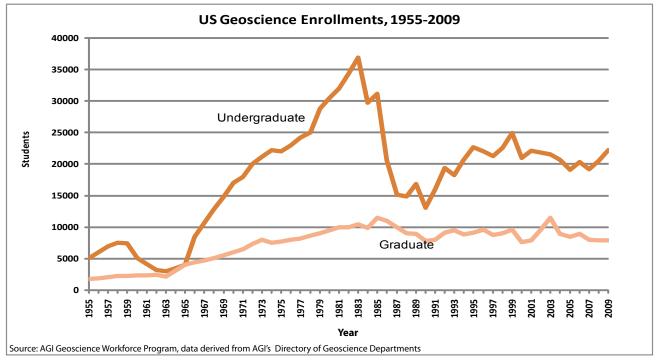
## American Geological Institute GEOSCIENCE CURRENTS

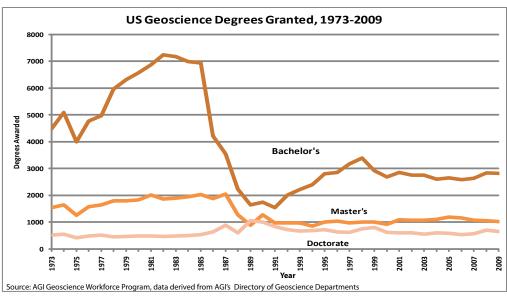
22 June 2009

## **Geoscience Enrollments Jump Sharply in 2008-2009**

The 2008-2009 academic year saw a sharp 8% increase in the number of geosciences undergraduates enrolled in U.S. institutions, to a total population of 22,191. This trend was not evident in graduate enrollments, which remained basically flat at 7846 students. These trends reflect statements from departments about sudden increases in undergraduates because of the increased interest in energy and environmental issues. As constrained budgets have limited the number of funded graduate positions, enrollment remains steady but admission has become more competitive.



Degrees granted in the geosciences have remained steady, reflecting the enrollment numbers of the past several years. The recent influx of students will not likely be seen in degree production until the 2010-2011 academic year.



- Christopher Keane

