

SWAAG Newsletter

Volume 27 – Summer/Fall 2022

The Southwestern Division of the American Association of Geographers

Editor/Secretary: Andy Hilburn - TAMIU



Introduction

Welcome to the 27th issue of our SWAAG Newsletter. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the tentative nature of conferences during the past few years, this issue is the first to arrive since 2019. Within this issue we've got some exciting news from our chair, regional councilor, and AAG staff. This iteration also features a warm welcome to our next meeting in Fayetteville and a dutiful recap of SWAAG OKC. As the education of the next generation of geographers remains central to our mission, you'll also take interest in the exemplary achievements of our student members. Lastly, we round out this issue with news from the member departments and the stats, data, and info on the state of the division that you all await with bated breath every year. Sit back and scroll through! See you in Fayetteville, Arkansas!



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SWAAG Chair's Column

Erik Prout, SWAAG Chair
Texas A&M University

Hello Southwestern Geographers,

My term as Chair has coincided with a global pandemic, so I guess I am blessed with that adage of living in interesting times. I begin with that because it's not possible to separate my thoughts and reflections on SWAAG as Chair without the obvious context of what we've all been living with: uncertainty and mortality. I know I feel fortunate that my contact list didn't get smaller even though others experienced deep and profound loss. I'll count myself as doubly blessed that my geographical training was more useful to understanding the pandemic than I could have imagined when I chose geography as a major. Moreover, geographers should be proud of their contributions—small and large, for example, visualization techniques that are common in major news publications. Of course, thanks to everyone who could keep on contributing to geographical knowledge and to the geography community by teaching, researching, mentoring, and becoming geography students. Oh, did I mention that SWAAG won the annual Geo-Bowl; bragging rights to the Southwest!

As a group SWAAG returned to meeting in person last year in Oklahoma City after skipping a year with a virtual meeting. It felt great to see friends again, and to watch and feel the energy of our students interacting, exchanging ideas, and just trying to figure out the new normal with us. We returned to regular business meetings, student competitions, and elections; welcome to Andy, Randy, Andrew, and Danya to the Executive, and thank you to Jennifer, Kory, Daniel, and Nazla for their service. Evidence of a return to normality include Andy preparing this Newsletter and Randy organizing the Summer Research Awards. Our next annual meeting is scheduled for Fayetteville, Arkansas on October 27-28; we have the incoming AAG President scheduled



for one of the special sessions. Look forward to seeing everyone. I want to thank John Tiefenbacher for serving as Chief Editor for Southwestern Geographer all these years. We owe John a debt of gratitude. It goes without saying, one of our agenda items at our next business meeting will be the future of Southwestern Geographer.

Lastly, I want to convey a positive trend in the AAG that really could be great for SWAAG. During the years I've been on the Executive, the AAG has made a concerted effort to promote and support the Regional Divisions. Starting with a task force, we identified some of the difficulties in attracting new leaders, hosting regional meetings, and overall financial health of the divisions. The AAG Council has dedicated various funds for the regions, created a President's cabinet with regional divisions (chair/presidents) members, and enhancing our abilities to support and reward student research. All great things. Ironically, as the pandemic forced the AAG to go virtual for two years running, their improved website and conference capabilities opened the door for them to support the regional divisions with the same. As you will experience again this year, the registration, abstract submissions, and even the student competitions are integrated into their online conference support. Thank you to the AAG officers that focused the association's attention to the regional divisions.

See you in Fayetteville,

Erik Prout, SWAAG Chair



Message from Regional Councilor

Colleen Myles (w/Andy Hilburn)
Texas State University - AAG Regional Councilor for SWAAG

Hello Southwestern Geographers!

AAG Council met in Washington DC from April 25-26. This was the first in-person meeting in two years. Some topics of discussion and perhaps items of interest focused on the future of the AAG. Monday involved strategic planning to identify and focus on priorities for the AAG and Tuesday was a Council Meeting.

On Tuesday, the panel interviewed candidates for the editor position of GeoHumanities. Importantly, we updated AAG Bylaws to reflect the findings of our governance audit and recommendations. We also worked on a policy manual to clarify the roles and responsibilities of AAG officers. We further discussed the next steps in the JEDI framework and plans for the hire of an AAG Diversity & Inclusion staff member.

To mitigate our members' own impacts regarding carbon and resource use for conferences and AAG-related activities, we considered future meeting plans with input from the Climate Forward Task Force.

Important to note: the 2023 Annual Meeting in Denver will be hybrid. There will be multiple modalities and new ways to participate using "Watch Parties" (a new way to engage with the

meeting actively or passively).

Get ready for island breezes because the 2024 meeting will be in Honolulu, Hawaii. The AAG Council is also working on bringing climate change and carbon footprints to the forefront of the planning for that meeting, including additional options for remote participation.

Lastly, we agreed to make the International Councilor position a regular 3-year voting member on the Council.

Best,

Colleen Myles, AAG Regional Councilor



Scan the QR Code to access more content on the AAG's shared governance, rules, bylaws, strategic plans, and other information.



AAG

Texas State University - San Marcos, TX



Message from AAG Community Manager

Emily Fekete and other AAG staff
AAG Community Manager

Greetings from Meridian Place!

The American Association of Geographers (AAG) staff have been spending the summer months preparing for the activities of the upcoming fiscal year, especially the 2023 AAG Annual Meeting, several grants and awards programs, and Geography Awareness Week.

All of the AAG staff are particularly excited to announce that registration and the call for papers have opened for the 2023 AAG Annual Meeting! The meeting will be held March 23-27 and will have options for both in-person attendance in Denver, CO and virtual attendance. The SWAAG region was a big help to the AAG during the 2021 SWAAG meeting in Oklahoma City, as AAG tested some new meeting options that will be available in 2023. The AAG 2023 meeting will be a hybrid meeting, meaning that the Presidential Plenary and other high-profile sessions will be streamed live for all participants, and some sessions will accommodate both in-person and virtual presenters. Most other sessions will be designated either virtual or in-person. We invite you to organize and get involved in sessions, workshops, field trips, special events, and activities.

AAG would also like to remind members of upcoming deadlines for a variety of grants and awards. More information is posted to the new AAG website. Of particular note for regional divisions is the 2023 AAG Award for Associates Program Excellence. Regional divisions and departments can nominate 2-year programs for recognition by September 30. Please also consider nominating outstanding colleagues for the AAG Honors, the highest awards offered by the American Association of Geographers, and the AAG Fellows, a program to recognize geographers who have made significant contributions to advancing geography. New graduates may also submit their recently completed dissertations for consideration for the annual J. Warren Nystrom Award by September 22. Other grants and awards deadlines can be found on the AAG Awards and Grants calendar.

