

SOUTHEASTERN DIVISION ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN GEOGRAPHERS NEWSLETTER

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Katie Algeo, Treasurer

Russell Ivy, Vice President
Doug Gamble, Regional Councilor

Hilda Kurtz, Secretary
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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

SEDAAG on the move! This is an exciting time to be a member of the Southeastern Division of the AAG and I am honored and humbled to serve as the Division's new President. I follow in a long line of excellent leaders. Most immediately, I want to praise the work of Gerald "Jerry" Webster, who served as our President for the past two years. Jerry has taken over the position of Past President from Steve Walsh, who also served with great distinction. Many of the developments I discuss below are a direct result of their effective leadership.

New Initiatives

I am happy to announce three new initiatives that will, no doubt, increase the rewards of being a member of SEDAAG. First, at the Greensboro, North Carolina

meeting in 2008, the Regional Division will bestow its first Excellence in Teaching 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 by the Executive and Steering Committees. Eric worked with Joby Bass, Chair of the Honors Committee, in composing the guidelines and requirements for the Excellence in Teaching Award, which are published in this newsletter. One of the greatest things that SEDAAG can do is recognize the contributions of its members. A region-wide recognition of excellent teaching 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.

A second noteworthy initiative that begins in 2008 is the Small Grant Program, an annual monetary award intended to support the research efforts of junior faculty who are members of SEDAAG. The Endowment Committee, chaired by Stephen Birdsall, is in charge of evaluating submitted proposals and dispersing grant funds 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. Special thanks to Steve for authoring the call for grant proposals included in this newsletter. 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.

The third development that I am happy to announce involves the expansion of the *Southeastern Geographer*.

As many of you know, Bob Brinkman and Graham Tobin are the new editors of the journal. Bob and Graham have hit the ground running. They have successfully negotiated a new publishing contract with UNC Press. With the unanimous approval of the SEDAAG leadership, Bob and Graham are implementing plans to publish the *Southeastern* on a quarterly basis beginning 2009. This is a major step for the Regional Division in our quest to raise the visibility of the journal and ensure its inclusion in a major citation index. Securing coverage in the Science or Social Science Citation Index not only benefits the general reputation of SEDAAG but assists individual authors, particularly non-tenured faculty, in gaining official recognition of their research and thereby encouraging them to consider our journal as an outlet for publication and professional advancement.

Membership Issues

In order to support the expansion of the journal and other future, revenue-intensive initiatives, we must develop and maintain a large, stable membership base. Over the past few years, the Division has seen a decline in membership, even though we see growing numbers of people at annual meetings. I mention membership in the context of the annual meeting for two major reasons.

First, it is worth noting that while the annual meeting is an important part of the SEDAAG experience, the rewards of membership are not limited to the month of November. Even if you are not able to attend the annual meeting, we encourage you to pursue membership. Your dues will support a variety of worthwhile activities that benefit faculty, students, and departments across the Southeast. Having said this, however, I do not want to take away from the importance of the SEDAAG conference. As illustrated in the successful meeting that Dave Cowen and Mark Long hosted in Charleston last year, our annual conferences are well organized events hosted in interesting cities. In many respects, SEDAAG meetings are more rigorous and enjoyable than the increasingly crowded national AAG meetings. While it is a common practice to rejoin the Division in the fall right before the meeting, I encourage you to (re)join now and get a head start on allowing your dues money to help the Regional Division.

My second reason in discussing membership and the annual meeting is a bit more uncomfortable, but necessary nevertheless. According to the Division's bylaws, membership in SEDAAG is required to participate in the annual meeting, unless someone attending is based outside the region. Enforcement of this rule has not happened over the past several years and, as a result, a significant number of people who participate at annual meetings are not

current members. In Charleston, the Executive and Steering Committees approved a plan that calls for a closer monitoring of the membership status of people registering for future meetings, beginning with the 2008 Greensboro conference. In addition, registration forms for the Greensboro meeting will include a fee structure that not only differentiates students from faculty members but also differentiates members from non-members, very similar to the way we register for the national AAG meeting. A simple way to avoid paying a higher registration fee is to join the Division.

Congratulations

One of the highlights of the annual meeting is the honors banquet and the bestowing of awards to faculty members and students. On behalf of the Division, I thank Scott Curtis (East Carolina University), who chaired the Honors Committee and presided over the banquet at the Charleston meeting. He and the rest of the Honors Committee (consisting of Joby Bass, Michael Harrison, Ron Kalafsky, and Robert Yarbrough) worked tirelessly in judging student papers and posters and evaluating nominations for faculty awards. Congratulations to Ann Oberhauser, recipient of the SEDAAG Research Honors Award; Jerry Webster, recipient of the SEDAAG Service Award; and Steve Walsh, recipient of the SEDAAG Lifetime Achievement Award. Congratulations also go to Terri Moreau (East Carolina University), recipient of the Best Masters Student Paper Award; Joni Downs (Florida State University), recipient of the John Fraser Hart Best PhD Student Paper Award; Joshua Durkee (University of Georgia), recipient of the Best Student Poster Award; and Sara Nicholson (University of Southern Mississippi), recipient of the Merle C. Prunty Scholarship. Representatives of the editorial board of *Southeastern Geographer* selected two papers to receive the 2006 Best Article Award, one in the area of physical geography (by C. E. Landgraf and D. Royall) and one in the area of human geography (by Wil Gesler and colleagues).

SEDAAG Leadership

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. AAG Executive Director Doug Richardson and AAG President Tom Baerwald have praised Tink 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.

Katie Algeo is the new SEDAAG Treasurer. Katie follows in the footsteps of Altha Cravey, who served for almost two terms. Altha served as Leo Zonn's replacement when he left for the University of Texas-Austin in 2004 and then served another two years in her own right. Please join me in thanking Altha. Katie is already doing a splendid job, working to address the Division's membership and dues situation and exploring avenues for increasing the rate of return on SEDAAG financial accounts.

Katie, Doug and I are lucky to be serving with two excellent colleagues: Vice President Russ Ivy and Secretary Hilda Kurtz. Russ did a stellar job organizing the program for the Charleston meeting, facilitating the review of numerous papers and posters, assigning discussants to papers, and preventing potential schedule conflicts. Please do Russ a favor and make your submissions for the Greensboro meeting on time and closely follow established guidelines as outlined in this newsletter. The SEDAAG Program Committee does have the authority to reject submissions that do not meet certain standards in terms of quality and format. In addition to serving as Editor of the Division's newsletter, Hilda is investigating possible software solutions for improving SEDAAG voting, membership management, and general communication. Addressing these issues is fundamental to ensuring the efficiency of our organization.

Other newly elected leaders include Alabama Representative Lisa Davis (who replaced Joe Weber), Florida Representative Lisa Jordan (who replaced Heidi Lannon), Kentucky Representative Scott Dobler (who replaced Michael Crutcher), South Carolina Representative

Diansheng Guo (who replaced Ed Carr), and West Virginia Representative Ann Oberhauser (who replaced George Tower). Returning SEDAAG State Representatives are Doug Oetter (Georgia), John Rogers (Mississippi), Dan Royall (North Carolina), Esra Ozdenerol (Tennessee), and Jonathan Walker (Virginia). These representatives are important bridges between the Division and departments and individual geographers in the various states. Please let your representative know about any new initiatives or issues developing at home.

A Call for Member Input

Ron Mitchelson, one of my long-time mentors and a former President of SEDAAG, once wrote: "The Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers exists to serve its members. In a world that probably provides too many opportunities to join, this organization...must remain true to its most fundamental directive or it will wither away." I could not agree with Ron more. Moreover, I believe that we should create opportunities for members to communicate their suggestions for improving the Regional Division. I invite all of you, student and faculty alike, to provide input about how SEDAAG can better serve members. Feel free to contact me or your state representative. I also encourage you to share your ideas and feelings to the national AAG organization, either directly or through Regional Councillor Doug Gamble.

Derek H. Alderman
East Carolina University
SEDAAG President

INVITATION TO THE 63RD ANNUAL SEDAAG MEETING

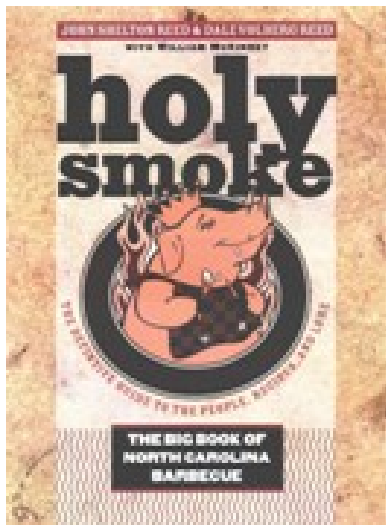
The Department of Geography at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro welcomes the SEDAAG membership to Greensboro, NC for the annual meeting of the Division. The meeting will be held November 22 – 25, 2008 at the Greensboro Marriott Downtown hotel. Room rates for the conference are \$89 single/double per night (plus \$7 parking fee for the entire conference). Reservations can be made at the [Greensboro Marriott Downtown](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/gso-dt-greensboro-marriott-downtown/) (<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/gso-dt-greensboro-marriott-downtown/>) or by calling 336-379-8000. (Use group code GEOGEOA). We look forward to several interesting field trips and an opening session with Dr. John Shelton Reed, an authority on "The South" from UNC-Chapel Hill. Gordon Bennett is the local coordinator and can be reached at dgbennet@uncg.edu. Registration, Participation, Vendor Display and Department Display forms are available at the meeting website at <http://www.uncg.edu/geo/sedaag08/sedaag.html>

