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GEOGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

A LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

AUGUST 1991

Faculty and students within the Department of Geography and Geology continued to excel in their respective areas. During the past two years, faculty published 43 articles, 67 technical reports, and 25 abstracts. Moreover, the faculty presented 64 professional papers. During the same period, faculty received 20 research contracts and equipment donations totalling over \$500,000. Students, graduate and undergraduate, were as active as the faculty. For the cited period students published 76 items and presented 34 professional papers. No department at Western Kentucky University compares in student productivity.

Department faculty are also deeply involved and concerned about teaching excellence at all levels of the curriculum. We continue to be active in the Kentucky Geographical Alliance and hosted a National Geographic Teachers Workshop this summer. Dr. Petersen supervised the effort with Jim Bingham, Glen Conner, Jim Davis, Ken Kuehn, Nick Crawford, and Mike Trapasso participating. We are also active in the earth science area as the article included within the GEOGRAM attests.

We welcome three new faculty members—Chris Groves, Tom Feeney, and Debbie Kuehn—to the Department. We also welcome Ms. Lisa Frye as the secretary for the Center for Local Government. Lisa is a former student worker in the Department. We mourn the loss of Dr. C. Ronald Seeger who died in September 1990.

Please take the time to complete the GEOGRAM which is attached. We are interested in you and your accomplishments. As you take pride in your department and discipline, we take individual pride in our students. Visit us when the opportunity presents itself. If you can't visit, write—I get lonely!

Sincerely,

Wayne Hoffman
Wayne L. Hoffman

Dr. C. Ronald Seeger 1931 - 1990

Dr. C. Ronald Seeger passed away on September 10, 1990. *The College Heights Herald* published the following article shortly after his death.

Charles Ronald "Ron" Seeger, a geography and geology professor, was considered an expert in his field, particularly in geophysics, his colleagues say. Seeger died Monday night at The Medical Center at Bowling Green after a stroke he suffered in late August. He was 59.

"He was a little hard to get to know, but once you did he was really nice," said David Doyle, a Park City junior majoring in geology. "Everybody up here will miss him."

"He was a man dedicated to his profession," said Wayne Hoffman, head of the Department of Geography and Geology. "He presented papers and did a lot of research in the field."

Seeger taught the first week of classes before having the stroke, said Noland Fields, geology professor. He had been in the hospital since then.

Seeger held degrees from Ohio State University, George Washington University and The University of Pittsburgh. He was a member of American Geophysical Union, Who's Who in the World, Geological Society of America, Meteoritical Society, Sigma Xi, American Association of University Professors, Kentucky Academy of Science and Unitarian Fellowship.

Survivors include his wife, Barbara Ashley Seeger, and two daughters, Leslie Seeger of Nashville and Julie Seeger of Bowling Green.

By John Martin

WILLIAM WATTS

The Department has been informed of the untimely death of Mr. William Watts. Bill died in Spokane, Washington in September 1990. He is survived by his wife Diane and his three-year-old daughter Ann. Bill received his Master's Degree in Geography in 1984.

DR. NICHOLAS CRAWFORD RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD

Dr. Nicholas Crawford recently received the Silver Seal Award presented by the National Council of Garden Clubs. This was one of three awards presented by the National Council for outstanding concern for the environment during their annual meeting in Seattle, Washington. Specifically, Nick was praised for his outstanding work as a teacher, explorer, environmentalist and concerned citizen.

Dr. Crawford joined the Department of Geography and Geology in 1976. Soon after his arrival, he created the Center for Cave and Karst Studies and implemented the highly successful Summer Program at Mammoth Cave. Both these programs have international reputations. A prolific scholar, Dr. Crawford has researched and published issues dealing primarily with groundwater contamination of carbonate aquifers, sinkhole flooding, and sinkhole collapse.

Dr. Crawford's most meaningful research resulted from leading the 1983 investigation in Bowling Green into the toxic and explosive fumes that had entered into approximately fifty homes and two schools. Through Nick's expertise and leadership, funding to investigate and alleviate the problem was received from the Environmental Protection Agency Super Fund. The sources of the toxic and explosive fumes were isolated after considerable research, and the problem was alleviated. In recognition of Nick's contribution and dedication to solve the problem, the Faculty Senate of the University publicly commended him for his work. In 1985 Dr. Crawford was further honored by being selected as the University Research faculty member of the year.

Dr. Crawford's involvement of his students in his research, his concern for solving the immediate environmental problems of this region of Kentucky, and his inspirational teaching provide a perfect example of the excellent quality of instruction provided in many areas of the Ogden College of Science, Technology, and Health.

(reprinted from Ogden College Annual Report, 1990)

OGDEN COLLEGE AWARDS

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| Dr. Albert J. Petersen | Ogden College Award for
Distinguished Public Service 1990 |
| Dr. Kenneth W. Kuehn | Ogden College Award for
Distinguished Teaching 1990 |

NEW FACULTY

Dr. Deborah Kuehn will join the faculty in the fall of 1991 as Assistant Professor of Geology. She received her Master's and Ph.D. degrees from the Pennsylvania State University. She taught for three years at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga before coming to Bowling Green in 1984. She has taught in the Departments of Chemistry and Geography and Geology at Western, and for three years was editor of the *Journal of Coal Quality*, an international journal received in over 40 countries. Deborah's research interests are in the areas of organic geochemistry, environmental geology, and palynology. She has over 25 publications in these areas.

