

PANTHER GEOGRAPHY

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

After the recent up-and-down weather pattern, with a cold January, warm end to February, and a snowy April, the start of spring is especially welcome!

With such “spring anticipation” in mind, there have been some interesting recent developments in applications of my onset of spring season (Spring Indices, SI) models. My colleague Dr. Toby Ault (Cornell University, in collaboration with others) has developed a way to translate long-term temperature projections into a specific forecast (several weeks to several months in advance) for the start of the growing season across the continental USA, using my SI models. He is testing these “Springcasting” efforts this year for the first time, and they will be updated twice a month through the end of March. Check them out at: <http://ecrl.eas.cornell.edu/node/60>. Following up from my message in last spring’s newsletter, 2017 did indeed end up nudging out 2012 as the earliest average start of the growing season across the continental USA (as determined by my SI models) since 1900. You can follow the progression of the start of the spring growing season this year across the country at: <https://www.usanpn.org/data/spring>.

In departmental news, I am pleased to report that again this year eleven of our graduate students presented papers at the Association of American Geographer’s Annual meeting in New Orleans, April 10th-14th.

We also welcomed a distinguished geographer to campus in March. Professor Seth Spielman (University of Colorado-Boulder) gave the spring 2018 Harold and Florence Mayer lecture on March 9th.

Other recent developments include: 1) an article by Prof. Anne Bonds featured as one of the “most read” in a top geography journal; 2) Profs. Sziarto, Mansson McGinty, and a colleague from another department are among the first groups to receive a new type of award from the UWM Center for 21st Century Studies; 3) Downer Woods will be included with hundreds of locations testing a new earth observation satellite, in a phenological study lead by Prof. Donnelly; and 4) the department will offer a new track option for GIS professionals in the M.S. program starting in Fall 2018.

As always, I invite you to read all about our many other noteworthy achievements in the rest of this newsletter! We appreciate your continued support, and hope that all of you will contact us and share your own news.



Mark D. Schwartz
Chair, Department of Geography



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Contact us:

Department of Geography
PO Box 413
Bolton Hall, Room 410
Milwaukee, WI 53201-0413
(414) 229-4866
npapakis@uwm.edu
Chair: Mark D. Schwartz



College of Letters & Science

DEPARTMENT NEWS OF NOTE

WHO SAYS PHENOLOGY IS NOT ROCKET SCIENCE?

The Venus (Vegetation and Environment monitoring on a New Micro Satellite) earth observing micro-satellite developed by French (Centre National D'Études Spatiales) and Israeli (Israeli Space Agency) space agencies was launched from the Guiana Space Centre in August 2017. The onboard multispectral camera will observe more than 100 sites of scientific interest worldwide, at a resolution of five meters, every two days.

In Spring of 2015 Alison Donnelly (UWM) and Rong Yu (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) submitted a successful bid proposing Downer Woods, a small urban woodlot on the UWM campus, as one of the global sites of interest to the Venus mission. The research project arising from this proposal allows for collaboration with researchers studying ecosystems as diverse as the Alaskan tundra, the African savannah, peatbogs in Ireland, and tropical rainforests in south America. The scientific objective of the UWM project is to compare the satellite-based high temporal and spatial resolution multi-spectral images of Downer Woods to ongoing high intensity phenological observations of leaf development. The fact that Mark Schwartz has been conducting phenological monitoring at this site for over a decade makes this small corner of the UWM campus a key resource for a global research program. The results from Downer Woods will be used to validate the effectiveness of the Venus vegetation product at capturing ecosystem dynamics.



Aerial image of Downer Woods



Image taken by Venus on August 17, 2017, near Phoenix, Arizona, USA



Launch of Venus micro-satellite August 1, 2017, Guiana. Watch launch here: (<https://vega.cnes.fr/en/live-vega-launch-venus-august-first-2017>)

Please join us on social media!



