

UWM GEOGRAPHY

Spring/Summer 2005

Vol. 1 No. 2

NEWSLETTER NAME

Thank you for the names suggested for our newsletter. We anticipate unveiling the name in the next issue. Please let us know your preference from the list below:

Forty-Three Eighty Seven;
Forty-Three North; Horizon;
Coordinates; (L)attitudes;
Genuine Geography; Explorer
Panther Geographer;
GeoPanther

[\(use this form to send us your choice\)](#)

THE ON-LINE NEWSLETTER

Many of the stories included in this print edition of the newsletter have expanded coverage on-line. Please see <http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/Geography> for more details.

UWM GEOGRAPHY NEWS

JUDITH T. KENNY,
FACULTY EDITOR
SHERRY A. MEYER,
PRODUCING EDITOR
DEANNA BENSON,
GRAPHIC DESIGN ASSISTANCE

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY
COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
MILWAUKEE
FOURTH FLOOR, BOLTON HALL
P.O. BOX 413
MILWAUKEE, WI 53201

PHONE: 414.229.4866
EMAIL: GeogNews@uwm.edu
WEBSITE: <http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/Geography>

FACULTY NEWS

SCHWARTZ PRESENTED NATIONAL AWARD BY AAG

Mark D. Schwartz, Professor of Geography at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, was recently awarded the Ronald F. Abler Distinguished Service Honors by the National Council of the Association of American Geographers (AAG), for his service to geography through effective leadership in his department and within the discipline of geography, for the lasting institutional impact he has created for geography graduate programs, and for his exemplary actions toward rebuilding an academic core and faculty in the Geography Department. The Honors were conferred by the AAG in Denver, Colorado, at the Annual Meeting Awards Luncheon, which was held on Saturday, April 9, 2005. Schwartz earned his doctorate at the University of Kansas (1985), and his bachelor's and master's degrees at Michigan State University (1980, 1982). He is also an active researcher, considered a pioneer in thinking of vegetation phenology (the branch of science dealing with the relationships between climate and plant growth) on the continental scale ([click here for expanded article](#)).



Victoria Lawson presents the Abler Distinguished Service Honors to Mark Schwartz at AAG in Denver.

FACULTY AWARDS & GRANTS

Nik Heynen received the UWM Morris Fromkin Award, given to a UWM scholar to conduct research on individuals, groups, movements and ideas which have influenced the quest for social justice and human rights.

Yehua Dennis Wei received an Outstanding Young Scientist Award from the Natural Science Foundation of China (its highest for overseas scientists and scholars of Chinese descent), presented for his work on globalization and regional development in China, in collaboration with Nanjing University.

Chris De Sousa & Changshan Wu have received funding from the USDA Forest Service North Central Research Station to assess the impact of brownfields redevelopment on residential property values and real estate conditions.

Changshan Wu was funded by the Research Infrastructure Program, Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium to study impervious surface estimation using IKONOS imagery; and UWM Graduate School Research Committee Award to study Lyme Disease and environmental relationships in Wisconsin with remote sensing and GIS.

EMERITI NEWS

UWM'S ARCTIC MAN: AN INTERVIEW WITH DONN HAGLUND ([CLICK HERE FOR FULL INTERVIEW](#))

Professor Donn Haglund is UWM's *Arctic Man*, even in retirement. For over 25 years he taught the *Arctic Winter* field course, visiting such destinations as Alaska, Canada, Greenland, Iceland and Scandinavia. Two of his students discovered the northern-most point of land on Earth: Oodaaq Island off of Greenland.

He first got interested in the Arctic while changing slides for a presentation given by Trevor Lloyd at the 1954 AAG meeting – its 50th Anniversary meeting. Professor Lloyd asked if Donn had ever considered Greenland. Well – from that moment on, he did. Donn's dissertation examined the economic geography of western Greenland.

His research often took him to the Arctic and, as the years went by,



Donn got interested in the Iditarod Sled Dog Race. This year was the 33rd annual race. Almost every year since the seventh race, and now as a member of the organizing committee,

he has been at the finish line when the teams come in.

Donn began teaching at UWM in 1958 and retired in 2003. He knew he had geographic leanings from the second grade onward. By the age of 21 he was teaching geography. He has seen many transformations in the discipline and encourages geographers to educate themselves broadly using all variety of media, from atlases to GIS.

In 2004 AAG celebrated its centennial. He was the only survivor of the Golden Anniversary meeting to also plan the Centennial Celebration, held at "Penn," where he got his PhD. He unveiled a commemorative plaque at the University of Pennsylvania campus in the building in which AAG was founded in 1904.

ALUMNI NEWS

We are pleased to share news with you from the following alumni ([click here for expanded alumni reports](#)):

EMIL L. BRANDT, BS '57 received his MS in Urban & Regional Planning from UW-Madison in 1963. After a 40 year planning career in Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota he retired in 1999. Half that time was spent coordinating transportation planning and development activities for the Twin Cities Metropolitan Council.

GERALD ALAN NEY, BS '67 served in the Army as an Aerial Surveillance Officer in Military Intelligence.

ANDREW BOND, MA '79, PHD '83 is managing editor of *Eurasian Geography and Economics* at Bellwether Publishing in Columbia, Maryland.