Lastly, the theme AAG has chosen for the 35th Geography Awareness Week (November 14-18) is World of Possibilities: Geographers at Work. This theme aims to celebrate the vast career possibilities for geographers and showcase the work geographers do in strikingly diverse areas. We love seeing all of the activities that geography departments do throughout GeoWeek. Please feel free to share your department's Geography Awareness Week plans with the AAG at helloworld@aag.org



Scan this QR code to learn more about AAG Communities



Scan this QR code to access information on AAG's grants and awards

Meridian Place in DC - Home of the AAG



SWAAG Annual Meeting 2022 - Fayetteville, Arkansas

Edward Holland (w/Andy Hilburn)
U of Ark - 2022 SWAAG Host

The Department of Geosciences at the University of Arkansas is pleased to host the 2022 SWAAG regional meeting, October 27-29, at the newly remodeled Fayetteville Public Library.

Returning to Northwest Arkansas for the first time in nearly two decades, the meeting will be an outstanding opportunity to catch up with colleagues and to interact with students and faculty from around the region. Undergraduate and graduate students are particularly encouraged to attend--the venue has been selected with an eye towards keeping costs low--and the conference will feature student paper and poster competitions with both graduate and undergraduate categories as well as the GeoBowl.

On Saturday, we anticipate offering field trips to Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art and Devil's Den State Park. Any questions about the conference can be directed to Dr. Edward Holland (echollan@uark.edu), who is serving as the local liaison for the conference. We hope to see you in Fayetteville in October!



Fayetteville Public Library



Downtown Fayetteville



Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art



Devil's Den State Park

Fayetteville, AR - Home of the University of Arkansas and SWAAG 2022



Recap from the 2021 Annual Meeting in Oklahoma City, OK

Andy Hilburn and Darren Purcell
SWAAG Treasurer and SWAAG 2021 Host

The 2021 Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Division of the American Association of Geographers came back in 2021 from a year's hiatus due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Unlike the recurring surges and waves of the Sars-Cov-2 virus, the Oklahoma City SWAAG meeting was a welcomed event for those who attended in person and virtually. The meeting, which took place at the Downtown OKC Sheraton from the evening of Wednesday, October 13 to the Saturday morning field trips on the 16th, was an undeniable success for Oklahoma State University and the University of Oklahoma, the two host institutions for this meeting.

The meeting featured a blend of in-person and virtual paper and poster sessions, all of which went off without any substantive hitches. In spite of numerous last-minute cancellations, postponements, and deferrals of academic conferences across fields and within geography during the past two years, the quantity AND quality of the papers given at SWAAG OKC were impressive. If someone six months prior would have said there would be 56 papers spread across 12 paper sessions, 31 posters across five poster sessions, and two keynote speakers, you'd have been wise not to believe them. The SWAAG meeting was incredibly fortunate to have such an impressive lineup as it did. Furthermore, ALL members owe a debt of gratitude and appreciation to our student members, who, truth be told, were instrumental in the success of the event. Their papers and posters served as the core scholarship for the meeting. It was truly impressive to see how much SWAAG student geographers and their engaging research stepped up to the forefront of the conference's marquee. Future consideration of student membership's key role in our organization needs to be acknowledged at the next business meeting. You've always been right about that, Bill!

The mixer, luncheon, and banquet were all lively and fun events. The luncheon's keynote speaker, Hans Butzer, Dean of the OU Gibbs Col-

lege of Architecture (and son of longtime SWAAG member and UT Professor Karl Butzer) wowed the attendees with a keynote address. Dean Butzer's address bridged the link between a geographer's appreciation of landscapes via an architect's mandate to produce a structure or development. The synthesis of the geography-architecture thesis were the case examples of the Oklahoma City Memorial and the Canadian River waterfront, two projects for which Butzer, his wife and partner, and firm were integral in designing and bringing to realization.

Geobowl (see next section) was its usual, lively self. Considering the high number of student SWAAG members at the event, there were enough teams for a handful of rounds and a very-well attended finale.

The awards banquet capped the meeting. Befitting its location in Oklahoma, Dr. Brian Hosmer, Chair of the OSU History Department, treated attendees to an excellent keynote presentation on the persistence of indigenous territoriality amid the State of Oklahoma's shifts regarding recognition and erasure. It was an engaging and sobering lecture that aptly contextualized settler-indigenous dynamics at local, regional, and global scales. Attendees also had the opportunity to screen Dr. Laurel Smith's (OU Geography) and Loren Waters's (Cherokee and Kiowa Tribes) wonderful film, "Restoring Neske'emane".

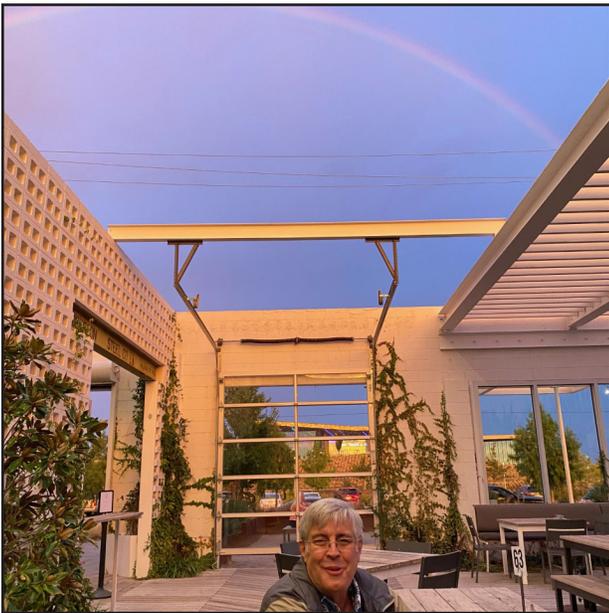
The in-person attendees were treated to the proverbial "Chamber of Commerce" weather of sunny skies and cool(ish) temperatures of fall in the Southern Plains. Lastly, after years of being cooped up in our homes, teaching via online portals, and seeing the tragedy of the pandemic unfold before us, SWAAG OKC allowed attendees the opportunity to not only witness thought-provoking and



inspiring scholarship but reconnect with old friends and colleagues.

Field trips included a Saturday morning walking tour of The Oklahoma City National Bombing Museum and Memorial as well as one to the Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum which included stops at Route 66 icons such as The Round Barn, and Pops, a one-of-a-kind burger joint with colas and carbonated drinks from around the country.

A seemingly random hodgepodge of photos of the events are below.



SWAAG 2021

McNeese State University - Lake Charles, LA



SWAAG Geobowl: Intense Regional Competition and AAG Domination!

Randy Pepler (w/ Andy Hilburn)
OU - SWAAG Treasurer

SWAAG Wins! Geo-Bowl returned to our in-person meeting in October 2021 at the Oklahoma City Sheraton. The new(ish) buzzers worked well and the novel dynamic of having student hosts-question readers expanded the involvement of students in our organization's activities. Competition was fierce yet convivial, After the dust settled from the first round, the team from the University of North Texas squared off against students from TSU in the finals. In the end, the UNT crew were triumphant, bringing the hard-fought hardware back to Denton. From across the ranks of all teams, faculty judges compiled an all star team from the competition's top scorers for the cross-divisional contest slated for the 2022 AAG Annual Meeting in New York City.

