We are very sad to inform you that Steve White, former Dean of Arts and Sciences, Head of the Department of Geography, and a faculty member of geography at K-State for more than thirty years, passed away on Saturday morning, March 21, 2015. There will not be a traditional funeral. Rather, a gathering to celebrate his life will be held at a date to be determined later.

Departmental Activity

Presentation

Bimal Paul presented an invited lecture on “Bangladesh: In Introduction” at Topeka West High School, Topeka, KS 66604, March 11, 2015.

Others

Max Lu has been appointed as interim director of the Kansas State Confucius Institute in December. The official grand opening of the Institute will be held on April 7, 2015.

Gabriel Granco received a Student Travel Award ($500) from the Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers (CLAG) to attend its annual meeting to be held Brazil in May of this year. Congratulations!

Departmental Scholarships

Department of Geography Graduate Research Grant (GGRG) Competition: The Geography Department solicits proposals to directly support thesis or dissertation research activities. Examples of supported activities include: travel to field sites, purchases/rentals of equipment, or other resources (computer cluster time, data sets, software, etc.). Salary requests to support the graduate student applicant will not be considered, nor will travel requests to attend conferences or workshops. The amount and number of awards will vary from year to year depending on available funds and the quality of applications. Individual grants will not normally exceed $3,000. Applicants must be currently enrolled full time Geography graduate students in good academic standing and making satisfactory progress toward degree completion. Master’s students may apply for support during their first year in the program. Doctoral students must be admitted to candidacy by the time funds would be disbursed (June 1). Successful applicants may apply to subsequent RFP’s providing they still meet eligibility requirements.

Proposals will be evaluated based on the merit. However, applicants who can demonstrate that they have actively sought external sources of research funding will have a significant advantage in this competition. Required Application Materials include: 1) a completed and signed routing form (found at: http://www.k-state.edu/geography/academics/forms.html), 2) a five-page research proposal focusing on the specific application of the grant funds and its relevance to the larger thesis or dissertation project, 3) a 250-word abstract summarizing item #2, 4) a detailed budget (a worksheet template can be found at: http://www.k-state.edu/geography/academics/forms.html ), 5) a detailed budget justification (not to exceed one page), and 6) a brief supporting letter from the applicant’s primary advisor. Please submit four copies of your complete application package to the Graduate Program Director (Dr. Douglas Goodin) by April 1, 2015.

Rumsey Bissell Marston Scholarship: This scholarship was established to support graduate students in Geography at Kansas State University who are pursuing theses or dissertations centered in physical/environmental geography. The scholarship honors
the memory of R.B. Marston, a lifelong educator, who attributed his achievements to hard work, a positive outlook and effective mentoring. The thesis/dissertation project must involve a significant level of well-conceived fieldwork. Preferably, the project should explore one of the following two themes: 1) separate human effects on the environment from changes that would have occurred without human interference; and/or 2) explain the integration between geomorphology, hydrology and other biophysical processes. The lack of other sources of direct financial support for the student’s thesis/dissertation should also be considered. A thesis/dissertation proposal, approved by the student’s committee, shall be the basis for judging applications along with a letter of application from the student. Guidelines for preparing a proposal are listed below. These guidelines will be used by the Graduate Committee to rank applications. Recipients receive a cash award (the amount varies from year-to-year), a framed certificate, and have their names engraved on a plaque that is displayed in the department. Application deadline is April 1, 2015.

Guidelines for Preparing a Thesis/Dissertation Proposal R.B. Marston Scholarship:

I. Introduction: Problem Statement (one concise sentence) & significance (who would potentially be interested in your study?) (place your study in the context of bigger problems); Purpose (one sentence) and Objectives (itemize the major research questions); and Study Area (location and description; justify your choice of study area…is it just convenient or especially well-suited to achieve purpose & objectives?)

II. Literature Review (sub-sections for each major research objective): demonstrate that you are familiar with the literature on this topic; summarize what is already understood and what is still NOT well understood; do competing schools of thought exist? Has the topic been studied anywhere? If so, what was found? What remains to be understood? And has it been studied in your study area? If so, previous findings? If not, what might be different about your study area?

III. Methodology (sub-sections for each major research objective): justify why each procedure is needed and why that particular method is best suited; techniques of data acquisition: what, how many, where, how often…field, lab, remote sensing, map interpretation; and techniques of data analysis: lab work, statistics, computer analyses, etc.

Additional Material for Proposals: expected form of the results (text, figures, maps, computer model, etc.), timetable (list of tasks for each objective and when that work will be undertaken), budget (outline the expected costs and sources of funding), and where will findings be reported: thesis, journal publication, and professional meeting.

