

**SOUTHEASTERN DIVISION**  
**ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN**  
**GEOGRAPHERS**

**NEWSLETTER**

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Spring 1999

Kavita Pandit, President

Tyrel G. Moore, Vice President

L. Allan James, Secretary

John J. Winberry, Treasurer

L. Allan James, Editor

*Letter from the President*

**JOHN FRASER HART MAKES A GENEROUS GIFT TO SEDAAG**

At the 1998 SEDAAG business meeting in Memphis, Betsy Pyle, SEDAAG Regional Councillor, called on friends of SEDAAG to make endowment contributions that would support specific awards or scholarships. John Fraser Hart, an Honorary Life Member of SEDAAG, recently responded by making a \$10,000 gift to the SEDAAG Endowment. The contribution will fund an annual *John Fraser Hart Award* of \$1000 for the best paper presented by a doctoral student at the SEDAAG meeting. The first Hart Award will be made at the 2000 meeting in Chapel Hill, NC. On behalf of all SEDAAG members, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Fraser Hart for this generous gift. I would also like to extend Betsy's invitation to those who may not have been present at the SEDAAG business meeting—if your means allow, please consider making an Endowment contribution to fund an annual SEDAAG award or activity.

Let me turn to other news items concerning SEDAAG activities.

Student Honors. Beginning with the 1999 meetings in Tampa, the number of student honors sessions will be reduced from four to two, containing a maximum of 10 papers. There were a couple of reasons for this change. The first had to do with scheduling constraints. Given that there are only a limited number of time slots for sessions (with just a little over one day of paper sessions), it has become virtually impossible for members of the Honors Committee to present their own papers at the meetings. The committee members were also unavailable to serve as chairs or discussants, making the work of the Program Chair more difficult. The second reason for the change is the desire of the Steering Committee to raise the honor associated with the Student Honors competition. The reduction in the number of papers allows us now to showcase the very best submissions. Concurrently, the best paper award amount has been increased from \$100 to \$200 in 1999. Beginning in 2000, the Hart Award with its \$1000 cash prize will further heighten the visibility and significance of the student paper competition.

Student Travel Awards for the AAG Honolulu Meetings. SEDAAG has made ten travel awards of \$200 each for students presenting papers at the 1999 AAG meeting in Honolulu. The following students were selected through a lottery: Leonard Baer, Ron Bjorkland, Rebecca Dobbs, Kimberlee Elmore, Jennifer Rahn, Robert Russell, Kathleen Sherman, Jamie Strickland, Lynda White, and Forrest Wilkerson. SEDAAG has also made four awards of \$150 apiece to each of the World Geography Bowl team members who will be representing our Division at the Honolulu AAG meetings.

Editorship of the *Southeastern Geographer*. Jim Wheeler's second term as editor of our journal expires in November 1999. During his tenure, he has done a stellar job in raising the quality and stature of the *Southeastern Geographer*. Earlier this year, the Steering Committee asked Jim if he would be willing to serve for two additional years as editor, and I am happy to report that Jim accepted. The two-year time frame will give the Division the time necessary to conduct a proactive search, and prospective candidates the chance to think through the logistics

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of taking on this position. A call for applications for the editorship of the *Southeastern Geographer* will appear in the Spring 2000

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issue of SEDAAG.

**SEDAAG Webmaster.** The SEDAAG Steering Committee, at its last meeting, voted to create a permanent position of SEDAAG Webmaster much like the one we have for SEDAAG Historian. This is in recognition of the time and effort that goes into maintaining the Division's website. Bill Carstensen of Virginia Tech, who established the SEDAAG website, has been appointed first Websmaster of the Division. If you have not done so already,

do check out our website at <http://www.majbill.vt.edu/geog/sedaag/>. You will note that the site includes links to geography departments across the Southeast.

In reciprocity, we encourage you, where possible, to include a link to the SEDAAG website from your own departmental webpage.

Kavita Pandit, President, SEDAAG

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## NEWS AND NOTES

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### REGIONAL COUNCILLOR'S REPORT TO SOUTHEASTERN DIVISION

November 1998

**AAG Membership Campaign in the Regions.** AAG membership continued to decline compared to previous years. Several programmatic changes are underway to try to better serve the needs of members. Membership dues are a major source of operating funds for the AAG, so the decline in membership is of great concern. Department chairs across the region received a request to establish departmental membership coordinators to encourage recruitment and retention of members. The initial response has been good, and we look for the membership numbers to stabilize or climb as a result of these efforts.

**Modification of AAG Dues Structure.** Council approved the following adjustments to the dues structure: 1) split the \$60,000 and above dues category into three new categories -- \$60,000-75,000; \$75,000-100,000; and \$100,000 and above; 2) set the dues for retired members equal to that of the lowest income-based category; and 3) do not apply the cost of living increase to the two lowest income-based categories this time. Please support these modifications to the 2000 dues structure when you receive the mail ballot that will be distributed early next year (and vote for officers and elected committee members).

**Hawaii Student Travel Fund.** The AAG randomly selected 235 students to receive \$200 travel grants from the group whose abstracts had been approved by a screening committee. Since that time, several other students received travel grants as funds became available through member contributions earmarked for this purpose. The AAG hopes to support all of the remaining 100 or so students approved by the committee, and several members from the Division have made generous contributions for this purpose.

**Major Revision of AAG Publications.** President Will Graf is leading an initiative to revise the AAG's publications. A number of changes in the *AAG Newsletter* will be introduced next year. Council charged the Publications Committee with preparing a plan for combining the *Annals* and the *Professional Geographer* in a single new *Annals* that would be published 6-8 times per year with a larger page format. An opinion survey of a random sample of members will be distributed early next year. A shift of management functions associated with the journals to the AAG office also will be considered. All members also are encouraged to share their

opinions and suggestions with Will Graf or Duane Nellis (chair of the Publications Committee).

**Placement and Outreach Efforts.** The AAG's development of career placement information continues. Visit the AAG's website at [www.aag.org](http://www.aag.org) to see the wealth of information that already has been assembled. The AAG's budget deficits for 1997 and 1998 are largely due to the 1½ new staff members that have made these programs possible. Council believes that the costs are justified, however, because of the important member services they provide. Additional placement materials also are being developed in a cooperative arrangement with the University of Washington. Dick Marston, AAG Secretary, and Osa Brand, the AAG's Director of Educational Affairs, are working on an AAG Contact Directory and Outreach Program that will compile information on AAG members who are willing to respond to inquiries from the media, government agencies, congressional representatives, K-12 teachers, other professional societies, etc. Look for updates on this in the *AAG Newsletter*.

**AAG Centennial in 2004.** Two separate committees are at work on projects related to the AAG's Centennial. The Centennial Endowment for the Future Committee is developing a strategy for a major capital campaign to increase the AAG's endowed funds. It will be launched in Honolulu next spring and conclude in Philadelphia in 2004. The Centennial Planning Committee is developing plans for a wide range of activities and events to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the AAG. Specialty groups and other sources are being tapped to gather input from AAG members for the Centennial celebration. Contact Stan Brunn with your suggestions for marking the Centennial.

**Statement on Professional Ethics Endorsed by the Council of the AAG.** Council approved the document drafted by members of the Scientific Freedom and Responsibility Committee that outlines professional ethics to be employed in professional relations with one another, with students, with the broader scholarly community (e.g., when publishing), and with organizations that fund research. The committee incorporated suggestions it received based on an earlier draft that appeared in the *AAG Newsletter*.

**Suggestions Gleaned from Other AAG Regions.** Last month, when Council met in Flagstaff, AZ, in conjunction with the Association of Pacific Coast Geographers' annual meeting, I observed that a number of programs providing travel awards and best paper awards are in place. SEDAAG may want to consider the establishment of similar programs. These include travel awards to students supported by the Division's operating funds,

travel support to female students from contributions to a Women's Network fund for that purpose, and two named endowed funds that provide awards for student papers. As members of our Division look forward to our next 50 years and anticipate the celebration of the AAG's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, perhaps some of our members also would like to step forward to create named endowments within the Division.

**Openings on AAG Standing Committees and the Nominating and Honors Committees.** Please nominate yourself or others for the current openings on AAG committees. A list of the openings will appear soon in the *AAG Newsletter*. Involvement in the AAG can bring a new sense of belonging to the entire discipline of geography, not just the particular sub-field in which one currently works. Your support of and involvement in the AAG and its programs are an important part of what allows the discipline of geography to maintain a strong presence among the social and physical sciences. You can make a difference!

Finally, I would like to thank members of the Southeastern Division of the AAG for the privilege of serving as Regional Councillor. My term will end in June 1999. I enjoyed working with the officers, councillors, Ron Abler, and the AAG staff and appreciated the opportunity to learn much about the AAG, and the discipline as a whole, in the process.

Respectfully submitted by Lizbeth A. Pyle, Institutional Analysis and Planning, PO Box 6710, West Virginia University, Morgantown WV 26506-6710; (304) 293-7664 or Lpyle@wvu.edu

## **SEDAAG '99 IN TAMPA!**

The Department of Geography at the University of South Florida cordially invites you all to enjoy Tampa in November, 1999! Tampa is the economic and population center of the five-county Tampa Bay region, which offers visitors a variety of landscapes including forests, farms, historical urban areas, and last but not least, beautiful beaches and waterways. Efforts are underway to provide the type of high-quality conference that SEDAAG members have come to expect. The Wyndham Harbor Island Hotel is well located on an island adjacent to downtown Tampa, with views of the CBD, Davis Islands, Hillsborough Bay, and the Port of Tampa. The Wyndham is outfitted to provide all the amenities for the conference, as well as easy shuttle access to shopping and entertainment districts like Hyde Park, Ybor City, and SoHo (South Howard). It's a short walk to the Bayshore for those who wish to run, walk, bike, or rollerblade on one of the world's longest uninterrupted sidewalks. The conference will run Sunday through Tuesday (November 21-23), as always, but we strongly encourage members to come early and enjoy the other attractions of the Tampa Bay region (at least come on Saturday, so that you can visit Ybor City, an historical/cultural area near downtown that has a little of everything on any given Friday or Saturday night). November is typically gorgeous in Tampa, hurricanes notwithstanding, and there are plenty of family activities, so come early or stay late, but just be sure to come!

We're looking forward to seeing you all in November...

Tracy Newsome, Chair, Local Arrangements Committee

## **FROM THE TREASURER**

Dues notices were mailed last month, and I thank the many members who already have responded with their renewals. If you have not sent in your dues for 1999, please pull my letter out of that pile of things to do and return it to me with a check for the appropriate amount. If you misplaced the form, please use the one at the back of this Newsletter. If you do not know if your membership is current, look at the address label - if it bears 99S, 99R, or 99RET, you are paid through this year - if it notes 98 or 97, you need to renew. If you have any questions, please let me know (winberry@garnet.cla.sc.edu).

As Chair of the Membership Committee, I urge you to encourage colleagues and students to join SEDAAG. Please contact me or your State Representative for membership applications, or simply send me their names so that I can extend an invitation to them to become members of the Division.

Thanks, John Winberry, Treasurer



## **In Memorium**

No deaths of our members were reported at the 1998 annual meeting. If you know of SEDAAG members who have passed away, please report this information to me and I will include it in the summer newsletter.

Allan James, Editor, Ajames@Garnet.cla.sc.edu.

