



SOUTHEASTERN DIVISION  
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN GEOGRAPHERS  
**NEWSLETTER**

Volume 23, No. 1      Spring 2004

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Stephen Walsh, *President*  
Allan James, *Vice President*  
Eric Fournier, *Secretary*  
Leo Zonn, *Treasurer*  
Kavita Pandit, *Regional Councilor*  
Ron Mitchelson, *Past President*

## From the President

**T**As president-elect, I thank the organization and its membership for permitting me to continue my formal association with SEGAAG for the next two years. Previously, I served as secretary, vice president and program chair, and I look forward to continuing my work with departments, faculty, students and staff of the Southeastern Division of AAG. I also welcome Leo Zonn, UNC—Chapel Hill, as secretary-elect. He, too, will be serving the organization and its members over the next two years. Go 'Heels!

I thank Tyrel "Tink" Moore, UNC—Charlotte, for his vision, loyalty and steadfast commitment to SEDAAG during his many years of service, most recently as past president; to Ron Mitchelson, East Carolina University, for his outstanding leadership, creative initiatives and thoughtful guidance as president during the last two years; and to Susan Walcott, Georgia State University, for her incredible efforts, organization and insights as treasurer during that same period. Mitchelson continues to serve SEDAAG as its past president, offering sage advice to the new president, officers and SEDAAG at-large, and continuing his service on the SEDAAG Executive and Steering Committees.

I thank Kavita Pandit, University of Georgia, for her insightful and thorough representation of SEDAAG as its regional councilor to the AAG; and to Eric Fournier, Samford University, for the clarity and completeness of message prepared for SEDAAG members as secretary and editor of the newsletter.

Thanks also go to the state representatives of SEDAAG. Representatives are responsible for tracking developments in their state and helping SEDAAG understand the needs and directions that geography is taking locally and statewide.

Thank you, Holly Hapke, chair, Honors Committee (East Carolina University); Owen Furuseth, chair, Nominations Committee (UNC—Charlotte); Michael Harrison, chair, Audit Committee (University of Richmond); Joseph Nicholas, chair, Resolutions Committee (Mary Washington College); Doug Gamble, chair, Tellers Committee (UNC—Wilmington); and to their respective committees for the quality of their service. To all other committees and organizations of SEDAAG, thank you. I look forward to continued interactions on behalf of SEDAAG.

I thank Jim Wheeler, University of Georgia, for his long-term commitment to quality and service as editor of the *Southeastern Geographer*. His staff's dedication to excellence, to SEDAAG and to the journal has given our division and discipline a strong and distinctive voice of scholarship. New journal editors, Derek Alderman and Scott Lecce, East Carolina University, will continue the traditions begun by Wheeler and work to move the journal to new heights. Contact Alderman and Lecce with your ideas and high-quality manuscripts.

Now to our SEDAAG meeting! It was another fantastic event, rich with diversity of thought and representation. Having organized the last two SEDAAG meetings, I heartily thank Allan James, University of South Carolina, vice president and Program Committee chair, for a job well done! It couldn't have been done without the leadership of Tink Moore and Owen Furuseth, UNC—Charlotte, co-chairs of the Local Arrangements Committee, and their able and well-organized team. I look forward to our 2004 meeting along the Gulf Coast in Biloxi, Miss., which Clifton "Skeeter" Dixon and colleagues at the

*President cont. on page 2*

University of Southern Mississippi are organizing. Please plan to attend. The meeting surely will continue the rich SEDAAG traditions of an excellent and interesting program, and the Gulf Coast has many places to search out and enjoy.

The 2004 SEDAAG meeting also will include the Geography Bowl. Bill Carstensen, Virginia Tech, and all those associated with this special event are to be commended. Any mechanism that teams scholarship with the energies of student participants and the reserved confidence of the faculty All-Star team is an event not to be missed. Thanks also go to Doug Richardson, executive director, AAG; Alex Murphy, president, AAG; and M. Duane Nellis, past president, AAG, and member, SEDAAG, for being part of the meeting, and for sharing thoughts and insights about geography, scholarship and personal reflections on instruction, research and outreach.

From all that I observed and learned at the Charlotte meeting, geography and SEDAAG are doing quite well. In this issue, you'll learn many of the specifics through committee reports. Sure, we have challenges to address and problems to be mindful of, but SEDAAG is blessed with people who care and who are willing to back that up with tremendous effort and a reserve of incredible talent. It's a privilege to be a member of SEDAAG and to serve as its president. If I can be of service to you and/or your department, or if SEDAAG can help to clarify and/or inform our message of scholarship and the importance of geography in academics and society, please contact me, other SEDAAG officers or committee chairs. SEDAAG is your organization; help us find ways to serve you even better.

Stephen J. Walsh, president  
University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill  
swalsh@email.unc.edu

## Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for items to be included in the Summer newsletter is **May 15**. Send any news items to SEDAAG Secretary Eric Fournier (ejfourni@samford.edu), Department of Geography, Samford University, Birmingham, AL 35229.

# First Call for Papers and Posters

59th SEDAAG Meeting  
Biloxi, Miss.  
Nov. 21–23, 2004

The 2004 annual meeting of SEDAAG will be held in Biloxi, Miss., Nov. 21–23. Field trips and thematic sessions for the Biloxi meeting are being arranged, and a room for displays will be provided at the conference center. For questions about local arrangements, contact Clifton Dixon, Geography Department, University of Southern Mississippi, at (601) 266-4729 or c.dixon@usm.edu.

You are invited to attend the meeting, participate in the program and submit a paper or a poster. Students are encouraged to participate in meeting activities and to prepare papers for the Student Honors Competition and the Gamma Theta Upsilon [GTU] undergraduate paper sessions, as described in the corresponding sections below. The deadline for receipt of all papers, abstracts and poster descriptions is Friday, Sept. 17. Early submissions are encouraged. Guidelines are listed in this call and on the SEDAAG Web site, [www.SEDAAG.org](http://www.SEDAAG.org). All paper and poster authors must be members of SEDAAG, but membership is inexpensive (a form is included in this newsletter and online).

Specially organized thematic paper sessions (special sessions) are also welcome: their focus on common interests often makes them the most successful sessions. Those who wish to arrange special sessions, conduct workshops or schedule meetings should contact participants as soon as possible and notify the program chair no later than Sept. 10. You may also indicate your interest in volunteering to chair a session or discuss a paper by marking the appropriate box on the Participation Form in this newsletter or online. Many more people are needed to discuss papers than to chair sessions, so please consider volunteering to act as a discussant.

## Procedural Changes

Paper and poster presentations at this year's meeting will be similar to past presentations, except that 35-mm slide projectors will NOT be provided. With regard to submissions of papers and posters, SEDAAG is moving toward changing the procedures in two fundamental ways. First, greater use of the Web site, [www.SEDAAG.org](http://www.SEDAAG.org), for basic information is encouraged. The SEDAAG Web site will be used to disseminate both the abstracts of papers and posters, and preliminary program. Only the final program will be printed and distributed as part of the registration material. One month before the meeting, the abstracts will be listed on the SEDAAG Web site. A printed version of abstracts will not be available at the meeting. Since SEDAAG does not have a list of members' e-mail addresses, premeeting announcements of the abstracts being listed online will be made only in this newsletter, so it is incumbent upon you to check the SEDAAG Web site in early November. Second, SEDAAG is instigating a voluntary move toward e-mail submissions of all papers and posters except for the student honors competition. To implement these changes, this call for papers section of the newsletter has been revised considerably. Please read the following Guidelines for All Participants.

Notify Dr. Allen James if anything is ambiguous or contradictory, and corrections will be made to online versions.

Dr. Allan James  
SEDAAG Program Chair  
Geography Department  
University of South Carolina  
Columbia, SC 29208  
(803) 777-6117  
AJames@GWM.sc.edu

## Guidelines for All Participants

All annual meeting program participants must be members of the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers. A membership application is in this newsletter and on the SEDAAG Web site. The deadline for receipt of all materials by the program chair is Sept. 17. Materials received after the deadline will be returned to the authors. All papers and posters received by the deadline (except GTU submissions) will be reviewed by the Program Committee. Inclusion on the program is subject to acceptance by a blind-review process.

## Participation Form

Each submission should be accompanied by a Participation Form or comparable separate page containing:

1. type of presentation in large, bold print (paper, Student Honors paper, GTU undergraduate paper or poster)
2. title of paper
3. author name(s) and title(s)
4. affiliation
5. complete mailing address
6. e-mail address

Also, please indicate whether you are willing to chair a session, discuss a paper or both. Including the type of presentation on your Participation Form is extremely important to ensure that your submission is given a proper assignment in the program.

### Document Formats

The title of the paper or poster description should appear at the top of the first page. The author's name(s), address or affiliation must not appear anywhere in the paper or description. All papers and poster descriptions should be double-spaced with 12-point type fonts. (Abstracts are single-spaced.) Pages must have at least 2.5 cm (1 inch) margins on all sides. References to illustrations should occur at the appropriate place in the text. Citations should follow the format used in recent articles in the *Southeastern Geographer*. Maps, graphs and tables must be labeled and numbered, but need not be in final form in submitted versions.

### Digital File Formats

Use only PC-compatible (formerly IBM or DOS compatible) file formats (sorry, no Mac or Unix formats). Digital files may be written in Microsoft Word, WordPerfect or ASCII formats. Use standard filename extensions (last three letters of the filename) for these programs, or clearly indicate what software was used to generate the file. (Papers for the student honors competition must be submitted in the traditional hardcopy format. See instructions in that section.) If your system does not automatically screen for viruses, please check your files manually before sending.

### Abstracts

All submissions (including honors papers) must be accompanied by a digital copy of an abstract that is no longer than 200 words, including title, authors, etc. (see Document Formats and Digital Formats above). Abstracts must begin with the paper title, followed by the author's name(s) and institutional affiliation(s). The body of the abstract should be single-spaced without paragraph indentations. If the abstract contains more than one paragraph, leave two spaces between paragraphs. Abstracts will be reformatted for listing on the Web, so please do not embed unnecessary formatting in the abstract such

as margin settings, justification, line spacing, or changes in font types or sizes. Such formatting may cause extra work in processing or glaring discrepancies in the final format. Authors are responsible for editing and proofreading their abstracts; they will be listed as submitted.

