Emerging Themes for the Los Angeles AAG Annual Meeting

Each year, the AAG identifies a few featured themes for its Annual Meeting. These are often suggested by the meeting's location itself or by political and intellectual trends within the discipline or in society at large. The AAG president and executive director generally develop these annual themes, in conversation with the AAG Council, the meeting's Local Arrangements Committee, and the membership at large. In past years, these themes have ranged across the full breadth of the discipline, and included topics such as Climate Change, Geography and Human Rights, Space-time Integration in Geography and GIScience, and Geography and the Humanities.

These multi-faceted themes are not intended to be the exclusive focus of an AAG meeting, but rather serve as a lens to help focus discussion and provide a fresh and engaging skeletal structure to each of our large and richly-complex meetings. Many potential themes are readily suggested by Los Angeles itself. A focus on international cities and urban geographies is a natural theme for the LA meeting. Water is always a dominant consideration for Los Angeles. Others come immediately to mind: The Pacific Rim and Asia. Borders. Migration and immigration. Hollywood, film, and global cultures. Transportation. And so many others. We invite you to help develop additional themes by suggesting new ideas for Los Angeles, and for coming years as well.

Following is the initial set of themes we have developed for the AAG Los Angeles meeting, scheduled for April 9-13, 2013:

Obama Administration Releases Global Change Strategic Plan

The Obama Administration has released a new ten-year strategic plan for research related to global change, identifying priorities intended to help state and local governments, businesses, and communities prepare for anticipated changes in the global environment, including climate change, in the decades ahead.

The Plan – released by the U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) – was developed collaboratively by more than 100 scientists working in the Federal Government. It reflects extensive inputs from stakeholders and the general public, as well as a detailed review by the National Research Council. The Plan will be implemented through the USGCRP and the thirteen Federal departments and agencies it represents.

"It is no longer enough to study the isolated physical, chemical, and biological factors affecting global change," said Tom Armstrong, Executive Director of the USGCRP. As advanced computing technologies allow for a more comprehensive approach that incorporates economic, social, and environmental data, our understanding of processes of global change will deepen and increase our capacity for planning, he said.

An important unifying theme of the Strategic Plan is clearly geographic – to conceptualize global change "at the spatial and temporal scales on which planning, management, and policy decisions are made" (p.14) as well as the varying scales at which change will be acutely felt and where intervention will be needed. The Plan also places increased importance on human dimensions of global change.

The USGCRP has for more than 20 years coordinated Federal global change research. While that research has largely monitored specific environmental changes by satellite and concentrated on developing computer projections of climate change in the near term, the new Strategic Plan will expand to incorporate...
Emerging Asias
Acknowledging Los Angeles’ and California’s location on the Pacific Rim, and their increasing interconnections with Asia, Eric Sheppard’s 2013 presidential plenary session will take up the question of “Emerging Asias.” This title references three aspects of Asia today: Its rapid (re)emergence as a center of the global economy; its enormous diversity as a region (Asia being a European geopolitical construct designating the land masses east of Europe, rather than a homogeneous region); and, within the heterogeneous sub-regions of Asia, the expanding differences in the livelihood possibilities of those who have come to live prosperously and those who live precariously. This session is conceived as a provocation to US geographers: To be paying more attention to Asia, and to its distinctive perspectives and voices. Speakers will be invited from the US and Asia, with expertise in different sub-regions. The AAG presidential panel session will anchor this thematic track in Los Angeles. As a featured theme, of course, “Emerging Asias’ should not be restricted to human geographic processes. Research examining Asian biophysical and nature-society processes also is encouraged.

Climate Change, Variability, Adaptation and Justice
This track of sessions will examine the latest research on global climate change and variability, including geographies of projected climate change impacts, mitigation and/or local adaptation strategies, and societal and human rights implications. The US government’s recent Strategic Plan for US Global Change Research for the next decade will also be discussed in terms of its potential opportunities for geographic research related to global and climate change. Sessions addressing activities and outcomes of the United Nations Conference of Sustainable Development (Rio+20) are also encouraged.

Beyond the Los Angeles School: Global Urbanization
In the 1990s, Los Angeles was advanced as the home for a new school of urban geography, billed as replacing the Chicago School. The LA School took up the important, unfinished task of expanding how we think about cities. In the 21st century, the center of gravity of urbanization has relocated decidedly into the global South. Asia and Africa, in particular, are experiencing unprecedented rates of urban change, shaped by, and shaping, global processes and policy agendas. The urbanization of poverty has been a central aspect of these changes, as circular rural-urban migration, low-wage manufacturing and informal economies, settlements, and urban politics accompany the emergence of a powerful, consumption-oriented urban middle class. How can we understand these changes? Are post-colonial cities simply following the trajectory of US and European cities, or are distinctive urban forms emerging, requiring distinctive theorizations or interventions ‘from the south’? What are the implications for ‘northern’ cities? These questions are becoming widely debated, LA is an excellent forum to engage further with them.

Geography, GIScience, and Health: Spatial Frontiers of Health Research and Practice
Building on several recent AAG initiatives together with the National Institutes of Health in this research area, this theme will explore new research frontiers in health and social environments, and also address progress generated by the AAG Initiative for an NIH-wide Geospatial Infrastructure for Health Research. These AAG initiatives have generated an increased awareness by health researchers as well as geographers of the core role that geography and GIScience can play.
President’s Column

Valuing the History of our Discipline

The history of our discipline is fascinating but receives too little attention. Departments struggle to enliven our history in such a way that students will not rebel if required to take a course, or part of a course, on the topic. Even graduate students object (at least they do in my department) to spending time learning about their intellectual heritage. Perhaps I am a little unusual in that my passion for digging around in our past has not abated since I was a student, but I am ever more convinced of the need for historical scholarship, not simply to document facts about the discipline, but because those ideas matter a great deal. Lately I have seen a significant amount of creeping environmentalism in conference presentations, for example, that could do with some critical interpretation based on the debates that took place early in the 20th century and paved the way for anti-essentialist ideas that transformed geography later in the century. Similarly, increasing interest among social and political geographers in new social movements are strongly reminiscent of some of the developments that occurred among geographical activists of the 1970s. So I am delighted to follow some of the recent critical history of the discipline, which grounds our thinking not only in the concepts but the social contexts of the past.

Some of the most provocative pieces on the history of the discipline will shortly appear in the Annals. Claudio Minca and Trevor Barnes’ “Nazi Spatial Theory: The Dark Geographies of Carl Schmitt and Walter Christaller” (forthcoming, 2013) shows that Schmitt developed a political-judicial justification for the spatial expansion of the Third Reich at the time of the incursion into Poland. Walter Christaller’s geometrical spatial imaginary, widely practiced throughout the discipline in the form of central place theory, was based on a plan to reterritorialize the “empty space” of Eastern Germany after the Jews and other “undesirable” populations had been removed. After reading this article, I did some digging in the AAG archives to investigate the circumstances under which Christaller was later given an AAG Lifetime Achievement Award on the basis of his theoretical contribution to what was considered perhaps the most important concept in urban and economic geography during the 1960s and 1970s. Central place theory may no longer be widely practiced, or even taught, by most geographers, but the theoretical influence remains strong, and should lead to questions about how we connect our theories to their application in the world. Can we separate the thought from the thinker?

Another paper, by Gavin Bowell and Dan Clayton, “Geographical Warfare in the Tropics: Yves Lacoste and the Vietnam War” (forthcoming, 2013) weaves a complex story of the influences of French geographer Yves Lacoste’s 1972 exposé of the American bombing of the Red River Delta of North Vietnam, and of the public reactions and political debates over “geographical warfare” that resulted. Lacoste used field observation and mapping to explore the relationships between law, war, and environment. Again, I did some additional archival digging to place Lacoste within the context of the War Crimes Tribunal organized by philosophers Bertrand Russell and Jean-Paul Sartre. This 28-member panel of international leaders, academics, and activists brought little known information about the horrific events in Vietnam to the public and profoundly influenced a whole generation of peace activists. Geography has its place in their history.

These two articles refer to countervailing intellectual and political tendencies in the discipline of geography during the 1970s. It was the time of the so-called “relevance debates” when our discipline searched sincerely for answers concerning the role of overarching theories and their ethical application. Some of us were marching in the streets and others of us were defending the status quo. There has been plenty of discussion, indeed rapprochement, since, but the pages of our journals are rich with these discussions and deserve to be dusted off more often for their insight on geographical problems that are still with us today. But it takes articles such as the two I have cited to make sense of our historical search for ways to make a better world geographically.

This will be my eleventh and last column as President of the AAG. I look forward to the next year and reading Eric Sheppard’s similar efforts to contain his thoughts within 800-word segments. Good luck, Eric! I wish to thank all those who have made the past year so challenging and enjoyable: members of AAG Council, the great staff at Meridian Place in Washington DC, all the regional members who organized wonderful conferences across the continent, all the members of the association who have contributed to our meetings, publications, and other activities and who have been a source of inspiration and support, and my students and colleagues at Queen’s who have put up with my frequent absences. My very best wishes to all geographers everywhere.

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Note: The two forthcoming papers mentioned above are both currently available online to AAG members and other subscribers to the Annals of the Association of American Geographers.
AAG Workshop Creates Educational Resources for U.S.-India Collaborations

The AAG recently led a workshop in Bangalore, India in cooperation with The Indian Institute for Geographical Studies (TIIGS), to encourage educational collaborations between schools and universities in the U.S. and India.

Held from March 12-16, 2012, the workshop drew a delegation of 28 geography teachers and professors from the U.S. and India. Participants sought to develop new educational resources for the AAG’s Center for Global Geography Education (CGGE), which provides open access to six online modules offering regional case studies and collaborative projects for high school and university geography classes.

The case studies developed by the Bangalore workshop participants draw on geographical research by American and Indian geographers to offer comparative analyses of issues related to the global economy, national identity, migration, population and natural resources, global climate change, and water resources. Each case study will be paired with a collaborative project that deploys social networking and interactive technologies for connecting geography classes in the U.S. and India for discussions, spatial data analysis, and problem-based learning activities. The materials will be published in September 2012 on the CGGE website (http://globalgeography.aag.org).

The workshop process emphasized principles of inclusion, cooperation, and mutual consideration of perspectives and practices. Dr. Chandra Shekhar Balachandran, TIIGS Director, initiated the proceedings with a presentation on the geography education system in India. This was followed by remarks from Michael Solem, AAG Director of Educational Affairs, and Rick Gindele, an AP Human Geography teacher at Cherry Creek High School in Denver, focusing on key characteristics of geography education in the U.S. context.

Working in small groups, the participants formulated the details of their case studies and collaborative projects, using guidelines for writing inquiry-based activities and interactive hypermedia prepared by workshop facilitators Phil Klein (University of Northern Colorado), Osvaldo Muñiz (Texas State University), and Waverly Ray (PhD Candidate, Texas State University). Their efforts were further supported by a field study of the IT industry in Bangalore and a cultural GeoArts program featuring performances of traditional Indian song and dance by students on the campus of the Army Public School.

In addition to the new CGGE resources, a number of other publications are planned. One will be a special symposium for the Journal of Geography in Higher Education that will feature research papers related to the workshop’s theme of internationalization, focusing especially on challenges and opportunities of developing and sustaining educational collaborations with Indian schools and universities. Print editions of selected case studies and a related guide for AP Human Geography teachers will appear in a future issue of The Geography Teacher, published by the National Council for Geographic Education (NCGE). The materials will also be published in the Hindi and Kannada languages to extend the dissemination of the resources throughout India.

Funding for the CGGE-India workshop was provided by a grant from the National Science Foundation (Award OISE-1065935), with additional funding support from the AAG, the Journal of Geography in Higher Education, and Taylor & Francis.

Questions about the Bangalore workshop and CGGE project may be directed to Michael Solem (msolem@aag.org).

Global Change Plan continued from page 1

The U.S. Global Change Research Library is available at http://library.globalchange.gov.
Yi-Fu Tuan to Receive Laureate of the Prix Vautrin Lud 2012

Yi-Fu Tuan, the Vilas Professor Emeritus at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, has been selected as 2012 Laureate of the Vautrin Lud Prize, to be presented on October 11, 2012 at the International Festival of Geography at Saint-Dié-des-Vosges, commonly referred to as Saint-Dié, a commune in the Vosges department in Lorraine in northeastern France.

The Prix Vautrin Lud is regarded by many as the Nobel Prize for geography and has been awarded annually over the past 22 years to geographers whose scholarship has held international renown. The laureate is nominated on the basis of a vote by a five-person jury who select from a short list of names proposed by 240 well-known geographers from all five continents.

A native of China, Tuan became a full professor at the University of Minnesota in 1968 and there began his focus on humanistic geography. He later became a deeply cherished teacher and mentor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His research spans a wide spectrum of subjects ranging from physical geography to cultural studies, from the hydrological cycle to senses of home and self, from desert landscapes to dining-room décor, and from cosmopolitan visions to the meanings of place and space. Other innovative themes include religion, morality and imagination, nature and culture, aesthetics and ethics, topophilia, and emotions – of fear, affection, escapism – and the politics and poetics of everyday life. Many of his works have been published in translation to Chinese, German, Italian, Japanese, Polish, Portuguese, Spanish and Swedish.

Tuan has received many awards and honors over the course of his career including a Guggenheim Fellowship (1968-69), the AAG Meritorious Contribution to Geography Award (1973), The Journal of Geography Award (1985), and the American Geographical Society Cullum Geographical Medal (1987). He was awarded the Fellowship of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (1986), Fellowship of the British Academy (2001), and Fellowship of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (2002). He earned a Doctor of Science honors causa at University of Guelph (2002) and was named the Frank Updike Memorial Scholar by Phi Beta Kappa (2002-2005).

According to Anne Buttimer (University College Dublin), President of the Prix Vautrin Lud 2012 Jury, “Yi-Fu Tuan could be genuinely regarded as a Saint-Exupéry – the ‘Little Prince’ – of Geography. His gentle words sought to tame a generation of colleagues who had become infatuated with logical positivism and quantitatively-based spatial analysis. He beckoned minds and hearts beyond these assertions of objectivity, revealing the multifaceted subjectivity in conventional models of social science and reminding all of the enduring challenge to critically reflect on taken-for-granted ways of thought and life.”