*NOTE: Bylaws stipulate that all people attending annual meetings must be a current member of SEDAAG, unless someone is based outside the Division. If you are not a SEDAAG member, please join before registering for the meeting. Go to SEDAAG's website (www.sedaag.org) to get the application form. If you do not wish to join SEDAAG, please pay the non-member registration fee, which is the equivalent of the regular registration fee plus membership dues. It is the hope of the Executive Committee that all meeting participants will choose to join SEDAAG and enjoy the benefits of membership, which include a subscription to the **Southeastern Geographer**.*

Noted Southern Scholar to Deliver Keynote Address at Greensboro SEDAAG Meeting

John Shelton Reed to Present on BBQ at the Opening, Plenary Session

John Shelton Reed, one of the foremost experts on the American South, has agreed to deliver the keynote address at the upcoming Greensboro SEDAAG meeting as part of the opening, plenary session on Sunday, November 23, 2008. A long-time admirer of the research of geographers, Dr. Reed has played a leading role in the sociological analysis of the changing and contested dimensions of regional identity, including the role of food in southern culture. He and Dale Volberg Reed, his wife, recently edited *Cornbread Nation 4: The Best of Southern Food Writing* (University of Georgia Press, 2008). Dr. Reed will speak on barbeque, drawing from his forthcoming book *Holy Smoke: The Big Book of North Carolina Barbecue* (also written with Dale Volberg Reed and to be published by University of North Carolina Press in 2008). For the uninitiated, North Carolina hosts one of the oldest barbeque traditions in the South and one of the most heated food rivalries—a feud between the vinegar and pepper barbeque style in the East and the tomato variety found farther west, centered in Lexington, North Carolina.



John Shelton Reed, who has lectured at over 300 colleges and universities in the U.S. and abroad, is a wildly entertaining speaker with an impressive and varied resume. He is the William Rand Kenan, Jr. Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, where he was director of the Howard Odum Institute for Research in Social Science for twelve years and helped to found the university's Center for the Study of the American South.

Dr. Reed grew up in Kingsport, Tennessee, did his undergraduate work at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and received his Ph.D. from Columbia University before going to Chapel Hill in 1969. He has written or edited over a dozen books and his numerous

articles and essays have appeared in professional and popular periodicals ranging from *Science* to *Southern Living*. He was founding co-editor of the quarterly *Southern Cultures*.

Dr. Reed has been a Guggenheim Fellow, a Fellow of



the National Humanities Center, and a Fellow of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences. He has been president of the Southern Sociological Society and the Southern Association for Public Opinion Research.

He has served as a consultant to *Southern Living*, Quaker Grits, the Turner South cable network, AnythingSouthern.com, and the musical comedy *Kudzu*. One of his proudest accomplishments was serving as a judge at the Memphis in May World Championship Barbecue Cooking Contest. His country song “My Tears Spoiled My Aim” was recently recorded by Tommy Edwards. Since retiring from UNC-Chapel Hill, Dr. Reed has served as distinguished visiting professor or fellow at All Souls College, Oxford University; Louisiana State University; The Citadel; University of Mississippi's Center for the Study of Southern Culture; and University of South Carolina's Institute for Southern Studies.

For further information, please contact Derek Alderman, President of SEDAAG (aldermand@ecu.edu).

Job Announcements and Special Sessions

If you wish to inform the SEDAAG membership about a special session for the Greensboro Meeting or a job opening, please send details to Secretary Hilda Kurtz at hkurtz@uga.edu, and it will be forwarded to the membership at large.

SEDAAG Small Grant Program -- Call for Proposals

The Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers is pleased to announce an annual Early Career Small Grant Competition for junior faculty. Funds for small grants of up to \$750 per year will be generated by the SEDAAG Endowment Fund.

Proposals on any topic that will further geographic understanding are invited. The competition is open to junior faculty who are members of SEDAAG and who have received a doctoral degree within the previous 5 years. Grant recipients will not be eligible in future annual competitions. Proposals may not be longer than 3-pages and must include a brief budget indicating how the grant funds would be used. A separate attachment of the applicant's curriculum vita is welcome but no additional supplementary material should be included. A brief report of the funds' use will be provided by the recipient by November 1 following the grant award.

Proposals must be received no later than October 15, 2008. Proposals will be judged by the SEDAAG Endowment Committee: Stephen Birdsall (chair), Thomas Bell, Margaret Gripshover, and Charles Kovacik. Electronic submissions in MS Word.doc are preferred and should be sent to: birdsall@email.unc.edu. The winner of the year's competition will be notified and announced at the SEDAAG annual meeting.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

OFFICERS AND STATE REPRESENTATIVES

SEDAAG seeks nominations for the following positions:

SEDAAG Officers: Secretary and Vice-President

State Representatives: Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia

(Note that you may only vote for State Representative from the state in which you are a member). Please send your nominations form by **May 15, 2008** via email to Dr. Eric Fournier at ejfourni@samford.edu

In addition, nominations are currently being accepted for the following:

SPECIAL AWARDS

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

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

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

NEW: Excellence in Teaching Award: Nominations are invited for the newly established SEDAAG Excellence in Teaching Award. The award is intended to acknowledge sustained excellence and creativity in the college classroom. Nominations from current and former students are especially welcome. Nominees for this award should meet the following criteria: (1) Exceptional commitment to effective geography teaching; (2) Record of efforts to help diffuse excellent geography teaching beyond one's immediate classroom (teaching-related publications, workshops, web sites, textbooks, etc.); (3) Recognition of teaching excellence by department, school, or other organizations; (4) Support of teaching excellence via student evaluations or comments.

Merle C. Prunty Student Scholarship: The Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers annually awards the Merle C. Prunty Scholarship to an outstanding undergraduate student from our region with the objective of encouraging talented undergraduate students to pursue professional careers in geography.

Eligibility: Applicants must currently be juniors or seniors and enrolled as geography majors (or geography minors) in a college or university located within the Southeastern Division. Applicants must demonstrate an interest in pursuing a professional career or the clear potential to pursue academic

work beyond the baccalaureate degree. Applicants are evaluated by the SEDAAG Honors Committee on the basis of scholastic record and professional promise.

Notification: Award recipients will be named at the Honors Banquet at the 2008 Division meeting in Greensboro, North Carolina. All applicants will be informed of the outcome by mail.

Application Materials: Materials submitted in the application must include: (1) A cover letter that includes a summary of educational background and academic honors; (2) A statement of professional goals, not to exceed two typewritten pages; (3) One copy of each undergraduate transcript inclusive of college course work through Fall 2008; (4) Letters of recommendation from three persons familiar with the academic work and professional aspirations of the applicant. The letters should include an evaluation of the applicant's potential for development as a professional geographer.

This year all nomination materials will be accepted ELECTRONICALLY. Send nominations for AWARDS with FULL CV of candidate and 3 letters of support in the body of an email and/or attached as MS Word or PDF documents by September 15, 2008 to Joby Bass, Honors Committee Chair at joby@usm.edu. The Honors Committee will work with nominators in facilitating the transition to electronic submission. Dr. Bass also encourages names of deserving award recipients and their potential nominators.

FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS AND POSTERS

**63rd SEDAAG Meeting
Greensboro, North Carolina,
November 22-25, 2008**

The 63rd Annual Meeting will be held November 22-25, 2008 at the Greensboro Marriott Downtown hotel. Room rates for the conference are \$89 single/double per night (plus \$7 parking fee for the entire conference). Reservations can be made at the [Greensboro Marriott Downtown](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/gso-dt-greensboro-marriott-downtown/) tel 336-379-8000 or at (<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/gso-dt-greensboro-marriott-downtown/>). (Use group code GEOGEOA). Gordon Bennett is the local coordinator and can be reached at dgbennet@uncg.edu. Registration, Participation, Vendor Display and Department Display forms are available at the meeting website at <http://www.uncg.edu/geo/sedaag08/sedaag.html>

You are invited to attend the meeting, submit a paper or poster, and to participate in the program as panelist or discussant. All paper and poster authors must be members of SEDAAG (information about our membership fees can be found at www.SEDAAG.org). Special sessions such as those organized thematically around research areas, research questions, or methodological approaches are welcome. Those who wish to arrange a special session, conduct workshops or schedule meetings should notify the Program Chair no later than September 10, 2008. The Program Chair is Russell Ivy, email: ivy@fau.edu.

The participation form for the meeting includes space in which to volunteer to chair a session or discuss a paper. Participants are enthusiastically invited to help perform these tasks; more people are needed as discussants than as chairs, so please consider volunteering in this way. Undergraduate students are encouraged to participate in the meeting and to submit papers to the Student Honors Competition and the Gamma Theta Upsilon special paper sessions. The deadline for receipt of all papers is Friday September 12, 2008, and for all poster descriptions is Friday September 26, 2008.

This year all Student Honors Competition materials should be sent to the Program Chair and will be accepted ELECTRONICALLY. Send papers via email and attached as MS Word or PDF documents to Dr. Russell Ivy at ivy@fau.edu

CONGRATULATIONS to the 2007 SEDAAG Award Winners

Best Student Paper, Masters Level, 2007:

Terri Moreau, East Carolina University for her paper: *'The Graffiti Problem': A Discourse Analysis of Punitive Public Space*

John Fraser Hart Award, Best PhD Student Paper, 2007:

Joni Downs, Florida State University for her paper: *Kernel Density Estimation for Spatial Data*

Best Poster, 2007:

Joshua Durkee, University of Georgia for his paper: *The Contribution of Mesoscale Convective Systems to Anomalous Rainfall across Portions of Subtropical South America*

Southeastern Geographer Best Article Award:

This year two awards were given for best "physical" and "human" geography articles:

The winner in the human geography category is:

Exploring Inequalities in Health Care Coverage by Degree of Rurality in Western North Carolina, by W. Gesler, J.E. Sherman, J.S. Preisser, T.A. Arcury, and J. Perin.

