

# More Clear than Mud: Using Os to Unravel Sources of Fe to Seawater through the Cenozoic

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Arizona NASA Space Grant Symposium

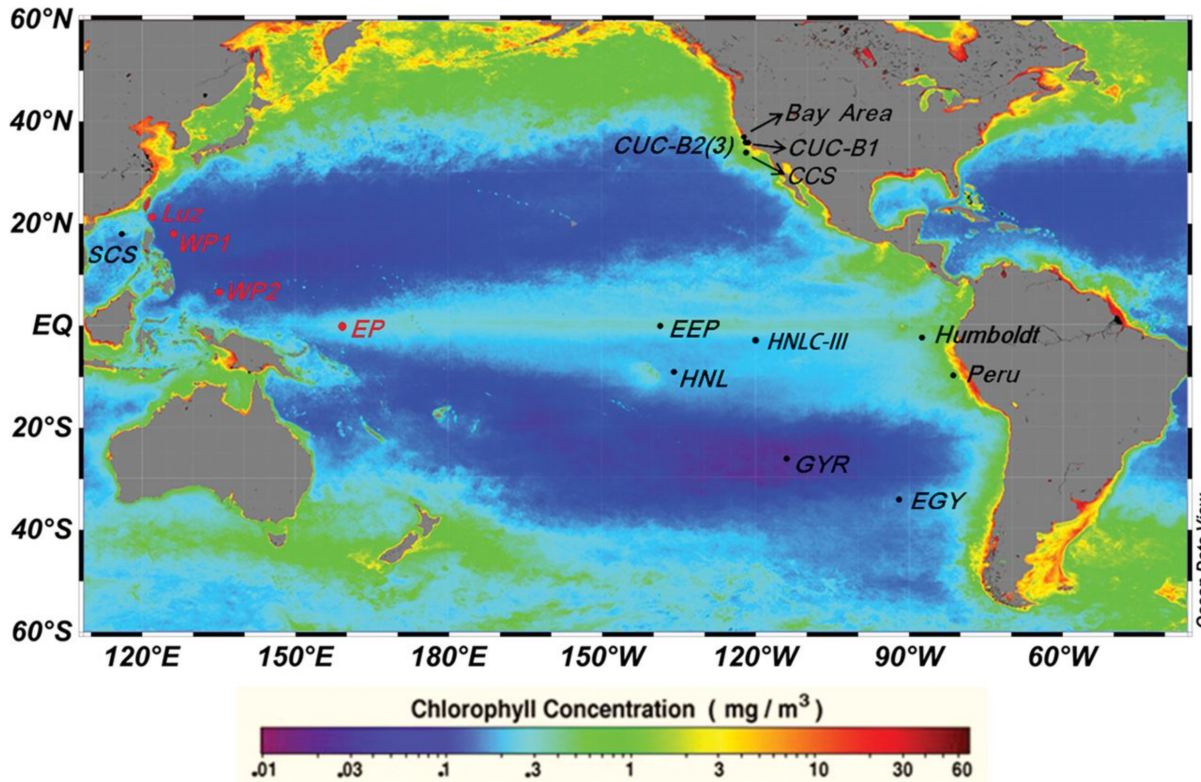
2017-2018

Mentors:

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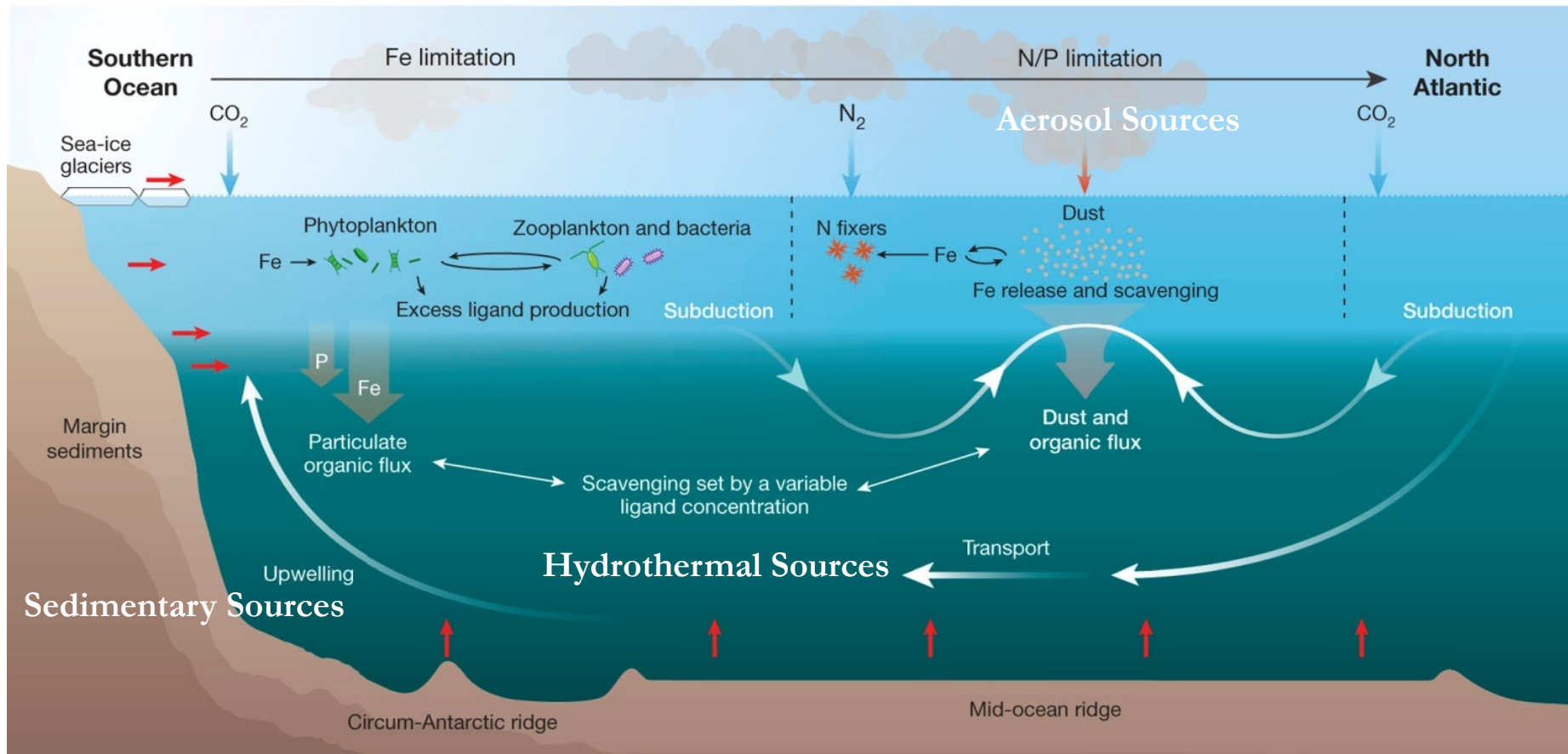


# Primary Productivity and Fe Limitation

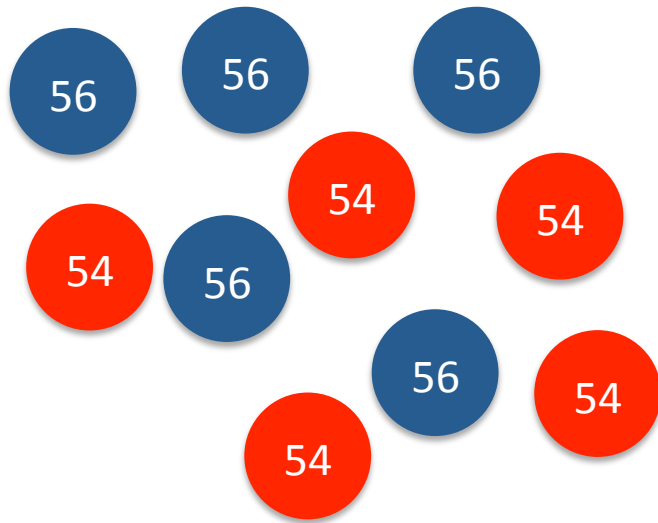


- Phytoplankton draws down a considerable amount of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and plays a role in modulating climate
- However, primary productivity is limited by Fe bioavailability in high-nutrient low-chlorophyll (HPLC) regions