Mr. Chris Groves joined the faculty of the Geography and Geology Department in January and taught courses in Geomorphology and Physical Geography during the spring semester. Mr. Groves plans to complete his Ph.D. degree in Environmental Sciences from the University of Virginia later this year, where his dissertation research has concentrated on developing new computer models that are helping to lead to an understanding of early karst aquifer development. Other current research interests include application of theoretical and laboratory based mineral dissolution kinetics models to problems of landscape evolution, as well as development of computer programs designed to solve various problems encountered in karst hydrology and geochemistry. Mr. Groves is also involved in continuing exploration and survey of cave systems of the southeastern U.S., including the Flint-Mammoth Cave System and Hick's Cave in Kentucky, and Blue Springs Cave in Tennessee. Groves' 1991 presentations consisted of:

- “Simulation Modeling of Early Karst Processes,” poster presented at the 1991 Sigma Xi Faculty Research Conference, WKU, March.
- “Rivers that Flow Backwards, and Other Oddities of the Karst,” talk presented at the 1991 Annual Awards Ceremony, Dept. of Geography and Geology, WKU, April.
- with A.D. Howard, “Early Development of Karst Systems: Preliminary Simulation Modeling Results,” paper presented at the spring meeting of the American Geophysical Union, Baltimore, Maryland, May.
- with C.M. Wicks, “Chemical Evolution of an Acid Mine Drainage Stream in Karst Terrain,” poster presented at the spring meeting of the American Geophysical Union, Baltimore, Maryland, May.
- with A.D. Howard, “Simulation Modeling of Early Karst Development,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Speleological Society, Cobleskill, New York, June.
- with C.M. Wicks, “Chemical Evolution of an Acid Mine Drainage Stream in Karst Terrain,” paper presented at the spring meeting of the National Speleological Society, Cobleskill, New York, June.

**GEOGRAPHY AWARENESS WEEK
DECEMBER 1-7, 1991
GET INVOLVED!**

EDUCATION ACTIVITIES IN THE EARTH SCIENCES

The Department of Geography and Geology at Western Kentucky University maintains active relations with elementary, middle, and high school students and their teachers throughout the Commonwealth. Our goals are to stimulate interest in the Earth Sciences and to improve the technical skills of teachers through a variety of informal and formal activities. Our faculty participate regularly in teacher workshops, in-service days, invited visits to area schools, science fairs, the Kentucky Academy of Science and the Kentucky Junior Academy of Science. During summer sessions, the Department offers graduate-level courses in Meteorology and Earth Science which are specially designed for science teachers.

Classes are encouraged to visit the Department throughout the year. At the College Heights Weather Station students can see the observational and recording instruments in operation. Real-time reception from four weather radars and a continual stream of alphanumeric weather reports from across the United States contribute to the production of approximately 300 weather maps per day. The accompanying teachers are provided samples of the maps and reports. In addition, the materials are provided to teachers who cannot visit the campus and request them for use in their classrooms. The Kentucky Climate Center, also located within the Department, is the official archive for all of Kentucky's weather and climate records. The primary support to schools is in providing instructional materials tailored to the specific school location. These are used by teachers to create interest in climate by using the locality as a focal point. Available for viewing at locations throughout the Department are permanent displays of rocks, minerals, and fossils. Topographical and geological maps are loaned on a request basis.

Every year the Department participates in Hilltopper Science Days, a two-day event organized by the Ogden College of Science, Technology, and Health. More than 1,000 students view special presentations and displays across the College. Ogden College also has an active Pre-College Science and Math Teachers Education Committee. Through the Professional Development Center Network (PDCN) teachers are advised on course content, innovative teaching methods, and the availability of course offerings at Western.

Written by Ken Kuehn and Glen Conner--A version of this appears in the *Kentucky Geologist*, 1990.

SPATIAL STATISTICS LABORATORY

Through assistance from the Center for Local Government Services the Department has established the Spatial Statistics Laboratory. This facility is dedicated to quantitative analysis in geography and geology. The lab has become a hub of activity for faculty and students in the Department. It is equipped with several personal computers (IBM and Zenith 386 machines) and peripheral devices, including digitizing tablets, a plotter, a laser printer, and a tape drive. Software includes programs for word processing (Word Perfect), statistical analysis (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences and MicroCase Analysis System), mathematical calculations (MathCAD), programming (Turbo PASCAL), graphics (Harvard Graphics), databases (LOTUS), mapping (AUTOCAD and Surfer), and geographic information systems (pcARC/INFO and Atlas*GIS).

COLLEGE HEIGHTS WEATHER STATION

The College Heights Weather Station is 63 years old, but the latest equipment installed is state-of-the-art. Western Kentucky University's support through the Ogden College of Science, Technology, and Health has made a major improvement to the station which continues to be the best equipped non-national weather station in the Commonwealth. Its improved capacity for hands-on instruction greatly enhances this laboratory for students in the various meteorology and climatology courses.

The newest additions to the weather station are three telecommunications systems which relay information from across the Commonwealth, the United States, and various parts of the world. The first is the DIFAX (Digital Facsimile) system which provides about 300 weather maps per day. These represent the principal products from the National Weather Service and include world-wide, hemispheric, international, and national depictions of surface and upper air conditions. The second capability is the DDS (Domestic Data Service) system which provides alphanumeric messages from National Weather Stations from all of the United States. These messages include inter-alia hourly observations, daily summaries, zone forecasts, and severe weather warnings and watches. The Zepher Weather Information System manufactured by Alden Electronics supplies these two capabilities by way of a satellite receiver system mounted on the roof. The third capability is a remote radar system manufactured by Kavouras Incorporated. This system provides the capability to selectively receive real-time radar imagery microwave from either the radar at Paducah, Louisville, Covington, or Jackson. Up to 16 time-selective images can be stored and replayed at a controlled time-lapse interval. This allows storage and study by students of significantly instructive weather events.