@ *UWMilwaukeeGeography*



<http://tinyurl.com/UWMGeogLI>

GIS DAY SHOWCASES THE SCIENCE OF WHERE

By Wei Xu, PhD candidate, Department of Geography

GIS Day is an international event showcasing the advancements and real-world applications of geographic information science (GIS). Sponsored by the UWM GIS Council and several departments and local businesses, and chaired by Donna Genzmer, last year's GIS Day at UWM provided a forum for GIS users and enthusiasts to demonstrate the power of GIS in problem-solving while raising geographic technology awareness in our communities. Over 200 participants attended the event at the Golda Meir libraries on November 15, 2017. The full-day event engaged participants with a range of activities, including a thought-provoking keynote, 6 hands-on GIS workshops, 6 Ignite Spatial talks, a student project competition and tours of the American Geographical Society Library (AGSL). Professor Mark Manone from the Northern Arizona University gave a lunchtime keynote, and the morning and afternoon workshops provided attendees with hands-on experience with open GIS, python scripting for GIS, web mapping and more. Representatives from local businesses and public agencies also showcased a wide range of real-world GIS applications in the Ignite Spatial talks.

Yingbin Deng and Susan Borchardt both won 1st place and a stipend of \$300 in the best graduate student/GIS certificate student category of the student project competition. James Amato won 3rd place and a stipend of \$100. We invite anyone who is interested in GIS to participate in this year's GIS Day. More information can be found at <http://uwm.edu/gis-council/gisday/>



GEOGRAPHERS PARTICIPATE IN UWM CETL SYMPOSIUM

By Katie Merkle, PhD student, Department of Geography

This January I had the great pleasure of attending and presenting at UWM's Annual Teaching and Learning Symposium. This yearly symposium, coordinated by The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL), focuses on teaching and student engagement. The theme of this year's conference was "Intentionality and Impact: Facilitating Success for All Students." In connection with this theme, I attended breakout sessions where I discussed and learned more about student participation, creating trauma-informed classrooms and curriculum, and how to engage students in challenging topics.

Peter Felten, Executive Director of the Center for Engaged Learning at Elon University, delivered this year's keynote address. Mr. Felton discussed what matters most when it comes to student success. His answer, and it may not come across as a huge surprise, is relationships and developing a sense of belonging. When students develop relationships with others at their institution and receive supportive mentorship from faculty, they are more likely to meet their academic goals. While I did not find Mr. Felton's conclusions surprising, they served as an important reminder of just how vital our role as educators can be in a student's academic success.

This focus on the role of educators is why I plan to continue attending the annual Symposium. Not only did I learn from the other presenters and attendees during breakout sessions, but it provides me with an opportunity to receive feedback on my teaching style along with other projects. Dr. Sziarto, Sohyung Lim, and I are currently collaborating on a pedagogy project involving Geography 110. This was our second year presenting our research design and the feedback received was helpful in moving our project forward. We hope to continue presenting our project at the next year's symposium.

DEPARTMENT NEWS OF NOTE CONTINUED

FEMINIST GEOGRAPHER MELISSA WRIGHT VISITS UWM

Much of the UWM Geography Department turned out for a guest lecture given by distinguished feminist geographer Melissa Wright, of the Geography and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Departments at Pennsylvania State University. The presentation, entitled 'Against the evils of democracy: Fighting drug wars and femicide in Mexico and the Americas,' was sponsored by the Women's and Gender Studies Vilas Trust, and co-sponsored by UWM Geography. Professor Wright has studied Mexico, and its economic and political geographies for two decades. She has written about women working in the maquiladoras (U.S.-owned factories) in Ciudad Juarez, the disappearances and probable murders of thousands of women in that city, and how these phenomena are connected to economic development and urban renewal policies. In this talk she showed how the movement against femicide in Ciudad Juarez and the demand to return the recently assassinated student teachers in Ayotzinapa, are related to struggles against "disappearances" by repressive governments across the Americas, and how activists in the United States might learn from Latin American social movements.

