

PANTHER GEOGRAPHY

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

The weather in Wisconsin continues to keep our attention, with unusual conditions in recent months! In May, we had several “whipsaw” episodes, when temperatures roared into the 80s or 90s on one day, only to fall back into the 30s or 40s a few days later. This seemed to set the stage for an unusual growing season, with May and June very cloudy and wet. Even with a warmer and sunnier July, my sweetcorn crop was disappointing (great stalks, but not many good ripe ears). Then came the deluge in August and early September. From mid-August through the first week of September, we had over 12 inches of rain! That was apparently the last straw for my tomato plants (which had been struggling to grow all summer), as all the vines developed mildew and quickly rotted away (no fresh salsa this year). Hopefully, I will have better luck in the garden next year!



Here is a quick summary of some of our recent departmental news:

1) Prof. Joe Darden, a Professor of Geography at Michigan State University, delivered the Fall Harold and Florence Mayer lecture on Friday, October 5, 2018; 2) Geography faculty and graduate students held our annual departmental picnic on the afternoon of Sunday, Oct. 14th at the UWM Field Station (near Saukville, WI); 3) three students finished their doctoral degrees this past spring. They are: Yingbin Deng, Yui Hashimoto, and Yang Song; and 4) two new graduate students joined the department this semester: Amir Forati and Chloe Rehberg.

So, the department continues to enjoy many noteworthy achievements and relative stability. Please read all about our news in the rest of this newsletter. We appreciate your continued support and hope to hear back from you as well. Please let us know what you have been doing!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark".

Mark D. Schwartz
Chair, Department of Geography

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College of Letters & Science

WELCOME NEW GRADUATE STUDENTS

Amir Forati



I received my Bachelor's degree at the Shahid Bahonar University of Kerman, Kerman, Iran, majoring in survey engineering. Then I became very interested in GIS, and I joined the Department

of surveying and geospatial data at the University of Tehran as a Geospatial Information Systems Master student. During my time at the University of Tehran, I very much enjoyed being in VGI lab and Spatial search engine lab and developed my research interests in Volunteered Geographic information, PPGIS, natural language processing and multicriteria decision making systems and landscape description. My Master's thesis focused on quality assessment of volunteer geographic information. My research culminated into several international conference papers presented in SMPR 2015, Kish island, Iran; ISSDQ 2015, La Grande Motte, France; GI-Forum 2016, Salzburg, Austria; and SMPR 2017, Tehran, Iran. It is a pleasure to pursue my educational career at the Department of Geography at UWM.

Chloe Rehberg



I am Chloe Rehberg originally from Illinois but received my BS in Environmental Science with an emphasis in Physical Science and a minor in Geographic Information Systems from UW-Whitewater. I am beginning my MS in Geography here at UWM focusing my studies on Phenology. In my time as an undergraduate, I completed multiple research projects ranging from groundwater contamination to coral bleaching with my most extensive project pertaining to a synoptic tornado climatology assessment of the state of Wisconsin where I presented a poster at the American Association of Geographers annual meeting in 2018. My thesis project is looking at shrubs in Downer Woods on the UWM campus to see how budburst and leaf fall occurrences are changing over time for different plant species. My favorite research topics pertain mainly to climatology, and I hope to continue my studies in the future. I am very excited to continue my education here at UWM.

**Please join us
on social media!**



@ *UWMilwaukeeGeography*



<http://tinyurl.com/UWMGeogLI>

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RECENT GRADUATES!

- Yui Hashimoto (PhD)
- Yang Song (PhD)
- Yingbin Deng (PhD)

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Left to right

Minji Kim (Graduate Student Excellence Fellowship), **Wei Fan** (Distinguished Graduate Student Fellowship), and **Wei Xu** (Distinguished Dissertation Fellowship) became 2018-2019 Fellows of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Graduate School.



Muriel Marseille has been selected to receive a one-time UWM AOP Nomination Award.

Jana Viel was featured in the 50th anniversary video of the Riveredge Nature Center. Also, she received the Wisconsin Society of Ornithology Steenbock Award in 2017 & 2018. In addition, she gave a presentation at the Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative Annual Conference. She will also be presenting at the second annual Southeastern Wisconsin Conservation Summit.