As the omicron variant surged and disrupted in-person plans for the 2022 AAG Meeting and Geobowl, the conference and competition successfully transitioned to a virtual format. Our SWAAG elite team, while spread out across the region, united through the interwebs and flexed their geographic muscle via the conference teleconference system. In a show of profound support, numerous Southwest Geographers silently cheered them on through the Zoom link. This support paid off nicely as team SWAAG advanced to the finals and prevailed over the tournament's high scorer—a one geographer trivia sensation. Teamwork wins and the GeoBowl title resides in the SWAAGosphere as a result.

Our SWAAG Team and AAG (and probably World) Champions
Walter Furness, Texas State University (captain); Blair Mirka, University of New Mexico; Daniel Beene, University of New Mexico; Andrew Adams, Texas State University; Elise Arellano-Thompson, Texas State University

If you are a student in SWAAG and have plans to attend the 2022 Meeting in Fayetteville, please consider competing. Faculty should encourage their students to participate. Geobowl is always a hit and a rewarding event that lends an air of collegial competition and fun to what would be a dry, stodgy professional meeting. Thanks go out to all of our question writers, judges, student hosts, and attendees. We hope to see you there at Fayetteville's iteration of this fun event.



The 2021 SWAAG Champs from UNT!



Furness Mirka Beene Adams Arellano-Thompson

YOUR 2022 AAG CHAMPIONS!!!

New Mexico State University - Las Cruces, NM



SWAAG Students: Leading Geography Forward

Andy Hilburn
TAMIU - SWAAG Secretary

SWAAG Student Officers

As SWAAG is a professional organization associated with geographic education, the voices of student geographers are essential to its tradition of shared governance. Befitting their' importance, SWAAG maintains student representatives that, according to bylaws, "solicit student input and report to the executive committee findings on SWAAG business" while assisting with student-related conference activities. Students looking to take part in a professional organization in addition to building their CV, should consider requesting nomination to serve as a student representative for the next election cycle.

For 2021-22, we are pleased to have Dayna Dominguez, a PhD student in Geography at New Mexico State University and Andrew Adams, a MA student at Texas State University. In their research, Dayna employs landscape ecology approaches in plant epidemiological applications while Andrew examines the role of academic institutions in mediating water resources amid diverse actors in political spaces hostile to discussions on addressing climate change..



Dayna Dominguez, SWAAG Student Officer
PhD Student, New Mexico State University



Andrew Adams, SWAAG Student Officer
MA Student, New Mexico State University

SWAAG Student Paper and Poster Award Winners

Another hallmark of SWAAG's support for students are its student research competitions held every year at the annual meeting. Besides doling out financial rewards for talented scholarship, these competitions provide an ideal forum for students across the division to meet, network, and share ideas. And to be honest, the quality of the research presented by the division's student geographers often exceeds that of its university faculty members. This past year's meeting in Oklahoma City showcased an impressive list of student paper and poster presenters. Congratulations go out to every single student who shared their research with us. The following page features the deserving winners and their research.

Texas A&M International University - Laredo, TX



SWAAG Student Paper and Poster Award Winners (cont.)

Graduate Student Paper Competition

1st Prize: Katherine Lester - University of North Texas - "From Rural Penalty to Suburban Resilience: Untangling the geography of suicide mortality, urbanization, and race/ethnicity."

2nd Prize: Zach Tabor - University of North Texas - "Big Game, Big Decisions, and Big Government: Comparing Chronic Wasting Disease and Feral Hog Management Strategies in Texas."

3rd Prize: Dolly Na-Yemeh - University of Oklahoma - "The Economic Value of the OK-First Program: an application of the Travel Cost Method."

Undergraduate Student Paper Competition

1st Prize: Paul Seminara - University of Central Arkansas - "Identify the Effects of Climatic and Socio-economic Variables on the Spread of COVID-19 in Arkansas"

2nd Prize: Jenna Randall - University of Oklahoma - "Broiling Point: An Explosion of Chicken Houses in Eastern Oklahoma"

3rd Prize: Robert Schaefer - Tarleton State University - "Unconventional Hydrocarbon Exploration Techniques"

Graduate Student Poster Competition

1st Prize: Madeline Wade - Tarleton State University - "Blue Index San Marcos: Assessing emotional experiences, patterns of use, and values of Waterscapes in San Marcos, Texas, USA"

2nd Prize: Chayanika Singh - Tarleton State University - "Cross Scape Examination of Spatial Disparity in Functional Health of Older Americans: A Case Study of Florida"

3rd Prize: Blair Mirka - University of New Mexico - "Evaluation of thermal infrared imaging from uninhabited aerial vehicles for arboreal wildlife surveillance"

Undergraduate Student Poster Competition

1st Prize: Madeline Crawford - University of North Texas - "Social Vulnerability and Septicemia in Texas Counties, 1980-2019"

2nd Prize: Sarah Seibold - Louisiana State University - "Rediscovery of a Plantation Cemetery at Louisiana State University"

3rd Prize: Ashley Green - University of North Texas - "Vernacular Rephotography in Texas Parks: Everyday Exploration of Place Past and Present"



SWAAG Student Summer Research Awards

Support for students remains at the core of what SWAAG does and represents. Augmenting financial support for student research helps continue that mission. Every year SWAAG allots funds for summer research through an open application process where SWAAG student members submit research proposals. These submissions are vetted along predetermined criteria by a panel of SWAAG faculty volunteers. The panel received many excellent applications this spring for proposed research for our summer 2022 fieldwork scholarship. Following assessment, judging, and ranking, we were able to award seven students with a monetary award of \$300 each. They are (in no ranked order):

Nathan Young - Texas A&M University - "Testing of a Selective Site Strategy used to Reduce Animal Habitat Fragmentation by Oil and Natural Gas Infrastructure in Southeastern New Mexico"

Andrews Korah - University of Oklahoma - "Using satellite observations to understand and project urban expansion dynamics of West Africa urban system"

Dan Tian - Louisiana State University - "Flood susceptibility mapping using convolutional neural networks"

Michele Zelenka - Texas State University - "New Urbanism, Gentrification, and Displacement"

Delorean Wiley - Texas State University - "Save Water, Drink Beer: The hybridity of Texas craft breweries and impacting water stewardship through participatory action research"

Marissa Greer - University of North Texas - "Renewable Energy in DFW: access, distribution, and equity"

Sumaiya Tul Siddique - Louisiana State University - "Effects of Longitudinal Training Wall (LTW) on Three-Dimensional Flow Structure, Sediment Transport, Bedform Morphology, and Bed Aggradation in Grand River, Michigan"

We would like to thank our judges Ted Holland (Arkansas), Matt Fry (North Texas), Ashley Coles (TCU), Jennifer Koch (Oklahoma), Erik Prout (Texas A&M), Andy Hilburn (Texas A&M International), and Randy Pepler (Oklahoma) for making some tough decisions! Lastly, thanks go to Bill Doolittle for his perennial requests to expand funding for students in all forms.

Please encourage any of your students to apply for the next round of these awards in Spring '23!

