



The Association of American Geographers Spatial Analysis and Modeling Specialty Group Newsletter

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FROM THE CHAIR

Hello SAM members. I wanted to update you on upcoming SAM activities to be held at the 2009 AAG meeting in Las Vegas.

SAM will be sponsoring several paper sessions at the 2009 meeting. Calls for papers have been posted to the SAM website on topics including emerging infectious diseases, time geography, critical infrastructure protection, mapping the census, and several others. Many sessions will be co-sponsored with other specialty groups. Please see the SAM website for full details on planned sessions to be held at the 2009 meeting (<http://www.fsu.edu/~geog/sam/>). Of course, there is still time to organize SAM-sponsored sessions. Please e-mail me at mhorner@fsu.edu if you would like to learn more about SAM sponsorship.

In conjunction with Dan Griffith and Geographical Analysis, SAM will sponsor a plenary session at AAG 2009 featuring Denise Pumain. Jean-Claude Thill will be organizing a special session titled "Publishing in a Spatial Analysis Journal."

We will again hold graduate student paper competitions (Masters and Doctoral), as well as an emerging scholar competition. Full details of these contests are posted in this newsletter. I would encourage SAM members to disseminate information regarding these competitions to their respective institutions.

Lastly, at the SAM business meeting in Las Vegas (2009), we will be electing two new board members. My term as Chair ends in 2009, as does Darla Munroe's (regular board member). I will ask for nominations at the 2009 SAM business meeting, and votes will take place at that time. SAM folks interested in becoming a board member should feel free to contact me to learn more about what these positions involve.

Best wishes,
Mark W. Horner
Department of Geography
Florida State University



NOTEWORTHY

On August 26, 2008 the U.S. Census Bureau released the first data from the 2007 American Community Survey. Additional ACS data will be released throughout the fall of 2008. In December, the Census Bureau will introduce three-year estimates, providing a first look at the characteristics of mid-sized population areas since the 2000 census. The release will include guidance on how the three-year and one-year estimates differ, and how the three-year estimates might be used. For more information visit: www.census.gov/acs/www.

NEWS

On July 1, 2008, Daniel A. Griffith, Ashbel Smith Professor of Geospatial Information Sciences at the University of Texas at Dallas, became the ninth editor of *Geographical Analysis: An International Journal of Theoretical Geography*, which is entering its fortieth year of publication. With his editorship, the on-line version of the journal will begin to include abstracts published in Chinese and Spanish, as well as in English. He is initiating special issues of the journal that will celebrate Cliff and Ord's 1969 seminal paper about spatial autocorrelation, Alan Wilson's 1970 book about spatial interaction modeling, and graphic theory and the new network science, which is scheduled to include a previously unpublished, posthumous manuscript by the late Frank Harary. Yongwan Chun is the journal's new editorial assistant. Robert Haining, Stewart Fotheringham, and Mei-Po Kwan are its Associate Editors. Its abstracts will be translated by Linwang Yuan into Chinese, and by Marco Millones into Spanish. Submissions are invited to be sent to Geographical_Analysis@utdallas.edu.

JOBS *

ILLINOIS, URBANA. The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The Department of Geography invites applications for a full-time (9 month), tenure track position at the **Assistant Professor** level in **Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Science**, starting August 2009.

The successful candidate will be expected to develop an active program of research and publication in remote sensing and related areas of GIScience (including, but not limited to spatial analysis, geovisualization and modeling of human and environmental systems) as well as complement current departmental and school research strengths (see www.geog.uiuc.edu and www.earth.uiuc.edu). The position also involves participating in teaching for the Department's undergraduate and graduate core curriculum in GIScience. The Department is part of the School of Earth, Society and Environment (SESE, comprising the Departments of Geography, Geology and Atmospheric Sciences), which provides excellent opportunities for interdisciplinary research. There are also multiple opportunities to interact with the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA), a leading center for the development of cyberinfrastructure, scientific visualization and data mining. A PhD in Geography or a closely related discipline is required at the time of appointment. Salary will be commensurate with experience.

Full consideration will be given to applications received by November 15, 2008. Applicants must submit a curriculum vitae, a statement of research and teaching interests and a writing sample. In addition, they must arrange for three letters of recommendation to be sent.

Apply: All materials, including an email address, should be submitted to Sara McLafferty, Chair, GIScience Search Committee, Attn. Diane Lane, Department of Geography, 220 Davenport Hall (MC 150), 607

* Unless otherwise noted, job entries listed were selected from AAG's *Jobs in Geography* site at www.aag.org.