SUPANEE CHALOTHORN, PHD '83 works at Kasem Bundit University in Bangkok, Thailand as director of the

Research Center in the Graduate School of the Department of Public Administration.

BLAINE BLAESING, BA '86 is a project manager for DigitalGlobe in Boulder, Colorado. He has completed seven marathons in the last few years.

IRA L. EISEN, BA '00 earned his MA in Geography at the University of Montana. He is currently a GIS analyst for Charis Corporation of San Bernardino, California.

PAUL M. VEPRASKAS, BA '02 is a GIS technician with R.A. Smith and Associates in Brookfield, Wisconsin.

ERROL MCINTYRE, BA '03 is presently a crew scheduler for Midwest Airlines.

DEREK ROBINSON, BA '03 is a research photographer for CoStar Group, Inc., gathering data on every parcel in

Milwaukee County by canvassing and also using state-of-the-art software, technology and research methods. Recently he spoke to the senior capstone course about his work.

CARRIE E. CHECK, BS '04 is pursuing a BA in GeoSciences with a minor in math, and intends to get a MS in Atmospheric Science. She is working with Chris De Sousa on his HUD brownfield project.

JUDITH RUETSCHKE, BA '04 is studying Urban & Regional planning at UW-Madison. Working with the Institute for Environmental Studies, she developed a web-based course on urban ecology and will be accompanying its students through Europe this Summer.

Please keep in touch, so we can all keep up-to-date with what "geographers are doing."

Our students are eager to meet alumni and learn how others have utilized their UWM geography degrees. They truly benefit by spending time with alumni. If you have internship opportunities, or if you are interested in speaking to a class or joining our students for a brown bag lunch, please contact us so we can make the appropriate arrangements.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES & AWARD RECIPIENTS !

GRADUATES

DOCTORS OF PHILOSOPHY

Danlin Yu (2005, Wei)
Chuanrong Zhang (2004, Day)
Sonata Restificar (2004, Day)

MASTERS DEGREES

Greg Rybarczyk (2005, Wu)
Stephen Schmidt (2005, Heynen)
Rashi Sharma (2005, Kenny)
Peter Strand (2005, Kenny)
Ramona Tenorio (2005, Drezner)
Kim Weckerly (2005, Drezner)

BACCALAUREATES

Benjamin Casper
Brian Fried
Vickie Hall
Robert Hoffman
Andrew M. Joosten
Brandon Meleski
Owen Nason
Deborah Toth

AWARDEES

MARY JO READ AWARDS 2005-2006

Sarah Drasen
Liang Liang
Falguni Mukherjee
Matt Pittman
Lorne Platt
Parama Roy
John Schneider

SERVICE AWARDS

Harold Perkins
Will Sharkey



MARY JO READ AWARDEES 2004-2005, 2005-2006

Mary Jo Read taught at UWM from 1940 until 1965, serving as a long-time chair of Geography. Upon her death in 1998 the Mary Jo Read Geography Fund, with estimated assets of more than \$1 million, was created by a gift from her estate. It benefits the Department by providing scholarships, fellowships, and merit awards to both graduate and undergraduate students who demonstrate academic excellence in the field.

ALUMNI UPDATES

Please send us news of yourself either by email at GeogNews@uwm.edu or by sending this form ([pdf version](#)) to us. Thanks. And, look for alumni updates to be published in upcoming editions of the newsletter.

Name: _____ UWM Degree(s)/Date(s): _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Post-UWM Degree(s): _____

Employer: _____

My news is... _____

Gifts can be made to the "UWM Foundation – Geography Fund," 3230 E. Kenwood Boulevard, Milwaukee, WI 53211.

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS & EVENTS

INTO THE FIELD...

On behalf of Jeremia Njeru, PhD candidate, we extend thanks to an anonymous donor, whose gift will fund Jeremia's travels for dissertation research on the Karura Forest in Nairobi, Kenya.



Karura Forest in Nairobi, Kenya, showing the extent of deforestation.

GEOGRAPHY CLUB NEWS

The Geography Club's first outing was to Horicon Marsh on a blustery May day. There they toured the state park wildlife area and enjoyed a boat ride through the marsh. The group was met by Bill Volkert, an educator for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. In an hour-long discussion, he transported the group back in time to the start of the last ice age, and then brought them up to the present day. He gave great insights into the changing site and situation of the Marsh from the 1600s onward, during the era of the Wisconsin territory, and its

subsequent economic, cultural and ecological transformations since statehood. From there the Club boarded a boat to tour the waters of the Marsh. Birding on the boat while coasting through this transformed landscape completed a very intriguing day.

Please check our website for the Geography Club's Summer Schedule of Events, including a camping trip.

THE HAROLD MAYER SPEAKERS

[\(CLICK FOR EXPANDED ARTICLE\)](#)

This semester Helga Leitner and Eric Sheppard, of the University of Minnesota, were the Harold Mayer speakers, in a talk entitled, *Contesting Neoliberal Urbanization: Spaces and Scales of Activism*. Neil Smith was the Autumn speaker. The lecture series is made possible by an endowment from Harold & Florence Mayer.



Eric Sheppard and Helga Leitner