

CYNTHIA MAY LIUTKUS-PIERCE

Assistant Professor
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Education

Ph.D. (Geological Sciences), Department of Geological Sciences, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, August 2005.

Adviser: James D. Wright

Dissertation: *Paleoclimate reconstruction using stable isotopes of freshwater phreatic carbonates.*

M.Sc. (Geological Sciences with certificate in Quaternary Studies), Department of Geological Sciences, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, October 2000.

Adviser: Gail M. Ashley

Thesis: *Sedimentology, stratigraphy, and stable isotopes of the lowermost Bed II freshwater wetlands, Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania*

B.A. *cum laude* (Geology and Philosophy (double major)), Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA, May 1998.

Academic Positions

Associate Professor, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC, 2011 – Present.

Research Associate, Virginia Museum of Natural History, Martinsville, VA, 2010 – Present.

Full Member of the Graduate Faculty, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC, 2008 – Present.

Associate Member, Donald Sundquist Center of Excellence in Paleontology, East Tennessee State University, 2007 – Present.

Adjunct Professor, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN, 2007 – Present.

Assistant Professor, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC, 2005 – Present.

Visiting Assistant Professor, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA, 2004 – 2005.

Research Funding

External Funding

Leakey Foundation: “*Excavation and analysis of hominin foot prints from Ngare [sic] Sero, Tanzania,*” (\$13,460). Co-PI with William Harcourt-Smith (American Museum of Natural History). January 2012.

Leakey Foundation: “*New investigations at the Miocene site of Loperot, Turkana District, Kenya,*” (\$20,000). Co-PI with Ari Grossman (Midwestern University). May 2011.

National Geographic Society, Research and Exploration Fund: “*In the footprints of our ancestors: Investigations into the origin and preservation of a new hominin trackway in northern Tanzania,*” (\$19,860). Principle Investigator. January 2010.

National Science Foundation, Major Research Instrumentation: “*Acquisition of a cathodoluminescence (CL) microscope system for earth science research and education at Appalachian State University- #09-0145,*” (\$43,495). Co-PI with Sarah Carmichael. July 2009.

National Science Foundation, Tectonics Division: “*The Frazier Mountain Paleoseismic Site: Evaluation of fault behavior models with geologic data from the Big Bend section of the San Andreas fault, CA #0838294 ,*” (\$105,533). Senior Scientist, awarded to Kate Scharer. July 2008.

Internal Funding

Office of International Education and Development, International Travel Funds for Faculty: “*Excavation of Holocene footprints at Walvis Bay, Namibia,*” (\$1500), 2010.

Cratis D. Williams Graduate School and Research and Sponsored Programs Faculty
International Research Travel Grant: “*Searching for Human Origins in Southern Africa: An expedition to document Quaternary hominin footprints in the Namibian desert,*” (\$3000), 2010.

University Research Council Competitive Grants Program, “*In the Footsteps of our Ancestors: A geological investigation into the volcanic origin and preservation of a human-footprinted ash in northern Tanzania,*” (\$4900), 2009.

Office of International Education and Development, International Travel Funds for Faculty: “*Travel to South Africa to Initiate the African Footprint Program,*” (\$1980), 2009.

University Research Council Competitive Grants Program: “*Regional Climate and Local Hydrology Effects on Groundwater-Fed Spring Geochemistry, and the Implications for Modern and Fossil Carbonate Precipitation: Pilot Valley playa, NV,*” (\$5000), 2006.

University Research Council Competitive Grants Program: “*Spring”time in Nevada: An exploration of springs and playa hydrology of Pilot Valley, NV and the climate influences on phreatic carbonate precipitation.*” (\$3860), 2005.

Hubbard Center for Faculty Development Textbook Grant, covered all costs of publication and printing of GLY3800 lab manual each year, (\$355), 2005.

Grants Received by Undergraduate Research Advisees (excludes Travel Grants)

K. Barket, Office of Student Research, International Student Research Grant, “*Paleolandscape Reconstruction of the Engare Sero Footprint Site, Northern Tanzania*“, (\$1500), awarded Spring 2012 but not used.

S. Hewitt, Geological Society of America, Undergraduate Research Award, “*Field mapping and geochemical analysis of volcanoes surrounding the Lake Natron *Homo sapiens* footprint site, northern Tanzania,*” (\$600), Fall 2010.

