Welcome to the 2014 K-State Geography Alumni Newsletter, an opportunity for us to share news and happening from the past year with alumni and friends of the Geography Department! It was an exciting 2013 for the faculty, students, and staff of the department. In February, the department watched proudly as alumna Dr. Patricia Solís (M.A. 1996) was honored as one of two Alumni Fellows by the College of Arts and Sciences for her leadership in the Association of American Geographers (AAG) and career-long work in developing innovative programs for youth leadership and global citizenship among nearly 4000 students, teachers, and professors in 35 countries. Photos of Dr. Solís being honored at the Alumni Fellows Banquet (held during a raging snowstorm!) are found later in the newsletter. We undertook two tenure-track assistant professor searches at the end of 2013. I am pleased to announce that Dr. Jida Wang (Ph.D. in 2013 from UCLA) will join the department later this year. Dr. Wang’s research and teaching interests are in the areas of earth system science and GIScience. With the arrival of Dr. Wang the department will have thirteen tenured or tenure-track faculty members. The department completed its strategic plan in May 2013, aligning our plan with the College of Arts and Sciences and K-State 2025 goals. Among the highlights of the plan are growth in the graduate program, expanded opportunities for faculty and undergraduate research, and continued delivery of a high quality undergraduate education. The members of the faculty and students in the department enjoyed remarkable success in the just-completed year, as you will see below and in the highlights on subsequent pages. The two student scholarship endowed funds established in 2010 by K-State Geography alumni and friends continued to grow as did the Geography Alumni Fund (for student support) that was established in 2009 and to which all alumni can contribute. In 2013 funds from geography Foundation accounts provided more than $5000 to support the travel of undergraduate and graduate students to professional meetings and workshops. In addition to financial support, our alumni generously contribute their time and expertise, whether serving on the Geography Alumni Board, visiting in the classroom with students, or contacting the department about job and internship opportunities. One of the more visible alumni events in 2013 was the annual Geography Career Day in February, an event that has helped many of our undergraduate majors and graduate students secure jobs, internships, and gain experience in preparing resumes and conducting interviews.

Faculty Highlights: Members of the Geography faculty were again very successful in research, teaching, and professional service during 2013. Since 1 July 2013, faculty members of the department have secured nearly $1.5 million in new external research funds. Geography faculty served as lead or co-editors of national and international professional journals were appointed to editorial and scientific boards of national and international journals, elected national officers of professional organizations, and served as chairs and members of scientific committees for professional meetings and conferences. In 2013, faculty of the Geography Department authored 1 book and 29 refereed journal articles, completed book chapters and reviews, and gave 47 professional and invited research presentations, a remarkable accomplishment considering that all members of the faculty taught undergraduate and graduate courses and participated in a variety of departmental, university, and national service. As the
personal summaries and highlights on the following pages attest, K-State geography faculty members are a diverse, dedicated, and highly productive group of scholars and educators.

**Student Highlights:** The Geography Department had a strong group of graduate students and undergraduate majors in 2013. At the end of the 2013 Fall Semester, the department counted 1 Post-Doc, 22 PhD students, 15 MA students, 68 geography majors, and 33 geography minors. Over 3500 students enrolled in Geography classes in 2013, continuing a trend of strong student enrollments that began over a decade ago.

Two of our students were awarded their Ph.D. in 2013: Katie Costigan and Summanth Reddy. Since the first doctoral students graduated in 2000, 32 students have completed the Ph.D. degree in the department. Our M.A. program graduated 6 students in 2013 and a near-record 33 majors received the B.A. or B.S. degree this year. We also saw 5 students complete the Graduate Certificate in GIScience and 8 students finish the undergraduate certificate in GIS. In the annual advising survey of our majors, the department once again ranked among the top 10 departments at the university (out of 67 departments) in the overall quality of our student advising, and among the top 5 departments on campus in individual categories such as knowledge of the faculty about university and college policies and willingness of the faculty to answer student advising questions.

Our students and alumni are making a positive impact in business, industry, government, and academia. The annual survey by Career and Employment Services at K-State of our 2013 graduates indicates that 42% are employed and another 42% are enrolled in a graduate or professional school. Current students have been selected for a remarkable array of awards outside the department as well as the annual departmental awards that are presented during our annual Spring GTU/Geography Banquet. You will read about some of the highlights in the pages that follow.

**Staying Connected with You:** In addition to our recently re-designed webpage (http://www.k-state.edu/geography/), the K-State Department of Geography has a Facebook page and a KSU Geography Alumni page. I hope you will check them on a regular basis to keep up with events in the department and among our alumni. There are many reasons to be optimistic about the future of the Geography Department and the role it will play in the university. On behalf of my colleagues, I want to thank our alumni, parents, students, and friends for the gifts that support our students and help meet the needs of the department. Your generosity contributes substantially to the education of our students. As always, we welcome your comments about the department and K-State. When you are visiting campus, please stop by Seaton Hall and say “hello”. Thanks to all of you for your ongoing and generous support of K-State Geography!

**Faculty News**

**Kevin Blake:** Hello Wildcat Geographers! The past year brought more travel opportunities than normal with a research sabbatical in the fall semester. I completed fieldwork and data acquisition relating to the Colorado Fourteeners during several trips in July through October. I also backpacked into Rainbow Bridge National Monument in southern Utah through the Navajo Reservation (rather than arriving by Lake Powell) to begin fieldwork on a new research project there. Other travels took me to the Baltic Sea countries of Sweden, Norway, Finland, Estonia, Russia, Denmark, and Germany and to the Caribbean countries of Aruba and Curacao, to Hawaii for an international peer-reviewed conference, and to Los Angeles for the AAG meeting. It was great to see some K-State alumni at the AAG meeting, and some were nice enough to come to my 8:00 am presentation! It was also great to see Joshua Tree National Park with another KSU Geography alum while we were in the LA area. The courses I am regularly teaching these days include Mountain Geography, Perception of the Environment, Geography of the American West, Geography of Tourism, and Mountain Geography. I continue to enjoy these travels as way of experiencing a place in person, so that I can enhance my classes with my research and travel activities. Several of my undergraduate Geography advisees graduated this past year; I wish them continued success and
congratulate them on their perseverance and accomplishments.

**Marcellus Caldas:** The year of 2013 was full of good news for the Caldas family. Their daughter Amanda was accepted as a Masters’ student of International Affairs at the University of Edinburgh (Scotland) where she moved in the fall. Their son, Gabe, went to a JUCO (Fort Scott, Kansas), where he played football as a freshman with plans to return to Manhattan and becoming a Wildcat in 2014. Lucas turned 11 years old and continues to play soccer and basketball in a travel team. Martha had a blast in her study abroad trip to the Amazon and Pantanal.

On the professional side has been equally busy and had an active 2013 balancing teaching, research and administration. Administration was a new challenge with his selection as the Director of International Research and Faculty Collaboration for K-State. In the research side, he had continued his work in Brazil and has added a new research in Kansas. He will spend part of the summer of 2014 (July) doing fieldwork in the Brazilian Savanna, with funds from the National Science Foundation, examining the impacts of Land Use and Land Cover Change due to sugarcane production. There, he will lead a team of 9 students (4 from K-State and 5 from Brazil). He also received (with others K-State colleagues) a $1.5 million grant from NSF/CNH (Couple Natural System) to develop an integrative-coupled human-landscape model to predict the potential impact of climate variability and change, land use and human activity on water resources in Kansas.

