



What did you do over the summer?

Students participate in summer research projects



seawater from the sediment, and examining krill for carbon content and methyl mercury concentrations.

Hammerschmidt said the mercury levels are important because this chemical appears in many types of seafood we consume that come from the ocean, like swordfish and tuna. When humans ingest too much, it can lead to neurological problems and harm unborn

children. Hammerschmidt is one of the few oceanographers in the world who research mercury cycling in the environment.

Jaclyn Klaus, sophomore biology major from Beavercreek, deemed the trip "one of the greatest experiences of my life. The learning experience doing undergraduate research was so much greater than a typical job." She collected sediment to investigate how bacteria on the ocean floor can produce methyl mercury.

"As scientists, we know that mercury levels decrease the farther from land that you go, but we don't really have all the answers to know why this occurs," Hammerschmidt said. "And because seawater has the lowest levels of mercury, it is a real challenge just to detect these amounts. Our goal from this trip, and all the mercury studies we do in the ocean, is to develop a better understanding of the sources of mercury, the effects humans have on these processes, and importance of the continental shelf in affecting mercury levels in water and fish."

For more details, see the trip blog at www.atlanticcruise2010.blogspot.com/

Wright State students uncover Hopewell culture signs during archeology field studies project

Several Wright State students recently concluded nine weeks of field study at the Fort Ancient national historic landmark where they uncovered signs of a civilization believed to be some 2,000 years old.

Robert Riordan, Ph.D., a professor of anthropology/archeology and chair of Wright State's Department of Sociology and Anthropology, directed the project at the site some 30 miles south of Dayton.

"I have always wanted to work at Fort Ancient, and when a large feature that we are now calling the Moorehead Circle was discovered underground by remote sensing techniques, it presented a wonderful opportunity for a field school," explained Riordan, who has directed summer studies at the site since 2006.

Riordan said the digging by students has revealed the Moorehead Circle to be a large circular structure some 60 meters in diameter. They have found two to three sets of rings of vertically set wooden posts, each some three feet deep and held in place by limestone from the nearby Little Miami River, 250 feet below the enclosure.

"While we believe that this was an extremely important place where religious rituals were conducted, we unfortunately don't have the data that would tell us what form those rituals may have taken," Riordan said. Archeologists believe it was built by Indians of the Hopewell culture, the dominant culture in midwestern and eastern North America from 100 B.C. to A.D. 400.

Among the field study students was Meghan Palik, a Wright State junior from Wilmington majoring in liberal studies. "I got involved in this because I want to be an archeologist," she said. "I'm really interested in past cultures and finding out how the Hopewell lived," she added when taking a break on a post hole dig.

"What did you do over the summer?" is a typical question that many students are asked when they return for Fall Quarter classes. Several undergraduate students at Wright State University may have a different response than most because they spent a portion of their summer vacation in the field, digging up the past, or in the seas, testing the elements. These students had the opportunity to work with Wright State professors on two important research projects, something that is somewhat unheard of for undergraduate students.

Here are their stories:

Wright State students study mercury levels in the Atlantic Ocean

A group of Wright State students, under the direction of Chad Hammerschmidt, Ph.D., embarked on a two-week trip onboard the *RV Oceanus*, investigating mercury levels in the Atlantic Ocean.

Their duties included experiments on photodecomposition of methyl mercury in seawater, collecting sediment to determine how much mercury is entering the



Wright State to participate in upcoming virtual college fair events

Wright State University is encouraging students, parents, and guidance counselors to learn more about the university from the comfort of their home or office during a series of upcoming virtual college fairs.

Tune in to www.collegeweeklive.com during one of the following events to chat live with admissions representatives from Wright State University, download information on majors, watch live video chats from current students, and more.

These virtual college fairs are a great alternative for those who cannot travel to a physical college fair. They also complement an in-person visit and allow visitors to ask any additional questions.

Visit www.collegeweeklive.com to sign up for one of these free events:

Ohio Day: October 13, 2010

Wright State will be one of several Ohio colleges and universities participating in this event.

Fall National Event: November 3–4, 2010

Wright State's Virtual Open House: January 19, 2011

Admissions representatives from Wright State's undergraduate, graduate, and international studies offices, as well as a representative from the Wright State Lake Campus, will be available to answer your questions.

Visit www.wright.edu/admissions/chat for more information about virtual college fairs.

What's new @ Wright State?

You can find news, events, and campus highlights at:

ON THE WEB www.wright.edu/announce

Raider Open House dates announced

During the Raider Open House, students interested in Wright State can discuss their academic goals and interests with members of the faculty, take a campus tour, and learn more about college life. Information sessions on financial aid, housing, student life, and more are offered throughout the day.

Encourage your students to visit one of the following Raider Open House events:

- Saturday, November 6, 2010, from 9 a.m. to noon, in the Wright State Student Union
- Saturday, March 5, 2011, from 9 a.m. to noon, in the Wright State Student Union

Wright State student profile:

Brendan Eck

Hometown: Eaton, Ohio

(Eaton High School)

Major: Physics and Mathematics

Brendan is one of the talented students in our College of Science and Mathematics who is taking advantage of all that Wright State has to offer both in and out of the classroom.

What were the biggest factors in your decision to attend Wright State?

There are a mountain of factors that go into the college search, but my selection boiled down to three things: career opportunity, cost, and campus life.

How has your life changed since beginning your studies at Wright State?

