

*2025
Wilson
Awards
Banquet*



PennState
College of Earth
and Mineral Sciences

2025
Wilson Awards
Banquet



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

Sunday, March 30, 2025

5 p.m. Reception

6 p.m. Dinner

Welcome

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



Promotion and Tenure

Melissa Gervais, Associate Professor of Meteorology and
Atmospheric Science

Adrienne Goldsberry, Associate Teaching Professor of
Geography

Elizabeth Hajek, Professor of Geosciences

Louisa Holmes, Associate Professor of Geography and
Demography

Kyle Homman, Assistant Research Professor of Geosciences

Sarah Ivory, Associate Professor of Geosciences

Matthew Kumjian, Professor of Meteorology

Zhen Lei, Professor of Energy and Environmental Economics

Wenjie Li, Associate Research Professor of Materials Science and
Engineering

Robert Lydick, Assistant Teaching Professor of Meteorology and
Atmospheric Science

Ying Pan, Associate Professor of Meteorology and Atmospheric
Science

Arthur Person, Associate Research Professor of Meteorology and
Atmospheric Science

Anthony Robinson, Professor of Geography

Steven Seman, Associate Teaching Professor of Meteorology and
Atmospheric Science

Douglas Wolfe, Professor of Materials Science and Engineering

Colin Zarzycki, Associate Professor of Meteorology and Climate
Dynamics

Michelle Zeiders, Associate Teaching Professor of Geography

25-Year Service Awards

- James Detwiler**, Associate Teaching Professor of Geography
- Joan Redwing**, Distinguished Professor of Materials Science and Engineering and Electrical Engineering
- Ronald Redwing**, Associate Teaching Professor of Materials Science and Engineering
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Retirements

- Susan Brantley**, Atherton Professor and Evan Pugh University Professor Emerita of Geosciences
- James Detwiler**, Associate Teaching Professor of Geography
- Jenni Evans**, Professor Emerita of Meteorology and Atmospheric Science
- Serguei Lvov**, Professor Emeritus of Energy and Mineral Engineering
- Bruce Miller**, Research Professor Emeritus, Energy Institute
- Ronald Wasco**, Researcher, Energy Institute
-

Gladys Snyder Faculty Enrichment Grants



Jingchun Chen
Assistant Teaching Professor, Ryan Family Student Center
“Math Learning Saturday Program”



Mark Ortiz
Assistant Professor of Geography
“Who Are We Sustaining For: Leveraging Student-Centered Research to Enhance Sustainability Education and Outreach in the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences”

George H. Deike, Jr. Research Grants



Thandazile Moyo

Assistant Professor of Energy and Mineral
Engineering

**“Overcoming Challenges in Processing
Refractory Lean Ores: Integrating Cyclic Stress
with Cavitation Effects in Process Design”**



Yunji Zhang

Assistant Professor of Meteorology and
Atmospheric Science

**“Understanding Forecast Errors in Rapidly
Weakening Tropical Cyclones using Satellite
Observations and Data Assimilation”**



E. Willard and Ruby S. Miller Faculty Fellow



Stephanie Law

Associate Professor of Materials Science and
Engineering

**“Hyperlenses for Infrared Superresolution
Imaging”**

Wilson Research Initiation Grants



Carlos Lopez

Assistant Professor of Materials Science
and Engineering

**“Binding of Superchaotropic and Hydrophobic
Ions to Cellulose Ethers”**



Olumide Ogunmodimu

Assistant Professor of Energy and
Mineral Engineering

**“Repurposing Coal Refuse Underlay:
Mechanical Activation for Lithium Extraction
and Silica Amorphization as a Sustainable
Cement Additive”**



College-level Student Awards

Jay M. and Katherine DeFinis Award for Outstanding Student Leadership

Undergraduate: **Danielle Dedeaux**, Geography
Graduate: **Jessica Sly**, Materials Science and Engineering

Ellen Steidle Achievement Award

Senior: **Danielle Dedeaux**, Geography
Juniors: **Julia Angerman**, Meteorology and Atmospheric
Science
Irena Potochny, Materials Science and Engineering