The winner in the physical geography category is:

Spatial Patterns of Surface Magnetism and Soil Redistribution Across a Fallow Field, by C. E. Landgraf and D. Royall.

The 2007 SEDAAG 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 or published papers in the 2006 edition of *Southeastern Geographer*. We would especially like to thank all those who nominated students and faculty for awards. The enthusiasm and selflessness of SEDAAG's members in helping to recognize students and colleagues speaks well of our organization.

COMMITTEE AND COUNCILOR'S REPORTS

Regional Councillor's Report

Tyrel G. Moore, SEDAAG Regional Councilor to the AAG

Our parent organization enjoyed an especially active and successful year in carrying out its core mission in the advancement of our discipline. This report shares highlights of the AAG's accomplishments on behalf of its membership. Let me point out that the central voice for geographers provided by the AAG is vital and beneficial to each and every one of us; no individual or group can bring the resources and authority needed to effectively represent our broader community. One of the clearest examples is the Mapps lawsuit that severely threatened Geography's domain in the access to and use of geographic information. In a short period of time early this year Doug Richardson mobilized the expertise of the AAG staff, the organization's legal team and key colleagues in Geographic Information Science to file a brief that blocked the lawsuit. That hard work paid huge dividends. The AAG also realized opportunities. To promote cross-disciplinary collaboration, the AAG, with the American Council of Learned Societies, jointly sponsored a highly successful Symposium on Geography and the Humanities that convened this past June at the University of Virginia. One third of the symposium's participants were geographers who contributed spatial perspectives in dialogues with this intellectual community. The AAG Central Office now hosts the Administrative Offices of the National Council for Geographic Education. The arrangement benefits the NCGE in a number of ways and promotes the geographic outreach efforts that are vital to our discipline.

This is my final SEDAAG report as Regional Councillor for our Division. It has been my privilege to serve and I cherish the gifts of your scholarly engagement, collegiality and, especially, your friendship. Let me add that my experience as Regional Councillor has given me insights into the way that our Division is perceived by those in other regions of the AAG. We have a lot to be proud of. The most recent evidence of our favorable reputation was expressed at the AAG Fall Council meeting when a Councillor from a neighboring region simply stated that "SEDAAG is a THE model for the AAG's divisions."

Education Committee

Eric Fournier, Chair

The Education Committee worked with the National Council for Geographic Education to plan a joint meeting between SEDAAG and regional members of the NCGE for the 2007 meeting. This was part of NCGE Past-President Ken Foote's efforts to increase college-level membership in the NCGE. Current NCGE President Mark Bockenbauer will attend this year's meeting. Because of the timing of our annual meeting it is not expected that there will be any K-12 teachers or sessions at the meeting. As a result the Education Committee focused on

issues related to faculty development and organized four sessions for the Charleston meeting.

The SEDAAG/NCGE Sessions on Professional Development included: Writing and Publishing for Early Career Faculty and Graduate Students; Navigating the Murky Waters of the Tenure and Promotion Process: A Panel Discussion; Teaching Moments: Reflections on Pedagogy and Practice in Geography, and a SEDAAG/NCGE Presidential Forum – Capitalizing on GEO-ED: Working NCGE Into Your Professional Portfolio

Consistent with disciplinary initiatives such as the Geography Faculty Development Alliance and the AAG's EDGE (Enhancing Departments and Graduate Education) project, the Committee will continue to offer sessions on professional development at future SEDAAG meetings, and expects to organize an undergraduate poster session for SEDAAG 2008. In addition, the Education Committee submitted a motion to the Steering Committee to add an award for excellence in teaching to the list of SEDAAG awards, in order to fill a gap in SEDAAG awards which recognize research and service, but not teaching. The motion passed, and the Award will be offered beginning in 2008.

Standing Committee for Stand-Alone Geographers

The Standing Committee for Stand-Alone Geographers was voted into existence at SEDAAG's 2006 annual meeting in Morgantown, and made its first invitation to Stand Alone Geographers to attend SEDAAG for the 2007 Meeting. Rekha Mathur of Vorrhees College and Patricia Ali of Morris College attended the Annual Meeting in Charleston.

The Stand-Alone Geographers Committee will undertake to maintain a list of all stand-alone geographers in the SEDAAG region. The help of SEDAAGers in suggesting additions to this list is appreciated. These people are often members of history social science or science departments. Some of them have been in these positions for so long that they are in effect in "deep cover" as geographers. The Stand-Alone Committee seeks to find them and encourage them to re-claim their identities as geographers by becoming involved in SEDAAG.

To that end, the committee will nominate two stand-alone geographers each year, from the state in which the annual meeting is held, to receive a one-year complimentary membership in SEDAAG, as well as financial support for attending the meeting. Doug Richardson, Executive Director of AAG, has kindly offered AAG support in the form of a \$350 matching grant, to provide a total of \$700 for travel and registration. The stipulation is that recipients must be on the program, presenting a paper or serving as discussant, session chair or panelist. An application for financial support for attending SEDAAG's Annual Meeting is included at the end of this newsletter. Comments, questions, and names of stand-alone geographers should be sent to Tom Howard (howardth@mail.armstrong.edu) or Helen Ruth Aspaas (hraspaas@vcu.edu).

STATE REPORTS

Alabama

Joe Weber, University of Alabama

The outlook from the state's geography departments is positive. Eight faculty were hired in the past year, and three departments reported plans to hire new faculty in the current academic year. Efforts are underway to create a new Masters program in geography at Auburn University. Enrollments are up; across the state, there were 7747 students in undergraduate geography courses in 2007. Departments report that recent geography graduates have been successful in finding employment, taking positions with local GIS/Remote sensing related firms or local government offices. In addition, several are pursuing graduate studies at the Master's or PhD level. GIS and remote sensing appear to be particular strengths of Alabama geography.

At Auburn University, Tom Martinson retired from Auburn University in August, after 20 years of service, including 7 years as Department Head. Joshua Inwood of UGA was hired as a new urban geographer. At Samford University, department founder Greg Jeane retired after a long and distinguished career. Jennifer Rahn was hired, and the department will make an additional hire in 2008. At the University of North Alabama, Justin Hart was hired and received funding to establish a biogeography lab. A surge in the number of majors this year brought the total to 129. For the past several years, more than 95% of graduates have used their geography education to find employment, and several have attended graduate school. The department has an active intern and co-op program and many students are engaged in undergraduate research with faculty members. Several students demonstrated their research in posters at the spring AAG meeting in San Francisco. The UNA Geography Alumni Association held its 3rd annual conference in November at UNA. The Alumni Association provides two \$500 awards for undergraduate research each year as well as a network for students seeking employment.

Carol Sawyer and Winnie Wang were hired in geography at the University of South Alabama. Glenn Sebastian received College of Arts and Sciences Service Award, and Victoria Rivizzigno became Assistant Dean. The department introduced a six course GIS certificate program in 2006-2007.

At the University of Alabama, the department hired Michael Steinberg as Assistant Professor and Jason Senkbeil and Mary Pitts as Instructors. Luoheng Han is the new chair of the department. Enrollments are up significantly (24% UG, 9% G).

The department established the Professor David C. Weaver Endowed Support Fund, which will generate an annual cash stipend for a Department of Geography student's graduate research. Gerald R. Webster was awarded the Richard Morrill Public Outreach Award from the Political Geography Specialty Group. The University of Alabama Placenames Research Center was recently awarded three new grants from the US Geological Survey (USGS) totaling nearly \$350,000. The awards are to update the USGS Geographic Names Information System database, which contains nearly two million records for geographic names in the U. S. and is the official names repository for all federal cartographic and textual publications. These awards are in addition to two ongoing USGS funded UA GNIS projects.

Stand Alone Geographers in Alabama include: Dr. Russell Kirby, Department of Maternal and Child Health, University of

Alabama at Birmingham (BA, MS, PhD in geography); Dr. Madeleine Gregg, College of Education, University of Alabama; Dr. Stephen Higley, Assistant Professor of Geography, Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences, University of Montevallo; Dr. Larry Brown, Professor, Geography & Physical/Earth Science, Troy University; Dr. Steve Ramroop, Geomatics Program, Dept. of Math and Physics, Troy University; Dr. Akhlaque Haque, Associate Professor, Department of Government, University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Florida

Jonathan Leib, Florida State University

The press reported in early November that the Board of Governors has taken issue with the State Legislature on the authority to set tuition rates. Both the Board and Legislature recommended a 5 percent increase, and the law has been signed by Governor Charlie Christ. Notwithstanding arguments about who can set tuition, which body appropriates funds, and who manages the system, geographers are optimistic and geography programs are robust.

The response rate from all institutions offering geography and related degrees was 75 percent. There were 582 undergraduates enrolled in degrees in geography, and 102 in related fields such as environmental studies. There are 156 Masters and 56 Ph. D. students currently enrolled in Geography programs in Florida. Three respondents offer geography courses in combination with a related discipline. These include geology, economics, environmental studies, or environmental science.

Geography offerings are well represented at the undergraduate level. Departments responding to the annual survey estimate that a total of 214 undergraduate classes, service over 9,000 undergraduates in Florida Universities. The majority of these students are not geography majors, indicating that geography provides core physical and social science classes for the general curriculum in Florida.

