

## **AAPG Foundation Progress Report #2**

### **Grant to Indiana University for Computer Infrastructure (2/28/2012)**

Construction of the new classroom and geotechnology center at the Judson Mead Geologic Field Station (Tobacco Root Mountains, Montana) continues with the building completion expected in April.

The status of key items that have been completed or are underway since the last report is shown below.

1. Construction progress on the new lecture and computer classroom continues on schedule with the wiring for the Internet and power for the workstations completed. Approximately \$5000 has been spent to date on computer and internet related infrastructure. The building is scheduled for completion by mid-April.
2. We have been advised by the Schlumberger computer technology and support group on the final selection of computers, monitors, and servers for the new building in Montana. We have determined the optimal combination of these items that will allow us to run the range of software that we anticipate using in the courses we currently offer as well as courses we plan on offering in the near future. We have opted to delay the actual purchase of the items until mid-March to optimize both the cost and length of the service contracts on these products.
3. The Schlumberger group has also given us a verbal commitment to install and provide technical support for their Petrel software package free of charge. We have set up a schedule for the purchase of the hardware (mid-March) and for a Schlumberger technical support person to travel to Indiana University, Bloomington to work with our department computer technical support personnel. We want to ensure that both software and licenses from the IU licensed products (e.g. Microsoft Office Suite, ARC-GIS) as well as those from Schlumberger are installed, are compatible and are able to be serviced remotely from Houston or Bloomington (late April to early May). We then plan to ship and install the workstations, servers and other peripheral equipment in the new classroom (mid-May). Our goal is to have the system up and running by June 1.
4. The contract for landline T1 internet connection that we had signed with QWEST has been terminated. Despite early assurances from QWEST that the Field Station could be provided with T1 service, the technical support engineers who arrived to make the actual installation determined it was not possible without an \$85,000 upgrade to the system, which they determined, we should pay. We have chosen not to pursue this further. Fortunately a local Internet provider, TSS, has determined that they can provide a quality signal using a microwave connection to the Field Station at a reasonable cost. They have worked with the Schlumberger group to test the system response and have found it has a rating of A- to B+ (as contrasted with our present satellite connection which received a F rating). This level of Internet connectivity will allow the remote services of the hardware and software as discussed above, as well as Internet access of the type one would expect in an in-town location.

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Wiring in the computer room...



The front porch and new wood siding on a sunny January day...

