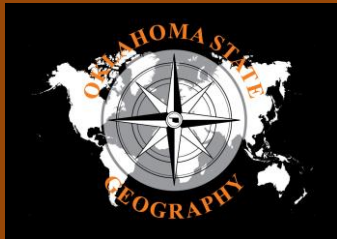


Oklahoma  
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# Geography Newsletter

November 2014

## November Happenings

November is here; Thanksgiving Break nears, cooler weather appears, and term projects should be in high gear!

The department will soon be interviewing three candidates for the open, tenure-track position in **Sustainability** or **Coupled Human-Natural Systems**. Interviews cover two days, with a colloquium presentation at 3:30 – hopefully on Mondays as usual but it depends on the applicants' schedules. Each applicant will also have a scheduled lunch with students, a reception after his/her colloquium, and other meetings and events. Students are encouraged to attend all events and a sign-up sheet for each lunch will be in the main office once the schedules are set. Interviews will hopefully take place between November 17-26.

On Friday, November 14, the Geography Club will staff a booth at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual "Cowgirls Class at the Court", an educational event for are K-8 students before the Cowgirls play Loyola Marymount at 11 AM that day.

As a reminder, Wednesday, November 26 is a student holiday (no classes) but the university is still open for business. Thursday and Friday are university holidays and everything is shut down for the 4-day weekend (including heat!).

As a follow-up to the devastation that occurred at Babcock Park in September, the Geography Club has challenged the Staff and Graduate Students to a rematch – at the bowling alley. Wednesday, November 19, at 8:00 PM will be the time, Frontier Lanes (the only game in town) will be the place, and a three-way battle for supremacy will be the stakes! The cost is a flat \$10 that covers shoe rental and unlimited games. One undergraduate student has opined that this will be too late for most faculty to stay up...

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## Faculty/Student Conference Travel

Dr. Adam Matthews, Dr. Reuel Hanks, and Ava Keenen (Geography undergraduate) attended the seventh conference on Race, Ethnicity and Place held in Fort Worth, October 22-24. Counting posters, the conference featured over 300 presenters from as far away as Nigeria and represented at least 80 institutions and government agencies. Adam gave a presentation entitled “Exploring Regional Marketing of Place by American Microbreweries: Physical, Cultural and Ethnic Aspects,” and also chaired another panel.

Ava presented “Ethnic Identity in Kazakhstan: Emerging Identityscapes Based on Recent Fieldwork,” the joint project she and Hanks developed as part of the **Geography Mentors Program** – Ava is part of the inaugural group of students selected for this program and it was the program’s first student presentation.

It was an excellent opportunity to showcase OSU geography and some of its rising stars, and the department had a table featuring literature, writing implements, and other goodies that were quickly snatched up by conference participants. The only downside to the experience was being reminded on several occasions by the hosts from TCU of the outcome of the TCU-OSU football game the previous Saturday. Nevertheless, it was clear OSU does geography as well or better than all of our conference rivals, and many other institutions



