

PANTHER GEOGRAPHY

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

As another Fall semester rolls along, the weather in Wisconsin has continued to provide an interesting story, with a variety of extremes in recent months! In the early summer, we had record rainfall coupled with warm (but notably not hot) temperatures. As a result, my sweetcorn crop was exceptional (not an easy feat in Shorewood). August, typically our warmest month, was notably cool, with low temperatures coming close to 50°F several mornings. In contrast, September saw drought conditions, with only slightly more than ½ inch of rain for the whole month, but also unusually warm temperatures (reaching 90°F or warmer three days in a row). However, again my garden benefited – I had easily twice as many tomatoes as in a typical summer.



Here is a quick summary of some of our recent departmental news: 1) three students finished their doctoral degrees this past spring: Nick Padilla, Haijian Liu, and Hong Zhuo; 2) Geography faculty and graduate students enjoyed one of those 90°F day for our annual departmental picnic, which was held on the afternoon of Sunday, September 24th; 3) five new graduate students joined the department this semester: Wei Fan, Ryan Filbin, Chenxi Lin, Sarah Ryniker, and Bailu Zhao; 4) Dr. Trevor Barnes, a Professor of Geography at the University of British Columbia, delivered the Fall Harold and Florence Mayer lecture on Friday, September 29th; and lastly, 5) we noted with sadness the passing of Emeritus Professor Donn Haglund in August.

So, despite continuing challenges, the department continues to enjoy relative stability and many noteworthy achievements. Please read all about them in the rest of this newsletter. We appreciate your continued support, and hope to hear what you all have been doing. Please let us know!

Distinguished Professor Mark D. Schwartz
Chair, Department of Geography



From left: Donna Genzmer, Mark Schwartz, Dorothy Copeland (third from left), and Anne Bonds at the 2015 awards ceremony.

We would like to share our congratulations and farewell to Dorothy Copeland, who served the Department with excellence as a custodian for many years. She received a UWM Outstanding Service Award in 2015, and she has moved on to become Lead Worker in Custodial Services. We are delighted to welcome Shula Umeseaka, our new custodian this fall.

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College of Letters & Science

IN MEMORIAM

A TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR DONN HAGLUND



We are deeply saddened to share news of the death in August of Donn K. Haglund, Professor Emeritus of Geography, who served UWM as a faculty member for over 40 years. His unique and remarkable career, recently recognized with a Lowell Thomas Award (see below), was distinguished above all by his passion for and dedication to the Arctic.

After discovering his love of geography as a child, Professor Haglund graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Drake University with honors in geography, then earned his PhD in Economic Geography at the University of Pennsylvania. His dissertation on western Greenland helped establish him as an expert on maritime transport to support Arctic economic development.

In addition to teaching for the UWM Department of Geography from 1958 – only two years after the University’s founding – to 2003, he served as a visiting professor at the Universities of Alaska, Carleton, Calgary, McGill, Saskatchewan, and Stockholm, and he lectured at Oxford and Cambridge. Having led his first classes at the Wharton School at the age of 21 in 1948 and served as a guest lecturer for UWM Geography as recently as the early 2010s, he taught college students in eight different decades.

Of the many courses Dr. Haglund taught at UWM, the most distinctive and memorable was the Arctic Winter wilderness field course, which he led for over 25 years. The course gave students the opportunity to complete projects at sites across the Arctic, including Alaska, Canada, Greenland, Iceland, and Scandinavia. Two students from this class discovered the northernmost point of land on Earth: Oodaaq Island, just off the coast of Greenland. Professor Emeritus Mick Day cited the course

as an inspiration for his own popular fieldwork course: “Donn was a good friend to me throughout my career in the UWM Geography Department, and his Arctic field courses inspired me to develop the tropical fieldwork course.”

Professor Haglund’s passion for the North also extended to service. Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Churchill-Hudson Bay, Reynald Rouleau, wrote of “his ability to inspire people with his passion for the North and stand in solidarity with those of us who live here.” Through his church in Whitefish Bay, Dr. Haglund organized work camps through which he and other congregation members volunteered time and labor to improve a church building in Nome, Alaska. Professor Haglund also regularly attended the famous Iditarod Sled Dog Race and eventually became a member of its organizing committee.

Dr. Haglund served as President of the Wisconsin Geographic Society, Governor of the American Polar Society, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Arctic Institute of North America, and Vice President of Monaco’s Comité Arctique International under the Honorary Chairmanship of Prince Rainier, and he was inducted into the prestigious Sigma Xi for his service to Science and Society. He was also instrumental in planning the centennial of the Association of American Geographers in 2004.

