When planning your AAG Annual Meeting itinerary, make sure to note the many thematically-organized paper and panel session tracks at this year’s conference. The full list of sessions is available on the AAG website at www.aag.org/annualmeetings/2009. A listing of all sessions will be published in the conference program, to be available on-site in Las Vegas. Examples of a few special session tracks are described below.

Geographic Research in Africa
Throughout Africa, researchers are harnessing the power of geographic methods to address environmental sustainability and other pressing issues. This special track of sessions spotlights the work of scientists and practitioners who apply geographic tools and methods to expand our understanding of complex, trans-boundary sustainable development issues such as food security, biodiversity, carbon emissions and water quality, among others. The track will build on the U.S. Department of State’s Global Dialogues on Emerging Science and Technology initiative, which has promoted the use of geospatial science for sustainable development in Africa through organizational capacity building and the strengthening of spatial data infrastructure.

Geography & Human Rights
The AAG and the Science and Human Rights Program of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) are jointly sponsoring a special track of sessions addressing Geography and Human Rights. As a wide

Activities for Families in Las Vegas
We moved to Nevada when my children were very young. My impression of the state, like that of most people from elsewhere, was largely negative. When I thought of Nevada, I thought of casinos, gambling, and all of the adult activities for which the state has a reputation. I was dubious about raising a family here. Now, with my children grown, I have a completely different view of the state. Outside of the casino districts, we always found a wide array of family activities for our children, and yes—they even attended birthday parties in casinos on occasion and had a very good time.

While I raised my family in Reno, my colleagues in Las Vegas can share similar thoughts on the great activities for families in Nevada. So for all those who approach a trip to Las Vegas with a measure of skepticism, I encourage you to visit us here in the west. We are anxious for others to come here and actually tell their friends about it, because contrary to
AAG Enhancing Diversity: Progress and Plans

Over the past six years, the AAG has undertaken a focused set of initiatives to enhance diversity within our discipline. This most recent institutional effort by the AAG to promote inclusiveness in our discipline, to broaden participation in our association, and to understand the overall state of diversity in geography, has generated important outcomes and resulted in informed plans for ongoing efforts. In this column, we review a few of the recent accomplishments, current activities, and continuing priorities.

Ten Actionable Items

Launching a renewed effort in 2003, the AAG began by focusing on ten actionable items that were identified and addressed in coordination among the AAG Diversity Task Force chaired by Joe Darden, the AAG Council, and AAG senior staff. Early efforts centered on better understanding the status of diversity in the discipline and on developing a foundation for achieving substantial progress in diversifying geography. These actions included establishing an online diversity clearinghouse; developing strategic relationships with Howard University and other minority serving institutions; developing career information to promote geography to underrepresented groups; conducting a survey on the state of diversity in geography departments; co-sponsoring race/ethnicity and place conferences; continuing outreach to promote diversity in the AAG newsletter; encouraging participation of underrepresented students at the AAG annual meetings in part through the AAG Conference Assistants Program; developing AAG funding proposals that enhance diversity at multiple stages from K-12 through university levels; and bridging to ongoing initiatives throughout the discipline. The Task Force produced a final report that summarizes data from the departmental survey on diversity, documents progress made toward these ten targets, and provides recommendations for departments, which are often best positioned to break the historical cycle of underrepresentation in geography given their role as the reproductive core of the discipline. The AAG Diversity Clearinghouse contains materials to help departments address recruitment strategies, departmental climate, student financial support, and curriculum offerings, provides links to scholarship and fellowship opportunities for minorities, women, and students with disabilities; and describes effective mentoring practices, including peer mentoring, known to support and retain underrepresented students. Both the report and clearinghouse are available at www.aag.org/diversity.

In recent years, this work has progressed through the establishment of a standing AAG Enhancing Diversity Committee, currently chaired by Lisa Marshall, which continues to work closely with AAG Council and AAG executive leadership to build upon and extend these ten action areas and other priorities, including engaging AAG members at regional division meetings, and other activities. AAG has thus been building a shared vision for enhancing diversity in the discipline, has strengthened com-
Vegas is All That

The decision to locate the 2009 AAG Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada has not met with universal acclaim. Some people complain that Las Vegas is not a “real” city and that it lacks the high culture we should demand of our convention sites. It is seen as the ultimate “fake” city built on fantasies that recycle the real character of other places as presumably “cheap” (but not inexpensive!) imitations. Why go to the imitation Vegas Venice when you can go to the real thing?

To me this betrays a weird snobbery about cities. Must we only meet in cities that pass some authenticity test about symphony orchestras or producing real things? Cleveland, anyone?

Admittedly, the Riviera Hotel, where the conference will be head-quartered, is well past its prime, although the room rate is better than that at most of our recent venues. The famous Circus-Circus casino with its inexhaustible food buffet is only a stone’s throw away. The Riviera Hotel is also well-situated towards the northern end of the Strip for ease of exploring both the downtown (what there is of it) to the northeast and working your way southwards into the Fantasy Land of themed casinos. Las Vegas is America in miniature: with a small downtown and a gigantic strip. A pot of gold is also promised at the end of everyone’s rainbow. Just keep pulling on those one-armed bandits. Where would be better for us to meet?

Think about the possible meanings of Las Vegas for a moment. Consider the city’s casino economy as a potential metaphor for that mass financial fleecing that has become too visible everywhere over the past six months. Or, from another viewpoint, think of Vegas as the modern ur-Sin City which, though exploiting huge numbers of temporary visitors through gambling, entertainment, prostitution, and obsessive shopping, has in so doing become one of the most rapidly growing metropolitan areas in the United States. In other words, Las Vegas—the resort, retirement and recreation economy par excellence—is paradigmatic of a model of economic development that, through business upturns and downturns, has always had a countercyclical genius. Indeed, as we all seek escape from the horrors of collapsing 401Ks and various budget crises, it is to places like Las Vegas that many of us look for emotional respite and possible financial resurrection. Or, this time, maybe not. Where we’re there, perhaps we’ll get a sense of how the recession is playing out in casino land.

This city sprang up in the middle of nowhere. Its founding fathers were gangsters like Bugsy Siegel and Moe Dalitz. They channeled syndicate and Teamster Pension Fund money into casinos and strip joints. Unlike Michael Corleone, who famously never managed to go legit, the shady past of Las Vegas has now gone mainstream. Since the late 1970s it has been a corporate run city. Nevada’s Corporate Gaming Act of 1967 laid the groundwork by requiring that only top managers and not all stockholders be vetted by the state. But it was financiers like Michael Milken and entrepreneurs like Steve Wynn and Kirk Kerkorian who then actually made the Las Vegas we see today. Their monuments are all around, at least until the next controlled implosion starts a new round of makeovers.

This city lends itself to tripping. So, for those who prefer organized field trips over random walks, who are more observers than players, the conference offers the prospect of a number of trips around the city and Strip (as well as a larger number beyond the limits to the Grand Canyon and beyond).

Meanwhile, back at the conference hotel, many sessions will be devoted to more abstract matters regarding climate, culture, and economy, to name a few. Yet, even here Las Vegas has much to offer as both example and metaphor. For example, the presidential plenary session and numerous other sessions will be devoted to how to keep desert cities watered and for how long this may be possible. Looking to the city’s economy for inspiration, in 1986 the political economist Susan Strange used the title Casino Capitalism (Blackwell) for a book that drew attention to the risks of a global economy built on debt financing by borrowing abroad. The United States was the example she had in mind, but it was the logic of the Las Vegas casino economy that inspired her argument. Culturally, Las Vegas with its myriad Elvis imitators and lap dancing minions suggests the significance of fronting or putting on appearances summed up in the advertising slogan: “What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas.” Of course, conferences themselves are great examples of organized fronting (in its various meanings)!

Yet, ironically, as one of the most incisive recent books about Las Vegas puts it, quoting from a local “gambling researcher,” “What other city in America puts up giant roadside billboards promoting 97 percent guaranteed payback on slot pay? In other words, you give us a buck and we’ll give you back 97 cents.” The book is called, appropriately enough under our present economic conditions, The Last Honest Place in America (Marc Cooper, Nation Books, 2004).

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mitment within association leadership and membership toward diversity goals, and has positioned activities for enhancing diversity as an integral aspect of realizing the AAG’s overall mission.

AAG Diversity Clearinghouse: Expansion and Updates

Initiated online in 2005, the AAG’s Diversity Clearinghouse has been very well received and has had an important impact on making resources related to enhancing diversity available in geography. AAG seeks to continue to expand science-based information on broadening participation in research and education, particularly scholarly additions that draw from research in geography. The aim of the expansion is to explore how the latest research within geography could provide a basis for better informed, knowledge-based action toward geography’s goal of enhancing diversity within departments and the discipline, recognizing that the breadth of geographic research itself may help strengthen efforts to broaden participation within the discipline in distinct ways. This approach acknowledges that effective recruitment/retention at the departmental level depends on sensitivity to the specific geographical context of departments, that “pipelines” are very spatial in nature, that effective plans for large urban schools should look different than for schools in smaller towns, and that where geography programs are, where prospective students come from, where they go, and the dynamics of origins-destinations matter a great deal. Geographic research can contribute to better understanding of these dynamics, including issues related to migration, residential and commuting mobility patterns, urban form, spatial decision support systems, economic geography, insight on intellectual questions of importance to underrepresented groups such as social-environmental justice or economic-political issues, politics of race and identity, integration in education, spatial modeling of decision-making behaviors, and other topics. AAG welcomes suggestions for inclusion of citations of research or projects that may broadly inform efforts to enhancing diversity through its online form at: http://communicate.aag.org/eseries/Diversity/add_resource.cfm

AAG helps build Race, Ethnicity and Place Conference

AAG has played a key role in developing the Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference (REP) into an independent, national scale event. In 2004, the AAG built upon its existing relationship with Howard University, the nation’s leading historically black university, to co-organize with Howard and Binghamton Universities, the 2004 REP as a stand-alone national scale interdisciplinary conference, held on the campus of Howard University in Washington, DC. Through the efforts of many, this conference has now become a remarkable, multidisciplinary engagement around race, ethnicity, and place, held biennially at rotating locations. This past year at the Miami REP, the AAG senior elected and executive leadership jointly organized a special panel session to explore synergies and interactions of AAG’s diversity and internationalization initiatives.

Enhancing Diversity at AAG Regional Division Meetings

This past fall, the AAG's Enhancing Diversity Committee engaged with organizers of AAG Regional Divisions to conduct special activities at regional meetings around enhancing diversity within geography. Adapting models for panel discussions held at AAG Annual Meetings over the past few years, the Committee arranged activities that supported AAG members in the East Lakes, West Lakes, and Southwest Regional Divisions. Special thanks to committee members David Kaplan and Wendy Jepson for their leadership. Regional divisions interested in organizing similar sessions at 2009 meetings are encouraged to contact Patricia Solís, psoles@aag.org.

AAG 2008 Enhancing Diversity Award honors Reginald Golledge

The AAG Enhancing Diversity Award honors geographers who have pioneered efforts toward or actively participated in efforts toward encouraging a more diverse discipline over the course of multiple years. Previous recipients include Joe Darden, Don Deskins, Saul Cohen, Janice Monk, and Jacquelyn Beyer.

This year, distinguished geographer Reginald Golledge of the University of California, Santa Barbara, has been named the 2008 recipient of the AAG Enhancing Diversity Award in recognition of his longstanding efforts to support and mentor underrepresented students in higher education, and particularly for his attention to those with disabilities. Since the early 1960s, Golledge engaged and mentored women and ethnic minorities in graduate level research, increased diversity of the department's faculty while Chair, and conducted a number of important research projects regarding women and minorities in the discipline. Golledge's well-known cutting-edge research on geography, spatial cognition, and disability has not only achieved the highest levels of excellence in scholarship, but has also helped to find ways to allow disabled people to become fully integrated into their communities around the world. The AAG will formally confer the award to Golledge at the Annual Meeting Awards Luncheon on Friday, March 27, 2009 in Las Vegas. Friends, colleagues, and students of Reginald Golledge are encouraged to attend.

Follow-up Departmental Survey on Diversity Progress in 2010

The AAG plans to conduct a follow-up survey of geography departments in 2010 to help assess progress toward
Two Geographers Receive Presidential Awards

Two geographers, Paul Torrens and Joan Walker, were presented with Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE) for their innovative integration of research and education in ceremonies at the White House and the National Science Foundation on Friday, December 19, 2008.

PECASE awards recognize outstanding scientists and engineers who show exceptional potential for leadership at the frontiers of knowledge early in their careers and are among the highest honors bestowed by the U.S. government for scientific or engineering achievement. Nine federal agencies nominate scientists and engineers whose work shows exceptional promise. Awardees are selected for the highly innovative quality of their research and for community service that demonstrates scientific leadership, education, or community outreach. Both Torrens and Walker previously received Faculty Early Career Development Program (CAREER) awards from the National Science Foundation.

Torrens was recognized for research on the development of behaviorally-founded computer models of pedestrian movement and crowd behavior in dense urban environments, using these models to experiment with ideas, hypotheses, and plans related to crowd dynamics. In addition to contributing to methodological and theoretical development, his research has been adapted for educational and applied uses. Torrens is Associate Professor in the School of Geographical Sciences at Arizona State University.

Walker was recognized for research integrating attitudinal constructs drawn from the behavioral sciences into discrete-choice analysis by incorporating structural equation modeling and psychometric data. Her CAREER award is jointly supported by the NSF Civil Infrastructures Program and the NSF Geography and Regional Science Program. Walker was an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography and Environment at Boston University when she received her CAREER award. She recently relocated to a joint appointment in the new inter-disciplinary Center for Global Metropolitan Studies and the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of California-Berkeley.

For more information about these and other PECASE awardees, see www.nsf.gov/news.

National Academy of Sciences to Hold Third Annual Gilbert F. White Lecture

Issues in climate change and infectious disease will be addressed in the third annual Gilbert F. White Lecture in the Geographical Sciences, to be held February 18, 2009, at the Keck Center in Washington, D.C. Organized by NAS’s Geographical Sciences Committee, “Climate, Oceans, and Human Health: The Saga of a Cholera-Chaser” will be presented by Rita Colwell, Distinguished University Professor at both the University of Maryland at College Park and Johns Hopkins University.

Colwell is the former Director of the National Science Foundation (1998-2004) and has held many advisory positions in the U.S. Government, nonprofit science policy organizations, and private foundations, as well as in the international scientific research community. An internationally-known scientist and educator, she has authored or co-authored 17 books and more than 700 other scientific publications. Colwell is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and in 2008 served as President of the American Institute of Biological Sciences. She is currently developing an international network to address problems related to infectious disease and water safety. Colwell also produced the award-winning film Invisible Seas.