University of Central Arkansas - Conway, AR



SWAAG News - Dispatches from the Departments

Compiled from department/program chair submissions

Oklahoma State University

It has been an impressive year for our friends in Stillwater. Dr Alyson Greiner communicates the following to SWAAG

Programs and Certifications: After being located elsewhere on campus, the undergraduate Environmental Studies Certificate is now fittingly housed in the OSU Geography department.

Faculty Additions: Three new hires (see next section) and three retirements (also see next section).

Grants, awards, major findings:

Dr. Hamed Gholizadeh received a NASA New (Early Career) Investigator Program Award which supports his research, "Leveraging Multiscale Airborne and Spaceborne Imaging Spectroscopy to Monitor Grassland Plant Diversity Under Different Management Practices."

Dr. Jackie Vadjunec recently received a grant from the Oklahoma Water Resources Center to provide student training and enhanced educational opportunities on groundwater management and climate variability.

Dr. Hongbo Yu and collaborators from Vet Med have been awarded funding from the National Animal Health Laboratory Network to provide a mapping platform for animal disease detection and tracking.

Dr. Yuting Zhou is a co-PI on the NSF EPSCoR research project, "Socially Sustainable Solutions for Water, Carbon, and Infrastructure Resilience in Oklahoma."

Field Trips, new courses, notable events:

Generous support from ConocoPhillips enabled us to feature Dr. Diana Sinton (UCGIS and Cornell University) as our ConocoPhillips Geography Career Spotlight Speaker this spring.

Dr. Brad Bays gave a six-part webinar on Oklahoma's historic barns for the OK State Historic Preservation Office then he and his research were featured in a local news segment.

Having fun with scale, we caught a photo of her alongside one of our Transformers (see photo). Some new courses include Dr. Sheehan's, "Black Geographies & Memorialization in the Landscape," Dr. LaVanchy's "Global Water Resources: Sustainability and Justice," and Dr. Hu's "Health and Maps" course.

Notable Statistics:

We had a high of 7 majors qualify for and be invited to join Phi Beta Kappa, the oldest and most distinguished honor society in our country.

Oklahoma State University - Stillwater, OK



University of New Mexico

Exciting goings on abound in the ABQ. Dr Chris Duvall communicates the following to SWAAG

Programs and Certifications: For the world as a whole, 2020 was pretty lousy—but it was a year of great growth and expansion for our department. During spring and summer 2020, we welcomed **five** new faculty members, who have greatly expanded our capabilities, especially in human-environment geography. Also in summer 2020, we became the new home of UNM's interdisciplinary Sustainability Studies Program, which serves undergraduate students and works with a range of community groups, especially those involved in local food systems. We also inaugurated a new research center, the R.H. Mallory Center for Community Geography, which has quickly become a hub that connects faculty and students with community groups. In Fall 2020, we welcomed the first cohort of students into our New Mexico Doctoral Program in Geography, which we share with our colleagues at New Mexico State University. We've been fortunate to attract great students, and look forward to the third cohort to join us this fall. Such growth is inevitably challenging, but all of these changes happened when UNM was operating remotely, so add Zoom fatigue to the challenges our growth posed for us.

Faculty Additions: Five new hires! See above and next sections for details

Grants, awards, major findings:

Our faculty has been active in research, with several books and many articles appearing in the last few years. Our junior faculty have done well to stay productive despite the challenges of the pandemic. Some notable examples of research success include: Dr. Yan Lin received large grants from NIH and NSF as part of a team that is studying the human and environmental health impacts of uranium mining on the Navajo Reservation. Dr. Yolanda Lin won funding from the USGS to assess earthquake preparedness and response in the western U.S. Dr. Xi Gong deftly pivoted his research in 2020 to analyze COVID responses via geospatial analysis of social media. All of our faculty have active research agendas, so it's hard to single out just a few examples.

Field Trips, new courses, notable events:

We are eager to resume field trips after the last two years. In fall 2021, we held our first PhD program field trips, in which students spend several days on each of the two partner campuses (UNM and NMSU). We were unable to hold these trips in Fall 2020. In summer 2022, Dr. Marygold Walsh-Dilley re-started a study abroad program she has lead for several years to Ecuador, arriving just in time for students to witness the labor strikes that shut down the country. We anticipate new study abroad programs in 2023 and 2024, in Brazil, Mexico, and elsewhere. As for noteworthy courses, in fall 2020, the department offered a course on the COVID-19 pandemic, which was possibly the first course on the topic in the U.S. "

Notable Statistics:

We have a total of nine students now in our PhD program, and will add several more this fall. Like many universities, UNM has seen ups and downs in enrollment over the last several years. Our enrollments have been better than many departments on campus, and our number of students in AY21-22 was the highest since AY17-18. We are always seeking new geographers.

University of New Mexico - Albuquerque, NM



University of North Texas

The Mean Green appear to be rising above their apogee in Denton. Dr Steve Wolverton communicates the following to SWAAG

Programs and Certifications: UNT added a new degree, a Bachelors of Science in GIS + Computer Science in September 2021, which is designed to train top professionals in the GIS field from GIS IT management to project analytics and design. People can learn more at <https://geography.unt.edu/bachelors-science-gis-cs>

Faculty Additions: One new hire! One retirement. See next section for details.

Grants, awards, major findings:

Dr. Alexandra Ponette-González was named to the US EPA Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee and won multiple UNT awards this year;

Dr. Matt Fry and Dr. Lu Liang also won UNT awards for service and research.

Dr. Murray Rice received the 2022 Business Geography Distinguished Service Award from the Business Geography SG of the AAG.

Field Trips, new courses, notable events:

Dr. Matt Fry taught The UNT Texas Parks Field School in May.

Dr. Joseph Oppong is serving the AAG as a National Councilor and as Secretary. In addition, Dr. Murray Rice was recognized by the Business Geography Specialty Group of the AAG with its Distinguished Service Award.

Notable Statistics:

We have a total of nine students now in our PhD program, and will add several more this fall. Like many universities, UNM has seen ups and downs in enrollment over the last several years. Our enrollments have been better than many departments on campus, and our number of students in AY21-22 was the highest since AY17-18. We are always seeking new geographers.

University of Oklahoma

In spite of the pandemic, our colleagues in Norman have been busy. Dr Scott Green communicates the following to SWAAG

Programs and Certifications: The Department of Geography and Environmental Sustainability (DGES) at the University of Oklahoma (OU) recently developed an online MS degree in Geospatial Technologies. The curriculum is specifically designed to represent the intersection of geography and technology and provide students with the theoretical and practical geospatial technology skills necessary to advance in this rapidly growing field of study. There are over 50 students in the program, and we just graduated the first cohort of approximately 15 students. See: <https://www.ou.edu/ags/geography/degree-programs/graduate-program/geography-m-s-online> for details

Faculty Additions: Eleven new hires! One promotion. See next section for details.

