



SOUTHEASTERN DIVISION
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN GEOGRAPHERS
NEWSLETTER

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Ron Mitchelson, *President*
Allan James, *Vice President*
Eric Fournier, *Secretary*
Susan Walcott, *Treasurer*
Kavita Pandit, *Regional Councilor*
Tyrel Moore, *Past President*

From the President

This letter is the third installment in an overview of SEDAAG's commitment to serve its members in the most effective and efficient manner possible. Before I address the division's Endowment Fund, here is an update on the annual meeting and journal.

I thank the Program Committee, led by Steve Walsh, and the local arrangements crew, led by Dawn Bowen and Susan Brooker-Gross, for another wonderful meeting in Richmond. With a record number of papers and posters, along with the added complexity of a joint meeting with Mid-Atlantic colleagues, all were running at full capacity.

In my first letter, I asked to extend a professional version of Southern hospitality to the region's newcomers, and I've seen it in a number of ways. Perhaps most important is the Steering Committee's new policy to grant one year of free membership to any new, full-time, professional geographer within this SEDAAG region, academic or nonacademic. This is a great way to invite newcomers to attend the annual meeting and to read the *Southeastern Geographer*. Additionally, Kavita Pandit and Allan James volunteered to organize a "New Voices in the South" session at the Nov. 22–25 meeting in Charlotte. This will provide additional visibility for newcomers. Professors Furuseth and Moore also are arranging a low-cost affair with plenty of excitement in Charlotte.

On the heels of Jim Wheeler's retirement from the University of Georgia, he will also step down as editor of the *Southeastern Geographer*, effective November 2003. A Search Committee, headed by Tink Moore and composed of members of the Executive Committee, along with J. P. Jones, recommended an editorial team of Derek Alderman and

Scott Lecce, both of East Carolina University, to serve as co-editors. These two candidates were interviewed in Richmond by the Steering Committee, and the recommendation was unanimously approved.

The editors, assisted by Max Beavers as cartographic editor, are committed to taking the journal to the next level. They are also committed to a year of assessment and are considering changing the journal title. Many feel that the regionally oriented title betrays the quality and national importance of the journal. The new editors of *Southeastern Geographer* have asked for your opinion on a possible title change in this issue. Please respond thoughtfully.

All stand to benefit greatly from a divisional journal that achieves national stature and increased electronic visibility. Full-text back issues of the journal are being placed on the SEDAAG Web site.

According to Susan Walcott's latest treasurer's report, the SEDAAG Endowment Fund, as of November 2002, was approximately \$31,000 and is still earning over \$1,000 in interest annually, despite recent market problems. The fund reaches its 20th anniversary this year; it was established in 1983 with a total of \$98.

Last year, about 40 people contributed to the fund, which is substantially less than 10 percent of membership. I contributed to it for the first time last year. I didn't give much, but I'm president, and I'm supposed to lead by example.

I can be quite a generous giver, but I do need a cause! Perhaps participation and giving has been low because the fund lacks a significant purpose. The fund has been tapped to redesign the division's Web site. This year, upon recommendation from Steve Birdsall and the Endowment

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Committee, the fund will be used to print a monograph, edited by Jim Wheeler and Stan Brunn, to celebrate the South's contributions to American Geography in preparation for the upcoming AAG centennial. The monograph will be free to all SEDAAG members.

The Endowment Fund needs a purpose. Is the purpose to fund special projects on an ad hoc basis? I have asked Steve Birdsall, chair of the Endowment Committee, to issue a brief strategic plan for the fund to be considered by the Steering Committee at the Charlotte meeting. There should be a mission statement for the fund that outlines why members should give. I am confident that the committee will provide an effective document that articulates the fund's reasons for existence, along with a plan to meet the needs. Once this is in place, I daresay that the total volume of giving and the participation rate will improve.

To those who have supported this fund in the past, I appreciate your patience and the foundation that your generosity has provided. Your faith in the future good that such a fund might bear will not be disappointed. If you have concerns or suggestions regarding the Endowment Fund, Steve Birdsall (birdsall@email.unc.edu) and I (mitchelsonr@mail.ecu.edu) are willing listeners.

In my next and last letter, I intend to place focus on organizational communications, specifically, the newsletter and Web site.

Ron Mitchelson, SEDAAG President
East Carolina University

New Southeastern Geographer Editors

Seek Feedback from SEDAAG Members

The new editors of *Southeastern Geographer*, Derek Alderman and Scott Lecce, seek feedback from SEDAAG members about the journal and its future direction, specifically the possibility of a name change. Please take time to fill out the following online questionnaire:

<http://www.ecu.edu/geog/segeographer/feedback.html>. Any and all views are appreciated.

From the Regional Councilor

The Association of American Geographers [AAG], under President Duane Nellis, is making a renewed effort to expand and diversify its membership. As regional councillor, I encourage all who are not yet AAG members (or have let your membership lapse) to join or rejoin this parent organization of SEDAAG.

The direct benefits of AAG membership include the following:

- Four issues each of the *Annals of the AAG* and *Professional Geographer*
- The monthly *AAG Newsletter*
- Optional membership in 52 specialty groups, many of which have newsletters and list-servs for distributing information pertinent to the group
- Reduced registration fee for AAG annual meetings

AAG annual dues, however, go toward supporting many other activities that indirectly benefit all geographers, academic and nonacademic. These activities increase the visibility of geography and geographers in the policy arena and promote geography education at the K-12 level. In 2002, these strategic initiatives of the AAG included:

- AAG/NSF workshop on "The Geographic Dimensions of Terrorism"
- "My Community, Our Earth" promoted geographic learning for sustainable development
- "Mapping the News" conference at American University brought together geographers, journalists and other media experts to examine how geographic knowledge, news and technology can be fruitfully brought together

These and many other programs help ensure the continued health and prominence of the discipline. Members of the Southeastern Division have long played an important role in the national organization. Let's ensure that we continue to have an important voice in the future!

Membership information can be found at Please contact me if you have further questions (pandit@uga.edu).

Kavita Pandit
SEDAAG Regional Councilor
University of Georgia

Invitation to the 58th SEDAA Meeting

The Department of Geography and Earth Sciences at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte cordially invites you to Charlotte for the 58th meeting of the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, Nov. 22-25, 2003.

The meeting will be held at the Marriott Center City Hotel. Conference room rates are \$69 per night, single or double occupancy for regular SEDAAG members, and \$59 per night, single or double occupancy for students. An additional charge beyond double occupancy is \$10 per person per night. Guest parking at the hotel is \$10 per day. Please note that off-site parking will be necessary for 15-passenger vans.

The Local Arrangements Committee is developing a restaurant guide for places within 1/4-1/2 mile of the Marriott and other selected specialty dining spots. Charlotte's Center City has attractions such as the Levine Museum of the New South and Discovery Place, a hands-on science museum just down the street from the Marriott.

Other attractions are within a 30-minute drive of the conference hotel. For NASCAR enthusiasts, the committee is working on details for self-guided field

trips to Lowe's Motor Speedway and a regionally significant concentration of NASCAR racing shops. The Carolina Raptor Center is a nationally known rehabilitation facility for injured birds of prey. Charlotte also has three regional malls. Arrive early and enjoy the area!

Please contact the Local Arrangements Committee co-chairs, Owen J. Furuseh (ojfuruseh@email.uncc.edu) and Tyrel G. Moore (tgmoore@email.uncc.edu) for details in November. Watch for additional details via the SEDAAG 2003 link on the department's Web site (www.geoeearth.uncc.edu) or the SEDAAG Web site (www.sedaag.org) later this spring.

The Southeastern Division

Web site has a new URL:

www.sedaag.org

State Reports

ALABAMA

Dan Royall, *University of Alabama*

Alabama geography departments continue to cope with tight state budgets but have experienced more growth this year than last. Total full-time and part-time faculty numbers increased, and enrollment is steady or increasing. Overall, the discipline continues to make substantial progress. However, it is predicted that next year's budget will once again impede program development.