# Fe: A Complex System



# Isotopic Fingerprinting

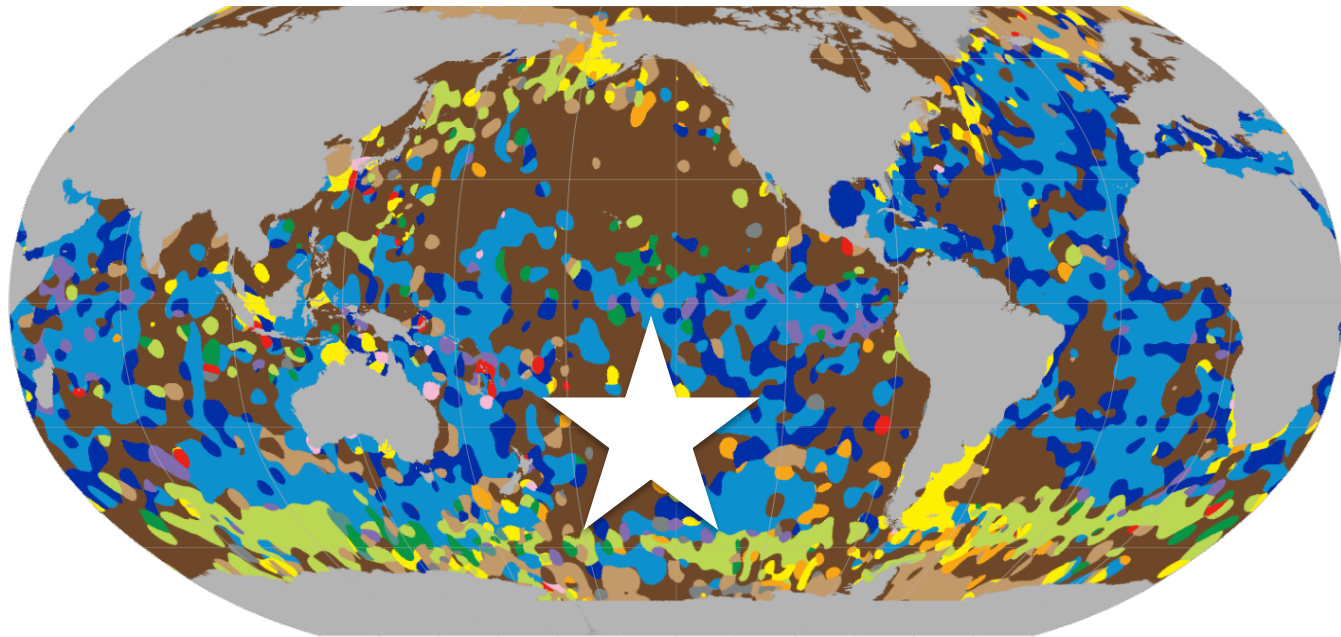


Enriched with  $^{54}\text{Fe}$

$$\delta^{56}\text{Fe} = \left[ \frac{{}^{56}\text{Fe} / {}^{54}\text{Fe}_{\text{sample}}}{{}^{56}\text{Fe} / {}^{54}\text{Fe}_{\text{IRMM-014}}} - 1 \right] \times 1000$$



