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UTK Geography Newsletter

Geography

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2011

# UTK Geography Newsletter 11 (2010-2011)

Department of Geography

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# UTK GEOGRAPHY

Newsletter of the University of Tennessee Department of Geography

2010-2011 Academic Year

## Greetings from Carol Harden



This has been a year of transition and new energy in this department. We added two new faculty members, honored one retiree, and switched positions internally. Bruce

Ralston retired in May 2010, but, fortunately, will continue to teach with a post-retirement service contract. He says that being retired allows him to be more productive (go figure...). Lydia Pulsipher, too, remains active in post-retirement service. Last year, Shih-Lung Shaw was department head and Bruce Ralston was associate head. Shaw has stepped back into his role as professor and Ralston has retired, so this year I am interim department head and Ron Foresta is associate head. We celebrated the service of both Shaw and Ralston with a dinner and limerick contest ('nuf said). Our best personnel news is that we continue to hire outstanding new faculty, despite the need to compete for the privilege of hiring at the College level.

Two new faculty members have joined us this year. Dr. Madhuri Sharma strengthens our focus on urban geography with her research on urban-social and urban-economic issues and focus on racial/ethnic segregation and housing disparities. She holds a Ph.D. in Geography from The Ohio State University (2009). We also had the good fortune to hire Dr. Joshua Inwood, one of four new faculty members hired by the College's Africana Studies program (of

one of four new faculty members hired by the College's Africana Studies program (of 450 applicants! Congratulations, Josh!). His appointment is 50% geography and 50% in Africana Studies, with his office and his tenure decision in geography. Drs. Sharma and Inwood join our three other assistant professors to bring new perspectives and new energy to our programs - Dr. Micheline van Riemsdijk, Dr. Yingqui (Philip) Li, and Dr. Nicholas Nagle (whose appointment is 20% geography and 80% Center for Business and Economic Research, CBER).

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Dept. of Geography  
304 Burchfiel Bldg.  
Knoxville, TN 37996



*The department hosted a "Geek Fest" to celebrate the career and achievements of Bruce Ralston (right) and Shih-Lung Shaw (left) in his recent service as department head.*



*Harden continued from Page 1*

At this time, we have a search in progress for a transportation/ spatial analysis geographer, so we anticipate having another new faculty member next year. We have also been fortunate to have Toby Applegate as a lecturer this year. Toby, whose M.S. degree is from our department, is currently completing a Ph.D. at Rutgers University. In spring, 2011, Dr. Ned Guttman, from Asheville, NC, will join us as a lecturer for meteorology, climatology, and global change courses.

This year, the research of two geography faculty members attracted above-average national and international attention. Shih-Lung Shaw's cutting-edge research on space-time GIS has brought invitations and opportunities from three continents, and Liem Tran's new hydrological model has caught the attention of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and other groups in the U.S. and beyond. We miss having Shih-Lung Shaw as department head, but we supported his choice to pass the baton so that he could seize new opportunities generated by the wide interest in and importance of his research and build our graduate program in transportation and spatial analysis. His outstanding service as department head will be long remembered for his great success in maintaining the strength of the department during a time of economic upheaval and belt-tightening and for his hiring of five outstanding new faculty members (van Riemsdijk, Li, Nagle, Sharma, and Inwood). Thank you again, Shih-Lung!

Personnel transitions and economic downturns aside, geography at the University of Tennessee is as vibrant and productive as ever and opportunities for geographers are still growing. Geospatial technology has been cited as one of the three top emerging industries, along with biotechnology and nanotechnology, and the global market for Geospatial Information systems is predicted by an ARC Advisory Group to grow 65% over the next five years. Combine that spectacular trend with those of economic globalization, human mobility, the urbanization of the world (over 50% of the world's human population is now urban), the need to understand, anticipate, and mitigate the consequences of climate and other environmental changes, and the need to understand and

mitigate sources of conflict, and we have a full plate of challenges and opportunities. The pressing needs for research and education in geography, the talent and excitement of our majors and graduate students, and the dedication and energy of our talented faculty promise to keep us hopping.

Carol Harden  
Professor and Interim Head



## **Manik Hwang Receives Outstanding Alumnus Award**

This past year the Department instituted the Outstanding Alumnus Award to honor those graduates who have gone on to have successful careers in geography. This past April the first such award was made to Dr. Manik Hwang, who received his Ph.D. in 1982. Dr. Hwang's distinguished career includes his being the Chair of the Department of Geography Education at Seoul National University, Dean of the College of Education at Seoul National University, President of the Korean Cartographic Association, and Vice President of the Korean Society for Environmental Education. He has received numerous awards and recognitions including the Distinguished Education Contribution Award from the

*Continued on Page 4*



*L to R: Shih-Lung Shaw, Ted Schumde, Manik Hwang, recipient of the first Outstanding Alumnus Award, and Bruce Ralston.*

# Investment Opportunities in Geography

Gifts to the Geography Department may be designed for a specific purpose or fund or given to the Department's Enrichment Fund as discretionary funding. Be assured that it will make a difference! Existing funds are shown below. Please contact Carol Harden if you would like more information or if you would like to target your gift for a purpose not shown. The Development Offices of the College and University would be pleased to have you ask about other forms of giving, such as bequests, charitable lead trusts, and gifts of the remainder interest in a personal residence or farm, and they are set up to help you evaluate the tax benefits of different gift options. All contributors making gifts of a hundred dollars or more are eligible for University recognition via the Gift Club.

**Stewart K. McCroskey Memorial Fund** – Established by the McCroskey family after Stewart's death. This fund supports field research and professional travel by Geography students and faculty.

**Sid Jumper Teachers' Scholarship Fund** – Established in 1995 when Sid Jumper stepped down from the role of Head of the department, this fund supports graduate training for K-12 teachers.

**Bill & Donna Cobble Geography Enhancement Endowment** – Proceeds from this fund, established in 1995 by Bill & Donna Cobble in support of undergraduate education in Geography at UTK, are used to enhance the educational experiences of undergraduate students.

**Edwin H. & Elizabeth H. Hammond Endowment Fund in Geography** – Established to honor Professor Hammond, who retired in 1987. Gifts to this fund help bring a distinguished geographer, the "Hammond Lecturer" to the department each year.

**Robert G. Long Outstanding Graduate Student Award Fund** – The Robert G. Long Award, established to honor Professor Long who retired in 1979, honors one or two graduate students each year for superior scholarship and service to the department. The students are recognized on a plaque and receive checks of \$50.

**The J. Harrison and Robbie C. Livingston Professorship Endowment** - This fund was established in 1997 by J. Harrison and Robbie C. Livingston to further teaching and research on population problems. Proceeds from this fund supplement the salary of a faculty member who specializes in population issues.

**Geography Department Scholarship Fund** – This fund provides one or more tuition scholarships to outstanding undergraduate geography majors.

**The Geography Department Enrichment Fund** – This fund may be used to meet special needs as determined by the department faculty. In recent years, it has supplemented our operating budget and provided travel support to professional meetings for faculty and students.

**The Geography Technological Enrichment Fund** – Established in 1995 by two anonymous donors, the funds are used to provide our computer research labs and classrooms with up to date equipment and software.

**Geography Endowment Fund** – Donations are invested by the university. The principal generates quarterly interest to the Geography Enrichment Fund.

**The Ralston Family Fund** - This endowed fund was established in honor of Bruce Ralston's mother and father. It enriches a designated faculty member's research opportunities.



Please send your gift to: Department of Geography, 304 Burchfiel Geography Building, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-0925. **Make checks payable to: University of Tennessee, but also use the memo line on the check to indicate "Geography" and, if you wish, to indicate a specific fund.**





*Hwang continued from Page 2*

Korean Society of Surveying, Geodesy, Photogrammetry, and Cartography. His first award at UT was recognition for academic excellence by the Office of International Student Affairs back in 1974. Even with these and other major awards, Manik feels that the Outstanding Alumnus Award is “the greatest honor for me in my career....”

The award was presented at the Department’s annual awards colloquium this past April. The event was made even more special because Manik was joined by his wife, Booja, sons Adon and Dennis, and Dennis’ fiancée Anne. In April, his twin grandchildren Theodore and Dorthy Hwang attended their first AAG meeting in Washington, DC. We will have to wait a while to see what university they will attend as they are only 2 years old!



*Manik Hwang, center, and his family (L to R) son Adon, wife Booja, son Dennis and Dennis' fiancée Anne. Hwang received the first Outstanding Alumnus Award at the Department's annual awards colloquium in April.*

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## **GARG Brings David Quammen to UT**

Geography graduate students Maria Caffrey and Matt Valente, acting on behalf of the graduate association for researchers in geography (GARG), raised over \$15,000 to bring science writer David Quammen to campus for two lectures for Earth Day 2010. David Quammen is the author of the bestselling books "The Reluctant Mr. Darwin" and "The Song of the Dodo: Island Biogeography in an Age of Extinctions," and is a regular contributor to National Geographic magazine.



*Author David Quammen and graduate student Maria Caffrey.*

## Lydia Pulsipher Installed as Honorary Consul

On October 11 and 12, 2010, the Ambassador to the United States from the Republic of Slovenia, Roman Kirn, paid a visit to Knoxville and the UT campus. On the 11th he officially opened the Slovene Consulate, the first such diplomatic office in Knoxville, and installed Dr. Lydia Pulsipher, Geography Professor Emeritus, as Honorary Consul for the Republic of Slovenia. Lydia's duties are to promote understanding of Slovenia and its role in Europe and in the global economy, to foster interest in tourism to Slovenia (wine tours, for example) and to encourage cooperative economic contacts between Tennessee firms and comparable/complementary firms in Slovenia.

On October 12, Ambassador Kirn addressed the Knoxville Rotary Club on Slovenia's vision of itself in an evolving European Union (Slovenia has been a member since 2004); that afternoon he officially opened the very popular art exhibit by ZEK-Crew, a group of former Slovene street artists, at the Ewing Gallery in the UT School of Art and Architecture. Later that afternoon he was the featured speaker at the Baker Center for Public Policy in an event jointly sponsored by the Baker Center's Ambassador Series and the UT Geography Department.



*Slovenian Ambassador Roman Kirn with Honorary Consul for the Republic of Slovenia, Lydia Pulsipher.*

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### Geography Grad Works on NPR Project

*In May 2010, Tracy Pollock (MS 2008) was recognized on air for her cartographic work for National Public Radio. Kurt Butefish interviewed her shortly thereafter. Tracy's cartographic work may be viewed at her website at: [www.pollockcartographic.com](http://www.pollockcartographic.com)*

*Kurt Butefish – Tracy, in May 2010 I heard you recognized on air by Steve Inskip for your cartographic expertise for an NPR series “Along the Grand Trunk Road.” How did you end up working with NPR?*

*Tracy Pollock - That project came about rather unexpectedly. I received an email from my former supervisor at National Geographic, where I'd interned in the spring*

*Continued on Page 6*





*Pollock Interview continued from Page 5*

of 2009. She had heard through the grapevine that NPR was looking for a freelance cartographer for their upcoming Grand Trunk Road series. I sent NPR an email and two days later they were drawing up the contract. It was all thanks to knowing the right people and I was really excited to be a part of that project and be involved with NPR.

*KB – What were you asked to contribute for the story and how did you collect and communicate the information?*

TP - I was asked to create four maps, one current day and three historical maps, showing the Grand Trunk Road over the past 400 years. For most projects I do, there are teams of researchers who collect any necessary information and then give me what I would need for the map. For this project, they specified exactly which cities they wanted and what time periods to represent. The only real challenge was determining which road was actually the Grand Trunk Road and making sure the path was accurate. When I was finished, I sent NPR the files and their team did everything necessary to get them on the Web. [Visit NPR.org at <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=126395475>]

*KB - I know that you worked as an intern with cartographic services at National Geographic while you were working on your masters degree. How was that experience?*

TP - My time at National Geographic was a dream fulfilled and an amazing launching off point for my career. I believe having that on my resume has led to more interviews and job offers than I would have ever received otherwise and I couldn't be more grateful. It's an amazing organization and you are surrounded by the best of everything. Great cartographers, writers, photographers and designers. So much inspiration. It really changed the trajectory of my life and I consider myself lucky to have been a part of their program.

*KB – What do you do professionally when not free-lancing on projects for NPR?*

TP - Most of my freelancing projects are for National Geographic and a few smaller companies, which keeps me busy. Most of last year I worked part-time at the Oak Ridge National Lab, but just recently moved to Portland, Oregon and now work full time for the Oregon State Department of Geology. I'll be working on a city map series for the state of Oregon using Lidar data, starting with the city of Salem. This new job may not leave as much time for freelancing, but it's a great opportunity to broaden my skill set and create a style of maps that I haven't created in the past.

