

SEDAAG 2008 – Greensboro, North Carolina
Steering Committee: Sunday, 11:00 am to 5:00pm

Please note that our Steering Committee will be organized somewhat unconventionally. We will deal with new business before hearing state, committee, and officer reports. In addition, reports will focus not only on the usual issues, but also the current state of SEDAAG and how the Regional Division can be improved. Please make reports time efficient and substantive. Make sure that electronic copies of all reports are submitted to current SEDAAG Secretary Hilda Kurtz (hkurtz@uga.edu).

Preliminaries

- Distribute Agenda (final amendments/changes to agenda)
- Welcome and Introductions: SEDAAG President, Derek Alderman, East Carolina University
- Introductions and Congrats to In-Coming Officers and State Representatives
 - Vice President: Jonathan Leib, Old Dominion University
 - Secretary: Jamie Strickland, UNC-Charlotte
 - Historian: Rick Sambrook, Eastern Kentucky Univ. (appointed position)
 - Endowment Committee: Allan James, University of South Carolina (appointed)
 - Georgia: Thomas Chapman, Georgia Southern University
 - Mississippi: David Holt, University of Southern Mississippi
 - North Carolina: Bill Graves, UNC-Charlotte
 - Tennessee: Ron Kalafsky, University of Tennessee
 - Virginia: Kevin Curtin, George Mason University
- Thanks to officers who are stepping down/rotating out after 2008 meeting
 - Vice President: Russ Ivy, Florida Atlantic University
 - Secretary: Hilda Kurtz, University of Georgia
 - Historian: Ron Mitchelson, East Carolina University (appointed position)
 - Endowment Committee: Ron Schultz (appointed)
 - Georgia: Doug Oetter, Georgia College & State University
 - Mississippi: John Rodgers, Mississippi State University
 - North Carolina: Dan Royall, UNC-Greensboro
 - Tennessee: Esra Ozdenerol, University of Memphis
 - Virginia: Johnathan Walker, James Madison University
- Opening Comments and President's Report/Directive (Alderman)

New Business

- Discussion and approval of new SEDAAG Student Representative Officer (Alderman)
- Invitation to SEDAAG 2009 Meeting
 - Presentation and approval of Knoxville 2009 SEDAAG Meeting Plan (Kalafsky)
- Invitation to SEDAAG for 2010
 - Presentation and approval of Birmingham 2010 SEDAAG Meeting Plan (Fournier)
- Discussion of Meeting Site for SEDAAG 2011 (Alderman)
- Presentation and discussion of outreach efforts in Cuba/Caribbean (David Brommer)

Nominations

- Compile nominee list for Honors and Nominations Committees (Alderman will accept nominations in advance)
- Nominations received thus far: Maria Fadiman (FAU), Katherine Hankins (GSU), Jeff Popke (ECU), Rick Sambrook (EKU), Josh Inwood (Auburn),

Executive Committee and Journal Reports/Remarks

- Vice President/Program Chair, Russ Ivy, Florida Atlantic University
- Secretary, Hilda Kurtz, University of Georgia
- SEDAAG Treasurer, Katie Algeo, Western Kentucky University
- SEDAAG Councilor to AAG, Doug Gamble, UNC-Wilmington
- *Southeastern Geographer*, Robert Brinkmann and Graham Tobin, Univ. of South Florida

Committee Reports/Remarks

- Local Arrangements Committee, Gordon Bennett, UNC-Greensboro
- Honors, Joby Bass, University of Southern Mississippi
- Nominations, Eric Fournier, Samford University
- Tellers, Katherine Hankins, Georgia State University
- Audit, Maria Fadiman, Florida Atlantic University
- WGB, Bill Carstensen, Virginia Tech
- SEDAAG Web Site, Bill Carstensen, Virginia Tech
- SEDAAG Endowment, Steve Birdsall, UNC-Chapel Hill
- Southern Studies, Tink Moore, UNC-Charlotte
- AAG Study of American South Specialty Group (Jonathan Leib)
- Status of Women, Esra Ozdenerol, East Carolina University
- Education, Eric Fournier, Samford University
- Historian, Ron Mitchelson, East Carolina University
- SAGE, Helen Ruth Aspaas, Virginia Commonwealth University, and Thomas Howard, Armstrong Atlantic State University (also appointed regional coordinators to national SAGE effort led by AAG)
- Resolutions, L.J. Palmer-Maloney, Barton College (at Business Meeting)

State Reports/Remarks

Alabama, Lisa Davis, University of Alabama
Florida, Lisa Jordan, Florida State University
Georgia, Doug Oetter, Georgia College and State University
Kentucky, Scott Dobler, Western Kentucky University
Mississippi, John Rogers, Mississippi State University
North Carolina, Dan Royall, UNC-Greensboro
South Carolina, Diansheng Guo, University of South Carolina
Tennessee, Esra Ozdenerol, University of Memphis
Virginia, Johnathan Walker, James Madison University
West Virginia, Ann Oberhauser, West Virginia University

**Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers
Business Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, November 25, 2008, 10:15-12:30
Derek Alderman, President, East Carolina University**

Preliminaries

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the Minutes of the 2007 Business Meeting (from spring 2008 *Newsletter*)

Necrology

Announcement of New Officers and State Representatives

AAG Update

Final remarks by Doug Richardson, Executive Director of the AAG and John Agnew, AAG President

SEDAAG Liaison with AAG

Tyrel Moore, Regional Councilor's Report

SEDAAG President's Report

Derek Alderman

Results of 2008 Steering Committee Meeting

Suggestions for Improving Operation of SEDAAG

Issues Facing Future of Regional Division

Discussion and Vote on SEDAAG Student Representative Position (Bylaw change)

2009 Nominating and Honors Committee Elections

Hilda Kurtz, SEDAAG Secretary Presiding:

- Nominations Committee – Lisa Davis, Chair-Elect for 2009 (5 nominations required, 2 to be elected). Candidate with largest vote total is chair-elect for 2010.
- Honors Committee – Ross Meentemeyer, Chair-Elect for 2009 (6 nominations required, 4 to be elected). Candidate with largest vote total is chair-elect for 2010.

Annual Meetings

Vice President's Report on the 2008 Meeting – Russ Ivy

Future Meeting Sites - Knoxville, Tennessee 2009 (Ron Kalafsky); Birmingham, Alabama 2010 (Eric Fournier).

Fiscal Affairs

Membership and Treasurer Report (Katie Algeo)

Audit Committee Report (Maria Fadiman)

Meeting Registration Fees (Gordon Bennett & Jeff Patton)

Endowment Committee Report (Steve Birdsall)

Publications

Secretary's Report, the *SEDAAG Newsletter* (Hilda Kurtz)

Editor's Report, *Southeastern Geographer* (Bob Brinkmann and Graham Tobin)

SEDAAG Web Site Report (Bill Carstensen)

Committee Reports

1) Honors – Joby Bass

2) Nominations – Eric Fournier

3) Tellers – Katherine Hankins

4) Southern Studies – Tink Moore

5) Status of Women – Esra Ozdenerol

6) Education – Eric Fournier

7) World Geography Bowl – Bill Carstensen

8) SAGE – Tom Howard/Helen Ruth Aspaas

9) Historian – Ron Mitchelson

Concluding Items

2009 Nominating and Honors Committee Election Results (Hilda Kurtz)

Resolutions Committee (L.J. Palmer-Moloney)

Invitation to Knoxville, Tennessee in 2009 (Ron Kalafsky)

Adjournment

President's Report to SEDAAG

Derek H. Alderman
East Carolina University
November 2008

Election Results and Appointments

1. Congratulations to our newly elected SEDAAG officers:

- Vice President: Jonathan Leib, Old Dominion University
- Secretary: Jamie Strickland, UNC-Charlotte
- Georgia: Thomas Chapman, Georgia Southern University
- Mississippi: David Holt, University of Southern Mississippi
- North Carolina: Bill Graves, UNC-Charlotte
- Tennessee: Ron Kalafsky, University of Tennessee
- Virginia: Kevin Curtin, George Mason University

2. The Division expresses its appreciation to those ending their terms of office at this meeting:

- Vice President: Russ Ivy, Florida Atlantic University
- Secretary: Hilda Kurtz, University of Georgia
- Georgia: Doug Oetter, Georgia College & State University
- Mississippi: John Rodgers, Mississippi State University
- North Carolina: Dan Royall, UNC-Greensboro
- Tennessee: Esra Ozdenerol, University of Memphis
- Virginia: Johnathan Walker, James Madison University

3. Major appointments during the year have included:

- Richard Sambrook (Eastern Kentucky University) as the new Historian, replacing Ron Mitchelson (East Carolina University). Thanks to Ron for his service.
- Allan James (University of South Carolina) to the Endowment Committee, replacing Ron Schultz. Thanks to Ronald for his many years of service.
- Helen Ruth Aspaas (Virginia Commonwealth University) and Tom Howard (Armstrong Atlantic State University) as Regional Coordinators/Liaisons for new national SAGE initiative started by AAG.

4. In I am pleased to announce that Doug Gamble has been elected the new AAG Regional Councillor for the Southeast. The councillor position serves as a valuable liaison between the national organization, SEDAAG, and AAG members throughout the region. Doug replaces Tyrel "Tink" Moore, who served with great distinction the past three years. Tink should be praised for his advocacy for SEDAAG as well as his spirit of collegiality and cooperation. We are truly lucky to have had Tink working on our behalf. Please join me in thanking Tink for his excellent record of service. The Regional Councillor election was held in early 2008 and ballots were mailed to all AAG members living in the 10 states of the Region. I appreciate Tellers Committee Chair Katherine Hankins (Georgia State University) and Nominations Committee Chair Eric Fournier (Samford University) for their assistance with this election.

Publications

1. Robert Brinkmann and Graham Tobin (University of South Florida) are completing their first year as Editors of the *Southeastern Geographer*. Bob and Graham are carrying out important initiatives. They have made the manuscript submission and review process completely electronic. Perhaps most important, they are transitioning the journal to a quarterly publication. This past year three issues were published (Volume 48, No. 1 (May), No. 2 (August), No. 3 (November)). Beginning in 2009 (Volume 49), the *Southeastern Geographer* will be published four times a year. This is a significant stride for the journal and will go far in raising its visibility and perceived academic prominence, hopefully leading to inclusion in the ISI citation index. Bob and Graham currently seek proposals for guest edited special issues. Also of significant note is the journal's improving financial status. A renewal of the publication agreement with UNC Press was signed in 2008. The Regional Division's relationship with UNC Press is a valuable one that has allowed the journal to gain needed electronic exposure and realize significant royalties from *Project Muse*. I have asked the Editors to prepare an announcement of the journal's new quarterly status for publication in the *AAG Newsletter* and dissemination among specialty groups and other academic communities inside and outside of geography. I would like to investigate the possibility of the *Southeastern Geographer's* new quarterly status being advertised in an upcoming issue of the *Annals* or *Professional Geographer* as a courtesy to the Regional Division.

2. SEDAAG Secretary Hilda Kurtz (University of Georgia) compiled, edited, and distributed two issues of the *SEDAAG Newsletter* for spring and summer 2008. For the third year, newsletters were distributed electronically by email, eliminating the cost of printing and mailing traditional paper copies. At the request of the Executive Committee, a new approach to newsletter distribution was undertaken this year. Newsletters were sent to all AAG members in the Southeast in addition to paid SEDAAG members. This was done to disseminate word about SEDAAG activities and assist in membership recruitment. Hilda should be commended for creating the Division's first listserv, which she used to distribute the summer 2008 newsletter. She has created an invaluable tool for improving and expanding communication among members. Of particular note is the listserv's ability to monitor and report on faulty or undeliverable email addresses. She has offered to allow the listserv to be housed at UGA even after the term of her office.

3. Bill Carstensen (Virginia Tech) continues to serve as the Division's webmaster. Bill has done an excellent job at maintaining the website at little or no cost to the Division. The website provides a vital link between SEDAAG and its membership, and its quality is critical. Following the directive made last year by then-President Jerry Webster, I would like to suggest that the members of the Steering Committee each visit and review the website to determine what, if any, changes or improvements might be appropriate.

SEDAAG Finances and Membership

Essential to the long term financial health of SEDAAG and its ability to support the publication of the *Southeastern Geographer* on a quarterly basis is a large, stable membership and the wise management of the Division's finances. Recognizing this fact, Treasurer Katie Algeo has undertaken a proactive strategy of managing SEDAAG assets through fixed-rate CDs with

staggered terms. I commend her efforts. As she points out, the Division needs to address ways of making the John Fraser Hart Award Account sustainable. Katie also reports that SEDAAG had 513 members as of November 17, 2008. This level of membership is an exciting development given that the Division reported having 447 members in 2007. The increase is due, in large part, to the enforcement of a membership requirement for participants at the annual SEDAAG meeting. Requiring participants to be members, which is carried out at national AAG meetings and called for in Division bylaws, led the Executive Committee to create a separate, higher registration rate for meeting participants choosing not to join SEDAAG. The Division will continue to carry out this registration policy at future annual meetings. The increase in membership may also be a product of more aggressive advertising of SEDAAG. In spring and summer of 2008, I emailed membership renewal reminders to department chairs in the Southeast and distributed a marketing flier ("SEDAAG has its rewards") to all AAG members in the Southeast. The newly created SEDAAG listserv will be very helpful in reminding people to renew their memberships in the future.

New Faculty Recognition/Support

The 2008 meeting marked the beginning of two new initiatives intended to broaden the support and recognition that our members receive from SEDAAG.

First, the Regional Division bestowed its first Outstanding Educator Award along with the established Research, Service, and Lifetime Achievement Honors. Eric Fournier had the idea of creating this award and it was enthusiastically supported and approved in 2007 by the Executive and Steering Committees. Eric worked with Joby Bass, Chair of the Honors Committee, in composing the guidelines and requirements for the Educator Award. The recipient of the inaugural Outstanding Educator Award is Margaret "Peggy" Gripshover (University of Tennessee). Such an award is long overdue and allows us to reward those who have a positive impact in the classroom and through the mentoring of students. Please consider nominating a deserving colleague for next year and send your nomination to Honors Committee Chair-elect Ross Meentemeyer (UNC-Charlotte).

A second noteworthy initiative that began in 2008 was the Small Grant Program, an annual monetary award intended to support the research efforts of junior faculty who are members of SEDAAG. At my request, the Endowment Committee, chaired by Stephen Birdsall, composed the guidelines for submission, posted a call for grant proposals, evaluated submissions, and announced the recipient for 2008. The recipient of the inaugural small grant program for junior faculty is Shrinidhi Ambinakudige (Mississippi State University). Funding for the grant program comes from interest generated from the Division's endowment account. I appreciate the willingness of the members of the Endowment Committee to administer this new program. The Regional Division has long placed a high value on research, but the Small Grant Program signals our first attempt to deliver ongoing financial support to research activities directly. Future growth of this initiative and others supported by the endowment are dependent upon donations. Please consider this fact as you make gift-giving plans for the year.

Creation of SEDAAG Student Representative

Students make up a large part of our membership roll and attendance at annual meetings. Given the important role that students play in the life of SEDAAG, it is surprising that they have not had a place on the Steering Committee. Almost every specialty group in AAG has a student serving on its board of officers. Giving students a greater voice is not only fair, but also essential

in enhancing their "sense of belonging" in the Division. This sense of belonging could have an impact on long-term membership, perhaps increasingly the likelihood of students retaining a relationship with SEDAAG after graduation. I have already received the support of the Executive Committee to create the appointed position of SEDAAG Student Representative. Discussions were held at this year's Steering Committee Meeting with the hope of formalizing the idea and gaining support to take the measure before members at this year's Business Meeting for approval. Creation of the new student position requires an amendment or addition to the Division's bylaws. Proposal of the amendment was publicized in the summer 2008 newsletter. Seeking feedback from a diversity of programs and disciplinary experiences, it is expected that the appointment of SEDAAG Student Representative will rotate across the region, allowing all states of the Division to be represented at some point. It is my hope that the Student Representative can provide a valuable perspective on the interests and needs of student members and help create opportunities to organize students at SEDAAG meetings, whether for the purposes of networking and socializing, community service/activism, or professional development.

Reflecting on the Future of SEDAAG/Improving the Operation of the Division

SEDAAG, like any organization, must maintain important traditions while remaining open to transition and innovation. No doubt, SEDAAG has earned a reputation for being progressive and dynamic. Yet, for all the great things that we do, there is always room for improvement. Significant time and energy at the 2008 Executive and Steering Committee Meetings were devoted to assessing the Division's practices and policies. Conducting such reflection is necessary given that our professional organization is constantly evolving. To provide members a forum to raise issues of concern and ideas for improvement, I organized a special session at the Greensboro meeting. Past and current leaders of the Division served as panelists on this panel. The recommendations resulting from this panel and deliberations with the Executive and Steering Committees will be presented to the membership at a later date, perhaps in the *SEDAAG Newsletter*. However, obvious and easily achievable improvements to the Division's operations will be pursued immediately after the 2008 meeting in Greensboro. I invite all members, student and faculty alike, to provide input about how SEDAAG can better serve them. Members should feel free to contact me, their state representative, or Regional Councillor Doug Gamble.

Future Meeting Sites

SEDAAG has invitations for the next two years. Ron Kalafsky (University of Tennessee) has invited the Regional Division to Knoxville, TN for 2009. Eric Fournier (Samford University) has invited SEDAAG to Birmingham, AL in 2010.

