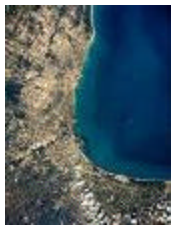


# DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY CHAIR UPDATE

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According to the 2000 Census, Chicago's MSA is ranked 3rd in population after New York and Los Angeles. Tampa's MSA is ranked 21st.



## USF GEOGRAPHY SHINES IN CHICAGO

Faculty and students in the Department of Geography did a great job at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Several faculty and students presented their research at the conference.

Some highlights and funny moments:

1. Many of us ran into Fenda Akiwumi and she is looking forward to joining us at USF.

2. Our students did a fantastic job in their presentations. I saw several presentations and heard about the ones that I missed. Congratulations to all of our students and their advisors!!

3. Heather Bell was elected as the student representative on the Hazards Specialty Group.

4. Spencer Fleury won 2nd place in the Graduate Student Specialty Group paper competition.

5. I had trouble with internet at my hotel and had to borrow computers and

computer access from our faculty and students because I was very busy finishing up negotiations with Dr. Ma.

6. Chicago Pubs!!!

7. Seeing old friends like Burrell Montz, Doug Gamble, and George Brook.



8. Cold weather and rain!!

9. I took a break from the meeting to do a whirlwind tour of the Art Institute. It seemed as if everyone there was holding an AAG tote bag.

10. Mass Transit!! Upon arrival, I got off the plane and grabbed a train to downtown. When I left to visit family, I took an Amtrak train an hour north. What a difference from Tampa!!!

11. The Chairs' luncheon. The Chairs' luncheon made me realize how fortunate I am to work at a university that is in a growth phase. While our university has its problems, so many of my peers from around the country have many more problems than what we have.

12. A vertical meeting! Many people were complaining about the setting of the meeting because it was on so many floors and in some many different locations within each floor. Indeed, it was a vertical meeting as opposed to a meeting in a standard convention center where one can mingle with greater chance of running into people.

## CHAIR'S UPDATE

1. Fenda Akiwumi successfully defended her dissertation on 3/30/06.
2. Dr. Pu has accepted the position as an Assistant Professor in Remote Sensing.
3. Dr. Ma has accepted the

position as an Instructor in GIS.

4. The summer and fall schedule are on Oasis.
5. Fredde and I are working with the Dean's office on job descriptions for the staff position in the

weather lab and for the new GIS and Cartographic Services Lab Director.

6. Annual evals are nearly complete. I will be meeting with faculty soon to review results.

## THE ANNUAL EVALUATION PROCESS

As you know, we are in the midst of the annual evaluation process. The committee, consisting of Archer (Chair), Chakraborty, and Tobin completed its work. I am currently in the process of finishing off individual evaluations.

I will be meeting with non-tenured faculty first. Upon the completion of those meetings, I will be scheduling meetings with the remainder of the faculty.

Just a reminder: it is important to keep your publications/research accom-

plishments up to date on the fair system. While you can opt out of having your CV created through FAIR off of the College's website, the FAIR system is still used to gather information about overall Department productivity.

The FAIR system is a work in progress. Nevertheless, I have no doubt that the system will continue to be used at USF and that it is important that we as individual faculty keep content associated with our name up to date.

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### ALUMNI NEWS

Many of you might remember **Sheila Conway**. She graduated with her undergraduate degree in the 1990's. She recently completed her PhD in environmental planning and design at Arizona State.

Sheila currently runs her own company, Urban Environmental Research, out of Las Vegas. She is very busy working on issues with Yucca Mountain.

Las Vegas has over 35 wedding chapels and 10 libraries.




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## COLLOQUIUM SERIES SUCCESS!!!