In addition to these newly added capabilities, the College Heights Weather Station continues to use a full complement of recording instruments which continually monitor the weather conditions atop the Environmental Science and Technology Building. These include a thermograph for temperature, microbarographs for pressure, hygrographs for relative humidity, hygrothermograph for both temperature and relative humidity, pyrliometer for solar radiation, Stokes-Campbell recorder for sunshine, anemometer for winds, and an evaporation recorder for evaporation.

This well equipped laboratory for students from the Department of Geography and Geology provides a realistic setting for learning about weather and climate.

(reprint from Ogden College Annual Report, 1990)

**HOMECOMING WEEKEND
OCTOBER 18 - 20
COME VISIT US!**

BIZARRE AND BEAUTIFUL BRAZIL

Dr. L. Michael Trapasso spent the summer of 1989 traveling and studying in Brazil under the auspices of the Fulbright-Hays Commission Summer Seminar Program.

Like its South American weather systems, upside down and backwards, Brazil is a wondrous and sometimes confusing country. With a land mass larger than that of the contiguous United States, the overall diversity and regional singularities of Brazil stand out in my mind. In a land where sensuality is state-of-the-art, where the friendliness and openness of the people warm you as much as the distilled sugar cane water they drink, where the food delights you and the music excites you, geography becomes an exotic experience.

The vastness and variety of the regions keep you guessing. No two areas are the same! My main purpose for this trip concerned the issue of the deforestation of the Amazon. Though it is disappearing at an alarming rate, there are still millions of square kilometers left untouched. From 30,000 feet aloft it was reminiscent of a gigantic pool table, green as far as the eye can see.

The southern Mato Grosso with its northern Arizona/southern Utah-like environment is classic cattle country. Cowboys and cowgirls are everywhere—jeans, boots, spurs, saddles, wide-brim hats . . . the whole bit. I absolutely lost control during a rodeo, when between the bull riding and calf roping, I heard “Mamas Don’t Let Your Babies Grow Up to Be Cowboys” in Portuguese.

In Bahia the African influence is still very strong. The music, food, spoken accents, and customs derived from the slave era still dominate. This is the land of the Candomblé (Kahn-Dome-Blay), an Afro-Brazilian religion. I witnessed a ceremony where pagan gods (about a half dozen) slowly possessed the bodies of their priest/priestess counterparts. Rhythmic drums and singing kept the fascinating ritual going all night, ending with a lavish feast.

The cosmopolitan atmospheres of cities like São Paulo with its Manhattan-like skyscrapers and Rio de Janeiro with its L.A.-like climate made me feel right at home. Brazil is such a “melting pot” that ethnic faces, body types, haircoloring, and clothing styles are all represented. Everyone looks a little different; therefore, everyone looks Brazilian. That is, until an American opens his mouth and tries to say something—Portuguese is a tough language. It mostly resembles Spanish. However, at times it is more like French; sometimes it sounds Italian. And there are times when it sounds like God only knows what!

During that summer there were three types of currency in use in Brazil: the Cruzeiro, the old money which had been devalued a million times (like a \$100,000 bill being worth 10 cents); the Cruzado, a newer currency devaluated 10,000 times (like a \$1,000 bill being worth 10 cents); and the Cruzado Novo, the new cruzado which stood at face value. On any given day all three may be in your pocket. That’s a whole lot of decimal shifting.

Hand signals can get you in trouble, too. To say okay with your hand, you must use the thumbs-up signal. You must never use the American okay signal (i.e. thumb and forefinger making a circle with other fingers extended) because in Brazil, that signal is equivalent to the American hand signal which involves the middle finger.

To sum it up, what can I say. . . In so many ways things were very different, and at the same time so many things were much the same. I loved Brazil. It was a geographer’s dream.

TRAVELS IN ARGENTINA: A SKETCHY OVERVIEW

Dr. Mark Lowry II spent the summer of 1990 traveling and studying in Argentina under the auspices of the Fulbright-Hays Commission Summer Seminar Program.

Few are the short periods of time that bear experiences profound enough to rejuvenate one's professional commitment or alter one's personal course of life. A six-week adventure in the summer of 1990 was such a time. Twenty scholars/educators (I among them) from 16 states and 11 disciplines traveled Argentina together on a Fulbright grant. We spent several days in each of three provinces interacting with professionals, attending lectures, participating in conferences, conducting interviews, and seeing, hearing, feeling, and otherwise sensing as much as possible of that magnificent country far from the U. S. beyond great barriers of distance, time, and culture. It was an incredibly rich experience that left one with myriad impressions, multiple visual and emotional images, and mountains of memories. Because space limitations make it impossible to relate the details entirely, the following is only a sketchy outline of what took place.

Buenos Aires Province (23 June - 18 July). We had lectures, conferences, and interviews with top professors and other professionals in geography, history, sociology, political science, economics, public relations and the media, culture and art, literature, government, foreign relations, and the education system. Among the national leaders with whom we met were the mayor of Buenos Aires, the vice rector of the University of Buenos Aires (largest university in Argentina), and the immediate past president of Argentina, Raúl Alfonsín.

Among the thousands of unfathomable features of Buenos Aires Province that left lasting impressions are the seemingly limitless pampa on whose agricultural products the country's economy has thrived for much of its history, the legendary Rio de la Platte, and the city of Buenos Aires which has been synonymous with the country for many Argentines through most of its history. The city displays innumerable physical features that remain permanently impressed in one's memory. Examples are hundreds of monuments, the most impressive being the obelisk on the 9th of July Avenue and the Malvinas Memorial (designed like the Viet Nam Memorial in Washington, D.C.), the Ricoleta Cemetery, the Waterfront with its ships, the Casa Rosada, and many more. The city air is charged with volatile emotions that swing wide and frequently to the extremes. We witnessed the happy celebrations after two World Cup soccer games, the somber observance of the Independence Day military parade, and the weekly demonstrations in la Plaza de Mayo by the mothers of those who disappeared during the "dirty war".