He served the Department of Geography and UWM in a variety of capacities, including Department Chair and Associate Dean of Scholastic Affairs in the College of Letters and Science. He brought Phi Beta Kappa to UWM, and he played a founding role in UWM’s longstanding American Indian Studies Program.

We will all miss Professor Haglund, and we are deeply grateful for his long and remarkable career, which was instrumental in helping UWM Geography grow into the thriving



department it is today. To read more about Professor Haglund's career, please see <http://www.americanpolar.org/donn-haglund/>.

REFLECTIONS

"We all addressed Professor Haglund as "Doc." Over the years, "Doc" became "Donn" and I can truly say that, of all my university professors in both undergraduate and graduate school, he has had the most profound influence and impact on my life.

His program was extraordinary for the latitude he gave to explore a cultural or scientific aspect of the Arctic that was most compelling to each one of us. Every student conducted his or her own research project in the Arctic and shared their results at the conclusion of the field work once we returned to home base in Milwaukee.

Dr. Haglund had the foresight to make certain we were a cohesive, bonded group before we took off for the North. He demonstrated 'Shackleton' style inter-personal skills that even Shackleton could have benefited from. Following each class at UWM, we all headed to the University's Ratskeller to share stories and really get to know one another in a very informal way. By the time we boarded our flight to Montreal, we were not only "Doc's students", we were all good friends who would look out for one another as we landed on the ice. The camaraderie amongst us was palpable.

Donn Haglund made lifelong friends in the Arctic wherever he traveled. He was always mindful of exposing his students and fellow travelers to the cultural nuances and economic concerns of Inuit and First Nation people and to the science of climate, fauna, what flora there is to be seen and of course, the geography of the North.

In Pangnirtung, Donn made sure that we saw the inside of Inuit homes, witnessed Easter celebrations and the ordination of Inuit ministers in the local "Pang" church and gave us tours of the renowned Uqurmiut Centre for Arts & Crafts. We even participated in a Friday night dance with the local Inuit population in Pangnirtung.

Donn immeasurably influenced and changed the lives of hundreds of university students during his academic career. A great many of his students will tell you that studying under Donn Haglund at UWM and experiencing his impeccably well-organized Northern Land field trips was a life-changing experience." - **Mary Elizabeth Gray, BS alumna**

"I met Donn Haglund in the fall of 1976 during my second semester as a Master's student at UWM. I took his Geography 950,



Donn K. Haglund - Dog Sledding in the Arctic

Northern Lands course during spring 1977, which included the Arctic Winter Field trip. This was not just a trip to the Arctic, but a passage through much of Canada, driving to Winnipeg, flying to Churchill, then to Inuit communities Resolute (Cornwallis Island), and Grise Fiord (Ellesmere Island).

In January 1978, I accompanied Doc and graduate students in a Seminar with a field trip, naturally, to Sanikiluaq on the Belcher Islands in southeastern Hudson Bay. In the spring of 1979, I took my final trip with Doc to Alaska, visiting Nome and Savoonga, on St. Lawrence Island. On the plane trip to Savoonga, we were actually able to see Siberia, which of course Doc pointed out to us. One of his goals, which was difficult if not impossible to achieve at the time, was to take students on a field trip to the Russian Arctic. It never happened, unfortunately.

Looking back on the experience I realize that Doc was one of few professors who took his students out of the concrete box that our classes were held in, and gave students the opportunity to experience an entirely different physical and cultural realm. For most of Doc's Arctic Winter Field courses, most of this was achieved without ever leaving North America or, for that matter, the Central Time zone, with the exception of going to Tromsø, Norway!

The influence that Doc had on my career was profound. As a faculty member at the University Center on Svalbard, my function is very much like Doc's work 40 years earlier, including taking students into the field to introduce them to science in the Arctic. Doc's vision and enthusiasm for the North in general and Arctic in particular lives on in the lives of my students today. None of my students know any of this, but I recall it very well." - **Mark H. Hermanson, PhD '85**

CONGRATULATIONS!

PROFESSOR HAGLUND RECEIVES 2017 LOWELL THOMAS AWARD

We are proud to report that Professor Emeritus Donn Haglund was named as a recipient of the 2017 Lowell Thomas Award. This is the highest honor of the Explorers Club, “an international multidisciplinary professional society dedicated to the advancement of field research and the ideal that it is vital to preserve the instinct to explore.” The Lowell Thomas Award, first awarded in 1980 in honor of the famous author and journalist, annually recognizes groups of outstanding explorers. With this award, Professor Haglund joins truly distinguished company, including such luminaries as Isaac Asimov, Dan Rather, Carl Sagan, Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin, Kathryn Sullivan, Sir Edmund Hillary, Edward O. Wilson, and Sir David Attenborough.