The Gilbert F. White lecture series emphasizes connections between the geographical sciences and society. It both honors Dr. White and uses his example as an inspiration for geographers to share their work on the connections between science and society.

The lecture will begin at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, February 18, in Room 100 of the Keck Center of the National Academies, 500 Fifth Street NW, Washington, D.C., 20001. The lecture is open to the public. Additional information (including directions) can be found on the Geographical Sciences Committee webpage at http://dels.nas.edu/besi/gsc.shtml. RSVPs to Jared Eno (jeno@nas.edu) are appreciated.
variety of geographers produce methods and analysis of interest to human rights work around the world, the implications and importance of spatial relationships continue to move toward the foreground of debate. This session will review a cross-section of geography with applications to ongoing human rights work. Attendees with relevant experience are encouraged to attend and contribute their knowledge to a developing database on geography and human rights.

**Geography of HIV/AIDS**

The AAG and the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) are jointly sponsoring a symposium on Geography, HIV/AIDS, and Drug Abuse, to be held on March 24, 2009, in conjunction with the AAG Annual Meeting in Las Vegas. The symposium will focus on the global geography of risk – specifically, drug use/abuse and the risk for HIV/AIDS in a globalizing world. Geographers, sociologists, medical researchers, epidemiologists, anthropologists, public health scientists, and others with active research in the geographical dimensions of drug use/abuse and HIV/AIDS will participate in the program.

**Historical GIS**

This special track of sessions focuses on the challenges and opportunities presented by the growth of GIS and geography in historical research. More than just technology, GIS is helping to transform the disciplines of geography and history by allowing scholars to ask new questions from new perspectives, and to mine vast amounts of data that previously remained impervious to traditional historical methods alone. This special track examines and demonstrates the ways that geographic technologies and perspectives can have a profound effect on historical research when coupled with traditional methods of historical analysis.

In addition to the above sessions, AAG Specialty Groups also organize hundreds of special sessions that integrate multiple perspectives and in-depth research on a broad range of topics and regions. See the AAG website for details (www.aag.org).

popular belief, we don't think everything that happens here needs to stay here.

**Museums and Tours in Las Vegas**

Considered by many to be the best children's museum in Las Vegas is Leid Children's Discovery Museum. The museum features hands-on exhibits in the arts, sciences, nature, music and humanities; a Traveling Exhibition Gallery; an Early Childhood Pavilion and an eight-story Science Tower with unique interactive exhibits for kids from toddler (little learners) to youth and adults alike to explore. Activities include Boulder Mountain where kids wear hard hats and run the mining equipment, Desert in the Dark where they learn about animals night activities, exhibits for babies still too young to walk where they can explore with their hands, eyes and ears, laser harps, wheelchair basketball and mechanics shops where all the tools area available for use.

The Las Vegas Natural History Museum is right across the street from the Lied Museum. In addition to sections on Nevada's native animals, an African gallery, a wildlife gallery and a dinosaur gallery, there are excellent hands-on exhibits, handling areas with live snakes, and a gallery featuring marine life.

For something of a more local nature there is the Atomic Testing Museum, which tells the story of the development of the Nevada Test Site. The museum features first-person narratives, large iconic artifacts, environmental re-creations, theatrical devices, and interactive elements for personal exploration with multiple viewpoints of the nuclear program expressed in multimedia presentations and stunning graphics. The museum was created to document and interpret the unique history associated with over 50 years of nuclear weapons research and testing conducted at the Nevada Test Site (located just north of Las Vegas but closed to the public).

For a completely different twist on technology there is the Pinball Hall of Fame, a non-profit "working museum" covering 4,500 square feet and housing the world's largest collection of pinball machines, all restored to mint condition. Machines range from the 1950s to the 1990s and from 25 cents per play up to 50 cents for the newer ones. So bring a pocket full of quarters and play to your heart's content. Far more entertaining than an arcade in the casinos, and all profits go to non-denominational charities. Entrance is free. See www.pinballmuseum.org for more information.

If you prefer something sweeter, attend one of the daily tours of the Ethel M Chocolate Factory and cactus garden in Henderson, a few miles south of Las Vegas. The best times to visit are during weekdays between 8:00am and 3:30pm when the chocolates are being manufactured. The factory tour wanders among the pipes, conveyer belts and tanks that hold between 20,000 and 35,000 gallons of chocolate. They are generous with free samples and the tour is free. While there you can stroll through the amazing cactus gardens. Why cactus? The owner simply likes them!

**Outdoor Activities around Las Vegas**

On the site of the original meadows that Las Vegas is named for (and only a short drive from the conference hotel) lies the Springs Reserve, a recently developed environmental education and interpretive center focused on sustainable living within the desert. This site will be visited by several AAG field trips, but for a family there are enough activities to spend the day.

Although the original springs dried up in due to lowering of the water table, the site has been restored with several acres
of native vegetation with interpretive trails, including how to garden sustainably with minimal water. Inside, there is a maze of activities and demonstrations for all ages. The Desert Living Center is a model of building sustainability where you can explore many of the most innovative elements of sustainable architecture today. In the Sustainability Gallery children can do the “Compost Crawl,” following trash from home to fertilizer in one of the many special interactive exhibits. Among the natural desert environments the flash flood is a favorite, especially when the water rushes down the channel spraying those that stray too near. The ORIGEN Experience tracks changes from Native American occupation through the early settlers and imagines some of the possibilities for the future of Las Vegas. Visit their beautiful website at www.springspreserve.org.

Red Rock Canyon National Recreation Area is a spectacular geologic setting only 17 miles outside of town. It will host an AAG field trip but it is also worth spending the entire day there with a family. The interpretive center had recently been upgraded and depicts cultural and natural resources from the area. For those inclined to track small creeping things, there is a small Lizard Lounge where rescued lizards find a home in a display of desert dwellers. A 13 mile scenic drive allows stops in the heart of the desert for sightseeing and photography. Hiking trails are accessible from the designated pullouts and parking areas. For those after a more energetic experience you can rent bikes at “Escape the City Streets” and ride the entire loop, or for those with young families there is a children's discovery trail. For rock climbers, this is a hot spot for climbing.

Spring Mountain State Park, also within the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, offers a quieter view of the region’s cultural history with docent tours of historical sites in the park, including the Main Ranch House, Wilson Cemetery, Sandstone Cabin, Board and Batten bunkhouse, Blacksmith’s Shop, Hay and Horse Barn/Corral, Two-Hole Outhouse, and the Chinchilla Shed. The 520-acre property was developed as a working ranch and luxury retreat by a number of owners, including millionaire Howard Hughes.

Bonnie Springs lies close to Red Rock. If your group likes westerns, this 115-acre ranch has a replica of an 1880s mining town complete with Wild West shows, cowboy shootouts, melodramas, and even a “hanging” at high noon every day. The shows are designed for kids and on weekends there is a miniature train ride and a robbery in which kids help track down the bad guys. Admission is $20 for a carload of up to six people.

If you want to get on the horses yourself, Cowboy Trail Rides near Red Rock offers a variety of trail rides (although these are not cheap). Some rides last all day and include lunch or barbecue dinners. The scenery for riding is spectacular and on a nice day can provide a welcome break from the downtown action.

Valley of Fire State Park, about 55 miles northeast of Las Vegas, is a setting of spectacular sandstone formations with hikes to many of the better known features, including petroglyphs, arches, historic stone cabins, and petrified forests.

High Energy Activities in Town

If you need to burn off energy, there is indoor climbing at the Red Rock Climbing Center not too far from downtown. Instruction and equipment are included in the daily fees.

For a wild experience that takes no special experience try Sky Mania, a wall-to-wall trampoline experience where you are free to jump your legs off for an hour at a time or play dodgeball on trampolines. This will wear down even the most active kids!

More expensive and daring high energy activities include Las Vegas Indoor Skydiving, which features a simulated skydiving experience that you will not soon forget. A high energy wind tunnel supports the weight of an average adult and creates the effect of sky diving – without ever jumping from a plane.

Pole Position is an indoor go kart racing venue with high end carts that you really race. Not cheap, but quite the thrill for young drivers.

Good Clean Fun along the Strip

Just walking along the Strip, there are numerous activities (many free) that can be quite engaging. Remember if you have young children that while many of these activities are free and well worth a visit, the atmosphere on the street in front of casino hotels is aimed towards adults. One way to avoid some of this, as well as save your legs, is to take the monorail that leaves from the convention center and stops periodically at hotels along the strip. The stops are not as convenient as they could be and are often located at the back of the hotels, but the trains arrive frequently and they run regularly all day long.

The Lion Habitat at the MGM Grand Hotel provides a glassed-in environment where two or three lions feed, groom, or sleep (lions sleep a lot!) throughout the day. Although only a few lions are on display at any given time, the hotel owns 31 lions that they keep on a range out of town and rotate in to the habitat for six hours at a time. The exhibit is free.

Continued on page 8
If you happen to arrive at feeding time, the experience can be unforgettable. Needless to say, this is a big hit with the kids.

Not free but equally entertaining is Shark Reef at Mandalay Bay, a stunning display of dramatic marine animals, including numerous sharks, sawfish, giant rays, green sea turtles, piranha, moon jellies and the rare golden crocodiles. In all, there are over 2,000 animals in 1.6 million gallons of seawater.

At Madame Tussaud's Interactive Wax Museum you can see the Blue Man Group, Whoopi Goldberg, and Marlon Brando (appearing as Don Corleone from The Godfather), and even the governor of California in his younger days. Always wanted your picture taken with Cameron Diaz? This is your chance. The museum's newest addition is Zac Efron. Wow. Kids love Zac Efron, even if you don’t know who he is.

Just strolling through the Venetian Hotel piazza can be quite entertaining since it contains a miniature canal with full size gondolas and gondoliers who really know how to handle their boats and tend to sing fragments of popular Italian arias while floating past. In Saint Mark's Square free music and marionette/jester shows run throughout the day. These are quite entertaining for children and at times, when you look up at the faux sky ceiling, it is hard to remember that you are not actually outside. The Square has outdoor cafes and a gelato shop, but no pigeons. Live statues perform daily.

**Shopping**

Las Vegas has transformed itself into a center for shopping of all kinds, from high-end to bargain basement. Several centers on the Strip provide a dazzling selection of stores. The Fashion Show, a fifteen minute walk along the Strip from the conference hotel, includes a Nordstrom, Neiman Marcus, Macy’s, Dillard’s, and Saks, as well as hundreds of specialty shops. Across the street in the Venetian-Palazzo you will find Ann Taylor, Banana Republic, Kenneth Cole, Brookstone, Sephora, Barneys of New York, and dozens more high-end boutiques. At the Wynn, the hotel nearest the conference hotel, you will find many fashion houses and jewelers including Chanel, Dior, Louis Vuitton, and Cartier. Even if you do not plan to buy, these make very entertaining window shopping experiences. Nestled between the stores you will find the showrooms for Lamborghini and Masserati, in case you are also shopping for a car.

**In Conclusion...Have Fun!**

Whether you spend more time outdoors or in, are young or old, adventurous or more reserved you should find something to entertain you in your free time during the AAG Annual Meeting in Las Vegas. Where else can you have coffee in St. Mark’s Square, lunch in Paris, and later that same day find yourself on the rim of the Grand Canyon for dinner? Come prepared to have fun because this town really is one of a kind, and please, feel free to tell your friends about it.

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Scott Mensing
University of Nevada, Reno

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Seven Geographers Named AAAS Fellows

Seven geographers will be among those recognized as Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in a ceremony to be held on February 14, 2009, during the 2009 AAAS Annual Meeting in Chicago.

Geographers who will be recognized include Patrick J. Bartlein, University of Oregon; Patricia Gober, Arizona State University; Kam-Biu Liu, Louisiana State University; Shih-Lung Shaw, University of Tennessee, Knoxville; David A. Siegel, University of California, Santa Barbara; Thomas T. Veblen, University of Colorado, Boulder; and Dawn J. Wright, Oregon State University.

AAAS Fellows are honored for "meritorious efforts to advance science or its applications." Examples of areas in which nominees have made significant contributions to society are research, teaching, technology, services to professional societies, administration in academe, industry, and government, and communicating and interpreting science to the public.

Fellows are elected annually by the AAAS Council.

More about AAAS Fellows is available at www.aaas.org.

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Getting to Las Vegas

There are many low cost ways to get to Las Vegas. The city is easily accessible by air, rail, bus, and car. The Las Vegas airport offers hundreds of economical flights each day from domestic and international locations. The AAG has arranged further discounts from United Airlines, Amtrak, and Hertz. For more information on travel discounts for the Annual Meeting, see transportation.
Washington Monitor


President-elect Barack Obama used his December 20 national radio address to announce the leaders of his Administration's science and technology team. As part of the announcement, Obama cited the criticality of science and tech and stated, “It's time we once again put science at the top our agenda and work to restore America's place as the world leader in science and technology.”

From looking at the list of the new president's priorities, it is clear that geography will have a seat at the table. He specifically noted that his goals include promoting science to slow global warming and “the innovations to remake our industries and create twenty-first century jobs.”

As readers of this column are well aware, the U.S. Department of Labor has designated geospatial technologies as one of three most important emerging and evolving technology fields (along with nanotech and biotech).

Members of Obama's leadership team will include:

- **John Holdren** as Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP); he will concurrently serve as Co-Chair of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST). Holdren is the Teresa and John Heinz Professor of Environmental Policy and Director of the Program on Science, Technology, and Public Policy at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, as well as President and Director of the Woods Hole Research Center. He is also Professor of Environmental Science and Policy in Harvard's Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences. From 2005-2008, Holdren served as President-Elect, President, and Chair of the Board of American Association for the Advancement of Science. Holdren has worked closely with many geographers on sustainability science and policy.

- **Eric Lander** and **Harold Varmus** will serve as the other co-chairs of PCAST. Lander is the founding director of the Broad Institute and one of the principal leaders of the Human Genome Project. He is also professor of biology at MIT and professor of systems biology at Harvard Medical School. Varmus is a former Director of the National Institutes of Health and co-recipient of a Nobel Prize for studies of the genetic basis of cancer. He has served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center since January 2000.

- **Jane Lubchenco** is Obama’s nominee for Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Lubchenco is an environmental scientist and marine ecologist. She has been on the faculty at Oregon State University since 1978. She is Past-President of the International Council for Science and an Associate of the Ecological Society of America. She received her Ph.D. from Harvard University in marine ecology.