University of Alabama: Geography remains healthy and growing in faculty size, faculty accomplishment, course demand and student success in finding good employment. Two new faculty members joined the department in fall 2002: Bobby Wilson, formerly of University of Alabama at Birmingham, as full-time professor, and Seth Appiah Opoku, formerly of University of Waterloo, as assistant professor. Joe Weber received the Outstanding Dissertation Award from the Transportation Specialty Group of AAG. Luoheng Han was awarded a \$200,000 EPA grant for environmental remote sensing research in the Gulf of Mexico. (www.as.ua.edu/geography)

Auburn University: The number of undergraduates enrolled in geography at Auburn is up, partly as a result of increased emphasis on GIS and the department's promotion of geography interest at Auburn. Dr. Luke Marzen received a Dean's Research Initiative Award to continue his work on remote sensing of volcanic landscapes. Marzen and departmental colleague Dr. Selima Sultana have also been active in Faculty Development Alliance activities this past year and hope to organize a panel session at a future SEDAAG meeting focusing on alliance workshop activities and outcomes. Philip Chaney received grant funding from the Auburn Environmental Institute for his research on urban water quality. (www.auburn.edu/geography)

Jacksonville State University: The geography department continues to be highly successful in almost all phases of its program. The number of majors has almost tripled in the last three years. The program generated over \$1.3 million in grants and contracts this year and enjoys increasingly strong support from the dean of the college, as evidenced by the acquisition of several new powerful workstations for the GIS lab. Although the Geographic Alliance program has been struggling with changes in NGS and state funding issues lately, other positive changes have occurred with regard to

geographic education. Most notably, the NCGE's central office is now housed at JSU with Dr. Michal LeVasseur and Angelia Mance, formerly of the University of North Alabama, serving as executive director and associate director, respectively. (<http://www.jsu.edu/depart/geography/geoghome.html>)

Samford University: Despite a decrease in undergraduate course enrollment, the geography program continues its record of success, recognized through new awards and honors for faculty and programs. Eric Fournier received a Distinguished Teaching Achievement Award from the NCGE, and Max Beavers was elected academic director of the Cartography Specialty Group of the AAG. The department has initiated a new GIS Certificate program in Samford's night school, employing two instructors for already near-capacity enrollment. In addition, Greg Jeane ran a 40-day summer field camp in the Rocky Mountains and other areas of the American West. (www.samford.edu/schools/artsci/geography)

University of North Alabama: Geography continues its success and growth, with increases in course offerings and enrollment, new faculty and successful grant acquisitions. UNA also reports near 100 percent placement of graduating students in geography jobs. The position left void by the retirement of Gary Green was filled with Dr. Greg Gaston, Ph.D., formerly of Oregon State. Professor Lisa Keys-Mathews obtained grant support from the UNA faculty research program for fieldwork in Costa Rica this year. Lisa and Bill Strong received more than \$30,000 for third-year funding from the NASA ESE program to support teaching an Internet-based graduate course, Physical Geography for Teachers On-Line. (www2.una.edu/geography)

University of South Alabama: Further supporting its successes in student enrollment and recruitment, USA geography led its physical geography sequence to increasing popularity with demand much greater than expected, especially on behalf of business majors. This popularity has resulted in a new opening for a physical geography instructor for fall 2003. Faculty research continues to be well-represented at national and regional meetings. Lary Dilsaver completed a book on Cumberland Island National Seashore. In addition, the faculty has been active in several important environmental projects revolving around the Alabama coast. Dr. Miriam Fearn received tenure and was promoted to associate professor. (www.southalabama.edu/geography)

FLORIDA

Tony Stallins, *Florida State University*

After several years of budget increases, the Florida Legislature handed state universities \$60 million less for the budget year 2002. Many universities have used tuition rate increases to maintain operations instead of enhancing them. Surprisingly, some departments reported growth despite the economic climate, particularly in faculty numbers and the availability of graduate student funding.

Recent hires include Jane Southworth, University of Florida, John Martin, Jacksonville University, and Gail Hollander and Jennifer Gebelein, Florida International University. New faculty hires are expected in 2003 at the University of South Florida, the University of Miami, Florida State University and Florida Atlantic University. Overall, the number of course offerings and enrolled students in geography programs decreased in 2000–01. Faculty-to-undergraduate student ratios (inclusive of part-time faculty) range from 1:26 to 1:228 across the 10 public and private institutions housing geography programs and curricula. Xiaojun Yang, University of West Florida, received a \$600,000 grant from the National Science Foundations [NSF] to develop an Environmental Indicators GIS. Jim Elsner, Florida State University, received an NSF grant for a collaborative investigation of the role of the North Atlantic Oscillation in modulating major hurricane activity. Phil Steinberg, Florida State University, is spending the 2002–03 academic year as a visiting fellow at the New York Public Library. Kevin Archer, University of South Florida, received a Distinguished Teaching Achievement Award from the National Council for Geographic Education. Bruce Bradford, Stetson, and Laurie Molina and Elizabeth Smith of FREAC, Florida State University, have been awarded a National Geographic Society Education Foundation grant to support a geography education institute for Central Florida teachers. Roderick Neumann, Florida International University, was awarded \$44,468 from the NSF for "Conservation, Development and Changing Property Relations in Rural Tanzania." Jennifer Gebelein, Florida International University, was awarded a three-year research grant from NASA as co-PI on the project "Mapping Land Areas that Influence Coral Reefs." Sharon Cobb won the Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award at the University of North Florida.

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GEORGIA

Thomas W. Hodler, University of Georgia

Geography in Georgia has never been stronger. Significant growth in the number of students taught over the last three years, the number of full- and part-time faculty, and the number of sections offered are strong indicators that geography is playing a major role in the instruction of both undergraduate and graduate students. Certificate programs and field courses are benefiting several departments. GIS continues to be an across-the-board focus in the larger tier of schools. In turn, the growth in GIS continues to serve as a catalyst for growth in the human and physical side of the field.

The University System of Georgia has supported its colleges and universities in an equitable fashion. However, the system has incurred an eight percent cut in its budget for 2002 calendar year with an additional two percent reduction expected for spring 2003.

Twelve of the 34 colleges and universities in the University System of Georgia have geography as a part of their curricula. The leaders in increased undergraduate enrollment were Valdosta State University and Georgia Perimeter College, with all but two institutions adding increased enrollments. Six schools (Georgia Southern University, Georgia State University, Kennesaw State University, University of Georgia and Valdosta State University) had enrollments of 1,100 or more undergraduate students. Only Georgia State University and the University of Georgia have graduate degree programs producing a total of 140 graduate majors. Two other institutions (Kennesaw State University and Georgia State University) have graduate enrollments for the first time. The number of full-time faculty teaching geography in Georgia decreased by 3.25 for a total of 55.25 full-time faculty members. Four additional part-time faculty members have been added this past year for a total of 17. Three institutions indicated that they are looking to hire additional faculty during the next two years.

Dalton State College: Dr. Thomas Deaton was co-director and chief judge of World Geography Bowl for SEDAAG and AAG. He lectured on Alaskan Geography for Norwegian and Celebrity Cruise Lines.

Fort Valley State University: The geography department is setting up a fully functioning GIS Lab.

Georgia Southern University: Dr. Daniel Good won the 2001 Outstanding

Teaching Award by the AAG. Undergraduate student Susan Moody was named a scholar in Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program.

Georgia State University: Dr. Dona Stewart was awarded a Fullbright Scholarship to Yemen in spring 2003 (International Excellence Award for extraordinary efforts to promote international education for the college and the university). Dr. Truman Hartshorn directed the Georgia Geographic Alliance and received two grants, \$65,000 from the National Geographic Society Education Foundation for "Geo Expo 2004: A Problem-Based Geographic Study of Georgia's Environmental Issues," and \$52,000 from the Great Cities Universities Transportation Initiative for "A GIS-Based Comparative Assessment of Regional Land Use: Planning Strategic in Atlanta." Dr. Jeremy Crampton was named a fellow of the Georgia Centers for Advanced Telecommunications Technology [GCATT] at Georgia Institute of Technology. He finished his book manuscript for *Problematics of Cyberspace: A Spatial Politics* (Edinburgh University Press) and signed a contract with *Blackwell Publishers for Mappings: A Critical Introduction to GIS and Cartograph*.

