

# FUNDING AND PARTNERSHIPS

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## CONSORTIUM FUNDING

Private- and public- sector partners are an essential part of the KECK Geology Consortium. The National Science Foundation (REU: EAR-9987892), and the Consortium Colleges together fund the bulk of the Consortium program.

### National Science Foundation

The National Science Foundation supported four advanced projects--Greece III, Iceland, California, and Mongolia--and the introductory project, Cozumel. In all, NSF supported the participation of thirty-four students from thirteen colleges and universities.

The National Science Foundation's mission is to promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; and to secure the national defense. The Consortium receives funding from the Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program in the Division of Earth Sciences. REU supports research experience for students in science, mathematics, and engineering, in order to attract a talented students to research careers in these fields.

For more information about NSF, visit the website at <http://www.nsf.gov/>.

### The Consortium Colleges

The Consortium colleges are dedicated to excellence in undergraduate education. The colleges offer students comprehensive and rigorous educational opportunities that promote intellectual growth, a sense of both individuality and membership in community, integrity, and responsibility. The college's support of the Consortium reflects their dedication to providing students with diverse learning opportunities.

### Ben Meadows and Estwing

Ben Meadows Company and the Estwing Manufacturing Company donated equipment to compensate the Mongolian students for their participation on the project. Estwing donated rock hammers and safety glasses. Ben Meadows donated field notebooks, hand lenses, Brunton compasses, field cases, field vests, and Ben Meadows caps. Because of the generosity of these companies, the Mongolian students were totally equipped for their geology research.

### ExxonMobil Foundation

ExxonMobil Foundation has supported the symposium since 1995. Funding by ExxonMobil permits the students to participate without the financial worries that can prevent involvement in such events. A proposal to support this symposium is under consideration.

ExxonMobil Foundation's grant making is aimed at aiding education in the United States. IN addition to supporting the betterment of undergraduate science, technology, engineering and mathematics education, the Foundation supports K-12 science education, mathematics education with an emphasis on K-5, and efforts aimed at enhancing the success of students from minority groups underrepresented in eh sciences.

## PROJECT PARTNERS

Collaboration was the theme for the 2003 program, and all projects benefited from involvement of faculty and staff from other organizations. Details about these partnerships are included in the project director's abstracts. The following is a thumbnail sketch of collaborative activity.