

The History of the Hofstra University Geology Department (1935 – 2004)



Drs. Bennington, Radcliffe, Wolff, and Merguerian, March 2004

**Compiled by Dr. Fred Wolff – Student and Faculty Member: 1957 – 2004
Edited and Digitized by Dr. Charles Merguerian – Faculty Member Since 1981**

© 2004

THE HISTORY OF THE HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY GEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

THE ARCHEAN (1935 – 1947)

Academic Year

1935–39

Dr. George I. Finlay – Professor of Geology.

A.B., Harvard (1898); Ph.D., Columbia University (1903)

Hofstra College was an extension of New York University during this interval. There was no Hofstra Bulletin. **Dr. Finlay** was an old timer that probably came to the Hofstra campus to teach a physical science course, to satisfy the science requirement for students.

1939–40

George H. Burnham – Assistant Professor of Physics.

A.B., University of Colorado; M.S. New York University.

Jacob M. Schmidt – Assistant Instructor.

A.B., Phillips University; M.S., University of Oklahoma.

Along with Dr. Finlay, **Professor Burnham** taught Physical Science 1–2 (a year course). Graduating Hofstra seniors needed a science course and this was it!

1940–41

George H. Burnham – Assistant Professor of Physics.

Jacob M. Schmidt – Assistant Instructor.

At this time, our offerings included Geology 1 (Physical) – Geology 2 (Historical) course; 3 hours lecture and 3 hours lab (4 credits).

1941–42

George H. Burnham – Assistant Professor of Physics.

Jacob M. Schmidt – Assistant Instructor.

Dr. John T. Hack – Instructor in Geology.

A.B. (1935); A.M. (1938), Ph.D. (1940), all from Harvard University.

The Geology 1–2 course ran for the whole year. **Dr. Hack** must have been pretty good – as he received all of his degrees from Harvard!

1942–43

George H. Burnham – Assistant Professor of Physics.

Jacob M. Schmidt – Assistant Instructor.

Dr. John T. Hack – Instructor in Geology.

By this time we offered Geology 1 and Geology 2 courses (4 credits each).

1943–45

No Instructors/No Courses.

Last two years of World War II – very few students and fewer instructors.

1945–46

Dr. Loyal F. Ollmann – Chairman of Mathematics.

A.B., Ripon College (1935); M.S., University of Wisconsin (1937), Ph.D., University of Michigan (1939).

Dr. Ollmann taught Physical Science 1 and 2 (3 hours lecture and 3 hours lab – 4 credits). He was Chairman of the Mathematics Department and remained in this position until 1966.



Dr. Loyal F. Ollmann, 1956.

1946–48

No Instructor listed.

General Geology 1 and 2 Courses offered (4 credits). Four biology courses and 8 advanced geology courses also offered for a B.A. Biology – Geology specialization. Instructor was probably Henry A. Curtis.

THE PROTEROZOIC (1947 – 1957)

Start of Geology Program – Curtisian Epoch

Starting in 1947, the Geology Program included the following courses:

Physical Geology – 1	Economic Geology of Metals – 20
Historical Geology – 2	Engineering Geology – 21
Meteorology – 11	Mineralogy – 31
Conservation of Natural Resources – 12	Petrology – 32
Climatology – 13	Geomorphology – 33
Physical Geology of U.S. – 14	Paleontology – 34
Geology and Geography of Long Island – 15	Stratigraphy – 36
Coal and Oil Geology – 17	Economic Geology – 41
Structural Geology – 18	Special Problems – 43–44
Sedimentation – 19	Military Mapping– 46

That's 20 courses! As new ones were added, some were dropped. Only 12 to 14 were in the bulletin at any one time.

Curtisian Epoch

Epoch marked by start of instructor continuity with 7 years of **Henry A. Curtis** and B.A. specialization with Biology–Geology or Chemistry–Geology. Henry A. Curtis started the geology program through the influence of William H. Kay, Lynn Bogue Hunt, and other students.



Henry A. Curtis, 1951.

1947–48

Henry A. Curtis – Instructor in Geology.

A.B., Colgate University (1942), M.S. Hofstra University (1955).

1948–49

Henry A. Curtis – Instructor in Geology

No Geology degree offered but a Biology–Geology specialization.

1949–50

Henry A. Curtis – Instructor in charge.

Austin D. Brixey Jr. – Instructor.

A.B., University of Virginia (1941), A.M. Columbia University (1948).

Hofstra offers the B.A. biology–geology or chemistry–geology specialization.

1950–51

Henry A. Curtis – Instructor in charge.

Taught Geology 15 which included a \$25 fee for plane fare across Long Island.

Joseph A. Puig – Instructor who taught hard rock courses.

A.B. New York University (1948).

Robert A. Finks – Lecturer.

B.S., Queens College, C.U.N.Y. (1947)

Dr. Robert Finks became a paleontologist and professor at Queens College from 1955 to 2002). The Nexus Yearbook finally has pictures of students with their degree and major listed).



Henry A. Curtis, 1952.

1951–52

Henry A. Curtis – Instructor in charge.

Joseph A. Puig – Instructor.

Hofstra Geology offered Geology 1 and 2 plus 8 of 14 advanced courses toward the B.A. Biology–Geology or Chemistry–Geology specialization.

1952–53

Henry A. Curtis – Instructor in charge.

Humbert Revel – Instructor.

B.A., New York University (1949).

Hofstra Geology continued to offer Geology 1 and 2 plus 8 of 14 advanced courses toward the B.A. Biology–Geology or Chemistry–Geology specialization.



Humbert S. Revel, 1955.

1953–54

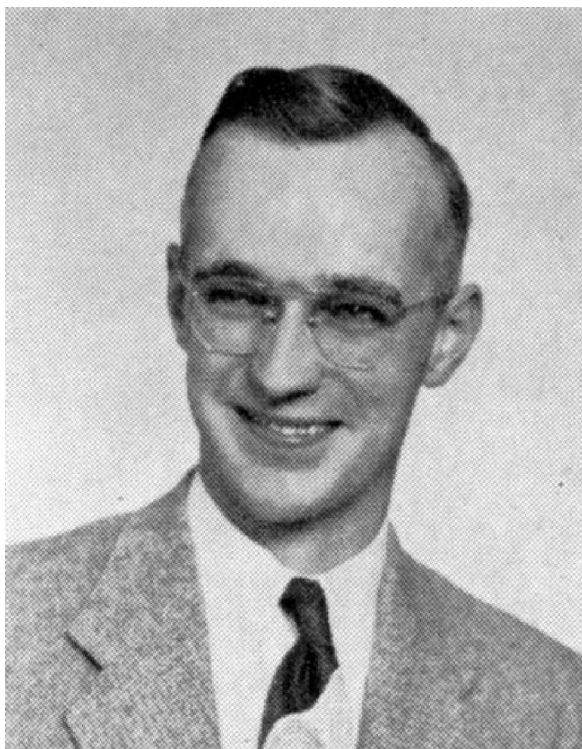
Henry A. Curtis – Instructor in charge.

Humbert S. Revel – Instructor.

James J. Geraghty – Lecturer.

B.S., City College of N.Y. (1949).

James Geraghty received a M.A. from Columbia University became a hydrologist, and started the (now international) geotechnical engineering firm of Geraghty and Miller.



Henry A. Curtis, 1953.

1954–55

Henry A. Curtis – Instructor in charge.

James J. Geraghty – Lecturer.

Humbert S. Revel – Instructor.

Nathaniel M. Perlmutter – Lecturer.

B.A., Brooklyn College (1941); M.A., Columbia University (1953).

N. M. Perlmutter worked as a hydrologist for the U.S. Geological Survey. The Geology Club has its first yearbook picture that includes Humbert Revel and 8 students! (See our accompanying volume on the History of the Graduates and Geology Club.)

1955–56

Dr. Roger H. Charlier – Chairman and Special Lecturer.

B.S., Liege University (1943), License/Science, Bruxelles University (1945), Ph.D., Friedrich–Alexandra (1947); Professional Geologist Certificate, McGill University (1953).

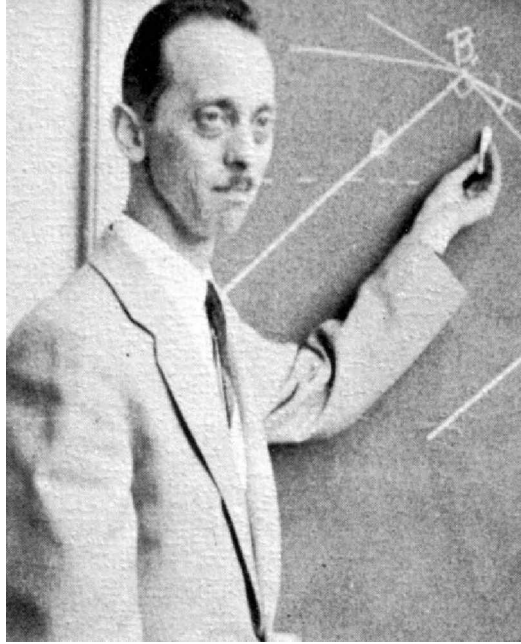
Dr. William J. Croft – Instructor in charge.

B.S. (1950), M.A. (1952), Ph.D. (1954); all from Columbia University.

Humbert S. Revel – Instructor.

Seymour Tilson – Instructor.

B.S., Brooklyn College (1949).



Humbert S. Revel, 1956.



Dr. Roger H. Charlier, 1956

1956–57

Dr. Roger H. Charlier – Chairman.

Humbert S. Revel – Instructor.

Olivia V. Haselau-Perry – Instructor.

A.B., Brooklyn College (1943); A. M., Columbia University (1948).

Department still had the B.A. specialization in Biology–Geology for the last year.



Olivia V. Haselau-Perry, 1957.

THE PALEOZOIC (1957 – 1975)
Includes Durhamian and Wolffian Epochs

Dr. Forrest Durham established the modern foundation for the Geology Department and the geology major. Start of Chairman continuity and choice of B.A. or B.S. in Geology.



Dr. Forrest Durham, 1958.

1957–58

Dr. Forrest Durham – Associate Professor and Chairman of Geology.

A.B. (1948), A.M. (1950), both from Cornell University; Ph.D., Syracuse University (1954).

Dr. Roger Charlier – Special Lecturer (on leave).

Humbert S. Revel – Instructor.

Olivia V. Haselau-Perry – Instructor.

