



# *The Seaton Globe*

*Kansas State University*

*Department of Geography*

*13 February 2006*

The newsletter is viewable on the department's website ([www.ksu.edu/geography](http://www.ksu.edu/geography)). Note that links found in the newsletter will work if you go to the online version.

## **On-Campus Speakers**

14 Feb: **Cherri M. Pancake** (Oregon State University, Electrical Engineering & Computer Science & Engineering), "Mitigating the Effects of Natural Disasters: Lessons from the Tsunami Community," 1:30 pm, Fielder Auditorium. [WESP Distinguished Lecture]

## **GTU/Geography Club**

The Geography Club/GTU is sponsoring our first ever **Relay for Life** team this year. Relay for Life starts Friday, April 21 at 6:00 pm and goes till Saturday, April 22 at 6:00 am. It's a fun 12 hour event located at the Old Stadium on campus. Geography Club/GTU will pay your \$10 registration fee (which includes a t-shirt). If you raise \$100 or more you will eat for free and get other prizes all evening long. This is a great opportunity to get involved in a worthy cause and also have a good time with other geographers. If you are interested or want more information please contact either Sumanth Reddy ([sreddy@ksu.edu](mailto:sreddy@ksu.edu)) or Darci Paull ([btbdarci@ksu.edu](mailto:btbdarci@ksu.edu)). Registration & donations can be done online at [www.acsevents.org/ksu](http://www.acsevents.org/ksu), or you can do it the old fashioned way (Darci has the forms in Seaton 20). If you do choose to register online please still talk to Sumo or Darci so we can get you signed up for a t-shirt & registration fee. Please consider helping a good cause and representing the Kansas State Geography Department.

## **KSU Geographers' Activities**

**Shawn Hutchinson** attended the DoD-sponsored Homeland Infrastructure Foundation-Level Database Working Group meeting held in Reston, Virginia, February 6-8. He presented a talk highlighting the importance of agricultural biosecurity from a homeland security perspective and outlined the various data needs required for agricultural monitoring and predictive analyses.

**Shawn Hutchinson** represented KSU at a meeting of the University Consortium for Geographic Information Science (UCGIS) in Washington, DC, February 9-10. He participated in a Congressional briefing on the topic of hazard response/decision support & coordinated with representatives from the Library of Congress Geography & Maps Division, National Science Foundation, NASA, US Geological Survey, and National Geospatial Intelligence Agency.

Will Graf and the National Research Council Platte River Committee have been selected to receive the 2006 Meredith F. Burrill Award for the project and book entitled *Endangered and Threatened Species of the Platte River*. The Association of American Geographers' Burrill award was established "to honor individuals or groups that have completed work of exceptional merit and quality that lies at or near the intersection of basic research in geography on the one hand, and practical applications or policy implications on the other." Graf chaired the 14-member multidisciplinary NRC Platte River Committee, which included one other geographer, **Lisa Harrington**.

## **Student Opportunities**

**Internship Exchange** Learn about internship & co-op experiences and what they can mean to you: Thursday, Feb 23, 2006, Union Rm 213, 4:00–5:00 p.m. Call Career & Employment Services at 532-1689 with questions.

**NASA Undergraduate Student Research Program (NASA-USRP)** Undergraduate research experiences are offered at NASA Centers during 2 sessions scheduled for Summer & Fall. The purposes are to: 1) attract undergraduate students from a wide array of backgrounds, and to provide them with

hands-on, challenging research experiences that stimulate continued student interest in the fields/disciplines aligned with NASA's research and development mission; 2) build a national program bridge that encourages and facilitates student interest in future professional opportunities with NASA and its partner organizations; & 3) extend and strengthen NASA's commitment to educational excellence and university research. The *NASA-USRP* seeks applications from undergraduates enrolled full-time in an accredited U.S. college or university. Applicants must be rising juniors or seniors during the Spring 2006 semester with an academic major or demonstrated coursework concentration in engineering, mathematics, computer science, or physical/life sciences. The *USRP* will consist of a 10–15 week research experience at a [participating NASA Center](#) under the supervision of a NASA technical mentor. Selected students must be available to work 10 consecutive weeks at 40 hrs/week during the summer session or 15 consecutive weeks at 40 hrs/week during the fall session. Students will receive a \$5,000 (summer) or \$7,500 (fall) stipend for the research experience plus one round-trip airfare or ground transportation costs to/from the NASA Host Center. A location allowance will be provided for students at specific high cost NASA Centers. At the completion of the research session, students must submit a paper on their *NASA-USRP* research experience. Students may also be asked to discuss their research in public forums and/or participate in NASA-sponsored colloquia, workshops, & technology demonstrations. Please see [http://www.vsgc.odu.edu/Menu3\\_1\\_3.htm](http://www.vsgc.odu.edu/Menu3_1_3.htm). Application deadline is Feb 20.

**Student Paper Competition** The Rural Geography Specialty Group (RGSG) invites students who will be presenting in any RGSG-sponsored session at the Chicago AAG meeting to enter the student paper competition. A \$100 prize is awarded for the best student paper. The competition is open to both undergraduate and graduate students. To enter the competition, students must submit 3 copies of the abstract. Please send abstracts to: Randy Wilson, Department of Environmental Studies, Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, PA 17325. Email: [rwilson@gettysburg.edu](mailto:rwilson@gettysburg.edu). Abstracts must be received by March 1, 2006. Each entrant also must submit a completed copy of his/her paper to the RG Awards Committee at the presentation in Chicago.

**Graduate Research Assistantships** The Institute for Civic Discourse and Democracy invites applications for three 0.5 FTE GRAs for the 2006-7 academic year. These positions are open to qualified graduate students from all departments. All positions will work with members of the Institute on various projects such as assisting with facilitation, compiling a deliberative democracy database, and planning & hosting open public forums. Qualifications for the positions are similar, though responsibilities will be allocated according to the abilities & experience of those hired. Salary for each position is \$12,000. Qualifications: KSU graduate student, committed to principles of deliberative democracy, able to work individually & in a collaborative environment, good communication & problem-solving skills; experience with website maintenance preferred (one position). Primary responsibilities will include: assisting with research projects, assisting with information collection projects, traveling with facilitators to assist & collect data, event planning & public relations, creation of ICDD facilitation & information materials, maintaining ICDD website. Candidates should submit a letter of interest, vitae, and contact information for 3 references to: Erika Imbody, Project Coordinator, ICDD, 129 Nichols Hall ([erika@ksu.edu](mailto:erika@ksu.edu)). Deadline for applications is April 1. For more information about ICDD, visit: [www.k-state.edu/icdd](http://www.k-state.edu/icdd).

### **Websites**

Library of Congress Map Collections: 1500-2004 <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/gmdhome.html>  
1507 Waldseemuller World Map ("America's Birth Certificate"), costing \$10 million, is now among  
Library of Congress holdings: [www.directionsmag.com/press.releases/index.php?duty=Show&id=8373&trv=1](http://www.directionsmag.com/press.releases/index.php?duty=Show&id=8373&trv=1)

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