OUR RECENT GRADUATES

Nicholas Padilla (PhD)

Haijian Liu (PhD)

Hong Zhuo (PhD)

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS

Yui Hashimoto received one of the UWM Graduate School’s Graduate Student Excellence Fellowships for this year.

Muriel Marseille, served as a panelist in a symposium on “The intersectionality of geography, status, and culture: implications for cross-cultural counseling” at the Multicultural Counseling Conference at the University of Toronto.

EVENT ROUNDUP



Harold and Florence Mayer Lecture, Fall 2017

On September 29, the Harold and Florence Mayer Lecture featured Professor Trevor Barnes, University of British Columbia, Department of Geography. He gave a very interesting, informative and entertaining presentation entitled ‘Unboxing economic geography.’

Annual Picnic at Lake Park

On September 24, a beautiful warm Sunday, the Department of Geography gathered for its annual picnic at Lake Park Picnic Site #1. Thanks to the faculty, their families, and graduate students, it was a hearty turnout. The food contributions were particularly enticing. Special thanks to the delicious homemade key lime pie by Wei Xu and to the grilling prowess of Yingbin Deng and Chenxi Lin. It was a good day of fellowship, camaraderie, and collegiality.



New Student Welcome

Current graduate students welcomed new graduate students with an activity on September 2 at Hubbard Park. We enjoyed the beer and the beautiful summer on the Milwaukee riverside, chatting a lot about our experiences during summer vacation and life stories. It was an awesome day!

WELCOME NEW GRAD STUDENTS



Bailu Zhao
I received my bachelor degree in Beijing Normal University, major in Resources and Environmental Science. In

my four years of undergraduate, I did some research in ecology, and developed an interest in studying the relation between ecosystem and climate. I came to UWM for my master degree, with my adviser studying phenology. I hope to develop more knowledge and skills in my following years.



Ryan Filbin
I am originally from Connecticut, where I attended the University of Connecticut and completed a BS in both Geography and Geoscience. After receiving my bachelor's degree, I joined the

Department of Geography at Western Michigan University as a Master's student and Teaching Assistant. During my time at Western Michigan, I very much enjoyed being a TA for Introduction to Physical Geography and developed my research interests in water resources management, river restoration, and the effects of dam removal on river systems. My Master's thesis focused on modeling the effects of dam removal in Lansing, Michigan, on the Grand River and the surrounding area in Lansing. It is a pleasure to join the Department of Geography at UWM and explore Milwaukee at greater length.



Chenxi Lin
I received my bachelor's degree in Jilin University, Changchun, China, majoring in surveying and mapping engineering. However, I changed my major to GIS and Cartography during my master stage at the institute of remote sensing and digital earth, Chinese Academy of Sciences. My current research

interests mainly focus on developing algorithms to extract imagery features, recognizing spatial patterns and further analyzing urban or natural environments. Besides doing research, I'm interested in photography and many kinds of sports, such as basketball, track and field sports and body building.

Sarah Ryniker

I received my bachelor's degree from Georgia Southern University in anthropology and international studies. After a study abroad in Wexford, Ireland, piqued my interest in the junction of culture and globalization, I returned to GSU to earn my master's degree in social science with emphases in sociology and political science. My master's thesis entitled, "Savannah's Ethnic Irish Neighborhoods in the Nineteenth Century: A Historical Multimethod Examination" explored how geography influenced ethnic identities. Working with Dr. McCarthy, my research interests include globalization, the intersection of global and local forces, transnationalism, human and cultural geography, Europe and the United States.



Wei Fan

My name is Wei Fan, and I came from China. I have received my master degree from South China Normal University. During my master years, I became very interested in urban remote sensing, especially the impervious extraction based on sub-pixel level and have published papers (Fan, F., Fan, W., & Weng, Q. (2015). "Improving urban impervious surface mapping by linear spectral mixture analysis and using spectral indices." *Canadian Journal of Remote Sensing*, 41(6), 577-586; Fan, F., & Fan, W. (2014). "Understanding spatial-temporal urban expansion pattern (1990-2009) using impervious surface data and landscape indexes: a case study in Guangzhou (China)." *Journal of Applied Remote Sensing*, 8(1), 083609-083609.). After graduating with my master's degree, I worked for the Guangdong Provincial Land Resource Department. My work mainly related to land policy and land survey. However, I can't resist my desire to do more research related to remote sensing, so I am beginning my Doctoral degree. My advisor is Changshan Wu. I am so happy to be a part of the Geography Department family at UWM.