## **1998 ELECTION RESULTS**

The new SEDAAG officers were introduced at the 1998 Business meeting. Their affiliations and addresses are listed elsewhere with the full listing of SEDAAG officers.

Regional Councillor: J. Dennis Lord

Vice President: Ron Mitchelson

Secretary: Allan James

Georgia State Representative: David Leigh

Mississippi State Representative: Douglas Gamble

North Carolina State Representative: Keith Debbage

Tennessee State Representative: John Kupfer

Virginia State Representative: Dawn Bowen

### **FUTURE SEDAAG MEETINGS:**

**1999 - Tampa, FL**

**2000 - Chicago, IL**

## MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

These two items from Betsy Pyle:

### John Fraser Hart Award Established

John Fraser Hart and his wife, Meredith, recently announced their gift of \$10,000 to the Southeastern Division to establish the John Fraser Hart Award. The gift will be used to fund the annual award for the best paper presented by a doctoral student at the annual SEDAAG meeting. The John Fraser Hart Award will carry a \$1,000 cash award.

Fraser Hart, a Professor of Geography at the University of Minnesota, is widely known for his work in rural and agricultural geography. Hart regularly participates in the Division's annual meetings, and was the first to be honored with SEDAAG's Lifetime Achievement Award. He attended the first meeting of the Division in 1947 and accepted his initial faculty appointment in the Division at the University of Georgia. This year he celebrates his 50<sup>th</sup> year as a university faculty member.

The *John Fraser Hart Award* will be announced formally at the 1999 Annual Meeting of SEDAAG in Tampa, Florida, and awarded for the first time in 2000. Individuals who would like to contribute to the fund that will support the John Fraser Hart Award may contact SEDAAG Treasurer John Winberry at the University of South Carolina's Department of Geography.

### Challenges and Opportunities for Chairs: A Recap of the Panel Session for Chairs in Memphis

Structural change, fiscal matters, and new administrative policies create challenges (and headaches!) for department chairs, yet they also can offer exciting new opportunities. A panel session designed to address issues like these at SEDAAG's November meeting in Memphis drew an audience of past, present, and prospective department chairs. Prior to an open discussion, five panelists engaged the audience by sharing their experiences and insights. The panel consisted of the following individuals: Mike Mayfield, who is in the midst of his first year as chair at Appalachian State University; Clara Leuthart, chair of a merged Department of Geography and Geology at the University of Louisville; Susan Cutter, recruited from Rutgers to South Carolina to chair the Geography Department; Duane Nellis, former chair at Kansas State University who is completing his second year as Dean of Arts & Sciences at West Virginia University; and Ron Abler, Executive Director of the AAG and former chair at Pennsylvania State University. The session was organized and moderated by Betsy Pyle, SEDAAG's Regional Councillor. A sampling of the panelists' remarks follows.

Mike Mayfield noted the increased expectations for chairs to be involved in alumni development activities within their college/university, and commented on the much higher stakes when a chair acts or fails to act, because the entire department, not just a single faculty member, could gain or suffer. Clara Leuthart discussed the opportunities presented when free-standing departments are merged. She emphasized the importance of physical proximity when trying to cultivate a sense of community in a merged department. Duane Nellis drew attention to the importance of outcomes assessment in the current climate of increased demand for public accountability, and he encouraged chairs to take the initiative to begin assessment programs before

they are mandated. Susan Cutter shared a series of amusing cartoons from the *Chronicle of Higher Education* to illustrate the following suggestions for chairs: 1) lead by example, 2) run interference for faculty from administrative details, 3) make the Dean look good, 4) have vision and deliver on promises, and 5) be tolerant of individual needs and quirks. Ron Abler likened department chairs to sergeants in the army of geography, who bear responsibility for helping to advance the front line of the discipline. In an era of specialization, each department needs the collective commitment of its faculty to make the department shine because in many cases, as departments go, so goes the discipline. In reflecting on the session, Abler said, "I think the topic is worth a regular review." Plan to attend the next one in Tampa!

**Lizbeth Ann Pyle**, Regional Councillor, SEDAAG

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

### Officers & State Representatives

SEDAAG is soliciting nominations for the positions of President, Treasurer, and State Representatives for Alabama, Florida, Kentucky, South Carolina, and West Virginia. A self-addressed return postcard is included in this Newsletter for making nominations.

ONLY SEDAAG MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING WHO ARE ALSO MEMBERS OF THE AAG MAY MAKE NOMINATIONS AND HOLD OFFICE. ONLY MEMBERS FROM THE STATE SHOULD MAKE NOMINATIONS FOR THAT STATE'S REPRESENTATIVE.

Nominations should be returned no later than Monday, May 10, to Dr. David Weaver, Chair, SEDAAG Nominating Committee, Geography Dept., Univ.of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0322. (205) 348-5047. dweaver@bama.ua.edu.

### Special Awards

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

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

# CALL FOR NOMINATIONS (Continued)

## Special Awards (Continued)

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.

**Send nominations by September 23, 1999**, to: Dr. Luoheng Han, Chair, Honors Committee, Dept. of Geography, Univ. of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0322, (205) 348-4981, Fax: (205) 348-2278, E-mail: lhan@bama.ua.edu

## 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 Luncheon at the 1999 Division meeting in Tampa, Florida. All applicants will be informed of the outcome by mail.

**Application Materials:** Materials submitted in the application must include: (1) A cover letter that includes a summary of educational background and academic honors; (2) A statement of professional goals, not to exceed two typewritten pages; (3) One copy of each undergraduate transcript inclusive of college course work through summer, 1999; (4) Letters of recommendation from three persons familiar with the academic work and professional aspirations of the applicant. The letters should include evaluation of the applicant's potential for development as a professional geographer.

**Send nominations by September 23**, to Dr. Luoheng Han, Chair, Honors Committee, Geography Dept., Univ. of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0322, (205) 348-4981, Fax: (205) 348-2278, E-mail: lhan@bama.ua.edu

## First Call For Papers and Posters: 54<sup>th</sup> SEDAAG Meeting in Tampa

The 1999 annual meeting of the Southeastern Division will be held in Tampa, Florida, November 21-23. I invite you to attend the meeting, participate in the program, and submit a paper or a poster.

Given the success of the first SEDAAG poster session last year, we will offer a poster format at the Tampa meetings.

The **deadline** for receipt of papers, abstracts, and poster descriptions is Wednesday, **September 15**, 1999. Guidelines for papers, poster descriptions, and abstracts are listed in this section. Paper and poster authors must be members of SEDAAG.

We especially encourage students to participate in meeting activities and to prepare papers for the Student Honors Competition and the Gamma Theta Upsilon undergraduate paper sessions. Included with this call for papers are the guidelines for this year's competitions. The **Honors Committee** is chaired by **Luoheng Han**, Geography Dept., Univ. of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0322, (205) 348-4981, E-mail: lhan@bama.ua.edu

Those who wish to arrange thematic paper sessions, conduct workshops, or schedule meetings should contact me as soon as possible. Specially organized sessions are particularly welcome: their focus on common interests often makes them the most successful of sessions. To facilitate organization of the program, final details of special events are due by Sept. 1, 1999.

**On the back of this Newsletter is a form for volunteering to chair a session or discuss a paper.** Many more people are needed to discuss papers than to chair sessions.

Preplanning for the Tampa meeting is well underway. Field trips and thematic sessions are being arranged, and a room for displays will be provided at the hotel. To reserve display space, contact Tracy Newsome, Chair, Local Arrangements Committee, Geography Dept., Univ. of South Florida, Tampa, FL 33620, (813) 974-2386; newsome@luna.cas.usf.edu. Our official policy is to create a smoke free environment at our annual meetings.

Please contact me if you have any questions, and don't forget to volunteer to be a discussant and/or session chair.

Ron Mitchelson, Program Chair

**Before July 15:** Institute for Regional Analysis and Public Policy; 350 Rader Hall; Morehead State Univ.; Morehead, KY 40351; (606)783-5289; Fax: (606)783-5096  
e-mail: r.mitchelson@morehead-st.edu

**After July 15 postmark:** Geography Dept.; East Carolina Univ.; 227A Brewster Bldg.; Greenville, NC 27858; (919)328-6230; Fax: (919)328-6054; e-mail: not available.

# First Call For Papers

## GUIDELINES FOR 1999 PAPERS, ABSTRACTS, & SPECIAL SESSIONS

November 21-23, 1999, Tampa, Florida

The **deadline** for receipt of papers and abstracts by the Program Chair is **September 15, 1999**. All annual meeting program participants must be members of the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers. A membership application is included on the back of this Newsletter. Papers received after the deadline will be returned to the authors. All papers received by the deadline will be reviewed by the Program Committee.

### Participation Form

- (1) Each paper should be accompanied by a separate page (one copy only) containing: (a) title of the paper; (b) author's (or authors') name(s) and titles; (c) affiliation; (d) complete address; and (e) electronic mail address, if available.
- (2) Carousel slide projectors and overhead projectors will be provided. Please indicate if you need audio-visual equipment OTHER than these.
- (3) If applicable, please indicate that the paper is being submitted for the Student Honors competition, and whether it is for the masters or doctoral level competition. See "Guidelines for Student Honors Competition" below.

### Papers

- (1) **Six (6) copies of the text of each paper must be submitted.** Maps, graphs, and tables must be included with each copy, but they do not have to be in final form. Papers submitted for the Student Honors competition should include ten (10) copies.
- (2) **Papers must not exceed eight (8) double-spaced typed pages, exclusive of maps, graphs, tables, literature cited, and the title page. To comply with the eight-page limit, full double spacing and the use of no type font smaller than size 12 are required.** Papers must be presented in 15 minutes or less. Additional time will be allotted for discussion and questions. If an author plans to discuss illustrations during the presentation, the text of the paper should be shorter than the eight-page maximum. Please time your paper before it is submitted.
- (3) **The title of the paper should appear at the top of page 1.** The author's name must not appear on this page or on pages in the body of the paper. Pages of the text must have at least one-inch margins at the top and bottom and on the left and right sides.
- (4) Citations should follow the format used in recent articles in the *Southeastern Geographer*.
- (5) **Maps, graphs, and tables must be labeled and numbered.** References to illustrations should occur at the appropriate place in the text.
- (6) **Final versions of illustrations must be of high quality and designed for presentation to a large audience.** Be certain that graphics projected on a screen can be read at 25 feet. Maps, tables, and graphics may be duplicated and distributed to the audience. Overhead and carousel slide projectors will be available for paper presentations.

### Abstracts

- (1) An abstract must accompany all papers submitted. The abstract may be no longer than 200 words.

- (2) We request that abstracts also be submitted on 3.5 inch diskettes. Microsoft Word, WordPerfect, or ASCII formats for either IBM or Macintosh are acceptable. Indicate your name and the title of your paper on your disk, along with the software type and version, and whether it is in MAC or DOS environment.
- (3) **Margins of the abstract** must be one and one-fourth (1.25) inches on the right and left sides, and one (1) inch at the top.
- (4) The **title** must be in capital letters and centered one inch from the top of the page.
- (5) The **author's name** must be two spaces below the title, centered, in capital and lower case letters, and underlined.
- (6) The **author's institutional affiliation** must be two spaces below the name, centered in capital and lower case letters, and underlined.
- (7) The **body of the abstract** must begin three spaces below the author's institutional affiliation (the body is to be single spaced and without paragraph indentations). If the abstract contains more than one paragraph, two spaces are to be left between paragraphs.
- (8) Authors are responsible for editing and proofreading the abstracts they submit. They will be printed as submitted.