Kennesaw State University: The university created a new degree program for a B.S. in GIS and established a new ESRI Authorized Learning Center.

State University of West Georgia: Faculty wrote two books, organized a conference on international borders, and directed undergraduate research presented by undergraduates at local, state, regional and national meetings. The undergraduate degree was also redesigned, and several large grants and contracts were awarded.

University of Georgia: Fausto Sarmiento accepted a position as UGA's director of international studies. Kathleen Parker won an award for "Study in a Second Discipline." She will study genetics to support her new direction into the biogeography of genetic structures. Professor Kavita Pandit serves on a review panel for NSF—Geography and Regional Science. E. Lynn Usery is president of the Cartography and Geographic Information Society. She and Jeong Chang were selected first-prize recipients of the ERDAS/Leica Geosystems Award for Best Scientific Paper in Remote Sensing. Roy Welch received the Group Achievement Award from NASA. Graduate student Robin Dukes received the 2002 award for best master's thesis from Sigma Xi, the research honor society. Grants totaling \$2.4 million were held by geography faculty in 2001–02.

Valdosta State University: The university developed a strong program focusing on environmental geography. Dr. Eric Brevik published six peer-reviewed manuscripts, four abstracts from professional presentations and two papers in conference proceedings. Dr. Michael Noll published three peer-reviewed manuscripts. Dr. Can Denizman also published a peer-reviewed manuscript, and Dr. Edward Chatelain published a historical geology laboratory manual.

KENTUCKY

Katie Algeo, Western Kentucky University

Enrollment trends are strong throughout the state. Last year, 11,929 undergraduate and 518 graduate students were enrolled in geography courses. The University of Louisville almost doubled the number of geography majors, and other institutions have also seen growth. The downside of this success is the strain expansion puts on infrastructure and human resources in a period of budget retrenchment. Despite proposed cuts in the state budget, geography departments at the University of Kentucky and Western Kentucky University continue to enjoy strong institutional support and retention or expansion of faculty lines. The University of Kentucky reached a critical threshold in building its physical geography program.

GIS remains an area of program expansion in many of the state's schools. Northern Kentucky University opened a new GIS lab, and Western Kentucky University launched a GIS certificate program housed in a new \$250,000 GIS facility. Both the University of Louisville and Western Kentucky University are developing GIS. The University of Louisville launched an outreach program to establish GIS in area high schools and is developing a master's program in applied geography.

There are currently 61 full- and 20 part-time geography faculty members in the state. The University of Kentucky added two geographers to its faculty last year: physical geographer Sean Campbell, Ph.D., formerly of Arkansas, and economic geographer Matthew Zook, Ph.D., formerly of Berkeley, and currently has openings for two human geographers.

Medical geographer Carol L. Hanchette joined the faculty of the University of Louisville, which will also be hiring an urban/economic geographer.

Morehead State University hired three geographers in fall 2001: Holly Barcus, Ph.D., cultural geographer Royal Berglee,

Ph.D., formerly of Indiana State, and Gary O'Dell, A.B.D. Moorehead currently has an opening for a physical geographer.

Western Kentucky hired environmental geographer John All, Ph.D., J.D., and GIS manager Kevin Cary, M.S., and is currently hiring an environmental/physical geographer.

Murray State University will hire a geographer in 2003–04. Northern Kentucky University currently has an opening for a full-time, tenure-track GIS faculty member.

All institutions reported success in placing geography graduates in jobs that utilize their geographic knowledge and skills. Undergraduates find employment in local, state and federal government, environmental consulting, nonprofit organizations, teaching, planning, and site analysis. GIS was the most commonly named employment sector, with Louisville, Northern Kentucky, Western Kentucky and the University of Kentucky mentioning graduate placement in this area. Morehead State has placed geographers with the state division of water.

MISSISSIPPI

Mike Brown, Mississippi State University

"We're hanging in there," was the response of one geographer when asked about the state of geography at the geographer's institution. Budget cuts and enrollment increases have meant stretching the already overstretched resources statewide. Fortunately, geography appears to be growing at the two degree programs within the state.

Mississippi State University: In spring 2002, the Geosciences Department at MSU began offering a suite of GIS courses. The department has teamed with the Geospatial Technologies Center to better serve the university community. This partnership has led to some unique research opportunities in precision agriculture. There are 64 graduate and 118 undergraduate majors. For the spring and fall semesters of 2002, the department had 2,608 undergraduate and 411 graduate students enrolled in one or more of 37 geography courses. The department is searching for a GIS lab instructor and GIS tenure-track professor. Dr. John Rodgers is assembling a tree ring lab, while Dr. Taylor Mack continues to direct the Mississippi Geographic Alliance. Dr. Mike Brown was named assistant state climatologist and is working with soybean farmers in the Delta region of Mississippi.

University of Southern Mississippi: The Department of Geography welcomed Dr. Jerry Griffith to Hattiesburg. Dr. Griffith is from the University of Kansas and specializes in remote sensing and land

use classification, biogeography and landscape ecology. The department will hire a physical geographer with a coastal focus, and a geographer with a GIS/remote sensing focus in the upcoming year. There are 31 undergraduate, 25 graduate and 27 Ph.D. students (the Ph.D. is earned in international development). The department has 889 undergraduate and 62 graduate students enrolled in geography courses. Dr. Jess McKee received the Distinguished Faculty Award from the college of International and Continuing Education. Collectively, the faculty generated over \$500,000 in grants, raised nearly \$4 million in matching funds for the new geography and economic development building, and was part of a \$6 million GIS and remote sensing grant from NASA.

NORTH CAROLINA

Peter T. Soulé, Appalachian State University

In 2001–02, 323 undergraduate and 90 graduate courses in geography were offered. A total of 14,992 undergraduate students and 608 graduate students enrolled in these classes. Statewide, undergraduate majors total 360, and graduate majors total 187. There were 79 full-time and eight part-time faculty members teaching geography in the 12 institutions responding to the annual questionnaire, which is a reduction in both categories from last year. While there appears to be a slight decline in the number of undergraduate majors across the state, the number of graduate majors remains essentially unchanged since last year. There were small declines reported in the number of undergraduate geography courses being offered compared to last year, but increases in total enrollments (thus, larger class sizes).

Appalachian State University hired Dr. Rob Brown. UNC–Charlotte hired Dr. Ann Angelheart, Dr. Ken Chilton and Dr. Darla Munroe. UNC–Chapel Hill hired Dr. Martin Doyle and Dr. John Pickles. Several more geography hires are anticipated before the start of academic year 2003–04.

The UNC Board of Governors approved a new Ph.D. program at UNC–Greensboro. The undergraduate program at Western Carolina University is being phased out. While the budget crisis negatively impacted all geography departments, the overwhelming consensus is that the state of geography is strong. External funding and scholarly productivity remain high across the state. Geography faculty hold a large number of highly visible positions. Geography departments have established strong interdisciplinary links, and geography is, overall, well-supported by university administration.

Finally, even with the economic downturn, jobs for geographers appear to be plentiful, and many recent graduates are doing great things in the workplace.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Greg Carbone, University of South Carolina

Geography is alive and well in South Carolina. During the past year, 27 institutions of higher education in South Carolina offered geography courses. Thirty-eight full- and 27 part-time faculty members taught 224 undergraduate and 49 graduate courses with a total enrollment of 6,879 undergraduate and 549 graduate students.

At Clemson University, Jim Miller curated an African art exhibit at the Lee Gallery on campus. Christa Smith plays an active role in a new program on the geography of historic preservation at the Clemson University College of Architecture Center at the College of Charleston.

Mark Long, Ph.D., University of South Carolina, is a new assistant professor at the department of political science. His research is anchored by Spain's geography and politics, and he is especially interested in questions of political identity, and spatial and territorial expressions of nationalism. The college plans to establish a minor in geography.

A number of faculty—David Cowen, Susan Cutter, Will Graf and John Jensen—continue to serve on eight committees and boards of the National Research Council [NRC]. In August 2002, John Jensen participated in the Rio + 10 World Summit in Johannesburg where he presented the NRC report "Down to Earth: Geographic Information for Sustainable Development in Africa."

