

GEST DIGEST

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 7

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

Happy Valentine's Day

According to the Greeting Card Association, an estimated one billion valentine cards are sent each year, making Valentine's Day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year. (An estimated 2.6 billion cards are sent for Christmas.) Approximately 85 percent of all valentines are purchased by women. In addition to the United States, Valentine's Day is celebrated in Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom, France, and Australia.



Every February, across the country, candy, flowers, and gifts are exchanged between loved ones, all in the name of St. Valentine. But who is this mysterious saint and [why do we celebrate this holiday?](#)

St. Valentine's Day has roots in several different legends that have found their way to us through the ages, but whatever the true story may be, most people enjoy being showered with love on this day - February 14th. **HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY**

REMEMBER!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

February 14th is Valentine's Day

GEST Visiting Scientists

Seminar Series

Feb. 18, 2003 - 3:30 pm - 6:00 pm
GSFC, Bldg. 33, Rm. H114

Mar. 18, 2003 - 3:30 pm - 6:00 pm
GSFC, Bldg. 33, Rm. H114

Apr. 15, 2003 - 3:30 pm - 6:00 pm
GSFC, Bldg. 33, Rm. H114

May 20, 2003 - 3:30 pm - 6:00 pm
GSFC, Bldg. 33, Rm. H114

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| SEMINARS | 2 |
| BLACK HISTORY | 3-5 |
| NEW ARRIVALS | 6 |
| NEW EMPLOYEES | 7 |
| GRANT INFO. | 8-9 |
| REMINDERS | 10-11 |
| DEDICATION | 12 |

GEST VISITING SCIENTIST SEMINAR SERIES

GEST Visiting Scientist Seminar Series

Date: 18 February 2003

Time: 3:30 to 4:30 pm (reception to follow)

Location: Goddard Space Flight Center
Bldg 33, Room H-114

Seminar title: Temporal Variations of Methane and Other Trace Gases in the Lower-Latitude Regions in the Stratosphere

The mixing ratios of CH₄ and other minor gases H₂O, HF, and HCl in the stratosphere and lower mesosphere for the last 10 years were obtained from HALOE observations. The characteristic features of the distributions and temporal variations of the gases in the lower latitude regions are discussed based on the altitude and time scales of variations. The trends in CH₄ in the lower and upper stratosphere show distinctive features and seem to be due to the change of influx of various gases from the troposphere. To understand the chemical mechanisms for the above-mentioned trends the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign 2-D model was used. Concentrations for the several chemical species obtained by the model were compared with the values from HALOE. The model experiments show that increasing CH₄ and CFCs in the troposphere play a role in determining the increasing trend in the lower stratosphere and the decreasing trend in the upper stratosphere of CH₄, although the model results underestimate the upper-stratospheric CH₄ decrease. Tracer distributions in the upper troposphere and the lower stratosphere have been examined in terms of the seasonal and interannual time scales. The differences in zonal distributions of CH₄ from year to year are discussed in terms of the influences from the QBO and El Niño.

Speaker: Wookap Choi

Biographical Sketch:

Dr. Wookap Choi graduated from Seoul National University (SNU) in Seoul, Korea in 1983 and got his B.S. degree in meteorology. In the same year he entered the University of Washington. He worked on the analysis of methane and nitrous oxide mixing ratio from Nimbus 7 SAMS associated with the equatorial SAO. He also simulated the tracer fields influenced by the SAO using a two-dimensional model. He got his PhD degree in 1990 in Atmospheric Sciences. For the next three years, he worked at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. He worked for the group which concentrated on the effects of physical-chemical-dynamical interactions in the stratosphere and focused on improvement of the dynamical modules in the 2-d model. Dr. Choi joined the Dept. of Atmospheric Sciences, SNU in 1993 as an assistant professor, and now he is an associate professor at the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, SNU. He is working at NASA/GSFC as a Goddard Visiting Fellow of Earth Sciences from March 2002 to February 2003 during his sabbatical year.

FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Schedule of Events - UMBC

The UMBC Community is invited to a showing of Spike Lee's award-winning documentary film, "4 Little Girls," in Lecture Hall II (Chemistry Building) on Tuesday, February 11 from 7:30 to 10 p.m. This will be followed by a discussion with President Freeman Hrabowski. The program is sponsored by Residential Life (ext. 5-2591).

Synopsis of the Documentary

On a Sunday morning, September 15, 1963, while attending Sunday school in Birmingham, Alabama, four little girls were brutally murdered when a bomb ripped through the basement of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church. Dead were Addie Mae Collins (14), Carole Denise McNair (11), Cynthia Wesley (14) and Carole Rosamond Robertson (14). The bombing was one in a series of racially motivated attacks across the country, and one that had a tremendous impact on America. Told through the eyes of people who were there--survivors, witnesses, defenders and prosecutors--this account records the impact and aftermath of this senseless act.

February 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Movie: "Higher Learning" - Chesapeake Hall Lobby - Sponsor: NPHC

February 13 All Day

Blood Pressure Screenings--The Commons - Sponsor: University Health Services
For more information contact University Health Services at ext. 52542.

February 14 from 8 p.m. - 2 a.m. - "V-Day Lovers Affair" - The Commons, Skylight Room
Sponsor: Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated

February 18, 19 and 20 at 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m., 5 p.m.

Movie: "And Still I Rise" - The Women's Center, RAC 226 - Sponsor: The Women's Center
For more information contact **Mikhel Kushner** at ext. 52714.

February 18 at 7:30 p.m.

Movie: "School Days" - Susquehanna Hall Lobby - Sponsor: NPHC

February 18 at 10 p.m.

Mock Probate - Outside of Susquehanna Hall - Sponsor: NPHC

February 21

Cornell West at Morgan State University
Sponsor: Office of Student Life - Transportation will be provided on a first come first serve basis.
Tickets are \$5 and are available in the Office of Student Life. For more information contact **Lee Hawthorne** at ext. 51754.

February 24 at 6 p.m.

Significance of Hairstyles in African Culture - PMC Community Room - Sponsor: ASA

February 26 at 1 p.m.

UMOJA Ceremony - Library, 7th Floor - Come and enjoy the sounds of the UMBC Jubilee Singers and hear speaker Dr. **Jamie Washington**, former assistant vice president for student affairs. as we wrap up our Black History Month Celebration!

IN RECOGNITION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH (CONTINUED)

February 26 at 7:30 p.m.

Movie: "Get on the Bus" - Chesapeake Hall Lobby - Sponsor: NPHC

February 27 at 7 p.m.

Speaker: Congressman **Elijah Cummings** - The Commons, Skylight Room - Come out and here the words of our own Congressman Cummings as he speaks about using our past to pave the way to our future. For more information contact **Abigail Aiyepola** at abigaila@hotmail.com.

February 27

African Culture Workshop: Food, Clothing, Music and Art - Location TBA - Sponsor: ASA

February 28 at 1 p.m.

Movie: "Their Eyes Were Watching God" - The Commons 2B10 - Sponsor: Office of Diversity and Social Justice Initiatives

INSIGHTS WEEKLY

Schedule of Events - GSFC

**Dr. Charley Flint presents Race and Social Justice: A Historical Analysis of Crime and the Law
Thurs., Feb. 13, 2003 in Bldg. 3 Goett Auditorium - 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

The presentation will try to present an overview of how social status, with a focus on race, become reflected in the criminal justice system. The meanings of justice entail larger political, economic, and social relations: the "criminal justice system" changes over history as the Slave Codes, became the "Black Codes" and the Black Codes came to legalize and codify legal racial segregation under the "Jim Crow Codes."

The presentation will show how African-Americans are processed within each process of the system of crime control and what implications, positive and negative, these have for the accused individual, as well as the group. The law is NOT color-blinded; there is a disadvantaged position for those defined as "black", with privileges and advantages to those defined as "white".