Three institutions are currently hiring faculty for placement in the fall of 2008. The University of South Florida will be hiring 2 new faculty members in the areas of GIS, and urban and regional planning. The University of North Florida is hiring a new assistant professor of economic geography and GIS, and the University of West Florida reports that they will hire one faculty replacement this year and an additional hire in 2009. Notable faculty achievements in Florida are attached to this report.

Geography Departments in Florida are producing graduates with valuable skills, and placing them in a variety of jobs. The University of South Florida has had a large increase in undergraduate majors, but other Departments are not experiencing rapid expansions. However, offering geography to non-majors is increasing, ensuring exposure and respect for the field. This is important in Florida because children only receive Geography as part of the curriculum in 4th, 7th and 9th grades. Placement of geography students continues to be in local and state government, branches of the military, and environmental consulting/engineering firms. There is an increased interest in graduate school applications. Undergraduates are placed predominantly in GIS and planning fields. Geography classes for non-majors report high participation from education majors.

Among many notable achievements in Florida geography this year: The Association of American Geographers elected Professor Barney Warf of Florida State University to the honors

committee; Dr. Mark Horner is serving a second year as the chair of the spatial analysis and modeling group; and eight graduate students gave presentations at April's meeting in San Francisco. In addition, Prof. Warf was invited to give the Howard Stafford lecture celebrating the 100th anniversary of Geography. Jeff Martin of Jacksonville University was elected President of the Florida Geographic Alliance (2007). The Geography Department at the University of South Florida continues to grow and is now the largest Geography Department in the state of Florida. A master's of urban and regional planning has been added to the portfolios of degrees offered at the University of South Florida, and a GIS and Cartographic Services Laboratory opened in 2007.

At the University of West Florida, faculty have been awarded numerous research grants. Dr. John Waldron, received a Sasakawa Fellowship and was named as Co-PI on a ~\$450,000 USDA Forest Service Cooperative Agreement to investigate restoration strategies for forests impacted by southern pine beetle and invasive exotic insects in the Southeast. Dr. Chris Houser, assistant professor, became a key coastal expert in the community in 2006-07. Dr. Johan Liebens, received a \$30,750 grant to conduct a hydrographic assessment of Bayou Chico. Dr. Klaus Meyer-Arendt, chair, is PI on a three-year, \$85,000 research award from NOAA to investigate hurricane mortality associated with the 2004 Florida hurricane season. Dr. Klaus Meyer-Arendt, professor and chair, spent Spring 2007 on sabbatical. In addition to updating field data from Veracruz and northern Yucatán, he began a new research project on the Costa Maya (SE Mexico and NE Belize). Dr. Chris Houser, assistant professor, received two grants: Geologic Framework of Santa Rosa Island, \$75,000 (National Park Service) and Rip Current assessment for Perdido Key and Santa Rosa Island, \$15,000 (Escambia County). Dr. Zhiyong Hu, assistant professor, received a \$23,500 grant from EPA: Integration of health outcomes, air pollution, and socio-economic data in northwest Florida. Dr. Matt Schwartz, assistant professor, continues his research in the arena of hydrogeochemistry, and he was awarded a \$2000 SCAC grant. In addition, the entire department received special recognition by the St. Michael's Cemetery Foundation for service.

Georgia

Doug Oetter, Georgia College and State University

Geography is alive and well in Georgia. Over ten public universities and two private universities have geographers in residence. As many as six public institutions 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. In addition, the Georgia Geographic Alliance has been very active lately and has a new web presence at <http://www.gaofgeorgia.org/>.

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; proposal to create a BA degree at Georgia College, and a \$50,000 grant from the National Geographic Education Foundation to fund the Georgia Geographic Alliance for 2007-2008 awarded to Kennesaw State.

The University of Georgia program continues to excel,

adding one new faculty member, Mu Lan, who specializes 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.

In additional news, former AAG President and Associate Dean Kavita Pandit is now a Senior Provost in the State University of New York system. Unfortunately, sadder news is that internationally renowned author and teacher Dr. C. P. Lo passed away in December.

Kentucky

Michael Crutcher, University of Kentucky

Geography programs at Kentucky colleges and universities continued to growth and prosper in 2007. The most visible signs of the discipline's success were the number of geography professors receiving university level awards at their respective institutions. At Eastern Kentucky University (EKU), David Zurich was designated Foundation Professor, the university's highest distinction for teaching and scholarship. Zurich has also received several awards over the past year and a half for his *Atlas of the Himalaya*. Across the state in Bowling Green, Western Kentucky University's (WKU) Rezaul Mahmood received the Ogden College Award for Outstanding Research and WKU Award for Outstanding Research. In addition, Nicholas Crawford was designated as a University Distinguished Professor. In Lexington, the University of Kentucky's (UK), Tom Leinbach received the College of Arts & Sciences highest honor, the Distinguished Professor Award.

Turning from successes to growth, Kentucky geography departments continued to hire new faculty while some programs pursued other avenues of growth. New faculty hires in 2007-2008 and their respective institutions: Marshall Wilkinson and Rosemary Sherriff (University of Kentucky), Anthony Ortman (Murray State University(MSU)), Carol Medlicott (Northern Kentucky University) Ester Long (Morehead State) Haifeng Zhang (University of Louisville)(U of L). In addition, EKU hopes to hire a Geographer/Planner and geologist, WKU is recruiting an environmental geoscientist and meteorologist, and U of L is advertising for an environmental analyst.

The following departmental news may also of interest. After splitting in 2004, Geography and Geology at EKU merged in July 2007. Both areas will oversee an MS degree in Geoscience (a national chair search is underway). In addition, WKU added a meteorology degree, and UK recently hosted the Critical Geography Mini conference. Finally, at U of L the department is working toward establishing a graduate program in Geography. The terminal M.S degree will be awarded in Applied Geography.

Mississippi

John Rogers, Mississippi State University

Geography programs within institutions of higher learning in Mississippi are continuing to grow in both faculty and number of students. Overall the state experienced a 1.2 percent increase in enrollment at the 8 public universities, and this is the first time in Mississippi history that university enrollment has surpassed 70,000 students. Jackson State University and Mississippi State University, in particular, grew in enrollment by over 5 percent.

The University of Southern Mississippi is one of the larger geography departments in the state and offers B.S., M.S., and

Ph.D. degrees in geography. The USM department has 10 full-time faculty members who conduct research in arenas such as climate change in the Andes and hurricane impacts in Central America. Recently USM hired Dr. David Holt (Ph.D. University of Arkansas) and the department plans to hire two additional faculty members in geospatial analysis and physical geography. USM enrolled 1483 undergraduate students and 87 graduate students in 2007, and during the current academic year USM logged 83 undergraduate majors, 23 Master's students, and 5 Ph.D. students. A significant number of USM graduates have been employed within nationally-based geospatial firms and government agencies, most notable is the NASA Stennis Space Center. Recently the geography program at USM merged with the geology program and collectively the new department ranks 5th in productivity within their college. Of research note, Dr. Reese and Dr. Cochran both received prestigious National Science Foundation awards that total \$275,000.

Mississippi State University Department of Geosciences has experienced considerable growth during the recent academic year. Currently there are 16 tenure-track faculty and 10 fulltime instructors. Recently MSU hired four new tenure-track faculty, Dr. Shrinidhi Ambinakudige (Florida State University, GIS and geography), Dr. Renee Clary (LSU, geology), Dr. Karen McNeal (Texas A & M, geology), and Dr. Kathy Sherman-Morris (Florida State University, meteorology). The Department of Geosciences offered 122 undergraduate and 124 graduate courses, with one-third of these courses being taught through distance learning. The Geosciences department also taught 3732 undergraduates and 1137 graduate students. Currently there are 168 on-campus majors. The Department of Geosciences has 43 on-campus Master's students and 111 distance learning Master's students. The combined numbers of on-campus and distance learning majors ranks second in the college. A large number of MSU graduates find employment within broadcast meteorology (An estimated 50% of all US television meteorologists were educated at MSU). An increasing number of graduates are working within the geospatial industry or the oil industry. On a research note, Dr. William Cooke, Dr. Jinmu Choi, and Dr. Charlie Wax are working on NASA funded projects on forest fires in the Southeast. They have also received \$84,000 in funding from DOE to model switch grass (possible bio-fuel) suitability throughout the Southeast. Dr. Wax also has received \$99,000 in funding to examine water level decline in Mississippi aquifers. Dr. Leo Lynch and Dr. Kirkland are working on oil recovery projects funded by DOE.

Delta State University Geography reports one full-time geography faculty member and one part time faculty member. The university enrolled more than 500 students in 36 undergraduate courses and 5 graduate courses during the 2006 – 2007 academic term. The department plans to merge with the Geospatial Center and create an Institute of Geospatial Studies and a B.S. degree in Geospatial Studies.

Although the University of Mississippi has no formal geography department, there are two "stand-alone" geography Ph.D. faculty within the Croft Institute of International Studies. Dr. David Rutherford (Ph.D. Texas State University) is the Executive Director of the Mississippi Geographic Alliance. Dr. Rutherford is also Associate Director of Gilbert M. Grosvenor Center for Geographic Education. Additionally Dr. Curtis

Thomson is a research associate with expertise in geospatial techniques. Regarding geography courses, Ole Miss reports that they teach 4 undergraduate geography courses that serve approximately 300 students.