### Special Session Guidelines

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

- (1) All papers submitted are subject to the regular submission and review process.
- (2) Organizers should provide a *special session plan* to the program chair **by Sept. 1** which should include intended participants, paper titles, session chair, and discussant(s).
- (3) Organizers should identify discussants for the papers. It is acceptable to have one discussant for the entire session or to provide commentary on each paper.
- (4) Time and space constraints argue for a Special Session to have a minimum of four papers. The Program Chair reserves the right to merge papers into other sessions if three or fewer papers are submitted, or if three or fewer papers survive the review process.

### Send papers and abstracts to -

Prior to July 15 postmark:

Ron Mitchelson, Program Chair, Institute for Regional Analysis and Public Policy; 350 Rader Hall; Morehead State Univ.; Morehead, KY 40351; (606)783-5289; Fax: (606)783-5096; e-mail: r.mitchelson@morehead-st.edu

After July 15 postmark:

Ron Mitchelson, Program Chair, Geography Dept.; East Carolina Univ.; 227A Brewster Bldg.; Greenville, NC 27858; (919)328-6230; Fax: (919)328-6054; e-mail: not available.

## **GUIDELINES FOR 1999 POSTERS AND POSTER DESCRIPTIONS**

The **deadline** for the receipt of poster descriptions and abstracts is **Sept. 15, 1999**. All annual meeting program participants must be members of the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers. Please see **membership application included in this Newsletter**. Poster submissions received after the deadline will be returned to authors. Papers describing posters received by the deadline will be reviewed by the Program Committee.

### **Participation Form**

- (1) Each poster submission should be accompanied by a separate page (one copy only) containing: (a) the word "POSTER" at the top of the page; (b) title of the poster; (c) author(s)' name(s) and titles; (d) affiliation; (e) complete address; and, (f) electronic mail address, if available.
- (2) Poster boards and easels will be provided.
- (3) Please note that posters may not be submitted for the Student Honors competition.

### **Poster Descriptions**

- (1) **For review by the Program Committee, poster submissions must be accompanied by a two-page description, exclusive of maps, graphs, tables, literature cited, and the title page. Full double spacing and the use of no type font smaller than size 12 are required.** The poster description is necessary for the review process and should detail the purpose statement, research design, related literature, and research findings. For the review process, **six (6) copies of the text of the poster description must be submitted**. Maps, graphs, and tables must be included with each copy, but they do not have to be in final form.
- (2) **The title of the poster description should appear at the top of page 1.** The author's name must not appear on this page or on pages in the body of the description. Pages of the text must have at least one-inch margins at the top and bottom and on the right and left sides.
- (3) Citations should follow the format used in recent articles in the *Southeastern Geographer*.
- (4) **Maps, graphs, and tables must be labeled and numbered.** References to illustrations should occur at the appropriate place in the text.
- (5) Research conveyed in posters will be displayed in a single session and should not exceed 36" by 44". Poster boards will be supplied by SEDAAG. Materials should be of professional quality and legible from a distance of 3 feet. Text should be confined to brief statements.

### **Abstracts**

- (1) An abstract must accompany all posters submitted. The abstract must be no longer than 200 words.
- (2) We request that abstracts also be submitted on 3.5 inch diskettes. Microsoft Word, WordPerfect, or ASCII formats for either IBM or Macintosh are acceptable. Indicate your name and title of the poster on your disk, along with the software type and version, and whether it is in a MAC, DOS, or Windows environment.
- (3) **Margins of the abstract** must be one and one-fourth (1.25) inches on the right and left sides, and one (1) inch at the top.
- (4) The **title** must be in capital letters and centered one inch from

the top of the page.

- (5) The **author's name** must be two spaces below the title, centered, in capital and lower case letters, and underlined.
- (6) The **author's institutional affiliation** must be two spaces below the name, centered in capital and lower case letters, and underlined.
- (7) The **body of the abstract** must begin three spaces below the author's institutional affiliation (the body is to be single spaced and without paragraph indentations). If the abstract contains more than one paragraph, two spaces are to be left between paragraphs.
- (8) Authors are responsible for editing and proofreading their abstracts. They will be printed as submitted.

## **GUIDELINES FOR THE STUDENT HONORS COMPETITION**

**Objectives:** The Student Honors competition at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers is designed to (1) encourage graduate student research and publication; (2) stimulate graduate student attendance and active participation at the annual meeting; (3) provide a training ground for the oral presentation of research findings at professional meetings; and, (4) recognize outstanding research by individual students and reflect credit upon the graduate programs of their sponsoring departments.

**Eligibility:** To be eligible to participate in the Student Honors competition, **the graduate student must have been enrolled in a geography program and in residence at the sponsoring department at the time his or her research was done**. Ph.D. students must still be enrolled as a student at the time his or her paper is presented. Master's students who have graduated since doing their research may present their papers at the first SEDAAG meeting following graduation. Papers should represent original research. Maps, illustrations, and other audiovisual materials should be designed or constructed by the author. No multiple-authored papers will be accepted.

**Departmental Responsibilities:** Sponsoring departments should verify the eligibility of graduate students submitting papers for the Honors competition and conduct preliminary screening of such papers to ensure that those submitted are quality products. To the extent possible, departments should ensure that the authors of papers accepted in the Honors competition will be able to attend the 1999 meeting in Tampa, Florida, and be present at the awards ceremony.

**Awards:** Normally one master's-level and one Ph.D.-level award are presented each year, but decisions regarding the Honors award are left entirely to the discretion of the Honors Committee. Each Honors award includes \$200 cash, a year's paid membership in the Association of American Geographers (AAG), and a plaque. Presentation of awards will be made at the Honors luncheon. All students who have papers accepted in the competition will have their annual meeting registration fee and Honors luncheon fees waived.

**Topics:** Papers on any geographic topic may be entered into the Honors competition. Every paper and oral presentation will receive a critical and impartial evaluation.

**Evaluation Procedures:** Papers submitted for the Honors

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

Content will be the primary general criterion in the written evaluation, but the author should use good English as well as appropriate illustrations and documentation. The paper should be prepared as if it were to be published, although draft copies of maps and figures for the written review will be accepted.

A primary criterion will be a well-defined research objective and a research procedure appropriate to achieving it. The paper should focus upon one or more research questions and present at least a tentative answer. Papers without such a focus will be downgraded in scoring.

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

**Voting:** No Honors Committee member shall vote on a paper by a

student from his or her institution, although this restriction shall not discourage or prevent that member's participation in the discussion preceding the formal committee vote.

**Submission of Papers:** A paper submitted for Honors competition must be accompanied by a letter from the student's advisor or head of the sponsoring department verifying the status and eligibility of the student and indicating whether it is for the M.A. or Ph.D. competition.

Papers submitted for the Honors competition must conform to guidelines for papers and abstracts, with the following additions:

(1) **TEN**, rather than six, copies of the paper must be submitted, and (2) **a letter from the student's department must accompany the submission**, verifying the status and eligibility of the student and the level of competition (M.A. or Ph.D.).

Copies of papers with abstracts should be sent by **Sept. 15, 1999** to **Luoheng Han**, Chair, Honors Committee, Geography Dept., Univ. of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0322, (205) 348-4981, Fax: (205) 348-2278, E-mail: [ihan@bama.ua.edu](mailto:ihan@bama.ua.edu).

## **GUIDELINES FOR GAMMA THETA UPSILON UNDERGRADUATE PAPERS**

Undergraduate students are urged to present papers in a special GTU paper session. These papers will not be reviewed by the Program Committee, and no Honors competition will be held. Initial screening should be the responsibility of faculty advisors; but papers may be further screened by the session and program chairs. The guidelines for papers and abstracts are the same as for the regular and Honors papers, except that only three (3) copies are needed. Please help make this session a success.

Send papers and abstracts to Ron Mitchelson, Program Chair: See addresses in previous sections and please note change after July 15th.

## **SEDAAG AWARDS FOR 1998**

### **World Geography Bowl**

All ten states in SEDAAG fielded teams for the 1998 regional championship World Geography Bowl in Memphis. A total of 88 undergraduate and graduate students participated, being supported by nearly an equal number of students in the audience.

The Alabama team brought the best win-loss record (8-1) to the Championship Round. North Carolina and Kentucky tied in wins and losses (7-2), but North Carolina broke the tie with total points (940 to 910). Thus Alabama and North Carolina competed in the Championship Round, moderated by Sanford Bederman.. Through a highly competitive round, the two teams swapped the lead, finally tying on the last question. The tie was broken on a sudden-death question about hometowns of U.S. Presidents, successfully answered by North Carolina. Members of the winning team were Alexander Beckman (UNC-P), Rebecca Bertrand (ECU), Dennis Everette (UNC-W), Benjamin Gersh (UNC-P), Michael Russell (ECU), Bill Welsh (UNC-CH), and Dave Wrubel, (UNC-C) team captain.

The event's *most valuable player* (MVP) was Kentucky's Jean Lavigne (UK), a long-time player who completed her eligibility with this event. She averaged an incredible 33.3 points per round

for the first nine rounds over second-place finisher Dave Wrubel (31.1 points).

A new WGB event pitted a "Dream Team" of professional geographers against a student *All-Star Team* in a "warm-up" match preceding the Championship Round. This, too, was a tight round, won on the final question by the *Dream Team*. Winning team members were: Ron Abler (AAG), Stephen Birdsall (UNC-CH), Stanley Brunn (UK), Susan Cutter (USC), William Graf, (Arizona State and President, AAG), and Carol Harden (UT). Although experimental, this round was successful and, with a few changes, will be incorporated into next year's regional event at Tampa.

Particular appreciation goes to the WGB Committee who worked incredibly hard to make this event work. Congratulations to all of the teams and to MVP Jean Lavigne.

The World Geography Bowl continues to be one of SEDAAG's

### **World Geography Bowl (continued)**

most successful events, enjoyed by faculty and students alike.

See you in Tampa.

Neal Lineback, WGB Committee Chair

## **Student Awards**

Recipients of student awards at the 1998 Memphis SEDAAG meeting included the winners of two student paper competitions and the Merle Prunty scholarship. The winner of the Ph.D. student paper competition was **Ricky L. Bunch**, University of South Carolina, for his paper: *Searching for Color Boundaries on Maps*. The winner of the Masters student paper competition was **Brian Frizzelle**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, for his paper: *Fuzzy Sets Approach to Land Cover Classification in Southern California*. The Merle Prunty Scholarship was awarded to **Bonnie Kaserman** of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

## **Special Awards**

## **1999 SEDAAG COMMITTEES**

*\*Committees elected by the members of the Southeastern Division of the AAG*

### **Executive Committee\***

**Kavita Pandit**, President. Geography Dept., Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-2502. (706) 542-2856; [pandit@uga.edu](mailto:pandit@uga.edu).

**Ron Mitchelson**, Vice President. Before 7/15: Institute for Regional Analysis and Public Policy; 350 Rader Hall; Morehead State Univ.; Morehead, KY 40351; (606)783-5289; [r.mitchelson@morehead-st.edu](mailto:r.mitchelson@morehead-st.edu). After July 15: Geography Dept.; East Carolina Univ.; 227A Brewster Bldg.; Greenville, NC 27858; (919)328-6230.

