

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY NEWSLETTER

The USF Department of Geography is now one of the largest Geography Departments in the Southeast.



CHANGES! CHANGES! CHANGES!

As we move ahead with the 2006-2007 academic year, there are a number of changes to the Department.

Change 1. ESP Joins Geography. Over the summer, the Department of Environmental Science and Policy became a program within the Department of Geography. This change was voted on by both Departments and was supported by the College. The change provides exciting new opportunities for both units. A big thanks to **Dr. Rick Oches** who served as Chair of ESP over the last few years. **Dr. Phil Reeder** will serve as the Director of the ESP Program and **Dr. Kevin Archer** will serve as Associate Chair of Geography.

Change 2. The Community Initiative Program under the leadership of Robin Jones officially joins our program this semester. Robin's program links academic researchers with community projects. In addition, Robin brings a wealth of experience

to the Department that will support the urban tracks of the Department. As we move ahead with the development of a Masters in Urban and



Regional Planning, Robin's advice and experience will be important.

Change 3. The Botanical Gardens, Directed by Laurie Walker, joins the Department. The Botanical Gar-

dens is a wonderful resource at our university that provides excellent outreach to the community. The gardens are supported mainly by membership fees and contributions from the community. If you haven't been to the garden, you need to visit! It is a jewel! The Botanical Gardens has a staff of three and an army of volunteers that help to keep the facility running.

Those of you who were around over the summer noted a flurry of activity late in the summer. Faculty and staff were moving offices, boxes were all over the place, and there was a tremendous amount of change over a short period of time. Thank you for your patience during this period.

We have a very diverse set of goals within our broader mission of providing excellent educational experiences and conducting real-world research. The three changes outlined above make the Department stronger and more vibrant and sets us on a new course for the future.

NEW FACULTY JOIN THE DEPARTMENT

Four new faculty join the Department this semester. Two (Drs. Akiwumi and Pu) are new Assistant Professors and two (Drs. Ma and Mizak) are new Instructors. Here's some information about them:

Dr. Fenda Akiwumi

earned her M.Sc. In Hydrogeology from the University of London and her Ph.D. in Environ-



mental Geography from Texas State University-San Marcos. Her research interests include resource policy and management in developing countries with a focus on West African water resources; the political ecology of resource exploitation; and gender and water

NEW FACULTY (CONT'D FROM P. 1)

Resources; the political ecology of resource exploitation; and gender and water use.

Dr. Connie Mizak began her graduate studies in environmental engineering at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. She earned a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering and a Masters in Public Health from USF. Her interests are on environmental and human health impacts of air pollution.

Dr. Jianguo Ma completed his Ph.D. in Biological and Environmental Engineering from Cornell University in 2005. His teaching interests include geographic informa-

tion systems, cartography, natural resource management, and remote sensing.

Dr. Ruiliang Pu received an M.S. in forestry from Nanjing Forestry University, and earned a Ph.D. from a joint program between the Chinese Academy of Sciences and U.C. Berkeley. His research interests are in remote sensing, GIS and spatial statistics with direct applications to natural hazard monitoring, land use/cover change detection, biophysical and biochemical parameters extraction, and terrestrial ecosystem and environmental modeling.



A difference between Tampa and Orlando:

Tampa has 59 cigar dealers listed in the yellow pages while Orlando lists only 28.



BOSMAN PROMOTED TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

The Department is very happy to report that Dr. Martin Bosman received tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor as of the start of the Fall Semester. Bosman credits his ability to establish a wide-ranging research agenda at USF to his recent success. Specifically, he notes that the study of globalization, urbanization, and natural resource use are all interests of his that have fed his research over the last several years.



In the future, Bosman expects to expand his research and take it to areas of the world with little representation in the Department. Specifically, he plans to expand his work with USF's study abroad program in the Dominican Republic and he hopes to develop another study abroad program in South Africa. In addition, he is interested in developing a competitive, comprehensive urban and regional planning program at USF.

