

National Council of The Society of  
*Sigma Gamma Epsilon*



NATIONAL HONORARY SOCIETY in the EARTH SCIENCES

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RE: Site visit to Angelo State University

In response to a petition from students interested in forming a new chapter of Sigma Gamma Epsilon (SGE), I today visited the Department of Physics-Geology at Angelo State University in San Angelo Texas. Assistant Professor Dr. James Ward and Associate Professor Dr. Joe Satterfield gave me a tour of the facilities that are found in several buildings on the Angelo State Campus. The library is small, but access to digital resources and interlibrary loans is good. I was impressed with the state-of-the-art planetarium used for teaching astronomy and planetary geology, the large and new computer lab used for teaching GIS, and the spacious teaching and lab space. Two large rooms have been set aside as undergraduate research space. The buildings are new and as nice a science set-up as I have ever seen.

There are only two full-time faculty who teach the geology major, which was just established last year. The faculty are very active in research and promote student research and this is obviously a priority. The interest and energy of the students is evident.

I think I am most impressed with the degree to which undergraduate research is promoted. During a meeting with 18 students who would form the core of the new SGE chapter, I asked how many were presenting at upcoming meetings and found that 5 were presenting at the sectional Geological Society of America meeting and an additional 5 were presenting at the Texas Academy of Science Meeting, being held the next day.

The faculty and students are aware of and support the goals of Sigma Gamma Epsilon. I strongly recommend that you approve their petition.

Cordially,

Rip Langford

SGE Vice President, Western Province