

In fall 2012, the six Research Mentors included three geography majors, a geology major, an environmental geology major, and an environmental studies major.

Joe Arevalo

Joe Arevalo is a senior at Calvin College majoring in geography with minors in history and international development. He is worked in the department as a GIS lab technician and has assisted Professor van Dijk with her research on dunes at P.J. Hoffmaster State Park. His interests are torn between the physical and cultural spheres of geography and he hopes to find a way to integrate them. Joe is excited to be a FYRES mentor and learn more about the dunes while

doing research on them. He has been enthusiastic about dunes ever since childhood vacations to them. Joe hopes to pass on his enthusiasm for dunes to other students.

Linden Brinks

Linden Brinks is a junior-year geography major. She has worked with the department as the map library curator and the seminar assistant. Linden has done research on the Great Sand Dunes National Monument. She has an equal love for both the cultural and physical aspects of geography. Linden hopes to see that being a mentor will provide her with the research skills that she will need to continue on with her education. She also hopes to look at

her experience with the FYRES: Dunes program as a memorable one. After college Linden is planning to take a few years off and then hopefully continue her education at the graduate level.

Steven Musch

Steven Musch is a senior Geography major with a minor in Environmental Studies. Steven spent the summer of 2012 at Lassen Volcanic National Park as a project coordinator for a research study on plant phenology which tracked the seasonal changes in certain plant species. Working for the National Park Service was a great opportunity to gain research experience and see the inner workings of a major government land agency. After