



## 2017 Recipient of the Distinguished Advising Award

### Erin K. Beutel

The College of Charleston's Distinguished Advising Award was established in 1994 to recognize a faculty member who has demonstrated sustained dedication to students in the area of academic advising. This year's recipient is Dr. Erin Beutel from the Department of Geology and Environmental Geosciences.

Erin advises ALL new geology majors before they are assigned an advisor in their field of interest. Her goal is to reduce new major angst by mapping out each potential major's plan leading to an on-schedule graduation, with students taking the appropriate classes in the right sequence. She tells each student that s/he is free to follow this plan or not. She also delves into what extra-curricular activities pique the student's "secret academic interests". Erin teaches the geology Senior Seminar as well, advising students as they work on their post-graduation plans.

She introduces students to websites that send out daily emails about interesting geology discoveries and sites that focus on jobs in the field, helping students stay current and supporting them in considering the types of jobs they want to potentially pursue. A graduate of the program recently emailed Erin indicating she had found "a job I would die to have", and requesting a letter of recommendation.

It is clear that Dr. Erin Beutel is a dedicated advisor who has the "undivided support of her department and the gratitude of her students. We are pleased to recognize her with the College's 2017 Distinguished Advising Award.

