FROM THE DEAN

I hope that you are enjoying the lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer! The beginning of the 2008–09 academic year is just around the corner. We are already halfway through Day on Campus—held for the first time in Lawson Commons—and having a lot of fun meeting the new students. The advisors, assisted by members of my Leadership team, are doing an outstanding job welcoming the incoming freshmen and their families.

I have greatly enjoyed meeting the incoming freshmen and their families during Day on Campus, and am inspired by the energy and enthusiasm of these very bright young people. Their exuberance fills me with optimism about the future of our world. The role of education and research has never been more important to prepare our students to meet the global challenges and issues that cross physical and cultural boundaries.

The College of Science is playing its part in creating an educated citizenry. This fall the revised undergraduate curriculum includes a “Great Issues” course that focuses on some of the biggest challenges facing society, including energy, water, food, environment, disease, poverty, and explores this intersection of science and technology with moral, ethical, and cultural constraints, incorporating a broad range of opinions, expertise, and resources from the University, organizations, and industry.

The Great Issues course is designed to be a dynamic, interactive learning experience for the students and faculty. Students will form teams and write white papers on a particular issue. The white papers undergo a student “peer review,” with videotaped presentations that will be critiqued by classmates and faculty. A subset of the white papers will be chosen for submission and presentation to a broader audience of policy makers and industry representatives. Students that complete the Great Issues course will have an opportunity to work with high school teachers to develop an inquiry-based lesson for use in high school classrooms—an important part of engagement and service learning. We welcome your ideas and input on the Great Issues course. For more information, please contact Professor Andrew S. Hirsch at hirsch@physics.purdue.edu.

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SCIENCE ALUMNI

We want to hear from you! Share your professional news and your personal and family milestones.

Are you interested in leaving a lasting legacy for future students or faculty at Purdue? If so, please visit our planned giving home page.

Contact us

Science@Purdue, past issues
Insights, the College of Science Magazine
Scientific Notation, a publication by Purdue Science Student Council
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Have a great 4th of July!

Jeff Vitter

SCIENCE PEOPLE

Science mourns the loss of Professor Steven Fritz

Steven Fritz, associate professor of earth and atmospheric sciences, passed away on June 21. Professor Fritz had been a member of the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences since 1987.

Obituary.

Two new distinguished professors in the College of Science

The College of Science celebrated the naming of two distinguished professors by Purdue’s Board of Trustees on June 20. Stanton Gelvin was named the Edwin Umbarger Distinguished Professor of Biology and Scott A. McLuckey was named the John A. Leighty Distinguished Professor of Chemistry.

Professor goes to the head of the class

Paul Shepson, professor of chemistry and earth and atmospheric sciences and director of the Purdue Climate Change Research Center (PCCRC), will assume the role of head of the Department of Chemistry on July 1, 2008.

Mighty oaks from tiny acorns grow

Four professors in the College of Science were awarded the Seed for Success Award for receiving grants in excess of $1 million—Ian Shipsey, Julian Schwinger Distinguished Professor of Physics, Kenneth Ritchie, associate professor of physics, Barry Wanner, professor of biological sciences, and George McCabe, professor of statistics and associate dean for academic affairs. They join other College of
The Seed for Success Awards were established by the Office of the Provost and the Office of the Vice President for Research to recognize faculty members who have attracted an individual sponsored research grant to Purdue University in excess of one million dollars. Faculty members are honored at a luncheon and presented with the Seed for Success Award consisting of a bronze acorn engraved with their name. A tree is planted in a grove on campus. Awardees are also honored at a luncheon hosted by the Office of the Provost.

### Computer science professor receives NSF CAREER Award

Luo Si, assistant professor of computer science, received a National Science Foundation Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award for his work on integrated and utility-centric framework for federated text search. Si joins other 2008 NSF CAREER winners, Guy Lebanon and Melvin Leok.

### Teaching for Tomorrow

Olga Vitek, assistant professor of statistics and computer science, and Edray Goins, assistant professor of mathematics, have been selected to receive the Teaching for Tomorrow Award for 2008–2009. The awards recognize faculty for their long-term contributions to teaching at the University.