South Mathews Avenue, Urbana, IL 61801, tel (217) 333-3488, fax (217) 244-1785. For further information, contact smclaff@illinois.edu.

NEBRASKA, LINCOLN. School of Natural Resources, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. **Assistant Professor of Geographic Information Science.** Tenure-track position beginning August 2009. PhD in Geography or a closely related field relevant to the mission of the School of Natural Resources (SNR). The incumbent will provide leadership for teaching and research focused on GIS with emphasis on linkages to issues in natural resources science and geography. The School of Natural Resources (<http://snr.unl.edu/>) has strong programs in geography, water science, fish and wildlife management, applied climate science, remote sensing, and human dimensions of natural resources, and includes several prominent research centers including the Center for Advanced Land Management Information Technologies (www.calmit.unl.edu).

The successful candidate will have a record of excellence in teaching and research including the ability to teach courses in geographic information systems (GIS) at both undergraduate and graduate levels. Proficiency with ESRI software is preferred. We are especially interested in candidates who have expertise that clearly complements existing SNR strengths, and who have teaching and research credentials in one or more of the following areas: GIS-based environmental modeling, remote sensing-GIS integration, Web-based GIS/mapping, GIS and spatial statistics, and/or scientific visualization.

Apply: go to <http://employment.unl.edu> (requisition #080906) and complete the "faculty/Academic Administrative form." Applicants must attach a cover letter, curriculum vitae, statement of research and teaching interests, and names and full contact information for at least three references. Review of applications will begin on January 12, 2009, but the position will remain open until filled.

The University of Nebraska has an active National Science Foundation ADVANCE

gender equity program, and is committed to a pluralistic campus community through affirmative action, equal opportunity, work-life balance, and dual careers.

CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO. San Francisco State University invites applications for an **Associate or Full Professor** to serve as **Department Chair** on arrival in August, 2009. Proven administrative experience; demonstrated excellence in scholarship, service, and teaching; PhD in Geography required. Research focus in political ecology, human-environment interaction, nature-society, biogeography or conservation preferred.

San Francisco State University, a large urban university, is part of the 23-campus California State University system serving a diverse student body in liberal arts, sciences, and professional programs. The mission of the University is to create an environment for learning that promotes an appreciation of scholarship, freedom, and human diversity; fosters excellence in instruction and intellectual accomplishment; and provides broadly accessible higher education. SFSU faculty are expected to be effective in teaching; to demonstrate professional achievement and growth through continued research, publications, and/or creative activities; and to contribute their academic expertise and leadership to the campus and community.

The Department of Geography and Human Environmental Studies has twelve full-time faculty. Our BA and MA programs in Geography attract students with diverse backgrounds, professional and international experience. We have a longstanding commitment to excellence in teaching and research, and we welcome applications from creative, dedicated teacher-scholars. Department facilities include a Geographic Analysis Teaching Lab, Physical Geography lab and Map Library. Our applied programs focus on physical geography, geographic techniques, human geography, resource management and environmental/land use planning.

Apply: Please submit all materials electronically to geog@sfsu.edu. Include an application letter, a curriculum vitae, and separate statements concerning your administrative philosophy, teaching and research interests. Three letters of reference should be emailed independently by referees from their own accounts.

Application screening begins November 15 but the position will remain open until filled. Address questions to: Nancy Lee Wilkinson, Chair, Department of Geography and Human Environmental Studies, nancyw@sfsu.edu.

MICHIGAN, MOUNT PLEASANT. The Department of Geography, Central Michigan University invites applications for a tenure-track appointment at the level of **Assistant Professor** in the area of **Spatial Decision Making** to begin August, 2009. A PhD in Geography or a closely related field is required at the time of appointment.

Applicants should specialize in the theories and techniques for spatial decision making in such areas as landuse planning, transportation planning, location allocation, logistics, and market analysis. Candidates should have a strong background in computational and analytical methods with systematic education in one of the following fields: Urban Geography, Economic Geography, Political Geography, or Urban & Regional Planning. Candidates with a regional expertise in one of the following areas preferred: Middle East, South Asia, Europe, or Russia.

The successful candidate must have effective communication skills and a strong commitment to teaching and mentoring undergraduate and graduate students. Teaching responsibilities include introductory courses in Human Geography and advanced courses in the area of specialization. The candidate is expected to actively seek external funding and develop a viable research program. Additional responsibilities include department and university service. Screening will begin on

November 15, 2008, and continue until the position is filled.

