Looking Back and Moving Forward: Dean’s Year-End Message

Happy Holidays to our alumni, friends and supporters.

As we end another academic semester it’s good to reflect back on our accomplishments. Our students continue to excel and make progress on their degree programs. Twenty-six undergraduates and ten graduate students completed requirements for their degrees this fall. We wish them well in their new careers and hope to see them back in May for graduation.

I am also happy to report that Dr. Mike Kuhns has accepted our offer to become Department Head in Wildland Resources and that Dr. Peter Wilcock from Johns Hopkins University will become department head in Watershed Sciences in July. Congrats to both of these exceptional scholars and leaders.

As the first big snowstorm of the year hits in Logan tonight, I look forward to the celebrations of the season and the expectations for the new year.

In The News

Joanna Endter-Wada has been appointed by Utah Governor Gary Herbert to serve on the State Water Strategy Advisory Team.

Click [here] to read full article by Mary-Ann Muffoletto.

Also, check out Joanna’s TEDxUSU 2013 talk [here].

Student Highlights

Erin (Fleming) Jones, a past Quinney Scholar and BS in Watershed and Earth Systems (2012) was the first author on a paper published in the highly-ranked Limnology and Oceanography “The Great Salt Lake’s monimolimnion and its importance for mercury accumulation in brine shrimp”.

Erin worked with Dr. Wayne Wurtsbaugh (co-author) as an undergraduate research assistant. Erin is currently a PhD student at BYU. Congrats to Erin and Wayne.

Congratulations to the USU’s Forestry Quiz Bowl Team!

This group of outstanding students placed second (out of 38 teams) nationally at the 2013 Annual Society of American Foresters Convention that was held in Charleston, S.C. this past October.