WORKING ON IT: GIS AND HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTING

By Ryan Filbin, PhD student, Department of Geography



Faculty, staff, and students from the UWM Department of Geography and other departments attended a roundtable event "Working on It: GIS and High-Performance Computing" on Monday, February 19th, in the Digital Humanities Lab of the Golda Meir Library. The event was part of the "Working on it": Collaborative DH Research Round Tables series that features in-progress research and collaborative discussions to support ongoing interdisciplinary research efforts. Researchers at UWM encounter problems in performing spatial and geographic analysis using Big Data due to the slow processing speed of many personal computers. The moderators (Dan Sierks, Stephen Appel, and Wei Xu) discussed the resources available to researchers through

the UWM High Performance Computing Service (HPC), and introduced ongoing research that has benefited from the applications of HPC. Dan Sierks, a Research Computing Specialist with L&S IT, outlined the applications of HPC to GIS projects and the tools available through the High Performance Computing Service, including workshop series each semester. Stephen Appel, a Geospatial Information Specialist with UWM Libraries, addressed HPC solutions to geocoding issues with address records in regard to geocoding lead water service lines within the City of Milwaukee. Wei Xu, a PhD candidate from the Department of Geography and President of the GIS Club, discussed the ability for HPC to speed up machine learning research and decision-tree analysis. More information regarding the UWM High Performance Computing Service is available at www.uwm.edu/hpc.

NEW GIS PROFESSIONAL TRACK IN THE MS PROGRAM

Effective Fall 2018, the Department will begin to offer a new track option for GIS professionals in the MS program. This GIS professional track is intended for students who plan to seek professional employment in the field of GIS and are not interested in continuing their graduate education beyond the master's degree. Students need to apply for the regular Geography MS program and may declare the choice after enrollment.

PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS

- **Yui Hashimoto** accepted a Society of Fellows Postdoctoral Fellowship at Dartmouth College.
- **Minji Kim** received one of the 2018 Urban Geography Specialty Group Student Travel Awards to attend the AAG meeting in New Orleans.
- **Sohyung Lim** and **Gainbi Park** received the 2018 Korea-America Association of Geospatial and Environmental Sciences (KAGES) Sim Student Travel Award.
- **Yui Hashimoto** (R1 Distinguished Dissertation Fellowship), **Wei Xu** (Distinguished Dissertation Fellowship), and **Wei Fan** (Distinguished Graduate Student Fellowship) were all awarded graduate school fellowships.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

MATT SLAWSON (UNDERGRADUATE)



Hello, I am Matt and currently an undergraduate in Geography at UWM. Geography has always been an interest of mine since I was a kid. I used to look over maps and make up my own for fun. Until coming to UWM, however, it never occurred to me that geography stood as a good field to go into regarding career options and the job market. As a result, when I change my major from Civil Engineering to undecided, I quickly took an interest in Geography as a major. For the major, I found both the fieldwork and the required internship to give the most valuable experience in my education, since I got to apply the skills from classes to real world settings, and I thoroughly enjoyed

them. For the internship requirement, I interviewed for an intern position at GPI Geospatial working with the LiDAR team and now it has turned into my main job. I plan to start working there full-time after graduation. If there were any advice I could give to other Geography majors, it would be to search for internships as soon as possible and don't be afraid to try many different places. The experience and networking are invaluable, and it greatly increases the chances of finding a job after graduation!

MINJI KIM (PHD CANDIDATE)

My dissertation research aims to deepen the understanding between community and culture-led urban regeneration policies. This will help to dismantle the discrepancy between the objectives of urban projects and their effects on residents' everyday life. When the South Korean government installed public art projects as tools for urban regeneration in Ihwa Mural Village in Seoul and Gamcheon Culture Village in Busan, these two marginalized neighborhoods became tourist attractions. Although urban policy makers have justified tourism as a tool to regenerate and revitalize the city, the purported benefits of tourism projects have not materialized automatically. Instead, the implementation of the projects created controversy and generated protests among residents. Nevertheless, despite the fact that the residents of these two neighborhoods expressed similar concerns, they showed different approaches and responses to these challenges. With these two empirical studies, I try to answer: What created the discrepancy between the objectives of these public art projects and their effects on residents? How has the transformation of the neighborhoods into tourist destinations affected the lives of residents?