- **Steven Chu** has been nominated for U.S. Secretary of Energy. Chu served most recently as director of the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab and as professor of physics and molecular and cellular biology at the University of California, Berkeley. He is the 1997 winner of the Nobel Prize for physics and previously had an academic appointment at Stanford University. Motivated by a deep interest in climate change, he transformed Lawrence Berkeley into a broad and innovative research program on energy technologies. He has a BS in physics from the University of Rochester and a Ph.D. from UC-Berkeley.

- **Carol Browner** will serve as Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Change on the White House staff. Browner has been a Principal of The Albright Group LLC, where worked on environmental protection, climate change, and energy conservation and security issues. She previously served as President Clinton’s Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, a Cabinet-level position she held for eight years. Prior to her EPA service, Browner was Secretary of the State of Florida’s Department of Environmental Regulation and also served as Legislative Director for U.S. Senator Al Gore.

- **Lisa Jackson** is Mr. Obama's nominee for Administrator of the EPA. Jackson became the head of New Jersey's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in 2006 and also served as chief of staff to Governor Jon Corzine. Her past experience includes management responsibilities at the EPA's regional office in New York for the Superfund program, the federal program regulating hazardous waste cleanup projects; for enforcement programs at both EPA and DEP; and for New Jersey's Land Use Management Program. She has also focused on water issues, including expanding protections for surface waters that serve as sources of drinking water and habitat for endangered species. Jackson received her Master's in chemical engineering from Princeton University and did her undergraduate work at Tulane.

Federal Stimulus Beneficiaries Could Include University Infrastructure Projects

In late December, the leaders of 40 top American universities signed onto
Editor Sought for *Annals of the AAG*

The Association of American Geographers seeks applications and nominations for the Environmental Sciences section editor of the *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*. The new section editor will be appointed for a four-year editorial term that will commence on January 1, 2010. The appointment will be made by mid-April.

The AAG seeks an editor who will solicit, review, and accept for publication articles, comments, maps, technical notes, and other items appropriate for publication in their section’s subject area, within publication-space limitations that will be determined annually.

The AAG Council expects that the new editor will accept manuscripts from across the breadth and depth of intellectual activity in their subject area of contemporary American geography. The AAG Council further expects that the *Annals* will publish items that represent the very best thinking in American geography.

The section editor should be eager to act as an intellectual entrepreneur to attract the very best work being produced.

In support of these goals, each candidate should possess demonstrated expertise within environmental sciences, a distinguished record of scholarly achievement, a broad perspective on the discipline of geography, respect and affection for its diversity, and an ability to work constructively with authors during the review process. The new editor may also have the responsibility of editing or co-editing a special thematic issue of the journal. Institutional support for the new editor (especially some time released from teaching) is desirable, but not mandatory. The AAG will provide a modest stipend to be used for expenses and honorarium at the editor’s discretion.

The section editor will work in coordination with the AAG Managing Editor, located at the Meridian Place AAG office in Washington, DC. The Managing Editor bears primary responsibility for the logistics of processing manuscripts and book reviews, and for assembling and coordinating the publication of each issue of the journal in collaboration with the editors and the journal's publisher. Editor candidates, therefore, should share the AAG Council’s vision of an accessible, decentralized, and collaborative *Annals* editorship.

A letter of application that addresses both qualifications and a vision for the Environmental Sciences section should be accompanied by a complete curriculum vitae. Nominations should be submitted no later than February 27, 2009, and applications no later than March 6, 2009. Send applications or letters of nomination to: Chair, AAG Publications Committee, AAG Meridian Place Office, 1710 Sixteenth Street NW, Washington, DC 20009-3198. Nominations and applications (in Word or PDF) may be submitted electronically to annals@aag.org.

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an open letter to President-elect Obama urging the inclusion of $40-45 billion in the planned federal stimulus legislation for “shovel-ready” facilities projects at higher education institutions around the country. The letter recommends that the funds be allocated to the states on the basis of population and that Governors be tasked with direct distribution of the money. The signatories also urged that “federal funds should be conditional on states’ agreement not to use these federal funds as an excuse to reduce budgetary commitments to universities.” The entire letter is available on the web at www.carnegie.org/pdf/CCNY-HigherEducationAd-NYT.pdf. In order to ensure timely delivery of the dollars, the leaders assert that “only projects on which construction can begin within 120-180 days should be funded. No project-by-project approval in Washington, D.C. would be necessary, no new federal bureaucracy need be created. Federal funding should be approved only in cases where states or institutions match the federal grants, contributing 20 percent of the total project cost. This will ensure that only the highest-priority projects are funded.” The letter goes on to note that Governors should be allowed to allocate some of these funds to private universities, provided the federal dollars are matched.

While a draft of the Obama stimulus proposal has yet to be released, it appears that there is significant momentum towards including some funds for higher-ed infrastructure purposes. This would be well received by university leaders across the country – especially since it is unlikely that any significant influx of research dollars will be included in the stimulus package.

John Wertman
jwertman@aag.org

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Register for the AAG Annual Meeting at www.aag.org/annualmeetings/2009
AfricaGIS Conference 2009
Call for Papers

Organizers of the biennial AfricaGIS conference invite members of the AAG to attend Africa’s largest geoinformation science application event. To be held in Kampala, Uganda, October 26-29, AfricaGIS 2009 will bring together African and international professionals from the geo-information field to share knowledge and experience, to network, and to work together with policy and decision-makers to improve present applications of GIS technology while developing more advanced applications suited to African needs.

AfricaGIS was first launched in Tunis in 1993 by The Observatory for the Sahara and the Sahel (OSS) and the United Nation’s Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). Since then, the conference has been held successively in Abidjan, Côte-d’Ivoire in 1995; Gaborone, Botswana in 1997; Accra, Ghana in 1999; Nairobi, Kenya in 2001; Dakar, Senegal in 2003; Tshwane, South Africa in 2005; and Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso in 2007.

The AAG has recently partnered with EIS-Africa, the primary sponsor of AfricaGIS, to carry out collaborative projects that support sustainable development in Africa. The two organizations work together to fill gaps in fundamental geospatial data at a continent-wide level while strengthening local capacity in African universities, NGOs, and governmental agencies in the use of geospatial data for sustainable development. The AAG and EIS-Africa also have recently launched a reciprocal membership program to encourage more interaction and research collaboration between U.S. and African scientists. This program is described in more detail at www.aag.org/developing/africa/eis-africa.htm. AAG members who participate in this reciprocal membership program are eligible to participate in the AfricaGIS conference at a discounted member’s rate. Abstracts may be submitted at www.africagis2009.org/abstract.html.

For more information, visit www.africagis2009.org.

Call for Nominations:
AAG Standing Committees

At the AAG Council’s Spring 2009 meeting, to be held immediately prior to the Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, the Council will make new appointments to the set of AAG Standing Committees. These appointments will replace members whose terms expire July 1, 2009 and serve as a resource for any new or combined committees the Council will commission in the course of considering possible restructuring of the AAG Committees. A list of the vacancies to be filled and topics of interest to committees is provided below.

If you wish to nominate yourself or other qualified individuals for one or more of these vacancies, please notify AAG Secretary Craig Colten by March 9, 2009 via e-mail (ccolten@lsu.edu), or via fax to the AAG Office (202-234-2744).

Please ensure that your nominee is willing to serve if appointed. Include the contact information for your nominee as well as a brief statement indicating why she/he would be suitable for the position.

The current charges for AAG Standing Committees may be found in the AAG Guide to Programs or online at www.aag.org/Info/Committees%20List.pdf.

Others who are interested in assisting with the World Geography Bowl Committee in Las Vegas should directly contact the Chair, Laurence Carstensen, at carstens@vt.edu.

Archives and Association History Committee
Committee on College Geography and Careers
Committee on the Status of Women in Geography
Constitution & Bylaws Committee
Enhancing Diversity Committee
Finance Committee
Governmental Data and Membership Employment Committee
Publications Committee
Scientific Freedom & Responsibility Committee
AAG Awards Committee
AAG Globe Book Award Committee
AAG Meridian Book Award Committee
AAG Mel Marcus Fund Committee
AAG Research Grants Committee
AAG Student Award and Scholarship Committee

1 Vacancy
3 Vacancies
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diversification of undergraduate and graduate geography programs at universities, community colleges, and other educational institutions in the U.S.. The 2010 survey will provide an updated snapshot of the state of racial, ethnic, and gender diversity of students and faculty in geography departments, compared to baseline data gathered in 2004 by the AAG Diversity Task Force. Preliminary surveys will be sent to departments in early 2010. Responses from individual programs will be kept strictly confidential and data will be reported in aggregate form. Results from the baseline survey are reported on in the Diversity Task Force’s final report to AAG Council, available online at www.aag.org/diversity and in the AAG Newsletter (June 2005, pp. 1 & 5; and April 2007, pp. 2 & 5).

**AAG Annual Meeting Activities on Diversity**

Numerous papers and sessions on diversity, ethnicity, inclusion, and related themes for research and education in geography will be part of the program of the AAG Annual Meeting 2009, to be held in Las Vegas, March 22-27 (www.aag.org/meetings):

A special session sponsored by the AAG on “Diversity, Professional Development, and the Culture of Graduate Education in Geography” will be held on Tuesday, 3/24/09 at 10:10 AM. Data and results from the AAG’s Enhancing Departments and Graduate Education in Geography (EDGE) project will be presented by PIs and senior personnel.

The Geography Education Specialty Group is sponsoring a session entitled “Geographers in the Classroom” on Thursday, 3/26/09 at 10:10 AM. The session papers will address topics such as Using Scale to Teach Gender, Race, and Ethnicity, Interactions between College Students and Professors, and Teaching with an Accent. The Disability Specialty Group is sponsoring a paper session on “Disability in Education: Geographies of Inclusion and Exclusion” for Wednesday, 3/25/09 at 1:00 PM focusing on experiences of students and offering perspectives from a range of international scholarship on the subject. A Panel Session organized by the Indigenous Peoples Specialty Group presents the topic of “Indigenous Methodologies: Teaching Indigenous Perspectives in the Academy” on Monday, 3/23/09 at 3:10 PM. Geographic Perspectives on Women Specialty Group is sponsoring two consecutive sessions on “Graduate Research on Gender, Feminisms and Geography I and II” which are scheduled on Monday, 3/23/09, at the 8:00 AM and 10:10 AM session times. Papers will center on geographical aspects of gender and feminisms in relation to welfare reform, civil society and public space, feminist pedagogy, social entrepreneurship, education and migration processes. Other sessions will present research that provides insight, methods, topics, and advances in geography that are relevant to understanding issues of diversity. These include sessions on Locating Contexts of Inequality, Ethnic Geography, and Mobility, Access, and Livable Places. The AAG Enhancing Diversity Committee will also hold their meeting in Las Vegas and welcomes visitors.

The AAG Annual Meeting will feature many papers and sessions on the interrelated theme of internationalization, including activities related to the AAG’s Developing Regions Membership Program. Sessions related to African research and African geographies span the entire program. Speakers will include special guest Sives Govender from EIS-Africa, Lee Schwartz of the US State Department, and Jack Dangermond of ESRI on Wednesday afternoon, March 25. The AAG’s annual session on Geography in the Americas Monday, March 23, focuses this year on resources for supporting international collaboration, and includes panelists from the Fulbright Program, Inter-American Foundation, American Council of Learned Societies, National Science Foundation, and the Organization of American States.

In addition, a diverse group of graduate students will be serving as AAG Diversity Ambassadors at the Las Vegas Meeting. Volunteers are willing to share their experiences and give advice about college life, graduate school, job searches, networking, navigating the annual meeting, and more to other graduate or undergraduate students. Faculty or employers who are looking to implement activities to achieve greater diversity in their programs and workforces, and who wish to converse about ideas and experiences are also welcomed. This informal venue seeks to provide an open forum to share recent success stories, engage in conversations regarding recruiting and retention strategies, understanding student and faculty mentoring needs, and other insights from the unique perspectives of the ambassadors. Volunteers will be available on Wednesday, March 25, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Jobs in Geography (JIG) area. Graduate students interested in volunteering may contact Nate Sessoms, sessoms@usc.edu.

Looking ahead, the AAG will continue to promote diversity as integral to its mission of advancing the discipline and as a key part of all of its research, education and outreach activities. Priorities include providing support to departments as key agents of measurable change; exploring how the latest research within geography can support better informed, knowledge-based efforts to enhance diversity in departments and the discipline; and developing external partnerships and funding proposals that facilitate the tools, information, knowledge, best practices, mentoring, and other resources that can build upon and extend the work of the AAG over the past six years. We look forward to continuing this work with you and encourage your comments and ideas.

Patricia Solís
psolis@aag.org

Doug Richardson
drichardson@aag.org
AAG members are invited to the 6th annual workshop devoted to departmental leadership and healthy departments. The workshop will begin with a dinner on Thursday, July 9. Workshop sessions will take place on Friday, July 10 and on the morning of Saturday, July 11. For those able to arrive a day early, Doug Gamble, from the University of North Carolina Wilmington, will lead a field trip to explore the geography of Wrightsville Beach, historic Wilmington and the Intercoastal Waterway.

Learn from Experienced Department Chairs and University Administrators

The workshop is designed for all geographers who wish to make their departments stronger and more visible, but it is particularly well suited for those persons already in or expecting to assume positions of departmental leadership. The 2009 workshop will follow the format of previous workshops in having geographers who have served as department heads and university administrators start each session with comments regarding the session’s focus but with most time devoted to question and answer and discussion among all participants. Time will be allocated for informal sessions in which participants can exchange ideas and experiences with guest panelists and among themselves.

Workshop Panelists

Susan Cutter, former department head, University of South Carolina, President of COSSA, and former president of AAG.
Carol Harden, AAG Vice President, former department head, University of Tennessee.
J.W. Harrington, University representative to the state legislature, former department head, University of Washington.
Jerry Ingalls, Department Head, University of North Carolina at Charlotte.
Risa Palm, Executive Vice Chancellor, State University of New York.
Michael Solem, Director of Educational Affairs, AAG.

Workshop Topics

The 2009 workshop has the timely theme of “Advancing Geography Departments During Lean Years.” A wide range of topics will be covered, including:

- Engaging in effective strategic planning
- Defining, measuring, and improving “program quality”
- Identifying and acquiring resources to expand department activities
- Fostering the professional development of faculty
- Creating a positive, welcoming workplace, even in hard times
- Assessing performance
- Working effectively in a “hybrid” department
- Effectively training the next generations of geographers
- Preparing faculty for departmental leadership

Additional Information

Workshop cost is $265 and will include workshop materials, instructor expenses, field trip expenses, and attendee meals. Registration and further information will be available on the AAG website.