### E-mail Submissions

It is not required but is encouraged that you submit your paper or poster description by e-mail (except honors papers). All e-mail submissions should have at least three files. Name them with your surname and first initial as follows: SurnameXpartic (Participation Form), SurnameXabst (abstract), and SurnameXppr (paper) or SurnameXpstr (poster). If your files cannot be named this way, then name them partic, abst, and ppr or pstr, and compress them into a single file named by your surname using Pkzip or WinZip. A third alternative is to name them SurnameA, SurnameB and SurnameC. For paper files larger than two megabytes, separate the graphics from the text, and send the graphics in one or more separate files. For review purposes, graphics can be done at low resolutions and compressed (e.g. jpg or zip) to facilitate e-mail transfers. If graphics are loaded into word processing files, please shrink the graphic files first. If files unavoidably remain larger than two megabytes, split them into multiple files and number them sequentially (e.g. SurnameXppr1, SurnameXppr2). Send files to the e-mail address specified in the sections below. Try to send your materials early to avoid difficulties near the deadline. If you do not receive confirmation that your materials were received within 48 hours, notify the program chair immediately. If your materials are not received by the deadline, and no such inquiry is made, it will be treated as if it were not submitted on time.

### Surface Mail Submissions

If submitting your work by surface mail, you have two options (except honors papers). The preferred method is to send digital copies of the paper or poster description on a CD. If so, include one hard copy of all materials and all the necessary digital files using the formats and naming conventions as described under E-mail Submissions. Label the diskette or CD with your name and the title of your paper. Please observe the file size limits described under E-mail Submissions so your submission can be e-mailed to reviewers and discussants. Alternatively, you may submit printed copies of the paper along with a floppy disk or CD with a digital copy of the abstract. If so, you must

provide multiple copies of the paper, references, figures and tables. For standard papers and poster descriptions, include five copies of the materials. All GTU undergraduate paper submissions should include three copies. All student honors papers should follow the procedures for hard copies and include 10 full copies. All submissions must be accompanied by a single copy of the Participation Form and a digital copy of the abstract. Mail to the appropriate address given in the following sections.

### Paper Presentations for Standard, Student Honors or GTU Sessions

Each room will have an LCD projector for Power Point or HTML presentations and an overhead projector for transparencies. The usual 35-mm slide projectors will NOT be provided. The Steering Committee decided that three projectors in each room were too much. Please indicate if you need audio-visual equipment other than these, but do not expect a 35-mm projector. A standard laptop PC with a CD-ROM drive and software for PowerPoint (version 2000 to XP) and HTML (Web browser) presentations (Windows operating system only) will be provided in each meeting room. No other software or hardware is guaranteed to be on these computers, nor is an Internet connection likely to be available in the meeting rooms. To avoid delays associated with setup time for each paper, presenters using the digital projectors should bring their presentation on CD 15 minutes before the session begins and upload it to the PC.

### Papers

Papers must not exceed eight double-spaced pages, exclusive of maps, graphs, tables, literature cited and the title page. The eight-page limit is based on double-spacing and 12-point type fonts. (See Document Formats instructions above.) Please time your paper before it is submitted. Papers must be presented in 15-minutes or less. Additional time will be allotted for discussion and questions. If an author plans to discuss illustrations during the presentation, the text of the paper should be shorter than the eight-page maximum. Final versions of illustrations must be of high quality and designed for presentation to a large audience. When projected on a screen, they should be readable at eight meters (25 feet). Remember, 35-mm slide projectors will NOT be provided.

Papers checklist: Participation Form, digital abstract and paper (five copies or digital). The Participation Form should indicate "Paper" at the top.

*Final Call cont. on page 4*

E-mail materials to  
AJames@GWM.sc.edu, or mail them to:  
Dr. Allan James  
SEDAAG Program Chair  
Geography Department  
University of South Carolina  
Columbia, SC 29208

### **Special Sessions**

Special sessions are a valuable contribution to SEDAAG meetings, providing a topical or thematic focus for paper presentations. Organizers of special sessions should adhere to the following guidelines:

1. All papers submitted are subject to the regular submission and review process and are due on Sept. 17. Organizers of special sessions should collect and send all material to the chair of the program committee as one, self-contained packet with all program forms, abstracts, papers and disks, as well as the name and affiliation of the session chair and the session or individual paper discussants. It is the responsibility of the session organizer to see that all material is submitted on time and in its completed form. Digital copies are preferred.

Organizers should provide a draft special-session plan to the program chair by Sept. 10 that includes the session chair, intended paper title, author's name(s), institutional affiliation(s) and discussant(s). These plans can be sent by e-mail.

2. Organizers should identify discussants for the papers. It is acceptable to have one discussant for the entire session or to provide a discussant for each paper.
3. Time and space constraints dictate that a special session should have a minimum of four papers. The program chair reserves the right to add papers to the session or to merge special-session papers into other sessions, especially if three or fewer papers survive the review process.

Special sessions checklist:

Participation Form, digital abstract and complete paper (five copies or digital). Organizers should send a special-session plan by Sept. 10 and the completed packet by Sept. 17. Each Participation Form should indicate "Paper" at the top. A finalized special-session plan should accompany the packet.

E-mail materials to  
AJames@GWM.sc.edu, or mail them to:  
Dr. Allan James  
SEDAAG Program Chair  
Geography Department  
University of South Carolina  
Columbia, SC 29208

### **Posters**

Poster boards and easels will be provided by SEDAAG. Poster dimensions will be determined later by the Local Arrangements Committee and listed on the SEDAAG Web site. Materials should be of professional quality and legible from a distance of one meter (3.3 feet). Text should be confined to brief statements.

### **Poster Descriptions**

Poster submissions must be accompanied by a two-page description, exclusive of maps, graphs, tables, literature cited and the title page. (See Document Formats instructions above.) The description should not contain your name, address or affiliation because it will go out for blind review. It should detail the purpose, research design, related literature and findings of the poster. Maps, graphs and tables must be included, but they do not have to be in final form.

### **Abstracts**

Guidelines for poster abstracts are identical to those for paper abstracts (see Abstracts above).

Posters checklist: Participation Form, digital abstract and poster descriptions (five copies or digital). The Participation Form should indicate "Poster" at the top.

E-mail materials to  
AJames@GWM.sc.edu, or mail them to:  
Dr. Allan James  
SEDAAG Program Chair  
Geography Department  
University of South Carolina  
Columbia, SC 29208

### **Student Honors Competition Guidelines Objectives**

This Student Honors competition is for papers; posters will not be considered.

- The Student Honors Competition at the annual meeting of SEDAAG is designed to
1. Encourage graduate student research and publication.
  2. Stimulate graduate student attendance and active participation at the annual meeting.
  3. Provide a training ground for the oral presentation of research findings at professional meetings.
  4. Recognize outstanding research by individual students and reflect credit upon the graduate programs of their sponsoring departments.

### **Eligibility**

Graduate students must have been enrolled in a geography program and in residence at the sponsoring department at the time their research was done. The

sponsoring department must be located within the 10-state SEDAAG region. Ph.D. students must still be enrolled as students at the time their papers are presented. Master's students who have graduated since doing their research may present their papers at the first SEDAAG meeting following graduation. Papers should represent original research. Maps, illustrations and other audiovisual materials should be designed or constructed by the author. No multiple-authored papers will be accepted.

### **Departmental Responsibilities**

Sponsoring departments should verify the eligibility of graduate students' submitted papers for the honors competition and conduct preliminary screening. To the extent possible, departments should ensure that authors of papers accepted are able to attend the 2003 meeting in Charlotte, N.C., and be present at the awards ceremony.

### **Awards**

Normally, one master's-level and one doctoral-level award are presented each year, but decisions regarding the honors awards are left entirely to the discretion of the Honors Committee. The doctoral award will be for \$1,000, and the master's award will be for \$400. Each award includes one year's paid membership in the AAG and a plaque. Presentation of awards will be made at the honors luncheon. All students who have papers accepted in the competition will have their annual meeting registration and honors luncheon fees waived.

### **Topics**

Papers on any geographic topic may be entered. Every paper and oral presentation will receive a critical and impartial evaluation.

### **Evaluation Procedures**

Submissions will undergo preliminary screening by the Honors Committee. Those accepted for the competition will be referred back to the Program Committee. Papers not included in the competition but accepted for the program will be placed in appropriate sessions. Each paper submitted to the honors competition will be evaluated for its quality as a written report on original research undertaken by the author, and for its oral presentation and defense. The written and oral evaluations will be weighted 60 percent and 40 percent, respectively.

Content will be the primary general criterion, but all papers should be well-written with appropriate illustrations and documentation. The paper should be prepared as if it were to be published, although draft copies of maps and figures for the written review are acceptable.

A primary criterion will be a well-defined research objective and a research procedure appropriate to achieving it. The paper should focus on one or more research questions and present at least a tentative answer.

The evaluation of the oral presentation will be independent of the evaluation of the written paper, and will focus on the professional quality of the presentation and the adequacy with which questions are answered. The oral presentations must be lively and well-illustrated. Appropriate modifications of the written paper should be incorporated into the oral presentation wherever suitable, although major alterations of the written paper are discouraged. The quality, appropriateness and visual appeal of any maps, figures and illustrations will be important. All visual aids should be intelligible from the back of the room. In order to leave adequate time for questions, each oral presentation should adhere strictly to the time limits for delivery specified by the person chairing the session.

### **Voting**

Honors Committee members may not vote on a paper by a student from their institution or to whom they are related, although this restriction does not discourage or prevent them from participating in the discussion preceding the formal committee vote.

### **Submission of Papers**

Submissions must conform to all guidelines, with the following additions: a) ten (not six) copies of the paper, and 2) a letter from the student's department verifying the student's status, eligibility and level of competition (master's or doctoral).

Send copies of papers with abstracts to Dr. Holly M. Hapke, Department of Geography, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858; E-mail, hapkeh@mail.ecu.edu; (252) 328-1041; fax, (252) 328-6054. The deadline for submissions is Sept. 13.