After the Spring 2017 semester, I flew back to South Korea and spent about eight months conducting fieldwork. During this time, I utilized a series of qualitative methods such as: in-depth interview, focus group interview, and participant observation, which enabled me to interact with many important stakeholders including residents, governmental officials, vendors, and artists. I enjoyed my fieldwork and learned a lot in terms of my case studies, research method, and how to build rapport with interviewees and interact with them. Nevertheless, what I learned from the field was: fieldwork is truly challenging and unexpected situations will occur at any time. Getting into the neighborhoods that I knew none of the residents literally meant I needed to start from zero, which was the toughest time of my fieldwork. In addition, I learned that weather condition mattered quite significantly when I was in the field. Last summer, Seoul underwent excessively hot and humid weather. So it made it harder for me to conduct the fieldwork under these very unpleasant conditions. Especially, as both of the neighborhoods were located in hills, I had to 'climb' during such hot and humid conditions. Nevertheless, I really appreciated these processes that I accomplished step-by-step and now all of these are very good memories.

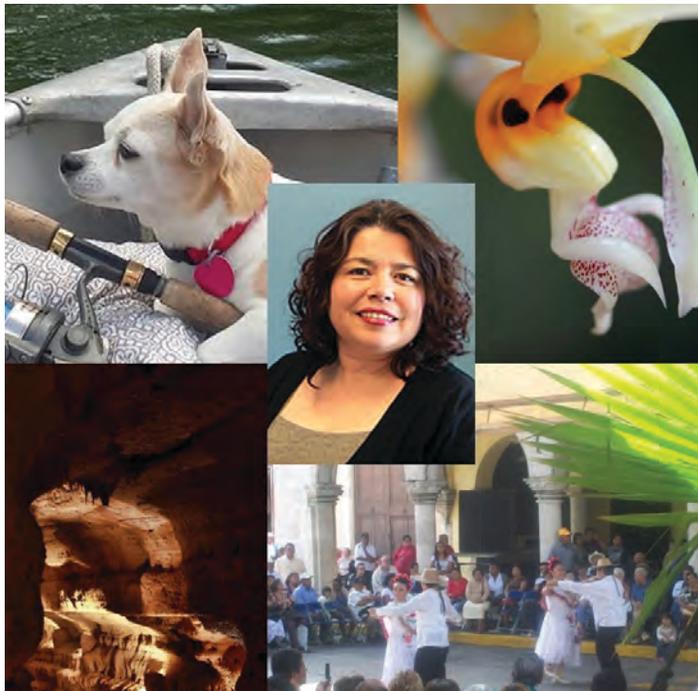
I'd like to thank the UWM Department of Geography's support of my field trip through the *Clinton Edwards Field Research Travel Award*. I was supported by the *Young Researcher Fund* (\$1,500) from the Housing Institute of South Korea for graduate students' research. I also appreciate the invitations from Ihwa Mural Village and Gamcheon Culture Village which were all aided by municipal governments of Seoul and Busan. With these wonderful opportunities, I was honored to give lectures and interact with the residents in these neighborhoods. In addition, I am very indebted to my wonderful interviewees from both neighborhoods who were willing to share their knowledge and insight with me. Their knowledge and life experiences in the neighborhoods enriched my field data and helped me in countless ways to make my field research successful. The time that I spent in the field will be in my mind as a precious memory forever.



Me at the Townhall Meeting in Gamcheon Culture Village in Busan

ALUMNI UPDATES

RAMONA TENORIO (MS, 2005)



Greetings! I am Ramona C. Tenorio, PhD, the Director of the new Office of Graduate Diversity & Inclusion at the UWM Graduate School. I have taught for many years on issues related to race and racism, cultural humility, and ethnic studies. I ran a pipeline program to increase underrepresented minority participation in Translational Science.

Prior to coming back to UWM, I was on the faculty of the Medical College of Wisconsin where I directed two programs within a \$22M National Institutes of Health, National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NIH-NCATS) supported Clinical & Translational Science Award (CTSA). At MCW, I had the privilege of being part of the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee, CTSI Regional Translational Workforce Diversity Committee, and the MCW Coalition Builders Team which facilitated National Coalition Building Institute's (NCBI) award-winning Welcoming Diversity Workshops. I was also the co-founder of the Medical College of Wisconsin's Gender Equity Reading Circle.