Bosman believes that Geography is a key discipline that is gaining strength in the

United States, largely as a result of broad interest in globalization not only in academic circles, but across the general public. He believes that geography as a discipline is evolving into three key areas: professional geographers like academics, policy making geographers like planners and GIS specialists, and people's geographers who have a broad interest in the field. According to Dr. Bosman, the Department is at the intersection of all of these three areas.

Congratulation Dr. Bosman on your promotion!!



FACULTY AUTHORS

"What should young people do with their lives today? Many things, obviously. But the most daring thing is to create stable communities in which the terrible disease of loneliness can be cured"

Kurt Vonnegut Jr.

Kevin Archer and Martin Bosman published: M. Mark Amen, K. Archer, and M. Martin Bosman (eds.), Relocating Global Cities: From the Center to the Margins (Boulder, CO: Rowman & Littlefield Press, 2006).

Martin Bosman published: M. Martin Bosman and M. Mark Amen, Recasting Neo-Liberalism in the Americas. Globalizations 3 (2): 220-236.

Martin Bosman and Jay Chakraborty published M. Martin Bosman and Jayajit Chakraborty, "Revisiting the Digital Divide: Race, Region and the Everyday Uses of the Digital Divide." The International Journal of Technology, Knowledge and Society (accepted, forthcoming Fall 2006).

Jay Chakraborty published: Chakraborty J, 2006, Evaluating the Environmental Justice Impacts of Transportation Improvement Projects in the U.S." Transportation Research Part D: Transport and Environment, 11(5).

Don Duke published: Duke, L.D. and Augustenborg, C.A. 2006. Effectiveness of Self-Identified and Self-Reported Environmental Regulations for Industry: The Case of Stormwater Runoff in the U.S.

Environmental Management. V. 49, p. 385-411.



Connie Mizak published: Mizak, C., S. Campbell, K. Sopkin, S. Gilbert, M. Luther, and N. Poor. Effect of Shoreline Meteorological Measurements on NOAA Buoy Model Prediction of Coastal Air-Sea Gas Transfer. Manuscript accepted for publication in Atmospheric Environment.

Sopkin, K., C. Mizak, S. Gilbert, V. Subramanian, M. Luther, and N. Poor. Modeling Air/Water Flux Parameters in a Coastal Area: A Comparative Study of Results from the TOGA COARE Model and the NOAA Buoy Model. Manuscript accepted for publication in Atmospheric Environment.

Strayer, H., R. Smith, C. Mizak, and N. Poor. Influence of air mass origin on the wet deposition of nitrogen to Tampa Bay, Florida – an eight-year study. Manuscript accepted for publication in Atmospheric Environment.

Graham Tobin published: Tobin, G.A., Bell, H.M., Whiteford, L.M. and Montz, B.E. 2006. Vulnerability of Displaced Persons: Relocation Park Residents in the Wake of Hurricane Charley. International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters, V. 24, p. 77-109.

Hughey, E.P. and Tobin, G.A. 2006. Hazard Resonance Capabilities of a Small Community: A Case Study of Falmouth, Kentucky and the 1997 Flood. Southeastern Geographer, V. 46, p. 66-78.

Paul Zandbergen and Jay Chakraborty published: Zandbergen, P.A. and J. Chakraborty. 2006. Improving environmental exposure analysis using cumulative distribution functions and individual geocoding. International Journal of Health Geographics, 5:23.

Paul Zandbergen published: Zandbergen, P.A. 2006. The effect of cell resolution on depressions in digital elevation models. Applied GIS. 2(1): 04.1-04.35.

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN GEOGRAPHERS MEETING IN SAN FRANCISCO

The Deadline for getting abstracts in for consideration for the Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting is late this year: October 26th.

The reason for the lateness is that



the meeting will be held later than normal. In past years, the meeting has usually been held in March or early April. This year, the meeting is

scheduled for April 17-21st.