The Department Leadership Workshop (www.aag.org/healthydepartments) will be held at the Hilton Wilmington Riverside hotel. The AAG has negotiated a room rate of $149 per night (single or double) for the workshop, and this discounted room rate may be extended both 3 days prior to and 3 days after the workshop should you wish. The hotel will hold this low rate until June 9, 2009. Please make your reservation by calling (910) 763-5900 or (888) 324-8170 between 8am and 5pm EST. Mention that you are with the AAG Healthy Departments Workshop to get the reduced rate. More information on the hotel, including the option for beach passes at nearby Wrightsville Beach, is available at www.wilmingtonhilton.com. A room-sharing option also exists for those trying to keep expenses even lower. Please contact Carol Harden if you would like to share a room with another attendee, and she will coordinate the arrangements.

Wilmington, North Carolina is a charming, historic coastal town. If you are traveling by air, you may choose to fly directly to Wilmington, or you might increase your flight options by flying to Raleigh and driving to Wilmington (2 hour drive).

If you have questions about the organization or content of the 2009 AAG Departmental Leadership Workshop, contact AAG Vice President, Carol Harden, at charden@utk.edu.

If you have questions about workshop registration or other logistical issues related to the AAG Departmental Leadership workshop, contact AAG Conference Director, Oscar Larson, at olarson@aag.org or 202-234-1450.

Field Trip

An optional field trip will be available at no additional cost for workshop attendees on Thursday, July 9. The field trip destinations include a visit to Wrightsville Beach, where participants will examine the link between coastal geomorphology and the community’s historical geography and current development issues. Participants will explore a ½ to 1 mile stretch of sandy beach and be able to get their feet or entire body wet in the ocean. After Wrightsville Beach, participants will return to Wilmington to tour the historic river front and the site of the 1898 election’s racial violence and its recently installed memorial.
Books Received


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Thanks to NGS for Journals Donation

The AAG would like to acknowledge with great appreciation the efforts of Susan Fifer Canby and Michael Karabinos of the National Geographic Society Libraries & Information Services department for donating the remaining early volumes of the *Annals of the AAG* needed for our journals digitizing project. The NGS donation of volumes 1 - 35 of the *Annals* concludes our campaign to collect a complete set of good quality copies of all AAG journals to create for the first time a complete digital library of all of AAG’s journals published to date. These journals are now being digitized by AAG publisher Routledge and will be available for AAG members from around the world to consult free of charge on the AAG web site (www.aag.org) in early 2009.
In Search of a Better Revolution

Urban West Africa was ground zero in the global food crisis of last spring and summer. From Dakar to Abidjan, the cities in this zone experienced more protests against rising food prices than any other region in the first two-thirds of 2008.

The solution, pushed by many global leaders, is to increase crop yields in Africa via a new green revolution. They point to the apparent success of the last green revolution in the 1960s and 70s, a concerted global effort in Asia and Latin America to disseminate a high yield crop package of hybrid seeds, fertilizers and pesticides.

The problem, they argue, is that these innovations never reached Africa. They are wrong.

The green revolution did touch Africa in the form of cheap Asian rice which began flooding African markets in the 1980s. I have been working or conducting research in West Africa on food and agriculture for over 20 years. When I lived with a family on the outskirts of Bamako, Mali in the 1980s, they still largely ate small grains (millet and sorghum) produced in the surrounding country side. Today, they mostly purchase rice from Thailand or Malaysia, having developed a taste over several years for this (until recently) relatively cheap import.

Research shows that this pattern has been repeated in cities across West Africa, constricting markets for locally produced grains and forcing farmers to switch to other crops as a source of cash (such as cotton) or abandoning farming altogether for a life in the city. This shift has been aided and abetted by a (World Bank/IMF imposed) package of free market reforms that removed barriers to food imports and emphasized commodity crop exports.

The green revolution also was not of great benefit if you were a small, poor farmer in Asia. While the new package of hybrid seeds, fertilizers and pesticides did dramatically increase yields, the cost of such inputs was prohibitively expensive for the poorest farmers. The result was a silent reorganization of the Asian country side as the poorest of the poor couldn’t compete, and then went to work for their wealthier neighbors or moved to the city. Even wealthier farmers faced growing input costs as insects developed resistance to the most common pesticides, forcing them to apply more and more chemicals or switch to expensive alternatives. Export-oriented rice production in Southeast Asia also further fueled the demand for large scale dam construction, creating a host of other social and environmental problems.

Global leaders are correct in asserting that the agricultural sector in Africa deserves more attention and support. The green revolution approach, however, is flawed. For starters, many of the inputs required for higher yielding crops, especially fertilizers, are petroleum based. The cost of these inputs will only rise in step with the general upward trend in energy costs. Use of imported seeds (hybrid or GMO) and other inputs also concentrates power in the board rooms of global agrochemical firms rather than in the hands of small farmers.

An approach (known as food sovereignty) emphasizing local or national food provision and appropriate technology is more sustainable and empowering for small, West African farmers. Agricultural experiments comparing intensive African methods (involving the use of manure and compost as inputs, and the intelligent mixing of multiple crops) to conventional Western cropping strategies have repeatedly shown the former to be more efficient in terms of energy consumed per unit of output. These methods have been inhibited by cheap imports and by agricultural agencies that emphasized industrial approaches to crop production.

While some emergency measures will be needed to address the food crisis in the short term, we can do better than another green revolution in the medium to long term. This will involve building on the knowledge of local farmers to develop agricultural approaches that are sustainable and accessible to the poor. It may also mean protecting national and regional food systems from unfair competition.

Geographers can and should play a key role in articulating and promoting a new vision for supporting agriculture in Africa and elsewhere. On-going debates on how best to address the global food crisis are impoverished without a geographic perspective on this issue that is uniquely attentive to coupled human-environment interactions within local food systems, the interplay between political economy, environment and livelihood across scales, and the linkages (intended and unintended) between different regional food systems. Moments of crisis are also moments of opportunity for change. Our discipline, with its long-standing tradition of scholarship on environment, development and agriculture, should aggressively engage in the public debate on the future contours of the global food system.

For years, global and national food policies have had an urban bias in that the provision of cheap food has almost always trumped environmental or social costs in the country side. The results have been predictable: more under-employed urban residents hailing from rural areas and fewer small farmers. West Africa has some of the best small farmers in the world. We should support, not subvert, their genius.

William G. Moseley
Macalester College

This commentary is adapted from an op-ed, of the same title, originally published in the Minneapolis StarTribune on May, 13 2008.

AAG Newsletter Op-Eds

The AAG invites brief opinion pieces highlighting the contributions of geographical analysis to the understanding of important public issues and events. Submissions are encouraged from across the full breadth of the discipline. These pieces reflect opinions of contributing AAG members and do not represent an official AAG position on any issue. Op-ed pieces must be consistent with the AAG ethics policy and will be published on a space available basis. Send submissions of no more than 750 words to newsletter@aag.org.
EDGE Workshops and Sessions at the 2009 AAG Annual Meeting

The 2009 AAG Annual Meeting program will feature workshops based on Aspiring Academics and Teaching College Geography, two books produced by the AAG’s Enhancing Departments and Graduate Education (EDGE) project funded by NSF. Graduate students and early career faculty are especially encouraged to attend these workshops. Each workshop participant will receive a complimentary copy of one of the books.

EDGE is also sponsoring several paper and panel sessions on topics related to graduate education and preparing for careers in higher education, business, government, and non-profit organizations.

An overview of the workshops and sessions follows.

**Sunday, March 22**

Workshop: Introducing Professional Development Topics in the Graduate Curriculum
3:10pm to 5:10pm

Time management, collegiality, professional ethics, academic publishing, course design, interdisciplinary collaboration, career planning, and teaching diverse student are among the topics that, although central to academic careers, are rarely discussed systematically in doctoral programs. This workshop will demonstrate some of the ways these and other topics can be introduced to aspiring academics in the early stages of their professional development. Participants will review a new AAG faculty development website that can be used with graduate students and faculty in a variety of settings: courses, seminars, workshops, brown-bags, colloquia, as well as independently.

**Monday, March 23**

Workshop: Time Management: Setting Priorities and Maintaining Balance
10:00am to 12:00pm

The session focuses on issues of time management for graduate students and early-career faculty, concentrating especially on balancing the responsibilities of research, teaching, and service as well as family and personal life. The workshop will begin with a brief overview of research on time management and then turn to strategies for improving productivity. A discussion will follow to allow participants to share their strategies and concerns.

**Tuesday, March 24**

Workshop: Academic Publishing
8:00am to 10:30am

Aspiring professionals in the academy as well as those entering the public and private sectors are usually expected to be able to initiate or collaborate with others on research projects that advance a field or subfield. While a good first step in reporting findings and getting feedback is to present to appropriate audiences at workshops and conferences, the major method of communication with colleagues is through publication. This workshop is designed to address some of the nuts and bolts of publishing in the academy, specifically the preparation of manuscripts for the peer review process.

**Panel Session 3238: Diversity, Professional Development, and the Culture of Graduate Education in Geography**
10:40am to 11:50am

This session reports the results of three studies examining important issues in contemporary graduate education: 1) students’ career aspirations in relation to faculty expectations and advising practices, 2) diversity and the climate of graduate programs, and 3) how students experience the cultures of master’s and doctoral programs. Together, the papers provide an empirical basis for enhancing professional development and graduate education through improvements to the overall departmental climate.

**Panel Session 3438: Rethinking the Degree of PhD in Geography 1: New Approaches and Practices to Professional Development in Doctoral Programs**
1:00pm to 2:40pm

This panel explores the role, scope and place of professional development in doctoral curricula and how to improve on current practice. Graduate programs offer strong training in research and writing, but do not always address as thoroughly the full range of issues that are important to professional success, especially for the substantial proportion of doctoral students who pursue careers outside of academics.

**Panel Session 3538: Rethinking the Degree of PhD in Geography 2: Beginning an international conversation**
3:10pm to 4:50pm

**Panel Session 3638: Rethinking the Degree of PhD in Geography 3: Continuing an international conversation**
3:20pm to 7:10pm

These discussant-based sessions seek to explore the impacts of reforms in Fourth Level education on Geography PhD programs in different national settings. The
Geography Doctorate is undergoing change in response to neoliberal reforms in higher education systems, the rise of a global competition for talented students, more corporate funding of PhD programs, the schoolification of Geography Departments, growing interest in advanced training for research students, and the development of new technologies for collecting, analyzing, and presenting data and defending thesis. Discussants are invited to draw upon their own personal experience and/or to pass comment on the status of the PhD program in national policy frameworks and Higher Education Funding proposals.

Wednesday, March 25
Workshop: Advising Students in Geography
10:10am to 11:50am
The purpose of this workshop is to introduce and discuss principles of academic advising as articulated by the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA), and to apply these principles to the discipline of geography at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. We discuss NACADA’s philosophy and identify the core values of academic advising. We then develop several principles by which instructors in a college setting can carry out these core values, paying particular attention to the application of these principles to geography as a discipline. Workshop participants will read case studies, participate in role-playing exercises, and undertake group discussions in order to illustrate the operationalization of these principles and practices.

Thursday, March 26
Workshop: GIS and Mapping Technologies: Applications for Reasoning and Critical Thinking
10:30am to 12:00pm
In this workshop participants will explore spatial data, consider spatial concepts, and address spatial problems using such tools as Google Earth® and ESRI’s Arc Explorer Java Edition for Education (AEJEE). We will demonstrate how spatial software can help students gain confidence and competence at identifying spatial patterns and thinking with maps. Attendees will receive a CD and workbook including exercises and accompanying data.

Panel Session 5535: Earning your varves (i.e. stripes) in a geography career: Effective mentoring relationships
3:10pm to 4:50pm
In academia we establish mentoring relationships between advisors and students, and these relationships can have important effects on the scholarly achievement of students. However, it can be difficult to foster new mentor relations once we leave the security of graduate school and start a career. In some academic departments, new hires are paired with experienced faculty members while other departments may take a more hands-off approach. Research has shown that people in effective mentoring relationships are more likely to succeed professionally. For instance, Robert Boice (2000) found that new faculty members in highly effective mentoring relationships were more likely to meet departmental expectations for scholarly productivity, teaching, and collegiality than faculty members who did not have effective mentors. Because mentoring is so important to start a career successfully, we will discuss issues that contribute to effective mentoring relationships.

EDGE is a research and action project aimed at improving the preparation of early career geographers for academic and non-academic professional careers. For additional information about EDGE activities, publications, and resources, please visit www.aag.org/edge.

Royal Geographical Society
Members of the geographical and related communities are invited to propose sessions with papers, or individual papers for open sessions for the RGS-IBG Annual Conference, to be held in Manchester, England, August 26-28, 2009. February 22 is the deadline for session and abstract submissions by Research Group and for independent session organizers. April 23 is the deadline for the submission of individual papers to open sessions. See www.rgs.org for more information.

Caribbean Philosophical Association
The Caribbean Philosophical Association (CPA) invites proposals from scholars in any discipline who aim to “shift the geography of reason” by exploring critical, theoretical, and creative questions about or relating to the Caribbean, its Diaspora, and the ‘global south’ more generally, including the South in the North. We will review proposals in English, French, and Spanish and will create panels for presentations in those three languages. The CPA Annual Meeting will take place August 12-15, 2009 at the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida. Send submissions for panels and abstracts of individual presentations by February 15 by email to caribphil@yahoo.com. Abstracts should succinctly state the problem(s) addressed and identify the sources used in one paragraph to one page per individual presentation. All titles must include the name of the presenter, the highest university degree obtained, and the current institutional affiliation, if any.
AAG 2009 ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION FORM (www.aag.org)

Everyone who attends the AAG Annual Meeting must register. You may use this form if you do not wish to register online, or if you wish to add events but have already registered for the meeting. Space is limited for all events, field trips, and workshops. AAG reserves the right to cancel any event with insufficient enrollment. All fees are payable in US dollars, by check, money order, Visa, or MasterCard. All cancellation requests must be made in writing to meeting@aag.org by the stated deadlines. Cancellation requests received by December 10, 2008 will incur a 25% cancellation fee. Requests received by February 10, 2009 will incur a 50% cancellation fee. Requests received by March 11, 2009 will incur a 75% cancellation fee. Requests received after March 11, 2009 cannot be processed.

I. REGISTRATION FEES

- Check here if you have already registered for the meeting.
- *Those registering under the companion/spouse category may not present a paper or participate as a panelist or session organizer, and must submit a paper form via fax or mail (not online).

