

Geo-soundings

NEWSLETTER - AUGUST 1999

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STAFF

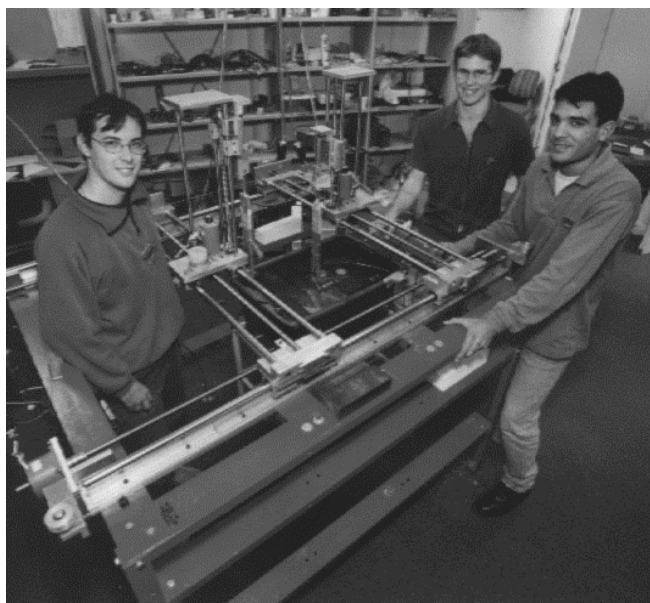
Dr Anton Kopic, Senior Lecturer in Geophysics will commence with the Department on 1 September 1999. His interests are in the fields of minerals and groundwater geophysics.

NEVILLE STANLEY BURSARY

The Department of Commerce and Trade has awarded ten Neville Stanley Bursaries for 1999. Curtin University students received seven of the ten awards including three students from Geophysics, **Philip Deshon**, **Nathan Palmer** and **Ben Sanderson**.

A Neville Stanley Bursary comes with an award of \$5000, to be used towards the student's research.

Congratulations to these three students.



Philip Deshon, Ben Sanderson and Nathan Palmer photographed in the Department's Physical Modelling Laboratory

CONFERENCES

The following papers were given at the AusIMM's Students' and Young Professionals Conference held at Curtin University from 7-11 July 1999:

Nooruddin Al-Andoonisi - *Use of transverse resistance to determine aquifer quality from electromagnetic soundings.*

Abolghasem Kamkar-Rouhani - *Application of apparent resistivity and conductivity residual techniques to detect subsurface anomalous targets.* (Presented by Brett Harris)

Christopher Manuel - *Numerical simulation of seismic multiples and converted waves from non-planar reflectors.*

Michael Sykes - *Reduction of the layered earth response in transient electromagnetic data for mineral exploration.*

Christopher Walton, Brian Evans, and Milovan Urosevic - *Seismic methods for delineating complex structures in coal seams.*

AusIMM BURSARY

Mr. Alexander Pauli, a currently enrolled 3rd year student in the BSc (Geophysics) degree program has been awarded an AusIMM Mining and Metallurgical Bursary for 1999. Following nomination from the Department, Mr. Pauli was the only student from the Bentley Campus of Curtin University to receive one of these prizes. Presentations will be made to student winners at a local Branch meeting of the AusIMM later this year.

CAREER EXPOS

Dominic Howman and Michael Sykes attended the Kelmscott Senior High School Careers Expo held in the Gymnasium at the school on Wednesday 28 July 1999. Thank you to Dom and Michael for their efforts.

The Department had a booth at the recent Careers Expo held at the Fremantle Passenger Terminal on 13/14 August. Special thanks to Dom Howman for setting up the booth and presenting a seminar entitled *A Career in Geophysics*. Thanks also to Norm Uren, Brian Evans and Don Sherlock for helping on the booth.

A total of 125 students entered a competition conducted to find the box with the metal "brass" in it, using a continuity tester and magnet.

Competition Winner

Leeann Wigley
John Wollaston Anglican Community School,
Kelmscott.

FIELD TRIPS

Paul Wilkes and honours student David Carter are continuing the collaborative research with Striker Resources NL in exploring for diamonds in the Kimberley region of northern Western Australia. Fieldwork was carried out in July and extended the field program of 1997 and 1998. Very interesting results were produced which now require drill testing.

EQUIPMENT

Our thanks are extended to Jeremy Cook of North Limited for donating a SIROTEM mark 2 EM unit with digital tape drive and a HUNTEC I.P. 2.5kW transmitter and generator. Both of these items will be very useful to this Department for fieldwork.

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COMPUTING

• PARADIGM

Paradigm Geophysical have recently provided a temporary licence extension of SeisX from 2 seats to 10 for teaching purposes.

• HAMPSON RUSSELL

Hampson Russell software services have extended our AVO licence from two to unlimited, on a short term basis for teaching purposes.

Thank you to both companies for supporting our teaching program.

LANDMARK

We are pleased to announce an agreement with Landmark Graphics for the donation of seismic software valued at over A\$7million, under Landmark's University Grant Program. Landmark and Curtin reached the agreement on 15 August to provide 10 licences of Promax 2D/3D processing, 5 licences of MVA/VSP processing packages, 10 licences of all Sierra software, 2 server licences to operate Landmark seismic interpretation software (via X-windows), and 1 parallel VIP package for reservoir simulation purposes. The software has been donated for teaching and research purposes, and will allow us to numerically model surface and VSP data, process any field data, and interpret it in a class room setting. This also allows us to teach geophysicists, geologists and reservoir engineers the ability to go from 3-D seismic interpretations to the reservoir simulator, and back again in a seamless manner.

This donation is similar to the Landmark donation to Colorado School of Mines, and illustrates the level of importance Landmark places on teaching and research in geophysics.

We hope to announce a major hardware sponsorship in the near future so watch out for the next Geosoundings update on this.

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

The Curtin Centre of Excellence for Exploration and Production Geophysics will be officially launched on Tuesday 29 September. Prof John McDonald will be the inaugural Director.

This Centre includes both the minerals and petroleum areas. It is financially supported by a grant of \$750,000 from the Department of Commerce and Trade.

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