The department offers a B.A. degree in Geology with students required to have 32 semester hours of geology courses to graduate. A Geography program was introduced by Dr. Charlier in 1957. The courses included:

Regional World Geography 11

Principles of Geography 14

Geography and Geology of NY State 15

Senior Seminar 152

Workshop in Geography 153, and,

Geology of Europe, 154.

Dr. Charlier left for “greener pastures” in the mid-west, so the courses and the Geography program were dropped late in 1958.

1958–59

Dr. Forrest Durham – Chairman, Geology Department.

Henry A. Curtis – Lecturer in School of Education.

Humbert S. Revel – Instructor

Olivia V. Haselau-Perry – Instructor.

Dr. Otto Haas – Visiting Professor.

L.L.D., Ph.D., University of Vienna (1914).

Julian Kane – Instructor.

B.A., New York University, M.A., Columbia University (1950).

Dr. Durham recognized the importance of a field program and introduced a summer field course. By the 1958–59 academic year, the Geology Department had 6 instructors. Dr. Haas was a paleontologist working at the American Museum of Natural History. Julian Kane was to teach as an adjunct for 31 years (until 1987). The Geology Program now included the following courses:

Physical Geology – 1

Historical Geology – 2

Structural Geology – 19

Field Methods – 20

Mineralogy – 31

Petrology – 32

Geomorphology – 33

Seminar – 52

Earth Science (for Teachers) – 107/108

Hydrology – 121

Optical Mineralogy – 131

Summer Field Camp – 134

Sedimentation – 135

Paleontology – 137

Advanced Paleontology – 138

Economic Geology – 141/142

Petroleum Geology – 144

Stratigraphy – 146

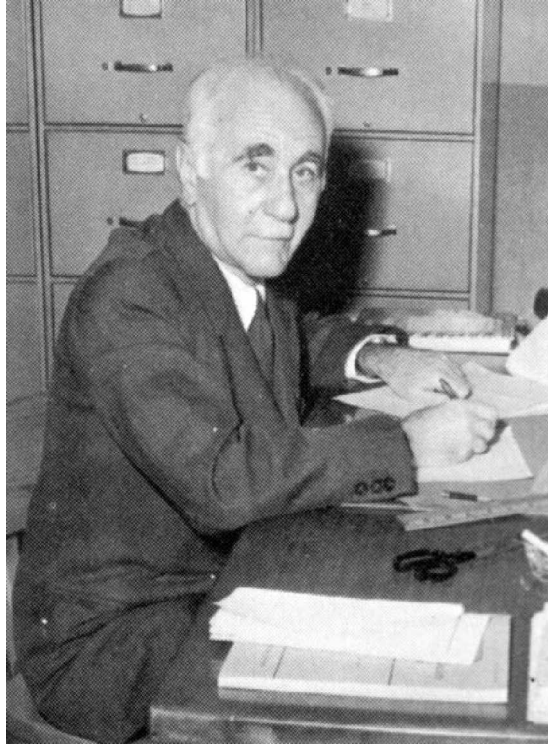
Special Problems – 151/152

Engineering Problems and Economic

Geology – 209

Advanced Historical Geology – 210

Readings in Geology – 251/252.



Dr. Otto Haas, 1959.



Olivia Haselau-Perry, 1959.

1959–60

Dr. Forrest Durham – Associate Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Laurence E. Andrews Jr. – Assistant Professor.

B.S., Virginia Polytechnic Institute (1948); Ph.D., The Johns Hopkins University (1952).

Henry A. Curtis – Lecturer – School of Education.

Dr. Otto Haas – Visiting Professor from Vienna.

Julian Kane – Adjunct Lecturer.



Dr. Laurence Andrews, 1959.

1960–61

Dr. Forrest Durham – Associate Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Laurence E. Andrews Jr. – Assistant Professor.

Humbert Revel – Instructor – (Left Hofstra for U.S.G.S. in Washington D.C.).

Olivia V. Haselau-Perry – Instructor.

Julian Kane – Adjunct Lecturer – (Replacement for H. A. Curtis in 1961).

By this time the department offers B.A. with 10 geology courses and a B.S. degree (12 geology courses + 1 year mathematics, chemistry, and physics and 2 years of language).

1961–62

Dr. Forrest Durham – Associate Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Laurence E. Andrews Jr. – Assistant Professor.

Olivia V. Haselau-Perry – Instructor.

Julian Kane – Adjunct Lecturer.

Ruth L. Rosenthal – Lecturer. (Replaced Humbert Revel.)

B.A., CUNY, Brooklyn (1941); M.A., Hofstra (1959).

Arthur E. Wegweiser – Lecturer. (Replaced Dr. Otto Haas.)

B.A. (1955) and M.A. (1958); both from Hofstra.

1962–63

Dr. Forrest Durham – Associate Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Laurence E. Andrews Jr. – Assistant Professor (On Leave).

Olivia V. Haselau–Perry – Instructor.

Julian Kane – Adjunct Lecturer.

Ruth L. Rosenthal – Lecturer.

Arthur E. Wegweiser – Lecturer.

1963–64

Dr. Forrest Durham – Associate Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Laurence Andrews – Assistant Professor.

Olivia V. Haselau–Perry – Instructor.

Henry A. Curtis – Adjunct Lecturer.

Julian Kane – Adjunct Lecturer.

Ruth Rosenthal – Adjunct Lecturer.

1964–65

Dr. Forrest Durham – Associate Professor – Chairman.

Olivia V. Haselau–Perry – Instructor.

Henry A. Curtis – Adjunct Lecturer.

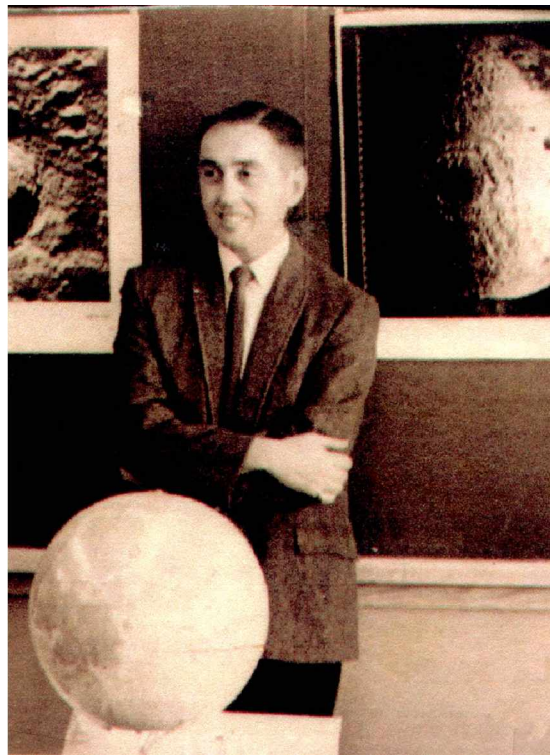
Julian Kane – Adjunct Lecturer.

Ruth Rosenthal – Adjunct Lecturer.

Dr. Laurence Andrews – (Left permanently for Minas Gerais, Brazil as a mining consultant; no replacement for 10 years!).



Olivia V. Haselau–Perry, 1964.



Julian Kane, 1964.



Dr. Forrest Durham, 1964.

1965–66

Dr. Forrest Durham – Associate Professor – Chairman.

Olivia V. Haselau-Perry – Instructor.

Henry A. Curtis – Adjunct Lecturer.

Julian Kane – Adjunct Lecturer.

Ruth Rosenthal – Adjunct Lecturer.

1966–67

Dr. Forrest Durham – Associate Professor – Chairman.

Julian Kane – Adjunct Lecturer.

Ruth Rosenthal – Adjunct Lecturer.

Clifford Bennett – Lecturer (Replaced Henry Curtis, after 18 years of near continuous service).
B.A., Syracuse University, (1949); M.A., Hofstra (1961).

Olivia V. Haselau-Perry – (Left to get Ph.D. in Geography at Columbia University. Believed to have done research in India – but lost all contact with Hofstra).

1967–72

Dr. Forrest Durham – Associate Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Manfred (Fred) Wolff – Assistant Professor.

B.S., Hofstra (1961); M.S., University of Rochester (1963); Ph.D., Cornell University (1967).
(Replaces, after 10 years of dedicated service, Olivia V. Haselau-Perry.)

Julian Kane – Adjunct Lecturer.

Ruth Rosenthal – Adjunct Lecturer.

Clifford Bennett – Lecturer.

Dr. Wolff was the first undergraduate (Class of 1961) to “return to the roost” – others will follow.

Wolffian Epoch

As Chairman for four years, **Dr. Fred Wolff** expanded the variety of courses and convinced the Dean and Provost to keep the B.S. – B.A. Geology major going. His pivotal chairmanship secured the viability and growth of the Geology department for the future.

1972–73

Dr. Fred Wolff – Assistant Professor – (Acting Chairman as Dr. Forrest Durham becomes terminally ill and passes away in 1974.)

Julian Kane – Adjunct Senior Professor

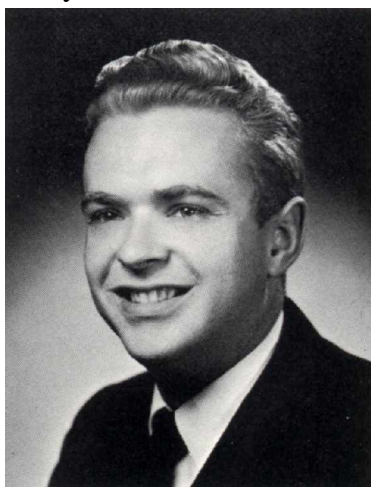
Ruth Rosenthal – Adjunct Lecturer.

Clifford Bennett – Adjunct Lecturer.