# Pelagic Clays as a Potential Archive



Clay

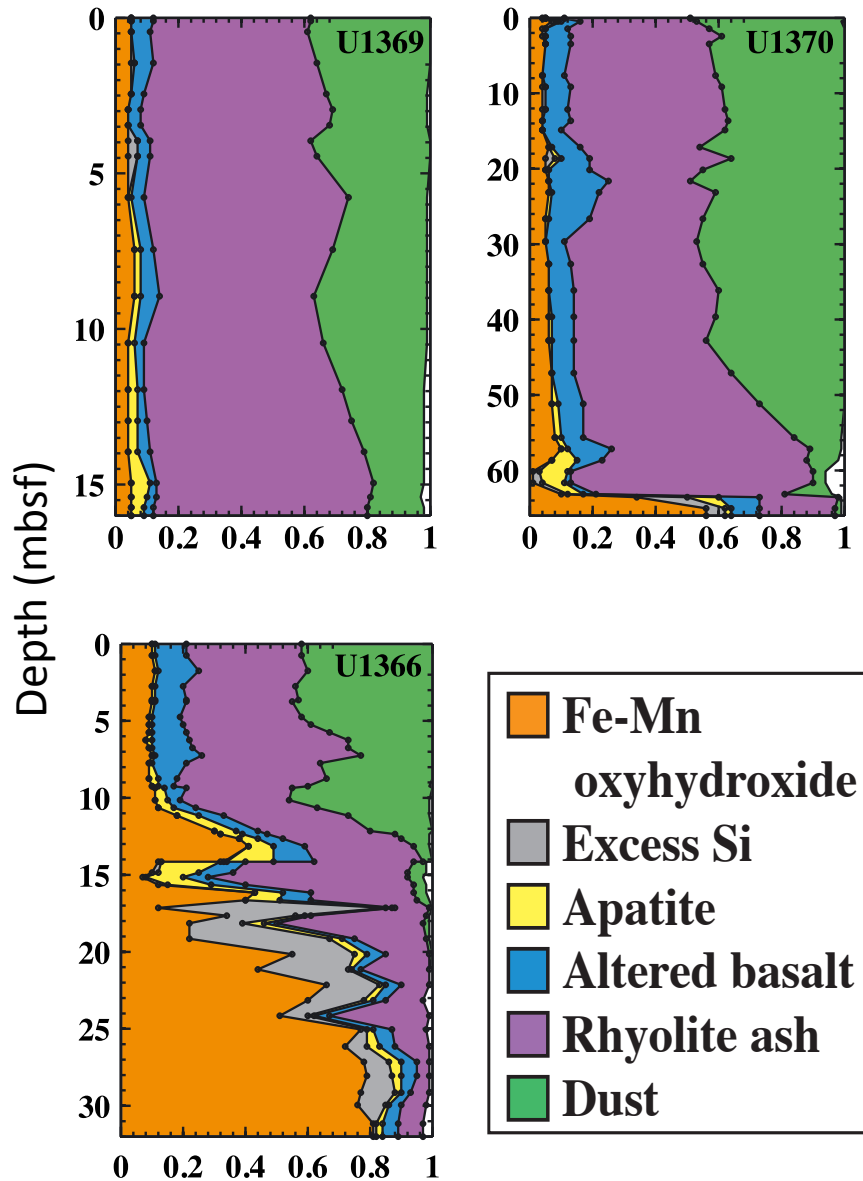


Calcareous  
deposits



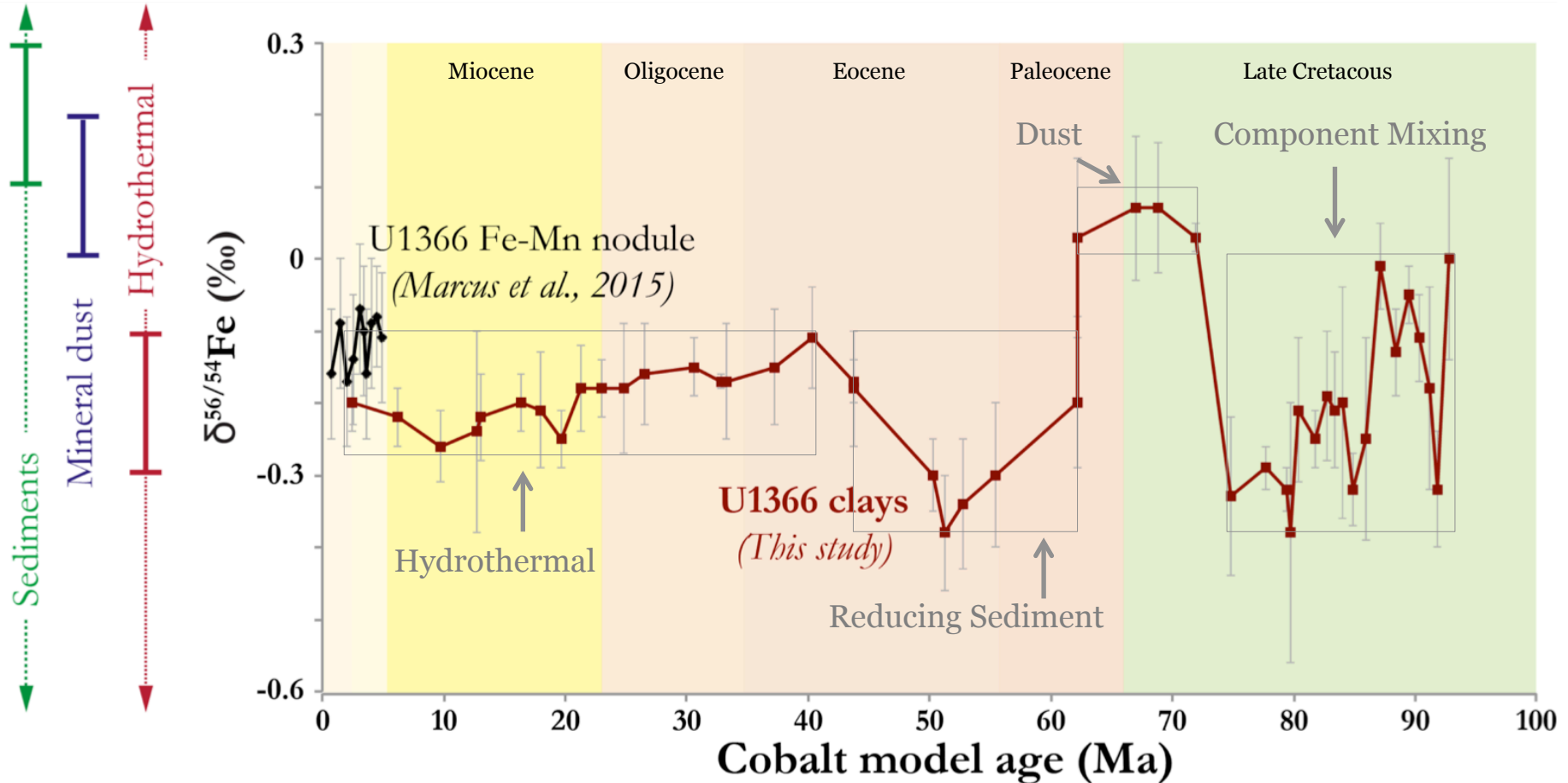
Siliceous  
deposits

# Pelagic Clays as a Potential Archive



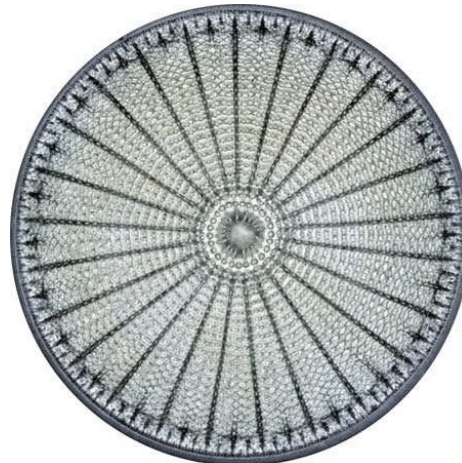
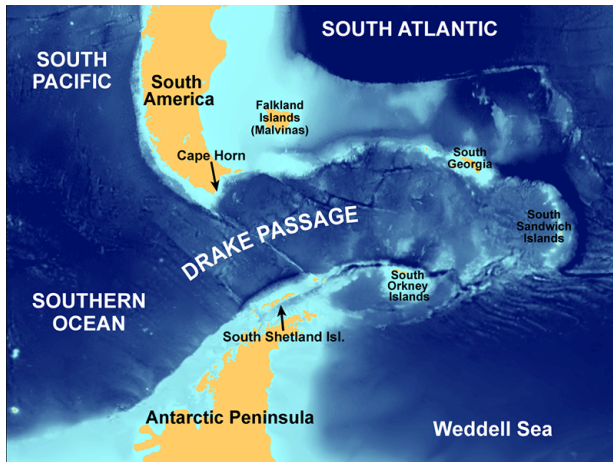
- Pelagic clays cover ~50% of the seafloor
- Some clays are heavily enriched with Fe (up to 80 wt.%)
- Pelagic clays are made up of six components
- Here, we focus on Site U1366, with plans to expand the study to Sites U1369 and U1370

# Fe Isotope Results

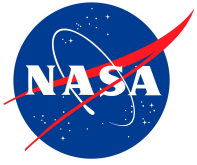


