
FROM LINDLEY

Alumni Newsletter of the Department of Geography, University of Kansas



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View from the (New) Chair's Office



Johan Feddema

As I sit down to write this column, it dawns on me that I have not had much time to reflect on the fact that with Terry stepping down as Chair, the department is entering a new phase, much like it was when Terry started. Terry became chair in January 2003, just at the time that Donna Tucker, David Braaten, Curt Hall and the Atmospheric Science program were planning their transfer from the Physics and Astronomy Department (back) to Lindley Hall. It is easy

to assume that not much seems to change in our halls from year to year, but when looking back at some of my records during that 2003 year, I realized that we have changed much over those seemingly calm years under Terry's quiet but steady leadership. So I would be remiss by not first acknowledging Terry's wonderful contribution to our program with both the Atmospheric Sciences and Geography programs on very solid footing with strong research and teaching programs in place. I think we all owe Terry a round of applause on a job well done!

One of the best pieces of news from the last year is that David Rahn (ATMO, PhD Wyoming) and Alex Diener (GEOG, PhD Wisconsin) both entered the department and are settling in exceptionally well. They even selected offices to ensure a better mix of ATMO/GEOG faculty on the 2nd and 4th floors. As a climatologist, it's been great to see some ATMO faculty on the 2nd floor! They are both off to great starts, and I am confident that you will be hearing a lot more about them in the future. Other significant progress is being made in creating an MS degree for physical geography and GIScience, with our proposal meeting approval at the college level and presently under consideration by the Provost's office. We have also submitted a proposal for a PhD program in Atmospheric Science. These programs should be of great help in broadening our appeal to a wider variety of graduate students, and to find better qualified students to work on some of the funded weather, climate, GIScience and soils oriented research programs

Looking at the KU political landscape, it certainly looks like more change is in order. As I rearranged my office (204) to take on the chair position, I realized that I had better enjoy the

view out of my window, because it will most likely be lost with a new planned addition to Lindley Hall, mostly from private funding to the Geology Department. The exciting part is that we will have access to a number of new laboratory and computer visualization facilities as part of the project. However, a good number of us will lose our views and parking spaces! Other changes are in store as well, with the administration undertaking major overhauls of our core course requirements and KU's research goals, and Kansas legislative changes which will likely result in significant changes to the budget landscape. With all this in mind, we are going through a serious evaluation of our own goals and aspirations as a department. Over the last few decades we have dropped in the NRC departmental rankings and we have undertaken a review of why this has happened. A big part of it was described in our external review a few years ago where the committee concluded that "despite the strengths of its programs, the Department is not as well known as it might be." This is clearly a theme we need to address. In addition there is room for improvement in our average publication and citation rates, and student placement. We are starting to implement several initiatives to address these issues.

We are taking a first set of steps towards increasing our publication and citation rates, which are now becoming some of the major metrics for measuring academic quality. Over the last few decades academia has undergone major changes in how research is created and disseminated. Research is changing into more team oriented efforts, not only in the natural sciences but also in the social sciences and even in the humanities. Co-authorship is becoming the norm, and this an effective way to increase departmental publication rates. In addition, it is critical for our graduate students to publish more during their Masters and PhD programs. Presently, students seeking an academic position are expected to have at least three publications under their belt in order to even be considered for an interview at top ranked departments. The best way to get these publications is through co-authorship between students and advisors, with great benefit to students, their advisors and the department as a whole. Not only graduate students benefit from this model, we are seeing more undergraduate students working to publish honors theses and student research projects, often with their advisor. During our most recent meeting with the advisory board, we wanted to find some ways to encourage this process, and we would like to initiate a new alumni sponsored program. The idea is to create a series of annual prizes for the best papers, authored or co-authored, by a) an

undergraduate student b) first time graduate student publisher, c) best overall graduate student paper and d) best faculty paper. Eligible papers will include all papers submitted to a peer review journal during the year under evaluation. To avoid any bloodshed within the department, the advisory board or a special advisory board assigned committee will judge each category. If you are interested in participating or helping us to fund these awards please contact us or David Stearns, chair of the advisory board (more information on the board will appear on our hopefully soon to be revised web page).

In other news, Pete Shortridge and Bev Koerner are working on a department history. I am looking forward to seeing the outcome of this project, and am hoping to have a version of this document on the web with photos. If you think you have a classic picture of a particular time in our history, please consider sending a digital image by email, or an original to Bev Koerner. As usual I think we will have a very interesting year ahead, and I hope that by the end of my term I will be able to say that I am leaving the department in as good a condition as I received it! Even if I lose my window view :(-- I may just have to move my office to the 4th floor! Best wishes and happy holidays,

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Updating Your Information

The KU Geography website has an Alumni Directory page for alumni information. Simply go to www.geog.ku.edu and click on **Alumni News**. Then click on **Alumni Directory** and then **information form**. After you have entered your information, click **Submit** at the bottom of the form.

We are developing an alumni database, so your updated information is important.

If you don't want to submit an Alumni Directory information form, but would like to receive e-mails directed to our alumni, please send your e-mail address to koerner@ku.edu.



John Augelli

I am pushing 92, and at my age the past looms far larger than the present and potential future. And as I occasionally reminisce

, "There comes a voice that awakens my soul, It is the voice of years that are past. They march before me with their deeds." ---and their personalities. I remember vividly Walter Kollmorgen, Tom Smith, George Jenks, Dave Simonett, Pete Stouse, Duane Knos, Bob McColl and the many students, most of whose names are blurred in my memory. But I refuse to let the long shadows of the past obscure the present and (hopefully) the future. There is a little fight left in the old man yet.

Since last year's Newsletter, my special friend and companion, Katie Conley, and I have returned to Lawrence. Despite wandering all over the world lecturing on cruise ships and living in Florida for years, I have always thought of Lawrence as home. It is home partly because I spent more than thirty years teaching at KU, but also because one of my sons, one of my grand daughters, and my very few surviving friends are here or in Kansas City.

Since returning to Lawrence, I have been living in the retirement community of Brandon Woods, home to several other former KU professors. Except for a gimpy leg, my health is in reasonably good shape. Most of my time is spent at the computer or catching up on my reading. At other times I sit and day dream or just sit. Eventually, I shall pass on and be forgotten with the rest, but not just yet. I am not as full of vinegar as I was twenty years ago, but I won't allow the march of time to put me down.

I extend a warm "hello" to all of my friends and even to those who may not think of me as a friend.

God bless

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Curt Sorenson

Life's good in CO. I remain busy thinning trees on 160 acres of Pinyon/Juniper woodland here in Garden Park. We had a very hot summer so we migrated to Cripple

Creek for the season. It's only 18 miles door to door along the Shelf Road, but the 3600 feet of elevation difference makes a huge temperature difference. Peggy just loves Cripple Creek, gambling and having friends visit. Terry and Arlene Slocum stopped by on their way to Alaska, and Matt Sampson and Soren Larsen also stopped by. I am the Wed. night bartender in the Boiler Room Tavern of the St. Nicholas Hotel. It's a great job! I meet interesting people, earn a couple bucks, and it's right across the street from our house. The St. Nicholas was the Catholic Church hospital, then the city hospital until it was abandoned in the 70s and subsequently purchased and renovated by the current owner in the 1990s. I've resigned from the KU Credit Union board after 20 years, but I'm serving on the Fremont County Weed Board (noxious weeds are a big deal in CO) and on the Gold Belt Tour Board. The Gold Belt Tour is a state and national scenic byway, and the organization has been very active in developing conservation easements along the byway. Peggy and I, along with adjacent land owners including Dick Smith, have put a square mile into conservation easement, which prevents development in perpetuity.

The hot summer along with extended drought means that we have had a very active pine beetle population, destroying huge numbers of trees. Thirty-nine landowners in Garden Park banded together with state and federal agencies to cost share the thinning of trees on nearly 2000 acres of ground over the past couple of years. The thinning process results in better forest health, aids in wildfire prevention, improves grazing potential for wildlife and domestic stock, and the reestablished grasses and forbs aid in reducing erosion. All of these benefits are important in a state where wildfires took a big toll this year.

The weather has been beautiful (but dry) for November, and Peggy is hoping that the preservation efforts at the historic Garden Park School will be completed by the end of the year. Peggy and I spend a lot of time with our grandson, Orion, who is soon going to be seven and is an active first grader. Anna is busy with her antique business, and Spencer is a traveling man with no immediate job prospects. I think

Emeriti Corner

he's in Oregon this week. Anna is scheduled to return to Lawrence for a Van Go reunion Dec. 15th, so we'll have a brief visit then.

Today I'm going to town to check on the progress of 3 classic cars that we're restoring at my friend's shop. Even in my seventies, I can't seem to get away from the sound of a healthy V-8.

Best wishes to friends and colleagues, and please stop in if you're in the area.

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Faculty News



Dave Braaten

During the past fall semester, Dave Braaten was on sabbatical at the Centre for Ice and Climate (CIC) in

Copenhagen, Denmark, which is part of the Niels Bohr Institute at the University of Copenhagen. CIC is a partner institution of the Center for Remote Sensing of Ice Sheets (CReSIS), which is headquartered at the University of Kansas. Dave is the Associate Director of Science and a founding investigator of CReSIS. During the sabbatical, he conducted research on ice sheet mass balance using CReSIS radar data, ice core data from CIC, and meteorological data. He also enjoyed very fruitful discussions with colleagues and students at CIC.

Earlier in the year, Dave traveled to Greenland (in May) with 12 graduate students and 3 other KU faculty members (including Jay Johnson) that are part of the NSF IGERT "Climate Change: Humans and Nature in the Global Environment" (C-CHANGE) program at KU. The IGERT group of 16 flew to and from Greenland on a U.S. Air

Faculty News

Force National Guard C-130 Hercules cargo plane along with several other research teams. The group spent 3 days in the Greenland capital of Nuuk, and 9 days in the Greenland town of Kangerlussuaq. This trip was the culmination of a spring semester (2012) course called "Climate Change in Greenland and the Arctic" offered to IGERT graduate students.

This year, the National Science Foundation (NSF) selected CReSIS for a Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) award, and Dave is a co-investigator on this project. The \$1.7 million dollar, three-year MRI grant will fund the development of advanced airborne radars to study polar ice sheets. These radars will help in understanding observed changes to the ice sheets, and will help ice sheet models better predict future changes.