Tough times as the department is down to one full-time professor plus three adjuncts – but expansion would follow! Dr. Wolff brought long-standing stability to the department for the first time and introduced new technology in the form of tens of thousands of overhead slides. This stable interval resulted in the development and modification of many new and more specialized courses for the majors including:

Environmental Geology – 10
Environmental Geomorphology – 33
Lunar and Planetary Geology – 115
Geochemistry – 132

Igneous and Metamorphic Petrology – 133
Marine Geology – 136
Sedimentary Petrology – 145
Physical Stratigraphy – 156



**Fred Wolff, as Hofstra Student,
1961.**



**Dr. Fred Wolff, as Faculty
Member, 1975.**

During the Wolffian Epoch updates in the Geology Program included:

Physical and Environmental Geology – 1
Earth History and Crustal Evolution – 2
Historical Geology – 105 (was 170)
Oceanography – 123

Paleoecology – 138
Biostratigraphy – 140
Conservation of Economic Resources – 141

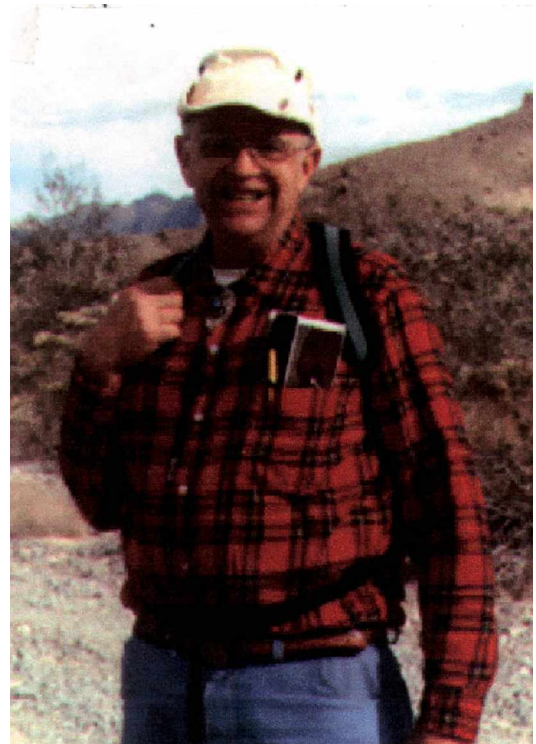
Dr. Wolff Pictures Page



Drs. Forrest Durham and Fred Wolff, 1970.



**Dr. Wolff Examining Turbidites of the
Normanskill, 1975.**



Dr. Wolff in Death Valley, 1996.

1973–74

Dr. Fred Wolff – Assistant Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Usman Sayeed – Assistant Professor.

B.S., Andhara University [India] (1960); M.S., Memorial University [Canada] (1970); Ph.D., University of Nebraska (1973). Dr. Sayeed temporarily replaced, after 15 years of dedicated service, Dr. Forrest Durham).

Julian Kane – Adjunct Senior Professor

Ruth Rosenthal – Adjunct Lecturer.

Clifford Bennett – Adjunct Lecturer.

1974–75

Dr. Fred Wolff – Assistant Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Usman Sayeed – Assistant Professor.

Julian Kane – Adjunct Senior Professor.

Ruth Rosenthal – Adjunct Lecturer.

Sister DeMontfort Babb – Adjunct Lecturer.

B.A., Marywood College (1954); M.A.T., Indiana University (1969).

Dr. Harold E. Roellig – Associate Professor and Adjunct Special Lecturer from Adelphi University.

B.A., Concordia Seminary (1954); Ph.D., Columbia University (1967).

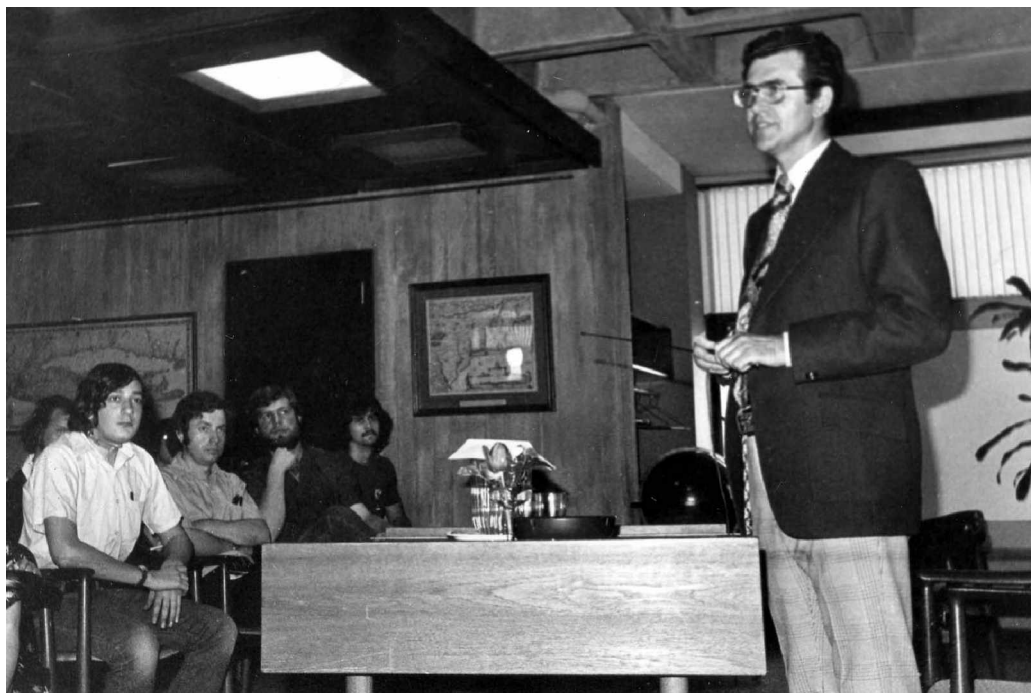


Dr. Wolff, circa 1985.

MESOZOIC (1975-)

Radcliffian Era

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe was appointed as Chairman and has guided the department and diversified programs for 30 years. Under his direction the program included the B.A. degree in Earth Resources (later Environmental Resources) and expanded to four full-time faculty and 5–8 rotating adjunct faculty. Under his dedicated chairmanship the department expanded to become the best classical undergraduate Geology Department in the New York City area.



Dr. Dennis Radcliffe, 1975.

1975–77

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Associate Professor – Chairman.

B.S., University of Durham (1960); M.S., University of Alberta (1964); Ph.D., Queens University of Ontario (1966).

Dr. Fred Wolff – Associate Professor.

Dr. Harold E. Roellig – Associate Professor.

Julian Kane – Senior Professor – Earth Science

Sister DeMontfort Babb – Adjunct Lecturer. (Replaces R. Rosenthal.)

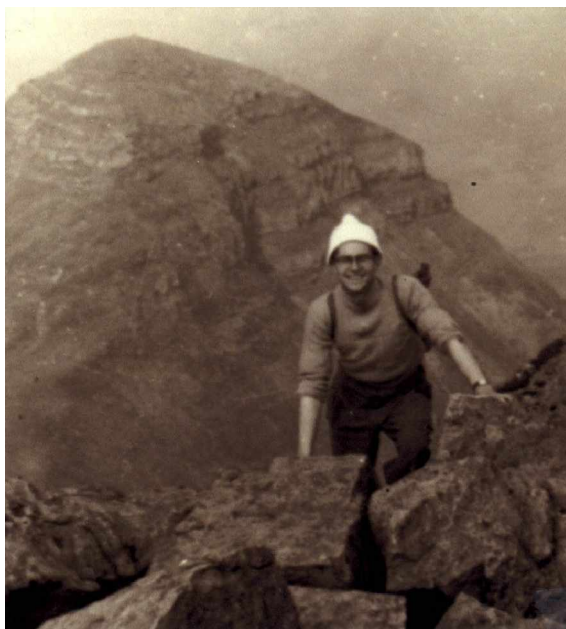
Michael Sichko – Adjunct Lecturer as of Fall 1976. (Our longest consecutive semester adjunct as of 2004, and still going strong!)

B.S., City College – CUNY (1963); M.A., Brooklyn College – CUNY (1966).

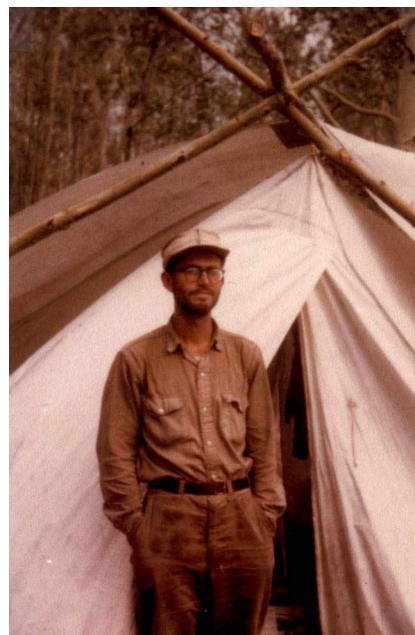
Stanley Schleifer – Adjunct Lecturer. (Fall 1976.)

B.S. (1966); M.A. (1970); both degrees from Brooklyn College, CUNY.

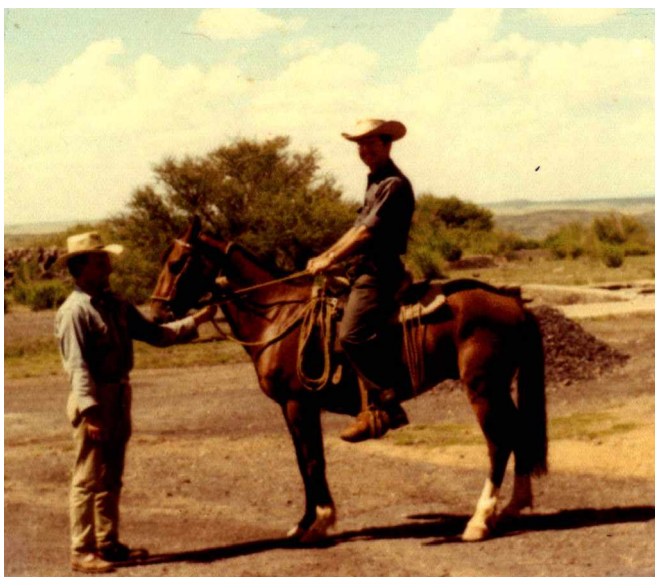
Dr. Radcliffe Pictures Page



Climbing Mt. Askival in western Scotland, Isle of Mull, 1958.



Jan Lake, northern Saskatchewan, 1963.



Talamantes, Chihuahua, Mexico; exploring manganese tungsten deposits, 1971.



Twirlin' the dials of the atomic absorption machine, 1980.



Drs. Fred Wolff and Dennis Radcliffe, 1976.

1977–78

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Associate Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Fred Wolff – Associate Professor.

Dr. Harold E. Roellig – Associate Professor.

Julian Kane – Adjunct Lecturer.

Sister DeMontfort Babb – Adjunct Lecturer.

Michael Sichko – Adjunct Lecturer.

Dr. John Remo – Adjunct Lecturer.