*KB – Any other interesting projects that you've recently done or have in the works?*

TP - I recently completed several United States wall maps for National Geographic that will be used in primary and secondary schools. I had some degree of freedom on which towns to include, especially smaller towns, which was fun. Some places are on the map just because I've been there. It's thrilling knowing these will be in schools. I also had a map published in August in Sheri Tepper's novel *The Waters Rising*. This was a *Lord of the Rings* style map and completely different than anything I'd ever created. It's the first map I've created of a fictional place and I based everything off a sketch from the author. My latest project was published in a special edition of National Geographic in November. It was a world map showing religious and sacred places.



### **UT's New Initiative for Quaternary Paleoclimate Research**

In early 2010, a call went out for proposals for new organized research units that would be eligible for funding from the Office of Research. One successful proposal involved geography faculty Sally Horn, Henri Grissino-Mayer, and Philip Li together with Larry McKay, Zheng-Hua Li, and David Finkelstein from Earth and Planetary Sciences; David Anderson from Anthropology; and Darrin Hulsey from Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.



The group received \$60,000 to establish the Initiative for Quaternary Paleoclimate Research at the University of Tennessee, as a strategic investment to increase external funding by building a community of scholars pursuing research focused on the climates and environments of the Quaternary period. 2010 activities included a kickoff social event for faculty and graduate students hosted by Henri Grissino-Mayer; invited lectures by Steve Driese of Baylor University and Don Sullivan of the University of Denver; project and proposal development; and web site development.

A key thrust of the initiative is helping faculty build datasets to strengthen grant proposals, using the talents of GRAs supported by the initiative. In fall 2010, John Sakulich worked with Zheng-Hua Li and Henri Grissino-Mayer to develop initial isotope chronologies from tree-ring samples from the Caribbean, in support of future proposals. In spring 2011, the initiative will also fund Matthew Valente as a GRA to help assemble seed data for proposals on paleoclimate in the Southeastern U.S. and in China, and on climate-human interactions in Tennessee during the Pleistocene-Holocene transition.

Directed by Sally Horn, the Initiative for Quaternary Paleoclimate Research is working to obtain status as an official University of Tennessee research center. In collaboration with the University of Tennessee GK-12 Earth Project and the Tennessee Geographic Alliance, the initiative hosted a workshop on tree-ring science for K-12 teachers in October 2010. Initiative faculty and graduate students also involved K-12 teachers and several undergraduate students in Quaternary paleoclimate research in summer and fall 2010.



**2010 Hammond Lecturer:  
Dr. Jon Harbor**

Our 2010 Hammond Speaker was Dr. Jon Harbor, Head of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at Purdue University. Jon gave two presentations during his visit in January. His Thursday afternoon colloquium presentation, cosponsored with Earth and Planetary Sciences, was entitled, "Glaciers, Ice Sheets and Spectacular Mountain Landscapes: What Studying Landforms Tells Us

About Glaciation". On Friday he gave an informal talk entitled, "Warning: Geo-Education Research Can Change Your Life."



*Hammond Lecturer, John Harbor, discusses cosmogenic isotope research with Philip Li.*



**2010 Ralston Speaker:  
Dr. Sarah Bednarz**

Our 2010 Ralston Speaker was Dr. Sarah Bednarz, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Professor of Geography at Texas A&M University. Sarah gave a Thursday afternoon colloquium presentation on "Thinking Spatially". That evening she presented "Getting Started with Spatial Thinking" to the Knoxville Chapter of the Tennessee Geographic Alliance. Sarah, her husband Bob Bednarz, and Bruce are friends from the old days. Try as they might, the students and faculty could not get Sarah to divulge any "war stories" about their days together in Evanston, IL. For this, Bruce is very grateful!



*Bruce Ralston and long-time friend Sarah Bednarz.*







## Department Represented at Singapore Workshop

by Dawn Drake

On March 15-19, 2010, 32 professors and students from institutions around the United States, Vietnam, Japan, Malaysia, and Singapore met for the Center for Global Geography Education's (CGGE) most recent workshop. Among this invited group, selected from a highly competitive pool of over a hundred applications, were members of the Department of Geography at the University of Tennessee – myself and my dissertation advisor, Dr. Ron Kalafsky. [Dawn is in the center of the second



row in the photo and Ron is in the third row, just over her right shoulder.]

CGGE is a part of the Association of American Geographers (AAG), led by Dr. Michael Solem. The 2010 Singapore Workshop was funded through a grant from the National Science Foundation, which provided participants with transportation, lodging, and food for the duration of the meeting. The workshop was held on the grounds of Nanyang Technical Institute. Participants met for several hours each morning as a group to discuss issues of pedagogy and strategies for fostering opportunities for international learning. Afternoons were spent working on individual content modules for publication on the CGGE's website. The participants were divided into teams to work on one of six content modules – Global Climate Change, Global Economy, Migration, National Identity, Population and Natural Resources, and Water Resources. Dr. Kalafsky and I worked with professors from the University of Pittsburgh and the

National University of Singapore to develop a content module and associated activities related to advanced manufacturing in the global economy. The materials have recently been published on the CGGE website and are available for classroom use in the spring of 2011.

In addition to meeting as group to discuss pedagogy and international collaborations, participants in the CGGE Singapore Workshop also took part in a day-long education conference with members of the

Southeast Asian Geography Association. Through a series of sessions, CGGE participants interacted with educators regarding content, standards, and the importance of geography to

primary and secondary school curricula. The conference was held on the grounds of the Raffles' Girls Primary School, which allowed all of the participants to meet and interact with students as well as their teachers. Throughout week, participants in the Singapore Workshop were also given plenty of free time to explore Singapore, as well as nearby areas in Malaysia and Indonesia, if desired.

CGGE, as a part of the AAG, provides materials and resources as well as professional development opportunities to geography professors, college students, and teachers of Advanced Placement Human Geography. These workshops, designed to generate course content as well as foster networks and collaborative opportunities, have been occurring periodically since 2003 and have led to modules related to the United States, South America, Europe, Oceania, and Asia. Each CGGE module includes a conceptual framework, which acts as a

textbook of sorts for the module, providing the necessary scaffolding and framework for students to succeed with the case studies. Each module also includes three to four different regional case studies with associated activities to elucidate content and assess understanding. Additionally, each case study has a linked collaborative exercise that students can complete within the online platform Moodle. The collaborative exercises are learning activities that attempt to broaden worldviews for students, facilitate international connections, and allow teachers and students to look at problems from multiple perspectives. The case study that Dr. Kalafsky and I worked on includes a collaborative exercise dealing with competitive advantage and site selection for various types of industries in different locations throughout the world.

The collaborative exercise component of these modules are optional for anyone using the materials in the classroom, but with the guidance and assistance of the CGGE staff, educators who wish to use the collaborative exercises can be linked with other classrooms around the globe. These opportunities for international exchange are unique experiences for students and educators alike. The CGGE staff can help support these opportunities and provide educators with the necessary guidance to make the international collaborative activity work for any classroom.

In addition to developing and disseminating the six content modules, CGGE also regularly provides workshop opportunities for faculty and students at various professional conferences. Dr. Kalafsky and I, along with other participants in the Singapore Workshop will be discussing the newest additions to the CGGE content modules at the 2011 AAG Meeting in Seattle, Washington. CGGE also conducts and funds research into effectiveness of various types of geography content and methods of dissemination. If you are interested in learning more about CGGE or getting involved and using any of the content modules in your classroom, you can go to the website at <http://globalgeography.aag.org/>.

## Obituary: Ed Hammond

HAMMOND, DR. EDWIN HUGHES (ED) - Age 91, passed away on March 2, 2010 following a short illness. He was devoted husband of Elizabeth Mills Hammond, his wife and partner of 69 years. He was a caring, interested, good-humored, and generous son, father and grandfather, scholar and teacher, writer, chorister, and colleague, friend, parish member, and neighbor. He was an enthusiastic member of the University of Tennessee community for four decades. With Elizabeth, he was a faithful member of The Episcopal Church of the Ascension in Knoxville, where he was a Lector and member of the Choir.

Ed was born on January 8, 1919 in Ann Arbor, Michigan to Harry E. and Bessie Rose Hammond. He was raised in Columbia, Missouri near the campus of the University of Missouri, where his father was a Professor of Physics. He had a boyhood blessed with parents of wide-ranging intellect and humor, an older brother and companion, Bill, the woods, creeks, and fields of a small town and nearby scout camps, vacations by railroad among the rocks and wildlife of the Rocky Mountains, the excitement of a college campus, the magic of radio, national magazines, and mail order catalogs, and, in all, the innocence, energy, and new machines and technologies of the 1920s and early 1930s.

Ed graduated from Hickman High in Columbia in 1935, in the midst of the Great Depression, and that same fall entered the University of Missouri, where he fell in love with fellow student Elizabeth and spent two years in ROTC training. They graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1939, Ed with a degree in Geography. Ed began his graduate study of Geography at the University of Wisconsin (Madison) in 1939 and continued it in 1940 at the University of California (Berkeley). Ed and Elizabeth married in Columbia December 28, 1940.

Student life in Berkeley gradually was overtaken by the attack on Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941. Ed accepted a position in Washington, DC, as a geographer in the Office of Strategic Services, predecessor of today's CIA, where he participated in





*Hammond, Continued from Page 9*

intelligence and mapping exercises that preceded U.S. and allied military activities in both the European and Pacific war theaters. In November 1942 he enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserve, and was trained in 1943 at the U.S. Naval Academy as a meteorologist for the Navy.

In June 1943, Ed and Elizabeth were blessed with the birth of Janet Elizabeth. In July 1944, Ed began service as an Aerology Officer, Division Officer, and Watch Officer on the seaplane tender USS St. George, "mother ship" to a squadron of 15 seaplane reconnaissance bombers supporting the Pacific Fleet. In February 1945, while Ed was at sea, Elizabeth gave birth to Richard Edwin in Columbia, MO. With the St. George, Ed saw duty in the closing stages of the Pacific war at Saipan, the Palaus, and Guam and, in April-June 1945, at Karama Retto in support of the Okinawa invasion, where the US fleet, including the St. George, was attacked by Japanese fighters, torpedo bombers, and kamikaze planes, one of which hit the St George, and additionally endured a great typhoon. In this period, Ed flew combat area reconnaissance missions as weather and intelligence analyst for sea/air operations, for which he was awarded the Naval Air Medal. His missions included flights over Nagasaki and Hiroshima within days after the dropping of the atomic bombs. Returning to the US in December 1945, Ed was honorably discharged as a Lieutenant in March 1946. He served into the 1950s in the Naval Reserve. In 1995 Ed completed a detailed memoir of the war experience, entitled "War: Waves, Wings, and Weather, A Personal Recollection of Experiences in WW II and Its Era".

On returning to civilian life, Ed resumed studies and teaching at UC Berkeley, where he completed his doctoral dissertation in Physical Geography. A third child, Lawrence Alan, was born in Oakland, CA in September 1948. Ed's career in university teaching and research subsequently took him to University of Nebraska (Lincoln) in 1948-49, the University of Wisconsin (Madison)(1949-1964), Syracuse University (1964-1970), and the University of Tennessee (Knoxville), 1970 until retirement in 1987. At Wisconsin, he was co-author of major revised editions of a leading college

Geography textbook, and published maps and served on the Editorial Board of the Britannica Atlas. At UT, he served for six years as Chair of the Geography Department, assisting in its development and growth, and for a term on the UT Faculty Athletic Board.

Ed was passionate in teaching undergraduate and graduate students, family, and friends, about the earth, its natural systems, and its people and creatures. He and Elizabeth and children returned many summers to the Colorado Rockies, where well into their retirement they continued their hikes to high summits, many over 14,000 feet, often accompanied by children and grandchildren. Ed's other interests included Civil War and WW II Pacific Naval War history, classical music, philosophy and religion, and poetry, words, and word games and humor.



## **Obituary: Bob Long**

LONG, DR. ROBERT GRANT - December 19, 1918 - April 15, 2010, Robert (Bob) was born in Crystal Falls in Michigan's Upper Peninsula on December 19, 1918. He was the son of Dwight C. and Marjorie Grant Long. He grew up in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and received his AB degree from the University of Michigan in 1939. He then completed a Master's degree in geography at Syracuse University and moved to Washington, DC to work for the Department of the Interior. While in Washington, he met Ella Kathleen Easterly, of Lebanon, Virginia. He and Kathleen (Kitten) married, on October 7, 1943 in Washington.

Bob completed his military service as the cartographic and photographic officer aboard the USS Estes (AGC-12). He served in the Pacific theater from the Fall of 1944 until the Spring of 1946 and participated in many of the major naval actions in the final years of the war. He left the Estes during its deployment in Shanghai and was discharged from active duty in 1946 with the rank of Lieutenant. He then completed his Ph.D. degree at Northwestern University in 1949 with a specialty in cartography and physical geography.



