



DEPARTMENT OF
GEOGRAPHY

College of Arts and Sciences

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Geography Newsletter

May 2020

May Happenings

How different this May feels from any other year – all the cancelled events, the endless Zoom meetings, and social distancing is not how any of us saw the 2019-20 school year ending.

Though Commencement is cancelled this May, students have diligently finished their coursework and will still get those diplomas. The following undergraduate students are slated to graduate:

McKenzie Cady – BA, Global Studies

London Crytzer – BA, Global Studies

Bailey Elledge – BA, Global Studies

Stephanie Grace – BS, Geography

Nicky Kazerooni – BA, Global Studies

Madahi Lozano – BA, Global Studies

Harrison Muegge – BA, Global Studies

Parker Smith – BS, Geospatial Information Science

Jessica Wolters – BS, Geography

Addison Van Zandbergen – BA, Geography; BA, Global Studies

MS candidates: **Nicole Pauley, Thornton Raskevitz**

PhD candidate: **Benjamin Hemingway**

Congratulations to all the graduates!!



News From Around the Department

CARS coordinator **Jean Wang** has developed a COVID-19 tracker page with lots of maps and charts to track the temporal and spatial spread of the coronavirus. The page is hosted on the CARS website and can be accessed at: <https://cars.okstate.edu/news/345-tracking-covid-19-in-oklahoma>

Dr. Yuting Zhou is in collaboration with Dr. Alex Rocateli from Plant and Soil Sciences on a project to use Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) to monitor alfalfa growth and harvest. The Unmanned Aerial System Institute (USRI) at OSU provides us help on flight.

Last Thursday (April 30), Yuting and Jean were in the field with their collaborators to fly multiple sensors over an alfalfa field in the Stillwater Agronomy Research Station. The goal is to estimate alfalfa canopy height and yield using remote sensing.



A grayscale background image of an OSU campus. In the foreground, a stone pillar with 'OSU' inscribed on it stands on the right. A paved walkway leads from the bottom left towards the center, where several people are walking. Large trees are visible in the background.

Geography Department
Awards and Scholarships
of 2019-2020

John F. Rooney, Jr. Scholarship for Outstanding Junior: **Ashlyn Amador**

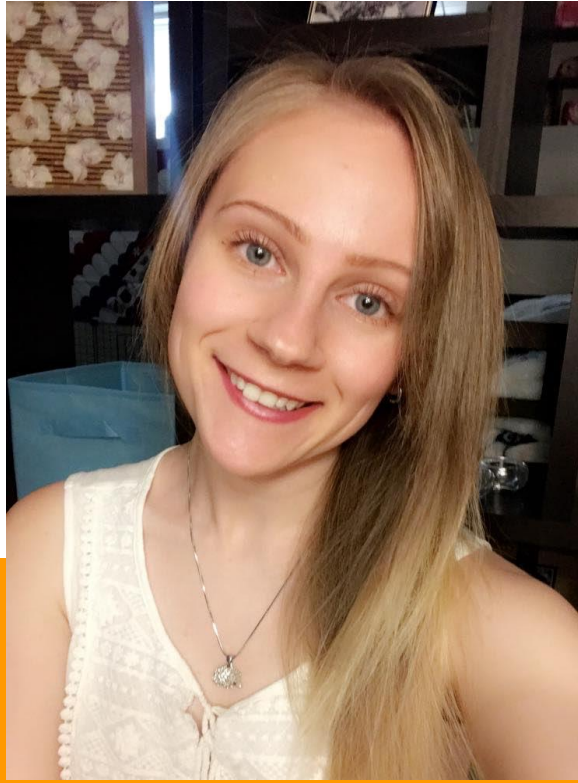


**Ashlyn Amador: Global Studies Major,
French & Philosophy Minors**

I am a Junior majoring in Global Studies and minoring in French and Philosophy. I have been on the President's Honor Roll every semester and was recently inducted into Phi Kappa Phi, a national collegiate honor society. I am also a member of Phi Alpha Delta, a pre-law fraternity and will be running for a leadership position which I would hold my senior year. I am an active member of Cowboy Cousins, the treasurer of French Club, and the President and co-captain of Women's Ultimate Frisbee. Additionally, I work on campus as a French tutor for the LASSO tutoring center. Last Summer I studied abroad in Meknès, Morocco for six weeks where I completed two courses - Beginning Arabic and Islamic Society and Politics. I received the Bailey Family Memorial Scholarship, Reusen-Berghman's Memorial Award, and the Provost Study Abroad Scholarship to apply toward my study abroad experience.

After completing my degree and graduating in May 2021, I plan to attend law school and specialize in International Human Rights law. My goal is to enroll in a dual degree program in which I would spend two years studying American law in the U.S. and two years studying French law in France. Upon completion, I would be certified to practice law in both countries.

