SWAAG NEWSLETTER

Volume 26 Summer/Fall 2019

Southwest Division of the American Association of Geographers

http://www.sw-aag.org/

Editor / Secretary: Erik Prout

Welcome to the 26th iteration of our SWAAG Newsletter. As I prepared to assemble the newsletter, I looked over the online collection that goes back to 1999; yes, the length tends to get longer, but more strikingly is the change of graphics and copy editing. Our newsletter inadvertently documents the evolution of personal computing. In the future, we may consider what the next step is towards effective communication and archiving, and maybe more of a web-based newsletter. Food for thought as we contemplate our next business meeting.

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SWAAG Chair's Column

By Matthew Fry, SWAAG Chair,
University of North Texas

Matt Fry, SWAAG 2018 Banquet
SWAAG fun fact: Matt is the 45th Chair of SWAAG

Howdy SWAAG Members,

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Sheraton Fort Worth Downtown Hotel on Oct 10-12 for the 2019 SWAAG meeting hosted by the Department of Geography at Texas Christian University. Not only will this be a great opportunity to catch up with colleagues and to interact with students and faculty from around the region, but also a chance to visit the town 'Where the West Begins.' I strongly encourage undergraduate, MA and PhD students to attend the annual meeting, present posters or papers of their research, and enter the student competitions and Geobowl to compete for award money. This should be a fun meeting – and highly relevant to southwest regional geography – and a great time of year to be in Cowtown!

I'd like to remind students to apply for the SWAAG 'Student Travel Scholarships.' We established these in 2018 to help defray the costs of attending the annual meeting. I encourage students with financial needs, especially those from regional institutions without dedicated Geography departments, to apply for the scholarships.

Congratulations to all our award and scholarship winners over the last year. At last year's meeting, Hayley Pedrick (UNM) took first place in the Graduate Student Paper competition, and Aubry Kyle (LSU), and Derek Thompson (LSU) took second and third. Brett Luce (UNT) was first in the Undergraduate Student Paper competition, and Jonathan Craig (OU) was second. In the poster competitions, Sara Eshleman (UT), James Smith (LSU) and Joshua Hodge (TSU) were first, second and third in the Graduate Posters; and Emily Wong (OU), Claire Pitre (UNT), and Sadie Howard (SFASU) were first, second, and third in the Undergraduate Posters. For the 2018 Geobowl, Joshua Hodge (TSU) and Walter Furness (TSU) won first and second.

We also had 11 students apply for the SWAAG Summer Field Research Scholarship. Three students, Katherina Kang (UNT), Amy Polen (LSU) and Brett Spencer (LSU) received funding. As well, six students from four universities received $300 each to represent SWAAG at the 2019 AAG Geobowl competition in Washington DC. Thank you to each of them and the other student participants for representing our region!

Exciting news for SWAAG Geobowl participants and judges: we no longer need to mess with the disheveled and disorganized shared regional association Geobowl buzzers. In June 2019, SWAAG purchased three sets of Zee Craft 12-Player Wired-Challenger II Systems with handgrip buzzers! Look for the new SWAAG-owned Zee Craft buzzers to be put to good use 'Where the West Begins' in early October!

In other news, after two years of negotiating with the Southwestern Social Science Association (SSSA) to host a joint meeting in Austin in October 2020, the SWAAG board reluctantly decided to step back from the joint meeting. In a nutshell, the SSSA is a much larger organization and the costs associated with attending their meeting seemed prohibitive. Instead, and this is very good news, the 2020 meeting will be hosted by the Department of Geography and Environmental Sustainability at Oklahoma University! Details are forthcoming.

In closing, I'd like to thank the many volunteer judges, scorekeepers, award reviewers, Geobowl question writers, department staff, and others who helped keep SWAAG running over the last year. Many thanks again to the LSU Department of Geography and Anthropology for hosting the 2018 meeting on LSU's campus in Baton Rouge. And thank you to the Department of Geography at TCU for volunteering to host this year's meeting. My thanks to Jennifer Koch (interim secretary 2018), Erik Prout (secretary), Maria Lane (treasurer), Walther Furness (student rep), Cayton Moore (student rep), and Michaela Buenemann (Regional Councilor), for their hard work, advice, and support over the last year. It has been a pleasure working with each of you!

It has been an honor and pleasure to serve as SWAAG chair for a second year. See you all in Cowtown in October!

Message from Regional Councilor

By Michaela Buenemann, SW Division Regional Councilor, New Mexico State University

SWAAG fun fact: Michaela is the 17th Councilor from our region.