Bob lived and worked in Brazil in 1948 during the course of his dissertation research. He became a faculty member in the Department of Geography at the University of Tennessee in 1949 and remained at UT until his retirement as full professor in 1983.

Bob had a kind, compassionate, and gentle spirit. He loved animals and was devoted to his family. He greatly enjoyed fixing and tinkering with all kinds of objects; there was not much he couldn't repair! His lifelong hobby was repairing watches and clocks, many of which his wife, brought to him from friends and auctions. He was a quiet, scholarly and unassuming man. He loved animals and was devoted to his loving family.



## Degrees Granted Since August 2009

The following is a list of the degrees awarded by the Department since August 2009. The person granted the degree, dissertation or thesis title and committee chair are included. It would not be possible to present the list without the efforts of Henri Grissino-Mayer, who maintains the master list of graduates and their degrees.

### Masters Degrees

**Albritton, Joshua** (December 2009)  
Sediment Records of Fire and Vegetation History from Solution Holes in the Key Deer National Wildlife Refuge, Monroe County, Florida

**Sally Horn**

**Deane, Sarah** (December 2009)  
Quartz Grain Microtextures and Sediment Provenance: Using Scanning Electron Microscopy to Characterize Tropical Highland Sediments from Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic

**Ken Orvis**

**Brickey, Jill** (May 2010)  
Historic Preservation in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park: How the National Park Service Modified the Landscape in Cades Cove

**Ron Foresta**

**Feathers, Ian** (May 2010)  
Fire Regimes from Dendrochronological Analysis at Two Sites near Cades Cove, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, U.S.A.

**Henri Grissino-Mayer**

**Foster, Ryan** (May 2010)  
The Relationships of Streambank Angles and Shapes to Streambank Erosion Rates in the Little River Watershed, Tennessee

**Carol Harden**

**Jamieson, Claire** (May 2010)  
Change in the Textile Mill Villages of South Carolina's Upstate During the Modern South Era

**Tom Bell**

**Phillips, Jamie** (May 2010)  
Classification of Headwater Catchments in the Little River Watershed, Tennessee

**Carol Harden**

**Rust, Linda** (May 2010)  
Geographies of Exclusion: The Challenge of Locating Permanent Supportive Housing for the Chronically Homeless in Knoxville, Tennessee

**Micheline van Riemsdijk**

**Ahrens, Elizabeth** (August 2010)  
Performance Space: Shaping the Arts Scene in Asheville, North Carolina

**Ron Foresta**

**Rother, Monica** (August 2010)  
Influences of Climate and Anthropogenic Disturbances on Wildfire Regimes of the Zuni Mountains, New Mexico, U.S.A.

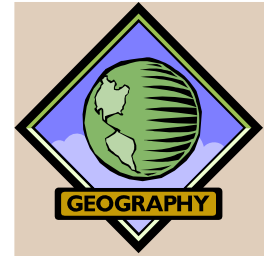
**Henri Grissino-Mayer**

**Slayton, Ian** (August 2010)  
A Vegetation History from Emerald Pond, Great Abaco Island, The Bahamas, Based on Pollen Analysis

**Sally Horn**

**Li, Yanan** (December 2010)  
Dendroclimatic Analysis of Oscillations for the Southeastern United States from Tree-Ring Network Data

**Henri Grissino-Mayer**







## Students and Faculty in Action



*Sally Horn explains her plan for coring Cocoplum Pond to a skeptical Grant Harley and Desiree Kocis. Photo by Henri Grissino-Mayer.*

*Graduate students James Hartsig (left) and Hunter Terrell (right) install soil moisture sensors and a weather station at a grass páramo site in the Ecuadorian Andes. Hats and scarves are protection against the strong, high-altitude, solar radiation. Data acquired and logged by these instruments will continue to be downloaded periodically during the year.*



*Graduate students in Dr. Harden's Watershed Dynamics seminar make rain and observe whether it infiltrates into the soil outside of the Burchfiel Geography Building.*



*Ryan Foster, Dr. Yingkui Li, Hunter Terrell, and Nancy Li (from left to right) examine a bank of Pistol Creek, one of the tributaries to the Little River monitored by UT geographers.*



*Yingkui Li (back row center) and grad student Nancy Li (no relation, far right) stand with colleagues from around the world in front of the Tian Shan Glaciological Station, Chinese Academy of Sciences. The two were there to conduct collaborative field work to study the glacial chronology and paleo-climate change.*



*Grant Harley cores a massive ponderosa pine tree in the Box Canyon at El Morro National Monument in New Mexico, assisted by (sitting left to right) undergraduate students Sarah Jones, Niki Garland, and Clint Wayman (standing). National Park Service Archaeologist Steve Baumann stands left documenting the research.*





*Degrees Granted Continued from Page 11*

**Slayton, Jessica** (December 2010)  
Separating the Effects of Wildfires from  
Climate Response in Ponderosa Pine (*Pinus  
ponderosa* Douglas ex. C. Lawson), Central  
Idaho  
**Grissino-Mayer**



## Faculty and Staff News

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**Kurt Butefish.** Kurt continues in his role as Coordinator of the Tennessee Geographic Alliance. This past year was spent traveling across that state assisting the Alliance's regional and chapter coordinators in conducting activities at the local level. More than 20 workshops were hosted from Memphis to Kingsport. In March 2010, Kurt was appointed to the Executive Director position of the Tennessee Council for the Social Studies.

**Will Fontanez.** It has been quite a while since there has been any news about the Cartographic Services Laboratory. Things have been going well in our little world of mapmaking. The lab's location in the Burchfiel building has given us more visibility and interaction with students, faculty, and other campus offices. We now produce campus maps of various types for all of the UT system as well as maps for faculty publication needs. Student geography majors are recruited to work in the lab and hone their cartographic talents. They have helped with several major projects such as World Regional Geography, by Lydia Pulsipher. The past five editions of that project alone resulted in the creation of over five hundred high quality maps! The lab continues to produce newsletter, folding, and publication maps for the Great Smoky Mountains Association and other off campus groups or individuals in need of custom

cartography.

The lab is equipped with the latest Mac and PC hardware and software used for producing maps. Our computers have wide screen displays and the ability to print large format proofs and meeting posters. The studio atmosphere in the lab mimics professional and government cartographic workplaces. This has led to employment and internships at National Geographic, the CIA Cartographic Division, and county GIS offices for several of our students.

**Tracy Pollock** was the most recent recipient of a National Geographic internship. She did very well and stayed on as a regular employee for an extra year. After that, she came back to Knoxville and did freelance cartography for both National Geographic Magazine and NPR web publications and has since started a new job in Portland, OR.

Will's work as director of the lab has been rewarding as he passed the 23-year mark. It is hard to believe so much time has passed. Professionally, he continues to be a member of the North American Cartographic Information Society. He also participates as a presenter at yearly area GIS conferences and Alliance teacher workshops.

On the personal side Will married Susan six years ago. She works at the Pilot Travel Center corporate office and has two boys, Greg and Ryan. Greg is a freshman at UT Chattanooga and is on the varsity wrestling team. Ryan is a junior in high school and also wrestles. Will's daughter Kara is in the 8th grade and son Garrett is a Marine lance corporal stationed in Washington DC and a member of the presidential guard unit. Thankfully, he is not in Afghanistan. Susan and Will have three grandkids from Will's daughters Liz (Nebraska) and Allison (Colorado). Hard to believe! Will continues to be president of the Tennessee Men's Gymnastics Judging Association and a National level official for USA Men's Gymnastics.

**Ron Foresta.** Ron continues to head up the department's undergraduate program committee and its human-geography working group. He assumed the role of associate department head, taking over from Bruce Ralston last summer. He oversees the department's world regional geography sequence and is responsible for long-term

course planning as well as for overseeing the search for a new urban geographer. He continues to teach the department's senior proseminar and serve as a reviewer for several journals including the Professional Geographer and Historical Geography.

Ron's recently completed his book on the Land Between the Lakes is under review at UT Press and he is working with former student, **Kendrick Curtis**, to get his dissertation, *Beyond the Pipe: New Wastewater Technologies and Urban Sprawl* into publishable form.

**Henri Grissino-Mayer.** Henri and his current and former students had a banner year in publishing their research in AY2009–2010. Articles appeared in such top peer-reviewed journals as *Tree-Ring Research*, *Dendrochronologia* (2), *Ecoscience*, *Applied Vegetation Science*, and *Trees-Structure and Function*. Henri also had two peer-reviewed chapters in the book *Tree Rings and Natural Hazards: State-of-the-Art* published by Springer Verlag, the first (as sole author) about the hazards posed by wildfires and how tree-ring research can enlighten researchers, and the second (as senior author, along with **Dr. Claudia Mora** and **Dr. Dana Miller**) about the potential of reconstructing hurricane frequency using isotopic signatures in wood cellulose and tree rings. Henri and his students and colleagues currently have eight manuscripts being reviewed for various journals.

Henri, his colleagues and his students stayed especially busy giving presentations, both oral and poster, at various meetings around the U.S. In 2009–2010, Henri was the senior presenter or co-presenter on 40 presentations at professional meetings, highlighted by 11 talks given at SEDAAG in Knoxville in November and 15 talks at the AAG meeting in Washington DC the following April. Later that April, Henri was the keynote speaker at the Beaufort Tricentennial Tree Symposium in Beaufort, South Carolina, an oceanside city known for its incredibly large and incredibly old live oaks, some being 500 years in age. Henri also gave an invited talk in February to the Department of Geography and Planning at Appalachian State University.

Spring and summer of 2010 was also jam-packed with fieldwork, which at

times seemed never-ending, but always provided a welcome break from teaching and writing manuscripts and proposals. In March 2010, Henri was part of a team led by **Dr. Sally Horn**, assisted by **Grant Harley** and **Desiree Kocis**, to extract sediment cores from wetland pond sites on Big Pine Key in the Florida Keys to be used in Desiree's thesis research, and funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Henri was ecstatic, to say the least, to learn more about how this research contributes to our understanding of past environments. In June 2010, Henri led a team back to Big Pine Key for a 2-week fieldtrip, this time to collect fire-scarred pine samples for the complementary study to understand past fire history from the tree-ring record. This collection will be the primary data used in the dissertation research by **Grant Harley**, **Niki Garland** and **Kody Honeyman**, both undergraduates in the department, assisted in this sweltering (109 degree heat) fieldwork.

The highlight of the summer, however, was a 2-week long trip to El Morro National Monument and El Malpais National Monument in west-central New Mexico. El Morro is also known as "Inscription Rock," famous for its inscriptions dating back to A.D. 1605 of the Spanish entradas. We collected several hundred tree-ring samples to be used by new graduate student **Niki Garland** for her master's research on climate response and reconstruction from the old-growth ponderosa pines that grow within the Box Canyon at the monument. We were especially excited to sample in and around the At'sinna Pueblo on top of the sandstone mesa, a pueblo that dates back to A.D. 1200. We also spent several days at El Malpais where we hiked across the rugged lava flows sampling yet more old-growth ponderosa pines on a rare kipuka (an island of forest surrounded by recent lava flows). This project will examine if this rare environment causes an enhanced climate signal in the tree-ring record, and will form the basis of the future master's research for **Sarah Jones**, currently a senior in our department.

In August, Henri served as a Group Leader at the 20th Annual North American Dendroecological Fieldweek held at the Crooked Creek Field Station in the White Mountains of southeastern California at about 11,000 feet elevation. After a







6-hour drive from Reno Nevada, Henri arrived at the field station near midnight and was only 0.5 mile from a bunk bed after a weary 10 hour travel ordeal, when he experienced a flat tire on a desolate back-country road where cell phone service didn't exist. So he walked the rest of way. His group consisted of 14 researchers from across North America and his group inspected the climate signal in bristlecone pines at Methuselah Grove, the location of the oldest trees on Earth at 4,000+ years old. Henri even got to meet Methuselah, the oldest living tree on the planet at 5,003 years old. The project was very successful and Henri will be presenting the results of this research at the AAG meeting in Seattle in April 2011.

Henri's return trip to Knoxville, sadly, was even more eventful. After a 6-hour drive to Reno that began at 4:30 AM, and after a hard landing during a thunderstorm in Chicago, Henri's flight home was canceled due to bad weather. After spending the night on the airport floor with no blanket, He took a flight the next morning to Dallas and then on to Knoxville the next day, only to find his luggage didn't make it. Science is fun!