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**Total Registration Fees**

II. FIELD TRIPS

Full descriptions are available at www.aag.org. Field trips (and workshops) are in date order. You must be registered to attend a field trip.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Trip</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grand Canyon Three-Day Tour (3/19-21)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Oasis Two-Day Tour (3/20-3/21)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Canyon with Jim Powell (3/20-3/22)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$596</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Rock National Conservation Area (3/20)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death Valley National Park (3/21)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild about Mojave Wildflowers (3/22)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest Utah / Zion National Park (3/23)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threatened Desert Tortoise (3/23)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arid Lands; Sustainability in LV (3/24)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$110</td>
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<tr>
<td>This is Vegas! Cultural Landscapes (3/24)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$97</td>
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<tr>
<td>Death Valley National Park (3/24)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOE &amp; USGS Yucca Mountain NV (3/24)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoover Dam / Springs Preserve (3/25)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sustainable Casinos (3/25)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grand Dam Tour (3/25-3/26)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$548</td>
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<tr>
<td>Desert Training Center CA / AZ (3/26)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$93</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pahrump Winery Tour and Lunch (3/26)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planning LV: Urban Planning (3/26)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$35</td>
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<tr>
<td>LV: Sustainable Culture in Desert (3/26-27)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$45</td>
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<tr>
<td>W to E Grand Canyon Four-Day (3/26-29)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$489</td>
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</table>

**Total Fees for Field Trips**

III. SPECIAL EVENTS / BOOKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Awards Luncheon - individual ticket</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$55.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awards Luncheon Table - 10 tickets</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$495.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lonely Planet Las Vegas City Guide</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$17.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lonely Planet Grand Canyon Nat’l Park</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off the Beaten Path Nevada</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$12.55</td>
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</table>

**Total Fees for Special Events / Books**

IV. WORKSHOPS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Metadata with Cyberinfrastructure (3/22)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDGE: Prof. Development Topics (3/22)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Mapping Fundamentals (3/22)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSF: Writing Proposals (3/23)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSF: Writing Doctoral Dissert. Proposals (3/23)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDGE: Time Management (3/23)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WileyPlus / Human Geography (3/23)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching with ArcGIS (3/23)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spatial Analysis w/ArcGIS (3/23)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Research Program (3/23)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSF: Writing CAREER Proposals (3/24)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSF: Writing Proposals (same as #6; 3/24)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using Photography / Urban Landscape (3/24)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDGE: Advising Students in Geog. (3/24)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDGE: Academic Publishing (3/24)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching Geog: Spatial Thinking Skills (3/24)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wine Tasting: Italian Wines (3/24)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ortelius - Cartography Software for Mac (3/25)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wine Tasting: World Style Wines (3/25)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$36</td>
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<tr>
<td>CGGE No Passports Required (3/25)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publishing Your Scholarly Book (3/25)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apply Your Science to Service Society (3/25)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hands on w/ GPS Range Finder / Camera (3/26)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDGE: GIS / Mapping Technologies (3/26)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Change Modeling Methods (3/26)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geog Approach &amp; Spatial Literacy (3/26)</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Fees for Workshops**

V. ABSTRACT BOOKS / CDs

Abstracts are available online to all registrants at no charge. If you also wish to purchase a printed abstract book or an abstract CD, sign up here.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009 Meeting Abstract Book</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 Meeting Abstract CD</td>
<td>@</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Fees for Abstract Books / CDs**

IV. SUMMARY / PAYMENT

- Registration Fees
- Field Trips
- Special Events / Books
- Workshops
- Abstract Books / CDs

**Grand Total (U.S. Dollars Only)**

- Check for $________ attached (Payable to AAG)
- Please charge $________ to my VISA/MC (Sorry, no AmEx or Discover)

Card #: __________________________
Exp. Date: ______/______ Signature __________________________
AAG Workshops in Las Vegas

Each year, the AAG Annual Meeting features many useful and informative workshops that help build shared experiences around topics of mutual interest with colleagues. Below is a listing of just some of the current offerings. A full list of workshops, including registration information, is available at www.aag.org/annualmeetings/2009/workshops.

Field Mapping Fundamentals: A Hands-On Approach
Sunday, March 22, 9:00am to 4:00pm
Using GPS adds a new dimension to field work and teaching but navigating through the myriad of products can get even geographers hopelessly lost! In this workshop, you will be guided through the process of selecting the GPS equipment that best suits your needs. We will assess your needs and compare them to the GPS units on the market today, discussing topics such as accuracy, differential correction, data transfer, and interoperability with peripheral units and mapping software. We will use GPS units to work through the standard workflow of setting up a project, loading background data, creating a data dictionary, collecting data in the field, differentially correcting the data, and exporting the data into a mapping format.

Time Management: Setting Priorities and Maintaining Balance
Monday, March 23, 10:00am to 12:00pm
The session focuses on issues of time management for graduate students and early-career, concentrating especially on balancing the responsibilities of research, teaching, and service as well as family and personal life. The workshop will begin with a brief overview of research on time management and then turn to strategies for improving productivity. A discussion will follow to allow participants to share their strategies and concerns. This workshop is sponsored by the AAG's Enhancing Departments and Graduate Education (EDGE) in Geography project and is based on the EDGE book Aspiring Academics. Participants will receive a complimentary copy of the book.

Using Photography to Investigate Urban Landscape
Sunday, March 22, 10:00am to 7:00pm
This workshop is intended for those interested in developing their use of visual methods in social and spatial research and commentary. It involves a two hour briefing on fundamentals of photography in the investigation and analysis of urban landscape and social life, and ways of conceptualizing photography as an investigative and analytical tool. Following the briefing participants are encouraged to apply what they have learned to any aspect of the urban environment around the conference venue in groups of 3-5 for a period of 2-3 hours. They will subsequently discuss and edit their photographs ready for presentation (1 to 2 hours), returning to the workshop venue for a further two hours to exhibit and discuss their work with the workshop organizers and the group. Please bring your digital (or cell phone) camera with you, as well as a camera/laptop connection.

Teaching Geography: An Introduction to Spatial Thinking Skills
Tuesday, March 24, 1:00pm to 4:00pm
This workshop will assist K-16, including pre-service and undergraduate, geography faculty in identifying examples of geography content instruction which engage students in the modes of spatial thinking. Examples from the 80 instructional units on the Teaching Geography CD-ROM (developed with funding from FIPSE) will be introduced. Current information on developing spatial thinking skills in students will be discussed. Each participant will receive a free copy of the Teaching Geography book and CD.

Wine Tasting: Geography of Italian Wines
Tuesday, March 24, 1:00pm to 3:00pm
Take a virtual fieldtrip of the wine regions of Italy and taste the geography! Participate in a comparative tasting of red wines from different wine regions of Italy and find out what makes them geographically unique. Join us as we analyze why grape varieties are produced in limited locations because of differences in climate, soil, geology, drainage and environmental factors. Learn what grapes are in wine blends known by their geographical name. Eight wines will be tasted including: Barbaresco from Piedmonte, Nero d’Avola from Sicily, Primitivo from Apulia, Sangiovese from Tuscany, Aglianico from Campania, Valpolicella from Veneto, Montepulciano from Abruzzi.

Publishing Your Scholarly Book
Wednesday, March 25, 10:00am to 12:00pm
This workshop will guide participants through book publishing process by the Director of the University of Kentucky Press. David Zurick will discuss guidelines for the preparation of maps and illustrations. Presentations will be followed by question and answer period. Potential authors should bring their book proposal and projects for discussion with the publisher.

Hands on with GPS/Laser Range Finder/and GPS Enabled Digital Camera
Thursday, March 26, 9:00am to 12:00pm
This workshop will allow participants to use latest GPS MAPPING hardware (various brands of GPS grade receivers, PDA, Laser Range Finders and GPS enabled digital camera) to collect actual outdoor data and import into GIS. The

Continued on page 20
purpose is to allow the participants to see how easy it is to use the latest hardware and software and eliminate the “fear factor” of using latest technology.

The Geographic Approach and Spatial Literacy
Thursday, March 26, 10:00am to 12:00pm

As GIS professionals and geographers, we all understand the value of geography. However, how well do we employ a geographic approach to problem solving? Are we capable of thinking spatially and seeing relationships and patterns in multi-dimensions? The more we understand our own skills and raise awareness of the geographic approach and spatial literacy, the more we can help our organizations achieve success. Explore and increase your abilities to think spatially through a different look at geographic problem solving around the world with this interactive collaborative workshop.

Sign-up for AAG workshops when you register for the Annual Meeting at www.aag.org. If you have already registered for the meeting, use the form on page 18 to add a workshop.

Award Deadlines

2009

FEBRUARY

MARCH

MAY

JUNE

AAG Grants and Competitions
The AAG offers numerous grants and awards. Visit www.aag.org/grantsawards for a full listing including detailed descriptions, deadlines, and application procedures.

NSF Grants and Competitions
Detailed information about NSF grants and awards is available at www.nsf.gov.

Forthcoming in AAG Journals

The Annals of the Association of American Geographers
Table of Contents

April 2009, Volume 99, Issue 2

Environmental Sciences
Spatial and Temporal Patterns of Stream Channel Incision in the Loess Region of the Missouri River
Reuben A. Heine and Christopher Lant

Methods, Models, and GIS
Social Power and GIS Technology: A Review and Assessment of Approaches for Natural Resource Management
Dawn J. Wright, Sally L. Duncan, and Denise Lach

Area Estimation of World Regions and the Projection of the Global-Scale Cognitive Map
Sarah E. Battersby and Daniel R. Montello

Nature and Society
Pastoral Herd Management, Drought Coping Strategies, and Cattle Mobility in Southern Kenya
Bilal Butt and Ashton Shortridge

Constructing Connectivity: Conservation Corridors and Conservation Politics in East African Rangelands
Mara Goldman

People, Place, and Region
A Wired World: The Evolving Geography of Submarine Cables and the Shift to Asia
Edward J. Malecki and Hu Wei

Discourse, Identity, and “Homeland as Other” at the Borderlands
Susan W. Hardwick and Ginger Mansfield

Bending the Bars of Empire from Every Ghetto for Survival: The Black Panther Party’s Radical Anti-Hunger Politics of Social Reproduction and Scale
Nik Heynen
The AAG Annual Meeting Awards Luncheon will be held on Friday, March 27, 2009 in Las Vegas, Nevada. We invite you to join us and enjoy the event with your colleagues, friends, and family. We are offering the purchase of 10 discounted tickets to reserve a full table. If you wish to reserve a full table for your department, AAG Specialty Group, students, or friends, you may do so at this time. Individual tickets are $55 and tickets for a table (seats 10) are $495. If you have not yet paid your Annual Meeting registration fee, you may purchase the Luncheon tickets online at the time you pay. If you have already paid your registration fee, please fax this form to 202-234-2744 or mail it to 2009 AAG Annual Meeting, Association of American Geographers, 1710 Sixteenth Street NW, Washington, DC 20009-3198. For more information contact meeting@aag.org.

### 2009 AAG Annual Meeting Awards Luncheon Form

**Las Vegas, NV — March 27, 2009**

**12:00 pm - 2:15 pm**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Qty</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single Ticket</td>
<td></td>
<td>Table for 10</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>$55.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>$495.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Name:** ____________________________________________________________
- **Organization:** ______________________________________________________
- **Total Amount:** $ _________________________________________________
- **Payment Method:** Check or money order (payable to the Association of American Geographers)
- **Visa or MasterCard Number:** ___________________________ Exp. Date: _____________
- **Signature:** ______________________________________________________

### Grants and Competitions

**ESRC-SSRC Collaborative Visiting Fellowships**

The Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) are pleased to announce fellowships for scholars from the Americas (North, Central, South and the Caribbean) to visit and engage in collaborative activities with members of ESRC-supported projects in Britain, or for British scholars at ESRC-supported projects to visit collaborators in the Americas, between June 1, 2009 and August 31, 2010. (http://fellowships.ssrc.org/esrc). Applicants and their collaborators should have received a PhD in one of the social sciences (including history) by the time the proposed visiting fellowship would start. They should have been based in the country from which they are applying for at least two years before the application deadline of March 20, 2009. Please direct any questions about the ESRC/SSRC fellowship to visiting-scholars@ssrc.org. For information on previous Fellowship awards see ‘Mobility and Networking’ on the ESRC International Pages at www.esrc.ac.uk.
Animal Geography SG

Co-founders of the proposed Animal Geography Specialty Group (AnGSG) are pleased to announce that the group has been approved by the AAG Council. The AnGSG strives to enhance geographic research and scholarship on matters relating to human-animal studies by: (a) encouraging the exchange of ideas among geographers studying biological, cultural, ecological, economic, political, and technical aspects of the myriad ways humans co-exist with other animal species, (b) promoting research in these areas, (c) facilitating collaboration between existing AAG specialty groups and committees to promote common interests and develop intra-disciplinary and interdisciplinary projects. The overall aim of AnGSG is to support discussion of human-animal issues by geographers as a legitimate and active part of the discipline. New members are welcome! Please contact Monica Ogra (mogra@gettysburg.edu) or Julie Urbanik (urbanikj@umkc.edu) to join the listserv or to make inquiries about sponsored sessions for Las Vegas. Dues are $5 (faculty members), $1 (student members); Dues for members who join through the Developing Regions Membership Program will be waived.

Indigenous Peoples SG

The Indigenous Peoples Specialty Group (IPSG) invites submissions for its annual Graduate Student Paper Competition, in conjunction with the 2009 AAG general meeting. Graduate student papers eligible for this competition will address geographic research, education, cartography, methodologies, theory and/or applications by, for and/or about Indigenous people(s). Papers will be evaluated on their overall contribution to new knowledge and understanding in the geographies of Indigenous peoples. The award for the top student paper includes a cash award of US$150.00 and a one-year honorary membership in the IPSG.

To be eligible for this competition, papers must be presented at the AAG annual meeting in Las Vegas, regional geography meetings or another professional conference. Students must submit a written manuscript of their conference paper for evaluation. Papers will be evaluated by IPSG board members, which include both faculty members and graduate students. The committee reserves the right not to award a prize if submissions are not of sufficient quality.

Interested students should submit a copy of their conference paper electronically by March 19, 2009 or in person no later than March 22, 2009 to either of the IPSG co-chairs: Renee Pualani Louis at mapdr@earthlink.net or Zoltan Grossman at grossmaz@evergreen.edu. (Please put "IPSG Student Paper Submission" in the subject line.) Any questions about the competition should also be directed to the co-chairs.

