

2013-14 Annual Report

Spatial Analysis and Modeling (SAM) Specialty Group

The Association of American Geographers

I. Mission Statement

Our mission is to foster and maintain interaction, cooperation and community among individuals interested in the analysis of geo-referenced data, modeling of spatio-temporal processes and the use of analytical and computational techniques in solving geographic problems. The specialty group promotes the scientific study of physical, environmental and socioeconomic geography and the development, use and teaching of analytical cartography, geographic information systems (GIS), remote sensing, spatial statistical, mathematical and computational techniques for spatial analysis.

II. Membership Dues

Regular: \$6 (effective August 2011)

Student: \$1

III. Board

<i>Chair</i>	Li An, San Diego State University, 2012-2015
<i>Vice-chair/treasurer</i>	Anthony H. Grubestic, Drexel University, 2013-2016
<i>Board members</i>	Yongwan Chun, University of Texas at Dallas, 2012-2015
	Jennifer A Miller, University of Texas at Austin, 2013-2016
	Eun-Hye Enki Yoo, University at Buffalo, The State University of New York (SUNY), 2014-2017
<i>Student representative</i>	Yolanda J. McDonald, Texas A&M University, 2014-2017

Board member responsibilities

Each SAM Board member takes the leadership of a particular aspect of SAM business. Among the current board members, Vice Chair and Treasurer Anthony H. Grubestic is responsible for coordinating work related to the SAM Outstanding Service Award. Student representative Yolanda J. McDonald and Board member Yongwan Chun are mainly responsible for overseeing elections. Board member Jennifer A Miller edits SAM Newsletters, and Board member Eun-Hye Enki Yoo is in charge of organizing student paper competition, and Board member Yongwan Chun is responsible for coordinating work related selecting the 2015 SAM Plenary Lecture speaker. SAM Chair Li An is responsible for maintaining SAM website, reporting to AAG Council, organizing SAM meeting and SAM-sponsored sessions based on abstracts submitted to each AAG annual meeting, and other related issues.

IV. Accomplishments, Activities, Future Plans and Directions

Activities Scheduled

There were several SAM-related activities held at the recent 2014 AAG meeting in Tampa. SAM was quite visible, sponsoring or co-sponsoring over 80 sessions. In conjunction with the journal of *Geographical Analysis*, SAM sponsored a plenary session and Helen Couclelis delivered the plenary lecture on "Ignorance in the Age of Information: Prediction and Uncertainty When the Numbers Just Aren't There". SAM has also successfully organized three student paper sessions.

Changes of SAM Business

SAM has elected the following board members: Anthony H. Grubestic as SAM Vice Chair (to replace previous Vice Chair Fang Qiu), Jennifer A Miller as board member (to replace outgoing board member Changjoo Kim), Eun-Hye Enki Yoo as board member (to replace outgoing board member Joni Downs), Yolanda J. McDonald as student representative (to replace outgoing student representative Jing Gao). SAM thanks Fang Qiu, Changjoo Kim, Joni Downs, and Jing Gao for their great service in their terms.

According to an earlier decision made by the SAM business meeting at Seattle (2011), a two issue model (Pre- and Post-AAG issues) was adopted. The SAM Specialty Group has published two issues of newsletter in 2014, which can be found at <http://sam-aag.sdsu.edu/newsletters.html> (including all past issues).

A third potential change is the initiation of SAM Specialty Group Outstanding Service Award. Li An (SAM Chair)'s proposal about setting up SAM Specialty Group Outstanding Service Award was approved in 2013 business meeting at Los Angeles. Li An, Anthony H. Grubestic, and the other board members worked together and decided to offer two Outstanding Service Awards to Drs. Daniel Griffith and Allan Murray in 2014.

Student Paper Awards

We decided to give the 1st place award to two students: 1) Paul Holloway, University of Texas at Austin, John Odland Award, "Sensitivity Analysis of Step Selection Function Model Parameters"; and 2) Ying Song, Ohio State University, John Odland Award, "Modeling Movement Probabilities within Transportation Networks Using Network Time Prisms and Stochastic Spatio-Temporal Processes".

Plans for the 2015 Annual Meeting in Chicago

We have received requests for SAM sponsorship on many paper sessions for the 2015 Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois. In conjunction with the journal of *Geographical Analysis*, SAM will again sponsor a plenary session to be delivered by Keith Clarke from University of California, Santa Barbara.

SAM has devoted much effort in encouraging students to submit their work to SAM student paper competitions. We will keep our momentum and continue our effort to recruit both graduate and undergraduate students to participate in the competition.