**John Winberry**, Treasurer. Geography Dept., Univ. of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208. (803) 777-2388; [winberry@garnet.cla.sc.edu](mailto:winberry@garnet.cla.sc.edu).

**Allan James**, Secretary. Geography Dept., Univ. of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208. (803) 777-6117; [AJames@Garnet.cla.sc.edu](mailto:AJames@Garnet.cla.sc.edu).

**Lizabeth Ann Pyle**, Councillor (until June 1999). Geography Dept., West Virginia Univ., Morgantown, WV 26506. (304) 293-5603; [lpyle@wvu.edu](mailto:lpyle@wvu.edu).

**Dennis Lord**, Councillor (after June 1999). Geography and Earth Sciences Dept., Univ. of North Carolina, Charlotte, NC 28223. (704) 547-4258; [jdlord@email.uncc.edu](mailto:jdlord@email.uncc.edu).

**Susan Brooker-Gross**, Past President. Administrative Information Systems, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg VA 24060. (540) 231-2367; [srb144@vt.edu](mailto:srb144@vt.edu).

**Steering Committee** - Made up of the 6 Executive Committee members listed above, plus the Editor of the *Southeastern Geographer* and the ten state representatives.

### ***Editor, Southeastern Geographer:***

**James O. Wheeler**, Geography Dept., Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602, (706) 542-2350; [jowheel@uga.edu](mailto:jowheel@uga.edu).

### **State Representatives\***

**Alabama: Lary Dilsaver**, Department of Geology and Geography, Univ. of So. Alabama, Mobile AL 36688-0002. (205) 460-6381; [ldilsave@jaguar1.usouthal.edu](mailto:ldilsave@jaguar1.usouthal.edu).

Recipients of special awards were also announced at the 1998 Memphis SEDAAG meeting. **Owen J. Furuseth**, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, was presented the *Research Honors Award*; and **Thomas Bell**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, was given the *Outstanding Service Award*.

A note of appreciation is due the members of the Honors Committee (Luoheng Han, Elizabeth Hines, Dennis Lord, and Allan James) for their excellent choices of deserving SEDAAG members.

Howard Johnson, Jacksonville State University,  
Chair, 1998 SEDAAG Honors Committee.

**Florida: Russell Ivy**, Geography Dept., Florida Atlantic Univ., Boca Raton, FL 33431-0991. (561) 297-3295; [ivy@acc.fau.edu](mailto:ivy@acc.fau.edu).

**Georgia: David Leigh**, Geography Dept., Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-2402. (706) 542-2346; [dleigh@arches.uga.edu](mailto:dleigh@arches.uga.edu).

**Kentucky: Dennis Spetz**, Dept. Geography and Geosciences, Univ. of Louisville, Louisville, KY 40292; (502) 852-6844; [dlspet01@ulkyvm.louisville.edu](mailto:dlspet01@ulkyvm.louisville.edu).

**Mississippi: Douglas Gamble**, Dept. Geosciences, Drawer 5448, Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi State, MS 39762. (601) 325-0732; [dwgamble@ra.msstate.edu](mailto:dwgamble@ra.msstate.edu).

**North Carolina: Keith Debbage**, Geography Dept., Univ. of North Carolina, Greensboro, NC 27412-5001. (336) 334-5489; [kgdebbag@uncg.edu](mailto:kgdebbag@uncg.edu).

**South Carolina: Michael Hodgson**, Geography Dept., Univ. of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208; (803) 777-8976; FAX: (423) 574-4634; [hodgsonm@garnet.cla.sc.edu](mailto:hodgsonm@garnet.cla.sc.edu).

**Tennessee: John Kupfer**, Dept. Geography and Planning, Univ. of Memphis, Memphis TN 38152. (901) 678-2386; [jakupfer@msuvx1.memphis.edu](mailto:jakupfer@msuvx1.memphis.edu).

**Virginia: Dawn Bowen**, Geography Dept., Mary Washington College, P.O. Box 1306, Fredricksburg, VA 22402-1306. (540) 654-1491; [dbowen@mwc.edu](mailto:dbowen@mwc.edu).

**West Virginia: George Towers**, Geography Dept., Concord College, Athens, WV 24712. (304) 384-5352; [georget@ed.concord.wvnet.edu](mailto:georget@ed.concord.wvnet.edu).

### **Honors Committee\***

**Luoheng Han**, Geography Dept., Univ. of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0322, (205) 348-4981, Fax: (205) 348-2278, E-mail: [ihan@bama.ua.edu](mailto:ihan@bama.ua.edu)  
**Susan Walcott** (chair elect for 2000), Greg Jeane, Jonathan Leib, Vern Meentemeyer.

### **Nominating Committee\***

**David Weaver**, Geography Dept., Univ. of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL. 35487-0322. (205) 348-5047;

dweaver@bama.ua.edu. Joann Mossa, Charles Aiken.

## 1999 SEDAAG Committees (Continued)

### Audit Committee

**Carol Harden**, Geography Dept., Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-1420. (423) 974-2418; charden@utk.edu. David Howarth, Jonathan Leib.

### Committee on the Status of Women in Geography

**Altha Cravey**, Geography Dept., Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC; 27599-3220 cravey@unc.edu, and Deborah Dixon, Geography Dept., East Carolina Univ.

Ed Babin, Susan Brooker-Gross, Susan Cutter, Kay Ehrlich, Margaret Gripshover, Suzy Hill, Heidi Kieffer-LaMoreau, Ann Oberhauser, Kavita Pandit, Jeff Richetto, Susan Roberts.

### Endowment Fund Committee

**Thomas Bell**, Geography Dept., Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-1420. (423) 974-2418; tlbell@utk.edu. Margaret Gripshover, Charles Kovacik, Stephen Birdsall, Ronald Schultz, John Winberry.

### Geography in Education Committee

**Howard Johnson**, Geography Dept., Jacksonville State Univ., Jacksonville, AL 36265. (205) 782-5813; hjohnson@jsucc.jsu.edu.

James Fisher, Ralph Fullerton, Daniel Good, Truman Hartshorn, Harlan Hawkins, Harlow Head, William Imperatore, Sidney Jumper, Patricia Kixmiller, Neal Lineback, Jesse McKee, Robert Myers, Jeff Neff, Dennis Spetz, Douglas Wilms.

### Historian

**Allen Bushong**. Geography Dept., Univ. of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208. (803) 777-6380; bushong@garnet.cla.sc.edu.

### Local Arrangements Committee (Tampa)

**Tracy Newsome**, Geography Dept., Univ. So. Florida, Tampa, FL 33620. (813) 974-2386; newsome@luna.cas.usf.edu. Robert Aageenbrug, Kevin Archer, Robert Brinkmann, Tom Gillespie, Rebecca Johns, Arlene Laing, Scott Place, Steven Reader, Graham Tobin.

### Membership Committee

**John Winberry**; Geography Dept., Univ. of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208. (803) 777-2388; winberry@garnet.cla.sc.edu; and all State Representatives.

### Program Committee

**Ron Mitchelson** (addresses listed elsewhere);

Keith Debbage, Doug Gamble, Mike Hodgson, Rebecca Johns, Paul Knapp, Clara Leuthart, Joe Nicholas, Paul O'Farrell, Tim Pitts, Criss Smith.

### Resolutions Committee

**Paul Knapp**; Department of Anthropology and Geography, Georgia State Univ., University Plaza, Atlanta, GA 30303-3083. (404) 651-1823; [ggepak@panther.gsu.edu](mailto:ggepak@panther.gsu.edu). Dawn Bowen, Tom Howard.

### Southeastern Geographer Editorial Committee

**James Wheeler**, Geography Dept., Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602, (706) 542-2350; [jowheel@uga.edu](mailto:jowheel@uga.edu).

Melvin Barber, Thomas Boswell, David Butler, Susan Cutter, Carol Harden, John Fraser Hart, Howard Johnson, Janet Kodras, Robert Lloyd, Joseph Manzo, Dorothy Mason, Jesse McKee, Vernon Meentemeyer, Joesph Nicholas, Kathleen Parker, Karl Raitz, Wilma Walker, Stephen Walsh, Gerald Webster, Donald Zeigler.

### Southern Studies Committee

**John Morgan**, Geography Dept., Emory and Henry College, Emory, VA 24327. (540) 944-6815.

Charles Aiken, Derek Alderman, Rob Brown, John Florin, Eric Fournier, Gregory Jeane, Charles Kovacik, W.T. Mealor, Tyrel Moore,, Karl Raitz, John Winberry.

### Tellers Committee

**Steve Walsh**, Geography Dept., Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3220. (919) 962-1537; [swalsh@email.unc.edu](mailto:swalsh@email.unc.edu).

Tom Bell, Victoria Rivizzigno.

### Webmaster

**Laurence Carstensen**, Geography Dept., Virginia Tech Univ., Blacksburg, VA 24061-0115. [carstens@vt.edu](mailto:carstens@vt.edu).

### World Geography Bowl Committee

**Neal Lineback**; Dept. Geography and Planning, Appalachian State Univ., Boone, NC 28608. (704) 262-7054, [linebackng@appstate.edu](mailto:linebackng@appstate.edu).

Donald Albert, William Carstensen, Thomas Deaton, Clifton Dixon, Jr., Patricia Gilmartin, Kelly Gregg, Margaret Gripshover, Howard Johnson, Michal LeVasseur, Dorothy Mason, Klaus Meyer-Arendt, Robert Meyers, Robert Reiman, Victoria Rivizzigno, Richard Sambrook, Harry Trendell, David Weaver.

# STATE REPORTS

## ALABAMA

**LARY M. DILSAVER**, University of Alabama

The major process affecting geography in Alabama is a state

mandated articulation of the first two years education at two-year and four-year colleges and universities. Most schools are now on the semester system with others to change soon. The process pitted disciplines against one another for spots on the general education program to be required at all the schools and to be

transferable among them. Geography was present in two committees, one for physical geography, geology and Earth science and the other for history and the social and behavioral sciences. In addition, there were committees to decide on requirements of the majors in the various disciplines across the state (at the lower division).

Geography benefitted from strong leadership. Dr. Victoria Rivizzigno of the **University of South Alabama** chaired both the general education committee for physical geography, geology and Earth sciences and the committee to determine lower-division requirements for those majors. Howard Johnson of Jacksonville State University also served on these two committees. In a major coup, physical geography became a two lab course sequence option within the natural science and mathematics section. Thus, students may choose it as an alternative to chemistry, physics, geology and biology lab sequences in their general education.

David Weaver of the **University of Alabama** participated as a member of the committee for history and the social and behavioral sciences. Here, too, both world regional and human geography are listed as options in the mandated general education curriculum. Of importance is the fact that most of the state's more than 50 community colleges did not have either course. They will now be encouraged to cover these elements of the standard curriculum. On the other hand, the physical geography lab sequence may prove too expensive in space, equipment, etc. to have much presence below the four-year schools.

Differences surfaced between the major departments over the lower-division requirements for the geography major. Finally, **Auburn University, Jacksonville State University, the University of Alabama, University of North Alabama, and University of South Alabama** agreed to require the above courses plus one elementary statistics course, one microcomputer course, and one additional natural science or social science course above the general education program.