The Department offers a B.S. (major and minor) in Geography and M.S. in Geographic Information Sciences as well as Geography minors and majors for teacher education students. Computer and lab facilities are state-of-the-art. Additional potential research opportunities are available in CMU's GIS Center and the Central Michigan University Research Corporation. Classified by the Carnegie Foundation as a doctoral research university, CMU is recognized for strong undergraduate education and a range of focused graduate and research programs.

Apply: Send an application letter, curriculum vitae, copies of all transcripts, statement of teaching philosophy, statement of future research plans, and three letters of reference to: Dr. Bin Li, Chair, Department of Geography, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI 48859. Further information is available at www.geo.cmich.edu.

CMU, an AA/EO institution, strongly and actively strives to increase diversity within its community (see <http://www.cmich.edu/aaeo/>). Minorities and women are encouraged to apply.

OHIO, COLUMBUS. The **Ohio State University** seeks applicants for the position of **Director of the Center for Urban and Regional Analysis (CURA)**. This is a tenured position, with the Director spending approximately 50% of her or his time directing activities of CURA and the remainder as a faculty member in an academic unit. The tenure home is open, depending on the applicant's areas of research and teaching. Candidates for this position should have a record of excellence in scholarship in urban and regional issues. Applicants from various disciplines, including the social sciences, humanities, architecture and planning, and public policy among others, are encouraged.

CURA is an interdisciplinary center with the primary mission of facilitating research on urban and regional issues. The staff includes an

associate director, data manager, program assistant, and graduate research associate. The Center encourages and enhances faculty research, in part, through grant support and data access. The Center has financially assisted the research programs of faculty from 24 different departments through its seed grant program. Other CURA activities include organizing and facilitating conferences, seminars and roundtables. An additional set of activities includes involvement in selected scholarly based outreach activities for the community, state, and nation.

The Director is expected to lead the growth and shape expansion of this multi-disciplinary Center, continue an active personal research program, and participate in the academic life of the tenuring department. A particularly important activity of the Director is attracting external grant support for Center activities. The Director also heads the university's participation in Ohio's Urban University Program. Additional detailed description of the Center can be found at cura.osu.edu.

Applications should be sent to the search committee chair. Applicants should submit to the address below a curriculum vitae, the names of three references, and a cover letter describing the applicant's interest in and qualifications for the position, including administrative experience and examples of leadership of multi-disciplinary efforts. Candidates from underrepresented groups are especially urged to apply. For full consideration, applications should be received by December 8, 2008; however, review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

Apply to: Donald Haurin, Chair, CURA Search Committee, 1010 Derby Hall, 154 N. Oval Mall, Columbus, OH 43210. Voice 614-292-6809. Email: haurin.2@osu.edu.

The Ohio State University is an EEO/AA Employer. Women, minorities, veterans, and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE. The University of Tennessee Department of Geography invites

applications for a 9-month, tenure-track position at the **Assistant Professor** level beginning in August 2009. We seek a new faculty member in **Physical Geography and spatial analysis** whose research complements and enhances existing departmental strengths.

The applicant is expected to sustain an active, funded research program in spatial analysis and physical geography. Teaching duties will include undergraduate and graduate courses in physical geography and spatial analysis. PhD in geography or closely allied field required at time of appointment. Our department is characterized by many shared interests, excellent facilities, and collaborative ties to Oak Ridge National Laboratory. It provides a supportive environment for students and faculty. For information about the department, see <http://web.utk.edu/~utkgeog>.

Apply: Dr. Carol P. Harden, Search Committee Chair, Department of Geography, 304 Burchfiel Geography Building, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-0925.

Applications should include a curriculum vitae and a cover letter highlighting the applicant's qualifications for the position. Applicants should also have three referees send supporting letters to the search committee chair. Review of applications will begin December 1, 2008 and will continue until the position is filled. The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental disability, or covered veteran status.

WASHINGTON, BOTHELL. Assistant Professor, Geographic Analysis and Visualization. Tenure-track, one full-time position. The Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences Program at the University of Washington Bothell is seeking a dynamic educator who can integrate teaching, research,

and practice in geographic analysis and representation, including GIS, across diverse fields of study. Two-years teaching experience and PhD required at time of appointment.

For more information, see www.washington.edu/admin/acadpers/ads/aa2174.html, or e-mail the search committee chair, Professor David Stokes, at dstokes@uwb.edu. Preferred deadline: October 24, 2008. This position is contingent upon available funding. University of Washington faculty members engage in teaching, research and service.

The University is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer. We are particularly interested in faculty who can contribute to diversifying the undergraduate and graduate curricula.