The dearth of instructors with degrees in geography at Mississippi's community colleges and smaller universities presents a challenge to the state's undergraduate geographic education. Of the 15 community colleges in the state, only three of these schools reported having faculty with degrees in geography (East Mississippi Community College, Jones County Junior College, and Southwest Mississippi Community College). However, there is uncertainty with these data because many community college instructors are hired part time or as needed, thus they are difficult to contact. From on-line course catalogs, it appears that most schools offer world regional geography on a regular basis (13 schools), but the majority of instructors have degrees in fields other than geography (sociology and political sciences were the most numerous). This geographic instructor void is especially troubling given the current need and demand for geographers, the need for increased geographic education across the state, and the increasing number of enrolled students. Also because community college transfers contribute substantially to the total number of new students at public universities, a stronger geographic emphasis at the community college level could help bolster enrollment within the geographic programs across the state.

North Carolina

Dan Royall, University of North Carolina-Greensboro,

Overall, the discipline of Geography has remained strong and growing in North Carolina over the past year. New faculty have been added in several departments and new faculty searches are underway again this year. The total number of students enrolling in geography courses has increased markedly, and the number of undergraduate majors and geography graduate students has remained high. New research centers have been awarded or developed, and research facilities are being added in some departments. Many programs report great success with external grant funding for faculty and for students in some cases as well. Geography programs in the state generally continue to report strong administrative support from within their institutions.

Almost all of the eight geography degree programs in North Carolina report increasing numbers of undergraduate majors, geography graduate students, and course enrollment at all levels. There were 491 undergraduate majors and 249 geography graduate students reported from all programs this year. Undergraduate course enrollment in particular has increased substantially; the numbers reported indicate a very large increase (from 12,500 reported in 2005/6 to 17,861 this year). Although it is possible that much of this apparent increase is a product of differences in reporting, many departments have clearly experienced real and substantial increases in enrollment. Enrollment occurred in 385 geography course sections offered, and programs on average offered 55 sections. The variety of programs open to these students may be increasing in the near future through the addition of two new BS degrees that are in the planning stages at East Carolina University (BS in Applied Atmospheric Science, and BS in Geographic Information Science and Technology). In addition, Appalachian State University has begun to offer a graduate certificate in planning through UNC-

Asheville which has formerly had little geography presence.

There has also been growth in faculty, with new tenure track positions filled at East Carolina University, and 2 at UNC-Charlotte; and there are 6 new faculty searches currently underway (1 at UNC-Wilmington for department chair, 2 at Appalachian State University, 2 at UNC-Chapel Hill, and 1 at UNC-Greensboro). Rosana Nieto-Ferreira (atmospheric science), Thad Wasklewicz (geomorphology) and Tom Rickenbach (atmospheric science) have joined the faculty at East Carolina University; Debra Strumsky (Technological Innovation, Spatial Statistics and Econometrics) and Mike Duncan (Transportation Planning and Policy) are new faculty at UNC-Charlotte. Other personnel items of note include the installation of John Pickles as department chair at UNC-Chapel Hill, following Larry Band who has chaired the program since 2002, and the conversion of the faculty position currently occupied by Dr. Chris Badurek at Appalachian State to tenure track.

Geographic research is thriving in North Carolina as evidenced by the number and value of research grants received, new research centers established and new research labs opened. A total of at least 12 new grants and projects funded through a variety of agencies including NSF, NOAA, NASA and NIH are reported from North Carolina geography faculty in the past year, and many graduate students have also received funding from these and other agencies in support of their research. UNC-Chapel Hill alone reports a total value for grants of \$1.6 million per year, and East Carolina University reports 7 new grants and projects from major funding sources. Two new research centers have been established in North Carolina geography departments this year. Peter Robinson and Chip Conrad now direct the new Southeastern Regional Climate Center at UNC-Chapel Hill, which is one of only six NOAA climate centers nationwide, and Rick Bunch is the director of the new Center for Geographic Information Science and Health at UNC-Greensboro. Also at UNC-Greensboro, two new physical geography research labs have been completed and opened this year. The Regolith Analysis Lab (contact: Dan Royall) is a fully-equipped wet lab for use in analyzing sediment bodies, soil and other loose earth surface materials. The Carolina Tree-Ring Science Laboratory under the direction of Paul Knapp, is a state-of-the-art facility dedicated to the preparation, analysis and interpretation of increment cores and other tree-ring samples for a wide variety of research applications.

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 strong commitment to students at many levels. Steve Birdsall at UNC-Chapel Hill was awarded the UNC Board of Governors' Award for Excellence in Teaching, which is given each year to one tenured faculty member from each UNC campus. Also at UNC-Chapel Hill, John Florin was awarded the Johnston Teaching Excellence Award for excellence in undergraduate teaching which is given to only one individual per year at UNC. Jim Young at Appalachian State received the NCGS Geography Educator of the Year Award. Steve Walsh (UNC-Chapel Hill) received a prestigious appointment as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Keith Debbage (UNC-Greensboro) was one of only 12 scholars from

the UNC system selected for a position on the UNC Board of Governors' UNC Tomorrow Commission, which is charged with the very large task of devising an integrated strategic plan for the UNC system. Liz Hines (UNC-Wilmington) received the 2006 African American Heritage Foundation of Wilmington, Inc.'s President's Award for community service. Also at UNC-Wilmington, Joanne Halls received the Best Paper Award at the International Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing's Mid-Term Symposium. These honors reflect the increasing stature garnered by 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.

South Carolina

Ed Carr, University of South Carolina

Geography in South Carolina remains bifurcated. The University of South Carolina in Columbia teaches a plurality of all undergraduates and has thriving undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Outside of USC, however, Geography is confined to undergraduate teaching in non-major programs. The University of South Carolina in Columbia offers the only Geography major in South Carolina. Both Winthrop and USC report teaching graduate students, though Winthrop's graduate students are based in the Department of Human Nutrition. 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. This volume of students, however, does not lead to consistent outcomes for these programs. Francis Marion reports cautious optimism about growth in the future in connection with new international programs. USC-Upstate reports that Geography is in transition, as student interest in physical geography remains strong (despite the loss of their Weather and Climate lab course) but interest in Introduction to Geography is on the decline. USC-Columbia and Coastal Carolina are both expanding their programs. Coastal Carolina is looking to add two faculty members as it upgrades its Geography offerings and adds a minor. USC-Columbia seeks to fill four faculty positions this year (only one of which is a replacement) as the department continues to expand its capacity in the areas of GIScience, Hazards, and Environmental Science. The College of Charleston enrolled its first students in the undergraduate minor in Geography this year. With only Coastal Carolina likely to move Geography toward official status within their institution, Geography remains in a somewhat precarious position at most institutions in South Carolina.

The limited number of responses to the SEDAAG survey make it difficult to assess trends in faculty hiring in South Carolina. However, with USC-Columbia, the College of Charleston, and Coastal Carolina adding or planning to add faculty in the immediate future, and no departments reporting a net loss of faculty, there seems to be a trend toward growth.

More than 130 courses in Geography are offered to more than 4600 students annually in South Carolina's colleges and universities. Among the six out of fourteen institutions that responded to this year's survey, the University of South Carolina – Columbia continues to handle the vast majority of teaching within the state, enrolling more than half of all undergraduate students taught within the state. Of those institutions that responded, USC is teaching 95% of all graduate courses, and 99%

of all graduate students. Coastal Carolina is the only new institution expanding with a minor in Geography, thus there seems to be little institutional progress toward spreading the teaching load more evenly across South Carolina's institutions.

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 10,228 persons. In 2007, the alliance conducted 32 in-service workshops, 40 pre-service workshops and two Geofest meetings. The alliance also ran a summer institute and gave 23 professional presentations. All of these activities served 2646 teachers. The alliance was very successful in the funding arena in 2007, receiving a budget allocation of \$246,000 from the South Carolina Department of Education, \$125,000 from the NCLB and South Carolina Commission on Higher Education for Teaching Reading and Content Knowledge, and \$21,260 from the SC Department of Education for a Series of Workshops on the History and Geography of South Carolina.

Departments and faculty in South Carolina have been recognized for a number of achievements in the past year. At USC-Columbia, Ed Carr and Kirstin Dow received the Zayed Prize for Scientific and Technological Achievements in Environment (as two of the authors of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment). Ed Carr was awarded (along with colleagues at West Virginia and Oregon State) \$135,000 from the National Science Foundation to investigate the connection between land use and livelihoods in Southern Malawi. Susan Cutter received the 2006 Decade of Behavior Award (this prestigious honor is given annually by a multidisciplinary consortium of more than 50 national and international scientific organizations in the social and behavioral sciences. Only four were awarded in 2006). USC/West Quad received the Education Award from the SC Green Building Council in 2006, which said "This facility has accelerated the education of its occupants, visitors and our state's citizenry on the concepts of and issues related to sustainability, and to green building design and construction." Kirstin Dow served as faculty principle for its first 2 years. Will Graf received the Meredith F. Burrill Award, from the Association of American Geographers (in recognition of exceptional merit and quality in leading the effort for science and policy for wildlife and the Platte River, and in recognition of the book *Endangered and Threatened Species of the Platte River*). John Jensen received the William T. Pecora Award from the Secretary of the Department of Interior and the NASA Administrator, November 8, 2006, San Antonio, TX. This is the most prestigious remote sensing award in GIScience. At Francis Marion, Dr. C. Allan Lockyer has published his third book on Maine. *Beauty and Decay: A Humanistic Geography of the Other State of Maine*.