At **Auburn**, as of November 16, 1998, geography appeared to be headed for movement from the College of Liberal Arts to the College of Science and Mathematics, integration into a department with geology, and continuation of the major. The latter was unlikely just a week earlier and the final decision still pends.

It has been an exciting year and a half. Most departments had to adapt or start new courses, and some departments had to shift from quarters to semesters. On a less happy note, rumors of a possible state requirement that every major department produce 7.5 graduates per year has worried some programs.

## FLORIDA

### RUSSELL L. IVY, Florida Atlantic University

Geography undergraduate degree programs continue to be offered at seven institutions throughout the state: **Florida Atlantic University, University of Florida, Florida State University, Jacksonville University, University of Miami, University of South Florida and Stetson University**. Undergraduate enrollments continue to climb, peaking at the two largest campuses which comprise 67% of the state total. Statewide there were 277 undergraduate majors led by the **University of South Florida** with 105. Thus far, geography appears as if it will probably survive at **Jacksonville University**, but the situation must be monitored. Ray Oldakowski reports that they are looking to cut the number of majors offered.

Masters degree programs are offered at **Florida Atlantic University, the University of Florida, Florida State University** and the **University of South Florida**. The **University of South Florida** reports the highest number of masters students enrolled (40), almost half the state total of 91. Apparently, the geography department at South Florida is expanding their program to include an M.S. degree with an emphasis in *Geographic Analysis Techniques*.

Ph.D. programs are offered at the **University of Florida** and **Florida State University**. Total enrollment in geography Ph.D. programs (1997-1998) was 40, with 28 at the University of Florida in Gainesville which also reports the highest total graduate course enrollment (214) which is 40% of the total.

Geography is becoming closely aligned with other programs. The recent combination of geography and geology at **Florida Atlantic** has caused a restructuring of the curriculum and the creation of new course offerings. At the **University of Miami**, Peter Muller reports that the department has joined the new *school of international studies* which expects to offer B.A., M.A. and Ph.D degrees in international studies with a strong geography component. At **Florida State**, geography is growing with the new major in environmental studies. While there is only a geography minor program at the **University of West Florida** (geography is in an environmental studies framework), Klaus Meyer-Arendt reports enthusiasm for the subject on campus.

Full-time faculty members at the institutions offering geography degrees total 51, including six new faculty members: **Jacqueline Gallagher** (Florida Atlantic), **Basil Savitsky** (Florida State), **Arlene Laing** (South Florida), **Stuart Corbridge** (Miami), **Michael Shin** (Miami), **Klaus J. Meyer-Arendt** (West Florida). Plans for the current academic year are to recruit 6 new faculty members throughout the state, one being an entirely new line. Florida geography faculty are professionally active. Jonathan Leib, Florida State, continues as editor of *Journal of Geography*. Many faculty have been successful with research, including Jan Nijman (Miami) who received an NSF grant for research on world cities, Robert Walker (Florida State) who was awarded a Gilbert White Fellowship, a Fulbright Award, and a NASA grant on Brazilian deforestation, and Barney Warf (Florida State) who received the SEDAAG Research Honors Award.

The **Florida Geographic Alliance**, which links primary, secondary, community college and university-level geographers, remains strong and active. Co-coordinators Edward Fernald and Laurie Molina are responsible for a series of ongoing projects, workshops, and conferences at the county and state level. As noted in the June 1998 AAG Newsletter, the *Alliance* developed the Florida Kiwanis Map and Globe Program which provided funding to purchase maps, globes and atlases for Florida schools.

## GEORGIA

### ANDREW HEROD, University of Georgia

Based on replies to questionnaires, the state of geography within Georgia seems to be relatively healthy. Several departments have hired new faculty during the past academic year, including Valdosta State, Georgia College and State U., and UGA (which hired 4 new faculty), and some departments are hoping to hire next year, including Fort Valley State U., Georgia Southern, and UGA. Furthermore, there appears to have been a slight increase in the number of geography majors and the numbers of geography

sections taught. It is unclear how the movement to semesters is affecting the status of geography in the state.

#### **Department Highlights.**

**Columbus State** teaches geography essentially as part of service classes to fulfill the core curriculum.

**Dalton College** created a Geography/Geology seminar for middle-school teachers to improve teaching of contemporary global issues such as global warming.

**Fort Valley State University** offers only a minor in geography, mostly to students in teachers' education, yet enrollments continue to increase.

**Georgia College and State University** hired a full-time, tenure-track position beginning Aug. '98, and plans to hire a physical geographer in the biology department this year.

**Georgia Southern University** has approved a 4th tenure-track position and a new BS degree. The dept. met its quota of majors for the first year of its new geography degree.

**Georgia State University** geography enrollments are up. The merger with the anthropology dept appears to be going well, and the faculty continues to be productive in research and publishing.

The **University of Georgia** recently made four geography hires (2 full time in Geography, 1 full time in geography and women's studies, one part time research scientist in geography) and is planning two more hires for next academic year. The number of undergraduate majors increased slightly over last year.

**Valdosta State** has received funding to establish a GIS lab. The environmental geography major graduated its first student, several faculty have large grants, and one faculty member was chosen as a 1997-98 Regents' Distinguished Professor.

#### **Geography Web Sites in Georgia:**

Columbus State Univ.	<a href="http://www.colstate.edu/">www.colstate.edu/</a>
Dalton College	<a href="http://www.dalton.peachnet.edu/">www.dalton.peachnet.edu/</a>
Dekalb College	<a href="http://www.dc.peachnet.edu/">www.dc.peachnet.edu/</a>
Fort Valley State Univ.	<a href="http://www.fvsu.edu/">www.fvsu.edu/</a>
Georgia Southern Univ.	<a href="http://www.gasou.edu/geog/">www.gasou.edu/geog/</a>
Georgia SW State Univ.	<a href="http://www.gswrs6k1.gsw.peachnet.edu/">www.gswrs6k1.gsw.peachnet.edu/</a>
Georgia College & St. Univ.	<a href="http://www.gac.peachnet.edu/">www.gac.peachnet.edu/</a>
Georgia State Univ.	<a href="http://www.gsu.edu/~wwwgge/">www.gsu.edu/~wwwgge/</a>
Kennesaw State Univ.	<a href="http://www.kennesaw.edu/pols/">www.kennesaw.edu/pols/</a>
University of Georgia	<a href="http://www.uga.edu/geography">www.uga.edu/geography</a>
Valdosta State Univ.	<a href="http://www.valdosta.edu/phy/">www.valdosta.edu/phy/</a>
State Univ. West Georgia	<a href="http://www.westga.edu/~geograph/">www.westga.edu/~geograph/</a>

The geosciences department at **Mississippi State University** cannot offer enough sections of *Introduction to World Geography* to meet demand due to faculty shortages and insufficient space. Every section fills to capacity the first day of registration. The subject is being required by more majors and has grown to be a popular elective for many students. Last year, Mississippi State was the fourth largest user of DeBlij's world regional text in America. This next year, the department will replace three people who left or retired, and two newly created geography positions will be filled. Dr. Mark Binkley received the National Weather Association "Member of the Year Award."

Geography has been reorganized at the **University of Southern Mississippi**. The department of geography and area development was moved from the College of Liberal Arts to the College of International and Continuing Education (CICE). Geography and

## **KENTUCKY**

**DENNIS L. SPETZ**, University of Louisville

Change and growth continue to be the key words to describe the status of geography in Kentucky during the 1997-1998 academic year. Three major items have provided a great impact.

1) Publication of the *Kentucky Atlas* provides an enhanced visibility for geography in both academic and public domains.

2) Employment opportunities for persons with G.I.S., planning, and computer proficiencies have resulted in significant enrollment growth in those programs as have opportunities for internships and co-operations with public and private agencies.

3) The resurgent interest in geographic education has impacted community colleges and small four-year institutions where faculty with minimal or no formal academic training in the discipline are teaching "Geography." This is a major opportunity for SEDAAG to offer nurturing and support.

Using data from a variety of sources, it appears that growth in faculty and enrollments occurred during the year. Persons reported as faculty increased from 96 to 101, although it appears that the figure includes persons whose primary academic appointments are in other disciplines as well as persons in adjunct or part-time slots.

Undergraduate student enrollment grew from 15,750 to 18,372. Much of this growth appears to be in introductory service courses. Numbers of undergraduate majors increased from 402 to 439 during the year.

Geographers in Kentucky continue to be actively involved in teaching, research (pure and applied) as well as service to the profession and to a variety of public functions.

## **MISSISSIPPI**

**RONALD W. SNOW**, Mississippi State University

Geography in the state of Mississippi generally appears to be doing quite well. Most colleges and universities report either steady or increasing enrollments. Despite significant improvement in geographical education in the state, only **Mississippi State University** and the **University of Southern Mississippi** offer geography (or geosciences) degree programs. Delta State University offers a concentration in geography as part of the Social Science degree track. Several institutions in the state offer no geography courses.

Planning is now one department, and Economic Development is a separate department within CICE. A Ph.D. program in Economic Development has been approved. Two new faculty members were added this past year — **Mike Harrison** and **Kathy Garner**. Three new faculty members will be added this next year.

## **NORTH CAROLINA**

**ALTHA J. CRAVEY**, University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill

Geography is thriving in North Carolina. In 1998, 83 full-time and 20 part-time professors taught 366 undergraduate and 67 graduate courses. Total enrollments in these courses were healthy, with 15,720 undergrad and 498 grad enrollments. Geography majors included 570 undergraduates, 120 masters students, and 25 Ph.D. students. Geography departments reported that many

graduates of our undergraduate programs find good employment options in planning and environmental agencies, GIS and mapping, as well as site development.

This year **Elon College** hired **Heidi Glaesel**, as their first full-time geography faculty member. New faculty were also hired at **Appalachian State University (Perry, Crepeau)**, **University of North Carolina at Greensboro (Lennartson)**, and **East Carolina University (Popke, Pease, Lecce)**. Three campuses are searching for new faculty for the coming year: **University of North Carolina at Charlotte**, **University of North Carolina at Wilmington** and the **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**, where two faculty searches are underway. Five North Carolina departments, **Appalachian State University**, **University of North Carolina at Greensboro**, **University of North Carolina at Charlotte**, **East Carolina University**, and **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**, offer dynamic graduate programs in geography with only the latter offering a Ph.D. degree.

Three departments report concerns about the health of their programs. In the most dire of these situations, geographers at **Western Carolina University** fear their program is at risk of extinction or decline through gradual attrition. Reportedly, it is nearly impossible for a small program to meet WCU's program-review requirements of graduating twenty majors every two years. They also have difficulties making a strong case to replace retiring faculty as a "no-growth program in a no-growth University". **North Carolina Agriculture and Technology Univ.** reported a situation "none too good" for geography because their only full-time faculty person retired and will not be replaced. Concern was expressed by Thomas Ross at the **University of North Carolina at Pembroke** that the "gains geography made during the 1980 and 1990s" are not eroded at UNCP.

