

Annual Report for 4/00 – 5/01

Spatial Analysis and Modeling Specialty Group The Association of American Geographers

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.

National Meeting

The annual business meeting of the specialty group was held at the AAG in New York on March 1, 2001 at 6:40 pm. There were 24 people in attendance. SAM was particularly active and visible at the national meeting, sponsoring or co-sponsoring 15 sessions (64 papers). The second annual plenary talk was given by Michael Batty titled “Generating urban landscapes at the fine-scale: cells, agents, form and development.” Also of note, the SAM sponsored student paper competition and paper session had five entries. The winner of this competition was Sang-II Lee (graduate student in the Department of Geography at The Ohio State University) for his paper titled “Developing a bivariate spatial association measure: an extension of Moran’s I”. A listing of all of the sponsored sessions and papers is given on the group web site at http://geog-www.sbs.ohio-state.edu/sam_aag/.

Membership Summary and Finances

Reported at the Business meeting by Treasurer Comer were membership numbers and finances.

Current balance: \$2,261

Membership numbers:

2001 – 143 (94 non-student / 49 student)
2000 – 204
1999 – 219
1998 – 244
1997 – 285
1996 – 339
1995 – 309

Elections

Stuart Sweeney (Univ. of California, Santa Barbara) was nominated and elected as the new Vice Chair/Treasurer replacing Jon Comer. Jon Comer (Oklahoma State University) was nominated and elected as Board member replacing Sucharita Gopal.

Chair – Alan Murray (term expires 2003)
Vice Chair/Treasurer – Stuart Sweeney (term expires 2004)
Board member – David Lemberg (term expires 2002)
Board member – David Wong (term expires 2003)
Board member – Jonathan Comer (term expires 2004)
Student representative - Rachel Franklin (term expires 2002)

CSISS/SAM Collaboration

Work continues on the joint project with the Center for Spatially Integrated Social Science and SAM to develop “Learning Resources for Spatial Analysis and Modeling at CSISS.org”. The learning resources are being proposed to help promote the informed use of spatial analysis in the social sciences. The proposed collaboration was discussed at the Business meeting in New York. Further information and a conceptual overview may be found at http://www.csiss.org/learning_resources/sam/. Those who are interested in contributing should contact Matt Rice (rice@csiss.org) or Alan Murray (murray.308@osu.edu) right away.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Murray
May 15, 2001