

The L A N D R O V E R

Notes from the Chair



First and foremost, we are here for the students. We are graduating 12 students this academic year and we wish them all the best for their future endeavors. The senior colloquium generated some interesting papers and we had 10 of the 12 students present their work as posters at the University's Research, Scholarly, and Creative Activity Day which highlights undergraduate research. It was a good showing for our department.

SGO had a busy year under the supervision of John Heppen. We celebrated the 28th year of the organization at the Spring Banquet with 57 people in the newly opened University Center. A number of students, parents, alumni and friends of geography attended. See the news on SGO for more details.

John Heppen reached a milestone this year with his recommendation to the Board of Regents for tenure and promotion to Associate Professor. Congratulations! In addition, John had a busy year as secretary of the Faculty Senate.

Matt Dooley has quickly become an integral part of the department. He headed up the department's application for Lab Modernization Funds for a \$56,000 expansion and update of the lab, which has been successfully funded. In addition, he has added a new course to the curriculum, Animated and Interactive Cartography (GEOG 455), which he will teach this coming fall. This is a course that we are very excited to be able to offer. He is also currently working with me to update and revise the GIS and cartography curriculum and we are working on a GIS track for the Master's Program in Sustainable Community Development.

Don Petzold has continued to coordinate departmental assessment and this has become an integral part of the way that we are doing business at the university. Fortunately, since we have been doing assessments for over 13 years in this department, we were able to work on fine tuning. The department met with its newly constituted advisory board in early April to discuss strategic goals for the department. Members of our advisory board include: former students Mark Schoenfelder and Dave Brandt, Jim Janke from Wisconsin-Extension, Nat Case from Hedberg Maps, and Jeff Torgeson from St. Cloud State. Many thanks to them for helping us think about where we are and where we want to go. Through this work we have produced a strategic plan for the department which will guide the department in the future.

If I have said it once, I have said it a thousand times, it is great to work with interesting students and a dedicated faculty and staff. This makes Geography a vibrant and active department and I have to thank Don Petzold, Matt Dooley, John Heppen and our PA, Vicki Kurtenbach, for making this year both enjoyable and productive. In addition, Dave Brandt has returned to teach Advanced GIS (GEOG 460) for us this year and Nancy Young who has taught Human Geography (GEOG 120) for us this year. Nancy will be heading on after this year to complete her Ph.D. dissertation at the University of Minnesota and we thank her and wish her the best of luck. Next year Geoff Force will be returning as an adjunct all-purpose geographer in the department. Thanks again to you all.

We have accomplished a lot this year and we are all ready for summer. Thank you to all who have supported the department over this year. We wish you the best for summer.

Congratulations Spring 2007 Graduates!

Joseph Ayers
Richard Obrien
Shaun Priesgen
Ryan Stovern
Pete Tufigno

Angela Hauge
Ryan Peterson
Kiah Sagami
Andrew Taylor
Nate Winger

Department Awards

Each year the Department acknowledges a number of graduating seniors for achievement in various categories. Names of recipients are engraved onto plaques that are displayed in the Department.

*National Council for Geographic Education
Excellence of Scholarship Award*
Peter Tufigno

*Award of Excellence
for Outstanding Academic Achievement*
Peter Tufigno



*Student Leadership Award for
Contributions to SGO and to the
Geography Department*
**Ryan Stovern
Kiah Sagami**

*Outstanding Graduating
Senior Award
for Contributions to the
Geography Department*
Joe Ayers



2007 Geography Scholarship
Matt Millett

Map of the Year 2006-07
Matt Millett:
African-American Population in
Minneapolis, 1980-2000

*Gamma Theta Upsilon
Honor Society Inductees*
**Nate Winger
Krista Milligan**



SGO NEWS

SGO had a busy spring. The annual spring trip was to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan where they went skiing at Ski Brule in Iron River, Michigan. The successful bake sales and student hard work made the trip a success as they enjoyed skiing and visiting the Iron County Museum. SGO participated for the first time in the 3rd floor KFA picnic with the history and political science student organizations. They enjoyed volleyball, wiffleball, and cooking brats and hot dogs. As usual the highlight of the Spring Semester was the annual banquet. The 28th annual banquet took place on April 28th in the new University Center. Jeff Crump of the University of Minnesota was the guest speaker and he gave a great after-dinner talk of the joys of exploring Nebraska and Alaska by train. With over 50 attendees we had one of the biggest and best banquets ever. (Check out the banquet photos at www.uwrf.edu/geography). The last Friday of the semester the students enjoyed a trip to the Metrodome to see the Twins play the Red Sox. For the second year in a row SGO has gone to a baseball game and it looks like it could become a new tradition.

