

Department of Geosciences Partners With Fort Valley State University

The Department of Geosciences and the Cooperative Developmental Energy Program (CDEP) at Fort Valley State University (FVSU) have formally approved a 3+2 degree program. Students in the program conduct three years of coursework with an emphasis on chemistry or math at FVSU, then transfer to Penn State University Park (UP) for two years of coursework with an emphasis on geosciences. At the end of the two years, students graduate with two B.S. degrees, one from FVSU in Chemistry/Math, and one from PSU in Geosciences. The first group of FVSU students arrived at UP in Fall 2006.



FVSU students visit Beaver Stadium, March 2006

the University of Oklahoma and the University of Texas at Austin. In addition to Dr. Crumbly, the program is served by long-term administrator, Jackie Hodges and Geoscience Professor, Dr. Aditya Kar, a petrologist by training who received his PhD from the University of Oklahoma. The dual-degree programs have a remarkable track record of educating

highly-successful minority petroleum geoscientists and engineers.

The PSU part of the dual degree program has already solicited generous funding from the petroleum industry.



FVSU students on field trip in PA, March 2006

Science and engineering. Professor Isaac Crumbly (now a Vice President at FVSU) founded the Cooperative Developmental Energy Program at FVSU in Georgia in 1983. CDEP's objective is to develop a long-term, mutually-beneficial, relationship between FVSU and the nation's energy industry to create a technology-oriented labor base for minorities and women. Two key components of CDEP are dual-degree programs in engineering, geosciences, and health physics and the Math Science and Engineering Academy (MSEA), a pipeline program to recruit and retain talented students. CDEP has existing dual-degree Earth Science programs with

Atlanta) has a national reputation for educating some of the brightest minority students in Earth

The first three dual-degree students to arrive at UP are LaMichelle Arnold, a Math graduate from Hayward, CA; Enrique Perez, a Math major from Washington, GA; and Leon Smith, a Chemistry major from Warner Robbins, GA. Our long-term plan is to recruit students from Pennsylvania and elsewhere to the FVSU-PSU dual-degree program. We are working with the Penn

State Upward Bound Math and Science Program, which brings highly talented minority students to UP for summer research and education programs.

Our goal is to provide research "bridge" programs at UP for the dual-degree students in the summers prior to their transfer to Penn State. Penn State Geosciences is delighted to be collaborating with the prestigious Fort Valley State University-CDEP program.



FVSU students and faculty with Geosciences faculty, February 2006