IN THEIR OWN WORDS

GRADUATE STUDENT NICK SCHUELKE



At the end of this past June, I bid farewell to Greeley, Colorado, where I lived amongst oil wells for 10 months while I conducted my dissertation field research on oil and gas development (“fracking”) in the Weld County area of Northern Colorado. In the mid-1980s, Greeley was one of the first municipalities in Colorado to ban oil and gas

development within city limits, but has since become an epicenter of such development in the American West. My research examines this transformation, as well as recent controversies that have emerged from increased oil and gas activity in a rapidly urbanizing region.

While in the field, I spent many a day conducting archival research at the Greeley History Museum, which was enjoyable in no small part to the fantastic staff! I attended numerous town and county board meetings pertaining to rulemaking and project permits, in addition to several community and environmental group meetings. I had the pleasure of speaking with government officials, residents, farmers, and industry employees regarding their views on oil and gas-related issues. Definitely among the highlights of my fieldwork were the opportunity to see (and feel!) a demonstration of a seismic vibrator truck (“thumper truck”), as well as suit up in some PPE for a tour of both a drill rig and a frac site, all courtesy of Great Western Oil & Gas. Other highlights included breaking a pinky finger and, after that was healed, slicing an index finger (same hand), which required fifteen stitches. No, neither of these injuries happened in the oil field. I also had the opportunity to share some of my research in a guest lecture with Dr. Karen Barton’s Nature and Society class at the University of Northern Colorado.

One focus of my research was on Weld County’s development of a county oil and gas permitting process, which was in response to the county commissioners’ view that the state oil and gas regulatory agency has been usurping their authority over local land use.

Another focus of my research was on two particular oil and gas projects in residential areas; one in which the controversy was centered on competing notions of “best

location” for siting, and for the other it was competing notions of “best technologies” to be used. Underlying many of the controversies over oil and gas development in Northern Colorado are issues related to land use, split estate ownership of land (separate ownership of the surface estate and subsurface mineral estate), desires for greater local control over oil and gas operations (whether to ban oil and gas development, promote it, or something in between), and urban-rural tensions between the population centers of Denver and Boulder and more rural areas of the state. I learned quite a bit about different challenges and issues associated with oil and gas development in residential areas of Northern Colorado, and how this has (and, in ways, hasn’t) changed between the 1980s and the present day. There was certainly much more to my experience, as well as greater complexity to the issues, than space will permit!

I’d like to thank the UWM Department of Geography and the generosity of an anonymous donor for financial assistance through a Clinton Edwards Field Research Travel Award. I definitely miss the abundant sunshine and invigorating hikes in the mountains, but it’s also nice to be back in Milwaukee among friends, family, and colleagues. I am grateful to have met a number of helpful individuals during my time in Colorado who were willing to share their knowledge and insight with me. I am especially fortunate to have made a dear friend in Greeley that helped me in countless ways to make my field research successful, as well as my time in Colorado enjoyable.



ALUMNUS RYAN COVINGTON

Life after the Geography Department has been a whirlwind. After graduation, I spent two years in Washington, D.C. working as the Geospatial Analyst for Defenders of Wildlife (www.defenders.org). In that role, I

provided geospatial support for all of the organization’s conservation programs, including its Renewable Energy, Endangered Species, Federal Lands, and Field Conservation teams. As the organization’s only spatial scientist, I led all of our mapping and spatial analysis work, including building landscape condition and habitat suitability models that were submitted as part of public comments as well as evaluating the merit of spatial analyses performed by the

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management.

In May 2017, I left Defenders of Wildlife to join SkyTruth (www.skytruth.org), a non-profit conservation organization based in Shepherdstown, W.Va.. We specialize in using satellite imagery, as well as other information collected by satellites, to identify, map and monitor threats to our planet. We work on everything from monitoring the footprint and impact of global oil and gas development to tracking the world's commercial fishing fleet.

Just this summer we launched Global Fishing Watch, a partnership between SkyTruth, Google, and Oceana to help bring greater transparency to the global fishing industry. Global Fishing Watch uses safety information broadcast by ocean-going vessels to monitor for illegal fishing on the high-seas. We used a machine learning model to identify different patterns of vessel movement as different types of fishing (e.g., long-liner, purse-seiner). We're then able to correlate this data with the safety information broadcast from vessels to identify who and where they are – and when vessels may be engaged in suspicious activity at sea.