**The Bowie State University Concert Choir will perform, and a film: "The Murder of Emmitt Till"
Wed., Feb. 19, 2003 in the bldg. 8 Auditorium from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

Very powerful documentary film footage and commentary ... graphic language and visuals. It's 1955, and this unbelievably brutal lynching in Money, Mississippi, of a 13 year old Chicago child, is probably the catalyst and spark for the Civil Rights struggles nationwide that followed ... starting exactly 100 days afterward!

His courageous mother, Ms. Mamie Till-Mobley personally crusaded to stop these types of murders; she is recently deceased. Well worth watching. There will be a brief opportunity for reaction and discussion after the viewing.

Dr. Freeman Hrabowski, III - President, University of Maryland - Baltimore County

**Dr. Freeman Hrabowski, III - President, University of Maryland - Baltimore County
Thurs., Feb. 20, 2003 in the bldg. 3 Goett Auditorium - 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**

Dr. Freeman Hrabowski, III will speak on nurturing a new generation of engineers and scientists. He is a consultant to the National Science Foundation and the National Academy of Sciences. Dr. Hrabowski was instrumental in forming the Governor's Academy for Mathematics, Science, and Technology and is the successful co-author of *Overcoming the Odds: Raising Academically Successful African American Women* and *Beating the Odds: Raising Academically Successful African American Males*.

IN RECOGNITION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH (CONTINUED)

Ms. Jacqueline Galloway-Blake, MA School Failure and the African-American Boy - Causes and Cures
Wed., Feb. 26, 2003 in bldg. 26/205 Conference Room from 11a.m. to 1 p.m.

This workshop examines how African influences and the slavery experiences have shaped the learning styles of African-American children. It shows how American schools have failed the African-American boy and outlines how school educators and administrators can work with parents to improve the immediate and long-term academic success for African-American boys.

Why are so many African American boys placed in special education classes in America's schools? Has the African-American boy failed at school or has the school failed the African-American boy? Looking inside the typical American school and we can view the policies, practices and attitudes that work against this learning style and the African-American boy. Let's find new ways to bring educational successes to the African-American boy! Specific suggestions for meeting the educational needs of young Black males are discussed.

State Representative Rufus Straughter (51st Dist. - Miss.) Presents "We've Made It, In Spite Of ..."
Thurs., Feb 27, 2003 in bldg. 3 Goett Auditorium - 11a.m. to 2 p.m.

The history of Mississippi is a microcosm of the history of African-Americans and Euro-Americans in the United States. As recently as the public embarrassment and outcry resulting from Mississippi Senator Trent Lott's public speech alluding to a "different and better America had Strom Thurmond won the presidency" as an independent running on a platform of segregation, the social and political history of the "Mississippi Delta" has impacted and shaped the larger United States political landscape.

As Chairman of the Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus, Rep. Straughter has pressed for increased financial investment in state universities (\$500 M), unlimited access for African-American businesses to private and state sponsored investment opportunities, like the new Nissan Assembly and Development plants - the largest in the country. His goals are to overcome the transgressions and bigotries of the past and strive for all to embody excellence and high standards of insight and achievement.

For more info: Leonard Brown on 6-5424, the EOPO 6-7348, or visit the EOPO website at: <http://eeo.gsfc.nasa.gov/events.html>

Black History Fact:

Archibald Alphonso Alexander
Design and construction engineer

Born: 1888

A 1912 recipient of a civil engineering degree from Iowa State University, Archibald "Archie" Alexander joined the Marsh Engineering Company where he designed the Tidal Basin bridge in Washington, D.C. After studying bridge design in London, he and George Higbee formed a general contracting business that focused on bridge design. Alexander's designs include Washington, D.C.'s Whitehurst Freeway, the heating plant and power station at the University of Iowa, and an airfield in Tuskegee, Alabama. Alexander went on to become the first Republican territorial governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands. Died: 1958