During June and July, Dave traveled to Fairbanks, AK to attend the International Glaciological Society (IGS) meeting, and presented a paper entitled Regional Measurements of Snow Accumulation on Ice Sheets from Ultra-Wideband Airborne Radars. He also attended the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) meeting in Portland, OR and presented *Multi-Frequency Airborne Radar Measurements of Outlet Glaciers and Ice Streams*.

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Chris Brown

Chris Brown continues to build ties with Brazilian institutions and colleagues, and he is even dragging some other KU faculty into the mix. Nate Brunsell and Chris spent a couple of weeks in Brazil this summer visiting colleagues at Embrapa (Brazilian equivalent of the USDA), UNICAMP (Campinas State University near São Paulo), INPE (Brazilian equivalent of NASA), and INPA (National Institute of Amazonian Research). Chris and Nate are working to build collaborations to facilitate interdisciplinary research on agricultural sustainability in Brazil. For the third straight year, there has been a Brazilian faculty member or student working in the department as part of these collaborations. This year, it is a PhD student from UNICAMP who is working with Nate on remote sensing and soybean yield estimation in Brazil. Chris is

also working with geographers and economists at Kansas State on the human drivers of land change related to Brazil's ethanol industry, and the team won an NSF Geography and Regional Science award to carry out satellite remote sensing of sugar cane expansion and to conduct surveys and interviews of Brazilian farmers and ethanol firms over the next three years.

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Nate Brunsell

Nate Brunsell spent the year continuing his research on regional climate change, grassland ecohydrology and spatial variability. Along

with Chris Brown, he spent two weeks in Brazil increasing potential collaborations there with respect to agricultural decision making processes. This work follows on a group of researchers that have been meeting to address sustainability with particular interest on the impacts of climate change and agriculture. The flux towers are still operating across the state, which led to the opportunity to work with several undergraduate students throughout the summer to look at soil and vegetation variability across the state. In addition, papers were written and submitted, conferences attended, etc. At home, the kids continued to conduct entropy experiments, only now in a new house.

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Alex Diener

Following a year as the Senior Scholar in Eurasian Studies at George Washington University's IERES Program of the Elliott School of International Affairs

(2010-2011) and a year as the Regional Research Fulbright Scholar for Central Asia (2011-2012), Alexander C. Diener joins the Geography Faculty of KU. Alex is an assistant professor with broad interests in the fields of political, cultural, and social geography. He has written specifically on Border Studies, Critical Geopolitics, Mobilities and Immobilities, Geographies of Nationalism & Transnationalism, Urban Landscape Change, Geographies of Islam, Migration & Security Studies, and Geographies of Belonging. His area studies focus is on Central Eurasia,

Faculty News

Russian Borderlands, Mongolia, Xinjiang, Islamic Borderlands. In 2012, Alex co-authored *Borders: A Very Short Introduction* with Oxford University Press. Over the course of the year, he has spoken at Yale University, the University of Wisconsin, the Central European University in Budapest, Hungary, and KIMEP University in Almaty, Kazakhstan. He also presented papers at the CESS Conference and the ASEES Conference. His co-authored article "Kaliningrad's Past, Present, and Future: Russian and E.U. Perspectives on the Geopolitics of Exclave and Enclave" was published in *Eurasian Geography and Economics*. He published two book chapters: one entitled "Will New Mobilities Beget New (Im)Mobilities?: Prospects for Change Resulting from Mongolia's Trans-State Highway" in Stanley Brunn (ed.) *Engineering Earth: The Impact of Mega Projects* and another entitled "The Borderland Existence of Mongolia's Kazakhs: Boundaries and the Construction of Territorial Belonging" in Doris Wastl-Walter (ed.) *Research Companion to Border Studies*. Alex is joined in Lawrence by his spouse Joy and is most to be a Jayhawk.

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Jerry Dobson

Americans Want More Geography Than U. S. Schools Provide

A new nationwide survey finds astoundingly high levels of public support for geography. The American Geographical Society (AGS) conducted a nationwide survey of public attitudes toward geography and knowledge about geography. The questions covered (a) public values regarding the discipline, (b) public knowledge about the discipline, and (c) public knowledge about real world geography. In summary, Americans predominantly: appreciate geography and its functions whether they know it's geography or not, appreciate geographic education and want more of it for their children, wish they had received more geographic education in their own schooling, expect geography to be taught at all educational levels from elementary school to elite universities, expect geography instructors to have formal training in geography, recall and use lessons learned in their own geography

courses, understand which physical and human topics may be of interest to geographers, and believe geography and its skills are useful in many professions and government agencies, yet lack specific knowledge of geographic and cartographic methods and techniques.

The AGS Geographic Knowledge and Values Survey is one part of a major study on geographic literacy funded by the National Science Foundation. The survey ran online from December 12, 2011 through March 31, 2012 with volunteers constantly soliciting adult U. S. residents to participate. The survey received 4,021 valid responses from people throughout the United States. While not a truly random sample, the results are indicative of a sizable cohort of the U. S. population: more educated, more female, and less ethnically and racially diverse than the general population.

I led the survey, since I am also President of AGS, and the analysis of results was led by KU graduate student Stephanie Kozak, who is also an AGS Graduate Research Fellow.

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Steve Egbert

In a moment of great weakness this summer Steve Egbert agreed to serve as Associate Chair, but is pleased to be working with

Johan and appreciates his efforts on behalf of our department. The most difficult part of becoming Associate Chair was his regret at having to give up serving as Graduate Studies Director, which was a job he had really come to enjoy. We have great graduate students in our department and he has genuinely enjoyed working with them, getting to know more of them better.

Thanks to the work of his talented colleagues at KARS, they have been able to secure ongoing funding for a range of projects from time-series land cover mapping to dam-breach modeling, wetlands mapping and characterization, extracting information from the original Kansas land survey maps, and numerous others. Steve continues to have a large number of graduate students at both the M.A. and Ph.D. levels – 17 at last count, which anyone will be happy to tell you is too many – but he finds great satisfaction in seeing them develop as scholars, researchers, and teachers. He has especially enjoyed working with a group of talented graduate

students in a working group that has developed a concept they refer to as Territorial Cleansing. They presented a panel on the topic at last year's AAG meeting (and will do a follow-up this year) and they are preparing to submit their first paper for review. Steve continues to teach remote sensing courses and seminars and will co-teach a course in remote sensing at Haskell Indian Nations University next Spring with Dave McDermott, a KU Geography Grad who is on the Haskell faculty.

On the personal front, Steve and Kathy took trips to California to visit Point Reyes National Seashore over Spring Break and for Kathy's father's 80th birthday in November. He also got to return to the Teton River in Idaho for a day of fishing and climbed Table Rock in the Teton Range – the view of the Tetons from the summit is one of the best you can get!

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Johan Feddema

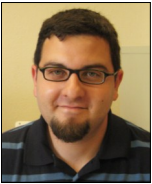
In a story of two tales, Johan Feddema spent the first half of 2012 on a sabbatical leave in Boulder Colorado, at the National Center for Atmospheric Research. There

he continued his ongoing collaboration with several people at NCAR, evaluating a potential scheme for improving the representation of soils in global climate models and working on improving the representation of urban systems in the model. At NCAR, he and Nate Brunsell worked on a new collaborative proposal between NCAR and other institutions that he hopes he will be able to report on next year if rumors are to be believed – stay tuned. While there, he also worked on a water balance model simulating the combined impacts of fire and climate change on ponderosa pine regeneration in the American southwest, two papers on this topic should be forthcoming soon. He, with Kees van der Veen and others, also completed a project to analyze the importance of glacier runoff in the Liddar, India watershed, and assessed the impacts of climate change on this watershed in the context of potential impacts on irrigation water supplies in the Kashmir Valley, due out any day in Water Resources Research. This sabbatical bliss was rudely interrupted by him taking the chair position this summer. Since September, he has been busy getting trained by staff, students and

Faculty News

faculty alike in the fine art of chairmanship. So far it has been a great experience, and he has learned a lot about the department in this process – everyone should do this for a while! While the administration has added to his workload, he is optimistic that with a number of active research projects, and lots of help from great graduate students and other faculty, he will be able to continue his research program over the next few years.

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Dan Hirmas

This has been a productive and growing year for Dan's laboratory group. He now has four graduate students working on a range of

projects including: examining the effect of ant bioturbation on hydraulic properties and carbon in a forested soil of eastern Kansas (Kim Drager), developing a stability index for Mojave Desert landforms using dorsal and ventral surface rock varnish (Eric Zautner), quantifying soil structure and modeling its effect on soil water flux (Dennis Eck), and relating soil structure to geomorphic properties for predictive mapping (Tim Bents). Nate Brunzell, Dave Mechem and Dan worked on a very promising project this year that examines soil structure and organization as a product of climatic forcing, which they presented at the annual SSSA meeting. Dan continues collaborations with Terry Slocum, Steve Egbert, Bill Johnson, and Paul Atchley (KU Psychology) on testing the effect of 3-D visualization in the introductory physical geography course and has submitted the first paper of that work to the Journal of Geoscience Education. On a similar note, Dan received NSF-funding this year with Steve Hasiotis (KU Geology), Terry Slocum, and Bill Johnson to examine the use of 3-D surface scanning and rapid prototyping (3-D printing) to enhance undergraduate geoscience education. This year, Dan began an exciting collaboration with Chad Kraus (KU Architecture) examining ways to naturally stabilize rammed earth architecture. This work has enormous potential to decrease carbon footprints of the built environment. On the home front, Dan is happy to report the addition of their third daughter: Lauren Alicia Joy Hirmas! She is adored by her two big sisters.

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Bill Johnson

Bill has had a good run this year...great new graduate students have joined his Soils

Geomorphology Research Group, Alan Halfen (PhD 2012!) and he attended some interesting international meetings, and he accomplished some fun fieldwork with great colleagues. As for new students, Jen Glaubius started the PhD program and will investigate construction and soil development in early agricultural fields of Greece. Claire Forgacs began her master's degree, and her research will focus on dune development in central Alaska. Will Chatsfield-Taylor, new master's student, is conducting 3-D landscape modeling of sea-bird nesting habitat on the rocky Caribbean island of Saba. Plus, Dan Hirmas has some really talented new graduate students as well! As for those in the midst of their degree research—Aaron Koop (MA) is deriving his model of canyon development in northwestern Kansas using stratigraphic information and terrestrial laser scanning (TLS) data; Aoesta Mohammed (PhD)



is compiling her remote sensing database for northern Iraq, which will be used to derive landscape models; Terri Woodburn (PhD) is finalizing her journal manuscripts that will

comprise the dissertation on paleosol climate reconstruction and bioturbation; and Scott Klopfenstein (MA) is doing the last of his laboratory analyses for his research into carbon sequestration in pristine prairie soils.