CAS Outstanding Senior: Addison Van Zandbergen



**Addison Van Zandbergen: Geography
& Global Studies Double-Major, Dance
& Philosophy Minors**

I am pursuing a BA in Geography and Global Studies and a BA in Spanish with minors in dance and philosophy. During my time at OSU, I have been on the Dean's Honor Roll once and the President's Honor Roll for the past six semesters. I received the Gloconda Foundation Award in the fall of 2017. In the Fall of 2018, I was a university nominee for the Truman Scholarship. Last semester I earned the General Honors Award and participated in GUMP by developing a research project with the guidance of Dr. Cordova. I presented this research as a poster in the 2019 SWAAG undergraduate poster competition and won third place. I recently became an ambassador for OSU's Department of Geography and am currently working as a GIS intern in OSU's Maps and Spatial Data Department. I am currently involved in Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, Sigma Delta Pi, Gamma Theta Upsilon, the OSU Vegetarian and Friends Club, OSU Dance Company, and the Spanish Club.

After graduation, I plan on attending graduate school and obtaining my PhD in Geography. I was recently accepted into ASU's Geography PhD program and am still waiting to hear back from two other universities. During my graduate studies, I hope to analyze the effects of green-space, such as parks and natural reserves, on the urban environment. I want to research how greenspace can be incorporated into urban areas and how such spaces affect the mental and physical well-being of the surrounding populations. After the completion of graduate school, I would like to work in urban planning or become a geography professor.

Robert F. Norris Scholarship for Outstanding 1st Year Graduate Student: **Jaryd Hinch**



Jaryd Hinch: MS Geography

Jerry Croft and Family Award in Geographic Education:

Jacob Shepherd



I plan on continuing to major in global studies, and then go on to graduate school to earn a MS in Global Studies from OSU. With this degree, I plan to find a job teaching at either the high school or university level, so that I may share what I have learned about geography and topics such as geopolitics and environmental sustainability. I believe it is important that children and young adults are taught about topics such as these, given the uncertain future that lies before us. I plan to be one of those teachers.

Jacob Shepherd: Global Studies
Major, Geography Minor

ConocoPhillips GIS Certificate Enhancement Scholarship: **Stephanie Grace**



I will be continuing my education at OSU and getting my MS in Geography starting in the fall on an assistantship!! Currently, I am the events coordinator for the Geography Club.

Stephanie Grace: Geography Major, GIS & Environmental Studies Certificates

Susan Shaul Medal for Outstanding GTA:

Fernanda Ramírez Sáenz



**Fernanda Ramírez Sáenz: Geography,
PhD Student**

A grayscale background image of an OSU campus. In the foreground, a large, multi-tiered stone pillar stands on the right, with the letters 'OSU' carved into its side. To the left, a paved walkway leads away, with several people walking. The background is filled with trees and a clear sky.

Travel **Awards** for 2020-2021

Robert F. Norris Conference Travel Awards:

Jesse Andrews and Kianoosh Hassani



Jesse Andrews: Geography PhD Student

This award would help defray costs associated with traveling Applied Geography and Race, Ethnicity and Place conferences being held consecutively from October 18th-24th 2020 in Baltimore, Maryland. The proceeds of the award would be used for travel and lodging expenses incurred during these conferences.



Kianoosh Hassani: Geography PhD Student

I would like to present my research at the American Geophysical Union (AGU) annual meeting in San Francisco from December 7 through 11, 2020. Attending this conference will be important for me both professionally and personally.

Stephen W. Tweedie Travel Award: **Monique Walker**



**Monique Walker: Global Studies Major,
Economics & Political Science Minors**

I plan on doing an out of state internship in the summer and this scholarship would tremendously help with defraying the cost of getting to the location and my living arrangement for the summer.

Awards:

President's Honor Roll | Chickasaw Telecommunications Scholarship Honoree | Provost Scholarship Honoree | College of Arts & Sciences Top Ten Senior Semi-Finalists

Involvements:

College of Arts and Sciences Student Council | Student Government Association Multicultural Affairs Committee | Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society | Theta Gamma Upsilon Geography Honors Club | National Society of Collegiate Scholars | Alpha Phi Omega Membership Vice President | Student Union Activities Board Cultural & Social Issues Committee Member | Economics Society | African American Student Association | Cowboy Cousins

Alyson L. Greiner Undergraduate Travel Award:

Monique Walker and Caitlin Brooks



**Monique Walker: Global Studies Major,
Economics & Political Science Minors
(see previous slide for travel plans)**

Caitlin Brooks: Global Studies Major, ASL minor

I have found an opportunity to network with leaders in the field, learn from top researchers through specialized sessions, and gain invaluable travel experience at the Global Studies Conference in Montreal, Canada at Concordia University. This conference is hosted by the Global Studies Research Network in partnership with the National University of Singapore, University of Grenada, Lomonosov Moscow State University, and Jagiellonian University in Poland.

This year the conference will have a focus on social movements and include discussions on international non-governmental organizations, social movements as global actors, ideologies, strategies, and effects of social movements of the left and the right, among many other topics. I believe this will benefit me greatly as I navigate the many opportunities that Global Studies can present me. I hope to learn to network with others, as well as gain an in-depth understanding of social movements and the relationship to national governments.

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Congratulations

Geography Department **Award** and
Scholarship Recipients!