Tennessee

Esra Osdenerol, University of Memphis

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, (B.A., M.S., and Ph.D. in geography) is the leading geography department in the state currently enrolling 125 undergraduate majors and 50 graduate students (31 Master's and 19 Ph.D.) UTK presently employs 14 full time faculty, including 2 new full time positions. The Tennessee Geographic Alliance passed the 20 year mark in 2006 and continues to thrive under the leadership of Kurth Butefish at

UT. The university's "ready for the World" initiative to internationalize the educational experiences of students and increase linkages with international colleges and institutions, like similar initiatives at other universities, has put renewed emphasis on geography. The geographers are glad to see the Chancellor putting such high priority on internationalizing the university. The faculty remain active publishing their research (including several books) and participating on at least two >\$1 million NSF grants.

The Geography program at University of Memphis continues to improve, largely since the reorganization of Geography into the Department of Earth Sciences. The Department of Earth Sciences (DES) is a recently created interdisciplinary program that has 25 faculty members. At the graduate level DES offers the MA degree in Earth Sciences with a concentration in geography, the MS degree in Earth Sciences with concentrations in geology, geography, geophysics, archeology and interdisciplinary studies, and the PhD in Earth Sciences. There are currently four full time faculty in Geography and a search is underway to hire two faculty members (One tenure-track and one Associate level), who are anticipated to join the DES –geography family in Fall 2008.

Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, presently has 4 full time faculty and 24 undergraduate majors. Seventeen geography courses are offered each year to over 800 total students. The Geography department recently moved into the newly renovated McCord Building, which also houses their GIS center.

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, has 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 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.

West Virginia

George Towers, Concord University

Seven institutions in West Virginia offer programs in geography. At the graduate level, West Virginia University offers the Masters

and Ph.D. degrees in geography and Marshall University has a Masters program. Along with these two universities, Concord University offers a Bachelors degree in geography. Bluefield State College, Fairmont State University, Shepherd University, and West Liberty State College each offer an undergraduate minor in geography.

West Virginia University's Department of Geology and Geography has 129 undergraduate majors, 24 masters students, and 26 doctoral students in geography. Undergraduate enrollment was approximately 5,000 in geography courses in 2006-07. Fourteen full time faculty teach in WVU's program and are assisted by four professional staff members. The department is hiring two new faculty members in GIS and one in cultural geography for the 2008-09 academic year. Geography faculty hold a variety of administrative posts: Mary Ellen Mazey is Dean of the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences, Trevor Harris is Chairman of the Geology and Geography Department, Ken Martis serves as Associate Chairman for Geography, Brent McCusker is Director of the geography Graduate Committee, Ann Oberhauser is the Undergraduate Coordinator for geography, Randall Jackson is the Director of the Regional Research Institute, and Dan Weiner is the Director of the Office of International Programs. The Department has moved this year from White Hall to the newly renovated Brooks Hall. In Brooks Hall, the Department operates five computer labs and is building a virtual reality cave.

Marshall University's Department of Geography has eight full time and one part time faculty members. The department's twenty undergraduate majors are complemented by 15 masters students. Approximately 1,000 students were enrolled geography courses at Marshall last academic year. Chairman Larry Jarrett reports that the department is in great shape and looking forward to increasing undergraduate majors.

Concord University's geography program is staffed by Joe Manzo, George Towers, Jan Westerik and four part time faculty. Thirty five undergraduates are majoring in geography at Concord and enrollment in geography courses was at 900 in 2006-07. George Towers serves as Chairman of Concord's Division of Social Sciences and Joe Manzo is the co-coordinator of the West Virginia Geographic Alliance.

At Fairmont State University, geography is part of the College of Liberal Arts. Two full time geography faculty, Tulashi R. Joshi and James R. Young, teach at Fairmont State along with two part time faculty. Fairmont State offers an undergraduate minor in geography. In 2006-07, approximately 520 students took geography courses at Fairmont State.

Geographers Brian L. Crawford and Robert Kruse teach at West Liberty State College. Dr. Crawford is Chairman of West Liberty's Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Dr. Kruse has recently published his second book, *How Dwarfs Experience the World around Them: Personal Geographies of Little People*. In 2006-07, enrollment approached 260 students in West Liberty's geography courses. Students at West Liberty may 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.

Stand alone geographers John White and Roland Bergman

teach at Bluefield State College and Shepherd University, respectively. Dr. Bergman traveled to India and Bangladesh in Spring 2007 to study sea level rise and spent the summer in Peru doing research. At Bluefield State, geography enrollment is approximately 180 and at Shepherd enrollment was 240 in 2006-07. Both schools offer an undergraduate minor in geography.

Southeastern Geographer

The publication of the November 2007 issue of the *Southeastern Geographer* marked the end of Derek Alderman and Scott Lecce's tenure as editors. Incoming journal editors Robert Brinkman and Graham Tobin (University of South Florida) plan initiatives related to full electronic submission and the possibility of expanding the journal beyond the tradition of two issues a year. Further elevation of the visibility and reputation of *Southeastern Geographer* will greatly help ongoing efforts to have the journal included in social science/science citation databases.

The UNC Press indicates that the journal's financial picture is improving. The current operating deficit for the journal is \$1,904, significantly lower than the deficit for the past three fiscal years, which averaged \$4,288 per year. The 2007 fiscal year was also noteworthy for the large amount of electronic income generated from the journal's inclusion in online subscription databases such as *Project MUSE*, *ProQuest*, and *Ebsco*. UNC Press reports that the journal earned \$6,917 in royalties for 2007, based on the number of times articles in *Southeastern Geographer* (available as Adobe Acrobat .pdf files) are downloaded by online subscribers. Electronic income is important to the financial health of the journal and also indicative of its growing visibility and popularity which should increase citations and the likelihood of inclusion in the citation databases (see below). Much of the credit for this recent development in electronic income can be traced to *Southeastern Geographer's* relationship with UNC Press.

The *Southeastern Geographer* was published in two issues in 2007 (vol. 47). Issue 1 (May 2007) and issue 2 (November 2007) reached readers on time. Volume 47 totaled 382 pages, an increase of 38 pages compared to volume 46. Within volume 47, issue 1 (May) contributed 173 pages and issue 2 (Nov.) contributed 209 pages. Together, the May and November 2007 issues included 17 research articles, 7 book reviews, 9 commentary forum essays, and 1 regional division-related reports (honors committee report). A 2006 SEDAAG meeting program report was not received by the editors. May 2007 issue contained a special set of papers on "Political Geography of the South" guest edited by Gerald R. Webster. The May 2007 issue also contained a "Forum of Social Justice in the South" organized by Derek H. Alderman. All other content for the May 2007 issue and the Nov. 2007 issue consisted of regularly submitted essays and reviews. In terms of print volume, 900 copies of the May 2007 issue were produced and 700 copies of the November 2007 issue were printed. The drop from 900 to 700 copies is due to the decline in the number of memberships/subscriptions collected by UNC Press (see subscriptions). Over Alderman and Lecce's four year editorial term, the *Southeastern Geographer* has had an overall manuscript acceptance rate of 37 %.

As of the time of the writing of this report (Nov. 15, 2007), the *Southeastern Geographer* had 564 total subscribers (430 individual members and 134 institutional/library subscribers).

The number of individual member subscriptions has dropped by 43 from 2006 and the number of institutional/library subscribers has dropped by 14 from 2006. This loss of library subscriptions is explained in part by the fact that the journal is now available electronically and that journals tend to see a decline in traditional, paper copy subscribers with the switch to online access. Moreover, the journal's increase in electronic income mitigates the loss of revenue from declining library subscriptions. UNC Press continues to report that many individual subscribers do not join or renew SEDAAG until right before the annual meeting in November. This is an unfortunate trend given that it delays the collection of funds essential to running of the journal and the regional division. The practice actually costs SEDAAG extra money since the Press must mail back issue journals to these late comers using regular postage instead of bulk mail rates.

Overall, journal finances continue to improve. Income increased to almost \$17,000, almost \$3,000 more than in 2006. The deficit (\$1,904) continues to decrease (from \$5,776 in 2005 and \$3,039 in 2006), primarily as a function of increasing revenue from *Project Muse* (\$5,718) and royalties from other electronic databases (\$1,199, primarily from ProQuest and Ebsco). Journal expenses increased modestly from \$17,015 in 2006 to \$18,865 in 2007. The increase in Press commission is a direct reflection of an increase in the journal's income levels and is a reflection of the overall improved financial health of the journal. The Press charges a standard commission of 35% of income and this fee will increase as income generated by the journal increases. Total expenses in 2007 (\$18,865) are still less than UNC Press's projection of \$19,000 for last year (2006).

Best Article Award

A "Best Article Award" was established to recognize exceptional scholarship published in the journal. A committee selected from the journal's editorial board performs this task. For the 2006 best article award, the committee was composed of Ann Oberhauser of West Virginia University (chair), David Shankman of the University of Alabama, and Helen Ruth Aspaas of Virginia Commonwealth University. The committee recommended that two papers receive the award for 2006, one in human geography and one in physical geography. The two papers are: (1) "Spatial patterns of surface soil magnetism and soil redistribution across a fallow field, N. Alabama" by Chad E. Landgraf and Dan Royall; and (2) "Exploring inequalities in health care coverage by degree of rurality in Western N. Carolina" by Wil Gesler, Jill E. Sherman, John Spencer, John Preisser, Thomas A. Arcury, and Jamie Perin. Both papers appeared in the May 2006 issue of *Southeastern Geographer*. This is the first time that the best article committee has decided to give more than one award, an appropriate decision given the excellence of two articles and the need to recognize the diversity within our discipline.