GODDARD News for February 7, 2003

NEW ARRIVALS - CONGRATULATIONS

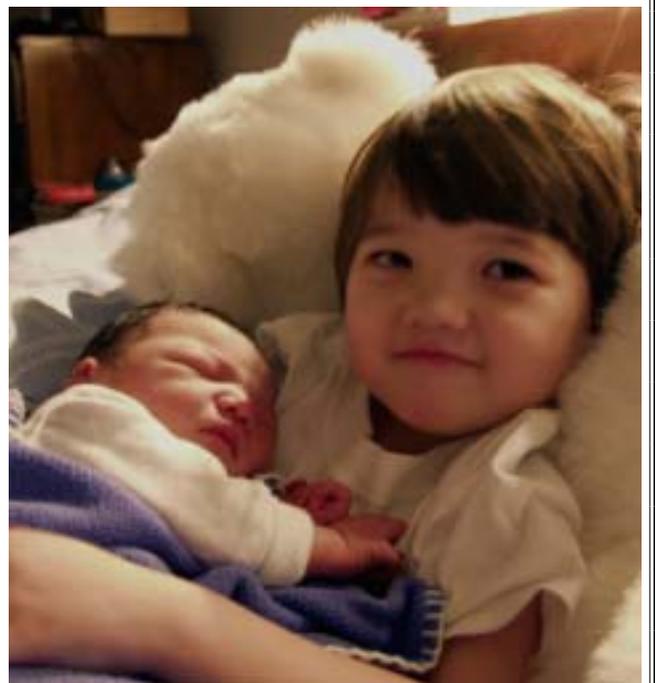
To Dr. Susan Sakimoto and her husband on the birth of their son

Elliot Tohachi Sakimoto

5:21 pm - January 22, 2003 - 6 pounds 14 ounces - 20 inches



Little Elliot with his sister Katrina (pictured below)



NEW EMPLOYEES



GEST would like to welcome the following new faculty and staff Members

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| Craig Bare | Code 920 |
| Marcia Delaney | Code 900.1 |
| Brendan Gleason | Code 974 |
| Dr. Mark Olsen | Code 916 |
| Dr. Halan Wang | Code 913 |
| Dr. Fanglin Yang | Code 913 |



IMPORTANT GRANT INFORMATION - NO COST EXTENSIONS

Most sponsors allow no-cost extensions (NCE) of grant periods to provide maximum possible continuity in funding research and educational activities. The requirements to apply for a NCE vary with the sponsor and each investigator should refer to his/her sponsor's policies.

For instance, **NASA** <http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/procurement/nraguidebook/gdbkapxd.html> (go to paragraph D-3) allows recipients to extend the expiration date of a grant if additional time beyond the established expiration date is required to assure adequate completion of the original scope of work with the funds already made available. Under these conditions, the recipient may unilaterally make a ONE-TIME no-cost extension, not to exceed 12 months. This requires that written notification with supporting reasons be received by the grant officer at least ten days prior to the expiration of the award. Any other extension must be submitted as a request in writing to the grant officer. Any notification or request should be co-signed by OSP prior to sending. Grantees are not authorized to extend an award that contains a zero balance.

For NIH

http://grants2.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps/part_ii_5.htm#expandauth

has similar (but not identical) requirements for FDP participants and for awards made under expanded authority. UMBC is not an FDP participant at this time and if expanded authority is not given at the time of award or in the case of some special grants (construction, training, etc) the rules may vary.

The grantee may extend the final budget period of the project period one time for a period of up to 12 months beyond the original expiration date shown in the NGA if no additional funds are required to be obligated by the awarding office, there will be no change in the project's originally approved scope or objectives, and any one of the following applies:

- Additional time beyond the established expiration date is required to ensure adequate completion of the originally approved project.
- Continuity of NIH grant support is required while a competing continuation application is under review.
- The extension is necessary to permit an orderly phase-out of a project that will not receive continued support.

