Departmental Activities

Presentations

John Harrington Jr. was "Sunday Afternoon at the Museum" speaker at the Kaufman Museum in North Newton, KS, on 9 November. Over 100 lifelong learners attend the lecture and participated in the discussion on: Global Climate Change: What it might mean for Kansas.

John Harrington Jr. was the Bethel College Convocation speaker on Monday November 10th. The subject of his presentation was: "Climate Change, A Kansas Perspective."

Vahid Rahmani, Stacy Hutchinson, and John Harrington presented a poster, "Kansas Variability and Trends in Extreme Precipitation Indices" at the Governor's Water Conference held in Manhattan, 12-13 November, 2014. The poster was awarded 2nd place in the competition. Congratulations to Vahid, Stacy, and John!

Geography Awareness Week (GAW)

Tuesday, November 18th: Working in collaboration with the Kansas Geographic Alliance, Gamma Theta Upsilon and the Geography Club will be hosting a table in the Union from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. about all things geographic in recognition of Geography Awareness Week. Please drop by in support of GAW!

Tuesday, November 18th, and Thursday, November 20th: In recognition of this year's Geography Awareness Week theme of "the Future of Food," the Geography Club and Gamma Theta Upsilon have collaborated with Bluestem Bistro in Aggieville to bring you tastes of the world! On Tuesday, November 18th, from 5-8 p.m., the chefs at Bluestem are offering a taste of Greece with lamb gyros and a Greece-themed cocktail. On Thursday, November 20th, from 5-8 p.m., Bluestem gives a nod to Indian cuisine with a butter chicken dish and an Indian-influenced cocktail. Both plates are priced at five dollars; their matching cocktails will be on special.

Wednesday, November 19th: In recognition of GIS Day, K-State Libraries, Gamma Theta Upsilon, and the Geography Club have partnered to hold three workshop sessions at Hale Library. At 10 a.m. in Hale 301, Meagan Duever will introduce the National Historical Geographical Information System (NHGIS) and its historical census database and show how to search and retrieve census data. A repeat of this session will be held in Hale 301 at 11 a.m. Then, from 2 p.m. to 3:30, Meagan Duever will offer a hands-on introduction to GIS and its capabilities in her workshop "Mapping Manhattan's Eateries: An Introduction to GIS." Those interested in learning the basics about GIS are encouraged to attend, as no experience is necessary!

Job Opportunities

State of Kansas-Department of Administration: Water Appropriation program is looking to fill an Environmental Scientist position in Garden City Field Office. This office is responsible for the local administration and enforcement of Water Rights in accordance with governing rules and regulations under the Water Appropriation Act and the GMD Act. The employee at the Field Office will be responsible for special assignments given at the discretion of the Water Commissioner. Work involves the collection, compilation, analysis, interpretation of scientific and technical data, water rights administration, including but not limited to, compliance and enforcement, field investigations, field inspections, file reviews and other field work associated with water rights. This position will also work closely with other scientists and clerical staff on a daily basis and on several projects. Interested candidates should consult the following website for complete description of the position: http://admin.ks.gov/services/state-employment-center/job/job-postings?id=179092. They may also call or email with any questions regarding this opportunity to: Lindsay Pinnington, Assistant Human Resource Director, 1320 Research Park Dr. Manhattan, KS 66502, Office: (785) 564-6712, Cell: (785) 207-4010, Lindsay.Pinnington @kda.ks.gov.
Westfield State University, MA: The Department of Environmental Science at Westfield State University seeks a full-time environmental science faculty member for a tenure track position starting Fall semester 2015. Teaching responsibilities include introductory courses in environmental science and upper-level courses in the candidate’s area of expertise. Candidates with a strong background in Ecological Restoration, Environmental Chemistry/Toxicology, or Quantitative Resource Analysis are especially encouraged to apply. Well-qualified candidates will have real-world work experience in their field of expertise; evidence of outstanding teaching ability or potential; experience in collaborative teaching and learning environments; and experience teaching environmental sampling and analysis in their field of expertise. The anticipated start is September 2015. For more information, please contact John McDonald, the search chair. His email address can be found on the department’s webpages: http://www.westfield.ma.edu/academics/environmental-science-department/environmental-science-faculty-staff

Applicants must have a Ph.D. in an environmental-science discipline, be a dynamic and engaging teacher, and be interested in mentoring undergraduate research in their area of scientific expertise. An online application is required. Letters of recommendation and unofficial transcripts may be required after the initial screening. The successful candidate must submit an official transcript at the time of hire. Interested candidates should electronically attach the following documents: cover letter, Curriculum Vitae, statement of teaching philosophy and research interests, and three letters of recommendation. Review of applications will begin immediately, and continue until a finalist has been selected.

University of South Alabama, Mobile, Alabama: Department of Earth Sciences invites applications for a tenure track (9 month) Assistant Professor position in Physical Geography. The successful candidate must have a Ph.D. in Geography at the time of appointment. Excellence in undergraduate teaching and an active research agenda are expected. Skills in GIS and/or Remote Sensing are advantageous. While teaching other courses, the candidate will assume responsibility for one potentially large introductory class in Physical Geography each semester (Atmospheric Processes and Landscape Processes). The candidate selected for this position must meet eligibility requirements to work legally in the United States and must be able to communicate effectively in English. The position begins August 15, 2015. Applications should include a cover letter, a statement of research and teaching interests, a curriculum vita, official transcripts (sent directly from the schools attended), and three original letters of recommendation (sent directly from the referees). All materials should be sent to Dr. Roy Ryder, University of South Alabama Earth Sciences Department, 5871 USA Drive N., Room 136, University of South Alabama, Mobile, AL 36688. Review of applications will begin on January 26, 2015 and continue until the position is filled.