Geography classes have increased in popularity at USC–Spartanburg. Nearly every section of every course filled during the past academic year. The department also now offers a minor in geography.

Membership in the South Carolina Geographic Alliance has reached over 7,600, and activities have kept pace with this growth. The alliance presented 42 workshops and three Geofests. Seventeen teachers attended the 2001 Summer Geography Institute. Seven "How the Environment Works" workshops were sponsored by the alliance, as well as an Advanced Placement Geography course for teachers. In spring 2002, work on Integrating Geography, Science and Math [IGSAM] was started. This project will include a CD-ROM, lesson plan book and poster when completed in spring 2003.

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TENNESSEE

Craig R. Laing, *University of Tennessee at Chattanooga*

Tennessee's budget problems have significantly limited the growth and development of geography in the state's higher educational institutions. In fact, the state shut down for five days in summer 2002. The future does not look bright, unless legislators are willing to make bold steps to rectify the situation. Bruce Ralston, department head at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, summarizes the feelings of most faculty in Tennessee: "We continue to struggle with issues such as graduate student funding, salary compression, inadequate compensation for staff and more demand for our courses than we can currently handle."

Across the state, there are approximately 340 undergraduate and 135 graduate students earning geography degrees. Several institutions maintain high enrollments in geography courses even though they do not offer a major. This year, approximately 8,800 students were enrolled in undergraduate geography courses, a slight decrease from last year. Over 800 students are enrolled in geography courses at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, where there is a minor. Tennessee Tech has about 325 students enrolled in geography, mostly in the GIS concentration in its geology undergraduate degree. Volunteer State Community College teaches 300 students a year with one obviously overworked faculty member.

University of Tennessee at Knoxville: The number of majors significantly increased, partly due to the increased space and interest in the department with the completion of the Burchfiel Geography Building. The department hired Anita Drever, a population geographer, in fall 2002. UT-Knoxville's faculty members are actively involved in numerous research projects and grants.

University of Memphis: The Department of Geography and Department of Geology (including the Center of Earthquake Research and Information) have been merged into a new department called the Department of Earth Sciences. The new department is offering a Ph.D. in earth sciences for the fields of geography, geology and geophysics with several research foci. They plan to hire two new geographers in the next academic year in GIS and human geography. The department also reports receiving two significant grants last year, one from the U.S. Department of Education to take 17 K-12 teachers to China for five weeks this summer, and

another from the City of West Memphis, Ark., to develop a "Mitigation Plan of Natural Hazards in West Memphis and Crittenden County."

University of Tennessee at Martin: Several efforts are underway that improved the presence of geography on campus. Jefferson Rogers initiated a two-semester honors course on the Middle East, and Helmut Wenz introduced courses on the geography of sport and the geography of wine that have proven popular among majors and nonmajors.

University of Tennessee at Chattanooga: The geography department is planning on adding a physical geographer who would split time with the Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences.

Volunteer State Community College: The department is offering a new associate's degree with an emphasis in geography. Keith Bell received the Who's Who Among America's Teachers award for 2001-02 and was nominated for the Outstanding Faculty Award at VSCC in 2001.

VIRGINIA

Joseph E. Garcia, *Longwood University*

Despite the status of state funding for higher education, geography appears to be relatively stable with some minor changes. Current budget constraints have primarily affected community colleges through the loss of part-time faculty. Although there is much room for improvement in the teaching of geography statewide, it is unlikely that substantive changes will occur under the current economic climate.

Emory and Henry College: Ed Davis received the United Methodist Foundation Exemplary Teaching Award.

Longwood University: The Department of Natural Sciences welcomed Dr. Edward L. Kinman to its faculty.

Mary Washington College: Geography remains an important contributor to the general education program. The department attracted 12 new majors in the past month.

Radford University: Dr. Grigory Ioffe received a \$180,000 NSF grant.

University of Richmond: Geography recently hired Dr. James Murphy, allowing for a significant increase in new geography course offerings. Drs. Harrison and Murphy received a duPont grant entitled "Faculty and Community Involvement Using GIS."

Virginia Commonwealth University: A proposal to change the major from Urban Studies to Urban Studies and Geography was approved at the college level and awaits acceptance by the University Curriculum Committee.

Virginia Tech: Two one-year hires for next year will be advertised.

WEST VIRGINIA

Ray Rappold, *Marshall University*

Despite funding problems, the state's geographers seem guardedly optimistic about the discipline's stature. Four institutions offer an undergraduate degree—Concord College, Marshall University, West Liberty State College and West Virginia University—with a combined total of 155 majors. A few other West Virginia state colleges offer a minor in geography: Bluefield State, Fairmont State and Shepherd. Undergraduate geography enrollments totaled 7,000 in about 200 sections of course offerings, with West Virginia University (2,500), Marshall University (1,875), Concord College (930) and West Liberty State College (560) boasting the largest numbers. In addition, master's degrees are offered at Marshall University (30 majors), and both master's and doctoral degrees are offered at West Virginia University (40 majors). Also, Concord College offered a graduate geography course last year with an enrollment of 20 students.

There are 28 full-time geography faculty members, up one from last year. New hires include Sarah Brinegar and James Leonard, Marshall University, and Kobena Hanson, Randall Jackson and Brent McCusker, West Virginia University. WVU will add a new position in GIS and natural resources for next year, and Marshall will replace two existing positions. An alarming trend around the country is the increasing number of courses being taught by part-time faculty, and WVU is no exception. The number of faculty in this state's geography programs presently stands at 26, with well over half teaching more than one course.

All geography departments reported a 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.

Concord College: Concentrations in pre-environmental law, Appalachian studies, and cartography/GIS are prospering. Joe Manzo continues to host the West Virginia Geographic Alliance Conference that draws faculty and students from West Virginia and surrounding states.

Marshall University: The geography department has a new GIS and automated cartography laboratory with over 20

workstations and peripheral equipment, courtesy of the university and generous alumni. Faculty members recently completed a total revamping of both the graduate and undergraduate programs.

West Virginia University: The Board of Governors rated the geography department as a "program of excellence," granting the Ph.D. program full status after its five-year probationary period. Duane Nellis, dean of Eberly College of Arts and Sciences, was elected president of the AAG. Trevor Harris, chair, was named the Eberly family distinguished professor of geography. Randall Jackson was appointed as director of the Regional Research Institute. Steve Kite was elected chair of the Quaternary Geology and Geomorphology Division of the Geological Society of America, and Ken Martis was included in the "Geographers on Film" series of notable geographers of the 20th century. WVU grants and contracts are at an all-time high.

West Liberty State College: The geography department received an NSF grant to incorporate GIS into courses the college offers for local teachers at their Smart Center. The new major is doing well—two recent graduates are already pursuing master's degrees at South Carolina and Kent State.

UNC-Greensboro Approves New Ph.D. Program

The UNC System Board of Governors approved in November 2002 a new Ph.D. in geography with an emphasis in applied geography to begin fall 2004 at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. The department will hire two faculty members for this program during 2003-04, in addition to a new geomorphology position currently advertised. This will bring the faculty to 15, up from six in 1994-95. The department, formed in 1940, also offers a B.A. with concentrations in urban planning or earth science/environmental studies, an M.A. in applied geography (since 1996), and a post-baccalaureate certificate in GIS (since 2001).

Students in the new Ph.D. program will be able to concentrate in one of three areas: urban/regional economic development and planning, earth science/natural resource management, or GIS. In addition to several departmental assistantships offered, internships with public agencies and private firms are often available.

Those interested in any of the graduate programs should contact Jeffrey C. Patton, director of graduate studies.