**Doug Goodin:** I spent much of 2013 on sabbatical, working on two rather unrelated projects. One, a collaboration with colleagues in the KSU Division of Biology, involved studying the distribution of canopy nutrients and its influence on the grazing behavior of bison at Konza Prairie. Along with MA student Bohau Ling, we used spectral reflectance data collected from aircraft and ground-based sensors to map the nitrogen content of prairie grasses. These maps were then used along with data from GPS collars to determine how forage quality effects the spatial behavior of bison. The project is still ongoing, but the nutrient mapping component turned out very well, and became the basis for Ling’s thesis, which she completed in the Spring, 2013 semester. We plan to continue the work this summer, during which we will collect more detailed spectral data to determine the role of species diversity on the canopy level spectral reflectance of heterogeneous grassland canopies.

**John Harrington:** I’m still having fun! It is very nice to have a good suite of classes to teach: atmospheric science, geographic thought, human dimensions of global change, and climatology. I now add a fall semester, 1 credit hour CAT Community class (for first semester freshman) on Understanding the Weather. With graduate advising, I’ve been very fortunate to work with Ian Howard as he has helped with our grant work on climate change in Kansas and as he completed his MA with an interesting, synoptic climatology study of spring precipitation in Kansas and the low-level jet. Research and writing this past year resulted in more than a handful of publications and I really enjoy collaborating with colleagues from across campus on applied climate change research. By the time you read this, I will likely have turned the corner on 64 and I feel fortunate to be in good health. This past summer, the family did a hike along the shore of the Long Beach Peninsula in southwest Washington. I ended up walking about 10 or 11 miles that day (before hitting the wall) – I figured that was pretty good for a cyborg – those artificial hips are working fine. Professional activities and responsibilities get me traveling quite a bit and provide opportunities for me to catch up with friends in seemingly faraway places. One of those exotic locations was St. Louis where Lisa Tabor and I presented the work we did on our grant for the enhancement of geographic literacy from the National Council for Social Studies. With the Applied Geography meetings in Annapolis, MD this past fall, we had a wonderful St. George ‘on the road’ gathering. It is wonderful to hear the life stories of K-State geographers as they advance in their careers and as their families grow. A major highlight of the past
year was the department honoring Jerry Holden, Jr. as the distinguished alum. It was wonderful to be able to introduce my student from way back in the 20th century and hear Jerry discuss how much he was able to capitalize on his own ability and lessons that he took away from a few years in Manhattan.

Lisa Harrington: For me, 2013 was a rather tough year. My mother died in March, just three months after moving here, and I’m still dealing with the aftermath (and John and sons have been dealing with cluttered garage and basement). I’ve had fewer professional trips and the like over the last year (AAG and Great Plains/Rocky Mountain AAG meeting, in Omaha), but expect things to be picking up again professionally, with a lot of activities planned for the AAG meeting in Tampa in April. I was quite busy in the fall and the first part of spring semester with the KSU 2025 Sustainability Strategic Planning Committee; I was co-lead on one of the working groups, and did a lot of the document drafting for the ‘academics’ section (research and curriculum—the big knowledge-based part of the plan) now being considered on campus.

As usual, enjoyed the time we had in Washington. Ian went in 2013, after skipping the trip for two or three years. He’s now a senior (I think), likely to graduate in December. He’s an Art major, and also working toward a GIS certificate and Geography minor. Colin remained in Kansas last summer, with oversight regarding cats, dogs, lawn, and mail. Hoping for a good year for all of us!  ~lisa

Andy Hilburn: This past year has been a wonderful, whirlwind trip for me. For one, I was fortunate enough to be offered the opportunity to be a visiting assistant professor at KSU Geography not only this year, but the next as well. I have immensely enjoyed knowing and working with the amazing faculty here and I hope next year will be even better as my wife, Alison, and I will be moving to the Manhattan area. The drive won’t be as bad, either. By my estimates, I have logged about 17,000 miles commuting to Manhattan from our current residence in that other university town on I-70 in eastern Kansas. In my work at K-State Geography, I have been kept busy but I have loved teaching World Regional Geography, Intro to Physical Geography, a senior capstone course (co-taught with Dr. Martin), and a seminar on Human Impacts on the Environment. Additionally, the fantastic research facilities and time afforded by my job has given me the opportunity to work on drafts for a number of research articles to be submitted later this year. Lastly, my position allowed me to attend the Conference of Latin Americanize Geographers in Panama City, Panama and a field trip to Darien Province. It was a real treat to attend the marquee conference for a geographer specializing in Latin American geography. I am very grateful for my year in Seaton Hall and at KSU and I look forward to the next one.

Shawn Hutchinson: I appreciate the opportunity to share with you some news from the 2013 calendar year. In summary, busy as always! Each year, I think our pace of activities will slow a bit but it seems that all of our faculty members continue to do more and more.

This past year, I was elected chair of the AAG Great Plains/Rocky Mountain Division and am working with my counterpart from the Southwest Division on a joint GPRM/SWAAG regional meeting in Albuquerque this October. This summer, I will also begin a multi-year term as regional councilor for the AAG, assuming the reins from department alum and University of North Dakota professor Brad Rundquist. With Chuck Martin taking over as department head, I also agreed to serve as interim director of the Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences (NRES) program, to go along with my director duties with the Undergraduate Certificate in GIS and Graduate Certificate in GIScience programs. Needless to say, my advising role has expanded! I advised over 50 students last year and served on 10 graduate committees for students who completed their thesis/dissertation in 2013. This past year I was able to teach a number of “usual” courses (GIS I, GIS II, Geovisualization), but also was able to offer for the first time a course
in Python scripting. We will be adding this new class, under the title Topics in Programming for Geographic Analysis, as a new regular offering beginning the next academic year. The idea behind the “topics” title is to allow the necessary flexibility to provide instruction in a number of programming and scripting languages such as Python, IDL, and R as separate courses over different semesters. I think this is a long needed addition to our curriculum and it has been well received by students. I was also able to serve as a faculty advisor for the NRES capstone course during the Fall 2013 semester.

The Geographic Information Systems Spatial Analysis Laboratory (GISSAL) remains equally active with research projects and contract service work. GISSAL is home to two dedicated staff members, including Brandon Lantz (Field Technician) and Brian Loomis (Web Application Developer) along with a number of graduate and undergraduate students who assist with extramural research projects. Current master’s students Danielle Williams and Brian Mulcahy should wrap up their thesis work in 2014, with Danielle conducting an analysis of long-term vegetation trends at Smoky Hill Bombing Range and Brian investigating volunteered geographic information through development of an Android-based mobile application for field data collection on military reservations. Master’s student Bryanna Pockrandt successfully defended her thesis, “A Multi-Year Comparison of Vegetation Phenology between Military Training Lands and Native Tallgrass Prairie using TIMESAT and Moderate Resolution Satellite Imagery” in December 2013 and will officially graduate in Spring 2014. The lab continues to receive funding to expand GIScience activities on the KSU campus and we remain collaborators with USDA-APHIS on agricultural pest and pathogen research. Over the last year, we were also able to make a number of substantial IT and facilities improvements to the research lab and nearby GIScience Computer Teaching Laboratory, including upgraded servers, better networking, new computer workstations, and a renovation of the teaching lab (paint, wiring, whiteboards, bulletin boards).

Our children Mitch (13) and Marleigh (11) are already in 7th and 5th grades, respectively. Both kids are actively involved in club soccer, so most weekends are spent somewhere in Kansas or Missouri watching them compete. Mitch participated on the cross-country and basketball teams at Anthony Middle School and, as a state champion, competed in the National History Day competition last June at the University of Maryland (website category). Marleigh completed her first year of club volleyball this winter, is an award-winning artist, and an active member of Marlatt Elementary’s Leadership Club and News Crew. Last, but not least, our chocolate lab Mocha is doing great, as well! She excels at eating, sleeping, swimming, and walking backwards.

For those interested, consider “liking” the GISSAL Facebook page and following GISSAL on Twitter (@kstate_gissal).