Activist Geographies: Struggles for Social and Environmental Justice

Los Angeles has become known nationwide as a place where diverse social and activist groups and movements have undertaken innovative struggles around such issues as conditions of work, immigration, borders, transportation, prisons and environmental justice. Geographers at places such as the University of Southern California, the University of California, Los Angeles, and California State campuses, have worked closely on, and with, such movements. These times of burgeoning activism in cities worldwide, from the Arab awakening to the occupy movements, and of academic interest in activist research in and beyond geography, make Los Angeles a particularly appropriate place for a focus on activist geographies.

Activist geographers, wherever they work, are encouraged to organize sessions to share research and learn from one another.

Borders

Southern California is an excellent venue for advancing scholarship on political borders and their implications for the places they separate and the connectivities between them: Migration, language and culture, water, sovereignty, economies, etc. The US-Mexico border provides a compelling regional focus for this theme, and research and theoretical work related to borders elsewhere is also welcome. Field trips to border areas will also enrich these sessions.

We want to reinforce, of course, that the above themes are not intended to be the exclusive focus of the Los Angeles meeting, we seek only to highlight a few research areas of current relevance and interest, among so many others of equal significance. The dynamism, innovation and range of cutting-edge research presented at AAG Annual Meetings is always remarkable, and we encourage the broadest range of scholarship and research at our meetings. The AAG Specialty Groups also develop their own featured sessions each year, and we encourage prospective attendees to contact the AAG Specialty Group in your area of research interest to help build strong session tracks around the many diverse and interactive topics and regions that they represent. For more information, visit www.aag.org/annualmeeting.

We look forward to seeing you at the AAG Annual Meeting next year in Los Angeles, a most creative and fascinating “transnational” city.

Doug Richardson and Eric Sheppard
AAG Receives NASA Grant to Support MyCOE Student Projects

The AAG, serving as secretariat for the MyCOE Program, has formed a partnership with NASA’s SERVIR program to help university students living and studying in developing regions conduct long-term research or educational activities in response to sustainable development needs in their countries. The MyCOE / SERVIR initiative is funded by a $799,179 award from NASA and will develop five separate programs over the next two years, each organized around a theme related to sustainable development, to provide participants with the capacity to use geography and geographic technologies. Participants in the MyCOE / SERVIR Partnership programs will receive a modest stipend and mentoring as well as geographic data and SERVIR resources to assist them in conducting their projects.

A separate call for participation will be issued for each program to select applicants who are from and studying in the region where the programs will take place. Two of the programs will be held in Sub-Saharan Africa, two in Asia, and one in Latin America and the Caribbean. Interested students must apply with a mentor to form a two-person team. Approximately 12 to 15 undergraduate or graduate students and their mentors will be competitively selected per program based on the feasibility and quality of the proposed research/education activity. In all, 120 to 150 participants (24 to 30 per program) will directly benefit from the MyCOE / SERVIR initiative.

MyCOE (My Community Our Earth: Geographic Learning for Sustainable Development) is a U.S. Type II Public-Private Partnership, established in 2001 in conjunction with the United Nations World Summit for Sustainable Development in Johannesburg. It provides geographic perspectives, learning resources, and technological tools to encourage youth to engage with their local communities around global sustainability themes. Additional information is available at www.mycoe.org.

SERVIR, the Regional Visualization and Monitoring System, is a collaborative venture among the NASA Earth Science Division Applied Sciences Program, USAID, and worldwide partner institutions. It helps governments and other stakeholders use Earth observation and geospatial technologies to make decisions about disasters, ecosystems, biodiversity, weather, water, climate, health, and agriculture. Visit www.serviglobal.net for more information.

For more information about MyCOE / SERVIR, contact Patricia Solis at psolis@aag.org.

MyCOE Selects Winners of 2012 Earth Day Competition

The AAG, through the MyCOE (My Community Our Earth: Geographic Learning for Sustainable Development) program, has selected three winning entries in its competition to celebrate Earth Day 2012. Each winner will receive $200.

Guru Vishnu, a student at Edison G. Agoram Memorial School in Chidambaram, Tamilnadu, India, won in the elementary school level category. His project, “Global Warming Awareness Motto and Tree Plantation Project,” focuses on climate change and practices to adopt for a more environmentally friendly earth.

A group of students from Philippine Science High School—Southern Mindanao Campus in Davao City, Philippines, won the high school level category for their project, “Talomo River Over the Years: Davao City’s Primary Water Source.” The students, Deme Rafael Abayon, Alden Gene Camahalan, Camille Casas, Frances Elaine Demata, Gabriel Narce, and Riva Karyl Varela – along with their instructor, Michael Casas – conducted their project on sustainable development. More specifically, they tested the water quality of the Talomo River and analyzed how it has changed over an 11-year period in relation to food security, population and economic activity in the area.

In the university level category, Régia Estevam Alves, Helder Barbosa Paulino, and Alécio Perini Martins won for their group entry, “Environmental Fragility of Ribeirão Da Picada, Jataí, Goiás, Brazil.” These students are from Federal University of Goiás, Brazil in Jataí, Goiás, Brazil. Their “Hazards, Vulnerability, and Disasters” themed project evaluates the fragile ecosystem of a basin in the municipal district of Jataí, Goiás.

Students at the elementary, secondary, and post-secondary levels were invited to submit sustainable development projects and maps in celebration of Earth Day (April 22) and the 20th anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, also known as the Rio+20 Earth Summit (June 20-22). Eligible projects were created by youth to address a specific sustainable development challenge using geography, mapping, or GIS.

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AAG Urges New York Regents to Keep Geography Exam

On May 2, AAG Executive Director Doug Richardson sent a letter to the New York State Education Department (NYSED) Board of Regents urging the Regents to reject a departmental recommendation that would make the state's global history and geography exam optional.

Under the Department’s proposal, New York high school students would be able to take an additional math, science, or vocational exam instead of the global history and geography exam as part of the requirements for graduating with a Regent’s Diploma. The Regent’s Diploma is the highest-level graduation certification in New York and is required for entrance into many colleges and universities.

John King, Commissioner of the NYSED, argued for the change by asserting, “It’s a really important step. There’s certainly going to be a lot of jobs in the future in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and this new pathway will encourage districts and schools to create additional opportunities for their students to pursue those areas.”

Richardson, however, pointed out the rapidly growing employment needs for students with geography and GIS backgrounds. “Students with a solid background in geography are able to think spatially and apply geographic analytical skills and technologies for decision-making and problem solving. The knowledge and skills acquired at the K-12 level in geography strongly complement and enhance what students learn in other school subjects, including science, math, and history.”

Richardson also sent the Regents a copy of the “AAG Resolution Supporting K-12 Geography Education” (see related article below), which has been endorsed by four former U.S. Secretaries of State, thirteen incumbent governors of both parties, a number of prominent national organizations; several major corporations; and many others. The resolution underscores the need in the United States for geographically well-educated employees and citizens.

The Regents could vote on the testing issue as early as their June 18-19 meeting.

Any changes made would apply to the cohort of freshmen entering New York high schools in September 2013. We will continue to monitor this issue and will report on significant developments in future issues of this column.

Major Corporations Endorse AAG Education Resolution

In recent weeks, several major corporations have signed onto the “AAG Resolution Supporting K-12 Geography Education.” Microsoft, Nokia, Sprint Nextel, Nissan, and AOL have joined Google, Toyota, and Esri as endorsers. See www.aag.org/AAGEducationResolutions for the full resolution and complete list of endorsers.

The endorsements of these high-profile businesses is a testament to the U.S. Department of Labor’s identification of geotechnologies, such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Global Positioning Systems (GPS), photogrammetry, surveying, and remote sensing, as one of the three most important fields for high quality job growth with significant economic benefits.

We are grateful to each of these companies for their support and will continue to reach out to other businesses that utilize geography and geotechnologies in their products or operations in the hopes of receiving additional endorsements for the resolution.

AAG Member Jennings Testifies at House Hearing on Legislation Restricting GIS Procurements

Steve Jennings, a longtime AAG member and Associate Professor of Geography and Acting Chair of the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, testified at a field hearing of the U.S. House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources on May 3 in Colorado Springs.

The hearing focused on H.R. 4233, the “Map it Once, Use it Many Times Act,” which was introduced in March by Congressman Doug Lamborn (R-CO). (Lamborn is Chairman of the Subcommittee and his district includes Colorado Springs.) As noted in my column last month, H.R. 4233 contains troubling provisions that could restrict the procurement of GIS and mapping services to specific types of private “firms” and have a negative impact on geographers and GIS specialists, as well as on the Federal Government’s ability to meet growing needs for geographic data.

Jennings echoed this point of view in his testimony, which was endorsed by the AAG and the American Geosciences Institute, asserting:

> I am concerned that the focus of H.R. 4233 on the private sector could ultimately stifle innovation and jeopardize the development of a vibrant future geospatial workforce. Taken together, Titles II and III of the legislation require agency heads, “to the maximum extent possible,” to convert “geospatial activities performed by or for the Federal government” to performance by “private geospatial firms.”

This requirement would seemingly be contrary to free market principles in that it would limit or even preclude government funding for geospatial activities with researchers, college and university consortia, non-profit organizations, and/or other public entities. I am deeply troubled by this aspect of H.R. 4233. It is my sense that if colleges and universities stop receiving federal funding for geospatial activities and there is no longer a place for geospatial scientists and experts outside of the private sector, the incentive for and ability of institutions of higher education to train the next generation of geospatial experts will be significantly diminished. This would be an especially troublesome development given the recent emphasis on the need to protect our nation’s competitiveness by enhancing education efforts in STEM fields, including geography and geospatial education.

It is ultimately in the best interest of the private sector to have a robust system of geospatial education at our nation’s leading colleges and universities because it will reduce the amount businesses will have to spend on research and training.

No votes were taken on the legislation during the hearing and we will continue to monitor any future developments.

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Geographer Co-Curates Art Exhibition Examining U.S.-Mexico Border

On May 4, 2012, an exhibition titled “Trazando la Linea / Tracing the Line” opened at the Centro Estatal de las Artes in Mexicali, the state capital of Baja California, Mexico. The exhibition was co-curated by geographer Michael Dear (University of California, Berkeley) and architect Héctor Lucero. Their research for the project included a 4,000-mile exploration along the entire length of the U.S.-Mexico border in both countries.

The five galleries of the Centro trace the history of the U.S.-Mexico borderlands from prehistoric times to the present, and imagine a future when the walls now separating the two countries will have disappeared. Using maps, archival documents, photographs, and paintings, the story told through the exhibits is one of long-established connectivity across the present-day international boundary line. In the concluding gallery, the borderlands’ future is envisioned through works by contemporary artists, which provide an optimistic view of a future without walls.

Dear told the AAG Newsletter that the “ah-ha” moment for their project occurred almost a decade ago when Lucero and he were photographing one of the ancient monuments that punctuate the land boundary between Mexico and the U.S. “A child came up to us and asked what we were photographing. She had no idea what the boundary monument was, or what it signified, even though she lived no more than a block away,” he said.

The exhibition’s opening section, entitled “Mexico before the Border,” establishes the theme of long-term and enduring connection across what would become la linea. Centuries later, the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo brought an end to the war between Mexico and the U.S. The work of a binational commission to survey the line is recounted in the second gallery, “Marking the Line.” Although the boundary commemorated a divide between two nation-states, borderland peoples continued their centuries-old practices of cross-border commerce and society.

After the Treaty, Baja’s border towns prospered by turning northward to the U.S. The third gallery, “Baja Goes Global,” relates key events in the rise of Baja: how Prohibition in the U.S. caused tourists to flock across the border; how during the Second World War, the Bracero Program brought millions of Mexicans across the border to work in California’s agriculture; how Mexico’s Border Industrial Program inspired connections based in the maquiladora industries; and how the economic interests of both nations were consolidated by the North American Free Trade Act. By the end of the century, the Baja borderland had become an “economic powerhouse as well as a crucible of political and cultural change,” according to Dear.

During the 1990s, the U.S. began building fences between major borderland cities, in an effort to stem the flow of migrants from Mexico. These piecemeal efforts were transformed by the attacks of 9/11 into a national project to construct an enormous battery of walls and fences along the entire land boundary between the two nations, as well as sections of the Rio Grande/Río Bravo. This transformation began in the midst of their project, giving Lucero and Dear an unparalleled opportunity to observe the impacts of the new fortifications on borderland communities. Gallery 4, entitled “The Wall,” shows how cross-border communications were interrupted, but not diminished, by the new fortifications.

The exhibition ends by stressing that the border remains a place of continuity and connection, not separation and isolation. The message of the concluding gallery is captured in its title “Third Nation,” said Dear, which “precisely describes the territory between Mexico and the U.S.”

Lucero and Dear’s journey along the entire length of the border was funded in part by the National Geographic Society. They will continue their borderland explorations and writings. Later this year, Lucero’s El Surgimiento de Baja California (The Rise of Baja California) will be published by Editorial Patria in Mexico City, and Dear’s Why Walls Won’t Work by Oxford University Press. Dear is also co-editor of the recent book GeoHumanities: Art, History, Text at the Edge of Place, an examination of cutting-edge interdisciplinary work taking place at the crossroads of geography and the humanities, published by Routledge in 2011. “Tracing the Line: The Past, Present and Future of Transborder Communities” closes in Mexicali on July 8 before traveling to other locations. For more about the exhibition, including a list of artworks, visit www.savethemonuments.org.
AAG Hosts Diversity Retreat at Temple University

The AAG recently held a creative scholarly retreat and workshop, "Geographies of Broadening Participation" (GBP), to consider how geographers and related spatial scientists can provide a collective disciplinary contribution to the larger project of broadening the participation of underrepresented populations in the sciences. GBP attempts to catalyze research in geography to advance an emerging Science of Broadening Participation, a National Science Foundation (NSF) initiative that seeks to encourage the sustained involvement of underrepresented groups in higher education in STEM1 and related science disciplines.

