

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* (4th 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* (2nd 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 3rd 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 2nd 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 55th 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