**Carol Harden.** The highlight of the past year for Carol Harden was her service as President of the AAG (Association of American Geographers). She organized and hosted a presidential plenary session on "America's Climate Choices" at the AAG meeting in Washington, DC, and had opportunities to meet Jane Goodall, recipient of AAG's first Atlas Award, and attend a special presentation by Turkey's Prime Minister Erdogan, in addition to the regular set of AAG meeting activities. In March, 2010, she co-organized and co-led an NSF-funded, interdisciplinary workshop, "Landscapes of the Anthropocene: the Human Connection," at the University of Oregon.

This was the second of Harden's three-year NSF-funded research project to study the effects of land-use change on soil-water and carbon in the grass páramos of Andean Ecuador. James Hartsig, Hunter Terrell spent a month in the field with her, working with collaborators from San Diego State University and our Ecuadorian partners. She is also wrapping up two TDEC-funded projects related to sediments in East Tennessee streams. Harden is co-editor of a

volume of the Treatise on Geomorphology, scheduled for publication in 2011, for which she researched and wrote the chapter, "Impacts of vegetation clearance on channel change, historical perspective." She continues as co-editor-in-chief of the journal *Physical Geography*, and as a member of the Research & Exploration Committee of the National Geographic Society and the Geographical Sciences Committee of the U.S. National Academies of Science.

**Sally Horn.** Sally did field work in the Florida Keys and Tennessee in 2010, and presented posters and papers at four professional conferences. In March 2010, Sally, **Henri Grissino-Mayer**, and graduate students **Desiree Kocis** and **Grant Harley** collected sediment cores from ponds on Big Pine Key and No Name Key, in support of fire history research funded by a grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (see photos elsewhere in newsletter). In Tennessee, Sally explored caves and wetlands with **Zheng-Hua Li** (Earth and Planetary Sciences) and graduate students **Mathew Boehm** and **Jim Kocis** (EPS), in pursuit of new climate records for an NSF-funded study of Late Pleistocene and Holocene climate variability in the SE USA. Aspects of these research projects were incorporated into lectures in Geography 430: Global Environments of the Quaternary, a new course first offered by Sally in Fall 2010.

Fire history was the dominant theme of Sally's professional presentations in 2010. She discussed tree-ring and sedimentary evidence of fire history in the Florida Keys and Bahamas at the February 2010 Pine Rockland Conference in Miami, drawing upon work by several of her students in the Laboratory of Paleoenvironmental Research and by **Henri Grissino Mayer** and students in the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Science. Former student **Joshua Albritton** also presented research results at the meeting. Sally's AAG talk in 2010 was on collaborative work with **Henri Grissino-Mayer** to extend the tree-ring record of fire in table mountain pine stands in Great Smoky Mountains National Park through the analysis of soil charcoal.

Sally gave an invited paper on vegetation, climate, and fire history in the Miravalles lake district of Costa Rica at the

2010 meeting of the Geological Society of America. There she also presented a poster, based on work in the GK-12 Earth Project, on using macroscopic soil charcoal analysis to introduce middle school students and teachers to the study of geological proxies of environmental change. Sally also presented a poster on the GK-12 project at the 2010 meeting of the Ecological Society of America. Co-authors on these papers and posters included past and present UT Geography students **Martin Arford, Kyle Schlachter, Jason Graham, Zack Taylor, Matthew Valente, Chris Underwood, and Jorene Hamilton**, along with other student and faculty collaborators.

Sally was honored to receive the Barry Bishop Distinguished Career Award from the Mountain Geography Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers in 2010. (This makes two such awards for UT Geography, as Carol Harden won the same award in 2005.) Sally co-authored a half dozen manuscripts published or accepted in 2010, mostly with current and former students. A book chapter on pre-Columbian maize agriculture in Costa Rica that originally appeared in 2006 was re-printed in *Histories of Maize in America: Multidisciplinary Approaches* (Staller, Tykot, and Benz, editors).

Also in 2010, Sally helped develop, and now directs, the University of Tennessee's Initiative in Quaternary Paleoclimate Research, described elsewhere in this newsletter.

**Joshua Inwood.** Joshua joined the Department of Geography and the Africana Studies Program at the University of Tennessee in August 2010 after three years as an Assistant Professor at Auburn University in the Department of Geology and Geography. He completed his dissertation at the University of Georgia in 2007. He is excited to be part of the university and appreciates the warm welcome he has received.

Josh's current research (funded by the National Science Foundation) explores the United States' first ever truth and reconciliation commission held in Greensboro, North Carolina. On November 3, 1979 labor organizers in Greensboro were holding a "Death to the Klan" rally and conference at a local public housing project "Morningside

Homes" to protest Ku Klux Klan activities in the area. The labor organizers were locked in a struggle with local cotton processors over their efforts to unionize the North Carolina textile industry and the recently resurgent Klan had successfully impeded their union organizing efforts. As the rally progressed some members of the local Klan arrived and in the ensuing violence five labor activists were killed and several more were wounded. Despite the efforts of local prosecutors and extensive video evidence of the events, no one was ever held criminally liable for the deaths. In 1999 local community organizers began advocating for a truth and reconciliation process modeled after commissions in South Africa and Peru. The Greensboro Truth and Reconciliation Commission was assembled through a grassroots democratic process that sought to integrate a diverse community perspective and in 2006 released its report to the citizens of Greensboro. Josh's research explores the results of this Commission, focusing on the ways that grassroots activists address the legacy and memory of violence, and how violence continues to undergird racial exploitation and frame an understanding of difference in North America.

Another area of Joshua's research examines the intersection of place, power and social justice. His NSF supported dissertation, "Sweet Auburn: Contesting the Racial Identity of Atlanta's most Historically Significant African American Neighborhood," focused on what was formerly the wealthiest African American business corridor in the United States. He examined contemporary revitalization efforts by key Auburn Avenue community stakeholders including churches, community development organizations, the City of Atlanta, and private developers. His work counters notions of a homogeneous African American community and reveals the ways the Auburn Avenue community negotiates and contrasts racialized identities in service to urban development schemes. In addition, Joshua explored the connection between racialized identities and political ideologies and the way they interact to construct urban spaces. Finally, attempts to redevelop Auburn Avenue are affected by several prominent memorials to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birth, work and death, including a National Park and the King





Center. Consequently, efforts to redevelop the community intersect with memorialization and identity constructions at local, regional, and national scales. These often competing development interests have broader implications for the ways we think about the social construction of race, the U.S. Civil Rights Struggle and the legacy of Dr. King.

Joshua will continue to explore the connections between inequality and the construction of space and place. At its core his research explores questions about social inequality and the spatial reproduction of that inequality. It connects theory with critically important questions of difference that have a direct impact on people's lives. He is excited at the opportunity to continue to explore these questions at the University of Tennessee.

**Ron Kalafsky.** Ron's research continues to focus on the geographies of manufacturing and exports. His recent work examines the performance of Canadian firms exporting to China and additionally, the challenges of Chinese firms looking to invest internationally.

In March of 2010, Ron attended the AAG's Center for Global Geography Education in Singapore, where he was part of a team that created an economic geography module that focused on advanced manufacturing. This module will be used in his Geography of the Global Economy course in the spring semester.

Ron recently taught classes on economic and cultural ties between the U.S. and Canada for the Tennessee Geographic Alliance in Kingsport and Knoxville. Continuing his work with teachers, he also taught courses on the human and physical geographies of Japan and China as part of the National Consortium for Teaching on Asia workshops that were coordinated through the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

**Yingkui (Philip) Li.** It was a busy and productive year for Yingkui. He published a book chapter and three peer-reviewed articles in *Environmental Research Letters*, *Physical Geography*, and *Journal of Quaternary Science* and got four manuscripts accepted in *Quaternary international*, *Journal of Quaternary Science*, and *Applied Geography*. He is also co-editor of a special issue of

*Physical Geography*, which would be published in late 2010 or early 2011.

Li spent two months in China this past summer to work on a project in assessing the response of lake levels to climate change across the Tibetan Plateau with the Center for Earth Observation and Digital Earth, Chinese Academy of Sciences. While there, he conducted collaborative field work to study the glacial chronology and paleo-climate change in Tian Shan with colleagues from the U.S. (Purdue University), China (Peking University), and Sweden (Stockholm University). They collected more than 100 samples for cosmogenic nuclide analysis and cored a lake dammed by glacial moraines. This work will provide a detailed reconstruction of paleo-climate variations and environmental change in this critical area in Central Asia.

Li attended three professional meetings and was invited to present his research in several institutes. In February, 2010, he was invited to give a presentation in the INMM (Institute of Nuclear Materials Management) Safeguards Workshop in Columbia, Missouri. In April, he presented his work in Tibet and organized two sessions associated with environmental change and landform evolution in the Tibetan Plateau at the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers in Washington DC. During the summer, he gave invited talks in three institutes of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (Institute of Tibetan Plateau Research, Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, and Center for Earth Observation and Digital Earth). In October, he attended the 41st International Binghamton Geomorphology Symposium in Columbia, South Carolina.

Li submitted two proposals to the National Science Foundation. Although neither was funded, the resulting comments provide him with a stronger platform for further submission. He is also working on the setup of a cosmogenic nuclide sample preparation lab in the SERF building. This lab will process Be-10 samples for AMS analysis in paleo-environment and climate studies. It will significantly improve departmental facilities in physical geography, geomorphology, and paleo-climate reconstruction.

**Lydia Pulsipher.** Lydia continues to write college geography textbooks for W H Freeman, with the help of her son, **Alex Pulsipher** and husband, **Mac Goodwin**.

She also continues her historical geography research in the Caribbean. Exploration of a new site in the north of Montserrat has been funded for several seasons by a family foundation with connections to Montserrat. Her collaborators are archaeologists **Krysta Rzyzowski** from Brown University and **Mary Beaudry** from Boston University.

In October, 2010, Lydia led a People to People delegation of geographers to China, the purpose of which was to explore water issues. The delegation met with scholars at Tsinghua University and Capital Normal University in Beijing to discuss national water policies aimed at addressing the regional (primarily north/south) disparities between water availability and water demand, and to hear about specific projects addressing the loss of wetlands -- specifically losses in Heilongjiang Province due to agricultural expansion. In Guilin the group looked at industrial efforts at "green" reforms to waste-water processing and visited one of China's first large scale water engineering projects, the Li Canal, which linked two river systems more than 2000 years ago in 220BC!

In Shanghai, the group had a meeting with the board of directors of one of China's first NGOs concerned with urban water conservation. An unexpected encounter was a visit to a new Shanghai alternative high school where students are encouraged to engage critically and innovatively with the sciences as well as with the arts. In a geography class on plate tectonics, Lydia was asked to give a lesson on the human consequences of the 15 years of volcanic eruptions in Montserrat, West Indies, a part of the world with which the Chinese students had little familiarity. The attentiveness of this group of 15-year-olds was awe inspiring.

**Bruce Ralston.** Bruce officially retired at the end of this past May. He reports that he is enjoying retirement by teaching a full load of classes this fall (Huh?). In reality, Bruce is taking part in post retirement service for the next four years, teaching two courses per year. In addition to his teaching, Bruce completed a mapping project

for the National Institutes of Justice. Working with graduate student **Ling Yin**, he was able to develop advanced web-based tutorial on developing rich internet mapping applications that leverage the abilities of Flash, Google Maps, and data from the U.S. Census. The tutorial is available at <http://tnatlas2.geog.utk.edu/TutorHome>. The tutorial builds on work Bruce has done with students **Sean Baskin**, **Mike Meyers**, **Yitu Xu**, **Ling Yin** and former student **Josh Struefert**. Bruce says this is the first of what he hopes will be a flurry of software products related to the release of data from the U.S. Census. Former students who miss sleeping through Bruce's lecture will be happy to know that the tutorial website contains videos narrated by Bruce!

Other professional activities include Bruce's being appointed to the Steering Committee of U.S. Department of Transportation's newly formed Transportation for the Nation research initiative. This initiative will work toward a nationwide spatial database of transportation infrastructure. Such an organized approach should cut down on duplicative efforts that are currently conducted by local, state, and federal governments. Bruce is also working on enhanced data visualization efforts with the Center for Business and Economic Research (where he is a Faculty Fellow) and the County Technical Assistance Service. He continues to be active in professional meetings, making presentations at the AAG, TNGIC, and AutoCarto meetings. He also made a presentation to the Census Cartography Cartography Working Group Symposium on Cartographic Advances in Census Data Collection and Dissemination. Geography faculty member **Nicholas Nagle** also gave a presentation at the symposium. In addition to these meetings, he attended the Google IO conference (which was WAY COOL) and will take part in the First International Conference on Spatial Statistics this coming March.

During the 2009-2010 academic year Bruce served as the College Marshall for the College of Arts and Sciences. This honor was followed by his being named the University Macebearer for the current year. This is the highest academic honor a faculty member can earn at the University of Tennessee. Bruce was quite surprised to learn of







this honor and says any success he has had is a reflection of the supportive working environment, inspirational colleagues, talented students, and good friends he was fortunate enough to experience during his 34 years of full time employment in the Department of Geography.