Also, Alan Halfen completed his PhD on prehistoric megadroughts in the central Great Plains and is in the process of publishing the results.



Bill's research continues to move along, e.g., modeling of extreme flood events in Afghanistan (with Eunmok Lee, Jude Kastens, and Kevin Dobbs); paleoclimate proxy records within loess deposits of the central Great Plains (with Joe Mason and others); playa evolution in the central Great Plains (Mark Bowen); and dune and sand sheet histories within the Great Plains and Alaska (Alan Halfen and Ned Gaines, resp.).

Summer 2013 will be spent in Scotland, Alaska, and here in Kansas. Then, Bill and

Claudia will be traveling (no kids, just a dog) during his fall 2013 sabbatical leave.

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Jay Johnson

Although intellectually Jay Johnson knows that the Earth doesn't have any ends, sometimes travel takes one to places that certainly still feel like you've reached the end of the

Earth. During this past summer he had the good fortune to travel to three different 'ends of the Earth'; Greenland, Cape Town, South Africa, and Kiribati. He traveled to Greenland in May along with the faculty and students of the Climate Change in Greenland and the Arctic course. Aside from long hikes across the tundra and onto the ice sheet, they also had the opportunity to visit the capital city, Nuuk, where the students presented their research to faculty and students at the University of Greenland as well as for staff members of the Inuit Circumpolar Council. His trip to South Africa had two purposes; first, to present at the Society of South African Geographers meeting



and second, to attend the post-conference meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Knowledges and Rights Commission (IGU) meeting. Jay and his colleagues traveled with their host, Maano Ramutsindela, to the border region between South Africa and Namibia to visit communities participating in ecotourism development projects. His final trip of the summer, to Fiji and Kiribati, was the beginning of a new research project along with Gene Rankey, KU Geology, and Jay's graduate student, Lara O'Brien. In addition to visiting faculty members at the University of the South Pacific in Suva, Fiji, they spent most of their time in the capital of Kiribati, Tarawa, and on the outer island, Aranuka. Most of their time in Kiribati was spent interviewing people about the environmental change they are witnessing in the islands and how they are utilizing traditional knowledge to adapt to these changes. They are currently working on a publication outlining their findings for Global Environmental Change.

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Faculty News



Xingong Li

Xingong Li's continuing research on spatial-temporal data analysis led to a proposal, "Impacts of Human-Induced LULC on

the Life Cycles of Convective Storms", submitted to the NSF Geography program in September. If funded, the grant can provide GRAs and support new Ph.D. students to develop spatiotemporal analysis methods in GIS. Collaboration with the Institute of Ecology and Geography, Chinese Academy of Sciences, led to a summer field trip to the Tizinafu watershed in the Kunlun Mountains in western China. The watershed was selected to study the snow-/glacier-melt water in the area and extensive instrumentation and data collection efforts are underway inside the watershed. In teaching, Xingong offered GEOG758 (Geographical Information Science) again this fall. Instead of using MATLAB when the class was offered in the fall of 2008, Xingong tried the open source software R for class. However, he is not in favor of the sloppy programming style in R and was not convinced to use R as the primary computational tool in his GIS research. As for service, Xingong took the lead in writing the full proposal for the M.S. degree in Geography. The full proposal was submitted to the college and we are hoping to start the program in the fall of 2013. Xingong also helped organize the 11th KU GIS Day event on campus. On the family side, he and his wife are having fun and keep busy with their six-year old son Kevin and eighth-grade daughter Lucy with various activities.

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David Mechem

The past year has largely been spent juggling a number of research projects. Highlights include

two research articles on southeast Pacific cloud systems, submission of a manuscript on the regional climate effects of irrigation, and substantial progress on 150-year regional climate simulations over North America, which will be used to assess how extreme events are changing over time. David has been increasingly working with colleagues here at KU on a variety of

research topics, as well as developing research collaborations with scientists at other universities and national labs. He took a number of work-related trips this year, the highlight being the International Conference on Clouds and Precipitation in Leipzig, Germany. Late in the year, he began serving as an editor for Pure and Applied Geophysics. After-hours time is filled with shuttling his daughters to piano lessons, soccer and softball practice, and Girl Scout events.

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Shannon O'Lear

Shannon O'Lear worked with the Office of Professional Graduate Military Education to organize and co-Chair a conference,

"Environmental Security: Academic and Military Perspectives" which was held on the KU campus in April 2012. The objective of the conference was to foster conversations between academic researchers and military experts on the multidimensional and escalating issue of environmental security. The topic is of concern both to academics and to military groups, but rarely is there a concentrated effort to engage in conversation between these groups to focus the energies of their different perspectives. The conference schedule included a panel of environmental specialists from regional U.S. Combatant Commands who provided a "boots on the ground" perspective of environmental issues and challenges in their areas, a panel of international military and environmental experts who provided non-US views on environmental security, and a panel of experts who discussed definitions of security and risk from academic and policy perspectives. There were also several paper sessions in which researchers from physical, technical and social sciences presented their work. One issue that the conference participants agreed on is that there is no single, overarching definition of environmental security that may be used to guide military action or prioritize academic research. Instead, it was recognized that environmental security encompasses a broad range of issues at multiple, simultaneous, and overlapping spatial scales.

In the summer of 2012, Shannon was asked to teach her Environmental Geopolitics course to

a group of Special Forces Officers based at Ft. Leavenworth. Since then, she has accepted the position of Associate Director of KU's Center for Global and International Studies where her main focus will be the coordination of KU educational programming for students at Fort Leavenworth's Command and General Staff College.

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Margaret Pearce

A warm hello to all of you far-flung KU geographers! Seems like no matter where Margaret goes, a KU geography alumni is already there. This past spring she taught two mapping classes, Indigenous Cartographies

and Maps, Computers, and Geographic Analysis, both of which kept her quite busy. In the summer, she departed for Indian Island, Maine, for the second year of collaboration with Penobscot Cultural & Historic Preservation Department on a place names map for the Penobscot traditional territory; look for your copy in early 2013! In September, she began a year of research leave supported by research fellowships from the American Council of Learned Societies and the School for Advanced Research (SAR) while pursuing her dream of creating climate dialogue through cartography. Now in residence at SAR in Santa Fe, she recently returned from a month of fieldwork in Northern Tanzania, which was immensely rewarding beyond words. She hopes to honor the people there with a good and useful map. And she hopes to honor the Penobscot people with respectful representation of their place names. Salaama, peace to you for the holiday and in the new year!

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David Rahn

Dave Rahn joined the faculty in the fall of 2012. He was previously at the Universidad de Chile in Santiago where he

investigated a range of atmospheric phenomena. These included the local effects of the varying coastal topography along the Chilean coast on the low-level jet to the impact of large scale circulations on the upwelling-favorable flow and precipitation in

Faculty News

central Chile. His current project (the Precision Atmospheric Marine Boundary Layer Experiment, PreAMBLE) focuses on several mesoscale features that occur off of the southern Californian coast. Central to the study were airborne measurements that were collected last spring in a small, instrumented twin prop airplane. A lot of great data was collecting and he logged over 34 hours of flight time during the month-long field campaign. Some highlights of the project's results will be presented at the upcoming American Meteorological Society Annual Meeting.

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Pete Shortridge

As he edges closer toward retirement, Pete has stopped accepting new graduate students, but still has ten advisees in various stages of completion. Another, Aaron Gilbreath, graduated in the summer with a dissertation on the historical geography of methamphetamines. November brought the publication of "Kansas City and How it Grew" by the University Press of Kansas. The title (if you are interested) is an adaptation of the old children's story about the five little Peppers. The book's physical appearance is impressive: a large, 8 ½ x 11-inch format with good paper that displays the numerous maps and photographs well. Pete and Barbara's travels this year focused on the Louisiana bayou country and Michigan's Upper Peninsula. He recommends both places highly, especially Eunice, LA, where the rice fields double as nurseries for crayfish and the Finnish small towns near Marquette, MI, that remain remote enough to escape the bland tourist culture that envelops northern Wisconsin.

Pete's current project, undertaken at the urging of Bev Koerner, is a history of the department. He would appreciate receiving stories from alumni about individual faculty members, the look and feel of the department at particular times, and anything else that you feel might be



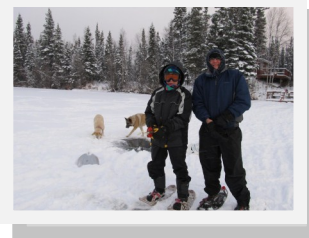
relevant. Old photographs that we could copy and return would be useful as well.

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Terry Slocum

Terry Slocum is in Fairbanks, Alaska this academic year taking a sabbatical. Wait, didn't he just have a sabbatical? Yes, that was a one-semester administrative sabbatical. This one is the official sabbatical and Terry has chosen to freeze his butt off in Alaska! Terry says that he is enjoying Alaska very much. He is living in a dry cabin, which means no central plumbing. Who needs a toilet or a shower! There is an outhouse where you can look at the stars and see the Northern Lights and you can always go to the gym if you need a shower. Terry enjoys riding his bicycle to work in -25 degrees F (eventually it will get to -40 F). His main project is revising his textbook *Thematic Cartography and Geovisualization*, which is co-authored with three other alumni: Robert McMaster, Fritz Kessler, and Hugh Howard. He also is teaching one small class each semester.



Arlene is thoroughly enjoying living in Alaska. She spends a fair amount of time taking care of the dry cabin (for example, they have to haul all of their water to the cabin), is enrolled in Tae Kwon Do classes, is taking some short courses at the university, is helping out at the humane society, and is taking a break from her 12-hour work days in Lawrence.