Cartography SG

The Cartography Specialty Group of the AAG is pleased to announce the winners of its Fall 2008 Master’s Thesis Grants, which are given to promote scholarly research in cartography by students enrolled in a geography or related degree program. The recipients were Craig A. McCabe, The Pennsylvania State University, advised by Alan MacEachren, for “The Effects of Temporal Averaging and Area Representation on Interpreting Patterns in Map Animations of Infectious Disease Data”; Martin Tom Auer, The Pennsylvania State University, advised by Dr. Alan MacEachren, for “Explicitly Representing Geographic Change in Map Animations”; and Keith French, University of Kansas, advised by Xingong Li, for “Visualizing Regional Trends in the Change in Mean Population Center over Time.” The students were awarded a total of $350 to cover study, software, and materials costs for their research projects. Please join us in congratulating Craig, Tom, and Keith. For more information on the CSG Master’s Thesis Grants, please visit www.csun.edu/%7Ehlggeg003/csg/master.html. Deadlines for application are March 15, June 15, and November 1.

Cultural and Political Ecology SG

The Cultural and Political Ecology (CAPE) Specialty Group announces four award competitions, all with a deadline of March 1, 2009.

1) The AAG-CAPE Student Paper Award is an annual award to recognize distinguished student research. Candidates may be undergraduates, graduate students, or a recent Ph.D. within a year of the dissertation defense. The student must be a member of AAG-CAPE and the sole author. Judging criteria include the soundness and creativity of the research design and methodology; validity of conclusions; and writing quality. The paper should not exceed 8,000 words including all components: references, footnotes, abstract, illustrations, tables and any other text. A prize of $100 will be awarded for the best paper. Please send the paper as an attachment (PDFs work well and can include figures) to the CAPE Secretary/treasurer, Chris Brown (jcbrown2@ku.edu). Additional information may be found at: www2.stetson.edu/cape/Awards/awards.htm.

2) The AAG-CAPE Field Study Award. One or two awards of up to $500, subject to approval by the CAPE Awards Committee, will be granted for 2009. The principal objective will be to defray travel expenses for reconnaissance field work for intended thesis or dissertation research, and the award will be oriented primarily to those without other substantial funding. The award is not intended to finance dissertation field work, rather to finance either a) research for a Master’s degree or b) reconnaissance field work that should allow a student to complete a fundable dissertation proposal. Eligible candidates must be a member of the AAG and CAPE at the time of submission. A copy of your proposal should be sent to the CAPE Secretary/treasurer, Chris Brown (jcbrown2@ku.edu). Additional information may be found at: www2.stetson.edu/cape/Awards/awards.htm.
3. The Robert McCorkle Netting Award is awarded to the person whose professional activities best embody those of Robert McCorkle Netting. The award is normally made annually, but an award need not be made in any one year if a deserving candidate cannot be identified. Awardees need not be a member of the Cultural and Political Ecology Specialty Group, the Association of American Geographers, or be a geographer. The award is not necessarily made for any one piece of work or single activity, but rather is for significant and substantial interdisciplinary work. The intent is to recognize scholars who have distinguished themselves through involvement with interdisciplinary geographical and anthropological projects, and/or have published extensively in both anthropological and geographical journals, and/or whose work is read and appreciated by practitioners in both fields, and/or whose service to both disciplines is meritorious. Nominations should be emailed directly to the CAPE Chair, Bill Moseley (moseley@macalester.edu). Further information may be found at: www2.stetson.edu/cape/Honors/honors.htm.

4. The James M. Blaut Innovative Publication Award is given to that person who publishes a book or journal article that best embodies the creativity and rigor of Jim Blaut’s own publications. The award is made for a single publication that is clearly innovative and has the potential to be seminal in areas of research that are important to the members of the Group. The intent is to recognize authors at any stage in their careers who demonstrate leadership through broadly influential, critical, innovative thinking. The publication can be a journal article or a book but must be sole-authored. Nominations must be accompanied by full publication details and a rationale for making the award on the basis of that publication. Nominees need not be academics, geographers, members of the Cultural and Political Ecology Specialty Group, or members of the Association of American Geographers. Nominations should be emailed directly to the CAPE Chair, Bill Moseley (moseley@macalester.edu). Further information may be found at: www2.stetson.edu/cape/Honors/honors.htm.

Of Note

Chicago’s Newberry Library invites school teachers nationwide to apply for its 2009 NEH summer seminar, “Developing Cartographic Literacy with Historic Maps,” June 22 to July 10, 2009. Completed applications must be postmarked by March 2, 2009. Email: franks@newberry.org; Phone: (312) 255–3659; www.newberry.org.
**UNited States**

**california, fresno.**
The department of geography invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor position specializing in Environmental Studies beginning August 2009. PhD in geography or a related discipline is required for appointment to a tenure-track position. ABD may be considered for a temporary lecturership position with the possibility of conversion to tenure track upon completion of the doctorate. Teaching load is 4 courses per semester. Teaching duties will include the following: environmental pollution, global environmental change, international environmental law, and environmental policy and management. Other teaching duties may include general education courses.

Complete applications received by February 10, 2009 will be given full consideration. Please see official vacancy announcement at www.csufresno.edu/aps/vacancy/social_sciences.html. Online application form is available at www.csufresno.edu/aps/vacancy/sc1.pdf.

Apply: submit the application form, application letter, CV, and three letters of recommendation (directly from referees) to Dr. C.K. Leung, Search Committee Chair, Department of Geography, 2555 E. San Ramon Ave., MS/SB69, CSU Fresno, Fresno, CA 93740-8034. Phone: (559) 278-2797. Fax: (559) 278-7268. E-mail: cleung@csufresno.edu. AA/EOE.

**FEb 09-031-1**

**California, san bernardino.**
San Bernardino Community College District. Title: Instructor, Geography. The primary teaching assignment will be Physical Geography, but assignment may include Introductory GIS, Introductory Cultural Geography, Environmental Geography, Weather and Climate, and/or World Regional Geography, a regular load of lecture-laboratory courses; performance of institutional responsibilities including holding office hours, participating in committees, developing curriculum, selecting text, advising students, and other related activities.

Minimum Requirements: Master’s degree in geography or Bachelor’s in geography and Master’s in geology, history, meteorology, or oceanography or the equivalent. Experience that indicates a sensitivity to and an understanding of the diverse academic, socioeconomic, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds of community college students and personnel, including those with physical or learning disabilities.

Closing Date: 02-10-2009. Salary and Benefits: Starting salary of $46,635 to $72,093 plus family medical, dental, and vision coverage and employee life insurance (employee contribution depends upon plan selected). For more information and to apply visit: www.sbcccdjobs.com. EOE.

**Feb 09-030-1**

**Florida, Boca Raton.**
The department of Geosciences at Florida Atlantic University invites applications for a tenure track Assistant Professor in Geoscience at our Davie campus in suburban Ft. Lauderdale. We seek an individual with strong background in applying geospatial techniques to diversify and complement our existing strengths...

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"Jobs in Geography" lists positions available with US institutions who are Equal Opportunity Employers seeking applications from men and women from all racial, religious, and national origin groups, and occasional positions with foreign institutions.

Rates: Minimum charge of $150. Listings will be charged at $1.25 per word. Announcements run for two consecutive issues unless a stated deadline permits only one listing. The charge for running an announcement more than twice is one-third the original charge for each subsequent listing. We will bill institutions listing jobs after their announcements appear in JIG for the first time.

Deadline: JIG announcements must reach the AAG before the first of the month to appear in JIG for the following month (e.g. 1 January for February issue). Readers will receive their Newsletter copies before the 5th and the 15th of the month. Schedule job closing dates with these delivery dates in mind.

Format: Announcements should be sent as an attachment or in the body of an e-mail to jig@aag.org. The announcements must be saved in Microsoft Word 5.0 or greater, or Corel WordPerfect 6 or greater. No job announcements accepted by phone. Follow format and sequence of current JIG listings. All positions are full-time and permanent unless otherwise indicated. State explicitly if positions are not firm. Employers are responsible for the accuracy and completeness of their listings. JIG will not publish listings that are misleading or inconsistent with Association policy. Employers should notify the Editor to cancel a listing if the position is filled. The Editor reserves the right to edit announcements to conform with established format. All ads must be in English.

Display ads are also available. Ads will be charged according to size: 1/6 page (2 1/4” x 5”) $335, 1/3 page vertical (2 1/4” x 10”) $475, 1/3 page square (4 3/4” x 4 3/4”) $475, 1/2 page horizontal (7” x 5”) $625, 2/3 page vertical (4 3/4” x 10”) $750, full page (7” x 10”) $900. Display ads run for one month only.

Affirmative Action Notice: The AAG Affirmative Action Committee requires job listers to send to the JIG Editor the name, academic degree, sex, and rank of each person appointed as a result of an announcement in JIG.

Geographer Available. A service for AAG members only. Send personal listings of 50 words or less, following the format of current listings. Listings run for two consecutive issues. Enclose $25 with listing. A blind listing service is available - the editor will assign a box number and forward inquiries to the member listed.

* Indicates a new listing
in GIScience education and research. Research experience/interests in wetland, vegetation, or coastal systems are preferred. The Department currently offers undergraduate and master’s level degrees in both geography and geology and will institute a new doctoral degree in Geosciences in Fall 2009.

The successful candidate will interact with faculty and students on the Boca Raton campus as well as build student enrollments on the Davie campus. Florida Atlantic University is located in Southeastern Florida. This region’s geographic relationship to sensitive ecosystems combined with its rapidly expanding human population has put extreme stress on environmental resources. The Department of Geosciences and FAU’s interdisciplinary Environmental Sciences program are partnering with several state and federal agencies to address the region’s unique environmental problems and the successful candidate will have the opportunity to make a major contribution to this partnership. Teaching duties will include undergraduate and graduate courses in GIScience and the candidate’s area of expertise. Candidates should have a PhD, demonstrated potential for establishing programs of funded research, and clear promise of excellent teaching.

Applicants should submit a curriculum vita, letter of application stating qualifications for the position, up to three representative publications, and names and contact information for three professional references. Send the application materials to Dr. Zhixiao Xie, Search Committee Chair, Department of Geosciences, Florida Atlantic University, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton, FL 33431. Additionally, an official FAU application must be submitted electronically for the Geoscientist Position ( #991719) at http://jobs.fau.edu. The position is open until filled. Applications will be reviewed beginning February 13, 2009.

Florida Atlantic University is an Equal Opportunity/Equal Access/Affirmative Action Employer.

FEB 09-022

FLORIDA, PENSACOLA.
The Department of Environmental Studies and the Online GIS Certificate Program at The University of West Florida invites applications for a twelve-month Graduate Assistantship to begin August 8, 2009. Compensation includes tuition (36 credits) towards M.S. Environmental Science and salary ($14k) per year for two years. The successful candidate will be expected to assist in online GIS Certificate Program courses such as Introduction to GIS, Cartography, Remote Sensing + Photo Interpretation, and GIS Programming as well as provide assistance with outreach activities. Requirements include a B.S. in Geography, Environmental Studies, or related degree, 3.2 GPA, 1200 on GRE, acceptance to graduate program, and eligibility to work in the United States. The ideal candidate must demonstrate theoretical and practical experience with GIS, communicate effectively both orally and in writing, and be organized, productive and ethical.

Apply: Send a cover letter of application, résumé and statements of your academic and research interests to Amber Bloechle, Department of Environmental Studies, University of West Florida, 11000 University Pkwy, Pensacola, FL 32514. Phone: (850) 474-2746, Fax: (850) 857-6036.

Applicants are encouraged to visit www.uwf.edu/environmental and www.uwf.edu/gis/gisonline. Candidates should also arrange to have transcripts and three original letters of recommendation sent directly to Ms. Bloechle. Review of applications will begin March 1, 2009 and continue until the position is filled.

The University of West Florida is an Equal Opportunity/Access/Affirmative Action Employer. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply. JAN 09-002

*MARYLAND, BALTIMORE.

Coppin State University. The Department of History, Geography and Global Studies seeks an Assistant Professor to help build its geography program. A dynamic teacher with strengths in Urban, Historical, Cultural Geography or Geography/Social Studies Teacher Education would complement the existing program. GIS experience is desirable as is an ability to teach a regional course (Latin America, Middle East, Africa, Asia). Must love the classroom and excel at recruiting. ABD considered, PhD preferred.

Start in August 2009. This post is funded through FY 10/11 as a contractual position. Very competitive salary.

Apply: send a cover letter, CV with contact information for three references, and a transcript to Dr. Douglas Reardon, Associate Professor, Dept. of History, Geography and Global Studies, Coppin State University, 2500 W. North Ave., Baltimore, MD 21216.

Inquiries welcomed by Dr. Reardon on (410) 951-3441 or to dreardon@coppin.edu.

CSU is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer.

FEB 09-033

*MARYLAND, BALTIMORE.

Coppin State University. The Department of History, Geography and Global Studies seeks a part-time Lecturer and Geospatial Laboratory Assistant. Global Studies program desires an enthusiastic Geographer to support teaching and student research using remote sensing and GIS. Lab facilities include workstations with ESRI and ERDAS site licenses, a large format color plotter, Trimble Nomads and Garmin GPS units. Knowledge about national security/international affairs a plus.

Hours will accommodate graduate’s schedule. Good pay. Great experience. Start in Spring MA required.

Apply: send a cover letter, CV and a transcript to Dr. Douglas Reardon, Associate Professor, Dept. of History, Geography and Global Studies, Coppin State University, 2500 W. North Ave., Baltimore, MD 21216.

Inquiries welcomed by Dr. Reardon on (410) 951-3441 or to dreardon@coppin.edu.

CSU is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer.

FEB 09-034

MASSACHUSETTS, WESTFIELD.
Westfield State College seeks a full time, tenure track Instructor/Assistant Professor for Fall of 2009. Teach GIScience courses and other electives, serve as GISScience Coordinator for college, manage the GIST Center, a teaching lab, coordinate and develop interdisciplinary courses as well as GISScience outreach projects in the community. Work with faculty and students in related disciplines on GIS and remote sensing applications in undergraduate research projects.

Qualifications: Doctorate or ABD completed by September 2009. Exceptional candidates without a doctorate considered. Candidate must have a proven teaching record in GISScience coursework. Salary is competitive and commensurate with qualifications. Position is open until filled.

Apply: On-line application is required: visit http://jobs.wsc.ma.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=51214 to view detailed job description and minimum qualifications, to submit online application, attach required documents and view mailing address for reference materials. For assistance call 413-572-8158.

Westfield State College is committed to building a culturally diverse faculty and staff dedicated to teaching and working in a multi-cultural environment. Since its founding 170 years ago, Westfield has been open to all – regardless of class, gender or race – and became known for educating freed African-Americans in the post-Civil War era. Today, Westfield upholds its long tradition of opportunity, strongly encouraging applications from women, minorities, and indi-

JAN 09-001

*MICHIGAN, ANN ARBOR.

