

The LANDROVER

Vol. 25, No. 1
Fall 2006

Notes from the Chair



In writing this on a dreary day in December (Don reminded me of this Scots word, meaning dreary, gray and not quite raining), I see that The LandRover has reached its 25th year of publication - quite a milestone for the department and the Student Geography Organization (SGO).

This fall has brought a lot of changes to the Geography and Mapping Sciences Department. First and foremost, we welcomed our new colleague, Matt Dooley to the department. We are finally back to 100% in staffing and this has created a nice sense of stability in the department. We are pleased to have Matt here and we are working on revisions to the GIS and Cartography Minor. Matt will be introducing a new course on Interactive and Animated Cartography in the next year and we are working on expanding the GIS lab. In addition, the university is involved in preparations for NCA/HLC accreditation review next year and this has spawned a flurry of activity on Strategic Planning at all levels and Program Assessment.

In October, two of our students, Amy Fox and Pete Tufigno attended and presented papers at the 2006 Association of American Geographers Meeting of the Great Plains-Rocky Mountain and West Lakes Division meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska. Amy won first place for her paper, "*Environmental Inequity: Nuclear Power Plant Location and Race Composition*" and Pete won second place for his paper, "*The Changing Face of Lake Street, Minneapolis 1960-2000.*" Both papers were written this past spring as the Senior Colloquium (GEOG 401) projects under John Heppen. This is wonderful news and we congratulate Amy and Pete on the excellence of their work. Pete will also be participating in the International Traveling Classroom this spring and was recently awarded a \$1000, College of Arts and Sciences Travel Stipend for participating in the program.

We welcome Kelsey Kurtenbach, who joins sisters, Kyli and Kaelyn and parents Vicki and Dave. Kelsey was born in July and Vicki Kurtenbach just returned from maternity leave at the beginning of November. Nancy Young has continued on this year as an adjunct teaching two sections of Human Geography (GEOG 120) for the department. Don Petzold has been continuing his Weather Wonders program with the St. Paul public Schools, and John Heppen is serving as the Secretary for the Faculty Senate. Both John and I lead "Coffee with the Times" discussions this past November, John talked about the recent elections and I talked about international implications of global warming. So we all have been busy.

Our best to you for the holidays and our wishes for a happy, healthy, and successful 2007.

CONGRATULATION GRADUATES!

Amy Fox *and* *Leatitia Knight*

SGO NEWS

The fall of 2006 was filled with several events for SGO beginning with the election of new officers: President – Ryan Stovern; Vice President – Joe Ayers; Secretary – Angela Hauge; Treasurer – Kiah Sagami. Besides two successful bake sales, a magazine fundraiser was a new addition to SGO fundraising methods. Members of SGO rounded out the fall semester by taking a trip to Como Zoo and Conservatory in St. Paul.



John & Don in the Conservatory

Tom and Ben



Spring semester has hopes for a Spring Break trip to the U.P. of Michigan to ski/snowboard. More bake sales are going to occur in the upcoming semester by utilizing the new University Centers bake sale booth. Adopt-a-Highway may also be something for our organization to volunteer for, while implementing a geographical identity with our local area.

Start Planning! The **SGO Spring Banquet** will be held in the new University Center on campus. The University Center is the new student Union. The banquet is scheduled for **April 28th, 2007**.

DONATIONS

Donations to the department go to support both the Geography Scholarship and the Scott Nelson Fund. These provide us with the means to provide partial financial support for one student each year and a variety of other things such as awards for graduating seniors and the map of the year contest. Please consider making a donation to one of these funds. Thank you to those who have made donations.

Geography Fund

John & Kora Cavanaugh
Richard & Neva Sprung
John Weigel
Bernadette Vanatta
Ann Legreid
Robert & Miriam Ubbelohde

Geography Scholarship

Scott Nelson Fund

STUDENT/ALUMNI NEWS

Barb Bibeau ('06) and Jenny (Alm) Bakken ('99) have both started working on their Master of Library and Information Science degree at the College of St. Catherine in Saint Paul, MN. Jenny is also working as a Library Associate for the St. Paul Public Library system.

Kurt Brown ('02) is serving as the Director of Special Projects & Network Coordinator for the United Way of Santa Rosa County, Florida. He says they faired Hurricane Season well this year and were commended by FEMA for their preparedness.