7th annual Nature Society Workshop (**Nick Schuelke, Ryan Filbin**)

Graduate students and faculty from the UWM Department of Geography participated in the 2018 Upper Midwest Nature-Society Graduate Workshop on September 29-30, hosted at the UW-Madison campus. This year marked the first time the department has been invited to participate in the workshop. Ryan Filbin, Nick Schuelke, and Prof. Ryan Holifield attended the workshop, in addition to graduate students and faculty from the geography departments at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

At the workshop, attendees discussed dissertation chapters and publication-length papers submitted by late-stage PhD students from all institutions participating in the workshop, including a chapter from Nick Schuelke's dissertation. These papers stimulated a lot of engaging discussion at the workshop, which provided their authors with valuable feedback on how to strengthen their papers. Several folks from UW-Madison graciously extended hospitality in hosting out-of-town participants overnight at their homes, and Prof. Matt Turner and his wife hosted a dinner for workshop attendees after the first day of the workshop.

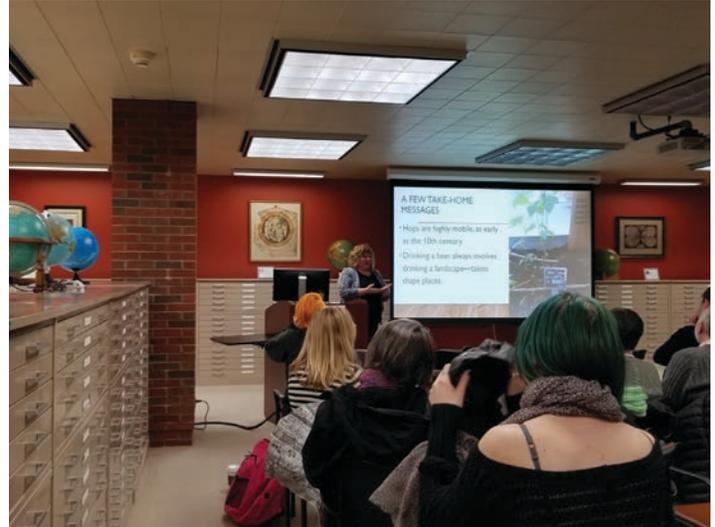
Overall, the workshop was a great opportunity for geography graduate students and faculty who study human-environment interactions to interact and share ideas and insights. The UWM geography department looks forward to participating in the next Upper Midwest Nature-Society Graduate Workshop in 2020.

EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

SPRING COLLOQUIUMS

The lectures committee hosted a number of very interesting talks during the year including a joint event with the Sociology Department in which Professor Jennifer Jordan gave a presentation entitled, “1000 years of the spaces of hop cultivation,” in which she traced the journey of this from Asia, through Europe and to the U.S., and described its significance to the beer industry.

In addition, the Harold and Florence Mayer Lecture was presented by Professor Seth Spielman from the Geography Department at the University of Colorado, Boulder. The title of his talk was “How to fix a \$400 billion map: Ways to improve the federal statistical system” in which he described the challenges associated with interpreting and presenting data collected at the national level for use in decision-making at a local level and presented ways to improve the current system.



A VISIT FROM LEIBNIZ UNIVERSITY IN HANOVER, GERMANY



Three years ago, a group of students from Germany visited the geography department at UWM as part of their field trip. On September 18, they made another similar visit to UWM with a different group of students. This group of 14 people (13 undergraduate students and an instructor) is from Leibniz University in Hanover, Germany. Our graduate students Nick Schuelke and Wei Xu shared their research with the German students during the research presentation time.



HAROLD AND FLORENCE MAYER LECTURE, FALL 2018



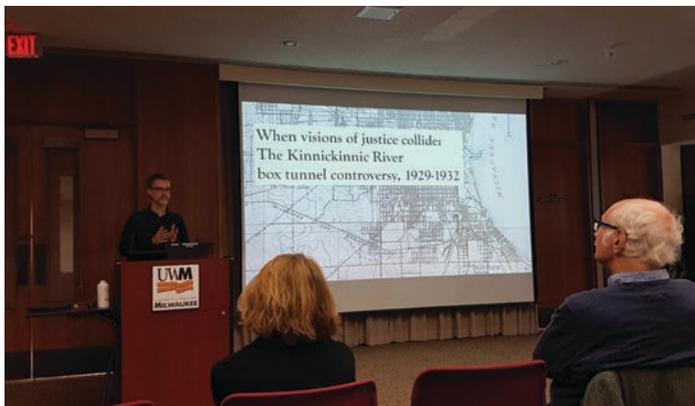
On October 5, 2018, the Geography Department hosted the Harold and Florence Mayer Lecture, at which Professor Joe Darden, Michigan State University, Department of Geography, gave a very interesting, informative and entertaining presentation entitled “Understanding Harold Rose’s Geography of Despair: The persistence of the black ghetto and neighborhood socioeconomic inequality.”

GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK STUDENTS ASSIST WITH INVASIVE SPECIES RESEARCH

UWM’s Geography department offers a fieldwork research course (GEOG650) every summer. This summer, 19 Geography students worked with Professor Linda McCarthy and 5 mentors from the Southeastern Wisconsin Invasive Species Consortium (SEWISC) in nature preserves throughout southeastern Wisconsin. Please check out the feature in the SEWISC newsletter:



THE 49TH ANNUAL MORRIS FROMKIN MEMORIAL LECTURE



Professor Ryan Holifield presented the 49th Annual Morris Fromkin Memorial Lecture, October 4, 2018. The lecture was entitled “When Visions of Justice Collide: The Kinnickinnic River Box Tunnel Controversy, 1929-1932.”

ALUMNI UPDATE - STEPHEN APPEL



I graduated from the Geography MS program in August of 2015, but you can still find me around UW-Milwaukee!

Immediately after graduation from the Geography Department, I started in a temporary position at the AGS Library as a tool developer. I worked hard to develop an updated version of homegrown software called Geodex that we use at the AGS Library for rapid cataloging of large paper map series in our collection. Geodex was developed by our past curator at the AGSL, Chris Baruth, more than 25 years ago. When the library was no longer supporting Windows XP workstations, the application and all of its critical data were at risk. I spent time teaching myself Visual Basic and using the ArcObjects SDK for .NET to develop an ArcMap add-on to store, edit, and share data from the Geodex system—we have been calling it Geodex 2.0. I never thought of myself as a programmer, but the troubleshooting and problem-solving skills that I learned through my GIScience education at UWM were hugely helpful in this process. I wrote a brief article along with AGS Library Curator Marcy Bidney about our experiences and challenges in rescuing this important application. During this time, I also co-authored an article with Professor Rina Ghose about the role of University Libraries in PPGIS. Both of these papers, along with my thesis on public geospatial data can be found on Google Scholar and elsewhere.

In September of 2016, I accepted an interim position as the Geographic Information Specialist at the AGS Library and then in December of 2017 I accepted a probationary academic staff position of the same title. My responsibilities include managing our collection of digital geospatial data and overseeing the archival digitization of maps. I also provide instructional

support by visiting classes and talking about AGS resources, teaching about finding and using data, thinking critically about information, and sharing my knowledge of geography and data. One of my favorite parts of my job is providing research support to students, faculty, visiting scholars, and the public. I also supervise our GIS student interns who represent a huge range of skills, experiences, and expertise. My experience as a student intern at the AGSL shaped my experience at UWM and led me to a fulfilling career.

Although I did not study to be a librarian, it has turned out to be a perfect way to put my geography education to use. My skills mesh very well with my work at the Digital Humanities Lab where I help advance the use of GIS, geospatial data, and mapping technologies in digital scholarship from a huge variety of disciplines. I also serve on committees dealing with long-term preservation of digital objects and a review for our end-user platforms for digital collections. I am in the very early stages of my next research endeavor — developing a curriculum for critical geographic information literacy instruction. Information literacy is a big topic in the library and information science world, but there is a gap when it comes to geographic information specifically. I hope to teach people to think critically about geographic data and learn to evaluate authority, understand the value of information, and to develop strategic search and exploration skills.

I am looking forward to many weekend camping trips this coming year; it is my favorite way to get outside and away from my computer! I am happy to announce my engagement to my partner Heidi who you may know from the UWM Archives! We plan to get married this July. I hope to maintain my connections with my colleagues, friends, and mentors in the Geography Department and build bridges around campus to advance Geography and GIS education to its fullest potential! I am so proud to be a UWM alumni employee so I can give back to the institution that gave me so much!

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

FACULTY NEWS

Hyejin Yoon has been elected as Secretary and Board of Directors member of the Korea America Association for Geospatial and Environmental Sciences. She joined the editorial board of the *International Journal of Geospatial and Environmental Research*. In May, she gave a colloquium talk at the University of Würzburg, Germany.

Changshan Wu joined the editorial board of the journal *Applied Geography*.

Kristin Sziarto has been elected to the 2018 American Association of Geographers Nominating Committee. In September, she served on a graduate school panel in the Preparing Future Faculty and Professionals series.