Córdoba Province (18 July - 24 July). There were lectures by experts on Córdoba and its architecture, history of the tango, democracy in Argentina today, university reform, and more. Among prominent leaders with whom we met were Vice Rector Eduardo Starico of the National University of Córdoba and Governor Eduardo Angelos of Córdoba Province who was President Carlos Menem's opponent in the last presidential election. We toured the city and surrounding countryside on several days. We found particularly interesting the many estancias from which the Jesuits organized, controlled, and managed the society so many generations ago. Most of them are preserved as museums today.

Mendoza Province (24 July - 1 August). Mendoza's dry climate reminds one of parts of Ari-

zona and California. Accordingly, we had several lectures on the use and management of water, water legislation, and the organization of space in the province. There were lectures on the social structure of Mendoza and Argentina and how Argentina is similar to and different from other parts of Latin America. A law professor addressed us on the law and the Malvinas War. I met at length with the entire geography faculty of the National University in Mendoza and established professional contacts that I hope will bear fruit in the future. Many lasting impressions were made by things we saw. We toured this remote provincial capitol which is, of course, a great deal different from Buenos Aires. We saw industries, wineries, and working farms. Most impressive were the majestic Andes dominated by Aconcagua, the highest peak in the Western Hemisphere.

We spent the last night in Buenos Aires where the streets, monuments, buildings, café society, etc. were so familiar that the city felt like home. . . as it does even now. I brought much of the country back with me in tapes, photos, journal notes, materials, and memories. The experience has already yielded two articles accepted for publication in *Global Justice* and *Intercambio Internacional* and a paper ready for presentation. There will be more. All in all, it was a rich experience, well worth the time, expense, and effort.

SEMI-ANNUAL HOG ROASTS

The semi-annual hog roasts continue to be a tradition of the Department. Held in early October and April, the celebration brings together faculty, majors, and alumni. In recent years former students from New York, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Georgia, and other far flung places have visited with us. The hog roast has gone from a simple operation to one of great detail--we now have our own custom-built smoker on wheels. In addition to barbequed pig, the department now provides turkey--and, of course, liquid refreshment!

The precise date of this year's roast has not been set. If interested, give us a call at 502-745-4555 and we will provide details. Mr. Porky Pig (fondly called Wilbur by some) awaits your attendance!

JAMES H. SMITH (MS 1991) IS ONE OF THE LEADING CAVERS IN THE WORLD. HE IS THE AUTHOR OF NUMEROUS STUDIES AND IS THE RECIPIENT OF SEVERAL NATIONAL AWARDS, INCLUDING THE LEW BICKING AWARD.

ALUMNI CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions to the Department of Geography and Geology Development Fund were received from several alumni. We acknowledge gifts from:

Matthew Cornacchione
 Shaun Winter
 Tamara Lewis
 Mr. & Mrs. Jay Preston Mitchell
 Michael A. L'Heureux
 Jeff Morris
 Gregory W. Theil
 Larry Ray Daughtery
 Dr. Prentis L. Gott
 Albert V. Hamm
 Paul Anderson
 Irvin G. Boysen
 Michael E. Hazelett
 Dr. Robert E. Simpson

Budgets are tight and we need your help! Why not write a check today, or when you are solicited by the University's telethon, designate the **Department** for part or all of your gift.

STRATEGIC PLANNING AT THE UNIVERSITY LEVEL WESTERN XXI

One of the more important activities engaged in by the University, college, and department was the development of a strategic planning document outlining the future development of Western Kentucky University into the 21st Century. Essentially this strategic plan formulated goals and objectives and plotted the University's course for the future. The document will be used to allocate money and other resources in the years to come.

An important aspect of the Western XXI planning process was the evaluation of the present academic programs. At the baccalaureate level both geography and geology were evaluated as essential. At the graduate level the geography program was deemed essential, while the city and regional planning program was termed desirable.

The University faculty committee evaluating the undergraduate department program was quite complimentary of our efforts. They stated: "The department has a strong faculty"--one of only two departments to attain this designation. "Members from the department have won eight teaching, research, and service awards in recent years. A notable accomplishment is the involvement of students in research . . . The program has more majors than any other geography and geology department in the state." We were proud and pleased at the conclusions of this peer review.

FACULTY ACTIVITIES

S. Reza Ahsan Dr. Reza Ahsan is studying the man-land relationship of Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Pakistan based on his earlier field study. In 1989, he was a member of the research team that visited Taiwan where he studied the human geography. While in Asia, he also visited Thailand and Eastern India. He has taken active part in the WKU International Day Programs. He served on the Latin American and Asian Study Committees. Dr. Ahsan gave several public lectures during the Middle East crises. He also attended the annual meeting of the Kentucky Academy of Science.

Dr. Ahsan continues his interest in remote sensing and space systems. He is using High Altitude Infrared Photography for the study of the Central Business Districts of southern Kentucky towns. He has continued his interest in Ethiopia, Kurdistan, Luristan, and Nooristan.

James Bingham As usual, Mr. Bingham's major activities for the past year focused on teaching and keeping up with the current scene in Human Geography. Major research interests continue in marketing geography as it relates to the impact of Walmart on smaller Kentucky cities. Additionally, Bingham looks forward to the availability of demographic and economic data from the 1990 Census so that his research dealing with rural and small town Kentucky can continue. He attended the annual Kentucky Tourism Federation meeting, and is becoming increasingly involved with that organization. The Department soon hopes to have a course of study dealing with tourism planning and development.