B.S. Manhattan College, (1972); Ph.D., Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute, (1976).



**Standing (L to R): Michael Sichko, Dr. Fred Wolff, Dr. Dennis Radcliffe, Julian Kane.
Seated: Sister deMontfort Babb, and Dr. John Remo, 1978.**

1978–80

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Associate Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Fred Wolff – Associate Professor.

Dr. Harold E. Roellig – Associate Professor.

Julian Kane – Adjunct Lecturer.

Sister DeMontfort Babb – Adjunct Lecturer.

Dr. John Remo – Adjunct Lecturer.

Stanley Schleifer – Adjunct Lecturer.

Michael Sichko – Adjunct Lecturer.

The department forges ahead with a full staff. New and respected adjuncts were added in the 1976-78 period including **Dr. John Remo**, **Stanley Schleifer**, and **Michael Sichko**. Our adjunct instructor cornerstone, **Professor Sichko** has taught at least one course in consecutive semesters from 1976 to 2004 (a 28-year record!) and is still going strong. Although not offering continuous service, Adjunct Professor **Julian Kane** holds the record for longevity (1975 – 1989), a 31 year record. On the full-time staff, **Dr. Fred Wolff** has served from 1967 to 2004, an astounding record of continuous, dedicated service for 37 years! Best yet, **Dr. Wolff** boasts a 47 year involvement with the department including his days as a student (from 1957). The B.A. in Earth Resources is approved and additional courses added include:

Introduction to Earth Resources – 9

Honors Research Essay – 100

Space Geology – 103

Introduction to Geophysics – 120



Sister DeMontfort Babb, 1980.



Julian Kane, 1980.



Faculty (L to R): Dr. Dennis Radcliffe, Dr. Fred Wolff, Michael Sichko, and Dr. John Remo, 1979.

1980–81

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Fred Wolff – Associate Professor.

Dr. Harold E. Roellig – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Sister DeMontfort Babb – Adjunct Assistant Professor

Julian Kane – Adjunct Senior Professor

Dr. John Remo – Adjunct Assistant Professor.

Stanley Schleifer – Adjunct Assistant Professor.

Michael Sichko – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Arthur Loring – Adjunct Assistant Professor.

B.S. (1970); M.A., (1972), both from Brooklyn College – CUNY.



Michael Sichko, 1980.



Dr. Harold E. Roellig, 1980.



Faculty (L to R): Drs. Fred Wolff, Dennis Radcliffe, Arthur Loring, Michael Sichko, 1980.

1981–83

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Fred Wolff – Professor.

Dr. Charles Merguerian – Assistant Professor.

B.S. (1972), M.A. (1977), both from The City College – CUNY; M.Phil. (1983), Ph.D. (1985), both from Lamont–Doherty Geological Observatory of Columbia University.

Julian Kane – Adjunct Senior Professor.

Sister DeMontfort Babb – Adjunct Assistant Professor.

Dr. Harold E. Roellig – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Dr. Charles Rockwell – Adjunct Professor.

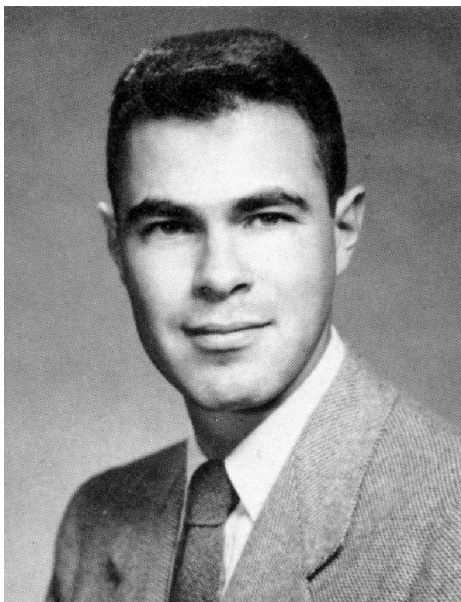
B.A., Hofstra University (1952); M.S. University of Oklahoma (1957); Ph.D., Cornell University (1975).

Charles Merguerian joins staff in January 1981. After nearly 30 years of effort, the department finally gets a third full-time faculty line! Merguerian becomes a welcome addition to the department. His long-standing field research in New York City, Connecticut, and California (while at Columbia University) provide a rigorous field component to the major (a long established tradition with the Hofstra Geology Program) and helps to establish Hofstra Geology as a center for local geologic research.

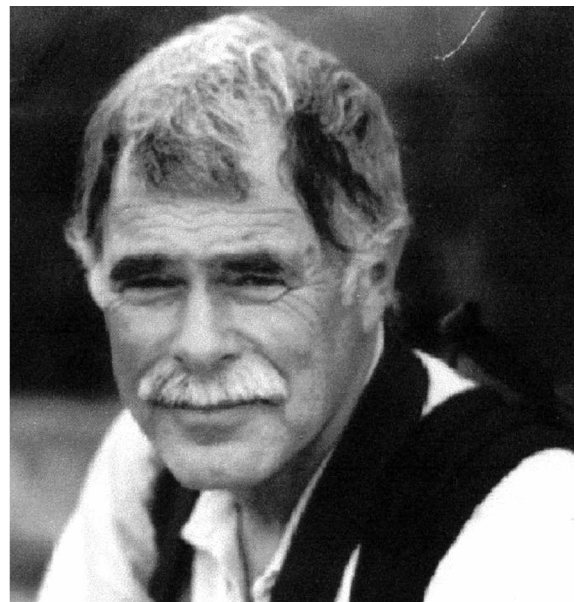
Dr. Chuck Rockwell graduated from Hofstra in 1952 and thus became second former student and oldest geology alumnus to return to the scene of the crime [Dr. Wolff was first!]. Department added a new course – Geology 104, Excursions in Field Geology.



Dr. Charles Merguerian, circa 1995.

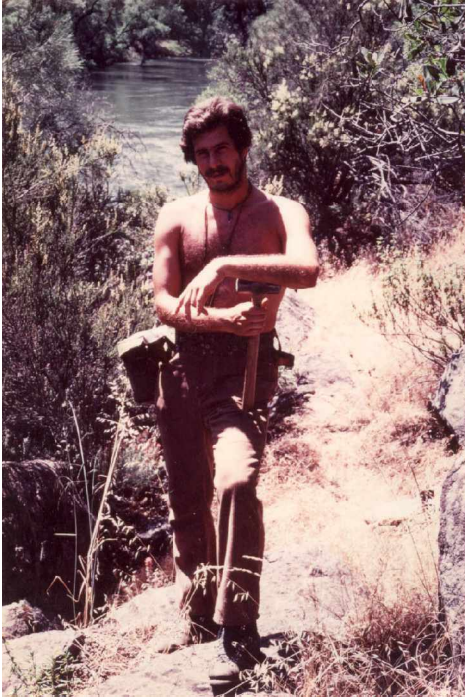


Charles Rockwell, as Student, 1952

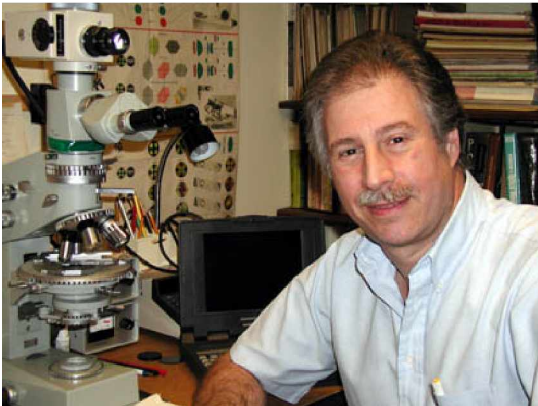


Dr. Charles Rockwell, as Professor, 2000.

Dr. Merguerian Pictures Page

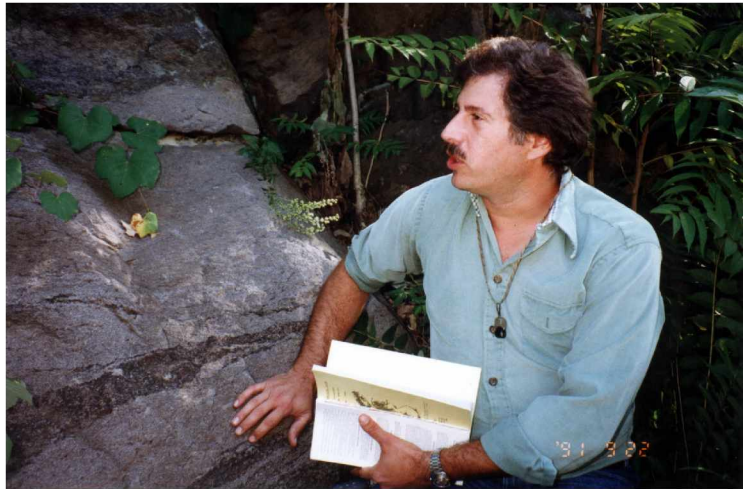


**Taking a Break from Mapping
the Shoo Fly Complex, in
Tuolumne County, CA, 1979.**

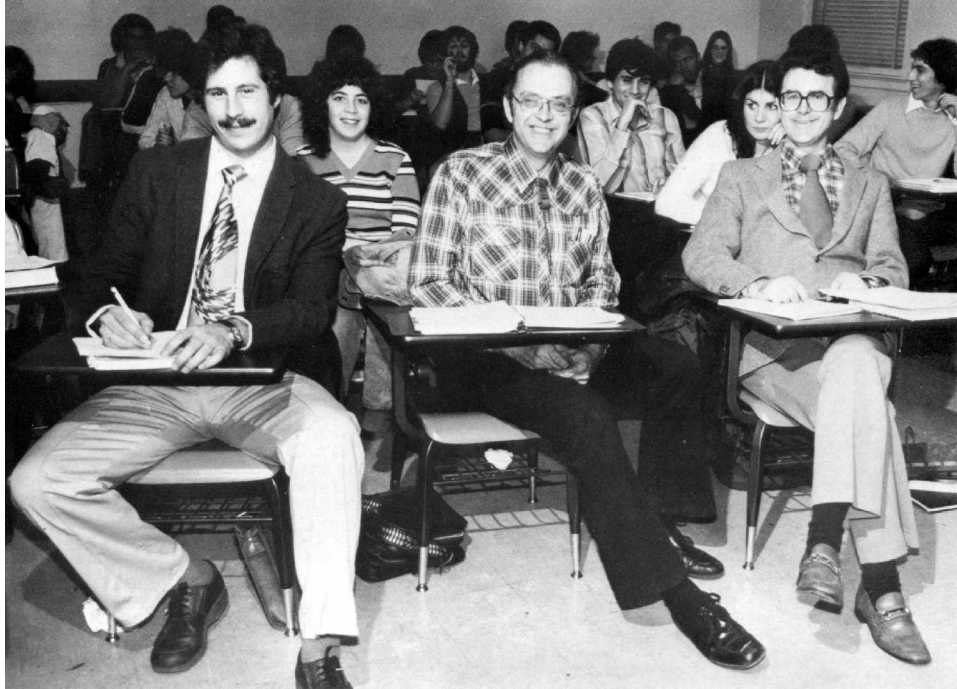


**Let's See What Secrets the Rocks
Want to Divulge Today, 1995.**

**Field Discussions in the Appalachians
On-The-Rocks, 1991.**



Out in the Field with Students, 2000.