The fact that funds remain at the expiration of the grant is not, in itself, sufficient justification for an extension without additional funds. The grantee must notify the NIH awarding office, in writing, of the extension 10 days prior to the expiration date of the project period. Upon notification, the NIH awarding office will revise the project period ending date and provide an acknowledgment to the grantee. In extending the final budget period of the grant through this process, the grantee agrees to update all required certifications, including human subjects and animal welfare, in accordance with applicable regulations and policies. Grantees may not extend project periods previously extended by the NIH awarding office. Any additional project period extension beyond the one-time extension of up to 12 months requires NIH prior approval. (See "Prior Approval Requirements" above for extensions requiring additional funds.)

GRANT INFORMATION - NO COST EXTENSIONS (CONTINUED)

OSP requires notification from the PI when a NCE is being requested. This notification should ideally be submitted to OSP at least 30 days prior to expiration of the grant. This notification should include a clear explanation/reason for the no-cost extension. OSP will co-sign the request and forward to the appropriate Grants Specialist at NIH. Upon receipt of acknowledgment back from NIH, internal records will be updated to reflect the new end date and a new information sheet will be generated.

For NSF

http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2002/nsf02151/gpm02_151.pdf (go to paragraph 253.2, No-Cost Extension).

Note that NSF requires NCEs to be submitted electronically.

Grantee-Approved Extension. Grantees may authorize a one-time extension of the expiration date of the grant of up to 12 months if additional time beyond the established expiration date is required to assure adequate completion of the original scope of work within the funds already made available. This one-time extension may not be exercised merely for the purpose of using the unliquidated balances. Grantees are not authorized to extend an award that contains a zero balance. The grantee shall notify NSF, providing supporting reasons for the extension and the revised expiration date, at least ten days prior to the expiration date specified in the grant to ensure accuracy of NSF's grant data. All grantee-approved extension notifications must be submitted via the Fast-Lane system. For grantee-approved extensions, no amendment will be used.

NSF-Approved Extension.

If additional time beyond the extension provided by the grantee is required and exceptional circumstances warrant, a formal request must be submitted to NSF. The request must be submitted to NSF at least 45 days prior to the expiration date of the grant. The request must explain the need for the extension and include an estimate of the unobligated funds remaining and a plan for their use. As indicated above, that unobligated funds may remain at the expiration of the grant is not in itself sufficient justification for an extension. The plan must adhere to the previously approved objectives of the project. **All requests for NSF-approved extensions must be submitted via the FastLane system.** Grantees are not authorized to extend an award that contains a zero balance.

2. Any NSF-approved no-cost extension will be issued by an NSF Grants Officer in the form of an amendment to the grant specifying a new expiration date. Grantees are cautioned not to make new commitments or incur new expenditures after the expiration date in anticipation of a no-cost extension.

All requests for no cost extensions are submitted through FastLane. Upon submission, OSP will receive notification that a request has been made. Upon our review, final processing will take place with the FastLane system.

For NSA (no website available) requires a request that includes the remaining dollar amount be provided.

NOTE:

In all cases, the notification/request must be prepared by the PI/Department with a justifiable reason for the extension and co-signed by OSP. This request should be submitted to OSP in the sponsor's required format allowing enough time for OSP to meet the sponsor's deadlines.

In no case does a sponsor allow for an extension simply to use up unexpended funds.

IMPORTANT DATES & REMINDERS

IMPORTANT DATES - 2003

5TH of each month

Monthly time sheets due into GEST Office

Jan. W2 received at home by Jan 31st

Feb. GEST Annual Report input due to Faculty Group Spokesperson

Mar. UMBC Faculty Annual Report (FAR) due GEST Quarterly Faculty Meeting March 27th

Apr. Deadline for filing Federal and State tax returns April 15th.