### **Gamma Theta Upsilon, Undergraduate Paper Guidelines**

Undergraduate students are urged to present papers in a special GTU paper session.

These papers will not be reviewed by the Program Committee, and no honors competition will be held. Initial screening is the responsibility of faculty advisers, but papers may be further screened by the session and program chairs. The guidelines for papers and abstracts are the same as those listed above, except that only three copies are needed. Digital submissions are encouraged (see E-mail Submissions). Please encourage undergraduate students to participate and help make this session a success.

GTU checklist: Participation Form, digital copy of abstract, paper (digital or three copies) and letter from adviser or head. All materials are due Sept. 17.

E-mail materials to AJames@GWM.sc.edu, or mail them to: Dr. Allan James  
SEDAAG Program Chair  
Geography Department  
University of South Carolina  
Columbia, SC 29208

## **New Submission Guidelines Utilize Web and E-mail**

Last fall in Charlotte, S.C., the Executive and Steering Committees agreed that it was time to begin making some fundamental procedural changes for disseminating calls for papers and posters, and for submitting papers for the annual SEDAAG meeting. As you will see in the Calls for Papers and Posters section of this newsletter, three changes are in store:

1. Greater emphasis is being placed on the SEDAAG Web site ([www.SEDAAG.org](http://www.SEDAAG.org)) for dissemination of information. That site will link to other sites, such as local arrangements that change from year to year. In particular, the SEDAAG site will host instructions for paper and poster submissions. This year is transitional, so detailed instructions are given both in the newsletter and online. Next year, if membership feedback is positive, only a notice directing members to the Web site and an outline description of procedures will be printed in the newsletter, and details will only be listed online. This will not only save the cost of printing multiple pages of instructions twice each year, but also will allow linking between documents to facilitate communications. Beginning immediately, log onto [www.SEDAAG.org](http://www.SEDAAG.org) and go to Call for

Papers. Follow the instructions listed there for submissions.

2. E-mail submissions of abstracts, papers and poster descriptions are encouraged. While voluntary, the Program Committee hopes that most participants (except student honors papers) will take advantage of this means of submission. Please follow instructions closely about how to format documents and submit materials by e-mail. A great potential for chaos exists if file names are irregular or file sizes are too large. Please note that you should receive e-mail confirmation of receipt within 48 hours of sending your materials. If not, inform the program chair at [AJames@GWM.@sc.edu](mailto:AJames@GWM.@sc.edu) immediately. E-mail submissions will greatly facilitate and reduce the costs of printing and mailing originals, and of forwarding copies to reviewers and discussants.
3. Meeting rooms at the annual conference will no longer be provided with 35-mm slide projectors. Each room will be provided with an LCD digital projector for PowerPoint or HTML presentations along with an overhead projector for

*New Submission cont. on page 6*

## **CSWiG Annual Meeting Report**

by Helen Ruth Aspaas, outgoing chair

The Committee on the Status of Women in Geography [CSWiG] continues to maintain communication among interested SEDAAG members and to provide opportunities for them at annual meetings. Communication is maintained primarily through a listserv that is continually updated when faculty and students submit names and e-mail addresses of colleagues. Please feel free to send e-mail addresses of colleagues to Holly Hapke at [hapkeh@mail.ecu.edu](mailto:hapkeh@mail.ecu.edu).

CSWiG held its annual no-host dinner-out in Charlotte, S.C., on Nov. 24. Thank you to Heather Smith and Jamie Strickland for arranging the venue. A variety of undergraduate and graduate students, and pre-tenure, associate and full faculty were among the attendees. Following a dinner of a variety of pizzas and salads, there was a lively discussion on possible CSWiG topics and initiatives. A list of potential panel topics was suggested along with themes for paper sessions for the 2004 SEDAAG meeting.

CSWiG continues to respond to the goals and challenges faced by SEDAAG

*CSWiG cont. on page 6*

# Call for Nominations

Nominations are currently being accepted for the following:

## OFFICERS AND STATE REPRESENTATIVES

SEDAAG is soliciting nominations for the positions of vice president, secretary, AAG regional councilor, and state representatives for Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia. A self-addressed return postcard is included in this newsletter for making nominations.

## SPECIAL AWARDS

**Lifetime Achievement Award:** Nominees for this award should meet the following criteria:

1. An extensive record of research and publication in scholarly journals, books and other appropriate formats
2. A record of excellence in teaching and advising, as evidenced by teaching awards, students advised and other appropriate measures
3. A record of service contributions to the individual's educational institution in the form of administrative positions, committee work and community contact
4. A record of support to the geography profession, whether through formal services to international, national or regional organizations, or informal work in the public domain

**Research Honors Award:** Nominees for this award should meet the following criteria:

1. A significant record of quality research and publication in scholarly journals, books and other appropriate formats; this record may reflect the cumulative work of several years or the publication of important contributions in a shorter period of time
2. Evidence of research leadership at both an institutional (college, university, industry) and an organizational level (professional associations) where scholarly papers are presented and students and colleagues are advised

**Outstanding Service Award:** Nominees for this award should meet the following criteria:

1. Evidence of exceptional professional commitment to geography at any level, including service to professional organizations; colleges and universities; primary and secondary education; local, state or national government; and private business and industry
2. Examples of worthy contributions include, but are not limited to, appointed or elected professional offices, journal editorships, professional organization committees, speaking or otherwise providing leadership in a variety of public forums, and publication in the popular press

Send nominations with **full curriculum vitae** of candidate and three letters of support by Sept. 24 to Dr. Holly Barchus, Department of Geography, Morehead State University, Morehead, KY 40351, e-mail [h.barchus@morehead-st.edu](mailto:h.barchus@morehead-st.edu).

## MERLE C. PRUNTY STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

SEDAAG annually awards the Merle C. Prunty Scholarship to an outstanding undergraduate student from the region with

the objective of encouraging talented undergraduate students to pursue professional careers in geography.

**Eligibility:** Applicants must currently be juniors or seniors and enrolled as geography majors (or geography minors) in a college or university located within the Southeastern Division. Applicants must demonstrate an interest in pursuing a professional career or the clear potential to pursue academic work beyond the baccalaureate degree. Applicants are evaluated by the SEDAAG Honors Committee on the basis of scholastic record and professional promise.

**Notification:** Award recipients will be named at the Honors Luncheon at the 2003 Division meeting in Richmond, Virginia. All applicants will be informed of the outcome by mail.

**Application Materials:** Materials submitted in the application must include:

1. A cover letter that includes a summary of educational background and academic honors
2. A statement of professional goals, not to exceed two typewritten pages
3. One copy of each undergraduate transcript inclusive of college course work through summer 2003.
4. Letters of recommendation from three individuals familiar with the academic work and professional aspirations of the applicant; the letters should include an evaluation of the applicant's potential for development as a professional geographer

Send nominations by Sept. 24 to Dr. Holly Barchus, Department of Geography, Morehead State University, Morehead, KY 40351, e-mail [h.barchus@morehead-st.edu](mailto:h.barchus@morehead-st.edu).

## New Submission cont. from page 5

transparencies. The Steering Committee decided that maintaining three projectors in each room is expensive and logistically difficult. If you have 35-mm slides that you would normally use, you should scan them into a digital format and either have transparencies made or load them into a PowerPoint or Web-based (HTML) format for projecting with a digital projector.

## CSWiG cont. from page 5

members. CSWiG members agreed that the 2004 SEDAAG meeting should feature a repeat of the two successful panels from the 2001 meeting in Lexington that were sponsored by CSWiG and organized by Holly Hapke. One panel addressed the tenure process, and the second focused on the job application/interviewing process for new Ph.D.s seeking academic positions.

A third suggestion was a panel that focuses on the publication process and features editors who regularly attend SEDAAG meetings. These editors can provide clarification on the manuscript submission process that leads to successful publication.

Other suggestions included: grant and funding opportunities, applying to graduate programs, career opportunities in geography, women and GIS, long views on the academic career, career and family themes, and mentoring. Attendees responded positively to the suggestion of a premeeting retreat focusing on the above themes that are particularly relevant to women.

Holly Hapke volunteered to serve as incoming chair of the committee. She was voted into the position by cheerful acclamation. During the upcoming months, I will work with Hapke to help bring these ideas into full fruition. I close with a sincere word of appreciation for energetic colleagues and enthusiastic students who support the efforts of CSWiG in SEDAAG.

# Minutes of the 58th SEDAAG Business Meeting

The annual business meeting was called to order by SEDAAG President Ron Mitchelson at 10:21 a.m. in Salon D of the Marriott Hotel, Charlotte, N.C. In addition to President Mitchelson, Past President Tyrel Moore, Regional Councillor Kavita Pandit, President-elect Stephen Walsh, Treasurer Susan Walcott, Secretary Eric Fournier, Vice President Allan James, Treasurer-elect Leo Zonn and *Southeastern Geographer* Editor James Wheeler were in attendance. AAG President Alexander Murphy and AAG Executive Director Doug Richardson also attended.

## Preliminary Matters

1. The business meeting agenda was approved unanimously.
2. The 2001 business meeting minutes from the Richmond, Va., SEDAAG meeting were approved unanimously.
3. A moment of silence was held to honor the following SEDAAG members: Duncan Randall (UNC Wilmington), Bob Aangeenbrug (South Florida), Merle Meyers (Mississippi State) and R.T. Hill (Concord College). The death of geographers from outside the region was also noted: Carville Earle (LSU), Terry Jordan (Texas) and John Mather (Delaware).
4. President Mitchelson presented the election results from the fall balloting.

**President:** Stephen Walsh

**Treasurer:** Leo Zonn

**State Representatives:** Kelly Gregg (Alabama), Susan Cobb (Florida), Alice Turkington (Kentucky), Carl Dahlman (South Carolina) and Brent McCusker (West Virginia)

President Mitchelson thanked the outgoing officers: Susan Walcott (treasurer), Ray Rappold (West Virginia), Greg Carbone (South Carolina), Katie Algeo (Kentucky), Tony Stallins (Florida), and Dan Royall (Alabama) for their service to SEDAAG and for jobs well done.