Katherine (Katie) Gannett ('04) was awarded her MA degree in English at the University of Northern Iowa last spring. Now she is continuing at UNI for a second Masters degree in Women's and Gender Studies. Two of her poems were published earlier this fall, one in *Bleeding Quill*, and one in Story Circle Network's National Internet Chapter Newsletter, and Story Circle Network made a podcast featuring her reading that poem. Two short essays are forthcoming in the *Facts on Files Companion to Twentieth Century British Poetry*. Katie is still dreaming of a life lived in Orkney and struggling with being landlocked in Iowa!

Steven Hess (93) recently completed a Certificate in GIS through Penn State University, and has also completed an internship with the City of Minneapolis GIS Business Services. He is currently exploring opportunities for using his new experiences.

Robert Small ('04) has begun working as a Cartographer II for the Washington State Department of Transportation Geographic Services Office in Tumwater.

Miles Strain ('84) is still serving as a project manager for AERO-METRIC, Inc. (formerly Mark Hurd).

Mark Tinkler ('91 KSU) has begun a new job as a Geospatial Analyst with the Department of Defense. He also continues as an Officer in the Navy Reserve. He and wife, Michele, are proud parents of their third child, Jazlyn, born last June.

Thanks to those of you who have updated us through the Alumni link on the department web page! For those of you who have not, please do so, we'd love to hear from you.
http://www.uwrf.edu/geography/Alumni/alumni_form.htm

FACULTY & STAFF NOTES

MIKE ALBERT says that no news is good news. Travel to Pennsylvania and car shows were a prominent part of his summer.

MATT DOOLEY has had a busy and exciting first semester at UWRF. He taught two sections of Geog. 250 (Introduction to Cartography and GIS), and two sections of Geog. 360 (GIS: Method and Theory). In October, he attended the NACIS conference in Madison where he presented a paper entitled "*Visualizing Uncertainty in Isometric Mapping.*" In November, he made a poster presentation at the Plains Anthropological Conference in Topeka, Kansas, featuring preliminary results of research conducted this summer in southwestern Wyoming. Also, he has been busy making updated Hardiness Zone maps for the Arbor Day Foundation, and revising a co-authored journal article accepted for publication in *Cartographic Perspectives*.

RUTH HALE is still enjoying the changing of the seasons at her farm on the Little Trimbelle stream in Pierce County. The daily needs of her "significant others," namely two wonderful Labrador dogs, one 14 year old mare, plus dozens of wild birds keep her going with their daily demands for food, water, and shelter, as needed when it gets really COLD!

JOHN HEPPEn enjoyed a busy fall semester. Human Geography, the United States and Political Geography enjoyably occupied his teaching time. He traveled to Lincoln, Nebraska in early October to present a paper, "*Electoral geography of suburban and exurban places in the recent presidential*

elections." That paper focused on the electoral geography of Pierce and St. Croix Counties. He was happy to accompany Amy Fox and Pete Tufigno where they won awards. He's hoping to finish an edited volume with his co-editor Sam Otterstrom at BYU. They are working on a book on the Historical Geography of the United States and patiently waiting for contributors to send in their manuscripts. Service wise, he's been busy with faculty senate and the SGO. He's the secretary of Faculty Senate and with Strategic Planning going on, he's been pretty busy. It's a lot of work but fairly interesting and rewarding to play a part in it. SGO has been busy. They had very successful bake sales in October and November and have found some new ways to raise money by selling magazine subscriptions. He'll get to work soon on the Spring Banquet which will be held in the new Student Center. The banquet is scheduled for April 28th, 2007.

VICKI KURTENBACH enjoyed a wonderful four months of maternity leave from July to November spending time with daughters Kyli and Kaelyn and newest addition, Kelsey. Returning to work has been quite an adjustment and she is looking forward to the end of the semester and spending Christmas break with family.

