

Professor Duncan Foley

Professor Duncan Foley is a community-oriented geologist with deep interests in the arts. He is noted for his expertise in hydrothermal systems and his broad understanding of geology, his service to the PLU community, his diverse teaching, and his exceptional photography skills. He is perhaps best known for his extensive understanding of, ongoing research in, and gorgeous photos of the geothermal systems of Yellowstone National Park.

Duncan received his B.A. in Geology from Antioch College in Ohio. At Ohio State University, his master's degree focused on environmental geology and land use planning, and his Ph.D. focused on volcanic geology. His broad education in geology fostered his ability to connect diverse sub-disciplines and think about creative solutions for teaching and research in geology. Throughout his career at PLU, he has consulted in geology and education, specializing in volcanic controls of geothermal systems, geologic hazards and their mitigation, educational publishing, interpretation of geology in national parks and groundwater pollution. Prior to arriving at PLU in the fall of 1986, he managed low- and moderate-temperature geothermal resource assessment programs.

An active scholar since the 1970s, Duncan's current investigation of the plumbing system near Old Faithful Geyser in Yellowstone National Park is funded by the National Geographic Society Expeditions Council. Duncan has used innovative technologies to map and determine the ages of deposits in Yellowstone. His book *Yellowstone's Geysers: The Story Behind the Scenery* combines accessible scientific information with some of his stunning photography for park visitors.

A dedicated and innovative teacher, Duncan is a co-author of the nationally adopted lab manual *Investigations in Environmental Geology*, which incorporates state of the science information to help students learn to make wise choices in a finite, changing, and geologically active world. He used the wells on campus and at the Gonyea House as a pedagogical tool to expose students to hydrogeologic research techniques. Many of the students he has taught and mentored have excelled as geology professionals.

Duncan served PLU and the community through an array of activities including mentoring faculty, serving on campus committees, and serving as a Lakewood Playhouse board member and president. He actively mentored young faculty across campus using wry humor to convey thoughtful, creative suggestions. He was an integral member of teams that wrote grants to the Keck Foundation, Kresge Foundation, and Murdock Trust, which funded the Division of Natural Sciences student-faculty research program and equipment fund, and created a Geographic Information System/Global Positioning System laboratory in the Geosciences. This lab supports student-faculty research and course work in spatial data collection and management, and led to the creation of many high quality maps and posters.

For Duncan's breadth of understanding of geology, creative connections among topics, commitment to student success and learning, expert knowledge about hydrothermal systems, amazing photography and dedication to the university and community, we are deeply grateful.