## President's Report

President Mitchelson brought before the members several items from the Executive and Steering Committee meetings:

SEDAAG will actively pursue e-mail submission of materials for the annual meeting. SEDAAG will continue to offer free one-year memberships for new faculty in the division. First-time attendees were recognized. The association subsidized the publication of the "Role of the South" monograph. Copies will be sent free to each SEDAAG member in good standing.

The *Southeastern Geographer* will be moved to the University of North Carolina Press. They are the premier publisher of South-related journals. They should provide marketing help, maintain membership rolls and provide more professional membership services. The journal will cost 50 percent more to publish. This cost can be covered with a modest dues increase.

The Executive and Steering Committees proposed that membership dues for SEDAAG be increased according to the following scale: Regular membership will increase from \$25 to \$30. Student and retired memberships will increase from \$12.50 to \$15. Couples membership will increase from \$26 to \$31. The motion was approved unanimously by attendees.

## 2003 Nominating and Honors Committee Elections

President Mitchelson presented two lists of nominees produced by the Steering Committee. Additional nominations were taken from the floor.

**Nominating Committee** (five nominations required; vote for two): Vernon Meentemeyer, Bill Graves, Truman Hartshorn, Ann Oberhauser and Liz Hines; no nominations from the floor

**Honors Committee** (six nominations required; vote for four): Tom Mote, Rebecca Torres, Darla Munro, Wendy Wolford, Holly Barchus, Peggy Gripshover and Tim Warner; no nominations from the floor

A motion was passed to close nominations, and ballots were distributed to members at the meeting.

Doug Gamble, chair, Tellers Committee, reported the following were elected:

**Elected to the Honors Committee:** Tim Warner (chair-elect), Holly Barchus, Tom Mote and Rebecca Torres

**Elected to the Nominations Committee:** Vern Meentemeyer (chair-elect) and Bill Graves

## Vice President's Report on the 2003 Meeting

Vice President and Program Committee Chair Allan James thanked the program committee and the 94 discussants that helped make the meeting a success. The meeting included 33 sessions, two student honors sessions, two panel sessions, two GTU sessions and two poster sessions. With 162 participants, it was one of the largest SEDAAG meetings.

The Executive and Steering Committees decided to limit meeting audio visual equipment to overhead projector,

computer and computer projectors. Slide projectors will no longer be available in meeting rooms.

More emphasis will be placed on the SEDAAG Web site for annual meeting information. Local committees will establish roving sites for each meeting.

E-mail submission will be strongly encouraged for the 2004 meeting. It will be mandatory for the 2005 meeting.

## Future Meeting Sites

The 2004 SEDAAG Meeting will be held in Biloxi, Miss., and will be hosted by the University Southern Mississippi and Skeeter Dixon, Local Arrangements Committee chair. The Steering Committee accepted the invitation of Russ Ivy (Florida Atlantic) to host the 2005 SEDAAG meeting in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and the invitation of Brent McCusker (West Virginia) to host the 2006 meeting in Morgantown, W.Va.

## Report of Local Arrangements Committee

Tink Moore reported that 317 preregistered for the meeting, and total registration was 425.

Thanks to schools for providing laptops, etc., and to Gary Addington, Pat Jones and Mike Teague for technical support.

## Membership Report

SEDAAG has 748 current members (included carry-overs from 2002). Members were urged to pay back dues for 2003 membership. Members were also encouraged to give to the Hart Fund and to the SEDAAG Endowment. SEDAAG will continue to provide free one-year membership to new faculty in the region.

## Financial Statement Audit Committee

Mike Harrison, reporting on behalf of the audit committee, stated that the books are in order.

## Secretary's Report

Eric Fournier reported that two issues of the newsletter were produced. The spring newsletter consisted of 16 pages. The newsletter was mailed on March 21, 2003, to 656 people. The summer newsletter consisted of 12 pages and was mailed to 661 people on Sept. 8, 2003. Design and printing of the newsletter was done in-house at Samford University. Printing cost of the spring newsletter was \$399.50. Printing cost of the summer newsletter was \$221.21. Cost of postage (\$256.59) was

*Minutes cont. on page 8*

*Minutes cont. from page 7*

covered by the Samford University Department of Geography.

Editing and design help was provided by the Samford Office of University Relations, particularly Janica York, Jana Pearison and Scott Camp. Help with sorting and organizing the mailing was provided by Department of Geography student assistant Paul McDaniel.

### **Southeastern Geographer Editors**

James O. Wheeler reported that 22 articles were submitted and 12 were accepted. The transition to the new editors went smoothly. He expressed thanks to *Southeastern Geographer* publisher Bellwether. The 2003 Best Article was selected by a committee including Susan Walcott, Keith Debbage and Pete Soule. The winner was Ron Ward for his article on "Chinese Privet." Next year's selection committee will be Pete Soule, Dawn Bowen and Eric Fournier. Finally, he expressed thanks to Vern Meentemeyer, Kavita Pandit, Ron Mitchelson, Susan Walcott, Jody Guy, Tom Hodler, reviewers and the entire Editorial Committee.

Thanks to Wheeler were expressed by President Mitchelson, and the attendees honored Wheeler with a standing ovation.

### **Web Master's Report**

Bill Carstensen reported that the new domain name is in place, [www.SEDAAG.org](http://www.SEDAAG.org). Updates will be done in a timely fashion, including state reports and newsletters. He asked state representatives to check Web links for updates. He is planning to add a SEDAAG history section to the Web site and perhaps excerpts from the South book, and a Geography Bowl page.

### **Other Committee Reports**

Southern Studies (Tink Moore) reported that 10 members attended the annual Southern Studies luncheon, that the Southern Studies session was well-attended (standing room only) and that Dawn Bowen was added to Southern Studies as the first female member.

### **Status of Women Committee**

Helen Ruth Aspass expressed thanks to Heather Smith and Jamie Strickland for helping organize activities at the Charlotte meeting. Fourteen faculty members and students attended a no-host dinner where they discussed ideas for next year's meeting. Holly Hapke will be next committee chair.

### **Liaison with AAG**

#### **Remarks from AAG President**

AAG President Alec Murphy discussed his efforts, including: raising profile of geography in public debate through an op-ed initiative (get information into newspapers),

through the Philadelphia meeting and through promoting intra-disciplinary dialogue. He urged members to attend the centennial meeting, which will include a hall of history at the Philadelphia meeting (He invited departmental contributions.) and a silent auction (Contributions are welcome.). He took initiatives from past AAG presidents, including enhancement of diversity (diversity taskforce) and a healthy-departments initiative that will conduct a chair's workshop in June in Seattle.

### **AAG Executive Director's Remarks**

AAG Executive Director Doug Richardson reported on the status of the AAG, which included: a major review of all financial processes, significant restaffing at AAG and the development of better workflow patterns at the headquarters. These should result in greater productivity and efficiency. Centennial Fund Goal is \$2 million, and \$313,656 has been pledged. Association membership is growing (6,500 in 2000; 7,400 in 2003). He credited improved membership services, online, etc. New journals manager, Robin Friedman, supervised the expanded scope of the association newsletter and other publications. The AAG continues to pursue research and outreach opportunities with NSF, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Geography and Policy, IGU and co-sponsored conferences (race, place and ethnicity; GIScience conference; Mapping the News; healthy departments seminar). The new educational affairs director is Michael Solem. He urged members to attend the centennial meeting.

### **Concluding items Resolutions Committee Report 2003 SEDAAG Resolutions**

The outgoing officers of the division served admirably, contributing their expertise and time to the continued well-being of the division. The division thanks Ron Mitchelson, outgoing president, Tyrel Moore, outgoing past president, Susan Walcott, outgoing treasurer, and James O. Wheeler, outgoing editor of the *Southeastern Geographer*.

The state representatives from Alabama, Florida, Kentucky, South Carolina and West Virginia collected and synthesized information on the status of geography in their states, encouraged membership, served the interests of members in their states, and contributed their professional wisdom and personal commitment to the well-being of the division. SEDAAG thanks Dan Royall, Tony Stallins, Katie Algeo, Greg Carbone and Ray Rappold.

The 58th meeting of SEDAAG provided opportunities to share research and ideas, and to build and renew collegial

relationships. The division thanks all participants, especially student participants and new members, for their time, commitment and efforts in making this a successful conference. The division also thanks the authors, panelists, discussants, session chairs and field trip leaders for their excellent contributions to the conference program.

The division thanks Owen Furuseth and Tyrel G. Moore, Local Arrangements Committee co-chairs, for the committee's hospitality to the participants and division members in inviting and hosting SEDAAG in Charlotte, and for creating a stimulating program for the opening session and field trips.

The division thanks J. Dennis Rash, executive in residence at the Center for Transportation Policy Studies at the University of North Carolina, Charlotte, for providing SEDAAG with a thought-provoking opening session address.

The division thanks James H. Woodward, chancellor, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, for welcoming SEDAAG to Charlotte and the state of North Carolina.

The division thanks the Program Committee—Allan James, vice president and chair, Derek Alderman, Lary Dilsaver, Clifton Dixon, Douglas Gamble, Joanne Halls, Bob Janiske, Mary Kimsey, Paul Knapp, Jonathan Leib, Clara Leuthart, Mark Long, Cary Mock, Timothy Warner, Thad Wasklewicz and Zhi-Yong Yin—and Sandy Bederman, Susan Cutter, David Cowen, Carl Dahlman, Robert Lloyd and Lisle Mitchell for reviewing submissions for the meeting and helping plan a substantive and thoughtful meeting.

The division thanks the Honors Committee—Holly Hapke, chair, Lizbeth Pyle, Carl Dahlman, Heather Smith and John Rodgers—for reviewing honors papers and presentations, and considering divisional awards.

The division thanks Laurence W. Carstensen for organizing the World Geography Bowl, providing another opportunity for students to enjoy friendly competition.

The division thanks Derek Alderman and Scott Lecce, co-editors of the *Southeastern Geographer*, for completing their first year in editing the regional journal and maintaining its high standards.

The division thanks Alexander B. Murphy, president, AAG, for presenting the Honors Luncheon address.

The division thanks Douglas Richardson, executive director, AAG, for sharing his time with SEDAAG.

These resolutions were adopted by acclamation.