### Computer science professor to lead Computing Research Institute (CRI)

Alex Pothen has been appointed as director of the Computing Research Institute (CRI) effective August 1, 2008. Pothen also joins the College of Science as professor of computer science. Pothen's research interests include computational science and engineering, high performance computing, and bioinformatics.
American Society for Mass Spectrometry elects chemistry professor to executive board

Scott A. McLuckey, John A. Leighty Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, was elected vice president for programs and president-elect of the American Society for Mass Spectrometry.

Earth and atmospheric sciences professor honored by French Academy of Sciences

Eric Calais, professor of earth and atmospheric sciences, was awarded the French Academy of Science's prestigious Charles Jacob, James Hall, Paul Fallot-Jérèmine award for his outstanding contributions to the earth sciences.

All eyes on Neville

Jennifer Neville, assistant professor of computer science and statistics, is one of ten researchers highlighted in the IEEE 2008 AI’s 10 to Watch list.

SCIENCE NEWS

Analytical instrumentation "dream team" forms new center

Researchers from the College of Science were members of the "dream team" that created the Center for Analytical Instrumentation Development (CAID). Graham Cooks, the Henry Bohn Hass Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, and Fred Regnier, the John H. Law Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, were joined by colleagues from Purdue, Indiana University, University of Illinois, and Notre Dame at the CAID launch on June 18. Professor C. N. R. Rao delivered the keynote address.

Purdue Research Climate Change Center research team wins EPA grant

Related Searches: Department Of Mathematics | Mathematics Resources | Mathematical !
University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and the University of Alaska have been awarded a three-year grant from the Environmental Protection Agency totaling $987,124.

Science provides multicultural experience

More than twenty students and their families participated in the June 15–16 Multicultural Orientation Experience (MOE). The event was hosted by the Multicultural Science Program and the Colleges of Education and Liberal Arts.

Students energized at ScienceScape 2008

ScienceScape opened its doors on June 22 to students entering the 7th, 8th, and 9th grades. The week long program entitled "Energizing Tomorrow at Purdue" provided students with hands-on science activities.

Climate gets fashionable

The Purdue Climate Change Research Center (PCCRC) has a new look. The center has designed a series of ties with a climate theme. They are available through iawarables.com.

SPOTLIGHT ON NEW STAFF

Toyinda Wilson, assistant director for science diversity

Toyinda Wilson was appointed the assistant director for the Science Diversity Office. She was most recently a residential life manager for University Residences. Wilson earned her Bachelor of Arts in psychology and sociology from Purdue University. She was the 1999 individual NCAA indoor track and field national champion in the 20-Pound Weight Throw event.
**Purdue News**

- Purdue trustees approve ‘New Synergies’ strategic plan  
  [Full Story]

- Lechtenberg named Purdue’s interim VP for government relations  
  [Full Story]

- Purdue-IU partnership targets economic growth in bio and life sciences  
  [Full Story]

- New green supercomputer powers up at Purdue  
  [Full Story]

**Research Grant Awards**

Each edition of the *Research Review* contains a monthly listing of the projects that have been funded at Purdue University. Between 100 and 150 awards (resulting from proposals) are awarded each month, many from the College of Science. The *Research Review* announces the awards to give recognition to these faculty achievements and to inform readers about the different kinds of research, teaching, and service projects that are conducted at Purdue.

To view research grant announcements:  [http://www.purdue.edu/Research/vpr/publications/researchreview.shtml](http://www.purdue.edu/Research/vpr/publications/researchreview.shtml)

**Science Events Calendar**

- **June 10–July 2: College of Science Day on Campus 2008, Lawson Computer Science Building.**  
  [More information]

  For incoming students and their parents.

- **July 6–Aug. 2: Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics**

Academic Boot Camp, Purdue University.

The program is designed to help first-year students adjust to college and establish successful strategies for completing their courses. For more information contact scienceundergraduateleadership@purdue.edu.

July 9, 5:30–8:30 p.m.: Purdue Memorial Union Summer Concert Series, Union Front Lawn

Featuring Michael Kelsey. For more information, contact Margie Tucker: mctucker@purdue.edu, 765-494-8976.

July 11–20: Indiana Black Expo, Indianapolis, IN.

For more information, please contact the Special Events Office: events@purdue.edu, 800-213-3044 or 765-494-0900.