Assuming that Terry and Arlene survive the winter in Alaska, they should be back in Lawrence next August.

t-slocum@ku.edu



Donna Tucker

Donna has been working on an application to the university and the Board of Regents for a PhD program in Atmospheric Science. Graduates should stay tuned for progress on this proposed degree program. She has also been trying to integrate Atmospheric

Sciences courses into the new KU Core requirements. There will be a lot of changes for us as these new requirements take effect next year. Donna's student, Elizabeth Callen, successfully defended her masters thesis recently. Her research was a statistical study looking at conditions under which MCS initiate from mountain convection.

dtucker@ku.edu



Kees van der Veen

After many delays, Kees van der Veen completed the revised second edition of his textbook "Fundamentals of Glacier Dynamics" which originally appeared in 1999. The second edition will be published by Taylor & Francis and is set to hit the bookstores in the Spring of 2013. In addition, he has been collaborating with Leigh Stearns (KU Geology) and colleagues at SUNY Buffalo and the University of Montana on a project that aims to understand why many of the outlet glaciers on the Greenland Ice Sheet have shown rapid changes since the late 1990s. Over the past decade, the amount of ice lost from this ice sheet has more than doubled, in part because many of the glaciers draining the interior have accelerated and are discharging more ice into the ocean. The physical processes responsible for these changes are not clear and many speculations have been made. In order to quantitatively investigate these glaciers, temporal records of elevation change, glacier speed, and surface melting are being compiled. These records will then be used to assess changes in glacier dynamics that have occurred and what caused these changes. The overarching objective of this research is to develop more realistic models for predicting the future contribution of the Greenland Ice Sheet to global sea level.

cjvdrv@ku.edu



Barney Warf

Barney has had a busy year. He spends much of his time editing, including editing *The Professional Geographer* and co-editing *Growth and Change*. He is also general editor for geography for the Oxford Bibliography On-line, the Rowman and Littlefield book series Human Geography in the New Millennium, and co-book review editor of *Dialogues in Human Geography*. In 2012, he published the monograph *Global Geographies of the Internet* (Springer), the edited volume

Faculty News

Encounters and Engagements between Economic and Cultural Geography (Springer), and is working on a forthcoming introductory human geography textbook for Oxford University Press. He also published a paper on cosmopolitanism in *Geographical Review*, one on the internet's impacts on telephony in *Geoforum*, and one on the U.S. digital divide in *Tijdschrift voor Economische en Sociale Geografie*. He also has four book chapters about to appear. Barney teaches courses in human geography, economic geography, and the development of geographic thought. In his spare time, which isn't much, he indulges in his passions for jazz, politics, travel, and historical fiction.

bwarf@ku.edu

Donations to the Endowment Association

Our SPECIAL THANKS to the following recent contributors:

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If you wish to make a contribution to the Kollmorgen Geography Fund or the George F. Jenks Scholarship Fund, you can send that contribution to the Kansas University Endowment Association, P.O. Box 928, Lawrence, KS 66044-0928 or to the Geography Department. Be sure to indicate which fund on your donation.

Advisory Board Update

The Alumni Advisory Board had a productive year in 2012. We had two face to face meetings in person in Lawrence, one in April and other in Oct. Both were all day meetings that were insightful and energizing. The Board is looking forward to continuing its support of students and connecting with alumni for new ideas and professional networking. We have another meeting scheduled in late April 2013. We also had a career planning session in March that included Advisory Board Members from both Atmospheric Science and Geography who attended to talk to students about career opportunities. Some of the Advisory Board also met with several student clubs throughout the year to expand the awareness of the Alumni Advisory Board so everyone knows that we are a resource that can be used for internships, mentoring, job placement and career advice.

The goals of the Alumni Advisory Board are to inform and involve alumni and other key constituencies to increase awareness of KU Geography's academic and research initiatives, to foster and engage an active alumni community and to establish a network of professionals who work in industries and are available to advise and mentor students as necessary.

We continue to support student travel to professional conferences such as AAG and AMS, training and field camp. Care to join the board? Please contact Department Chair Johannes Feddema at feddema@ku.edu or Board Chair David Stearns at david.stearns@nokia.com. Board members have made a commitment to engage and invest time in the life and activities of KU Geography. Please do your part to help KU Geography by supporting the Department of Geography. Please check out our online website for more information <http://www.geog.ku.edu/AdvBoard>. Please consider updating your information on the KU Geography Alumni Directory page. This helps us to create an updated alumni database and reach out to alumni for professional connections and introductions. http://www2.ku.edu/~geography/Alumni_direct/alumdirect.shtml



---David Stearns, Chair david.stearns@nokia.com

Byron Augustin, MA 1968

It hardly seems possible but it is getting close to 45 years since I finished my Masters degree at KU. After teaching in Oklahoma, Missouri, and Texas for 42 years I retired in 2010. My wife and I sold our home in New Braunfels, Texas and bought a home in the colonial city of Valladolid in the state of Yucatan in Mexico. It is a very interesting city with a lot of geography and history to explore in the city and vicinity. Now that I do not have to do research, I am enjoying conducting research for a book and I regularly contribute articles and photos to "Yucatan Living" and the "Yucatan Times". Plans are underway to hopefully visit Cuba this summer if we get the proper visas. We also go to the Caribbean quite a lot and do a considerable amount of deep-sea fishing. We have had great luck with barracudas. Rebecca and I send warm greetings to all of our Kansas friends for Christmas and the New Year. We are located approximately 40 kilometers from Chichen Itza, so we will be following the end of the Maya calendar very closely. We doubt that the world will end here, it is much more likely to get started in the Middle East, in our opinion.

ba04@txstate.edu

Correl Robinson, MA 1969

I have retired from teaching at the University of Texas-Pan American in Edinburg in 2005, but I continue to work part time there and at a small private school in McAllen. I discovered many years ago that teaching English as a Second Language provided much more opportunity for me in this area, so I "switched" careers. I have taught geography, however, on a part time basis at both Texas Southmost College and the University of Texas at Brownsville. As a retired person I am currently spending free time traveling. I have been to Europe about 6 times since retiring.

corrob3@yahoo.com

Richard Skaggs, MA 1963, PhD 1967

Since my formal retirement from the University of Minnesota in 2005, I have gradually finished up my professional career. I stopped teaching an occasional class in 2009 and published my last paper in 2011. Now my time is spent mostly with puttering around home, serving as treasurer of the University of Minnesota Retirees Association, and travel. Our last trip was in October to London for 10 days followed by Madrid for 5 days. I also greatly enjoy visiting with fellow KU graduates in geography at Minnesota, Dwight Brown (retired), Bob McMaster (Vice Provost), and Mark Lindberg (Senior Cartographer). I hope to get to Lawrence for the spring meeting of the departmental advisory board.

Hugh Bevans, MA 1976

I graduated from KU with a BA in Environmental Studies in 1973 and an MA in Geography in 1976, and am retiring from a 36-year career with the U.S. Geological Survey at the end of 2012. I served with the Kansas District in Lawrence as a hydrologist (1976-88); with the Nevada District in Carson City as Chief of the Hydrologic Investigations Section (1988-91), Chief of the National Water Quality Assessment Nevada Basin and Range Study Unit (1991-99), and Chief of the Regional Studies Section (1997-99); and as Director of the West Virginia Water Science Center in Charleston (1999-2012). Marci and I are relocating to Reno, Nevada.

hbevans@usgs.gov

Jerry Coiner, MA 1972 PhD 1975

Eloise and I continue our travels. This year, 2012, we cruised from Ft. Lauderdale to Monte Carlo (guess which was the most appealing!), and we spent time touring northwest Vietnam (for the children, there is a place called Dien Bien Phu) and the Boer War battlefields of Kwa Zulu-Natal. We leave on December 18th for another world cruise, with emphasis on the South Pacific and west Africa. If anyone is overtaken by insomnia or overindulgence during the holidays, they can view our blog (jerrycoiner.blogspot.com), which has replaced Eloise's journal and my very marginal photography to help clutter up the internet. All the best for the holidays and aloha.

jcoiner@gmail.com

Norm Hardy, MA 1972; PhD 1976

2012 has proven to be an interesting year in the life of the Hardy's. February brought a rushed trip from the West Coast to Toronto to visit one of Bonnie's cousins who was in the final stages of pancreatic cancer.

March brought an impromptu trip to East Africa; Bonnie and I spent four weeks exploring Kenya from quarters in Kikimbala, near Mombasa. We were joined for a week of exploration by the Hazard's, a couple who arrived from Seattle a few days after us. During our time in Kenya, we four were able to hire a guide/driver who was able to get us to some of the more exotic and less travelled locations, all the while keeping us out of the many trouble spots. In addition to visiting some of the wild locations of Kenya, I had an opportunity to visit and spend time with the management of Bamburi Cement's Haller Park. Bamburi Cement is a wholly owned

subsidiary of Lafarge Cement, and Haller Park is one of LaFarge Ecosystems reclamation projects in East Africa, all of which are intended to restore ecosystem integrity to exhausted limestone quarries. Restoration includes not just revegetating the quarries, but reintroducing native wildlife to the area. The reclaimed areas are home to threatened species and species which have been locally extirpated from home territories across East Africa.

Much of the early summer proved to be quite uneventful. In June we spent a week in Ashland, Oregon, a location we regularly visit to enjoy live theatre. Much of late June and July we spent preparing for our upcoming August trip to the U.K.

We began the U.K. visit with several days in Edinburgh, Scotland, attending the Festival and the Edinburgh Military Tattoo. For this trip to the U.K. we opted not to rent a car, and instead purchased a Seniors Brit Rail Pass. This decision simplified all aspects of our travels, as roads are crowded, fuel is expensive and parking is both expensive and at a premium. In early August, we made our way southward from Edinburgh, visiting people and mostly historic locations, such as Yorkminster. The first phase of our trip culminated in Southampton, where we joined the Caribbean Princess, for a twelve day circumnavigation of Great Britain with brief visits to Ireland. This second phase of the trip terminated back in Southampton, from where we made our way to Lymington for a week of exploring the New Forest and surrounding areas. It was during this time that we found our way to Dorset, particularly Dorchester, to visit the ancestral territory of the Hardy's. For several days near the end of the trip we moved to the town of Newton Abbot, solely for the purpose of seeing off-the-beaten-path Britain. From Newton Abbot we trained to Birmingham to visit friends, and to make our way home in early September.

Upon our return, another rushed trip was in the cards, this time to Edmonton, to attend a funeral and deliver a eulogy, as one of my elderly cousins had passed.

Our return home has meant that Bonnie could spend some time completing her most recent manuscript. She is now seeking a publisher for "The Baby Boomers Guide to Managing Mom and Dad".