I am both a Geographer and Anthropologist. I received all my degrees here at UWM. My BA and MS are in Geography where I focused on physical geography, GIS, and biogeography. During the last semester of my MS program, I began exploring a biogeography

project in Veracruz, Mexico, where I have family. I was interested in the ways humans utilized plants to alter their environment and aid in their healing of illness and disease. It was at this point that I decided to enter the Anthropology Doctoral Program at UWM to continue this line of research in Mexico. My dissertation work, entitled *Medicina del Barrio: Shadow Medicine Among Milwaukee's Latino Community*, looked at the health-seeking practices of Latino immigrants who utilize the services of Latino Lay healers *curandera/os* (healers), *buesera/os* (bonesetters), *parteras* (midwives), and *sobadora/es* (massagers). These practices are part of medical pluralism and attest to the strength and resilience of marginalized communities engaged in sociomedical networking in a transnational context. Many of Milwaukee's Latinos seek healthcare in the shadows for several reasons. For many however, it is less of a choice and more a reaction to exclusionary U.S. healthcare and immigration policies.

Currently, my research is looking at the power structures of the burgeoning health care profession of community health workers (CHWs). My work is informed from my time as Director of Program Advancement and Research at United Voices Collaborative, a multiethnic, multiracial collaborative of CHWs in Milwaukee. As part of my role as the Director of Graduate Diversity & Inclusion, I am responsible for growing, leading, and managing all graduate student diversity and opportunity programs and operations in the UWM Graduate School, including its federally-funded McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program (McNair Program) and its State of Wisconsin-funded Advanced Opportunity Program (AOP Program). An important goal for this new position is to increase the number and variety of funded programs through submission of proposals to suitable agencies and foundations. As a scholarly active PhD, I can serve on thesis and dissertation committees as a member, a co-advisor and, with approval of the relevant faculty executive committee, as major advisor. In addition to my research and work experience, I enjoy botany, hiking, fishing, traveling, and eating. I am a mother of four human children and six non-humans (a cat, a Chihuahua, a Gerberian Shepsky and three hens). I am happy to gush over pictures of my fur babies with anyone willing to see them.

JONATHAN HANES (PhD, 2011)

I can hardly believe that nearly seven years have passed since I graduated with my PhD in Geography from UWM. During this time, my life has changed in significant ways that have made me realize that the value of my doctoral education extends far beyond the academic discipline of geography. My last semester at UWM was everything a PhD candidate could hope for. I accepted a tenure-track position as an assistant professor and defended my dissertation. The summer after my graduation, my family made the move from the Milwaukee-area to our new city. My new institution was a near-perfect fit for me, as I had supportive colleagues and was blessed with success and productivity in teaching and research. In my three semesters as an assistant professor, I taught six different courses, worked on an edited book project, published post-dissertation research, engaged in departmental service, and was awarded a faculty research grant to fund phenological research on some of the university's forested land.

While the professional part of my life was good, my family and I faced a number of personal challenges. During my first semester, my youngest daughter was born with a medical condition that required surgery and a level of medical care that wasn't available in our new city. In addition, we had a difficult time finding a church community and support network like we had in the Milwaukee area. For all these reasons, I began looking for professional opportunities that would allow us to return to the Milwaukee area. We moved back in December 2012 after I was offered a job as a research analyst in UWM's Office of Assessment and Institutional Research. While working in this position, I have applied analytical and statistical skills that I developed during my doctoral program. I've even had the opportunity to analyze spatial patterns in student retention through the use of GIS. Currently, I have the working title of Associate Director for Institutional Research and focus on the development of student enrollment forecasts, the production and maintenance of analytical tools for campus use, the capture of official student enrollment data, and various ad-hoc projects.