Derek H. Alderman
East Carolina University

Analysis of Greensboro SEDAAG Meeting Program Participation by School and State, 1993 versus 2008

By Derek H. Alderman & Jessie Messina, East Carolina University

Purpose

To examine the institutional (school) affiliation of SEDAAG meeting participants, that is, those faculty and students who appear on the program in some capacity or role. By comparing participant data for 2008 with 1993, the last time that SEDAAG met in Greensboro (NC), we hope to detect changes in the extent to which certain schools participate in the annual meeting. The overall intent is to reflect on the changing popularity of SEDAAG within some geography departments and identify departments and states for future marketing and recruitment efforts.

Method

Published programs for 1993 and 2008 SEDAAG meeting were used to compile a database of participants (i.e., people who appeared on the program) and their affiliations. Participants are not the same as meeting attendees or registrants. Participants are defined as those who appeared on the meeting program. A participant would anyone who presented a paper or poster (1st author only), chaired a session, organized a session, served as a member of the Steering and Honors committees, or involved in Geography Bowl (moderators, judges, and team coordinators). People serving on the Geography Bowl Committee or the Program Committee were not classified as participants at the meeting, although many of these committee members were found serving other roles in the program and thus were included. In compiling statistics on participation at SEDAAG meetings, each person was counted only once even if that person served multiple roles at the meeting. Because of differences in the size of the meetings examined, analysis focused on the percentage of total SEDAAG participants contributed by each school and state rather than the absolute counts of participants.

General Results

1993 Greensboro SEDAAG Meeting

- 150 people appeared on the meeting program at least once.
- 47 different colleges/universities represented 13 different states
- 41% of all participants contributed by 5 schools (Univ. of Georgia, UNC-Chapel Hill, Univ. of South Carolina, Univ. of Tenn., UNC-Greensboro)
- 85% of all participants contributed by 25 schools
- Total attendance: 430 (181 regular, 223 students, 26 spouses)
- 81 papers distributed across 19 sessions

2008 Greensboro SEDAAG Meeting

- 254 people appeared on the meeting program at least once.
- 55 different colleges/universities represented 17 different states
- 37% of all participants contributed by 5 schools (East Carolina Univ., UNC-Greensboro, UNC-Charlotte, Univ. of Tenn., Univ. of Florida)
- 89% of all participants contributed by 25 schools
- Total attendance: unknown at this point
- 134 papers and 68 posters distributed across 31 sessions

Note: 1993 meeting did not have poster sessions. The 2008 meeting had a record number of posters submitted.

Top 20 Contributing Schools--1993 Greensboro Meeting

College/University	Number of Participants.	% of Participants
Univ. of Georgia	20	13.3
UNC-Chapel Hill	14	9.3
Univ. of South Carolina	12	8.0
UNC-Greensboro	8	5.3
Univ. of Tennessee	8	5.3
Georgia State Univ.	6	4.0
Univ. of Memphis	6	4.0
UNC-Charlotte	5	3.3
App. State Univ.	5	3.3
Univ. of Alabama	5	3.3
West Virginia Univ.	5	3.3
Univ. of Kentucky	4	2.7
Old Dominion Univ.	4	2.7
Virginia Tech	4	2.7
Valdosta State Univ.	3	2.0
Univ. of South Florida	2	1.3
Univ. of Mary Washington	2	1.3
Samford Univ.	2	1.3
Eastern Kentucky Univ.	2	1.3

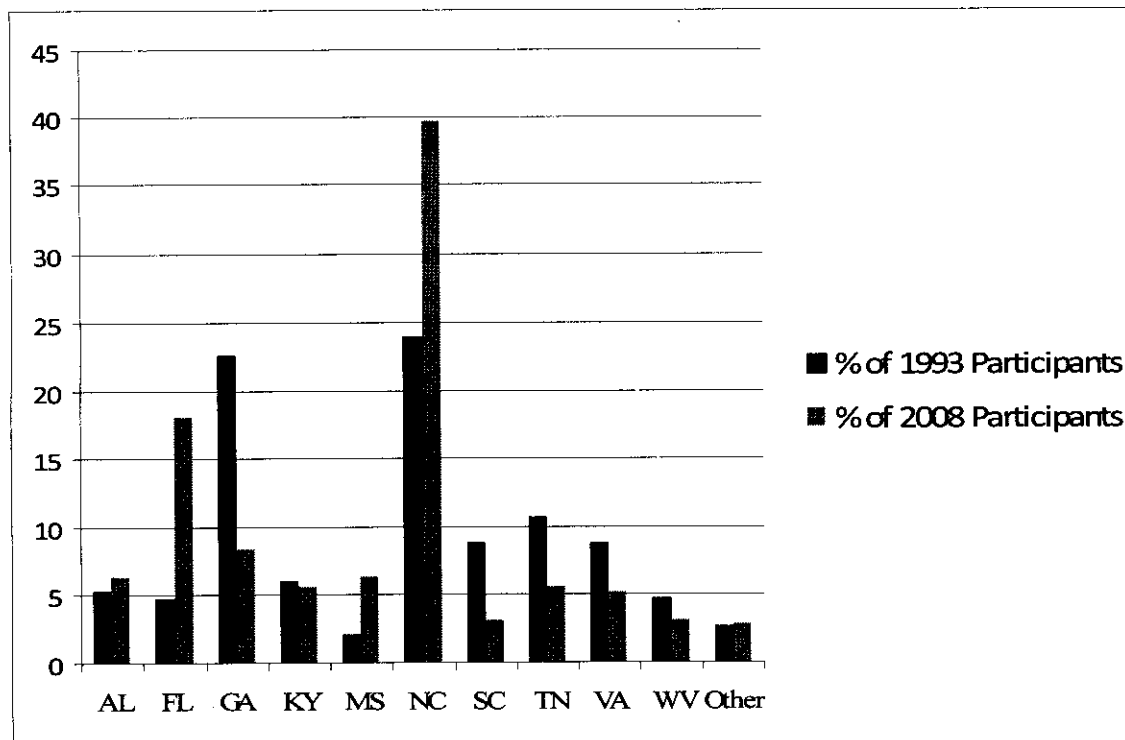
Top 20 Contributing Schools--2008 Greensboro Meeting

College/University	Number of Participants	% of Participants
East Carolina Univ.	25	9.5
UNC-Greensboro	23	8.7
UNC-Charlotte	22	8.3
Univ. of Florida	12	4.5
Univ. of Southern Miss.	12	4.5
Univ. of Tennessee	12	4.5
App. State Univ.	11	4.2
UNC-Chapel Hill	11	4.2
Florida State Univ.	10	3.8
Univ. of South Florida	10	3.8
Univ. of Georgia	9	3.4
Univ. of Kentucky	9	3.4
Univ. of Alabama	8	3.0
Univ. of South Carolina	8	3.0
Florida Atlantic Univ.	7	2.7
West Virginia Univ.	6	2.3
Georgia So. Univ.	4	1.5
Georgia State Univ.	4	1.5
Univ. of Mary Washington	4	1.5

Contribution of SEDAAG Meeting Participants by State, 1993 vs. 2008

State	% of 1993 Participants	% of 2008 Participants
AL	5	6
FL	5	18
GA	23	8
KY	6	6
MS	2	6
NC	24	40
SC	9	3
TN	11	6
VA	9	5
WV	5	3
Other	3	3

Percentages are rounded and may not total to 100.



Possible Reasons/Issues Related to Participation Patterns

- Participation by specific departments linked to affiliation of SEDAAG officers at the time
- Changes in individual departments (e.g., growth and decline, reorganization, relocation of SEDAAG-friendly faculty, retirements of key figures, etc.)
- Budgetary cuts and limitations related to travel, particularly for small departments but also large ones
- For some large, traditional PhD departments, there has been a change in priorities and institutional culture, leading to less support for SEDAAG participation

Schools Experiencing the Greatest Gains in SEDAAG Participation, 1993 vs. 2008 (as % of total program participants)

College/University	1993		2008	
	Number of Participants	1993 % of Participants	Number of Participants	2008 % of Participants
East Carolina Univ.	1	0.7	25	9.5
UNC-Charlotte	5	3.3	22	8.3
Univ. of Florida	1	0.7	12	4.5
Univ. of Southern Miss.	1	0.7	12	4.5
UNC-Greensboro	8	5.3	23	8.7
Florida State Univ.	1	0.7	10	3.8
Univ. of South Florida	2	1.3	10	3.8
Florida Atlantic Univ.	1	0.7	7	2.7
Stetson Univ.	0	0.0	3	1.1
UNC-Wilmington	0	0.0	3	1.1

Schools Experiencing the Greatest Declines in SEDAAG participation, 1993 vs. 2008 (as % of total program)

College/University	1993		2008	
	Number of Participants	1993 % of Participants	Number of Participants	2008 % of Participants
Univ. of Georgia	20	13.3	9	3.4
UNC-Chapel Hill	14	9.3	11	4.2
Univ. of South Carolina	12	8.0	8	3.0
Univ. of Memphis	6	4.0	2	0.8
Georgia State Univ.	6	4.0	4	1.5
Virginia Tech	4	2.7	1	0.4
Valdosta State Univ.	3	2.0	0	0.0
Old Dominion Univ.	4	2.7	3	1.1
Emory & Henry College	2	1.3	0	0.0
Marshall Univ.	2	1.3	0	0.0
Middle Tenn. State Univ.	2	1.3	0	0.0

Schools that contributed meeting participants in 1993 but none in 2008

Dalton College
George Mason Univ.
Fort Valley State College
Glenville State College
Jacksonville Univ.
Mankato State Univ.
Morehead State Univ.
NC A&T Univ.
Univ. of Louisville
Univ. of South Carolina-Spartanburg
Western Carolina Univ.
Emory & Henry College
Marshall Univ.
Middle Tenn. State Univ.
Valdosta State Univ.

Schools that contributed meeting participants in 2008 but none in 1993

Armstrong Atlantic St. Univ.
Concord College
Elizabeth City State Univ.
Georgia College
Saginaw Valley State Univ
Salisbury Univ.
Santa Fe Comm. College
Sweet Briar College
Syracuse Univ.
Temple Univ.
Texas Tech Univ.
UNC-Asheville
Univ. of Mississippi
Univ. of North Alabama
Univ. of Richmond
Univ. of West Florida
Univ. of Wyoming
VA Commonwealth Univ.
West Liberty State College
Auburn Univ.
James Madison Univ.
Winston-Salem State Univ.
Stetson Univ.
UNC-Wilmington

SEDAAG Treasurer's Report 2008

Katie Algeo, Treasurer

Financial Outlook

Upon taking over as treasurer, I opened an account for SEDAAG with US Bank, a financially sound institution that earned a 4-star rating (out of a possible 5; most institutions are rated 3 or 4) on bankrate.com's Safe&Sound Report. US Bank does not seem to have been unduly affected by the subprime mortgage fiasco, and I believe we can continue to leave SEDAAG assets there with confidence. Key summary indicators from the bankrate report include:

Key Asset Quality information and ratios:	Ratio (%)	Assessment
Nonperforming Asset Ratio	7.23	Relatively Low
Loss Reserve Coverage	146.72	Better Than Normal
Loan Yield	6.53	Conservative
Asset Growth Rate	9.63	Normal

I implemented the strategy for managing SEDAAG assets that was discussed at last year's business meeting, namely investing the bulk of funds in fixed-rate CDs with staggered terms to ensure that funds become available to pay obligations throughout the year. Thus, for each SEDAAG fund (Operating, Hart Award and Endowment), I manage a floating mix of 2-4 CDs, trying to capture the best interest rate available at any given time. This strategy requires more active management on the part of the Treasurer, but has paid off in terms of solid interest income despite a climate of falling interest rates. As CDs come up for renewal, however, the lower interest rates currently prevailing mean that we should not expect any growth in next year's interest income and will perhaps experience a slight decline.

A detailed financial report is attached. The **Operating Account** experienced an increase of slightly less than \$2000 and now stands at just under \$74,000. Two one-time obligations were paid this year, however, that amounted to more than \$10,000 (a \$5,500 repayment to the Endowment Account for a loan made some years ago to assist with the publication of the Wheeler/Brunn book; and a two-year deficit (2006 & 2007) to UNC Press publication of *Southeastern Geographer*). Without similar payments in future years, and with continued growth of Project Muse royalties (up from \$3,923 in 2006 to \$6,787 in 2008), we can expect rapid growth in the Operating Account. One of our challenges will be to identify a good use for a portion of these funds, which I believe now exceed our needs for operating costs. One suggestion is an annual donation from the Operating Account to the Hart Award fund, for reasons explained below.

Between a gift and interest, the **Hart Award Account** grew by \$362 and now amounts to slightly more than \$10,000. Given that the annual Hart Award carries a cash prize of \$1000, this account is not sustainable over the long term. Because motivating, supporting and

recognizing outstanding doctoral student research is a prime goal of SEDAAG, it seems reasonable that this prize should be supported by the organization with an annual contribution from the Operating Account.

The **Endowment Account** accumulated gifts and interest amounting to \$852. This money is sufficient to cover the first SEDAAG Early Faculty Grant (this year one award for \$741) without touching the Endowment's capital. I expect that interest income for next year will be somewhat lower, however. Perhaps the Operating Account should also make an annual donation to ensure that the Early Faculty Grant can be paid without tapping the Endowment's capital or even to increase the number of awards that are made.

Membership

Maintaining a healthy membership is critical to positive cash flow for SEDAAG. Net income from UNC Press (our portion of dues and royalties received minus the publishing deficit) showed a substantial increase this year (\$9,719 in 2008; \$5,378 in 2007; \$4,341 increase). Growth in Project Muse royalties accounts for only 25% of this (\$6787 in 2008; \$5718 in 2007; \$1069 increase). Thus, much of this increase is attributable to the concerted efforts of SEDAAG officers and those involved with planning the annual meeting to ensure that all participants were cognizant of renewed enforcement of the membership requirement for participation. Special recognition is owed to Russ Ivy and Derek Alderman for their work in this regard.

As of November 17, 2008, SEDAAG had 513 members, including members from Division states and from outside the region. The table below details membership from SEDAAG states. Membership within the division increased by 22% over the previous year. It is notable, however, that almost all of those gains were among non-student members. Student membership did not change substantially, suggesting an area that might be targeted for future growth efforts.

State	Student SEDAAG			Non-Student SEDAAG			Total SEDAAG		
	2007	2008	% Change	2007	2008	% Change	2007	2008	% Change
AL	5	6	20%	22	32	45%	27	38	41%
FL	33	28	-15%	47	53	13%	80	81	1%
GA	13	21	62%	28	33	18%	41	54	32%
KY	7	9	29%	16	23	44%	23	32	39%
MS	3	5	67%	5	23	360%	8	28	250%
NC	63	62	-2%	61	74	21%	124	136	10%
SC	11	6	-45%	22	23	5%	33	29	-12%
TN	5	9	80%	14	24	71%	19	33	74%
VA	5	3	-40%	19	29	53%	24	32	33%
WV	2	2	0%	17	19	12%	19	21	11%
Total	147	151	3%	251	333	33%	398	484	22%

At its 2007 meeting, the Steering Committee resolved to police the membership requirement for participation in the annual meeting with greater vigilance. Although the increased membership noted above is a result of this effort, as of the Monday before the meeting (Nov. 17, 2008), a substantial number of participants had not responded to multiple reminders of the requirement. Of 133 paper presenters, 18 (13.5%) were non-members. Of 68 posters, 21 (33%) had no author who was a member. The higher percentage of non-compliance among poster presenters probably reflects the larger proportion of students in this group, but also underscores the need to reach out to students, convincing them of the benefits of membership and socializing them into the institutional fold.

SOUTHEASTERN DIVISION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN GEOGRAPHERS
TREASURER'S REPORT, NOVEMBER 2008

Operating Account

Transfer Balance (12/4/2007) \$72,152.99

Receipts:

Donation to open Account - Algeo	\$20.00
Dues from UNC Press 2008	\$11,206.00
Annual AAG Support	\$1,000.00
AAG Support of SAGE Travel Awards	\$350.00
2007 Meeting (Charleston) Surplus	\$2,835.00
Interest	\$1,331.36
Total Receipts	\$16,742.36

Disbursements:

Repayment of 2003 loan (for publication of Wheeler/Brunn book) from Endowment Account (\$5000 + \$500 interest), as agreed at 2007 business meeting	\$5,500.00
UNC Press FY06 & FY07 deficit for Southeastern Geographer	\$4,943.00
UNC Press FY08 Southeastern Geographer thru June 2008	\$1,487.00
Checks for new account (Deluxe Business Systems)	\$40.62
SAGE 2007 Travel reimbursement (2 scholars @ \$350)	\$700.00
Honors Plaques (2007 student winners)	\$89.45
Merle Prunty 2007 Award	\$500.00
Student Honors AAG memberships	\$108.00
Complimentary SEDAAG memberships (7 @ \$10)	\$70.00
Geography Bowl 2008 Travel Support	\$900.00
Mailing expenses for Regional Councilor Election	\$577.00
	\$14,915.07

Receipts minus disbursements \$1,827.29

CLOSING BALANCE OPERATING ACCOUNT (11/12/08)

\$73,980.28

Hart Award Account

Transfer Balance (12/4/2007)	\$9,836.97
Gift	\$100.00
Interest	\$261.94

CLOSING BALANCE HART AWARD ACCOUNT (11/12/08)

\$10,198.91

SEDAAG Endowment Fund

Transfer Balance (12/4/2007)	\$23,294.60
Repayment of 2003 loan (for publication of Wheeler/Brunn book) to Operating Account (\$5000 + \$500 interest), as agreed at 2007 business meeting	\$5,500.00
Gifts	\$200.00
Interest	\$652.46

CLOSING BALANCE ENDOWMENT ACCOUNT (11/12/08)

\$29,647.06

Total SEDAAG Assets (11/12/08)

\$113,826.25

Program Committee Report
SEDAAG 2008, Greensboro, NC
Submitted by Russ Ivy, SEDAAG Vice President and Program Chair

The program committee consisted of 29 members from throughout the SEDAAG Region. A total of 137 papers (including 13 honors submissions) and 68 posters (including 2 honors submissions) was received by the Program Chair. The honors submissions were shifted to the Honors Committee Chair, Joby Bass, with three papers being returned to the regular program. All regular session papers and poster descriptions went through a double blind review process by the Program Committee. Submissions with mixed reviews were sent to a third reviewer. In the end, 3 papers and zero posters were rejected.

