THE COLLEGE OF ATMOSPHERIC AND GEOGRAPHIC SCIENCES

Department of Geography & Environmental Sustainability | Geoinformatics Program | School of Meteorology

MONDAY MEMO

This is the FOURTEENTH week of class.

A&GS STUDENT AWARDS RECEPTION

You are all invited to attend the annual College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences Student Awards Reception, which takes place **THIS Thursday**, April 19, from 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM in the NWC Atrium. Students receiving scholarships and awards will be contacted by their academic unit. Everyone is encouraged to attend and cheer on your fellow students while enjoying refreshments. It’s a great time to gather as a group before finals – hope to see you there!
CONGRATULATIONS!

The Phi Beta Kappa Society was founded on December 5, 1776 at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. Its mission was to “celebrate and advocate excellence in the liberal arts & sciences,” inducting the “most outstanding students ... from America’s leading colleges and universities.” Since then, 17 U.S. Presidents, 37 U.S. Supreme Court Justices, 1 NFL MVP, 1 Heisman Trophy winner, and 136 Nobel Laureates have been inducted – and now six A&GS spring degree candidates will join that list as well. Please join us in congratulating:

- Matthew Mars Chapman – BA in Geography
- Heather Hollen Jones – BS in Geography
- Natalie Daab – BS in Meteorology
- Matthew Day – BS in Meteorology
- Stacey Hitchcock – BS in Meteorology
- Sarah Stough – BS in Meteorology

COMMENCEMENT AND CONVOCATION INVITATIONS

Invitations to the 2012 Commencement and A&GS Convocation will go out today. They will be sent to the local address you listed on your graduation application. An RSVP card will be included with your invitation; we would greatly appreciate it if you let us know the information requested on the card as soon as possible. Many of you have already let us know about the number of guests you’ll be bringing to
convocation (thanks!), which really helped with the preliminary count. We now need an official tally, so please return the RSVP card promptly!

**STORMCHASING**

Just a reminder of the College’s policy on storm chasing, now that the season is upon us:

“The University of Oklahoma’s College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences does not condone or encourage storm chasing by students. Anyone who chooses to chase storms does so at their own risk and should not imply that their activities are connected with the University. The only possible exception is when students are officially included in storm intercept activities conducted as part of well-planned and safety-trained scientific projects lead by faculty or scientists in the National Weather Center research units. Storm chasing is not part of the School of Meteorology course curriculum nor should such activities take precedence over the academic activities of the School such as coursework and attending classes and seminars.”

**RELAY FOR LIFE**

Mark your calendars for the American Cancer Society’s 13th annual Relay for Life, this Saturday, April 21, from 7:00 PM to 7:00 AM on the South Oval. It will be a fun-filled evening of food, games and activities where people camp out overnight and take turns walking around a track to raise money to assist in the fight against cancer. To learn more about the event, please visit www.ou.edu/relay or contact relay@ou.edu.
OU’s Student Learning Center, a department of University College, offers free, walk-in seminars to help students hone college success skills.

This week’s schedule:

**Monday, April 16, 2012**  
“Test-Taking Strategies”  
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM  
Housing Learning Center

**Tuesday, April 17, 2012**  
“Deciding on a Major or Minor”  
4:30 PM – 5:30 PM  
Wagner Hall, Room 245

The Housing Learning Center is located at Adams Residence, Muldrow Tower 105.

And don’t forget OU’s excellent tutoring resources! For more information, go here: [http://www.ou.edu/graduatesooner/home/resources/tutoring.html](http://www.ou.edu/graduatesooner/home/resources/tutoring.html)

The School of Meteorology Help Desk is also available in NWC 5700 during the following hours this spring:

- **Sunday:** 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
- **Monday:** 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
- **Tuesday:** 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
- **Wednesday:** 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
- **Thursday:** 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**On this Day in History:**

In **1705**, Queen Anne of England knighted Isaac Newton at Trinity College.

In **1854**, San Salvador was destroyed by an earthquake.

In **1912**, American Harriet Quimby became the first woman pilot to cross the English Channel. She headed for France in a plane she had never flown before and a compass she had just learned how to use. Despite poor visibility and fog, Quimby landed 59 minutes later near Hardelot, France. Sadly, she died the same year, on July 1, 1912, when she lost control of her plane at a flying exhibition near Quincy, Mass. She was the first American woman to become a licensed pilot, but her career as a pilot lasted a mere 11 months.

In **1922**, Annie Oakley set a record by breaking 100 clay targets in a row.
In 1943, Albert Hoffman, a Swiss chemist working at the Sandoz pharmaceutical research laboratory in Basel, Switzerland, accidentally consumed a synthetic drug he had created in 1938 as part of his research into the medicinal value of lysergic acid compounds. After consuming the drug, Hoffman noted “unusual sensations and hallucinations.” He subsequently published a paper, introducing the world to LSD.

In 1947, the first zoom lens for the television camera was demonstrated by the National Broadcasting Company in New York City. Previously, moving into a closeup shot required moving the entire camera toward the actor or object, or away for a long-distance shot. Now the same zoom effects could be produced using the Zoomar lens, which revolutionized TV sports.

In 1972, Apollo 16, the fifth of six U.S. lunar landing missions, was successfully launched on its 238,000-mile journey to the moon. On April 20, astronauts John W. Young and Charles M. Duke descended to the lunar surface from Apollo 16, which remained in orbit around the moon with a third astronaut, Thomas K. Mattingly, in command.

In 1990, many federal tax returns being loaded into a truck were blown away in Oklahoma City by a violent thunderstorm with nearly 100-mph wind gusts. Will Rogers Airport in Oklahoma City recorded wind gusts to 93 mph, the strongest there in 24 years.

In 2007, 32 students and teachers died after being gunned down on the campus of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University by Seung Hui Cho, a student at the school who later died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.