University of North Texas - Denton, TX



Grants, awards, major findings:

Within the past two years DGES faculty have been the Principal Investigator or Co-Investigator on over \$25,000,000 in externally funded research. Grant agencies include major federal and state government agencies (e.g., NSF, NOAA, USGS, ODOT, etc.) as well as foundations (e.g., National Geographic) and private companies. The topics include using Geospatial Technologies to monitor malaria in the Caucasus; making Gulf of Mexico communities more resilient to environmental change; improving Geographic education in underserved schools in Oklahoma, and documenting the role tribal environmental professionals play in native communities. As a recent example, the University of Oklahoma recently signed a multi-institutional contract with the United States Agency for International Development that will dedicate \$15 million toward the creation of the Peru Extension and Research Utilization, to support sustainable agricultural, economic and social improvement in the San Martin region of the Peruvian rainforest. OU's effort will be coordinated through the university's Institute for Resilient Environmental and Energy Systems. (see Figure 1: Caption: Julio Alegre the Peruvian coordinator of the soils and crops team, demonstrates a soil analysis kit, at the project kick-off event held on May 3-6 in Tarapoto, Peru.)

Field Trips, new courses, notable events:

A sample:

Dr. Laurel Smith and filmmaker Loren Waters coproduced the short film Restoring Néške'emāne. (Figure 2; poster for film). Figure 3: Dr. Smith with Damon Dunbar (Cheyenne environmental professional with Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes) during filming photo credit: Brittany Bendabout

This summer, Dr. Bruce Hoagland and Bret Betnar of Landscape Architecture led 20 OU students on an exploration of themes in environmental conservation in the Mediterranean, past and present. Their base of operations was the OU Education Abroad Center in Arezzo, Italy. They visited the gardens of the villas D'Este, Lante, and Farnese, and the forests of Camaldoli and the Cimini Hills (Figure 4).

In June 2022, the Southern Climate Impacts Planning Program (SCIPP) hosted undergraduate students for a five-day Summer Academy that included lectures, activities, and discussions designed to introduce students to climate adaptation. Students heard from a wide array of experts in the climate adaptation field and learned of the vast opportunities that fall under the umbrella of climate adaptation. Each of the five days focused on a different topic that encompassed various branches of study that students could explore in their future careers and research endeavors.

Dr. Renee McPherson was selected as the chapter lead author for the Southern Great Plains chapter of the Fifth National Climate Assessment.

In fall 2021, graduate students Olivia VanBuskirk and Valerie Doornbos attended the United Nations Conference of Parties (COP26) on climate change in Glasgow, Scotland as observers for the American Association of Geographers. While they were there, they were able to observe countries voting on draft text for new policies, attend presentations by scientists from across the world on the impacts of climate change, and listen to government officials unveil new policies and goals for their countries related to adaptation and mitigation.

Statistics:

DGES offers six different degrees in Environmental Sustainability, Geography, and GIS. The department houses approximately 200 undergraduate majors and another 100 graduate students. In the 2021-2022 school year there were approximately 50 undergraduate students who successfully completed their degree programs and 40 graduate students earning their MA, MS, or Ph.D. degrees.

University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond, OK



Sam Houston State University

There are lots to report on from our colleagues in Huntsville! Dr John Strait communicates the following to SWAAG

Programs and Certifications: In 2019 the Department of Geography and Geology at SHSU was rebranded. We are now the Department of Environmental and Geosciences. Our new name reflects some reorganization at the college level, whereby our department took over responsibility of a newly revived inter-disciplinary Environmental Science program, as well as a new minor in Environmental Studies. Our department now encompasses undergraduate major programs in Geography, Geology and Environmental Science, as well as minors in Geography, Geology, GSS (geospatial science), and Environmental Studies. We also offer a Masters Degree in Applied GIS, as well as certificate programs in GIS available at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Students majoring in geography can choose to focus their degree plans in one of two concentrations; 1) Environment, Culture & Development, or 2) GIS.

Faculty Additions: One new hire! One retirement. Promotions abound. See next section for details.

Grants, awards, major findings:

National Geographic Society-Funded Grant

During the 2021-22 academic year, SHSU geographers Dr. Nelson, Dr. Strait, Dr. Guida, and Ms. Fujimoto-Strait partnered with ninth grade world geography and AP human geography teachers from Aldine ISD in a National Geographic Society-funded project titled "Building an Engaging Place-Based Geography Learning Community in Metro Houston". This project was based on the notion that student learning is greatly enhanced when traditional classroom instruction is supplemented by the incorporation of place-based projects and field experiences. While the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic limited some aspects of the project, the highlight of the project was the Houston culture field experience for teachers led by Dr. Strait. The experience included visits to sites around the Houston metro area that represent the city's diverse cultures, including the Teo Chew Vietnamese Buddhist Temple, the Mahatma Gandhi District, Emancipation Park, Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, and well as various sites of street art across Houston. This experience highlighted the value of place-based learning. World geography teachers reflected on the ability to bring their lessons on places around the world back, and human geography teachers noted the potential to illustrate key geographic topics such as immigration and cultural diffusion through such places. To further engage students in place-based learning, the project initiated the h_town_geography Instagram, highlighting local places, developed a GIS StoryMap based on the field experience, and is in the process of creating a virtual field experience through video content.

NSF-funded GET TX Grant

In the Fall of 2020, faculty members David Moss (PI), Ross Guida (co-PI), Renjie Zhou, Brian Cooper, Joseph Hill and Pat Harris along with faculty from Lone Star College University Park (Bryn Benford and Christa Spears, co-PIs), were awarded a GEOPATHs grant from the National Science Foundation. The project, "Geoscience Exposure and Training in Texas (GET TX)," aims to study perspectives of late high school and early college students and teachers about the geosciences and to broaden participation of underrepresented groups. To do this, we host a series of teacher workshops, open houses, classroom visits, and a summer bridge program.

While running the grant during the pandemic has certainly posed challenges, we have had many success-

Sam Houston State University - Huntsville, TX



es. Drs. Moss, Guida, and Zhou have all visited several area high schools (e.g., Huntsville, Conroe, Apple Springs, Oak Ridge) and shared their passions for the Geosciences. They highlighted the importance of Geoscience to southeast Texas beyond the traditional oil and gas pathways and showcased the variety of jobs available to students...though one of us (Moss) does not pass up the opportunity to discuss fossil clams when given! Drs. Cooper and Hill have run several successful workshops for high school STEM teachers providing them with hands on activities to use in their classrooms. In addition, we have been fortunate to have several alumni give guest lectures at our open houses (Warner Morales '12, Leah Jackson '13, Miranda Naquin '17, Xavier Hutchinson '20) and share their pathways and experiences with we hope, the next generation of Geoscientists. Dear friend of the program, Mr. Chuck Caughey, gave one of these lectures as well. Students are certainly getting a great taste of what a BearKat education can do for them! Finally, in the summer of 2021 and 2022 we ran our 10-day summer bridge program for high school and community college students. We received over 130 student applications and were able to host 22 students, each receiving an \$800 stipend. The program focused on water, sediment, paleontology, and geochemistry in southeast and central Texas using both field and lab activities. Highlights of the experience include a 2-day excursion to central Texas where students observed limestone, karst processes, dinosaur tracks, and were of course able to cool off in Barton Springs.