Dean Edward Steidle Memorial Scholar Award

Parker Przybylski, Geobiology

Student Marshal

Parker Przybylski, B.S. Geobiology

*Parker will graduate Summa Cum Laude
with a 4.0 cumulative GPA*

Engineering Honor Marshal

Shahad A. Alsadoon, B.S. Petroleum and
Natural Gas Engineering

*Shahad will graduate Summa Cum Laude
with a 4.0 cumulative GPA*

EMSAGE Laureates

Fall 2024 EMSAGE Laureates

- **Al-Nabil Al Raisi**, Energy Engineering
- **Camilla Baumer**, Geography
- **Maya Berry**, Energy and Sustainability Policy
- **Ayden Caulder**, Materials Science and Engineering
- **Justin Hassel**, Meteorology and Atmospheric Science
- **Jacqueline Kiszka**, Meteorology and Atmospheric Science
- **Bridie Lawall**, Geography
- **Tanner Marchant**, Energy Engineering
- **Arlo Nemerson**, Geography
- **Brenda Paull**, Meteorology and Atmospheric Science
- **Parker Przybylski**, Geobiology
- **Bridget Reheard**, Geosciences
- **Nicholas Richardson**, Materials Science and Engineering
- **Hannah Ruisi**, Meteorology and Atmospheric Science
- **Kaitlyn Toth**, Earth Science and Policy
- **Nate Vincent**, Geography

Spring 2025 EMSAGE Laureates

- **Carlin Blash**, Earth Sciences
- **Julianne Chen**, Materials Science and Engineering
- **Katherine Seidel**, Energy Systems Engineering
- **Amelia Wyckoff**, Geography

*G. Montgomery and Marion Mitchell
Award for Innovative Teaching*



Nelson Dzade

Assistant Professor of Energy
and Mineral Engineering



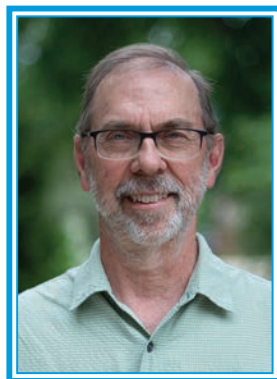
Darren Pagan

Assistant Professor of Materials
Science and Engineering

*Wilson Award for
Excellence in Teaching*

Mark Patzkowsky

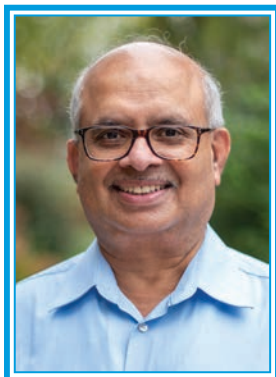
Professor of Geosciences



*Wilson Award for
Outstanding Service*

Sarma Pisupati

Professor of Energy and Mineral
Engineering



*George H. K. Schenck
Teaching Assistant Award*



Luke LeBel

Meteorology and Atmospheric
Science



Aiden Ross

Materials Science and
Engineering



*Faculty Advising
Award*

Charles Ammon

Professor of Geosciences

*Faculty Mentoring
Award*

Barbara Arnold

Professor of Practice in Mining
Engineering





*Wilson Award for
Excellence in Research*

Allison Beese

Professor of Materials Science
and Engineering, and Mechanical
Engineering



*Postdoctoral Excellence in Research
Award*



Jena Jenkins

Meteorology and Atmospheric
Science



Pengliang Yu

Energy and Mineral Engineering

*Catherine Lyons Diversity,
Equity and Inclusion
Undergraduate Student
Award*

Undergraduate Award

Bernardo Elizondo
Energy Engineering



*Catherine Lyons Diversity,
Equity and Inclusion Graduate
Student Award*

Graduate Award

Cierra Chandler
Materials Science and Engineering

*Charles Hosler Diversity,
Equity and Inclusion Faculty
Award*

Bronwen Powell

Associate Professor of Geography and
African Studies





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

Jon-Paul Maria

Professor of Materials Science and
Engineering

*National Academy of Engineering
New Members*



Susan Brantley, Atherton Professor and Evan Pugh University Professor Emerita of Geosciences; **Long-Qing Chen**, Donald W. Hamer Professor of Materials Science and Engineering; and **Russell Johns**, George E. Trimble Chair of Energy and Mineral Sciences and Professor of Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering.

Congratulations

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.”

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UBR EMS 25-10.



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