Outgoing editors Derek Alderman and Scott Lecce wish to offer a few recommendations to the SEDAAG leadership and the new editors in hopes of enhancing the journal and its reputation even further. First, continue to pursue inclusion in ISI Citation Index. The journal has an ongoing application/evaluation. Second, maintain a healthy relationship with UNC Press, which has greatly increased the journal's visibility (online and otherwise). Third, engage in more aggressive expansion and maintenance of subscription/membership base (assisted by SEDAAG Treasurer and other division leaders/members)

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Jack Temple Kirby.

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The Inner Islands: A Carolinian's Sound Country Chronicle

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Critical Regionalism: Connecting Politics and Culture in the American Landscape

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SEDAAG

Report of the Honors Committee 2007 *Scott Curtis*

Minutes of the 62nd SEDAAG Business Meeting

Preliminaries

The business meeting of the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers was held on Sunday November 20, 2007 in the Francis Marion Hotel, Charleston, South Carolina. SEDAAG President Jerry Webster called the meeting to order.

The agenda and the 2006 minutes were approved unanimously. A moment of silence was observed for recently deceased David G. Basile, a long-time emeritus faculty member in the Geography at UNC-Chapel Hill, and for Dewey Stowers, emeritus in the department at the University of South Florida.

Announcement of New Officers

President Webster thanked outgoing Treasurer Altha Cravey and State Representatives Joe Weber, Alabama; Heidi Lannon, Florida; Michael Crutcher, Kentucky; Ed Carr, South Carolina; George Towers, West Virginia, and announced new officers President Derek Alderman, Treasurer Katie Algeo and Past President, himself, Gerald Webster. Webster also announced new state representatives for Alabama - Lisa Davis, University of Alabama; Florida - Lisa Jordan, Florida State University; Kentucky - Scott Dobler, Western Kentucky University; South Carolina - Diansheng Guo, University of South Carolina; West Virginia - Ann Oberhauser, West Virginia University.

Among the outgoing officers is Tyrel (Tink) Moore, Regional Councilor, whose term ends in June 2008. Webster thanked Moore for marvelous service to division. Webster mentioned that the Regional Councilor election is broader than that for other SEDAAG officers and includes not only SEDAAG members, but all AAG members living SEDAAG states.

President's Report

Southeastern Geographer

President Webster thanked Derek Alderman and Scott Lecce for their good work co-editing the *Southeastern Geographer*, in particular for raising its visibility, and for establishing a new revenue stream for the journal through Project Muse (which earned the *Southeastern Geographer* roughly \$7000 royalties in 2007, up from \$4000 in 2006).

Webster announced that the new editors of the *Southeastern Geographer*, Bob Brinkmann and Graham Tobin want to increase publication from two to four issues per year, transitioning next year with two regular and one special issue, and the year after that to four issues per year. Tobin added that the goal of the quarterly publication schedule is to make the journal eligible for inclusion in the ISI-Thompson Scientific citation databases. With inclusion in ISI, an impact factor can be calculated, and the visibility and standing of the journal significantly enhanced.

Webster thanked Bill Carstensen for nimble work on web site. He also noted that Hilda Kurtz sent out two newsletters by email in 2007. While by and large this transition to digital transmission has gone well, Kurtz did encounter some inaccuracies in the mailing list. These will be addressed in the coming months.

Membership

President Webster announced that while AAG membership was up 11% this year, SEDAAG experienced an 8% decline. Registration for the Charleston meeting was quite high, meaning that the Division may break even, but that is not enough: SEDAAG should be growing. Webster remarked on the importance of reminders sent out to members, that led this year to a flurry of registrations, but cautioned that there is a developing culture among faculty to sign up for membership in years they attend meetings, and not in others. Some members may simply forget to renew membership, and Webster remarked that a regular reminder should go out in February and August. In addition, the nomination process for Regional Councilor should be used as a tool for increasing SEDAAG membership among that AAG members living in SEDAAG states. Derek Alderman noted highlights of the table of membership information he prepared, in particular that some states have higher rates of membership than others, ranging from nearly 50 percent to considerably less than that.

Webster outlined a two pronged approach in the drive to increase membership: a) targeting state reps, some states can be brought further into the fold, and b) targeting AAG membership, so that we can achieve close to 50 percent SEDAAG membership amongst AAG members in the southeast, then a lot of these discussions will not be necessary. Not every state can achieve 50 percent membership, but we can all move toward that goal. South Carolina and Alabama are close to meeting that goal, but other states are further way from it. In addition, Stand-Alone geographers in the region represent an untapped pool of potential members, and a good group to engage and try to make SEDAAG their meeting of choice.

Future Meeting Sites

Webster thanked D. Gordon Bennett and Jeff Patton of UNC Greensboro for hosting SEDAAG next year (2008). Regarding the 2009 meeting, the plans to hold it in Savannah are cancelled, because Jason Dittmer, who had planned to host it, took job at University College of London. Instead, the 2009 meeting will be held in Knoxville, Tennessee, and Ron Kalafsky will be the local arrangements chair there. Lastly, Webster noted that there is a rumor of a 2010 meeting in New Orleans, but if something is going to be planned it should go beyond conversation now.

Regarding the current meeting, Webster noted that David Cowen did a wonderful job, and managed a flurry of on-site registrations very well. A total of 450 people registered for the 2008 meeting. Webster clarified that the royalties from the book distributed at the meeting, *The Geography of the Carolinas* edited by Jeff Patton and D. Gordon Bennett, will go to the SEDAAG general fund.

President Webster read a motion from Eric Fournier to establish a new teaching award, which was approved unanimously. A second unanimous vote supported a motion to reimburse the loan of \$5000 from SEDAAG's endowment with interest. A third unanimous vote supported a motion to amend SEDAAG's by-laws regarding the setting of registration fees for the annual meeting. Historically, registration fees are supposed to be approved by the steering committee. The motion specified that "a breakdown of registration fees" should be approved by the executive committee.

Liasion with AAG

The AAG enjoyed an extremely active and successful year in carrying out its mission of enhancing the strength and visibility of our discipline. Moore commented on the amount of work by central office staff at AAG that many members may be unaware of. The AAG gives us a central voice for our discipline that is vital to each of us. No individual or (smaller) group could bring the same kind of resources to bear on comparable projects. Moore reported on three major accomplishments by the AAG this year.

1. The Maps Lawsuit threatened geography's access to the domain of GIS data. Doug Richardson mobilized a team that produced a brief that influenced the outcome for the lawsuit on behalf of us.

2. The intellectual environment increasingly stressed cross-disciplinary research. The AAG collaborated with the American Council of Learned Societies to host a Symposium on Geography and the Humanities. Among the outcomes of this event, important perspectives on landscape, sense of place, and the importance of location were brought to the attention of a group of scholars whose work can benefit from that awareness. Approximately one third of participants were geographers who contributed spatial perspectives

3. The AAG received a request from NCGE for help relocating central offices. The AAG offices proved to be the best option, enabling a new degree of the sharing of resources to promote geographic outreach.

Moore concluded his report by remarking that it was his final report, and noted that it was a privilege to serve the organization in this way, with many benefits in terms of scholarship, friendship, and collegiality. His term reinforced his sense that SEDAAG has a lot to be proud of; other regional councilors mentioned at the recent councilor's meeting that SEDAAG is model for AAG's regional divisions. Moore reminded attendees of the business meeting that there are plenty of SEDAAG members who have the talent and credentials to stand for election for offices in the AAG.

AAG Update

AAG Executive Director Doug Richardson reported on the ways in which AAG supports regional meetings. The AAG continues to provide an insurance policy (liability) for regional meetings. Dave Cowen used the policy for the Charleston meeting. Richardson advised local arrangements coordinators to try to get a university to cover some things, because no policy covers everything.

The AAG is also supporting geog bowl student travel to meetings.

In addition, regarding remittances to regional meetings, the council altered the policy; it used to be per capita, before a flat rate of \$1000 across board, but this year AAG will pay higher amount if SEDAAG per capita would be higher than \$1000. The reason is that smaller regions need money for basic operating costs, and the new policy will be easier to administer.

Richardson commented that SAGE (Stand-Alone Geographers) is a very interesting initiative that AAG is happy to support, and indeed which AAG views as a prototype. Affinity groups are good for AAG as whole, although the model has been fairly dormant; Richardson hopes to use the SAGE affinity group that we can then role out for AAG as a whole. Many Stand Alone Geographers need help and support; AAG can set up on-line

communications, establishing connectivity not only within a given region, but between regions as well. Richardson concluded his remarks by thanking SEDAAG for its hard work

Baerwald limited his report to three comments. First, he noted Doug Richardson's wonderful efforts on behalf of AAG, and noted that at the fall meeting, "we decided to keep him" Richardson brings diverse interests and considerable business expertise to the AAG, making it the envy of many professional organizations. Second, he thanked Tink Moore for his service as Regional Councilor; Tink has been a marvelous regional councilor for SEDAAG who made wonderful contributions to the council.

Third, Baerwald reported that at recent council meetings, the AAG has been continuing a process started a few years ago, trying to reconcile uncertainties in the petitions and resolutions process. As it stands, any one individual can petition AAG to do something; for example, the policy of providing a flat remittance of \$1000 for each regional meeting was a result of the Great Lakes councilor's petition. The AAG is looking into petitions that are acted on at national meetings that will require 50 signatures (either electronically or on paper). Such petitions arrive as late as 24 hrs before business meetings that may seek to have AAG make a resolution. In this way, it is very easy to get resolutions passed that may or may not reflect the view of majority of the membership. The Council is working on means for council to run memberwide voting processes to better reflect views of actual majority of organization. AAG is not trying to make big changes, only to increase transparency. Baerwald advised SEDAAG members to anticipate changes in this regards, and expects AAG to take action at Boston meeting, to make the resolution process as clear, direct, and as democratic as possible, drawing on the views of full membership when it is appropriate to do so.