WISCONSIN, LA CROSSE. The Department of Geography/Earth Science at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse seeks to hire a candidate for each of the following two tenure-track positions:

Position 1: Assistant Professor, full-time, tenure track appointment in **GIS**, beginning fall 2009. PhD in Geography required at time of appointment. Demonstrated expertise in GIS and spatial analysis with proficiency in ArcGIS 9.2 or above and its extensions as applied to any of the subfields of geography. Primary teaching responsibilities include introductory and advanced courses in GIS, as well as additional courses in his/her specializations. The appointee will be expected to provide leadership and vision to the geographic information science core in an undergraduate geography program. The Department houses the UWL Center for Geography Information Science.

The appointees to both positions are expected to demonstrate a commitment to excellence in undergraduate teaching, develop an active research program seeking external grants, participate in undergraduate research, and provide service to the University and broader community.

Apply: Submit a letter of application stating which position you are applying for, vita, a philosophy of teaching statement, contact

information of three references, and graduate transcript(s) to: Dr. Gregory Chu, Chair, Department of Geography and Earth Science, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, 1725 State Street, La Crosse, WI 54601. Voice 608-785-8333, FAX 608-785-8332, e-mail chu.greg@uwlax.edu.

Review of complete application materials will begin on December 1, 2008 until each position is filled. UW-La Crosse is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Women, persons of color, and individuals with a disability are encouraged to apply. If you have a special need/accommodation to aid your participation in our hiring process, please contact the committee above to make appropriate arrangements. The State of Wisconsin requires a criminal background check on the successful applicant.

CALLS AND MEETINGS

GeoComputation '09 will be held in at the University of New South Wales, Australia.

StatGIS 09 - GeoInformatics for Environmental Surveillance. June 17-19, 2009, Milos, Greece. <http://milos.conferences.gr/4745.html>

StatGIS is addressed to researchers in academia and research institutes, as well as practitioners and industry professionals who want to learn about recent developments in spatial statistics and their applications, and to share their experiences in these areas. Application fields of interest for this conference will include, but not be limited, to: spatial environmental modeling, early warning monitoring systems for the environment, geostatistics in natural hazards prediction, optimum spatial design, space-time analysis and renewable energy resources, remote sensing applications in land reclamation after mining exploitation, spatial metrics for biodiversity assessment and monitoring, etc.

The conference will provide an opportunity for researchers and industry to meet and exchange the latest in spatial statistics and

geoinformatics with an emphasis on the main steps involved in environmental monitoring and surveillance. We will start with the collection of data from environmental sensors and monitoring networks and further discuss their use by the web services and systems involved in the processing of the information. The automated analysis of the data and the detection of anomalies and changes will also be covered before finally addressing the visualization and communication of the generated information for efficient decision making.

The international character of the conference will be an opportunity to focus on GMES (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security) and GEOSS (Global Earth Observation System of Systems) related issues, in particular on the need for cost-effective sustainable services. StatGIS 2009 will therefore focus on generic solutions, re-usable software solutions, in particular Open Source technology, and interoperability of systems. Cross-border issues that affect the homogeneity of geographic information (INSPIRE) and of global environmental monitoring networks as well as the interoperability of the systems will also be covered.

Those used to the tradition of StatGIS being an important meeting to learn about the latest developments in geostatistics and spatial statistics will not be disappointed by the challenges that will be discussed in Milos. Statistical issues that will be covered range from the analysis of data provided by heterogeneous networks, the automatic detection of anomalies for early warning, to the real-time interpolation of data collected by mobile devices or the fast processing of environmental data for reducing computing times. The monitoring of environmental risks using spatial statistics and geoinformatics covers a large number of applications. These cover issues as different as environmental radioactivity, global change, biodiversity, pests, floods, droughts, fires or earthquakes but also health risks associated with the spreading of viruses or any health threats.

Key papers will be published in a special issue of *Computers & Geosciences*.

Important dates and deadlines:

- 16 January 2009 - Abstract submission.
- 6 February 2009 - Notification of abstract acceptance
- 13 March 2009 - Submission of full papers
- 17 April 2009 - End of reviewing
- 1 May 2009 - Submission of camera ready copies of corrected papers
- 17-19 June 2009 - Conference

The 2009 Annual Meeting of the AAG

SAM Specialty Group will sponsor the following special sessions. Details for each special session are posted on the SAM web site (<http://www.fsu.edu/~geog/sam/>).