Greetings, SWAAG members! Your immediate past Regional Councilor (Darren Purcell, University of Oklahoma) promised me in his last SWAAG Newsletter

column what the two previous Regional Councilors (Ron Hagelman, Texas State University; Alyson Greiner, Oklahoma State University) assured him: that serving on the Council of the American Association of Geographers (AAG)[1] "will be interesting". Having been on the Council for one year now, I can happily say they were right! It has been fascinating and inspiring to participate in the inner workings of the AAG. It has been a pleasure and honor to work with the dedicated, talented, and caring people that make up the Council. So, thank you, SWAAGers, for the opportunity to serve as your Regional Councilor! In the paragraphs below, I will give you a brief update on some important developments since last fall.

The Geospatial Data Act (GDA) passed in October 2018, with broad support from the geospatial community. The AAG played a significant role in making this happen by providing expertise to Congress. In particular, the Association raised concerns over earlier versions of the GDA, which would have excluded large segments of the geospatial community from the federal procurement of geospatial data and services. The GDA aims at promoting the coordinated acquisition, management, use, sharing, and dissemination of geospatial data. It is now inclusive of the broader geospatial community.

The AAG implemented the Harassment-Free AAG initiative for the first time at the 2019 Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. The initiative includes a thoughtful non-discrimination and harassment policy, complaint reporting process, and investigative procedure; support services; and guidelines regarding prohibited behavior. Importantly, in addition to what most of us already know to be prohibited behavior (e.g., sexual harassment), the AAG now forbids the taking of photos, videos, or audio recordings during a presentation without the presenter's permission. If this is the first time you are hearing about the initiative, please follow the link above to learn more about it so that you can help us promote a discrimination and harassment-free atmosphere at our upcoming regional and national meetings.

At the Spring 2019 meeting, the Council unanimously approved a proposal to adopt a set of best practices to guide departments in their relationships with graduate students. The proposal notes twelve specific best practices ranging from processes and policies to issues of compensation, healthcare, collegiality, diversity, and inclusion. Details regarding these best practices are forthcoming.

The Council has several task forces that may be of interest to you. The Mental Health Task Force began its work in 2015, with the goal of making mental health a key topic on the AAG's agenda. The Task Force recently published its report, which includes a set of recommendations, and at the Spring 2019 meeting, the Council unanimously approved the creation of a Mental Health Affinity Group that will implement these recommendations.

The Council formed a new Regional Divisions Task Force at its Spring 2019 meeting. Led by AAG President Dave Kaplan, the goal of the Task Force is to reconsider the role and function of the regions in the AAG. The Task Force is still in its early stages but, in a recent meeting, members identified a number of ways in which the AAG can help the regions, including and not limited to increased subsidies for the regions, greater recognition and support for region officers, more student awards, financial backing of regional meetings through the AAG, stronger AAG presence at regional meetings, and stronger regional presence at AAG meetings. These are some promising developments for us.

In response to a petition submitted by Gilbert White Panel organizers, the Council also formed a new Climate Change Task Force at its Spring 2019 meeting. Chaired by our own Wendy Jepson (Texas A&M University), this Task Force will research some of the questions raised by the petition (e.g., what is the current carbon footprint of the AAG Annual Meeting) and develop suggestions for decreasing the AAG's Annual Meeting CO_2 footprint. With respect to climate change, it is also worth noting that the Council unanimously passed a motion to approve the Gilbert White Committee Climate Change Resolution, which now reaffirms and complements the May 2006 AAG Statement on Climate Change.

The AAG welcomed Dr. Gary Langham as its new Executive Director in August 2019. Dr. Langham was selected as the top candidate for the job following a rigorous search process that took nearly two years. He brings with him more than a decade of leadership experience as Vice President and Chief Scientist of the National Audubon Society; extensive knowledge working at the science-policy-conservation nexus through

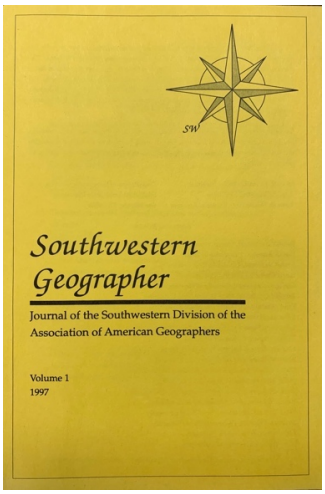
interdisciplinary and international efforts; and, importantly, drive and vision for further advancing the AAG. Dr. Langham replaces Doug Richardson, whose tireless dedication as Executive Director since 2003 has helped transform the AAG into a much larger and better-funded association and Geography into a more visible and diverse discipline.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about AAG activities, please contact me at elabuen@nmsu.edu. I would also welcome chatting with you at the upcoming SWAAG Annual Meeting in Fort Worth, TX, 10-12 October 2019. Take care, and I hope to see you then and there!

[1] The Council is composed of the AAG President, Vice President, Past President, and Executive Director as well as one Student, nine Regional Division, and six National Councilors. As governing body of the AAG, the Council is critical in developing AAG policies and procedures; appointing journal editors, project directors, and others; creating awards and selecting award winners; pursuing special initiatives; and more.

