



Geography

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Geography Newsletter

December 2015

December Happenings

Please notice the new departmental logo! Thanks Dr. Fekete!

Graduate hooding for MS and PhD candidates is Friday, December 11 at 7 PM in Gallagher-Iba Arena. Doctoral candidate Adam Payne and MS student Carson Bode both recently successfully passed their defenses. Congratulations Adam and Carson! Adam is the 17th Ph.D. granted by the department since our first 3 graduates in the Spring of 2007.

As a reminder, the university is closed from Thursday, December 24 through Friday, January 1. The Spring 2016 semester begins on Monday, January 11. Departmental employees (GTAs and GRAs) are expected to be available for various duties the week of January 4-8.

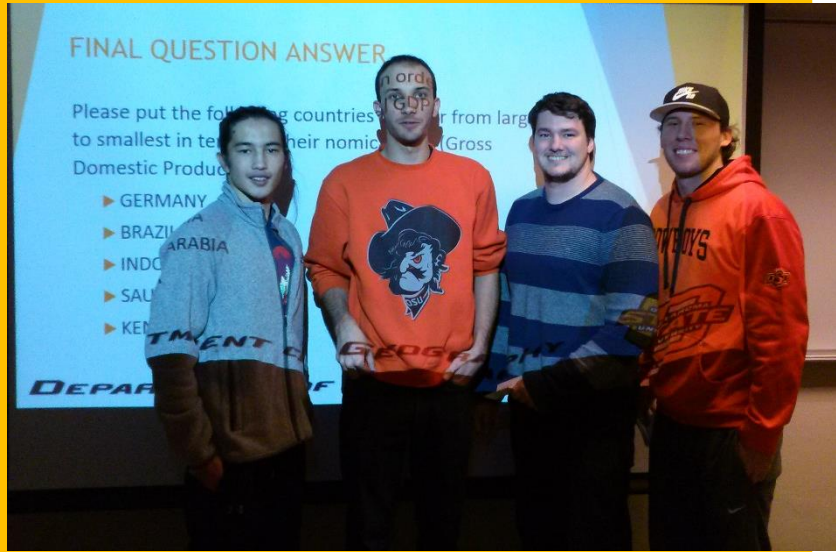
The University "Holiday Happening" is on Wednesday, December 9 from 2-4 PM in the Student Union Ballroom. Lots of wonderful food and drink courtesy of President and Mrs. Ann Hargis will be served.

The annual Research Symposium takes place on the OSU campus on February 15 and 16 on campus. This is an excellent venue for both undergraduates and graduates at OSU to present their research in either poster or paper format, very much like a disciplinary conference, and much cheaper since registration is free and the event is held on campus. Registration closes on Friday, December 18. Details can be found at <https://gradcollege.okstate.edu/ResearchSymposium> It would be great to have a strong Geography contingent.

Finally, please make sure you clean out ALL items from the break room refrigerator before you leave. We will be defrosting and cleaning it some time over the break, so all food (including condiments, etc.) will need to go bye-bye.

Geography Quiz Bowl

On November 19, the Geography Club sponsored the first Geography Bowl on the OSU campus (to our knowledge) as part of Geography Awareness Week (were you aware?). Seven student teams plus a ringer faculty team competed. The somewhat anonymous team the “Cartographers” won first place, but the “Crimea” River team won our hearts...



Emcee Daniel Surach (channeling Pistol Pete) and the first place team, the Cartographers



The teams hard at work pondering a tough question (above) and Dr. Fekete and Daniel explain the rules (below).





Holiday Party



On December 4 the department gathered for its annual holiday party and Dirty Santa Gift Exchange. Daniel Surach won the “Ugliest Christmas Sweater” contest with his awesome dino-Santa sweater.



Daniel with his “prize” for the sweater contest



Kim and Stephanie don’t understand the “ugly” part of the contest



December BS graduates Chike Etumudor, Emily Ellis, Daniel Surach, and Teddy Breig



“Onesie” Nick receives the dissertation gorilla from good old St. Steve



Recreating the famous “selfie” photo from last year’s Oscars

Football Tailgating

Twice this fall the Forum of Geography Graduates (FoGG) reserved SGA tailgating spaces, during the Homecoming Game against Kansas on October 24 and the Baylor game on November 21 (photos below). There was lots of cornholing and grilling; it seems to have brought a tear to the editor's eye...