S. Hewitt, Office of Student Research, Undergraduate Research Assistantship, “*Field mapping and geochemical analysis of volcanoes surrounding the Lake Natron *Homo sapiens* footprint site, northern Tanzania,*” (\$1000), Fall 2010.

S. Hewitt, Office of Student Research, Undergraduate Research Assistantship, “*Field mapping and geochemical analysis of volcanoes surrounding the Lake Natron *Homo sapiens* footprint site, northern Tanzania,*” (\$1000), Summer 2010.

S. Hewitt, Office of Student Research, International Student Research Grant, “*Petrology and geochemistry of volcanoes surrounding the Lake Natron footprint site, Tanzania,*” (\$1500), Spring 2010.

- J. Norman, Geological Society of America- Southeastern Section, Undergraduate Research Award “Stable Isotope Ecology of Southern California Quaternary Sediments,” (\$650), Fall 2009.
- J. Norman, Office of Student Research, Undergraduate Research Assistantship, “Stable Isotope Ecology of Southern California Quaternary Carbonates,” (\$1000), Spring 2010.
- K. McGinnis, Office of Student Research, International Student Research Grant, “In the Footprints of our Ancestors, from Appalachian to Africa: Geological investigations into the origin and preservation of early human footprints in Tanzania,” (\$1500), Spring 2009.
- K. McGinnis, Office of Student Research, Student Research Grant, “In the Footprints of our Ancestors, from Appalachian to Africa: Geological investigations into the origin and preservation of early human footprints in Tanzania,” (\$500), Spring 2009.
- K. McGinnis, Explorer’s Club Youth Activity Fund, “In the Footprints of our Ancestors, from Appalachian to Africa: Geological investigations into the origin and preservation of early human footprints in Tanzania,” (\$1500), Spring 2009.

Undergraduate Research Project Advisees

- K. Barket, “Paleolandscape reconstruction of the Engare Sero footprint site, northern Tanzania.” Fall 2011 – Present.
- S. Hewitt, “*Field mapping and geochemical analysis of volcanoes surrounding the Lake Natron Homo sapiens footprint site, northern Tanzania.*” Summer 2010 – Present.
- J. Norman, “*Stable isotope ecology of Holocene carbonates from the Frazier Mountain paleoseismic site, southern California.*” Summer 2009 – Spring 2010.
- K. McGinnis, “*From Appalachian to Africa: Investigations into the origin of a new hominid trackway in northern Tanzania.*” Spring 2008 – Spring 2010.
- K. McGinnis, “*A provenance study of fluvial sediments from the Gray Fossil Site sinkhole, eastern TN.*” Fall 2007 – Spring 2008.
- A. Smith, “*Biblical Ethics on the Environment and the Science of Climate Change.*” Fall 2007 – Spring 2008.
- A. Pruitt, “*A sedimentological study of lacustrine sediments from the Gray Fossil Site sinkhole, eastern TN.*” Fall 2007 – Spring 2008.
- J. Quick, “*Do playa sediments track paleoenvironment? Sedimentological analyses of Quaternary lake cores from Pilot Valley, NV.*” Fall 2006 – Spring 2007.
- S. Raines, “*Sedimentological analyses of Quaternary fossil-bearing sediments from Pilot Valley, NV: Implications for climate change.*” Summer 2006 – Spring 2007.

Refereed Publications

- Morse, S.A., Bennett, M.R., Liutkus-Pierce, C., Thacheray, F., McClymont, J., Savage, R., and Crompton, R., 2013, Holocene footprints in Namibia: the influence of substrate on footprint variability: *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, v. 151, issue 2, p. 265-279.
- Liutkus, C.M., Beard, J.S., Fraser, N.C., and Ragland, P.C., 2010, Use of fine scale stratigraphy and chemostratigraphy to evaluate conditions of deposition and preservation of a Triassic *Lagerstätte*, south central Virginia: *Journal of Paleolimnology*, v. 44, p. 645-666.

