

Melissa V. Connely, PG

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Objective To serve my family and community; both professional and social as a scientist, educator, and lifelong learner.

Experience

2006 - Current Consulting Paleontologist/Geologist Casper, WY
Consultant

- Provide paleontological surveying, site evaluation, and mitigation for the petroleum, mining, and construction industries as co-owner of *Stratigraphic rex*, LLC.
- Currently hold survey and research permits with BLM in Wyoming, Montana and the Dakotas. See list of activities below.
- Held permits from the Bureau of Reclamation
- Maintain liability insurance
- 20 years of experience in fossil excavation and quarry management
- Geological consultant for fossil quarries
- Professional Geologist #4049 with the State of Wyoming Board of Professional Geologists

1998 - Current Casper College Casper, WY

Educator

- Geology Instructor – Klaenhammer Earth Science Chair
- Geology instructor for the Dept. of Earth Science.
- Developed new courses, traditional and online, aided in the development of a GIS degree program
- Received several NSF EBSCoR research grants
- Presented research at scientific conferences
- Awarded the Rosenthal Award for teaching excellence
- Vice-President and President of the Faculty Senate (2007-2009)
- President of the Wyoming Faculty Alliance (2007-2008)

2009 - 2012 Casper College Casper, WY

Dean – School of Science

- Includes administration duties
- Managed 40 faculty, numerous adjuncts and staff, and over 25 programs.

- Developed strategic and master plans

2007 - 2009 Casper College Casper, WY
 Director – Tate Geological Museum

- Includes administration duties
- Received IMLS grant for special projects with the Museum

1994- 2005 DIS-WDIS Casper, WY

Quarry Manager

- Consulting Paleontologist/Geologist.
- Quarry manager at Como Bluff for 10 years with WDIS and Dinosaur International Society in Fruita CO.
- Provided instruction on field techniques.

1999-2000 Utah State University Logan, UT
 Teacher Assistant

- Taught Geology labs and assisted in lectures.
- Received outstanding teacher assistant award.

Education

1991–2002

- M.S. Geology from Utah State University
- B.S. Geology from University of Wyoming
- A.S. Education from Casper College, member of Phi Theta Kappa
- Completed courses in ArcGIS I and II from ESRI.

Interests

Past board member of the Community Health Center of Central Wyoming, past Advisory Board Member for Utah State University Geology Dept., past President of the Wyoming Faculty Alliance, past Board Member of the Wyoming Geological Association, Board Member of the Wyoming State Muzzleloaders Association, enjoy hunting/fishing, and home brewing

Awards
 Scholarships and
 Other

- Currently have surface collecting permit for research and surveying/consulting with BLM.
- First Klaenhammer Earth Science Chair – endowed position at Casper College
- Received a \$150,000 grant from IMLS (Institute for Museum and Library Services) for Ice Age exhibit at Tate Geological Museum
- Awarded a \$75,000 B.O.C.E.S Grant to install a Foucault Pendulum and \$20,000 for Ice Age exhibit at Tate Geological Museum
- Awarded NSF EPSCoR Community College Research Support Program grant in 2005 and 2009 for work on trace fossils in the Mowry Shale and in 2006 for work on the Sundance Fm.
- Served as a grant reviewer for the National Science Foundation in

Washington DC.

- Served as Co-Program Director for the Geological Society of America Rocky Mountain Section Conference held in Casper WY in 2015.
- Received the Rosenthal Award for teaching excellence in 2006
- Recipient of the Sigma Xi, Seely-Hinkly, NW Chapter of the Gem and Mineral Society, and WGA scholarships; GSA research grant

Consulting Activities for Past Eight Years

- 2019
 - A reconnaissance paleontological field survey in connection with construction of an overhead electric line located north of Jeffrey City, Wyoming along Ore Road.
- 2018
 - Paleontological inventory of a private ranch north of Casper, Wyoming as requested by ranch owner.
- 2017
 - A reconnaissance paleontological field survey in connection with construction of a snow fence located east of Lander, Wyoming along state highway 287.
- 2016
 - Performed a multi-section pedestrian survey for mine expansion project in MT
 - Performed a pedestrian survey for well pad in SD
- 2015
 - Multi-section survey for a mine expansion project in WY
 - Area and linear survey for pipeline and well sites in WY
 - Linear survey for powerline replacement in MT
 - Participated in EIS project
- 2014
 - 3D project or approx. 8000 acres in Central WY
 - Mine expansion project for 2 sections in Southwest WY
 - Linear survey for phone line project in MT
 - Inspected 5 well pad locations in Southwest WY
- 2013
 - Linear survey for the replacement of an existing fiber optic line and the construction of new line south and Southwest Montana. (phase 2)
 - Area survey of about 50 square miles for a 3D Vibroseis project in Central, WY
 - Area survey for roadwork and well pad construction in Northwest WY
 - Site evaluation and area survey for 6,000 acres in the Powder River Basin for mining activities
- 2012
 - Linear survey for the replacement of an existing fiber optic line and construction of new line southwest MT
 - Areas survey for roadwork and well pad construction in an oil field in MT

