Departmental & Campus Events

2 Dec (M) Workshop. The Library and Your Research: Preparing your Electronic Thesis or Dissertation. Graduate Student Council, K-State Libraries. Free; no registration needed. 1:30-2:30 pm, 301 Hale Library

3 Dec (T) Workshop. GTA Recognition of Achievement in Professional Development series. Join the Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) to have some hot chocolate, Christmas treats & informal discussion of upcoming finals issues that GTAs may experience; 3:30–4:30 pm.

4 Dec (W) Faculty coffee; 2:30 pm, Union

6 Dec (F) GTU Brownbag. Richard Marston, "Juneau Icefield Research Program: Summer on Ice;" 11:30-12:20, S 164H

8 Dec (Su) Wildcat writing & research consultations-Writing Center Tutors; 6-9 pm, 2nd floor Hale Library. Free help with papers for all classes.

9 Dec (M) Geography Department Holiday party/potluck. 11 am-4 pm, S 164H. All Geography students, faculty, staff, and friends welcome. (Faculty/grad students- see sign-up list for food items in S118.)

13 Dec (F) Term ends
Graduate School Commencement, 1 pm, Bramlage

14 Dec (Sa) Arts & Sciences Commencement, 8:30 am, Bramlage

16-20 Dec Finals

20 Jan (M) Martin Luther King, Jr., Day

21 Jan (T) Spring classes begin

Departmental Activities

Presentation


Other

Andy Hilburn successfully defended his dissertation at the University of Kansas on 22 Nov.

Lisa Tabor and John Harrington were recognized at the National Council for Social Studies conference, 22 Nov., by Herff Jones|Nystrom educational publishers and the NCSS for receipt of the 2012 NCSS Grant for the Enhancement of Geographic Literacy.

Thanks to volunteers who helped with Geography Awareness Week activities. Photos: Bill Wetherholt
**AAG Deadline**

Abstracts for papers and posters, sessions, and before-rates-rise registrations are **due Tuesday, 3 Dec.** If you've procrastinated to now, hurry up and get to [www.aag.org/cs/annualmeeting](http://www.aag.org/cs/annualmeeting). AAG meets in Tampa, Florida, 8-12 April.

**K-State Van Driver Training**

There is a Kansas State University policy for students and staff who operate larger vans: a training session is required. The Division of Facilities offers National Safety Council’s “Coaching the Van Driver III” throughout the year. Facilities will have one more class this year (4 Dec, 1:30-3:30 pm, Union 226). Next year’s training sessions will be offered starting 29 Jan. See [www.k-state.edu/facilities/training/van-training.html](http://www.k-state.edu/facilities/training/van-training.html) for the schedule and a link to register for a session. Your eID and password are required. It can be very helpful to the Department of Geography for faculty and graduate students to be certified drivers.

**Free On-Campus FRAGSTATS Workshop**

FRAGSTATS is a spatial pattern analysis program for quantifying the structure of landscapes. The landscape subject to analysis is user-defined & can represent any spatial phenomenon. FRAGSTATS computes a large number of landscape metrics for quantifying the spatial character and context of patches, classes, & entire landscape mosaics, and offers a variety of sampling schemes for analyzing sub-landscapes. Dec 16-17, 9 am-5 pm. Instructor: Dr. Kevin McGarigal (University of Massachusetts). Day 1 covers general landscape ecology principles & common landscape metrics, an overview of FRAGSTATS, and example aquatic and terrestrial applications. Individuals or research teams can sign up for 1h blocks on Day 2 to consult with Dr. McGarigal on your GIS data in a specific format. All workshop participants are welcome to participate as observers in these specific research discussions. To participate in the individualized sessions, you must be present for the general Monday session. Contact Martha Mather (mmather@ksu.edu) with questions, for registration, and for more complete information & requirements.

**Student Opportunities**

This year the Graduate Student Affinity Group (GSAG) of the AAG is pleased to announce that in lieu of holding paper competitions we will be granting Travel Awards to graduate students in need of support. They will award $250.00 each to 8 graduate students to assist with AAG 2014 conference travel costs. Apply for the travel award at: [http://tinyurl.com/p45zzs2](http://tinyurl.com/p45zzs2). Applicants will be required to include a budget, including flight & hotel costs and potential department support. Award recipients must be members of GSAG by the award submission **deadline of 6 Dec.** GSAG will grant awards to students based on need.