Highlights of 1997-98 accomplishments include **Appalachian State University** awarded the geography MA program an *Excellence in Graduate Studies Award* and Neal Lineback was named to the ASU *College of Arts and Sciences Academy of Outstanding Teachers*. Professor Ross of the **University of North Carolina at Pembroke** received the *Adolph Dial Award* for scholarly creative works. Faculty at the **University of North Carolina at Greensboro** generated \$1,000,000 in grants and contracts and won grants to establish local internship programs in computer cartography and GIS. Johnathon Bascom of **East Carolina University** spent a year in Eritrea on a grant from the US AID Democracy Project and taught at the University of Asmara. **East Carolina University's** Gares and Wang won separate university research awards. While geography has no official status at **Duke University**, comparative area studies is thriving under the directorship of Martin Lewis, which may be a vehicle for expansion of geography. Faculty at Duke University won a \$50,000 Ford Foundation grant for revitalizing area studies, the "Crossing Borders" program. The **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's** faculty published 30 refereed journal articles, 13 chapters and 5 written/edited books while the level of grants has increased at a dramatic pace. Geography's portion of new research grants totaled well over \$1,000,000 this year, and there is an increasing level of research and grants productivity among UNC-CH's graduate students.

## SOUTH CAROLINA

MICHAEL E. HODGSON, University of South Carolina

Twenty-six institutions of higher education in South Carolina offer geography courses. Three of these institutions, **USC-Columbia**, **Clemson**, and **Converse College**, offer graduate courses in geography. Only USC-Columbia and Francis Marion offer a degree program. **Francis Marion** offers a major through a fourth-year cooperative program with USC. **USC-Columbia** offers the only graduate degrees in geography. The total number of geography courses and enrollments increased while the number of faculty increased by only one. Thirty full-time faculty and thirty-two part-time faculty taught 165 undergraduate and 37 graduate courses with an enrollment of 5,203 (undergraduate) and 701 (graduate). The number of enrollments was up approximately 12% over the last survey.

The *South Carolina Geographic Alliance* continues to increase its activities and service to K-12 education (and some institutions of higher education). The *Alliance* presented seventeen workshops across the state with 600 K-12 educators participating. Another 300 teachers participated in the three Geofests. Twenty-three teachers participated in the 1998 *Alliance* Summer Geography Institute in Columbia. Twelve previous master teachers, now teacher consultants, were sponsored to attend summer institutes in other states and travel to the National Council for Geographic Education's annual meeting. The National Geographic Society has funded the production of a CD entitled "*South Carolina Interactive Geography*" that will provide learning materials for K-12 geography classes. The CD is based on interactive maps and animation. At **USC-Columbia** two new geography/GIS minor programs were created with Marine Science and Business Administration. The number of graduate students has increased 24%, from 75 in 1996-97 to 93 in 1997-98. USC-Columbia reported a placement rate of 100% (PhDs) and 95% (MAs) of graduate students in professional geography positions. Two new courses, "Satellite Mapping and Global Positioning Systems" and "Geographic Animation," were approved. The undergraduate enrollment decreased slightly (2.6%). One faculty (Dr. David Cairns) resigned to take a position at Texas A&M University. In the winter of 1999, the department will replace this position as well as add a new climate position. The department submitted \$1.9m in grant proposals and received \$879k in funding.

New hires for geography faculty also occurred at other institutions in the state: **Dr. Martin Raffel (USC-Spartanburg)** and **Dr. Linda Wang (USC-Aiken)**. Dr. Art Van Alstyne (**USC-Aiken**) retired but remains as a part-time instructor. At **USC-Union**, Dr. Greg Labyak resigned to move elsewhere; thus, no geography courses were offered during AY 1997-1998. Dr. Jeremy Browning (**College of Charleston**) is developing a proposal for a geography minor. A new geography course titled "The Upstate" was approved at USC-Spartanburg. Dr. Tina Bradley (**South Carolina State University**) received a special award for the use of technology in geography instruction.

## TENNESSEE

THOMAS L. BELL, University of Tennessee

This has been another terrible year for higher education funding in Tennessee. Despite the overall grim financial situation, geography continues to survive and even thrive at many of the 17 institutions where at least one course in geography is taught. The best news may be that the program at **East Tennessee State**

(ETSU) that seemed in imminent danger of elimination last year has been reorganized and is fighting its way back. The department of geography, geology, and geomatics there includes three full-time and four part-time geography faculty. Apparently, after a long decline, geography at ETSU is growing.

Things are going well in the department of geography and planning at the **University of Memphis** which has one of the highest FTE/faculty ratios on campus. Nine full-time and three part-time faculty taught over 1900 undergraduates and 100 graduates. This year, **Benjamine Liu** and **Long-gen Ying** were hired on one-year appointments, and four tenure-track positions may open next year in the department. Despite heavy teaching responsibilities, research and scholarship are increasing; e.g., Dr. Hsiang-te Kung received a \$55,000 Fulbright Group Project Award from the U.S. Dept. of Education.

At **Shelby State Community College**, Judy Hatmaker and two part-time instructors teach 75% of general majors who want to transfer to four-year institutions. At **UT Martin** the geology, geography, and physics dept. has 40 geography majors. Three full-time faculty teach geography courses exclusively, the program is modernizing with new GIS and remote sensing courses, and a new meteorology course has proven very popular. Geography at **Middle Tenn. State University** in Murfreesboro is doing well with 32 majors and five full-time and four part-time faculty including **Jim Henry** who was hired this fall. Enrollments are over 300 at **Tennessee State Univ.** (TSU) where geography is being transferred to a separate department, may soon offer a geography major, and may hire a new faculty in 1998-99.

At **UT Knoxville**, ground has been broken on the *Burchfield Geography Building* that should be ready for occupancy by Fall, 2000. Geography was cited for teaching and research excellence in a recent report to the Chancellor. **Dr. Shih-Lung Shaw** was hired as a tenure-track Associate professor in transportation geography and GIS. Another tenure-track urban geography/GIS position may be approved with a Fall 1999 start date. Grants and contracts have been awarded by NGS (Drs. Ken Orvis and Sally Horn) and US EPA (Dr. Tom Bell). Books were authored or coauthored by Dr. Tom Bell (*Pocket Activity Guide*, 1999), Dr. Charles Aiken (*The Cotton Plantation South Since the Civil War*, 1998), and Dr. John Rehder (*Delta Sugar*, 1999).

Many geographers have been recognized for their efforts. Dr. Ed Freels at **Carson-Newman College** received the *Distinguished Faculty Award* last April. Professor Aubrey Flagg at **Columbia State Community College** was awarded the first ever "Students' Graduate Choice Award." Professor Jefferson Rogers at **UT Martin** received a Faculty Development grant to travel to Romania and another grant to produce computer-based maps. Dr. Helmut Wenz received a Faculty Development grant to guide a group of UTM faculty to Germany, Austria, and Switzerland.

At **UT Knoxville**, Charles Aiken chairs the *Archives and Association History Committee* of the AAG. Tom Bell finished his term on the editorial board of the *Journal of Geography* and was a plenary session speaker at the 1997 *Phi Beta Kappa Society* meeting in Chicago. [Tom was also awarded the SEDAAG *Distinguished Service Award* this fall. - Ed.] Ron Foresta serves on the STAR review panel in ecology and ecosystems for the US EPA. Carol Harden is on the Honors Committee of the AAG and editorial boards of *Mountain Research and Development*, *Physical Geography*, and the *Southeastern Geographer*. Sally

Horn served on the NAS Panel that published *Rediscovering Geography...* Sid Jumper was appointed *State Geographer* of Tennessee by Governor Donald Sundquist and was recognized as an outstanding collegiate mentor by the Nat. Council for Geographic Education. Lydia Pulsipher serves on editorial boards of the *Annals of the AAG* and the *Journal of Cultural Geography*. Bruce Ralston serves on the Board of Directors of both the *Microcomputer* and *Transportation* Specialty Groups of the AAG. John Rehder is Director of the Mid-South Region of the Am. Soc. of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) and is a member of the Nat. Board of Directors of the ASPRS.

## VIRGINIA

**LAURENCE W. CARSTENSEN, JR.**, Virginia Polytechnic and State University

The status of geographic education in Virginia has gone up and down; happily (unlike last year), a bit more up than down.

Many schools teach geography, but few have programs, fewer have majors or full time faculty, and the quality of geographic education in secondary schools is poor. **Mary Washington College** has a strong, nationally recognized undergraduate program, but the state's flagship institution, **UVA**, and its most famous college, **William and Mary**, lack geography departments. On the brighter side, some programs are expanding, with one new major in the works at **Virginia Commonwealth University** and an effort at a community college to enhance and expand offerings!

**Schwendemann's Directory** shows only 18 schools that offer geography courses, but many of them offer degrees. For 1997-98, Schwendemann's notes enrollments of 9,739 (down from 10,303 in 1996-97), with 53 full-time faculty, but this only scratches the surface. The State Council for Higher Education in Virginia (SCHEV) lists 40 schools that taught at least one geography course. Total enrollments in the SCHEV report were 12,556 in 1997-98, up from 10,378 in 1996-97.

At private schools, there were two full-time faculty in 1997-1998, both at **Emory and Henry College** which had a very positive outlook regarding geography, but was the only geography department in this group. At other private schools, geography is taught primarily by part-time adjunct faculty to support teacher-education programs. Many institutions in this group have only one or two courses per year, with exceptions at **Emory and Henry** (16), **Averett** (7), and **Liberty** (6).

At two-year schools, there is limited activity and there is limited supported for attempts to enroll geography students. Seven courses are approved for the Virginia Community College System (including physical, cultural, world regional, economic, and political geography), although not all programs offer these courses. Larry Snider of **Thomas Nelson Community College** (Hampton area) has a plan to increase offerings to 7 courses per year by the year 2000.

At four-year colleges and universities geography is both growing and fading. At the **College of William and Mary**, Dr. Brian Blouet teaches geography through the *department of government* and helps with the *Virginia Geographic Alliance*.

At **Christopher Newport University** a new faculty member with primary teaching duties in Policy Studies will teach a GIS course for the geography program. **Longwood College** added a second faculty member and will soon add a third. **Virginia**

**Commonwealth University** is working to establish a new program. **Mary Washington College** lost several faculty to illness and retirements, but introduced two new courses this year, and have integrated new technologies, including GIS. They teach many general education students and have more than 80 majors. At **Old Dominion University**, the department of *political science and geography* is well respected, brings in grants, and remains active in oceanography and remote sensing. Their students find work primarily as planners, GIS experts and consultants. **Radford University** remains active and vital on campus with a large number of projects, publications, grants, and a co-coordinator of the *Virginia Geographic Alliance*. **Virginia Tech** offers an M.S. degree. Last year, five faculty received research, equipment, and teaching awards totaling over \$867,000, and five books and seven articles were published or accepted.

In summary, the widespread teaching of geography is notable with about 40 campuses providing course work. Success is indicated by a planned major at **VCU**, growth in faculty members at **Longwood College**, continued strength despite a large turnover at **Mary Washington College**, and continued research at many of the schools that offer degrees.

## WEST VIRGINIA

GEORGE TOWERS, Concord College

Three West Virginia institutions of higher education offer programs in geography: **West Virginia University**, **Marshall University**, and **Concord College**. **Bluefield State College**, **Fairmont State College**, **Glenville State College**, **Shepherd College**, and **West Liberty State College** employ full-time geography faculty. Geography courses are also offered at the remainder of West Virginia colleges and universities.

**West Virginia University** has 10 full-time geography faculty. The department offers the B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees in geography, and has 65 undergraduate majors, a new Gamma Theta Upsilon chapter, and 40 graduate students including the first wave of doctoral students in the new Ph.D. program. Research grants in

the department include Professors Weiner and Harris' NSF grant to address rural land issues in South Africa using GIS; and Professor Warner's NSF grant to use remote sensing to study West Virginia's biogeography and a grant from the *U.S. Dept. of Education* and the *European Union* to develop an international curriculum in remote sensing. The department also operates the *West Virginia GIS Technical Center* which provides GIS services and training for the state.

