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Sigma Gamma Epsilon - News and Information

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Sigma Gamma Epsilon – News and Information

Dr. Erika Elswick
SGE National President

Dr. Erika Elswick (sanding with broad-brimmed hat and sunglasses) and students investigating the internal structure of an alluvial fan, North Boulder River drainage, southeastern Montana.

Dr. Erika Elswick is a Research Faculty in the Department of Geological Sciences at Indiana University, Bloomington, IN. Erika received a BA in Geology from Earlham College (1984) and a MS from Wright State University in Geology (1994), while working as Curator of Geology at the Dayton Museum of Natural History, in Dayton OH. She received her PhD (1998) from the University of Cincinnati for her research on determination of the critical geochemical components for Pb-Zn mineralization in SEDEX settings using insights from the Early Permian Santa Rosa Group, Belize, Central America.

Dr. Elswick was initiated into the *Delta Epsilon* Chapter of the society of SGE at Wright State University and has served as *Rho* faculty advisor at Indiana University since 2001. Erika served as Northeastern Province Vice President from 2007 to 2010, and was elected Society's President in 2010.

Erika has conducted research in and around the Caribbean Basin, including the early history during the late Paleozoic rifting of Pangaea and the sedimentation associated with early basin formation. Currently she has also been working on the more recent Holocene paleotempestite deposits located in the Greater Antilles. During her time at the museum, Erika co-led raft trips through Dinosaur National Park on the Yampa and Green Rivers with an archaeologist colleague, and since arriving at Indiana University has spent time at sea on an Ocean Drilling Program cruise in the South Pacific off Papua New Guinea and worked in the Caribbean Basin.

Dr. Elswick is the Director of the Analytical Geochemistry Laboratory in the Department of Geological Sciences. During the school year her teaching is focused on one-to-one instruction of both undergraduate and graduate students in analytical methods and analysis of their research samples. During the summer, Erika is one of the faculty at the Indiana University Judson Mead Geological Field Station, Cardwell MT.

"I have always enjoyed the outdoors, and early in my education knew I would be headed toward mathematics and sciences. I discovered, however, during my first term at Earlham, that mathematics was not going to be my major, when the students from Geology, one floor up, were heading outside weekly, and I was sitting in the Math Lab. Geology is a very interdisciplinary science and I have benefited personally and professionally from this fact. I have had the opportunity to work with archaeologists on several sites in North America and the Caribbean, with engineers and chemists on deep sea drilling cruises, and with physicists on impact craters. I have always felt that the possibilities for new questions are nearly limitless in the Earth Sciences."