Program Committee

Russ Ivy reported that 126 students joined GTU this year, quite a busy season. At the Charleston meeting, there were 40 poster submissions, 39 sessions, 27 regular paper sessions, 2 poster sessions, 2 GTU sessions, 2 honors sessions and 7 panel sessions. Ivy noted the need for better guidelines for poster submissions, and also suggested that in the future, SEDAAG stagger poster and paper submission deadlines; pushing the poster deadline later would enable the program committee to get the papers done first.

Ivy also suggested that both regular and honors paper and posters should be submitted to program chair who will forward honors on to honors committee; this could prevent items from slipping through the cracks, as at least one person experienced this year.

Doug Gamble raised the issue of posters concurrent with papers. Ivy replied that there were indeed a lot of posters this year, and dividing them into two sessions was difficult, if poster submissions continue to grow in number, we will need to look at changing the format.

Fiscal Affairs

With Jerry Webster's help, Altha Cravey reported in absentia that SEDAAG is in good financial shape, in large part because of overages of last few meetings, West Palm Beach, Morgantown, Biloxi. Nonetheless, it is important not to count on overages, because at some point we may encounter a shortfall. Discussion ensued as to the scale of overages to expect or not expect. A

lifetime member in attendance at the meeting remarked that SEDAAG never asks lifetime members for additional contributions, but could well do so. Derek Alderman replied that he plans to work with incoming Treasurer Katie Algeo to update the membership list, and to work out system for treasurer to send out regular reminders, including requests for additional contributions from members.

Endowment Committee

Steven Birdsall reported that members of Endowment Committee, like those of the Finance Committee, are understandably cautious, with a slightly cynical tinge to their outlook on financial matters. Regarding the loan that was offered to SEDAAG produce a book as part of the centennial, the Endowment Committee is delighted with the vote to repay it so quickly. Birdsall thanked President Webster for his tenacity on that issue. President Elect Alderman indicated that he is looking forward to working with the Endowment Committee to define goals for endowment, in belief that people are more willing to give if for a particular purpose.

Southeastern Geographer

Derek Alderman noted that the November 2007 issues marks Alderman and Lecce's last issues as editors, and offered thanks to all they can remember. He noted support for Bob Brinkmann and Graham Tobin and their vision for the journal. The financial status of the journal looks quite good largely because of on-line royalties. We have seen a decline in individual subscriptions, and a library decline that is more than offset by Project Muse. Nonetheless, the goals to take the next step forward, will depend on a stable and sizable membership division. AAG's membership keeps climbing higher and higher, SEDAAG's needs to climb along with AAG's membership. Issues of the journal have gotten thicker, with special issues on the Caribbean, and on social justice in the South. The overall acceptance rate of 37% is quite competitive and rigorous, comparable to what we expect to see in the future.

Scott Lecce noted highlights of the journal's financial standing. Finances continued to improve, income increased by 3K to 17K Deficit decreasing to \$1900 from \$5800, as a result of increased revenue from Project Muse and other electronic databases. At the same time, the revenue was less than what UNC press projected, which is a cause for some concern. Among recommendations for future, are to support the effort to pursue inclusion in ISI citation index. The journal has a continuing application in with ISI, and will continue to maintain relationship with UNC press. Lecce indicated that SEDAAG needs to focus on increasing the number of subscriptions.

Bob Brinkmann noted that ISI doesn't want the journal to be quite so regional, and so the new editors will be changing the composition of board to reflect broader impact, including members who are not in the southeast. Brinkman encouraged proposals for special issues of the journal.

Other Business

Eric Fournier-reported that there were 4 professional development sessions at the Charleston meeting of 2 hours each, the committee plants to to scale back next time, and plans to organize undergrad poster sessions to enhance undergrad participation at next meeting.

Tom Howard thanked Doug Richardson for his personal

report and AAG for institutional support of SAGE, and noted that the two inaugural Stand Alone Geographers are each from an HBCs. Derek Alderman reported on behalf of Ron Mitchelson that he is still working to retrieve SEDAAG archives from USC. Bill Carstensen mentioned that web site would be good place to highlight historical photos. Derek Alderman, on behalf of the Study of the American South specialty group thanked the Southern Studies Committee for its partnership.

Nomination and Honors Elections:

With Secretary Hilda Kurtz presiding, elections were conducted for the Nominations and Honors Committee. Elected to the Nominating Committee were: Lisa Davis, University of Alabama and Heidi Lannon, Gainesville Public Utilities. Elected to the Honors Committee were: Ross Meentemeyer, UNC-Charlotte, Selima Sultana, UNC-Greensboro, Jennifer Arrigo, East Carolina University, and Paul Gares, East Carolina University.

Submitted by Hilda Kurtz (SEDAAG Secretary)

SEDAAG Officers & Committees 2008

Executive Committee*

President	Derek Alderman
Vice President	Russell Ivy
Secretary	Hilda Kurtz
Treasurer	Katie Algeo
Past President	Jerry Webster

Steering Committee

(Includes members of the Executive Committee, the Editors of the *Southeastern Geographer*, and the elected Representative from the ten states comprising SEDAAG.

Editors, *Southeastern Geographer*

Robert Brinkmann (rbrinkmn@cas.usf.edu) and Graham Tobin (gtobin@cas.usf.edu), Department of Geography, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL (813) 974-2386, 2008 – 2012.

State Representatives*

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

Honors Committee*

Joby Bass, Chair, University of Southern Mississippi
Ross Meentemeyer, Chair-Elect, UNC-Charlotte
Selima Sultana, UNC-Greensboro
Jennifer Arrigo, East Carolina University
Paul Gares, East Carolina University

Nominations Committee*

Eric Fournier, Chair, Samford University
Jamie Strickland, UNC-Charlotte
Lisa Davis, University of Alabama
Heidi Lannon, Gainesville Public Utilities.

Audit Committee

Maria Fadiman, Chair, Florida Atlantic University
Joshua Inwood, Auburn University
Robert Brown, Appalachian State University

Tellers Committee

Katherine Hankins, Chair, Georgia State University
Robert Kruse, West Liberty State College
Christopher Meindl, USF-St. Petersburg

Resolutions Committee

L. Jean Palmer-Maloney, Chair, Barton College
Yong Wang, East Carolina University
Anita Drever, University of Tennessee

Southern Studies

Tyrel Moore, Chair, UNC Charlotte
Charles S. Aiken, University of Tennessee - Knoxville
Derek Alderman, East Carolina University
Katie Algeo, Western Kentucky University
Dawn Bowen, Mary Washington College
Clifton "Skeeter" Dixon, University of Southern Mississippi
John W. Florin, UNC Chapel Hill

Bill Graves, UNC Charlotte
John Fraser Hart, University of Minnesota
Gerald L. Ingalls, UNC Charlotte
Chuck Kovacik, University of South Carolina
Jonathan Leib, Florida State University
W. Theodore Meador, University of Memphis
John T. Morgan, Emory & Henry University
Karl Raitz, University of Kentucky
Jamie Strickland, UNC Charlotte
John Winberry, University of South Carolina

Endowment Committee

Stephen Birdsall, Chair, UNC Chapel Hill
Peggy Gripshover, University of Tennessee
Chuck Kovacik, University of South Carolina
Tom Bell, University of Tennessee
Ron Schulz, Florida Atlantic University

Status of Women Committee

Esra Ozdenerol, Chair, University of Memphis

Education Committee

Eric Fournier, Chair, Samford University
Heather Smith, UNC Charlotte
Doug Oetter, Georgia College and State University

World Geography Bowl

Laurence "Bill" Carstensen, Chair, Virginia Tech

Historian

Ronald Mitchelson, East Carolina University

SAGE (Stand Alone Geographers) Travel Fellowship
Application for funding to attend the Annual SEDAAG meeting
Greensboro, North Carolina, November 22-25, 2008

The SAGE group of the Southeast Division of the Association of American Geographers (SEDAAG) recognizes that there are many solo geography practitioners in our profession, and we are trying to attract these stand alone geographers into SEDAAG. To do so, we are offering a Travel Fellowship for South Carolina SAGE geographers to attend the regional meeting in Charleston. We are encouraging you to apply.

Applicants must have at least one post graduate degree in geography, must be fulltime instructional employees, must be solo geography practitioners in their institutions of higher learning, and must be housed in a non-geography department or program.

Please include a letter from your department or division head indicating that you will be granted leave to attend this professional meeting if you are selected.

Please submit a letter justifying your rationale for attending the SEDAAG meeting.

If you have questions, please contact:

Dr. Thomas Howard howardth@mail.armstrong.edu Phone: 912-921-5650

Dr. Helen Ruth Aspaas hraspaas@vcu.edu Phone: 804-828-8086

Application deadline is July 31, 2008. Recipients announced by August 30, 2008.

Please submit the application below along with supporting documents to

Dr. Thomas Howard

Armstrong Atlantic State University

History Department

Gamble House, Room 202E

11935 Abercorn Street

Savannah, GA 31419

Name _____

Highest degree _____

Academic address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Home department/program _____

_____ Tenured _____ Tenure-track _____ Non-tenure track

_____ University _____ College _____ Junior/Community College

Geography courses taught during the past academic year and enrollment by course.

If selected to receive the fellowship, you are required to participate in one of the following at the Charleston meeting. Please indicate your preference.

_____ paper discussant _____ paper presenter _____ panelist _____ session chair

Information on SEDAAG: <http://www.sedaag.org>