Max Lu: This past year has been a busy one, both academically and on the home front (two teenagers and a 2-year old boy can certainly keep you busy). I did travel some, mainly to attend meetings. The highlight is the road trip I took to Las Vegas. I was invited to deliver an Advanced Placement Human Geography workshop in Henderson, Nevada in late June. I decided to drive there, with family in tow. Keeping my toddler occupied during the long drive was quite a challenge, but the trip went quite well. We thoroughly enjoyed the sceneries along the way. While very dry, southern Utah and northern Arizona are just incredibly picturesque. Even though I had driven through the area before (last time, to attend the 2009 AAG annual meeting in Vegas), I still couldn’t get enough of the amazing rock formations and for a moment even wished I were a geomorphologist so that I would have a better idea about what I was looking at. Since one of my recent articles dealt with the Four Corners region, I did visit the monument for the Four Corners. For a few seconds, I was in four states at the same time, something to brag about in my undergraduate geography classes.

I also would like to take this opportunity to say a few words about Steve Kale, who passed away in November 2013. I had the honor of working with him while serving as a faculty contact person on our Alumni Board. Steve was a gentle soul and a great human being. He truly cared about K-State geography and supported our programs in any way he could. It was great that we were able to honor him in 2009 with a distinguished alumni award. He will be missed.
Richard Marston: 2013 was a wonderful year in all regards. In January, I attended the Aklambo Bowl (KSU vs. Oregon) in Phoenix with my son, Bryce, and the Presidential Inauguration in Washington, D.C., with my daughter, Brooke. She is nearing completion of her master’s degree in geography at Oregon State University. At the April AAG Meeting in Los Angeles, I organized an AAG Tour of Dodger Stadium, which was a lot of fun and is a new "tradition" that will be continued at future AAG meetings.

Nancy and I spent Spring Break in Arizona, split between spectacular Sedona and Phoenix, where we attended a couple of spring training baseball games with friends and family and took a hike on the Mel Marcus Landslide Trail in the Sonoran Desert on a beautiful spring day. Summer was highlighted by quality mountain time: a family reunion in Breckenridge, Colorado; a 4-day backpack trip in Yosemite with my brother; a week-long backpack trip into the most part of Yellowstone National Park; and a week in the Swiss Alps with Nancy prior to a week in Paris at the International Conference on Geomorphology.

I completed my 15th year as Co-Editor-in-Chief of the Elsevier journal, Geomorphology, a task I continue to enjoy...helping scholars from around the world improve their manuscripts for publication. I am planning to take a year-long sabbatical leave in 2014-15 to write one and possibly two books. I am in contact with all 44 graduate students whom I have supervised over the years and take great pride in their achievements in the private sector, government work, and academia.

My current doctoral student, Nick Patch, is finishing his dissertation proposal on the effects of dams on river meander migration in the Great Plains. Will Butler (M.A. 2013), is currently employed as a Research Associate at the Meadows Center for Water and the Environment, at Texas State University (San Marcos, TX). Will works with The Stream Team in teaching volunteers statewide about water quality and water-quality sampling methods, writing reports, and producing maps for reports using GIS. We are working together on a manuscript, also with Brandon Weihs as a coauthor) based on Will's thesis about slope failures in Grand Teton National Park. Jacob Sowers (PhD 2010) is the Geography Program Coordinator at Minot State University. Ben Meade (M.A.,2009) was recently promoted to Geologist at Environmental Resources Management in Boston. We are working together on a manuscript based on his thesis about channel incision in the Black Vermillion River watershed. Nick Graf (M.A. 2008) is a Research Scientist in the Wyoming Geographic Information Science Center at the University of Wyoming. We are working together on a manuscript based on his thesis about river meander migration and farmland loss on the Big Blue River.

Kendra McLauchlan: 2013 was simply an astonishing year for me. I earned tenure and promotion to Associate Professor, while continuing to work through the sediment cores and associated data from my NSF-funded project in the upper Midwest. In the summer, I organized and led a workshop in Oregon for 27 researchers from 5 nations about long-term nutrient responses to disturbance. I also offered my popular Stable Isotopes course at K-State, making use of the lab facilities in Biology and Konza Prairie Biological Station.

Then it was off to the United Kingdom where I had a fellowship at the University of Oxford. The whole family - Joe, Micah, Isabel and I - were able to take six months to live and work in England, and it was magnificent. We lived in a medieval limestone building on a cobblestone street, surrounded by sundials, stained glass, and libraries filled with books. We all enjoyed the pace and quality of life, the scenic landscapes, and the beautiful spires of Oxford.

Our Paleoenvironmental Lab continues to crank out the research, and we have fun doing it. There is quite a bit of synergy among two postdoctoral associates, two graduate students, two research associates, and two undergraduate researchers. Space in the 700 square feet Paleo Lab in the basement of Seaton is often a bit tight, but we continue to process a lot of tree cores and log a lot of microscope time in there. The Konza pollen trap incision in the Black Vermillion River watershed. Nick Graf (M.A. 2008) is a Research Scientist in the Wyoming Geographic Information Science Center at the University of Wyoming. We are working together on a manuscript based on his thesis about river meander migration and farmland loss on the Big Blue River.
Mueller and Chris Morris both completed their M.A. degrees with flying colors. Total stats for 2013: 7 papers, 4 conference presentations, 1 camping trip. Follow us on Facebook at the “Paleoenvironmental Lab.”

Bimal Paul: Lexington Books – a division of The Rowman and Littlefield Publishing Group – published our book entitled Climate Change in Bangladesh: Confronting Impending Disasters in November, 2013. The book is co-authored with Dr. Harun Rasid, who was my teacher at the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, now retired from the faculty of University of Wisconsin, La Crosse, WI.

In 2013, I published three papers in refereed journals and three book chapters. Two papers and one book chapter have been accepted for publications. Since last October, I have been serving as an advisor for Dr. M. Salam, who came to our department with a World Bank funding for six months from Bangladesh. Dr. Salam is a Principal Scientific Officer at the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC), Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Like last five years, I was not able to visit my native Bangladesh in 2013. On family front, our eldest daughter Anjana is now working with Verizon Cellular company in Olathe. Recently, she bought a town house in Overland Park. Our younger daughter Archana is working as a nurse at Overland Park Regional Hospital. Our son Rahul completed seventh semesters at K-State. Anjali, my wife, and I are planning to visit Bangladesh in March 2014. We initially planned to visit Bangladesh in March 2013. Because of political unrest, we had to cancel that trip.

Jeffrey Smith: For me, 2013 was spent doing many familiar things. I taught all of my traditional classes (GEOG 100, 201, 620) and I offered a NEW online course GEOG 310 (Geography of Kansas). It was a blast to teach a new class and even though the preparation curve was very steep, it all came off without a hitch. I want to extend my sincere thanks to Rhett Moehler for the resources he shared with me. Over the past academic year I served a total of 572 wonderful students and 2 not so wonderful students.

Jordan McAlister finished his MA degree. The title of his thesis is “The Cultural Significance of the Rural Great Plains County Seat” He did a very nice job and it was a pleasure to work with him. He is now at Oklahoma State University working on his Ph.D. I am currently working with Rachel Loder on an independent research project that involves assessing the quality-of-life and services available to residents of rural Guatemala. Rachel and I secured a research grant to help support the research.

In July (during Ramazan) we took a trip to Turkey. We were treated to an amazing trip to various parts of the country (Istanbul, Ankara, Kayseri, Cappadocia, Izmir). What a GREAT experience. I have brought many of my experiences into the classroom. Please stop by when you find yourself in the halls of Seaton Hall.
Selected Faculty Accomplishments

Kevin Blake:
♦ Presentation of "Making Mythic Landscapes." Association of American Geographers annual meeting, Los Angeles.

