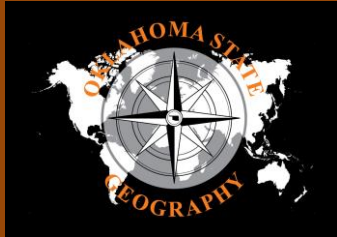


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Geography Newsletter

November 2015

November Happenings

November is (more than halfway) here; Thanksgiving Break nears and departmental activities are in high gear!

The department has three Monday colloquia coming up:

- November 23: Christopher Galletti, Dartmouth College, "Climate Variability and Land Change in Dhofar, Oman - A tale of monsoons, civil war, and social change as told by satellites"
- November 30: Tammy Parece, Virginia Tech, "Geospatial Analysis of Microclimates to Site Urban Agriculture"
- December 7: Peter Kedron, Ryerson University, title TBA

This is Geography Awareness Week – Were you Aware?

"Explore! The Power of Maps"



Wednesday, November 18, will be the first (annual?) International Pot Luck Lunch in the break room starting at noon. Bring an exciting, exotic dish to share!

Thursday, November 19, will be the first (annual?) Geography Trivia Bowl put on by the Geography Club. Teams of 4 will compete for prizes and the glory of knowing the most geographic trivia at 7 PM in Ag Hall 108. Contact Dr. Emily Fekete for details or if you want to form a team.

As a reminder, Wednesday, November 25 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!).



Faculty/Student Conference Travel



OSU was well-represented in San Antonio the first week of November to present at the combined SWAAG/Applied Geography Conference. Those giving presentations were:

Dr. Emily Fekete: "Power, Patrons, and Proprietors: Using Social Media to Understand Geographies of Consumption"

Yun Zhao and Dr. Hongbo Yu: "Assessing the Accessibility Impact of the Proposed High-Speed Rail Between Dallas and Houston"

Dr. Steve Stadler and Dr. Scott Greene (OU): "An Unfair Industrial Landscape"

Drs. Jon Comer and Tom Wikle: "Alleviating Congestion on Aviation Frequencies Near Non-Towered Airports in the U.S."

Dr. Adam Mathews: "A Practical UAV Remote Sensing Methodology to Generate Multispectral Orthophotos for Vineyards"

Jordan Brasher and Dr. Adam Mathews: "Place-Based Marketing Trends Exhibited by Oklahoma Wineries and Vineyards"

Taylor Iberosi and Dr. Reuel Hanks: "Interrogating Islamic Identityscapes in Kazakhstan: Articulating Spatial Parameters from Recent Field Work"

Carson Bode: "Spatial Clustering Of False Ring Anomalies in *Juniperus Virginiana* of the Oklahoma Crosstimbers"

Drs. Amy Frazier and Tom Wikle: "What's in a Name? Factors Driving Geography Departments to Change their Name"

Emily Ellis and Dr. Adam Mathews: "Assessing Vulnerable Populations Related to Tornado Siren Placement and Coverage in Stillwater, Oklahoma"

OSU alumni were also in abundance at the conference. Recent PhD recipients Stacey Brown (2011), Steven Ericson (2014), and Stephen O'Connell (2010) also gave presentations and brought students to the conference.

Scenes from San Antonio



On Thursday evening, November 5, OSU students Emily Ellis and Carson Bode participated in the first ever SWAAG World Geography Bowl as part of a team kludged together by Stephen O'Connell (Central Arkansas), Steven Ericson (Alabama), and Jon Comer (OSU) that was dubbed team "Ark-labama". While the team did not take home top honors, Carson Bode performed well individually and will be on the SWAAG team at AAG in March in San Francisco. Dr. Amy Frazier was a judge for one of the competition rooms.

Part of the OSU contingent to SWAAG traveled via university van, making stops in West, Texas for kolaches at the Czech Stop but more importantly paying homage to Buc-ee the beaver and his super-sized gas station in New Braunfels, Texas. Van travelers included (seated) Jordan Brasher, Taylor Iberosi, Emily Ellis, and Amy Frazier, and (standing) Adam Mathews, Emily Fekete, Jon Comer, Yun Zhao, and Carson Bode.



Departmental News

Brad Bays has been invited to be part of a research panel that kicks off Research Week at OSU in February. Faculty panelists will represent the departments of art, geography, physiological sciences, civil engineering, and history. Dr. Bays will talk about his barn research (featured in past newsletters).

OSU Geography was represented at the October 29 university Majors Fair. Drs. Emily Fekete and Adam Mathews, CART Services personnel Mike Larson (not pictured) and Clay Barrett, and undergraduate major Brooke Bastie helped promote undergraduate geography majors at the event. Also, Brooke was named a "Top Freshman" by Mortar Board for 2015-16 (second from left, front row, below). Congratulations Brooke!!!

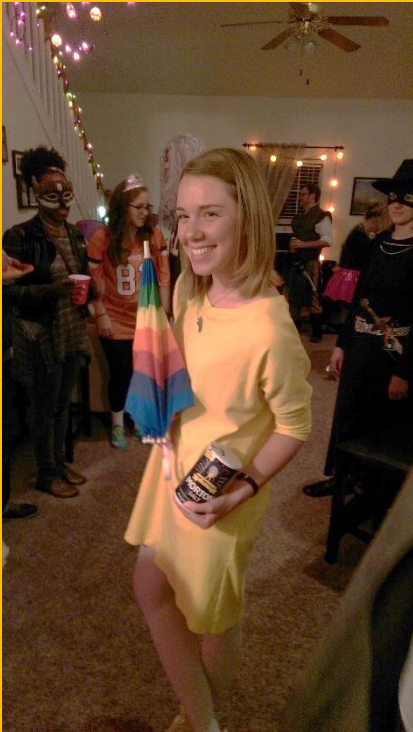


Research Assistant Professor Stella Liu gave a colloquium to the department on Monday, October 19 titled "Making connection between people, place, and plan: A road map to manage recreation and tourism."



Halloween Party 2015

The Halloween Party was Friday, October 30, at the home of Dr. Emily Fekete. Do you recognize anyone? There were many good costumes...



First Place



Second Place



Third Place



Halloween Party 2015



Field Techniques Field Trip

Students of GEOG 4313 (Field Techniques and Geodata collection) and 6313 (Mixed Methods in Field Research) spent November 11-14 in the panhandle region of Oklahoma and northeastern New Mexico, specifically Clayton, New Mexico. The town of Clayton is quite small and has a population of just under 3,000 residents. The students were tasked with interviewing some of the town's residents in order to gain an understanding of the history of the town and how life has changed since the Dust Bowl and World War II. Other students collected GPS points of some of the nearby tourist attractions, such as Mount Capulin, and the famous dinosaur tracks, to eventually compile into a map. Students also got to have tours of some of the older establishments in the community such as the Eklund Hotel and Luna Theater. In between conducting their research, the students got to enjoy some great Mexican food at the local restaurants.



Front row (L-R): Kimberly Johnson, Puja Jana, Lela Berastequi, Catherine Shropshire, Brooke Atherton, Mike Larson (emeritus).

Back row: Matt Haffner, Jackie Vadjunec, Amanda Weber, Daniel Surach, Nick Deyoe, Emily Ellis, Maria McKeaigg, Brian Birchler, and Anthony Pentimoni.

Photo by Tom Cox