

AAG Newsletter
of the
**Association of American
Geographers**

Douglas Richardson, Publisher
and Managing Editor

Megan D. Nortrup,
Editor

AAG Voice 202-234-1450

AAG Fax 202-234-2744

newsletter@aag.org

www.aag.org

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Chicago: Advancing Geography in Partnership With You

The entire AAG staff from the Meridian would like to thank all of you for making the AAG's Annual Meeting in Chicago an outstanding success. The theme of the meeting, "Advancing Geography in Partnership with You," was realized at every event and interaction of the meeting, from Bill Cronon's superb opening session keynote address, through the 3,400 papers and poster presentations at the heart of our meeting and the banquets, musical and other social events, to the awards luncheon on the final day of our tribal gathering in Chicago.

Over 5,470 geographers and friends from 49 countries attended this year's meeting, marking another milestone in attendance and in the internationalization of our meetings. Thanks to all of you for helping to advance geography in your

research, scholarship, and service throughout the year and at these annual meetings.

Those of us at the AAG headquarters office have just returned from Chicago, exhilarated, exhausted, and heartened by the progress we are all making together to strengthen the AAG and our discipline's standing in the university and its relevance to the world.

Following is a short photo montage of the Chicago meeting, illustrating a few of the many ways in which geographers are "advancing geography in partnership with each other, and with many others from around the world." Best wishes from the Meridian.

Doug Richardson and
the entire AAG Staff



Vicky Lawson delivered the Past President's Address following the AAG Banquet.



Doug Richardson (center) with AAG President-elect Kavita Pandit (left) and current President Richard Marston (right).



Doug Richardson and Yonette Thomas, Chief of NIH's NIDA Epidemiology Research Branch, co-hosted the AAG/NIDA Symposium on Geography and Drug Addiction at the Chicago meeting.



AAG's Opening Session: Attendance at the AAG meeting set a new record with over 5,470 attendees.

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William Cronon delivered the keynote address at the AAG meeting's opening session.



Suzanne and Doug Richardson confer with Carl Monk, Executive Director of the American Association of Law Schools about the Geography and the Law sessions jointly held this year at the AAG Chicago Meeting and the AALS Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.



AAG Staff (from left to right) Nicholas Schiller, Michael Solem, Ivan Cheung, John Wertman, Doug Richardson, Beth Schlemper, and Mark Purdy.



Saul Cohen (left) received the AAG's Enhancing Diversity Award at the AAG Awards Luncheon. He is accompanied here by his wife Miriam. At right, AAG Honors recipient Bob Kates and his wife Eleanor.



AAG Executive Director Doug Richardson speaks with Hugo Romero (right) and Fausto Sarmiento (center) at the AAG's International Reception.



Laura Washington of DePaul University and a columnist for the Chicago Sun-Times also spoke at the AAG opening session.



The energetic and gutsy blues of the Big James band got many people dancing.



Attendees dance at the AAG welcome celebration.