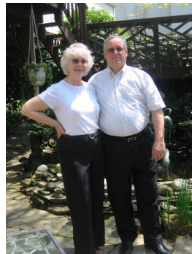
As for me, I have now given up contract teaching of Environmental Management at

Royal Roads University, so I guess that must mean I'm retired.

normhardy@shaw.ca

Greg Hembree, MA 1978

Greg and Marla Hembree continue to reside in Centreville, VA, with their two cats and exotic fish in the outdoor fish pond. Everyone is doing okay, although a year older.



Greg just passed his 25th anniversary as the Planning & Zoning Director and Zoning Administrator for the Town of Vienna, VA. A few staff changes and a record number of tear down/new single-family dwelling permits have kept his work schedule rather full in 2012.

A big event in Marla's year was the full replacement of her left knee in March. The procedure "took" however, and she is more mobile than before the operation. Outside of a few trips to see family or work on family genealogy, things in the Hembree household have been quite normal. Over Christmas, they will visit the family in the Kansas City area including Greg's parents, who both passed their 91st birthday this past summer.

gregor-the-great1@earthlink.net



James C. Hughes, MA 1968, PhD 1971.

It is hard to believe that another year has gone by! I am still taking college courses at Slippery Rock University. In 2012 I

had a political science course on "NATO and the EU" that included model conferences in Washington and Indianapolis. I also took "Intercultural Communications" and "Art Since 1945" during the year. We were in Chicago and also New York City, where I got to visit some of the art that I studied. Our daughter and husband were with us in Chicago and Los Angeles during the year. South Padre Island TX and Charles Town WV also entered into our travels. I am completing my 22nd (and final) year as President of the Grove City Library Board of Trustees, and have already spent 8 years on the Mercer County Regional Planning

Commission this most recent time (I served in the 1970s too). Judy and I wish all of our Jayhawk friends the best for a happy and healthy 2013.

James.hughes@sru.edu

Don Johnson, PhD 1972

Here's the skinny re 2012. Feb.-April found us as usual in Monterey & Pacific Grove CA, escaping Illinois winters (yup, we're snow wimps!). Tis' a nice annual habit that we've settled into, but we always end up missing the Kids & Grandkids (we're family wimps, too!). En route we made the usual mima stops, poking at outcrops, photo ops, oohing, ahing, drooling, and such (it's in our DNA). While there, fortunately, Jenny (our #2) & Grandkids paid us a 10-day visit, with the usual Aquarium, beach, food, movies, hikes, Big Sur, Pt. Lobos, sky-diving, surfing (hanging 5 and or 10!) & other boring stuff. On return trip we did Vegas (actually, Vegas did us), Zion, Cedar Breaks, fabulous Hwy 12, plus several other neat UT byways (nice to live in NA). Then, in mid April, we went to Madison & visited Grandkids and their parents Katie (our #3) & Ryan.

Early July saw us in St. Louis (3-day R & R) thence motored to CO, connecting with relatives and former students. Did a super hike in Rockies (ethereal). Mid-July saw us doing mound work in UT—Aquarius Plateau mounds, high Great Salt Lake (Bonneville) shoreline mounds. Brigham City mounds, Logan mounds, the mounded 'Franklin Ramp' on ID border, & hugely mounded Beaver Creek Pass, plus similar mound work in WY (Laramie Basin, Sherman Penepplain), then bee-lined it back to Chambana in mid-late July.

In August we wrapped up beaucoup years of Mima work, as did our creative co-authors—sent everything off to GSA & waited . . . waited . . . waited . . . waited . . . and thumb-twiddled for the Mima mound book to be out!

In October we hit the road again, first to Cincy OH (SSSA Meetings, paper on mounds—expensive venue), thence to Cape Cod to visit friends, and where we got whacked by Sandy—lotsa wind, but no notable damage.

Left Cod in early November for Charlotte NC (GSA Meetings, paper on biomantle—

expensive venue). And lo and behold upon arriving the Mima book was on glorious display at GSA Booth—Houourrrayyyyyy!!!!

After serious celebrations, we left Charlotte for Asheville & Biltmore Estate to scope out how 1-percenters live—folks, they live well, and so did we for 2 days! After Biltmore, t'was back to Chambana & reality. After only a few days home, we headed again to Madison to sit Grandkids to relieve their Mom & Dad, thence to Palmer House in Chicago for 2 nice days of power shopping & dining with Liz—our #1, & our eldest Granddaughter of 22 yrs. Good times had by all!

On Dec. 1 we flew to San Francisco for two weeks (AGU Meetings, 2nd paper on biomantle—another expensive venue), thence sight-seeing south to Monterey, Pt Lobos, Big Sur, food-drink, merriment, etc.

So, that's it for 2012! Life is good!

Here's wishing KU Geography people, onsite and off, a healthy, prosperous, & productive 2013.

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Alan MacEachren, MA 1976, PhD 1979

I have been at Penn State since 1985 and continue as a

Professor of Geography (and Affiliate in Information Sciences & Technology) and as



Director of the GeoVISTA Center here (www.geovista.psu.edu). Working with a steady stream of really strong grad students and with stimulating colleagues (both in and outside of Geography) keeps academic life interesting. My wife Fran (fabric artist and registered dietician) and I still enjoy birdwatching (when time away from academics can be found) as well as travel (often combining academic conferences with

birding side trips).

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R. D. Mower, PhD 1971

Greetings, especially to all the older graduate alums from KU during the 1967-1971 era. ROLAND D and Nona Mower extend their greetings to all for a Merry Christmas and a delightful New Year. Life is still exciting here in the mountains of central Utah.

rdm@cut.net

George Pangburn, MA 1974

2012 was a fun year, full of unexpected twists and turns. I finished consulting with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and completed a primer on Risk Management in its regulatory programs. Pam and I traveled to San Francisco to give a talk about that work and, of course, added some time to visit the city again as well as Napa Valley. We had planned a trip to South Dakota and Wyoming, but it was cut short due to some unplanned work that came up at a nuclear power plant. Our most fun of the year was working as part of the Obama campaign, starting off in house-to-house canvassing and eventually working up to directing the efforts of many volunteers in the last rush to get out the vote. We worked closely with a wonderful young woman from the Netherlands named Annelie, who came here on her own to be in the campaign because of her love of American politics. Next year we plan on traveling to Ireland for 10 days and, in October, celebrating our 40th wedding anniversary in Santa Fe. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

gcpangburn@hotmail.com

Imre Quastler, PhD 1971

A friendly hello from San Diego, the place where I've lived since leaving KU in 1967. That's no less than 45 years ago! I've now been retired from teaching at San Diego State University for ten years, and it's been a remarkably busy time and mostly fun.

Let me start by saying that I found out, after coming to SDSU, that I was born to be a classroom teacher. I loved almost all of it, but especially the first 25 years, when often I could hardly wait to get into the classroom. I believe that both I and most of my students enjoyed the experience. I tried to make it more personal by learning the names of all

students in my classes, even when the number was sometimes more than 100. That remained true through about the first quarter century of teaching, but even thereafter I still learned most of the names. The majority of the students appreciated my efforts, but there were always some who really preferred to be anonymous (sound familiar?).

Toward the end of my time at SDSU, I began to write books about historic railroads, initially almost exclusively about Kansas railroads. They were churned out at regular intervals, starting about 1990, and I continued full blast after retirement: quite recently I published one about Parsons, Kansas, as a railroad town. That may be my last book, but who knows what may catch my interest. For marketing purposes I called them histories, but they were really historical geographies. A few of these were published by my own "press," and eventually I think I got pretty fair at handling all the details that go into bringing out books.

I have two daughters by a previous marriage who both live in Portland, Oregon. They're in their early 40s, which certainly makes me aware of the passage of time! My wife of 25 years Reba and I visit them quite often, plus they come to San Diego about every other year to see us. I'm proud of their accomplishments. I also have a stepson who is an officer in the Army, and served some time in Kosovo and Afghanistan.

Reba and I love to travel, and we take our RV on the road or go on a cruise about every six months. A few years after retirement we even got a 36 foot motor home and traveled full time all over the US for 18 months, but more recently we've enjoyed traveling on shorter trips in our more reasonably sized 26-footer. In the last few years we've taken the latter every summer to Chautauqua, New York, where we get a rich cultural experience at the historic Institute located there (dance, plays, music, talks by authors and politicians, and the like).. Occasionally the route to or from there goes via Lawrence, where we always enjoy a meal at Teller's restaurant downtown. When I was at KU, that was my bank!

We took our first cruise in 2001, and we were immediately hooked. In March 2013, to celebrate 25 years of marriage, we'll take the cruise of a lifetime, starting in Hong Kong and going westward to Vietnam, Singapore, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and several ports in southern Africa to Ft. Lauderdale (via St. Helena, Ascension, Brazil, and Devil's Island), continuing from there via the Panama Canal, Costa Rica and several Mexican ports to San Diego. The cruise terminal here is within three miles of our condo, so the return could hardly be more convenient!

I'm in pretty good health at age almost 72, but during this past year I did have a "heart incident." I closely follow doctor's orders and hope to be around for some years yet!

I would enjoy hearing from any of my former classmates.

iquastler@aol.com.

Mark Virden, BA 1972, MA 1976

I celebrated the 25th anniversary of my consulting firm, Virden Associates, in October. Based in Mission, Kansas I still get in a little regional geography, spatial and locational analysis, and GIS in my consulting work. Having just returned from several weeks in England and Wales, I had a lot of fun getting lost both driving and walking (typical geographer as Bob Wiseman used to say) in the Cotswolds.

mvirden@virdenassociates.com

Jon Woodward, MA 1970

I retired at the end of 2011 as Executive Vice President of Landrum & Brown, an international aviation planning and environmental consulting corporation based in Cincinnati, Chicago, London, Shanghai, and Beirut. Vickie and I have lived in Lawrence since 1983 where I am now involved in Masonic research and leader development.

j Woodward@sunflower.com

Alumni News80s

Mark Bowman, MA 1986

I am still working as an exploration geologist for ConocoPhillips currently living in Houston Texas. Since returning to the US four years ago, I've worked in our North America, Central Asia and SE Asia exploration groups. It's interesting work, a lot of varied geology, and I enjoy the occasional travel to a few places I would probably never see otherwise. Earlier this year, I was back on KU's campus recruiting for ConocoPhillips which was something I enjoyed very much. Nice to be back in Lindley Hall. Our son Brett is now in his second year at the University of Texas and daughter Emilie is in her final year of high school applying to universities. She has been accepted to KU and we are really hoping she decides to attend our alma mater.