Funded by NSF and co-hosted by the Department of Geography and Urban Studies at Temple University in Philadelphia, the retreat, held March 29- April 1, 2012, brought together twenty competitively selected researchers from various sub-disciplines of geography and the spatial sciences with the project’s senior personnel to generate a collective research agenda based on a foundation of existing scholarship. Participants represented a mix of established scholars with advanced expertise in their fields and early career professionals with demonstrated leadership potential and strong ties to underrepresented communities.

In addition to producing a transformative research agenda that seeks to engage geographers and spatial scientists in efforts to increase diversity across the sciences, organizers of "Geographies of Broadening Participation" hope to foster the development of a new research community that will grow with time and provide leadership in NSF’s Science of Broadening Participation initiative.

Through the creation of an innovative program, organizers sought to inspire new interdisciplinary research collaborations, productively rethink established terminology, and develop innovative strategies for increasing the opportunities available to understudied and underrepresented groups to participate in science in higher education and the workforce.

The retreat began with a project overview on Friday morning provided by co-PIs Patricia Solís and Jean McKendry of the AAG and continued with a flashtalk session during which each participant described his or her research, scholarly background, and ideas for approaching the topic.

Breakout sessions facilitated groups to think creatively about emerging research questions. A roundtable discussion on Saturday afternoon allowed researchers to form new research groups focused on innovative questions and methods of approaching them.

These groups, which pair established scholars with early career professionals, will engage in research and writing over the next 10 months and report initial findings at the 2013 AAG Annual Meeting in Los Angeles (www.aag.org/annualmeeting). Research teams have applied for and received mini-grants from funds provided for this project by NSF, and will prepare manuscripts for publication that will reflect the potential of geographic perspectives to contribute to a Science of Broadening Participation.

GBP participants include Kate Berry, University of Nevada, Reno; Daniel Block, Chicago State University; Nievia Bueno-Watts, Purdue University; Kimberly Edmunds of Research for Action; Rickie Sanders, Temple University; Barbara Endemano Walker, University of California, Santa Barbara; Sonia Garcia, Texas A&M University; Timothy Hawthorne, Georgia State University; Shangrila Joshi, Denison University; Priscilla McCutcheon, University of Connecticut; Deborah Metzel, University of Massachussets, Boston; Ines Mijares, Hunter College, City University of New York; Joe Morgan, Jacksonville State University; David Organ, Temple University; Tonny Oyana, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale; Hamil Pearsall, Temple University; Emily Skop Vogt, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs; Betsy Sweet, Temple University; Phil Yang, George Mason University; Nekya Young, Tennessee State University; Rebecca Torres, University of Texas, Austin; May Yuan, University of Oklahoma; and Jim Ketchum, AAG, who helped facilitate break-out sessions and discussions. Three Temple University graduate students organized the on-site retreat and logistics: Brandon Hoover, Laura Porterfield, and Reilly Wilson.

In addition to co-PIs Solís and McKendry, GBP senior personnel include Michael Solem, AAG Director of Educational Affairs; Jim Ketchum, AAG Special Projects Coordinator; Ken Foote, AAG Past President and Professor of Geography at the University of Colorado, Rickie Sanders, Professor of Geography and Urban Studies at Temple University and recipient of the 2012 AAG Enhancing Diversity Award; Rebecca Torres, Assistant Professor of Geography and the Environment at the University of Texas at Austin; and May Yuan, Brandt Professor and Edith Gaylord Kinney Presidential Professor of Atmospheric and Geographical Sciences and Director of the Center for Spatial Analysis at the University of Oklahoma.

The AAG wishes to thank Rickie Sanders, Michele Masucci and the Temple University Department of Geography and Urban Studies for their efforts in hosting this event. For more information about this project, please visit www.aag.org/gpb.

1Science, technology, education and mathematics.
For the third time in the past ten years, food prices worldwide have soared. Many experts in food and famine issues believe that food price spikes were a factor in street protests, riots, or revolutions in Brunei in 2005; in Somalia, India, Mauritania, Yemen, Cameroon, Mozambique, Sudan, Côte d’Ivoire, Haiti, Egypt, Somalia, and Tunisia in 2008; and in Mozambique, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Mauritania, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Yemen, Oman, Morocco, Bahrain, Syria, and Uganda in 2011. Marco Lagi and his colleagues at the New England Complex Systems Institute in Cambridge, Massachusetts project a world food crisis in 2013. To avoid recurring food crises, they urge that an international commission be formed to quickly resolve issues of food supply, food waste, agricultural sustainability, and food price spikes. However, global food prices are spiraling out of reach of many consumers, and their anger is putting strong pressure on fragile governments to ensure a stable and affordable basic food supply. There is fear in many food-importing nations that in the next decade, extended periods of acute hunger, incidents of mass starvation, and famine will occur. This fear is reflected in Suzanne Collins’ apocalyptic best-selling book-set and movie, The Hunger Games, when the heroine and her friend “agree that if they had to choose between dying of hunger and a bullet in the head . . . they would choose the bullet.”

The scale of the challenges facing those who live on Earth in the second and third decades of the 21st century is daunting. Timely action will be required to lessen the impact of factors that might singly or in combination produce a severe food crisis in the 2013-2015 period. These factors include:

- High energy costs (oil and natural gas)
- Conversion of foodstuffs into fuel (biofuels)
- Food commodity speculation and greed
- Dietary changes and increased food demands

- Low world reserves of food and food hoarding
- Water challenges and crop-destroying storms (related to climate change)
- Declining agricultural research and loss of ecological disaster protection
- Slow crop yield growth and an unprecedented world population increase

Energy demands related to ever-expanding world needs and the price-ripple effect impacting farm foodstuff production, food processing, and food delivery to consumers are resulting in spiraling food costs. Conversion of food crops to biofuels withdraws food from world food trade while expending much energy and water in the conversion process. Food commodity speculation and price manipulation create artificial food shortages and volatility in the marketplace. Changes in dietary composition and quality in developing countries, increase in world population, and food waste place great stress on what food is available now and will continue to do so in the future. Declining world food reserves, from over 110 days in 2000 to less than 60 days in 2012, have led to food hoarding by some countries, hyperactive food speculation, and food price spikes. Climate change and weather variability have reduced precipitation in many dry-land, grain-producing regions of the world, and glacial ice and snow melt in the mountains has diminished fresh-water runoff to rivers that supply water in irrigated food-producing regions. Declining agricultural research is denying food producers ecological disaster protection and tools that would help them in supplying increasing demands for food. A slow-down in crop yield increases, now below one percent per year, is less than that needed for the annual rate of population increase.

A combination of burgeoning fuel prices, commodity speculation, and national food policies (a form of hoarding) was the main factor in the 2011-12 increase in food costs. The expanded combination of four or five of the eight factors listed above could lead to relative food deprivation and consumer aspirational disappointment in 2013; a combination of six or more could produce social discord, food riots, and revolutions in food-importing nations during the 2013-2015 period.

In 2011, more than one billion people in the world lacked food security. Over 75 percent of those chronically hungry live in tropical and subtropical rural areas where Subsistence and Rudimental Traditional Agriculture are practiced. Another two billion people, primarily in developing countries, have marginal food security. They live and work on small farms producing only enough food to support their families and sell or exchange, at times, small amounts of food surplus in local markets. A large segment of these rural dwellers will, by necessity, migrate to urban centers in search of food, jobs, and escape from what they believe is their poverty trap. Cities will serve as meccas of hope, but many megacities will become arenas of deprivation and lonely deaths. A disturbing issue in the lives of many lacking food security and struggling to survive in 2012 is whether humankind can produce and allocate the world’s food production equitably. For others, there is doubt whether the advances in agroscience and agrotechnology, when combined with constructive national food policy changes and human altruism, can avert massive loss of life and restrain civil and international conflicts in the following decades. Unless action is taken to reduce the impact of the eight food crisis factors and unless the food producers of the world have an exceptional agricultural year, a food crisis will occur in 2013.

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Spaces of Abandonment in Twenty-First Century America

At the recent annual meeting of the AAG held in New York, national councillors were asked, in part, to speculate on the contemporary re-spatialization of American society. To address this concern, I draw upon terra nullius, literally “uninhabited land,” a concept widely discussed within studies of indigenous geographies and, to a lesser extent, in political geography. Beyond a judicial-political concept, terra nullius is a socio-spatial concept. And it is in this spirit that I deploy the term in the context of the neoliberal state and of contemporary re-spatializations.

First, it is important to recognize that space, as “something” that is produced, is never static, never neutral. I personally am wary of assertions of that space is being re-spatialized, or de-territorialized, or re-territorialized, as these metaphors denote a staccato quality to space and thus fail to adequately describe the temporal simultaneities that are everyday experienced. Second, we should be mindful that the contestation of space, while offering “progressive” or “left of center” opportunities, such as the Occupy movement, also may lead to the development of prisons, detention centers, and extermination camps.

At present I am engaged in a project related to the calculation and valuation of life and death in the neoliberal state. My concern is less the direct taking of life as a sovereign act of violence, and more so the disallowal of life to the point of death. As Stuart Murray (2008: 204) writes, in our contemporary biopolitical age, “death becomes a consequence—a necessary part—of living. Such death is too easily elided and dismissed. Nobody is killed, at least not directly, and nobody’s hands are bloodied, at least not that we can see.” Here, I suggest that the determination of worth—the decision to make life or to disallow life to the point of death—within the contemporary neoliberal state is predicated on two overlapping criteria: those bodies deemed both productive (e.g., in a position to generate wealth) and responsible, with responsibility conceived simultaneously as the ability to participate fully as producers and consumers in the capitalist system and to not incur a net loss to the system. Those individuals, who are determined, based on an economic bio-arithmetic, to be non-productive—the elderly, the disabled, the poor and homeless, among others—are increasingly being disallowed life to the point of death. So too are those deemed irresponsible: unwed mothers, the unemployed, prisoners; these bodies are also increasingly considered to be undeserving of social and financial assistance and are thus disallowed life to the point of death. We witness this in the repeated attempts to eliminate various governmental safety nets: welfare, health care, social security.

However, there is also an important—and too often neglected—spatial component to this valuation, and it is here that the concept of terra nullius reappears. The expression terra nullius derives from classical Roman law, under which the doctrine of Occupatio acted to confer title on the discoverer of an object that was res nullius, that is, belonging to nobody (Ritter 1996: 7). Subsequently, by the time of the Renaissance and the rapid expansion of European colonialism, this concept was conveniently and analogously applied to the acquisition of territories by states. In particular, lands that were very much inhabited were increasingly perceived and conceived as being terra nullius, on the basis that those peoples occupying the land in question did not conform to European political, social, or economic norms (Ritter 1996).

Fast-forward to our contemporary neoliberal state and I argue that we are witnessing the enactment of terra nullius in reverse. Those spaces inhabited by the less-deserving are increasingly abandoned, neglected; their residents disallowed life to the point of death. We are witnessing, therefore, the moral and civic abandonment of inhabited spaces. The recent work of Joshua Inwood, on urban renewal projects in Detroit, for example, vividly captures this process. Current plans purport to identify the strongest, most viable neighborhoods, which would receive extra attention and help from the city. The residents of some of the weakest, emptiest neighborhoods would be encouraged to move into them (Davey 2011). According to Inwood, “while the city cannot compel residents to move over the course of the next several years, the city plans to curtail city services to those neighborhoods deemed ‘unhealthy, undesirable, or just unnecessary.’” Consequently, garbage, for example, in ‘healthy’ neighborhoods will continue to be collected every week, while in those areas deemed terra nullius, garbage will be collected every two to three weeks. Likewise, services such as sewer and water will be privatized, with no guarantee that those services will continue in neighborhoods that are considered superfluous to the city's overall development vision (Inwood, personal communication).

Briefly, then, what is the role of the AAG? How are we, as academics and an organization, to intervene? I worry that we, as a discipline, are as silent about the processes that place the most marginalized populations at risk, as we were when thousands of men and women were fighting for their social and civil rights in the 1950s and 1960s. As a discipline we are far too complicit in the production of inequality and abandonment that marks contemporary capital accumulation. In the face of a decade of unmitigated war, capitalism run amuck, and the continued exposure to premature death through environmental degradation, we, as a discipline, will either be engaged with these issues or we will be complicit with them. There is no middle or neutral ground on which to stand. As a consequence, we must address our conduct of research and our pedagogy: our teaching and practice of geography. As Fischer (2001: 44) suggests,
AAG Career Resources Available for Recent Grads, Students, and Jobseekers

With the spring semester behind us and as many new graduates entering the job market, employment prospects weigh heavily on the minds of many geographers. Whether looking for your first professional position, seeking a new opportunity, or considering a summer internship, the Jobs and Careers area of the AAG website (www.aag.org/careers) provides a variety of helpful resources, including content specifically created for geographers.

Earlier this year, the AAG reorganized the site structure to improve navigation, created new sections such as a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page and a collection of “tip sheets” about career preparation, and added an assortment of materials based on the recent AAG book Practicing Geography. Careers for Enhancing Society and the Environment, published by Pearson Education. The revised site features expanded and updated existing resources, including salary data and employment trends for geography-related careers and a new collection of profiles of professional geographers who represent a wide range of industries and occupations.

If you’re visiting the site for the first time or if it has simply been a while since your last visit, we suggest that you start your exploration in the section entitled “About Geography Careers.” Here we provide an overview of the many career paths available to geographers, including recent salary and employment data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. You can learn more about specific industries and positions by browsing our profiles of professional geographers. The “Preparing for a Geography Career” section provides the “nuts and bolts” of locating openings and creating application materials that will impress prospective employers. Explore an array of professional development “tip sheets,” connect with content specialists who can answer your questions about their research interests, investigate educational opportunities, and access reference lists for further research. The “Career News” page highlights current events and recent information of relevance to professional and prospective geographers, and the “Career Events” calendar includes information about upcoming professional development opportunities. AAG Members are encouraged to suggest events and articles to be featured by emailing us at careers@aag.org.

In the weeks to come, look for new additions, such as ‘snapshots’ of the employment prospects for geographers the business, government, and nonprofit sectors and summaries of the many careers-related panel discussions that took place at the 2012 Annual Meeting in New York. We will also be posting announcements about sessions and special events being planned for the 2013 Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, beginning late this summer.