The International Forestry Resources and Institutions (IFRI) Network is looking for a Postdoctoral Fellow to help coordinate its research, data collection, and networking activities. The IFRI network comprises a group of approximately 50 researchers interested in forestry, livelihood, and governance. Currently the program is coordinated through the School of Natural Resources and Environment at the University of Michigan and the Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis at Indiana University. Collaborating research centers are located in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, India, Nepal, Thailand, Bolivia, Columbia, Guatemala, and Mexico. The Fellowship will involve some travel, and close coordination with Arun Agrawal (the network coordinator), and other IFRI network researchers. It will lead to approximately 50% of the fellow’s time being available for research, and 50% of time being committed to IFRI-related activities. The position will be based in Ann Arbor, Michigan. The selected candidate will have a strong background in forestry-related issues in developing countries, demonstrate evidence of ability to publish independently, and be able to work with survey data. The Fellowship will provide $40,000 plus benefits, and a budget for travel and research expenses. We are interested in appointing the IFRI Fellow as early as possible.

Apply: Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, their CV, and two letters of recommendation to Natalie Dushane by email at nadushan@umich.edu or by mail at Natalie Dushane, the IFRI program, SNRE, University of Michigan, 440 Church Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48109. Please submit applications by February 28, 2009.

FEB 09-021-1

*MICHIGAN, MARQUETTE

Northern Michigan University seeks applications for Professor and Head of the Department of Geography. This is a full time, 12-month, tenure administrative and teaching position. The position requires a PhD in Geography, Earth or Environmental Science, or a related field. We seek an individual with a strong record of interdisciplinary scholarship, service, teaching, and publication appropriate for appointment at the rank of Professor with tenure.

The successful candidate will demonstrate sensitivity to the needs of a small diverse department, and join a progressive faculty actively engaged in a responsive, evolving, student-focused curriculum. Responsibilities will include teaching courses in areas of expertise, overseeing the daily operations of the department, representing the department to the campus and public, working with the University administration, and working towards ongoing fundraising opportunities.

NMU is located in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula, along the pristine shores of Lake Superior. The local environment offers many possibilities for research and instruction, as well as an exceptional quality of life. The Department of Geography has seven full-time faculty members providing outstanding student focused opportunities to more than 200 Geography, Earth, and Environmental Science majors. For information about the University and Department of Geography visit www.nmu.edu. Application review will begin on January 19, 2009 and will continue until the position is filled.

Apply: Applicants should send a hardcopy curriculum vitae, statement of teaching, research, and leadership philosophies, and contact information for three references to: Chair, Department Head Search Committee, Department of Geography, 1401 Presque Isle Avenue, Marquette, MI 49855-5342, (906) 227-2500 (voice).

NMU is an equal opportunity affirmative action employer, and is strongly committed to increasing the diversity of its faculty.

FEB 09-015

*MICHIGAN, YPSILANTI.

The Department of Geography & Geology, Eastern Michigan University, is seeking a Department Head effective July 1, 2009. This is a twelve-month administrative position with a rank of associate or full professor (PhD required). The successful candidate will be responsible for coordinating the growth and stature of the department, overseeing budgetary and personnel matters, developing faculty teaching schedules, and providing appropriate service to the university. For additional information about the department see: www.emich.edu/public/geography/welcome. Information about the university can be found at: www.emich.edu.

Applicants should submit a curriculum vita, letter of interest, contact information of at least four professional references, evidence of administrative and teaching ability, and a statement summarizing administrative philosophy and goals of leadership for the department. Review of applications will begin January 15, 2009 and continue until the position is filled.

Apply: email to: academic_hr@emich.edu AND geo_dhsearch@emich.edu. Please address any questions to geo_dhsearch@emich.edu or by phone at (734) 487-7586. Please reference Posting #APAA0914 in the subject line. Do not put information in the body of the email (attachments only).

Eastern Michigan University is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Educator that is strongly committed to achieving excellence through cultural diversity.

FEB 09-018-1

NORTH CAROLINA, CHARLOTTE.

Assistant Professor, Department of Geography and Earth Sciences, University of North Carolina at Charlotte. The Department of Geography and Earth Sciences at UNC Charlotte invites applicants for a tenure-track, Assistant Professor in atmospheric dynamics and surface-atmosphere interactions to begin August 2009. Required qualifications: 1) a doctoral degree in a relevant field, 2) ability to teach atmospheric science courses at the graduate and undergraduate level, 3) ability to develop and maintain an externally funded research program, 4) ability to contribute to the department’s interdisciplinary mission. Candidates with research interests in climate dynamics, hydrometeorology, boundary layer processes, air quality, and human-environment interactions are especially encouraged to apply. A full description of the position and application details can be found at http://jobs.uncc.edu. UNC Charlotte is an AA/EOE and applications from women and minorities are strongly encouraged. Review of applications will begin Feb. 1, 2009 and continue until the position is filled. For more information, contact Dr. Matthew Eastin, at 704-687-5914, mdeastin@uncc.edu, or view www.geoearth.uncc.edu.

JAN 09-013

*NORTH CAROLINA, FAYETTEVILLE.

The Department of Government and History at Fayetteville State University in Fayetteville, North Carolina invites applications for a Tenure-Track Assistant Professor position in Geography/GIS beginning August 15, 2009. Candidate will be expected to teach two geography courses and advanced courses in GIS. We seek a broadly based Geographer with expertise in Geographic Information Systems.

The successful candidate will be expected to provide technical support to an existing GIS laboratory. Doctorate is preferred in Geography or related disciplines with expertise in Geographic Information System and its application in social, behavioral and policy studies/research. ABD in Geography or GIS related discipline will be considered with expected conferment not later than August 15, 2009. Salary is commensurate with education and experience. Screening will
The University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) Department of Environmental Studies seeks candidates for 2 positions in CLIMATE CHANGE:

**Director, GIS/RS Core Lab**

Guide the continuing development of a new GIS and Remote Sensing Core Laboratory to support UNLV research activities. Requires extensive knowledge of GIS/RS analysis and geodatabases. Also, supports a 5-year, NSF-funded climate change project. Minimum qualifications include Masters Degree + 3 yrs exp. or PhD + 1 yr. Position is non-tenure track.

**Postdoctoral Scholar**

Participate in the Policy & Outreach and Education Components of a 5-year, NSF-funded climate change project. Develop multidisciplinary approaches including GIS for detecting and modeling the effects of regional climate change on landscapes, ecosystems and water resources, as well as to bridge the research with policymakers and the public in Nevada. 3 yr position begins in August, 2009. Ph.D. in an interdisciplinary field such as env. policy and mgt., geography, anthropology.

For job and application details visit [https://hrsearch.unlv.edu](https://hrresearch.unlv.edu). For assistance with UNLV’s on-line applicant portal contact Jen Martens at (702) 895-2894 or hrsearch@unlv.edu, for content Dr. Smith at bill.smith@unlv.edu.

UNLV is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity educator and employer committed to excellence through diversity.

begin January 15, 2009 and will continue until position is filled.

Apply: send a letter of application, current vita, official graduate and undergraduate transcripts, and three letters of reference to: Dr. Adegoke Ademiluyi, Professor and Chair, Department of Government and History, Fayetteville State University, 1200 Murchison Road, Fayetteville, NC 28301-4298.

To learn more about the position, feel free to contact the Search Committee Chair by email at dnathaniel@uncfsu.edu or by telephone at (910) 672-1047. To learn more about FSU, visit our web site at [http://www.uncfsu.edu](http://www.uncfsu.edu). Fayetteville State University is an EEO/AA employer.

FEB 09-019

**OHIO, BOWLING GREEN.**

The Center for Regional Development at Bowling Green State University is seeking a full-time tenure-track Economic Geographer at the Assistant/Associate level to join its interdisciplinary research team. The Center is currently engaged in a number of regional and international research projects related to local economic development, innovation strategy, and policy.

The Center is seeking a scholar with teaching and research interests in several of the following areas: spatial statistics, GIS, environmental economics, regional economic development, local economic development, industrial policy, rural economic/community development. The successful candidate will have a PhD at the time of appointment and have a strong research record with demonstrated experience in obtaining external research funds. The expected teaching load is two courses per year in the areas of economic geography, urban and regional geography, and economic development in the School of Earth, Environment and Society. Candidates with experience in international research collaboratives are especially encouraged to apply.

The Center for Regional Development (CRD) is a University chartered research center of Bowling Green State University. CRD is dedicated to regional economic and community development through interdisciplinary research conducted by research partners at Bowling Green State University, from the region, and around the globe. The Center is one of three rural university centers funded by the State of Ohio. CRD is also a Department of Commerce EDA University Center.

Apply: Send curriculum vita, official transcripts, and three current letters of recommendation to the following address: Dr. Michael Carroll, Chair of Search Committee, Center for Regional Development, 109 South Hall, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio 43403-0181. Review of applications will begin on February 15, 2009 and will continue until the position is filled.

Bowling Green State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity educator and employer.

FEB 09-014

**OHIO, COLUMBUS.**

The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences at The Ohio State University is pleased to announce the establishment of the SBS Diversity Postdoctoral Fellowship Program. The goals of the Fellowship Program are to support promising scholars who are committed to diversity in the academy and to prepare those scholars to enter tenure track faculty positions. We are particularly interested in receiving applications from individuals who are members of groups that historically have been underrepresented in the American professoriate.

Fellows will be affiliated with one of the eight academic units of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences: Anthropology, Economics, Geography, Communication, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, and Speech and Hearing Science (additional information at [http://sbs.osu.edu](http://sbs.osu.edu)). The College also houses four interdisciplinary research units: the Criminal Justice Research Center, the Center for Human Resource Research, the Center for Urban and Regional Analysis, and the Initiative in Population Research. Fellows may also have the opportunity to participate in the activities of the Kirwan Institute for Race and Ethnicity, a multidisciplinary center founded jointly by the Colleges of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Humanities, and Law.

Eligibility: Applicants must have completed all requirements for a doctoral degree in the social sciences by August 2009. Preference will be given to individuals who are within five years of their degree. Applicants must be committed to an academic career. Applicants must be a citizen of the United States.

Awards: Up to three fellowships will be awarded. The appointments are intended for two years, with re-appointment for the second year contingent upon a successful performance review. The appointments will begin in September 2009.
The fellowships provide a $40,000 annual stipend, university medical benefits, and some support for travel and research expenses.

Application Process: Required application materials: (1) Applicants should clearly identify a unit within the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences at OSU with which they would be affiliated during the Fellowship period, and are encouraged to suggest one or more tenured faculty members within that unit who could serve as a host and mentor; (2) a curriculum vitae; (3) a one page dissertation abstract, (4) a statement outlining the specific research proposed to be undertaken during the Fellowship period, and the significance of that research (four-page limit, double-spaced); (5) a personal statement describing the applicant’s background and commitment to the goal of diversity in higher education (three-page limit, double-spaced). Applicants should submit all of these materials electronically in Microsoft Word. (Please identify all of the documents with the last name and document type, e.g., smithcv.doc or smithresearchstatement.doc.) In addition, three letters of recommendation should be submitted electronically.

All materials must be received by March 15, 2009, and should be submitted to sbspostdocs@polisci.osu.edu. Questions can be directed to Prof. Kathleen M. McGraw (mcgraw.36@osu.edu).

FEB 09-023

*OREGON, PORTLAND.*

Portland State University seeks a highly qualified candidate to fill a tenure track position at the level of Assistant/Associate Professor with research and teaching interests in the area of Ecohydrologic Systems/ Green Infrastructure. The successful candidate will have scholarly interests that complement and strengthen Portland State’s programs that address approaches to ecohydrologic systems and green infrastructure at the technical and policy levels.

Given Portland State’s ongoing activities and leadership in these areas and the pressing need for more research to address critical urban and regional challenges, candidates with expertise in urban stormwater management, related infrastructure, and the urban-rural context for green infrastructure are of particular interest. Specific expertise can address a broad range of topic areas, including but not limited to patterns and processes of urban and urban-rural systems and their relationship to the integrity of human and ecological conditions; technologies and strategies for low impact development; assessment of ecohydrological impacts from development, management of rainfall quantity and of ways to improve the quality of the runoff; natural and engineered chemical, biological and/or physical water treatment technologies, infrastructure systems related to energy, water, and air quality, including controls and information systems; and evaluation expertise including best management practices and understanding of performance metrics relating to green infrastructure and green development in an urban-rural context.

Teaching responsibilities include specific courses in ecohydrologic systems and green infrastructure taught in their home department which will be tailored to the candidate’s expertise. In addition, teaching responsibilities will likely include collaborative cross-campus courses related to sustainability policy and practice. The successful candidate will receive a primary appointment in the most appropriate department or program and will also be an affiliated member of the university’s Center for Sustainable Processes and Practices (CSP2), expected to participate in cross-campus research, engagement opportunities, and other initiatives related to sustainability. This position is one of five coordinated sustainability-related searches that are intended to broaden and deepen the university’s expertise in sustainability. Interested candidates should review the university’s sustainability investment strategy at www.pdx.edu/sustainability.

Applicants must have a PhD in a relevant science or engineering discipline, including but not limited to Civil Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Environmental Science, Geography, Geology, and Hydrology. Applicants should have a well-developed, applied research agenda that supports the university’s growth in and interdisciplinary approach to sustainability. The successful candidate must have a commitment to interdisciplinary collaboration and team teaching and track record in an interdisciplinary work environment.

Faculty Rank and salary are commensurate with experience. Benefits package includes fully paid health care, a retirement package, and reduced tuition rates for employee, spouse, or dependent at any of the University System Schools.

Apply: Applicants should submit a letter of application including a brief statement of research and teaching agenda, curriculum vitae, the names and contact information of three references to Chair, Ecohydrologic Systems and Green Infrastructure Search, Center for Sustainable Processes and Practices, Mail Code OIA, P.O. Box 751, Portland OR, 97207-0751 or send an attachment via email to sustainability@pdx.edu (Attn: Ecohydrologic Systems/ Green Infrastructure Search).

Application review will begin on January 15, 2009 and continue until the position is filled. Non U.S. residents must state their visa status.

Portland State University is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity institution and welcomes applications from diverse candidates and candidates who support diversity.

FEB 09-027

*PENNSYLVANIA, CARLISLE.*

Dickinson College invites applications for an 18-month Mellon Visiting Postdoctoral Scholar in Sustainability of Human-Environment Interactions to begin August 2009. The successful candidate will execute a proposed research project using geographic information science methods to explore questions about human interactions with the environment and implications for sustainability and will teach one or two courses. The research project should be broadly interdisciplinary and address questions at the interface of at least two of the following: humanities, social sciences and natural sciences. The Visiting Scholar will be affiliated with Dickinson’s new Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education and other departments as appropriate. Review of applications will begin on February 2, 2009, and will continue until the position is filled. Dickinson is committed to diversity and we encourage candidates who will contribute to meeting that goal to apply.

