Panel 1  Investigations of Economic and Statistical Differences in Arid and Humid States
Moderator  Mark Melichar, Tennessee Tech University

FRIDAY 8:00-9:30 am  Boardroom East

“Recovering from the Great Recession: How have Arid States Performed?”
Daniel D. Kuster, Kansas State University and Kyle Ross, University of Arkansas at Little Rock

“The Effect of Oil Price Shocks in Arid States”
Mark Melichar, Tennessee Tech University

“Arid Lands States and Economic Freedom”
David E.R. Gay and Charles R. Britton, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, and Richard K. Ford, University of Arkansas at Little Rock

“Investigating the Health Metrics of Diabetes and Obesity Among Our Arid Lands”
Joseph Earley, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, Archie J. Calise, City University of New York, Sara Earley and Eduardo Santillan, California Department of Social Work
Panel 2  
Geography and Resources
Moderator  
David E. R. Gay, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

**FRIDAY**  
9:45-11:15 am  
Boardroom East

“Examining the Natural Resource Curse Using a Bayesian VAR Framework”  
Vladimir Bejan, Seattle University

“Special Economic Zones in the China Seas”  
George F. Botjer, University of Tampa

“Characterizing Holocene Evolution of the South Texas Sand Sheet: Climate and Geologic Framework”  
Patrick Barrineau, Chris Houser, Brad Weymer, and Michael Bishop, Texas A&M University

“Women’s Bodies and Solving the World’s Water Crisis”  
Sonia Brown, California State University – Long Beach

“Violent Natures: From Coercive Conservation to Climate Change in Africa”  
Cassie M. Hays, Gettysburg College

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**FRIDAY**  
2:45-4:15 pm  
Boardroom East

Arid Lands Studies Section Business Meeting