Drs. Charles Merguerian, Fred Wolff, and Dennis Radcliffe, 1981.



Faculty (L to R): Drs. Fred Wolff, Charles Merguerian, Dennis Radcliffe, 1982.

1983–84

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Fred Wolff – Professor.

Dr. Charles Merguerian – Assistant Professor.

Julian Kane – Adjunct Senior Professor.

Sister DeMontfort Babb – Adjunct Assistant Professor.

Dr. Harold E. Roellig – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Dr. John Remo – Adjunct Assistant Professor.

Dr. Charles Rockwell – Adjunct Professor.

Department adds Geology 3 – Introduction to Astrogeology.



Faculty (L to R): Drs. Larry, Moe, and Curly [nyuk, nyuk, nyuk], 1983.

1984–85

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Fred Wolff – Professor.

Dr. Charles Merguerian – Assistant Professor.

Julian Kane – Adjunct Senior Professor.

Dr. John Remo – Adjunct Assistant Professor.

Dr. Charles Rockwell – Adjunct Professor.

Michael Sichko – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Dr. Charles Fray – Adjunct Associate Professor.

B.S. (1949), Ph.D. (1955); both from Lamont Geological Observatory, Columbia University. He replaces Dr. Harold Roellig after 11 years of nearly continuous service.

Dr. Richard Liebling – Adjunct Associate Professor. (Replaces Arthur Loring.)
B.A. (1960), M.A. (1961), and Ph.D. (1963), all from Columbia University.

Dr. Simon Schaffel – Adjunct Professor.

B.S., The City College (1948); M.S., Rutgers University (1957); Ph.D. New York University (1971).

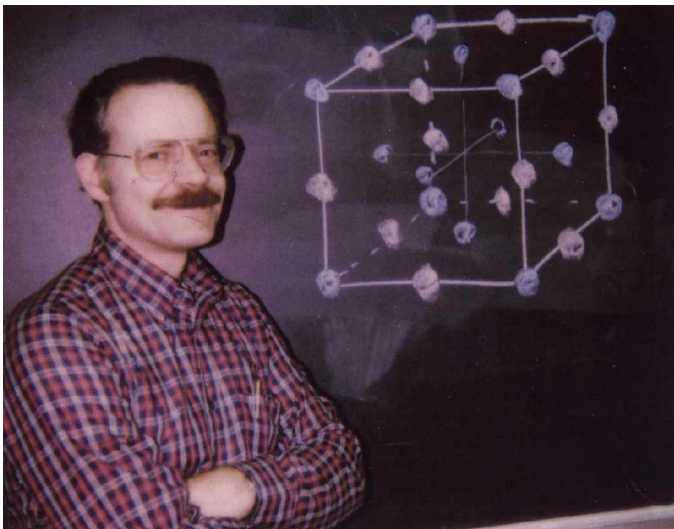
William Dieffenbach – Adjunct Instructor. (Replaces Sister DeMontfort Babb.)

B.A., C.W. Post (1978); M.A. (Education), Queens College – CUNY (1982).

Department adds **Dr. Charles Fray**, **Dr. Richard Liebling**, **Dr. Simon Schaffel** and **William Dieffenbach** as adjuncts and adds two new courses:

Gemology and Gemstones – 4
Geologic Cartographic Techniques – 18

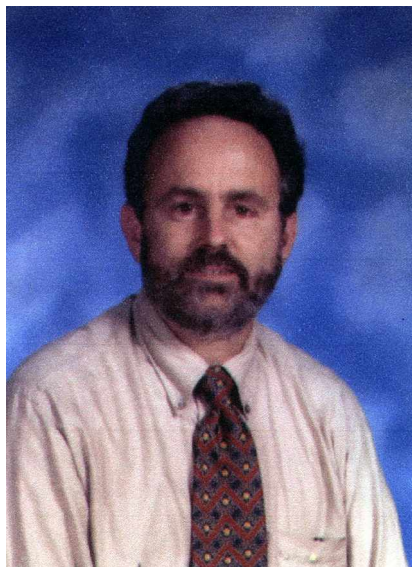
Geology 107–108 for Earth Science
Teachers becomes Geology 7–8



Dr. Rick Liebling, 1985.



Dr. Charles T. Fray, 1989.



William Dieffenbach, 1988.



Drs. Dennis Radcliffe, Kurt E. Lowe (visitor), Fred Wolff, and Charles Merguerian, 1984.

Professor Kurt E. Lowe was former Chairman of the Geology Department at City College of CUNY, and Chairman of the Geological Section of the N.Y. Academy of Sciences 1975–1984. Always a friend of the department, in 1963 he recommended Dr. Wolff for a Fellowship at the NYS Museum and in late 1980 recommended Merguerian for the then open hard-rock position at Hofstra. For this transgression, he was privately always apologetic to other members of the faculty and geological community.

1985–86

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Fred Wolff – Professor.

Dr. Charles Merguerian – Assistant Professor.

Julian Kane – Adjunct Senior Professor.

Dr. John Remo – Adjunct Assistant Professor.

Dr. Charles Rockwell – Adjunct Professor.

Michael Sichko – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Dr. Charles Fray – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Dr. Richard Liebling – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Dr. Simon Schaffel – Adjunct Professor.

William Dieffenbach – Adjunct Instructor.

David Verado – Adjunct Instructor (One year appointment).

B.S., C.W. Post University (1984); M.S. Queens College – CUNY (1986).

1986–87

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Fred Wolff – Professor.

Dr. Charles Merguerian – Associate Professor.

Julian Kane – Adjunct Senior Professor.

Dr. John Remo – Adjunct Assistant Professor.

Dr. Charles Rockwell – Adjunct Professor.

Michael Sichko – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Dr. Charles Fray – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Dr. Richard Liebling – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Dr. Simon Schaffel – Adjunct Professor.

William Dieffenbach – Adjunct Instructor.



Faculty (L to R): Drs. Dennis Radcliffe, Fred Wolff, and Charles Merguerian, 1985.

1987–88

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Fred Wolff – Professor.

Dr. Charles Merguerian – Associate Professor.

Julian Kane – Adjunct Senior Professor.

Dr. Charles Rockwell – Adjunct Professor.

Michael Sichko – Adjunct Associate Professor.

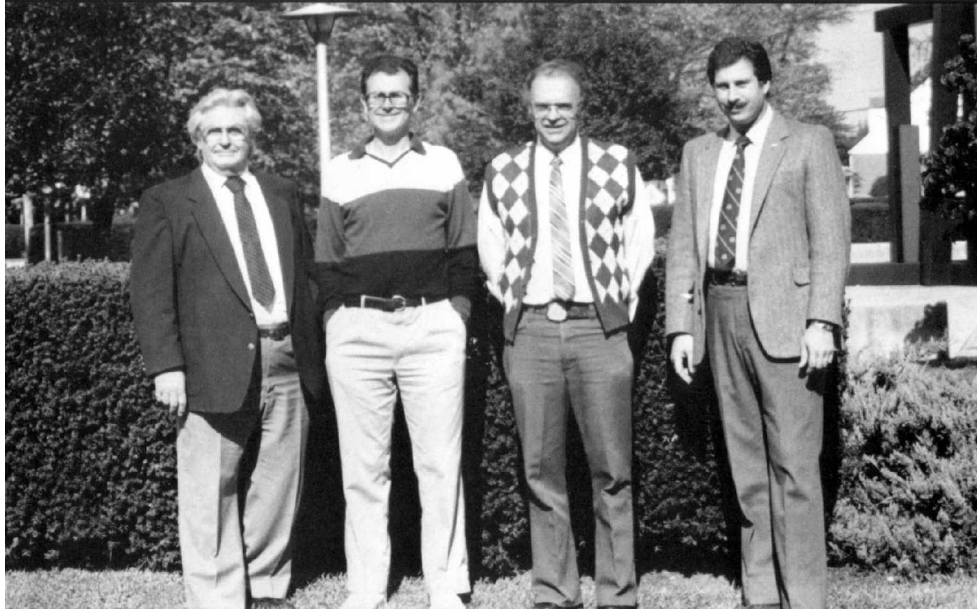
Dr. Charles Fray – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Dr. Richard Liebling – Adjunct Associate Professor.

William Dieffenbach – Adjunct Instructor.

Dr. Simon Schaffel – Adjunct Professor.

Dr. Simon Schaffel joined the department in 1984 after retiring from The City College. An active field researcher and excitable, enthusiastic lecturer both in the classroom and the field, his experience brought much to the department. Dr. Simon Schaffel was Merguerian's professor in Historical Geology in at The City College in 1969. In public testimonials he refused to admit that Merguerian had ever learned a thing in his class despite perfect attendance. He provided ten years of devoted service to the department until taking leave in 1994.



Faculty (L to R): Drs. Simon Schaffel, Dennis Radcliffe, Fred Wolff, and Charles Merguerian, 1987.



Dr. Schaffel with Geology 1C students at North Twin Island, The Bronx.