Mark.W.Bowman@conocophillips.com

David R. Butler, Ph.D. 1982

Life continues pretty much normally around here in San Marcos. I'm in my 16th year on faculty at Texas State. I had three students receive their Ph.D.s this year, so it's been busy. My wife Janet and I travelled with our son Will to London and Paris in May for about 10 days, and we enjoyed showing Will some of our favorite places, especially in Paris. In August Janet and I spent two weeks in Ireland, which was wonderfully cool and green compared to August in Texas. At the 2012 AAG Meeting in New York City, I received the Geomorphology Specialty Group's Melvin G. Marcus Distinguished Career Award, for which I was extremely grateful. I keep cheering for the Jayhawks every year during basketball season, and fondly remember both 1988 and 2008! I'd love to hear from folks, contact me at db25@txstate.edu. Best wishes to all

during the Holidays!

db25@txstate.edu

Stu Shea, MA 1983

I continue my quest to achieve dominance of the universe or, more specifically, a goal to get my two college/grad school kids to respect the fact that the wine in my wine cellar is not for their personal enjoyment. Rumor is that it is a lost battle. On the professional front, I was recently promoted to Chief Operating Officer of SAIC, with responsibility for \$11B in business. (And I thought raising two kids was hard, let alone leading 40,000 employees in 350 locations throughout the world.) For the past year, I have been on the Advisory Board of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at KU, helping Dean Danny Anderson with a number of programs to better the experience at KU. Perhaps the biggest contribution I made was my major input to the phrase "KU changes lives, but Jayhawks change the world." I continue to have an inability to say "no" to requests to donate my time for a number of worthy causes. Recently, I became a Producer on an independent film about homelessness in Washington D.C. called *Mysterious Prison*. I also have been active on the speaking circuit and recently gave a talk at George Mason University on GIS Day entitled: *From Cartographer to Chief Operating Officer: A Career Journey Marked by Luck, Serendipity and Hard Work*. Clearly, the core of that talk was all about KU Geography and the impact it had on my successes! Rock Chalk!

K.STUART.SHEA@saic.com

Degrees Awarded

Dissertations and theses completed during the 2011-12 period are as follows (advisor in parenthesis):

W. Brett Anderson, PhD, "Oklahoma and American Indian Imagery" (Pete Shortridge)

Ferdouz Cochran, MA, "Temporal Scales of Tropospheric CO₂, Precipitation, and Ecosystem Responses in the Central U.S." (Nate Brunzell)

Aaron Gilbreath, PhD, "From Made in America to Hecho en Sinaloa: A Historical Geography of North American Methamphetamine Networks" (Pete Shortridge)

Danielle Golon, MA, "The Galápagos Perspective: Concerns about Life on the Galápagos Islands from the Perspective of Residents of San Cristóbal" (Bill Woods)

Hilary Hungerford, PhD, "Water, Cities, and Bodies: A Relational Understanding of Niamey" (Chris Brown/Garth Myers)

Cortney Miller, PhD, "Development on the Margins: Rwanda Alternative-Grassroots Economic Strategies" (Steve Egbert/Garth Myers)

Andrew Norris, MA, "Land Tenure Transformation of Peri-Urban Social Properties in San Luis Potosi, Mexico: A Case Study of the Ejido Garita de Jalisco" (Peter Herlihy)

Emily Pabst, MA, "Crafted and Produced: The Emergence of the Mississippi River Hills Geographic Indication" (Pete Shortridge)

R. Zane Price, PhD, "Using LiDAR, Aerial Photography, and Geospatial Technologies to Reveal and Understand Past Landscapes in Four West Central Missouri Counties" (Steve Egbert)

Lilian Rebellato, PhD, "Amazonian Dark Earths: A Case Study in the Central Amazon" (Bill Woods)

Ivan Welch, PhD, "Geography: Critical Factors in the Analysis of Complex Systems" (George McCleary)

Travis White, MA, "Evaluating the Effectiveness of Thematic Mapping on virtual Globes" (George McCleary)

Joseph Wimmer, MA, "Biochar Research and a Case Study in Kansas" (Bill Woods)

Scott Ackerman, MA 1992

Diane and I are still out here in Utah. Diane is still gardening up a storm and selling at the local Farmers Market. I recently retired from the US Gov't. My last stint was with the US Fish and Wildlife Service.



We are starting to build our retirement home in Castle Valley, Utah. I haven't missed work at all over the past 5 months. Besides our new house and Honey-dos I've been on a couple of river trips and hiking trips. I also brew beer, hike and bike locally and get in a round of golf once in a while. Hope everyone is well out there.

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Alan Arbogast, MA, 1991; PhD, 1995

This year marks my 17th away from the nest of KU Geography. 17! Good grief. This year has been particularly interesting, primarily because I moved into the role of Department Chair in my unit. I took over from another KU alum, Dick Groop (worked with Bob Nunley in mid 70s), who had been Chair 13 years. I know, it's crazy that a dude from the hard scrabble of North Topeka would take this job, or, viewed another way, that my Department would entrust the keys to the house to someone like me. I guess no one else would do it. Not really. The fact is that our faculty is awesome and I wanted the job, as strange as that may seem. Very team oriented for the most part and easy to get along with. We have a good time and we're doing good work. The challenges are interesting ones that focus on creative ways to promote our Department more forcefully around campus and to raise our profile. It's fun thinking about those kinds of things.

Although the job has been the most noteworthy part of my year, other life events occurred. Naturally, the success of last year's KU hoops team resonated deeply at our house in East Lansing. Before I started the new gig I invited myself to Germany to visit Dave Baumgartner, a distinguished KU Master's student (early 90s) who now lives and works at a U.S. military installation near Weiden. I had a great time hanging out with

Dave and his young family of German speakers. My own clan is doing well. My wife Jenn (former KU GEO office assistant in early 90s) is now an academic advisor in the College of Social Science here at MSU. Our two girls are doing well. Incredibly, our oldest (Hannah) is a senior in high school and our youngest (Rosie) is an 8th grader. Dealing with the ups and downs of their teenage lives often makes my new job seem, well.....easy.



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Kevin Blake, MA 1991

Greetings Jayhawk Geographers! Travel continues to be a big part of my life, and it was great this year to visit ten new countries and two new continents (Europe and Asia). Some highlights included Venice, Istanbul, Capri, Monte Carlo, and Dominica. It is fun to have so many photographs and experiences to share as I teach World Regional Geography, Mountain



Geography, Geography of the American West, and Perception of the Environment as a professor in the Kansas State University Department of Geography. Within the U.S., I enjoyed conferences in New York City (the AAG meeting) and Spearfish, South Dakota (Zane Grey's West Society), plus two short research trips to Colorado's Front Range mountains. I have been writing about mythic landscapes of North America and the geographical imagination of Pikes Peak (Colorado). I have enjoyed serving during this year as a K-State "presidential lecturer" at Kansas high schools and community colleges, where I give talks about my research topics, including the images in prairie postcards, Zane Grey's portrayal of Kansas in his western fiction, climbing the Colorado Fourteeners, and symbolic lighthouses in America. It is also interesting to serve on the committee that selects books each year

for the university common reading program. The program, called the K-State Book Network, or KSBN, is in its fourth year. The selection committee reads dozens of diverse books each year in our search for something stimulating for the university community and enjoyable for the students. On the home front, gardening garners much attention in the warmer months, as I enjoy creating a low water use, organic woodland environment around the house, complete with ornamental concrete fountains, as well as many benches and stepping stone paths made from beautiful native Kansas limestone. During the winter months, I continue to closely follow the greatest basketball program in the land (in my book), the Jayhawks.

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Craig Campbell, Ph.D. 1993

An emotional and eventful year for the Campbells. Over the summer, we stayed in the burgeoning Provo/Orem area for nearly two months awaiting the births of two grandkids. On the way, we briefly stopped by Lindley, saying hello to Terry and Stephanie Day. Spent some time sightseeing in Denver - rode the RTA and saw Red Rocks. Our second grandson, Lincoln Ammon, was born July 9, but bless his heart, he was underdeveloped and lived only 3 days. On August 10th, our third grandson, Isaac Odin, was born, healthy and happy. Interesting new Utah landscapes explored were associated with wildfires, lavender farms, and the strange huge Mormon town grid in no-place Nephi. Mid-August we returned to Ohio, but Mickey stayed. Soon after returning, I was shocked to be called to the non-remunerated position of Bishop of our LDS congregation (ward) centered in New Castle, Pennsylvania. It's something I'm still getting used to. I stepped down as Chair of the Department of Geography here at YSU over a year ago. I teach 4 courses a semester, but the classes are not large and there is still time for some research. Betty and I enjoyed the Eastlakes / Westlakes meeting in Illinois. There I returned to some of my dissertation New Jerusalem themes, and was able to explore the Sauk (Rock River) Valley. Great times. Best to all.

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Keith Cunningham, Ph.D. 1997

I have been working as research faculty at the Scenarios Network for Alaska & Arctic Planning, part of the International Arctic Research Center headquartered at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Over the past year, I completed a major project for the US Air Force improving volcanic ash forecast models which has been awarded an additional \$750,000 in 2013-2015 funding. I also finished a project for the US Dept of Energy to assess the potential hydrokinetic power of the rivers in the lower-48 United States. In 2011, I submitted three patent applications related to LiDAR for property taxation, Synthetic Aperture Radar for pavement imaging, and a 3D volcanic ash forecast modeling. I also provide sensor payload support for the University's unmanned aerial system program.

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John Dunham, BA 1984, PhD 1996

I'm now into my eighth year as Cartographic Services Manager for the Kansas Geological Survey, producing geologic maps and geologic GIS data for the KGS. I have two student employees working for me on several geologic mapping projects, including creation of new maps and archival scanning of old geologic maps with our new large-format scanner. Our most notable new map released in 2012 was a new surficial geology map of Hodgeman County, with geology mapped by Bill Johnson and Terri Woodburn of the department. I also worked on several thematic maps for the Symphony in the Flint Hills' "Field Journal," a hardcover publication sold at the event with chapters on various Flint Hills topics. I also created a new 1:500,000-scale map of the Flint Hills Ecoregion that made its debut at the Symphony. I showed the map in the Map Gallery exhibit of the 2012 ESRI International User Conference, and it was chosen as one of three out of hundreds displayed to receive the ESRI Cartography Special Interest Group Award.