Doug Goodin:

John Harrington:
♦ I’ve been selected by my peers to serve on the Alliance Coordinators Council; a leadership group for the Geographic Alliance Coordinators
♦ I’ve been approved for a Professorial Performance Award – every six years, full-profs are eligible to be reviewed for this award that recognizes continued professional productivity
♦ I continue to serve the Kansas community of geographers by hosting the state-level competition of the National Geographic Bee in Abilene.

Lisa Harrington:
♦ Received the John Fraser Hart Award for Research Excellence, and presented “Toward sustainability studies and sustainability theory: key concepts” in a related session at the AAG annual conference in Los Angeles.

Andy Hilburn:
♦ I completed and defended my doctoral dissertation with honors on garbage management in southern Mexico. I continued field work on another topic in my study municipio in the state of Puebla for future publications in late July and August 2013.
♦ I was hired and began teaching as a visiting assistant professor at KSU geography.
♦ An article on which I am listed as a coauthor about the effects of agrarian reform on indigenous lands in Mexico was submitted for publication in a prestigious peer-reviewed journal.

Shawn Hutchinson:
♦ Six peer-reviewed publications in journals including *Agriculture, Ecosystems, and Environment* and *Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases*.
♦ Received my first National Science Foundation (NSF) award with colleagues from Computer Science and Biology for the project, “KGAP: Bridging the Gap in Network Flexibility and Performance for Genomics and Data-Intensive Research at Kansas State University.”
♦ Became a Certified Geographic Information Systems Professional (GISP) through the GIS Certification Institute.

Max Lu:
♦ Served as the President of the AAG’s Population Specialty Group (2012-2013).

Richard Marston:  
♦ Received 2013 Meredith F. Burrell Award at AAG Annual Meeting in Los Angeles. The award recognizes meritorious achievement for those who apply basic geographic concepts and techniques to public policy in local, state, national, and international arena.  
♦ Co-Edited two books:  
♦ Elected President of the University Distinguished Professors Group at Kansas State University for 2013-14

Kendra McLauchlan:  
♦ Earned tenure and promotion to Associate Professor  
♦ Published a first-author paper in *Nature* about nitrogen cycling during the Holocene  
♦ Spent a sabbatical semester at the University of Oxford, UK

Bimal Paul:  
♦ Working as the editor of the *Geographical Review*.  
♦ Published a co-author book entitled *Climate Change in Bangladesh: Confronting Impending Disasters*.  
♦ Served as an external examiner of a dissertation entitled “Assessing Health Risk in the Context of Flooding in Kassala State of Sudan” submitted to the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Bangkok, Thailand.

Jeffrey Smith:  
♦ I was Co-PI on a research grant that continues expanding a pedagogical web page that focuses on Latin American and the Iberian Peninsula.  
♦ I was awarded a small research grant to study the areal extent of the Guarani Language in Paraguay.  
♦ I was asked to contribute a chapter to *North American Odyssey* (an edited volume that focuses on the Historical Geography of Anglo America) edited by Craig Colten and Geoff Buckley.

Emeritus News:

David Kromm: This past year included enjoyable visits to family in Santa Fe and Boston, but the highlight was traveling to Slovenia for two weeks in August. The first ten days our children and
grandchildren joined Bobbie and me. We all appear in the picture. We explored castles, walked in the Alps, swam in beautiful highland lakes, and looked around the villages where Bobbie’s ancestors were from. Our family lived a year in Slovenia in the early 1970s, and we were amazed at all the changes over the past 40 years. Although much more Western in appearance, Slovenia is still a beautiful alpine and karst land with hundreds of picturesque villages. Our entire family stayed six nights in a tourist apartment complex near Lake Bled and four nights in a farm bed and breakfast. Bobbie and I spent our last four nights in an old and gracious upscale hotel in the center of Ljubljana. Our time in Slovenia was a treasured experience for everyone.

**Steve Stover:** 2013 went by almost as fast as 2012 did. I’m still at Meadowlark Hills here in Manhattan (Miller Place) and well cared for. Biggest news is the approval of funding for the Archives Project. This means that some of my 12,000 colored slides now being digitized will become part of K-State’s permanent collection.

Steve Stover Interview with McPherson Museum Researchers on the McPherson Oilers

By Nancy Stover

The McPherson Museum researchers came to interview my Dad who saw the team play in McPherson. Dad had even a role as score keeper, of sorts, for their games. Here are a couple of web links about the team.


Nurse Susan was away, and Daddy’s visitors from McPherson, led by Ken Embers arrived in perfect timing to bring Daddy into a most positive self-aware state. They were following up on an original documentary of the famous industrial basketball team "Oilers" in McPherson which won the 1936 Olympics in Nazi Germany and were never really heard from again as a team. The producer of the documentary wanted to interview people who remembered the Oilers. They knew Ken from McPherson, and Ken remembered Daddy and so the conversation started.

It was so interesting! Daddy remembered being at Oiler games, he being the one responsible for sitting in the balcony and leaning over to flip the metal plates on the scoreboard. He said the games were not very exciting because of being very low scoring—more dribbling and passing than shooting, seldom a score over 10 points amidst a constant weaving back and forth between baskets.

The Oilers apparently changed all this forever for all basketball players when they played a demonstration game in New York on their way to the Olympics. They must have been pent up from their long car ride (paid for by contributions from friends and neighbors in McPherson) across country to NYC—anyhow, against convention and rule of the Naismith style of basketball, they broke out and started jumping to shoot their baskets.
A sports reporter noticed and said it looked as easy as "dunking a donut in a cup of coffee". The name stuck and the term and the practice of "dunk" was born. Now you see those college pros leaping up and grabbing the basket while they finger the ball down in easy as dunking donuts. And they do it because those Oilers from the refinery team in McPherson got feisty and just did it.

At one time, recalling memories of McPherson, Ken told us that the flour mill in McPherson, made flour which rose so fine and soft that Pizza Hut used it to start their first pizza business in Wichita.

I came across a line in Walt Whitman’s “Leaves of Grass” about "I hear America Singing"--and he hears "chants from the centre of Kansas and equidistant from there pulsing vivifying all." I'm going to start a list of things to chant about from Kansas which "vivify all." Along with sunsets, it's going to have "dunks" and "Pizza Hut" on it. (You saw a Pizza Hut flying by in the sky once, didn't you Phil?) Then there's Hope House.

Brown vs. the Board of Education--equal quality books for all students.

That list will continue.

**Graduate Student News:**

**Julie Commerford:** Hello! 2013 was an eventful year for me. I moved to Manhattan and started my PhD studies here at K-State in August after leaving my job as a GIS Specialist in Duluth, Minnesota. I am so excited to be working toward my PhD under the direction of Dr. McLauchlan. My research focuses on grassland biogeography in North America during the Holocene. Also in August, I published my very first first-authored paper.

I was able to do a little bit of traveling in 2013; including some trips to Michigan where I caught the biggest fish I have ever caught to-date: a 4 lb 14 oz bowfin (dogfish). I also spent time visiting friends in Montana, and along the way was able to see the Bighorn Mountains, the Badlands, the Sand Hills, the Celestial Seasonings Tea Factory, and Kansas’ very own Mt. Sunflower.

I’m looking forward to 2014 – it is shaping up to be a great year.

