



## Geography

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# Geography Newsletter

May 2017

## May Happenings

April showers (if 9.94 total inches can be called mere showers!) will hopefully bring May flowers, but it also means some of our students (and faculty) will be sailing off to greener pastures upon graduation.

### Undergraduate Geography Degree Candidates:

**Jaryd Hinch**

**Jackson Nail**

### Master's Degree Candidates:

**Emily Ellis**

**Stephanie Koehn**

### Ph.D. Candidate (Summer 2017):

**Keeley Heise**

The department bids farewell to two colleagues. **Dr. Emily Fekete** (L) has taken a position with the national AAG office, and **Dr. Tannaz Soltani** (R) is moving on to a tenure-track position at Western Kentucky University. Best wishes to both!



And the department expresses its great and sincere gratitude to **Ann Adkins** for her years of service to OSU and Geography; Ann retired on May 1.

## 2017 Geography Awards Gathering

On May 5, the Awards Gathering was held in the Murray Hall Parlor to recognize:



John F. Rooney Scholarship  
for Outstanding Junior  
(\$2,300): **Brooke Bastie**



Outstanding Senior:  
**Jaryd Hinch**



Robert E. Norris Scholarship  
for Outstanding First Year  
Master's Student (\$2,500):  
**Catherine Shropshire**



Jerry Croft Family Scholarship  
for Geographic Education  
(\$1,500): **Matt Haffner**



Robert and Lucy Fite  
Scholarship for Outstanding  
First Year PhD Student  
(\$3,000): **Ben Hemingway**



Susan Shaull Medal for  
Excellence in Teaching:  
**Jordan McAlister**

## 2017 Geography Awards Gathering (cont.)

Travel Awards for 2017-18 were also announced at the Gathering:



Robert E. Norris Scholarship for Conference Travel (\$550):  
**Matt Haffner** and **Thomas Craig**

GTU Travel Scholarship (\$250): **Emily Ellis**



Alyson L Greiner  
Scholarship for  
Undergraduate Travel  
(\$350): **Curtis Rich**  
(Photo not available)

Stephen W. Tweedie Travel Scholarship (\$500):  
**Brian Gilson** and **Jordan McAlister**

## 2017 Geography Awards Gathering (cont.)



Gamma Theta Upsilon (GTU) recognized **Ann Adkins** as the Outstanding Staff Member for 2016-17



The Forum of Geography Graduates (FOGG) recognized **Dr. Amy Frazier** as the Outstanding Teacher for 2016-17

Awards received by students from other organizations:

- **Stephanie Heald** received the Oklahoma SCAUG student scholarship at that group's annual meeting in September.
- **Thomas Craig** was the winner of the 2017 Gail Hobbs Student Paper Competition sponsored by the Geography Education Specialty Group (GESG) at the 2017 AAG meetings in Boston.
- **Keeley Heise** was a recipient of the Jeanne X. Kasperson award from the Hazards, Risk, and Disaster Specialty Group at the AAG meetings.
- **Emily Ellis** has been awarded a Student Research Award by the OSU Women's Faculty Council.
- **Samayita Bandyopadhyay** has been selected to receive a Pruitt Dissertation Fellowship from the Society of Women Geographers.

## Gamma Theta Upsilon (ΓΘΥ) Initiation

On May 5, the Chi Chapter of Gamma Theta Upsilon, the International Geographical Honor Society, initiated new members. Chapter President Brian Gilson inducted the new members who were present. Those inducted in 2017 were:

Sarah Baker

Rachel Cox

Kayla King\*

Puja Jana\*\*

Fernanda Ramirez Saenz\*\*

Catherine Shropshire\*\*

Cassandra Walker

Jing Wang\*\*\*

Lowell Caneday, Professor Emeritus, OSU

\* Geography Undergraduate

\*\* Geography Graduate Student


\*\*\* Geography Staff Member



L-R: Jean Wang, Catherine Shropshire, Fernanda Ramirez Saenz, Kayla King, and Lowell Caneday initiated into GTU by Brian Gilson.

All photographs on pages 2-5 courtesy of Brad Bays

## News From Around the Department

- **Dr. Emily Fekete** recently guest-edited an issue (Vol. 34, #2) of the *Journal of Cultural Geography* on Deaf Geographies. The issue features an introduction by Mike Gulliver and Emily Fekete, and articles on the topic, including one by Dr. Fekete titled “Embodiment, linguistics, space: American Sign Language meets geography.”
- **Geography Club** has elected new officers for the 2017-18 school year:  
President: Hayden Harrison                      Vice-President: Kayla King  
Treasurer: Giovanni Penna                      Secretary: Amanda LaHue
- **Jordan McAlister** has been awarded a Humphrey’s Travel Grant at OSU. This will fund his studies this summer at the Ho Chi Minh City University of Humanities and Social Sciences in summer 2017.
- **Brian Gilson** has been awarded a grant from the Title VIII Program, administered by the Bureau of Intelligence and Research, for the second year in a row. This provides funding for research and language training to American scholars and students for the study of Eastern Europe and Eurasia (Independent States of the Former Soviet Union). Brian will once again spend part of summer 2017 studying languages in the beautiful, bucolic, best-college-town-ever: Bloomington, Indiana. 