- Liutkus, C.M., 2009, Using petrography and geochemistry to determine the origin and formation mechanism of calcitic plant molds; rhizolith or tufa?: *Journal of Sedimentary Research*, v. 79, p. 906-917.
- Nandi, A., Liutkus, C., and Whitelaw, M., 2009, Geotechnical characterization of Sevier and Rome shale, eastern Tennessee: 2009 Rock Mechanics Symposium Special Volume.
- Liutkus, C.M., and Wright, J.D., 2008, The influence of hydrology and climate on the isotope geochemistry of playa carbonates: a study from Pilot Valley, Nevada, USA: *Sedimentology*, v. 55, p. 965-978.
- Liutkus, C.M., Wright, J.D., Ashley, G.M., and Sikes, N., 2005, Paleoenvironmental interpretation of lake-margin deposits using $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ results from Pleistocene carbonate rhizoliths; Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania: *Geology*, v. 33, p. 377-380.
- Liutkus, C.M., and Ashley, G.M., 2003, Facies model of a semiarid freshwater wetland, Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania: *Journal of Sedimentary Research*, v. 73, p. 691-705.
- Ashley, G.M., and Liutkus, C.M., 2002, Tracks, trails, and trampling by large vertebrates in a rift valley paleo-wetland, lowermost Bed II, Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania: *Ichnos*, v. 9, p. 23-32.

Manuscripts in Preparation

- Liutkus, C.M., Zimmer, B.W., Carmichael, S.K., Hewitt, S.M., McGinnis, K.J., Mana, S., Turrin, B., Swisher III, C., Deocampo, D., Brett, J., Richmond, B., Hatala, K., Harcourt-Smith, W., Pobiner, B., Metallo, A., Rossil, V., Gordon, A., Green, D., and Sakae, K., *in prep*, Fingerprinting a Pleistocene human-footprinted tuff in northern Tanzania; Engare Sero: for submission to *Science*.

Unrefereed Manuscripts

- Liutkus, C.M., 2005, Paleoclimate reconstruction using stable isotopes of freshwater phreatic carbonates: Ph.D. Dissertation, Department of Geological Sciences, Rutgers University, 212 pp.
- Liutkus, C.M., 2000, Sedimentology, stratigraphy, and stable isotopes of the lowermost Bed II freshwater wetlands, Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania: Master's Thesis, Department of Geological Sciences, Rutgers University, 159 pp.

Other Professional Works and Popular Science Articles

- Bennett, M.R., Liutkus, C.M., Thackeray, F., Morse, S.A., McClymont, J., and Stratford, D., 2010, Footprints of the Kuiseb Delta, Namibia. *The Digging Stick* (newsletter of the South African Archaeological Society), v. 27, no. 3, p. 1-20.
- Liutkus, C.M., 2008, *Superposition: A lab manual for Sedimentology and Stratigraphy, GLY3800*, (3rd edition), with contributions from G.M. Ashley and C.S. Feibel.

Invited Presentations

- Carbonates that Don't Fit the Traditional "Mold": Evidence from petrography and isotopic analyses*, University of South Florida, Departmental Lecture Series, October 2010.
- In the Shadow of the Mountain of God: Reconstructing the East African landscape 120,000 years ago*, Appalachian State University Cratis D. Williams Graduate School "Research Café", September 2010.

In the Footsteps of Our Ancestors: A landscape view of life in northern Tanzania 120,000 years ago, Appalachian State University Department of Geology Lecture Series, March 2010.

On the Trail of Human Origins: New fossil footprints in northern Tanzania, Rutgers University, Departmental Lecture Series, January 2010.

Walking in the Footsteps of our Ancestors: From Appalachian to Africa, Appalachian State University Board of Trustees Fall Meeting, Appalachian State University, November 2009.

Petrographic and Geochemical Evidence for a Non-Pedogenic Origin of Calcitic Plant Molds, Southern Methodist University, Departmental Lecture Series, March 2009.

The Gray Fossil Site, TN: Sedimentologic investigations into the formation and fill history of a Tertiary sinkhole, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Departmental Lecture Series, April 2008.

Into Africa... A geologist's (dusty) journey to discover the origins of man, Appalachian Retired Faculty Seminar, Appalachian State University, July 2007.

Across an Ocean, Across the Millennia: A geochemical study of modern deposits in Nevada helps to reconstruct Pleistocene hydrology in East Africa, East Tennessee State University, November 2006.

Paleolandscape Reconstruction at Olduvai Gorge, Sigma Xi Monthly Meeting- Appalachian Chapter, September 2005.

The Present is the Key to the Past: Using modern processes to interpret paleoclimate signals, Dickinson University, Departmental Lecture Series, February 2005.