Glen Conner Glen Conner completed his thirteenth year as State Climatologist for Kentucky and has fulfilled about 700 requests per year. He attended the annual meeting of the American Association of State Climatolo-

gists during August and presented a paper, "Climatology of Kentucky" to that group in Atlantic City. During the year, Conner completed two computer-mapping exercises, bringing the total to seventy-eight. He also prepared nine climatology exercises and revised thirteen computer-assisted climatology exercises.

Conner has had three articles accepted for inclusion in the *Kentucky Encyclopedia* to be published in 1992 as part of the bicentennial. He also published the "Climate of Bowling Green and Warren County," a technical report for the comprehensive plan update.

Conner presented "Century of Climate at Non-Urban Stations" at the Kentucky Academy of Science in November. He conducted a workshop for teachers at Mammoth Cave in September which discussed climates of the past, present, and future. He worked at the National Climatic Data Center in Asheville, NC from May 17-31, 1990 as part of the Climatologist Exchange Program--one of three individuals accepted and funded.

In spring 1991, Conner presented a poster at the Sigma Xi research conference on "New Climatic Normals" and was elected President-elect of the WKU Chapter of Sigma Xi.

James L. Davis Dr. James Davis published four articles during 1989-91: "Persons, Place and the Frontier Experience in Willa Cather's *My Antonia*" (with Nancy Davis); "Bicycles in China: Transport Mode of the People"; "A Spatial Analysis of the Trucking Industry in Bowling Green, Kentucky" (with Gary Mathis); and "An Evaluation of Department Chair Salary Policies: An Inter-University Comparison" (with Wayne Hoffman). He edited the *Proceedings* of the 1988 Geography Section of the Kentucky Academy of Science and served as Chair of the section. Dr. Davis also published a technical report, *Transportation Facilities Analysis*, as part of the Warren

County Comprehensive Plan.

He made the following seven presentations at professional meetings: "A Spatial Analysis of the Trucking Industry in Bowling Green, Kentucky" (with Gary Mathis) and "A Geographical Case Study of a Profitable Rail Passenger System" at Kentucky Academy of Science meetings; "An Evaluation of Department Chair Salary Policies: An Inter-University Comparison" (with Wayne Hoffman) at a national academic leadership meeting; "British Rail InterCity Service: A Geographic Appraisal" and "Imaginary Towns and Their Prototypes: Two Case Studies" (with Nancy Davis) at national meetings of the Popular Culture Association; and "Highway and Street Transportation Facilities Analysis of Warren County, Kentucky" and "Developing Geography Faculty for Public Service Activities: A Case Study" (with Wayne Hoffman) at national meetings of the Association of American Geographers. He also presented a poster at the Sigma Xi Research Conference.

Dr. Davis chaired the Western XXI Academic Programs Task Force as part of the University's Strategic Planning Process and was a member of the Western XXI Steering Committee. In addition, he served on Western's Graduate Council and the Academic Council. Dr. Davis will have a sabbatical leave during the 1991 fall semester. He plans to continue his research activities in both urban and transportation geography and geography and literature.

Noland Fields Dr. Noland Fields continued his efforts in the environmental geology field and in the important area of pre-college science education. Considerable interest in the regional earthquake potential by the public and the media kept him busy with many interviews and presentations in the fall of 1990. He spoke at four civic clubs and several public schools about earthquake awareness. He also remained

active with the Governor's Earthquake Hazards and Technical Safety Advisory Panel assisting with response plans and ensuring that appropriate geoscience information is considered in state plans and policies associated with this hazard.

His work with the Ogden College Science Education Committee continues and involves programs, activities, and workshops for area science teachers. He worked directly with Hart County and LaRue County schools on earth science class materials.

Dr. Fields presented two papers (one co-authored with area teachers) at the Geological Society of America national meeting in St. Louis in October of 1989. A paper on earthquake hazard planning was given at the southeastern GSA meeting in Alabama in April 1990 and a paper on landfill models (co-authored with two students) was presented at the national GSA meeting in Dallas in October 1990.

He attended symposia on waste disposal sites during these conferences and continues to advise area groups about the geological aspects of this issue. While on a trip to England in March 1990, Dr. Fields visited the famous Sedgewick Museum of Geology at Cambridge. He is currently working on a paper for the 1991 GSA national meeting. He and other science faculty are also considering a project concerning corporate involvement in school science education.

Stuart A. Foster Dr. Foster has helped to establish the Spatial Statistics Laboratory in the Department. In conjunction, he developed two new courses, Spatial Analysis and Geographic Information Systems. Dr. Foster directed a grant to develop a geographic information system for the Barren River Area Development District and recently obtained a grant through the South Central Kentucky Area Health Education Center. He published an

article, "The Expansion Method: Implications for Geographic Research" in the *Professional Geographer* and co-authored another, "Testing Regression Residuals for Spatial Autocorrelation Using SAS: A Technical Note," in the *Geography Research Forum*. Dr. Foster and Dr. Hoffman co-authored two technical reports concerning the locations of branch banking facilities for the American National Bank in Bowling Green. In addition, Dr. Foster presented papers at the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers and the Kentucky Academy of Science.

Edmund E. Hegen Dr. Hegen was appointed Director of the Center for Latin American Studies in August of 1990. He presented three illustrated lectures to Hart County High School/Munfordville, Kentucky on Earth Day 1990. Hegen also presented "Middle America: Environment, People, and Quality of Life" at the Kentucky Council for International Education (KCIE) - WKU Canadian Studies - Latin American Studies sponsored conference *Neighbors North and South: Relations with Canada, Mexico, and the Caribbean*, held March 23-24, 1990.

