George Bunn: “Father of EAP” passes away

In April of 2013, George Bunn died at the age of 87. For the last two decades he had been a consulting professor at Stanford’s Center for International Security and Cooperation. Many of the tributes written about George at the time of his death dealt with his major and impressive role as one of the lead U.S. negotiators of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. In addition to the role he played in trying to ban nuclear weapons, George was on the faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Law School from 1969-1986, serving as dean from 1972-75.

In 1979, George became the founding father of the Energy Analysis and Policy (EAP) program in the Institute for Environmental Studies (now the Nelson Institute) at UW-Madison. Beginning in 1979, George collaborated with John Steinhart (Geology) and state legislators Joe Strohl, Tom Harnish and Sharon Metz to assess the prospect of UW-Madison offering a graduate degree in energy studies.

At the time, getting a new graduate degree approved was difficult, so the committee worked toward developing a certificate program that students in Land Resources, Urban and Regional Planning and Public Policy and Administration could add to their master’s degree programs. In 1980 Energy Analysis and Policy was approved as a graduate certificate program at UW-Madison.

Changes were made to the carrier structure in 1996 by adding Mechanical Engineering and in 1997, EAP proposed to expand the program to any graduate student on campus. This change was precipitated by a campus-wide proposal to submit applications for capstone programs.

George was also able to finesse some financing from the state legislature for the new energy initiative. Approximately $50,000 was provided to UW-Madison to cover the costs of the new energy curriculum, in particular development of an energy conversion technology course and the energy seminars. In 2002 George established the Bunn Distinguished Graduate Fellowship at the Nelson Institute. To date seven graduate students have benefited from his generous gift.

In MEMORY OF GEORGE BUNN
May 26, 1925 - April 21, 2013

EAP cluster faculty all now tenured faculty

The EAP community is proud to congratulate Greg Nemet on receiving tenure this past summer. All four of the university’s energy cluster faculty group are now tenured professors.

Former EAP Chair Paul Wilson (Nuclear Engineering and Engineering Physics) was hired in July 2001 and received tenure in Spring 2008. Tracey Holloway (Nelson Institute Center for Sustainability and the Global Environment) was hired in 2003 and received tenure in 2009. Bernie Lesieutre (Electrical and Computer Engineering) was hired with tenure in March 2007.
Dear EAP community,

Greetings from your new EAP chair. I want to first take a moment to thank Professor Paul Wilson for serving as EAP chair for the past five years. Over that time enrollment in the program has stayed at historically high levels of about 30 enrolled students. This consistently high level of interest in the program is in stark contrast to many aspects of the energy system, which seem to be prone to repeated booms and busts.

Paul also led the EAP faculty in a three-year cross-campus grant on governing global energy, which enabled many energy-related speakers to visit campus. This collaborative led to the creation of a new seminar for EAP students, Governance of Global Energy Problems, which we offered twice and included discussions of international energy organizations as diverse as the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the International Atomic Energy Agency and Gazprom.

Paul and Richard Shaten prepared a report for the EAP program’s 10-year review by the Graduate School. In addition to the report, the review committee has held sessions with students and faculty to understand how the program is functioning, where it could improve, and areas where new resources may be needed. This process has been helpful both in terms of documenting activities in the program as well as clarifying areas where we can bolster the program’s offerings.

Also of note, with my promotion to associate professor earlier this year, all four EAP members of the university’s energy sources and policy hiring cluster are now tenured, which substantially enhances the stability of the EAP program going forward.

I am looking forward to building on Paul’s work and developing the program further. Some of the priorities we have included in a draft EAP strategic plan are to:

- Enhance the national reputation of the program,
- Enhance funding opportunities for incoming and current students,
- Enhance recruitment outcomes; make EAP a “destination” program,
- Recruit women and minorities, who are poorly represented in energy,
- Enhance community among cohorts of EAP students,
- Increase internship opportunities for current students,
- Improve access for current students to alumni (and vice versa),
- Meet the needs of students with constraints that make EAP enrollment feasible,
- Engage EAP alumni to provide career opportunities for current students,
- Develop international aspects of EAP, e.g. projects for the capstone course.

Of course, achieving some of these will require overcoming existing challenges, particularly in funding. We always welcome student and alumni feedback on the program.

Professor Tracey Holloway is offering a career development seminar for EAP students this semester titled Building an Energy Career, in which faculty and alumni will provide students with their perspectives on turning energy education into an energy career.