Duane Nellis joined WVU as *Dean of the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences* and participates in the geography program.

**Marshall University** has six full-time geography faculty. The Department offers B.A. and M.A. degrees, has 40 undergraduate majors and 20 master's students, and is expanding its curriculum with a medical geography program in collaboration with the medical school. The department is also acquiring new GIS equipment, expanding GIS offerings, and adding concentrations in planning and Appalachian studies. **Christa Smith**, who will receive the Ph.D. from the **UT Knoxville**, has joined the Marshall geography faculty this year.

**Concord College** has three full time geography faculty, offers a B.A. in geography, and has 30 majors. Professor Westerik sponsors Concord's GTU chapter. Professor Manzo is co-coordinator of the *West Virginia Geographic Alliance* which promotes geographic education and opportunities for K-12 teachers, undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty. The faculty operate a GIS/computer cartography laboratory and plan to add an environmental science laboratory in 1999.

**West Liberty State College** has two full-time geography faculty, offering approximately 20 geography classes each year. They plan to add a new geography faculty position in the fall of 1999, and Professor Williams recently returned from a group Fulbright to Costa Rica.

**Fairmont State College** also has two full-time geography faculty and offers approximately 20 geography classes each year.

**Bluefield State College**, **Glenville State College**, and **Shepherd College** each support one full-time geographer and offer between eight and ten geography classes each year.

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## MINUTES OF THE 1998 SEDAAG BUSINESS MEETING

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### Fifty-Third Meeting, Memphis, Tennessee November 24th, 1998

The annual business meeting was called to order by SEDAAG President, Kavita Pandit, at 10:20 am. The business meeting was held in the Venetian Room of the Peabody Hotel, Memphis, Tennessee, on November 24, 1998. In addition to President Pandit, Past President Susan Brooker-Gross, Regional Councillor Betsy Pyle, Vice President Tyrel Moore, Treasurer John Winberry, and Secretary Jerry Webster were in attendance. Additionally, AAG President Will Graf and AAG Executive Director Ron Abler were present. Approximately 40 SEDAAG members were in attendance.

- (1) **Approval of the Agenda.** The business meeting agenda was approved unanimously.
- (2) **Approval of 1997 Business Meeting Minutes.** The 1997

business meeting minutes from the Birmingham, Alabama, SEDAAG meeting were approved unanimously.

- (3) **Necrology.** No deaths of faculty, staff or students in the Division were reported

- (4) **Introduction of New Officers.**

Regional Councillor: J. Dennis Lord

Vice President: Ron Mitchelson

Secretary: Allan James

State Representatives: David Leigh (Georgia), Douglas Gamble (Mississippi), Keith Debbage (North Carolina), John Kupfer (Tennessee), and Dawn Bowen (Virginia).

President Kavita Pandit welcomed the new officers, and thanked the outgoing officers for their efforts on behalf of SEDAAG. These included Betsy Pyle, Tyrel Moore, Jerry Webster, Andrew Herod, Ronald Snow, Altha Cravey, Tom Bell, and Laurence Carstensen.

President Pandit also thanked the members of the

Nominations Committee (Julian Minghi, Roberta Webster, and Paul Knapp) and Tellers Committee (Joann Mossa, Ronald Mitchelson and Steve Walsh).

(5) **President's Report.** President Kavita Pandit reported on the events of the past year and several discussions emanating from the Executive Committee and Steering Committee meetings. These included the following:

- a) SEDAAG is providing ten \$200 awards to student members attending the AAG meetings in Hawaii who did not receive similar funding from the AAG.
- b) The Steering Committee voted to provide \$150 each to the four members of SEDAAG's World Geography Bowl team for their travel to the AAG meetings in Hawaii.
- c) The Steering Committee formally created the position of SEDAAG Webmaster. Bill Carstensen at Virginia Tech has agreed to serve the Division in that capacity. SEDAAG members are encouraged to contact Bill about having their department's and program's web pages linked to the site.
- d) Pandit noted that the Steering Committee had discussed making the deadline for paper and poster submissions for the annual meeting program a few days earlier due to their increasing number and the short time available for Program Committee evaluation.
- e) Pandit also noted that the Steering Committee discussed non-SEDAAG members and their participation at the annual meeting. It was the consensus of the Steering Committee that non-SEDAAG members should be encouraged to participate but not required to join SEDAAG if they resided in another Division of the AAG.
- f) Finally, Pandit reported on Steering Committee plans to reorganize Student Honors procedures due to their growing costs and associated scheduling problems. To make the Student Honors truly "honors" sessions, all submissions will be reviewed by the Honors Committee and divided into three categories: 1) a maximum of ten papers to be included in the honors competition in no more than two sessions; 2) papers not in the honors competition but of sufficient quality to be placed in regular sessions with the consent of the author, and 3) papers that should be rejected. The Honors Committee will forward their evaluations to the Program Chair to execute the appropriate action.

(6) **Vice President's Report.** Vice President and Program Committee Chair, Tink Moore, reported that the Program Committee had received 123 submissions, a very substantial increase over 1997. Included in this number were 114 papers, above the previous record of 106 set at the Athens, Georgia, meeting, and substantially above the 82 papers submitted for the 1997 meeting in Birmingham, Alabama. Four of the papers were rejected by the Program Committee. Nine posters were submitted and accepted for the program.

The Honors Committee reviewed 21 papers for the Student Honors sessions with three being removed from the competition and placed elsewhere in the program. Three undergraduate papers were submitted and placed in the Gamma Theta Upsilon session. In total, when discussants and panelists were included with presenters, approximately 200 individuals participated in the meeting. Due to the number of participants, there were 28

sessions with as many as five running concurrently during two-hour time blocks.

The World Geography Bowl competition continued to draw large numbers of students including the 70 directly involved in the competition. Moore estimated that it is likely an additional 40-50 students attended the meeting in part due to the competition. He noted with some enthusiasm that the faculty "Dream Team" had soundly "trounced" a WGB student all-star team in advance of the final round of the competition.

Moore stated that his term as Vice President was concluding and thanked the membership and elected officers of SEDAAG for their support during his two-year term.

(7) **1998 Honors and Nominating Committee Elections.** The nominees were as follows:

1) Nominating Committee (elect 3):

Charles Aiken, Altha Cravey, Walter Martin, Joann Mossa, Joe Nicholas, David Weaver. The candidate with the highest vote total is chair for the 1999 Committee.

2) Honors Committee (elect 4):

David Greenland, Greg Jeane, Richard Matthews, Vernon Meentemeyer, Susan Walcott, Scott Samson, Jonathan Leib. The candidate with the highest vote total is chair-elect for the 2000 Committee.

The elected **Nominating Committee** includes David Weaver (Chair for 1999), Charles Aiken, and Joann Mossa. The 1999 **Honors Committee** will be chaired by Luoheng Han from the 1998 Committee, and include newly elected members Jonathan Leib, Greg Jeane, Vernon Meentemeyer, and Susan Walcott (Chair-elect for 2000).

(8) **Future Meeting Sites.** The 1999 SEDAAG Meeting will be held in Tampa, Florida. The 2000 SEDAAG meeting will be held in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. At present, no invitation has been extended for the 2001 meeting although the possible sites of Lexington, Kentucky, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and Tallahassee, Florida, were discussed. A site in Virginia near Virginia Tech was discussed for the 2002 meeting.

(9) **Treasurer's Membership and Financial Reports.** Treasurer John Winberry reported that receipts during the past year totaled \$20,471 with the largest source being membership dues (\$12,515). Receipts from subscriptions to the *Southeastern Geographer* totaled \$6,195. Additionally the Birmingham SEDAAG meeting netted \$920, and the AAG's allocation to the Division was \$660.

Disbursements during the past year totaled \$17,814 with the bulk of expenditures supporting the Division's publications. In addition to the \$11,774 spent to support the *Southeastern Geographer*, outlays for the SEDAAG *Newsletter* totaled \$3,016. The third largest outlay was \$700 for the Student Honors Awards. Receipts over disbursements totaled \$2,657.08 with the Division's balance of operating funds being \$12,028. The SEDAAG reserve account now totals \$8,395, and the Division's endowment account \$23,665. The endowment account increased by nearly \$1,800 due to member contributions (\$1,094) and interest (\$705). As of October 31, 1998, SEDAAG's total assets stood at \$44,088.22.

Treasurer John Winberry stated that membership stood at 549 with over 91% in good standing. He further noted that membership has been fairly consistent though it has declined since a significant spike in members in 1995. He also pointed

out that the Division has a number of retired members (32 in 1998) who have chosen to remain active in SEDAAG.

(10) **Audit Committee Report.** Carol Harden, Chair of the Audit Committee, reported that the Division's balance sheet data is "just fine."

(11) **Endowment Committee Report.** Endowment Committee Chair Tom Bell noted that the endowment fund is rapidly approaching the \$25,000 threshold set for initial use of the fund's interest. This continued growth is due to the "rounding-up" by members when paying their annual dues in addition to the interest accruing to the fund's balance. Tom stated that a summer 1998 SEDAAG *Newsletter* column request for suggestions on how the endowment fund might be used resulted in 4-5 ideas being forwarded to the committee. For example, he received one suggestion that the money be used to identify geographers in small departments and colleges to encourage their association with SEDAAG. The committee's deliberations over these ideas resulted in a decision to seek additional ideas on appropriate uses for the fund and not to expend any money this coming year.

(12) **Report of Secretary and Newsletter Editor.** Jerry Webster reported that he had published and distributed two issues of the SEDAAG *Newsletter* in the preceding year. Due to the graduation of Melinda Timmerman, Lindsay Ezell ably acted as "Production Assistant" of the summer newsletter.

The Spring *Newsletter* was 20 pages in length while the Summer issue was 12 pages long. A total of 650 copies of both issues were printed. Approximately 530 copies were distributed to SEDAAG members. In addition 50-75 copies were provided to Treasurer John Winberry for distribution to new members, and copies were sent to all AAG officers including National and Regional Councillors.

The Spring issue included a nominations card for new SEDAAG officers. Additionally, a separate mailing of nominations cards was undertaken to all AAG members living in SEDAAG states who are not members of SEDAAG for the office of Regional Councillor. Mailing lists of AAG members residing in SEDAAG states and SEDAAG members were compared for this purpose. There are approximately 700 members of the AAG residing in SEDAAG states who are not members of SEDAAG. Nominations cards were returned to Julian Minghi, Chair of the Nominations Committee.

The Summer *Newsletter* included a ballot for the election of new SEDAAG officers. A separate mailing to AAG members not members of SEDAAG for the election of a new Regional Councillor was undertaken using the procedure noted above. All ballots were returned to Joann Mossa, Chair of the Tellers Committee.

Total costs for the production and mailing of two issues of the *Newsletter* were \$2,200.80; above the Editor's budget. This cost overrun was due to significant increases in the prices charged by the University of Alabama Printing Office. During his two-year term, costs for the *Newsletter* totaled \$3,786.98, or \$286.98 above that budgeted. The total costs for the Regional Councillor's election were \$314.86.