DON PETZOLD had a routine semester focused on teaching Physical Environments, Weather & Climate, and Physical Environments of Urban Areas. A highlight of the latter course was a class tour of the NSP power plant near Bayport, MN, which is being overhauled, so they were able to see the inside of the great turbine that produces electricity. In October Don traveled to Whitewater, WI and represented the department at the annual meeting of the Wisconsin Geographical Society. This marks the beginning of Don's 15th year teaching his "Weather Wonders" mini-course to 4th graders in Saint Paul. It never ceases to amaze him that these kids can get so excited by making a cloud in a bottle! Last summer saw a big change for the Petzold household. Their pet cat, Emily, who had been with them since they first arrived here in 1988, succumbed to old age. They are currently cat-less ... which does have its advantages! Liny and Don spent a few weeks Back East last summer with visits to Montreal, their cabin in Massachusetts, and to Washington, DC. Daughter, Helena, is now in her fifth year of teaching, this year being moved up to teach a split third/fourth grade class in Milwaukee. Her husband, Joel, is just beginning classes to get his private plane license (Liny cringes at the thought!) Andrew is now well into his Ph. D. research at the University of

Minnesota, still working on nicotine addiction in zebra fish. His biggest challenge is rolling incredibly small, water-proof cigarettes! ;-)

CHARLIE RADER has been keeping himself occupied with chairing the department, teaching (Geoprocessing, Advanced Map Design, and Africa), serving on several committees, and coordinating the International Traveling Classroom program. He has worked to prepare 35 students to travel to Europe for spring semester and now wishes that he could go too. He attended the NACIS conference in Madison where he presented a poster on teaching the History of Cartography as a general education course, and he attended a UW conference on Global Studies Institute in Lake Geneva. Over the summer he inherited the position of Book Review Editor for the journal Cartography and Geographic Information Systems (CaGIS). He has been photographing a little and teaching canoeing. He and Nancy escaped to the BWCA for a trip this summer where they preceded the fires by about a week (no connection between our presence and the fires). They finished up some house projects and really enjoyed watching someone else paint the house! Nancy is busy with LMIC and the Governor's Council on GIS for the State of Minnesota. Velcro is well and a constant reminder that sleep, food and walks are all that are really important.

Web Sites of Interest

Maps In Our Lives <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/maps/>
The Library of Congress has many productive partnerships with peer institutions and affiliates, and their thirty-year partnership with the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping (ACSM) has been quite fruitful. Designed to complement a current in situ exhibit at the Library of Congress's headquarters, this online exhibit explores cartography, surveying, and geographic information systems in their full glory. The maps provide a broad overview of the history of surveying, as they begin with maps of George Washington's farm created in 1760 and conclude with offerings created in 1999. The selection of maps is quite catholic in its scope, as it includes an intriguing map of the University of Oregon campus at night, a map from the popular board game "Carmen San Diego", and a relief map of Crater Lake. After all this, even the most casual visitor may find themselves with a renewed or newfound interest in the field of geography.
[KMG] -- From the Scout Report

Geocaching - The Official Global GPS Cache Hunt Site
<http://www.geocaching.com/> is a site dedicated to the sport of geocaching, GPS enhanced scavenger hunts. Just a

thought, if someone gives you a GPS for the holidays this year.

The History of Cartography Project
<http://www.geography.wisc.edu/histcart/> is an epic project to produce the most comprehensive history of cartography to date. With David Woodward's passing, map historian Matthew Edney is now serving as Project Director. From this site there is a link to the Windows on the World Exhibit which features maps from the University of Wisconsin Department of Special Collections
<http://www.library.wisc.edu/libraries/SpecialCollections/histcart/index.htm>

Kiva Loans that Change Lives <http://www.kiva.org/> with the Nobel Peace Prize being awarded to **Muhammad Yunus** and the **Grameen Bank** for their efforts in creating economic and social development from below through the use of micro-credit, you too can become a micro lender through sites such as Kiva.

Oh, those students...

This warming ... melts the earth's ice caps and glaciers causing an abduction of coastal land.

The ability of land to heat/cool faster than adjacent ocean water is the 5X thing.

The greenhouse effect is caused by infrared radiation...

L.A. is in a valley between mountains and the Atlantic Ocean.

The atmosphere's fixed gases may include radiation and stars.

Q: What does the ITCZ stand for? (Correct Answer: Intertropical convergence zone)

Student answers: Intertropical cooling zone, International tropical cotegent zone, International temperature control zone, International trade convection, Intense tropical crazy zone, Inter tropical cancer zone, Intertrade zone, Intercollegiate zone, Intertropical conversions zone

ATTENTION Newsletter Recipients!
If you would prefer to receive an electronic version of the newsletter rather than the 'hard copy' you receive in the mail, please email vicki.kurtenbach@uwrf.edu.