San Francisco should prove to be a very popular meeting. The city is beautiful and there is much to see in the region. The Sierra Nevada range is only a few hours east and wine country is only an hour or two north. Plus, the cultural aspects of the city are worth staying in town. As usual, USF should have a good showing.

GRANTS SUBMITTED 06-07

The Department submitted a number of external grants over the 06-07 academic year. The total value of all of the grants submitted was well over 1 million dollars!! Some of the proposals were successful, some were not, but the proposal rate is a new milestone for the Department. Congratulations to everyone for their hard work!

The proposal topics ranged widely from transportation issues to disaster resilience. Many of the grants and contracts were evaluated by the National Science Foundation, while some of the grants and contracts were

awarded by local companies and agencies.



The grant submission rate is a testament to the increased importance of ex-

ternal funding in supporting our graduate program.

Grants help fund graduate students, buy equipment and supplies, provide travel dollars, and support summer funding for faculty. In addition, the Department is evaluated by the amount of grant dollars it receives.

This year, the Department looked very good in grant submissions in the Department annual evaluation! Also, two faculty, Pratyusha Basu and Jennifer Collins took the summer grant workshop offered through our College Research and Scholarship Office.

"It is important that students bring a certain ragamuffin, barefoot, irreverence to their studies; they are not here to worship what is known, but to question it."

-Jacob Bronowski

OTHER FACULTY PRODUCTIVITY

The Department experienced two recent additions to the family.

Melissa Grigione

and her husband **Ron Sarno** recently celebrated the addition of their daughter Andea and **Phil van Beynen** and his wife **Kaya Townsend** brought their daughter Siena into the world.

Congratulations to both couples for the additions to their families.



HONORARY COUNSEL FOR THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA VISITS DEPARTMENT

Dr. Barry Mowell, the Honorary Counsel for the Republic of Latvia visited the Department in July. He met with several faculty and with the Dean of International Affairs.

Dr. Mowell invited the Department to develop joint programs with the University of Latvia in Riga. Brinkmann will travel to the University of Latvia in September to meet with the faculty



Dr. Mowell, Dean Crummett, and Dr. Brinkmann meet in USF's International Affairs Center

and students at that university and to formalize a preliminary agreement between their Department of Geography and ours. Like us, they offer multiple degrees in Geography and Environmental Science and Policy. We hope that the relationship will develop into an opportunity for faculty and student exchanges in the future.

BRINKMANN, FLEURY, NORTH, AND POLK IN ROMANIA

A number of faculty and students in the Department were traveling recently. **Robert Brinkmann** and Graduate Students **Spencer Fleury**, **Leslie North**, and **Jason Polk** traveled to Romania to a conference and to study karst landuse and landforms in the Transylvania region this summer. One of the organizers of the conference was **Dr. Bogdan Onac** of the Department of Geology and he brought several Geology students on the trip.

The first part of the trip took place in Baile Herculane, a hot springs resort community in southern Roma-



nia. Here, several students presented conference papers and enjoyed getting to know their counterparts from around the world.

After the conference, Bogdan and his Romania colleagues showed the group the karst of the Transylvanian region of Romania and gave us an opportunity to

study the landforms and policy of the region. Everyone was impressed by the beauty of the country and the interesting landscape they encountered.



ALUMNI MYRKALO JOINS ADJUNCT FACULTY

Bob Myrkalo, who completed his Masters in ESP with Dr. Grigione will be serving as an adjunct faculty member this summer.

Since leaving USF, Bob took a position with Scheda Ecological Associates. He has a wealth of field experience in a number of topics related to natural resource

management, particularly wildlife management.

Dr. Grigione will be on leave this semester, and Bob will be teaching her Wildlife Ecology course this fall.

Welcome aboard

Bob!!



“There are mysteries which men can only guess at, which age by age they may solve only in part.”