Below are some comments regarding the submission and review process as well as some general comments from the Program Chair.

Comments regarding the submission process:

- 1) Staggering the poster and paper submission deadlines worked very well and made the review process less problematic for the program committee.
- 2) Having all submissions (honors as well) first sent to the Program Chair works well as it gives the Program Chair a better idea of the entire scope of the program.
- 3) The existing Participation Form is horribly problematic. It is not at all user-friendly. Many cannot figure out how to type their information into the form and the Program Chair gets all kinds of versions of this form, some unusable. Also, the spaces to differentiate between honors poster/paper and regular poster/paper submissions are not clearly defined.
- 4) Submission instructions appear to be highly confusing to the membership. We recommend COMPLETELY eliminating the long, detailed submission instructions from the newsletter and putting all submission information on the SEDAAG website. Also, we recommend having different links for *each* type of submission (regular paper, honors poster, etc.) with not only detailed instructions, but a list of what exactly is required in order for a complete submission. Separating the TYPES of submissions is very important as the membership seems to "mix" instructions.

Comments/questions from the Program Committee:

- 1) Is the paper review process really necessary? So few are historically rejected, and the review process is a large body of work that has to be completed in a short time period. Would the quality of the meeting really suffer from eliminating this process?
- 2) There seems to be no value in reviewing the posters. Historically, none have been rejected. Why do the posters need to be reviewed?

Comments/questions from the Program Chair:

- 1) It may be time to rethink the discussant feature of the Program. It is a very difficult task for the Program Chair to find the discussants. The discussants

themselves have commented that they do not feel they add that much value to the sessions as they have only tangent expertise to the topics at hand. Would the time be better spent having a longer presentation or a longer Q and A?

- 2) The meeting has grown to a size that the standard format of the meeting (mostly packed into Monday) is becoming problematic. We currently have so many simultaneous sessions that hotel spacing (and maybe cities that are viable to house the meeting) are becoming limited.

Southeastern Geographer
Status Report to the Membership
Robert Brinkmann and Graham A. Tobin, Editors
Leslie North, Editorial Assistant, Cartographic Editor

Summary

The status of the journal is sound. In 2008, we produced three issues with the approval of the membership. A new board was constituted, efforts were made to enhance the journal's submission and review process, new book review and cartographic editors were selected, and plans were developed for beginning quarterly production in 2009. In addition, the journal continues to make financial gains, although the journal expenses will increase in 2009 with the addition of a fourth issue. Some of these issues are expanded in the discussion below.

A. Structural Changes to the Journal's Manuscript Management Processes:

Since taking on the journal, we have made several changes to the manuscript management process. Instead of handling submissions and review processes on paper, we have streamlined the process and most papers are managed entirely electronically. We have also modified the review documents. We believe that this has reduced the time for authors to know of a decision regarding their paper and has made the process easier for reviewers. Since we have taken on the journal, it has taken an average of 49 days from the notice of receipt of manuscript to a decision.

B. Personnel Changes in the Journal Editorial Team: We wish to thank Dr. Chris Meindl for his excellent service to the journal in recent years. Chris has taken on additional administrative duties and has resigned his position as Book Review Editor. We are happy to report that Dr. Spencer Fleury of USF will take on that role in the coming editions. The first issue of 2009 is a little light in book reviews, but the upcoming editions should be much more in line with what is typical in the journal. Many of you remember that USF master's student Monica Exner served as the Editorial Assistant for the journal when we first became editors. Since then, Monica has moved to Seattle. We thank her for her dedicated service. We are pleased to welcome USF Ph.D. student, Leslie North as Editorial Assistant and Cartographic Editor. These two positions work well as one due to the nature of the role of the Editorial Assistant and the technical issues associated with figure publication.

C. The 2008 Publications: In 2008, the journal published three issues. Two were regular editions and one was a special issue (see attached Tables of Contents). Since the journal arrived at USF, we have had a 51% rejection rate of all articles submitted to the journal (this does not include revise and resubmits within the count). We have accepted 19 papers and rejected 20. Several others are in a revise and resubmit process (see Table 1). Guest Editors of the special issue, titled, *Museums, Narratives, and the Contested Memory of Slavery*, were Derek H. Alderman and E. Arnold Modlin, Jr. The special issue was advertised to attendees of the Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference held in Miami in November of 2008.

- D. The Volume 49 - 2009 Publications:** In 2009, the journal will publish four issues. Two will be regular editions and two will be special issues.

The first special issue will be on Florida and will be Guest Edited by Chris Meindl from the University of South Florida St. Petersburg. By late spring 2008 semester, Dr. Meindl secured verbal agreements from 11 people who agreed to submit at least one manuscript for consideration in this special issue (2 claimed they were working on multiple projects and they thought they might have two papers to submit). By the end of summer 2008, several of these authors confessed that they could not deliver as promised—but 5 people did supply manuscripts by the first week of September (plus one more around the first week of October) and all **SIX** papers were sent out for review to three readers each. The remaining reviews and prepare will be completed by 1 December; revised papers will be completed by 1 February and submitted for publication by 1 March (or sooner if necessary).

Luis Sanchez of FSU will Guest Edit a special issue with a focus on the geographies of Puerto Rico and Puerto Ricans. It will be a collection of research papers whose setting is at least partially, if not entirely, in Puerto Rico or Puerto Rican spaces/places. This special issue would like to draw attention to some of the fine work done by geographers and other related scholars in and on Puerto Rico and Puerto Ricans.

A total of 16 individual invitations to scholars both in Puerto Rico and the United States were made. Contributors were asked to submit their manuscripts no later than January 15, 2009. Currently, eight authors have confirmed their participation with the submission of a manuscript, and four of those have already submitted a manuscript. The topics of the contributions range from issues of urban geography, historic geography, migration, and medical geography. Sanchez' goal is to submit final (reviewed and revised) copy to the editors around June 2009.

We anticipate that the membership will receive Volume 49 issues late in the months of February, May, August, and November. The first issue of 2009 has been put to bed and we are working on the May and August issues now.

- E. The 2010 Publications:** We are looking for one or more editors for special issues for 2010. Please send us proposals. In addition, please continue to send in manuscripts and encourage your colleagues and students to submit manuscripts.
- F. Status of ISI Listing:** The journal had an open application for ISI listing and associated abstracting and ranking. Former Editors Derek Alderman and Scott Lecce submitted the application in 2005. The application was received and evaluated. The Thomson ISI Social Science/Arts and Humanities Editors did not grant a listing at that time due to the lack of citations to the journal. However, they kept the application open. We recently contacted Thomson ISI and they informed us that they will make a final decision this year, likely by December. If

we are denied, we will need to apply again in the future. We urge all members to cite to the journal whenever possible.

- G. Financial Status:** The journal continues to run a deficit, but the deficit has decreased from a high of \$5,776 in 2005 to a low of \$1,487 this year. The credit for this goes to the previous editors who instituted the project MUSE for the journal. Revenues from this enterprise gained the journal an all time high of \$6,787 in revenue this year. It must be noted that we are moving to a quarterly publication cycle and we anticipate that the expenses will increase by \$2,275. We hope that the project MUSE royalties continue to grow to defray these costs.

Table 1. Summary of manuscript status (2007-2008).

Total Received	Total Accepted	Total In-Progress	Total Rejected
48	19 (40%) – 49% not including in-progress manuscripts	9 (18%)	20 (42%) – 51% not including in-progress manuscripts
<i>In-Progress Manuscripts</i>			
Out for Review		Revise/Resubmit – Waiting Resubmission	
4		5	
<i>Rejected Manuscripts</i>			
2007 Rejections		2008 Rejections	
9		11	

These statistics reflect all of the manuscripts submitted for publication since the arrival of the SEG to USF

These figures do not reflect manuscripts submitted for special issue publication

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Spencer E. Fleury, Steve Carson, and Robert Brinkmann

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Mockingbird Song: Ecological Landscapes of the South

Jack Temple Kirby.

Reviewed by David S. Hardin

The Humane Metropolis: People and Nature in the 21st Century City

Rutherford H. Platt (editor)

Reviewed by Michael E. Lewis

The Inner Islands: A Carolinian's Sound Country Chronicle

Bland Simpson, photography by Ann Cary Simpson

Reviewed by Heather Ward

Hazards, Vulnerability and Environmental Justice

Susan L. Cutter

Reviewed by Philip L. Chaney

Critical Regionalism: Connecting Politics and Culture in the American Landscape

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The Shaping of America: A Geographical Perspective on 500 Years of History. Volume 4: Global America, 1915-2000.

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SEDAAG

Report of the Honors Committee 2007

Scott Curtis

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Jeremy Diem, Diane Styers

A Public Participation GIS Application for Citizen-based Watershed Monitoring in the
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Joseph A. Luchette, Tom Crawford

Inside the Gilded Cage: The Lives of Latino Immigrant Males in Rural Central Kentucky

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Workforce Shortages in the Manufacturing Sector: Evidence from Charlotte

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Useless Arithmetic: Why Environmental Scientists Can't Predict the Future

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North Carolina Plantation Museums

E. Arnold Modlin, Jr.

Imagining Plantations: Slavery, Dominant Narratives, and the Foreign Born

David L. Butler, Perry L. Carter and Owen J. Dwyer

Debating Race through the Tourist Plantation: Analyzing a *New York Times* Conversation

Josefer Montes and David L. Butler

A Slavery Museum? Race, Memory, and Landscape in Fredericksburg, Virginia

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Symbolic Excavation and the Artifact Politics of Remembering Slavery in the American
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Haifeng (Charlie) Zhang and David J. Cowen

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Pete Bettinger, Krista Merry, and Jeff Hepinstall

Fifty-One Years of Shoreline Change at Little Lagoon, Alabama

Glen Gibson, James Campbell, and Lisa Kennedy

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Lisa Davis and David M. Brommer

Reviews

From Rainforest to Cane Field in Cuba: An Environmental History since 1492

Reinaldo Funes Monzote

Reviewed by Susan J. Fernandez

Dire Predictions: Understanding Global Warming. The Illustrated Guide to the Findings of the Intergovernment Panel on Climate Change.

Lee R. Kump

Reviewed by Robert Brinkmann

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA PRESS, INC.

Statement of Operations for *Southeastern Geographer*
as of June 30, 2008

	<u>Fiscal Year Ending</u> 6/30/2008 Actual <u>V47#2/V48#1</u>	6/30/2007 Actual <u>V46#2/V47#1</u>	<u>Fiscal Year Ending</u> 6/30/2006 Actual <u>V45#2/V46#1</u>	6/30/2005 Actual <u>V44#2/V45#1</u>	6/30/2004 Actual <u>V44#1</u>
<u>Income</u>					
Subscription sales	9,497	10,044	9,722	8,870	3,558
Advertising		0	200	0	0
Royalties	1,226	1,199	131	2	0
Permissions	21	0	0	125	0
Project Muse Royalties	6,787	5,718	3,923	360	0
Total Income	17,531	16,961	13,976	9,357	3,558
<u>Expenses</u>					
Production	5,579	5,176	4,868	5,124	2,392
Printing	4,553	5,636	5,239	5,050	2,669
Postage - Journal Mailing	1,164	1,110	975	1,039	667
Press Commission	6,136	5,936	4,890	3,275	1,245
Supplies	0	0	14	55	0
Postage - Office	622	189	315	560	635
Back Issue Storage	297	260	225	0	0
Warehouse Fees/Postage	622	468	429	0	0
Copyright Registration	45	90	60	30	0
Total Expenses	19,018	18,865	17,015	15,133	7,608
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	(1,487)	(1,904)	(3,039)	(5,776)	(4,050)
<u>Reserve Fund</u>					
Balance at July 1	(4,943)	(3,039)	0	(4,050)	0
FY Operating Surplus (Deficit)	(1,487)	(1,904)	(3,039)	(5,776)	(4,050)
Payment from SEDAAAG	4,943	0	0	9,826	0
Balance at June 30	(1,487)	(4,943)	(3,039)	0	(4,050)
Deferred Sales for Future Issues	3,892	3,703	4,392	4,117	3,594

Report of the 2008 SEDAG Honors Committee

J.O. Joby Bass, Chair
Department of Geography and Geology, University of Southern Mississippi
Hattiesburg, MS 39406
joby@usm.edu
November 23, 2008

Honors Committee Membership:

Joby Bass, Chair – University of Southern Mississippi
Ross Meentemeyer, Chair Elect – University of North Carolina, Charlotte
Selina Sultana – University of North Carolina, Greensboro
Jennifer Arrigo – East Carolina University
Paul Gares – East Carolina University

Faculty Awards:

The Honors committee received nominations for awards in all four faculty award categories:

- Research (1 nomination) – Andrew Herod (University of Georgia)
- Service (1 nomination) – Donald Zeigler (Old Dominion University)
- Teaching (2 nominations) – Margaret Peggy Grishover (University of Tennessee) and Jennifer Collins (University of South Florida)
- Winner: Grishover
- Lifetime achievement (1 nomination) – Jesse McKee (Emeritus, University of Southern Mississippi)

After reviewing the nominations, CVs, and supporting letters, the committee chose and/or recommended awards for all nominations.

2008 marks the inauguration of the SEDAG Excellence in Teaching Award. The award elicited two nominations, more than all other categories, indicating that SEDAG members appreciate the opportunity to recognize quality teaching throughout the region.

The Honors Chair would like to highlight the difficulty in soliciting nominations for some award categories, which will be addressed later.

Merle C. Prunty Scholarship:

Due to an absence of applications, the Honors Committee extended the deadline for the Prunty Scholarship. Notification of this change in the deadline was widely distributed. Within the extension two applications were received:

- Al Calvin Lim, Mississippi State University
- Laura Paulik, University of Georgia

After reviewing the nominations, statements of professional goals, transcripts, and letters of recommendation, the committee recommended Laura Paulik for the Merle C. Prunty Scholarship.

The committee recommends that future chairs of the honors committee consider an email reminder and change of the deadlines for special awards (faculty and Prunty) beginning next year.

Graduate Student Paper and Poster Competitions:

The Honors Committee received eight MA and five PhD submissions for the student paper honors competition. Six of the MA papers and four of the PhD papers were accepted for inclusion in the Honors oral sessions at the conference. The number of paper submissions is about average for the last five years (2007 – 16 papers; 2006 – 13 papers; 2005 – 10 papers; 2004 – 11 papers; 2003 – 15 papers). 2002 received a higher number of submissions at 20.

The committee received two submissions to the combined MA/PhD poster competition and accepted both. This is down from last year's six submissions, as well as the inaugural year, 2006, when three submissions were received. The honors committee applauds the change in submission procedure where all honors materials are submitted to the program chair and then distributed to the honors committee for selection into the competition.

These instructions, however, must be carefully edited for to the next Newsletter (and previous instructions edited out).

Following the Honors oral and poster sessions, the Honors Committee met to determine the winners in the paper and poster categories.

Best Student Paper, Masters Level, 2008:

John Fraser Hart Award, Best PhD Student Paper, 2008:

Best Poster, 2008:

Southeastern Geographer Best Article Award:

The Division establishes a separate committee to select the "Best Article" published in the Southeastern Geographer during the past year. The committee this year was L. Jeanne Palmer-Malone, Chair (Barton College), Ed Carr (University of South Carolina), and Evan Hart (Tennessee Technological University). They reviewed all the papers published in 2007 in the Southeastern Geographer, using the following criteria: "A best article should demonstrate: (a) scholarship of exceptional merit and quality that addresses a significant research issue, (b) originality of ideas and contribution to the advancement of geography in the relevant subfield, (c) clarity and effectiveness of writing style, and (d) attention to the sensibilities of a diverse audience."

This year's winner is Race, the Creative Class, and Political Geographies of Same Sex Marriage in Georgia, by Thomas Chapman, Jonathan Leib, and Gerald Webster. Southeastern Geographer 47:1 (May 2007): 27-54.

The 2008 SEDAG Honors Committee would like to congratulate all winners of student and faculty awards. In addition, we would like to thank all those who participated in the honors competitions and published papers in the 2007 edition of *Southeastern Geographer*. Your efforts help continue the tradition of excellence for which SEDAG is known and encourage us all to do good work. We would especially like to thank all those who nominated students and faculty for awards. The enthusiasm and selflessness of SEDAG's members in helping to recognize students and colleagues speaks well of our organization.

Future Recommendations

The following changes to the submission, participation, and nomination processes may serve to improve the process for all parties involved.

