Geography Awareness Week

Departmental & Campus Events

19 Nov (T) Geography Presentation: John Roberts, Career Opportunities in Restoration Ecology and Habitat Management for Geography Students; 1-2 pm, S 164H (see below)

20 Nov (W) GIS Day
   Faculty coffee; 2:30 pm, Union

21 Nov (Th) Geography guest speaker. Jonnell Robinson (Syracuse), “Points, Lines and People: Plotting a Course for Community Geography;” 3:45 pm, Union Big 12 Room

22 Nov (F) Deadline for materials submission to Graduate School for December graduation

25-29 Nov Thanksgiving Break


Geography Awareness Week

See the Collegian story at www.kstatecollegian.com/2013/11/18/celebrate-geography-in-every-day-life-with-geoweek/ for a K-State synopsis, and http://education.nationalgeographic.com/education/collections/geographyawarenessweek/?ar_a=1, the National Geographic Society's GeoWeek homepage. Note that GIS Day is recognized annually, the Wednesday of Geography Awareness week; see www.gisday.com/.

Departmental Activities

Award

Kyleen Kelly is the recipient of the K-State Graduate Student Council Teaching Excellence Award at the masters level ($500). She will be the university’s masters nominee for the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools’ regional excellence in teaching award.

Book published


Elections

In October, Shawn Hutchinson was elected Chair of the AAG Great Plains/Rocky Mountain Division (GP/RM). He has a one-year term, and is coordinating with the Southwest Region (SWAAG) for a combined meeting in fall 2014. Shawn Hutchinson also has been elected as the next GP/RM Regional Councilor of the AAG. His term will start 1 July 2014, and will be for 3 years.

Workshop conducted

A 3-hour workshop, "Using GIS in Teaching History and Geography," was presented by Lisa Tabor and John Harrington, Jr., at the Kansas Council for Social Studies annual conference, Derby, KS, 10 Nov.
Interview

Bill Wetherholt was interviewed by the K-State Collegian for an article about Geography Awareness Week (see link above.)

Loss

The department lost an alumnus and stalwart support in Steven Kale earlier this month. Steve was the department’s Distinguished Alumnus in 2009, and a member of the alumni board. A memorial site may be found at www.forevermissed.com/stevekale/#about, and a memorial fund with the Department of Geography has been established (see www.k-state.edu/geography/giving/index.html; scroll to bottom).

Student Opportunities

Alumnus John Roberts (Natomas Conservancy, Sacramento, CA) will visit with Geography students on Tuesday, 19 Nov, 1:00 to 2:00 pm in Seaton 164H, about career and research opportunities in restoration ecology and habitat land management.

The Graduate Student Council is now accepting abstracts for the annual K-State Research Forum, 26 Mar., in the Union. Participation is open to K-State graduate and undergraduate students from all disciplines. Students may give either a poster or an oral presentation. K-State faculty members will serve as judges & will select the top presenters in a variety of categories to receive awards. The abstract submission deadline is 20 Dec. Visit the research forums website for registration, abstract submission instructions, & materials.

Graduate/Post-Graduates

The Global Diversity Foundation (www.global-diversity.org/) announces GESA 2014: the 4th Global Environments Summer Academy, held in collaboration with the Centre for Development and Environment of the University of Bern, 26 July-15 Aug. See details on the GESA website. GESA spans local to global scales & diverse ecosystems, exploring critical contemporary environmental issues from multiple perspectives, including biocultural diversity, environmental history, political ecology, sustainability studies, & activism. Participants are encouraged to expand understandings of policy, develop academic insights & competence, and transcend disciplinary & place-based boundaries. The convenors select 18-21 participants from around the world who have the capacity to become future environmental leaders in academic, civil society, private sector, or government institutions. They invite applications from English-fluent activists, postgraduate students [i.e., post-BA/BS] and professionals in the humanities, natural sciences, & social sciences, as well as from those working in advocacy, law, media or policy, who focus on the relationship of environment and society. There is a two-stage application process: interested candidates are invited to complete the application before 15 Jan. Applicants will be notified of the 1st stage results by 15 Feb; finalists will be invited to the 2nd stage, for which they will be asked for additional information to be submitted by 15 Mar. Final selection will be completed by 1 May. The cost of the Academy is €2000, inclusive of accommodation, tuition, field trips, insurance & materials, but excluding local & international travel, meals & other living costs. Some course fee waivers & partial scholarships will be available.

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.

Calls for Papers

The 2014 Regional Conference of the International Geographical Union will be held in Krakow, Poland, 18-22 Aug. See http://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.

Call for Organized Sessions, 20th International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (ISSRM): Challenges of Urban and Rural Transformation; Hannover, Germany, 8-13 June, 2014. Current megatrends, such as climate change, urbanization, energy demand & an increasing land-use competition, lead to spatial transformation all around the globe & to a state of transition. This transformation affects both rural & urban areas and requires changes on all levels of society, economy, & politics. The 20th ISSRM will put a focus on these changes, their societal impacts, and the potential to mitigate their effects on natural resources & humankind. Under the conference theme, we are seeking organized sessions that fall under the following focus areas: social impacts & human dimensions of natural resource management; conflicts from climate change adaptation & mitigation strategies, land-use changes & renewable energies; ecosystem services & their evaluation; recreation & tourism; protected area management; smart resource management; local & regional development (ecological, economic and social impacts); sustainable building culture & urban planning; incorporating uncertainties & risk management into environmental planning & resource management; governance models for spatial transformation; & collaborative stakeholder processes. Proposals for other appropriate topics also welcome. See www.issrm2014.iasnr.org/. Abstract deadline 12 Jan.


Funding Opportunity

Data-Intensive Analysis and Modeling for Socio-Environmental Synthesis. The National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center announces a special invitation for proposals for data-intensive analysis or modeling projects that can advance socio-environmental research. SESYNC is particularly interested in building a cohort of funded projects around integration of large and/or heterogeneous social & environmental data sets and/or implementation of such data through a range of modeling approaches to answer innovative questions in socio-environmental research. See the opportunity listing at www.sesync.org/opportunities/data-modeling-ses & submission instructions at www.sesync.org/opportunities/data-modeling-ses#instructions. Inquiries should be directed to Dr. Nicholas Magliocca at nmagliocca@sesync.org.

Note: there will not be an issue of the Globe Thanksgiving week. Also note that the name of this newsletter has been modified to The K-State Globe, reflecting institution rather building location.

Please contact Lisa Butler Harrington (lbutlerh@ksu.edu) with Seaton Globe items.