Ava Keenen giving her presentation

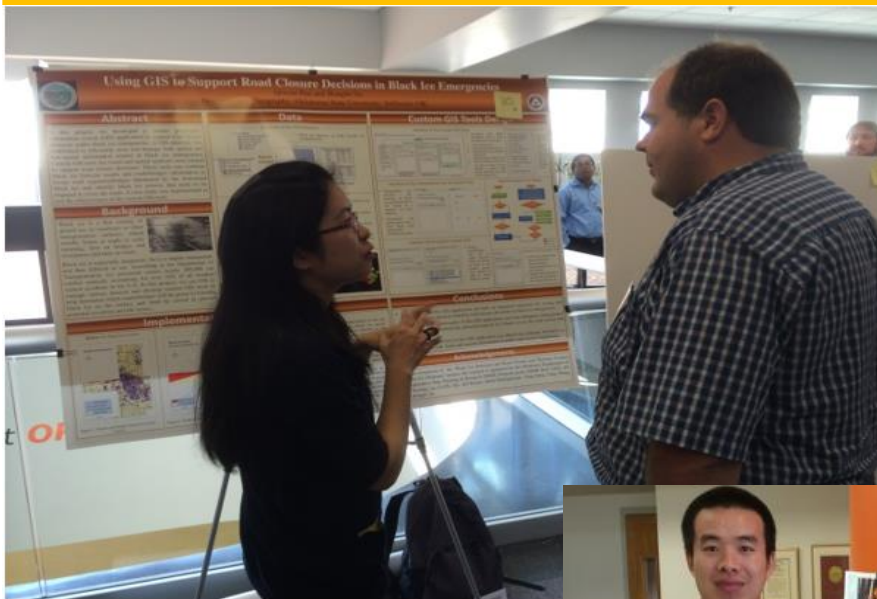


Reuel and Ava promoting OSU Geography

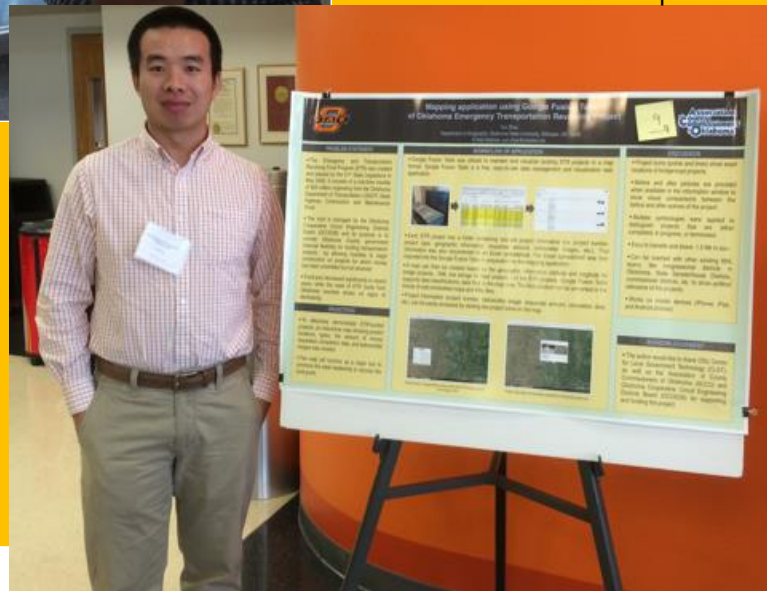
## Faculty/Student Conference Travel (cont.)

Several geographers attended the 2014 Oklahoma Transportation Research Day held in Oklahoma City on October 21. This event was sponsored by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation and the Southern Plains Transportation Center. Arlene Pan and Hongbo Yu delivered a poster presentation titled “Using GIS to Support Road Closure Decisions in Black Ice Emergencies.” The work presented in the poster came from a recently completed project supported by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation State Planning & Research (SP&R) Program grant.

Yun Zhao also presented a poster titled “Mapping Application Using Google Fusion Table of Oklahoma Emergency Transportation Revolving Project”, which summarizes part of his internship work completed for the Oklahoma Circuit Engineering District Board in the summer of 2014. Although they were outnumbered by the engineers at the event, they were happy to showcase what geographers can do in the transportation research field.



Arlene Pan explaining the work to an audience



Yun Zhao with his poster

## Faculty/Student Conference Travel (cont.)

Graduate Students Jordan Brasher, Kimberly Johnson, and Amanda Weber served with distinction as student workers at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the **Pioneer America Society: Association for the Preservation of Artifacts and Landscapes**, held in Oklahoma City in Bricktown, October 9-11.

Two OSU members attended and presented their research at the **Applied Geography Conference** in Atlanta, October 15-17:

- Jon Comer: "Community Access to General Aviation Amidst Airport Closures, 1991-2011" (with co-author Tom Wikle). Their manuscript will appear in *Papers in Applied Geography* in 2015.
- Steven Ericson: "Crime on the Concrete Campus: An Examination of Crime Patterns around the Georgia State University Campus." His manuscript will likewise appear in *Papers in Applied Geography* in 2015.

The department was well represented at the annual **Southwest Division** regional meeting of the AAG (**SWAAG**) held in Albuquerque, October 22-24.