While most of my work at UWM involves institutional research, I haven't left the realm of geography! Since fall 2013, the Department of Geography has generously given me opportunities to teach as a lecturer and work on various writing and research projects as an adjunct assistant professor. I am grateful for these opportunities



and for the continued support of Mark Schwartz (my doctoral advisor) and the department faculty. As I reflect on the past seven years, I see that my doctoral education prepared me for much more than a tenure-track faculty position. It prepared me to think rigorously in different circumstances and to be precise in my research endeavors, regardless of whether I am studying plant phenology or student enrollment!

WENLIANG LI (PhD, 2016)

Wenliang accepted a tenure track assistant professor of geography position at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro.

BRAD GIEMZA (BA, 1995)

Brad is the Managing Director and Chief Risk Officer at R.J. O'Brien & Associates in Chicago.

Share Your Updates!

We'd love to hear what you are doing since graduating from the geography program. Send updates to Ryan Holifield @ holifiel@uwm.edu.

RONG YU (PhD, 2013)

Greetings from the Great Plains, Lincoln, Nebraska! Having completed my PhD under the direction of Mark, I took up a postdoc position working with Benjamin Ruddell at Arizona State University, where I worked on using information theory to model transitions in global terrestrial ecosystems. This research provided a theoretically independent study from the more traditional reductionist model-building strategy for use in terrestrial ecology and global change biology.

Currently, I am working with John Gamon, Gabriel Hmimina, and Hamed Gholizadeh at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln (UNL). I am presently working on the NASA ABoVE (Arctic - Boreal Vulnerability Experiment) project where my research focuses on estimating phenology and productivity across Alaska and western Canada by integrating carbon fluxes from ground observations and the new MODIS MAIAC ([Multi-Angle Implementation of Atmospheric Correction](#)) dataset. The results will be used to determine the impact of climate change on ecosystems, especially tundra and evergreen needle-leaf forests in this fast changing and fragile region. In addition, I teach a class on geospatial information technologies, which introduces students to the uses and applications of GPS, GIS, and remote sensing.



Coming back to their temporary night nests (usually small, isolated wetlands)

We experienced a very cold winter this year with much more snow than usual for Lincoln. However, spring is around



On a crane watch trip with friends. I am the one on the right

the corner, and the field work season will begin. This year, we are going to conduct spectral measurements at multiple levels (leaf to canopy to landscape) focusing on productivity and biodiversity in the Eastern Nebraska Research and Extension Center, UNL, which has a long history serving as a globally-important research site, especially for agricultural and ecosystem research. One activity I am very excited to share with all of you is Sandhill Crane Watch in Nebraska. It is one of the most amazing scenes I've ever seen. Every year, over 600,000 Sandhill Cranes use the Platte River valley as a 'fuel-stop' on their migration route. The map below shows that many bird migration routes converge in Nebraska. Usually, mid-March to early April is the best time to see thousands of these elegant birds. Attached are a few photos – you are all very welcome to visit Lincoln and see the Cranes.

Wishing you all a wonderful, prosperous, and productive 2018!

GREGG CULVER (PhD, 2014)



After finishing my PhD and saying my goodbyes to the department, to friends, and to the city, I took up a postdoc position in September 2014 in the workgroup Human Geography of North America in the Geographical Institute at Heidelberg University, Germany, where I have also been affiliated with the Heidelberg Center for American Studies.

For the first two years, I focused on publishing both from my dissertation and from new research projects (in, for example, *Mobilities*, and *Journal of Transport Geography*), and on teaching courses such as Regional Geography of North America, City and Transport in North America, as well as seminars dealing with critical geography and social justice. In September 2016, I also had the pleasure of planning and co-leading a two-week long fieldtrip through Chicago, Milwaukee, Pittsburgh, Appalachian Pennsylvania,

and Washington DC with a group of 18 Masters-level German students – an exhausting but rewarding experience. The students had a great time in Milwaukee. In fact, most said they enjoyed it much more than Chicago, which was certainly in no small part due to some fantastic field trips provided by UWM Geographers: Prof. Linda McCarthy, Carrie Philpott Burkham, Nick Padilla, and Yui Hashimoto.

