

*2023
Wilson
Awards
Banquet*



PennState
College of Earth
and Mineral Sciences

2023
Wilson Awards
Banquet



The College of Earth and Mineral Sciences'
annual celebration of accomplishments

Sunday, April 23, 2023

5 p.m. Reception

6 p.m. Dinner

Matthew J. Wilson, Jr. & Anne Coghlan Wilson

Through their bequests, Matthew and Anne Wilson are the major benefactors of the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences (EMS). In the 1950s, Matthew Wilson inherited a stock portfolio that provided the basis for the funds he generously gave to the then-named School of Mineral Industries. His giving started in 1957 with a modest scholarship endowment and was later increased with additional gifts. Over the years the endowments blossomed into a substantial fund that today provides the college with support for its well-known student loan program and a number of faculty and student awards and scholarships. The fund also supports the annual Wilson Awards Banquet.

Matthew Wilson was born in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania, and graduated from Penn State in 1918 with a bachelor's degree in mining engineering. He attended the University of Colorado, where he received master's degrees in geology and chemistry and met his wife, Anne, a biochemist. After graduating, he started working as a chemist for the Atlantic Refining Company in Philadelphia and later moved to Holland, Michigan, where he developed a career in sales starting first with the U.S. Industrial Company, then the Karr Spring Company, and later with the Spring Air Company. He served as the Washington representative for Spring Air's industrial and military sales for many years; he also served on the company's board of directors. In retirement, the Wilsons lived in Michigan but moved to Scottsdale, Arizona, shortly before Matthew died in 1963.

Throughout the next twenty years Anne Wilson increased the family endowments and took an active interest in EMS students and faculty. When she died in 1983, it was said of her:

“Anne believed in giving. Her dream to become a doctor was never realized so she wanted the dreams of others to come true. She felt it was important that the University hold on to its best teachers. Awards were a wonderful way to do so.”

Welcome

Lee Kump, John Leone Dean in the
College of Earth and Mineral Sciences



Promotion and Tenure

Jennifer Baka, Associate Professor, Geography

Zachary Barkley, Assistant Research Professor, Meteorology and
Atmospheric Science

Anthony Didlake, Associate Professor, Meteorology and
Atmospheric Science

Bradford Foley, Associate Professor, Geosciences

Derek Hall, Associate Teaching Professor, Energy
and Mineral Engineering

Robert Hickey, Associate Professor, Materials Science
and Engineering

Eugene Morgan, Associate Teaching Professor, Energy
and Mineral Engineering

Bed Poudel, Research Professor, Materials Science and Engineering

Bronwen Powell, Associate Professor, Geography

Arash Dahi Taleghani, Professor, Energy and Mineral Engineering

Andrew Smye, Associate Professor, Geosciences

Tieyuan Zhu, Associate Professor, Geosciences

25-Year Service Awards

James Adair, Professor of Materials Science and Engineering, and
Biomedical Engineering and Pharmacology

Lorraine Dowler, Professor of Geography, Women's, Gender and
Sexuality Studies, and International Affairs; Associate Head of Diversity,
Equity, and Inclusion, Geography

William Easterling, Former Dean and Professor of Geography

Laura Liermann, Assistant Research Professor, Earth and
Environmental Systems Institute

Victoria Sanchez, Associate Dean for Educational Equity

Retirements

David Bice, Teaching Professor, Geosciences

Andrew Carleton, Professor, Geography

Roger Downs, Professor, Geography

Steven Feldstein, Research Professor, Meteorology and Atmospheric Science

James Kasting, Evan Pugh University Professor, Geosciences

Elizabeth Kupp, Associate Teaching Professor, Materials Science and Engineering

Ljubisa Radovic, Professor, Energy and Mineral Engineering

George Young, Professor, Meteorology and Atmospheric Science

Yi Wang, Research Professor, Materials Science and Engineering

Gladys Snyder Junior Faculty Grants



Brandi Gaertner

Assistant Teaching Professor, Geography

“Historical and Future Climate and Hydrologic Changes in the Mid-Atlantic, United States”



Louisa Holmes

Assistant Professor, Geography

“Spatial and contextual variations in opioid use and co-use across Pennsylvania in the wake of COVID-19”



Ashish Ranjan Kumar

Assistant Professor, Energy and Mineral Engineering

“Development of a Virtual Reality System for Classroom Teaching of Complex Mining Operations”



Benjamin Reppert

Lecturer, Meteorology and Atmospheric Science

“Enhancing the Online Education Environment with State-of-the-Art, Hands-on Technology to Connect the Classroom and the Real World”



*George H. Deike, Jr.
Research Grant*

Barbara Arnold

Professor of Practice in Mining
Engineering

“Revalorization of mine tailings”



*E. Willard and Ruby S.
Miller Faculty Fellow*

Luis Ayala

William A. Fustos Family Professor of
Energy and Mineral Engineering

**“Pore-scale investigation of
multicomponent, multiphase flow
of geofluids: A fugacity-based
mesoscopic approach”**



*Wilson Research
Initiation Grant*

Anastasia Piliouras

Assistant Professor of Geosciences

**“Variability in bluff retreat on
Pennsylvania’s Lake Erie coast”**

College-level Student Awards

Jay M. and Katherine DeFinis Award for Outstanding Student Leadership

Undergraduate: **Luke Winand**, Meteorology and
Atmospheric Science

Graduate: **Luke LeBel** and **Sarah Wugofski**, both
Meteorology and Atmospheric Science