**John Rehder.** John begins his forty-fourth year as a professor at Tennessee. His research still focuses on writing solo-authored scholarly books that examine the historical and cultural geography of subjects in the South. Already, you are aware of his earlier books, *Delta Sugar: Louisiana's Vanishing Plantation Landscape* (1999) and *Appalachian Folkways* (2004). Both were published by the Johns Hopkins University Press and have won prestigious book awards.

Rehder's three new books are ongoing research at different stages of completion. The book *Tennessee's Log Buildings: A Folk Tradition* is to be published in 2011 by the Center for American Places and distributed through the University of Georgia Press. The book is now in the copy-editing stage.

A second book, *An Architectural Guide to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park*, is a scholarly field guide with photographs, floor plans, maps, and historical perspectives on more than eighty historic structures. The project is well into the fieldwork and writing stages. Fieldwork in 2006 and 2007 covered 40% of the Park. Fieldwork in 2008 covered about 30% more of the Park. Two areas to be photographed and measured are in remote steep locations: Mount Cammerer and Little Cataloochee. This fall he plans to research two other low level sites: the Baxter Cabin and the Tyson-McCarter Outbuildings near Big Greenbrier between Gatlinburg and Cosby, TN. In March 2009, Rehder had radical prostate cancer surgery and is mending well as a cancer survivor.

The *New World Plantations* book series project is an old resurrected project. Rehder restarted it in May and July 2009 and it is progressing nicely. He conducted fieldwork and writing on Orton Plantation on the Cape Fear River near Wilmington, North Carolina. He says that he can still do fieldwork on flat ground. As proof, in March and May 2010, he continued fieldwork on three

sites in the Lower Cape Fear River area. This long-range project analyzes four plantation areas: a Carolina rice plantation, A Georgia cotton plantation, two sugarcane plantations in Louisiana, and the sugar island of St. Kitts in the Caribbean. His earlier fieldwork and rough draft writing exist on all fronts for this unique book project.

A new little project that began in October compares the Mennonite community at Muddy Pond, Tennessee with Mennonite colonies near Santa Cruz, Bolivia. No, John is not going to Bolivia; his fieldwork is just here in Tennessee. The project is both fascinating and fattening from the sorghum syrup and honey he buys from the Mennonites at Muddy Pond.

Rehder is still active in non-academic interests in: golf, kayaking, fishing, limited hiking, and photography. John, Judy and their grandchildren Allen and Emma Caroline recently spent the night "sleeping with the sharks" at Ripley's Aquarium in Gatlinburg.

**Madhuri Sharma.** Madhuri joined the Department of Geography as a new faculty member (Assistant Professor) in August 2010. She completed her Ph.D. in Geography from The Ohio State University in August 2009. She completed her dissertation *Spatial Integration and Neighborhood Diversity in US MSAs, 1990-2000: A Mixed-Method Approach* under the supervision of **Dr. Lawrence A. Brown**.

Sharma's research focuses on examining spatial patterns of racial/ethnic residential segregation and home ownership, role of housing market elements in residential choices, racial/ethnic variations in intergenerational assimilation of immigrant population, and urban sustainability issues particularly those occurring from a strong nexus of real estate and economic development across intra-urban spaces.

In 2010, she has a paper published in *Urban Geography* (Vol. 31(1)) (with **Dr. Lawrence A. Brown** as the lead author) titled *Metropolitan Context and Racial/Ethnic Intermixing in Residential Space: U.S. Metropolitan Statistical Areas, 1990-2000*. She is finalizing other manuscripts for submission to peer refereed journals. Sharma has initiated research on intra-urban issues such as segregation, housing discrimination,

mortgage issues, poverty, and intergenerational assimilation variations among racial/ethnic minorities residing in Knoxville and other MSAs of the Southeastern U.S. She plans to conduct in-depth field-based interviews with homeowners in Knoxville that will add a nuanced dimension to understanding housing differentiation within intra-urban spaces.

While being professionally active with Ethnic Geography, Population Geography and Urban Geography specialty groups, Sharma has been appointed as a Board Member for Ethnic Geography Specialty Group for two years. During 2009-2010, she presented research papers at the annual meetings of the AAG at Washington DC and at the meeting of South Eastern Division of the AAG held at Knoxville, TN. She has also presented a research paper and organized a session Space/Landscape/Culture VI at the 5th meeting of Race, Ethnicity and Place Conference at Binghamton, New York held in October 2010.

Sharma teaches graduate and undergraduate courses on urban, economic and urban social geography including world regional geography courses. She has introduced a new course on Regional Geography of South Asia (Geog 375) that will be offered for the first time in Fall 2011. She also plans to teach courses on urban sustainability and mixed-methods in human geography in the near future.

**Shih-Lung Shaw.** After serving as the Department Head for three years, Shih-Lung now enjoys a break to focus on his research and other professional activities. The past three years were a challenging time due to an economic downturn and a tight state budget. Nevertheless, the Department of Geography did well during this challenging time with respect to faculty hiring, scholar accomplishments, and student success. Shih-Lung would like to thank all faculty, staff, and students for their excellent support and cooperation during the past three years. He also is grateful that **Dr. Carol Harden** agreed to take on the responsibility as the Department Head. Shih-Lung is confident that our department will continue to move forward under Carol's leadership.

Shih-Lung has nine refereed articles that are published/in press/accepted

for publication in 2010. Two articles are accepted for publication in Journal of Transport Geography. Another two articles are accepted for publication in Annals of GIS. One article is published in Journal of Geographical Systems. A refereed book chapter is in press that will appear in Handbook of GIS and Society Research. Another article is published in Science in China Series E: Technological Sciences. A refereed contribution will appear in Encyclopedia of Geography. He also has a refereed article written in Chinese that is published in Communications of the China Computer Federation.

Shih-Lung was invited to give several presentations in 2010. He delivered an invited presentation at the Space-Time Modeling and Analysis Workshop held at ESRI Headquarters in Redlands, California in February of 2010. Due to Shih-Lung's NSF project on time geography and space-time GIS, the Center for Wireless and Population Health System at University of California-San Diego invited Shih-Lung to give an online presentation to their research staff. This presentation led to an invitation of having Shih-Lung serve as a consultant to an NIH-funded grant. In March, Shih-Lung travelled with a UTK delegation team (led by **Dr. Carolyn Hodges**, Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School) to visit Shanghai University, Wuhan University, and Sichuan University in China. With an invitation by the Academia Sinica in Taiwan, Shih-Lung co-organized (with **Dr. May Yuan** at Oklahoma State University) and delivered lectures at an Advanced GIScience Research Workshop in July, 2010. He then was invited to give a presentation in the Department of Geography at The Ohio State University in September.

In October, Shih-Lung was invited to deliver a keynote presentation at 2010 Digital Archives GIScience Conference in Taipei, Taiwan. In November, he delivered a keynote presentation at 2010 Asia GIS International Conference in Kaohsiung, Taiwan, followed by additional invited presentations in the School of Geography and Planning and in the Intelligent Transportation Systems Research Center at Sun Yat-Sen University in Guangzhou, China. As we approach the end of 2010, Shih-Lung is scheduled to give an invited presentation at a Specialist Meeting of Spatio-Temporal Constraints on Social Networks to be held in





Santa Barbara, California on December 13-14.

Shih-Lung completed his NSF project in early 2010. He currently works on a Tennessee One Road project funded by the Tennessee Department of Transportation (with **Ziliang (Ray) Zhao** as a Graduate Research Assistant). He also works with **Dr. Zhixiang Fang** at Wuhan University (who was a visiting scholar in our Department in 2008) on a grant funded by the National Natural Science Foundation of China. In addition, Shih-Lung is a co-PI of a pending NIH proposal with the MD Anderson Cancer Research Center of the University of Texas. On teaching, Shih-Lung enjoys his classes of transportation geography and GIScience. He currently serves as the major advisor of five Ph.D. students (**Eric Carr, Kevin Krivacsy, Joe Liu, Robert Stewart, and Ling Yin**) and five master's students (**Amy Davis, Sam Liu, Nick Schoenborn, Frank Xu, and Ray Zhao**).

Shih-Lung serves on the editorial boards of *Journal of Transport Geography*, *Journal of Geographic Information System*, and *Southeastern Geographer*. He also serves on the Membership Committee of the Association of American Geographers (AAG) and the National Visiting Committee of an NSF-CDI grant (Mapping Cyberspace Project, PI: Ming-Hsiang Tsou, San Diego State University). He reviewed manuscripts in 2010 for Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, *International Journal of Geographical Information Science*, *Journal of Transport Geography*, *Transportation Research E*, *Social Networks*, and *Computers, Environment and Urban Systems*. He also reviewed grant proposals for the U.S. National Science Foundation and the Hong Kong Research Grants Council. In addition, Shih-Lung is the Guest Editor of a Special Issue on GIS for Transportation for *Journal of Transport Geography*. He also served on the Technical Program Committee of International Workshop on Role of Volunteered Geographic Information in Advancing Science held in Zurich, Switzerland and on the Program Committee of 2010 Geoinformatics Conference held in Beijing, China. Finally, Shih-Lung is honored to be selected as an Arts and Sciences Excellence Professor at UTK and appointed by the President of the Academia Sinica in Taiwan (which is equiva-

lent to the National Academy of Sciences in the U.S.) to serve on the Academic Advisory Committee of the Academia Sinica's Research Center for Humanities and Social Sciences.

**Liem Tran.** Tran has continued his collaborative work with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s Regional Vulnerability Program (ReVA) and the Future Midwest Landscape (FML) project. He has served as an expert for EPA on regional assessment and modeling since 2009 and he has been reappointed for the year of 2011. Several regional integrated assessment methods developed by Tran have also been used extensively by ReVA. Tran's research has been funded by EPA through Tennessee Valley Authority and Oneida Total Integrated Enterprises to support a full-time research associate and a couple of graduate assistants for several modeling activities.

Tran has developed a web-based decision-support toolkit named Environmental Decision Analysis and Support Heuristics (E-DASH) to assist decision makers in getting the answers for various regional management questions (e.g., how will today's land use decisions affect current and future trade-offs of ecosystem services? Which policies or market options would help sustain a broad spectrum of the ecosystem services that society values?). E-DASH is composed of three modules which can be used independently or in an integrated fashion. The Multi-criteria Decision-Making (MCDM) module, which currently includes two approximate methods for multi-attribute utility measurement, SMARTS and SMARTER, assists the user in comparing criteria and/or alternatives to derive preferences/priorities or to rank alternatives. Equipped with goal programming, compromise programming, and adaptive weighted sum, the Multi-Objective Optimization Programming (MOOP) module allows the user to create different land-use scenarios and to explore the trade-offs of multiple ecosystem services among different land-use scenarios. The GIS component, which is based on ESRI's ArcServer technology, facilitates interactive map display, scenario comparison, and various geospatial analyses (e.g., integrated environmental assessment, regional vulnerability assess



ment). Together the three modules provide a friendly, interactive, and comprehensive framework to decision makers to explore and evaluate potential actions/policies for complex regional environmental issues.

As for teaching, Tran and his students are having fun with various environmental modeling issues in his GEOG 511 class – GIS & Environmental Modeling – in Fall 2010.

### **Micheline van Riemsdijk.**

Micheline is a third year Assistant Professor. This summer she participated in a grant writing boot camp that was organized by UT's Office of Research. The participants learned about the intricacies of grant writing in five weeks, which culminated in a visit with Program Directors in Washington DC. Ph.D. student **Ben Shultz** assisted with the preliminary grant development and **Dr. Shih-Lung Shaw** provided in-depth guidance in the grant writing process.

Micheline incorporated the new insights from the boot camp into a grant proposal for the National Science Foundation on the recruitment and retention of Information Technology (IT) specialists in Oslo. She spent four weeks in Oslo to learn more about recruitment and retention strategies of Norwegian technology companies and the destination choices of IT specialists.

Micheline recently received a Ready for the World grant from the University of Tennessee to conduct interviews with IT specialists and Human Resource managers in Infosys and Wipro in Bangalore, India. She will travel to Bangalore in December to investigate how these companies attract and retain highly skilled workers who are in high demand worldwide. She will use these findings to further explore global-local linkages between Wipro's headquarters in Bangalore and a recently opened technology center in Atlanta. The findings of this research will be incorporated into a curriculum for undergraduate students.

Micheline is the Chair of the European Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers, which has 187 members in the United States and Europe. She is also a board member of the Population Specialty Group.