# State Reports

## ALABAMA

*Kelly D. Gregg Jacksonville State University*

An ongoing education spending crisis had a great affect on geography departments statewide this year. A sweeping tax-reform plan that more adequately would have funded education was soundly defeated at the polls. Anticipating this failure, many universities implemented austerity measures months before the vote and have taken more draconian actions since that time. There was a general freeze on hiring, little or no funding available for travel and research, and reduced funds for major equipment purchases. The latter has particularly impacted the more technology-driven techniques programs. The situation is expected to be much worse next year and may continue far into the future.

In spite of decreased state budgetary support, geography continues to grow in the state as a whole. Student enrollments in geography classes are generally increasing. Numbers of geography majors are also on the rise, particularly in the techniques sector. One downside to these increased numbers, when combined with diminished budgets, is a steadily increasing workload for faculties.

**Auburn University:** Geography was combined with geology three-and-a-half years ago, moving them from the College of Liberal Arts to the College of Sciences and Mathematics. The department has five tenure-track faculty members, three of whom focus on GIS/remote sensing. The GIS faculty members all have significant support for their research.

The department has 30 majors and graduates about 10 each year with B.A. or B.S. degrees in geography. Recent improvements include a GIS teaching lab with 20 stations to handle the growing demand for GIS coursework.

**Jacksonville State University:** The department has five tenure-track faculty members. Of these, two are part-time, having other commitments to administration and to teaching geology. Geography faculty presented nine papers at national, regional and state meetings. The department published 61 reports to government agencies and 25 maps in various publications. The department was awarded nearly \$700,000 in grant monies, with another \$300,000 pending.

There were record enrollments in undergraduate courses this year, with a total credit-hour production of 4,254 semester hours. The department offers B.S. and B.A. degrees in geography, with concentrations in techniques, geoarchaeology and general geography. The number of majors continues to steadily increase, now totaling 86. Most of this growth took place in GIS/techniques and an innovative program in geoarchaeology. Students presented 14 research papers at regional and state meetings. The department graduated 12 undergraduates last year.

**Samford University:** This has been a year of growth for the Samford Department of Geography. In addition to three full-time faculty members, four adjuncts were added—three to support the new GIS Certificate program and the other as a physical geography instructor. Greg Jeane was professor-in-residence at Samford's London Study Center during fall 2003. Max Baber was named cartographic editor of the *Southeastern Geographer*. Eric Fournier served as a workshop leader for the Geography Faculty Development Alliance in Boulder, Colo.

In September, the department received a \$200,000 NSF grant to introduce GIS into general education classes in other disciplines across campus. The department also hosted a GIS symposium that brought local professionals, vendors, campus administrators, students and faculty together to share ideas and projects.

**University of Alabama:** The department has eight tenure-track faculty members, two full-time, temporary faculty members and two part-time instructors. Dr. Dan Royall left the department at the end of last year for UNC-Greensboro. Due to budgetary constraints, it is unknown when the open position will be filled. Last year, the faculty published 14 refereed articles and book chapters. This number is expected to increase somewhat this academic year based upon the number of items accepted and forthcoming as of June 1. Last year, the department submitted seven grant proposals and had six others in force.

The department's M.S. program continues to enroll approximately 24 students each year. In 2002–03, the department awarded nine M.S. degrees. M.S. students continue to gravitate toward the tracks in planning and geographic techniques.

The department offers B.A. and B.S. degrees in geography and coordinates the college's degree in environmental science. There are approximately 90 majors split fairly evenly between geography and environmental science. Total enrollments have been consistent over the past five years and exceeded 2,200 students in the 2002–03 academic year.

**University of North Alabama:** Dr. Greg Gaston, Ph.D., Oregon State, was hired as an associate professor beginning with the 2002–03 academic year. He is teaching courses in GIS, remote sensing, aerial photography, field methods and physical geography. Gaston assisted in the preparation of a campus-wide, bioterrorism training proposal, and wrote a section on training first-responders in understanding the importance of spatial information and how GIS can be used to track and manage an emergency event.

Dr. Bill Strong and Ms. Lisa Keys-Mathews were awarded a University Research Grant to study ecotourism in Costa Rica. Fieldwork was conducted in May 2003. Mathews is completing coursework for the Ph.D. at the University of Memphis. Strong received the Phi Kappa Phi Award for Teaching Excellence in the spring of 2003. This is the third time that

this award has been presented to a UNA professor. Mathews received the award in 2002.

Frank Himmler is retiring in the summer of 2004, and the department is currently seeking a replacement for this position.

The number of majors in the department hovers around 80, with 6–10 graduating each semester. For the past several years, all students were hired in jobs requiring their geography degree. During this semester, all of the graduating seniors received jobs before graduation.

## FLORIDA

*Tony Stallins, Florida State University*

Four major universities—Florida State University, the University of Florida, Florida Atlantic University and the University of North Florida—hired new presidents in 2003. Only the University of Florida picked a leader with longstanding academic experience. The other three universities hired former politicians with varying levels of experience with higher education. Some have seen this trend as strategic at a time when state politicians are cutting university budgets. Nevertheless, geography programs expanded during the 2002–03 academic year, more so in nongeography-degree-granting departments and interdisciplinary programs. Retirement and replacement hires were more common in stand-alone geography departments.

Geography was made an official track within the Environmental Studies Department at the University of West Florida, which continues to have high undergraduate enrollments. The International Relations Department at Florida International University, which has a strong geography focus, was targeted as one of two departments in the College of Arts and Sciences to receive special efforts toward developing a program of national prominence. FIU will hire four new faculty members this year.

The Department of Geography at the University of South Florida is seeking final approval for a joint Ph.D. program with the Department of Environmental Science and Policy. In the Geography Department at the University of Miami, new hires include Daniel Griffith (professor), Douglas Fuller (associate professor) and Rinku Roy Chowdhury (assistant professor). Florida State University hired Xiaojun Yang (assistant professor) and is recruiting two more faculty members this year. New personnel at USF include Phil Reeder (associate professor) and Mark Hafen (instructor). Florida Atlantic University hired two new faculty members, Liem Tran and Zhixiao Xie.

## GEORGIA

*Hilda E. Kurtz, University of Georgia*

While budget constraints during a time of shrinking state coffers were a common theme in this year's state reports, geography in Georgia seems to be doing well under the circumstances. Hiring has slowed down, but several departments were able to add faculty members. GIS is

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## State Reports cont. from page 10

one of the notable areas of expansion. Several departments enjoy research and teaching linkages with other departments and programs, increasing visibility on their respective campuses.

**Dalton State College:** Dr. Thomas Deaton reports that the Social Science Department (home to geography) introduced an associate's degree, but none have been awarded yet. Attempts to expand course offerings in GIS were hindered by budget constraints. Deaton serves as chief judge and coordinator for the World Geography Bowl at SEDAAG and AAG, and also served as lecturer on Human and Physical Geography on Norwegian Cruise Line's Russian and Scandinavia Cruise. Deaton will retire in 2005, when the department hopes to hire a full-time geographer.

**Georgia Southern University:** Dallas Rhodes reports that the Geology and Geography Department lost two faculty members and gained two faculty members. Dr. Daniel Good retired and Dr. Nancy Leathers resigned; the department hired Dr. Soren Larsen (Ph.D., Kansas) into a tenure-track position in August 2002, and Dr. Jason Dittmer (Ph.D., Florida State University) joined the department in August 2003. The department will conduct a search for a geographer with expertise in GIS and one of several other areas of study. While the department made two hires and anticipates a third, faculty turnover has been a problem in difficult economic times; a recent search was cancelled after interviews were completed. The department has struggled while being understaffed.

**Georgia State University:** In addition to bachelor's and master's degrees, the Department of Anthropology and Geography offers a graduate certificate in GIS. Linkages with other departments include Dr. Susan Walcott's joint research project with history faculty on industrial parks in India and China, and Dr. Truman Hartshorn's transportation study with colleagues at other universities.

**State University of West Georgia:** Dr. Brooks Pearson reports that while geographers in the Department of Geosciences adjust to new departmental leadership in a department dominated by geologists, they have been able to begin a job search for an urban/social geographer. The new hire will represent an increase in programmatic faculty resources. Pearson was elected as director of the Energy and Environment Specialty Group of AAG, and to the Membership Committee of AmericaView, a USGS-affiliated remote sensing consortium. Dr. Rebecca Dodge was elected to the Board of Directors of AmericaView. The department participates in linkages with other department and programs in several ways. Pearson teaches a large environmental studies course with faculty from chemistry and biology. Dodge wrote grants with faculty in the College of Education, and teaches a GLOBE course required by early childhood education majors. Dr. Heather Nicol

worked with faculty in the College of Business to found the Canadian Studies Center. Most graduating students took GIS-related positions. Two work as GIS coordinators for regional development authorities in Georgia, and one took a position with a surveying firm in Nebraska. A recent graduate was promoted to head of GIS operations at Vulcan Materials Co.

**University of Georgia:** Dr. Kavita Pandit reports that severe budget cuts have affected research operations. The department continues to work on increasing the number of undergraduate majors. Drs. Lynn Usery and Xiaobai Yao were awarded a grant from the UCGIS (with faculty in computer science) to conduct a workshop on GIS applications in homeland security. In addition, Yao was invited to a select workshop conducted by UCGIS on behalf of the U.S. intelligence community. Dr. George Brook, with a researcher at Michigan State University, was awarded an NSF grant to study paleoenvironmental indications of domesticated livestock in Botswana. Dr. Amy Ross served in Guatemala this month as an official election observer for the Organization of American States.

Linkages with other departments include Usery and Yao teaching with computer science faculty, Brook's ongoing research with geology faculty, Dr. Holloway's membership in the interdisciplinary Institute for Behavioral Research, and Dr. Kathleen Parker's expansion of her area of study in botany and genetics. Recent graduates are taking positions with software companies (e.g. ESRI), federal government agencies and services (Park Service, Forest Service, Weather Service, NOAA), consulting firms, nongovernmental organizations, and in one case, a position as a television meteorologist. Several undergraduate majors continue with graduate studies in geography.

