



## Geography

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# Geography Newsletter

Summer 2018

## Summer Happenings

Surprise! A summer newsletter to highlight (mostly) travel and to think about something other than the heat and humidity.

With the departures of Drs. Frazier, Kedron, and Mathews, the department has been busy screening candidates for Visiting Assistant Professor positions that will serve in the department in 2018-19. These individuals have accepted offers and they will be profiled in a later newsletter:

- **Siewe Siewe** – PhD in Geography, Oklahoma State University, 2015. Currently an Adjunct Professor of Earth Science at Northern Oklahoma College.
- **Ranjeet John** – PhD in Biology (Ecology), University of Toledo, 2010. Currently a Research Associate in the Center for Global Change and Earth Observation, Michigan State University.
- **Michael Acheampong** – PhD in Geography and Environmental Science & Policy, University of South Florida, expected summer 2018.

**Sara Alian**, currently a Research Assistant Professor in Geological Sciences at the University of Texas El Paso, will also be joining the department as an instructor teaching one course per semester.

## News From Around the Department

On May 11 many several Geography students received their graduate degrees at the Graduate College Hooding Ceremony. **Matthew M. Haffner** (Advisor Allen Finchum), **Stephanie E. Heald** (Jon Comer), and **Yun Zhao** (Hongbo Yu) all received their **PhD** degrees, bringing the departmental total up to 23 since the first doctoral degrees were granted by the department in 2007. **Thomas R. Craig** (Rebecca Sheehan) is set to become PhD number 24 in Summer 2018.

At the master's level, **Lauren A. Wood** (Steve Stadler) received her **MS** degree.

On May 12, undergraduate commencement exercises were held. Students receiving their **BA** degrees in Geography included **Brooke L. Bastie** (also receiving BA degrees in English and Spanish), **Austin C. Fessler**, and **Andrew C. Price** (also receiving a BS in Political Science), while **Matthew J. Dunn**, **Hayden A. Harrison**, **Kayla A. King** (also receiving a BS in Geology), and **Giovanni F. Penna** received their **BS** degrees. **Emily R. Clause** is slated to receive **BA** degrees in History and Geography in Summer 2018.

On July 12-13, the Department of Geography participated, for a second year, in the "Unidos Program Campus Visit, 2018". Michael Larson, with the help of graduate students Katie Shropshire, Amanda Thomas, and Lindsay King, hosted a couple workshops showcasing some of the high-tech tools used in the field of Geography.



## Student Study Abroad

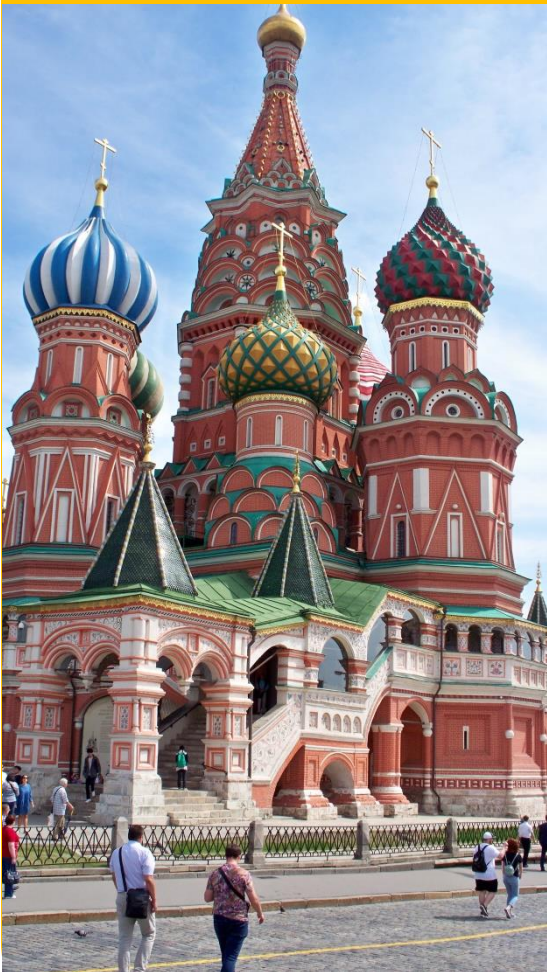
**Emily Clause**, double major in History and Geography, was awarded scholarships from both the **Stephen W. Tweedie** Travel Scholarship and the **Alyson L. Greiner** Undergraduate Travel Scholarship for her study abroad trip "In the Shadow of Pompeii: Heritage Conservation in Modern Italy," visiting Rome, Salerno, Naples, Nocera Superiore, Amalfi, and Positano in May 2018.