Tim Lindstrom, an Environment and Resources master’s student, is our student representative this academic year. He has made an effort to relaunch the EAP LinkedIn group, which Jeannette LeZaks started five years ago. This is really meant to be a living directory for the EAP community, please participate. Tim has also organized a session for EAP students and faculty to watch and discuss a recent documentary on nuclear power, Pandora’s Promise. Tim organized this session in response to student interest for more structured and intellectually oriented EAP social activities, in addition to the more socially oriented ones.

One of the most exciting aspects of EAP is watching what our alumni do. This includes important work nearby, such as at the Wisconsin Public Service Commission, as well as far-flung, such as at the Thai Ministry of Energy.

We will continue to organize social events that provide opportunities for alumni, students and faculty to get to know each other. I look forward to seeing many of you at these gatherings and elsewhere.

Sincerely,

Greg Nemet

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**enrollment update**

In the fall 2013 semester, the EAP program includes 24 enrolled students:

- 11 students from the Nelson Institute
- 5 students from the College of Engineering
- 6 students from the La Follette School of Public Affairs
- 1 student from Urban and Regional Planning
- 1 student from Physics

**new students**

A warm welcome to the students who have joined EAP since the beginning of the 2013-2014 academic year:

- **ERIC O’SHAUGHNESSY** Public Affairs
- **DEBAKI ALE** Public Affairs
- **ABDULLAH EASA** Public Affairs
- **SETH BLOCK** Environment and Resources
- **ROB STUPAR** Public Affairs
- **JIAQI LU** Public Affairs
- **NICHOLAS FUNK** Water Resources Management
- **BEN KALDUNSKI** Environment and Resources
- **ANDY LICK** Public Affairs, Environment and Resources
- **ALLISON CARDIEL** Environment and Resources
- **ETHAN FROST** Environment and Resources

**recent graduates**

Congratulations to the following students who earned the EAP certificate in 2013:

- **MARK WATKINS** Urban and Regional Planning
- **PAMELA RITGER** Law, Public Affairs
- **SAM HARMES** Public Affairs
- **JASON MYATT** Law, Public Affairs
- **KATHERINE MITCHELL** Public Affairs
- **ROBERT SHANNON** Public Affairs
- **PHIL GRUPE** Environment and Resources
- **NISHANT MEHTA** Electrical and Computer Engineering
- **TAMARA SINENSKY** Mechanical Engineering
- **EDWARD CUBERO** Public Affairs

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**Thank you**
**At UN climate talks in Warsaw**

EAP and La Follette School of Public Affairs alumnus Maythiwan (Mai) Kiatgrajai, now working in the Energy Policy and Planning Office at the Thai Ministry of Energy, announces that she attended the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties 19 in Warsaw, Poland. She reported from the event, "I feel that what I am experiencing is like what I have already learned from school. The only difference is that this is the real thing, not something in the text, the paper, the assignment or the class discussion."

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**Top energy conference a valuable experience for students**

One of the leading professional organizations focused on energy economics is the U.S. Association for Energy Economics (USAEE). The USAEE’s annual North American conference is attended by academics, applied economists, energy industry executives, and government representatives. In addition to presentations by industry veterans, the organization chooses a select group of graduate students to present research projects. One of our EAP students, Martha Goodell, was selected to present at the 2013 conference, held in Anchorage, Alaska, in July. Martha is a second-year student in the Nelson Institute and a candidate for the master’s in Environment and Resources with the EAP certificate.

Martha presented her thesis work titled Matching a State’s Renewable Energy Incentives with the Risk/Return Profile of the Renewable Energy Investor. Her work is focused on understanding how renewable energy policy is viewed from the perspective of the intended audience, the institutional investor. She analyzes components of a state’s renewable portfolio standard and regulatory environment within the risk/return framework from traditional investment theory.

Martha’s experiences at the conference exceeded her expectations. “Presenting my academic work at a high-caliber event was incredibly valuable. The feedback I received was extremely positive and the contacts I made have already affected my career,” she reports. "There were also many inquiries into the EAP program and whether other students were at the conference. Above all, attending the conference was a great opportunity to have in-depth conversations with others passionate about the changing landscape of energy generation and policy decisions.”

Martha plans to attend next year’s conference, which will be held in New York City, and she hopes to encourage more EAP students to attend. She can be located through LinkedIn.

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-Martha Goodell