- **Qinyue (Arlene) Pan** (above) recently gave a presentation at Ohlone College (Freemont, CA) based on her dissertation research. We are happy to hear from her!

## More News From Around the Department

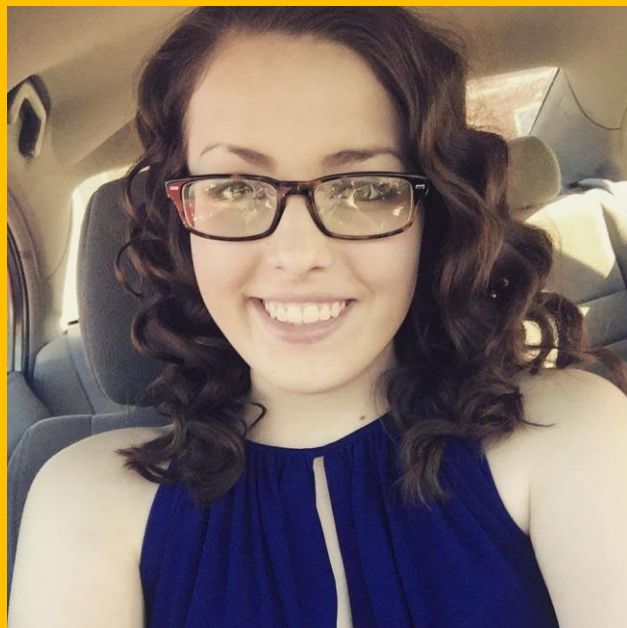
**Dale Lightfoot** will begin service as the OSU Fulbright Program Advisor (FPA) beginning July 1. The FPA reports to the Dean, School of Global Studies and Partnerships, and is responsible for directing and enhancing the University's participation in the Fulbright Scholarship Program and the Boren Scholarship and Fellowship programs. He will also serve as faculty advisor to the international OSU Fulbright Students and Scholars Organization, attend annual meetings of the National Fulbright Association and coordinate the Provost's annual reception for OSU Fulbright alumni and current Fulbright international students and scholars.

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program, the country's largest student exchange program, places U.S. students in schools around the world where they act as an ambassador for the United States, work with research advisers in the host country, and learn about its people and culture. Boren Scholarships, an initiative of the National Security Education Program, provide funding opportunities for U.S. undergraduate students to study less commonly taught languages in world regions critical to U.S. interests, and underrepresented in study abroad, including Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin America, and the Middle East. Boren Scholars represent a vital pool of highly motivated individuals who wish to work in the federal national security arena.

Undergraduate geography student **Kayla King** (below) was awarded the 2017 Geospatial Summer Institute Fellowship Program which is sponsored by the Oklahoma NASA Space Grant and the Center for Spatial Analysis. The program dates are June 1st - July 14th.



Kayla has also been admitted to the Undergraduate Mentorship Program in the Fall 2017. She will be working with **Dr. Carlos Cordova**, and the results of her work will be presented in this year's SWAAG meeting in Huntsville, Texas.



## ***Journal of Cultural Geography* Milestones**

This summer **Alyson Greiner's** work as editor of the *Journal of Cultural Geography* will come to an end. Alyson joined the journal's editorial board as assistant editor in 1998. From 2002 until 2008 she served as the editor-in-chief and managing editor, as well as co-founder and director of JCG Press. Steady growth in submissions and changes in the publishing landscape led to a very beneficial partnership between JCG Press and Taylor & Francis. Since the creation of that partnership, Alyson has served as the journal's editor-in-chief since 2008.

Over the course of her editorship, Alyson saw the publication frequency of the journal rise from two to three times per year, and witnessed the evolution of the journal into an internationally recognized periodical. (Some diehard journal subscribers still boast about having a complete set of all the issues ever published!) She also arranged and published 12 special issues focused on a variety of topics from cinematic landscapes to indigenous geography to contemporary research strategies in cultural geography. In 2013 she introduced a new section of the journal called "Creative Mappings." That section features original research that does not lend itself to the format of the standard research article. Alyson was recently honored at the AAG meeting in Boston with a special panel session, sponsored by the Cultural Geography Specialty Group, on the future of the journal. The final issue that she will have primary editorial responsibility for is the October 2017 issue.

Many, many people have contributed to the success of the *Journal of Cultural Geography* since it has been housed here at OSU, so some thanks are in order: I would like to thank my colleagues who helped review manuscripts or otherwise gave freely of their expertise to answer my questions or help me solve problems along the way. I received a great deal of valuable assistance from several of our former undergraduate and graduate students who were employed as editorial assistants on the journal. Tom Wikle contributed expert support as the journal's long-time cartographic advisor, and Mike Larson also provided reliably high-quality cartographic production services, often on short notice. (Please also welcome Mike as the new cartographic advisor; he is succeeding Tom so the department's ties to the journal will continue.) Last but certainly not least, I thank Dale Lightfoot for his unwavering support and commitment to the journal, without which none of this would have been possible.