**Matt DeCapo:**

I have been at the University of Ghana, Legon in Accra, Ghana for the past 2013/2014 academic year. It has been a wonderful experience in a new culture that has allowed me to see the social, economic, and environmental problems of the world from a very different perspective. I have been working on waste management here at the university through the implementation of a compost pile on campus. We are trying to work to get all of the materials disposed on campus to be sorted and reused / recycled to create the most employment and economic opportunities possible. We are partnering with the College of Agriculture and other disciplines to allow the students to see the knowledge they are learning in the classroom put into practice. We are aiming to get improved practices institutionalized to keep the benefits coming for future generations. I am also excited to come back to Kansas and share what I have learned about the culture, environment, language, food, drumming, and dancing with all of my friends and family! Greetings from West Africa!

**Lis Pankl:** Greetings! 2013 was a significant year for me because I received tenure and promotion at K-State Libraries. My other role at K-State is as a Faculty and Graduate Services Librarian in Hale Library. In addition, I’ve continued to work on my dissertation on Frida Kahlo as well as co-teach Geography of Tourism with Dr. Kevin Blake. Our big conference this past year was in Honolulu where we participated in the Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities.
Travis Smith: I continue to be gainfully employed as an instructor in the Communication Studies department here at KSU. I teach a 4/4 load and I have service obligations in the department, but I occasionally do some consulting and training with my best friend and in the afternoons and evenings every day I have the pleasure of watching my two children while their mother is at work. With the remaining time I have I continue to write my dissertation involving place images in Western cinema. Thanks, Kevin, for having the patience of Job with me.

Carter Wang: The year of 2013 has brought me too many surprises and achievements. I made more than 10 presentations in both professional conferences and workshops in the United States and in China. My master's thesis was accepted by the Journal of Society and Natural Resources for publication in July. This will be my second publication. In the summer, I took Dr. Kevin Price and Dr. Deon van der Merwe for an academic visit in Yangzhou University in Yangzhou, China to teach them how to use small unmanned aircraft systems remote sensing for agricultural research. The most exciting moment was my proposal in Dr. Bimal Paul's house on Oct. 28 in the Department's annual chili cook-off. I was successfully engaged to my wife Zhouzhou He after the proposal, and we got married on Jan. 3, 2014 in Seattle, WA. We would like to thank everybody for your wishes and it must be a lifelong memory for both of us.

Life always changes. Due to my advisor's sudden demission, I have to find a new institution to continue my PhD studies. I was accepted by the School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning at Arizona State University recently and I will be moving to Phoenix, AZ in August. The past four years at K-state were undoubtedly the most meaningful time in my life so far. I have learned so many things and made so many good friends. I will forever remember those sweetest moments that I spent and shared with you all.

Bill Wetherholt: Greetings everyone! I hope that this reaches you well and in good spirits. I am happy to report that I have achieved PhD candidacy and can self-apply the moniker of ABD, however, I am considering a petition to have the “A” in ABD demoted to a more appropriate lower-case “a.” I am feeling more confident in my research plan than a year ago and I am ever so close to actually operationalizing it in the field! This past year, I have had the honor of acting as the Saint George Geographical Society’s Grand Wazoo as well as President of our local chapter of Gamma Theta Upsilon here at K-State. With the grind of grad school we certainly have not had enough St. George meetings on my watch, but they have been memorable with a visit by alum John Roberts (’73 and ’75) to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the Saint George Geographical Society (polo shirts are available for purchase from GTU) as well as a field trip to Leonardville to dine in the sports bar of local legend Jordy Nelson. GTU/Geography Club has been very active in the past year through highway cleanups, engaging informal brown bag lectures over the lunch hour, Geography Awareness Week activities, the Kansas Geographic Bee, and even a bit of bowling. With the new graduate students in the department and those forthcoming, I am confident that we are bound for bigger and better things, and I am not only proud to be a part of this department but excited to watch our trajectory in the years ahead. Salud!

Alumni News

Jason Holcomb: In 2012 Heather and I took advantage of an opportunity to travel to Europe for an Englishman friend’s birthday party in Italy. We also stopped off in the Netherlands to visit my high school exchange student friend and my Dutch undergraduate roommate. We decided to make the trip then because we knew there was a possibility that we would have a baby the next year, thus making travel more difficult (plus the likelihood of never being invited to a birthday party in Italy again). And sure enough, that is our big news of
2013. On March 31 we welcomed our son, Ian Patrick Lee Holcomb! He is healthy, strong, an avid block stacker, and we think the cutest baby in many centuries.

In other news, we will be donating nearly sixty hours of oral history interviews to Hale Library at KSU in 2014. The interviews are with a mix of Kansas Mennonite custom harvesters and other custom harvesters from Kansas, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Oklahoma. Many are retired and the others are still harvesting. I say “we” because Heather has done all of the transcription. An outgrowth of oral history interviews with a retired custom harvester from Moundridge, KS was a smaller oral history project with Swiss Mennonites from that area. This summer I will speak to the Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association about the interviews. That means I will be making two trips to Kansas this summer.

Steve Kale: 1948 - 2013

During his career, Steven was active in many professional organizations and national bodies. These included the American Institute of Certified Planners and the Intermodal Freight Transport Committee of the Transportation Research Board where he served as the chair. He was also active in groups such as the American Association of Geographers, and the International Geographic Union. Steven never lost his enthusiasm for geography or his interest in helping his alma mater and served on the KSU Geography Alumni Board.

He had a lifelong interest in far-away places, traveling to many of them such as Oulu Finland, Mendoza Argentina, Sidney Australia, Dubrovnik Croatia and much of Europe, not to mention hitting all 50 US states. He twice got to the Artic Circle, once in Alaska and once in Finland. On his trips he did more than sight-see. He learned about the areas he visited and on occasion traveled to participate in conferences with his geographer peers.

A memorial fund has been set up in Steve’s honor to provide funding assistance to the Kansas State University Department of Geography. Those wishing to make contributions to the Fund should indicate the following:

Steve Kale Memorial Fund
Fund # M47034

Donations can be mailed to (and checks made out to): Kansas State University Foundation
2323 Anderson Ave, Suite 500
Manhattan, KS 66502

Another option is to go to the Kansas State “Giving to Geography” page and click on the link to the Steve Kale Memorial Fund at the bottom of the page:

http://www.k-state.edu/geography/giving/index.html

Image and content provided by: http://www.forevermissed.com/stevekale/#lifestory
Student Awards

Huber Self Geography Scholarship: Scott McConaghy
The Self Scholarship was established in 1981 and honors Dr. Huber Self who retired in 1980 after devoting more than 33 years of his professional life to the advancement of geography at Kansas State University. The scholarship is supported by Dr. Self, alumni, and friends of the Department of Geography. It is presented to an outstanding undergraduate geography major.

H.L. "Sy" Seyler Undergraduate GIScience Scholarship: Sam Belling
The Seyler Scholarship was established in 2006 and honors Dr. H.L. "Sy" Seyler who retired in 2000 after devoting nearly three decades of professional service to the advancement of both geography and geographic information science at Kansas State University. The scholarship is supported by alumni and friends of the Department of Geography.

William D. Grimm Memorial Scholarship: Hunter Rose
The Grimm Scholarship was established in 1992 and honors William, a 1986 K-State Geography graduate who was killed in the Persian Gulf War on 31 January 1991. The scholarship is supported by the Grimm family, alumni, and friends of the Department of Geography. It is presented to an outstanding undergraduate geography major.

LeBlanc Outstanding Undergraduate Major Award: Scott McConaghy
The LeBlanc Award was established in 1977 and is made possible through the generosity of Leonard LeBlanc III, who earned a B.S. in Geography in 1973. It is presented to an outstanding undergraduate geography student.

National Council for Geographic Education (NCGE)/Association of American Geographers Award for Excellence of Scholarship: Caleb Wilson
The NCGE/AAG Award was established in 1979 is presented to the graduating senior in K-State Geography with the highest grade point average. The cash award is supported by the Department of Geography.