The Southwestern Geographer

By John Tiefenbacher, Senior Editor of *The Southwestern Geographer,* Texas State University



Original SWG cover, 1997

SWAAG fun fact: John Tiefenbacher and Julie Tuason were the original co-editors.

The editors of The Southwestern Geographer would like to draw SWAAG members' attention to the articles that have been published in the 2018 volume of The Southwestern Geographer.

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Ecosystem services and damage costs of federal lands: Case study of Gila National Forest, USA

Aspen Manning, Jason Julian

Resilience of Immigrants in the US Recession and Recovery

Richard Jones

Estimating land cover for three acequia-irrigated valleys in New Mexico using historical aerial imagery between 1935 and 2014

Robert Paul Sabie, Alexander Fernald, Marcus Ryan Gay

Please know that:

We currently have only one manuscript in review and have yet to have any accepted for publication in 2019. We encourage all faculty, students, and interested friends to consider submission at any time. We also ask that you encourage your friends and colleagues to do so as well.

The editors would like to thank those who have given their time to review submitted manuscripts, particularly when their reviews were turned around quickly and within the desired time-frames to enhance the speed to publication. Please encourage your colleagues to provide timely reviews if they agree to assist. Your help is very important for enhancing the quality of the journal and is very much appreciated by the editors.

Comments on, advice about, and reaction to issues related to the Southwestern Geographer are always welcome. Please don't hesitate to contact either John Tiefenbacher (tief@txstate.edu) or Erik Prout (prout@geog.tamu.edu) with your thoughts.

Finally, we have been instructed by Texas Digital Libraries, the organization that hosts our open-access journal, that they will be migrating to a new system this fall. Our website will have a new "look" and will hopefully be easier to navigate and that its operation will be more intuitive. The current contents of the Southwestern Geographer website will migrate to this new interface. I assume that if you are registered on the site now, you will use the same login information as before. If not, you may have to re-register to access the contents of the present and past issues of the journal. Don't worry, registration will remain free and open to anyone who has interest. Registration is only required for the purpose of tracking access and use of the journal.

SWAAG Student Officers

By Walter Furness, Texas State University and Cayton Moore, University of Oklahoma

Walter Furness and Cayton Moore were elected to serve as SWAAG student officers for 2018-2019. Walter is a PhD student with research interests in geographies of fermentation, food justice, and microbiopolitics. Cayton is a Masters student interested in critical geopolitics and digital humanities, with a focus on the Middle East. Both are active in the SWAAG geobowl competition and helped shepherd the SWAAG team to a 6-3 record at the Washington, D.C. meeting this past April. Cayton previously studied Geography and Arabic Language and Literature at OU. Walter holds degrees in Geography from Northern Illinois University and Geography and Environmental Science from Northwestern University.

Editorial note: SWAAG currently elects two students to the officer board that are elected by their contemporaries in our annual election. This is only the second year we have had student officers. They replace our inaugural student officers, Joshua Hodge and Shadi Maleki both from Texas State University.

2018 Annual Meeting

Bridging the Trans- & Cis-Mississippi Regions

View from the River Studies Center, Baton Rouge Louisiana (Craig Colten led fieldtrip)

The 2018 Annual Meeting of the Southwest Division was held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana hosted by the Department of Geography and Anthropology at Louisiana State University on the occasion of the department's 90th anniversary. Kent Mathewson served as the chair of the local host committee.

Kent Mathewson, Master of Ceremonies, SWAAG 2018 Banquet

SWAAG 2018 Attendees at Atrium

Paper and poster sessions were held in the Howe-Russell-Kniffen Geoscience Complex using the Atrium as a central conference location, With the campus observing Fall Break, we had full reign over the campus facilities, and little competition for near campus social venues. There were over 150 registrations to the meeting and 115 paper and poster presentations. AAG President (and fellow SWAAG member), Sheryl Luzzadder-Beach (University of Texas at Austin) keynoted the opening session. Craig Colten presented on Louisiana's Coastal Land Loss and honored a departmental alumnus and benefactor, Sherwood Gagliano at the Banquet/Awards Luncheon.

SWAAG 2018 Banquet. Craig Colton delivering the keynote talk, "Louisiana's Coastal Land Loss: Sherwood Gagliano's Contribution to Making the Invisible—Visible"

SWAAG 2018 Banquet. Attendees enjoying local cuisine and awaiting for the Awards announcements.

Sherwood "Woody" Gagliano and Craig Colten at SWAAG 2018 Banquet.