*The Geographical Bulletin* is a peer-reviewed journal whose primary mission is to provide an outlet for undergraduate and graduate student research in all areas of geography. Non-student submissions are also welcome. The editor of *The Geographical Bulletin* is soliciting manuscripts for upcoming issues. Many students have had their first professional publication appear in *The Geographical Bulletin*. To foster and encourage student publication, a "Best Student Paper" award with a $200 prize is awarded each year to the best student-authored paper. Students who are completing original research through a senior thesis, masters' thesis, PhD dissertation, or similar project are encouraged to submit the results of their research in article form for publication. For a style sheet, visit [www.gammathetaupsilon.org/geographical-bulletin.html](http://www.gammathetaupsilon.org/geographical-bulletin.html). For further information, contact Steven M. Schnell, Editor, *Geographical Bulletin* (schnell@kutztown.edu; 610-683-1595).
C2C Fellows: Leadership Workshop for Sustainability Careers; 14 Feb.-16 Feb.; Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY. C2C stands for Campus to Congress, to Capitol, to City Hall, and to Corporation; C2C Fellows is for undergraduates and recent graduates who want high-impact careers in sustainable business and politics. During the workshop, you will learn the leadership skills necessary to succeed, such as how to raise money, tell your story, build your network, pitch your idea, & know what you're good at. Graduates of our workshops are eligible for scholarships to continue their leadership training, as well as to become funded graduate students at Bard's Center for Environmental Policy. Space is limited: applications are due by 31 Jan; accepted on a rolling basis (www.bard.edu/cep/c2c/events/upcoming/). (Additional opportunities are noted on the website, at the University of Florida 21-23 Mar, & Moraine Valley Community College, Illinois, 25-27 Apr.) The registration fee for this workshop is $30, including food & lodging for attendees traveling over 1 hour. Contact Workshop Director Jess Scott (jescott@bard.edu) for more information.

Funded MA & PhD student positions in the UBC Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability. • Experience of Shifting Water Governance: Comparative Study of Water Access, Narrative and Citizenship in Accra, Ghana and Cape Town, South Africa, funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, MA & PhD students are invited to work with this collaborative comparative research project. In general, MA students will likely focus on one of the study sites, while PhD students would be expected to include both sites in their research projects. Applications can speak to elements of the varied project goals, depending on your interests. Project goals are to: 1) analyze the effects & experiences of shifts in contemporary water governance among relatively impoverished & underserved communities in Accra, Ghana, & Cape Town, South Africa; 2) analyze relationships between water use, access, governance, & citizenship; 3) develop new approaches for narrative analysis, particularly for political ecology studies; and 4) contribute to policy debates regarding possibilities for extending water access & promoting participatory governance, particularly in underserved areas. The project also seeks to work with partners in each context to promote research capacity & to disseminate knowledge from the project to key constituencies. Thus, working with local governmental & non-governmental partners is essential. Statistical analysis skills desired, but not necessary. Successful applicants for this opportunity should have strong research, analysis, community engagement, & writing skills; be highly motivated & organized; and be able to work independently & in a team environment. Travel is required. To apply: submit CV, a very brief summary of your background & qualifications (including GPA) & provide the research question(s) you propose to work on, in line with the opportunities as outlined above. Applications to be sent to lharris@ires.ubc.ca. Check www.edges.ubc.ca for other information & to view MA theses already concluded in line with this project. • Improving Water governance in small communities and First Nations in British Columbia. As part of the Res’Eau WATERNET NSERC Strategic Network (www.reseauwaternet.ca/), the Program on Water Governance has funding for one MA or PhD student to work on research in line with the network, with a focus on improving water governance in small & First Nation communities. As part of the strategic network ‘living laboratory’ effort, work with a particular community is likely (e.g., Cowichan Valley Regional District). Here applicants are asked to communicate initially with Dr. Harris about interest, & frame a potential project in line with the overall project goal as stated above (and on the Res’Eau website). For this project, engagement with community partners & broader science communities is a must. Successful applicants for this opportunity should have strong research, analysis, community engagement, & writing skills; be highly motivated & organized; and be able to work independently & in a team environment. Travel is required. To apply: submit CV, a very brief summary of your background and qualifications (including GPA), and provide the research question(s) you propose to work on, in line with the opportunities as outlined above. Applications to be sent to lharris@ires.ubc.ca. Dr. Karen Bakker will likely co-advise the successful applicant.

The University of Idaho seeks PhD students to contribute to an integrative research project to study adaptation to changes in water resources. The research focuses on the headwaters of the Columbia
River & covers a diverse set of drivers & responses. They seek a PhD student to focus on the historic & projected changes in climate across the region & to examine the sensitivity of watersheds to changes in climate including climate extremes. Students will be part of an NSF-funded Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship program (IGERT) to facilitate interdisciplinary water resource research & education, with an emphasis on training in decision-making skills. IGERT students will also work with universities in Idaho, Canada, & Chile. Review of applications will begin 15 Dec. Doctoral traineeships begin 1 June. See www.uidaho.edu/cogs/envs/water-resources/igert. Contact: Dr. John Abatzoglou (jabatzoglou@uidaho.edu).