- Area survey for several wells and roadways in southwest WY
 - 2011
 - Area survey for 3D seismic activity in the Goshen Hole region near Chugwater, WY
 - Area survey (about 9 miles square) for modification to an existing uranium mine in Central, WY
 - Area survey (about 33 square miles) for geophysical activities in North Central WY
 - Area survey (about 13 square miles) for modification to an existing oil field in Central, WY
 - Area survey for well drilling activities in Southwest, WY
 - Area survey for the acquisition of 60 acres for a landfill project associated with a local coal mine near Southwest, WY

Publications

- **Connely, Melissa V.**, 2019, Tate Geological Museum - A valuable resource for vertebrate paleontological research as well as enhancing liberal arts education. Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, in press.
- **Connely, Melissa V.**, 2019, Vertebrate trace fossils in the Mowry Shale (Lower Cretaceous) of Wyoming, USA. *Paludicola* 12(2):68-82
- Breithaupt, B., Matthews, N., Pinuela, L., Garcia-Ramos, J., **Connely, M.**, 2014, Wyoming megatracks and megatracksites: when size matters how do they measure up?, in Society of Vertebrate Paleontology Abstracts of Papers, 74th Annual Meeting, ed; Maxwell, E., and Miller-Camp, Jessica, p. 97.
- Massare, J. A., Wahl, W. R., Ross, M. and **Connely, M. V.**, 2013, Palaeoecology of the marine reptiles of the Redwater Shale Member of the Sundance Formation (Jurassic) of central Wyoming, USA; *Geological Magazine*, Cambridge University Press, 16p.
- Eagle, Robert A, Tuetken, Thomas, Martin, Taylor S., Tripathi, Aradhna K., Fricke, Henry D., **Connely, Melissa**, Cifelli, Richard L., Eiler, John M., 2011, Dinosaur body temperatures determined from isotopic ((super13) C – (super 18) O) ordering in fossil biominerals; *Science* (0036-8075), v. 333, i. 6041, p. 443 – 445.
- **Connely, M.**, and Talbot, B., 2008, Investigations and documentation of rare and well preserved invertebrate fossils from the Sundance Formation of Central Wyoming; Woods, A. and Lawlor, J., eds, *Topics in Wyoming Geology*, Wyoming Geological Association Guidebook, p. 187-196.
- **Connely, M.**, 2006, Paleoecology of pterosaur tracks from the upper Sundance and lower Morrison formations in central Wyoming; *in* *Paleontology and Geology of the Upper Jurassic Morrison Formation*. Foster, J.R. and Lucas, S.G. eds., New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science Bulletin 36. p. 199-202.
- Tidwell, W. D., **Connely, M.**, and Britt, B. B., 2006, A Flora from the Base of the Upper Jurassic Morrison Formation near Como Bluff, Wyoming, USA; *in* *Paleontology and Geology of the Upper Jurassic Morrison Formation*. Foster, J.R. and Lucas, S.G. eds., New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science Bulletin 36. p. 171-182. .
- **Connely, M.**, and Talbot, B., 2005, Trace fossils in marine sediments of the Mowry Shale (Early Cretaceous) of Wyoming are possibly vertebrate in origin, *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, v. 24, suppl. n. 3, p. 47a.
- **Connely, M.**, 2005, Paleoecology of Pterosaurs from the lower Morrison Formation in Central Wyoming, Geological Society of America, Rocky Mountain Section, 57th Annual Meeting, Abstracts with Programs, v. 37, i. 6 p. 13.
- **Connely, M.V.**, 2004, Alcova's *Pteraichnus* Lagerstätten, Geological Society of America, Abstracts with Programs, p. 66.

- **Connely, M.**, 2002, Stratigraphy and paleoecology of the Morrison Formation, Como Bluff, WY, Master's Thesis, Utah State University, 118p.
- **Connely, M.**, Hawley, Russell, 1998, A proposed reconstruction of the jaw musculature and other soft cranial tissues of *Apatosaurus*, *Journal of Paleontology*, v. 18, i. 3, suppl., p. 35.
- **Connely, M.**, 1997, Analysis of head-neck functions and feeding ecology of common Jurassic sauropod dinosaurs based on a new find from Como Bluff, WY, *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, v. 17, i. 3, suppl., p. 39-40.
- **Connely, M.**, Stratigraphic studies of the relationship between ichthyosaur and plesiosaur species and the paleoenvironmental found in the Upper Jurassic Sundance Formation of central and south central Wyoming, Special Publication – The Paleontological Society, v., 8, p. 79.
- Southwell, B., Lockley, M., Bakker, R., **Connely, M.** and Redman, P., 1996, The first Report of a Dinosaur Tracksite From the Morrison Formation at Como Bluff; *in*, The Continental Jurassic, Morales, M., ed., Museum of Northern Arizona Bulletin 60, p. 133-136.
- **Drake, M.** and Wahl Jr., W., 1994, A description of two marine reptiles from the upper Sundance Formation, WY, Wyoming Geological Association Guidebook, Forty-Fourth Annual Field Conference, p. 179-187.