# Conclusions and Outlook

- Opening of the Drake Passage
  - The opening of the Drake passage (~41 Myr) may have changed ocean circulation and introduced more hydrothermal input
- Diatoms
  - Diatoms became abundant ~34 Myr ago—how did this affect Fe?
- Large Igneous Provinces (LIPS) and volcanic ash inputs
  - LIPS and/or volcanic ash may have increased dust input from 65-75 Myr



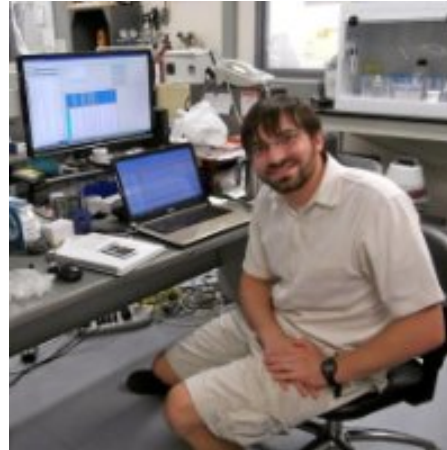




# Acknowledgements



Ariel Anbar



Stephen Romaniello



Tristan Horner



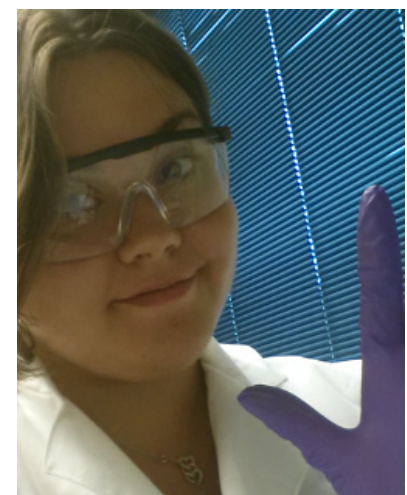
Ann Dunlea



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