The Center for Earth Observation (CEO) at NC State University is seeking a highly qualified candidate who is committed to pursuing a PhD focused on the integration of Environmental Social Science and Geospatial Analytics starting Fall 2014. Candidates should have a strong desire to engage in high-quality research that couples social science methods with geospatial analytics to address human responses to environmental change. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to work on a variety of interdisciplinary research projects related to decision making under risk; social & information networks; and integrated social-ecological modeling approaches. The assistantship is a 12 month, 20 hr/wk position. The successful candidate will work out of CEO’s Geovisualization Laboratory (http://cnr.ncsu.edu/prtm/research/visualization_lab.php). Responsibilities: actively engage in an interdisciplinary research team & develop new areas of inquiry in collaboration with faculty advisors; research activities entail literature reviews, research design, data collection & analysis, and result dissemination; assist & lead in writing grant proposals, technical & non-technical reports, and journal articles; maintain good graduate standing & make satisfactory progress toward completion of PhD. Qualifications: must meet admission standards & be fully accepted in PRTM’s doctoral program focused on Environmental Social Science & Community Health or FER's doctoral program in Forestry & Environmental Resources with a GIS minor; have highly positive recommendations from previous positions; and have prior masters degree research experience. Strong GIS, project management, and communication skills are preferred. Contact Dr. Jordan Smith (jwsmit12@ncsu.edu) or Dr. Ross Meentemeyer (rkmeente@ncsu.edu) for further information & application instructions. Applications received by 5 Jan will be fully considered.

A PhD student is sought for a project called “Disentangling drivers of change in terrestrial primary production (SATGUESS).” The project is a cooperation between Lund University & Copenhagen University; the successful applicant will receive a PhD degree from both Universities (a “double degree”). The overall aim of this project is to explore the combined use of remote sensing time series & biogeochemical vegetation modelling for quantification of effects on the carbon cycle (stocks & fluxes) from environmental changes. Focus will be on changes in land use, land cover, climate, & atmospheric CO2 concentration. Combining the high spatial & temporal resolution of remotely sensed observations with the mechanistic process representation of a biogeochemical vegetation model (LPJ-GUESS) can provide insight into the performance of both model outputs & temporal consistency of remote sensing time series. The combined use will also enable an improved basis for understanding how climatic/anthropogenic drivers influence past, current, & future properties of the terrestrial carbon cycle. The successful candidate should have a strong background in remote sensing of vegetation including handling large data sets and multi-sensor data sets. Technical skills in image processing & data handling (i.e., script based analysis) are considered an advantage. The candidate should have experience with ecosystem modelling & a programming language, preferably C++. Knowledge of MATLAB & high performance computing is an advantage. Experience from LPJ-GUESS or similar models are an advantage. Though the technical skills are important for a successful application, as the main focus of this study is to generate an improved basis for understanding of the investigated environmental systems, an ecological/biological/plant physiological background is obligatory. Hence an MSc (or equivalent) in environmental science, physical geography, geoscience, plant ecology, or similar is required. See: http://admin.lu.se/o.o.i.s?id=22598&Dnr=574021&Type=E.
**Ph.D. Research and Teaching Assistantship, University of Vermont: Human Health and the Environment.** Three years of funding available (research & teaching assistantship); goal is to secure project funding for the duration of the student’s program. Dr. Christine Vatovec has funding available for one doctoral-level student to conduct environmental health social science research that is related to medical care. Current projects focus on two areas regarding the interplay between human health & the environment: 1) socio-ecological consequences of medical care, and 2) human health benefits of nature contact. Responsibilities: The successful applicant will work with Vatovec to develop a research protocol, apply for grant funding, conduct field research (e.g., interviews, observations), analyze data, and prepare publications & presentations for academic & lay audiences. The position is for a minimum of 3 yrs during, with teaching assistant (10 hs/wk) & research assistant (10 hrs/wk) duties. Qualifications: a background in environmental studies or a related discipline, and an interest in environmental health, social science research, & qualitative methods. Preference will be given to applicants who have earned a MPH, or are interested in participating in the Certificate in Public Health program (http://learn.uvm.edu/health-3/public-health-certificate/) at UVM. Interested applicants should submit the following materials: 1) letter of interest (2 pp max) outlining the applicant’s professional interest in environmental health & career plans, why earning a PhD is the best path for achieving career goals, & experience with qualitative social science methods; 2) names & contact information of 3 references; 3) unofficial transcripts & GRE scores; and 4) current CV (include GPA from current/most recently completed graduate work). Applicants also must apply to the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources Graduate School before 1 Feb (graduate application process); state a preference for working with Dr. Vatovec (802-656-2728; https://sites.google.com/site/christinevatovec/). Letters of interest & supporting materials are due to Vatovec by **20 Jan**; applications due to the UVM Graduate College due by 1 Feb.

