



DEPARTMENT OF
GEOGRAPHY

College of Arts and Sciences

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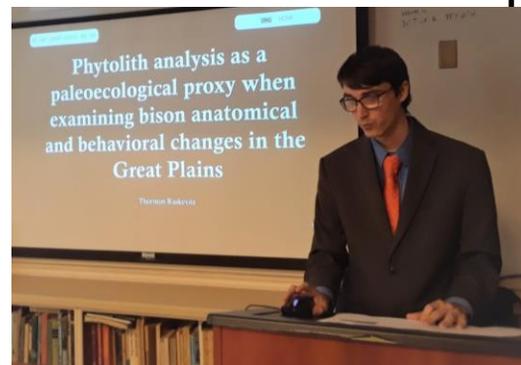
Geography Newsletter

April 2020

April Happenings

Though interpersonal interactions have come to a standstill and we are all tele-teaching, life still goes on in our department and here are some of those things:

- On March 27, PhD Candidate **Ben Hemingway** successfully defended his dissertation, our department's first completely virtual defense: "Geostatistical Analysis of Temperature Structure in the Atmospheric Boundary Layer." Dr. Steve Stadler was Ben's Committee Chair and Dr. Amy Frazier (Arizona State) was his Research Advisor.
- April 2, MS student **Nicole Pauley** successfully defended her thesis, "Assessment of functional diversity across a managed pine-oak forest landscape using remote sensing techniques." Dr. Jon Comer was her Committee Chair and Dr. Bryan Murray (NREM) was her Research Advisor.
- April 13, MS student **Thornton Raskevitz** successfully defended his thesis, "Phytolith Analysis as a Paleocological Proxy When Examining Bison Anatomical and Behavioral Changes in the Great Plains" under the direction of Dr. Carlos Cordova.
- On April 25, the department held a virtual social hour on Zoom to make sure we were all still alive and well. A most colorful virtual background contest was won by office work study student **Margit Schafer**, with **Alyson Greiner** earning 1st runner up and **Jon Comer** 2nd runner up.



Departmental News

Dr. Thomas LaVanchy received the following recognition from the journal *Hydrogeology Today*: Editors' Choice 2019 – top five exceptional articles in *Hydrogeology Journal*. LaVanchy, GT, MW Kerwin, and JK Adamson. (2019). Beyond 'Day Zero': insights and lessons from Cape Town (South Africa). *Hydrogeology Journal*, 27(5), 1537-1540.

Joanna Guevara is thrilled to be joining the Geography Department as the new Administrative Support Assistant. Joanna graduated in May 2019 from Arizona State University with an MFA in Arts Entrepreneurship and Management after finishing her B.A. in Theatre with a minor in Economics at Eureka College in 2016. She has spent the past few years assisting Gabriel's Promise, a nonprofit in Carrefour, Haiti, in building their arts programs and establishing efficient administrative workflows. During her graduate work, Joanna served the Mesa Arts Center in community impact and engagement programming, wrote a W.K Kellogg grant on behalf of Gabriel's Promise, and helped launch an experimental immersive theatre company that partnered with students and community initiatives to bring literary worlds to life and encourage learning. Joanna loves reading, singing, and going on walks with her dog, Arthur. She is thrilled to serve the department and see students thrive at OSU!



Cancelled Events

Avid readers of this newsletter will recall page 2 of the March 2020 newsletter carried the heading, “While March was a little slow, April is humming with events!” and then proceeded to list the events that we thought were coming. How little we realized just how topsy-turvy our world would become in just a few weeks! To remember all that has been wiped out by the current pandemic, here is a listing of the events we missed and will have to look forward to in Spring 2021.

- April 6-10 – **AAG, Denver**. However, there were virtual sessions for those who were still interested in presenting and interacting with peers. We assume the 2021 meetings will be held in Seattle as planned on April 7-11, 2021.
- April 8 – **2020 College of Arts & Sciences Undergraduate Awards Banquet**.
- April 29 – **2020 Graduate College Awards Ceremony**.
- April 30 – **2020 Geography Awards Gathering**. Please see the March 2020 newsletter for Scholarship and Award recipients for the year, and a slideshow presentation highlighting the recipients will be posted to the departmental web page soon.
- May 8/9 – **2020 Spring Graduate Hooding and Undergraduate Commencement Ceremonies**. **Note:** All Spring 2020 graduates are invited to participate in Fall 2020 Hooding and Commencement Ceremonies.

Summer School 2020

The department has a healthy slate of summer school courses available at the undergraduate level (plus one graduate course). While some were planned to be taught face-to-face, all are now being offered online in line with OSU's decision to have all summer classes taught online. Check one out today!

Cultural Geography (1113) – July 6-31 – Dr. Brad Bays

World Regional Geography (1713) – May 18-June 5 – Dr. Colton Flynn
(GEOG and GLST sections both available)

Meteorology (3033) – June 8-July 31 – Dr. Keeley Heise

Political Geography (3133) – June 15-29 – Dr. Reuel Hanks

Conservation of Natural Resources (3153) – June 8-July 31 – Dr. Brad Bays

Exploring North American and Diversity (3713) – July 6-31 – Dr. Rebecca Sheehan

Geography of Asia (3753) – July 13-27 – Dr. Reuel Hanks

Geography of Outdoor Recreation (4153) – June 8-July 31 – Cecile Valastro

Fundamentals of GIS (4203/5103) – June 8-July 31 – Dr. Hongbo Yu