At home, wife Cindy (KU Geography, '84) and I keep busy running and lifting weights. We lost one of our beloved Labrador retrievers, Truman, late in 2012, but his

successor, Ridley, is a lot of fun and keeps us busy.

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Mike Ingram, Ph.D. 1996.

Bonnie and I still happily live in Leavenworth, Kansas. We appreciate and enjoy retirement more every day.

This year I enlarged and greatly improved our backyard kitchen garden and compost area. I grew beets and sweet potatoes for the first time to go along with the usual onions, peppers, and tomatoes. I had a pretty successful gardening season, given the weather, as we battled the heat and drought all summer like everyone else.

We took several short road trips during the year. We drove around a lot of rural Kansas, and saw a lot of limestone churches and interesting cemeteries. We toured the Stafford County Flour Mills, home of Hudson Cream Flour, and drove through Quivira National Wildlife Refuge and Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area, which were already getting pretty dry in late spring.

We visited various sites related to energy production across the state, including the huge Jeffrey Energy Center north of Topeka, prior to spending a night in Topeka and checking out the Capitol Building renovations. We took an in-depth tour of the Bowersock Mills hydroelectric plant in Lawrence, gaining a good understanding of the original plant and the new North Powerhouse addition. We also managed to get out and take a good look at the big new wind farm stretching along I-70, while it was still being completed. These wind turbines look a lot like erector sets when they are being built, only bigger!

In late summer we crossed the state line and spent a couple days in Independence, Missouri, focused on visiting the various Harry Truman sites. We have become real fans of Harry Truman.

As always, Best Wishes to all for a happy and successful year!

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Joseph Kerski, MA 1993

I am looking forward to my colloquium

presentation at the KU Geography



Department on Friday 1 March 2013. In 2011 I served as president of the National Council for Geographic Education. I still serve as education manager at Esri in Colorado and as adjunct instructor in GIS for the University of Denver. In 2012 I launched an online spatial thinking course for educators and published two books: "Tribal GIS", and "The GIS Guide to Public Domain Data".

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Vicki Bozarth Long, MA 1993

A.D. Long (Director, KU Cartographic Service, 1979-89)

Vickie continues working as a reference librarian for the Wisconsin Resources for Libraries & Lifelong Learning. Her union affiliation changed from the National Education Association



(NEA) to the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) which should be a better fit for her interests as a state civil servant. In July, she ditched her father's Oldsmobile for a shiny, new Honda Fit which is a pleasure to drive. She had cataract surgery on both eyes in October which has left her far-sighted. This has made reading, crosswords, Sudoku, and crafts difficult; she will be fitted for new glasses in December.

In casting about for a rewarding learning experience since my retirement from the U.S. Geological Survey in 2011, I have become a student of electronic music production using MIDI sequencing and standard music-notation software (Garage Band and Finale, respectively). Early works were ambient synthesizer improvisations which could often be completed in an evening. I am transitioning to fully-scored orchestral compositions using electronically-sampled acoustic instruments and sound effects recorded digitally in the field which requires considerably more time. I've enrolled in an on-line university extension course in music

theory and am self-learning composition and synthesizer techniques from books and on-line sources. Self publishing under the label, Cacophony Records, I have released two CD albums with a third anticipated in early December. I plan to launch a web site next year to host my music, home-brewed ale recipes, and hundreds of maps from my personal collection.

The drought of 2012 hit Wisconsin hard. We lost eight hemlocks and two balsam fir on our property alone. I witnessed first-hand the derecho storms which blew through Columbus, Ohio, in June, and my mother on Long Island lost power for days after hurricane Sandy battered the east coast in October. Global warming anyone?

Our travels this year took us to a canoe expedition on the upper Kickapoo River in Wisconsin, the North Shore of Long Island (pre-Sandy), the White River valley in Vermont where the ravages of hurricane Irene could still be seen, the new Green River Reservoir State Park in northern Vermont, and the Adirondacks (Fort Ticonderoga, Long Lake, Blue Mountain Lake, and the Adirondack Museum). In September, we visited with longtime friends in Lawrence, Kansas, and sampled the ales at the Free State Brewery which are almost as good as my own.

We send our best wishes to our brothers and sisters in the KU Geography community for a happy holiday season and a fruitful and rewarding new year.

Vickie B. Long

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Taylor Mack, BA 1989, MA 1992

I am still teaching geography at Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, Louisiana. This past summer I finished my two-year term as Chair of the Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers (CLAG), and once again am Newsletter Editor for both CLAG and the AAG's Latin America Specialty Group. Last year I published an article on the cultural maladaptation of Spanish colonists and preadaptation of Black Caribs to the coast of Trujillo, Honduras, my dissertation site. I do not get to Central America as much as I want to, but have been working on research about agricultural change in the northern tier of Louisiana parishes from 1950 to the

present, using data from the agricultural census. At LA Tech, I have been co-chair of the Honor Council for 2 years, worked on a 10-year planning committee, run the Department of Social Sciences website and Facebook page. In my free time I have been trying to grow bonsai trees, and although very good at growing things, the artistic part is much more difficult to master. I am also studying for the FCC exam to upgrade my amateur radio license.

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Dave Ridgway, BA, 1985; MA 1992

Hello everyone. I am still living in Branford, Connecticut with my wife and 16-year-old dog, and I am still teaching middle school. Never a dull moment. We became the proud owners of a horse this year, fulfilling a longtime dream of my wife's. I am told that New Jersey and Connecticut have more horses per capita than any other states. I have not verified this, but if anyone needs a research topic, well, there you are.

We were recently nailed by a second hurricane in as many years but did not suffer anything close to the damage that the New York/New Jersey area did. We fared pretty well, all told.

This past summer I became a docent on one of the Thimble Islands (I'll bet you've never heard of those) in Long Island Sound. Outer Island is one of several parcels comprising the Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge, a place apparently preferred by roseate terns when love is in the air. Unfortunately the facilities there have suffered extensive damage from both of the aforementioned hurricanes, but the Fish and Wildlife Service vows to have the place up and running again by next summer's visitation season. A more well-known island in the Sound, Plum Island, is in the process of shutting down its top-secret animal disease research facility so it can be moved to K-State. All Kansas residents should be advised that sightings of the legendary Plum Island Monster have been reported in the eastern reaches of Long Island, so consider yourselves warned that bizarre things are soon headed your way.

I make it back to Lawrence 2-3 times each year to visit my dad (retired KU professor) and other family in the area. I pledge to make it up to Lindley in the coming year and check the place out. Happy holidays to all.

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Amy Rork, MA 1997

Much remains the same for me and my family here in Lawrence; still working at KU, same house, same car, etc. But wait, I DID take a wonderful trip with my brother. We cruised on Holland America's ms Rotterdam to Scotland,



Norway and Denmark for two weeks in late Aug. The trip was fabulous, the weather cool and sometimes rainy (perfect) and the scenery to die for. We visited Edinborough, Invergordon (Scottish

Highlands), and the Shetland Islands, crossed the North Sea to Norway in a gale strength storm, saw the fjords going up to Geiranger, the seaside city of Alesund, more fjords up to Skjolden, the Hanseatic Museum in Bergen, WWII German cannon emplacements in Kristiansand, the Viking Ship and Kon Tiki Museums in Oslo, interesting buildings on a canal tour in Copenhagen and cruised back to Rotterdam/Amsterdam. I even saw Greenland on the way home! You can see some of the photos I took at this Facebook address: <http://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=4820787441306&set=a.4820787241301.185251.1345047376&type=1&theater>. We really enjoyed the three excursions we planned (aside from the usual city hop on/hop off tours). In Invergordon we took a day trip that included Dunrobin Castle. It was a quintessential Scottish setting - 15th century castle and grounds located by the sea with beautiful manicured gardens and a very entertaining falconry exhibition. Later, we motored through the Highlands on one lane roads (with little pullouts for meeting cars) across the hills, moors and dales, viewing the croft farms, shaggy Highland cattle, and a peat dig. The next day in the Shetland Islands, we cruised on a small boat to several offshore islands to view the gannet rookery - sensational diving seabirds with 6' wingspans. There were thousands of them clinging to rocky outcrops on the 600 foot high cliffs, and they showed off their fishing skills by plunging into the sea near our bobbing boat. Our captain decided since the birds were fishing

that we would too, dropped a bare hooked line into the water and immediately hauled in four herring (about as fast as you could drop the line and haul it out - repeat three times - dinner is served tonight). Pretty impressive. Over in Norway, we took another day trip to the Jotunheimen National Park above Skjolden and to the oldest original Viking era Urnes Stave Church (built 1130AD), just down the fjord. The vistas were gorgeous in the mountains and, fjord side, the stave church was so unique with its intricate wood carving. Several times on the trip I said to myself - I can't believe I'm here! Hope you had a bright light in your year too! Happy Holidays to all.

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Naeema Al Hosani, PhD 2009

I am an assistant professor of cartography in the Geography and Urban Planning Department of the United Arab Emirates University. I attended the annual Association of American Geographers meeting in New York and presented a paper entitled "Arab Traditional Sea Navigation Techniques." I attended the GIS Workshops & Exhibitions for Esri Users May 2012, Al Bustan Rotana Hotel, Dubai, UAE. The GISWORK provides a unique deep learning environment on different aspects of GIS to all users through several technical workshops. The GISWORK also encourages the presence of many worldwide GIS companies and organizations to take advantage of their software investment by enhancing the knowledge and skills of their GIS professionals and to contribute to the Middle East companies.



I invited Mr. Adnan Al Hashimi, and Mr. Omar Al Shaiba, Acting Head of GIS Section, Spatial Data Division from Al Ain Municipality, UAE, to give a lecture entitled Principles of Maps and their Applications in Different Fields, which was held on Tuesday, 01-May-2012.

In October, I accepted an invitation from the Environment Protection and Development Authority in Ras Al Khaimah, UAE, to give a lecture about Environment and Food in the authority's office. I discussed different aspects regarding environment and food, such as: food problems, food crisis, food security and other food concepts. Some officials in Ras Al Khaimah attended the lecture.

