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BARRICK SUPPORTS MAMMOTH ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS OF FUTURE GEOLOGISTS AT UNLV GEOSYMPOSIUM

Student Winner Recognized for Research on Dinosaur and Mammoth Fossil Excavation

Las Vegas, NV — Barrick employees played an active role recognizing student winners of a poster competition about dinosaur fossil excavations at the 12th annual University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) GeoSymposium on April 28 and 29.

Chief Geologist Paul Dobak and Project Geologist, Nathan Eck, presented Rebecca Humphrey, a senior expected to graduate this semester, with the undergraduate student academic achievement award.

“This is an exciting way to help identify and shape the talent of future geologists,” said **Paul Dobak, Barrick chief geologist.**

“As an alumni of the UNLV Geoscience Department I’m thrilled to work with up and coming geologists,” said **Nathan Eck, Barrick project geologist.**

The UNLV Geoscience Department hosted the student-run event, designed to provide graduate and undergraduate students with an opportunity to present their original research and receive feedback from industry, civic, and government professionals, as well as academic experts.

The winner of the undergraduate student academic achievement award is recognized for excellence in their conference performance based on the quality of the original research idea, research methods used and integration of classroom knowledge along with community outreach/involvement to share their work.

Humphrey, who is expected to graduate this May with a degree in earth and environmental sciences with a minor in biological sciences presented two research projects that she’s involved in that pertain to paleontology. She is involved in assisting in the excavation of a Columbian Mammoth in Armargosa Valley, along with researching an unidentified duck-billed dinosaur from the Valley of Fire State Park. The fossils may be the largest dinosaur fossil collection to be found in Nevada.

Student research projects include topics such as soils, geomorphology, hydrogeology, paleontology, sedimentology, stratigraphy, geochemistry, volcanology, seismology, structural geology, and economic geology.

“With the generous support from Barrick and other sponsors have been able to continue running this event without a registration fee since its inception twelve years ago,” said **Alaina Cowley, director of development, College of Sciences at UNLV.** “This partnership is greatly appreciated by many and proves to be beneficial for both students and professionals.”

“Paleontology tells a story of past life on Earth, and can give an appreciation of deep geologic time,” said **Rebecca Humphrey recipient of the undergraduate academic achievement award**. “My passion for Earth Science, my inspirational professors, and the UNLV community, all encourage me to strive towards my goals to work within the community and share my knowledge of STEM studies. I would like to thank my professors, the Geoscience Department, and Barrick Gold for their support.”

At the event Barrick employees also provided information about career opportunities in the mining industry. The company, a longtime supporter and sponsor of the GeoSymposium, has hired a number of geology students from the UNLV. They also provide support to the UNLV Foundation and other university based programs.



Rebecca Humphrey, center, a senior studying earth and environmental sciences with a minor in biological sciences, displays the undergraduate student academic achievement award that was presented to her by Paul Dobak, left, chief geologist for Barrick and Nathan Eck, project geologist for Barrick at the GeoSymposium held on the UNLV campus Friday, April 28, 2017.

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About Barrick Gold

Barrick is the world’s leading gold producer, with operations on four continents. The company operates three gold mines in Nevada, providing more than 4,000 of the state’s highest-paying jobs. Barrick is the state’s largest foreign investor and is also Nevada’s largest exporter. Barrick and its employees are active supporters of causes in education, conservation, the arts and other local community organizations in both Northern and Southern Nevada. In partnership with other Nevada businesses, Barrick Gold has taken a leadership role in working to establish best practices and promote corporate giving in Nevada through the Nevada Corporate Giving Council.