Webster also discussed the problems associated with sending the *Newsletter* using bulk mail. First, there are great disparities in the arrival times of the *Newsletter* around the Division, at times exceeding two weeks between the first and last reported delivery. Second, this past summer SEDAAG members in one department did not receive their summer issues at all. Jerry

proposed that a mass email to the SEDAAG membership be used to announce that the newsletters had been mailed.

Members not receiving their issues in two weeks could then request replacement issues. Jerry thanked the membership and elected officers of SEDAAG for their support during the past two years.

(13) **Report of the Editor of the Southeastern Geographer.** Jim Wheeler, Editor of the *Southeastern Geographer*, was unable to attend the annual meeting but supplied a report on the past year to President Kavita Pandit. Pandit noted that the Steering Committee had raised the budget for the *Southeastern Geographer* by \$1,000 per year. She also noted that Jim's term as editor will be ending soon and that the Division will likely need to identify a replacement. If so, candidates will have to be interviewed at the next meeting in Tampa and will need to construct a statement pertaining to their vision for the journal.

Finally, she noted that other Divisions have recently contacted Jim for guidance in upgrading their journals, a compliment to both the journal and Jim's editorship.

(14) **Nominations Committee.** Julian Minghi, Chair of the Nominations Committee, reviewed the procedure employed for identifying nominees. He further noted the unpredictability of using bulk mail for distributing the nominations cards and discussed the Regional Councillor election procedure. Julian also thanked the other members of the committee, Bobbi Webster and Paul Knapp, for their help. Finally, he noted that the procedures used by the Nominations Committee had been progressively improved during past years by Leo Zonn, Jan Kodras, and Jerry Webster.

(15) **World Geography Bowl Committee.** Neal Lineback, Chair of the World Geography Bowl Committee, reviewed the competition in Memphis. He announced that the North Carolina team had won over Alabama in a sudden-death, one-question round because the teams were tied after regulation play. He further noted that the faculty "Dream Team" had won in direct competition with the student "All-Star Team." He also stated that the World Geography Bowl Committee needed additional members. Finally, Lineback announced that SEDAAG State Representatives would make the decision about their state's team coach in the future.

(16) **Regional Councillor's Report.** Regional Councillor Lizbeth Pyle reported that she attended AAG Council meetings in Boston and Flagstaff in 1998. Her report had brief comments on a variety of topics (see complete text earlier in this issue).

First, there has been a slight decline in AAG membership. As a result, departmental chairs are being asked to identify membership coordinators in their departments.

Second, the AAG's top dues category of \$60,000 and above has been divided into three ranges: \$60,000 to \$75,000, \$75,000 to \$100,000 and \$100,000 and above.

Third, the AAG is providing \$200 travel grants to 235 students for attendance at the Honolulu meeting.

Fourth, the AAG has decided to discontinue its resource publication series. Pyle also noted that the structure of the *Annals* and the *Professional Geographer* are to be modified. She stated that members should pass their opinions of this restructuring to Will Graf.

Fifth, a Statement of Professional Ethics had been passed by Council that is somewhat modified from one that appeared in a recent issue of the AAG *Newsletter*.

Sixth, in her visits to other divisions Pyle has noticed that a number of awards are funded by endowments. She suggested that we plant the idea among SEDAAG members with the available means to establish such endowments.

Seventh, there are a number of AAG standing committees with vacancies. Pyle encouraged SEDAAG members to volunteer for service on these committees.

Finally, she thanked the Division for allowing her to serve SEDAAG.

**(17) Remarks by Representatives of Other Geographical Organizations.** No remarks were made.

**(18) Remarks by the President of the AAG.** President Will Graf discussed two major issues: the discipline's national health and the AAG's discussions over restructuring the organization's publications.

In terms of the national health of geography, President Graf noted that the discipline "is on the upswing like never before."

The Geographic Alliances are having positive impacts on the inclusion of geography in K-12 curricula. The number of geography majors graduating is larger than ever before, and Masters-level geography students are being hired before they can complete their degrees. These trends are due to increases in demand for GIS expertise as well as other skills. The production of new Ph.D.s in geography continues to approximate the level of new position creation, a positive ratio given the current experiences of other disciplines. The National Academy of Sciences has appointed an advisor on the importance of a geographic perspective. In spite of these positive developments, President Graf noted that the discipline could do far more to effectively impact decision-makers.

President Graf then turned his attention to the issue of restructuring AAG publications. He noted that the AAG has multiple functions including providing visibility for the discipline in Washington, D.C., serving the members of the Association, and providing a venue for publishing geographic research in the Association's publications. He further noted that he had run for Vice President of the AAG on a platform to evaluate the organization's publications. He stated that the AAG's publications needed to reflect both the best research and breadth of the discipline.

In terms of his comments on AAG publications, President Graf noted that all AAG publications are linked together and changes in one would impact the others. He made a number of observations with respect to the current structure of the *Annals*. First, the page size limits the appropriateness of the journal as an outlet for some technical research (e.g., remote sensing). In response he stated the page size of the journal should be larger. Second, the typical page length of articles in the *Annals* limited its appropriateness for physical geographers who typically publish shorter articles. To address this limitation he stated that the *Annals* should publish a mix of short- and moderate-length articles in addition to its traditional focus on longer manuscripts. President Graf stated that the Council had voted to merge the *Annals* and *Professional Geographer* into a single journal with a larger page size that publishes a mix of articles in terms of length, and which appears six times per year. Due to "second thoughts" on the part of many, Will stated that the AAG would survey 20% of the membership about the merger. He further encouraged members not receiving surveys to forward to him their opinions. President Graf stated that the Council will not

complete the merger without confirmation of the plan by the membership. He cautioned that this discussion was not about the current editors of the two journals and that it is not the job of the Council to critique the performance of the editors.

Using two examples, President Graf made a plea for the discipline's broad specializations to operate together in a harmonious fashion. He suggested physical geographers needed to be more active in their rates of submission to the AAG's publications. He also commented on the role of critique among social theorists and asked that they consider their role and connections to the broader discipline.

**(18) Remarks by the Executive Director of the AAG.** Ron Abler, Executive Director of the Association of American Geographers, first thanked SEDAAG for its hospitality. He then noted that the 1999 annual meeting in Honolulu is significantly larger than earlier estimated with over 2,200 abstracts submitted and approximately 3,500 members expecting to attend. Due to the number of participants, a modified schedule will be used with papers beginning at 7:00 a.m. Abler discussed the problems associated with the growing size of the annual meeting including the scheduling of sessions.

He further announced that the 2001 meeting would likely be in New York City. If so, the meeting will be earlier than usual occurring in either late February or early March. Denver or Los Angeles are probable sites for the 2002 meeting, with New Orleans likely for the 2003 meeting. The 2004 meeting is set for mid-March in Philadelphia.

In other comments, Executive Director Abler discussed the AAG's travel awards to students to attend the Honolulu meeting. He also noted that the mortgage on the AAG's building was paid off this past March.

Alluding to President Graf's earlier remarks, Abler noted that the professional meetings of the Institute of British Geographers and Canadian Association of Geographers are overwhelmingly comprised of human geographers with few physical or techniques geographers participating. He hoped that the AAG would be able to avoid that division.

**(19) Resolutions Committee.** Paul Knapp delivered the following from the Resolutions Committee:

- 1) Be it resolved that by this action, the Division thanks *all* participants, *especially* student participants and new members, for their time, commitment, and efforts in making this a successful conference; whereas the 53rd meeting of SEDAAG has provided opportunities to share research and ideas, and build and renew collegial relationships,
- 2) Be it resolved that by this action, the Division wishes to thank members of the SEDAAG Executive Committee, Steering Committee, Local Arrangements Committee, and Program Committee for their hard work and commitment in making this a successful and enjoyable conference. Special thanks are extended to the co-chairs of the Local Arrangements Committee (Skeeter Dixon, John Kupfer and Ted Mealor), the Program Chair (Tyrel "Tink" Moore), and to SEDAAG President Kavita Pandit for their efforts.
- 3) In addition we would like to thank the authors, panelists, discussants, session chairs, and field trip leaders for their contributions to the conference program.
- 4) Be it resolved that the Secretary of the Southeastern Division sends special thanks to the following persons:
  - A) Howard Johnson, Chair of the Honors Committee, and

members of the Honors Committee for their work in evaluating graduate student papers in the Honors Competition and their work in selecting recipients of our special SEDAAG Awards;

- B) Neal Lineback and Thomas Deaton for their continued coordination and participation in this year's World Geography Bowl competition;
- C) Kip Lornell for giving the keynote address;
- D) Will Graf, current President of the Association of American Geographers, for his participation in our regional meeting, including his forthcoming honors luncheon address.
- E) And Ron Abler, Executive Director of the Association of American Geographers, for his participation in these regional meetings.

Let's show our appreciation with a big round of applause.

Respectfully submitted, SEDAAG Resolutions Committee, Paul A. Knapp, Dawn Bowen, and Tom Howard.

(20) **Invitation to the 1999 Meeting in Tampa.** Tracy Newsome officially invited the membership of SEDAAG to the 1999 meeting in Tampa, Florida.

(21) **Adjournment.** There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Gerald R. Webster, University of Alabama, Secretary, SEDAAG

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## NOTES FROM THE NEW EDITOR

It's been fun putting this newsletter together. I've taken a few liberties in formatting and reordering various sections, but for the most part I've tried to adhere to time-honored traditions. I know of no way to get to know this organization better than to go through this exercise.

Please submit announcements and information that you consider relevant for the SEDAAG Newsletter. The deadline for materials for the Summer Edition of the Newsletter is July 25, 1999. Early submission of items is encouraged so that I can estimate our printing needs. The number of pages in each Newsletter must be a multiple of four (e.g. 8, 12, 16) due to mechanics of printing. If possible, send submissions by email or on floppy disk so they will be in digital form. Microsoft Word, WordPerfect, or simple ASCII (DOS) files are all ok.

I thank all the contributors and those who helped me learn the ropes, including Kavita Pandit, John Winberry, Julian Minghi, C.P. Lo, and *especially* Jerry Webster, who has mastered not only how to get information into the newsletter, but also, the nuances of how SEDAAG works. Allen Bushong and John Winberry helped considerably by proofing an early draft but I take full responsibility for any editorial glitches.

Thanks, Allan James, AJames@Garnet.cla.sc.edu

## **Volunteers for The SEEDAAG Tampa Meeting**

I will: ( ) Chair a Session; ( ) Discuss a Paper; ( ) Chair and Discuss at the November 21-23, 1999

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number, E-mail, Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form to -

Prior to July 15 postmark:

Ron Mitchelson, Program Chair  
Institute for Regional Analysis and Public Policy  
350 Rader Hall, Morehead State Univ.  
Morehead, KY 40351

After July 15 postmark:

Ron Mitchelson, Program Chair  
Geography Dept., 227A Brewster Bldg.  
East Carolina Univ.  
Greenville, NC 27858

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### **SEDAAG Membership Application Spring, 1999**

Please check one: New Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Membership Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please note that these dues have been updated. They were mislisted on the original newsletter.)

Membership category: Regular (\$25) \_\_\_\_\_ Retired (\$12.50) \_\_\_\_\_ Couples (\$26) \_\_\_\_\_

Student (\$12.50) \_\_\_\_\_ If student please complete these items:

This applicant is a full-time student at \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Endowment Fund contribution: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

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