Wayne L. Hoffman The past two years have been stimulating and stressful for the Chair of the Department. The highlights have been the papers that I have published (most with James Bingham, Jim Davis and Stuart Foster), and the professional papers I have presented (again with James Bingham, James Davis, and Stuart Foster). During the reference period, I have also obtained numerous research contracts.

Most of the money attained in the contracts has been used to support student assistants and to purchase badly needed computer equipment and software. Two grants attained during the period stand out: the \$150,000 Bowling Green/Warren County Comprehensive Plan Update which has been completed and an \$85,000 HUD minority grant to support stu-

dents in the planning and public administration area. Currently, we are updating the comprehensive plans of Simpson County (\$19,500) and Logan County (\$8,000).

Another highlight was the five-year annual review of the Chair. I am happy to report that the faculty were satisfied with my performance, and I will be serving yet another four-year term.

The stressful portion of the two-year period was a rather serious illness I experienced. In April 1990 I fell ill, was diagnosed in August, received treatment in September, and still am in the recovery process. It was a rare disease that attacked the nerves in my spine. I feel fine today and will be nearly as good as new in another year.

I've a number of research projects and other activities scheduled for the coming year. It is difficult for us "old timers" to keep up with the new faculty in the department.

Ken Kuehn Dr. Ken Kuehn is active in various aspects of coal geology on the state, national, and international levels. He recently has had five articles published and has completed six technical reports. His students have authored or co-authored four technical presentations at professional meetings. Dr. Kuehn currently holds offices in two professional organizations; serving as councilor to the Society for Organic Petrology, an international group of coal scientists, and as Vice-President of the Geological Society of Kentucky. This past November, Dr. Kuehn and forty other scientists from around the world participated in a three-day field trip to investigate the coal measures of the Canadian Rockies of Alberta. The group also visited the University of Calgary, the Athabasca Glacier, and the Tyrrell Museum of Paleontology which is known internationally for its dinosaurs. Dr. Kuehn continues to emphasize his classroom responsibilities at Western and was selected as winner of the 1990 Ogden College Award for Out-

standing Teaching.

Mark Lowry II Dr. Mark Lowry II has been very active with international travel and research. He travelled and conducted research in Ecuador in 1989 and 1990. He studied in Argentina on a Fulbright Grant in 1990. He was awarded the Joseph J. Malone Faculty Fulbright Fellowship to study in the Arab/ Islamic World in the summer of 1991. Among his recent publications are: "Chimborazo and Cotopaxi: Majestic Mountains of Ecuador." *Proceedings*, Geography Section, Kentucky Academy of Science, 1989; "Army Reserve Drill Sergeants: The Right Stuff," *Journal of Human Behavior and Learning*, 1989; "A Mountain Top Experience in the Majestic Andes of Ecuador," *Intercambio Internacional*, June 1990; and "Deliberate Race Change: Chinese in the Mississippi Delta," *Proceedings*, Geography Section, Kentucky Academy of Science, 1990. Dr. Lowry has made numerous presentations on his work in South America, including "Colorado Indians of Ecuador: A Documentary," at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Association of Latin American Studies, 1990. Several additional manuscripts are in progress on his research in Argentina and Ecuador.

Conrad Moore Dr. Conrad Moore has been involved in research projects in Kentucky and the Great Plains. Kentucky activities entailed the completion of a technical report on the *Plant and Animal Ecology of Warren County* which was a section of the Comprehensive Plan submitted by the Department's Center for Local Government. He and Barry Vann, one of our recent graduate students, co-authored a paper entitled "Factors Affecting Wood Fuel Consumption in Warren County, Kentucky" which was presented at the 1990 meeting of the Kentucky Academy of Science. A revised and more lengthy version of the manuscript with contributions by Stuart Foster will be sub-

mitted to the *Southeastern Geographer* for publication consideration. Great Plains research has focused on droughts and changes in the region's riparian forests with three field trips having been made to the Platte and Arkansas valleys in conjunction with the latter. In April 1991, "The Geographical Dynamics of Great Plains Droughts, 1895-1990" was presented as a regional climatology paper at the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers in Miami. Research on drought and riparian forest change will continue this summer and during the coming academic year.

Albert J. Petersen In November 1990, the National Geographic Society appointed Dr. Albert Petersen as co-coordinator of the Kentucky Geographic Alliance. As a consequence, this has been a very busy year for Petersen. During January, Petersen attended the National Geographic coordinating meeting in New Orleans, and in April he acted as the master of ceremonies for the Kentucky finals of the National Geographic Society's Geography Bee which was held in Louisville. Petersen and the Kentucky Geographical Alliance have adopted the policy of "have geography and will travel." During July and August 1990, Petersen co-chaired a summer Geography Institute for public school teachers at London and Ashland, Kentucky.

In 1990 Al Petersen was elected the Kentucky representative to the Southeast Division of the Association of American Geographers. He attended the November 1990 meeting at Columbia, South Carolina.

Petersen continues as a member of the Kentucky Historical Preservation Review Board which evaluates sites that are nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

Eugenie Rovai Dr. Rovai's two years at Western Kentucky University were very productive. She completed and defended (with distinction) her dissertation from Clark Univer-

sity. Rovai worked on the committee which produced the current graduate student handbook and was chair of the departmental human resource committee. The major accomplishment of this committee was to formalize a departmental anti-discrimination policy. Rovai also organized and led a student field trip to Miami, Florida for the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Throughout this period she has engaged in a full range of professional activities: She has written and presented papers, submitted works for publication, been a discussant, and chaired sessions at regional and national meetings.