- SAM Specialty Group Student Paper & Emerging Scholar Paper Competitions
- Transport Efficiency - Fact or Fiction?
- Critical Network Infrastructure
- Time Geography
- Emerging Infectious Diseases
- Spatial Autocorrelation and Environmental Justice
- Geographic Complexity
- Mapping the Census
- Commuting, Land Use, Spatial Structure
- GIScience and the Geography of Health

COMPETITIONS

AAG Grants and Competitions The AAG offers numerous grants and awards. Visit the AAG website at www.aag.org for a full listing including detailed descriptions, deadlines, and application procedures.

Spatial Analysis & Modeling (SAM) Specialty Group Student & Emerging Scholar Paper Competitions

The Spatial Analysis and Modeling (SAM) Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers is sponsoring *THREE PAPER COMPETITIONS* at the 2009 AAG Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada. Two competitions will be **STUDENT PAPER COMPETITIONS (graduate and undergraduate)** for any research conducted while a student is at an accredited university. The third will be an

EMERGING SCHOLAR PAPER

COMPETITION for anyone within six years of his/her Ph.D. degree award at the time of the 2009 AAG meeting. Competitions will have a total minimum of \$1000 in prizes. The winner(s) will also be invited to submit their manuscript(s) for publication in *Geographical Analysis*, subject to the standard review process of the Journal.

Papers may be of a theoretical or applied nature. Papers will be judged on the following criteria: i) potential contribution to the use of mathematical models, statistical techniques and other technological and computational approaches for analyzing spatial phenomena in any sub-field of geography; ii) appropriate and sound use of methodology; iii) originality; and, iv) organization and written composition of the paper.

*Submission Procedures:***1a) STUDENT PAPER COMPETITIONS:**

For the graduate level competition, the paper must be a single-authored paper based on research primarily conducted while the student was at an accredited university. Each entrant must submit a statement from a University faculty member, preferably their graduate advisor, attesting that the paper reflects the sole efforts of the entrant. The entrant need not be a student at the time of the 2009 AAG meeting. Graduate papers will be presented in traditional paper sessions. For the undergraduate level competition, the paper must also be based on research primarily conducted while the student was at an accredited university. Multiple authorship for an undergraduate research entry is permitted, provided the submission is accompanied by a statement from a University faculty member attesting to the student's lead role in the research. Again, such entrants need not be students at the time of the 2009 AAG meeting. The undergraduate-level competition will take the form of an illustrated paper/poster session.

1b) EMERGING SCHOLAR

COMPETITION: The paper must be a single-authored paper whose author is within six years of his/her Ph.D. being awarded from an accredited degree program at the time of the 2009 AAG meeting.

2) An entrant may only participate in one of the three competitions in a given year.

3) Entrants will present their papers in an AAG session sponsored or co-sponsored by the SAM specialty group. Persons wishing to enter the paper competitions should notify Vice-Chair Ed Zolnik (ezolnik@gmu.edu) well **before** the AAG's abstract deadline so that SAM officers can coordinate with the AAG to place competition papers into the appropriate sessions.

4) A panel of judges will review the papers before the AAG meeting. The winner(s), if any, will be announced at the SAM specialty group business meeting and at the AAG Awards Luncheon. Winners should make themselves available to attend the Luncheon. The judges' decision, including the possibility of not awarding a prize, is final.

5) The final version of the paper must be received by FEBRUARY 1, 2009. The cover-page of the paper should contain the name, current affiliation, mailing address, phone number, email and "level" (for student paper competition; e.g., undergraduate, graduate) or place and year of Ph.D. degree (for emerging scholar competition). A second page should repeat the title and contain an abstract. No identifying information should appear anywhere else in the paper, if possible.

6) Papers should be no longer than 35 double-spaced pages, including tables, figures and references.

7) All entries should be submitted in .doc or .pdf format to Ed Zolnik (ezolnik@gmu.edu).

INFORMATION

Spatial Analysis and Modeling (SAM)

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, GIS, remote sensing, spatial statistical, mathematical and computational techniques for spatial analysis.

Membership Dues

Regular: \$3
Student: \$1

Submissions

This newsletter reaches a large number of readers and is therefore an excellent venue for getting the word out on community news, departmental happenings, research findings, media appearances, and the like. It is also a good place to post calls for proposals, awards, grants, fellowships, and jobs. We also invite you to submit commentaries or features of broad interest to specialty group members.

The newsletter relies on volunteers to submit articles, so please take a moment to send along relevant items.

Please send your submission by email to Ningchuan Xiao (xiao.37@osu.edu). Photos or other images, with captions in an attached text file, are also welcome (GIF, JPG, or PNG).

Officers

Chair

Mark Horner

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Email: mhorner@fsu.edu
Term Expires: 2009

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