2018 SWAAG Student Award Winners

By Erik Prout, SWAAG Secretary,
Texas A&M University

Congratulations to all the winners of the SWAAG Student Competitions—the Summer Travel/Research Awards, Conference Support Travel Grants, and the various competitions at the 2018 SWAAG Meeting in Baton Rouge. All the categories were very competitive and difficult to judge. The SWAAG Region has great student research; thank you students for entering the competitions and advisors for mentoring and verifying the research to the judges. Thanks to all the judges, who had the daunting task of evaluating the poster and paper student entries. With this year's awards came a monetary stipend of 250/100/50 dollars for individual first, second, and third place. Individual GeoBowl winners receive the same prize money. Travel Grants are needs based—primarily to help students that are not being supported to attend. The AAG provides matching money for regional GeoBowl teams to attend the annual conference and the new, thousand dollar "Best Student Paper" award at a regional division meeting.

Summer Research Scholarships:

2018 was our inaugural year for offering these scholarships, we envisioned these as a way to support graduate students in their travels as well as other expenses. We set aside a thousand dollars to be partitioned as the committee saw fit. Ten students applied and the first three recipients of the SWAAG Summer Research Scholarships:

Clay Tucker (Louisiana State University) "Detecting Saltwater uptake of Trees Affected by Hurricanes."

Jared Goff (Texas State University) "Rock Glaciers as Water Towers in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem."

Joshua Hodge (Texas State University) Geographic Patterns of the Hurricane Ike Storm Surge Sediment Deposit on Southeast Texas Gulf Coast Marshes."

Student Research Presentations

A regular feature of SWAAG divisional meetings, the student paper and poster competitions with both graduate and undergraduate categories. The winners are as follows.

Graduate Student Paper Competition

1st – Hayley Pedrick (University of New Mexico) *Textures of Transition: Understanding Memorial Spaces in Medellin, Colombia.* Hayley becomes our inaugural winner of the Best Student Paper at a Regional Division Meeting.

2nd –Aubry Kyle (Louisiana State University) *City-Assisted Evacuation Planning in New Orleans: Cementing Sites for the Future.*

3rd – Derek Thompson (Louisiana State University) *A Comparison of Tropical Cyclone Landfall Locations between the HURDAT2 Best Track and the NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis I Datasets.*

Derek, Aubry, and Hayley (L-R).

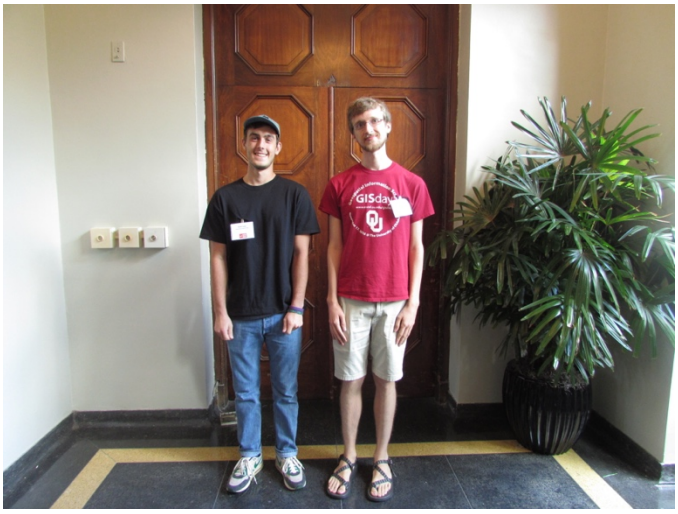
SWAAG fun fact: Carl Sauer delivered his first AAG presidential address at the LSU Faculty Club.

All of our award winner photos were taken at "The Club" (old Faculty Club at LSU) where we had our Banquet.

Undergraduate Student Paper Competition

1st – Brett Luce (University of North Texas) *Variability of PM2.5 in an Urban Environment: Hotspot or Hot Moments?*

2nd – Jonathan Craig (University of Oklahoma) *Incremental? Norman's University North Park and the Problems of Development in Local Government.*



Brett and Jonathan (L-R).

Graduate Student Poster Competition

1st – Sara Eshleman (University of Texas at Austin) *The Influence of Topographic Factors on Vegetation Height in Northwestern Belize.*

2nd – James Smith (Louisiana State University) *An Evaluation of Modified Bed Load Sediment Transport Equations for Estimated Sediment Transport Quantification in Steep Mountain Streams Case Study Little Fountain Creek, Colorado Springs, CO.*

3rd – Joshua Hodge (Texas State University) *Hurricane Ike Storm Surge Sedimentation on Southeast Texas Gulf Coast Marshes: Variations in Sedimentation and Anthropogenic Imports.*

Joshua, James, and Sara (L-R).

Undergraduate Student Poster Competition

1st – Emily Wong (University of Oklahoma) *Changes in Summertime Synoptic Patterns in the 21st Century for Selected US Cities.*

2nd – Claire Pitre (University of North Texas) *Bird Feathers as Biomonitors of Soot Pollution.*

3rd – Sadie Howard (Stephen F. Austin State University) *GIS Internship, Collaboration between Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas and Stephen F. Austin State University.*

Claire and Emily (L-R).