We hope that the Jobs and Careers pages will continue to be a dynamic and timely source of useful information, and we look forward to continuing to develop and improve this section of the AAG website with your ideas and input. To share your feedback or suggest additional resources, contact Joy Adams, AAG Senior Researcher. ■

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References


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our activities must engage in a political discussion of social injustice, a conversation that entails a collective, collaborative, and ongoing process that pays special attention to people’s experiences, feelings, ideas, and actions; seeks to understand and challenge oppressive and exploitative structures and institutions; supports and generates alternatives: to ensure that no person is abandoned to live and die in terra nullius. ■

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Profiles of Professional Geographers

One of the major book publications stemming from the AAG’s current EDGE-Phase 2 is Practicing Geography: Careers for Enhancing Society and the Environment. Edited by Michael Solem, Kenneth Foote and Janice Monk, Practicing Geography features contributions from a diverse group of authors from the private and public sectors offering perspectives on career opportunities for geographers in business, government, and nonprofit organizations. The book also explores opportunities in education, working internationally, freelancing and consulting, and offers perspectives on issues of particular interest to students (e.g., getting the most out of internships) and current professionals (e.g., networking and balancing work and home life). Many chapters feature profiles highlighting the work of professional geographers, such as the profile of Scott Prinsen below. Practicing Geography has recently been published by Pearson Prentice Hall.

Scott Prinsen
Meteorologist, KTBC Fox 7 News
Austin, Texas

Scott Prinsen is a living testament to the value of internships. Now an on-air meteorologist at Fox 7 News in Austin, Texas, he believes that he would not be where he is today if not for the internships he had while an undergraduate student. “They were absolutely essential,” he says. “Each one was different, but the connections I made opened doors for me in other places when I left.”

Scott’s interest in maps and weather started at an early age; by the time he got to college, he was sure that he wanted to be a weatherman. When he enrolled at Texas State University-San Marcos, Scott chose to minor in media communications to gain a basic familiarity with broadcasting, and he declared geography as his major. “Every aspect of geography has an impact on what I know in terms of how people are being affected by a weather event,” he explains. “Natural hazards, resource studies, topography, population patterns, GIS, climatology – at some point throughout the year, all of this knowledge is needed for me to communicate weather information to the public.”

A series of well-timed internships were key in positioning Scott for his future career. During his junior and senior years, he interned at the Lower Colorado River Authority and at two Austin-area TV stations – KXAN and KTBC – where he gained a suite of skills ranging from behind-the-scenes production work, to using a green screen for on-air weather forecasting, to a variety of more technical skills such as radio operations and communications. By the time he graduated, Scott’s combination of education and professional skills made him an attractive job candidate. He was quickly hired as a weather assistant at KXAN in Austin, then as a meteorologist at KLST in San Angelo and KXXV in Waco. Shortly thereafter, he found himself in his dream position, forecasting the weather on camera. Scott worked as Chief Meteorologist at News 8 Austin before joining the Fox 7 Weather Edge team in August 2004.

Because weather is highly variable, Scott’s daily routine is somewhat unpredictable. On any given day, he might do research to give a historical perspective on extreme droughts or tropical storms, communicate with the newsroom about impending weather events, compile a forecast based on computer models and other data, prepare graphics for his nightly segments, and provide weather information for his station’s website, radio broadcasts, and social media applications. “We do a lot more than what it seems like we’re doing on air,” he says. Today, meteorologists are increasingly seen as “station scientists” who provide insight into a variety of current events involving environmental issues, not just as on-air personalities.

Like other media, local news stations are in the midst of sweeping changes brought on by the emergence of new technology. Because most people under the age of 40 now look to the Internet or smart phones for their news and weather information, viewships are trending downward. While these realities present significant challenges for local weather forecasters, Scott remains optimistic about their larger role in the future. “Computer models now generate a lot of online forecasts, but we’re always going to need human intervention in meteorology, especially in terms of severe weather,” he notes. Above all else, Scott considers public safety to be the most important aspect of his job. As a native Texan, his intimate knowledge of the state’s weather patterns and population distributions is vital in communicating potential hazards and relaying safety information to the public. Scott sees room for a new generation of meteorologists who know the intricacies of local and regional microclimates and other geographical quirks that affect the weather. He advises that agencies and media outlets take advantage of emerging technologies, but keep a strong local presence. “This is a bright spot,” he says, “and it is definitely where the industry needs to go.”

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More profiles of professional geographers are available at www.aag.org/careerprofiles.
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I (we) pledge to contribute________________ to the Association of American Geographers as part of the Advancing Geography Campaign.

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AAG Grants and Competitions
The AAG offers numerous opportunities through its many grants and awards programs. See www.aag.org/grantsawards for details.

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

Submit New Appointments
If you have filled a position recently, please send the notice of your new hire to the AAG Newsletter for publication in the “New Appointments” section. Submissions should be made in the standard format and sent by email to newsletter@aag.org with “New Appointments” in the subject line.
New Measure of National Wealth to be Launched at Rio+20

The Inclusive Wealth Report 2012 (IWR 2012), a new report that measures the wealth of nations and changes in their productive base, will be launched at the UN Conference on Sustainable Development, or “Rio+20”, to be held June 20-22 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (www.earthsummit2012.org). The report provides a comprehensive analysis of various components of wealth by country and their link to economic development, highlighting the importance of natural capital. IWR 2012 seeks to present a framework that offers a long-term perspective on human well-being and sustainability.

For many decades the world has measured human societies’ success using economic production indicators, such as Gross Domestic Product (GDP) or the Human Development Index (HDI). Critics have often argued that these measures are insufficient however, claiming that neither GDP nor HDI reflect the state of the natural environment and that both focus on the short-term, with no indication of whether current well-being can be sustained and with little or no consideration of the natural capital base of an economy.

Earlier this year, Resilient People, Resilient Planet: A Future Worth Choosing, a report presented by the UN Secretary General’s High-Level Panel on Global Sustainability, concluded that not only a new form of economic growth that works within ecological boundaries while pursuing social equity is needed, but also new measures to track progress, going beyond the present generation of indicators.

The authors of IWR 2012 claim to address such issues by incorporating variables overlooked by other metrics. IWR 2012 hopes to offer planning authorities and other policy-makers a practical framework to assess which forms of capital investment should be made to ensure the sustainability of the productive base of an economy, thereby helping countries formulate and stimulate policies based on the notion of asset portfolio management. More broadly, the report is meant to be of use to scholars and practitioners working in economic geography, development studies, political ecology and other fields.

IWR 2012 is a joint initiative of the United Nations University International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change (UNU-IHDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), in collaboration with the UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC) and the Natural Capital Project. IHDP was founded by the International Council for Science (ICSU) and the International Social Science Council (ISSC) of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1996. The IHDP Secretariat is hosted by the United Nations University (UNU) in Bonn, Germany, who joined as third sponsor in 2007. Additional information is available at www.ihdp.unu.edu (email: secretariat@ihdp.unu.edu).

The Inclusive Wealth Report 2012 will be officially launched at a joint UNU-IHDP and UNEP side event at Rio+20 on June 17, 2012. The entire report will be publicly available for download on the IHDP website from June 17. A hard copy version will be published by Cambridge University Press. For more information visit www.ihdp.unu.edu.

Vermont Researchers to Measure “Genuine Progress”

The Vermont legislature has passed a law that charges the University of Vermont’s Gund Institute for Ecological Economics with developing a new way of measuring the health of the state economy. The new measure will be called the Vermont Genuine Progress Indicator. The law is the first of its kind in the U.S. and builds on a growing network of state GPI initiatives, most notably Maryland’s.

Since World War II, economic progress has been measured primarily by the Gross Domestic Product, or GDP, which tracks the volume of commercial transactions.

“GDP accounting grew out of the Great Depression and became the dominant planning tool for post-war expansion,” says Jon Erickson, professor and managing director of UVM’s Gund Institute. “But today economists and policy-makers alike are questioning the utility of such a narrow metric of progress, looking for more comprehensive measures that reflect the environmental and social realities of our time.”

The law calls on the state government to work with the Gund Institute to “establish and test a genuine progress indicator” that will “assist state government in decision-making by providing an additional basis for budgetary decisions.”

“It makes sense that Vermont, with its commitment to environmental protection and social justice, would be in the forefront of a movement to redefine progress,” says Erickson. “The GPI is a more accurate measure of the economy’s costs and benefits than GDP.”

“The point of the economy isn’t to crank through resources as quickly as possible,” says Gund Fellow Eric Zencey, who will be coordinating the GPI initiative. “The point is to build sustainable well-being for our communities.”

To learn more about past GPI studies led by the Gund Institute, including Vermont, Ohio and Maryland, see their featured projects at www.uvm.edu/giee. A one-page primer about the Vermont Genuine Progress Indicator is available at www.uvm.edu/~uvmpr/pdf/VTGPI-Primer.pdf.
NSF – Law and Social Sciences
The National Science Foundation’s (NSF) Law & Social Sciences Program (LSS) considers proposals that address social scientific studies of law and law-like systems of rules. The program is inherently interdisciplinary and multi-methodological. Successful proposals describe research that advances scientific theory and understanding of the connections between law or legal processes and human behavior. Fields of study include many disciplines, and often address problems including though not limited to: Crime, Violence and Punishment; Economic Issues; Litigation, and Governance. LSS provides the following modes of support: standard research grants and grants for collaborative research, doctoral dissertation research improvement grants, interdisciplinary postdoctoral fellowships, and workshop and conference proposals. Proposals are due by July 16, 2012. Details are available at www.nsf.gov/funding.

National Geospatial Intelligence
U.S. Department of Defense, National Geospatial Intelligence Agency (NGA) Academic Research Program. Proposals may be submitted at any time, but no later than September 30, 2013. Offerors are highly encouraged to submit white papers prior to submitting proposals in order for NGA to determine the level of interest in the proposed research. Awards will be made on a rolling basis subject to availability of funds. NGA welcomes all innovative ideas for path-breaking research that may advance the GEOINT mission. The NGA mission is to provide timely, relevant, and accurate geospatial intelligence (GEOINT) in support of national security objectives. GEOINT is the exploitation and analysis of imagery and geospatial information to describe, assess and visually depict physical features and geographically referenced activities on the Earth. Details are available at www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&oppId=141713.

Of Note
USGS Maps Available
Over 161,000 USGS legacy topographic maps are now available for free download and manipulation from the Historical Topographic Map Collection website (http://nationalmap.gov/historical). This Collection now covers all of the U.S. lower 48 states.

Hazard, Risks, and Disasters SG
The Hazards Specialty Group has changed its name to the Hazards, Risks, and Disasters Specialty Group (HRDSG). A full list of AAG specialty groups may be found at www.aag.org/about_aag.

SAGE Affinity Group
The Stand-Alone Geographers Affinity Group has elected new co-chairs: Amanda Rees of Columbus State University and Brian Johnson of Auburn University. Join the SAGE affinity group online knowledge community through your AAG member profile.

The Geographic Advantage
An AAG Companion Website to Understanding the Changing Planet
The AAG is launching a new website, “The Geographic Advantage,” focusing on geographic investigations for students in support of the eleven research questions identified in the National Academy of Sciences’ 2010 report, Understanding the Changing Planet. The report identified research questions addressing societal issues and challenges in four areas: Environmental Change, Sustainability, Rapid Spatial Reorganization, and Technological Change.

The goal of the project is to guide students through geographic investigations that illustrate the approaches geographers would use to address each of the research questions identified in the report. Each geographic investigation is a learning module designed to take approximately one to two class periods to complete. The modules target students in grades 9-12 and can be used, with some modification, at the middle school and introductory undergraduate levels. Each module includes an interactive geographic investigation with online activities, a “next steps” section with additional topics and resources, a “For the Teacher” section with guidelines for teaching the lesson, and supporting handouts or materials.

The website is also an instructional resource for preservice geography education and social science methods courses, helping preservice teachers learn more about facilitating student geographic investigations. This interactive website is available at http://geographicadvantage.aag.org.

1Understanding the Changing Planet: Strategic Directions for the Geographical Sciences (2010, published by the National Academies Press) is available at www.nap.edu.
AAG Announces New EDGE Grant Program

The AAG, through the Enhancing Departments and Graduate Education (EDGE) project funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), announces a new grant program to support outreach, professional training, and related activities aimed at improving awareness of and preparation for business, government, and nonprofit careers in geography.

Twenty-four awards of $500 are available and will be granted on a competitive basis to support activities that address one or more of the following priority areas of the AAG’s EDGE project:

1. Broaden the participation of underrepresented students in undergraduate and graduate geography programs in the United States for careers and professional development,
2. Improve the preparation of students to work in international contexts and/or on issues that cross national boundaries or are global in scope,
3. Promote awareness of relationships between learning outcomes in geography programs and the needs of business, government, and nonprofit employers,
4. Enhance career development resources that prepare students for and connect them to business, government, and nonprofit employers.

To assist these efforts, the AAG will also provide awardees with an EDGE Career Development Kit that includes resources produced by EDGE and related AAG programs for careers and professional development. The Career Development Kit will include:

- A copy of the new AAG book, Practicing Geography: Careers for Enhancing Society and the Environment,
- 20 copies of the AAG Careers in Geography brochure,
- 20 copies of the second edition of Why Geography Is Important, a brochure developed in partnership with Texas State University’s Grosvenor Center for Geographic Education illustrating how geographers are contributing to the study of important social and environmental issues;
- 20 copies of tip sheets on various professional development topics including working internationally, internships, career planning, and networking;
- Offprints of research manuscripts stemming from the EDGE project;
- A CD-ROM containing Powerpoint slides with information about professional geographers and geography careers;
- Various other careers-related giveaways, project brochures, flyers, and posters.

The AAG will consider a wide range of proposals that make use of the $500 grant, the EDGE Career Development Kit, and other available resources to support the priority areas outlined above. Potential activities eligible for support may include but are not limited to:

- Organizing a professional development workshop at an AAG regional or annual meeting,
- Planning an outreach event in collaboration with a careers center on a school or university campus with significant numbers of underrepresented students;
- Preparing a proposal for an undergraduate or graduate course, seminar, instructional module or webinar on professional development in geography,
- Sponsoring a visit by a professional geographer to a local high school or community college;
- Implementing EDGE materials into an existing professional development course, workshop, or program for geography students;
- Raising awareness among employers of how geographers are contributing to businesses, government agencies, and nonprofit organizations;
- Developing outreach and educational materials for local implementation which could also be shared more broadly through the AAG’s Jobs and Careers website (www.aag.org/careers) or other distribution channels (e.g., videos, webinars, slideshows, posters, or brochures).