Job Opportunities

Texas A&M University, College Station, TX: The Department of Geography invites applications for 3 Visiting Assistant Professors (VAPs). Two positions will focus on human geography or human-environment geography. One position will focus on physical geography. Visiting assistant professors will be required to teach two classes during the Fall and Spring semesters. VAPs are expected to publish and conduct research during the time of appointment. Candidates must have a Ph.D. at the time of appointment and a strong commitment to excellence in research and teaching. Appointments are for one year with the potential for a one-year renewal pending adequate funding and job performance. Candidates should submit a letter of application, curriculum vitae, and names and addresses (including e-mail addresses) of three referees to Dr. David Cairns (cairns@tamu.edu), Department Head, Department of Geography, Texas A&M University. College Station, TX, 77843-3147. The department will begin reviewing applications on April 15, 2015. Please indicate availability at the Annual Meeting of the AAG in Chicago as we will be interviewing at that time.

Temple University, Philadelphia PA: Temple University’s Department of Geography and Urban Studies (GUS) invites applications for two full-time, non-tenure track Assistant Professor positions for academic year 2015-2016, with responsibilities for teaching in the areas of 1) nature/society relations and 2) Geographic Information Science. The initial appointment will be for one year only, but may be renewable, pending continued college-level funding and satisfactory performance. The positions are teaching intensive. The department seeks instructors committed to undergraduate education who will be able to teach a combination of introductory and mid-level courses connected with a university-wide general education program and the two majors offered in the department. The successful candidate will be able to teach courses including Sustainable Environments, Digital Mapping, and Fundamentals of GIS. A Ph.D. in Geography or a related field is required by the start of employment. Please send a letter that addresses teaching and research interests, a copy of your most recent curriculum vitae, evidence of teaching excellence, and contact information for three references to Tycina Cousin, Administrative Coordinator, Department of Geography and Urban Studies, 308 Gladfelter Hall, Temple University (025-27), Philadelphia, PA 19122. Electronic applications are required and should be sent to: tcousin@temple.edu. Review of applications will begin April 1, 2015 and will continue until the position is filled.

Student Opportunity

Doctoral Fellowships in Environmental Humanities in Leeds, Munich, and Stockholm: The Environmental Humanities for a Concerned Europe research group (WWW.ENHANCEITN.EU) is now seeking applicants for twelve PhD/doctoral researchers: four PhD fellows at the Environmental Humanities Research Group at the University of Leeds (deadline: May 1,
2015); four doctoral fellows at the Rachel Carson Center at the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich and Deutsches Museum (deadline: May 15, 2015); and four PhD fellows at the Environmental Humanities Lab at the KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm (deadline: April 20, 2015). These are fully-funded positions beginning in October 2015 to participate in a jointly-organized European program with events and training hosted by each of the partners for all twelve researchers. Research and training will concentrate on three major areas--natural disasters and cultures of risk, history of science and technology, and environmental ethics--and will address a series of core interlocking issues: wilderness and conservation; flooding and drought; climate change and risk; and waste, environmental health, and environmental justice. All fellows will be expected to work towards a doctoral degree in humanities with the aim of completing this within the fixed term of their appointment. For more information about the specific opportunities and contacts for the three research partners, please consult: WWW.ENHANCEITN.EU.

**Stormwater-GIS Intern, City of Manhattan, KS:** The city seeks an intern for completing a stormwater inventory database. Tasks will include data QA/QC, editing, and organization, as well as field inspections of stormwater structures to identify those needing immediate maintenance attention. The selected candidate will have a basic working knowledge of ArcGIS for Desktop and will have completed an introductory GIS course. Preference will be given to those pursuing GIS-related or engineering educations. Apply at www.cityofmhk.com “Jobs.”

**St Charles County, MO:** Multiple positions are available within different divisions in Information Technology. Hours and length of internship will vary dependent on student needs and department funding. Individual(s) selected will preferably be able to work between 20-40 hours per week. The work schedule will be flexible to accommodate school attendance and study requirements. Unpaid internships for work/study credit may be possible. Successful candidates must have earned a minimum of 10 credit hours in Technology or Math related coursework with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Major and/or coursework in Information Technology, Computer Science, Business, Math, Engineering, GIS or a related field is required. Candidates should have a strong work ethic, a professional attitude, and a desire to excel in their chosen field. All applications must be submitted only through the county website at http://hr.sccmo.org/hr. To assure consideration, applications must be received by March 29, 2015.

**International Graduate Student Scholarship, Spring 2015:** The Konza and Manhattan Rotary Clubs will award five scholarships this spring to international students engaged in graduate study at Kansas State University. Scholarship recipients will receive awards of $500 each. Only one graduate student can be nominated from each department. Previous recipients are not eligible for the scholarship. The criteria for selection include: financial need, benefit of the graduate training to the individual’s country upon her/his return home, and academic credentials and performance based on the completion of at least 9 credit hours of graduate course work at Kansas State University. Please provide the following: 10 completed nomination form, 2) letter from a graduate faculty member who is familiar with the student’s academic work, professional aspirations, and financial need, 3) from the nominee, a one-page statement of (a) research interests, (b) contributions the graduate's work will make to the native country, and (c) an explanation of financial need, and 4) email the application materials to Rebecca Gould, ragou@ksu.edu, such that they are received no later than March 26, 2015 at 5 p.m.

Please contact Bimal Paul (bkp@ksu.edu) and/or Matt DeCapo (mjd3@ksu.edu) with K-State Globe items.