



Geography

Geography Newsletter

November 2018

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November Happenings

Welcome back to Central Standard Time! Our long, national nightmare is finally over (until March, at least).

November 12-16 is Geography Awareness Week, and the undergraduate Geography Club is hosting a Trivia Night on Wednesday, November 14 at 6:30 PM in Murray Hall 035 (lecture hall in the basement). Form your teams and come ready to compete!

Also part of the week, Geography, Political Science, and the School of Global Studies are hosting a Global Briefing Series talk titled “The Future of U.S.-Russia Relations” by international expert **Glen Howard**, president of the Jamestown Foundation. The presentation is Thursday, November 15 at 6:00 PM in the Wes Watkins Center with a light reception preceding at 5:30 in the Atrium.

As a reminder, Wednesday, November 21 is a student holiday (no classes) but the university is still open for business. Thursday and Friday are university holidays and everything is shut down for the 4-day weekend (including heat!). If you plan on getting some work done, bring your heaters and blankets.

Check out our new website design, which will feature timely news items and upcoming events, at geog.okstate.edu.

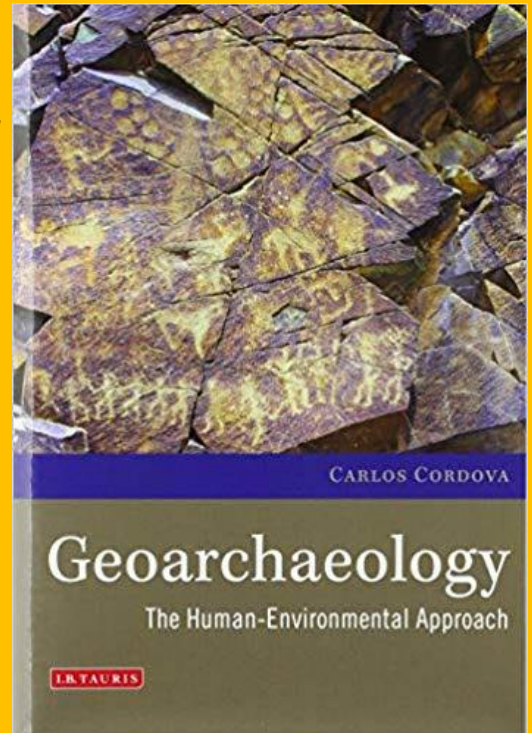
Finally, there have been no colloquia so far, but with the job search in high gear there will soon be research presentations by job candidates. Stay tuned!



Departmental News

Geoarchaeology: The Human-Environmental Approach by Carlos Cordova has been recently published by I.B. Tauris (now Bloomsbury Books) in London.

The book is a follow up on K. Butzer's 1982 *Archaeology as Human Ecology*, particularly on how geoarchaeological theory and methods have evolved into the 21st century.



It is that time of year – faculty and staff are starting to go bananas with all the demands on their time. **Mayra Flores** took it all in stride...



Faculty/Student Conference Travel

OSU was very well-represented in Manhattan, Kansas on October 6 at the Great Plains-Rocky Mountain AAG Geography Conference. Most traveled by OSU van under the expert driving of a premier chauffeur. Presentations were given by:

Graduate Students:

- **Jesse Andrews:** “The Effects of Distance on the Composition of U.S. State Legislatures.”
- **Austin Boardman and Dr. Jackie Vadjunec:** “Climatic and Environmental Factors Influencing Parcel-Scale Woody Plant Encroachment in Cimarron County, Oklahoma.”
- **Tessa Cook:** “The Impacts of Public-Private School Choice on Public Schools in the St. Louis Area.”
- **Puja Jana:** “Indus the Blue Gold: - Rethinking on the Transboundary Water Distribution Between India and Pakistan.”
- **Kimberly Johnson Maier:** “Becoming Laura: Performing Gender at Little House Tourist Sites.”
- **Avonlea Keenen:** “Patterns in the Locations of U.S. Mass Shootings.”
- **Amanda (Thomas) Lind:** “Assessing Impacts of Grass on Vertical Accuracy of Digital Surface Models Derived from Unmanned Aerial Systems.”
- **Catherine Shropshire:** “The Importance of Geographic Realism in Genre Fiction: How Place and Landscape in Robin Hobb's *Assassin's Quest* Produce Subversive Social Critique.”

Amanda Lind won first place in the student poster competition and Tessa Cook placed second. Also, our GeoBowl team crushed the competition to take the prize over six other teams. Congrats to all our students who presented and competed!

Faculty (and non-attending co-authors):

- **Jon Comer** (and Matt Haffner): “An Interactive Point Pattern Analysis Web Application and Teaching Exercise.”
- **Steve Stadler** (and Chris Friebrich): “Use of Oklahoma’s Mesonet and Severe Environmental Events.”

The 2019 meetings of SWAAG (our home region) will be in Fort Worth.

Scenes from Manhattan



Catherine Shropshire and Amanda (Thomas) Lind by their posters



Tessa Cook with her poster

Team OSU right before the GeoBowl competition.



Faculty/Student Conference Travel (cont.)

Other conferences have also had OSU representation:

Southwest AAG – Baton Rouge, LA, Oct. 4-6:

- **Clay Barrett** (and Peter Kedron and Joseph Holler): “Managing the Complexities of Collaborative Research and Spatial Analysis with Open Source Tools.”

Applied Geography Conference – Kent, OH, Nov. 1-2:

- **Jon Comer and Tom Wikle**: “The Looming Pilot Shortage: Pilot Production and Flight Training Facilities in the US.”
- **Michael Larson and Tom Wikle** (and Giovanni Penna, and Anthony Pennington): “A Longitudinal Analysis of Maps Published in Geography Journals, 1987-2017.”

Some former OSU faculty and students were also at the Applied Conference:

- **Adam Mathews** (and Amy Frazier): “Evaluating the Accuracy of Terrain Data Generated Using the UAS-SfM Workflow.”
- **Ranbir Kang**: “Riverscapes of Low Order Headwater Streams Using Terrestrial LiDAR.” (PhD in Geography in 2007, now at Western Illinois University).

West Lakes AAG – La Crosse, WI, Nov. 1-3:

- **Matt Haffner** (and Jon Comer): “An Interactive Point Pattern Analysis Web Application and Teaching Exercise.”



(L-R) Jon Comer, Michael Larson, Tom Wikle, Adam Mathews, and Ranbir Kang in Kent Ohio

Halloween Party

MS Students Lindsay King and Christina Woehrle hosted a Halloween party on Saturday, October 27. Though in direct competition with the OSU homecoming game, some scary costumes were in evidence.