1988–89

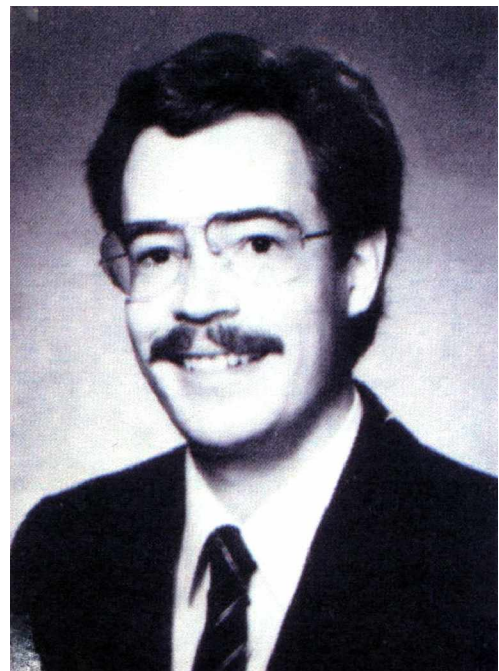
Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Professor – Chairman.
Dr. Fred Wolff – Professor.
Dr. Charles Merguerian – Associate Professor.
Dr. Charles Rockwell – Adjunct Professor.
Michael Sichko – Adjunct Associate Professor.
Dr. Charles Fray – Adjunct Associate Professor.
Dr. Richard Liebling – Adjunct Associate Professor.
William Dieffenbach – Adjunct Instructor.
Dr. Simon Schaffel – Adjunct Professor.

1989–90

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Professor – Chairman.
Dr. Fred Wolff – Professor.
Dr. Charles Merguerian – Associate Professor.
Dr. Charles Rockwell – Adjunct Professor.
Michael Sichko – Adjunct Associate Professor.
Dr. Charles Fray – Adjunct Associate Professor.
Dr. Richard Liebling – Adjunct Associate Professor.
William Dieffenbach – Adjunct Instructor.
Dr. Simon Schaffel – Adjunct Professor.
Fred Stumm – Adjunct Instructor. (Third student returning as faculty – Fall 1989).
B.S., Hofstra University (1987); M.S., University of California at Bakersfield (1989).
Christine Anderson – Adjunct Assistant Professor. (Fourth student returning as faculty).
B.S., Hofstra University (1977); M.S., Pennsylvania State University (1980). Served 1990-93
and 2000-2002.



Christine Anderson in Hawaii, 1990.



Fred Stumm, 1991.

1990–91

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Fred Wolff – Professor.

Dr. Charles Merguerian – Associate Professor.

Dr. Charles Rockwell – Adjunct Professor.

Michael Sichko – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Dr. Richard Liebling – Adjunct Associate Professor.

William Dieffenbach – Adjunct Instructor.

Dr. Simon Schaffel – Adjunct Professor.

Fred Stumm – Adjunct Instructor.

Dr. John E. Sanders – Adjunct Star Professor.

B.A., Ohio Wesleyan University (1948), Ph.D., Yale University (1953).



Geology Faculty (L to R): Drs. Simon Schaffel, Dennis Radcliffe (Chair), John Sanders, Fred Wolff, and Charles Merguerian, 1991.

After retiring from Barnard College of Columbia University, **Dr. John E. Sanders** joins the Geology Department (Fall 1990) in order to continue teaching and to continue collaborative research with Merguerian. He is given “Star” rank based on his national recognition and publication record in the field of Sedimentology. An active soft-rock field researcher in the New England Appalachians, the Hofstra connection continues a decade-long collaboration with Merguerian that results in a twenty-five volume set of geological field guides centered in the New York Metropolitan area and vicinity. Indeed, research projects spawned during On-The-Rocks field investigations resulted joint publications concerning all aspects of the bedrock- and Pleistocene geology of the New York City area and projects with Hofstra geology majors flourished during this period. Although he retired from teaching in 1993, he was a distinguished member of the Geology Department and contributed to the education of geology majors up to his untimely death in 1999.

Geology 2 is split into two courses: Geology 2C (Historical Geology) and Geology 12 (Earth History and Crustal Evolution).



Dr. John Sanders retired from Barnard College and came to Hofstra in 1990.



Drs. Fred Wolff, Charles Merguerian, Dennis Radcliffe, and John Sanders, 1993 (L to R).

1991–93

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Fred Wolff – Professor.

Dr. Charles Merguerian – Associate Professor.

Dr. Charles Rockwell – Adjunct Professor.

Michael Sichko – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Dr. Richard Liebling – Adjunct Associate Professor.

William Dieffenbach – Adjunct Instructor.

Dr. Simon Schaffel – Adjunct Professor.

Dr. John E. Sanders – Adjunct Star Professor.

Fred Stumm – Adjunct Instructor.

After nearly 60 years of Hofstra Geologic history, by 1993 **J Bret Bennington** became the fourth full-time faculty member in Geology, the largest full-time staff in the history of the department! A critter-based soft rocker, he quickly became our resident expert in Invertebrate Paleontology and Dinosaurs and joined in the effort to develop and maintain a strong field component to the discipline. His presence balanced the program as he began developing and teaching courses in Hydrology, Sedimentation, Stratigraphy, and Geomorphology, taking over some of Dr. Fred Wolff's advanced course responsibilities. Student activities have flourished.



Dr. J Bret Bennington, 1994.

1993–94

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Fred Wolff – Professor.

Dr. Charles Merguerian – Associate Professor.

Dr. J Bret Bennington – Instructor.

B.S., University of Rochester (1985); Ph.D., Virginia Polytechnical Institute (1995).

Dr. Charles Rockwell – Adjunct Professor.

Michael Sichko – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Dr. Richard Liebling – Adjunct Associate Professor.

William Dieffenbach – Adjunct Instructor.

Dr. Simon Schaffel – Adjunct Professor.

Dr. John E. Sanders – Adjunct Star Professor.

1994–2000

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Fred Wolff – Professor.

Dr. Charles Merguerian – Professor.

Dr. J Bret Bennington – Assistant Professor.

Dr. Charles Rockwell – Adjunct Professor.

Michael Sichko – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Dr. Richard Liebling – Adjunct Associate Professor.

William Dieffenbach – Adjunct Instructor.

Dr. Simon Schaffel – Adjunct Professor until 1995.

Dr. John E. Sanders – Adjunct Star Professor until 1993.

This six-year interval marks a long period of dynamic equilibrium, balance, and stability for the Geology Department program that witnessed growth in class sizes and popular programs with students. Dr. Bennington takes over as Geology Club Advisor, a position held by Dr. Merguerian since 1981. After 13 years of directing club activities, Merguerian was demoted to “Big Toe” of the Geology Club.

Many adjuncts were hired to help fill classes as our offerings expanded. They include:

Gail (Vitale) Bennington – Adjunct Instructor (Fall 1998 – Present).

Lorraine Immoor – Adjunct Instructor (Fall 1992 – Spring 1997).

Dr. Richard Jackson – Adjunct Professor (Fall 1994).

New courses added to the curriculum included:

Geology 5 – Environmental Geology and Natural Hazards (Wolff –1995)

Geology 6 – Dinosaurs and the Mesozoic World (Bennington – 1997)

Geology 143 – Geological Field Analysis (Merguerian – 2002)

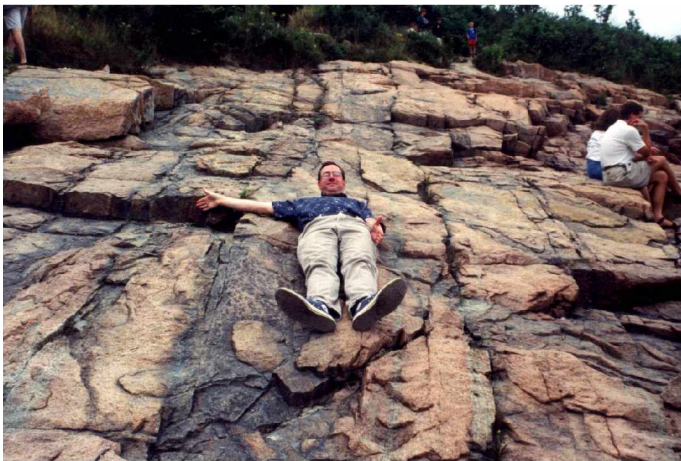
Dr. Bennington Pictures Page



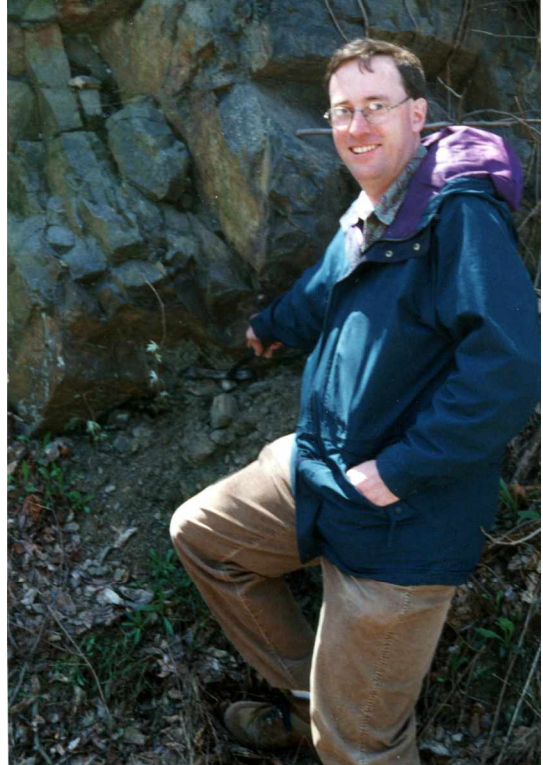
**Relaxing at the Department
Holiday Party, 1994.**