This, year we had an amazing colloquium series. There were 23 speakers and we had great attendance. Here's a list::

October 3, 2005: **Dr. Burrell E. Montz** (Department of Geography, Binghamton University) *Understanding Warning and Response: Where Natural Science Meets Social Science.*

October 21, 2005: **Dr. M. Martin Bosman** (Department of Geography, University of South Florida) *Globalizing Tampa Bay: The Politics of Scale and the Dilemmas of Regional Governance.*

October 28, 2005: **Mr. Raymond Miller** (Department of Geography, University of South Florida) *Modeling Hurricane Evacuation Vulnerability: A Case Study of Pinellas County, Florida.* (Thesis Defense).

November 7, 2005: **Ms. Fenda Akiwumi** (Department of Geography, Texas State University) *Environmental and Social Change in Southwest-*

*ern Sierra Leone: Timber Extraction (1832-1898) and Rutile Mining (1967-2005).*

November 18, 2005: **Dr. Mario**



**Parise** (Italian National Research Council) *Karst and Caving Research in the Apulian Karst of Southern Italy.*

December 16, 2005: **Mr. Jeremy Edwards** (Department of Geography, University of South Florida) *There and Back Again: From the World to the World Wide Web.* (Internship Defense).

February 1, 2006: **Dr. Dengsheng Lu** (Assistant Research Scientist, Center for the Study of Institutions, Population, and Environmental Change (CIPEC) Indiana University) *Extraction of Impervious Surface Information and Its Application to Urban Land Use Classification.*

February 3, 2006: **Dr. Jamie Peck** (Department of Geography, University of Wisconsin at Madison) *Global Competition and Urban Development: Will "Creative Cities" Lead the Way?* (Co-Sponsor - Dr. Kiran C. Patel Center for Global Solutions).

February 6, 2006: **Dr. Sun Park** (Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, University of Hawaii-Hilo) *Cross-Sensor Hybrid Mapping of Nonnative Grasses in the Eastern Coastal Lowlands of the Big Island, Hawaii.*

(cont'd p. 3)

## COLLOQUIUM SUCCESS CONT'D

February 20, 2006: **Dr. Ruiliang Pu** (Earth Science System Interdisciplinary Center, University of Maryland at College Park) *Wildland Fire Emissions Estimation with Remote Sensing Technology*.

February 22, 2006: **Dr. Philip Reeder** (Department of Geography, University of South Florida) *Melding Social, Physical and Natural Science: Mapping the Geoarchaeology of the Holyland*. (With the Departments of Anthropology and Geology).

February 22, 2006: **Dr. Harry Jol** (Department of Geography, University of Wisconsin Eau Claire) *What's Beneath the Surface: Using Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) to Better Understand Geomorphic and Archaeological Sites in the United States, Canada, Israel, New Zealand and Australia*. (With the Departments of Anthropology and Geology).

February 22, 2006: **Dr. Harry Jol** (Department of Geography, University of Wisconsin Eau Claire) *Finding the Right Spot! Geophysical Investigations in Israel*. (Co-Sponsors - Departments of Anthropology and Geology).

February 22, 2006: **Dr. Richard Freund** (Department of History and Director of the

Maurice Greenberg Center for Judaic Studies, University of Hartford) *Temples and Temple Artifacts: Incense Shovels From the City of Bethsaida and the Cave of Letters*. (Co-Sponsors - Departments of Anthropology and Geology).

February 22, 2006: **Dr. William B. White**, (Pennsylvania State University) *Sediments and Sedimentation in Limestone Caves: Hydrology, Time Scales, and Paleoclimate Archives*. (Co-Sponsor - Department of Geology).



March 2, 2006: **Mr. Alan Stephen Booker** (Department of Geography, University of South Florida) *Delineating the 100-Year Flood Using GIS: A Flood Analysis in the Avon Park Watershed*. (Thesis Defense).

March 6, 2006: **Mr. Jon J. Kedrowski** (Department of Geography, University of South Florida) *Assessing Human-Environmental Impacts on Colorado's 14,000-foot Mountains*.

