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Geography Newsletter

January 2016

January Happenings

Welcome back! The Spring 2016 semester has begun and we are all happy and excited to be back at work after a long, boring month off with no classes.

Note that Monday, January 18, the university is closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

The first colloquium of the semester will be on **Monday, February 1** with our own Research Assistant Professor Dr. Nicky Wu giving a presentation titled "Using Spatial Analysis for Managing Recreation and Tourism..." The colloquium will be at the normal time of **3:30 PM in 207 Noble Research Center** (NRC). At least two other colloquia are planned for later in the semester – stay tuned!

For those of you who worked diligently (again) on the Snoopy puzzle at last month's party, we are happy to report that the Comer Family was able to finish off what you all started. Next year's challenge – this 600 piece puzzle in which many pieces are actually shaped like countries. Jon and Alex completed it in a few days, but it's back in the box now...



Departmental News

Dr. Adam Mathews and Emily Ellis will soon have a paper entitled “An evaluation of tornado siren coverage in Stillwater, Oklahoma: Optimal GIS methods for a spatially explicit interpretation” published in *Applied Geography*. Emily presented this paper in San Antonio at the Applied Geography Conference in November and this is her first publication. Congrats! She completed this research through our Undergraduate Mentors Program.

Ph.D. student Colton Flynn has been selected as an Alternate Graduate Student Member to serve on the IRB here on campus. He will be attending monthly IRB meetings and is a resource for departmental IRB questions.

Drs. Adam Mathews and Carlos Cordova met in the Cape region of South Africa the first week of January. Adam Mathews was in the region working with researchers at Stellenbosch University to collect and analyze unmanned aerial vehicle captured aerial photography of vineyards and Carlos Cordova was spending the break in Cape Town working on two book manuscripts.



Field Techniques Posters

On December 10 Dr. Vadjunec put on her quasi-annual pot luck and poster contest for her field techniques classes. In the graduate category, the team of Brian Birchler, Matt Haffner, and Antony Pentimonti took first prize, while Emily Ellis, Lela Berastequi, Maria McKeaigg (not shown), and Daniel Surach (below) took first place among undergraduates. The research this year centered on Union County, New Mexico, and a variety of topics and methods were used to document this region's history and landscape. Cimarron County, OK was also studied by one of the teams.