Bram Stoker

REEDER IN ISRAEL

Phil Reeder was scheduled to be in Israel from July 5th to July 23rd working on projects at Tel Yavne, south of Tel Aviv, Mary's Well in the city of Nazareth, and Bethsaida, on the north shore of the Sea of Galilee in the north of the country. While there the current conflict began to escalate and he eventually left the country on July 17th. He was able to complete his projects at Mary's Well and Tel Yavne.

Five katyusha rockets were fired at 11 AM from Southern Lebanon at the city of Tiberias. They passed directly over Nof Ginosaur and landed three kilometers to the south in the center of Tiberias. That afternoon five more rockets were fired at Tiberias and they landed one kilometer north of Nof Ginosaur. It certainly appeared that Nof Ginosaur was directly in the firing line for Hezzbolah rocket attacks.



Many on the team decided it was too dangerous to work in the area and they departed Israel. However, he was able to complete some work before departing.

NOTES FROM THE VOLCANO TINURAHUA. A FIELD DISPATCH BY GRAHAM A. TOBIN

On August 16th, Mount Tungurahua volcano in Ecuador erupted violently with devastating pyroclastic flows, lava, and emissions of tephra that ranged in size from large volcanic bombs to fine ash that eventually covered an extensive area of the country. A state of emergency was called.



Dr. Linda Whiteford (USF Anthropology) and I were in the area continuing our ongoing research and had planned to interview survivors and evacuees from an eruption in July. We went into the field on Monday, August 14th and worked around the volcano all day Tuesday and Wednesday morning examining the effects of this earlier eruption on several villages. This event had created all sorts of problems with pyroclastic activity and ash falls. On Wednesday, we ventured into Banos, which sits right at the base of the volcano, where we had scheduled a meeting with the mayor and had planned to interview residents

who had not evacuated. We have been talking to these same residents about their experiences for the last seven years.

However, before embarking on the interviews, we were contacted by vulcanologists from the Instituto Geofisico Observatory and advised to leave the town immediately. Tungurahua had been roaring all morning (continuing for the next 16 hours or so) and the explosions rattled windows as far as 20 km away. We took the vulcanologists' advice and evacuated to the observatory where we watched some more violent eruptions as the volcano increased in activity. The most frightening part was seeing the pyroclastic

flows cascade down the mountain destroying the very villages we had been in the day before, and all the time hoping that the residents had heeded the warnings to get out.

The eruptions continued all Wednesday afternoon and evening, and into the next day, destroying the lives and livelihoods of many. By Thursday, everything was covered in ash and we had great difficulty getting around because most roads were closed and vehicle access to areas was restricted. The impacts could be seen everywhere; agriculture gone, rivers blocked by pyroclastic flows, electricity was out in some areas and four villages no longer existed. Thousands of people were made homeless and were evacuated to shelters, several were dead, and many missing.

With support from local people, we managed to meet up with our Ecuadorian student and were able to conduct interviews with some of the evacuees in the shelters. Not surprisingly, they had some terrifying stories. The real tragedy is still to come for many of them.

“Don’t dance on a volcano.”

French Proverb

GRANT HARLEY SNAPS WINNING PIC

Geography MA, Grant Harley won the weather photo contest sponsored by the Department of Geography. Nearly 150 photos were submitted by USF faculty, staff, and students, as well as local community members.

The judges, consisting of Drs. Jen Collins (Geography) and Robert Lawrence (Fine Arts) selected winners in different categories

as well as the overall winner.

Grant Harley’s photo is titled ‘Dualism: Lightning and Rainbows’. His picture is featured along with other winners on USF’s meteorology website.



STUDENTS WIN COMMUNITY BOOK SCHOLARSHIP

Two Environmental Science and Policy undergraduate students, Sara Mechtensimer (left) and Rachana Shah (right) won \$160.00 book



scholarships from an anonymous community group.

The students wrote essays about how they hoped to improve some of the problems in the world after they graduate from College. Congratulations to Sara and Rachana! Each of them is taking courses in the major as well as general education courses.

In the future, Sara hopes to get into the field of ecosystem management of public lands. Rachana hopes to get into the area of education where she will work in educating students about problems of overconsumption



of natural resources and in areas of environmental sustainability.