Paleoclimate Reconstruction of the Pleistocene Olduvai Basin: Lakes and wetlands 'overflow' with possibilities, Appalachian State University, January 2005.

Reconstructing Lake and Lake-margin Environments with Terrestrial Stable Isotopes: Implications for hominid-bearing sites, Bucknell University, May 2004.

Professional Presentations

- Liutkus-Pierce, C.M., and Zimmer, B.W., 2012, Modern processes on the shores of saline, alkaline Lake Natron explain paleo lake-margin features. Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 44, p. 210.
- Liutkus-Pierce, C.M., 2012, The potential of lake-margin sediments to preserve dynamic lacustrine conditions. Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 44, p. 316.
- Liutkus, C.M., Beard, J.S., Deocampo, D.M., Heckert, A.B., Fraser, N.C., and Ragland, P.C., 2012, Sedimentology and geochemistry of the Virginia Solite Quarry, Danville/Dan River Basin (Newark Supergroup): A new "shallow lake" interpretation for fossil-bearing, laminated, lacustrine sediments. Northeastern Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 44, no. 2, p. 41.
- Liutkus, C.M., Beard, J.S., Deocampo, D.M., Heckert, A.B., Fraser, N.C., and Ragland, P.C., 2012, Sedimentology and geochemistry as a key to the taphonomy of the Upper Triassic Virginia Solite quarry Lagerstätte (Dan River/ Danville Basin: Newark Supergroup). Southeastern Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 44, no. 4, p. 62.
- Liutkus, C.M., Beard, J.S., and Fraser, N.C., 2010, Saline, alkaline, and toxic—a recipe for perfect preservation. Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 42, no. 5.

- Brett, J., Mollel, G., Liutkus, C., Harcourt-Smith, W., Pobiner, B., Olle Moita, G., and Swisher III, C., 2009, In the footprints of our ancestors: A new hominin (*Homo sapiens*) trackway at Ngare Sero, Tanzania. Proceedings of the 3rd East African Association of Paleoanthropology and Paleontology Conference.
- Liutkus, C.M., and Whitelaw, M.J., 2008, Sedimentologic and stratigraphic investigations into the origin and fill history of a Tertiary sinkhole lake; Gray Fossil Site, TN. Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 40, no. 6, p. 165.
- Liutkus, C.M., 2007, New terminology for calcite stem casts formed in standing water: A case study from the semiarid western USA. Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 39, no. 6, p. 345.
- Liutkus, C.M., and Wright, J.D., 2006, Phreatically-formed rhizoliths as a tool for paleolandscape reconstruction: Southeast Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 38, no. 3, p. 26.
- Liutkus, C.M., 2006, Modern 'rhizolith' formation on a closed-basin playa, Pilot Valley, NV: Southeast Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 38, no. 3, p. 72.
- Liutkus, C.M., and Wright, J.D., 2004, Rhizolith stable isotope patterns from Pilot Valley Playa, Utah: Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 36, no. 5, p. 358.
- Liutkus, C.M., and Wright, J.D., 2003, The rhizolith recorder: Reconstructing climate with stable isotope signatures of modern and ancient lacustrine carbonates: International Limnogeology Congress, Third Meeting, Abstract Volume, p. 166-167.
- Liutkus, C.M., and Wright, J.D., 2002, Seasonal variation in $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of carbonate reedcasts from Fayetteville Green Lake, NY: Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 34, no. 6, p. 334.
- Liutkus, C.M., Ashley, G.M., and Wright, J.D., 2000, Short-term climate changes and Milankovitch cyclicity at Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania: Evidence from sedimentology and stable isotopes. Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 32, no. 7, p. 21.
- Liutkus, C.M., and Ashley, G.M., 2000, Facies model of a Pleistocene groundwater-fed wetlands in a volcanoclastic setting; Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania. Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 32, no. 1, p. 31.