As of August 1991, Rovai will be joining the faculty at California University at Chico. She has every intention of continuing her activities, particularly those concerned with student welfare.

L. Michael Trapasso Dr. L. Michael Trapasso has spent much of this time period working on and presenting various aspects of Brazilian Geography and Culture. As a result of his Fulbright-Hays Summer Fellowship in 1989, several presentations, posters, and publications have been completed. Some of these titles include: "The Deforestation of the Amazon: A Brazilian Perspective"; "Alcohol as a Motor Fuel: The Brazilian Proalcohol Program"; "The Urban Geography and Microclimate of Brasilia;" and "The Candomble: An Afro-Brazilian Religious Cult." Dr. Trapasso's other travels included a visit to England and Scotland. There he visited the Royal Meteorological Headquarters at Bracknell and presented some of his Human Bioclimatological research at the London Meteorological Office. Last summer found Trapasso exploring parts of Alaska.

At the 1991 Association of American Geographers meeting in Miami, he presented a paper entitled "Oil Production in the Alaskan Tundra: Environmental and Wildlife Conservation Efforts." Late in the summer of 1990

Dr. Trapasso attended the Adult Space Academy at Marshall Space Flight Center/U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama. A week of astronaut training was enlightening and fun for him.

During the academic year 1990/1991, Dr. Trapasso was the President of WKU Club of Sigma Xi. During his administration, the Club co-sponsored the Annual Student Research Conference, and the Bi-annual Open House for University Research (both attended by 200-300 people). He initiated the new annual award to be given to outstanding elementary school teachers and started a monthly science column which will soon appear in area newspapers. Dr. Trapasso will soon resume his research in human biometeorology dealing with weather systems and their effects upon sinus headache sufferers.

GEO BITS

In terms of service Dr. Noland Fields is the most senior member of the department, joining the faculty in 1962.

Ken Kuehn is the Vice President of the Geological Society of Kentucky.

Congratulations to Dr. Stuart Foster and his wife Jo on the recent birth of their son Gregory.

Department faculty have won two University public service awards and two college public service awards. No department on campus has equalled this record.

ALUMNI REPORTS

Jerry C. Griffin (Geography, 1965). Route 2, Box 165, Hawesville, KY 42348. Jerry is principal of Lewisport Elementary School in Hancock County. He recently completed his 25th year of teaching.

John (Johnny) Miller (Geography/Mathematics, 1970). 2771 Mohawk Drive, Bowling Green, KY 42104. Johnny is the manager of the Bowling Green office of the Department for Employment Services which serves Warren and five surrounding counties. He and his wife Karen have a two-year-old daughter named Whitney.

Edwin Lloyd McGee (Geography/History, 1971). PO Box 306, Lakeview, OH 43331. Edwin is employed as a Post Master for the U.S. Postal Service and he serves as Vice President of the Ohio Branch of the National League of Postmasters.

Gary W. Milligan (Geography/Meteorology, 1973, 1976). 3636 Marseille Drive, Owensboro, KY 42303. Gary is Marketing Manager for Western Kentucky Gas Company. He directs WKG's load building and load-maintaining activities by coordinating and implementing residential and commercial marketing programs. Gary and his wife Sharon have two children, Shanna (7) and Alyssa (4).

Paul D. Anderson (Geology, 1975) 1311 Quail Roost, Pittsburgh, PA 15237. Paul is a Senior Geologist at the John T. Boyd Company which is an international mining engineering consulting firm. He is involved in both domestic and foreign coal projects.

Lee C. Cherry (Geography, 1980). 4808 Scottsville Road, Bowling Green, KY 42103. After graduation in 1980, Lee received a

Master's degree in Business Administration from Western in 1983. He now works as Vice President of Finance for Kentucky Airgas. Lee is married to the former Jean Clark, also a Western graduate, and they have two children, Bradley (8) and Lauren (6).

Napoleon Shaka Momodu (MS City and Regional Planning, 1982). Napoleon teaches at Bendel State University's Department of Architecture in Nigeria. He is hoping to pursue his Ph.D. in the near future. Napoleon's wife, Margaret, is working on a Master's Degree in Library Science at the University of Ibadan.

Scott Harris (Geology, 1982). 501 Lansdale Avenue, Bowling Green, KY 42101. Scott is employed with Weyerhaeuser Company as a Safety and Environmental Engineer. He works with hazardous waste, air, water, pretreatment, and safety for employees. Scott was certified as a Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM) Master Level and is president of South Central KY Environmental Managers Association. He is pursuing a Master's Degree at Western in Environmental Health.

Phillip King (Geography, 1982). 921 Wren Road, Bowling Green, KY 42101. After graduation, Phillip worked in the Western Kentucky Coal fields for McEwen Engineering and Mining Consultant, Inc. Since 1989, he has been self-employed as a landscape contractor.

Roger Breeden (Geology, 1982). Roger is moving to Las Vegas, Nevada to take a position with a nuclear waste disposal company.

Bruce A. Fulkerson (Geography Meteorology/ Climatology, 1983). 10243 Colony Park Drive, Fairfax, VA 22032. Bruce is a cartographer with Engineering Topographic Laboratory. He and his wife Karen have two cats, Tucker and Hallie.

Andrew Beaven (Geography, 1986). EPS, 60 N. Mid America Mall, Ste. 620, Memphis, TN 38103. Andy relocated to Memphis, TN in early 1990. He is employed by Environmental Protection Systems, a full-service environmental analytical and engineering firm with seven offices nationwide. The firm generally works with air monitoring during asbestos abatement.