As we enter the final year of the program, we are excited to continue reaching out to area students and teachers to share the possibilities in the Geosciences. We are still on the lookout for high school classrooms to visit, guest speakers for open houses, teachers to participate in workshops, and applicants for our summer bridge program. You can learn more about GET TX on the department website. Please spread the word and reach out to us if you are interested in participating!

Many internal grants with faculty/student research projects also were awarded.

Field Trips, new courses, notable events:

We regularly offer field experience opportunities to our students, with these opportunities ranging from endeavors whose foci include the study of the physical environment, cultural geography, and/or those that focus on the intersection of the two.

Dr. John Strait regularly directs a place-based field course that utilizes the lens of musical culture to address a host of geographical topics. The title of this course (GEOG 4360) is Music, Civil Rights & Place in the Birthplace of the Blues: The Geography & Soul of The Mississippi Delta.

This course focuses on blues culture – defined as the geographical and cultural context from which blues-rooted music evolved – as a means to address various aspects of cultural, social, and geographical change. Topics include migration, social movements (civil rights movement, feminist movement, youth movements, etc.), urbanization, agricultural mechanization, religion, foodways, race/ethnicity, gender, and other topics. The class is structured so that students are immersed in a week-long travel experience to and through the Mississippi Delta, which is followed by a semester-long seminar.

Dr. Strait and Ava Fujimoto-Strait offer a similar field course focused on environmental and cultural dynamics on the Big Island of Hawaii. This course is entitled (GEOG 4075) The Mixed Plate: Field Experience on the Cultural and Environmental Diversity of the Big Island of Hawaii. Similar to the aforementioned course (GEOG 4360), students in this course complete a semester long seminar, which is followed by a week-long field experience on the island of Hawaii. Topics addressed include cultural diasporas, indigenous culture, migration, volcanism, geomorphology, environmental sustainability, traditional agriculture, oceanography, biogeography, coastal environments, foodways, religion, weather & climate, and other top-

Stephen F. Austin State University - Nacogdoches, TX



ics. Student and faculty participants in this course also engage in an on-going community service project focused on the maintenance and operation of an ancient and historically significant taro field. Plans are in the works to expand this field-based endeavor as a NEH Summer Teachers Institute.

The geography program also offers regular field-based courses that involve travel experiences to and through international destinations, including Spain, Morocco, and Italy. The arrival of Covid-19 curtailed the offerings of these particular courses, but the plans are to continue offering them once it is possible to do so.

Students in the department also have regular and consistent opportunities to participate in field trips focused on the geological study of various sites across the U.S.

Notable Statistics:

Environmental Science major, Carolyn Jess, received the TSUS (Texas State University System) Board of Regents – Regents' Student Scholar Award. This is the highest honors a student can receive – and it reflects academic excellence, leadership and service.

Geography major, Hailey Richardson, is an TA, President of our Geography student organization, GOSH, and an Honors student. She received a 2nd place award for her research at the TX State Geography Student Research Symposium, Outstanding Oral Media Presentation Award and Assam Scholarship in Honors Research at SHSU's Honors College Research Symposium and two Sammy Awards for Outstanding Student Leader in the College of Science and Engineering Technology and Outstanding Junior Leader. Hailey is currently doing her 2nd summer internship with the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency (NGA) in Washington D.C.

Many of our undergraduate 1000-level labs are taught by undergraduate TA's. A lot of our graduating seniors that go on to graduate school receive funding

Michelle Harris – University of South Carolina, Courtney Wells – University of Denver, Paige Kempker – Western Colorado University, Carolyn Jess – Texas State University, Mandy Truman – Texas State University, Christina Lopez – Texas State University, Meghan Puente – Western Kentucky University, Danny Schmidt – Colorado School of Mines, Elyssa Rivera – Auburn University, Efren Mendez – Missouri University of Science & Technology, Aksel Sjogren – Texas State University, Dwight Capus – UT-Rio Grande Valley

Chuck Caughey Geoscience Scholarship Endowment – began in 2022 – a scholarship providing two years full funding to a community college transfer student studying Geology.

John Strait has been regularly involved a series of Summer Teachers Institutes sponsored by the NEH (National Endowment for Humanities).

From 2009 through the present (2009-2022), Dr. Strait has been involved with an institute entitled The Most Southern Place on Earth: Music, Culture and History in the Mississippi Delta, co-sponsored by the National Endowment for Humanities (NEH) and the Delta Center for Culture and Learning. His brings to this institute his experience with place-based methodologies, particularly as they pertain to the geographical study of musical culture, social movements and the Southern diaspora (Great Migration).

In July, 2022 he served as a consultant & expert for a separate NEH Summer Teacher entitled The Role of Geographic Mobility in the African-American Freedom Struggle. His role involved leading teacher/faculty participants through Memphis, Tennessee in a field experiential focused on the role of blues-influenced music on social and cultural movements, and on African-American mobilities. Follow us on Twitter – @SHSUgeo

Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, AR



Central Arkansas University

It has been a busy time up in Bear Country. Dr Steve O'Connell communicates the following to SWAAG

General News:

Drs. Yaqian He and Matthew Connelly directed a field research project in the Arkansas Delta using UAV to assess irrigation status of soybean fields. This project was funded through the Arkansas Space Grant Consortium, a part of the NASA EPSCOR program, and engaged several undergraduate student researchers in both field data collection and computer analysis. One of these students, Marisol Filares, a spring 2022 graduate, was featured in the spring issue of our campus magazine in a profile of various programs across campus.

Dr. William Flatley has continued work with the USDA, Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, and other agencies to document wildfire history and forest dynamics in the Ozark and Ouachita regions of the state. He collaborated with an undergraduate student who worked to convert annotations from 19th Century survey notes into reference points for reconstruction of historic forest structure; the student is now working on this project as part of her Masters thesis in our MGIS program.

At the Arkansas GIS Users Forum spring meeting, over 1/3 of the attendees came out of our programs, or affiliated programs, at UCA. Graduates ranged from the early 1990s through Spring 2022.

Undergraduate student Noah Walker had a map previously submitted to an ESRI-sponsored student cartography competition included in the recent publication Mapping by Design: A Guide to ArcGIS Maps for Adobe Creative Cloud by Sarah Bell.

The Geography Department acquired additional spaces in our building and outfitted a new Geospatial and Environmental Applications Research Lab with dedicated research spaces for faculty and students as well as community spaces and a department library. Unfortunately, during spring exam week, and less than a week after fully moving into the new space, our building suffered a fire. None of our spaces were structurally damaged, but the smoke and soot damage throughout the building has forced us out of the building for the next academic year. We look forward to reestablishing our spaces and continuing to grow UCA Geography.

University of New Orleans

Our friends on Lake Ponchartrain have been at it. Dr Mark Kulp communicates the following to SWAAG

Programs and Certifications: The Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of New Orleans (UNO) is now contributing to the Coastal Engineering and Sciences certificate program (CEAS) at UNO. Students who are accepted into the UNO graduate school can earn a graduate certificate in Coastal Engineering and/or Coastal Sciences. Each of the certificates requires the completion of four online courses during a two-year time frame. The programs are designed to provide educational background in the growing fields of coastal engineering and science.