After returning from the trip in the fall semester of 2016, I served as Interim Professor for Human Geography of North America in Heidelberg in affiliation with the Heidelberg Center for American Studies, which involved giving our group's flagship lecture North American City. Around the same time, I submitted a proposal to the German Research Foundation for a three-year "habilitation" (akin to tenure in the German academic system) project on urban mobility in US cities. Happily, my research project was awarded funding, and since the spring of 2017, I have primarily been conducting research and writing, and have gotten a few publications out, including most recently in *ACME: An International Journal of Critical Geographies* and *Applied Mobilities*.

This past week as I write this, however, I put in for a seven-month leave from my project and from Heidelberg to take on an Interim Professorship in the Economic Geography workgroup alongside Prof. Barbara Hahn in the Institute of Geography at the University of Würzburg, where I will be giving a lecture in human geography on the topic of mobilities, in addition to teaching a few seminars. I am thrilled to have this opportunity, and hope that it will help me develop both personally and professionally. When I return to Heidelberg in October of 2018, I look forward to hosting and collaborating with Prof. Jason Henderson (whose work was inspirational for my own academic path) from San Francisco State University for the fall semester, as well as to our workgroup's hosting of the 9th international Spaces & Flows conference on the topic of mobilities, for which I am a co-organizer.

Aside from all the career stuff, I am now happily married and currently living the quiet small-town life in Bensheim at the foot of the Odenwald mountains in the lovely "Bergstrasse" region – a quaint place where all still seems right with the world. I nonetheless think of my time in Milwaukee frequently and fondly, both the city itself (biking, spending hot summer days at the lake, and having a couple of locally-crafted beverages in the evening with Department friends...), as well as the fantastic UWM Geography Department faculty and graduate students who inspired and supported me inside and outside of Bolton Hall along the way.

AMY ROHAN (BA, 2010)



The winner of a garden contest and me

When I went back to school in 2010 to finish my undergraduate degree, I had very little direction or idea where I wanted my career path to lead me. I was fortunate to discover the Geography Department in my very first semester back, however, through the course “Geography of Race in the United States”. Taught by Professor Anne Bonds, this class sent me on the trajectory that not only led to my decision to major in Geography, but also directly relates to the work I do now at Riverworks Development Corporation, a community-based non-profit serving the northern geographies of the Riverwest and Harambee neighborhoods.

Much of my work focuses on asset mapping and the real estate market. North Holton Street marks the boundary between these two neighborhoods and, although they share a similar housing stock, there are stark disparities in assessed home values, median sale prices and issues related to deferred maintenance. The “Holton Street Divide” underscores not only housing disparities but sharp demographic and racial differences; almost 80% of Harambee residents are African-American and 45% live below the poverty level, whereas in Riverwest 66% of residents are White and 27% live below the poverty level (Source: Data You Can Use).

I collect and analyze data as part of a biannual housing survey where the physical conditions of homes recorded in Compass, an application connected to Map Milwaukee’s Master Property data (MProp). This collaboration with other neighborhood organizations came about as part of a settlement with a major bank that was found guilty of redlining. The work of this coalition has assisted the City Attorney’s Office in

building cases against Milwaukee’s most reprehensible landlords and also in the development of the Compliance Loan Program, which assists low-income homeowners with violations from the Department of Neighborhood Services (DNS) by providing affordable access to the critical repairs that allow them to remain safely in their homes.

Programs like this are essential to fill gaps where credit-worthy borrowers are unable to access traditional bank loans due to high repair costs that often exceed home values. Recently, I have joined colleagues across a variety of sectors to coordinate efforts that ensure that banks are held accountable to their Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) obligations. On the national scale, I will be attending the National Community Reinvestment Coalition (NCRC) conference in Washington D.C. to further my training in best practices for creating equitable economic outcomes in our communities. I will also be a panelist at the upcoming Reclaiming Vacant Properties conference organized by the Center for Community Progress, which will be in Milwaukee this year.

My education as a Geographer is central to the work that I do, particularly when I see how the geography of urban landscapes and the built environment affect so many aspects of our lives. I always return to the fundamental questions of spatial relationships and frame every project with the understanding that Place Matters.