The University of Alaska Southeast (UAS), Juneau, AK: The UAS is now accepting applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Geology. The position directly supports the UAS undergraduate Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts degree programs in Environmental Science and Geography. Teaching responsibilities will include introductory undergraduate courses in physical, historical, and environmental geology as well as upper division courses and seminars in the candidate’s area of expertise. We are especially interested in candidates with expertise in Earth surface processes, including but not limited to geomorphology, geochemistry, geohydrology, glacial geology, and coastal geology. Ability to collaborate across disciplines with colleagues at UAS is required. UAS is a research-focused but faculty members have opportunities for advising graduate students through development of joint and/or affiliate appointments with the University of Alaska Fairbanks. The position will remain open until filled; however, applications received by January 5, 2015 will receive first consideration. UAS faculty will be present at the annual American Geophysical Union meeting in San Francisco in December 2014, and informational meetings may be arranged during that time. More info can be found at UAKjobs (http://www.uakjobs.com) and searching for posting 0069627, and/or by contacting Jason Amundson, Assistant Professor of Geophysics, University of Alaska Southeast, 11120 Glacier Highway, Juneau, AK 99801, +1 (907) 796-6247, jason.amundson@uas.alaska.edu.

Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia: As part of the University’s strategic plan to enhance research and teaching on pressing global issues, the new Global Studies Institute at Georgia State University will be hiring faculty over the next three years. Applications are invited for three new tenure-track or tenured positions to begin in Fall 2015 and play a central role in shaping the Institute’s dynamic research agenda. Applications are invited from scholars at the assistant or early associate professor level invested in interdisciplinary approaches to global issues, especially those with training in anthropology, cultural geography, economics, history, political science, religious studies or sociology. Preference will be given to candidates whose work addresses themes related to peace, conflict and post-conflict studies; development, urbanization and migration; or global human rights, labor or social justice movements. Additionally, the Institute, located in the College of Arts and Sciences, is seeking scholars with well-articulated and innovative methodological approaches; demonstrated interest in pursuing external funding opportunities; and substantive area expertise. Applicants should submit the following (in pdf format) to Ms. Jennifer Pate at jpat3@gsu.edu: 1) a letter outlining their qualifications and plans for individual or collaborative research in global studies; 2) a curriculum vitae; 3) two samples of their scholarly work; 4) evidence of teaching effectiveness (e.g., course syllabi, student evaluations, and statement of teaching philosophy); and 5) three letters of recommendation. A Ph.D. is required at the time of appointment. Application review will begin on December 8, 2014, and continue until the three positions are filled.

Student Opportunities
Temple University, Philadelphia, PA: The Department of Geography and Urban Studies at Temple University is accepting applications for four-year assistantships for the pursuit of a doctoral degree. The doctoral program focuses on geographic approaches to the study of urban processes and conditions in US and international settings. The emphasis is on the themes of globalization, sustainability, social justice, and geographical methods. The department trains students to conduct theoretically-informed and empirically-grounded research in urban and metropolitan settings, understand interdisciplinary and integrative analyses of complex urban processes and problems, and specialize in techniques for urban analysis with an emphasis on GIS, spatial statistics, and qualitative methods. The assistantships provide a stipend plus tuition remission (for more information on conditions of employment please see http://tugsa.org/wordpress/contract/). For more information about the assistantships, please contact Hamil Pearsall, Graduate Chair at hamil.pearsall@temple.edu. For more information about the department please see http://www.cla.temple.edu/gus/. To apply, please see: http://www.temple.edu/gradbulletin/cla/geog_urban_studies_phd.htm

Student Research Competition: The Human Dimensions of Global Change Specialty Group (HDGC-SG) offers an annual grant to support student research projects at the graduate level (doctoral or masters). Awards are competitive: proposals will be evaluated by a committee from the HDGC-SG advisory board, representing a wide range of HDGC scholarship in geography. Award amounts are up to $1,000. In 2015 the group expects to make one or two such awards. In subsequent years the number of awards will depend upon the availability of funds. The aim of the competition is to provide support for student research in the area of human dimensions of global change that culminates in a doctoral or master’s thesis. These funds can be used to support fieldwork, travel to a research site, or, for example, travel to scout for a research site. Applications will be judged on the basis of (1) scholarly merit of the project, including the relevance of the project to HDGC research in geography; (2) the quality of the written proposal; and (3) the qualifications of the student to complete the proposed work. Each applicant must be a student member of the AAG and HDGC SG at the time of the award and the proposed project must directly contribute to the student’s thesis or dissertation. Applications should include: a brief cover letter; a title page with name of applicant, address and phone number, title of intended research, starting date and duration of field reconnaissance, and location of research; body of the proposal (maximum 1000 words, excluding references) which clearly states the intellectual merit and expected significance of the proposed work, probable research methodology, the contribution of these funds to the project’s success, and a list of references cited; an itemized budget with justification; and a 1-2-page curriculum vitae. Applications should be sent—as a single document (in Microsoft Word *.doc or *.pdf format)—to vturner5@kent.edu. ***File size should not exceed 1 MB*** Applications should be submitted no later than January 9, 2015. Winners will be announced in February. For further information, please contact Kelly Turner (email above).