New Chairs Announced in Geology

Amy Leventer, Professor of Geology, has been named Harold Orville Whitnall Professor of Geology.

Amy Leventer started her post-doctoral research at Ohio State University, and she continued with research and teaching appointments at Otterbein College and the University of Minnesota. She came to Colgate in 1997 as a Visiting Assistant Professor. Amy was promoted to Associate Professor in 2003 and to Full Professor in 2013, and served as Chair of the Department of Geology from 2009 to 2012. She is a stellar teacher who has been nominated for the Phi Eta Sigma student award on three occasions, and she has mentored more than 50 research and independent study students. Amy’s specialties include marine geology, biological oceanography, and paleoclimatology. Her research involves the study of climate change over geological time through analysis of the sedimentary fossil record from Antarctica, where she has traveled many times, taking 20 Colgate student researchers with her. Most recently, she has been Chief Scientist on a 2014 international research cruise to Antarctica to evaluate the recent and longer-term behavior of glacial systems. Among her many publications, Amy has three co-authored articles in the prestigious journal Nature. She has received numerous grants for her research over the course of her career. Currently she is the lead investigator of an expedition to the East Antarctic region, which is showing a troubling high degree of ice melting. At Colgate, Amy has been very generous in dedicating her time to the university, by serving on numerous committees, boards, and task forces. She is currently the chair of Colgate’s Research Council.

Bruce Selleck, currently the Harold Orville Whitnall Professor of Geology, has been named Thomas A. Bartlett Chair and Professor of Geology.

Bruce Selleck has been on the Colgate geology department faculty since 1974. Bruce's teaching specialties include stratigraphy and sedimentation, marine paleocology, sedimentary petrology, and hydrogeology. His publications include fieldtrip guidebooks for the NYS Geological Association, articles and abstracts in Journal of Sedimentary Petrology, Geological Society of America Bulletin, Northeastern Geology, American Journal of Science and elsewhere. Beyond serving as department chair, Bruce has served as Associate Dean of the Faculty (1988-90), as Provost and Dean of the Faculty (1990-94) and as Interim Provost and Dean of the Faculty (2011-12), as Director of the Picker Institute for Interdisciplinary Science, and as Director of the Upstate Institute. In connection with his work with faculty development, Bruce was named the first Thomas A. Bartlett Professor from 1999 to 2002, and in 2003 as the Harold Orville Whitnall Professor of Geology, a post he will be vacating to become the Bartlett Chair once again. He has served on the Campus Culture Task Force and has lead both the Australia and Wales study groups, the latter of which he is currently directing. Bruce has distinguished himself as a teacher, scholar, and administrator in his years at Colgate. He has received the Alumni Corporation teaching award (1998), the AAUP teacher of the year award (2006), and the Sidney J. and Florence Felten French teaching award (2010).