I also invited Mr. Khalifa Al Naqbi, Section Head-Topographic Maps Production from Bayanat for Mapping & Surveying Services LLC, Abu Dhabi, UAE to give a lecture titled Principles of Maps and its Applications in Different Fields, which was held on Tuesday, 02-October-2012.

The Principles of cartography, cartography2, and Geography of the Arab World courses that I teach participated in several programs of the "41 National Day celebration" which

lasted for three days starting on Sunday, Nov. 25 to Tuesday, Nov., 27. The UAEU Vice Chancellor and the deans of the UAEU Colleges and some faculties attended the activities which were enjoyed by many visitors. For example, there was a presentation of a traditional wedding, traditional Arabian dishes, henna, presentation for the seven emirates of the UAE, and a show of traditional dances by the boys and girls schools, where the atmosphere was full of fun and a sense of national belonging.

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Mark Bowen, PhD 2011

I am doing well in my second year at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. The big excitement for the Bowen family this year was the addition of Evaline Rose on October 1. Included is a picture of myself, Jenn, Oliver, and Evaline.



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Tim Brock, MA 2006

It has been a busy year for me. On the professional side, I am working on finishing up my PhD at the University of Kentucky. I finished my quals this time last year and spent last Spring/Summer working on my field research. I am currently writing up my dissertation – a case study of the SunRail commuter rail system in Central Florida that examines the intersection of political economy, urban mobility and transportation planning. I am also currently an RA with the Kentucky Transportation Center on campus. My KTC supervisor is a K-State grad, so that provides a lot of work-place fun come rivalry week.

Some exciting news in my personal life – I got engaged over the summer. Viki, my fiancée, is finishing up her PhD in archeology at UK. Ironically, despite meeting in Lexington, she hails from my native Georgia. I am slowly converting her to a Jayhawk fan by taking her to Kansas watch parties. I think a trip to Lawrence and dinner at Free-State will cement her Kansas affinity.

It was obviously an exciting and turbulent sports season for me. I loved watching Kansas

make their run to the National Championship game. I would like everyone to rest assured that – despite concerns for my personal safety – I rooted for Kansas in that game. I was not the most popular person in Lexington for a few weeks, but you will be glad to know that my couch made it through the riot flame-free.

I hope everyone else is doing well. I look forward to seeing some of you in LA at this year's AAG.

Best wishes and Rock Chalk,

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Craig Davis, MA 2001

Greetings to all. Things are moving along nicely for the Davis family in Sacramento.



Luka started Kindergarten this year and thinks it is the coolest thing ever. He has also become quite enamored with maps

as they show him where his grandparents live (Omaha, NE and Belgrade, Serbia) and where the train lines run. Luka has also been busy teaching our new golden retriever, Biscuit, the ins-and-outs of life on Lucio Lane. Gorica has taken a new position in a large school district in suburban Sacramento and is dealing with a larger and more interesting case-load than ever. As for me, I am firmly into my second decade at Sacramento City College and still enjoy interacting with students and being part of a vibrant and interesting workplace. I was both saddened and happy to hear of Garth Myers departure from KU. I think it is an exciting professional and personal move for him, but truly a loss for KU and the Geography Department. I hope another year finds all well and the upcoming year is a joyous one.

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Pinde Fu, PhD 2000

In addition to the English and Chinese editions, my book Web GIS: Principles and Applications has been translated into Russian.

I taught a Web GIS course at KU Geography in the spring of this year. I went back to Lindley Hall GIS lab virtually every week as I was streaming video & audio with the students in the class. It was a fantastic

experience! Many students expressed their love for this course and for Web GIS.

I will be teaching a Web GIS course remotely to Harvard University in the coming spring semester. The course is described at <http://www.extension.harvard.edu/courses/web-gis-principles-applications>. This will be a true online course. Students will be provided with necessary software and can join the course anywhere, from their homes, dorms, or offices.

A great 2013 to everyone!

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Xulin Guo PhD 2000

It is great to have the opportunity to share all the blessings I had for the past few years. Academically, I was promoted to full professor in 2010 and received the Teaching Excellent award from the Social Science division of the College of Arts and Science, Univ. of Saskatchewan, early this year. In June, I was so happy to invite my supervisor Dr. Price as a keynote speaker to the conference I organized in grassland remote sensing. The below picture consists of four academic generations, Dr. Price, me, my previous student Dr. He and my current students, as well as two of Dr. He's students from the University of Toronto.

My family is greatly blessed. Lincoln will finish university by the end of this year. Michael and Matthew are in high school, a semi-private Christian school. Joshua is in grade 5. Lord Jesus saved us one by one. After I became a Christian six years ago, Michael was baptized last year and so did Matthew this year. Joshua told me that he can't wait to be 12 so he can get baptized too. I am still praying for Lincoln and my husband. However, the family relationship is never as good as now.

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Lucius Hallett, MA 2001, PhD 2007

Hello to all, my wife and my two little girls (almost 7, almost 5) and I are in our 5th year

at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo (yes, there really is a Kalamazoo) Michigan. Hopefully things will continue to be as great as the last years have been and we will all grow up here. We are about halfway between Chicago and Detroit on Interstate 94 for those looking to visit. I have had the great fortune to stay in contact with lots of KU folks including Chris Brown, Soren Larsen, Ben Coles who just recently welcomed twins into his life!, Dave McDermott and many others as well. Too many to remember which is why KU geography is so great. Not sure about LA this year even though there is funding. Not sure what we would all do and random cab seems a little scary for those who still participate. Still rocking the rock chalk chant even though all of my neighbors are MSU fans.

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Trish Jackson, PhD 2011

I'm a busy bee, as most everyone is at this time of year. I hope all is well with you! I am happy in my newish position as Asst Prof of Geography at South Dakota State University (commencing Aug 2011). We'll be getting new teaching, research, and office spaces over the next month to year, so the University apparently believes in the future of Geography. The University has funded some of my research, enabling me to head off to Brazil tomorrow to meet with Lilian Rebellato to start a research program using *terra preta* soils to solve environmental toxin issues. Lilian will focus more on the archaeological aspects and I will look at biogeochemical processes. The best part of my job right now is that Hilary Hungerford, my classmate at KU, joined our department in August. How lucky can I get to have a long time friend to see at work every day! Hilary, her husband Chris, and their daughter June have been wonderful additions to our family's life here in Brookings. My husband Bobby got a nice office space and started his massage business here, and Maiya and Eli both love school. Life's great!

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Sun Park, PhD 2003

Hi! I'm with the Department of Geography Education at Pusan National University, Busan, Korea, teaching climate and physical geography. It's been more than three years now since I left Hawaii, and pretty much feel at home. The city I'm living in is a huge, coastal city with a nice mountainous background, where you can enjoy awesome sushi right after breathtaking hikes! Yes, I go hiking frequently. And, I picked up a new hobby in a sport, the marathon. Once in a while, I run a half-course marathon, which is a 13-mile race. I'm a long-distance runner now! Recently, climate change and its impacts on human health issues have been added into my research interests. Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year 2013, everybody!

krapus@naver.com

Matt Sampson, MA 2000

I retired from the Army in November 2011 after 20 years of service. Last assignment was as the Professor Military Science with Army ROTC at West Virginia University. My wife Elaine finished her master's degree at WVU this year and is working full-time now while I take care of things on the homefront (and occasionally take a ride on my motorcycle.) We remain in Morgantown for now.

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Patrick Taylor, M.A. 2004

Upon graduation, I accepted a position with Coffman Associates, a small airport planning firm based in Lee's Summit, Missouri. We specialize in master planning, environmental planning, noise mitigation planning, and GIS services, exclusively for airports across the country. I have worked on over 30 airport master planning projects and for the last several years have been the project manager on those jobs. This year I was promoted to Associate and have become part of the ownership group.



I continue to use the skills I learned in the Geography graduate program. I utilize GIS daily for analysis of various airport elements. I write the master plans which include demographic analysis, statistical analysis, and alternative development analysis. I have the opportunity to travel about once a month for a few days at a time, visiting client airports. I very much enjoy visiting new locations and taking the time to explore local sights and landmarks.

Time away from work is spent raising our four children with my wife, Beth. Callan (9) was born while I was in graduate school. He has been followed by Clare (7), Paxton (5), and Bennett (3). Callan is a huge baseball fan (Cardinals fan like his dad) which made our 2012 trip to the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY all the more enjoyable.

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Brian Wardlow, PhD 2005

The year of 2012 was marked as both the "year of change" and the "year of accomplishment" for me. After spending 6+ years as the GIScience Program Area Leader for the National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC), I accepted a tenure-line remote sensing faculty position in the School of Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) in March. In my new position, I will be responsible for teaching remote sensing courses and developing future curriculum, while maintaining my research program in the areas of drought, land use/land cover, and vegetation dynamics. I also maintain a faculty affiliation with the NDMC and will continue to work on national and international remote sensing projects with my colleagues there. In April, the book I edited entitled Remote Sensing of Drought: Innovative Monitoring Approaches was published by CRC Press (<http://www.crcpress.com/product/isbn/9781439835579>). Publication of this book was both professionally and personally gratifying being the culmination of 2+ years of work with some of the leading remote sensing scientists around the world. In July, I received my promotion from Assistant to Associate Professor. On August 1, I was named the Director of the Center for Advanced Land Management Technologies (CALMIT) having the privilege to lead a Center that has trained a generation of

remote sensing and GIS scientists over the years. Late summer also marked another professional milestone with the graduation of my first Ph.D. student (co-advised with Sunil Narumalani), Sharmistha Swain, who accepted a research faculty position at Texas Tech University. Other highlights from 2012 included the start of a NASA project to develop a new drought monitoring tool called the Quick Drought Response Index (QuickDRI), the development of pilot projects in both Canada and Mexico to extend the Vegetation Drought Response Index (VegDRI) concept, and invited presentations at the North American Drought Monitor Forum in Cancun, Mexico and NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, CA. I also remain actively involved with UNL Geography students serving as faculty advisor for the Geography Student Organization (GSO) and Gamma Theta Upsilon (GTU) chapter, as well as serve on several graduate student committees.

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Henry Way, PhD 2008



Julie and I are now learning parents of a baby boy, Wystan, born in February. He's now walking around and practicing his geography fieldwork...

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Happy Holidays!

www.geog.ku.edu, www.atmo.ku.edu

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Lawrence-KS/Department-of-Geography-University-of-Kansas/55350454669>