# Grad Student Updates

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**Andy Baker** is currently in the Ph.D. dissertation research & writing stage under the direction of Dr. Tom Bell. He received his B.S. in Geography and a B.S. in Business (Finance) from Eastern Illinois University in Spring 2003. In June 2005, Andy completed his M.A. in Geography at Ohio University, where he studied both the historical and cultural geography of NASCAR. Currently, Andy is pursuing research in cultural and sport geography, with a GIS specialization. His research analyzes how cities and regions use mega-events to showcase & market themselves to new residents, jobs, and tourists. Andy is currently a Lecturer in the School of Liberal Arts at Indiana University on the campus of IUPUI in his hometown of Indianapolis, IN.

**Melanie Barron** is a first year M.S. student. She is a graduate of Georgia Southern University in Statesboro, Georgia, and studied for two semesters at Nagoya University of Foreign Studies in 2009. Broadly, her interests include race, community, violence, and social justice. Currently, she is working as Dr. Inwood's research assistant. Since relocating, Melanie has quickly grown to love Knoxville, and is happy to be surrounded by friendly, hard working, motivated people!

**Mathew Boehm** is a second year M.S. student working under the direction of Dr. Sally Horn. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology, with a minor in Geography, from the University of West Georgia in Spring 2009. Mathew's thesis research focuses on reconstructing the vegetation and fire history of a Southern Appalachian Bog in western North Carolina. His research interests include environmental reconstruction and human-environment interactions.

**Charlynn Burd** is a fourth year Ph.D. student. She received her B.S. in Geography from Western Kentucky University in Spring 2001. She received her M.A.





degree from the University of North Carolina – Charlotte in 2005. Her current focus is on regional economic development, migration, and the creative class. She is currently working on developing a dissertation that models migration of the creative class at a sub-metropolitan scale. This past summer she began a short tenure with the University of Tennessee’s Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER) with Dr. Nicholas Nagle. After teaching World Regional Geography, she plans to be back at CBER in the spring. Outside the department, she takes advantage of every opportunity to travel.

**Maria Caffrey** is a fourth year Ph.D. student. She has been involved in palynology and lacustrine research for several years, starting when she was an undergraduate at the University of Plymouth, UK, where she completed an undergraduate thesis on pollen evidence of Holocene vegetation change on the Colorado Plateau. She has had a variety of experiences with paleoenvironmental research in different research projects; such as, using surface pollen to examine the extent of invasive species along the Baja peninsula, Mexico; reconstructing Holocene climate changes in highland Guatemala from pollen assemblages in a peatland profile (her M.A. thesis); examining subalpine fire history from pollen and charcoal in lake cores from Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado; and testing the use of heavy liquid separation of pollen from sediments from the Manix Basin, California. Her doctoral dissertation research (“Holocene lacustrine palynology from the Dominican Republic”), under the direction of Dr. Sally Horn, investigates the impact of tectonic versus climatic processes on the character of Holocene lacustrine sediments from the Caribbean region using a combination of sedimentary proxy data and ground penetrating radar.

**Eric Carr** is a second year Ph.D. student working with Dr. Shih-Lung Shaw. He received a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Bucknell University and an M.S. in Mathematics from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. His current research is based on GIS, ecological modeling, and transportation, with applications in both time and space.

His research interests result from his experience with Everglades landscape restoration modeling under the ATLSS.org project. The focus of ATLSS is to compare alternative hydrologic scenarios for the Florida Everglades through the development and application of a suite of ecological species models. Currently, he is helping to support researchers at the new NSF center NIMBioS.org as a High Performance Computing Specialist. Eric is working to meld his computational and ecological interests into an interdisciplinary research proposal.

**Matthew Cook** is a first year M.S. student studying with Dr. Micheline van Riemsdijk. He received a B.S. in Geosciences, with a concentration in Geography, and a B.S. in Communications from the University of Tennessee-Martin in May 2009. Matt’s research interests include European, cultural, and urban geography, and, increasingly, issues of social inequality. His thesis focuses on memorialization of the Holocaust in Berlin, Germany, and its effects on the urban landscape. Specifically, he is researching a memorialization project called the Stolpersteine, or “stumbling stones.” Outside the walls of Burchfiel, Matt works on improving his German and photography skills, and sings with the Knoxville Choral Society and the Adult Parish Choir at Church Street United Methodist Church in downtown Knoxville.

**Amy Davis** is a first year M.S. student. She received her B.A. in Geography from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville in Fall 2005. Her current focus is on GIS. Specifically, she is interested in transportation and land use. After receiving her B.A, she worked as an intern at the Knoxville/Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission for a year. She is currently working as a GIS technician at the First Utility District of Knox County.

**Dawn Drake** is a fourth year Ph.D. student working under Dr. Ron Kalafsky. She has a B.S. in social science secondary education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and earned her M.S. in Geography from the University of Delaware in Spring 2008. Dawn’s current research focuses on location decisions made by the

“Big Three” North American farm machinery producers (AGCO, CNH North America, and John Deere), using Michael Porter’s Theory of Competitive Advantage as a model. Currently, Dawn is teaching World Regional Geography and co-teaching an honors seminar in healthcare quality for the Chancellor’s Honors Program. Recently, she was the Frederick Douglass Institute Summer Teaching Fellow in the Department of Geography at East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania. Last March, she was selected as a participant in the Association of American Geography’s Center for Global Geography Education, and traveled to Singapore to meet with other geography researchers to develop case studies for use in undergraduate geography classrooms. She was also invited to participate in the 2010 CONNECT workshop for emerging scholars in Canadian research. Dawn serves on the Executive Committee of Gamma Theta Upsilon as the Senior Student Representative, and as Student Representative on the Board of the Rural Geography Specialty Group. She is the co-chair of the Committee on History and Re-Branding for the Rural Geography Specialty Group, and is the Graduate Student Representative to the faculty of the Geography Department.

**John Eads** is a first year M.S. student. He received his B.A. in Geography from the University of Tennessee in Spring 2010. His current research interests include biogeography, fire history, and paleoclimate reconstruction. Currently, John is a teaching assistant for the introductory physical geography course.

**Niki Garland** is a first year M.S. student working in the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Science with Dr. Henri Grissino-Mayer. She received her B.A. in Geography from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville in Spring 2010. Her research interests are in physical geography - specifically, dendrochronology, biogeography, and climatology. Niki’s primary research focus is in northwestern New Mexico at El Morro National Monument.

**Drew Gaskins** is a third year M.S. student from Memphis, Tennessee. He received his B.A. in geography from the

University of Tennessee in 2008. His current focus is on urban geography, with emphasis on social ecology and downtown revitalization. Specifically, he is researching the way that social network dynamics continue to shape the revitalized downtown of Asheville, North Carolina. Drew hopes to someday pursue a career in public service as a planner, a goal influenced by previous intern experience at the Memphis and Shelby County Division of Planning and Development. In his free time, Drew enjoys spending time with his daughter, Gwendolyn, going to concerts, and hiking. He also has a soft spot in his heart for craft-brewed beer.

**Tim Green** is currently finishing up his M.S. thesis, “Exploring the Relationship between Socioeconomic Drivers and Land-cover Change in Tennessee.” He received his B.A. in Geography at the University of Tennessee in the spring of 2006. His research interests include human-environmental interactions, geotechnologies, such as GIS and remote sensing, land-use/cover change, and landscape ecology. After graduation, he plans to work abroad by either joining the Peace Corps or teaching English in China. When he is not busy with TA duties, Tim takes every opportunity to travel. During the summer months he can usually be found carrying a backpack somewhere in East or Southeast Asia, quite possibly lost, but more likely in search of something good to eat.

**Grant Harley** is a third year Ph.D. student working in the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Science with Dr. Henri Grissino-Mayer. He earned his B.A. (2005) and M.A. (2007) in Geography from the University of South Florida. Grant’s dissertation research involves using dendrochronology to better understand the vegetation dynamics of endangered pine rockland ecosystems in the Florida Keys. This year he was awarded a Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant from the National Science Foundation (\$12,000), served as president for the Graduate Association of Researchers in Geography (GARG), successfully defended his dissertation proposal, and completed his Ph.D. comprehensive exams. Currently, Grant is teaching Geography 131: Geography of the Natural Environment, and continuing his dissertation research.





**James Hartsig** is a second year M.S. student from Old Hickory, TN. He received his B.S. in Environmental and Soil Science from the University of Tennessee in 2009. James is currently a research assistant under Carol Harden working on soil-water relationships in the Ecuadorian Andes. He can be found deep in the corners of the soil physics lab on the Ag campus.

**Peggy Jackson** is a second year M.S. student. She earned her B.A. in Geography from the University of Tennessee in 1976. With guidance from her advisor, Dr. Micheline Van Riemsdijk, she will be researching power and gender issues in the sport of foxhunting in the United States. As a founding member of the Tennessee Valley Hunt, she is fascinated by the changing role of women in the sport. Peggy spends her free time with her horse, a seven year old Thoroughbred that she is currently training.

**Austin Judkins** is a second year M.S. student. He graduated from the State University of New York at Geneseo with a major in Geography and minors in Environmental Studies and Philosophy. After graduating, Austin lived in Buenos Aires, Argentina for two and a half years, where he worked for an Argentine-based remote sensing company. Currently, he is studying Cuban refugees in Miami and how they are able to influence the provision of services through involvement in local nonprofit organizations. Austin spent part of the summer in Miami, volunteering with the Refugee Resettlement Program of Catholic Charities to gather information for his thesis

**Rusty Kirby** is a third year M.S. student from Knoxville. He received his B.A. from Maryville College with a major in history. His research focuses on human geography, with an emphasis on tourism and economic development. Rusty completed two months of fieldwork in Vietnam during the summer of 2010. While in Vietnam, he interviewed and observed small tourism entrepreneurs—motorbike guides—as primary data for his thesis, tentatively titled “Xe Om Cho Tay: Motorbike Guides and the Creation of a Cultural Tourism Product in Transitional Vietnam”. In addition to tourism and development, Rusty has gained some

expertise in GIS and modeling.

**Desiree Kocis** is a second year M.S. student from New Orleans, LA. She graduated from the University of Tennessee in 2003 with a B.A. in Geography and in Anthropology. Prior to entering the program, she worked as an Archaeologist/GIS Technician at UT’s Archaeological Research Laboratory for five years. Her research interests include paleoenvironmental reconstruction, fire history and ecology, GIS, and historic archaeology. Outside of school, Desiree loves to garden, even if she is terrible at it. She also enjoys puttering around on her motorcycle, dipping spoonfuls of peanut butter into jars of Nutella, and popping bubble wrap.

**Matthew Kookogey** is a third year M.S. student working under the direction of Dr. Liem Tran. He graduated with a B.A. in biology from Georgia Southern University in 2006. His thesis topic concerns habitat modeling for three salamander species in the Great Smoky Mountains. Matthew’s other efforts include working for Carol Harden as a Research Assistant, monitoring streams and making site maps. He also maintains weekly relevance as the “Happy Hour Czar”.

**Kevin Krivacsy** is a first year Ph.D. student working with Dr. Shaw. He received the Newton W. and Wilma C. Thomas Graduate Fellowship in the Humanities and Social Sciences (College of Arts and Sciences) to pursue a doctoral degree in the department. He received a M.S. in Geography from the University of Georgia, where he worked under the direction of Dr. Xiaobai Yao. His M.S. work focused on network analysis and population mobility. After spending the summer in Maryland working at the Census Bureau, he is excited to focus on his research interests of transportation geography and quantitative urban/economic spatial analysis.

**Lisa B. LaForest** is a Ph.D. candidate working under the auspices of Dr. Henri Grissino-Mayer in the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Science. She is completing her dissertation “Fire Regimes of Lower-elevation Yellow Pine (*Pinus*) and Pine-Oak

(Quercus) Stands in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee,” and will defend in 2011. Lisa presented a research paper in April at the Association of American Geographers annual meeting in Washington, D.C. She also co-authored four additional presentations (AAG, SEDAAG, Southern Blue Ridge Fire Learning Network and Appalachian F.L.N. meetings) and one published paper (in Tree-Ring Research) during 2010. Another co-authored paper is in press with the same journal, and should be available in July 2011. In her free time, Lisa enjoys organic gardening, friends, family, birds, and seeking employment.

**Yanan Li (Nancy)** is a third year M.S. student. She received her B.S. degree in Beijing Normal University in 2008 with a major in Geography. CGIS and modeling, climate change, biogeography, and dendrochronology are her main academic focuses. As a graduate student of Dr. Henri D. Grissino-Mayer, she is familiar with tree-ring techniques and instruments in the Laboratory of Tree Ring Science. Her master’s project is titled "Dendroclimatic Analysis of Climate Oscillations for the Southeastern United States from Tree-Ring Network Data." She has been a graduate teaching assistant for more than two years for Geography 101, 102 (World Regional Geography I, II), Geography 320 (Culture Geography), and Geography 331 (Natural Hazards).