White Geography Graduate Teaching Assistant Excellence Award: Claire Ruffing & William Wetherholt
The White Award was established in 1989 and is presented to the K-State Geography graduate student selected for outstanding performance as a teaching assistant. The White Award is made possible through the generosity of Steve and Sue White.

Rumsey B. Marston Scholarship: Bryce Marston
The R.B. Marston Scholarship was established in 1986 and honors the memory of Rumsey Bissell Marston, and is supported by the Marston family, alumni, and friends of the Department of Geography. The scholarship is presented to a graduate student who writes a thesis or dissertation proposal in physical geography that involves a significant level of well-conceived fieldwork.

Graduate Student Leadership Award: Lynn Brien
The Leadership Award was established in 2002 to recognize K-State Geography graduate students for their professionalism, dedication, and leadership. The Leadership Award is supported by alumni and friends of the Department of Geography.

Mary Dobbs Outstanding Citizenship Award: William Wetherholt
The Mary Dobbs Award was established in 2006 to honor the memory of Mary, a K-State Geography doctoral student who passed away in Fall 2006 and was awarded the Ph.D. posthumously. The Dobbs Award is presented to geography students who best exemplify the spirit of the department and a willingness to give "110 percent." The Dobbs Award is supported by alumni and friends of the Department of Geography.

Milton and Emma Jean Rafferty Gamma Theta Upsilon Geography Scholarship: David Ratzloff
The Rafferty scholarship is awarded annually to a worthy geography graduate or undergraduate student who is a member of and an active participant in the Beta Psi Chapter of Gamma Theta Upsilon at Kansas State University. The scholarship is named in honor of Milton and Emma Jean Rafferty and provides financial assistance to a student enrolled in the Department of Geography.

**Robert H. Williams Undergraduate Geography Scholarship: Megan McHaney**
The Williams scholarship is awarded annually to a worthy geography major. The scholarship is named in honor of Robert H. Williams and provides financial assistance to undergraduate students enrolled in the Department of Geography at Kansas State University.

**Notable Student Achievements**

**Graduate Fellowship**
Julie Commerford received a one-year Graduate Fellowship for $30,000 from the EIDRoP GK-12 Program at Kansas State. The fellowship begins June 1, 2014 and ends in May 2015. It replaces her Graduate Teaching Assistantship for the year, and she will be bringing her research to high school students in Junction City, KS. Congratulations!

**Lis Pankl** recently earned tenure and promotion to Associate Professor in the K-State library. **Heidi Ramzel**, junior in physics & geography with a minor in chemistry, received a 2013 Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship from NOAA. The Hollings Scholarship offers a summer internship at a NOAA facility & a maximum of $8000/yr for students with 2 years left of undergraduate study ([www.k-state.edu/media/newsreleases/may13/hollingsscholar52113.html?id=8823&category=kudos&referredBy=email](http://www.k-state.edu/media/newsreleases/may13/hollingsscholar52113.html?id=8823&category=kudos&referredBy=email)).

**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.

**Bartosz Grudzinski** won 1st place ($175) at the West Lakes AAG meeting for best graduate student presentation. His paper was entitled "Influence of grazing treatments on suspended sediment concentrations in the Flint Hills, Kansas."

**Kyle Anibas** received a travel award ($1,000) from the College of Arts and Sciences to attend this year’s AAG annual meeting to be held in Tampa, Florida. Congratulations!!!

**Kyleen Kelly** will receive the College of Arts and Sciences William L. Stamey GTA Teaching Award at commencement on 17 May. She will be the only GTA recipient of the award in the college this spring Congratulations Kyleen!

**Nickolas Patch** has received a 2014 scholarship from Greater Kansas City Post SAME (Society of American Military Engineers). Congratulations Nick!

**College of Arts and Sciences selects Martin to head geography department**

MANHATTAN -- Charles Martin can now remove the "interim" from his title as head of Kansas State University's [department of geography](http://www.k-state.edu/geography) in the College of Arts and Sciences.

After a national search, Martin was selected for the job.
"We had very strong interest in the department and the leadership position and considerable input from faculty and the search committee. Chuck will be able to maintain the momentum that Dick Marston and the geography faculty have built," said Peter Dorhout, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "I'm excited for the students, the faculty and the department."

Martin joined the geography department faculty as an instructor in 1989, rising to full professor in 2010 and, most recently, has been serving as interim department head since 2011. He also served as interim department head from 1997-1999.

Since Martin joined the university, the geography department has experienced success on several fronts. Enrollment in geography classes exceeded 4,000 students per academic year over the last five years. In that same period of time, the department's faculty have made more than 300 research presentations at national and international professional meetings and published more than 90 refereed journal articles. Geography faculty and graduate students have secured research funding from competitive agencies, including the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Department of Defense, the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, with more than $1 million in new extramural research funding since July 2011. And, the department has seen growth in its doctoral program with nine doctorates granted since 2011.

"After 24 years as a faculty member in the geography department, and the past two years as interim department head, I was excited about the opportunity to lead a department that has built an outstanding reputation for its research, teaching and professional service," Martin said. "Serving as interim head, I came to appreciate the strengths of my colleagues and realized that serving as head for a longer term would allow us to build upon those strengths and further the reputation of the department."

Martin replaces Richard "Dick" Marston, university distinguished professor of geography, who stepped down to serve as a Jefferson Science fellow with the U.S. Department of State and then returned to teaching.

Martin earned his bachelor's degree from Dartmouth College before earning his master's and doctorate in geography from the University of Kansas in 1985 and 1990, respectively. In his career, he has served as a Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung research fellow; been the director of the university's natural resources and environmental sciences secondary major; developed and taught multiple and varied classes; and represents the department within and outside the university.

Martin also has earned multiple research grants and numerous awards, including the Kansas State University Presidential Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Advising in 2009 and the William L. Stamey Award from the College of Arts and Sciences in 1991, 1993 and 2011.

"I look forward to leading the department and its faculty as we strive to contribute to the goals outlined in the K-State 2025 vision," Martin said.

**Marcellus Caldas selected as the director of international research and faculty**

By Mary K. Pyle

Marcellus Caldas, assistant professor of geography, is the new director of international research and faculty collaborations. His appointment was announced by the office of international programs. The office conducted an internal search seeking qualified applicants for this position, which will report to Marcelo Sabates, interim associate provost for international programs.

Sabates said that this new position will maximize faculty opportunities to include interdisciplinary international research and grant elements; seek new international opportunities for faculty activities; track and document faculty global endeavors to include
travel, conferences and sabbaticals; and move forward engagement for the K-State 2025 Internationalization Strategic Plan.

"Our institutional ambition expressed in Vision 2025 and the great recent success in terms of international institutional partnerships requires a coordinated effort so faculty members across all colleges can be engaged at the highest level," Sabates said. "We had a pool of highly qualified candidates and Dr. Marcellus Caldas is the ideal catalyst to make this happen."

"I am very honored to be selected," Caldas said. "I accepted this position because I think international research collaboration has become a key element in successful globalization strategies by many top universities and K-State is working aggressively to increase its international engagement vital to achieving the goals established in the 2025 Plan."

"Marcellus' enthusiasm for teaching and international opportunities at K-State resulted in several study abroad courses in collaboration with the Division of biology and department of English," Sabates said. "His dedication to international matters was evident in 2012, when he was recognized by the office of international programs and presented with the International Educator of the Year Award."

Caldas said, "I believe I can build upon the office of international program’s established initiatives and incorporate my various past experiences in research and working with scholars and global academic institutions. I have worked with partners in Brazil and Paraguay developing collaborative grants with Michigan State University, Federal University of Bahia and Federal University of Parát, the U.S.-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program supported by the U.S. Department of Education. I continue to maximize relationships with the National Science Foundation and K-State departments."

