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Persian Gulf Crisis Revives Exploration Geology's Popularity

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The University of Dayton

News Release

Oct. 2, 1990
Contact: Pam Huber

**PERSIAN GULF CRISIS REVIVES
EXPLORATION GEOLOGY'S POPULARITY**

DAYTON, Ohio--With tension tightening in the Persian Gulf, University of Dayton geologist Charles Ritter predicts that exploration geology will regain some of the popularity it once enjoyed.

Exploration geologists work primarily in the field, hunting down mineral deposits for oil drilling sites.

Although Saudi Arabia has provided Americans with oil since the Persian Gulf crisis began, Ritter said the United States will want to protect itself against an oil shortage. Exploration geologists, including many UD geology graduates, will benefit from that action.

"I'd say that if the situation continues, there will be an increase in the production of oil in this country and a need for more exploration geologists," said Ritter, UD geology department chair. "There's been some increase already."

Ritter said that during the early 1980s oil glut, when foreign oil was abundant and selling at \$18 to \$25 a barrel, oil companies fired exploration geologists. Now that the Persian Gulf Crisis has threatened the United States' oil reserves and made importing oil difficult, companies must tap into this country's oil supply, Ritter said.

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For media interviews, contact **Charles Ritter** at (513) 229-2921.