Tony Able (MS Geography, 1986). 2781 Hillyer Avenue, Decatur, GA 30030. Tony is employed by the Environmental Protection Agency where he reviews hydrogeologic reports and conducts field investigations related to the clean-up of hazardous waste sites. He recently became a registered professional geologist in the state of Georgia. Tony has recently travelled with alumni Jim Webster and Phil Reeder (trip coordinator) to study karst hydrology in Belize, Central America.

Lee Stinnet (Geography, 1986). 10130 Mosby Woods Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030. Lee is an instructor training specialist with the National Rifle Association in Washington, D.C.

Steven Baugh (Geography/Cartography, 1986). 1609 Woodland Street, Nashville, TN 37206. Steven is employed as a CADD operator with Barge, Waggoner, Sumner, and Cannon.

Kevin D. Brown (Geography/Cartography, 1986). 3012 Beech Grove Court, Apt. 6, Jeffersonville, IN 47130. Kevin is employed

as a Geography/Assistant System Maintenance Analyst with the U.S. Bureau of Census. He has recently worked on projects with regard to the 1990 Decennial Census which includes system management on VAX cluster. He is also the system administrator for Tektronix, LAN and Geographer in support of TIGER digitizing.

David Padgett (Geography, 1987). PO Box 14001, Gainesville, FL 32604-2001. David is working on his Master's Degree in Geography at the University of Florida, Gainesville. His research involves the development of a geographic information system (GIS) model capable of predicting the potential hydrological risks posed by Florida's first hazardous waste disposal facility.

Mark Bryant (Geography, 1987). 2939 Seven Pines Lane, Atlanta, GA 30339. Mark has completed his first year of graduate work in planning at Georgia Tech in Atlanta. He reports the coursework is difficult, but that his undergraduate experience at Western has given him the background to successfully complete the program. Mark worked this summer for Cecil Jones & Associates in Birmingham, AL.

Tom Feeney (MS Geography, 1987). Tom is joining the faculty in the Department of Geography and Geology for a one-year temporary assignment.

Tom Tweddell (MS Geography, 1987). 305 McKinley, Harvard, IL 60033. Tom recently accepted a teaching position at McHenry Community College. He and his wife Debbie have two children, T.J. and Andie.

Sean Pickard (Geology, 1986). 291 Greenlake Road, Galloway, OH 43119. Sean received his Master's in Chinese History from Ohio State University. He is now employed by

COSI, the Center of Science and Industry in Columbus, Ohio, in the Exhibits Program.

William K. Steinmetz (Geography/Cartography, 1987-89). 2339 Dixon St., Apt. 1, Ashland, KY 41101. William is an environmental inspector for the state of Kentucky where he "got a good job working for clean air."

Layne Mason (Geography, 1987). 8321 South 77th E. Ave., Apt. 1158, Tulsa, OK 74133. Layne has recently married. In addition, he has moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma where he is a weather forecaster for Channel 2 KJRH.

Richard Watkins (Geography, 1988). Route 1, Box 157-G, Russell Springs, KY 42642. After graduation in December 1988, Richard began working with Fruit of the Loom in Campbellsville, KY. He now works as a supervisor at the Jamestown, KY, Fruit of the Loom plant. He is married to Campbellsville native, Gidget Cox.

Ken Baker (MS City and Regional Planning 1988). Rt. 1 Box 3240, Ruckersville, VA 22968. Ken is working as a planner for a public agency. His wife is completing her residency in urology at the University of Virginia.

Lily Ann Schlinke (Geology, 1989). Ann completed her Master's Degree at Virginia Tech in the spring of 1991. Her thesis topic concerned the dissolution of asbestos. She also participated in a program to promote science among female and minority elementary school children.

Phil Reeder (MS Geography, 1989). Dept. of Geography, PO Box 4130, Univ. of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Phil is completing his Ph.D. in Geography. He is conducting his thesis research in the driftless area of Wisconsin.

David Coomer (Geology, 1989). 1105 Snake Creek Road, Columbia, KY 42728. David is a geologist with American Engineers of Glasgow. His job entails putting together coal mining permits, ground water studies, soils studies, solid waste disposal permits, and other environmental geology studies. David and his wife Pat have a two-year-old son, Seth.

Brian O. Martin (City and Regional Planning, 1989). 155 E. Washington Street, PO Box 329, Athens, GA 30603. After a brief six-month stint in Lexington, KY as a planning technician, Brian landed a job in Athens, GA as a transportation planner in November 1989. He has attended many training sessions, most notably the Traffic Institute at Northwestern University.

Teresa A. Smith Schmidt (MS City and Regional Planning, 1990). Teresa is currently employed by the State of Tennessee, State Audit Department, Performance Section.

Britton Dotson (MS Geography, 1990). 11 Requardt Lane, Apt. 3, Fort Mitchell, KY 41017. Britton works for an environmental firm in Florence, Kentucky where he lives "the glamorous life of an environmental scientist." He travels extensively and is currently working in Kalispell, Montana.

Shaun Winter (MS Geography, 1990). 1715 South Oaks, Nashville, TN 37211. Shaun is employed by SPATCO, an environmental consulting firm. He and his wife Sharon are expecting their first child in October.

Jim Webster (MS Geography, 1991). 742 Monroe Drive, Apt. 1, Atlanta, GA 30308. Jim spends much of his time travelling throughout the south as a "toxic avenger" for the Environmental Protection Agency.

Geogram 1991

Alumni Information

Name of Graduate _____
(include maiden name)

Major _____ Year of Graduation _____

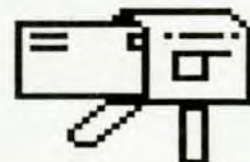
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