## Faculty Study Abroad

Jon Comer and Tom Wikle once again led a study abroad trip (GEOG 4600) in May, 2018, going farther east than they ever have before with a trip focused on Russia. The tour started with three days in Moscow, then four more nights in St. Petersburg, before finishing up with a day in Tallinn, Estonia and another in Helsinki, Finland. After the student portion of the trip ended, Tom and Jon flew to Oslo and drove around Norway for four days and Denmark for three more, coming home on May 31. The weather was quite warm and sunny virtually the whole trip, and incredible sights were seen.

For interested parties, their next trip is to Italy (Rome, Pompeii), Albania, Montenegro (Budva), and Croatia (Dubrovnik) from May 29 to June 6, 2019. Details can be found at: [www.explorica.com/Wikle-8823](http://www.explorica.com/Wikle-8823)



St. Basil's Cathedral

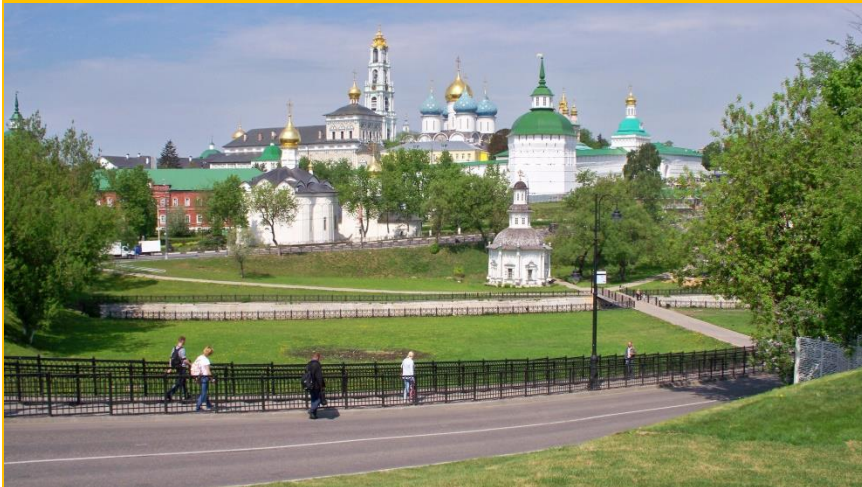


Along the Moskva River and Kremlin



Red Square

## Faculty Study Abroad (cont.)



Monastery of St. Sergius, Sergiev Posad, a UNESCO site



Hermitage (Winter) Palace, St. Petersburg



Peterhof Palace, outside St. Petersburg



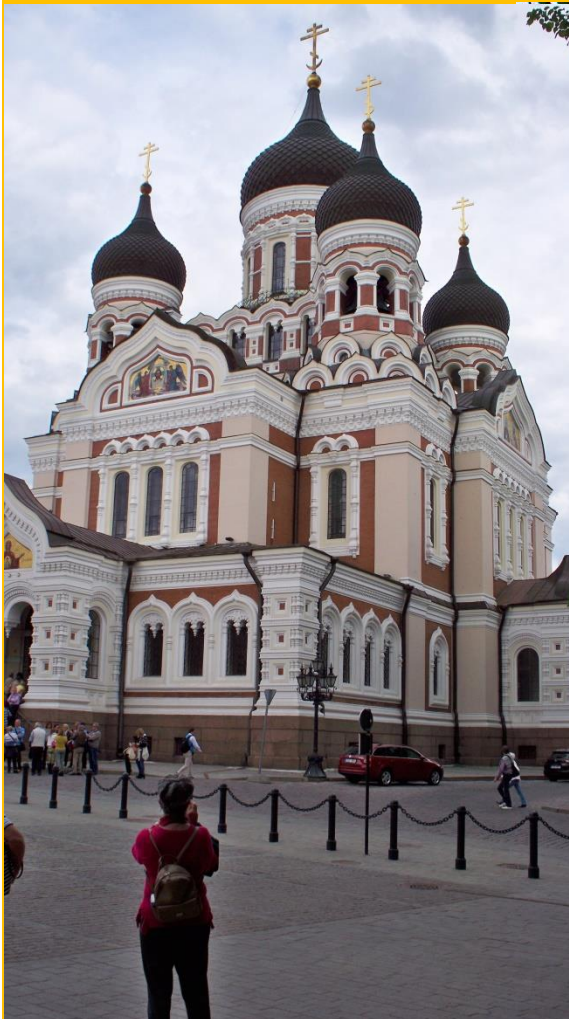
Peter and Paul Cathedral,  
St. Petersburg

НА ТЕРРИТОРИИ ВЕРХНЕГО САДА  
ЗАПРЕЩАЕТСЯ:



Things not to do at the Peterhof!

# Faculty Study Abroad (cont.)



Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, Tallinn



Tallinn, Estonia