My newest projects build off of the Global Fishing Watch model. We're using machine learning to automate the detection of specific features in satellite imagery. My first project involves using high-resolution, high-cadence imagery from Planet and combining it with Google's Cloud

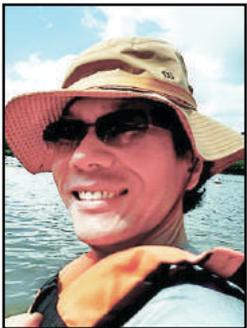
Platform tools to try and automate the detection of new oil and gas wells on public lands in the U.S. Public lands are under intensified pressure from oil and gas development, and our goal is to make sure that what has been permitted on paper matches what is happening on the landscape.

My second project involves using these same tools to try and automate the detection of vessels at sea that are not broadcasting safety information. Our goal is to try and assess the size of regional 'dark fleets' – vessels that may be involved in illegal or unreported fishing. In many cases, vessels that are not authorized to fish in specific areas will turn off their safety broadcasts so that they can increase their catch. It's remarkably difficult for Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) to effectively manage fishing grounds if they don't have an accurate picture of how many vessels are engaged in fishing. We hope that this work will help to fill one of the most important gaps in Global Fishing Watch's data set.

None of this would have been possible without the UWM Geography Department. Although I spend most of my days analyzing imagery and writing data processing pipelines, the most important part of my job continues to be my ability to communicate the complex economic, political, and cultural forces that are driving adverse environmental changes in the places and on the issues that people care about. I'll make sure to keep you posted on how things turn out. You can find me at ry@skytruth.org or rycovington.com.

FACULTY NEWS IN BRIEF

Anne Bonds was an invited speaker at the Urban Geography Plenary (AAG in Boston) as one of the respondents to Susan Fainstein's presentation on The Just City and Resilience. She has also been invited by the editorial board of Progress in Human Geography to author 3 progress reports on the themes of race and ethnicity. These will be published each year consecutively (2017, 2018, 2019).



Woonsup Choi

Woonsup Choi has been elected Director of the AAG Water Resources Specialty Group for 2017-2019, and he has been appointed as a visiting professor under the International Scholar program at Kyung Hee University in Korea from March 2017 to February 2018. Choi also had a live interview on a radio talk show of Los Angeles-based KMPC (1540 AM) regarding hurricanes and earthquakes on September 12.

Donna Genzmer, along with Kate Madison of the UWM Center for Economic Development, was chosen to participate in the National Science Foundation-funded Power of Data Facilitation Academy in Flagstaff, Arizona, in June. The program includes NSF funding for locally conducted Teacher Workshops during the 2018 fiscal year.

Anna Mansson-McGinty and **Kristin Sziarto** participated in a recent "Visa Promise" panel hosted by UWM's Center for 21st Studies.

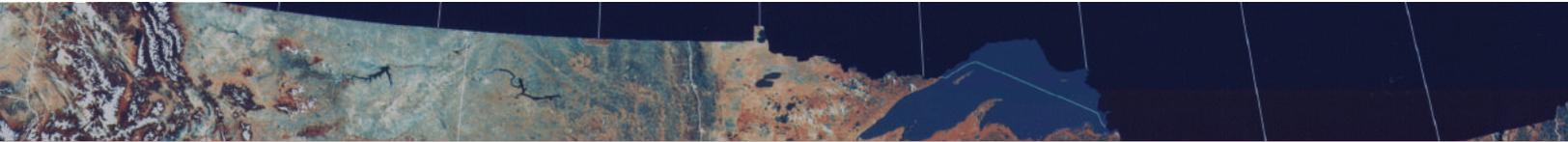
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Faculty Briefs Continued from page 7

The USA National Phenology Network’s (USA-NPN) Start of Spring maps and tools <http://bit.ly/199srno> are the recipient of Renewable Natural Resources Foundation’s (RNRF) 2017 Outstanding Achievement Award. **Mark Schwartz** is a co-founder of USA-NPN and these products are anchored by national maps which show daily progress of the onset of spring, as determined by Schwartz’s Spring Indices First Leaf and First Bloom models (which use National Weather Service gridded temperature data as input). Schwartz was also interviewed on WUWM on August 24 about “Phenology & Climate Change: Tracking When Spring Arrives,” and he delivered public lectures in Eau Claire during the spring.

Ryan Holifield’s co-edited book *The Routledge Handbook of Environmental Justice* (with Jayajit Chakraborty and Gordon Walker) was released in September (<http://bit.ly/2o3shXv>), There is a short feature in the UWM Report about the Handbook here: <http://bit.ly/2o3shXv>.

Zengwang Xu published “Structure and Dynamics of Population Migration among Economic Areas in the United States from 1990 to 2011” in *Papers in Regional Science* which is available online at <http://bit.ly/2yjfSni>.