Caldas came to Kansas State University in 2008. He will retain a part-time teaching appointment in the geography department and begin his assignment as director of international research and faculty collaborations in the office of international programs this month.

Geography alumnus to receive award, present lecture on conservation challenges

By Tom Roesler

Jerry Holden Jr., director of conservation programs for Ducks Unlimited Co., will return to his alma mater on Friday, Oct. 25, to receive the Outstanding Alumnus Award from the geography department in the College of Arts and Sciences. Preceding the awards presentation, Holden will deliver the speech "Never waste a good crisis: Conservation challenges on America’s third coast."

The event will be from 3:30-4:30 p.m. in the K-State Student Union's Little Theatre and is open to the campus.

"The college is excited to have Jerry back on campus," said Peter Dorhout, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "We strive to provide students the academic foundation that enables them to go into the world and make a difference, to solve global challenges."

Holden joined Ducks Unlimited after earning his bachelor's degree and master's degree in geography in 1996 and 1998, respectively. Holden also earned a secondary major in natural resources and environmental sciences. Since becoming director of conservation programs, he has played a significant role in implementing plans for the organization’s conservation programs, leading restoration efforts for wetlands along the Louisiana Gulf Coast as part of the Wetland Reserve Program.

Holden said he is excited to return to his alma mater. "I want to show the students that you can make a difference if you try," he said. "You just have to aim for it."
"It's great to have Jerry back on campus to receive this prestigious award," said Charles Martin, head of the K-State geography department. "In his career since leaving K-State, he has combined his expertise in remote sensing with his love of the outdoors to make significant contributions to the preservation of waterfowl habitat. His presentation will provide a shining example to our current students that a geography degree can take one in unexpected, but professionally rewarding, directions."

Kent Babcock, senior director of conservation programs for Ducks Unlimited, said Holden is a good example of the quality students graduating from K-State and the geography department.

"Jerry has combined his education and training with his passion for wetlands and waterfowl to establish a very productive career in conservation," Babcock said. "His leadership skills have served him and Ducks Unlimited very well and brought credit to K-State. It is most fitting that he be recognized as a distinguished alumnus."

**Climate change in Kansas City topic for geographer's lecture March 31 at K-State Olathe**

By K-State Olathe

Considerable evidence exists that the climate for our planet is changing, with system modeling indicating that additional change is in the pipeline.

Mid-America Regional Council and the Urban Water Institute at K-State Olathe are sponsoring a presentation by John Harrington Jr., professor of geography, from 4-5:30 p.m. March 31 at K-State Olathe.

Harrington will provide updated information on the nature of global climate change, along with local examples of climate variation. The presentation is soon after a release of findings from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change AR5 Working Group II on Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability.

Following the presentation, Harrington will be joined by panelists for further discussion. Panelists include:
- Doug Kluck, central region climate services director, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Stacy Hutchinson, biological and agricultural engineering, Urban Water Institute
- Ed Peterson, Johnson County commissioner

**Geography professor publishes new book**

By Jena Sauber

Bimal Paul, professor of geography in the College of Arts and Sciences, will have his second book, "Climate Change in Bangladesh: Confronting Impending Disasters," published on Nov. 16. The book looks at the climate of Bangladesh from national and international lens, and is co-published with Harun Rashid, professor emeritus in the department of geography and earth science at the University of Wisconsin, La Crosse.

According to Paul, the book provides an essential interdisciplinary text on climate change and sea level rise in Bangladesh for undergraduate and graduate students of geography, environmental studies, sociology, anthropology, political science and others. He calls it an invaluable resource for managers and planners of the government of Bangladesh and several international agencies, including the United Nations.

Paul has spent much of his professional career conducting climate change research in Bangladesh. He began compiling his work last spring for the newest book.

“IT is nice that it can be used by many people. It is interdisciplinary and can be used as a text book or research resources,” Paul said.
The 252-page book will be available on Amazon. A review by Thomas Schmidlin of Kent State University praised the book as "...bring(ing) an entirely fresh perspective to climate change and the management of climatic disasters in Bangladesh. Their emphasis on coping strategies, indigenous adjustments, and management of disasters provides valuable guidance to disaster managers, NGOs, local politicians, and students. Anyone interested in how the developing world should cope with climatic disasters will find answers here."

Paul graduated from Kent State University in 1988. He currently teaches four classes in the geography department, including Quantitative Methods in Geography, and Geography and Natural Hazards. He also is the director for K-State’s South Asia Center and editor of the Geographical Review, a publication of the American Geographical Society.

"He's a tremendous colleague and will do what is needed to help the department. He is certainly the most published member of the faculty, and has been for many, many years. He’s a very well-known scholar in the discipline of geography," said Chuck Martin, professor and head of the geography department.

This will be Paul’s second book. His first book, "Environmental Hazards and Disasters: Contexts, Perspectives and Management," was published in October 2011.

"People in the discipline of geography know that Dr. Paul is an expert on South Asia. That brings a lot of reputation and notice to the department, the College of Arts and Sciences and K-State," Martin said.

Geography professor gives distinguished lecture at University of South Carolina
By Chuck Martin

Richard Marston, university distinguished professor of geography, recently gave the 2014 Julian V. Minghi Distinguished Lecture in the geography department at the University of South Carolina.

Marston's talk was "Geography and Environmental Security in the U.S. Department of State: My Year as a Jefferson Science Fellow." The Minghi Lecture Series recognizes distinguished national and international scholars who have made important contributions in the areas of political geography and cultural regionalism. Marston has given 400 professional presentations during his career.

Geography Colloquium on Friday examines climate change in Bangladesh
By Chuck Martin

Md. Abdus Salam, principal scientific officer of the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council, will give a public lecture at 3:30 p.m. Friday April 25, in 132 Seaton Hall.

Salam's talk is "Agricultural Adaptations to Climate Change in Coastal Ecosystems of Bangladesh."

Salam is a visiting scientist hosted by Bimal Paul in the geography department. His presentation is sponsored by the Beta Psi chapter of Gamma Theta Upsilon, the international geography honor society, and the geography department.

Geography professor delivers lecture at the University of Missouri on illegal immigration
By Jeffrey Smith

Associate professor of geography Jeffrey Smith delivered a public lecture on unauthorized immigration at the University of Missouri, Columbia on April 29. The title of his talk was "Understanding Undocumented Immigration from a Geography Perspective."
Congratulations
Department of Geography 2013
Graduates

Spring 2013
Doctor of Philosophy

Master of Arts
William David Butler
Lianling, Su
Joshua Mueller

Bachelor of Science
Terrance Crossland
Ryan Dowell
Rebecca Goltry
Brent Griffith
Justin Hodge
Savik Howard
Michael Kaiser
Nicholas Kent
Whitney Messecar
Dennis O’Neill
Nathan Owens
Jeffrey Rivers
Jacob Rockwell
Angela Schnee
Amy Shandy
Laura Smith
Zane Swartzman
Matthew Wagner
Andrew Weaver
Michael Weber
Emily Weyrauch
Quincy Whitham
Danielle Williams
Matthew Woods

Fall 2013
Doctor of Philosophy
Katie Helen Costigan
Sumanth G. Reddy

Master of Arts
Ian Howard
Bohue Ling
Christopher J. Morris
Joshua R. Mueller

Bachelor of Science
Kevin Alton
Michael Bennett
Benjamin Detrixhe
Retta Harwood
Robert Kessler
Zachary Kickhaefer
Patrick Marks
Austin Polley
David Ratzloff
Brennan Savage
Aaron Smith
Dillon Supiran
Erik Wabakken
Matthew Wagner
**Geography Colloquia for 2013**
Department of Geography and Gamma Theta Upsilon

Friday, 22 February, 3 pm, Seaton 132: AAG Past President Audrey Kobayashi (Queen’s Univ., Ontario): “Race: An Idea Past Its Time in the Discipline of Geography?”