Ellen Steidle Achievement Award

Senior: **Hannah Chop**, Environmental Systems Engineering

Junior: **Emily Shiels**, Geography

Dean Edward Steidle Memorial Scholar Award

Martha Christino, Meteorology and Atmospheric Science

GEMS Diamond Award

Athbi Alfarhan, Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering

GEMS Diamond Award Runner-up

Luke Winand, Meteorology and Atmospheric Science

Student Marshal

Martha Christino, B.S. Meteorology and Atmospheric Science
and Civil Engineering, Minor in Military Studies

*Martha, a Schreyer Scholar, will graduate Summa Cum Laude
with a perfect 4.0 cumulative GPA.*

Engineering Honor Marshal

Bevan Harbinson, B.S. Materials Science and Engineering

*Bevan a Schreyer Scholar, will graduate Summa Cum Laude with a
perfect 4.0 cumulative GPA.*

EMSAGE Laureates

The College of Earth and Mineral Sciences Academy for Global Experience (EMSAGE) is the college's signature undergraduate recognition program. Select students are recognized with the distinctive designation of EMSAGE Laureate.

Fall 2021 EMSAGE Laureates

- **Michael Ammendola**, Materials Science and Engineering
- **Delián Colón Burgos**, Meteorology and Atmospheric Science
- **Lucas Erich**, Materials Science and Engineering
- **Gabriel Hiestand**, Environmental Systems Engineering
- **Aarushi Jadhav**, Materials Science and Engineering
- **Isabelle Jernigan**, Meteorology and Atmospheric Science
- **Alison Johnston**, Geography
- **Conner Patton**, Energy Engineering
- **Camila Pena**, Geography
- **Meredith Pepka**, Environmental Systems Engineering
- **Katherine Rasmussen**, Environmental Systems Engineering
- **Meddelin Setiawan**, Materials Science and Engineering
- **Sunday Siomades**, Geosciences
- **Jordan Thibodeaux**, Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering
- **Zhihan Wang**, Energy Business and Finance
- **Jun Weng (Wayne) Yeo**, Materials Science and Engineering

Spring 2022 EMSAGE Laureates

- **Ali Al Hassan**, Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering
- **Mohammed Alarfaj**, Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering
- **Athbi Alfarhan**, Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering
- **Mohammad Badghaish**, Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering
- **Hannah Chop**, Environmental Systems Engineering
- **Isabella Ferreira**, Earth Science and Policy
- **Mufaddal Gheewala**, Energy Engineering
- **Allison Holland**, Geography
- **David Marcial**, Meteorology and Atmospheric Science
- **Jaeden Mayzel**, Environmental Systems Engineering
- **Akhdan Mir**, Energy Engineering
- **Hunter Reeves**, Geosciences
- **Angelina Santamaria**, Earth Science & Policy and Geography
- **Justin Warner**, Materials Science and Engineering
- **Luke Winand**, Meteorology and Atmospheric Science

G. Montgomery and Marion Mitchell Award for Innovative Teaching



Brandi Robinson

Assistant Teaching Professor
John A. Dutton Institute of
Teaching and Learning Excellence



Mark Fedkin

Assistant Teaching Professor
John A. Dutton Institute of Teaching
and Learning Excellence



Haley Sankey

Assistant Teaching Professor
John A. Dutton Institute of Teaching
and Learning Excellence



Erich Schienke

Assistant Teaching Professor
Energy and Mineral
Engineering

Wilson Award for Excellence in Teaching

Anthony Robinson

Associate Professor of Geography and
Director for Online Geospatial Education,
Penn State





*George H. K. Schenck
Teaching Assistant Award*

Nicholas Barron

Graduate Teaching Assistant,
Meteorology and Atmospheric Science

*Wilson Award for
Outstanding Service*

Elizabeth Hajek

Associate Professor and Associate
Head for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion,
Geosciences



*Faculty Advising
Award*

Amy Robinson

Associate Teaching Professor and
Associate Head for Undergraduate
Studies, Materials Science and
Engineering



*Wilson Award for
Excellence in Research*

Jon-Paul Maria

Professor of Materials Science and
Engineering

*Postdoctoral Excellence
in Research Award*

Yao Zhou

Materials Science and Engineering



Faculty Mentoring Award



Allison Beese

Associate Professor,
Materials Science and
Engineering



Steven Seman

Assistant Teaching Professor,
Meteorology and Atmospheric
Science

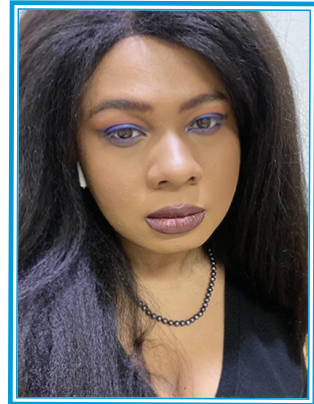
*Catherine Lyons Diversity, Equity and
Inclusion Student Awards*



Undergraduate Award

Athbi Alfarhan

Petroleum and Natural Gas
Engineering



Graduate Award

Jasmine Walker

Geosciences

*Charles Hosler
Diversity, Equity and
Inclusion Faculty
Award*



Enrique Gomez

Professor of Chemical Engineering
and Materials Science and
Engineering

*Charles Hosler
Diversity, Equity and
Inclusion Postdoctoral
Award*



Prakash Purswani

Postdoctoral Scholar,
Energy and Mineral Engineering

*Paul F. Robertson Award for
EMS Research Breakthrough of the Year*



Seth Blumsack

Professor of Energy Policy and Economics, Energy and Mineral Engineering, and Director of the Center for Energy Law and Policy



Mort Webster

Professor of Energy Engineering, Energy and Mineral Engineering



Congratulations
to all of our awardees!

This publication is available in alternative media on request.

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