SEDAAG Committees 2002-03

Executive Committee

President: Ron Mitchelson, East Carolina University

Vice President: Allan James, University of South Carolina

Treasurer: Susan Walcott, Georgia State University

Secretary: Eric Fournier, Samford University
Regional Councilor: Kavita Pandit, University of Georgia

Past President: Tyrel Moore, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Steering Committee

Southeastern Geographer Editor: James O. Wheeler, University of Georgia

Alabama: Dan Royall, University of Alabama

Florida: Tony Stallins, Florida State University

Georgia: Hilda Kurtz, University of Georgia

Kentucky: Katie Algeo, Western Kentucky University

Mississippi: Clifton Skeeter Dixon, University of Southern Mississippi

North Carolina: Jeffrey Patton, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

South Carolina: Greg Carbone, University of South Carolina

Tennessee: Lydia M. Pulsipher, University of Tennessee

Virginia: Helen Ruth Aspaas, Virginia Commonwealth University

West Virginia: Ray Rappold, Marshall University

Honors Committee

Chair: Holly Hapke, East Carolina University

Chair-elect: Lizbeth Pyle, West Virginia University

Carl Dahlman, University of South Carolina
Heather Smith, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

John Rodgers, Mississippi State University

Nominations Committee

Chair: Owen Furuseth, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Chair-elect: Jonathan Phillips, University of Kentucky

Dawn Bowen, Mary Washington College

Audit Committee

Chair: Michael Harrison, University of Richmond

Christopher Meindl, Georgia College and State University

Peter Soule, Appalachian State University

Resolutions Committee

Chair: Joseph Nicolas, Mary Washington College

Mary Kimsey, James Madison University

Henri Grissino-Mayer, University of Tennessee

Tellers Committee

Douglas Gamble, University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Joseph Garcia, Longwood University

E. Jeffrey Popke, East Carolina University

Political Geography Sessions Planned for 2003 SEDAAG Meeting in Charlotte

Organized political geography sessions are planned for the 58th meeting of the SEDAAG in Charlotte, N.C., Nov. 22-25, 2003. Papers on political geography topics ranging from local to international scales are welcome. Papers may be divided among multiple thematic sessions. Those interested in participating may contact any of the three organizers: Stan Brunn (brunn@pop.uky.edu), University of Kentucky, (606) 257-6947; Fred Shelley (fs03@swt.edu), Southwest Texas State University, (512) 245-8704; or Jerry Webster (jwebster@bama.ua.edu), University of Alabama, (205) 348-5047.

Southern Studies Special Session SEDAAG 2003

The Southern Studies Committee requests papers to be included in a SEDAAG 2003 Southern Studies Special Session that focuses on the contemporary or historical geography of the Carolinas. Please refer to the SEDAAG guidelines for details. Complete special session plans must be submitted to the program chair by the session organizer no later than Sept. 6. Early inquiries or indications of interest would be helpful. Contact Tyrel G. Moore (tgmoore@email.ucc.edu), chair, Southern Studies Committee, Department of Geography and Earth Sciences, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, 9201 University City Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28223, (704) 687-4250, fax (704) 687-3182.

2002 SEDAAG Business Meeting Minutes

57th meeting, Richmond, Va.
November 26, 2002

SEDAAG President Ron Mitchelson called the annual business meeting to order at 10:21 a.m. in the Potomac G Room of the Omni Richmond Hotel, Richmond, Va. Past President Tyrel Moore, Regional Councilor Kavita Pandit, Vice President Stephen Walsh, Treasurer Susan Walcott, Secretary Jonathan Leib, Vice President-elect Allan James, Secretary-elect Eric Fournier, and *Southeastern Geographer* Editor James Wheeler were in attendance. AAG President Duane Nellis, AAG Executive Director Ron Abler, AAG Executive Director-designate Doug Richardson, *Professional Geographer* Editor Truman Hartshorn, Local Arrangements Committee Co-chairs Susan Brooker-Gross and Dawn Bowen, World Geography Bowl Chair and SEDAAG Web master Bill Carstensen, and approximately 40 SEDAAG members were also in attendance.

Preliminary Matters

Announcement of new officers: President Mitchelson presented the election results from the fall balloting:

Vice President: Allan James

Secretary: Eric Fournier

State Representatives: Hilda Kurtz

(Georgia), Skeeter Dixon

(Mississippi), Jeff Patton (North

Carolina), Lydia Pulsipher (Tennessee)

and Helen Ruth Aspaas (Virginia)

President Mitchelson thanked outgoing officers Vice President Stephen Walsh, Secretary Jonathan Leib, Georgia State Representative Tom Hodler, Mississippi State Representative Mike Brown, North Carolina State Representative Peter Soule, Tennessee State Representative Craig Laing and Virginia State Representative Joe Garcia for their service to SEDAAG.

President's Report

1. *Southeastern Geographer* editor's

search: President Mitchelson recognized *Southeastern Geographer* Editor Jim Wheeler for 12 years of devoted and exemplary service. A search was conducted for a new editor, starting with the May 2004 issue. The Steering Committee voted unanimously to appoint Drs. Derek Alderman and Scott Leece, both from East Carolina University, as the new editors.

2. **Free one-year membership for new geography professionals in the division:**

The Steering Committee unanimously approved providing a one-year free membership for first-year, full-time professional geographers in the Southeastern region, beginning with the 2003 membership year. The purpose is to demonstrate the hospitality and importance of the organization to geographers moving into the division. Once new members see how worthwhile SEDAAG is, they will then renew and become long-time members. Meeting attendees were asked to help identify geographers new to the region.

3. **"New Voices in the Southeast" project:**

Kavita Pandit and Allan James will organize a new paper session, starting with next year's meeting, highlighting new SEDAAG members.

4. **Full-text back issues of *Southeastern Geographer* on the SEDAAG Web site:**

The Steering Committee unanimously supported making available *Southeastern Geographer* back issues on the SEDAAG Web site.

5. **Support for *The South's Role in the Making of American Geography: Centennial of the AAG*:**

In honor of the AAG centennial, the Steering Committee voted unanimously to support the production and publication of *The South's Role in the Making of American Geography: Centennial of the AAG*, edited by Jim Wheeler and Stan Brunn. The deadline for submissions is April 1, 2003. The goal is to have the book published by January 2004, with SEDAAG members receiving a free copy. The Steering Committee, following the recommendation of the Endowment Committee and Executive Committee, voted unanimously to provide \$5,000 from the SEDAAG Endowment Account to go toward publication of the book.

6. State budget cuts: During the Steering Committee meeting, most state representatives noted budget cuts at most state universities in the region. These cuts may impact geography programs in these states. Given that none of the actions taken in the Steering Committee meeting required a change in the SEDAAG by-laws, there were no issues that needed to be brought to the membership for a vote.

2002 Nominating and Honors Committee Elections

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

Keith Debbage, chair of the Tellers Committee, reported the following were elected:

Honors Committee: Chair Holly Hapke, Chair-elect Betsy Pyle, Carl Dahlmann, Heather Smith and John Rodgers

Nominations Committee: Chair Owen Furuseth, Chair-elect Jonathan Phillips and Dawn Bowen.

Annual Meetings

1. **Vice president's report on the 2002 meeting:**

Vice President and Program Committee Chair Stephen Walsh noted that the number of presentations at the 2002 SEDAAG/MAD meeting was the largest on record (158), including 15 posters, 13 student honors papers (three by Middle Atlantic Division [MAD] students), 10 panelists and eight GTU papers (151 presentations were made at the 2001 Lexington meetings). The Program Committee reviewed all submitted papers (two reviewers per paper).

Walsh noted that the Program Committee increased by two members this year, both from MAD, in anticipation of more submissions because of the joint meeting. Six papers were deemed unacceptable through the review process, although one was reassessed and included upon appeal. The program listed 363 names.

James Wheeler, University of Georgia, was the winner of the Wheeler Award for the first meeting correspondence received by the program chair.

Jonathan Phillips, University of Kentucky, delivered the Honorary Lecture, entitled "I Just Wanna Testify . . . Laws, Locality and Explanation in Geography," as part of the opening session, continuing a feature begun at the 2001 meeting. AAG President Duane Nellis presented an address, "Rural Geography, Infospheres and Future Worlds," at the Honors Luncheon.

Walsh noted that the SEDAAG Web site will be used more in the future to disseminate meeting information. Starting with the 2003 meeting, abstract books will not be printed and will be available only on the Web site. In later discussion from the floor, Webmaster Bill Carstensen proposed that abstracts be made indexable on the Web site and that authors include their E-mail addresses in

the abstracts so that readers can easily E-mail the authors.

