonia, Chile

(Photo: Ilenne Del Valle)

Naod Araya
Debadrita Jana
Alana Semple
Outstanding Graduate Student Award

Awarded to the graduate student(s) with the most excellent academic record and overall outstanding performance.

Brandee Carlson
Tian Dong
Chevron fellowship

Fellowship awarded to a graduate student with high academic records and outstanding qualifications.

David Valerio
**MILLS BENNETT AWARD**

Awarded to a graduate student with high academic records and outstanding qualifications, for advanced studies on the occurrence, properties, distribution, movement, and pollution of water on and beneath the surface of the land.

Yi Hou
Alison Henning Teaching Award

Awarded to teaching Assistant(s) with the most outstanding initiative and valuable contribution to undergraduate instruction for either semester of the current academic year.

Joyeeta Bhattacharaya
Kevin Gaastra
Michael Lara
Torkild Rieber had a substantial influence on the growth and development of Houston. He was a seafaring man who became captain of one of the first Gulf Coast oil tankers. This occupation led him into a long and distinguished career in the petroleum industry culminating with the position of Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Texas Company.

Awarded to an undergraduate or graduate student(s) who have distinguished themselves by high academic standing or other achievements in their geology courses.
The Sam Worden Endowed Memorial Award in Geophysics

Sam Worden graduated from Rice University in 1935. He received his degree in Electrical Engineering but had a lifelong love of Geophysics. He is best known for inventing the Worden Gravimeter used to search for oil fields, especially in salt dome areas.

Award is based on the student’s creative, innovative contributions to the enhancement of geophysics, either in theory or instrumentation.
The Gibbon Award is given to a graduating student for the best-conceived and best-written thesis. The technical content of the winning thesis is expected to be in keeping with the highest standards. Moreover, the award recognizes high quality writing and exposition in particular. This award is only available to students who have turned in their final completed thesis (Master's or Doctoral) within six weeks after their oral defense.
The HGS established the Undergraduate Scholarship to support at least one junior/senior undergraduate each year from among six local universities.

HGS STUDENT AWARD

Jared Nirenberg
NSF Earth Sciences Postdoctoral Fellowships provide two years of salary and research support at an institution of the graduate’s choosing. No more than 10 of the fellowships are granted each year.

Brandee Carlson
Tian Dong
Andrew Moodie
CAREER awards support the research and educational development of young scholars likely to become leaders in their fields. The five year grants, among the most competitive awarded by the NSF, go to fewer than 400 scholars each year across all disciplines.

NSF CAREER Award

Melodie French
Laurence Yeung
AAAS fellows are selected for scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications.

Richard Gordon
AAPG HONORS

AAPG Honorary Member Martha Lou Broussard is this year’s *Michel T. Halbouty Outstanding Leadership Award* recipient.

Broussard holds the distinction of being the first female geology graduate of Rice University, and she was a technical assistant to M. King Hubbert prior to going on to a successful career in the oil industry with Shell Development Company and ERICO. She returned to Rice to work as the Department of Earth Science coordinator.
You are off to great places
Today is your day
Your mountain is waiting,
So get on your way!

-Dr. Seuss
terra scientia environmental et planetarium