

## MATTHEW LUDWIG

Inducted May 29, 2016

Paulding High School	1990
Eastern Michigan University B.S.	1995
University of Wisconsin M.S.	2004



Matthew Alan Ludwig graduated from Paulding High School in 1990. His high school activities include a varsity letter in wrestling, a shoe box full of regional and state Science Olympiad medals, as well as a runner up finish in the Defiance College Area High School art show for a sculpture he created with guidance and encouragement from Ms. Bernie Scruta. He went on to earn a bachelor's degree in Geology from Eastern Michigan University in 1995. Following a brief stint as Education Specialist/District Technician with the Van Wert Soil and Water Conservation District, he enrolled at Bowling Green State University to earn a State of Ohio comprehensive secondary science teaching certificate. Matthew taught middle school science and math for several years in Napoleon, OH. The desire to be a better science teacher led him to pursue graduate work at the University of Wisconsin - Madison in Geological Engineering with emphasis in near-surface electromagnetic geophysics.

Matthew's graduate research was funded by the US Department of Energy and involved developing software and instrumentation to monitor near surface low-grade nuclear waste storage facilities. He was awarded the 2002 Robert E. Reicker Outstanding Graduate Student Award at the Summer of Applied Geophysical Experience - Field Institute in Santa Fe, New Mexico. While completing his Master's Degree, Matthew worked as a research intern and teaching assistant at UW- Madison, The Los Alamos National Laboratory, Sandia National Laboratory, and The Idaho National Environmental Engineering Laboratory.

Mr. Ludwig has worked as a teacher in both formal and informal settings with students from pre-school age to senior citizens. Since 2007, Matthew has held a variety of instructional and research positions at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan. These include a National Science Foundation Fellowship to examine and promote the use of formative assessment strategies in science and mathematics classrooms. His most recent work involves a Woodrow Wilson and W.K. Kellogg Foundation grant funded program to retrain scientists and mathematicians to take on the challenging career of teaching middle and high school math and science in high need Michigan school districts. He primarily provides instructional mentoring and coaching for preservice and early career teachers participating in this program. He was recognized as a WMU departmental Graduate Research and Creative Scholar for research involving classroom formative assessment strategies in 2009.

Matthew would like to give credit to the exceptional teachers he has encountered all along his academic path. The most critical of this group are the founding coaches of the Paulding Science Olympiad Team. Specifically, Ellie Barnes, Dwight Kurtzman, and the late Marilyn Fry. These outstanding mentors are why he is most proud of his community outreach activities. These include; acting as a Boy Scout and Cub Scout leader, founding a middle school team in Napoleon and participating as Science Olympiad coach and district event coordinator in Kalamazoo, MI as well as working as a consultant to a newly founded US Robotics First team for Whitefish Community Schools in Paradise, Michigan.

Matthew currently lives near Paw Paw, Michigan with his wife off 21 years, Amy and son Wesley.