2018 SWAAG World Geography Bowl

SWAAG held its fourth World Geography Bowl (GeoBowl) in Baton Rouge as part of the Annual Meeting. Teams, each composed of approximately six students, competed in a round robin, every team plays every other team. The top two teams face off in a championship finale. The top prize is bragging rights with a SWAAG Trophy. Individual leaders form the nucleus of an all-star team for the AAG.

University of North Texas GeoBowl Team

University of Oklahoma and Texas State University geo-battle, spatially duel, and compete for the right to brag.

Team Winners

1st. Texas State University "Wild Rice"

2nd. University of Oklahoma

3rd. University of North Texas

Wild Rice: back to back to back winners(L-R)

Individual Geography Bowl Winners

1st Place: Joshua Hodge, Texas State University, Graduate Student

2nd Place: Walter Furness, Texas State University, Graduate Student

3rd Place: Jonathan Craig (University of Oklahoma), Undergraduate Student

Jonathan, Joshua, and Walter: (L-R)

Congratulations once again to all the winners! Thank you to all the volunteers who made the 2018 SWAAG World Geography Bowl possible!

SWAAG Election Results

Nominations to fill the entire slate of SWAAG offices were solicited at the 2018 SWAAG business meeting and via email for 30 days after. Darren Purcell was asked to conduct the election as the current chair was nominated for a second term. The election was conducted online; Michaela Buenemann (regional councilor) and Jason Julian (past chair) confirmed the results. The elected officers are Matt Fry (University of North Texas) Chair; Erik Prout (Texas A&M University) Secretary; Maria Lane (University of New Mexico) Treasurer; Walter Furness (Texas State University) and Cayton Moore (University of Oklahoma) Student Representatives.

Amy Frazier (formerly Oklahoma State University) accepted a new position at Arizona State University. While stepping down from SWAAG executive, she graciously wrote last year's Newsletter. Jennifer Koch (University of Oklahoma) stepped in as an interim Secretary and helped tremendously with the Secretary's tasks at our annual meeting (GeoBowl and Business Meeting Minutes). **Thank you for your service!**

SWAAG fun facts:
First Chair of our Division: John Morris (OU)
First Regional Councilor: Lorrin Kennemar (UT)

Zuni Map Art Project

Various Zuni Maps on display at session cohosted by Indigenous People's Specialty Group and SWAAG

After the business meeting in Baton Rouge, the SWAAG executives were approached by the AAG about co-sponsoring a unique session.

*The Zuni Map Art Project is an example of community-based mapping designed to better understand Zuni history and culture by illustrating their connection to places "using Zuni language and Zuni aesthetics and sensibilities". This session [was] a panel discussion featuring a museum technician from the **A:shiwi A:wan** Museum and Heritage Center as well as an advisor and two artists involved in the project.*

Statement by the AAG (Research Associate) that communicated with SWAAG to be cohost/sponsor.

An official from the A:shiwi A:wan Museum and Heritage Center explains the meanings of a specific Zuni Map to the audience.

2019 AAG World Geography Bowl

SWAAG was able to send a team of regional GeoBowl all-stars to the national Geography Bowl. The matching funds from AAG allowed us to spend 300 per team

member. The SWAAG team at the 2019 AAG GeoBowl in Washington, DC was composed of the following individuals:

- Joshua Hodge, Texas State University, Graduate Student (team Captain)
- Walter Furness, Texas State University, Graduate Student
- Cayton Moore, University of Oklahoma, Graduate Student
- Jonathan Craig, University of Oklahoma, Undergraduate Student
- Sara Eshleman, University of Texas, Graduate Student
- Katie Krupala, University of North Texas, Graduate Student

Team SWAAG, preparing for competition, AAG 2019 Washington, DC

SWAAG team competed well, all evening we were neck-to-neck for the second spot--just missing the final round. The team placed third overall, and they collected their prizes after the conclusion. Team leader, Joshua Hodge earned 6th place in the individual points tally (without being in the final). Congratulations to the SWAAG team: they represented us well.

SWAAG colors wave proudly. Our team wore t-shirts from our Baton Rouge meeting. The splash of color/coordination was duly noted by other teams. We have inadvertingly created a new AAG tradition.

Summer Research Awards, 2019

The SWAAG Board is pleased to report the following winners of the 2019 Summer Research Awards:

Katherina A. Kang, Univ. of North Texas

Project: "Vegetation and Land Use Effects on the Spatial Distribution and Accumulation of Soil Black Carbon in an Urban Ecosystem" Funded: $400 for field research supplies and equipment.

Brett Spencer, Louisiana State Univ.

Project: "Fire Down Below: Urban Environments of the Miskitu Coast of Honduras" Funded: $400 for fieldwork in Honduras.

Amy Polen, Louisiana State Univ.

Project: New Perspectives in Surveying Hurricane Risk Perception in Coastal Louisiana and Florida" Funded: $100 for survey implementation

Christina W. Lopez, Texas State Univ.

