



Geography

Geography Newsletter

December 2019

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December Happenings

oH oH oH – it’s that time of year! Finals are upon us but soon tranquility and peace will descend on campus. Before we flee for the holidays, there are a few events coming...

On Tuesday, December 10 the annual GEOG 4313 (Field Techniques) poster display and potluck will take place in the Keso Room (327 MUR) and Geography Break Room, starting at 11:45 AM. Students are providing all the food, so just come prepared to judge the posters assembled based on research done by this year’s students in the class.

Graduate hooding for MS and PhD candidates is Friday, December 13 at 7 PM in Gallagher-Iba Arena, and Undergraduate Commencement (CAS) is Saturday, December 14 at 1:30 PM in the same venue.

We have a thesis defense coming up:

- Wednesday, December 18 – 3:30 PM – Murray Hall 327 (Keso Room). MS student **Austin Boardman** will defend his thesis titled “The Next Generation of Land System Science: Integrating Meso-Scale Analysis and UAS Remote Sensing in Changing Plant Communities of the United States’ Southern Great Plains.”

As a reminder, the university is closed from Monday, December 23 through Wednesday, January 1 for Winter Break. The Spring 2020 semester begins on Monday, January 13 and the following Monday (January 20) is MLK day and the university is closed.

Departmental employees (GTAs and GRAs) are expected to be available for various duties the week of January 6-10, 2020.



Departmental News

On Tuesday, November 19, the College of Arts & Sciences held its annual convocation to present information about the college and to recognize award winners and service recognition. Geography staffers **Logan Stephenson** and **Jean Wang** were recognized for 5 years of service.

Dale Lightfoot (L) and **Jon Comer** (R) both received 25-year service pins, and between them in the photo below is CAS Associate Dean **Tom Wikle** who received his 30-year pin. Lightfoot was overheard to say that the pin is the only reason he's been sticking around...



Departmental News (cont.)

PhD student **Maria Sol Ramirez Sáenz** competed in and was named Ms. OSU International on November 15 – Congratulations, Maria! Her talent is singing, and she is shown below performing and receiving the top prize from International Students and Scholars manager Tim Huff.



Alumni News

Jordan Brasher (MS, 2016), who is completing his PhD at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville under Derek Alderman (below, left), was awarded the John Fraser Hart Award for the Best PhD Graduate Student Paper at the 2019 SEDAAG meeting in Wilmington, North Carolina. His paper was titled “Contesting the Confederacy: Mobile Memory and the Making of Black Geographies in Brazil.” Derek Alderman also received the SEDAAG Lifetime Achievement Award.

Jordan is a 2018 recipient of the David L. Boren Graduate Fellowship, which is sponsored by the National Security Education Program. The fellowship allowed Jordan to conduct research in southern Brazil. His forthcoming dissertation, which he plans to defend in 2020, will be titled “From South of the Mason-Dixon Line to South of the Equator: Confederados and the Transnational Circulation of the Lost Cause.”



Departmental Events

On Friday, December 6 the annual departmental holiday party took place at the home of Tory and Dale Lightfoot. Dirty Santa made an appearance and the food was yummy!

