

# Robert Titus

Professor of Geology

## Contact Info

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## Background

- A native of New Jersey.
- Undergraduate study focused on soil science.
- Graduate study in invertebrate paleontology and stratigraphy, specifically Ordovician-age fossils and strata of the Black River Valley.
- Co-founded the Department of Geology in 1975 (with Dr. David Hutchison).
- Strong interests in the popular science writing; Regular columnist for the magazine *Kaatskill Life* (over 100 columns to date) and several area newspapers (over 700 newspaper columns to date).
- Conducted more than 200 (to date) public lectures and geology walks for area communities.
- Has acted as a scientific consultant for public television and an on-air interviewee for both local and national news.

## Areas of Expertise

- Popular geoscience writing
- Glacial and surface geology of the Hudson Valley
- General bedrock geology of the Catskill Mountains and Hudson Valley
- Surficial Geology of the Island of San Salvador, Bahamas
- Patterns of evolution in the Trenton Limestone
- Paleontology and paleoecology of the Trenton Limestone

## Education

Ph.D. Invertebrate Paleontology – Boston University (1974)

M.A. Geology – Boston University (1971)

B.S. General Agriculture – Rutgers University (1968)

## Courses taught

GEOL 110 – Environmental Geology (select J Terms)

GEOL 150 – First Year Seminar: Geology of the Catskills (Fall Terms)

GEOL 208 – Historical Geology (Fall and Spring Terms)

GEOL 250 – Honors Mini-Seminar: Popular Science Writing (Fall Terms)

GEOL 288 – Geomorphology (select J Terms and Spring Terms)

GEOL 302 – Surficial Geology (select Spring Terms)

GEOL 309 - Stratigraphy and Sedimentation (alternating Spring Terms)

GEOL 490 – Senior Project (Spring Terms)

### Distinctions (Awards, Fellowships and Grants)

Named, along with wife Johanna, “Green County honoree 2015”

Named, along with wife Johanna, a “Legendary Local” of Greene County, 2014.

Winifred D. Wandersee Award, 2009-2010

Winifred D. Wandersee Award, 1998-1999

Sears Scholar, 1991

A number of Trustee Research Grants: 1978 - 2005.

### Selected Publications

#### *Books and Booklets*

**Titus, Robert** with Johanna Titus (2016 anticipated) *The Catskills: a Geological Guide* (4<sup>th</sup> revised edition). Purple Mountain Press.

**Titus, Robert**, and Titus, Johanna, 2012. *The Hudson Valley in the Ice Age*. Black Dome Press, 214 pp.

Evers, Alf, **Titus, Robert**, and Weidner, Time (2008) *Catskill Mountain Bluestone*. 48 pp.

**Titus, Robert** (2007) *The Other Side of Time*. Purple Mountain Press, 152 pp.

**Titus, Robert** (2002) *The Catskills in the Ice Age* (2<sup>nd</sup> revised edition). Purple Mountain Press, 124 p.

**Titus, Robert** (1993), *The Catskills: a Geological Guide*. Purple Mountain Press, 144pp.

#### *Popular Science Columns in Kaatskill Life magazine*

(A list of columns is available from Dr. Titus' webpage.)

#### *Popular Science Columns in Earth magazine*

**Titus, Robert**, and Titus, Johanna (June 2016) Geology for the people: Finding new paths to public outreach. *Earth magazine*. p. 70.

**Titus, Robert**, and Titus, Johanna (June 2015) Hiking the Catskill Mountain Front. *Earth magazine*. p. 40-49.

#### *Peer Reviewed Scientific Publications*

**Titus, Robert** (2001) Boyhood Rock: Burroughs at the Dawn of the Modern Scientific Era. In Walker, C.Z. (ed.) *Sharp Eyes, John Burroughs and American Nature Writing*. Syracuse University Press, p. 192-200.

**Titus, Robert** (1992), Clinal variation, heterochrony, and facies in the Trentonian *Sowerbyella* lineage (Ordovician, New York State). *Journal of Paleontology* 66: 758-771.

**Titus, Robert** (1989) Facies of the Trenton Group of New York. *AAPG Studies in Geology* #29, p. 77-86.

**Titus, Robert** (1989) Clinal variation in the evolution of *Ectenocrinus simplex*. *Journal of Paleontology* 63: 81-91.

**Titus, R.** (1987) Geomorphology, stratigraphy and the Quaternary history of San Salvador. In Curran, H. Alan (ed.), *Proceedings of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Symposium on the Geology of the Bahamas*. College Center of the Finger Lakes, San Salvador Island, Bahamas, p.155-164.

- Bridge, J.S., Gordon, E.A. and **Titus, R.C.** (1986) Non-marine bivalves and associated burrows in the Catskill Magnafacies (Upper Devonian) of New York State. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology* 55: 65-77.
- Titus, Robert** (1986) Fossil Communities of the Upper Trenton Group (Ordovician) of New York State. *Journal of Paleontology* 60: 805-824.
- Titus, Robert** (1984) Physical Stratigraphy of San Salvador Island, Bahamas. *In* Teeter, J.W. (ed.) Proceedings of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Symposium on the Geology of the Bahamas. College Center of the Finger Lakes Bahamian Field Station, San Salvador Island, Bahamas, p. 209-228.
- Titus, Robert** (1983) Fossil communities and facies patterns of the Trenton Group. *In* Kirchgasser, William (ed.), Guidebook to the Field Trips Conducted at the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the New York State Geol. Assoc., p. E 1-10.
- Titus, Robert** (1983) Quaternary Emergent Facies Patterns of San Salvador, *In* Gerace, Donald T. (ed.), Field Guide to the Geology of San Salvador (revised from 1982 report).
- Titus, Robert** (1982) Fossil communities, Paleoecology and tectonic history of the Trenton Group of Central New York State: *In* Globensky, Yvon (ed.) Field Trips Guidebook, North American Paleontological Convention. p. B1-B34.
- Titus, Robert** (1982) Fossil Communities of the Middle Trenton Group (Ordovician) of New York State. *Journal of Paleontology* 56: 477-485.
- Titus, Robert**, and Cameron, B. (1976) Fossil communities of the lower Trenton Group (Middle Ordovician) of central and northwestern New York State: *Journal of Paleontology* 50: 1209-1225.

#### ***Conference Abstracts***

- Titus, Robert C.** (2011) Communicating our science as a geologic newspaper columnist. Geological Society of America Abstracts with Programs, V. 43, No. 5, p.572.
- Titus, Robert** (1993) Cryptic Variation: Its manifestation and mobilization in the Trentonian *Rafinesquina* lineage. Program and Abstracts, Canadian Paleontological Conference. pp. 15-16.
- Titus, Robert** (1986) Clines, Columnals and the Evolution of *Ectenocrinus*. Geological Society of America Abstracts with Programs, V. 18, No. 1.

#### **College Service and Professional Affiliations**

##### ***Professional affiliations***

**Geological Society of America**  
**Sigma Xi**