Senate Square, Helsinki, Finland

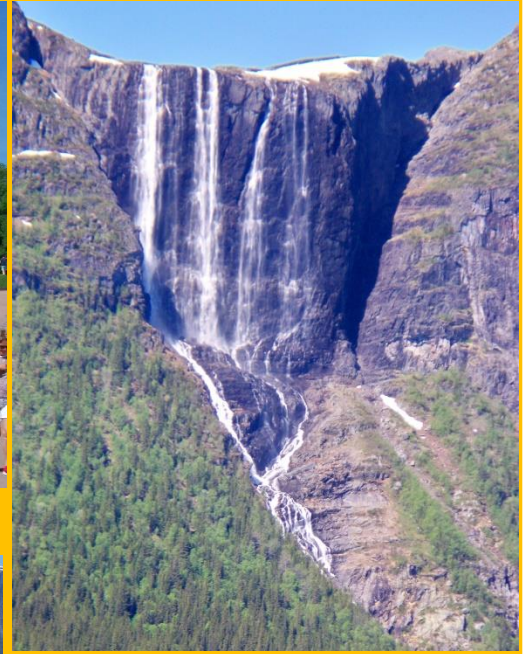


Helsinki Harbor

## Faculty Study Abroad (cont.)



Royal Palace, Oslo, Norway



Waterfall in Norway...



Aurlandsfjorden near Flåm, Norway



So many waterfalls!



Nyhavn, Copenhagen, Denmark

## Summer Travels

Jon and Shannon Comer spent two weeks enjoying Ireland in late June and July. Despite record high temperatures (in the 80s, mostly), generally no AC at hotels, and not a drop of rain the whole time, they had a great trip with no glitches or hitches. Starting in Dublin, they worked their way anti-clockwise to Belfast, the Giant's Causeway, (London)-Derry, Westport, the Doolough Valley, Galway, the Aran Islands and Cliffs of Mohor, Kilkee, Cork, Kinsale, Cobh, and the Rock of Cashel before finishing up back in Dublin for a few nights and visiting Howth and Malahide. Jon put 1,562 km on the rental car with no incidents despite Ireland's notorious rural roads.

Jon tabulates that they were in 19 of Ireland's 32 counties, plus another they passed through in 2013 but not on this trip, so in the spirit of our department's geo-collecting he is on a quest to visit the remaining 12 soon...



Belfast (N. Ireland) City Hall



Giant's Causeway, County Antrim



## Summer Travels (cont.)



Ireland has a fjord (Killary), too!



Rock of Cashel



Inisheer Island, smallest of the Aran Islands



Cliffs of Mohor, County Clare



Cobh Cathedral