Contributed Presentations at Professional Meetings and Symposia

- Zimmer, B., Liutkus, C., Carmichael, S., Richmond, B., Hewitt, S., Hatala, K., Harcourt-Smith, W., Gordon, A., Mana, S., Brett, J., Pobiner, B., Green, D., Metallo, A., Rossi, V., and McGinnis, K.J., 2012, A snapshot in time: Determining the age, environment, and social structures of early *Homo sapiens* using trace fossils in volcanoclastic rocks at the Engare Sero footprint site, Lake Natron, Tanzania. Geological Society of America, Cordilleran Section, Abstracts with Program, v. 44, no. 3, p. 13.
- Carmichael, S.K., Heckert, E.A., A.B., Hageman, S.J., Liutkus-Pierce, C.M., Wilson, C.G., and Zimmer, B.W., 2012, Educational field trip stops in the Blue Ridge and surrounding areas utilized by the Department of Geology at Appalachian State University. Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 44, no. 7, p. 591.
- Hatala, K.G., Richmond, B.G., Harcourt-Smith, W.E., Liutkus, C.M., Zimmer, B., 2012, A snapshot of the anatomy, locomotion, and social behavior of early modern humans as evidenced by fossil footprints at Engare Sero, Tanzania. Society of Vertebrate Paleontology Conference, 72nd Annual Meeting, Raleigh, NC.

- Richmond, B.G., Hatala, K.G., Harcourt-Smith, W.E., Rossi, V., Metallo, A., Liutkus, C.M., Pobiner, B.L., Gordon, A., Dingwall, H., Green, D., Olle Moita, G.K., and Brett, J., 2011, Early modern human footprint assemblage from Engare Sero, Tanzania. Paleanthropological Society, Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN.
- Richmond, B.G., Hatala, K.G., Harcourt-Smith, W. E., Rossi, V., Metallo, A., Liutkus, C.M., Pobiner, B.L., Gordon, A., Dingwall, H., Green, D., Zimmer, B., Olle Moita, G., and Brett, J., 2011, Engare Sero, Tanzania: Results from initial studies of a large assemblage of early modern human footprints. Proceedings of the 4th East African Association of Paleanthropology and Paleontology Conference.
- Hatala, K.G., Richmond, B.G., Harcourt-Smith, W.E., Rossi, V., Metallo, A., Liutkus, C.M., Pobiner, B.L., Dingwall, H., Olle Moita, G., Brett, J., 2011, Early modern human footprints from Engare Sero, Tanzania. American Journal of Physical Anthropology, v. 14, S52: 158.
- Whitelaw, M., Shunk, A., and Liutkus, C., 2010, Formation, structure and fill of the Gray Fossil Site Basin. 10th Anniversary of the Gray Fossil Site Conference, Gray, TN. March 2010.
- Scharer, K., Weldon, R., Fumal, T., Liutkus, C., Zachariesen, J., Norman, J., Gibson, B., Alba, S., Weldon, N., Swanson, C., and Hilden, C., 2009, Frazier Mountain: Abundant ruptures, transtension, and sediment, A.D., 1480 to present. 2009 SCEC Annual Meeting Abstracts, 1-126.
- Deocampo, D.M., Hay, R.L., Ashley, G.M., Kyser, T.K., and Liutkus, C.M., 2000, Lacustrine clay diagenesis in Northern Tanzania, and paleoenvironmental applications at Olduvai Gorge. Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 32, no. 7, p. 366.
- Ashley, G.M., Deocampo, D.M., and Liutkus, C.M., 2000, Track records of large mammals in lake-margin wetlands, LMBed II, Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania. International Association of Sedimentologists, Regional Meeting Abstracts, Dublin, Ireland.

Contributed Presentations by Students at Professional Meetings and Symposia

- Hewitt, S., Zimmer, B., Liutkus, C., Carmichael, S., and McGinnis, K., 2010, Field-mapping and petrographic analysis of volcanoes surrounding the Lake Natron Homo sapiens footprint site, northern Tanzania. American Geophysical Union, Abstracts with Program, #V23B-2398.
- Norman, J.R., Liutkus, C.M., Wright, J.D., and Scharer, K.M., 2010, Paleoclimate reconstruction using $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of Holocene carbonates from the Frazier Mountain paleoseismic site, southern California. Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 42, no. 5.
- Norman, J.R., Liutkus, C.M., Wright, J.D., Scharer, K., Weldon, R., and Fumal, T., 2010, Stable isotope ecology of Holocene carbonates from the Frazier Mountain paleoseismic site, southern California. Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 42, no. 1, p. 163.
- Norman, J.R., and Liutkus, C.M., 2010, Stable isotope ecology of Holocene carbonates from the Frazier Mountain paleoseismic site, southern California. 13th Annual Celebration of Student Research and Creative Endeavors, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC, Spring 2010.
- McGinnis, K., and Liutkus, C.M., 2009, Fingerprinting a footprint-bearing volcanic ash in northern Tanzania. Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 41, no. 7.