**Valdosta State University:** Dr. Michael Noll reports that the Department of Physics, Astronomy and Geosciences hired a new geographer, Mr. Clint Barineau. The Environmental Geography [EVG] program continues to be one of the more successful programs at that institution. The department almost doubled their space, adding classrooms and laboratory facilities, and updating technology. Faculty members are keeping up a strong publishing record. In addition, Barineau and Dr. Mark Groznos were awarded a state grant through the Grand Bay Wetland Education Center to develop educational software dealing with water resources and issues in Lowndes County. Drs. Can Denizman and Eric Brevik are on a research team that was awarded a sizable grant from the South Georgia Regional Development Center to monitor water quality in the Alapaha River Watershed. Brevik was awarded a faculty research grant to study soil at Lake Louise, and a professional development grant to attend professional meetings in Indianapolis. Ms. Judith Grable was awarded a faculty research grant to study water pollution related to the poultry industry. Noll and Mr. Paul Vincent were awarded a faculty development grant for travel to professional meetings.

Noll reports that "We are currently

proposing the creation of a GIS center at VSU. The main mission of such a center would be to serve VSU faculty, students, staff and the South Georgia region by coordinating the acquisition, instruction and development of geographic information technologies on the Valdosta State University campus. The center also aims to enhance GIS expertise on the entire campus and to stimulate interdisciplinary education, research and cooperation using these technologies. In sum, environmental geography at Valdosta State University is continuing to thrive."

## KENTUCKY

### *Katie Algeo, Western Kentucky University*

Geography is strong and growing at Kentucky universities. There were substantial increases this year in geography enrollments. The University of Louisville, Morehead State University and Murray State University each offered 8–10 percent more sections of geography classes than they had the previous year. Undergraduate enrollments were up substantially at the University of Kentucky, University of Louisville and Western Kentucky University, with UK doubling its number of undergraduate geography majors and WKU also experiencing a substantial increase. Eastern Kentucky University reports high enrollments in general education support courses. EKV also has been attracting students through its strong distance education program, which includes interactive television and, in a first for the state, an online introductory GIS course.

Outreach to K–12 to increase the geographical awareness and preparedness of students is a focus of several Kentucky geography departments. The University of Louisville, for instance, works closely with Jefferson County Public Schools to introduce and promote GIS courses in high schools. WKU hosted the state competition of the National Geographic Bee, which was attended by 100 middle-grades students, and 200 parents and teachers. To showcase undergraduate and faculty research, WKU hosted the annual meeting of the Kentucky Academy of Science.

WKU had an active year in conference organizing. In June, it hosted Karst2003, the International Conference on Karst Hydrogeology and Ecosystems, a meeting of four international karst research groups that drew 90 participants from 16 countries. The conference included scientific sessions, a field trip to view the karst system in, around, above and below Mammoth Cave National Park, and a dinner party in the old dance club in the entrance of Bowling Green's Lost River Cave.

GIS continues to be an area of program expansion in many of the state's schools. The University of Louisville strengthened its program in applied geography by adding a new concentration in GIS that complements existing strengths in environmental planning, and urban and regional analysis. EKV and WKU report much success in attracting students over the past year to their GIS programs. In the spring, 14 students were awarded WKU's GIS certificate in recognition of completion of a rigorous

four-course GIS sequence. Northern Kentucky University placed their Greater Cincinnati Atlas online at [www.nku.edu/~hisgeo/mapproject](http://www.nku.edu/~hisgeo/mapproject). There is a general expectation that much of the program growth that will occur in the near future will involve GIS.

Kentucky faculties were highly productive in 2002–03. Karl Raitz of UK was appointed by Governor Paul Patton as the official Kentucky state geographer. Jonathan Phillips of UK, along with colleagues at Indiana State University and the University of Vermont, won a \$250,000 NSF Grant for a project entitled “Sediment Production and Alluvial Buffering in a Steepland River Basin—Waipoa River, New Zealand.” Susan Roberts, John Paul Jones III and Oliver Froehling, all from UK, won a \$150,000 NSF Geography and Regional Science Grant for their project entitled “Transnational Networks of Non Governmental Organizations.” University of Louisville faculty had marked success with grant activity during 2002–03. Dr. Hadizadeh received an NSF grant for \$188,000 over two years, and Drs. Mountain and Howarth received a Grosvenor Grant for \$187,000 over two years. Faculty members at Murray State University were involved in research and grants from DOE, NASA, NSF, other federal and state agencies, and private industry. Michael Trapasso of WKU, with coauthors Robert E. Gabler and James F. Petersen, saw their new textbook, *Essentials of Physical Geography*, released. Dr. Zurick at Eastern Kentucky University received a Distinguished Educational Leader Award.

Hiring to fill vacancies left by retirements continued apace. Dr. Donald Yow, with a Ph.D. from the University of South Carolina and interests in climatology and physical geography, started teaching this year at Eastern Kentucky University. Dr. Wei Song joined the faculty of the University of Louisville this year. He received his Ph.D. from Ohio State University and taught at the University of Wisconsin–Parkside. His teaching and research interests include transportation and location analysis, GIS, cartography, and urban and regional studies. Morehead State University hired three geographers—Verdie Craig (Rutgers; rural geography, migration, social and environmental impacts of development), Christine McMichael (San Diego State/UCSB; remote sensing, hydrologic modeling, environmental change) and Zachary Bortolot (Virginia Polytechnic; remote sensing and GIS analysis of forest processes). Dr. Robin Zhang joined Murray State University after receiving a Ph.D. from University of Western Ontario. Zhang specializes in remote sensing and GIS analysis of urban environments. The University of Kentucky hired Dr. Michael Crutcher, who received his Ph.D. from Louisiana State University and has interests in urban geography, housing policy, cultural landscapes, the American South, urban performance traditions, Southern Black identity and popular cartography; and Tad Mutersbaugh, whose Ph.D. is from UC–Berkeley and whose interests include Latin America, political economy, gender and development, and cooperative rural development. Dr. Stephen Kenworthy joined Western Kentucky University’s faculty after

receiving a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins. His interests include stream ecology, geomorphology and hydrology. Will Blackburn was hired as a geography instructor at WKU. WKU is the only university that reported a faculty opening for 2003–04. It is looking for a GIS specialist to teach advanced courses in their GIS certificate program.

Despite optimistic assessments of the situation of geography at most Kentucky institutions, finding adequate resources to manage program expansion remains a challenge in a year of state budget cutbacks. WKU, for instance, reports that resources only support about 60 percent of annual needs in the department. Grants and contracts funds are increasingly important in terms of supporting student-centered research and faculty professional development.

## NORTH CAROLINA

*Jeffrey C. Patton, UNC–Greensboro*

The summary statistics for 2002–03 show that there were 396 undergraduate and 92 graduate courses offered at the 12 North Carolina universities and colleges responding to the annual survey. Enrolled in those classes were 14,705 undergraduate and 645 graduate students. There were 388 undergraduate majors, 214 graduate majors, 87 full-time faculty members and 22 part-time faculty members, an increase from the previous year in each of those categories. The only area to show a decrease (-1.9%) was in the number of undergraduate students enrolled in geography courses.

An area of great growth was in the number of new full-time faculty. Dr. Gabrielle Katz and Dr. Jeff Colby were hired at Appalachian State University. Dr. P. Dan Royall joined the faculty at UNC–Greensboro. Dr. Thomas Crawford, Dr. Scott Curtis and Dr. Hong-Bing Su were added at East Carolina University. Dr. Martin Doyle and Mr. Jun Liang joined the faculty at UNC–Chapel Hill. In addition, several hires are anticipated for the 2004–05 academic year.

At the undergraduate level, the state of geography in North Carolina appears to be positive. Statewide, there has been an increase in the number of undergraduate majors and in graduate enrollment. Geography is making great strides at Elon University with the addition of a number of new geography courses and the establishment of a minor in geography and in GIScience. One note of regret felt by geographers across the state is for the undergraduate program at Western Carolina, which is now in its final year.

Graduate education in North Carolina also appears to be healthy. Almost all the graduate programs report an increase in the number and quality of the applicants to their programs. The faculty at UNC–Greensboro is excited about the start of their new doctoral program in geography. The program is accepting applications for the new Ph.D. program, which will emphasize GIScience, urban geography and physical geography.

Geography faculty members hold a number of high-profile positions on their respective campuses, and in regional and national professional societies. There is a great deal of exciting scholarly activity occurring, and external funding

remains high across the state. A key to the health of geography appears to be strong administrative support, though geography was not immune from the negative impacts of the state’s budget crisis. Employment opportunities for graduates appear to be remarkably good, particularly in the areas of urban and regional planning, and in the GISciences.

## SOUTH CAROLINA

*Greg Carbone, University of South Carolina*

Based on the survey in the summer and fall of 2003, 27 institutions of higher education in South Carolina offer geography courses on a regular basis. Two of these institutions, USC–Columbia and Clemson, offer graduate courses in geography. Only USC–Columbia and Francis Marion offer a degree program. Francis Marion offers a major through a fourth-year cooperative program with USC. USC–Columbia offers the only graduate degree in geography. Thirty-eight full-time faculty members and 25 part-time faculty members taught 207 undergraduate and 51 graduate courses, with a total enrollment of 6,550 undergraduate and 583 graduate students. At most institutions, large sections of introductory geography or world regional geography courses account for highest enrollments. There are two new full-time faculty members teaching geography in the state.

**South Carolina Geographic Alliance:** The South Carolina Geographic Alliance continues to increase its activities and service to K–12 education and some institutions of higher education. Membership in the alliance has reached more than 7,900, and activities have kept pace with the increased growth. The alliance presented 38 workshops across the state with 658 K–12 educators participating and another 24 workshops attracting 478 preservice students. Another 426 teachers and preservice students participated in two Geofests. The alliance took part in two state conferences in which they presented to 180 teachers. Twenty-three teachers participated in the 2003 Alliance Summer Geography Institute. Eight teacher consultants were sponsored to attend summer institutes in other states and travel to the National Council for Geographic Education annual meeting. The Hunley poster, the South Carolina Transportation poster and the SCGA Outline Map Folio were all reprinted during this time. Distribution of all teaching materials to teachers across the state continued to take place. Work on Integrating Geography, Science and Math [IGSAM] was completed in July 2003. Beginning mid-September 2003, this newest project was distributed to South Carolina classroom teachers.