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

J. Weigle

Scott Nelson Fund

B. Bibeau	J. Chester
J. Goodspeed-Gross	J. Heppen
D. Petzold	C. Rader
R. Swanson	R. Timmerman

College or Arts & Sciences – Fund for Excellence

B. Vanatta	A. Greigid
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STUDENT/ALUMNI NEWS

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

Katherine (Katie) Gannett ('04) was awarded student of the month for March at the Library of the University of Northern Iowa, where she is a Master's student. She's a "jill of all trades" in the Access Services Department, working at the Circulation Desk, shelving, and on an ongoing inventory project.

David Kampmeier ('98) has been promoted to be in charge of expanding the operations of Masterson Personnel all over the Midwest. He and his family will be moving to Rochester, MN soon.

Jackie (Ryan) Klein ('93) and doting husband, Jeff, are proud parents of daughter, Stephanie, born in late April.

Cris Merta ('04) is currently working for a photogrammetry and GIS firm in Sheboygan, WI called Aerometric Engineering. He is employed as an aerial photographer with the company. He has had the opportunity to fly all over the country and utilize a fair amount of the knowledge he learned in UWRF geography courses. This includes digitizing, coordinate systems, and more recently, Arcview and Google Earth. He has had the opportunity to work with many GPS systems and a variety of different mapping cameras as well.

Shaun Priesgen ('07), current graduate, will begin working on M. S. program in Higher Education Administration at Kansas University later this summer.

Ryan Stovern ('07), current graduate, will begin working for Sportsman's Connection in Superior, WI, doing research and GIS analysis on lake environments.

Mike Tronrud ('97) and wife, Steph, are proud parents of their third son, Oliver, born in April.

Robert Ubbelohde ('85) is currently living in the United Kingdom with his wife, Miriam and two children. He's currently working as an NGA Geospatial Liaison for the UK Ministry of Defense. He is about half way through his three year posting and really having a great time. He graduated from UWRF in 1985 with a major in Scientific Land

Management and a minor in Cartography. He's been with Defense Mapping Agency (DMA), renamed to NIMA, renamed currently to NGA for over 21 years now.

Ezra Zeitler ('00) successfully defended his Ph. D. dissertation proposal titled, "Commemorating Conquest: Histories, Meanings, and the Spatial Significance of Indigenous-Based Team Names and Associated Iconography in America's Secondary Schools."

Micah Zeitler ('01) completed his law degree at the University of Wyoming and was awarded a JD degree. He is now studying for the Wisconsin bar exam.

FACULTY & STAFF NOTES

MATT DOOLEY has enjoyed a busy spring semester. He taught two sections of Intro to Cartography/GIS and two sections of the GIS: Theory & Methods. He was also busy designing a new course in animated and interactive cartography and writing a grant proposal (with Charlie) to modernize the GIS Lab. In April, he attended the American Democracy Project conference on campus and met a variety of people in the UWRF campus community. Later in April, he attended the AAG conference in San Francisco and presented a paper entitled "A Multidisciplinary Approach for Mapping and Dating Alluvial Surfaces in Southwestern Arizona." This summer Matt plans to prepare courses for next year, revise a paper for publication, and take place in collaborative fieldwork in southern Utah focusing on dendroclimatology and biogeography. He also wants to go cycling often!

JOHN HEPPEN had a busy spring semester teaching two sections of Human Geography in addition to Geography of Asia and Oceania and Geography of Poverty in the United States. Teaching kept him busy, but he found time to attend the AAG conference in San Francisco. He presented a paper "Core and Periphery Electoral Changes in the United States 1932 to 2008" at the conference and enjoyed exploring San Francisco and taking pictures for his classes. He's hoping to finish an edited volume this summer with his co-editor Sam Otterstrom at BYU. They are working on a book on the Historical Geography of the United States. This summer he wants to find time to catch-up on his reading, write some papers for the next year, and work on his hobbies. He concluded his term as secretary of the UWRF Faculty Senate, but he returns for another year on the Senate. He's enjoyed working with others across campus in making UWRF a better place. SGO, once again, was a highlight as he enjoyed the trip to the UP and the

good times he had with the students. The banquet went well again so he can breathe easy for another year. Going to the AAG conference and the time spent with students reminded him again on why he went into geography in the first place. Additionally, he renewed his love affair with professional wrestling. Yes he knows that it's not "real".