May Memorial Day

June UMBC Fiscal year closes June 30th.
All expense forms due in by early June
GEST Quarterly Faculty Meeting - June 26th

July GEST Annual Research Program Plan distributed (ARPP)

Aug. No health insurance taken out of pay one cycle

Sept. Consulting Report due to Nancy
Labor Day Holiday September 1st
GEST Faculty Quarterly Meeting - Sept. 18th
NASA Fiscal Year ends Sept. 30

Oct. Columbus Day Holiday - October 14th

Open enrollment for Health Plans -

Nov. Veterans Holiday - November 11th

Thanksgiving - November 27th

Dec. All non-US citizens must file new Citizenship Status Form and W4
GEST Faculty Quarterly Meeting- Dec. 17th, GSFC
Christmas - December 25th
Moving expenses this year taxed final paycheck of year

December Quarterly Meeting

The next Faculty Quarterly Meeting is March 25, 2003, GSFC, Bldg. 33, Room - TBA

Travel

Please don't forget to complete a Request for Travel form each time you travel. This includes trips that are being funded by outside sources. This is to ensure that as a UMBC employee you are covered for liability insurance should you have an accident on the trip. Having prior travel approval also ensures smoother processing should the need arise to claim Workman's Compensation (another area of protection for you should an accident occur while you're traveling).

Time Sheets

These forms are available electronically by contacting Nancy Flowers at flowers@umbc.edu. At the end of each calendar month you should print out the completed form, sign it, and bring the form to the GEST Office in Building 28, Room W223, or PROMPT MAIL it to the same address, Code 900.1. These forms will be used to track your leave, and ensure that your pay is correct. It is therefore, essential that these be turned in by the fifth working day of the subsequent month.

Expense Reimbursements

The traveler may copy an expense statement to claim reimbursement and forward the completed copy, along with a **blank signed** expense statement to the UMBC GEST office. Contact Nancy Flowers at the UMBC GEST office (410 455-8899) to verify if signed forms are on hand. If travel was for an extended period, i.e., more than 7 days, more than one blank, signed expense statement should be submitted with the original receipts. Blank expense statements may be acquired from the GEST office at Goddard or the UMBC GEST office.

All Travel Requests, Time Sheets and Expense Reimbursements are to be submitted to Nancy Flowers at: flowers@umbc.edu.

IN MEMORY OF SPACE SHUTTLE COLUMBIA CREWMEMBERS

We Shall Never Forget

On Saturday, February 1st, the nation lost seven of its bravest on their return to Earth in the Space Shuttle Columbia. The **STS-107** crewmembers included astronauts Rick Husband, William McCool, Michael Anderson, Kalpana Chawla, David Brown, Laurel Clark and Israeli astronaut Ilan Ramon.

The GEST family also felt this tragedy.

We shall never forget your contributions to the space program and to the nation.

We shall never forget that you were remembered in God's creation.

We shall never forget that you have touched many lives;

or forget that because of your touch, many have become wise.

So when we pray we will remember your families,

*and never erase **you** from our memories. (gr)*

The Lord is good, a stronghold in a day of trouble; He protects those who take refuge in Him - Nahum 1:7

Dedicated in memory of Space Shuttle Columbia crewmembers and their families:



GEST Website

Please don't forget to check out our (GEST) website at: <http://gest.umbc.edu>.

GEST Faculty Quarterly Meetings

March 27, 2003

June 26, 2003

September 18, 2003

Dec. 17, 2003

GEST Council Meetings

GSFC, Bldg. 33, H118

February 18, 2003 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

March 18, 2003 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

April 15, 2003 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

May 20, 2003 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

GODDARD EARTH SCIENCES AND
TECHNOLOGY CENTER



GEST

1450 South Rolling Road
Suite 3.002
Baltimore, MD 21227

WE'RE ON THE WEB AT
[HTTP://GEST.UMBC.EDU/](http://gest.umbc.edu/)

PLEASE EMAIL INFORMATION FOR THE

NEWSLETTER TO

roscoe@umbc.edu

prior to the 15th of each month