- McGinnis, K.J., Pruitt, A.H., and Liutkus, C.M., 2008, Independent sedimentological studies on fluvial and lacustrine sediments from the Gray Fossil Site sinkhole, northeastern TN. Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 40, no. 6, p. 167.
- McGinnis, K.J., and Liutkus, C.M., 2008, A provenance study of coarse-grained sediments from the Gray Fossil Site sinkhole, northeastern TN. 4th Annual State of North Carolina Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium, Fall 2008.
- Quick, J.B., and Liutkus, C.M., 2007, Do playa sediments track paleoenvironment?: Sedimentological analyses of Quaternary lake cores from Pilot Valley, NV. Southeast Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 39, no. 2, p. 84.
- Liutkus, C.M., Raines, S.D., and Quick, J.B., 2007, Sedimentological analysis of Quaternary fossil-bearing lakeshore sediments from Pilot Valley, NV: Implications for climate change. Southeast Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Program, v. 39, no. 2, p. 83.

Community Service Presentations

McKinney Teaching Museum outreach program, “*Katrina and the Big Easy- What happened and why?*,” Appalachian State University, Contributing Speaker, 2005.

Professional Service

Critical reviewer isotope paleoecology and sedimentology manuscripts for the *Journal of Human Evolution*, *PALAIOS*, and *Quaternary Science Reviews*.
 Geological Society of America Campus Representative, 2005–Present.
 Reviewer of textbook and supplemental media materials for W.H. Freeman & Co. Publishing.
 Reviewer of textbook materials for McGraw Hill Publishing.

University Service

Faculty Senator, Fall 2012 – Present.
 Morgan Lecture Committee, Fall 2012 – Present.
 Humanities Council, Science Representative, 2011 – Present.
 Outstanding Alumni Committee Member, Spring 2012 – Present.
 Office of Student Research, Advisory Board Member, Fall 2011 – Present.
 Quality Enhancement Plan, Proposal Development Team Member, 2010 – Present.
 International Education Council, Member of Research and Faculty Development Committee, Office of International Education and Development, 2-year term, Summer 2010 – 2012.
 Moderator for Student Creativity and Research Symposium, Office of Student Research, Spring 2010, Spring 2011 (judge).
 Grade Appeals Committee, Academic Affairs, Summer 2008.
 Appalachian Undergraduate Academy of Science, co-Supervisor, Fall 2008.
 Oenology, Viticulture, and Natural Products Program Curriculum Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, 2006 - 2008.
 Strategic Planning Commission, Member of Targeted Research Task Force, Appalachian State University, Spring 2007.

Departmental Service

Environmental Degree Track Revision Committee, 2011-2012.
 Promotion and Tenure Guidelines Revision Committee, 2011-2012.

Chair Search Committee, 2011 – 2012.
Department Personnel Committee, 2008 – 2010, 2011 – Present.
Chair- Recruiting, Scholarship, & Retention Committee, 2006 – Present.
Geology Club Advisor, 2006 – Present.
Academic Advisor, 2006 – Present.
Blue Ridge Minerals Project, Supervisor (4 students), 2008 – 2009.
Chair- Newsletter Committee, 2006 – 2007.
Jobs Coordinator / Alumni Committee, 2006 – Present.
University Teaching Assistant (UTA) Committee, 2005 – Present.
Curriculum Committee, 2005 – Present.

Community Service

Hosted Wilkes Community College students from “Appalachian Culture” class, Dec. 2011.
Jury Duty, April 2009.
Board of Directors, Member, Watauga Humane Society, June 2009 – December 2009.
Optimists International, Member, Spring 2008 – Spring 2009.

Awards

Nominated for the 2009 Association of Women Geoscientists Outstanding Educator Award.
Nominated for the 2011 “Last Lecture” Award, Appalachian State University.

Professional Society Memberships

Geological Society of America (GSA), Sedimentary Geology and Limnology Divisions, 1999 – Present.
Society for Sedimentary Geology (SEPM), 2000 – Present.
International Association of Sedimentologists (IAS), 2000 – Present.
International Association of Geochemistry (IAGC), 2006 – 2008.