Walsh discussed the use of computer projection systems in presentations. He recognized that the use of such systems is now a common way to present a paper. Several issues were discussed.

First, it was noted that it is distracting for presenters to bring their own computers, start them up and test them while the presenter before them is still presenting. Hence, the Program Committee encourages presenters to record their presentations on a CD and for all presenters to share one computer connected to the projection system. Presenters will load their presentations before the beginning of the session.

Second, for the 2003 Charlotte meetings, it was decided that a laptop and projector will be available in each room. Departments in the area are encouraged to bring a laptop/projector with them.

From the floor, Bill Carstensen suggested that SEDAAG buy one projector a year to build up a supply. He estimated the cost at \$2,000–\$3,000 per projector. SEDAAG would not be at a technological disadvantage in the future with current projectors, as the current resolution of projectors will not likely get significantly better in the near future.

- 2. Future meeting sites:** The 2003 SEDAAG meeting will be held at the Marriott Center City Hotel in Charlotte, N.C., hosted by the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (Tyrel Moore and Owen Furuseh, Local Arrangements Committee co-chairs). The Steering Committee accepted the invitation of Skeeter Dixon, University of Southern Mississippi, to host the 2004 SEDAAG meeting along the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Fiscal Affairs

- 1. Membership report:** Treasurer Susan Walcott reported that SEDAAG membership and dues have increased over the past year. There are currently 640 members, with increases registered in both regular and student members. The increase is in part a result of aggressive attempts by Walcott to increase membership, including sending out “invitation to join” letters to geographers in the division who are not SEDAAG members.

Following the lead of the Geography Department at the University of Georgia that pays the membership fees for its graduate students, Walcott

noted that, this year, Florida State University paid the membership dues for all of its new graduate students.

Membership forms will now ask for E-mail addresses to create as complete a list of members’ E-mail addresses as possible.

- 2. Treasurer’s report:** Walcott reported that SEDAAG’s total assets as of Oct. 31, 2002, stood at \$77,137.85. This amount did not include an additional \$975 added to the treasury from the 2001 Lexington meeting since the Oct. 31 reporting date.

The treasurer maintains four accounts:

- 1. The Operating Account* started the year (November 2001) with \$20,102.31. Over the past year, the largest receipts were member dues and contributions (\$12,493.47), *Southeastern Geographer* subscriptions (\$5681.00), and 2001 Lexington meeting profits (\$5,003.03). The closing balance was \$44,381.08.
- 2. The Reserve Account* increased by \$179.84 in interest, leaving a balance of \$10,709.59.
- 3. The John Fraser Hart Award Account* for Ph.D. paper awards increased by \$179.84 in interest and \$438.50 in contributions. \$1,000 was spent in presenting the 2001 Hart Award, decreasing the balance to \$9,149.09. Total income from all three accounts was \$64,239.76.
- 4. The SEDAAG Endowment Account* added \$467.39 in interest and \$863.50 in contributions, leaving the fund at \$30,957.89. The Endowment Committee agreed to allocate \$5,000 for the publication of *The South’s Role in the Making of American Geography: Centennial of the AAG*.

The two largest outlays over the SEDAAG fiscal year were the *Southeastern Geographer* (\$12,443.78) and the *SEDAAG Newsletter* (\$1,462.79). Total disbursements were \$18,059.80. SEDAAG’s balance stood at \$46,179.96.

- 3. Audit Committee report:** Eric Fournier presented the 2002 Audit Committee report and noted the books are in order. Bill Graves presented the 2001 Audit Committee report, noting that the books for 2001 were in order.

4. Endowment Committee report:

Endowment Committee Chair Steven Birdsall reported that the Endowment Committee voted to contribute \$5,000 to the publication of *The South’s Role in the Making of American Geography: Centennial of the AAG*.

Publications

1. Secretary’s report on the SEDAAG

Newsletter: Secretary Leib noted that two issues of Volume 21 of the newsletter were printed and distributed in 2002. The spring newsletter, mailed in March, was 20 pages long, while the summer newsletter was 16 pages long. As was the case in 2001, the summer newsletter was four pages longer than normal to include information on the upcoming SEDAAG meeting, as well as meeting participation and registration forms. Including this information in the newsletter eliminated the need for a separate mailing of information and forms for the meeting. The spring and summer newsletters were printed by Harvest Printing of Tallahassee, Fla., a minority-owned firm. The spring newsletter printing cost \$592, while the summer newsletter cost \$507.40. Postage costs for the two newsletters was \$368.37. The total cost of publishing and distributing the two newsletters was \$1,467.79.

2. Southeastern Geographer editor’s report:

Jim Wheeler presented the *Southeastern Geographer* report. The November 2001 and May 2002 issues totaled 320 pages and included 15 articles. Wheeler noted that the May 2002 issue was the first all-digital publication of the *Southeastern Geographer*. The November 2002 issue (Vol. 42, No. 2) runs 160 pages and includes seven articles, one research note and a contribution to the “Changing South.” Because of the rise in membership, 1,100 copies of the November 2002 issue were published. The *Southeastern Geographer* was \$6.22 under budget for 2001–02.

Carl Reese and Kam-biu Liu won the 2001 Best Article in the *Southeastern Geographer* Award for “Late-Holocene Vegetation Changes at Bluff Swamp, Louisiana.” The Award Committee included Patricia Gilmartin, Peter Soule and Susan Walcott. The committee selecting the Reese and Liu article for the award included Patricia Gilmartin, Peter Soule and Susan Walcott. The 2003 Selection Committee to choose the 2002 Best Article Award will include Susan Walcott, Peter Soule and Keith Debbage.

Business Meeting cont. on page 10

3. Webmaster's report: SEDAAG Webmaster Bill Carstensen apologized for not obtaining and switching the SEDAAG Web site domain name to www.sedaag.org. He will do so shortly. Carstensen reported that the past two years of the *Southeastern Geographer* have been put up on the Web site. He reminded members that he is still interested in contributions of materials for the history portion of the site. Carstensen also noted that the World Geography Bowl Committee will build the WGB section of the Web site soon.

World Geography Bowl

World Geography Bowl Committee Chair Bill Carstensen reviewed the previous two days of competition. Tennessee won, defeating South Carolina in the finals. The guest team from the Middle Atlantic Division [MAD] finished third. Carstensen thanked Marie Price for putting together the MAD team. The Student All-Stars defeated the Professional Dream Team by one of the largest margins ever. President Mitchelson thanked the World Geography Bowl Committee for its effort in making the competition a success.

Liaison with AAG

1. Regional councilor's report:

Southeastern Regional Councilor Kavita Pandit noted that Dennis Lord attended the spring 2002 AAG Council meeting while she attended the fall 2002 meeting.

Ron Abler stepped down as AAG executive director Dec. 31, 2002. He will be replaced by Doug Richardson, who has served as AAG director of research and strategic initiatives since July 2001. Richardson and Abler promoted a number of strategic initiatives to increase the visibility of geography, including:

1. "*The Geographic Dimensions of Terrorism*," an AAG/NSF Workshop
2. "*My Community, Our Earth*," a partnership between the AAG and numerous groups to promote geographic learning for sustainable development
3. "*Mapping the News*," a conference held in September 2002 at American University, co-sponsored by the AAG.

Pandit noted that AAG Past President Janice Monk worked to increase AAG's international activities and programs.

Current AAG President Duane Nellis is working to increase AAG fund-raising and to expand membership. Vice President Alec Murphy is working to bring geography and geographers into public debates.

Pandit updated members on planning for the AAG 2003 New Orleans meeting and the 2004 centennial meeting in Philadelphia. AAG selected Denver as the 2005 meeting site and Chicago as the 2006 meeting site. The activities planned for the 2004 centennial meeting will be promoted by the slogan, "Celebrating Geography—the Next 100 Years." The AAG Council noted that SEDAAG was marking the centennial through the publication of *The South's Role in the Making of American Geography: Centennial of the AAG* and urged other regional divisions to follow SEDAAG's lead.