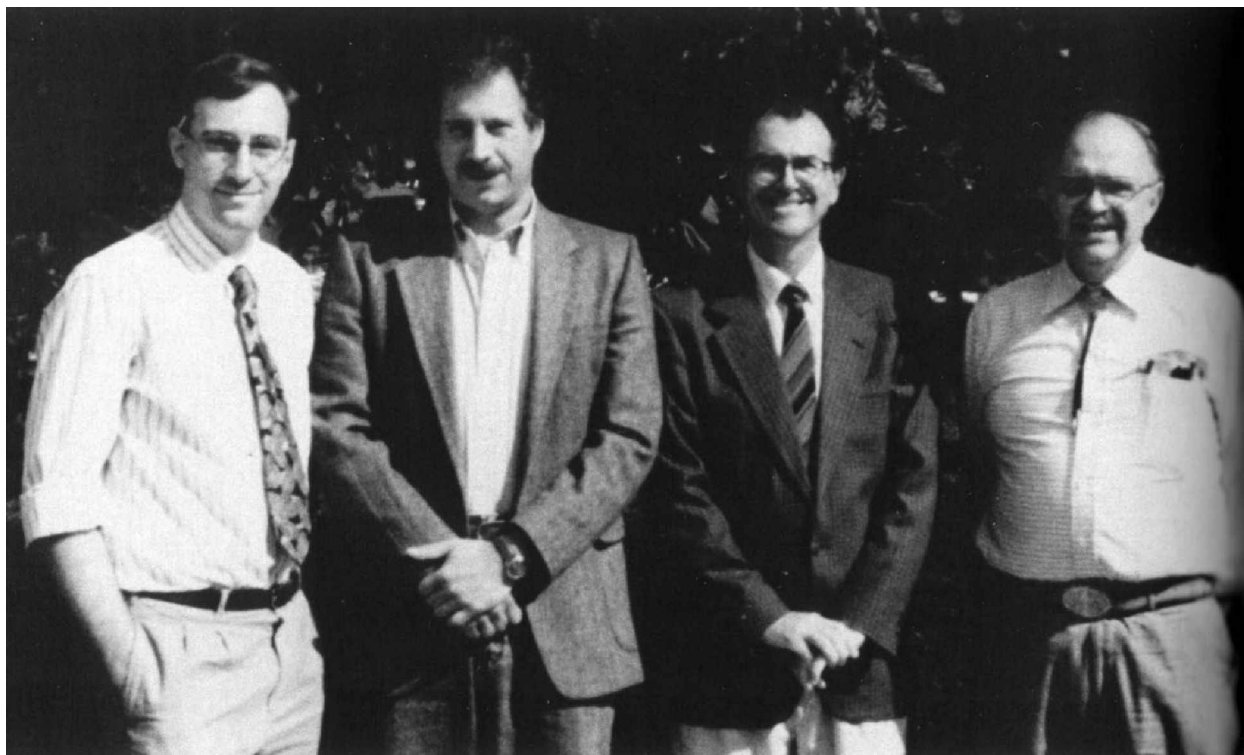
**Leading Camping Trips for
Students, 1996.**



**Getting Close and Personal with the
Rocks, 1999.**



**Have Outcrop and Hammer
- Will Travel, 2000.**



Faculty (L to R) – Drs. Bret Bennington, Charles Merguerian, Dennis Radcliffe, and Fred Wolff, 1996.

2000–01

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Fred Wolff – Professor.

Dr. Charles Merguerian – Professor.

Dr. J Bret Bennington – Associate Professor.

Dr. Charles Rockwell – Adjunct Professor.

Michael Sichko – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Dr. Richard Liebling – Adjunct Professor.

William Dieffenbach – Adjunct Instructor.

Gail (Vitale) Bennington – Adjunct Instructor.

John J. Gibbons – Adjunct Assistant Professor.

B.A., Pace University (1963); M.A., S.U.N.Y. Stony Brook (1992).

With expansion of the evening program, we relied heavily on our adjunct professors who were quick to help out when courses needed coverage, despite heavy work loads and personal commitments. By 2000, we were able to add **John J. Gibbons**, a gifted teacher and earth scientist, who has become an integral part of the normal operations of the department.



Professor Gibbons Explaining Geologic Field Philosophy to Introductory Students, 2002.

2001–02

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Fred Wolff – Professor.

Dr. Charles Merguerian – Professor.

Dr. J Bret Bennington – Associate Professor.

Dr. Charles Rockwell – Adjunct Professor.

Dr. Richard Liebling – Adjunct Professor.

Michael Sichko – Adjunct Associate Professor.

William Dieffenbach – Adjunct Instructor.

John J. Gibbons – Adjunct Assistant Professor.

William Dieffenbach – Adjunct Instructor.

Gail Bennington – Adjunct Instructor.



Gail (Vitale) Bennington, 2001.



Lorraine Immoor and Dr. Radcliffe, 1996.

2002–03

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Fred Wolff – Professor.

Dr. Charles Merguerian – Professor.

Dr. J Bret Bennington – Associate Professor.

Dr. Charles Rockwell – Adjunct Professor. (Retires after 22 years of dedicated service.)

Michael Sichko – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Dr. Richard Liebling – Adjunct Professor.

William Dieffenbach – Adjunct Instructor.

Gail Bennington – Adjunct Instructor.

John J. Gibbons – Adjunct Assistant Professor.

Dr. Lillian Hess Tanguay – Adjunct Associate Professor.

B.A., State University College at Buffalo (1971), M.A., Brooklyn College – CUNY (1980),

Ph.D., Graduate School of the City University of New York, (1993).

Dr. Nehru E. Cherukupalli – Adjunct Professor.

B.Sc. (1954) and M.Sc. (1956); both from University of Madras, India; M.A., Columbia

University (1959); Ph.D., University of Madras (1963).

Drs. Lillian Hess Tanguay (Professor at C.W. Post) and **Nehru E. Cherukupalli** (Brooklyn College, CUNY) joined the department to help with expansion of our introductory course offerings and as replacements for adjuncts that left or reduced their teaching hours. Dr. Hess also taught a class in 1995 as an Adjunct Assistant Professor. They have both become intimately involved with department activities and have engaged in joint research investigations with the full-time staff.



Dr. Lillian Hess Tanguay, 2003.

2003–04

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Fred Wolff – Professor.

Dr. Charles Merguerian – Professor.

Dr. J Bret Bennington – Assistant Professor.

Michael Sichko – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Dr. Richard Liebling – Adjunct Professor.

William Dieffenbach – Adjunct Instructor.

Gail Bennington – Adjunct Instructor.

John J. Gibbons – Adjunct Assistant Professor.

Dr. Lillian Hess Tanguay – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Dr. Nehru E. Cherukupalli – Adjunct Professor.



Professors Gibbons, Nehru, and Merguerian at the Great Falls in Paterson, NJ (2002).



Cornerstones of the Hofstra Field Program, Professors Bennington and Merguerian at the Simpson Quarry, Portlandt, CT (2002).

2004–05

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe – Professor – Chairman.

Dr. Charles Merguerian – Professor.

Dr. J Bret Bennington – Assistant Professor.

Dr. Emma Christa Farmer – Assistant Professor.

B.S., Stanford University (1994); Ph.D. Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University (2004).

Michael Sichko – Adjunct Associate Professor.

Dr. Richard Liebling – Adjunct Professor.

William Dieffenbach – Adjunct Instructor.

Gail Bennington – Adjunct Instructor.

John J. Gibbons – Adjunct Assistant Professor.

Dr. Lillian Hess Tanguay – Adjunct Professor.

Dr. Nehru E. Cherukupalli – Adjunct Professor.

GEOLOGY FACULTY IMAGE ALBUM



Establishing a Tradition for Hofstra Geology Field Trips, Dr. Forrest Durham (R), 1959.



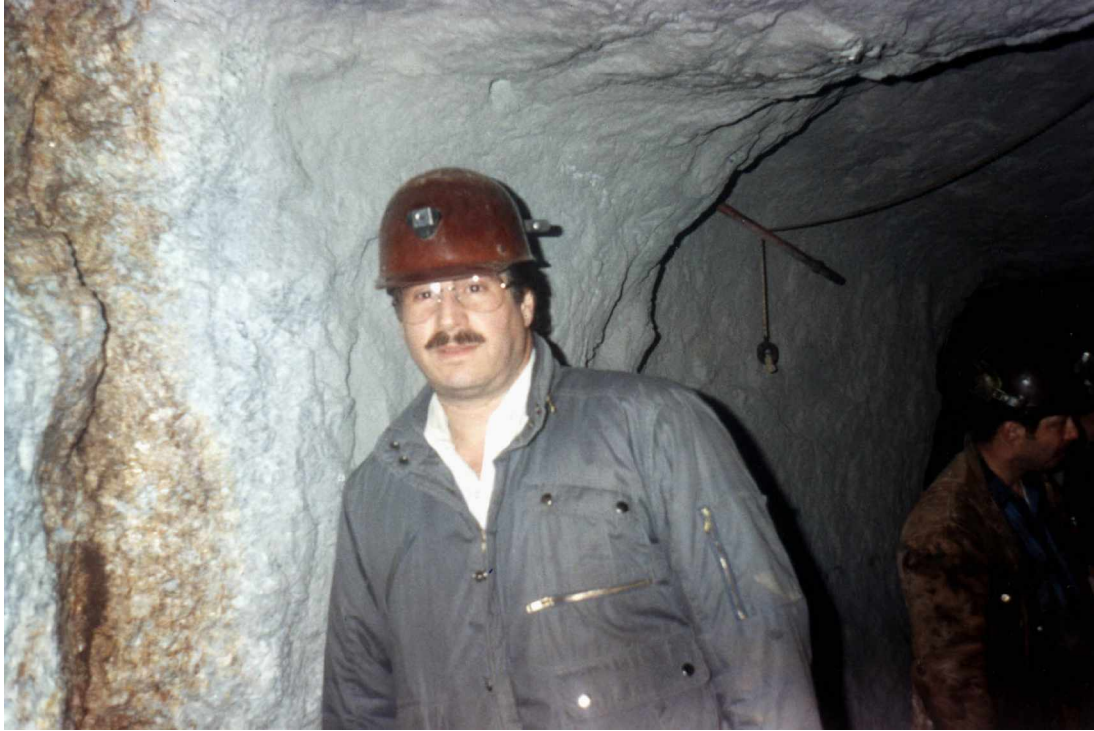
Drs. Charles Merguerian and Dennis Radcliffe, Nassau Science Explorations, 1982.



Drs. Merguerian (L) and Wolff (R) flanking NY State Geologist Dr. Robert Fakundiny, Sea Level Rise Symposium organized by Dr. Wolff, 1987.



Professors Fray, Radcliffe, Sichko, Merguerian, and Wolff at North Lake, Catskills, 1991.



Professor Merguerian in the Sterling Hill Mine, Ogdensburg, NJ, 1992.



Drs. Merguerian (L) and Sanders (R) flanking President James M. Shuart, 1992.



Drs. Merguerian and Radcliffe Relaxing on a Trip to Paterson Falls, NJ, 1992.



Dr. John E. Sanders, 1992.



Dr. Radcliffe in the Field, 1993.



Dr. Sanders Clearing Exposures so that "Students Can See", Garvies Point 1994.



Dr. Radcliffe - Really in the Field, 1995.



Professors Sanders and Merguerian Working with Students in the Field, 1995.