Per NSF regulations, awards may be used to pay for “direct costs for items such as stipends or subsistence allowances, travel allowances and registration fees paid to or on behalf of participants or trainees (but not employees) in connection with meetings, conferences, symposia or training projects.” Awards may also defray the costs of producing training and outreach materials such as those described above.

To be eligible, awardees must be affiliated with a geography program in the United States and agree to complete a short evaluation report at the conclusion of their activities for NSF reporting purposes.

Activities funded by the EDGE grant program should occur between September 1, 2012 and July 31, 2013. Awards will be granted on the basis of the alignment of proposed activities with the EDGE priority areas and their potential for reaching diverse audiences and institutions.

To apply, please send a professional résumé or c.v. and a 250-500 word proposal describing the activities to be supported by the $500 grant to Michael Solem (msolem@aag.org). Applications are due by July 1, 2012 at the latest.
Researchers Take Regional Approach to Thunderstorm Study

Researchers are targeting thunderstorms in Alabama, Colorado and Oklahoma to discover what happens when clouds pull air many miles into the atmosphere across a large swath of the Earth’s surface.

The Deep Convective Clouds & Chemistry (DC3) Experiment, which began in mid-May, will explore the influence of thunderstorms on air just beneath the stratosphere, a region that influences Earth’s climate and weather patterns. Scientists will use three research aircraft, mobile radars, and geospatial tools to pull together a comprehensive picture.

“We tend to associate thunderstorms with heavy rain and lightning, but they also shake things up at the top of the cloud level,” says National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) scientist Chris Cantrell, a DC3 principal investigator. “Their effects high in the atmosphere in turn have effects on climate that last long after the storm dissipates.”

DC3 is the first study to take a larger scale look at both chemistry and thunderstorm details, including air movement, cloud physics and electrical activity at the top of the troposphere.

The DC3 investigators are looking at three sites ranging from northern Alabama to northeastern Colorado to central Oklahoma and west Texas. All three sites have existing weather instrumentation on the ground, including dual-Doppler research radars, lightning mapping arrays, and balloon launches to measure the state of the atmosphere from the ground to the stratosphere.

The three research aircraft will be based at Salina Municipal Airport, Kansas, a location central to all three study areas. Each day, they will fly to whichever area has the most promising forecast for thunderstorms suitable for study. The multiple sites will enable the scientists to study different types of atmospheric environments across a region.

“The more different regions we can study, the more we can understand how thunderstorms affect our climate” said NCAR scientist Mary Barth, a DC3 principal investigator. Funding for DC3 is from the National Science Foundation (NSF), NOAA and NASA.

New Method to Purify Drinking Water Could Help Developing Countries

Nearly 80 percent of disease in developing countries is linked to bad water and sanitation. Now Michigan Technological University has developed a simple, cheap way to make water safe to drink, even if it is muddy.

It is easy enough to purify clear water. The solar water disinfection method, or SODIS, calls for leaving a transparent plastic bottle of clear water out in the sun for six hours. That allows heat and ultraviolet radiation to wipe out most pathogens that cause diarrhea, a malady that kills 4,000 children each day in Africa. However, it’s a different story if the water is murky, as it often is where people must fetch water from rivers, streams and boreholes.

“In the developing world, many people don’t have access to clear water, and it’s very hard to get rid of the suspended clay particles,” says Joshua Pearce, an associate professor of materials science and engineering. “But if you don’t, SODIS doesn’t work. The microorganisms hide under the clay and avoid the UV.”

Thus, to purify your water, you first have to get the clay to settle out, a process called flocculation. Working with student Brittney Dawney of Queen’s University in Ontario, Pearce discovered that one of the most abundant minerals on Earth does this job very well: sodium chloride, or simple table salt. Salt is inexpensive and available almost everywhere, and it doesn’t take very much to make muddy water clear again.

“The water has a lower sodium concentration than Gatorade,” Pearce says. This would still be too much salt to pass muster as American tap water, but American tap water is not the alternative. “I’ve drunk this water myself. If I were somewhere with no clean water and had kids with diarrhea, and this could save their lives, I’d use this, no question,” he says.

Salt works best when the suspended particles are a type of clay called bentonite. The technique doesn’t work as well with other kinds of clay. However, by adding a little bentonite with the salt to water containing these different clays, most of the particles glom together and settle out, creating water clear enough for SODIS treatment.

The AAG welcomes the following new members:

John Abatzoglou
Mollie Abouzedan
Adam Abubakar
Abatcha
Agnie Adegorevoy
Nasredin Ado
Joseph Ahrenholtz
Omar Al-Hashimi
Masha Alapovic
Sophia Alboy
Sarah M. Alexander
Idit Alhasid, II
Abdulaziz Almutairdi
April Ames
Abigail Anders
Michael Ankrum II
David Anthoff
Assaf Anyamba
Caitlin Aoyama
Assaf Anyamba
David Anthoff
April Ames
Abigail Anders
Michael Ankrum II
David Anthoff
Assaf Anyamba
Caitlin Aoyama
Elina Apsite
Scarlett Arana
Javier Arce-Nazario
Alyssa Arcieri
Jeffrey Ashby
Cedar Attanasio
Wendy Austin
Kerstine Awa
Claire E. Bach
Ashley Baharestani
Yuqi Bai
Ryan Bair
Zoltan Bakos
Andre Balanji
Laura Bang Lindegaard
Roger Bannister
Matthew T. Barbour
Brent Barker
Christopher Barrow
Zachary Bass
Marisol Becerra
Austin Becker
Kavya Uls Beerval
Ravichandra
Britni Belcher
Marissa Bell
Michael Bender
Amanda Bentley
Melanie Berkowitz
Robert Berry
Livia Betancourt Mazur
Magaela Bethune
Eddie Bevilacqua
Ekaterina Bezborodko
Sanjeeb Bhoi
Sanjeeb Bhoi
Marcy Bidney
John Biersack
Dave Biles
Felicia Bill
Patrick Bitterman
Cameron Black
James Black
Adam Blough
Erica Boatman
Aaron Boci
J.R. Boehrs
Claudette Bois
Michael Boline
Jon Bjoncean
Jason Booth
Soheil Boroushaki
Veronica Botero
Severine Bouard
Bonnie Bounds
Zack Bowles
Mark Brady
Sylvia Arriaga Brady
Benjamin C. Bright
Robert Brimhall
Esther Brodrick-Williams
Michelle Brooks
Juergen Bruns-Berentleg
Julia Bryan
Stewart Bryant
Taylor Brydges
Michaele Ann Buell
Nievia Bueno Watts
Diana Burbano
Daniel Burk
Diane Burns
Douglas Burns
Jared Butler
Zesheng Cai
Irene Calloud
Milton Carballo
Sebastian Carisio
Mallory Carpenter
Julian Carroll
Diana Case
Evon Castel
Helen Caughley
Stephen Cary Cavner
Murat Cevik
Clara Champalle
John L. Chandler
Aisling Chapin
Evan Chapman
Mars Chapman
Colleen Chen
Gehan Chen
Jinhai Chen
Min Chen, PhD
Jie Cheng
Yu-Lin Chi
Russell Chiles
Liang-Huan Chin
Daheon Cho
Alice Chu
Adam Clark
Dylan Clark
Anna Clements
Keith Clisson
Alice Cohen
John Cole
Tyler Cole
Isis Colon
Jose Colon
Brian Colson
Fabio L. Z. Coltro
Erik Condit-Bergren
Bernard Conrad
Mindy Conyers
John Cooke
Sean Cooley
Leah Coon
Linda Coppens
Caroline L. Cormier
Lucas Costa De Souza
Erin Condit-Bergren
Rebecca Costanza
Denise Costello
Catherine Cottrell
Lucy Courtney
Randi Cousineau
Joshua Cousins
Ross Crawford
Alvaro Sanchez Crispin
Laura Cross
Morgan Crowell
Jimena Cuencan
Yujuan Cui
Blair Cullen
David Curlee
Andrew Curley
Michael Cusick
Elzbieta Czyzowska-Wnisie
Sevki Danacioglu
Ryan Daniel
Joseph Daniels
David Daubenmire
Dylan Davies
Alejandro De Jesus
Miranda
Alejandro De Jesus
Miranda
Guillermo DeNacimiento
Leith Deacon
Meredith Debooom
Wayne Decker
Kristina Delidjakova
Sarah Delisle
Kyle B. DeMaria
John Dematteo
Jennifer Devlin
Thomas Dickerson
Deborah Diehl
Nazzareno Diodato
Colleen Dittmers
Susan Divine
Zan Dodson
Cassandra Joy Donish
Robert Douglas
Nicholas Dowhaniuk
Akira Drake
Lauren Drakopoulos
Melinda Dubaj
Layne Duesterhaus
Sean A. Duncan
Jan M. Dunham
Lynn Dunlop
Jose Luis Duran Tico
Homer Dibvila, Sr.
Rositsa Dzhaleva
Bentley Eberle
Nathan Eby
Heidrun Edlinger
Sarah Eggleston
Emily Eisenhauer
Peter Ekman
Usha Elswarapu
Robert Eletto
Astrid Ellie Hurley
Matthew K. Ellis
Stephen Ellis
Brenna Elrod
Tammy Elwell
John Emery
Aya Eraydin
Tiernan Erickson
Anthony Erstad
Daniel Estrada
Brian C. Eynon
Karen Faith
Julia Falcon
Aaron Falk
Patience Farmer
Jamie Fayter
Donna Ferguson
Kristel Fesler
Scott William Fierro
Anna Findley
Devin Fink
Matthew Fisher
Jeni Fitzpatrick
Jason Fitzsimmons
Lisa Flaim
Cale Fleming
Richard Foremsky
Stephen Fortney
Lauren Freeland
Jeffrey French
Carrie Freshour
Mandy Freund
Stephanie Freund
Gregory D. Frisbee
Mary M. Fry
Cheng Fu
Nick Fuller
Timothy Fullman
Jacob Gable
Chaste Gahunde
Brittany Gale
Chris Gale
Keltie Gale
Brendan Galipeau
Mathew Gann
Juan Garcia
Mia Gardner
Josh Garland
Lauren Garrett
Michael Gaskin
Ellen Gass
Njoroge I. Gathongo
Olivia Geiger
Miles Gerken
Kamil Geronimo
Tejaswi Giri
The AAG welcomes the following new members.

Fiona Gladstone
Gregor Gloetzl
Owen Glogowski
Varun Goel
Nicolas Gonzalez
Austin Gore
Santontu Goswami
Rob Gragg
Georgios Graikousis
Jonathan C. Graves
Jennifer Green
Thomas Green
Jonathan Asher
Greenberg
Mary Greene
Roger Greer
Kaelin Groom
Roger Greer
Nichole Krist
Larry Krieger
Stephen Korns
Marty Kooistra
Andrea Kohutek
Robert J. Koester
Lasse Martin Koefoed
Brandon Knight
Josh Jackson
Meredith L. Hardwick
Karl Harmon
Dwight Harris
Clinton Harrison
Ellen Hartig
Derek Harvey
Danielle Hasket
Noel Hawkins
Anne Haywood
Russell Hedberg
Keeley Heise
Stephanie Heisler
Jay M. Hemmis
Joseph Henderson
Brian Hemmigan
Kathy Henson
Humberto Hernandez
Chelsy Herring
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David John Hester
Geoffrey Heuline
Louis Heying
Kari Hicks
Lynette Hiebert
Ryan Hile
Lauren Hines
Shana Hirsch
Neil Hnantuk
Sara Hodges
Lawrence Hoffman
Monica Hoffman
William Hogan
Chevon Holmes
Pei Hongbin
Du Hongru
David Hood
Brandon Hoover
Benjamin Hopkins
Yuting Hou
James Howard
Karen E. Howard
Eric Howell
Robert Hoyer
Vance Hoyt
Jiejun Huang
Kevin Hug
John Hupp
Maggie Hutchins
Lucy Hutrya
Son Van Huynh
Jeff Hyde
Jasmine Hyman
Marcus Idoko
Noah Jerley-Moss
Ierley-Moss
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Elena Ion Tomlinson
Ryan Ippolito
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Malene Jacobsen
Matthew Jacobson
Mohamed Jalili
Ben James
Yolanda James
Brigham John Jeremy
Michael Jersha
Yuqing Jiang
Lu Jin
Neil Jobe
Dailey John
Alexander Johnson
Bart Johnson
Evan Johnson
Mark Johnson
Robert Johnson
William Johnson
Hannah Johnston
Allison Jones
Matthew Jones
Natalie Jones
Peter Jones
Hannah Judge
Christopher Justice
George Juszynski
Justin Kadi
Abhishek Kala
Renato Kang
Prasan Kankaew
John Kappler
Agieszka Karoluk
H. Karst
Prudence Katze
Emily Kay
Kelly Kay
Michael Kay
Samuel Kay
Peter R. Keating
Jaclyn Keaveney
Louis Keddel
Alison Keener
Kenneth Keller
Wesley Keller
Rudo Kemper
Melinda Kernik
Hyojin Kim
Dirk Kinsey
Joyce Klein Rosenthal
Korey Klein
Andrew D. Kline
Brandon Knight
Lasse Martin Koefoed
Robert J. Koester
Andrea Kohutek
Marty Kooistra
Stephen Korns
Larry Krieger
Nichole Krist
Angela Kross
Naoko Kubo
Kelsey Kucer
Lisa Kuchy
Olja Kuljanin
Jonathan Kult
Scott Kusselson
Cassandra
Kuyvenhoven
Molly La Fond
Terry Lacey
Marisa Laderach
Mark Lalonde
Owen Lamb
Paul Lander
Lukasz Langowski
Sai Latt
Sheyla Laviera
Andrew Lawrence
Devon Lechtenberg
Beeyoung Gun Lee
Jong Lee
Jonghee Lee
Melissa Lee
Mongheon Lee
Natalie Lee
Tien Lee
Xiaomeng Lee
Christa Lee-Chuvala
Justin Leech
Jessica Lehman
Ronit Leib
Richard Lenz
Susan Leonard
Chesney Paige Lester
Michel Levasseur
Leon Levine
Joshua Lewis
Sarah Lewis
Sharai Lewis-Gruss
Dewen Li
Min Li
Brena Limina
Justine Lindemann
Pat Linderholm
Robyn Linzner
Jacob Lipanovich
Austin Little
Jing Liu
Jung-Kwan Liu
Kaizhi Liu
Xintao Liu
Patricia Llanos
Leigh Lockwood
Cory Look
Ruben A. Lopez
Angeles Lopez-Norez
Enid L. Lotstein
John Lowiseth
Bryce C. Lowery
Merri Ruebber
Paul Lundberg
Stacey Lyle
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Ian MacDonald
Lauren Emile Mackey
Reese Madrid
Kimberly Maragaci
Jill Mailloux
Srjdjan Majdov
Dmitry Malinkin
Triratna Manandhar
Paul Mantz
Anthony Markert
John J.R. Markle
David Marquardt
Jonathan Marquese
Matthew Martin
Francis Masse
Jeffrey R. Masuda
Christoph Mathias
Mulvihill Matthew
Shannon May
Sarah McCall
Eleanor McCallum
Nick McCan
Dolores Mccarthy
Camille N. McDonald
Michael McIntyre
Jaime Mckay
Nikki Mckenna
Shawn McLeod
Casey McNamor
Renee Mcperson
John Meehan
Aileen Mehrtens
Chee Mei Ling
Xi Mei
David Melancon
John Metcalfe
William Meyer
Nancy Milholland
Blake Miller
Christine Miller
Emily Miller
Michelle Mockbee
Kyra-Marie Moir
The AAG welcomes the following new members.