Membership renewals, annual meeting registration, etc. can now be completed online. There is still concern about declining AAG membership. AAG President Duane Nellis made reversing this trend a top priority.

2. Remarks by AAG president:

AAG President Duane Nellis noted that in this time of state and university budget cuts, departmental productivity must be closely monitored. When deans and administrators are looking to make budget cuts, internal division cannot be afforded.

Nellis recognized AAG Executive Director Ron Abler for his outstanding leadership over the past 13 years. Nellis was very happy with the search process and selection of Doug Richardson as the new AAG executive director.

Nellis reported that membership in AAG has dropped since 1997. While membership levels have now stabilized, he is still working toward increasing AAG membership. The AAG is also building a sizeable endowment and endowment campaign. Nellis wishes to target the money for increased support for geography education and global education.

3. Remarks by AAG executive director:

AAG Executive Director Ron Abler thanked SEDAAG for its support to AAG over the past 13 years, especially for the hospitality demonstrated at SEDAAG meetings. Abler acknowledged the creativity of Neal Lineback for starting the World Geography Bowl competition, thereby bringing more undergraduate and graduate students to regional and national meetings.

Abler noted that U.S. human geographers, physical geographers, and

geographers specializing in GIS and remote sensing have maintained a degree of cohesion not found among geographical organizations in Canada or Europe.

4. Remarks by the AAG executive director-designate:

AAG Executive Director-designate Doug Richardson outlined three challenges for the AAG in upcoming years:

1. *Strengthening academic geography:* Develop research opportunities and partnerships. Geographers need to be more aggressive about developing large-scale research initiatives in a time of shrinking budgets and great international need for geographers' perspectives. The funded NSF proposal on geographies of terrorism has led to workshops and publications, and is soliciting input across the discipline on how to respond to the challenges of terrorism. The resulting book will be published in time for the 2003 AAG meeting.
2. *Outreach:* Support minority recruitment and cultural diversity within the discipline, and develop programs to use the talent of current membership to reach out to other disciplines. Use student volunteers and interns at the AAG office as a way of bringing them into the organization. Richardson is establishing an AAG senior associate member program to utilize the experience and talents of retired AAG members.
3. *Organizational Renewal:* Focus on AAG's financial health to support the implementation of new programs. Make AAG more efficient by upgrading technology in the central office. Pursue grants and contracts to help support the central office. Increase recruitment of younger members and determine how to increase private and public sector membership.

Invitation to Charlotte in 2003

Tyrel Moore and Owen Furuseth, of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, invited the membership of SEDAAG to the Marriott Center City Hotel for the 2003 SEDAAG meeting. Room rates at the Marriott will be \$69/night for faculty and \$59/night for students.

Adjournment

President Mitchelson adjourned the business meeting at 12:23 p.m.

Call for Nominations

Officers and State Representatives

SEDAAG is soliciting nominations for the positions of president, treasurer, and state representatives for Alabama, Florida, Kentucky, South Carolina and West Virginia. A self-addressed return postcard is included in this newsletter for making nominations.

Nominations should be returned by the date listed on the return postcard. Please send nominations to: Dr. Owen Furuseth, Chair, SEDAAG Nominations Committee, Department of Geography and Earth Sciences, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, McEniry Building, Room 452, Charlotte, NC 28223.

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 forms
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, 2003, to Dr. Holly Hapke (hapke@mail.ecu.edu), Department of Geography, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858-4353.

Merle C. Prunty Student Scholarship

The Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers 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 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 Charlotte. 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 September 24, 2003, to Dr. Holly Hapke (hapke@mail.ecu.edu), Department of Geography, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858-4353.

New AAG Careers Brochure Available

The AAG's new *Careers in Geography* student recruiting brochure is now available. It is geared toward recruiting both upper-level high school and undergraduate college students to geography courses, geography majors and possible careers in geography.

This four-page, color recruiting brochure is designed to speak directly to students, with lively graphics portraying young people engaged in the exciting and socially meaningful activities of geography today.

Geography departments, college admission offices, schools and guidance counselors can obtain copies of the new *Careers in Geography* brochure by contacting the AAG central office, or by using the order form available from the AAG Web site (<http://www.aag.org/News/careeringeographyorderform.pdf>). This should be an effective tool in attracting new students to the study of geography.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for items to be included in the Summer 2003 newsletter is **May 31**. 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

58th SEDAAG Meeting
Charlotte, N.C.
Nov. 22–25, 2003

The 2003 annual meeting of SEDAAG will be held in Charlotte, N.C., Nov. 22–25. I invite you to attend the meeting, participate in the program and submit a paper or poster. The deadline for receipt of papers, abstracts and poster descriptions is Sept. 13, 2003. Guidelines are listed in this section. Paper and poster authors must be members of SEDAAG. I especially encourage students to participate in meeting activities, and to prepare papers for the Student Honors Competition and the Gamma Theta Upsilon Undergraduate paper sessions. Included with this call for papers are the guidelines for this year's competition. The Honors Committee is chaired by Dr. Holly M. Hapke (hapkeh@mail.ecu.edu), Department of Geography, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858, (252) 328-1041, fax (252) 328-6054.

Those who wish to arrange thematic paper sessions, conduct workshops or schedule meetings should contact me as soon as possible. Specially organized sessions are particularly welcome; their focus on common interests often makes them the most successful sessions. To facilitate organization of the program, final details of special events are due by Sept. 6, 2003.

In this newsletter is a form for volunteering to chair a session or discuss a paper. Many more people are needed to discuss papers than to chair sessions, so please consider volunteering to act as a discussant.

Planning for the Charlotte meeting is underway. Field trips and thematic sessions are being arranged, and a room for displays will be provided at the conference center. To reserve display space, contact Dr. Tyrel G. Moore (tgmoore@email.uncc.edu), Local Arrangements Committee co-chair, Department of Geography and Earth Sciences, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Charlotte NC 28223, (704) 687-4250, fax 704-547-3182.

Note that the SEDAAG Web site will be used this year for downloading and printing both the "Abstracts of Papers and Posters" and the "Program." Only the program will be printed and distributed as

part of the registration material.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. L. Allan James (ajames@sc.edu), SEDAAG vice president and program chair, Department of Geography, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, (803) 777-6117, fax (803) 777-4972.

Paper, Abstract and Special Session Guidelines

The deadline for receipt of papers and abstracts by the program chair is Sept. 13, 2003. All participants must be members of SEDAAG. A membership application is included in this newsletter. Papers received after the deadline will be returned to the authors. All papers received by the deadline will be reviewed by the Program Committee.

Send papers, abstracts, participation forms and special session plans to Dr. L. Allan James (ajames@sc.edu), SEDAAG vice president and program chair, Department of Geography, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, (803) 777-6117, fax (803) 777-4972.

Participation Form

1. Each paper should be accompanied by a separate page (one copy only) containing title of the paper, author's name(s) and title(s), affiliation, complete address, and E-mail address, if available.
2. Carousel slide projectors, overhead projectors and digital projectors will be provided. Please indicate if you need audiovisual equipment other than these. As a new policy this year, we are experimenting with providing digital projectors in each room. 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, it is extremely important that presenters using the digital projectors **BRING A CD 15 MINUTES BEFORE THE SESSION BEGINS** and **UPLOAD THEIR PRESENTATION**.
3. If applicable, please indicate that the paper is being submitted for the Student Honors Competition, and whether it is for the master's or doctoral level competition. See Guidelines for Student Honors Competition below.

Papers

Five copies of the text of each paper must be submitted. Maps, graphs and tables must be included with each copy, but they do not have to be in final form. Papers submitted for the Student Honors Competition should include 10 copies.

Papers must not exceed eight, double-spaced, typed pages, exclusive of maps, graphs, tables, literature cited and the title page. To comply with the eight-page limit, full double-spacing and a 12-point or larger font size are required. 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. Please time your paper before it is submitted.

The title of the paper should appear at the top of page one. The author's name must not appear on this or any pages in the body of the paper. Allow at least 2.5-centimeter (1 inch) margins on all sides of each page.