- 1 - Edit the newsletter heavily, particularly in regard to all mention of participating in and submitting materials to the Honors Competition. As the shift to electronic communications has finally taken root, the old instructions are often contradictory, redundant, and simply outdated and inappropriate. The newsletter should inform members to visit the (hopefully also updated) SEDAG webpage for information on the Honors Competition and submission instructions. These instructions should be newly written and closely checked by as many parties as possible to insure clarity.
- 2 - To date, deadlines for submitting papers to SEDAG and for award nominations have generally been the same. The past two years have both seen deadline extensions for the Prunty Scholarship and Faculty Award nominations have to be actively solicited, sometimes with persistence. Perhaps a change to a later date for award nomination deadlines and a set of structured email/listserve reminders will improve participation and encourage more nominations.
- 3 - As the Honors Committee is made up of five members and members cannot vote on papers submitted from their home institution, it might be worth considering limiting committee membership to one person per institution. This would help avoid excessive disparities in how many people are involved in the evaluations of all paper submissions.

Respectfully Submitted,

J.O. Joby Bass
SEDAG 2008 Honors Committee, Chair
11/23/08

Historian's Report

SEDAAG, 2008 (Greensboro)

Dr. Ron Mitchelson, ECU

SEDAAG was founded in 1947, celebrated its 50th anniversary in 1997, and is currently 61 years old (as of 2008). The institutional history of the organization is significant. In general, the historian is tasked with preserving this rich history. There have been annual meetings since the initial assembly of 1947 in Birmingham AL. Publications of the organization include the *Memorandum Folio* (1950-1966) and the *Southeastern Geographer* (1961-present). The organization's newsletter is published twice per year. Elections, committee meetings, and a business meeting are annual in nature and recorded. The collections of these sorts of official items along with other items of historic significance are held in two locations, University of South Carolina (collected by Dr. Allen Bushong) and East Carolina University (collected by current historian, Dr. Ron Mitchelson). Most of the collection (approximately 44 cubic feet) resides in Columbia. While the collection is substantial and growing, it is largely disorganized, un-cataloged, and of little use to the organization as a result. Ron Mitchelson is no longer able to serve in the SEDAAG Historian position. Because of these conditions, the collection will be centralized with a new SEDAAG Historian, Dr. Richard Sambrook at Eastern Kentucky University. He will assume the position on December 1, 2008.

In this context of change, a new job description has been written for this position of SEDAAG Historian. More specifically, the historian's tasks can be categorized under three main headings: documentation, archival, and analysis/reports.

Documentation. The historian is responsible for documenting meetings, publications, and organizational activities. This requires proactive collection of documents produced by organizational entities (journal issues, newsletters, minutes of meetings, etc.). This task also includes visual documentation (photos) of annual meeting activities (including officers) by the historian or designee.

Archival. The historian should provide a transparent organization to the collection of documents and photos and a secure residence for these items (a permanent university site may be investigated). The Historian should initiate a program of digital capture for all existing organizational documents with goals of preservation and enhanced utility.

Analysis/Reports. The historian should provide a report at the organization's annual business meeting. The report should indicate success in documenting and archiving. The historian should provide short and interesting narratives and visuals for publication in the organization's newsletters and issues of the journal.

In all cases, the historian is responsible for communicating the content and archival methods of the organization's history to the next historian appointed.

SEDAAG Tellers Committee Report – November 2008

Prepared by Katherine Hankins, Georgia State University, Chair of the Tellers Committee

Results

79 ballots were received and counted by the March deadline for Regional Councilor. Douglas Gamble, Clifton Dixon, and Laurence Carstensen were nominated for this position. The winner of the election was Douglas Gamble.

Because the chair of the Tellers Committee was nominated to run for SEDAAG Secretary, Robert Kruse, a member of the committee, assumed the duties of receiving and counting the votes for the 2008 SEDAAG Elections. 130 ballots were received, and the following contests were decided: For Vice President, Jonathan Leib was elected over Timothy Warner; for Secretary, Jamie Strickland was elected over Katherine Hankins; for the Georgia state representative, Thomas Chapman was elected over Nancy Pullen; for Mississippi, David Holt won an uncontested election; for North Carolina, William Graves was elected over Joanne Halls; for Tennessee, Ron Kalafsky was elected over Arleen Hill; for Virginia, Kevin Curtin was elected over Nigel Waters.

Recommendations

Members mailed their paper ballots for the Regional Councilor election in personal envelopes, which compromises the anonymity of the voting process. If SEDAAG maintains paper ballots, the ballots should be self-mailing postcards so that members are not required to furnish their return address. A possible improvement over paper ballots would be to follow last year's runoff election for state representative of Florida and use email ballots. This would not overcome the anonymity problem, however. Ideally, SEDAAG elections could be on-line. Using an on-line elections/survey vendor (e.g., SurveyMonkey, votenet.com) might be a cost-effective and easy strategy to accomplish this.

Report of the Southern Studies Committee, 2008

The Southern Studies Committee is SEDAAG's oldest Standing Committee and it continues to encourage scholarly endeavors that focus on the South. The Committee once again sponsored a specially organized Southern Studies paper session. Five papers comprised the session that convened Monday morning. The Southern Studies Committee held its traditional luncheon on Monday and announced the appointment of Jerry Webster's as a new member of the Committee. The Committee also discussed plans for a plenary session for the Knoxville meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tyrel G. Moore
Chair, SEDAAG Southern Studies Committee

Report of the Committee on the Status of Women

November 25, 2008

Submitted by **Dr. Esra Ozdenerol, Chair**

The Committee on the Status of Women in Geography (CSWiG) continues to maintain communication among interested SEDAAG members and to move forward with program ideas that provide opportunities for SEDAAG members at the 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. The updating of the CSWiG email list is an ongoing process. Individuals who would like to be added to the listserv may send their names and e-mail addresses to the chair (Esra Ozdenerol) at cozdenrl@memphis.edu.

CSWiG held its business meeting Monday morning over breakfast. Several new members joined us, including both graduate students and faculty new to the region. A number of ideas for issues to address at next year's meeting were discussed. These include: repeating professional development panels focusing on the academic job application/interviewing process and tenure; and to organize sessions on topics such as: issues facing women geographers holding non-academic lines, student oriented discussions including non-traditional students and mentoring; negotiating work-family balance. Committee has decided to seek funding to bring high profile women geographers to these panels and also make sure to have a variety of representation from every gender including different academic ranks, students, and non-academic lines. Members supported the idea of launching a website which will demonstrate SEDAAG member women geographers' profiles including research interests/professional accomplishments and will be linked to SEDAAG website. Regarding this initiative, we are expecting to receive profiles so we can feature one geographer each month.

Other suggestion was to have a gathering reception at a restaurant scheduled in the next year's meeting.

COMMITTEE ON STAND-ALONE GEOGRAPHERS (SAGE)
REPORT TO SEDAAG STEERING COMMITTEE
11/23/08

Thomas Howard and Helen Ruth Aspaas (co-chairs)

The Committee on Stand-Alone Geographers was instituted as a SEDAAG Standing Committee at the Morgantown meeting in 2006, and authorized to make travel and attendance grants (funded 50/50 by SEDAAG and AAG) to bring two stand-alone geographers, not members of SEDAAG, to future annual meetings. Recipients must be full-time geography instructors, working in that year's host state, and must participate in the meeting as a presenter, discussant, or session chair. This grant program had a successful initial run at the 2007 meeting in Charleston. Two geography instructors from Historically Black Colleges and Universities received the travel grants. They were Prof. Rekha Muthar and Prof. Patricia Ali.

The Committee is pleased in this second year of the program to report that it has identified and recruited two stand-alone geographers from North Carolina to attend the Greensboro meeting. They are Prof. William Porter, of Elizabeth City State University, and Prof. Russell B. Smith, of Winston Salem State University. Prof. Porter will serve as discussant for a paper in Session 13. Prof. Smith is the organizer, chair, and moderator of Session 11, a panel session on Local Government Boundary change in North Carolina.

The Committee looks forward to a lunch meeting in Greensboro with this year's grant recipients and any other SEDAAG members interested in the problems of stand-alone geographers. Possible subjects for discussion include (1) creating more internal structure for the committee (which currently consists primarily of two co-chairs), (2) using state representatives more effectively to help identify candidates for the travel grant at future meetings, (3) discussing SAGE-SEDAAG's contribution to the AAG discussion on SAGE geographers at the national meeting and (4) doing some preliminary planning for a formal session at the 2009 Knoxville meeting.

SAGE-SEDAAG wants to express its appreciation to SEDAAG and AAG for supporting the effort to bring isolated geographers into the SEDAAG organization.

SEDAAG Webmaster Annual Report
Laurence W. Carstensen Jr.

Greensboro, NC
November, 2008

The year 2008 has been very quiet for the SEDAAG website. We have made a few updates but no major changes this year. I did add a couple of schools to the SE GEOG section. As there are unknown errors in those pages, I ask again as I did last year that state representatives check the links to schools in their state and report and issues to me so they can be repaired. Similarly if there are schools that offer Geography classes (even if it is only 1 class) please let me know to add that school to the map and to the links.

Otherwise, the site is fairly complete. As I have reported many years, I feel that we should be adding a history section of the website as we can. I would like to add photographs, meeting listings, chronologies, departmental histories, and past officers, etc. to that portion. We have made progress in using the website over the years for dissemination of materials including the newsletter, but we really should have a section commemorating the past of the organization. As always I will put up whatever (almost) members send me to put up. I especially note that the jobs section could be a bit more robust if members send me the announcements. I cannot promise high visitation for your ad, but we do get some and the price is really competitive!!

All in all, this has been a good year. I thank the committee for their willingness to invest in the web site, and for their future (hopefully small) investments to keep it up to date! At the current workload, I am handling updates myself. I will request funds if projects require a student assistant again in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurence W. Carstensen Jr.
Webmaster



UNC
COLLEGE OF
ARTS & SCIENCES

THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY
SAUNDERS HALL
CAMPUS BOX 3220
CHAPEL HILL, NC 27599-3220

T 919.962.8901

To: Derek Alderman, President
Southeast Division, AAG

From: Stephen Birdsall, Chair
SEDAAG Endowment Committee

Date: November 21, 2008

Subject: Annual report

The Endowment Committee was asked this year to consider the feasibility of establishing an annual small grants award competition with the award drawing on the Division's annual endowment income. Following a discussion within the committee, a \$750 small grant award program was recommended. The initial program will be for three years, with review and reconsideration at the end of that period. At the end of the initial period, the small grant program might be shifted to the Division's annual operating budget, modified with respect to its relation to the Division's endowment, or extended for a specific number of additional years.

A call for proposals was announced in the Newsletter. Six proposals were received before the deadline. Members of the Endowment Committee evaluated the proposals. All six were judged meritorious, with one selected as the Division's first award recipient.

The committee discussed the efficacy of the process, based on our experience this initial year. We will meet during the Greensboro meeting to decide whether and how the process might be improved for next year's competition.

Respectfully submitted,

.....

Samford Geography

Date: November 21, 2008

To: Dr. Derek Alderman, SEDAAG President

From: Eric J. Fournier, Chair, Nominations Committee

Subject: Committee Report

The 2008 SEDAAG Nominations Committee was comprised of:

Eric Fournier, Chair (Samford University)
Lisa Davis, Chair-elect (University of Alabama)
Heidi Lannon, (University of Florida)

This year the Nominations Committee sought candidates for the following offices:

Vice President
Secretary
Mississippi State Representative
Georgia State Representative
North Carolina State Representative
Virginia State Representative
Tennessee State Representative

Despite the call to SEDAAG members we only received one nomination for a single office and thus had to work as a committee to build the slate of candidates. We divided candidates between committee members and worked primarily through department heads/chairs to find potential state rep candidates and found several willing candidates.

The biggest challenge was finding people willing to serve on the executive committee. While we ended up with four outstanding candidates, it took a lot of semi-random e-mails to finally get candidates willing to serve. Many of those who declined provided a gracious response and indicated a willingness to consider serving in the future. These names will be passed on for use by future committees.

.....

SEDAAG members must be encouraged to nominate candidates for office and members should even be urged to nominate themselves. Trust me...the committee will keep it confidential. The whole process was kind of like feeling around in the dark. It turns out there were willing and well-qualified candidates, but it was hard to put them and the committee together. So I urge SEDAAG members to be mindful of Matthew 5:16 and do not hide your light under a basket. Let us know if you are willing to serve!

We might also consider being more pro-active at the annual meeting by soliciting candidate interest when SEDAAG enthusiasm is at its peak, rather than waiting until Spring when people's attention is turned to end-of-semester grading, summer research travel, and various writing projects. I suspect an earlier call for nominees might yield more candidates.

Finally, I would like to thank Heidi Lannon and Lisa Davis for their help in securing a full slate of nominees for 2008.

ALABAMA STATE REPORT: STATUS OF GEOGRAPHY – 2007/2008

Lisa Davis, Alabama State Representative
Department of Geography, University of Alabama

1. Summary

In 2008, BA/BS degrees in Geography were offered at six institutions (Table 1), MA/MS degrees in Geography at the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, and a MA degree in Public Administration with concentration in GIS (offered online) at Jacksonville State University. “Stand-alone” geographers include Steve Higley (Montevallo University) and George Terrill (Gadsen State Junior College). The overall status of Geography Departments and Programs in Alabama appears to be stable with some growth. Growth has occurred in total number of undergraduate courses offered and undergraduate majors (Figure 1) and total number of masters students (Figure 3) when totals for 2008 are compared to the respective totals reported in state reports for 2006 and 2007 submitted by Joe Weber, Department of Geography, University of Alabama. Additionally, the Geology and Geography Department at Auburn University has been approved by the ACHE (Alabama Commission on Higher Education) to develop a masters program in Geography beginning August 2009 and the Department of Geography at University of North Alabama has submitted a Notice of Intent to Propose a masters program in Geography and are currently in the process of developing the program proposal. Although faculty numbers across the state have increased, the increase in the number of full and part-time faculty was not commiserate with the increase in course offerings, undergraduate majors, and masters students (Figure 3). Overall, however, the observed growth in the aforementioned areas seems especially healthy in light of statewide budgets cuts due to the nation-wide economic recession, which in Alabama resulted in the state legislature decreasing funds to public universities by 11.2% or \$156.6 million.

Table 1: 2008 Department Membership by Institution - * indicates new hire.

Institution/Department	Current Chair	GY Faculty
<i>Auburn University, Dept. of Geology and Geography</i>	Charles E. Savrda	Toni Alexander, Phil Caney, Sonny Dawsey, Josh Inwood, William Bailey*, James Norwood
<i>Jacksonville State University, Dept. of Physical and Earth Science</i>	Ted Klimaewski, Interim Chair; new chair in Jan. 09 - Lou Reinisich	Tom Baucom, Kelly Gregg, Miriam Hill, Jonathan Herbert, Allison Newton
<i>Samford University, Dept. of Geography</i>	Eric Fournier	Jennifer Rahn, Jennifer Speights-Binet*, Jeff Bassett, Chris Labosier
<i>University of Alabama, Dept. of Geography</i>	Luoheng Han	Seth Appiah-Opoku, David Brommer, Hobson C. Bryan, Lisa Davis, Amanda Esby-Brown, Craig Remington, Jeff Richetto, Jason Senkbeil, David Shankman, Michael Steinberg, Mary Wallace-Pitts, Joe Weber, Bobby Wilson
<i>University of North Alabama, Dept. of Geography</i>	William Strong	Greg Gaston, Justin Hart, Lisa Keys-Mathews, Francis T. Koti, Michael Pretes, J.R. Atencio, Thomas Mathews
<i>University of South Alabama, Dept. of Earth Science</i>	Mimi Fearn	Lary Dilsaver, Roy Ryder, Carol Sawyer, Winnie Wang, Victoria Rivizzigno, Karen Jordan, Sam Stutsman, Gina Wade, Shawn Mitchell, Glenn Sebastian, Pat Willis, Rajiv Thakur*

Figure 1: State Totals for Undergraduate GY Courses Offered and GY Majors, 2008 and Preceding Years

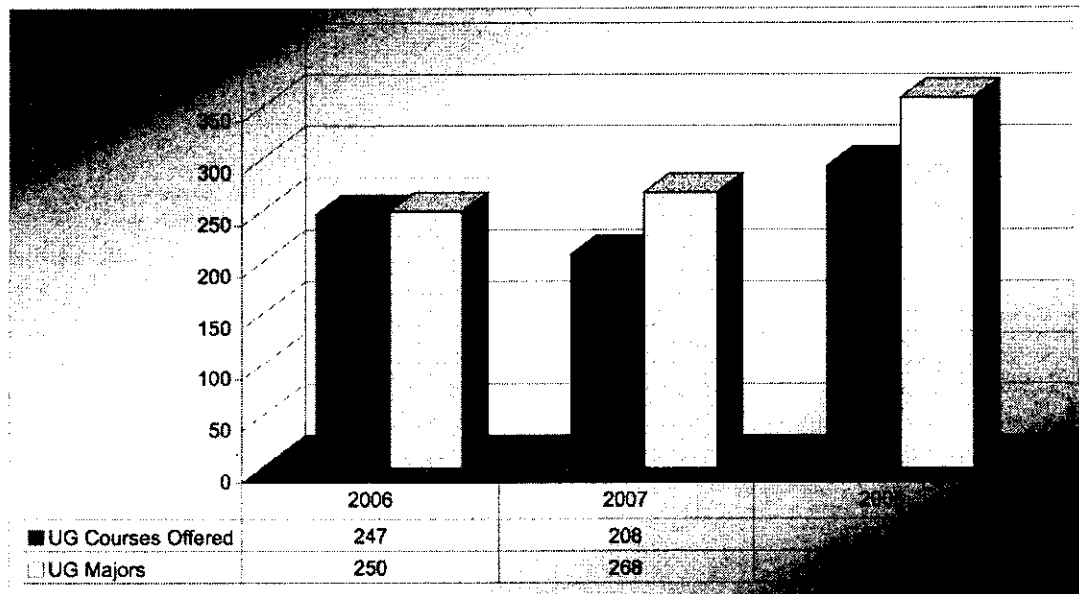


Figure 2: State Totals for Enrollment in Undergraduate Courses in GY for Majors and Non-Majors, 2008 and Preceding Years

