**Mingfei CHEN**

Ph.D. Student

Department of Geology

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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**EDUCATION**

**2017-present** Doctor of Philosophy, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Major: Geology

GPA:3.93

**2013-2017** Bachelor of Science,Peking University

Major: Geology

Minor: Biology

GPA:3.62

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**2018, 2020 Spring** Research Assistant, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

**2016-2017** Undergraduate Research Assistant, Paleoceanography Lab, Peking University

**HONORS, AWARDS AND FUNDINGS**

**2020** GSA Graduate Research Grant ($1,375)

**2020** Teaching Assistant Ranked as Excellent by Students (2019 Fall)

**2019** Outstanding Student Presentation Award, AGU Fall Meeting

**2017** Wanless Fellow, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

**2017** Outstanding Bachelor Graduate, Peking University

**2016** Model Student of Academic, Peking University

**2015** “Triple-A” Outstanding Student, Peking University

**2015** Lee Wai Wing Scholarship (2 out of 50), Peking University

**2014** Model Student of Academic, Peking University

**PUBLICATION**

**Chen, M.**, Conroy, J.L., Sanford, R.A., Chee-Sanford, J.C., Connor, L.M. *accepted.* Interpreting lacustrine bulk sediment δ15N values using metagenomics in a tropical hypersaline lake system. Journal of Paleolimnology.

Schmitt, S., Conroy, J.L., Flynn, T.M., Sanford, R.A., Higley, M.C., **Chen, M.**, Fouke, F.W. (2019) Salinity, microbe and carbonate mineral relationships in brackish and hypersaline lake sediments: a case study from the tropical Pacific coral atoll of Kiritimati. The Depositional Record.

**MEETING ABSTRACT** Chen, M., Conroy, J.L., Fouke, B.W. The distribution of organic matter in aragonite spherules: Insights into potential biotic mechanisms of spherule formation. 2020. American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, San Francisco, C.A. (*invited*)

Chen, M., Conroy, J.L., Fouke, B.W. The distribution of organic matter in aragonite spherules: Insights into potential biotic mechanisms of spherule formation. 2020. Geological Society of America Connects Online.

Chen, M., Conroy, J.L., Sanford, R.A., Chee-Sanford, J.C., Connor, L.M. Interpreting lacustrine bulk sediment δ15N values using metagenomics: A case study from a hypersaline lake system. 2019. 8th Midwest Geobiology Symposium, St. Louis, M.O.

Chen, M., Conroy, J.L., Sanford, R.A., Chee-Sanford, J.C., Connor, L.M. Interpreting lacustrine bulk sediment δ15N values using metagenomics: A case study from a hypersaline lake system. 2019. American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, San Francisco, C.A.

Chen, M., Conroy, J.L., Sanford, R.A., Chee-Sanford, J.C., Connor, L.M., Sivapalan, V.S. Microbially mediated nitrogen isotope fractionation in hypersaline lakes. 2018. American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, Washington, D.C.

Casar, C., Karbelkar, A.A., Vinnichenko, G., Chen, M., Osburn, M. R., Orphan, V.J., Fischer, W.W., Session, A.L., The 2018 International Geobiology Course Participants. Transformation of ancient organic carbon in exposed organic-rich black shale of the Monterey Formation, Naples Beach, CA. 2018. American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, Washington, D.C.

**TEACHING AND ADVISING**

**Courses TA:**

Geology 143: History of Life (Fall 2019)

Geology 111: Emergence of Life (Spring 2019)

**Undergraduates advised/mentored:**

Ryan Oeste, Geology (UIUC)

**FIELD EXPERIENCE**

**2018** Geobiology field expedition in Mono Lake, Naples Beach and Sulfur Creek, CA

**2017** Geobiology and paleolimnological field expedition in Smith Lake, IL

**2015** Geological fieldwork in Xingcheng, Liaoning

* Led a monographic group study to produce a regional geological map of the Mt. Changlong area (20km2)
* Conducted independent research on the faults of Mt. Changlong’s north ridge to determine the properties and stages of fault evolution

**2014** Geological fieldwork in areas surrounding Beijing

* Constructed a stratigraphic column of Paleozoic strata of North China craton

**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

**Department**

**2020-present** President, UIUC Geology Graduate Student Council

**2019-2020** Social chair, UIUC Geology Graduate Student Council

**2020** Member, SESE Research Review Committee, UIUC

**Professional Affiliation**

* Geological Society of America
* American Geophysics Union