Future Plans and Directions

SAM will continue to foster the development and application of spatial analytic methods per its mission statement, and reach out to other AAG specialty groups to develop cross-group thematic paper sessions. SAM will continue to encourage both graduate and undergraduate students to participate in AAG meetings, through various forms including student paper competitions. SAM will also seek collaboration with other AAG specialty groups in organizing annual meeting events.

V. Membership and Participation

Membership numbers are listed below. There has been a slight increase in number of SAM members. Now SAM is the fifth largest AAG special groups.

Year	Number of members			Access date	Source
	Total	Students	Non-students		
2014	659***	303	356	Oct 10	
2013	640			Sept. 9	
2012	619*			Nov. 20	SAM Knowledge Community
2011	987**	459	528	Nov. 3	AAG SG Website
2010	869	381	488	Apr. 13	AAG SG Website
2009	804	350	454	Oct. 15	AAG SG Website
2008	722	327	395	Apr. 8	AAG SG Website
2007	708	327	381	Mar. 1	AAG SG Website
2006	750	413	337	Feb. 1	AAG SG Website
2005	716				AAG SG Website
2004	200				
2003	427				
2002	366				
2001	261				
2000	204				
1999	219				
1998	244				
1997	285				
1996	339				
1995	309				

*Many reasons could account for this decrease in number of members, e.g., different data source, SAM due increase;

**721 at the end of 2011 according to Greg Osburn, AAG IT Coordinator

*** Staff members are not filtered out to be consistent with the data in previous years

VI. Financial Information

8/31/12	Balance forward		\$ 2,874.44
9/21/12	O'Kelly - AM 2013 reg for speaker	(295.00)	2,579.44
9/30/12	Dues collected for Sept 2012	114.00	2,693.44
10/31/12	Dues collected for Oct 2012	556.00	3,249.44
11/30/12	Dues collected for Nov. 2012	278.00	3,527.44
12/31/12	Dues collected for Dec. 2012	143.00	3,670.44
1/31/13	Dues collected for Jan 2013	175.00	3,845.44
2/28/13	Dues collected for Feb 2013	198.00	4,043.44
3/31/13	Dues collected for March 2013	215.00	4,258.44
4/30/13	Dues collected for April 2013	169.00	4,427.44
5/8/13	Scholz - 1st Place Student Paper Award	(400.00)	4,027.44
5/8/13	Gao - 2nd Place Student Paper Award	(300.00)	3,727.44
5/8/13	Ren - 3rd Place Student Paper Award	(150.00)	3,577.44
5/9/13	Wang - 3rd Place Student Paper Award	(150.00)	3,427.44
5/31/13	Dues collected for May 2013	69.00	3,496.44
6/30/13	Dues collected for June 2013	70.00	3,566.44
7/31/13	Dues collected for July 2013	101.00	3,667.44
8/31/13	Dues collected for Aug 2013	87.00	3,754.44
8/31/13	Balance		<u>3,754.44</u>
8/31/13	Balance forward		\$ 3,754.44
9/30/13	Dues collected for Sept 2013	178.00	3,932.44
10/22/13	Couclelis - AM14 Registration	(295.00)	3,637.44
10/31/13	Dues collected for Oct 2013	322.00	

			3,959.44
11/6/13	AM2014 Luncheon tickets		(110.00) 3,849.44
11/30/13	Dues collected for Nov 2013	336.00	4,185.44
12/31/13	Dues collected for Dec 2013	314.00	4,499.44
1/31/14	Dues collected for Jan 2014	147.00	4,646.44
2/28/14	Dues collected for Feb 2014	121.00	4,767.44
3/31/14	Dues collected for March 2014	166.00	4,933.44
4/9/14	An - reimbursement for plaque		(127.00) 4,806.44
4/11/14	2014 Awards Luncheon		(55.00) 4,751.44
4/9/14	Holloway - John Odland Award		(500.00) 4,251.44
4/14/14	Song - John Odland Award		(500.00) 3,751.44
4/30/14	Dues collected for April 2014	158.00	3,909.44
5/31/14	Dues collected for May 2014	96.00	4,005.44
6/30/14	Dues collected for June 2014	66.00	4,071.44
7/31/14	Dues collected for July 2014	53.00	4,124.44
8/31/14	Dues collected for Aug 2014	81.00	4,205.44
8/31/14	Balance		<u>4,205.44</u>

We believe SAM has maintained a healthy balance sheet and undertaken various tasks effectively under its mission. We thank all SAM members and AAG leadership for their support in the past years, and look forward to serving the SAM community joyfully in the years to come.

This report has been compiled using a template that was modified from the 2012 report. SAM board members and AAG officers/staff Patricia Solis, Michelle Ledoux, and Greg Osbur have provided relevant data. We thank all of them for the great help.

Respectfully submitted,

Li An
 Chair, SAMSG, AAG
 October 12, 2014