DON PETZOLD had a busy semester teaching five classes and three "Weather Wonders" workshops for 4th graders in Saint Paul. Don and Liny recently visited San Francisco where Don attended the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers. It had been almost 30 years since they were last there, so they did some sightseeing, too – a drive up to Napa Valley and down the coast to Monterey Bay. They plan at least one trip to the East Coast this summer. Their son, Andrew, has finished his second year of a Ph. D. program at the University of Minnesota and will be moving his research operations, along with his major advisor, to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. Daughter, Helena, is now teaching grades 3/4 at the Woodlands School in Milwaukee and enjoying the move up from grades 1/2 very much.

CHARLIE RADER continues his 7-year reign of terror as chair, but still hopes for a bloodless coup. This past semester, he coordinated the International Traveling Classroom Program and has recruited 35 students to participate in the program for Spring 2008. Several of the geography students plan to go on the tour next spring which will include: London, Paris, Madrid, Freiburg, Berlin and Prague. He will be traveling in the early summer in Europe to make arrangements for the group and then onto Istanbul with Marshall Toman (UW-RF English Department) to participate in a Geography of Food study tour where he plans to photograph and collect information for Europe (GEOG 340) which he will resurrect this Fall. This past spring he taught the Senior Colloquium (GEOG 401) and Thematic Map Design (GEOG 255). Other than He presented an address at the St. Croix Basin workshop in April on "Mapping Tools for Resource Management Decision-Making." On the home front, Nancy is well and continues to work for the Land Management Information Center. Velcro will be 13 this year and he has started to become a little deaf, but other than that is as happy as ever. Summer will include travel, yard work, canoeing, photography, and perhaps a little teaching depending on enrollment.

Web Sites of Interest

Graduating Senior Pete Tufigno spent the semester in Europe traveling with the International Traveling Classroom Program, to catch up on his trip. Pete demonstrates that there is something about geographers and the types of images that they make. Slides, slides, slides a la Mike Albert now continues with blogs, blogs, blogs. Visit Pete's blog at: <http://tufigno.blogspot.com/>

The **1748 Map of Rome**, by *Giambattista Nolli* is widely regarded by scholars as one of the most important historical documents of the city ever created. Jim Tice, University of Oregon Dept of Architecture Erik Steiner, InfoGraphics Lab, Dept of Geography have recently produced an interactive version of it. Visit <http://nolli.uoregon.edu/> and launch the map engine.

The British Library has launched a set of interactive historical maps of London in an online exhibit, London: a Life in Maps. They advertise it as London as you have never seen it. Visit: <http://www.bl.uk/londoninmaps>

NOAA's Earth Systems Research Lab has produced the Carbon Tracker. It is system to keep track of carbon dioxide uptake and release at the Earth's surface over time. Visit : <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/ccgg/carbontracker/>

Recommended Reading:

Charlie has travel on the mind for some reason and recommends something old and something new from Paul Theroux. Mariner books has released reprint of **The Great Railway Bizarre** (2006) originally published in 1975, this documents travel through Asia by train. More recently, Theroux has published **Dark Star Safari: Overland from Cairo to Cape Town** (2004) which documents travels and encounters on a trip the length of the African continent. Orhan Pamuk's **Istanbul: Memories and the City** (2006) is available in paperback, and it is a rich memoir of growing up and life in Istanbul; not a fast read, but well worthwhile.

Oh, those students...

My anticipated results have been discussed perversely... From Ezra Zeitler at U-Nebraska: Geography is a Latin word meaning to draw the earth... The warm air meeting up w/ the cool air results in the tsunamis... South Asian monsoons form because 2 tectonic plates are pushing together which attracts a warm wet climate, then increasing winds and you have yourself a monsoon... Another natural hazard in Japan is that as an island it has a very high risk of being sunk because of all the people that live there... Rap music started with African Americans in NYC and has truly gone through globalization since now you can see it and hear it all over the U.S.... Soccer is not just a game for some countries. It is away of life that transcends all understanding... I am a Republican and I believe in traditions. Soccer is not a tradition for America.

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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.