Faculty Additions: One new hire! One retirement. See next section for details.

University of New Orleans - New Orleans, LA



Grants, awards, major findings:

During the last several years faculty within EES have conducted research on projects funded by agencies such as the National Science Foundation, Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, Petroleum Research Fund, and National Academy of Sciences. These projects have been focused on applied and basic research in support of gaining a better understanding of sedimentology, stratigraphy and coastal processes.

Field Trips, new courses, notable events:

The Department in conjunction with the Pontchartrain Institute for Environmental Sciences (PIES) continues to offer educational courses at the UNO Coastal Educational Research Facility (CERF). For almost two decades UNO Coastal Education Program has introduced thousands of students to the coastal environment through field experiences. The UNO Pontchartrain Coastal Education Program is based at the CERF and provides outreach activities such as: Coastal Wetlands field-based learning experiences for grades 4-12, field experience for some college classes, environmental science research opportunities for high school students, professional development for science teachers interested in using the local environment to develop science lessons based on current coastal research, and workshops for audiences interested in coastal issues.

SWAAG News - New Appointments, Promotions, and Retirements

Oklahoma State University

OSU Geography hired three assistant professors.

Dr. Tao Hu joined us last year and has specializations in geospatial big data, health disparities, environmental health, and human mobility.

Dr. Saber Brasher will join our department this fall. Her specializations are in climatology, physical geography, and hydroclimatological studies emphasizing the cryosphere.

Dr. Peter Crank will also join us this fall, bringing specializations in urban climatology, including the linkages between urban design, urban climate, and mental health as well as modeling for urban climate analysis.

OSU also has three remarkable retirements of long-term SWAAG members and extraordinarily successful geographers.

Dale Lightfoot, Steve Stadler, and Tom Wikle have retired. In the fall, Allen Finchum will also retire. We thank all of these wonderful folks for their service and commitment to SWAAG. All were instrumental in the planning of the 2021 Meeting and in numerous other SWAAG and AAG-related events. SWAAG had the pleasure of Steve serving as chair in the 1990s. Let's hope this is a merely a retirement from the OSU department and not SWAAG.

Tarleton State University - Stephenville, TX



University of New Mexico

UNM Geography hired five new assistant professors.

Dr. Liping Yang, who studies geospatial artificial intelligence;

Dr. Miriam Gay-Antaki, who studies human dimensions of climate change

Dr. Natasha Howard, who studies Black geographies

Dr. Yolanda Lin, who studies natural hazards

Dr. Marygold Walsh-Dilley, who studies agricultural development and rural geography.

They have also welcomed the Sustainability Studies Program faculty: Prof. Jessica Rowland (who focuses on local food systems) and Dr. Andreas Hernandez (a filmmaker who studies agroecology).

They've also had several faculty gain promotion in recent years (Dr. Maria Lane and Dr. Melinda Morgan to Full Professor, Dr. Yan Lin and Dr. Marygold Walsh-Dilley to Associate Professor), and Dr. Christopher Lippitt took the position of Associate Dean for Research in the UNM College of Arts and Sciences.

Major thanks go out to Dr. Scott Friendschuh upon his retirement for his leadership in the department. Lastly, we congratulated Dr. Ronda Brulotte upon her successful completion of six years as Director of UNM's Latin American Studies Program.

University of New Orleans

UNO EES hired a new professor and had one retirement

Dr. Madeline Foster-Martinez joined the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences in the fall of 2021. Dr. Foster-Martinez leads the Coastal Interactions Laboratory with the goal of promoting sustainability through improved interactions between natural coastal processes and human infrastructure. She teaches courses such as physical oceanography, environmental engineering and coastal processes.

After 45 years of service to UNO Dr. Kraig Derstler has decided to retire from the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences. Dr. Derstler has instructed thousands of students and his excellent teaching and quick wit will be very missed in the hallways of the Department.

University of North Texas

UNT Geography hired an assistant professor.

Dr. Wei Kang will join UNT Geography and the Environment as an assistant professor in July. She comes to us from the University of California Riverside where she was a Research Scientist. Dr. Kang's research interests are in GIScience, spatial statistics, spatial econometrics, urban data science, housing & inequality, urban & neighborhood dynamics, sustainability, and urban geography. She received her PhD in Geography from the School of Geographical Science and Urban Planning from Arizona State University.

University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX



University of Oklahoma

OU DGES has undergone a transformational change over the past year with eleven new faculty members starting in either Fall 2021 or Fall 2022. In addition to replacement hires, this represents a significant strategic investment in the department by the University of Oklahoma as the university recognizes the critical integrative and convergent role that Geography, Environmental Sustainability, and GIS play in addressing today's societal big challenges. In addition, we will have three new faculty positions starting in Fall 2023 focusing on Community Resilience to Environmental Change and Geospatial Technologies and we are projecting additional hires in Fall 2024 as well as part of the OU strategic hiring program. Our new faculty and their topical research interests are

Dr. Diana Denham (Assistant Professor, Ph.D. Urban Studies, Portland State University). Interests: Indigenous geographies, global south urbanism, socio-environmental movements, food sovereignty

Dr. Selena Feng (Assistant Professor, Ph.D. Geography, University of California, Santa Barbara). Interests: Geographic Information Science, spatial optimization, geospatial data science, urban, regional, and natural resource planning and development, emergency response, infrastructure and transportation systems

Dr. Timothy Filley (Professor and Director of Institute for Resilient Environmental and Energy Systems, Ph.D. Geochemistry, The Pennsylvania State University). Interests: Critical zone science, organic geochemistry, stable isotope geochemistry/biogeochemistry, landscape to microscale soil organic matter dynamics

Dr. Kasey Jones-Matrona (Lecturer, Ph.D. Literary and Cultural Studies, University of Oklahoma). Interests: Black and indigenous anthropocenes, indigenous futurisms, afrofuturism, ecofuturisms, indigenous feminist eco-criticism, traditional ecological knowledge indigenous scientific literacies, climate fiction and poetry, environmental humanities

Dr. J. Tom Mueller (Research Assistant Professor, Ph.D., Rural Sociology and Human Dimensions of Natural Resources and the Environment, The Pennsylvania State University). Interests: spatial inequality, geography of well-being, rural America, natural resources and the environment, water, public health

Dr. Lauren Mullenbach (Assistant Professor, Ph.D. Recreation, Park and Tourism Management & Human Dimensions of Natural Resources and the Environment, Penn State University). Interests: Environmental justice, urban greening, climate adaptation, gentrification, critical urban geography, homelessness

Dr. Anni Yang (Assistant Professor, Ph.D. Geography, Minor in Numerical Epidemiology, University of Florida). Interests: medical and health geography, disease ecology, infectious diseases, movement ecology, wild-life-livestock-human interface, dynamic spatial simulation models, network modeling, wildlife management and conservation

Dr. Nishan Bhattarai (Assistant Professor, Ph.D. Environmental Resources Engineering, SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry). Interests: Water use modeling, agricultural adaptation strategies under a changing climate, advancing the use of remote sensing and big data in agro-hydro-climatic assessments to improve our understanding of the complex feedbacks and interactions across hydrological, agricultural, and human systems in the face of climate change

Dr. Chengbin Deng (Associate Professor, and Director, Center for Spatial Analysis, Ph.D., Geography, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee) Interests: Urban sustainability and environmental Monitoring, geospatial data

Texas Christian University - Fort Worth, TX



science, remote sensing, urban sciences, and global environmental change and sustainability.