Apply: please visit http://jobs.dickinson.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=50670.

FEB 09-020

*PENNSYLVANIA, SLIPPERY ROCK.*

Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania is seeking applicants for one (1) full time, tenure track position at the Assistant Professor level in the Department of Geography, Geology, and the Environment, beginning in August 2009. A PhD at time of appointment is required. Successful performance in an on-campus interview, including teaching and research demonstrations, is also required. The candidates must demonstrate a commitment to the education of diverse populations.

The Department seeks an assistant professor with an active research and publication agenda and a research and teaching focus on environmental issues, particularly sustainability. The selected candidate will be responsible for teaching introductory environmental courses, upper division courses in her/his area of expertise, and contributing to the department’s newly developed Master of Science in Sustainable Systems. Preference will be given to candidates who also demonstrate the ability to teach one or more of the following courses: Principles of Sustainability, Energy and Society, Green Building Design, and Planning for Sustainable Communities. The Department has a tradition of providing students with opportunities...
for research, field experiences, and travel, the successful candidate will be expected to contribute to these efforts. We encourage applicants across a broad range of research interests, theoretical frameworks, and methodological approaches.

Apply: Send letter of interest, statements of teaching philosophy and research agenda, curriculum vita, graduate and undergraduate transcripts (official transcripts are required before hiring), and letters from three references (include a list of their names, addresses and phone numbers) to:

Dr. Langdon Smith, Department of Geography, Geology, and Environment, 319 Advanced Technology and Science Hall, Slippery Rock University, Slippery Rock, PA 16057. Email: langdon.smith@sru.edu (For questions only. No electronic submissions will be accepted.)

Review of complete application materials will begin on February 21, 2009, continuing until the positions are filled. Background investigation required for employment.


FEB 09-026

PENNSYLVANIA, SLIPPERY ROCK.
Geography, Geology, and the Environment. Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania is seeking applicants for two (2) full time, tenure track positions at the Assistant Professor level in the Department of Geography, Geology, and the Environment, beginning in August 2009. For both positions, PhD in Geography, Geology or related field at time of appointment is required. Successful performance in an on-campus interview, including teaching and research demonstrations, is also required. The candidates must demonstrate a commitment to the education of diverse populations.

The selected candidates will be responsible for teaching introductory level Geography courses, as well as upper division courses in her/his area of expertise. The Department has a tradition of providing students with opportunities for research, field experiences, and travel, the successful candidate will be expected to contribute to these efforts. We encourage applicants across a broad range of research interests, regional specialties, theoretical frameworks, and methodological approaches.

Position One (09-039): We seek a broadly trained Human Geographer with an active research and publication agenda, who can support the Department's environmental programs in a liberal arts context. Applicants must be prepared to teach cultural geography. Preference will be given to candidates who also demonstrate the ability to teach GIS at the introductory level.

Position Two (09-039): We seek an environmental geographer/geoscientist, with an active research and publication agenda, and whose expertise is compatible with the Department’s environmental programs. Applicants must be prepared to teach GIS, from introductory through advanced levels. Preference will be given to candidates who also demonstrate the ability to enhance departmental strengths in surficial Earth Systems – atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere.

Apply: Indicate the single position for which you wish to be considered. Send letter of interest, statements of your teaching philosophy and research agenda, curriculum vita, graduate and undergraduate transcripts (official transcripts are required before hiring), and letters from three references (include a list of their names, addresses and phone numbers) to: Search Committee Chair, Department of Geography, Geology, and Environment, 319 Advanced Technology and Science Hall, Slippery Rock University, Slippery Rock, PA 16057. Email: jialing.wang@sru.edu for position one (09-38). Email: patrick.burkhart@sru.edu for position two (09-39). Fax: 724-738-4217.


JAN 09-008

TEXAS, HOUSTON.
The University of Houston-Clear Lake invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor in Human Geography beginning August 2009. The ideal candidate would be a broadly-educated scholar, have an outstanding commitment to undergraduate teaching, and a willingness to work in and further develop a small degree program. A PhD in Geography or related field is required. Applicants should provide evidence of teaching effectiveness and scholarly productivity. The selected candidate will be expected to teach variety of upper-level regional and topical courses, and to offer service to the Program, School, and University.

UH-Clear Lake is an upper-level institution (juniors, seniors, and master's students) with an enrollment of approximately 7,500. It is located adjacent to the NASA-Johnson Space Center midway between Houston and Galveston. More information about Geography Program and University can be found at: www.uhcl.edu/hsh/geography.

Apply: Applications accepted only online at https://jobs.uhcl.edu. To apply, complete the online faculty application and include a letter of interest and vita. In addition, mail three letters of recommendation and graduate transcript to: Chair, Geography Search Committee, MC 416, University of Houston-Clear Lake, 2700 Bay Area Blvd., Houston, Texas 77058-1098. Review of completed applications begins immediately and continues until the position is filled. Only applicants selected for further consideration will be contacted. We reserve the right not to fill position.

UHCL is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer supporting workplace diversity. Proof of eligibility to work in U.S. will be required.

JAN 09-010

*VIRGINIA, BLACKSBURG.
PhD Assistantship in Mapping Ecosystem Services. This position is part of a multidisciplinary effort to examine where/when biological conservation enhances delivery of aquatic ecosystem services. Candidate will participate in conceptual-model development and spatial analyses of relations among conservation practices, biodiversity, delivery of ecosystem services, and human well being in a U.S. river basin. Candidate will be in charge of project data analysis and report writing, while completing PhD coursework. Qualifications: Master's degree in landscape ecology, geography, ecological economics, conservation biology, or related discipline, demonstrated scientific productivity, including peer-reviewed publications, strong statistical skills, experience with large geo-spatial datasets, excellent writing skills. Salary: $22,000-24,000/yr plus tuition. Closing date: July 31, 2009.

Apply: Send letter of interest, resume, GRE scores, names of three references to: Paul Angermeier, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0321, 540-231-4501, biota@vt.edu.

FEB 09-025

VIRGINIA, CHARLOTTESVILLE.
Tenure-Track Faculty Position in Climate Dynamics. The Department of Environmental Sciences at the University of Virginia invites applications for a full-time, nine-month, tenure-track assistant professorship in climate dynamics.
The Department is an interdisciplinary community of scientists representing the atmospheric sciences, ecology, geosciences, and hydrology. The Department offers B.S., B.A., M.S., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees. We strongly encourage prospective candidates to review our Departmental website (www.evsc.virginia.edu) prior to applying.

The successful candidate is expected to develop programs in research and teaching at the undergraduate and graduate levels and to participate in teaching our undergraduate and graduate atmospheric sciences curriculum. We encourage applications from scientists whose research, teaching strengths, and interests show promise for complementing the unique interdisciplinary foci of the Department. The ideal candidate will have an established record of (or the potential for) interaction with hydrologists, geoscientists, and ecologists.

A Ph.D in climatology, atmospheric sciences, or a closely allied discipline is required. Applicants must provide evidence of high-quality research and a strong commitment to teaching. Established research credentials in the dynamics of Earth’s climate are required. Suggested research foci include, but are not limited to: ENSO dynamics and air-sea interactions, atmospheric teleconnections, and impacts of internal or external radiative forcing on Earth’s climate.

To apply, please complete a Candidate Profile on-line and then, attach a cover letter, curriculum vitae, statement of research and teaching interests, and the contact information for three references through Jobs@UVA (https://jobs.virginia.edu), search on Posting Number 0602844. The review of applications will begin on February 7, 2009, however, the position will remain open until filled.

The University of Virginia is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Women and members of underrepresented groups are strongly encouraged to apply.

JAN 09-012

WISCONSIN, EAU CLAIRE.
The Geography and Anthropology Department at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire invites applications for a probationary tenure track Assistant Professor to begin August 24, 2009. The department seeks someone with a Ph.D at the time of appointment and whose scholarship, experience, teaching, and research interests complement existing strengths in the department. The successful candidate will teach courses in urban geography, economic geography, and geographic quantitative methods using Excel, SPSS, and ArcGIS. Applicants must have strong database skills and a rigorous background in applied urban and economic geography, including the use of GIS as an analytical tool. The ability to teach business geographics is a plus. The department requires a commitment to undergraduate student-faculty research collaboration, applied research, and public service to the state and local community.

Apply: send only paper copies of teaching and research interests, teaching philosophy, research goals, and teaching experience; evidence of teaching performance; curriculum vitae; graduate school transcript; and three recent letters of recommendation to Dr. Ingolf Vogeler (ivogeler@uwec.edu), Search Committee, Department of Geography and Anthropology, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004.

Email inquiries are welcome. To ensure consideration, completed applications must be received by February 28, 2009, however, screening may continue until the position is filled. For more information, see www.uwec.edu/acadaf/jobs/faculty.

JAN 09-003

INTERNATIONAL

SCOTLAND, ABERDEEN.
Research Fellow, School of Geosciences. As part of its programme of investment in key research areas, the University of Aberdeen invites applications for a pivotal position in Geography and Social Theory. This position is part of a larger effort to build human geography within dynamic, research-led discipline of Geography & Environment, and comes in association with the recent appointment of a Sixth Century Chair in Geography and Social Theory. The successful applicant for this position will have a recent PhD in Geography or will have the PhD in hand by January 31, 2009. They will have an active and productive research profile in some aspect of the nexus between social theory and geography and in addition to pursuing research they will be expected to help coordinate an internationally oriented program of social theory within geography. Applicants will also do limited teaching. This position is full-time, fixed-term for a period of 3 years. Salary will be at the appropriate point on the Grade 6 scale (£29,704-£35,469 per annum) with placement according to qualifications and experience.

Apply: to apply online for this position visit www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs or alternatively you may request an application pack by emailing your name and contact details to jobs@abdn.ac.uk or by telephoning our 24-hour answer service on (01224) 272727 quoting GEO010R.

Visit the Departmental website at www.abdn.ac.uk/geography. For a direct link to the job advert visit: www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs/display.php?recordid=GEO010R.

The closing date for the receipt of applications is February 27, 2009. Promoting Diversity and Equal Opportunities throughout the University.

JAN 09-009

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
Two Positions in Sociology/Anthropology/Cultural Geography. The Department of International Studies at the American University in Sharjah (United Arab Emirates) is seeking to hire a sociologist/anthropologist and an anthropologist/cultural geographer to teach a number of both introductory and advanced undergraduate courses. Area(s) of specialization is open. The selected candidate will be able to propose new courses for students majoring in International Studies and for the university’s General Education Program. Teaching requirements at the American University of Sharjah are three courses per semester. Additional responsibilities include scholarly activities, academic advising and program development, as well as institutional service.

The successful candidate will have experience with the North American higher educational system and will be an asset at a university that emphasizes both teaching and research excellence. The candidate(s) must have an earned Ph.D (ABD with evidence of near completion may be considered), demonstrated excellence in undergraduate teaching; and an active research agenda.

The Department of International Studies (www.aus.edu/cas/is) is a dynamic, interdisciplinary department. Its mission is to integrate a wide range of disciplines and to present a variety of courses to the remarkably diverse student body of AUS. Although the university (www.aus.edu) is relatively new, it is fully accredited within the North American system and is emerging as the preeminent institution of higher education in the region. It offers support for research, a generous compensation package, free housing and other benefits (there is no income tax in the United Arab Emirates). Sharjah is located adjacent to Dubai and, thus, is in the most rapidly evolving and exciting area in the United Arab Emirates, perhaps the most cosmopolitan country in the Middle East.

Applying: please submit a letter describing your qualifications, a C.V., and list of three referees electronically only to Dean William Heidcamp to the following address: CAS-INS-Search@mailman.aus.edu. The review of applications will begin on November 15, 2008 and continue until the position is filled. Faculty who are appointed starting with the Fall semester must be in Sharjah by August 17, 2009.

JAN 09-011
2009

FEBRUARY


26-March 1. Dynamic Deserts: Resource Uncertainty in Arid Environments. Tempe, AZ. [Link to event]

MARCH

16-17. TUGis 2009 Geographic Information Sciences Conference. Towson University, MD. [Link to conference]

22-27. AAG Annual Meeting. Las Vegas, Nevada. [Link to AAG website]

APRIL

12-16. International Association for Landscape Ecology Conference. Snowbird, Utah. [Event details]

16-17. 40th Annual South Dakota State Geography Convention, Brookings, S.D. [Event details]

MAY


26-30. Canadian Association of Geographers Annual Meeting. Carleton University, Ottawa. [Event details]


JUNE

14-20. Geography Faculty Development Alliance (GFDA) Workshop. [Link to workshop]

25-26. Great Plains/Rocky Mountain AAG Regional Meeting. Utah State University, Logan, UT. Contact: Doug Ramsey (doug.ramsey@usu.edu).

OCTOBER


29-31. Southwest AAG Regional Meeting. University of Central Arkansas, North Little Rock, AR.

The AAG will host the annual Jobs in Geography (JIG) Center career fair at the 2009 Annual Meeting in Las Vegas. All current and future job seekers are encouraged to attend. The JIG Center is organized as an open exhibition. Employers will have display tables where they will exhibit company information and meet with job seekers.

Open to all Annual Meeting attendees, the JIG Center will feature several special sessions on careers in geography and provide opportunities for attendees to meet with representatives and recruiters from a wide variety of government institutions, private companies, and academic departments. Past employers represented at the AAG JIG Center have included ESRI, FUGRO Earth-Data, Google, the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency, NAVTEQ, DNI Open Source Center, TeleAtlas, the U.S. Census Bureau, the U.S. Geological Survey, and many others.

Employers interested in participating in the AAG JIG Center career fair should contact Matthew Koeppe of the AAG Staff at mkoeppe@aag.org. 2009 JIG Center employers will be listed on the Annual Meeting website as they are confirmed. Employers also will have the opportunity to post job announcements on the AAG website prior to the meeting.

Job seekers can submit their resumes now via the online AAG 2009 Attendee Resume Bank on the Annual Meeting website (www.aag.org/annualmeetings/2009) for prior review by recruiters. There is no need for attendees to register prior to the event.

The JIG Center career fair will be open from 9:30am-4:30pm, Tuesday through Thursday, March 24-26. It will be located in the Riviera Hotel's Capri Room 102, right across from the conference registration desk.

News and information about the JIG Center career fair is posted on the AAG Annual Meeting website at www.aag.org/annualmeetings/2009. Questions should be directed to Matt Koeppe at mkoeppe@aag.org.