Cesar Monje
Kelly Montague
Allison Moore
Anna Moore
Jessica Morgan
Shawna Morgan
Carly Ann Morganwalp
Christopher Morris
Stanislaw K. Moszynski
Patrick Moulden
Samiah Moustafa
Harinatha Reddy
Muchukota
Kai Mchlnickel
Lara Muller
Jocelyn Mullins
Karen Murphy
Marita Murphy
Trey Murphy
Kevin Mwenda
Amanda Myhand
Monica Napolitano
Ganapathy Narayanaraj
Rachel Naylor
Francisco Negron
Ashley Nepp
Tjis Neutens
Jay Newberry
Michaela Newman
Astrid Nicole Ng
Njoya Ngetar
Brandy Nickerson
Rodrigo Nieto-Gomez
Kevin Noack
Corey Norris
Caitlin Norton
Rick Nunez
Thomas O'Connell
Brendan O'connor
Michael O'Connor
Kieran O'Mahony
Yvonne Oates
David Ockwell
Nicholas Oliver
Shawn Olson
Amy Ording
Efrain Hernandez Orozco
Ana I. Ortega
Rebecca Osolen
Kyndal Owens
Fabiana Paez
Matthew Palmer
Derek Pandel
Katherine Papadopoulos
Maria Paradiso
Esther S. Parish
Paul Sung-Pyo Park
Lauren Parker
Sharmila Partab
Haley J. Pastircak
Brian Pattee
Nathan Pavlovic
Eric Paxton
Michael Pedersen
Nicholas Petropouleas
Jaclyn Phipps
Katherine Phipps
Robert Pickett
Retha Pierce
Robert Pierce
Matthew Pietrus
Jared Quinn Pilbeam
Tiago Pinheiro
Rene Francisco Poitevin
Hanna Popsescu
Brian Porter
Sarah Porter
Laura Prazeres
Maxwell Press
Clare Price
Jacqueline Price
Linda Price
Mamyrah Prosper
Carolyn Prouse
Mechelle Puckett
Thomas Puglia
Serenity Purcell
Sohni Purewal
Sam Rabin
Greer Ramsey
Jing Ran
Karthik Rao Cavale
Andres Recalde
Benjamin Reid
Alex Remar
James Render
David S. Reynolds
Stephanie Riddick
Hector Rivera
Bridgette Rivers
Elias Robertson
Jennifer L. Robertson
Joanna Rogalski
Chad Rogers
Kevin Romero
Kirsten Ronald
Jason Rosenbarg
Travis Ross
Kelyn Rosster
Jean-Sebastien Roussy
Sagarika Roy
Papia Rozario
Jennifer Ruper
Phibankhamti Ryngnga
Taranee Sabour
Carl Sack
David Saeger
Sushmita Saha
Kristin Sakaguchi
Hector Salas
Kelleanne Salazar
Lana Salman
Jeffrey Salvatore
Olumuyiwa Sami
Alicia Sanchez
Ana I. Sanchez-Rivera
Aaron G. Sander
Lukas E. Sandve
Anna Santos
Stephen Sarsadies
Brock Saylor
Sarah Scandiffio
Elise Schadler
Judd Schechtmann
Nancy Schechtmann
Emily Schell
Kate Schwott
Nicole Scholtz
Ben Schrager
Johanna Claire Schuch
Jenny Schulz
Taylor Seigler
Robert Sellers
Julie Sepanik
Jorge Sequera
Amanda Seymour
Aaron Shaffer
Naomi Shangahyia
Emily Sheehan
Michael Shehorne
Alpen Sheth
Qing Shi
Tiane Shi
Hyoungsk Shim
Safdar Ali Shirazi
Eva Shon
Rupesh Shrestha
Ma Shun
David Sichinava
Joshua Silver
Virginia Silvis
Kelly Sims
Sanjay Singhal
Benjamin R. Sinn
Amanda Skawron
Arthur A. Small, III
Austin Smith
Chelsea Smith
James Smith
Michael Jason Smith
Aaron Snyder
Myun Song
Justin Sonenton
Andrea Soo
Kristin Sorensen
Mark Specht
Balfour Spence
Scott Stafford
Zach Stafford
John R. Stamp
Kent Stanton
Thomas M. Staten
John M. Steed
Sarah Stein
Joshua Steiner
Kevin Steller
Mark Stetlenpohl
Ryan Stephany
Jeffrey T. Stevens
Suzanne Stewart
Dejuan Stocks
Michael Stokes
Daniel Stuckey
Scott Sugar
Michael T. Sullivan
Meredith Sussman
Michael Oliver Sutcliffe
Timothy Suto
Christine Sutter
Christopher Suttle
Martha Swatek
Tim Swales
Shannon M. Sweeney
Hillary Tahtinen
Pink Tam
Josef Tan
Sean Taugher
Natalie Teale
Elizabeth Tennent
Chloe Thomas
David Thompson
Gerald Thomberry
Trevor Thurlow
Mark Thurstain-Goodwin
Bill Timmins
Kasim Tirmizey
Alexa Todd
Jason Torres
Lisa Trelan
William Treat
Lani Trenouth
David Trimbach
Timothy Tripplet
Jeremy Trusty
Teresa Tucker-Trainum
Madeline Tuller
Sara Tyson
Pedro Urquijo
Patrick Obaro Utudor
Vivian Valencia
Melissa Valle
Annabelle Van Beuskom
Ariane Van Buren
Richard Van Deusen
Eric Van Praag
Morgan Vance
Will Vanderbilt
Alexandra Varga
Aslan Varoqua
Fnu Varun Ramachandran
Priscilla Vaz
Claudia Vicentelo
Bryan Vickroy
Pedro Miguel Villa Soto
Nicholas Paul Villa
Alejandro Vizcarra
Viktoria Vona
Natalia Vorotyntseva
Maya Maya Wagoner
Stephen Waldrop
Christopher Michael Wall
Lien Wan Ru
Mao-Tong Wang
Ethan Ward
Robert Ward
The AAG welcomes the following new members.

Jacob Wasilkowski  
Rachel Watson  
Douglas Way  
Christina Y. Weatherspoon  
Elizabeth Weaver  
Astrid Weissenburg  
Kevin Wells  
Charles White  
Jessica Whitley  
Jon Wiedenfeld  
Nicholas Bruno  
Wiencek

Tomasz Wierzba  
Paul Wilcox  
Rachel Will  
Brian Williams  
Dawn Williams  
John Williams  
Kelvin Williams  
Ryan Williams  
Shaun Williams  
Rachel Wilson  
Rachel Wilson  
Sean Wilson  
Patti Winter  
Stephen Wise  
Karen Witsell  
Tessa Witt  
Jacob Wolff  
Kathryn Wolff  
Paradorn  
Wongchanapai  
Collin Woomer  
Melissa Wygant  
Luke Wylie  
Michael Wynia  
Zhumin Xu  
Hua Yang  
Xiaowen Yang  
Elizabeth Yarbrough  
Jesse Yeager  
Sudha Yerramilli  
Helen Ying-Jung Chen  
Alanna Young  
Claudia J. Young  
Lori Young  
Lai Ying Yu  
James Yulich  
Dagmar Zadrazilova  
Laurie Zapalac

Clare Zegarelli  
Qi Zhang  
Yulong Zhang  
Feng Zhao  
Yuxi Zhao  
Shiran Zhong  
Liz Zimiles

AAG Annual Meeting – Los Angeles
April 9-13, 2013

We invite you to begin making plans to participate in the 2013 AAG Annual Meeting, to be held in Los Angeles, California.

Los Angeles and the surrounding region is a mix of fascinating and complex geographies. A mosaic of dynamic urban and demographic change, L.A. remains a center of debate over topics as diverse (or, conversely, interrelated) as migration and race, water resources, hazards and disaster preparedness, cultural identity, geographies of media and film, coastline development, spaces of surveillance and policing, literary geographies, postmodern urbanism, and geographies of tourism.

Los Angeles and Southern California offer many unique opportunities for field trips across a diverse range of geographic interests. Specialists from biogeography to demography will find much to see and do, and we encourage conference attendees to organize or attend AAG field trips or plan to extend their stays to explore the area with colleagues. Field trip locations are likely to include Catalina Island, Mission San Gabriel and other nearby historic missions, Griffith Observatory, Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, a tour of the Department of Water and Power, stops along the San Andreas Fault, and local wineries, among others.

The 2013 AAG Annual Meeting will include many high profile speakers, invited guests, and panelists from both inside and outside of geography, including the private sector and government agencies. The AAG call for papers will be released this summer with a deadline for abstracts to be set for early fall. Field trip and workshop proposals will be due in November. The conference will of course include popular annual events and attractions such as the Exhibit Hall, the JIG Center, the Awards Luncheon, late-breaking news sessions, and the World Geography Bowl.

A special rate will be available to registered meeting attendees at the conference hotel, so plan on booking early. The 2013 AAG Annual Meeting will be within easy reach of international attendees through Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and other regional terminals.

The AAG Annual Meeting is always an excellent opportunity to renew acquaintances, meet new colleagues, share and discuss ideas, and build enthusiasm and momentum for the progress of the discipline. We look forward to seeing you in Los Angeles.
United States

CALIFORNIA, HUMBOLDT
Vacancy Announcement, Temporary Faculty Position in Environmental Science and Management. Starting August 2012. JOB #7519.
Description: Humboldt State University’s Environmental Science and Management Department invites applications for an academic year full-time temporary faculty position in Geospatial Science. Initial appointment will be for the Fall 2012 semester. Subsequent reappointment for Spring 2013 will be contingent upon programmatic need and satisfactory performance evaluation.

Professional Qualifications: A Ph.D. or equivalent from an accredited college or university in Natural Resources, Forestry, Geography, or a closely related field is preferred at the time of appointment. Candidates with considerable progress towards degree completion by appointment date will be considered. The candidate should have demonstrated expertise in geospatial analysis.

The successful candidate must demonstrate the following:
• Potential for effective teaching or teaching experience using a variety of methodologies;
• Ability and interest in teaching a broad range of geospatial courses;
• Ability and interest in preparing students to function in a culturally and ethnically diverse society.

The successful candidate, if not a U.S. citizen, must have authorization from the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services to work in the United States. Evidence of degree(s) is required at time of hire. For more information and to view complete vacancy announcement, please visit http://apprtrkr.com/238508.

Humboldt State University is an EO/TitleIX/ADA Employer.

MAY 12-89

IDAHO, POCATELLO
Visiting Assistant Professor, Digital History. The Department of History at Idaho State University seeks a visiting assistant professor in digital history to begin in August 2012. The field of specialization is open, though preference is towards candidates who will reinforce department strengths in historical GIS. A Ph.D. in history, geography, or related field is required at appointment. Successful candidates will demonstrate a growing record of scholarship and commitment to teaching, including distance-learning and high-quality online courses. Specific teaching duties include courses in world regional geography and cartography and training graduate students in historical GIS or other digital tools of historical research and education.

Apply: Submit letter of application, C.V., and three references online at https://isujobs.net. Review of applications begins April 23. Position open until filled.

ISU is a research university with over 15,000 students enrolled in programs ranging from undergraduate to doctoral. History faculty exemplifies high-quality teaching and innovative, productive research in collaboration with other disciplines. The university is located in Pocatello, tucked against the mountains in a setting valued for its scenic attractions and recreational opportunities.

Kevin Marsh, Chair, Department of History, Idaho State University, 921 S 8th Ave, Stop 8079, Pocatello, ID 83209-8079. http://isu.edu/history. Email: marskevi@isu.edu. Fax: 208-282-4267.

MAY 12-99

MASSACHUSETTS, WORCESTER
GIS Programmer. Clark Labs of Clark University is seeking a GIS Programmer for their small dynamic programming team for software development and system level programming for the Clark Labs’ suite of software products including the IDRISI GIS and Image Processing software. Candidates must possess expertise in Delphi and C++, the Windows API, GDI and COM. Expertise in the IDRISI software and GIS in general is essential. Competency with .NET, OpenGL, Java and Access/DAO/SQL highly desirable. Must be able to work independently yet closely interact with other members of the
programming team and outside organizations. Bachelor's degree required in Geography or related field, master's degree preferred with 3-5 years of experience. This is a full time administrative position with excellent benefits including employee and family tuition, health and other insurances, generous retirement plan, 4 weeks vacation, free use of campus fitness/athletic center, and many more. Starting salary expected to be in range of 45K – 60K depending on experience.