**Jiuyuan Liu (Joe)** is a first year Ph.D. student. Before that, he earned a Masters degree in Urban Planning from Columbia University in the City of New York in 2009. During the two-year study and one-year work at NYC, he worked for New York City Department of Transportation, New York Metropolitan Transportation Council and two private firms through internships and a job, mostly on interesting projects with intensive use of GIS. Within the field of transportation, he developed a financial mechanism for Chinese Railways as the fruit of a one-year masters thesis effort. Currently, he is working on interactive transit by utilizing time geography through web-based technologies.

**Sumang Liu (Sam)** is a first year M.S. student. His research interests focus on GIS, individual-oriented tracking analysis, and time-geography research. He is currently studying the impact of Information Communication Technology on human behavior and transportation. Sumang is a teaching assistant of world geography and GIS. In his spare time, he likes watching NBA games.

**Zewen Liu** is a first year M.S. student. He works as a Teaching Assistant in Geography 101. In 2010, he received his B.E. degree from China University of Mining and Tech. Currently, Zewen studies under Dr. Yingkui Li and is focusing on the application of GIS, remote sensing (Landsat) and LiDar in Tibetan Plateau research, especially the patterns that the Tibetan lakes evolve and the potential cause for this evolution.

**Ingrid Luffman** is a fourth year Ph.D. student working under the direction of Dr. Liem Tran. She received her B.Sc. in Math-Science and her M.Sc. in Earth-Sciences from the University of Ottawa in Canada. She spent 10 years in the workforce prior to beginning her doctoral studies. Her research interests lie in the areas of physical geography and hydrology, while the current focus is on land use and its effect on water quality. Ingrid has received grants from Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Tennessee Department of Agriculture and the Tennessee Valley Authority to complete land use assessments for nine streams in the Boone Watershed in northeast TN. Currently, she serves as Secretary for the Boone Watershed Partnership and is a lecturer in geography at East Tennessee State University.

**Derek Martin** is a first year Ph.D. student. He received his B.S. in Biology, with a concentration in Ecology, from Lake Superior State University in Fall 2002. He then received a M.S. in Geospatial Science from Missouri State University in the summer of 2005. New to the program and the University of Tennessee, he is not yet committed to a dissertation topic, though his skills and interests are rooted in fluvial geomorphology, and, more specifically, the application of GIS and geospatial technologies to the assessment of river systems. He worked as







a GIS technician for two years at a non-profit watershed organization in St. Paul, Minnesota. For the past three years, he has worked as a researcher for the Ozarks Environmental and Water Resources Institute in Springfield, Missouri, where he has been involved with numerous river and watershed related research projects in Kansas, North Carolina, Jamaica, and the Ozarks of Missouri.

**Kenric McCay** is a first year M.S. student working with Dr. Ron Foresta. He received his B.A. in Geography from the University of Tennessee in Spring 2008.

After graduation, he lived in Taiwan for two years and taught English. He is currently organizing his thesis topic involving greenways. His interests are in GIS, urban and transportation geography.

**Feng Pan** is a first year M.S. student from Shanxi province, China. He earned his B.S. in Agricultural Resources and Environment from Nanjing Agricultural University, China in Summer 2010. His thesis title is "The NDVI of Taihu Lake Basin Calculation and Mapping by Making Use of the Small Satellite of Environment". His background includes work in soil science and plant nutrition, and in remote sensing. His main research interests include GIS, environmental modeling, and GIS application in hydrology and agriculture. His advisor is Dr. Liem Tran. Currently, Feng works as a Teaching Assistant for Geography 411 and Geography 101.

**Alex Pilote** is a first year M.S. student from Murfreesboro, TN. He received his B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Science, concentrating in Conservation Biology, from Tennessee Tech University in Spring 2010. He is currently working with Dr. Henri Grissino-Mayer in the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Science. His research interests include dendroecology and fire history. He works as a teaching assistant in the introductory physical geography course.

**Amy Rose** is a second year Ph.D. student. She received her M.S. in Geography and a graduate minor in Logistics and Transportation from The University of Tennessee in 2002. Her research interests focus on geospatial analysis and modeling, with a

special interest in population, especially migration. Since receiving her M.S., Amy has worked in both private and public sector organizations, implementing GIS technology in environmental, logistics, and transportation planning projects. In 2007, Amy joined the Geographic Information Science and Technology Group at Oak Ridge National Laboratory as a full-time research staff member. She is currently a co-developer of ORNL's LandScan Global population distribution database, and LandScan USA, a very high-resolution population database for the U.S. that includes diurnal and demographic variations.

**Kevin Russell** is a first year M.S. student. He received his B.A. in Geography from the University of Tennessee. Currently, he works as the Cartographic Services graduate assistant helping staff and students with mapping solutions. Kevin is exploring research opportunities related to the memorialization of communities affected by the creation of National Park Service land with historical GIS.

**Austin Rutledge** is a M.S. student. He received his B.S. in History from the University of Tennessee in 2006 and a M.S. in Education from the University of Tennessee in 2007. His current focus is on urban and economic geography. Austin's research interests also include the use of spatial statistics and GIS technologies in addressing issues of human geography. He is currently teaching high school geography and history classes at South Doyle High School in Knoxville, Tennessee.

**John Sakulich** is a fourth year Ph.D. student working in the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Science with Dr. Henri Grissino-Mayer. He received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in geography from the Pennsylvania State University. He also spent two years working as a research assistant in the tree-ring laboratory of the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory at Columbia University. As a biogeographer, John's major research interests include understanding the influence of climate and disturbance on the structure and composition of biological communities, as well as identifying the controls on the geographic range limits of species. His

dissertation research applies dendrochronology to understanding how the distributions of tree species respond to climate change and other disturbances. He is using networks of tree-ring data to examine the processes of tree establishment, growth, and mortality in forests throughout the central and southern Appalachian Mountains. The goal of John's research is to inform conservation efforts aimed at preserving biological diversity and mitigating the effects of rapid climate change on ecosystems. His research has been funded by the National Science Foundation and the Association of American Geographers. John has served as the graduate student representative to faculty meetings and was the recipient of the Geography Department's Robert G. Long Outstanding Graduate Student Award in 2009.

**Nicole Samu** is a second year M.S. student. She received a B.A. in Psychology in 2005, as well as a B.A. in Geography in Spring 2008. Her current research focus involves GIS spatial analysis and modeling, with a special interest in watershed dynamics. Nicole has also been involved in GIS-based population research under Oak Ridge National Laboratory's HERE program both as an undergraduate and graduate student.

**Nicholas Schoenborn** is a first year M.S. student studying under Dr. Shaw. He has a graduate assistantship with the Office of Information Technology, where he provides mapping support for faculty, staff, and students at the university. He earned his Bachelor's degree from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville in Spring 2010. Nick is interested in GIS, transportation, and time geography.

**Ben Shultz** is a Ph.D. student. He has an undergraduate degree in Geography from the University of Kentucky and a Master's degree in Geography from Indiana University. At the University of Tennessee, he studies economic geography, especially as it relates to innovation and information. He is currently writing his dissertation examining the relationship between the arts and the internet. In the past, he has studied Latino immigration in

the rural Southeast United States and still maintains a strong interest in immigration. Outside of school, Ben is actively involved in playing old-time music and also enjoys basketball and soccer.

**Mark Spond** is a fourth year Ph.D. student. He earned a B.A. at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock in 2003 and an M.A. at the University of Arkansas in 2007. As an undergraduate, Mark served as a student associate at Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site, a Student Conservation Association Resource Interpretation Intern at Arches National Park, Utah, and as an employee at Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico. While earning his M.A., Mark studied under Dr. David Stahle and Dr. Malcolm Cleaveland, and was an employee of the University of Arkansas Tree-Ring Lab. Mark's Master's thesis addressed the age structure and spatial distribution of select old-growth cypress-tupelo forest parcels at the Dagmar Wildlife Management Area, Arkansas. Currently, he teaches Geography 131: Geography of the Natural Environment, and is continuing his studies in dendrochronology with Dr. Henri Grissino-Mayer. Mark's doctoral dissertation is entitled: "Climate Responses and Vegetation Dynamics in Old-Growth Mixed-Conifer Woodlands, El Malpais, New Mexico, U.S.A."

**Robert Stewart** is a fifth year Ph.D. student focusing on GIS, with an emphasis on geospatial decision and risk analysis. He is one of the newest staff members in the Geographic Information Science and Technology group at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Robert worked for the University of Tennessee as a senior research associate for over 15 years, serving as principle investigator, technical lead, and, in most cases, point of contact with sponsoring agencies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the Department of Energy. Primary research and development activities have involved sample design, geospatial modeling, uncertainty analysis, and risk assessment. The emphasis is typically on the integration of these methods within various decision analysis frameworks using GIS. A





central focus of his work has been the Spatial Analysis and Decision Assistance (SADA) project. The focus of this project is the SADA freeware package that integrates many of the themes previously mentioned. His interests include spatial epidemiology, transportation modeling, and research questions in the design of geographic database systems.

**Zack Taylor** (M.S. University of Tennessee, B.S. University of Denver) is in the final year of his Ph.D. studies. He uses a variety of techniques to analyze lake sediment cores for evidence of climate and environmental change, including studying pollen, charcoal, and stable carbon isotope ratios. Zack's M.S. work used these methods to compile a 5500 year record from a lake in eastern Bolivia. For his dissertation, Zack is building on earlier work done at UT using stable carbon isotope ratios of organic matter in lake sediments to estimate the extent of prehistoric agriculture. By analyzing multiple cores from the same lake, he hopes to improve techniques for reconstructing the extent and impacts of prehistoric agriculture from lake sediments.

Zack, Dr. Sally Horn, and middle school teacher Greg Metcalf spent two weeks in Costa Rica collecting sediment cores. The fieldwork was funded in part by the National Science Foundation through the GK-12 Earth Project. The National Science Foundation recently awarded Zack \$11,388 to support his research in the form of an NSF Doctoral Dissertation grant. He also received a grant of \$2,130 from the Geological Society of America. Zack has worked at UT as a research assistant, NSF GK-12 Fellow, teaching assistant, and is currently a teaching associate. Zack was lead author on a paper published in *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, and is a co-author on a paper published in the *Journal of Latin American Antiquity*. He will be presenting a paper entitled "Assessing the Impacts of Late-Holocene Droughts on Pre-Hispanic Agriculture in Southwestern Costa Rica" at the 2011 AAG meeting in Seattle, Washington.

**Hunter Terrell** is a second year M.S. student. He received his B.A. in Environmental Studies with a minor in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from the University of Tennessee in Fall 2004. Before beginning the Master's program, Hunter contracted with the TVA's Natural Heritage program, performing environmental reviews for NEPA and Endangered Species Act compliance. His academic interests are in water resources, effects of human disturbance on aquatic systems, habitat modeling, and GIS. He is currently working on his thesis, entitled "Improving Adaptive Sediment TMDL Implementation: Exploring Relationships Between Substrate Characteristics and Benthic Habitat Status in the Ridge and Valley, Tennessee". Also, Hunter has also had the opportunity to help Dr. Carol Harden and Ryan Foster with bank erosion studies in the Little River watershed, as well as James Hartsig with his research on soil hydrology in páramo grasslands in Ecuador.

**John Thomason** is a second year M.S. student working under the direction of Dr. Ron Foresta. He is currently writing his thesis on formal housing in South America, and spent much of the past summer doing fieldwork in Quito, Ecuador. He earned his B.A. in Geography from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. John is a Marine veteran of the Iraq War.

**Chris Underwood** is a Ph.D. student working under the direction of Dr. Sally Horn. Together, they are reconstructing the long-term fire history in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. His dissertation research, supported in part by the University of Tennessee GK-12 Earth Project, the Joint Fire Science Program, and the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association Carlos C. Campbell Memorial Fellowship, focuses on the use of soil charcoal to reconstruct fire and forest histories in GRSM. During Spring 2009, Chris was awarded a Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement grant (\$10,550) by the NSF. After two years of work with the NSF-funded GK-12 Earth Project, and a year of teaching Geography 131 and 132: Geography of the Natural Environment, Chris moved on to the College of Arts and Sciences Office of Academic Services, where he served as an Academic

Advisor. He advanced to Ph.D. candidacy during Summer 2010. Currently, he is a lecturer in the Department of Geography and Geology at the University of Wisconsin, Platteville.