July 16, 5:30–8:30 p.m.: Purdue Memorial Union Summer Concert Series, Union Front Lawn.

Featuring W. T. Feaster Band. For more information, contact Margie Tucker: mctucker@purdue.edu, 765-494-8976.

July 23, 5:30–8:30 p.m.: Purdue Memorial Union Summer Concert Series, Union Front Lawn.

Featuring Baaro. For more information, contact Margie Tucker: mctucker@purdue.edu, 765-494-8976.

July 27–Aug. 1: The Entrepreneurship Academy, Purdue University.

The Purdue Research Park Entrepreneurship Academy will provide innovative math, science, and technology-based business and life skills to empower young people with unique entrepreneurial-based opportunities and real-world experiences.
Union Front Lawn.

Featuring PMG. For more information, contact Margie Tucker: mctucker@purdue.edu, 765-494-8976.

Aug. 2, 9:30 a.m.: College of Science Summer Commencement Ceremony, Elliott Hall of Music.

Aug. 2, 11:30 a.m.: College of Science Graduation Reception, Lawson Commons.

For more information, contact John Fisher, director of alumni relations and special events: jrfisher@purdue.edu, 765-494-0586.

Aug. 15, 10:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m.: Purdue Day at the Indiana State Fair, Indianapolis, IN.

For more information, please contact the Special Events Office: events@purdue.edu, 800-213-3044 or 765-494-0900.


STALI provides incoming College of Science freshmen with opportunities to participate in leadership, teambuilding, and hands-on research activities. For more information, contact Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education at scienceundergraduatedean@purdue.edu.

Aug. 19, 8:30–10:30 a.m.: Strategic Planning Committee meeting, Lawson 3102B.

R.S.V.P. to Mary Franklin: mjfrankl@purdue.edu, 765-494-9517.

Aug. 23: Purdue Day in Chicago, Chicago, IL.

The event will be held at the Ravinia Festival (200 Ravinia Park Rd., Highland Park, IL 60035). A reception will be held from 5:00–7:15 p.m. and
guests will enjoy a Tony Bennett concert at 7:30 p.m., following the reception. Cost for guests: $35 for reception and lawn seat to hear Tony Bennett and $105 for reception and Pavilion seat to watch Tony Bennett. For more information visit [www.purdue.edu/events](http://www.purdue.edu/events) or contact the Special Events Office, [events@purdue.edu](mailto:events@purdue.edu) or 765-494-0900.

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**Sept. 5, 9:00 a.m.: Outstanding Alumni Breakfast.**

This event honors outstanding alumni selected by the Departments of Actuarial Science, Mathematics, Statistics, Computer Science, and Earth and Atmospheric Sciences and celebrates the accomplishments of the named and distinguished professors in the College of Science. For more information contact John Fisher, director of alumni relations and special events: [jrfisher@purdue.edu](mailto:jrfisher@purdue.edu), 765-494-0586

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**Sept. 19, 9:00 p.m.: Department of Biological Sciences Alumni Advisory Committee Fall Session, Lilly 1-117.**

For more information contact Sandy Howarth, director of development for the Department of Biological Sciences: [showarth@purdue.edu](mailto:showarth@purdue.edu), 765-496-7512.

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**Oct. 15–17: Science Journalism Laureates.**

The annual program returns for a third year to honor the important role that science and technology journalists and communicators play. For more information, contact John Fisher, director of alumni relations and special events: [jrfisher@purdue.edu](mailto:jrfisher@purdue.edu), 765-494-0586.

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**Oct. 31, 9:00 a.m.: Outstanding Alumni Breakfast.**

This event honors outstanding alumni selected by the Departments of Biological Sciences, Chemistry, and Physics and celebrates the accomplishments of the named and distinguished professors in the College of Science. For more information contact John Fisher, director of alumni relations and special events: [jrfisher@purdue.edu](mailto:jrfisher@purdue.edu), 765-494-0586.

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Share your memories! If you have a favorite story or memory from your College of Science experience, we’d like to share it with others.

Are you interested in leaving a lasting legacy for future students or faculty at Purdue? If so, please visit our planned giving home page.

Science Seminar Calendar | College of Science Seminar Calendar

Alumni and Friends

Purdue Events