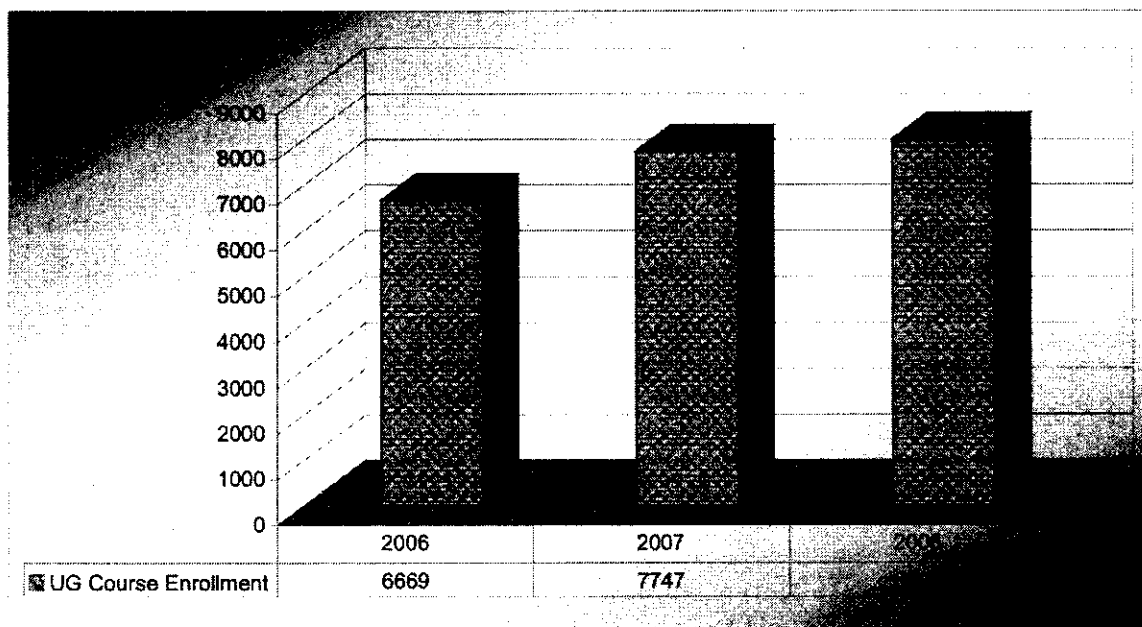
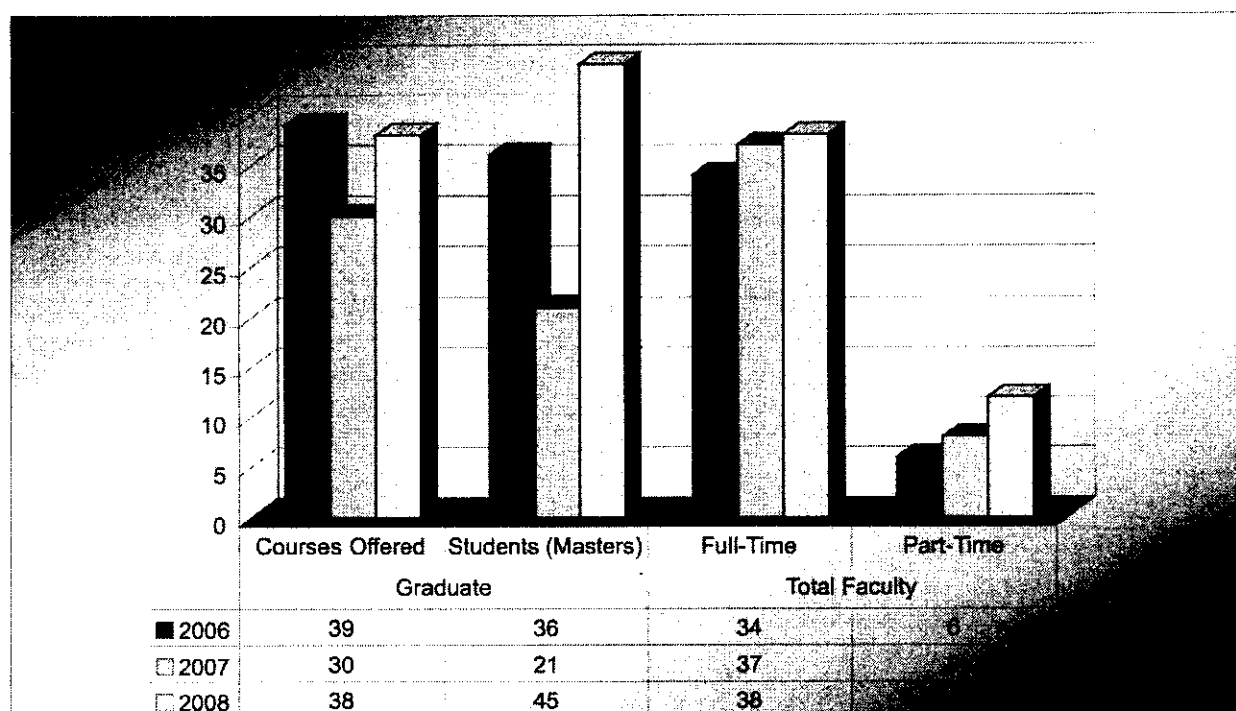


Figure 3: State Totals for Number of GY Graduate Courses Offered, Masters Students, and Faculty



2. Department Highlights and News Briefs

Auburn University

Toni Alexander awarded Auburn University Distinguished Researcher Award. New MS program in Geography approved by ACHE in June 2008. Program due to begin in August 2009 or January 2010, pending budget issues. The department will potentially have two openings – one to replace Sonny Dawsey (retirement) and a new assistant professor position, but this will depend on budget issues.

Jacksonville State University

Several faculty presented research at AAG-Boston (Jonathan Herbert and Ted Klimasewski) and SEDAAG-Charleston (Jonathan Herbert and Kelly Gregg). Howard Johnson will no longer be chair. He will be replaced by a non-geographer (a medical physicist). The department budget has been cut by 32%, but this cut is being offset by sales of lab manuals. The department will potentially be looking to hire in Dec. 2009, likely human geography with GIS.

Samford University

The department is operating under voluntary frugality but has experienced no budget cut yet. Enrollment is increasing, especially in regards to general education classes, and the department is considering cross-listing courses with other departments.

University of Alabama

Luoheng Han was named a University of Alabama Leadership Board Faculty Fellow, and Joe Weber was elected chair of the Transportation Specialty Group for AAG. Enrollment in GY courses totaled 2,789, an increase of 110 students from last year. The department awarded 15 undergraduate degrees in GY, 9 undergraduate degrees in environmental science, and 6 MS degrees in GY. The department published a total of 16 items, including 1 book, 8 peer-reviewed articles, and 6 non-refereed publications. The department is currently seeking applications for a tenure-track, assistant professor position in physical geography to begin in August 2009.

University of North Alabama

Francis Koti received the University of North Alabama Phi Kappa Phi Excellence in Teaching Award. Lisa Keys-Mathews and William Strong directed the first foreign field research trip for students to Costa Rica. William Strong became director of the AL Geographic Alliance. Lisa Keys-Mathews was co-awarded \$280,000 grant from Department of Justice. The department has a solid budget and good support from the Dean, VPAA, and President of UNA. The department received a \$70,000 endowment from a former UNA administrator to support undergraduate research. The GY Alumni Association is establishing a \$25,000 scholarship. The number of majors is growing and the department has maxed out its facilities. The department submitted a Notice of Intent to Propose a graduate program to the ACHE.

University of South Alabama

Glenn Sebastian was the University of South Alabama commencement speaker for fall graduation 2007, received the College of Arts and Sciences Service Award, and was awarded Professor Emeritus standing. Lary Dilsaver was an invited speaker at Montana State University and Kansas State University. The new GIS certificate program is off to a good start, and the curriculum has expanded with the recent addition of new faculty. The GTU chapter brought in Dr. Kevin Kloesel, University of Oklahoma, as a Visiting Geographical Scientist.

3. Compiled Views on the State of SEDAAG

Several respondents reported being pleased with SEDAAG as an organization overall and hoped for continued excellence in all regards (planning and orchestration of the annual meeting, peer-review of papers for the annual meeting, and the quality of the Southeastern Geographer).

* - junior faculty mentoring by SEDAAG

Some suggestions received include the following:

- SEDAAG should be more aggressive in recruiting and retaining members. Maybe state representatives could play a bigger role in helping accomplish this goal? As membership grows, SEDAAG should be careful to maintain the quality of the annual meeting;
- provide direct resources for geographers that help facilitate and encourage student-professor research and incentives for students to encourage them to participate in research with faculty;
- Florida seems to not be as active in the organization, what might SEDAAG do to encourage increased participation from Florida in SEDAAG
- some people suggested changing the dates for the annual meeting, while others stated a preference to keep having the annual meeting at the same time of year.

4. Acknowledgements

Comments and information used to compile this state report were graciously collected and provided by the following department chairs: Charles E. Savrda, Ted Klimasewski, Eric Fournier, Luoheng Han, William R. Strong, and Mimi Fearn and from previous state reports compiled by Joe Weber. Their assistance is appreciated.

Geography Departments in West Virginia
Fall, 2008

Report prepared by Ann Oberhauser, West Virginia University.

The state of geography in West Virginia is maintaining a strong presence at seven institutions that offer undergraduate and graduate degrees in geography. At the graduate level, West Virginia University has both Masters and Ph.D. degrees in geography and Marshall University has a Masters program. Concord University offers a Bachelors degree in geography and Bluefield State College, Fairmont State University, Shepherd University, and West Liberty State College offer undergraduate minors in geography.

West Virginia University's Department of Geology and Geography moved to a new building, Brooks Hall, in 2007 with state-of-the art facilities and classrooms. The Department also operates five computer labs and operates a virtual reality cave in the new building. This new facility has been a tremendous boost to the program and has helped to recruit new faculty and students to the Department. The WVU Geography Program has 80 undergraduate majors, 25 masters students, and 25 doctoral students in geography. Undergraduate enrollment was approximately 5500 in geography courses in 2007-08. Thirteen full time faculty teach in WVU's program and are assisted by four professional staff members. Four new faculty joined the Geography Program this year and it is hiring one new faculty member in Development Geography for the 2009-10 academic year. Geography faculty hold a variety of administrative posts: Mary Ellen Mazey is Dean of the Eberly College of Arts of Sciences, Trevor Harris is Chair of the Geology and Geography Department, Tim Warner serves as Associate Chair for Geography, Brent McCusker is Director of the Undergraduate Geography Committee, Amy Hessel the Graduate Coordinator for geography, and Randall Jackson is the Director of the Regional Research Institute.

The Department of Geography at Marshall University has five full time and four part time faculty members. The department has twenty undergraduate majors and 20 masters students. In addition, approximately 1,000 undergraduate and 300 graduate students were enrolled in geography courses during the last academic year. According to Chairman Larry Jarrett the department is in great shape and has increased undergraduate majors over the past year.

The Geography Program at Concord University is staffed by Joe Manzo, George Towers, Jan Westerik and four part time faculty. George Towers continues to serve as Chairman of Concord's Division of Social Sciences and Joe Manzo is serving as the co-coordinator of the West Virginia Geographic Alliance. At the student level, thirty five undergraduates are majoring in geography at Concord and enrollment in geography courses was at 900 in 2007-08.

Geography at Fairmont State University is part of the College of Liberal Arts. Two full time geography faculty, Tulashi R. Joshi and James R. Young, along with two part time faculty teach in this program at Fairmont State. Fairmont State offers an undergraduate minor in geography. In 2007-08, approximately 600 students took geography courses at Fairmont State.

At West Liberty State College, Brian L. Crawford and Robert Kruse maintain an active and vibrant program in geography with high enrollment in their courses and scholarly endeavors. Dr. Crawford is Chairman of West Liberty's Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Dr. Kruse was recently recognized for his excellent teaching through the West Liberty SGA professor of the Year Award. In 2007-08, enrollment reached 350 students in West Liberty's geography courses. Students at West Liberty are eligible to earn an undergraduate minor in geography or a bachelor's degree in social sciences with a concentration in geography. There are currently five students pursuing the geography concentration. West Liberty has recently established an Environmental Studies Track that incorporates geography and biology.

Bluefield State College and Shepherd University employ two stand alone geographers, John White and Roland Bergman, respectively. At Bluefield State, geography enrollment is approximately 200 and at Shepherd enrollment was 250 in 2007-08. Both schools offer an undergraduate minor in geography.

Respondents to the geography survey generally had positive things to say about the benefits they see from their participation in SEDAAG. According to one person, "The quality of the conference presentations and of the journal help to keep us invigorated about the discipline. Keep up the good work!" This response is especially true for geographers in smaller programs.

2008 South Carolina State Report

(17 November 2008)

This report contains information of surveys sent to 8 departments/universities in South Carolina that teach geography courses. All 8 surveys were responded with rather accurate information, as summarized in Table 1.

Table 1: 2008 South Carolina Geography Survey

School	Francis Marion	Winthrop	Coastal Carolina	USC-Upstate	College of Charleston	Clemson	Furman	USC	Total
Department	Political Science and Geog	Human Nutrition	Politics and Geog	Sociology, Criminal Justice & Women's Studies	Political Science	History	Education	Geography	
Degrees offered	Minor	Minor	Minor to be added	Minor to be discontinued	Minor	None	None	BA,BS, MA,MS Ph.D.	
# Undergrad Courses	8	6	3	12	17	14	1	21	82
# Undergrad Sections	18		20	22					60
# Grad Course	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	16	19
# Undergrads Taught	400	150	750	300	504	580	25	2480	5189
# Grads Taught	0	5	0	0	0	5	0	58	68
# Undergrad Majors	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	81	89
# Master Students	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	27
# Ph.D. Students	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	24
# Full-Time Faculty	2	1	1	1	3	3	1	18	30
# Part-Time Faculty	1	2	3	4	1	1	0	2	14
# New Faculty	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	3
Adding faculty?	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	

The University of South Carolina in Columbia (USC) offers the only Geography major in South Carolina and has thriving undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Outside of USC, however, Geography is confined to undergraduate teaching in minor or non-major programs. USC, Winthrop, and Clemson report teaching graduate courses in geography. While USC-Columbia continues to teach the vast majority of undergraduates in South Carolina, three other institutions report teaching 500 or more undergraduates each year. The total number of undergraduates taught (5189) in 2008 is slightly higher than the number (4600) in 2007. However, in 2007, only 6 departments responded to survey requests. USC-Upstate reports that its Geography minor will be discontinued next year since their only geography faculty member will retire and there will not be a replacement hire. USC-Columbia and Coastal Carolina are both expanding their programs. Coastal Carolina is looking to add a minor program in geography in two years and is looking to hire a new tenure track assistant professor next year. USC-Columbia had two new hires in 2008, one of which is a replacement for Dr. David Cowen, who retired in February 2008.

Departments and geographers in South Carolina have been recognized for a number of achievements in the past year. Major achievements of geography faculty and students are listed in Table 2.

