

**Geosciences Board of Advisors  
Anniversary Article  
December 4, 2006**

**Geosciences Advisory Board Rocks On**

Greetings from the Geosciences Board of Advisors! We want you—the OSU Geosciences supporters and alums, to know what we have been up to, and to hopefully engage your interest and your help.

Dru Hobbs Butler, (MS Geography 1980) serving as Chair, described the purpose of the Board, “We are here to help the students, faculty and administration make the Geosciences Program successful today and in the future. Our members have diverse education and professional experience and we work together to add value in different ways. We help students with jobs and internships; we provide perspective on the Department’s evolving mission and priorities, assist with fund-raising and serve as a sounding board for the Department leadership.”

In order to be an objective group, the Board is independent of the Department and University. The Board is made up of 15-18 OSU Geography and Geology alumni. (Look at the nearby pages to see what the process for nomination are – we are always looking for new people willing to help.

The Board meets twice a year at OSU and works with the Department on an as-needed basis throughout the year. The Board works closely with Dr. Roger Nielsen, the Department of Geosciences Chair.

The Board celebrated its five year anniversary at the biannual meeting in October 2006. There are several “charter” members who have been on the board since it’s creation; Dru Butler, Tim Lauer, Mike Gerstenberger, Ken Barrow, John Bubb, and Steven Dole. The recent meeting was both productive and fun, Dr. Bob Lillie hosted a Cajun dinner party at his mountain home, and there was a Geosciences tailgater party on the steps of good old Wilkinson Hall (See Photos!) and a football game in the awesome new Reser Stadium. (The Beavers lost to the Cougars but it was still a lot of fun – and was widely seen as the turnaround game for our successful season)

The October 2006 meeting included these issues; E-Campus (that would mean on-line courses for you other old timers), the GIS certificate process, lab safety, strategic planning/5 year goals for Geosciences, and budget and fundraising priorities. Each meeting includes interactions with those we consider the most important part of our work, the faculty and the students. Faculty participation in this meeting was great, and we need to find more creative ways to engage the students in our future meetings.

So, visit the department’s website, <http://www.geo.oregonstate.edu/> to learn more. The faculty research information (WOW!), interdisciplinary collaboration, and on-line access to Department resources (mineral collection photos to on-line course offerings) make it a

worthwhile visit. Your contributions to the department, of time, resources and contacts for students and faculty are most appreciated. When the OSU Foundation contacts you, please consider a contribution to the Department, your dollars will make a real difference. Best wishes for the holiday season!



Board members Brian Butler (left) and Tim Lauer enjoy some post meeting sunshine at Wilkinson Hall



Board members Janine Castro (left) and Dru Butler (center), with Professor Anita Grunder at the Department tailgate party before the OSU-WSU football game.