A lot of people say I've matured, or at least become more responsible. College forces you to manage your own life and be yourself. In the professional sense, I am participating in an internship at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, which I likely wouldn't be able to do anywhere else. Wright State has jump-started my career in physics!

What has your experience been like living on campus?

Living on campus is a huge convenience and advantage. Being able to walk to classes or meet people at a moment's notice is the big seller to me, and being a quick drive away from the mall and the base make it a prime location for my professional and social life. The community always has something to do, and it usually involves free food!



How do your parents/family feel about the education you are receiving at Wright State?

They're very impressed! They will often call me and mention terahertz research or other highlights every time they hit the news. We all know Wright State was the best choice for my field.

What is the best piece of advice you would give a student who is considering Wright State?

Look into your program and people who are or were in it! There are great opportunities for those who seek them out in every major, but especially STEM fields! If you're a new student and don't know anyone, look up an organization that sounds good to you! You'll make lifelong friends in college—carpe diem!

Send your students to college for a day!

Raider Academic Day

Friday, October 15, 2010

Want the scoop about Wright State University? Who better to talk to than current Wright State students? Schedule a visit on October 15, at either 10 a.m. or 2 p.m., and take a tour, listen to our informative admissions presentation, and speak with student ambassadors from all of the academic departments.

Presentations and the tour will last approximately two hours.

Please call (800) 247-1770 to register or visit www.wright.edu/admissions/visit for more information about campus tours.



Did you know?...

For the fourth year in a row, Wright State University has been named among the best colleges in the Midwest by *The Princeton Review*,

which cited the school's challenging academic experience and personal attention to students.

Comments and a profile of Wright State can be viewed on *The Princeton Review* website at www.princetonreview.com/best-regional-colleges.aspx after registering with the website for free.

In addition, for the third year in a row, Wright State University is among 260 Best National Universities listed in the annual "America's Best Colleges" rankings by *U.S. News and World Report*.



Explore Engineering Day

Monday, October 11, 2010

Students are invited to learn more about the Wright State University College of Engineering and Computer Science during the Explore Engineering Day, on Monday, October 11, from 1:30 to 5 p.m., in the Wright State University Student Union.

Interested students will get an overview of our majors, co-op programs, scholarships, and more. Students are also invited to tour the Russ Engineering Center and the Wright State campus.

To register, visit <https://www.engineering.wright.edu/cecs/explore-egr-day-registration-form.phtml>



Undergrads get up-close view of knee surgery

There was no dozing off among the Wright State University students in this freshman class.

The grinding whir of bone saws and drills filled the air as orthopaedic surgeon Matthew W. Lawless demonstrated knee-replacement surgery on a set of synthetic bones. Then came the real thing—a taped video of an actual knee operation.

The knee was sliced open, and the inner muscle and tissue around the bone blossomed into the camera. All eyes in the class of 50 students were drilled into the screen, watching the flurry of action as clamps, forceps, a chisel and a suction tube worked their surgical magic.

"At first there was the natural feeling of just the aversion of seeing the inside of someone's body," said Ethan Blackford, a 19-year-old pre-medical student from Beavercreek. "But I was able to get past that pretty quickly to realize actually what was going on and the surgical nature of it."

The biomedical engineering class, more than half composed of pre-med students, is taught by Tarun Goswami, D.Sc., who holds a joint appointment in the College of Engineering and Computer Science and the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation within the Boonshoft School of Medicine.

Goswami said it is highly unusual for first-year students to be exposed to such knee surgery, as they were in the June 1 class.

"Orthopaedics is the one discipline where you have the merger of biomedical engineering and surgery," Goswami said. "What I'm trying to do is connect my students with the surgery field so they see what the surgeons are doing and how we can improve the surgical procedures, the instruments, the devices."

Sherrie Webb, a biomedical engineering major, said she had been afraid that the graphic nature of the video would nauseate her, but it didn't. She said she got caught up in the excitement of the engineering aspect of knee replacement.

"Look at all the tools that have been developed to do the surgery," said Webb, 30, of Troy. "Look at what has been developed by engineers to replace someone's knee. I can't wait to get into that. It was really exciting."

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

October 2010

- 8 – SAT registration deadline for November 2010 test
- 9 – SAT national test
- 11 – Explore Engineering Day
- 13 – CollegeWeekLive.com Ohio Day
- 15 – Raider Academic Day
- 23 – ACT national test

November 2010

- 3–4 – CollegeWeekLive.com Virtual College Fair
- 5 – ACT registration deadline for December 2010 test
- 5 – SAT registration deadline for December 2010 test
- 6 – Raider Open House
- 6 – SAT national test
- 11 – Veterans' Day (university closed)
- 20 – Last day of Fall Quarter 2010
- 29 – First day of Intersession 2010

December 2010

- 4 – SAT national test
- 11 – ACT national test
- 17 – Last day of Intersession 2010
- 23 – SAT registration deadline for January 2011 test

Admissions deadline

Applications are processed year round for new students, but transfer and returning students with a GPA below 2.0 should pay close attention to petition deadlines. Decisions regarding admission to Wright State are usually made within two weeks.

Housing deadline

Housing is granted on a first-come, first-served basis. Although applications are accepted on a year-round basis, it is recommended that students submit an application and prepayment in the fall to ensure the best possible housing options. Students need to be admitted to the university before applying for housing.

Financial Aid deadline

Filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online is the quickest and most convenient method for submitting financial information. Wright State's Title IV code for the FAFSA is 003078. The priority deadline for the FAFSA at Wright State is February 15, 2011.