**Research Grant**

**E. Willard and Ruby S. Miller Geography Education Research Grant.** The Miller Research Grant was established through a generous endowment by E. Willard & Ruby S. Miller to the National Council for Geographic Education. The grants are intended to advance the frontiers of geography education by supporting & promoting innovative research in theory, practice, & application. Projects should enhance the understanding of geographic teaching & learning through original investigations of learning processes, techniques, & content. Projects may focus on geographic learning & teaching at any age level from pre-school to adult, & could include research on pre-service and/or in-service programs for geography educators. See www.ncge.org/miller-research. The deadline for proposal submission is **19 Mar** 2014. Pending available funding, a second deadline for proposal submission will be 15 Oct.

**Calls for Papers**

**Special Issue of Material Culture,** Spring 2015, focusing on technology as material culture. For the purpose of this issue, technology is defined as anything that makes everyday tasks easier. Manuscripts may consider (but are not limited to) any form of technology (electronic or non-electronic), how a type of technology is used in a cultural context, changes that result from the incorporation of new technology, the preservation of older technologies, how a form of technology is advertised, evolution of a form of technology & its cultural connections, or local & global forces that impact a form of technology & its uses. Manuscripts should be jargon-free, 6000-8000 words in length, have a solid foundation in relevant theory & literature, and may contain up to 8 black & white images that are illustrative of the manuscript’s key points. Manuscripts must adhere to the submission guidelines at www.pioneeramerica.org/materialculturecurrent.html. Direct questions to the Editor, Sara Beth Keough (sbkeough@svsu.edu). Submissions for the special issue should adhere to the **15 Jan** deadline.
European Geosciences Union General Assembly 2014: The Face of the Earth–Process and Form; Vienna, 27 Apr-2 May. The EGU General Assembly 2014 will bring together geoscientists from all over the world covering all disciplines of Earth, planetary, & space sciences. The EGU aims to provide a forum where scientists, especially early career researchers, can present their work & discuss ideas with experts in all fields of geosciences. Abstract deadline 16 Jan, 13:00 CET; early registration rate deadline 31 Mar. See www.egu2014.eu/home.html, & http://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/EGU2014/sessionprogramme/CL?co-session=75dl6lt9kobjejirga95g6934#s14115 for sessions being organized.

Permanent European Conference on the Study of the Rural Landscape (PECSRL) 2014, Göteborg, Sweden. The 26th session of the PECSRL biennial international conference - "Unraveling the Logics of Landscape" - will be held on 8-12 Sep 2014. The conference will take place at two locations: in the city of Gothenburg and the town of Mariestad. The conference brings together geographers, landscape architects, historians, ethnographers, ecologists, rural planners, landscape managers, & others interested in European landscapes. The conference offers opportunities to be informed about various aspects of European landscape research & to initiate new projects. Besides paper sessions, poster presentations, workshops, & plenary sessions there will be one full day of field trips to provide the PECSRL-participants with a detailed knowledge of rural landscapes in the region of Västra Götaland. By focusing on the interconnections present in the non-haphazard production of landscape, the conference will elaborate on how the rural landscape is valued, monitored, changed, harbored, used, & misused, be it through actions, representations or metaphors. Abstract deadline: 31 Jan. See www.pecsrl2014.com/index.html.

The 2014 Regional Conference of the International Geographical Union will be held in Krakow, Poland, 18-22 Aug. See www.igu2014.org/ for information and the list of IGU Commissions and sessions is also available. Proposals for thematic sessions can be submitted until the end of Nov 2013; the abstract deadline is 15 Jan.

Websites

Animated video of the life of Alfred Russel Wallace, the other guy who discovered evolution/natural selection, and for whom the Wallace Line (biogeography) was named: www.nytimes.com/video/opinion/100000002534565/the-animated-life-of-a-r-wallace.html. Wallace was a contemporary of Darwin, working in a different part of the world.

Where-in-the-world-is-this-toilet quiz, if you're in the mood for low-brow entertainment: http://toys.usvsth3m.com/crapper-mapper/


Please contact Lisa Butler Harrington (lbutlerh@ksu.edu) with K-State Globe items until 16 Dec. A new editor will be managing the Globe in spring semester.