



The Seaton Globe

Kansas State University

Department of Geography

3 March 2008

This newsletter is viewable on the department's website (www.k-state.edu/geography). Note that links found in the newsletter will work if you go to the online version.

Presentations

- March 4 Dr. Saugata Datta: "Enrichment of Arsenic in Sediments from the Meghna and Brahmaputra River Banks in Bangladesh: Implication for Recycling of Arsenic in the Delta," 4:00 pm, Room 213, Thompson Hall.
- March 6 Casey Moore: "Where have all the Earthquakes Gone?" 4:00 pm, Room 213, Thompson Hall
- March 14 Dr. Garth Myers: "What do Africa's Urban Poor Think of Pro-poor Planning?" 3:30 pm, Little Theater, KSU Student Union

Conference Presentation

Paul, B.K. New Teaching Strategies in Introductory Human Geography Class: What Worked, What Did Not." Presented at the Equity and Access Project 2008 Summit held at Dodge City Community College, Dodge City, KS, March 1, 2008.

Events and Other Things of Note

Geography Career Day March 10, 2008 - The KSU Geography Department and Alumni Advisory Board members will host a geography career day. The focus of the day will be building resume writing and interview skills with mock and actual interviews with geography alumni from the Army Corps of Engineers and other potential geography employers. Resumes and interview information can be passed on to other potential employers for interested students. In addition, there will be a seminar session on geography career opportunities where alumni will present many potential career options open to geographers. The seminar will be held at 1:00-2:00 pm in Seaton 164H. Interviews will run from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm in half hour blocks in the Student Union, rooms 204 and 205. **To participate, sign up on the schedule posted in the Geography Main Office.** Interviews are open to anyone interested in practicing their interview skills, but if you are looking for a position, please leave a copy of your resume with the sign-up sheet prior to **March 10 and they will be passed on to perspective employers.**

The Department wishes to salute Dave Koch (working with **Doug Goodin**) and Sohini Dutt (working with **Bimal Paul**) for submitting proposals to the Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement (DDRI) Grant Program in the Geography and Regional Science Program in the National Science Foundation.

Only one previous K-State Geography doctoral student, Mary Dobbs (working with **Lisa M.B. Harrington**) has received funding in this program. Dave's proposal is titled "Detecting the Anthropogenic Forest Disturbances and Understory Density for the Study of Hantavirus in Paraguay." Sohini's proposal is titled "Perceptions of HIV Risk and Preventive Measures among Female Students in Kolkata, India." The next deadline for DDRI proposals is 15 October 2008. A link to DDRI proposal guidelines can be found at: <http://www.nsf.gov/sbe/bcs/grs/suppdiss.jsp>. Best wishes for success to Dave and Sohini!

The department would like to salute **John Harrington** for joining Chuck Rice (AGR) and Jeff Peterson (AGE) on a proposal to the NSF Human and Social Dynamics Program. The title of their proposal is "Understanding Social-ecological Dynamics in Grasslands of North and South America." **Marcello Caldas** has also joined colleagues from Michigan State University on a proposal to the same NSF program titled "Globalization of Human and Ecological Systems-Amazonia and the World Economy."

Geography PhD candidate Jacob Sowers has been hired as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography, Geology and Planning at Missouri State University. Jacob was hired in a position that emphasizes tourism planning and cultural geography. He will start in Fall 2008. Congratulations Jacob!

The Association of American Geographers has selected Sumanth Reddy, PhD candidate in Geography, to receive an AAG-NSF Travel Grant to attend the 2008 IGU Congress in Tunis, Tunisia. As a junior scholar, he will receive a cash advance of \$2,000 to defray expenses associated with your attendance and participation. Congratulations Sumo!

Ben Champion has completed his Ph.D. in Geography at Oxford University. Ben was a 2003 Rhodes Scholar from K-State, graduating in Fall 2002 with a B.S. in Chemistry and Natural Resources and Environmental Science (NRES). However, once at Oxford, he switched to Geography, working under the supervision of Dr. Diana Liverman. Ben's dissertation research focused on emerging regional economic networks for the production and distribution of "local food", who are the participants, what are the geographical distributions of "local food" in the region, how food comes to be understood as "local", and what the implications are for progressive outcomes such as environmental sustainability and social justice for both producers and consumers. The project involved nine months of fieldwork in Eastern Kansas, including a wide variety of interviews, farm visits, participant observation, and personal participation in local food relations. Ben attended Olathe South High School.

The **K-State Career and Employment Services Office** has released some post-graduation statistics on employment, for students who graduated in Summer 2006, december 2006, and Spring 2007.

23 Geography students were contacted, 19 replied.

69% are employed (compared to 58% for the entire College of A&S)

26% are pursuing additional education (compared to 33% for the entire College of A&S)

5% are seeking employment (compared to 6% for the entire College of A&S)

The Geography graduates from this period gained employment in the following states:

1 in Arizona

6 in Kansas

1 in Missouri

1 in Nebraska

1 in Texas

1 in Utah

8 did not report location

1 in Utah

This Wednesday, March 5, 2008, Kansas State University, will host a **Common Good Internship/Career Fair**, 11:00am-3:00pm in the Union Ballroom. For a list of employers attending the fair, visit <http://www.k-state.edu/ces/students/cfcommongoodfair.htm>

American Geographical Society Digital Photo Archive

<http://www.uwm.edu/Libraries/digilib/agsphoto/index.html>

The **University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee** has rolled out a number of fine digital collections over the past few years that have covered everything from Golda Meir to the Milwaukee Repertory Theater. This latest addition provides access to over 2000 photographs from the American Geographical Society Library (AGSL). The current collection is primarily focused on countries in Asia and the Middle East, and they hope to expand their collection in the near future to include additional regions of the world. Visitors to the site can search the collection by country, city, or search term of their choice. Highlights of the archive include some remarkable photographs of the waterfront in Alexandria, the markets of Bangkok, and photographs of the city of Katmandu.

THE GLOBAL STUDIES CONFERENCE, University of Illinois, Chicago, 16-18
May 2008 <http://www.GlobalStudiesConference.com>

The Global Studies Conference on Global Studies Journal are devoted to mapping and interpreting new trends and patterns in globalization. This journal and the conference attempt to do this from many points of view, from many locations in the world, and in a wide-angle kaleidoscopic fashion.

The National Academies has an excellent new site on sustainability with special articles from their journal, PNAS: <http://www.pnas.org/misc/sustainability.shtml>