Friday, 8 March 2013, 3 pm, Seaton 164H: Charles W. Martin "Heavy Metals in the Fluvial System: Research Along the Lahn and Dill Rivers of Central Germany"

Friday, 15 March 2013, 3 pm, Seaton 164H: Daniel J. Hammel, University of Toledo "Judge You Just Don't Understand: Complexity and Change in the Foreclosure Crisis"

Friday, 4 October, 3:30 pm, Seaton 132: Andy Hilburn, “Garbage Management and Its Construction as an Environmental Issue in Coxcatlán, Puebla, Mexico;”

Friday, 25 October, 3:30 pm, Union Little Theatre: 2013 Geography Outstanding Alumnus Award recipient. Jerry Holden, Jr. (Director of conservation programs for Ducks Unlimited), "Never Waste A Good Crisis: Conservation Challenges on America’s Third Coast;"

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

**Geography on the Web**

**Social Networking and Listservs**

The following websites are designed to help keep current and former Students abreast of events, keep in touch with friends, and advertise employment opportunities.

- Facebook - [Department of Geography](#)
- Facebook - [Geography Alumni](#)
- Facebook - [GISSAL](#)
- Linked In - [K-State Geography Alumni](#)
- Twitter - Department of Geography (@kstate_geog)
- Twitter - GISSLAL (@kstate_gissal)
- Alumni Listserv - email [Dr. Jeffrey Smith](#) to be added or removed
List of Contributors

The Geography Department Fund, William D. Grimm Memorial Scholarship, Huber Self Geography Scholarship, LeBlanc Geography Award, Rumsey Bissell Marston Scholarship, and the White Geography GTA Excellence Award (July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013).

MISSISSIPPI RIVER DONORS
Chuck and Sandy Bussing  
Steve Kale*  
Dick Marston and Nancy Cumming  
Raymond McDonald and Kay Weller-McDonald  

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Molly Theobald  
Jeffrey and Beth Turner  
David Wall  
Corry and Kathy Werner  
Kathleen Zimmerman  

* Deceased  

By remembering the Department of Geography in their estate plans or Deferred gift arrangements, our alumni ensure future Opportunities for the students And faculty of tomorrow.
HOW CAN ALUMNI GET INVOLVED AND SUPPORT K-STATE GEOGRAPHY?

We have been working hard to implement recommendations of the KSU Geography Alumni Board to increase the variety of ways that our alumni can interact with and support the Department of Geography.

1. To keep-up with events and news in the department, take a look at the department’s web site (www.ksu.edu/geography) and click on “K-State Geography in the News” for links to multiple news releases. Also, the weekly K-State Globe and annual Geography Alumni Newsletter are posted at our departmental website.

2. In recent years, we have hosted a reception for K-State Geography alumni, students and faculty at the AAG Annual Meeting. We did this once again at the 2014 AAG Meeting in the city of Tampa on April 10.

3. Make a donation to support K-State Geography students and/or other department needs. You can do this by sending a check to the K-State Foundation, payable to them, but remember to add a note in the memo line of your check that the funds are to be deposited in account F26200, the Geography Foundation Account. You can mail your check to us and we will make sure it is passed along to the Foundation. Or, mail it directly to the K-State Foundation at 2323 Anderson Drive, Manhattan, KS 66502-2911. You can specify how your donation is to be used, or designate it as discretionary funds to be used where most needed. Our three biggest needs are:

   - Student scholarships: one of the existing named scholarships (see the list elsewhere in this newsletter), or make a donation to be applied to scholarships where most needed.
   - Student development: funds to travel to professional meetings where students present their research, or funds to support student participation in professional development workshops. For example, the Geography Faculty Development Workshop held at the University of Connecticut is one workshop each summer that would be of great benefit to our doctoral students, but carries a $1200 registration fee.
   - Funds for teaching equipment in our classrooms and labs.

4. Consider a major gift for a new specific purpose that is important to you. For instance, a $30,000 donation will support an annual $1500 student scholarship or award. A $100,000 endowment will support a $5000 annual award for outstanding faculty. A $250,000 endowment would establish a lecture series with $12,500 per year in expendable funds to pay for honoraria, publicity and expenses of guest lecturers in geography. If you would like to make an impact on the Department of Geography you can contact Sheila Walker, Director of Development for the College of Arts and Sciences at the KSU Foundation, about opportunities and information at 785-532-7511 or 800-432-1578 (e-mail: sheilaw@found.ksu.edu).

5. Join us at our annual Spring GTU/Geography Awards Banquet, which will be held on or close to the campus in late-April 2015.

6. Every February since 2008, the Geography Alumni Board has organized a Geography Career Day. Several government agencies and private firms interview a large number of students. Alumni give short presentations to all interested students on resume preparation and interview skills. Consider participating if you are in a position to hire geographers.

7. Visit the department and offer to give a department colloquium or Brown Bag Lunch seminar about your professional or travel experiences. We would love to hear about it.
Department Photos:

Lisa Harrington receiving the John Fraser Hart Award for Research Excellence from the Rural Geography Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers

Mike King, Secretary of the Kansas Department of Transportation, visits the department’s GISSAL lab in April 2014. To his left is son Ryan, a geography major who will graduate in May. Dr. Caldas is in the foreground of the photo.

Geography Week with Avantika Ramekar and Brian Mulcahy

Geography Week with Nick Patch and Avantika Ramekar

Lisa Harrington receiving the John Fraser Hart Award for Research Excellence from the Rural Geography Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers

Group picture includes alumni/students/faculty *Steve Kale, Lisa Tabor, John Harrington, Chris Laingen, Ryan Bergstrom, Bill Wetherholt and Lisa Harrington

Charles and Christine Martin race to the finish line at the 2013 Runderland Race in Anneberg Park
K-State President Kirk Schulz, Dr. Patricia Solis, and College of Arts and Sciences Dean Peter Dorhout at the Alumni Fellows Banquet, February 2013

Arts and Sciences Alumni Fellow Dr. Patricia Solis Outside of Seaton Hall, home of the Geography Department, February 2013
GEOGRAPHY OFFICE GETS MAKEOVER

Geography Office with minimal furniture pieces remaining.

Geography Office with all old furniture items removed.

Richard A. Marston purchases Globe for Geography Department.

New Geography office installation by DBI (Designed Business Interiors, Inc.)

New look, same location, so stop by and visit anytime.
Office of Alison Hodges
Accountant

Out with the Old

In with the new

Alison Hodges with her new office by BA Designs
Kansas State University Geography Alumni Update Form

We enjoy hearing from you, the Geography Alumni, so please take a few minutes to print and complete the following form or click and use our online form, now, before you forget! 
http://www.k-state.edu/geography/alumni/alumni_form.html

Your information and comments will be included in the next Alumni Newsletter.

Thank you very much!

| Name: ___________________________ | Occupation: ___________________________ |
| Mailing Address: __________________ | Title: ________________________________ |
| _________________________________ | Employer: ___________________________ |
| E-mail Address: __________________ | Other: ______________________________ |

| Year Graduated: ________________ | Degree: _____________________________ |
| Year Graduated: ________________ | Degree: _____________________________ |
| Year Graduated: ________________ | Degree: _____________________________ |

Other information or comments of interest for the next Alumni Newsletter:
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________________________________________________________________________________________

Please print and return this form to:

Kathy Zimmerman
Kansas State University
Department of Geography
118 Seaton Hall
Manhattan, KS 66506-2904
E-mail: kzimmerm@ksu.edu and Fax: 785-532-7310