**Clemson University:** Geography at Clemson is doing well. The staff, number of courses and enrollments are similar to last year. Joe Arbena, Wes Burnett, Lance Howard and Christa Smith teach a variety of introductory and upper-level human geography courses. Jim Miller is currently on leave and serving as the director of the American Research Center in Tunis [CEMAT].

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**Coastal Carolina University:** Professors Alan Little and Dan Selwa continue to teach courses in physical geography, Europe, Latin America, North America and world regional. They teach approximately 750 students each year; world regional geography has the highest enrollments. Enrollments in geography have grown during recent years with the overall population of the institution. The department looks forward to continued growth in the demand for its discipline. Selwa has chaired the Department of Politics and Geography for 15 years.

**College of Charleston:** Mark Long continues as a full-time geography faculty member in the Political Science Department. Maxwell Shaw is a full-time adjunct. Four core classes were offered during the past year (World Geography, The Construction of European Space, Geographies of Nationals and The Geography of International Conflict). A minor in geography is in the planning stage. The department hosted the first in what will be an annual series of Exploring Geography lectures. Dr. Susan Schulten, Department of History, University of Denver, lectured on Geography, History and American Nationalism. The department also advertised for an assistant professor position in public policy with a specialization in environmental policy; it received strong applications from geographers around the country.

**Francis Marion University:** Dr. Allan Lockyer, Dr. Scott Brown and one part-time instructor offer a range of regional, political, cultural and physical geography courses. The department has a minor in geography and a cooperative program with USC-Columbia.

**USC-Aiken:** Seven geography courses were taught during the past academic year, with a focus in regional geography. Linda Wang continues as the full-time geographer. Art Van Alstyne teaches part-time.

**USC-Columbia:** The department hired Edward Carr and Frank Hardisty. Hardisty, a specialist in geovisualization, completed his research at the GeoVista Center at Penn State University (2003). His dissertation work dealt with Internet-based mapping and visualization systems. He is beginning work on an NIH-sponsored project this year. Carr holds Ph.D.'s in anthropology (Syracuse, 2001) and geography (University of Kentucky, 2002). His dissertation deals with poverty, environment and local institutions in coastal Ghana. Carr focuses on critical development studies, cultural and political ecology, and the development of social science methods for gathering historical information. The department is advertising for two tenure-track positions in human geography.

Chuck Kovacic, Lisle Mitchell and Ted Steinke retired in June 2003. With these retirements, the department, university and SEDAAG (all were active members) lose a combined 102 years of service. Kovacic joined the faculty in 1969. He was an inspiring teacher, a highly respected authority on South Carolina, and

director of the South Carolina Geographic Alliance and Center of Excellence for Geographic Education. As a Louise Scudder Professor, he is recognized as one of the college's most versatile and distinguished members. Kovacic's extraordinary career as a teacher and mentor garnered him the university's top teaching award and a Distinguished Teacher award from the National Council for Geographic Education.

During his 38-year career at Carolina, Mitchell distinguished himself as a leading figure in his research specialty, the geography of tourism and sport. He helped found the Recreation, Tourism and Sport Specialty Group of the AAG, served a term as the group's chair, provided many years of service as secretary and received its most prestigious award, the Roy Wolfe Award.

Steinke helped establish the University of South Carolina as one of the top centers for cartographic research in the United States. He is widely recognized for his pioneering research in map cognition and communication. His research was funded by the National Research Foundation and appeared in the leading cartographic journals.

The department's graduate program continues to grow and include students in a broader range of subdisciplines. There were 80 graduate students in residence during the 2002-03 academic year. Six master's and three Ph.D. students graduated. Two of the Ph.D. graduates began tenure-track academic jobs, while one serves as head of the Natural Resource Information Management and Analysis section of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. Twenty-eight undergraduate students earned B.A. or B.S. degrees during the past academic year. There are currently about 70 undergraduate majors.

**USC-Salkehatchie:** Geography is in the Division of Humanities and Social Science. The one full-time geography faculty member, Professor Wayne Chilcotte, serves as chair of the division. Geography is doing well at Salkehatchie, where approximately 120 students take geography courses each year.

**USC-Spartanburg:** Geography classes continue to draw throughout the university. Enrollments have been steady in the past year across the six courses offered. Ed Babin and Fred Pielusch are full-time faculty. John Bies contributes part-time.

**Winthrop** Dr. Mabaye Dia, assistant professor of geography, and one part-time faculty member continue to offer a wide range of courses including: Human Geography, Geography of Africa, Geography of the Third World, Geography of the Middle East, Geography of the Industrialized Nations, Geography of the Carolinas, Global Environment and Sustainable Development, and Environmental Geography. The geography program is in the Department of History and the Department of Biology. There are nine minors in geography. A Geography Program Committee was established recently.

## TENNESSEE

*Lydia M. Pulsipher, University of Tennessee*

Most programs appear to have decreased in enrollment. This probably is explained by the financial difficulties the state has undergone, and in some cases by overt efforts on the part of school administrations to limit enrollments and upgrade the overall quality of students admitted. The mood of Tennessee geographers appears to be grim, with several noting tight finances and the fact that their departments have been merged with other disciplines. They feel a loss of status and identity, and also feel overworked. On the point of being stretched too thin, the terse report from Professor Ridenour at Austin Peay State University perhaps sums up the present mood among Tennessee geographers.

**Austin Peay State University:** Gregory S. Ridenour reported that he and the other tenure/tenure-track geographer decided that in light of their change from geography to geosciences, and the fact that they are critically understaffed (only 1.75 tenure lines devoted to teaching geography), they would refrain from filling out the survey.

**East Tennessee State University:** Charles Gunter reported that due to the budget crisis, and since both the college and department had interim heads, there was consolidation to save money. They were formerly in the College of Applied Science and Technology, and as of July 1, 2003, became a part of the College of Business and Technology. There were separate departments—geography, geology and geomatics—and now geography and surveying are in the Department of Technology and Geomatics. Geology is now a part of the Department of Astronomy and Physics.

Dr. Robert Peplies was in the post-retirement phase and will leave the university at the end of the fall semester of 2004. The lecturer position began in fall 2002, and the department was able to secure one of 10 awarded across the campus. With the budget situation, the department is uncertain as to whether this position will be retained. Most of the courses taught by full-time faculty are lower-division courses. To date, the department has been able to hire part-time faculty to teach both lower-division and upper-division courses. Due to accreditation issues, surveying (geomatics) was allowed to hire a new faculty member for the 2003-04 academic year. This person was to be qualified to teach a number of geography courses, like GIS and Advanced GIS, which are taken by surveying and mapping majors. While this new faculty member in surveying and mapping is well qualified to teach these subjects, there is some concern about geography courses being taught by those in other disciplines. So long as the department is able to hire part-time faculty to teach both lower- and upper-division courses, it will be able to continue the major. However, at any time, the university could choose to give greater support to an existing major/program or a new one, and say that the department is to be a service program.

### **Middle Tennessee State**

Doug Heffington reported that four full-time faculty were active in research and service. H. Garbharran studies squatter settlements in South Africa with a USAID joint grant with SIU and University of Durban–Westville. Heffington directs the Global Studies Program and teaches summer field courses in Costa Rica. J. Henry is coregional coordinator of the Tennessee Geographic Alliance. P. O’Farrell developed field courses in Ireland. Heffington expresses alarm at the merging of Tennessee geography programs with geosciences and other entities, and laments that this is damaging geography’s image. He says only UT remains with a strong identity.

### **Tennessee Technological University**

Larry W. Knox reported that the Department of Geography offers courses at the introductory level and to majors in education seeking certification in geography. The department has many students interested in taking geography at the introductory level, and several each year seek certification. The department also offers a concentration in GIS, which is in the initial phase but attracting quite a few majors. Hence, the name of the department will be changed to geosciences, and a concentration in geology and GIS will be offered. This change is expected to attract a relatively large number of students as majors. The geography component is growing but at the expense of the geology program. The department simply can’t service both programs at the level it would like. The department is severely underfunded and understaffed. It is unknown how long the department will be able to continue at this level of staffing and funding. Decisions at the state level by the State Board of Regents on funding (such as spending TAF moneys for a statewide database) continue to be disastrous for the department.

### **University of Memphis**

Arlene Hill reported that the geography division of the Department of Earth Sciences is in the midst of transition. The merge with geology and geophysics program brings with it a new Ph.D. program, which is exciting for both students and faculty. Three new geographers were hired last year, and each interacts across disciplinary boundaries at the university and across the region. The transition has not been without struggles and challenges as the curriculum and direction of future hires are considered. The new department represents a commitment from the administration and the faculty to revitalize geography at the university. In 2003–04, there were two new tenure-track geography hires. In 2004–05, there will be one tenure-track geography hire.

### **University of Tennessee, Chattanooga**

Craig Laing reported, “We here at UTC have been in a holding pattern for several years now, due to the financial problems in the state. We would like to hire a full-time, tenure-track person for physical geography but have been unable to because of the financial situation.”

### **University of Tennessee, Knoxville**

Bruce Ralston reported that most of the department’s Ph.D. students go to academic jobs in

the Mid-West, Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, South and Southwest. The M.S. students go into environmental consulting, GIS, cartography and planning jobs, or go into the private sector. The B.A. students go into planning, environmental management, logistics, law, business, medicine, education, GIS, cartography and remote sensing, or other careers for which a strong liberal arts education is important. Every year, several go on to graduate programs across the country.

Over the 2002–03 academic year, the department had many successes that may be viewed at <http://web.utk.edu/~utkgeog>. Following is a short list of some of the accomplishments:

Dr. Horn won the Carl O. Sauer Award from the Conference of Latin American Geographers.

Drs. Orvis, Grissino-Mayer and Horn received a National Science Foundation Grant.

Drs. Pulsipher, Drever, Gripshover and Rehder won the Office of Technology award for improved use of technology in World Regional Geography classes.

Dr. Pulsipher published the second edition of *World Regional Geography: Global Pattern, Local Lives*, WH Freeman, 2002.