### Papers:

- Alyson Greiner: "Sacred Space and Globalization: An Historical and Geographical Appraisal."
- Steve Stadler (with OU's Scott Greene): "The Geography of 'No': Further Adventures in Oklahoma's Wind Power Development."
- Jon Comer: "Don't it Make My Red State Blue: A Spatio-Temporal Analysis of Oklahoma's Voting-Registration Mismatch."

### Posters:

- Kimberly Johnson (with OU's Virginia Silvis): "Disaster Response and Recovery: Are Women Falling Through the Cracks?"
- Nicole Colston, Amy Graham, and Jackie Vadjunec (with OU's Todd Fagin): "Governance and Land Use Cover Change in the Southern Great Plains: A Case Study from Cimarron County, OK and Union County, NM."

### Others:

- Jon Comer participated in a Graduate Program Information Session at which 13 Graduate Coordinators gave brief descriptions of their programs.
- Graduate students Jordan Brasher and Amanda Weber also made the long drive (with Kimberly) down Route 66 (well, I-40) to Albuquerque.

## Scenes from New Mexico



The banquet that concluded the SWAAG conference was held at the historic (and rather derelict, but spacious!) Albuquerque Rail Yards (left). A repast of Southwest cuisine was served, and the current AAG President, Mona Domosh of Dartmouth College, gave the keynote address "From the U.S. South to the Global South: Practicing Development at Home." No one was too concerned about the rather large number of security guards in evidence, though the setting certainly had attendees feeling like they were "Breaking Bad". Below, University of Central Arkansas professor (and friend of OSU Geography) Matt Connolly joins Jon Comer, Amanda Weber, and Jordan Brasher at the banquet.

2014 Joint Meeting of the  
Southwest and Great Plains-Rocky Mountain Divisions  
of the Association of American Geographers

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Conference Program

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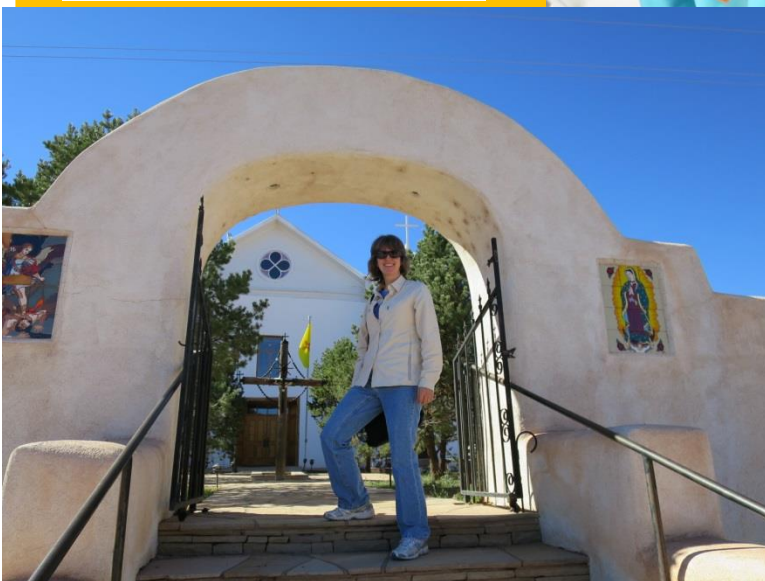
Conference Organizers  
K. Maria D. Lane, University of New Mexico  
J.M. Shawn Hutchinson, Kansas State University



On Saturday, October 25, Alyson Greiner participated in a field trip to northern New Mexico, specifically the San Miguel del Bado Land-grant where OU Emeritus Professor of Geography Richard Nostrand undertook study in the village of El Cerrito, on which he gave a colloquium at OSU many years ago.

At left, Dr. Greiner at the San Miguel Church.

(Photos provided by Dr. Greiner).



# Halloween Party 2014

The Halloween Party was Thursday, October 30, at the home of Dale and Tory Lightfoot. Do you recognize anyone? There were many scary costumes...



# Halloween Party 2014



Best costume winners!