Mark Schwartz was interviewed on TV58 about his spring models used in a new forecast of the start of the growing season. Prof. Schwartz collaborated with Cornell University on “a new forecasting tool...that just may put the spring-predicting groundhog...out of work.”

Linda McCarthy delivered a guest lecture at UW-Parkside in June.

Anna Mansson McGinty, Kristin Sziarto, C. Seymour-Jorn, E. Othman, and the Ctr. for 21st Century Studies, hosted “Arts and Belonging among Muslims in Milwaukee: A Panel Discussion” in May. Profs. Sziarto, Mansson-McGinty, and Seymour-Jorn received a C21 Collaboratory Initiative Award for their Muslim Milwaukee Project.

Ryan Holifield delivered the fall Fromkin Lecture and presentations for the Sierra Club and the Wisconsin Population Health Service Fellowship Program. He served as a panelist at a City Hall event on environmental justice and at the Urban Studies Programs’ Student Research Forum, and as a faculty discussant for the Nature-Society Graduate Student Workshop at UW-Madison.

Rina Ghose delivered a guest lecture at the University of Central Florida in August and served as a grant reviewer for a government agency in France.

Donna Genzmer received the UW-Madison Chancellor’s Community-University Partnership Award for work on the USDA SARE grant “The Compost Project: A Systems Approach to Food Waste Composting for Urban Agriculture.” She and Kate Madison conducted two “Power of Data” professional development workshops for teachers.

Glen Fredlund’s research on bird collisions, in collaboration with a UWM undergraduate, was featured in the 2018 UWM research magazine.

Alison Donnelly received a Research Growth Initiative grant for the project “Determining the contribution of the shrub layer to overall forest phenology using in situ observations and remote sensing metrics.”

Woonsup Choi, along with **Ryan Holifield,** Dawn Erb (Physics), David Kaplan (Physics), and Arijit Sen (Architecture), received a UWM Collaborative Research

Team Development Award to develop “The Milwaukee Urban Observatory: The spatial and temporal variation of artificial light.”

Anne Bonds has been elected to the publications committee of the American Association of Geographers (AAG) and to a 4-year term (two as vice-chair and two as chair) of the AAG Urban Geography Specialty Group. She is currently a Senior Fellow at the UWM Center for Economic Development, and received (with Arijit Sen) a Digital Humanities Lab Fellowship for 2018-2019.

PUBLICATIONS

Bonds, A. (2018). Race and ethnicity I: Property, race, and the carceral state. *Progress in Human Geography*.

Loyd, J. M., & Bonds, A. (2018). Where do Black lives matter? Race, stigma, and place in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. *The Sociological Review*, 66(4), 898-918.

Donnelly, A., Liu, L., Zhang, X. and Wingler, A. (2018). Autumn leaf phenology: discrepancies between in situ observations and satellite data at urban and rural sites. *International Journal of Remote Sensing*, 1-22

Donnelly, A. (2018). Climate change: potential implications for Ireland’s biodiversity. *International Journal of Biometeorology*, 1-8.

Ghose, R. & Pettygrove, M. (2018). “Urban community gardens as new spaces of living.” In *Handbook on the Spaces of Urban Politics*, edited by Kevin Ward, Andrew E.G. Jonas, Byron Miller, and David Wilson. London: Routledge, pp. 320-335.

Holifield, R. and Williams, K. (2019). “Recruiting, integrating, and sustaining stakeholder participation in environmental management: A case study from the Great Lakes Areas of Concern.” *Journal of Environmental Management*, 230: 422-433.

Holifield, R. 2018. “Just green spaces of urban politics: A pragmatist approach.” In *Handbook on the Spaces of Urban Politics*, edited by Kevin Ward, Andrew E.G. Jonas, Byron Miller, and David Wilson. London: Routledge, pp. 146-156.

McCarthy, L. (2018). Should State and Local Government Bidding for Big Businesses Be More Like eBay? *Growth and Change*, 49(3), 400-412.

Seymour-Jorn, C., Sziarto, K. & McGinty, A.M. The American prophetic tradition and social justice activism among Muslims in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. *Contemporary Islam* (2018).

Yoon, H. (2018). Do higher skills result in better jobs? The case of the Korean animation industry. *Geoforum*.

Yoon, H., & Kim, H. (2018). Career–family strategies and spatial mobility among South Korean women scholars. *Asian and Pacific Migration Journal*, 27(1), 101-120.



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