Table 2: Major Achievements of South Carolina Geographers

<i>School</i>	<i>Department</i>	<i>Faculty / Student</i>	<i>Major accomplishments</i>
USC	Geography	Will Graf	AAG Marcus Career Award
		Diansheng Guo	NSF CAREER Award
		Susan Cutter	President, Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA)
		David Cowen	Named to the National Geospatial Advisory Committee
		Greg Carbone Kirsten Dow	Have been awarded a \$1.1 million NOAA grant for water-resource research.
		John Kupfer	Henry Cowles Award for Excellence in Publication, Biogeography Specialty Group (BSG), AAG
		Eric Tate (Ph.D Student)	Won a 2008 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) Fellowship.
		Clio Andris (M.S. Student)	Awarded a fellowship by the Dept. of Defense to pursue her PhD in Information Sciences at MIT.
		Sarah Schwartz (Ph.D. Student)	Received a highly competitive Fulbright IIE Full Grant award to study HIV/AIDS prevention-related behaviors and gender roles in Swaziland.
		Denise Dunovant (Senior Undergrad)	Received a Fulbright Full Grant award to explore development issues in Uganda
Francis Marion University	Political Science and Geography	C. Allan Lockyer	Named the Neal D. Thigpen Professor of Public Affairs.
Clemson University	History	Christa Smith	Received promotion and tenure in 07-08 and is on sabbatical this fall.
Winthrop University	Human Nutrition	Christopher Storie	Successfully defended dissertation on Nov 10, 2008

Table 3: Geography Faculty Members in South Carolina Universities

School	Department	Geography Faculty Members
USC	Geography	<i>Professor:</i> Susan Cutter, Michael Hodgson, John Kupfer, Allan James, John Jensen, Will Graf; <i>Associate Professor:</i> Greg Carbone, Kirstin Dow, John Jakubs, Jerry Mitchell, Cary Mock; <i>Assistant Professor:</i> Sarah Battersby, Edward Carr, Diansheng Guo, Amy Mills, Caroline Nagel, Jean Ellis (hired 2008), Chris Upchurch (hired 2008)
College of Charleston	Political Science	Mark Long, Catherine Veninga, Annette Watson (hired 2008), Nick Velluzzi (Visiting)
Francis Marion	Political Science and Geography	C. Allan Lockyer, Scott Brown, Richard Doughty
Winthrop University	Human Nutrition	Christopher D Storie, Bryan McFadden (Part-Time), Bryan Townsend (Part-Time)
Furman	Education	George B. Lipscomb
Coastal Carolina	Politics and Geography	Alan Little, Dan Selwa, John Danford, Tom Blakeney One search underway for a tenure track assistant professor
USC Upstate	Sociology, Criminal Justice, and Women's Studies	Dr. Ed Babin (full-time) Fred Piellusch, Doug Lewis, Suzy Hill, John Bies (part-time)
Clemson	History	James Miller, Christa Smith, Lance Howard, Wes Burnett (part-time)

The South Carolina Geographic Alliance, housed at USC-Columbia and directed by Dr. Jerry Mitchell, continues to conduct outreach to the schools of South Carolina, through teacher training and conferences that bring new content to interested teachers. The alliance has a membership of 10,160. In 2008 the alliance conducted 39 in-service workshops, 32 pre-service workshops and two Geofest meetings. The alliance also ran a summer institute and gave 27 professional presentations. All of these activities served 2,968 teachers. The alliance was successful in the funding arena in 2008, receiving a budget allocation of \$232,000 from the South Carolina Department of Education, \$50,000 from the National Geographic Education Foundation to develop an online hazards atlas, and \$7,000 from the Verizon Foundation to conduct a geospatial technology institute for teachers.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diansheng Guo

University of South Carolina
South Carolina State Representative

Mississippi State of Geography
 SEDAG Steering Committee
 November 23, 2008
 John Rodgers. Depart. Geosciences, Mississippi State University

Geography programs within institutions of higher learning in Mississippi showed continual growth in both faculty and number of students. Yet, the Fall 2008 enrollment data for the 8 public universities indicated reduced growth. In 2007 state enrollment increased 1.2%, but in 2008 state enrollment only increased 0.5% (<http://www.ihl.state.ms.us/newsarchive/newsstory.asp?ID=643>). The two universities with established programs in geography increased in total student enrollment. Mississippi State University increased 4.6%, University of Southern Mississippi increased 1.4%. Besides MSU and USM, the University of Mississippi was the only other university within the state that had an enrollment increases. All other institutions decreased. Continual growth within the two main universities that offer degrees in geography is encouraging given the slowed economy and the near stagnant statewide enrollment.

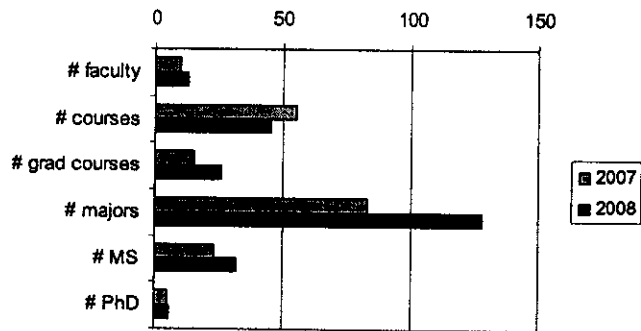
Continued growth of the geography programs at USM and MSU represents an increasing awareness of the importance of geography within the state. Both programs are encouraged by their success and foresee continual growth during subsequent years. The importance of natural hazards, geospatial technologies, cultural diversity, environmental geography, and urban development are drawing undergraduate and graduate majors to the discipline. The job market within these arenas has also been kind to geography majors and it is believed this will further increase our enrollment. Yet, there are still major challenges that must be met. Chief among these are elevating the importance of geography as an academic discipline among the other 6 universities across the state that do not already have official programs. But given these hurdles, the outlook of geography in Mississippi is positive.

Geography Program	# faculty	#courses undg/grad	# students taught	# MS	# PhD	# undergrad majors
University Southern Miss.	13	45/26	1013	32	6	128
Mississippi State Univ.*	16	50/47	2695	55	NEW	147
University of Mississippi**	0	4	30	0	0	0
Delta State University**	1	22/4	405	0	0	0

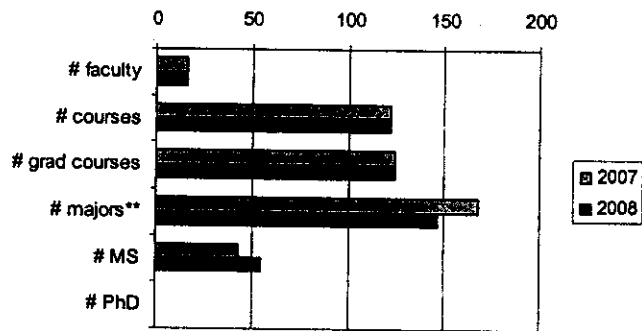
* = on-campus students only, includes meteorology, geography, and GIS concentrations

** = no geography major or geography program

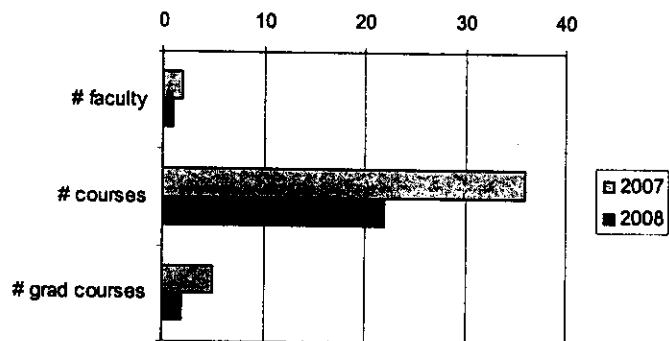
University of Southern Mississippi



Mississippi State University



Delta State University



SEDAAG STATE REPORT

November 23, 2008

GEOGRAPHY IN NORTH CAROLINA

(by Dan Royall, UNC-Greensboro)

Faculty and Enrollment Data[†]:

	Full-time Faculty	Part-time faculty	UG Classes (all sections)	Grad Classes	UG enrolled	Grad enrolled	UG Majors	Grad majors (masters/PhD)
ASU	15 ¹	3	75	26	2582	192	83 ²	45/0
ECU	20	4	22/80	13/13	2900	220	95	26/2 ³
UNCC	20	1	54	64	2181	282	88	47/24
UNCCCh	19	6	48	8	2834 ⁴		70	0/55
UNCG	16	2	82	31	3290 ⁴	373 ⁴	76	30/26
UNCP	3	2	20	2	780	20	NA	NA
UNCW	6	0	16	2	776	3	54	NA
Totals:	99	18	375	146	16433		466	148/107
Avg:	14	2.6	53.6	20.8	2348		77.7	29.6/35.7

1 – four are primarily planners

2 – plus 24 students majoring in Community and Regional Planning

3 - PhD in Coastal Resource Management

4 – total credit hours divided by 3

Abbreviations: ASU – Appalachian State University; ECU – East Carolina University; UNCC – University of North Carolina Charlotte, UNCCCh – University of North Carolina Chapel Hill; UNCG – University of North Carolina Greensboro; UNCP – University of North Carolina Pembroke; UNCW – University of North Carolina Wilmington.

[†] - Other universities not represented in the table above: NC Central University (Environmental, Earth and Geospatial Sciences; No response); Winston Salem State University (some courses taught, potential for growth); Western Carolina University (no major, still lists minor; courses factor in to other majors as well).

Executive Summary

Overall, the discipline of Geography has remained strong and growing in North Carolina over the past year. New faculty have been added in a few departments and several new faculty searches have been approved for this year. Enrollment in geography courses has remained strong and increases are reported particularly at the graduate level. The total numbers of undergraduate and graduate majors has remained high, although all programs but one lost graduate majors at the master's level. North Carolina Geography programs continue to report increasing success with external grant funding. Some geography programs in the state cite the current economic crisis as a major cause for concern going forward, particularly with regard to new hires and operating budgets. However, further investment in geography is also currently evident in the state.

SUMMARY; NORTH CAROLINA

The discipline of geography has remained strong and growing in North Carolina over the past year, although the rate of growth has perhaps slowed somewhat. The number of geography majors in both undergraduate and graduate categories has apparently dropped overall from the preceding year for most programs with notable exceptions at Appalachian State University (a net gain of 34 masters students) and UNC-Charlotte (+8 doctoral). Although undergraduate enrollment overall appears to have been down this year, graduate enrollment is substantially up in almost every program.

Total faculty numbers have remained essentially at prior-year levels, although several searches have been authorized, including two for new chair positions (ECU and UNCC), and several new faculty (not lines) have come to North Carolina Geography programs. New additions to North Carolina Geography faculty are: Dr. Eric Delmelle (UNCC; GIS & Spatial Analysis), Dr. Qingmin Meng (UNCC; visiting Assistant Director of the Center for Applied GIS), Dr. Janni Sorensen (UNCC; Planning and Society), and Dr. Corey Johnson (UNCG; Political, Economic & Urban). Two losses to report are the departure of Dr. Rebecca Torres (formerly at ECU) for a new position at the University of Texas at Austin, and Dr. Victoria Berry who left Winston Salem State University for a position at Lincoln Memorial University in Tennessee. Filling the vacancy left by Vicky's departure is Dr. Russell Smith who graduated in December 2007 as the first Geography Ph.D. from the new doctoral program at UNC-Greensboro. Three other new PhDs have since graduated from the program, and all are gainfully employed in academe or the private sector. Multiple respondents to the North Carolina SEDAG survey remarked on the continuing strength, diversity and growth of the job market for geographers.

Geographic research is thriving in North Carolina as evidenced by the increasing number and value of research grants received, publications and other creative activities. Total grant value combined for the state's geography programs is probably well above 4 million dollars with significant contributions from almost all programs. Of particular note is 2.1 million dollars in funding for the Center for Applied GIS at UNC-Charlotte making it the most productive Center on campus two years running. Both UNC-Greensboro and Appalachian State University also report sizable increases in grant funds received. In addition to continued strength all phases of research activity, East Carolina University reports continued investment in Geography resulting from the creation of two new undergraduate degree programs (BS in Applied Atmospheric Science, and BS in Geographic Information Science and Technology). Among the many grants, publications and other research activities and honors reported from UNC-Chapel Hill are faculty directorships for three major centers: the new Carolina Institute for the Environment (Dr. Larry Band, Director), the Southeast Regional Climate Center (Directed by Dr. Peter Robinson) and the new Galapagos Research Center (under the direction of Dr. Steve Walsh). Another achievement of North Carolina geographers that has received a great deal of media attention across the South is the finding of the oldest living longleaf pine specimen by graduate students from the Carolina Tree-Ring Science Laboratory at UNC-Greensboro.

North Carolina geographers have been recipients of a number of awards and honors this year for a wide variety of endeavors and lay claim to many more accomplishments than can be recounted in this summary. Importantly, these include a number of awards or award nominations for teaching and mentoring excellence, reflecting a continuing strong commitment to students at many levels. The following faculty were nominated for Outstanding Advisor Award in the College of Arts and Sciences at Appalachian State: Dr. Chris Badurek, Dr. Jeff Colby, Dr. Mike Mayfield, and Dr. James Young; Dr. Chris Badurek was also nominated for the Outstanding Teaching Award. Gordon Bennett at UNC-Greensboro received the 2008 NCGS Geography

Educator of the Year Award. At UNC-Wilmington, Dr. Liz Hines received the Chancellor's Teaching Excellence Award, and Dr. Frank Ainsley received a Distinguished Teaching Professorship. At UNC-Charlotte, Teaching Award recipients in 2007-08 include Bill Graves (NCGE Distinguished Teaching Achievement Award, 2007), Tyrel Moore (2007 NCGS Geography Educator of the Year) and Jamie Strickland (NCGE Distinguished Teaching Achievement Award, 2008). Keith Debbage (UNC-Greensboro) continued in his service as one of only 12 scholars from the UNC system selected for a position on the UNC Board of Governors' UNC Tomorrow Commission, which has been devising an integrated strategic plan for the UNC system. These honors and many other outstanding accomplishments reflect the increasing stature of North Carolina geography programs at the national, state and university-wide levels, in addition to the high regard with which these scholars are individually held by peers and students.

Suggestions for improving the operation of SEDAAG

Respondents to the North Carolina survey offered several comments and/or ideas regarding ways to improve the Division.

- 1.) Consider publishing the papers submitted in an edited proceedings volume
- 2.) Major upgrade to the web site (poorly designed and unattractive)
- 3.) On-line membership submissions and email renewal notifications
- 4.) Possibly help create a mechanism for facilitating within-state communication between Departments.

In addition, multiple respondents mentioned an apparent ongoing reduction in the commitment to SEDAAG on behalf of the Division's flagship PhD-granting programs. This manifests in terms of both attendance at the annual SEDAAG meeting and the willingness to become or remain members of the Division.

Virginia State Representative's Report
SEDAAG Annual Meeting
Greensboro, NC
November 23, 2008

Johnathan Walker (VA State Rep.)
James Madison University

Reports collected from the following VA institutions within SEDAAG Region

University of Richmond

Geography at the University of Richmond teaches 16 sections per year with total enrollments of 240 students across all majors. Current majors total 6 with 3 full time and 1 part time faculty. UR is currently hiring a physical/environmental geographer to start in Fall 2009. Most graduates are placed in environmental sciences, water resource management, and GIS/remote sensing. UR added the new geography major this fall and carries the name: Department of Geography and the Environment. Mary Finley-Brook notes that the new major already has 6 students declared in less than a semester.

University of Mary Washington

Geography at Mary Washington teaches 47 undergrad courses per year with total enrollments in geography classes at 1190 students across all majors. Current majors total 90 with 8 full time and 2 part time faculty. Two faculty are currently on leave and replaced by visiting faculty.

Awards: Farhang Rouhani - Named a UMW Jepson Fellow for 2008-2009

Geography is strong at UMW. They have grown in the past few years from a department with 6 full time faculty and 50 to 60 majors to a department with 8 full time faculty and 80 to 90 majors. They have been able to increase their course offerings in physical geography, GIS, community development, and globalization. They also have improved relationships with related departments including Environmental Science, American Studies, and Sociology/Anthropology and have worked with other departments to create a new GIS certificate program.

James Madison University

Geography at James Madison University teaches 30-35 undergraduate courses (65 total courses delivered) with total enrollments in geography classes at 1943. Current undergrad majors total 141 with 8 full time and 1 part time faculty, and the course contributions of other environmental colleagues in the Department of Integrated Science and Technology. JMU has one new hire (Henry Way, Ph.D. Kansas, 2008). Study abroad programs to Costa Rica and the Philippines (12 students each) have become instantly popular giving students valuable field experience. The program has seen continuous growth for the past six years running and has revamped the major to highlight more techniques and an updated core. Sacrificed to this technical swing was a Global Studies concentration, but there are strong feelings toward resurrection of the global. The program continues its strong environment and natural resource conservation focus.

Old Dominion University

Jonathan Leib provided information about the state of Old Dominion geography. ODU geography teaches 55 courses serving a total enrollment in geography courses at 1864 students.

Current undergrad majors total 85 with 6 full time and 5 adjunct faculty members. ODU has two new hires Hua Liu and (if you could call him new) Jonathan Leib. Currently they are currently advertising for two tenure-track positions (these are replacement positions), however, Commonwealth and University budget cuts have the potential to threaten these positions.

Awards:

Don Zeigler: 2008 SEDAAG Distinguished Service Award

Jonathan Leib: Elected Chair, AAG Study of the American South Specialty Group

Elected Vice President, SEDAAG

Co-author of 2007 *Southeastern Geographer* best article award

The state of geography at Old Dominion University is currently uncertain. There has been some recent turnover in the faculty over the past several years, with two faculty members retiring and two leaving for positions elsewhere. In response, there has been a concerted effort to rebuild the program, with two new hires coming on board this year and two positions currently advertised. However, the recent sharp economic downturn in Virginia's budget has led to sharp cuts in ODU's budget (with additional commonwealth and university budget cuts on the horizon). As a result, these budget cuts are likely to have a negative impact, at least in the near future, on the program's ability to continue to rebuild.

Emory and Henry College

John Morgan reports that Emory and Henry 46 undergraduates majors with 12 graduates in Spring 2008. EHC offers 16 different courses with an enrollment of 352 students. Courses are taught by 2 full time and 2 part time faculty. Geography remains strong at EHC, with more than 1 in 3 students annually enrolling in a geography course (total institutional enrollment 945).

Summary

Nearly all the department or programs in geography have hired new faculty in the past year. Most have been replacement hires, but JMU has seen new lines (3 in the last 4 years). The economic downturn comes at a bad time for ODU and threatens to undermine the recent hires in their program. For the state, the number of undergraduate majors continues to climb in nearly every reporting university. Geospatial technologies continue to receive funding and support from university administrators. Expectations are high for continued growth in programs and maintenance in those shook by the state of the economy and state requests for a return of budgets (5% at ODU, 7% at JMU).

Missing reports:

Virginia Tech

Radford University

VA Stand Alone Geographers

Brian Blouet, College of William and Mary

Jon Donald Bohland, Hollins University

Joseph Appiah, J. Sargent Reynolds Comm College

David Lawrence, Virginia State University

Jesse Pendleton, Norfolk State University

Mary Ruth Aspaas, Virginia Commonwealth University

FLORIDA

Lisa Jordan, Florida State University

Lower than expected revenues from the lottery and sales taxes have resulted in budget cuts across public universities in the state of Florida. There are hiring freezes and layoffs currently in place in most Florida public universities. However, many of the universities surveyed commented that they have been able to maintain their programs, despite the challenging economic climate. Some universities commented that GIS has played a role in boosting student enrollment.