**Matthew Valente** is a fourth year Ph.D. student. He received his B.S. in Botany, with a concentration in Ecology and Evolution, from Auburn University in 2004. He completed his M.S. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Tennessee in 2007. Matthew's Ph.D. research involves investigating the paleoecology of Cuatro Ciénegas, Mexico, using sedimentary evidence of past environmental conditions, such as charcoal and pollen. Matthew was recently awarded a National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (\$11,013) to fund additional fieldwork to analyze the modern pollen rain along elevational transects in Texas and Mexico. This work will aid in the interpretation of pollen profiles from sediment cores he collected in Cuatro Ciénegas. Last summer, he and Kimberly Kennard, a biology and earth science teacher at Fulton High School, conducted sampling of modern pollen rain in the Davis Mountain Preserve and Guadalupe National Park in Texas. Matthew is currently supported as a research assistant and served as an NSF GK-12 Earth Project Fellow from 2007-2009. In the past year, he was also involved in outreach as President of Darwin Day Tennessee, and as a member of a geography graduate student committee that organized Earth Day 2010 lectures by special guest speaker David Quammen.

**Brian Watson** is a M.S. student working with Dr. Sally Horn in the Laboratory of Paleoenvironmental Research. His Thesis will focus on using pollen and charcoal found in high elevation lake sediments from Costa Rica to reconstruct past environments. He will look for evidence of the 8200 year BP climatic event. His current research interests include global climate change, biogeography, and human interactions with the physical environment. He received his B.A. in Environmental Studies, an interdisciplinary program, from the University of Tennessee. As an undergrad, he worked in the Laboratory of Tree Ring Science on a

project for the Siskiyou National Forest in Oregon, and assisted Saskia L. van de Gevel with her research in Northwest Montana during the Summer 2006. Brian was co-founder of the Geography graduate student organization, Graduate Association of Researchers in Geography (GARG), with the purpose of promoting a greater interest in Geography in the student body and general public, and to promote solidarity amongst the Geography graduate students.

**Yitu (Frank) Xu** is a third year M.S. student. Frank has been studying GIS-transportation and space-time GIS under the direction Dr. Shaw. Currently, he is a research assistant for the Tracking Pilot Project, which is funded by the UT Transportation Research Center. He is also working on his thesis on a location based service using space-time GIS approach.

**Ling Yin** is a Ph.D. candidate. She received her M.S. in GIS in 2006 and her B.S. in Geography in 2003 from Nanjing University in China. Her research interests include transportation, time geography, space-time GIS, and environmental modeling. In her first year as a Ph.D. student, she worked as a research assistant for a NSF project that uses grid computing to promote ecological modeling and spatial control. One year later, she joined another NSF project "Towards a GIS-based Analytical Time-geographic Framework with Physical and Virtual Activities". As a research assistant, she developed GIS analysis tools to explore the potential impacts of information and communication technologies (such as internet and cell phone) on individual daily activities. This has become her dissertation topic. In the third year, she worked for a NIJ project to develop WebGIS that can offer geocoding and mapping functions for the national missing and unidentified persons system. Since the fourth year, she has dedicated herself to her dissertation. Based on the four year's work, she has given several presentations at professional conferences, and had one paper accepted by the Journal of Transport Geography.

**Ziliang (Ray) Zhao** is a second year M.S. student. He studies GIS for transportation and space-time GIS under the direction of







Dr. Shih-Lung Shaw. Currently, Ray is a research assistant for the Tennessee OneRoad Conceptual Framework. This project is funded by Tennessee Department of Transportation and will be completed in December 2010. Meanwhile, he is working on his thesis, which is about a space-time GIS design.

**Chunhao Zhu** is a second year M.S. student. He received a B.S. in GIS and a B.E. in International Economy and Trade from Wuhan University in China in 2007. In 2009, he earned a M.A. in Cartography and GIS from Wuhan University in China, and completed his thesis on fuzzy remote sensing classification. His current research interests focus on GIS application, hydrology modeling, and the human-environment relationship. In his thesis, he will use SWAT (Soil and Water Assessment Tool) model to research the impact of land use land cover change on Little River Watershed, Tennessee under Dr. Yingkui Li's instruction. He also worked at the 2010 ESRI international user conference in San Diego, California as a Student Assistant. Chunhao is currently a Teaching Assistant for Geography 101-World Regional Geography, and was a Co-coordinator for Geography Awareness Week 2010. He spends what little free time he has enjoying UT and Tennessee life, as well as being a medical member for the American Red Cross.

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## Alumni Updates

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*We heard from a number of our alumni after the request sent out in the 2009/10 edition of the newsletter. Thank you for letting us know how you are doing. If you would like to provide an update for the '11/'12 newsletter, just email it to Kurt Butefish at [kbutefis@utk.edu](mailto:kbutefis@utk.edu) or complete the form on the back page and mail it to Kurt in care of the department.*

### **Adrian Bahan**

Adrian Bahan writes that he is delighted ("Life doesn't get much better than

this") to be teaching at Hillsboro High School in Nashville in the Academy of International Studies and Business. He is himself an alum of Hillsboro High. Among other things, he teaches advanced placement (AP) Human Geography.

### **Doug Baird** (M.S. 1990)

Doug was commissioned as an Ensign in the NOAA Corps in July 1990. His first sea tour (1990-1992) aboard the NOAA Ship Surveyor included two trips to Antarctica for field support of a research team on Seal Island (in the South Shetland Islands) and oceanographic and marine biology research. It also included bathymetric surveys off the coast of Oregon and northern California, and time aboard NOAA Ship David Starr Jordan conducting fisheries research off California and porpoise research in the tropical Pacific. He subsequently had land assignments working with GPS in the western U.S. and serving in the NOAA Chart Office in Anchorage, AK, and additional sea assignments surveying the East Coast of the U.S. and Alaska. In 2008-2009, he was Commander of his fourth sea assignment, aboard the Fairweather, surveying in Alaska, and, in 2009, was promoted to Captain. He is currently Chief of the Marine Chart Division of the Office of Coast Survey in Maryland. Doug says that after spending 11 straight years living in Alaska, he had hoped to finish his career there – but it's not looking likely at this point. He married an Alaskan and two of his children were born there (the last being born in Virginia).

**Hugo Bodini Cruz-Carrera**, (Ph.D. 1984)  
Avenida del Mar 3360, Dpt. 62-A  
La Serena  
Chile

The Doctorate I received in Knoxville definitely made my life better. I came back to Chile, and soon after I moved from Santiago to La Serena, working in the University of La Serena for many years. I was elected Dean of Humanities by my peers twice and was able to fulfill my lifelong dream of living by the beach. After retiring, they named me Professor Emeritus.

Life dictates things we are never ready to handle, a neurological disease struck me and I am currently in a wheelchair, but my wife, Sonia, and my have children stayed close, especially my youngest, Andrés. I guess I raised them well.

In 2009 I was awarded the National Prize of Geography in a ceremony that took place in Talca, a city in the south of Chile.



*Hugo Bodini receiving the Chilean National Prize for Geography in 2009.*

### **Thomas Burley**

B.A. in Geography (2004), B.S. in Business Administration (2004), M.S. in Geography (2008)

Email: teburley@gmail.com

After he received his M.S. at UT, Tom Burley moved on from his Research Associate position of five years with the Institute for a Secure and Sustainable Environment to join the U.S. Geological Survey in Austin, Texas at the Texas Water Science Center in May of 2009. There he is a Geographer involved with interdisciplinary water resources issues in the Data and Spatial Studies section. One recent project included developing a methodology for building a refreshable hydrologic geodatabase for the Rio Grande Basin from San Acacia, New Mexico to Fort Quitman, Texas consisting of 24 existing data sources.

### **Sheila Carman (M.S. 1996)**

Sheila is living in Lowell, MA but looking for opportunities to return to East Tennessee where three of her four grandchildren and two of her three children live. The fourth grandchild lives in Columbus OH, closer to ET than MA!

Sheila just completed her third, part-time season with the Lowell National Historical Park, an urban park, in the grounds department where she recruits and works with volunteers on projects throughout the park. Projects include gardening, painting and general clean up.

Sheila maintains her connection to the community she worked with in Jamaica as a Peace Corps volunteer (1997-99). Due to her request, the Atlanta professional chapter of Engineers Without Borders is helping to upgrade a road into that community to drivable status.

Sheila discovered her interest in GIS technology when a professor allowed her to sit in on his course two years ago. Under the umbrella of Caribbean Student Environmental Alliance, Chattanooga, she received an ESRI grant to continue her GIS education, which she is now doing.

### **Kevin David Kane (M.S. 1984)**

Senior Director, Policy  
Scottish Enterprise  
Atrium Court, 50 Waterloo Street  
Glasgow G2 6HQ  
SCOTLAND, UK

I now head up policy for Scotland's national economic development agency, Scottish Enterprise (<http://www.scottish-enterprise.com/>). Interesting times, with a Scottish nationalist Government and a big UK General Election looming. As several of you know I've worked in and around Scottish economic development for now on 25 years, almost since I graduated from UTK; whether in research, industrial policy, urban projects and policy. I'm now kinda back full circle to a job in strategy and research that, I think, I once said to Tom Bell was "like being an academic, but at industry rates!". As well as working in Scotland I get the chance to also work with international bodies such as the OECD to help learn and share good





practice with other states and cities. I've been an OECD "Expert" in publications on city regeneration in Glasgow, local economic development in Berlin and spatial economic policy in Latvia. Most recently, it was helping draft the OECD's "Barcelona Principles" on how to advise local and state governments how best to respond to the "downturn" - let's say recession! So, the job is blend of both my first loves, geography (great on observation, weak on theory) and economics [weak on observation, (unsustainably) strong on theory] - or as I was taught it at Glasgow University by the Adam Smith Professor (of), Political Economy, with more than a bit of Politics and History thrown in for good measure ("the past isn't dead, it's not even past", eh Charles?

#### **Elfem McGoughy (BS, 2001)**

Elfem wrote from Portsmouth Virginia that he is married to a woman from Ghana (whom he met while on a McClure grant) and that they have two young children who are doing very well in primary school. Elfem is currently working at the regional transit agency where he first began back in 2001. Since then he has learned many things about the principles and practice of transit and transportation in general. Elfem was able to apply many aspects of geography, specifically those areas that included GIS, GPS and cartography. In Spring 2010 he obtained an



*Elfem McGoughy and family.*

M.S. in Public Administration at Old Dominion University. Eventually, he would like to move into the maritime industry. He's always had an affinity for the sea and would like to go into waterborne transportation. The master's program allowed him to pursue education and training in seaport management as well as public management.

**Meryl Scott (B.A. 2005)**  
617 Preston Dr  
Seymour, TN 37865

Things in my life have turned different directions, and although I graduated in 2005 with a B.A. in Geography, I've since gone back to school and work as an RN at UT Hospital. Quite a change! My time spent at UT in Geography was very much enjoyed.

**George J. Wenger**  
B.A. 1976 UTK  
M.S. 1982 Memphis  
2426 Castle Pines Dr.  
Imperial, Missouri 63052  
georgewsmokey@yahoo.com

I retired on November 3, 2009 from the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency (NGA) in St. Louis, Missouri after over 31 years federal service. I worked as a cartographic Analyst. Prior to NGA in St. Louis, I worked for the U.S. Geological Survey in Memphis, Tennessee; New Cumberland Army Depot in New Cumberland, Pennsylvania; and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Memphis, Tennessee. I am presently working as a federal contractor at the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency in St. Louis. I completed my Divemaster Scuba Certification in December, 2009.

**Jeremy Williams (B.A. 1991; M.A. 1998)**  
129 Stoneledge PL NE,  
Leesburg, VA 20176  
jeremy.c.williams@l-3com.com

I'm currently the Vice President for Process Management for the L-3 STRATIS and a certified Project Management Professional with recognized expertise in IT Service



Management. I direct the Process Management Group, comprised of the IT and Engineering consulting services, quality management, program management office, and business support process engineering teams, for L-3's premier 5,000 person defense and federal government IT solutions provider. I'm a certified project management professional, a trained lead ISO auditor, ITIL foundations certified, and has served on numerous CMMI SCAMPI appraisals.

My wife Kristine Williams and I have lived all across the U.S. We've been in Bismarck, ND; Seattle, WA; Pismo Beach, CA; Destin, FL; and have lived in Leesburg, VA for the past 5 years. We've got two children, Madison (14) and Carter (10). When Kristine is not running around keeping us all under control, she's busy working at AOL. When I'm not working, I'm coaching or playing soccer.



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## Please Keep Us Up To Date

Please share your news with us, and other alumni, *especially if you have a new address*. Return this form to Kurt Butefish, 304 Burchfiel Geography Building, Knoxville, TN 37996-0925, or email to [kbutefis@utk.edu](mailto:kbutefis@utk.edu). We'll include your update in the next newsletter.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Degree(s) if any; and Year(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NEWS... (employment, career activities, family, achievements, awards, publications, travel, other... please attach additional sheets as necessary):**



*Henri Grissino-Mayer and Sally Horn ham it up on the coring bridge across Cocoplum Pond in the Florida Keys. Photo by Desiree Kocis.*

*The Newsletter of the University of Tennessee Department of Geography*

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