Sister DeMontfort Babb



Dr. Simon Schaffel, 1995.



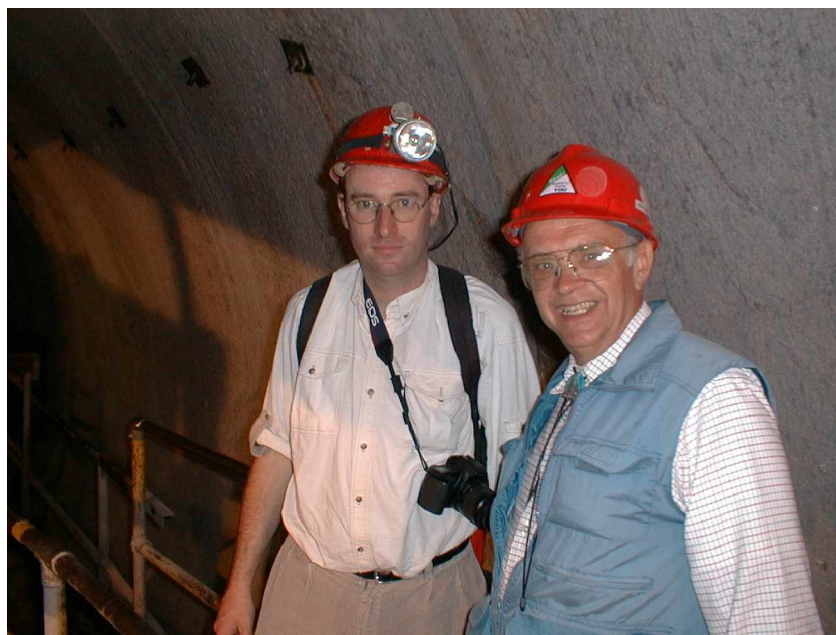
Christine Anderson at the Grand Canyon, 2003.



Michael Sichko



John Sanders at an Erratic Block, Orchard Beach, 1995.



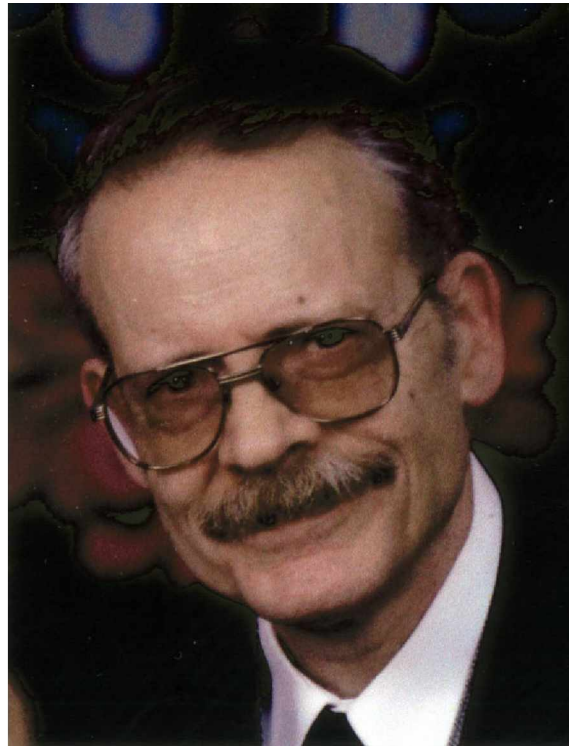
Drs. J Bret Bennington and Fred Wolff, relaxing on the upper deck of a tunnel boring machine in the Queens Water Tunnel, 1999.



Drs. John E. Sanders and Charles Merguerian, Caumsett State Park, 1996.



Dr. Fred Wolff in the Field.



Dr. Rick Liebling back from the Field.



Professors Wolff, Liebling, Radcliffe, and Rockwell (L to R), 1999.



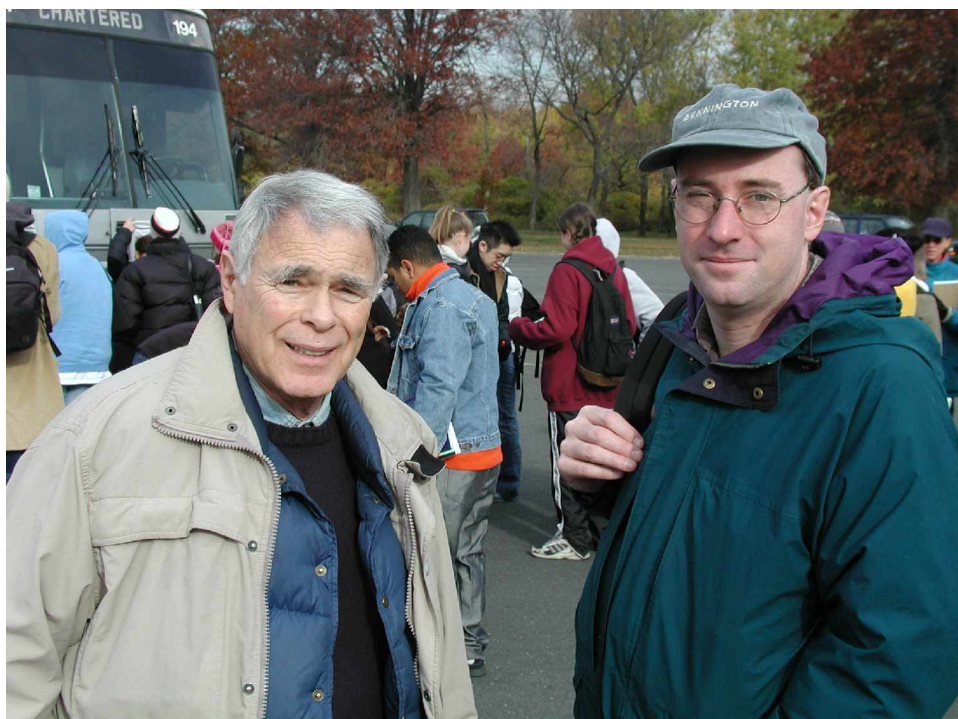
Dr. Wolff Showing Students Geology in the Field, 2000.



William Dieffenbach and Michael Sichko, Geology 1C Field Trip, 2001.



Professors Liebling and Gibbons, Geology 1C Field Trip, 2001.

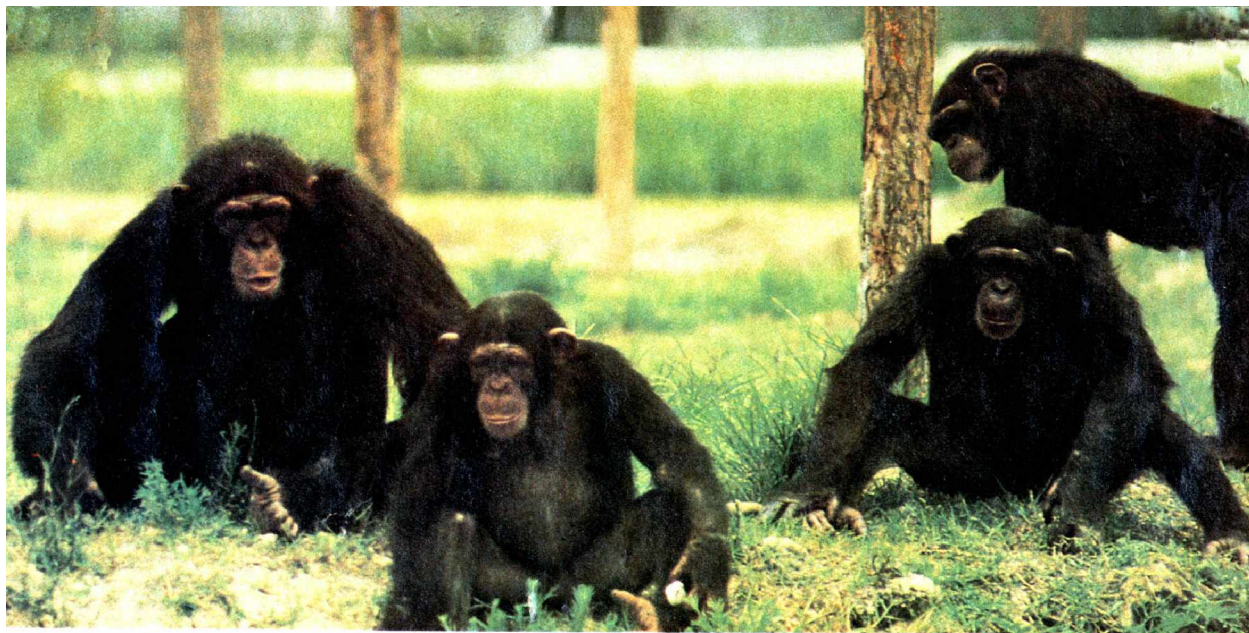


Professors Rockwell and Bennington, Geology 1C Field Trip, 2001.



Our Superb Adjunct Staff (L to R) – Gail Bennington, John Gibbons, William Dieffenbach, Michael Sichko. Missing at photo shoot were Lillian Hess Tanquay, Dr. Rick Liebling, and Dr. Nehru, Spring 2004.

Hofstra Geology Department



***TO HELP EDUCATE YOUR CHILD,
WE ASSEMBLED THIS
DISTINGUISHED FACULTY.***

We hope that all Hofstra alumni will enjoy seeing the rich history of the geology department from which they sprang, this compilation the direct result of lots of hard work by Dr. Fred Wolff in his retirement year (2004). Dr. Merguerian took over the task of putting the document into computer format and will continue to edit and update the history on a yearly basis. Please keep in touch with us by email or mail. Let us know what you are doing these days. We are planning an Alumni Book and need pictures, stories, etc. We apologize in advance for any spelling errors in names or any incorrect dates. We will be happy to correct this for the web edition and for the full color Acrobat file (.pdf) that you can download from our website for color printing: http://www.hofstra.edu/Academics/HCLAS/Geology/index_Geology.cfm

Reach us by email:

Dr. Dennis Radcliffe (geodzr@hofstra.edu)
Dr. Fred Wolff (geompw@hofstra.edu)

Dr. Charles Merguerian (geocmm@hofstra.edu)
Dr. J Bret Bennington (geojbb@hofstra.edu)

Or, snail mail:

Geology Department
114 Hofstra University
Hempstead, NY 11549
(516) 463-5564; (463-5120 FAX)



Filename: Geology Dept History 2004.doc