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Five CU students win NASA fellowships for graduate study

By Elizabeth Mattern Clark, Camera Staff
Writer
July 14, 2005

University of Colorado graduate students researching clouds, earthquakes, sea-level variations and atmospheric aerosols have won NASA fellowships, each providing \$24,000 a year.

The five earth-sciences awards were the most that the federal agency gave for any university in the country this year.

"I'm very honored," said Melinda Beaver, 24, a Ph.D. student researching the effects of organic chemicals on cirrus clouds, which are formed of ice.

Fellowship winner Charles Bardeen also is examining clouds; he'll use satellite information to study polar stratospheric clouds.

Kyuhong Choi will study GPS applications for earthquake faults and volcanoes.

Thomas Jakub will reconstruct global sea-level variations over the past century, and Ingrid Ulbrich will study the particle composition of atmospheric aerosols.

Aerospace engineering professor Kristine Larson said the fellowships are an indication of CU's strength in "global climate research related to the oceans and atmospheres, as well as research related to mitigating natural hazards such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and landslides."

NASA awarded 65 graduate fellowships in earth systems science to students at 41 universities for the 2005-06 school year. The agency said the purpose of the program is to "ensure continued training of



Marty Caivano

Melinda Beaver, a Ph.D. student in chemistry at the University of Colorado, is one of five CU students to receive an earth-sciences fellowship from NASA for the next school year.

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