

## Introduction to 2016 Attendees

Updated August 15, 2016

### (1) Ms. Jennifer Welch

Jennifer Welch is a Geophysics graduate student at the University of Houston. Her thesis work includes the monitoring and measuring of the horizontal and vertical movement due to subsidence and faults in the surrounding Montgomery County, Texas area using high accuracy permanent GPS stations installed by her and her team. She graduated from Texas A&M Galveston in 2012 with a B.S. in Marine Science and minor in Geology. As a graduate student she was selected to perform a geophysical survey along TAMU Massif (the world's largest underwater volcano) located 1,000 miles east of Japan with Schmidt Ocean Institute. During her



undergraduate studies, she performed a variety of extensive research work that included sediment profiling, seismic data acquisition, and quantitative analysis. Her undergraduate research work included sediment profiling of the Brazos River delta, field work retrieving and analyzing sediment cores in the Gulf of Mexico, recreating surficial sediment maps of West Galveston Bay using ArcGIS, and monitoring regional methane and carbon dioxide fluxes in Madison, Wisconsin. Jennifer currently holds a Production Data Analyst position with TGS NOPEC. She can be reached at [jennwelch@gmail.com](mailto:jennwelch@gmail.com)

### (2) Ms. Wanda Crupa

Originally from Bucharest, Romania, but now a full-fledged Texan, Wanda Crupa has earned Bachelors of Science degrees in both geology and geophysics from the University of Houston. She was nominated to represent the University of Houston at the Houston Geological Society in 2015, has received scholarships from the Society of Exploration Geophysicists, and has completed an undergraduate thesis focusing on the tectonic activity along the Chaman Fault in western Pakistan which she hopes to publish soon. Wanda is currently pursuing a PhD in Geophysics at the University of Houston and will be



working alongside Dr. Khan, focusing on the remote sensing and continuing her work along the Chaman Fault.

(3) Mr. Benjamin Miller

Benjamin Miller is currently attending the University of Houston where he is pursuing a double degree in Geology and Geophysics. Ben's interest in Geology first started when he was a Boy Scout and was able to explore nature. He has received many awards for his volunteer work and has reached rank of an Eagle Scout. Ben has taken many classes that teach how to use different software to process data, such as ArcGIS, Envi and processes used to work with GPS and Lidar data. He hopes to continue his education and get a master's degree and then get a job in a geoscience career.



(4) Jacob Kratavil

Jacob Kratavil is a native of Santa Barbara, California; he is currently attending the University of Houston where he is pursuing a double degree in Geology and Political Science. He is a 10-year veteran of the United States Army during which he served as an intelligence Analyst. His work involved heavy use of ArcGIS and other forms Geo referenced data. He plans to continue his education and pursue a doctorate focusing on using remote sensing in astrogeology.



(5) Ms. Valerie Smith

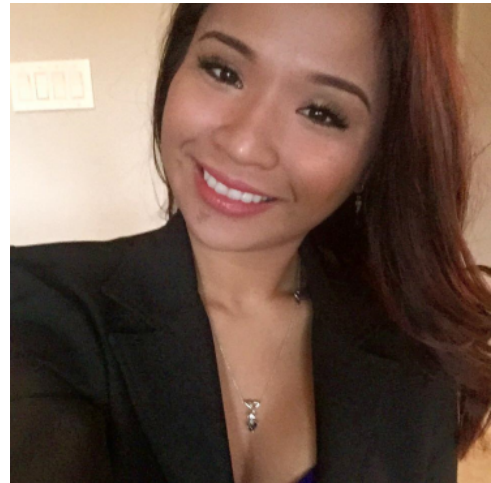
Valerie is a twenty year old senior undergraduate student majoring in Geology at The University of Houston. She will be graduating in summer 2017. This is her first year attending University of Houston and she is planning on getting a master's degree in geophysics. Prior to this, Valerie attended Lonestar College for two years until she



completed her basics. Valerie is currently interning at Lumina Geophysical as well as working part time as a Pharmacy Technician. This will be her first time traveling internationally as well as using GPS and LiDAR Equipment. Valerie is looking to learn and improve upon her skills in geology and geophysics and the technology associated with those fields.

(6) Ms. Janice Navarro

Janice Navarro is currently in the process of acquiring her Bachelors of Science in geophysics and will be graduating this upcoming fall 2016 from the University of Houston. She is a native from Manila, Philippines and is an active member of the Houston Northwest Filipino American Club in which she participates in charitable events in hopes of helping those less fortunate in the Philippines. She also enjoys volunteering for her church and Happy Someday Inc., a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization that helps families with special needs children. Janice Navarro is eager to expand her research opportunities and experience in the geophysical world that continues to evolve over time



(7) Mr. Robert J. Abel

Born and raised in Houston, Texas, Robert J. Abel has earned an Associate's Degree in Arts from Lonestar College. Here he studied graphic design and video editing skills before pursuing his Bachelor's Degrees at University of Houston. Currently he is working and studying filming and screenwriting at the School of Communications in University of Houston. He focused on his goal in the school of Arts ever since he was voted *Most Artistic* out of his high school class in 2008. Rob is a semester away from achieving his Bachelor's degree in Communications and has two planned internships in both Texas and California once he has graduated.





(8) Katherine Sorrows

Katherine Sorrows is originally from Massachusetts; she is a senior at Earlham College, Richmond, Indiana, and is getting a Bachelor's degree in Geology with a minor in Museum Studies. She works at the Joseph Moore Natural History Museum at Earlham College where she spends most of her time digitizing the collection and conducting educational programs for K-8 students. Most recently she has been to Tanzania where Katherine spent the summer doing Geoarcheology research in Olduvai Gorge, and her undergraduate research has also included lab analysis of sediments collected in Olduvai Gorge and from the archeological gardens in the Colorado Plateau. This past fall she studied abroad in Tanzania taking classes in Swahili, Culture, Animal Behavior, and Demography and Sustainability. She has also traveled to Japan to study the area affected by the 2011 tsunami. She is a teaching assistant for her department, and enjoys designing and participating in experiential education opportunities. Katherine studied Chinese for a number of years but never had a chance to use it. On the IRES program, Katherine appreciated the opportunity to learn about Chinese culture and put her Chinese language skills to use, learning from many native speakers. Katherine enjoyed this unique opportunity to work with Chinese students, engineers, and professors, as she developed new skills in geology field research. She worked with LIDAR and GPS for the first time on this program and really enjoyed interacting and working with the Chinese students doing data collection. In addition, Katherine had a chance to learn about both UH and Wuhan as possible graduate programs.