There are 10 programs in Florida that involve geography in some way: Florida A&M University, Florida Atlantic University, Florida International University, Florida State University, Jacksonville University, Stetson University, University of Florida, University of North Florida, University of South Florida, and University of West Florida. Five of these universities responded to the SEDAAG Survey, and summaries of information for these programs are provided below. I was also able to update the data collected with information from the websites of various schools.

Institutional Information

Of the 10 universities with geography relevant programs, 3 have PhD programs, 3 have Master's degree programs, and 6 have Bachelor's programs.

University	Department	Survey	Minor	BA/BS	MA/MS	PhD
Florida A&M University	History, Political Science, Geography, African-American Studies, http://www.famu.edu/index.cfm?a=histpol					
Florida Atlantic University	Geosciences, http://www.geology.fau.edu/	X		X	X	
Florida International University	International Relations and Geography, http://www.fiu.edu/~intlrel/			X		
Florida State University	Geography, http://www.coss.fsu.edu/geography/	X	X	X	X	X
Jacksonville University	Geography, http://dept.ju.edu/geography/	X		X		
Stetson University	Geography and Environmental Science Program, http://www.stetson.edu/artsci/geography/		X	X		
University of Florida	Geography, http://www.geog.ufl.edu/		X	X	X	X
University of North Florida	Economics and Geography, http://www.unf.edu/~pmason/	X	X			
University of South Florida	Geography, http://www.cas.usf.edu/geography/	X	X	X	X	X
University of West Florida	Environmental Studies, http://www.cas.usf.edu/geography/					

Geography Courses and Students

As displayed in the table below, in 2008, of the Florida universities surveyed, over 10,000 college students enrolled in undergraduate geography courses, and 490 undergraduate students were declared

as geography majors. Over 1000 graduate students took coursework in geography, and graduate students in geography numbered nearly 200.

University	Courses (u)	Courses (g)	Students (u)	Students (g)	Majors (u)	Majors (g)	MS/MA	PhD
Florida Atlantic University	36	16	2247	80	46	21	21	
Florida State University	87	38	2343	583	239	68	47	21
Jacksonville University	18		450		25			
University of Florida					80	50		
University of North Florida	25	1	1125	10	0			
University of South Florida	50	35	4000	400	100	60	30	30
Total	216	90	10165	1073	490	199	98	51

Geography Faculty

There are currently over 60 geography faculty in the state of Florida, 3 of whom are new faculty, and 3 new hires are expected for next year.

University	Chair	No. Faculty	New Faculty	New Hires
Florida Atlantic University	Russ Ivy, ivy@fau.edu	10	0	
Florida State University	Victor Mesev, vmesev@fsu.edu	12	0	2
Jacksonville University	Ray Oldakowski, roidako@ju.edu	3	0	0
University of Florida	Peter Waylen, prwaylen@geog.ufl.edu	14		
University of North Florida	Paul Mason, pmason@unf.edu	5	1	0
University of South Florida	Robert Brinkmann, rbrinkmn@cas.usf.edu	19	2	1
Total		63	3	3

(Faculty lists are included in the appendix.)

Major Accomplishments

Major accomplishments were only reported by a few of the correspondents. In particular, the University of South Florida submitted a very accomplished list of publications, grants, and travel awards, from a highly productive faculty. The University of North Florida was successful in establishing a Geography Minor for undergraduate students. Julie Silva from the University of Florida received an NSF

Career Award and an AAG Nystrom Award. Faculty of Florida State University also received grants, teaching awards, and travel awards.

Stand Alone Geographers

Two stand alone geographers were identified among the schools surveyed: Mary Caravelis at Barry University and Jim Wysong at Hillsborough Community College.

State of Geography

Here are the department head statements on their view of the "State of Geography" in their institution and in the state of Florida:

"As long as geography maintains a reasonable number of majors (25 majors is about 1% of the student body) and healthy enrollments, the department is considered viable. There has been a modest increase in interest, enrollment, and majors in geography at JU (GIS plays a major role in that)."

"We are feeling the pinch of budget call-backs - thanks Governor Christ, but the small geography program has received the same belt-tightening as all departments in the college."

"The budget cuts had little impact on our Department because the University is maintaining and enhancing PhD granting departments. However, the state of higher education in Florida is dismal."

There are "major budget problems in Florida." We "have a proposal going through the Board of Governors in THL right now for a hybrid geog/geol PhD."

State of SEDAAG

The following are the comments received about the state of SEDAAG.

"No real concerns about SEDAAG."

"SEDAAG is a wonderful division. I personally HATE the timing of the conference and wish it could be moved away from Thanksgiving week."

Appendix

1. Faculty Lists

Florida Atlantic University: Russ Ivy Scott Markwith Leonard Berry Howard Hanson Tobin Hindle Zhiziao Xie Marie Garcia-Quijano Maria Fadiman James Gammack-Clark Charles Robert Two Adjuncts	Jacksonville University: Ray Oldakowski (full) Jeff Martin (associate) Jennifer Anticknap (adjunct) University of North Florida: Sharon Cobb, Ph.D. Chris Baynard Ph.D. Lou Woods Ph.D. Mr Wayne Coleman Mr Joel Williams
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<p>Florida State University:</p> <p>Victor Mesev</p> <p>Pat O'Sullivan</p> <p>Tony Stallins</p> <p>Jim Elsner</p> <p>Jay Baker</p> <p>Phil Steinberg</p> <p>Mark Horner</p> <p>Xiaojun Yang</p> <p>Tingting Zhao</p> <p>Lisa Jordan</p> <p>Luis Sanchez (instructor)</p> <p>Kelly Watson (instructor)</p> <p>And, an active emeritus professor: Mort Winsberg</p>	<p>University of South Florida</p> <p>Kamal Alsharif</p> <p>Fenda Akiwumi</p> <p>Kevin Archer</p> <p>Pratyusha Basu</p> <p>Martin Bosman</p> <p>Robert Brinkmann</p> <p>Jayajit Chakraborty</p> <p>Jennifer Collins</p> <p>Joni Downs</p> <p>Mark Hafen</p> <p>Robin Jones</p> <p>Hyun Kim</p> <p>Connie Mizak</p> <p>Ruiliang Pu</p> <p>Steven Reader</p> <p>Elizabeth Strom</p> <p>Graham Tobin</p> <p>Philip van Beynen</p> <p>Laurie Walker</p> <p>Part Time Adjunct Faculty:</p> <p>Glenn Anderson</p> <p>Don Weir</p>
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SEDAAG Newsletter Report- Georgia 2008

I. Summary

Geography thrives in Georgia. Over ten public universities and two private universities have geographers in residence. As many as six public schools offer geography degrees (Georgia Southern, Georgia State, Kennesaw State, University of Georgia, Valdosta State, and West Georgia State). Kennesaw State recently added a B. A. degree in Cartography, and a new degree in Applied Environmental Spatial Analysis has just been started at Gainesville State.

Highlights of the growth of geographic education in the state include:

- Two new hires at West Georgia State, one in political geography and one in biogeography
- A new faculty member at Georgia Southern, specializing in political geography
- A proposal to create a BA degree at Georgia College
- A \$50,000 grant from the National Geographic Education Foundation to fund the Georgia Geographic Alliance for 2007-2008 given to Kennesaw State

The University of Georgia program continues to excel, adding one new faculty member, specializing in GIS and geocomputation. Several faculty members have received very impressive honors and awards too numerous to mention here, but including funding from the Fulbright Program, National Science Foundation, and Defense Threat Reduction Agency. Unfortunately, internationally renowned author and teacher C. P. Lo had an untimely passing in December. Former AAG President and Associate Dean Kavita Pandit is now a Senior Provost in the State University of New York system.

The Georgia Geographic Alliance has been very active lately and has a new web presence at <http://www.gaofgeorgia.org/>.

II. Geography Programs

Institution	Geography Programs	Geography Faculty	Program Chair
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College	Rural Studies program	1	Mouyyed Hassouna mhassouna@abac.edu
Armstrong Atlantic State University		1	Thomas Howard Thomas.Howard@armstrong.edu
Columbus State University		1	Manda Rees rees_amanda@colstate.edu
Dalton State College		1	Doyle Loughren dloughren@daltonstate.edu
Gainesville State University	GIS Certificate; B.S., Applied	2	Lewis Rogers lrogers@gsc.edu

	Environmental Spatial Analysis		
Georgia College and State University	Minor	3	Doug R. Oetter doug.oetter@gcsu.edu
Georgia Perimeter College		1	James D. Engstrom jengstro@gpc.edu
Georgia Southern University	B.A., B.S., Geography	6	Dallas D. Rhodes DRhodes@GeorgiaSouthern.edu
Georgia State University	GIS Certificate; B.A., M.A., Geography	9	W. Crawford Elliott geowce@langate.gsu.edu
Kennesaw State University	GIS Certificate; B.A. Geography; B.S. GISc	8	Garrett Smith gsmith@kennesaw.edu
University of Georgia	4 Certificates; B.A., B.S., M.A., M.S., Ph.D., Geography	27	George Brook gabrook@uga.edu
Valdosta State University	B.S., Environmental Geography	4	Edward Chatelain echatela@valdosta.edu
University of West Georgia	GIS Certificate; B.A. & B.S., Geography	6	Andy Walter awalter@westga.edu
Shorter		1	Jason Ritchie jritchie@shorter.edu
Young Harris		1	Robert Hill Nichols, Jr.

Public Universities

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College- (Mouyyed Hassouna mhassouna@abac.edu)

- One geographer
- Teach one course "Introduction to Human Geography"- GEOG 1101
- Offer it only for spring semester once a year.
- This course meets area E requirements for our early childhood Education majors.
- We do not have a degree program in geography.
- We are in the process of writing new curriculum for our new
- Rural Studies program. This will add new Geography courses. The list below is still applicable. Thanks. Make it a good day!

Armstrong Atlantic State University- (Thomas Howard Thomas.Howard@armstrong.edu)

- One-man geography department
- No majors; just service courses, and sparsely-attended upper division ones.
- Upper division courses are getting harder to maintain. Administration wants 10 or more students for course to make; otherwise I have to teach an additional section of a lower division course. In theory this saves money in troubled times because university doesn't have to hire an adjunct. But adjunct pay is so low that the savings are minimal. Stupid policy.
- Hiring a second geographer has not been abandoned, but all new hiring is on hold now.

Columbus State University (Manda Rees rees_amanda@colstate.edu)

- No new changes
- We have not added new faculty.
- I do not anticipate hiring any new faculty
- As there's only me in the program "lone geographer" I'll just mention my grants and awards and you can edit as you see fit. I received the John Topham and Susan Redd Butler Faculty Research Award from the Charles Redd Center for Western Research to conduct research in several Idaho archives exploring dude ranching tourism in the first half of the twentieth century. I was a recipient of a Spencer Grant to attend a course and conduct research at Oxford University during the summer to develop a course on British Urban Spaces for a summer Oxford program in 2010 at CSU's Spencer House. This year I became a Faculty Writing Fellow at Columbus State University where I worked to develop on-line group writing and peer review semester-long assignment for the core class World Regional Geography.
- Teaching:
 - World Regional Geography (6 sections) 200 students per year including 2 first year learning community courses
 - Cultural Landscapes (1 section) upper level undergraduate course 15 students
 - Urban Spaces (1 section) undergraduate/graduate course 15 students.
- ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION IN THE COUNTY: Columbus saw its first AP Geography course introduced in the high school system in Muscogee County. I worked to support the instructor with various materials and information and I look forward to fostering that relationship. I am also on the Local School Council for the first IB elementary school "Clubview" in Georgia where I work to foster greater international engagement for the school. 4 classes listed in catalog

Georgia College and State University-

- Two full-time, tenure-track geographers

- Chuck Fahrer, PhD South Carolina, political geography
- Doug Oetter, PhD Oregon State, environmental geography, remote sensing
- 32 Minors, working toward a BA degree in general Geography
- Limited-term third geographer in cultural/ethnic
- Teach 12 different classes, including 160 in Core Area E each semester

Georgia Perimeter College-

- GPC does not have a geography program of study at this time.
- No new geography full-time faculty, with 5 campuses to GPC there may be new part-time instructors on other campuses that I am not aware of.
- To my knowledge not new faculty in geography will be hired.

Georgia Southern University-

- No changes have occurred in either the BS or BA program.
- Faculty changes:
 - Jason Dittmer accepted a position at the University College - London.
 - Keith Bosak completed his temporary appointment here and accepted a tenure track position at Montana State.
 - Thomas E. Chapman (PhD, Florida State), a political geographer, joined the faculty in August.
 - Adam Parrillo (ABD, Cincinnati) joined us in a temporary position while we search for Dittmer's replacement.
- We are searching for a tenure track replacement for Dittmer.
- Wei Tu received a grant to support his research in economic geography from the AT&T
- As of last month, the Department had 46 majors in the two degree programs.

Georgia State University- (Crawford Elliott geowce@langate.gsu.edu)

- New geography faculty members
 - Leslie A. Edwards, Ph.D., Lecturer
 - Parama Roy, Ph.D., Assistant Professor
- New geographers for 2008-09?
 - GIS with urban health specialization
- Geography programs, grants, or awards
 - Nystrom Award (AAG), Lawrence Kiage.

Kennesaw State University (Garrett Smith gsmith@kennesaw.edu)

- We have 31 courses (27 undergrad, 4 grad)
- We have 50 majors in GIS, 30 majors in geography.
- In the Geography BA, we have eliminated the concentrations and replaced them with a "cafeteria" style approach where students select between physical, human, and GIS/cart/RS courses. The revision is to give students more flexibility and attract more majors. In the GISc BS, we have updated the curriculum by eliminating one concentration and focusing on the remaining two (urban applications and environmental applications)
- There are approximately 60 GISc majors (BS) and 40 geography majors (BA). In addition, there is a GIS certificate program which has approximately 60 students.
- New geography faculty members?
 - Dr. Jun Tu, from City University of New York. His specialty is environmental geography, weather and climate, and GIS. This is a joint appointment between the Department of Geography & Anthropology and the Environmental Studies Program at KSU.
- No new tenure-track hires anticipated.
- \$50,000 from National Geographic Education Foundation to fund the Georgia Geographic Alliance for 2008-2009.

University of Georgia- (George Brook gabrook@uga.edu)

The state of the UGA budget is that there is NO hiring this year. So we can't fill C.P. Lo's position. We have no travel money (why you will see few from UGA at SEDAAG).

New Faculty Hires starting Fall 2008

Joshua Barkan, Ph.D. Minnesota, 2006, Assistant Professor—social theory, legal geography, economic geography,

sovereignty and corporate globalization

John A. Knox, Ph.D., Wisconsin, 1996, Assistant Professor—dynamics of weather and climate, remote sensing applications

in meteorology, geoscience education

Amy K. Trauger, Ph.D., Pennsylvania State, 2005, Assistant Professor—food security, sustainability, feminist geography,

cultural economy

Theses & Dissertations (2007-2008)

PhD:

Bass, Polly, "Nunataks and Island Biogeography in the Alaska-Canada Boundary Range: An Investigation of the Flora and Its Implications for Climate Change." (Elgene Box, 2007)

Durkee, Joshua, "Assessing the Role of Mesoscale Convection Complexes in Subtropical South American Precipitation Variability." (Thomas Mote, 2007)

Giraldo, Mario, "Complex Landscapes Analysis for Ground and Remote Sensing Estimations of Soil Water Content." (Marguerite Madden, 2007)

Hudson, Margaret, "Situating Mixed-Race Households in Neighborhood Contexts: Non-Latino White and Mexican Mixed-Race Families in Los Angeles." (Steven Holloway, 2007)

Markwith, Scott, "Multi-scale Analysis of Gene Flow in the Emergent Aquatic Macrophyte *Hymenocallis Coronaria*." (Kathleen Parker, 2007)

Sharma, Jitendra, "Erosion and Sedimentation Modeling of the Lake Lanier Watershed." (Marguerite Madden, 2008)

Tang, Yanbing, "An Integrated GIS-Spatial Analysis Way to Analyze Atlanta's Urban Structure and Urban Space." (Clifton Pannell, 2007)

Xu, Bo, "Spatial and Temporal Analysis of Hemorrhagic Disease in White-Tailed Deer in Southeast USA ." (Marguerite Madden, 2008)

Masters (Arts):

Davis, Brittany, "Private Management of Public Space: A Case Study of Piedmont Park." (Amy Ross, 2008)

Lee, James, "White Flight and Spatial Assimilation in Newly Multiracial Suburbs: The Case of Gwinnett County, Georgia." (Steven Holloway, 2007)

Pickren, Graham, "Invisible Housing: Social Movement Responses to the Gentrification and Displacement of Urban Manufactured Housing Communities." (Nik Heynen, 2008)

Masters (Science):

Hand, Lauren, "An Investigation of Warm Season Spatial Rainfall Variability in Oklahoma City: Possible Linkages to Urbanization and Prevailing Wind." (Marshall Shepherd, 2008)

Jacobs, Jennifer, "Variations in Snow Depth in the Southern Rocky Mountains of Colorado." (Andrew Grunds tein, 2008)

Marathe, Apurva, "Reforestation Mumbai: An Analysis of Land-Use and Land-Cover Change Using Satellite Remote Sensing and GIS." (Thomas Hodler, 2008)

Martin, Leslie, "Baseflow Turbidity of Tributaries to the Upper Little Tennessee River, North Carolina and Georgia." (David Leigh, 2008)

Myers, Remi, "Classifying Urban Features and landscapes to Improve Spatial Knowledge for Visually Impaired Pedestrian Travelers." (Xiaobai Yao, 2008)

Tuttle, Julie, "Ecotonal Change in High-Elevation Forests of the Great Smoky Mountains, 1930s-2004." (Albert Parker, 2007)

Xu, Bo, "Object-Based Image Analysis (OBIA) of Vegetation in Great Smoky Mountains National Park." (Marguerite Madden, 2007)

Zhou, Yan, "Atlanta's Urban Heat Island under Extreme Heat Conditions and Potential Mitigation Strategies." (Marshall Shepherd, 2008)

NSF Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grants (2008)

Fuyuan Liang
 NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant: "Monsoonal climate of China and the Southeastern U.S.A. during the late Pleistocene and Holocene" (with George Brook), 2006-2008, \$12,000.