Citations should follow the format used in recent articles in the *Southeastern Geographer*.

Maps, graphs and tables must be labeled and numbered. References to illustrations should occur at the appropriate place in the text.

Final versions of illustrations must be of high quality and designed for presentation to a large audience. Be certain that graphics projected on a screen can be read at eight meters (25 feet). Maps, tables and graphics may be duplicated and distributed to the audience. Overhead, carousel slide and digital projectors will be available for paper presentations.

Abstracts

An abstract, no longer than 200 words, must accompany all papers submitted. Abstracts should be submitted on 3.5-inch diskettes. Microsoft Word, WordPerfect or ASCII formats for either IBM or Macintosh are acceptable. Indicate your name and the title of your paper on your disk, along with the software type and version, and whether it is in a MAC or DOS environment. Paper titles, authors' names and authors' institutional affiliations must be clearly identified preceding the body of the abstract. Abstracts will be reformatted for publication purposes, so formatting will not be preserved and often causes extra work in processing. Please do not imbed unnecessary formatting in the abstract. The body of the abstract must be single-spaced and without paragraph indentations. If the abstract contains more

than one paragraph, two spaces are to be left between paragraphs. Authors are responsible for editing and proofreading the abstracts they submit. Although reformatted, they will be printed as submitted.

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.

All papers submitted are subject to the regular submission and review process, and are due Sept. 13, 2003. Organizers of special sessions should have all material sent to the program committee chair as one self-contained packet with all abstracts and disks included, 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.

Organizers should provide a special session plan to the program chair by Sept. 6, 2003, including intended participants, paper titles, session chairs and discussant(s). It is acceptable to have one discussant for the entire session or to provide commentary on each paper.

Time and space constraints dictate that a special session should have a minimum of four papers. The program chair reserves the right to merge papers into other sessions if three or fewer papers are submitted or survive the review process.

Poster and Poster Description Guidelines

Poster descriptions and abstracts are due Sept. 13, 2003. All annual meeting program participants must be members of SEDAAG. A membership application is included in this newsletter. Poster submissions received after the deadline will be returned. Poster descriptions received by the deadline will be reviewed by the Program Committee.

Participation Form

Each poster submission should be accompanied by a separate page (one copy only) containing: the word "Poster" at the top of the page, title of the poster, author's name(s) and title(s), affiliation, complete address, and E-mail address, if available.

Poster boards and easels will be provided. Poster dimensions will be determined later by the Local Arrangements Committee and communicated by the program chair to all poster participants.

Please note that posters may not be submitted for the Student Honors Competition.

Poster Description

Poster submissions must be accompanied by a two-page description, exclusive of maps, graphs, tables, literature cited and the title page. Full double-spacing and a 12-point or larger font size are required. The poster description should detail the purpose statement, research design, related literature and research findings. Five copies must be submitted. Maps, graphs and tables, in draft or final form, must be included with each copy.

The title of the paper should appear at the top of page one. The author's name(s) must not appear on this or any other pages in the body of the paper. Allow at least 2.5-centimeter (1-inch) margins on all sides of each page.

Citations should follow the format used in recent articles in the *Southeastern Geographer*.

Maps, graphs and tables must be labeled and numbered. References to illustrations should occur at the appropriate place in the text.

Research conveyed in posters will be displayed in a single session and should not exceed 36 x 44 inches. Poster boards will be supplied by SEDAAG. Materials should be of professional quality and legible from a distance of one meter (three feet). Text should be confined to brief statements.

Abstracts

An abstract must accompany the poster description. Guidelines for poster abstracts are identical to those for paper abstracts. Please see the requirements for abstracts indicated above.

Send participation forms, poster descriptions and abstracts and to Dr. L. Allan James (ajames@sc.edu), SEDAAG vice president and program chair, Department of Geography, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, (803) 777-6117, fax (803) 777-4972.

Student Honors Competition Guidelines Objectives

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.

First Call cont. on page 12

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: ten (not six) copies of the paper, and 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 (hapkeh@mail.ecu.edu), Department of Geography, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858, (252) 328-1041, fax (252) 328-6054. The deadline for submissions is Sept. 13, 2003.

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. Please encourage undergraduate students to participate and help make this session a success.

Send papers and abstracts to Dr. L. Allan James (ajames@sc.edu), SEDAAG vice president and program chair, Department of Geography, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, (803) 777-6117, fax (803) 777-4972.

Call for Manuscripts

SEDAAG, as part of the AAG centennial celebration, is preparing a book, tentatively entitled, *The South's Role in the Making of American Geography: Centennial of the AAG*. James O. Wheeler, University of Georgia, and Stanley D. Brunn, University of Kentucky, are the editors. While some contributions are being solicited, the editors wish to extend the call for submissions throughout SEDAAG and the profession. Both chapter-length manuscripts and shorter, focused vignettes are welcome.

An abstract and tentative outline of the proposed contribution should be sent before April 1, 2003. Contributions may be based on archival material, field notes, various data sources, key personalities and departmental histories. Contributions may be historical or contemporary. High-contrast, black-and-white photos may be used sparingly, except for short photo essays. Please contact editors for potential ideas and additional information. The deadline for final manuscripts is May 31, 2003. Publication is planned for January 2004. Please send contributions (E-mail attachments preferred) to James O. Wheeler (jowheel@uga.edu), Department of Geography, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-2502.

Early Career Faculty Attend Workshop in Colorado

Several faculty members from the SEDAAG region attended the inaugural summer workshops for the Geography Faculty Development Alliance [GFDA] in Boulder, Colo. The June 2002 workshops featured sessions on active learning, the scholarship of teaching, time management, grant writing and publishing.

The GFDA is an NSF-funded project led by Ken Foote of the University of Colorado. It is a long-term, broad-based project to improve the learning and teaching of geography in higher education. The aim is to provide early career faculty and advanced doctoral students with the theoretical and practical knowledge needed to excel in the lecture hall, seminar room and laboratory. Key objectives of the project are to foster a culture of support and success for early career faculty, to help them understand the fundamental interconnections between their teaching and research, and to advance the scholarship of teaching and learning across the entire discipline.

This project involves several components: summer workshops, follow-up seminars, panel discussions and paper sessions at the annual meetings of the Association of American Geographers and the National Council for Geographic Education. There is also a longitudinal evaluation and research component to consider the value of the training to early career faculty during the tenure review process. A final component involves publishing the workshop materials as a stand-alone course for use in graduate geography programs.

The two summer 2003 workshops are already full, but a waiting list is being formed for the 2004 workshops. For more information, see the GFDA Web site at www.colorado.edu/geography/gfda/gfda.html, or contact Ken Foote (k.foote@colorado.edu) or Anita Howard (anita.howard@colorado.edu).

2003 SEDAAG Membership

SEDAAG membership continues to be a great bargain. Members receive the semiannual journal *Southeastern Geographer*, the periodic newsletter and information about the annual meeting to be held this year in Charlotte, N.C.

Dues support a number of activities, including the graduate Student Honors Competition and scholarship, the popular World Geography Bowl, and recognition for faculty achievements in research, service and lifetime achievement. Also consider making a donation to the endowment(s) when paying your dues. The John Fraser Hart Endowment is dedicated to the best Ph.D. student paper and presentation in the honors session at the annual meeting.

Share the excitement of SEDAAG by encouraging colleagues and students to join as well. The Southeastern Division is widely considered a model of an active and thriving division of the AAG. For further information, consult any officer or the Web site at www.sedaag.org.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Walcott
SEDAAG Treasurer

Note: Your membership fee is separate from the annual meeting fee. Your cancelled check will serve as your receipt.



SOUTHEASTERN DIVISION ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN GEOGRAPHERS

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- New member (also check category below)
- Regular member \$25
- Couple \$26
- Retired \$12.50
- Retired couple \$13.50
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Faculty signature for student _____

Contribution to Endowment Fund \$ _____

Contribution to Hart Endowment \$ _____

Please return your form, with check, to:
Susan M. Walcott
Department of Anthropology and Geography
Georgia State University
33 Gilmer Street, University Plaza
Atlanta, GA 30303-3083



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