Dr. Rehder completed a manuscript for Johns Hopkins Press on Appalachian folk culture. Dr. Shaw published *Geographic Information Systems for Transportation*.

Dr. Ralston published *Developing GIS Solutions with MapObjects and Visual Basic*.

Dr. Aiken worked with the Tennessee Geographic Alliance to run a summer institute on Cultural Diversity of the American South, sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Xiohong Xin (graduate student) won the Outstanding Dissertation Award from the Transportation Specialty Group of the AAG.

The department was slated to add a new faculty slot in CIS and physical geography, but the search was suspended due to state budget cuts. The department hopes to get new positions through the reallocation exercise now taking place on campus. The department continues to do good work in spite of a string of university leaders who have resigned.

### **University of Tennessee, Martin**

Jefferson Rogers reported that over recent years, about 50 percent of the department’s graduates go on to graduate school at other universities. Since the mid 1990s, all the students with degrees in geoscience-geography or geoscience-travel/tourism who have applied to graduate school have been accepted and have graduated with master’s degrees. Of those, they have either gone on to Ph.D. programs or found jobs within their respective fields. About 35 percent have gone into such areas as K–12 social science education, social services positions with the state of Tennessee, the U.S. Navy, hotel management, cruise line or corporate tour operations, and other areas. The remaining 15 percent of graduates have not kept in contact with the department since graduation.

Geography and travel/tourism continue to enjoy steady to increasing enrollment levels. The department needs a strong reputation since

competition for students is expected to increase across the campus. With little total enrollment growth at the university, projections for yet another five percent cut to higher education next year, and a cutback on credit-hour requirements to a newly mandated 120-hour maximum, administrators and faculty members are seeking ways to maintain enrollment levels. Unless a program has locked-in constituencies (such as English or history), maintaining enrollments can be difficult. With the 120-hour cap, the school is already seeing turf protection as programs attempt to protect their courses and sacrifice those that are outside their college divisions or are regarded as nonessential.

Geography remains vulnerable to such cuts, but the department hopes that efforts to offer quality courses and to work with colleagues across the campus on cooperative, multidisciplinary projects will help it survive potential, lower-SCH production and possible program elimination efforts by campus administration.

### **Roane State Community College**

Russ Schubert (Business and Technology) reported that geography is viable at Roane State only because of the requirement for elementary education majors to take a human geography course. There are a few students other than education majors who choose geography to meet a social science requirement. Schubert would like to provide more emphasis in geography and plans to work with other faculty in broadening the offerings as well as increasing internal marketing. The GIS program is small but viable. It is a nontransfer program that attracts a wide range of students, from Ph.D.’s wanting to pick up a tool to use in their field to people with no previous college experience. Even though this is an AAS program, the school has an articulation agreement with East Tennessee State University.

### **Volunteer State College**

Keith M. Bell reported that most of the department’s students continue at four-year institutions. The one faculty member received tenure in 2003. The Tennessee Geographic Alliance has greatly helped the department and has increased the geographic literacy of the public. For example, Dallas Simons, a student at MLK Magnet, won second place in the NGS GeoBee. Simons was also a member of the national team, which won the international competition.

## **VIRGINIA**

### *Helen Ruth Aspaas, Virginia Commonwealth University*

Survey forms were e-mailed to 21 institutions of higher learning in the commonwealth. Eleven responded, including two junior/community colleges and nine public colleges/universities. Seven colleges/universities offer undergraduate majors in geography, and three offer graduate coursework. In addition, two of the colleges/universities have well-established geography programs that provide coursework for the general education programs of their institutions.

*State Reports cont. on page 14*

## State Reports cont. from page 14

The mean number of undergraduate courses offered is 20, and the mean number of graduate courses is five. During the 2002–03 academic year, 9,400 students enrolled in geography courses at these institutions. With a mean faculty size of five full-time and four part-time faculty members, almost all institutions reported the challenge of instructing ever-increasing class sizes without a strong support system of teaching assistants or administrative commitment to hire more full-time faculty. Of the institutions that offer a major in geography, the mean number of majors is 68. Virginia Tech graduated 20 students with master's degrees in 2003.

GIS, planning and environmental planning jobs topped the list of careers in which recent graduates have found positions. Additional career choices of recent graduates include secondary education, military, Peace Corps, government, consulting, remote sensing and economic development.

While still facing continued state budget challenges, some institutions have succeeded in hiring new faculty members and others have the expectation to hire during the next academic year. Mary Washington has one temporary hire and anticipates hiring two faculty members in the next five years. James Madison University hired a new faculty member this year. At Radford, one faculty member on continual appointment was moved into a tenure-track position, and Virginia Commonwealth University expects to hire a GIS person this year.

Despite heavy teaching loads, the geography faculties in Virginia are continuing to successfully acquire competitive grants, to publish in peer-review journals and to receive recognition for success in the classroom. Dawn Bowen at Mary Washington was listed in *Who's Who Among American Teachers* in 2002. Tom Allen at Old Dominion University received a Fulbright teaching/research grant to Finland. Mary Kimsey at JMU and Christine Drake at ODU were each honored with their respective Provost's Award for Leadership in International Education. For two years running, Virginia Tech professors received the NCGE Distinguished Teaching Awards. These went to John Boyer in 2002 and to Laurence Carstensen in 2003.

All institutions report that geography is generally thriving, with classes filled each semester and demand for additional courses growing. Many geography programs and departments meet an important service component by instructing courses for general education requirements or courses that meet requirements for other majors. Among these are GIS and remote sensing. GIS is increasingly viewed as an attractive aspect of the university curriculum. Two certificate programs at ODU are proving to be successful, one in GIS and the second in spatial analysis of coastal environments. VCU successfully changed its undergraduate major in urban studies to a B.S. in urban studies and geography. Student interest in geography has grown during the past five years, and the new major is a response to that demand.

Several departments and programs have participated in university restructuring. The

geography department at JMU was pulled into a much larger department, the Department of Integrated Science and Technology. The geography program at VCU and its parent department (Urban Studies and Planning) were moved into the newly created School of Government and Public Affairs. At Virginia Tech, geography was transferred from the College of Arts and Sciences to the College of Natural Resources. This move is viewed as highly positive because of increased opportunities for sharing expertise in environmental analyses and international development.

The institutions reported an optimistic outlook for geography within their respective settings. Increased enrollments, successful teaching and research endeavors, a growing recognition for the value of GIS as a research and analytical tool, and successful efforts to respond to student demands for diversified geography courses bode well for the future of geography in Virginia.

### WEST VIRGINIA

#### *Ray Rappold, Marshall University*

Past, present and likely future erosion in the funding for higher education in West Virginia is affecting all the state institutions and their geography faculties, but the outlook for the discipline is still fairly positive. The productivity of many departments and faculty members allowed geography to continue to grow, albeit slowly, in a handful of the schools.

Four institutions offer an undergraduate degree—Concord College, Marshall University, West Liberty State and West Virginia University—with a combined total of 138 majors, an overall decrease from last year. Three colleges offer a minor in geography—Bluefield State, Fairmont State and Shepherd College—and three colleges offer courses in geography—Glenville State, West Virginia State and WVU Institute of Technology.

Reported undergraduate geography enrollments are up at most institutions, in some cases due to increased class sizes, and totaled about 6,300 in 190 sections of course offerings, with West Virginia University (1,400), Marshall University (2,081), Concord College (1,000), Fairmont State College (400) and West Liberty State College (556) boasting the largest numbers. Master's degrees are offered at Marshall University (20 majors), and both master's and doctoral degrees are offered at West Virginia University (32 M.A., 17 Ph.D. majors). Also, Concord offered three graduate courses last year, with 10 graduate students with a concentration in geography enrolled in the M.Ed. program.

Full-time geography faculty members at all institutions number 28, up one from last year. New faculty include Anita Walz (Maryland) and Josh Hagen (Minnesota) at Marshall (existing positions). Jennifer Miller (San Diego) filled a new GIS and natural resources position at West Virginia University. There was some decrease in the number of course sections being taught by part-time faculty due to state budget cuts, and tuition was increased at all schools to make up for the decline in funding from the state. Several faculty members also complained about the lack of geographic training in public schools but also

said this actually helps increase enrollment in entry-level college courses.

Geography faculties in the state continue to be active in teaching, university and public service, research, grants, and publishing. Geography continues to be a vital program at West Virginia University, thanks to its strong leadership and impressive record in publications, research grants, teaching, and outreach to the state and region. It filled four new faculty positions in the past three years as a result. Its graduate program received a Program of Excellence distinction from the Board of Governors and developed new linkage programs with universities in South Africa and in Ghana. Ann Oberhouser was elected to the AAG National Council. Duane Nellis (dean, Eberly College of Arts and Sciences, WVU) completed his term as president of the AAG. In addition, Timothy Warner was the state organizer for the WV View Consortium in Remote Sensing (part of AmericaView) and hosted the Appalachian Remote Sensing Conference in Morgantown. Grants and contracts at WVU are at an all-time high.

Concord College geography graduated 13 majors last year. Concord's concentration in pre-environmental law accounts for several students attending law school, and Joe Manzo reports a \$65,000 Grosvenor Grant and national committee service with NCGE. At West Liberty State College, Brian Crawford is the project director of an Eisenhower Professional Development Grant, which provides geographic training to middle-school teachers in the region. David Brooks sends news that their new major is slowly growing, their GTU chapter is thriving and one of their first graduates is pursuing a Ph.D. West Liberty also echoes the increased demand for GIS and remote sensing in their busy eight-student lab.

In the spring, Marshall University formally dedicated their GIS laboratory to retired long-time department chair Dr. Sam E. Clagg. Larry Jarrett, chair, reports increased offerings in GIS, GPS and remote sensing, and the continuing integration of GIS into many of the department's courses. Fine-tuning of their newly adopted undergraduate curriculum continues, and the graduate curriculum was completely restructured to strengthen and reflect the current realities of the discipline.

All the geography departments reported a relatively healthy job market for their students in planning and consulting, GIS, cartography, and environmental sciences, with most receiving jobs related to geography upon graduation. A common theme expressed by geographers in the state is a growing demand for GIS course offerings and for research using this tool.





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