“How fair is a garden among the trials and passions of existence..”

Benjamin Disraeli

URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING MAKES PROGRESS

The Geography Department Continues to work with other USF programs to launch a new Masters in Urban and Regional Planning. The proposal for a new, 48-credit hour degree will be considered by the College and University Graduate Committees this Fall, and we hope to have it approved in time to begin

enrolling students in the Fall of 2008.

This program will involve many current Geography faculty members, faculty from other departments and schools, and eventually new faculty members trained in the planning field. Planning courses will be open to Geography and ESP masters and

doctoral students.

Anyone seeking information about the program should contact Liz Strom at estrom@cas.usf.edu

BOTANICAL GARDENS UPCOMING EVENTS

The Botanical Gardens has a number of interesting events and workshops coming up:

Events:

September 2 & 3 – Cactus & Succulent Sale & Show (FREE)
 September 8 & 9 – Gesneriad Sale (FREE)
 October 14 & 15 – Fall Plant Festival



Weekend Gardener Workshop Series (Call 974-2329 to register):

August 19 – Perennials in the Landscape
 August 26 – Tropical Centerpieces
 September 16 – Botany for Gardeners Part I
 September 23 – Botany for Gardeners Part II
 September 30 – Trees for Florida Landscapes
 October 21 – Beginning Bonsai
 October 28 – Hot Peppers to Grow at Home

ALUMNI NEWS

We have heard from a number of alumni recently.

Charlie Andrews is working for Manatee County in the area of urban planning.

Dominic Borello is working for Michael Baker Corp in Washington D.C. as a LOMA analyst.

Steve Carson is starting graduate school at Binghamton University.

Tammy Cox is a Senior Manager with the Hillsborough County Public Works Department, Traffic Engineering Division.

Paula Dye, Chief Environmental Planner with Tampa Bay Water, was recently interviewed by WUSF on its Florida Matters show.

Andrea Erasquine is

in the Air Force studying to become a navigator.

Zack Goodfield is a GIS analyst for 3001 Corp in the Tampa area.

Mark Granger accepted a position with Photo-science Corp.

Karim Hashwani is traveling in east Asia, Japan, and China and will soon be taking a job with the U.S. State Department.

Clay Kelsey is working for Brooker Creek Preserve.

Daniel McKernan is working for NAVTEQ in Tampa.

Valerie Ogden is teaching World History at Newsome High School in Hillsborough County.

Maria Pidde is

teaching Middle School in Hillsborough County.

Mike Rimaldi has his own business: Oak River Builders.

Myra Schwarz is working for the City of Gulfport as a planner.

Vicki Scott is working for URS Corp.

Antonique Sweeting works at the Bahamas National GIS Centre as a GIS Analyst.

Jeff Wilson starts law school at the University of Florida this fall.

Jeremy Williams is working in IT for the City of Clearwater.

Emily Zupo is currently working at the Florida Center for Community Design.

“Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at 20 or 80. Anyone who keeps learning stays young.”

Henry Ford

UNDERGRADUATE HOOK WINS AWARD

Chris Hook, an undergraduate Student in the Department of Geography recently won the American Meteorological Society's (AMS) Dewey Stowers Award. Congratulations Chris!

Dr. Stowers was a faculty member in Geography who retired in the early 1990's. He was very active in promoting the study of mete-

orology locally and at USF.

Dr. Stowers was on hand at the local AMS banquet to hand Chris the award and to congratulate him in person.



UPCOMING DATES

Faculty Meetings:

August 24, 2006
 October 6, 2006
 November 3, 2006
 December 1, 2006
 January 12, 2007
 February 2, 2007
 March 9, 2007
 April 6, 2007

Applied Geography Conference in Tampa:

October 11-14th

SEDAAG, Morgantown, West Virginia:

November 19-21st

AAG Annual Meeting, San Francisco:

April 17-21st