A Community Improvement Project where we built benches and planted gardens in a vacant City lot

PUBLICATIONS

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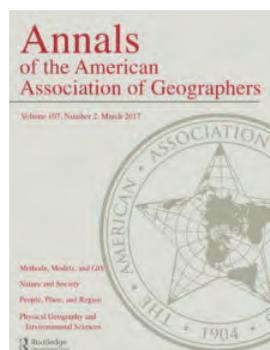
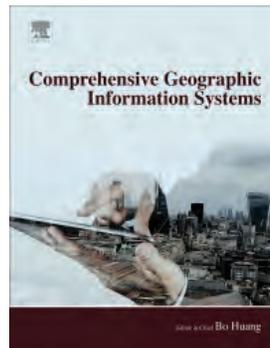
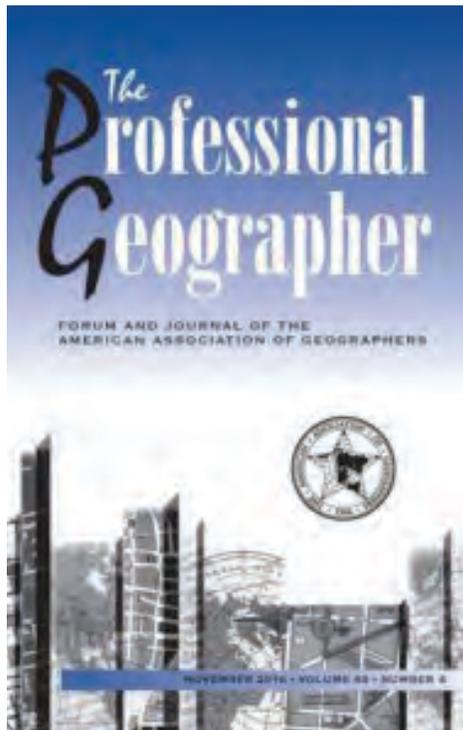
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Pettygrove M. and **Ghose, R.** From “Rust Belt” to “Fresh Coast”: Remaking the City through Food Justice and Urban Agriculture. *Annals of the AAG*. Available online, 1-13.

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H. Yoon and H. Kim. “Career-family Strategies and Spatial Mobility among South Korean Women Scholars,” *Asian and Pacific Migration Journal*, 27(1). 101-120.



FACULTY NEWS

Anne Bonds delivered a colloquium presentation at the Department of Geography, Environment and Society, University of Minnesota. In addition, her co-authored article “[Beyond white privilege: Geographies of white supremacy and settler colonialism](#)” was recently featured as one of the “[most read](#)” articles in *Progress in Human Geography*.

Woonsup Choi was elected as Regional Councilor for the West Lakes Division of the American Association of Geographers for a three-year term.

Alison Donnelly delivered the keynote speech “Climate change and the Irish landscape” at a Symposium on Irish Environment: *How Green is the Emerald Isle?* at the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies and the Office of Sustainability Initiatives, University of St. Thomas, Minnesota.

Donna Genzmer attended the North American Cartographic Information Society (NACIS) annual meeting and the Practical Cartography Pre-Conference in Montreal in October, as well as the M3 Advanced Placement Educators Networking Event, co-sponsored by UWM, Milwaukee Area Technical College, and Milwaukee Public Schools, to strengthen connections related to AP Geography and the proposed AP GIS&T.

Ryan Holifield was selected to deliver the Morris Fromkin Memorial Lecture at UWM in the fall of 2018.

Anna Mansson McGinty, Kristin Sziarto, and Caroline Seymour-Jorn from the Department of French, Italian, and Comparative Literature are among the first group of recipients of awards in the Center for 21st Century Studies’ new [C21 Collaboratory](#) initiative, which offers grants for interdisciplinary research collaborations.

Kristin Sziarto, along with PhD students Sohyung Lim and Katie Merkle, presented “All Maps Lie: Critical Map Reading in Teaching about Refugees and Migration” at UWM’s 3rd Annual Teaching and Learning Symposium.



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