Dr. Todd Fagin (Lecturer and Executive Associate Director of the Center for Spatial Analysis, Ph.D. Geography, University of Oklahoma). Interests: GIS, land systems science, landscape ecology, small unoccupied aerial systems, geospatial sciences in higher education

Dr. Chenghao Wang (Assistant Professor, Ph.D. in Civil, Environmental and Sustainable Engineering, Arizona State University). Interests: Developing multi-scale numerical models to improve the predictive capability of urban meteorological and climate simulations, improving the understanding of urban environmental dynamics through data analytics and network theory, evaluating future energy consumption and carbon emissions in the built environment and potential mitigation strategies, fostering sustainable, equitable urban development and public health with urban climate research

One faculty member achieved promotion and tenure:

Dr. Rebecca Loraamm (Associate Professor, Ph.D. Geography and Environmental Science and Policy, University of South Florida). Interests: Geographic Information Science, time geography, location modeling, suitability modeling, network analysis, road ecology, wildlife ecology and management, animal movement, landscape ecology

Sam Houston State University

SHSU Environmental and Geosciences hired an assistant professor, saw a retirement, and had a number of promotions.

SHSU just hired Dr. Joshua Gilliland - Dr. Gilliland's research focuses on exploring the surface and upper-level atmospheric characteristics (wind) of North America and Latin America through in-situ and climate reanalysis products. This interdisciplinary research utilizes concepts from physical geography, meteorology, climatology, and GSS to understand how tropospheric features have changed both spatially and temporally for each region. His research also highlights applications in virtual and geovisualization, UAS, and quantitative sciences to show how atmospheric conditions evolve not only from a vertical but a horizontal perspective. Another point of research has been pertained to profiling natural hazards and assessing their risks at the local and state level.

Dr. Jim Tiller, Professor, retired after a half-century at SHSU! Thanks for a wonderful career!

Promotions at SHSU! Full Professor of Geography - Dr. John Strait, Dr. Velvet Nelson, Dr. Falguni Mukherjee; Associate Professor of Geography - Dr. Samuel Adu-Prah, Dr. Ross Guida Congrats to all!

Texas Tech University - Lubbock, Texas



SWAAG by the Numbers

Finances

8/31/21	Balance forward			\$ 16,860.10
9/15/21	Ahasan - Summer Research Scholarship		(400.00)	16,460.10
9/15/21	Delgado - Summer Research Scholarship		(400.00)	16,060.10
9/15/21	Lin - Summer Research Scholarship		(400.00)	15,660.10
9/15/21	Miranker - Summer Research Scholarship		(400.00)	15,260.10
9/15/21	Puka - Summer Research Scholarship		(400.00)	14,860.10
10/12/21	Sheraton - 2021 Conference		(18,552.15)	(3,692.05)
10/19/21	Sheraton - 2021 Conference		(2,021.16)	(5,713.21)
10/20/21	Seibold - Undergrad Poster Award		(100.00)	(5,813.21)
10/20/21	Green - Undergrad Poster Award		(50.00)	(5,863.21)
10/20/21	Tabor - Graduate Paper Award		(100.00)	(5,963.21)
10/20/21	Lester - Graduate Paper Award		(250.00)	(6,213.21)
10/20/21	Seminara - Undergrad Paper Award		(250.00)	(6,463.21)
10/20/21	Na-Yemeh - Graduate Paper Award		(50.00)	(6,513.21)
10/20/21	Mirka - Graduate Poster Award		(50.00)	(6,563.21)
10/21/21	Singh - Graduate Student Poster Award		(100.00)	(6,663.21)
10/25/21	Schaefer - Undergrad Paper Award		(100.00)	(6,763.21)
10/25/21	Kirk - WGB		(100.00)	(6,863.21)
10/25/21	Weatherby - WGB 2021		(250.00)	(7,113.21)
10/25/21	Mirka - WGB 2021		(100.00)	(7,213.21)
10/25/21	Crawford - Undergrad Student Poster Award		(250.00)	(7,463.21)
10/27/21	Wade - Graduate Student Poster Award		(250.00)	(7,713.21)
10/4/21	Registration Refund		(40.00)	(7,753.21)
11/9/21	Event Revenue Recognition 2021/11/09: -MEETING-Registra	8,180.00		426.79
11/9/21	Event Revenue Recognition 2021/11/09: -SWAAG21 FT1	285.00		711.79
11/9/21	Event Revenue Recognition 2021/11/09: -SWAAG21 FT2	125.00		836.79
11/9/21	Event Revenue Recognition 2021/11/09: -SWAAG21 FT1	185.00		1,021.79
11/19/21	Event Revenue Recognition 2021/11/09: -MEETING-Registra	3,025.00		4,046.79
2/13/22	SWAAG - Regions Connect Subsidy	1,765.03		5,811.82
2/13/22	SWAAG - Regions Connect 20% of virtual reg to AAG		(226.00)	5,585.82
3/31/22	2022 WGB Subsidy	300.00		5,885.82
3/1/22	Fayetteville Library - Room Rental pymt 1 of 2		(1,780.00)	4,105.82
3/31/22	Furness - 2022 WGB Participation		(350.00)	3,755.82
3/31/22	Mirka - 2022 WGB Team Participation		(350.00)	3,405.82
3/31/22	Beene - 2022 WGB Participation		(350.00)	3,055.82
3/31/22	Adams - 2022 WGB Participation		(350.00)	2,705.82
3/31/22	Arellano-Thompson - 2022 WGB Participation		(350.00)	2,355.82
5/13/22	Korah - Summer Field Work Award		(300.00)	2,055.82
5/13/22	Tian - Summer Fieldwork Award		(300.00)	1,755.82
5/13/22	Wiley - Summer Fieldwork Award		(300.00)	1,455.82
5/13/22	Greer - Summer Fieldwork Award		(300.00)	1,155.82
5/13/22	Zelenka - Summer Fieldwork Award		(300.00)	855.82
5/13/22	Young - Summer Fieldwork Award		(300.00)	555.82
5/18/22	Siddique - Summer Field Study Award		(300.00)	255.82
7/31/22	BALANCE			255.82

University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Lafayette, LA



Photos from the SWAAG



OSU Geographers demonstrate the concept of scale



Dr. John Strait and SHSU Geographers in search of the Birthplace of the Blues.



Central Arkansas geographers Dr. Matt Connolly and UG Student Marisol Flores getting ready to launch, Photo by Yaqian He

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University of Texas at San Antonio - San Antonio, TX