Project: "The geographies and characteristics of intentional communities in the United States: a national-level descriptive analysis" Funded: $100 for research workshop in Cardiff, UK

2019 SWAAG Meeting

TCU campus. ***TCU Geography is our host for the upcoming 2019 Annual Meeting in Fort Worth, Texas***

The Department of Geography at Texas Christian University extends their invitation for you to attend **SWAAG 2019** in **Fort Worth, Texas**. Our meeting this year will run from **October 10 to 12**. All conference information can be found at the SWAAG website www.sw-aag.org

SOUTHWEST NEWS

The News from around the Southwest Division as reported to the Secretary

New PhD in SWAAG: New Mexico Joint Doctoral Program (NMJDP)

The New Mexico Joint Doctoral Program in Geography is the newest Doctoral option in the Southwest. The NMJDP is slated to launch in Fall 2020 and will be jointly administered by the University of New Mexico (UNM) and New Mexico State University (NMSU).

The NMSU-UNM joint doctoral program builds upon the strengths of the two departments by providing the education, training, and experience necessary for professional careers in higher education, private industry, and government. The program offers a rigorous, research-based degree that is focused on environmental change, dryland resource management, complex cultural landscapes, and the methods needed to understand them. During the program students will learn qualitative and quantitative research methods, and how to use them in combination to create a mixed-methods approach to geographic research.

Maria Lane (UNM) organized a panel discussion at the 2019 AAG Conference to share the good news and clarify the program's choice to focus on "Integrative Human-Environment Dynamics." Assuming our website is correct, this is the 8th PhD in Geography offered in our region and the 1st in New Mexico. Congratulations on all the hard work of coordinating and receiving the approval that it takes to do this. For more information on the joint doctoral program, contact Dr. Michaela Buenemann (elabuen@nmsu.edu), Graduate Programs Director at NMSU, or Dr. Chris Lippitt (clippitt@nmsu.edu), Graduate Programs Director at UNM.

The new program website is available at https://geographyphdnmsu.unm.edu/index.html

SWAAG Retirements

SWAAG thanks the following geographers for their many contributions to our discipline and region.

Happy news from Texas State Geography,

Dr. David Butler, Texas State University System Regents' Professor, University Distinguished Professor, American Association of Geographers Fellow, retired at the end of academic year 2018-19. Dr. Butler joined Texas State University Geography Department as a Full Professor in 1997. He served as the Graduate Program Coordinator of Geography during 2004-15. Dave has been an extremely productive scholars and an outstanding mentor. Dave's research and teaching interests fall in Zoogeomorphology, Dendrogeomorphology, Mountain Geomorphology, Mountain Biogeography, Mountain

Environments and Environmental Change, Geomorphology in the Anthropocene, History and Philosophy of Geography, and Glacier National Park (Montana). He has published more than 200 peer-reviewed journal articles and conference proceedings papers, plus around 50 book chapters. In addition, Dave edited 9 special journal issues and 5 books, published one textbook and a number of scholarly monographs. Dave's scholarly activities have been recognized by his election to the AAG Fellow in 2019 and by multiple AAG awards. Furthermore, Dave is a recipient of numerous university and college awards for both of his research and teaching achievements. During his tenure at Texas State Geography, Dave has directed a total of 17 doctoral dissertations and served on another 21 Ph.D. students' dissertation committees, and he supervised a total of 35 master's thesis/paper as the major advisor. With this retirement, Dave plans to travel the world as a "real geographer" while carrying out his duties as the Editor of the Physical Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences section of the Annals of AAG.

New Appointments

SWAAG welcomes the following geographers to new positions in our region. (as reported to SWAAG Secretary).

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

- Dr. Zhe "Sarina" Zhang, Assistant Professor. Doctor of Science in Geoinformatics, Aalto University (f. Helsinki University of Technology), 2016.
- Dr. Lei Zou, Assistant Professor. PhD Environmental Science, Louisiana State University, 2017. Dissertation: Mining social media data for improved understanding of disaster resilience.
- Dr. Lindsay Sansom, Research Assistant Professor. PhD Ecosystem Science and Management, Texas A&M University, 2018.
- Dr. Heng Cai, Instructional Assistant Professor. PhD Environmental Science, Louisiana State University, 2017.
- Dr. Elizabeth "Betsy" Breyer, Visiting Assistant Professor. PhD Geography, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- Dr. Bonnie E. Bounds, Visiting Assistant Professor. PhD Geography, The Ohio State University.
- Dr. Tyler Fricker, Visiting Assistant Professor. PhD Geography, Florida State University.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

- Dr. Lu Liang, Assistant Professor. PhD Department of Environmental Science Policy and Management, University of California, Berkeley, 2015. *(further mentioned in department news)*

TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY

- Dr. Yanan "Nancy" Li joined the Department of Geography at Texas State University as a Tenure-Track Assistant Professor starting fall 2018. Nancy received her Ph.D. degree in Geography from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 2015. Nancy's research interests are Glacial Geomorphology, Paleo-climate and Environmental Change, and Digital Terrain Analysis.
- Dr. Thomas Larsen joined the Department of Geography at Texas State University as a Lecturer starting fall 2018. Thomas' received his Ph.D. degree in Geography from Kansas State University in 2018. His research interests are Geography Education, Human-Environment Relationship, Place, Learning Progressions.
- Dr. Michael Solem will start his appointment as a Full Professor with the Department of Geography at Texas State University in fall 2019. Michael has been holding an appointment as a Research Professor with Texas State Geography since March 2017. He was a Tenure-Track Assistant Professor with Texas State Geography 2000-2003. Michael will continue to serve as a Co-Director for National Center for Research in Geography Education. Michael received his Ph.D. degree in Geography from University of Colorado, Boulder in 1999. His teaching and research interests are in Geography Education.
- Dr. Samantha Krause will join the Department of Geography at Texas State University as a Lecturer in fall 2019. Sam received her Ph.D. degree in Geography from the University of Texas, Austin in 2018. Sam's research focuses on anthropogenic impacts on soils and wetlands over time, how these impacts can be quantified, and how the environmental history of

these systems could inform society's ongoing use of soils and wetlands today.

- Dr. Benjamin Prince will join the Department of Geography at Texas State University as a Lecturer in fall 2019. Ben received his Ph.D. degree in Environmental Geography from Texas State University in 2016. Ben is a professional environmental planner and cartographer specializing in the use of geographic analysis and cartographic design to facilitate strategic conservation action centered on Texas watersheds.

Necrogeography

Sad news from Texas State Geography,

Dr. Lawrence Estaville, Texas State University System Regents' Professor, University Distinguished Professor of Geography passed away on December 20, 2018 with his wife, Sandra, by his side. Lawrence was a Professor in the Department of Geography. He served in academia as a professor, scholar, and administrator for more than 40 years with positions in Wisconsin, California, South Carolina, and Texas. Lawrence joined Texas State University (then Southwest Texas State University) in 1994 as the Chair of the Department of Geography and served in this position until returning to faculty as a Professor in 2004. Lawrence led the establishment of the three PhD programs in the Geography Department. Throughout his careers in academia and military, Lawrence received numerous awards, honors, and recognitions. A Celebration of Life in memory of Dr. Lawrence Estaville was held on campus on February 6, 2019. In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that contributions be made to the various scholarships Dr. Estaville championed or sponsored at Texas State University. To make contributions, please visit https://donate.txstate.edu/givingsearch, type the fund name in the "Fund Description box", and click search.

One of Lawrence's many academic achievements.

Regional Departmental News:

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

The 2018-19 academic year has been one of transition for the University of North Texas Department of Geography and the Environment. We welcomed our newest faculty member Assistant Professor Lu Liang in September. Dr. Liang is a geospatial scientist who studies modeling, mapping, and monitoring in physical environments, the biosphere, and anthropogenic landscapes. She teaches courses in GIS, digital image processing, and geospatial environmental analysis. Dr. Liang's arrival comes at a time that we are seeing two faculty members move into modified service. Longtime SWAAG member, Dr. Kent McGregor began modified service in the fall; he continues to do research and teach courses in meteorology and climatology as well as mapping and field methods, which he plans to do for two more years prior to retirement. Dr. Reid Ferring will go on modified service in the fall of 2019; he will continue to teach courses in geomorphology and geology. He also maintains an active research program in geoarchaeology and paleoanthropology in the Republic of Georgia at the Dnamisi fossil hominin site. Dr. Ferring served as Interim Chair of the Department for the last two years, taking over from Dr. Paul Hudak in 2017. Dr. Steve Wolverton will take over as Department Chair in July 2019. Our faculty members continue to pursue high-impact research by publishing books with esteemed presses and articles in top-tier journals, as well as by serving as editors for numerous journal, as board members for journals and academic societies, and as members of grant and fellowship panels. We look forward to continued success in 2019-2020.

Since our recognition in 2017 as the inaugural recipient of the AAG's Award for Master's Program Excellence, our undergraduates and graduate students continue to excel. Several undergrads have moved into careers in DFW, working with governmental agencies as well as environmental and business consulting firms. Others are pursuing graduate degrees at Texas State, UT-Austin, University College of London, and in other programs. Some of our recent MA graduates are now pursuing PhDs at Ohio State University, University of New Mexico, The Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History,

West Virginia University, Boston University, and other esteemed programs.

TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY

In addition to five new positions, TSU Geography is seeking applicants for two tenure-track positions starting Fall 2020. Both positions are available at https://jobs.hr.txstate.edu/postings/25265 *Editor's note: TSU sent me the longest departmental update of any—thank you. I split it up into the different sections above.*

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

On July 1, 2019, UNM's Department of Geography & Environmental Studies welcomed Dr. Chris Duvall as department chair. He replaces Dr. Maria Lane, who will return to the GES faculty. Dr. Duvall will serve a four year-term at the helm of a growing department. He brings a wealth of administrative experience to the position, having served in recent years as GES Associate Chair, GES Graduate Program Director, and on a variety of university-level committees.

More Baton Rouge

The "Red Stick" monument at Southern University campus overlooking the Mississippi River, Baton Rouge.

AAG President, Sheryl Luzzadder-Beach (University of Texas) presenting research on Hydraulic Society and Water Management in the Ancient Maya Lowlands (opening session)

The River Studies Center on the Cis-side from LSU main campus perspective, but Trans-side from Acadiana

The entertainment outside of Barcadia, our Friday social; allegedly Bill Doolittle was dancing as he took a photo of the band.

SWAAG Budget (31 July 2019)

By Maria Lane, SWAAG Treasurer, University of New Mexico

Date	Description	Receipts	Disbursements	Balance
8/31/18	*Balance forward*			*$ 16,531.60*
9/12/18	1V: Texas State Univ sponsorship	500.00		17,031.60
9/5/18	Truman - reimb. conf. hotel		(497.96)	16,533.64
9/5/18	Hoffman - reimb. conf. hotel		(497.96)	16,035.68
9/6/18	Deposit for SWAAG T-shirts		(15.00)	16,020.68
9/21/18	Castaneda Camacho - reimb for reg		(50.00)	15,970.68
9/21/18	Rains - Reimbursement for conf. hotel		(109.00)	15,861.68
9/24/18	Pan Ector - SWAAG T-shirts		(398.00)	15,463.68
9/30/18	17V SWAAG Paypal fees		(8.78)	15,454.90
9/30/18	17V SWAAG 2018 FT Registrations	220.00		15,674.90
10/26/18	45V: Eventbrite SWAAG 2018 Conf Reg	12,201.25		27,876.15
10/3/18	SWAAG T-shirts		(386.16)	27,489.99
10/5/18	T-shirt sales	30.00		27,519.99
10/5/18	Return of PayPal fees	2.32		27,522.31
10/5/18	PayPal fees		(1.78)	27,520.53
10/9/18	Colten- SWAAG reimbursement		(18.11)	27,502.42
10/5/18	55V Hurrican Katrina Field Trip		(80.00)	27,422.42
10/10/18	Mathewson - Conf. Exp. Reimbursement		(8,172.34)	19,250.08
10/18/18	Hodge - Graduate Poster Award		(50.00)	19,200.08
10/18/18	Hodge - SWAAG WGB		(250.00)	18,950.08
10/18/18	Pedrick - Graduate Paper Award		(250.00)	18,700.08
10/18/18	Kyle - Graduate Paper Award		(100.00)	18,600.08
10/18/18	Eshleman - Graduate Poster Award		(250.00)	18,350.08
10/18/18	Furness - WGB		(100.00)	18,250.08
10/18/18	Thompson - Graduate Paper Award		(50.00)	18,200.08
10/18/18	Wang - Undergraduate Poster Award		(250.00)	17,950.08
10/18/18	Luce - Undergrad Paper Award		(250.00)	17,700.08
10/18/18	Pitre - Undergrad Poster Award		(100.00)	17,600.08
10/25/18	Smith - Graduate Poster Award		(100.00)	17,500.08
11/15/18	Prout - t-shirt sales	440.00		17,940.08

11/12/18	Craig - 2nd Place Undergrad Paper Awd		(100.00)	17,840.08
2/13/19	Buenemann - web hosting reimbursemt		(49.00)	17,791.08
2/27/19	AM19 Sponsorship - Zuni Map Art		(400.00)	17,391.08
3/19/19	World Geog Bowl 2019	1,000.00		18,391.08
4/17/19	Craig - WGB 2019		(300.00)	18,091.08
4/17/19	Eisenhart - WGB 2019		(300.00)	17,791.08
4/17/19	Furness - WGB 2019		(300.00)	17,491.08
4/17/19	Hodge - WGB 2019		(300.00)	17,191.08
4/18/19	Krupala - WGB 2019		(300.00)	16,891.08
4/18/19	Moore - WGB 2019		(300.00)	16,591.08
4/18/19	Kang - Summer Research Award		(400.00)	16,191.08
4/18/19	Lopez - Summer Research Award		(100.00)	16,091.08
4/18/19	Polen - Summer Research Award		(100.00)	15,991.08
4/18/19	Spencer - Summer Research Award		(400.00)	15,591.08
6/13/19	Elite Trophies - plaque for service award		(59.81)	15,531.27
6/13/19	ZeeCraft - WGB buzzer set		(2,576.00)	12,955.27
7/31/19	**BALANCE**			**12,955.27**

Matt Fry exploring the energy situation in Mexico—looking for new SWAAGers.