Katie Price

NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant: "Geomorphic and anthropogenic controls on baseflow discharge of southern Blue Ridge Mountain streams" (with Albert J. Parker and C. R. Jackson), 2007-2008, \$ 12,000.

Faculty Research Grants (2008)

George A. Brook (P.I.)

A multi-proxy approach to understanding late Pleistocene climate change in Namibia, Botswana, and NW South Africa. National Science Foundation 2007-2010 (\$388,336).

Andrew Grundstein (Co-P.I.)

U.S. Department of Energy, "Integrated Hydrologic-Hydrodynamic Modeling System for Collection of Pollutant Signatures", \$750,000 to UGA (\$1.5 million total), 2008-2011.

Nik Heynen

Assessing air quality and perceptions of environmental hazards in the Newtown Community: A prototype UGA-U.S. Forest Service Initiative on environmental justice and green space engagement. Marshall Shepherd (Principal Investigator) Cassandra Y. Johnson, Nik Heynen and Thomas L. Mote (Co-Principal Investigators) (\$16,448)

Consequences of Land Use Change in the Southern Appalachian Mountains. Theodore Gragson (Principal Investigator), James Vose & Brian Kloeppel (Co-Principal Investigators). National Science Foundation DEB Award #0218001 (\$13,342)

Long Term Ecological Research (LTER): Consequences of Land Use Change in the Southern Appalachian Mountains (with main PI: Theodore Gragson; 24 other Co-PIs). Coweeta LTER project, National Science Foundation's DEB Division of Environmental Biology and BIO Directorate for Biological Sciences. (\$7,439,998).

Steve Holloway (Co-P.I.)

Sociocultural and Community Risk and Protective Factors for Child Maltreatment and Youth Violence," 2004-2008, Co-PI with Ronald Simons (PI), Leslie Simons, Gene Brody, Velma McBride-Murry, Frederick Gibbons and Thomas McNulty, 4-year Cooperative Agreement, Centers for Disease Control, \$1,978,700 total award.

Thomas Jordan

National Park Service, 2006-2008. Sampling Strategy for Accuracy Assessment of Vegetation Databases for Parks in the Appalachian Highlands Inventory & Monitoring Network – CESU, (Co-Investigator with Marguerite Madden) \$37,910.

The Nature Conservancy, 2007-2008. Assessing Remote Sensing Inputs to the Eglin Air Force Base Ecosystem Condition Model (Co-Investigator with Marguerite Madden) \$23,979.

ARCADIS, 2007-2008. Overstory Vegetation Mapping for Foothills Parkway, Tennessee, (Co-Investigator with Marguerite Madden) \$22,505.

David Leigh (Co-P.I.)

\$6,000,000+ for the period 7/1/2008 to 7/1/2014; National Science Foundation. "Southern Appalachia on the Edge – Exurbanization & Climate Interaction in the Southeast" T. Gragson

(PI). Leigh is one of about 20 Co-PIs on this proposal, and his role involves study of paleoenvironments, channel morphology, and sedimentation of streams and rivers in the Blue Ridge Province.

Marguerite Madden

Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GDNR), 2001-2009. Geographic Information Systems Studies for the Wildlife Resources Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, (PI) \$301,253.

Revitalization of Traditional Cherokee Artisan Resources, 2005 – 2008. Digital Vegetation Databases and Maps for the Qualla Boundary and other Tribal Lands (PI with Thomas Jordan) \$131,375.

National Park Service, 2005-2009. Vegetation Databases, Orthoimages and Buffer-Area Land Cover in Four National Park Units of the Cumberland/Piedmont Network, (PI with T. Jordan) \$166,752.

National Park Service, 2006-2008. Sampling Strategy for Accuracy Assessment of Vegetation Databases for Parks in the Appalachian Highlands Inventory & Monitoring Network –CESU, (PI with T. Jordan) \$55,343 (\$17,433 in FY 2009).

National Park Service, 2007-2008. Orthoimages and Forest-Agriculture-Urban Conversion 1938-1980 for the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, (PI with T. Jordan) \$20,385.

The Nature Conservancy, 2007-2008. Assessing Remote Sensing Inputs to the Eglin Air Force Base Ecosystem Condition Model (PI with Thomas Jordan) \$23,979.

ARCADIS, 2007-2008. Overstory Vegetation Mapping for Foothills Parkway, Tennessee, (PI with T. Jordan) \$22,505.

Wormsloe Foundation, 2008. Mapping Vegetation, Historic and Prehistoric Features at Wormsloe, (Co-PI with T. Jordan) \$ 16,200.

National Science Foundation Travel Grant, 2008-2009. Integrative Geospatial and Behavioral Approaches for Predicting Capuchin Monkey Tool Use in Brazil (PI with Dorothy Fragazy, UGA Psychology) \$19,955.

Sapelo Island National Estuarine Research Reserve, 2008-2009. NERRS Comprehensive Habitat and Landuse Mapping at Sapelo Island, Wolf Island NWR and Blackbeard Island NWR, (PI with T. Jordan) \$35,096.

Thomas Mote

(PI) "Support of SHRMC MM5/WRF modeling activities." USDA Forest Service, 2007-2008 (\$60,000).

Shepherd, J.M., N. Heynen and T.L. Mote (Co-PI). "Assessing air quality and perceptions of environmental hazards in the Newtown Community: A prototype UGA-U.S. Forest Service

Initiative on environmental justice and green space engagement.” USDA Forest Service, 2008-2009 (\$9000).

J.S. Bollinger, A. Garrett, Grundstein, A.J., T.L. Mote (Co-I), J.M. Shepherd, and T. Rasmussen. “Integrated Hydrologic/Hydrodynamic Modeling System for Collection of Pollutant Signatures.” U.S. Department of Energy, 2008-2011 (\$750,000 to UGA, \$1.5 million total)

Mote, T.L., (Co-I). “Development of Northern Hemisphere snow and ice climate data records.” NASA Measures Program, 2008-2012 (\$211,000 to UGA, \$1.13 million total).

Kathleen Parker

National Science Foundation. “Collaborative Research: Gene flow across a landscape mosaic: Biogeography and Domestication in *Stenocereus stellatus* (Cactaceae).” (#DEB-0519553) \$33,000, in collaboration with the award to Cruse-Sanders, A. Casas, E. Friar (#DEB-0519546) \$365,968 (lead institution, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden), 2005-2008.

Marshall Shepherd

03/01/07-03/01/09, Defense Threat Reduction Agency, FY 2006-2008, Urban Enhancements to Meteorological Modeling and Observations. Co-Investigator with S. Burian (University of Utah) and M. Jin (University of Maryland). Submission to Defense Threat Reduction Agency (UGA Budget, ~\$97,000)

03/01/07-03/01/10, NASA Headquarters, FY 2006-2009, Impact of Humans on Precipitation Variability. Co-Principal Investigation with S. Burian (University of Utah) and M. Jin (University of Maryland). Submission to NASA Precipitation Measurement Mission NRA by April (\$390,000)

6/15/08-6/15/08, NASA, Water and Energy Cycle, An observational and modeling study of a rare tornadic storm in a major central business district: Possible linkages to drought and urban land cover. Principal Investigator (UGA Budget, \$45,632).

10/01/08-10/01/11, Department of Energy/SRNL, FY 2009-FY2012, Project Title: Integrated Hydrologic/Hydrodynamic Modeling System for Collection of Pollutant Signatures. Co-Investigator with A. Grundstein (PI), J. Bollinger, T. Mote, T. Rasmussen, and others. (UGA Budget, \$750,000)

10/01/06-10/01/07, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, 2005-2006, Developing a Framework for Understanding the Titanian Methane Cycle using Remote Sensing Techniques Developed for Studying Earth’s Water Cycle. PI: Dr. Marshall Shepherd (UGA), Co-I: Terence Doiron/GSFC/555, Co-I: Chris Ruf/University of Michigan (\$75,000 in FY06 with possible FY07 extension, UGA Budget \$5120)

10/01/06-10/01/07, NASA Headquarters, FY 2006-2007 The Impact of Urbanization on Climate: Integrated Modeling to Couple urban growth, land use change and weather-climate (\$106,974)

5/01/06-5/01/08, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, FY 2006-2007, Science Support for the Development of The NASA Global Precipitation Measurement Mission's Science Implementation Plan and Continuing Precipitation Science Team Activities (\$55,000)

Faculty Awards

George A. Brook 2008 - G. K. Gilbert Award for Excellence in Geomorphological Research (with D. S. Leigh and P. Srivastava) for paper "Late Pleistocene braided rivers on the Southeastern Atlantic Coastal Plain, U.S.A", Quaternary Science Reviews 23: 65-84, 2004.

Andrew Grundstein 2008 - Thunderstorm-asthma research was reported in a number of news outlets including: Atlanta Journal and Constitution, Parents Magazine, NY Times, Environmental Health Perspectives, Santa Fe New Mexican Consult Magazine, and was highlighted in the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences website.

John Knox 2008 - Article on clear air turbulence in the Journal of Atmospheric Sciences was reported in the Atlanta Constitution (10/2/08), the United Kingdom Telegraph (1/10/08) and in the New Scientist Tech Magazine (10/11/08).

David Leigh 2008

- Fulbright Scholarship Award for Argentina-Uruguay Joint Award in Environmental Sciences

- AAG Geomorphology Specialty Group Excellence in Research Award - G.K. Gilbert Award

Marguerite Madden 2008

Appointed, Science Advisory Council for Wormsloe Institute for Environmental History (2008 – present)

- Appointed, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) Remote Sensing Advisory Group (2008-present)

- Appointed, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Advisory Committee on Commercial Remote Sensing (ACCRES), 2007-2009.

- Appointed, National Visiting Committee for the National Geospatial Technology Center, under the direction of Philip Davis (PI), Delmar College and funded by the Advanced Technical Education (ATE) program at the National Science Foundation (NSF) (2008-2012).

Thomas Mote 2008

- Joint Fulbright / Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado do Rio Grande do Sul (FAPERGS) Scholar award to Brazil, 2008.

Marshall Shepherd 2008

- Selected as a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society (2008)

- Peer-reviewed research on (i) urban climate and (2) hurricanes featured in Atlanta Journal Constitution, CBS News, national public radio, and numerous media outlets (2008)

- Op-Editorials requested by Atlanta Journal Constitution on Hurricane-Global Warming Linkage.

- Contributing Author on for the 2007 IPCC Working Group 4 Scientific Assessment Report

- Invited Panelist to testify before the National Academies of Science Review Panel for the NASA Applied Sciences Committee (April 27th, 2006).

- Served on NASA Hurricane Science Program Review Panel (August 2008).

West Georgia State University

- We refined both our BA and BS degrees. Modernized them, if you will.

- Two new hires

- Hannes Gerhardt (Arizona, 2007)--political geography
- Georgina DeWeese (Tennessee, 2007)--biogeography, dendrochronology
- No new hires this year

Georgia Geographic Alliance

- MyWonderfulWorld

The Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers
ANNUAL SURVEY OF GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENTS IN THE SOUTHEAST
2008-2009

State report for Geography Departments and Programs in Tennessee

Submitted by: Esra Ozdenerol, SEDAAG- Tennessee State Representative

Assistant Professor, University of Memphis

List of Departments and Programs

University of Tennessee, Knoxville	B.A., M.S., and Ph.D. in geography
University of Memphis, Memphis	B.A., and M.A. in Geography and B.S., M.S., PhD in Earth Sciences, Graduate Certificate in GIS
Austin Peay State University, Clarksville	B.S. in Geosciences_ with a concentration in Geography
Tennessee State University, Nashville	No geography major is offered, however, students across the university can receive a minor in Geography.
Tennessee Tech University, Cookeville	B.S. in Geosciences- with a concentration in 1-Geography; or 2-GIS
University of Tennessee- Chattanooga	No geography major is offered, however, students across the university can receive a minor in Geography.

HIGHLIGHTS

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, (B.A., M.S., and Ph.D. in geography) is the leading geography department in the state currently enrolling 121 undergraduate majors and 60 graduate students (38 Master's and 22 Ph.D). UTK presently employs 14 full time and 1 part time faculty. Dr. Francoise Micheline van Riemsdijk joined the Department in Fall 2008. They are currently searching for a tenure-track assistant professor in physical geography and spatial analysis and another joint appointment with the Center for Business and Economic Research for a tenure-track assistant/associate professor in analytical population geography. Dr. Margaret Gripshover received the National Alumni Association's Outstanding Teachers Award, University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Dr. Carol Harden was elected to Vice President of The Association of American Geographers. Dr. Sally Horn was awarded Chancellor's Professor, University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Dr. Shih-Lung Shaw received the Edward L. Ullman Award for outstanding contributions to the field of transportation geography, Transportation Geography

Specialty Group, The Association of American Geographers (AAG).

The Department of Geography at University of Tennessee, Knoxville is doing well. They are highly regarded by the university administration as a strong department and have been rewarded with new resources in searching for a joint faculty position with the Center for Business and Economic Research in the College of Business Administration, a new office staff position, and graduate teaching assistantships. Overall, they are doing better than most other programs on the campus under the current budget situation.

University of Memphis, (B.A., and M.A. in Geography and B.S., M.S., PhD in Earth Sciences, Graduate Certificate in GIS) At the graduate level DES offers the MA degree in Geography, the MS degree in Earth Sciences with concentrations in geography, geology, geophysics, archeology and interdisciplinary studies, and the PhD in Earth Sciences. Graduate Certificate in GIS was launched in 2006, and since then six students graduated and eight students are currently enrolled. PhD student numbers are on the rise, 27 currently enrolled. Geography's mission is to recruit more students both at the undergraduate and graduate level. There are currently five full time faculty in Geography. Dr. Melanie Rapino joined the Department in Fall 2008. A search is underway to hire one tenure-track faculty member with Environmental Sustainability research interest who is anticipated to join the DES –geography family in Fall 2009. The University of Memphis is home to the only Confucius Institute in the state of Tennessee and the first in the Mid-South. Dr. Hsiang-te Kung from Geography is the director of the Confucius Institute at the University of Memphis. In conjunction with its partner institution, Hubei University in China, the Confucius Institute at the University of Memphis promotes understanding of the Chinese language and culture among the people of the United States, develops friendly relations between the U. S. and China, accelerates the expansion of multiculturalism, and provides opportunities for students studying the Chinese language. Dr. Esra Ozdenerol received *The Wings across the Americas International Partnership Award* from the Chief of the U.S. Forest Service for her outstanding research contribution to the conservation of the Cerulean Warbler bird species in its nonbreeding range in South America. She was also awarded Health Research fellowship by the Office of the Vice provost for Research for outstanding contributions to the field of Medical Geography. Dr. Gregory Taff is researching land cover change in Eastern Europe, most recently leading the publication of a book chapter entitled "Reforestation in Central and Eastern Europe after the Breakdown of Socialism" in the Springer Landscape Series.

Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, (B.S. in Geosciences_ with a concentration in Geography and Geology at the School of Agriculture and Geosciences) presently has 4 full time faculty, one part time and 27 undergraduate majors. Thirty-five geography courses are offered each year to over 939 total students. Geography at APSU continues its interdisciplinary mission, attracting both social and natural science majors to its survey courses. GIS and Spatial Analysis and Environmental Hazards concentrations continue interdisciplinary attraction of students to its upper division course offerings. Given the budget climate, they were lucky to get two new hires for the 2008-09 academic year (Drs. Christopher Gentry and Christine Mathenge). Their facilities are 100% smart classroom technology, and they have been able to make steady progress in acquiring classroom and research technology.

Tennessee State University, Nashville, offers geography courses within the Dept. of History, Geography, and Political Science. No geography major is offered, however, students across the university can receive a minor in Geography. Presently there are 200 undergraduates per year enrolled in 12 geography courses. TSU hired an additional full time faculty member in August 2006, bringing the total full time faculty to 2. Several TSU geography courses are taken by students in the university's new certificate program in Intelligence Studies. In addition, a new major in Urban Studies, to be offered beginning in fall 2007, will allow more geography courses to be developed. The program also features the TSU Geographic Information Sciences Lab where students team with local interests to carry out projects including environmental impact assessments and sustainability studies.

Tennessee Tech University, Cookeville, (B.S. in Geosciences- with a concentration in 1- Geography; or 2-GIS)

Two full time and one part time faculty member in Geography teach over 500 students per year in 11 courses. A new Geography concentration is set to begin in Fall 2007. The department houses a GIS Laboratory and hosts the annual SE US Fish and Wildlife GIS training.

University of Tennessee- Chattanooga (minor in Geography) UTC now has 2 full time faculty that focus on teaching human geography. They also employ 2 part time faculty members. They teach a total of 18 courses and over 800 students take their courses each year. The Geography department exists within the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Geography./ Many of their courses are required for environmental science majors and education majors. Faculty research on Japan will part of the new Education about Asia website.