Apply: Please e-mail cover letter and resume to: resumes@clarku.edu. Clark University, Human Resources, 950 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01610.

AA/EOE. Clark values diversity.

MAY 12-95

MICHIGAN, ANN ARBOR

ICPSR seeks an Associate Director – Research Professor or Research Associate Professor.

The Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) at the University of Michigan provides social science data to researchers and policymakers around the world. An international organization with over 700 member institutions, ICPSR offers access to data for research and instruction, training in methods of quantitative analysis, and a data preservation service to ensure long-term availability.

As leader of ICPSR’s Collection Development Unit, the ideal candidate will supervise and guide project directors managing archival activities for federal and private sponsors. He/she will also consult with data producers and data users about the needs of the research community, and use that information to develop new archival collections and write proposals for external funding to support those collections. The individual selected for this position will hold a research faculty appointment in ICPSR and the Institute of Social Research.

For a complete description please visit http://umjobs.org/job_detail/67165/associate_director_icpsr.

The University of Michigan is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

MAY 12-85

MISSOURI, SPRINGFIELD

Missouri State University. The Department of Geography, Geology and Planning anticipates an opening for a 9-month, non-tenure-track Visiting Assistant Professor of Geography to begin in August 2012. Ph.D. (or ABD) in Geography or closely related field at the time of appointment. Expertise and evidence of teaching effectiveness in the area of Geospatial Science required, commitment to and ongoing involvement in Geospatial Science research preferred. Teaching responsibilities will include upper-division undergraduate courses in Geographic Information Science (GIS), Interpretation of Aerial Photography, Remote Sensing, and Digital Image Processing.

Apply: Applicants should submit a letter of application and current CV and arrange for three reference letters and copies of all academic transcripts to be submitted to Chair, Geospatial Science Search Committee, Department of Geography, Geology and Planning, Missouri State University, 901 South National, Springfield, MO 65897.

The evaluation of applications will begin May 7 and will continue until a successful candidate is found. Further information about our department and programs can be obtained from our web site at geosciences.missouristate.edu, or call (417) 836-5800 – Email GGP@missouristate.edu.

Women and minority candidates are encouraged to apply. Employment will require a criminal background check at University expense. EO/AA employer.

MAY 12-103

*NEW YORK, ONEONTA

State University of New York. Oneonta. Department of Geography Lecturer. The Department of Geography at SUNY Oneonta invites applications for a full-time Lecturer beginning August 2012. This is a non-tenure track position with an initial appointment of one year, renewable for an additional year. Expectations include instruction at the undergraduate level and continuing professional development. SUNY Oneonta is a comprehensive, public, liberal arts and sciences college with 6,000 students and 500 faculty. The College is ranked ninth among the best regional universities by U.S. News & World Report. The College offers over 60 undergraduate majors and nine graduate programs. The student to faculty ratio is approximately 17:1. The Department of Geography has a strong and growing undergraduate Geography Program and maintains an Environmental Planning concentration in the Environmental Sciences Program. The geography program has 90 student majors in one of three tracks: General Geography, Urban and Regional Planning, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). To learn more about the College or the Department please visit www.oneonta.edu or www.oneonta.edu/academics/geography. Preference will be given to candidates who have experience with diverse populations, and/or teaching pedagogies and/or multicultural teaching experience. For a complete description of this position go to: www.oneonta.edu/employment.

To apply online, go to: http://oneonta.interviewexchange.com/candapply.jsp?JOBID = 31795.

For other employment and regional opportunities, please visit our website at: www.oneonta.edu/employment.

June 2012 Jobs in Geography
**NEW YORK, ONEONTA**

The Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at SUNY Oneonta invites applications for a non-tenure track position as a Historically Underrepresented Dissertation Fellow (Visiting Assistant Professor) beginning in August 2012. This is a temporary, two-year appointment.

SUNY Oneonta is a comprehensive, public, liberal arts and sciences college with a strong tradition of diversity among its faculty and staff. The staff enjoy excellent teaching, research, and non-regional electives and introductory and regional opportunities, please visit our website at: www.oneonta.edu/employment.

SUNY Oneonta values a diverse college community. Please visit our website on diversity at: www.oneonta.edu/admin/oei. Moreover, the College is an EEO/AA/ADA employer. Women, persons of color, and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

**MAY 12-90**

*NORTH CAROLINA, CHAPEL HILL*

The Institute for the Study of the Americas at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill invites nominations and applications for the Anthony S. Harrington Distinguished Professorship in Latin American Studies, to begin as early as January 1, 2013. The appointment will be for an eminent senior scholar with a distinguished record of scholarship and teaching within any disciplinary field of the social sciences and humanities. PhD with a minimum of eight years' experience is required for this position. The appointment will be made to the most appropriate academic department.

Apply: Candidates should submit a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, and the names, mailing addresses (including email addresses), and telephone numbers of four references to: Director, Institute for the Study of the Americas, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 3202 Fed Ex Global Education Center, 301 Pittsboro Street, Campus Box 3205, Chapel Hill, NC, 27599-3205. Candidates will also need to complete a brief application form on-line to apply for this position. To do so, click on the Direct Link URL from any internet browser to apply for the position: http://jobs.unc.edu/2502462.

Review of nominations and applications will begin on August 21, 2012 and continue until the position is filled. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer and educator, with a strong commitment to the achievement of diversity among its faculty and staff. The staff contact person for this position is Ms. Shelley Clarke (sclarke@email.unc.edu).

**JUN 12-106**

*OHIO, ATHENS*

Ohio University. The Department of Geography invites applications for a one-year visiting faculty position in GIScience, effective August 2012. We seek candidates possessing a strong background in Cartography, and well-trained in the technical and conceptual aspects of GIS and geospatial technologies. A strong commitment to undergraduate education is essential. PhD in Geography or closely related field is preferred. AB&D status candidates will be considered. The successful candidate will teach five courses in the academic year (two semesters), including introductory courses in Mapping and GIS, and Cartography. Experience in teaching similar courses is desirable. Other thematic or geo-technical courses may be assigned depending on departmental needs or candidate's interests, such as introductory Physical, Human, or Environmental Geography, or Statistics.

Ohio University is a four-year public institution of approximately 22,000 students located in Athens, a progressive community situated in the rolling hills of southeastern Ohio. The Department of Geography currently has 13 full-time faculty members, 170 undergraduate majors, and 17 master's students, and offers a range of degree programs including majors in GIScience, Meteorology, Urban Planning, Environmental Geography, and Environmental Pre-Law. The department enjoys excellent teaching, research, IT, and administrative support for its activities.

The completed application must include a letter of application, curriculum vitae, evidence of research and teaching experience, and the names and contact information for three professional references. For more information about the Department please visit us online at www.ohio.edu/geography.

Ohio University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer that strives to enhance its ability to develop a diverse faculty. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.
Apply online at: http://www.ohiouniversity.jobs.com/postings/3045. Questions may be directed to Dr. James Dyer, Chair, Department of Geography, Ohio University, Athens, OH 45701-2979. Voice: 740-593-1138. Fax: 740-593-1139. E-mail: dyer@ohio.edu.

**OCHIO, COLUMBUS**

The Mershon Center for International Security Studies invites applications for the endowed position of the Wayne Woodrow Hayes Chair in National Security Studies. The Chair will be appointed at the Mershon Center and another tenure unit at The Ohio State University. He/She will be expected to lead an active interdisciplinary program dedicated to teaching and research on national security issues. The mission of the Mershon Center for International Security Studies is to advance the understanding of national security in a global context. The center does this by fostering research on the use of force and diplomacy; the ideas, identities, and decisional processes that affect security; and the institutions that manage violent conflict.

Successful candidates for the Chair will be established scholars with international recognition and a distinguished record of publication and teaching related to issues of national security. Applicants may come from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines, including geography, history, law, political science, philosophy, public policy, public affairs/administration, sociology, and other areas of national security expertise. The Chair will be appointed jointly in the Center and as a tenured professor in another academic unit and will have a significant reduction in teaching duties.

Applicants should submit a letter of interest, current curriculum vitae or resume, and the names of three references to: Wayne Woodrow Hayes Chair Search Committee, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave., Columbus, OH 43201. Electronic applications may be sent to Mershon.Hayes-Chair@osu.osu.edu.

For additional information about the Mershon Center, please visit: mershoncenter.osu.edu. Questions or nominations may be addressed to Mershon Center Director Craig Jenkins at jenkins.126@osu.edu.

The Ohio State University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. Women, minorities, veterans, and people with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

**OREGON, CORVALLIS**

Leader, Geospatial Intelligence and Planning Initiative Associate/Full Professor. Oregon State University College of Earth Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences invites applications for a full-time 9-month (1.0 FTE) or full-time 12-month (0.75 FTE) tenure-track position to serve as Leader of the new Oregon State University Geospatial Intelligence and Planning Initiative, to begin September 2012.

We seek a scholar and leader who will guide the design and development of this innovative and transdisciplinary Initiative. The successful candidate’s research will contribute to at least one of the Initiative’s focal areas (geohazards, energy and natural resources security, public health, and data intensive geospatial science & technology). The candidate will be able to teach one or more classes one of the Institute’s focal areas. The Initiative Leader will also be responsible for establishing relationships with governmental agencies (including agencies in the intelligence community), non-governmental organizations, and commercial members relevant to the four focal areas of the Initiative. The Initiative Leader will guide the hiring and coordinate the activities of at least six new full-time tenure-track faculty positions. The Initiative Leader will also be expected to work with the OSU Foundation to engage potential donors to obtain and sustain funding for Initiative facilities.

A PhD (at time of application) is required. A PhD in Geography, History, Law, Political Science, Philosophy, history, law, political science, philosophy, public policy, public affairs/administration, sociology, and other areas of national security expertise. The Chair will be appointed jointly in the Center and as a tenured professor in another academic unit and will have a significant reduction in teaching duties.

Applicants should submit a letter of interest, current curriculum vitae or resume, and the names of three references to: Wayne Woodrow Hayes Chair Search Committee, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave., Columbus, OH 43201. Electronic applications may be sent to Mershon.Hayes-Chair@osu.osu.edu.

For additional information about the Mershon Center, please visit: mershoncenter.osu.edu. Questions or nominations may be addressed to Mershon Center Director Craig Jenkins at jenkins.126@osu.edu.

The Ohio State University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. Women, minorities, veterans, and people with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

**PENNSYLVANIA, TOWANDA**

Hanover Engineering Assoc. Inc. is looking for qualified GIS Technicians familiar with the ESRI product suite as well as Trimble GPS equipment, Terrasync and Pathfinder Office software. The candidate should be self-motivated and have experience in digitizing, projections, georectification and cartographic design. Additional training in ModelBuilder, ArcPy, AutoCAD and Microsoft Access is preferred, but not essential. A 4-year degree and a minimum of 1 year experience are required.

Apply: Anyone interested in applying please forward a resume to Kristin Chaapel @ kchaapel@hanovereng.com or mail to: Hanover Engineering Associates, Inc. 1 Elizabeth Street, Suite 11, Towanda, PA 18848.

**VIRGINIA, WILLIAMSBURG**

Postdoctoral Fellowship in Remote Sensing and International Development at the College of William and Mary.

The Center of Geospatial Analysis, the Geology Department, and the Government Department are pleased to announce a new postdoctoral fellowship, supported by the Mellon teach-scholar training program. This program offers a unique opportunity to collaborate with the William and Mary faculty sponsors on research, while also receiving mentorship in multiple aspects of educational and professional development. We invite applications for a two-year postdoctoral fellowship in Remote Sensing and International Development. The selected postdoctoral fellow will collaborate with faculty mentors on a project that examines how environmental and development aid influence land use and land cover change.

In addition to collaborating with the faculty sponsors on the research project, the postdoctoral fellow will learn how to mentor undergraduates in meaningful research experiences, while also developing and teaching two undergraduate courses during the two years of the fellowship. We are particularly interested in receiving applications from early-career scientists who would like to maintain a balance between high quality research and teaching excellence in their continuing careers. The candidate should have a PhD in Geography, Government, or a related field.

The postdoctoral fellow will receive an annual stipend of $45,000 plus full benefits and a research/teaching/professional development budget of at least $10,000 per annum – this budget includes resources for travel and participation at conferences. The appointment is for two years, commencing in the Fall of 2012.

To apply for the “RS/Environmental Aid postdoc”, please visit the employment section of the CGA (www.uwf.edu/cga). Then submit your application online to the William and
Mary employment site (https://jobs.wm.edu instructional faculty) including a cover letter, curriculum vitae, two reference letters, and statements of research plans and teaching approach. Review of applications will begin May 14th and will continue until an appointment is made. The College of William and Mary is an EEO/AA employer and conducts background checks on applicants for employment.

Position number F0006L.

JUN 12-110-1

WISCONSIN, MILWAUKEE
UWM Libraries – Assistant Director, Curator of the AGSL. The American Geographical Society Library (The AGSL), America’s oldest, largest and most distinguished geographical research library, was established in New York City in 1851, and remained there until its transfer to Milwaukee in 1978. The Library’s breadth, size (well over one million items) and historical perspective attract both local and visiting scholars from a wide array of disciplines. The AGSL includes important collections of maps, atlases, books and periodicals, photographic images, as well as large collections of globes, pamphlets, and digital datasets. Since 1996, it has been the home of the Archives of the Association of American Geographers, North America’s foremost organization of professional geographers, and since 2011, the repository of the historic archives of the AGS. The AGSL is the largest library of its type in a university setting in North America. It sponsors several lecture series, is home to the Map Society of Wisconsin and supports two research fellowship programs that have, in the past decade, brought many scholars from across the globe.

The Society, which remains in New York City, was central to the development of American geography, played a major role in world exploration and mapping, and served the U.S. Government in times both of war and peace, for well over a century.

We seek an experienced, creative, and entrepreneurial leader to serve as our new Curator whose experience and professional contributions to the field demonstrate ability to shape and guide the AGSL, a nationally leading library, and expand its recognition worldwide. Under the direction of the University Libraries Director, this individual plays a key role in determining the direction of the AGSL and seeking resources in support of its research and educational services. The Curator directs the day-to-day activities of the AGSL, leads an experienced staff, and works closely with colleagues throughout the Libraries and university as a whole.