(Thesis Defense).

March 21, 2006: **Mr. Clay Kelsey** (Department of Geography, University of South Florida) *Spatial Modeling of Socioeconomic Well-Being Using a Modified Human Development Index for Florida Counties*. (Thesis Defense).

April 3, 2006: **Ms. Autumn C. Schwab** (Department of Geography, University of South Florida) *The Influence of Roads on the Florida Panther*. (Thesis Defense).

April 6, 2006: **Mr. David Crosby** (Department of Geography, University of South Florida) *The Effect of DEM Resolution on the Computation of Hydrologically Significant Topographic Attributes*. (Thesis Defense)

April 14, 2006: **Ms. Heather M. Bell** (Department of Geography, University of South Florida) *Situating the Perception and Communication of Flood Risk: Components and Strategies*. (Doctoral Proposal Defense).

April 17, 2006: **Ms. Erin P. Hughey** (Department of Geography, University of South Florida) *Defining Disaster Recovery at the Community Level*. (Doctoral Proposal Defense).

April 28, 2006: **Dr. Bernard Szukalski** (Cave and Karst Manager, ESRI) *Title TBD*.

*"Grasp the subject, the words will follow."*

*Cato the Elder*

## FACULTY AND STAFF CAMPAIGN

Everyone should have gotten the notice regarding the Faculty and Staff Campaign. Giving is a personal thing and you may elect to give or not give to the campaign. It makes no difference to me.

However, I wanted you to know that the foundation dollars we raise through the faculty and staff campaign allow us flexibility with spending and allow us to pay for dinners while candidates

visit and to defray costs associated with Departmental retreats. Thus, if you give to that fund, you can make a difference to the Department.

I am one of the college representatives for the campaign and I am glad to answer any questions you may have regarding the campaign.



# GEOGRAPHY AND ESP

As of the last newsletter, we did not have clarity on Geography and ESP from the Dean's office.

Since then, I can report that the Dean has approved ESP moving to a Program within Geography.

I will be working with Rick Oches over the next few months on the transition and I should have more to report in the near future. In addition, I will be reviewing the administrative structure at the next Department meeting. Dr. Kevin Archer will serve as Associate Chair for Geography and Dr. Phil Reeder will be

serving as the Director for ESP.



I look forward to working with both of these individuals in their new roles. Each of their appointments

will be for one year until we get a selection process for these roles instituted within a governance document.

Graham Tobin has agreed to develop a draft governance document for the full faculty's review in the fall.

### DEPARTMENT PARTY!!!

Make sure that you mark your calendars for April 28th. The Brinkmann/Hays household will be hosting an end of the semester bash.

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## INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

Many of our faculty have been traveling as of late.

Martin Bosman did a tour of European cities as part of a research project on global cities.

Phil Reeder, Grant Harley, and Jason Polk conducted fieldwork in Belize.

Robert Brinkmann is

traveling to Vienna to give a paper and two posters at the European Geosciences Union meeting.

Graham Tobin traveled to South America to present results of his research with Linda Whiteford of the Anthropology Department.

### OUR CONDOLENCES

The Department sends condolences to Mark Hafen at the loss of his mother.

*"Income tax returns are the most imaginative fiction being written today."*

*Herman Wouk*

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## UPCOMING DATES

April 3, 2006: **Ms. Autumn C. Schwab** Thesis Defense.

April 6, 2006: **Mr. David Crosby** Thesis Defense.

April 14, 2006: **Ms. Heather M. Bell** Doctoral Proposal Defense.

April 17, 2006: **Ms. Erin P. Hughey** Doctoral Proposal Defense.

April 21st: **Department Meeting**, Conference Room, 9-11.

April 28th: Last day of the Spring Semester!!!

April 28, 2006: Colloquium **Dr. Bernard Szukalski** (Cave and Karst Manager, ESRI) *Title TBD*.

April 28th: Department Party!!!!

