

AIPG Wayne State Student Chapter end of the year review

Officers for the 2017-2018

President- Chelsea Veryser- chelseaveryser@yahoo.com

Vice President- Hannah Jackson- hannah.jackson@wayne.edu

Treasurer- Max Denny max.denny@wayne.edu

Officers for the 2018-2019

President- Kelsey Hewett- kelsey.hewett@wayne.edu

Vice President- Hannah Jackson- listed above

Treasurer- Lisette Wittbrodt- lisette.wittbrodt@wayne.edu

Number of chapter meetings per year: 2 per month

Activities within the department and fundraisers: During the academic year, our chapter gathered for “friends giving” during the thanksgiving time with the department. During this time, we have the club provide a turkey and other main ingredients for a thanksgiving dinner, while other students and staff bring in a dish to contribute. This provided students an opportunity to broaden their understanding regarding their major while opening to what Wayne State had to offer and networking with fellow students and faculty. Here students could broaden their spectrum by engaging with academically advanced students and staff within the department to receive critical advice and become incorporated with various academic opportunities.

The fieldtrips that our chapter we’re involved with served not only as an occasion to interact with fellow students, but allowed for the cultivation of organic interest in our studies. During field trips we promoted interdisciplinary networking, and an opportunity rarely obtained within an academic setting. This year specifically, our club had the opportunity to go on more than one trip. The first trip we could enjoy, was over the Labor Day weekend to kick off the school year. A handful of students traveled to the thumb of Michigan in the city of Bad Axe to spend time camping, hiking the area and scoping geological features. Here we could see some geomorphic landscapes that Michigan offers within a beach setting, most particularly sand dunes. Not only did we see geology, as we do everywhere, but we also had the chance to see historic sites such as, The Sanilac Petroglyphs Historical State Park, and Pointe Aux Barques Lighthouse.

In addition to this trip, for our spring break, our chapter decided to visit the Red River Gorge in Kentucky with our student chapter club proctor Dr. Jeffrey Howard. There were 20 students involved including Dr. Jeffrey Howard. Something that made our time highly enjoyable, was finding a field trip guide online that the AIPG participating in a few years back. This gave us the great opportunity to go somewhere other than Michigan and see geological features that we learn about in class. During our trip we could see almost every field trip stop that the AIPG had planned out for their 42nd annual meeting at the Red River Gorge Geological area and Natural

Bridge State Park Resort. Points of interest include; The Nada Tunnel, Chimney Top Rock, The Mississippian and Pennsylvanian Unconformity, and Natural Bridge. One activity we were most excited for, was a kayaking trip through an underground abandoned mine in Red River Gorge.

Bake sales are the main ingredient to maintain an economically stable organization. These bake sales were instrumental to maintain the programs funding, however they also brought about genuine interest among underclassmen. In addition to the routinely distributed baked goods, minerals were available to be purchased for moderate profit. To underclassmen, this occasionally sparked genuine interest in the program and curiosity towards the subfields encompassed by geology. With the raised funds from bake sales, we provide the ability to hold meetings at different areas surrounding Wayne State in Detroit and provide meals for members.

With great disappointment, we were unable to hold a career day like we have done in the past due to major switchovers within the Geology and Environmental department here at Wayne State. In replacement, the chapter at Wayne State could substitute with an alternative by giving extensive detail as to the companies we have had the pleasure of participating in the past.

Most recently, a Wayne State graduate student and chapter member, is involved with a new and coming nonprofit organization, called Reroot Pontiac, has provided great opportunities to give back to the community. Reroot Pontiac's is to transform blighted, vacant, urban lots into vibrant interactive spaces focused on environmental education. Both current and alumni of the Wayne State student chapter have had the pleasure of participating on earth day with planting trees with the organization.

Just new this year, a faculty member at Wayne State University, David Lowrie, has also opened a mineral museum. The student chapter was able to help with recruiting some student chapter members to have a volunteer opportunity by working in the museum allowing the public to see. This not only gave great opportunity for volunteer work, but also aided in expanding participants knowledge and applying that knowledge to interacts with guests.

With the AIPG helping with funding here at Wayne State, not only can we participate in extracurricular activities such as going out on trips, but the funding also greatly helps with the department overall. Some other things the funding has helped with specifically, is providing enough funding for class trips that students and staff participate in to supplement the classroom experience. Examples of places we go to are as follows; Wisconsin for Structural Geology, Vermont for Petrology, Bancroft, Ontario for Mineralogy. Having the opportunity to travel to other places to see things beyond the textbook is something that Wayne State University does to enhance the education experience for students and couldn't do it without the help of AIPG funding. With having the honor of receiving the student chapter of the year award last year, we were able to use the winning funds and put towards our department for these trips and activities and so much more.

Roster of student members:

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Accounting of money: (All details of trip included in end of the year report)

Had a total of \$5,000 at start of the year from previous savings.

March 12-16 2018 Spring Break trip to Red River Gorge, all inclusive, \$3029.04

September 1-4 2017 Bad Axe camping trip, \$100











