



Teaching high school science and doing cutting-edge research at the same time might sound impossible, but Heather Renyck (IUP '99

## The IUP Geoscience Department Needs You ....

Every five years, the Geoscience Department conducts a self-study of our academic programs and student outcomes. We like to make sure we're still doing the best possible job of educating future geoscience majors for education, industry and government work. Our last review

**... To Provide Feedback for our Five-Year Review!**

**FIND US ON FACEBOOK!**

**Page 3**







[John Taylor](#)

## **Michael Poage**

Dr. Michael Poage continues his research in the Dry Valleys of Antarctica but took a year off from traveling there to work on a manuscript summarizing the distribution of soil geochemistry in Taylor Valley and its relationship with soil biology. In addition, he is collaborating with a faculty member in the IUP Biology Department to study Cenozoic climate change in Mongolia using the stable isotopes of fossil tooth enamel as a climate proxy. Michael has overseen the acquisition and implementation of an Inductively Couple Plasma Optical Emission Spectrometer for department use. In Spring 2009, three IUP students (two Geoscience, one Anthropology) ran their senior project samples on the ICP-OES, and we look forward to incorporating its analytical capabilities into future student research as well as majors-level geoscience classes. Over the summer, Michael traveled with Jon Lewis to the San Juan Mountains of southwestern Colorado to develop a new regional field course near Durango and Silverton. Having overseen the successful restructuring of the department curriculum over the past several years, he is currently teaching the very first offering of our new introductory course for majors, GEOS 201 Foundations of Geology.

## **Ken Coles**

Dr. Ken Coles has taken advantage of conquering accreditation, tenure, and promotion to Associate Professor by renewing his research efforts. He attended the annual meeting of the International Occultation Timing Association in Florida in November, 2009. While there, he participated

## **Our Alumni Supporters Make All The Difference!**

Contributions from generous alumni like **Tom Moore, Dan Markey, Tom 'PV' Watkins** and **Wendy Straatman**

**IUP Geoscience Homepage**                      [www.iup.edu/geoscience](http://www.iup.edu/geoscience)  
(Geoscience Department news, events and alumni page)

**GeoTidings on Facebook**                      [tinyurl.com/GeoTidings](http://tinyurl.com/GeoTidings)  
(Real-time alumni updates & contact information)

**IUP Foundation**                                      [www.iup.edu/supportiup](http://www.iup.edu/supportiup)  
(Links for donating to IUP and/or the department)