The Curator is responsible for the senior management and administration of all AGSL operations, including ongoing grant-funded projects. This includes formulation of goals and policies, budget preparation, collection management, preservation and conservation, teaching and lecturing, grant writing, outreach program development (including lecture series, fellowships, exhibits, publications and user services), and liaison work with UWM Schools and Colleges, the American Geographical Society of New York and the Association of American Geographers. The Curator is engaged in numerous digital initiatives designed to provide access to a full array of scholarly information. The Curator will also be responsible for contributing to the development and pursuit of overall UWM Libraries goals and policies, as well as for contributing to the rapidly evolving field of cartographic and geospatial librarianship (including digital cartographic resources) at the local, national, and international levels.

Requirements – Master’s degree or equivalent in geography or other relevant field; minimum of 5 years of progressively responsible experience in a research library or equivalent institution; supervisory experience of at least 5 years; successful grant writing and fundraising expertise; knowledge of emerging technologies; demonstrated strong professional leadership and involvement; strong written and oral communication skills; experience with rare materials librarianship including conservation/preservation techniques; broad knowledge of library collections; knowledge of cartography, its history, and the history of geographical ideas; commitment to library leadership, initiative and resourcefulness in generating new ideas, and the ability to work collegially.

Preferred requirements – MLS or equivalent from an ALA-accredited program, PhD or ABD in geography, history or related field; accomplishments in research or scholarship, knowledge of two foreign languages, GIS experience.

Apply: Please apply at http://jobs.uwm.edu/postings/8101.

UWM is an AA/EO Employer.

JUN 12-119

INTERNATIONAL

*CANADA, SASKATCHEWAN, SASKATOON*

University of Saskatchewan. Faculty Position in Hydrometeorology and Climate Science, School of Environment and Sustainability and Global Institute for Water Security

The School of Environment and Sustainability (SENS) at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) invites applications for a full-time tenure-track faculty position at the level of assistant, associate, or full professor. The successful candidate will join a core interdisciplinary science and modelling team to support the development of a $30-million research programme in the University’s Global Institute for Water Security led by Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC) in Water Security Howard Wheater.

This new appointment is envisaged in the area of hydrometeorology and climate science. Review of applications will begin June 15, 2012, and will continue until a suitable candidate is identified.

For more information, please visit www.usask.ca/SENS.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply, however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. The University of Saskatchewan is committed to Employment Equity. Members of designated groups (women, Aboriginal peoples, people with disabilities and visible minorities) are encouraged to apply.

JUN 12-119

Sign-Up to Receive AAG SmartBrief

Designed for geographers, AAG SmartBrief is a FREE, weekly e-mail update that keeps you abreast of the latest in geography news, research, technology and applications. Editors handpick key articles from hundreds of publications, do a brief summary of each and provide links back to the original sources. This is a quick, easy way to stay updated on developments in the discipline as well as news items that highlight geography and geographers. More than 6,000 AAG members have already registered for this free service.

To begin receiving your weekly AAG SmartBrief, sign-up at www.aag.org/smartbrief today.
Louis C. DeVorsey

Louis C. DeVorsey, professor emeritus of geography at the University of Georgia, has died at the age of 83.

DeVorsey received a B.A. from Montclair State University in New Jersey and an M.A. in geography from Indiana University. He earned a Ph.D. in geography in 1965 from the University of London. DeVorsey entered the U.S. Navy Officer Candidate School in Newport News, Rhode Island, in 1954, where he was commissioned as an Ensign. At his death he held the rank of Commander, USNR-Retired.

DeVorsey worked at East Carolina University from 1962 to 1965 and at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill from 1965 to 1967. He then spent the following 21 years at University of Georgia, where he was promoted to professor in 1973. He retired in 1988.


As an expert witness, DeVorsey appeared in at least five original actions before the U.S. Supreme Court in regard to litigation concerning sea and land boundaries. He conducted research for the U.S. Department of State in connection with the U.S.-Canada seaward boundary dispute in the Gulf of Maine. This case was adjudicated by the International Court of Justice at The Hague in the Netherlands, where he was one of three geographers who served as consultants to the U.S. Litigation Team.

The Association of American Geographers (AAG) presented DeVorsey with the AAG Award for Meritorious Contributions to the Field of Geography in 1975. In 1980, the University of Georgia Research Foundation presented him its Medal for Research Creativity in the Social Sciences. DeVorsey served the Society for the History of Discoveries as Vice President/President from 1979 to 1982, and he was named a fellow of the society in 2005.

Alvin A. Munn

Alvin Munn died February 3, 2012 in Fort Myers, Florida.

Munn earned a bachelor’s degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1942. After service with the U.S. Army Air Corps in World War II, Munn received a master’s degree from the University of Chicago. In 1948, he moved to Washington, D.C., where he eventually became senior geographer with the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA). Munn also earned a degree from the National War College, in 1966. As DIA senior geographer, he regularly briefed the Director of the DIA and the U.S. Secretary of Defense and served as a U.S. representative to NATO. As a member of the Military Geographic Documentation Working Group, he conducted key intelligence briefings and was actively involved in decision making during the Cuban Missile Crisis and other critical situations.

Munn published the article, “The Role of Geographers in the Department of Defense” in the August 1980 edition of The Professional Geographer, in which he estimated that 500 people with geography degrees were working for the Department of Defense (DOD) around the world. In the article, Munn stressed that the reputation enjoyed by geographers at the DOD was based on their ability to synthesize many sources of data from a wide range of sciences and provide cogent analyses.

An active member of the AAG, Munn served as association treasurer in 1967. He was a 63-year member of the AAG, having joined in January of 1949.

Robert G. Raskin

Robert G. Raskin died on March 2, 2012 at the age of 55.

Raskin was Research Scientist at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, California from 1997 to 2006, and since 2006 had served as Supervisor of the Science Data Engineering and Archiving Group, Instrument Software and Science Data Systems, at JPL.

Raskin received a PhD in atmospheric science from the University of Michigan in 1992. He was the co-founder and first chair (2008-2009) and board director (2009-2011) of the AAG’s Cyberinfrastructure Specialty Group (CISG). Raskin made significant contributions to broadening the connections between cyberinfrastructure (CI) and geography over the past 20 years. He was an expert in geoinformatics, which combines theoretical knowledge of Geographical Science with the technical innovation of Computer Science, and in the field of data interoperability in the Earth and environmental sciences. He was lead developer of the POET (http://poet.jpl.nasa.gov/) user interface for online data access from the Physical Oceanography Distributed Active Archive Center (PO.DAAC), a tool used for many years by PO.DAAC and various ESIP/MEASURES efforts. Raskin had also served as Vice-President, Chair of the Products and Services Committee, Chair of the Information Technology and Interoperability Committee, Chair of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, Chair of the GIS Cluster, and Organizer of the Interagency Forum on Data Preservation and Stewardship for the Earth Science Information Partner (ESIP) Federation.

Continued on page 29
Raskin was well known through the development of Semantic Web Terminologies for Earth and Environmental Science (SWEET), and his paper on knowledge representation in SWEET was acknowledged as the one of the top 10 most cited articles published between 2005 and 2010 by Computers & Geosciences (see http://sweet.jpl.nasa.gov/ontology/).

Raskin organized and chaired over 20 sessions at AAG Annual Meetings covering a wide range of advanced CI topics, including geospatial semantics, virtual organization, spatial decision support systems and high performance computing. He co-edited special issues in two prestigious GIScience journals – International Journal of Geographic Information Science, and Computer, Environment and Urban Systems – capturing the state of research progress taking place in cyberinfrastructure and fostering significant discussion on future research.

In addition to his exceptional research achievements and tireless service, Raskin demonstrated a keen desire to inspire and guide young researchers to successful careers.

**John J. Winberry**

Geographer John Winberry died on March 8, 2012.

Winberry earned a PhD from Louisiana State University in 1971. He spent his entire professional career at the University of South Carolina, where he taught cultural geography and regional geography courses from 1971 until his retirement in 2004. Winberry served as Chair of the Geography Department from 1990-1993, and Associate Dean of the Graduate School from 1999-2002. At various times, he also served as Director of Graduate Studies for the Geography Department, Director of Undergraduate Studies, Acting Director of the Latin American Studies Program, Assistant to the Director of the Walker Institute of International Studies, and Associate Dean of the Graduate School. He retired in 2004 as Distinguished Professor Emeritus.

Winberry was known for his passion in researching and teaching across the broad field of geography, which took him to Mexico, India, England, Ireland and Brazil. His U.S. research concentrated on the American South. He co-wrote the college-level textbook *South Carolina: A Geography*, and his 75 published writings reflect a wide range of interests, including log houses in Mexico, the kudzu vine in the U.S. South, the culture of indigo in South Carolina, sea turtle farming in the Cayman Islands, Confederate monuments in courthouse squares, and even an examination of varieties of South Carolina barbecue. He participated in local organizations, notably the Loblolly Society, The Thomas Cooper Society, and the Torch Club’s Columbia chapter.

Winberry was editor of the *Southeastern Geographer* (1988-1991) and earned the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers’ (SEDAAG) Outstanding Service Award for Lifetime Achievement in 2001.

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**New AAG Book Aims to Improve Career Preparation**

Whether you are just beginning as a major, taking classes toward a GIS certificate, working on an advanced degree, or considering a career change at a different point in your life, geography can lead to exceptional career opportunities. *Practicing Geography: Careers for Enhancing Society and the Environment* is a comprehensive new resource from the AAG and Pearson, designed to prepare geographers for careers in business, government, and non-profit organizations.

Developed by the AAG’s EDGE project with support from the National Science Foundation, the book examines workforce needs, expectations, and core competencies in professional geography, with many chapters offering expert advice and insightful analyses on topics such as networking, managing work-life relationships, and professional ethics. Dozens of professional geographers are profiled in the book to illustrate the exciting range of career opportunities in geography today.

The AAG’s Jobs and Careers website (www.aag.org/careers) has recently been updated with new resources for career information and planning. The website provides additional profiles of professional geographers along with a broad toolkit of data, tip sheets, and other resources useful for the job search and exploring career opportunities.

*Practicing Geography* is available through Pearson in paperback and e-book formats, and can be ordered online at www.pearsonhighered.com. For additional information about the book and the AAG’s EDGE project, visit www.aag.org/edge.

JOIN US. The Association of American Geographers cordially invites you to join us in Los Angeles, April 9-13, 2013, for the latest in research and applications in geography, sustainability, and GIScience.

SESSIONS & WORKSHOPS. The conference will feature over 5,000 presentations, posters, workshops, and field trips by leading scholars, experts, and researchers. Sessions will be organized around featured themes and relevant topics, such as:

- Political Geography
- Natural Hazards
- Cartography
- Geography Education
- Climate Change
- Human Geography
- GIScience & Technologies
- Physical Geography
- Planning & International Development
- Social Justice
- And more!

CALL FOR PAPERS. The AAG welcomes presentations from scholars, professionals, and students on these and related topics. Look for a Call for Papers in Summer 2012.

We look forward to seeing you in Los Angeles!

202-234-1450 • www.aag.org
Nominations Invited for AAG Honors

The AAG Honors Committee invites nominations for AAG Honors to be conferred in 2013. AAG Honors are awarded in recognition of outstanding contributions to the advancement or welfare of the profession in six categories: Lifetime Achievement Honors, Distinguished Scholarship Honors, Distinguished Teaching Honors, Ronald F. Abler Distinguished Service Honors, Gilbert Grosvenor Honors for Geography Education, and Gilbert F. White Distinguished Public Service Honors.

Normally no more than one award will be made in each category of AAG Honors. No more than six individuals may be recommended for AAG Honors in a single year. Nominees must be AAG members if they are residents of the United States; if they reside elsewhere the membership requirement is waived. In some cases professionals from other disciplines or professions are eligible for consideration. Geographers or other professionals previously honored may be nominated again for distinction achieved since their first awards.

The deadline for nominations is June 30, 2012. See the handbook section of a recent issue of the AAG Guide to Geography Programs in the Americas for a complete list of past honors award recipients or consult the AAG website at www.aag.org/honors.

Apply: Please submit a nominating letter and the candidate’s CV to grantsawards@aag.org. Digital submissions are preferred. Alternatively, hard copies may be faxed (202-234-2744) or mailed to: AAG Honors, Association of American Geographers, 1710 Sixteenth Street NW, Washington, DC 20009-3198.

www.aag.org
Nystrom Award Nominations

A fund established by former AAG Executive Director J. Warren Nystrom supports an annual prize for a paper based upon a recent dissertation in geography. Papers must be presented at the 2013 AAG Annual Meeting in Los Angeles. Eligibility for this competition is restricted to current AAG members who have received the PhD degree since April 1, 2009 and who have been members of the AAG for 2009, 2010, and 2011. From the Nystrom competition papers presented at the 2013 Annual Meeting, the Review Committee will recommend from one to two cash awards. The total annual prize awarded is approximately $1,000.

John Warren Nystrom received his PhD in Geography from Clark University in 1942. An exceptional educator who taught at Rhode Island College, the University of Pittsburgh, George Washington University, and Florida Atlantic University, Nystrom also had a long and productive career in international relations as a senior official in the Foreign Policy Department at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, as a partner in the international relations consulting firm of Allen, Murden and Nystrom, and as a Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution.

Nominations must be received on or before September 15, 2012.
Detailed nominating procedures are available at www.aag.org/grantsawards.

Garrison Award Nominations

Nominations are currently being accepted for the William L. Garrison Award for Best Dissertation in Computational Geography, which supports innovative research into the computational aspects of geographic science. This biannual award is intended to initiate a broader and deeper understanding of the crucial role that advanced computation can play in resolving the complex problems of space-time analysis that are at the core of geographic science. The Garrison Award is one of the activities of the Marble Fund for Geographic Science of the AAG, and consists of a cash prize in the amount of $3,500 and a formal certificate of merit.

Nominations must be received on or before September 3, 2012.
Detailed nominating procedures are available at www.aag.org/grantsawards.