

October 2, 1986

DIFFUSION

The Geography Department welcomes eight new graduate students: Stephen Cook (B.A., Geography, VPI&SU); Karen Dawson (B.S., Agronomy/Biology, VPI&SU); Teresa Fromwiller (B.A., History/Geography, VPI&SU); Michael Lupien (B.A., Geography, VPI&SU); Bruce Obenhaus (B.A., Anthropology, Rutgers; MSLS, Tennessee); Joseph Peter (B.S., Geography, Minnesota); Shirley Scott (B.A., Geography, Concord College); James Wood (B.A., Geography, VPI&SU).

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Also joining the department this year are faculty members: Henry W. Lawrence, (Ph.D., Oregon); Holly J. Myers-Jones, (Ph.D. Candidate, Washington); and Michael P. O'Neill, (Ph.D. Candidate, Buffalo).

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Bill Carstensen presented a paper, "Regional Land Information System Development Using Relational Databases and Geographic Information Systems," at Auto Carto, London, September 14-19. His trip was supported by grants from the College of Arts and Sciences Educational Foundation, and the International Cartographic Association.

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Robert Morrill's Fulbright Research Scholar experience at the University of Turku, Finland, included invitations to lecture at the Universities of Turku, Helsinki, Joensuu, and Goteborg. "The Treatment of Finland in USA Secondary School Geography Textbooks," was the title of his April 15th lecture at the University of Joensuu.

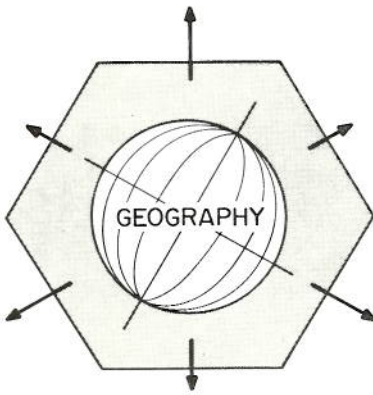
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Ben Richardson's review of B.W. Higman, Slave Populations of the British Caribbean, 1807-1834 (Johns Hopkins, 1984) appears in Caribbean Review, Vol. 15, no. 2 (Spring, 1986), p. 46.

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Susan Brooker-Gross attended the Sixth International Conference of Historical Geographers during July, in Baton Rouge and New Orleans, presenting a paper entitled "Newspapers in the American South, 1810 to 1910."

October 16, 1986



DIFFUSION

The National Council for Geographic Education elected Robert W. Morrill to be Second Vice-President for 1987. Election results were announced at the NCGE's annual meeting October 8-12 in Chicago.

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Bonham Richardson has received a grant from the Geography and Regional Science Division of the National Science Foundation to support his current archival research in London: "Caribbean Responses to Economic Depression."

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The Virginia Tech Geographical Society welcomes new members. The officers for the year are Steve Cook, President; Terri Fromwiller, Vice President; Eric Fisher, Treasurer; and Michael Lupien, Secretary.

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Susan Brooker-Gross was re-elected to a second two-year term as Treasurer and Newsletter Editor of the Geographic Perspectives on Women Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers.

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Larry Grossman traveled to Kenya, September 1 to September 20 to deliver a lecture at Egerton University College entitled "Constraints on the Diffusion of Agricultural Innovations: The Case of the Smallholder Sheep Raising." The trip was funded by the Educational Foundation and the College of Arts & Sciences.

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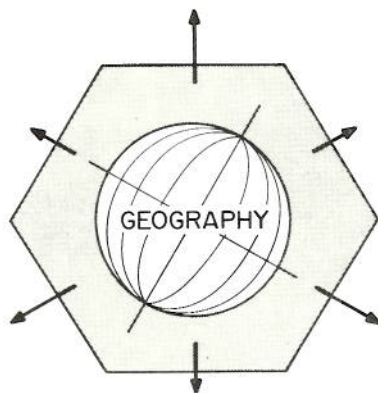
Liz Garland, continuing Geography graduate student, has taken a job with the Department of Agricultural Engineering at Virginia Tech, working on land use analysis for VIRGIS.

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The forthcoming issue of Social Science and Medicine contains "Separating Doctors' Homes and Doctors' Offices: San Francisco, 1881-1941," by Paul Knox, James Bohland and N. L. Shumsky.

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Margaret Mayers, second year graduate student, has successfully completed her summer internship at the Earth Resources Observation Systems Data Center, operated by the U.S. Geological Survey in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. She has been invited to continue her work there until December.



October 28, 1986

DIFFUSION

Congratulations to Jim and Joan Campbell on the arrival of their baby boy, James Batchelder Loweke Campbell.

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Just published is "The Localization of Disadvantaged Areas in Scottish Cities," by Paul Knox, in The Crisis of the City and the Take-Off of Suburbia, G. Heinritz and E. Lichtenberger, eds., (Wiesbaden: Franz Steiner Verlag, 1986), pp. 253-265.

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Allan Cox's paper and map, "The Use of a Transparent Overlay with Raised Surface Choroplethic Maps: Population and Immigration, Ireland, 1911" was presented in the President's Prize Competition at the annual meeting of the Canadian Cartographic Association, Vancouver, July 1986.

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Susan Brooker-Gross was elected President of the VPI&SU Women's Network for 1986-87.

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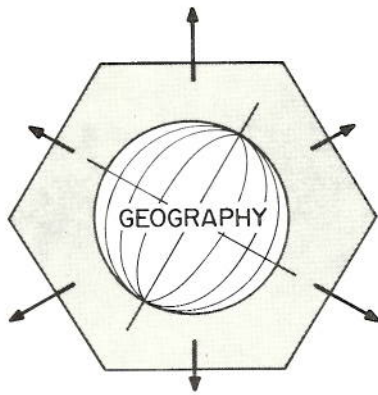
Jim Bohland is one of the directors of a state-wide study of indigent health care, sponsored by the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance.

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The National Council for Geographic Education has asked Robert Morrill to represent it on the Steering Committee of GENIP--the Geographic Education National Implementation Project, an alliance of the NGS, AAG, AGS, as well as NCGE.

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Paul Knox's review of Accessibility and Utilization by Joseph and Phillips appears in the current Annals of the Association of American Geographers, pp. 438-440.



December 4, 1986

DIFFUSION

Dr. Charles Kennedy is the guest speaker today at the Virginia Tech Geographical Society meeting. His talk is on "The Historical Spread and Present Condition of Islam." The talk is in 136 McBryde at 5:00 p.m.

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"Subsistence, Autonomy, and Development" by Lawrence S. Grossman has been accepted for 1987 publication in the Australian Geographer.

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"Creative Dimensions of Caribbean Migration" is the title of a talk by Bonham Richardson, delivered this month as part of the lecture series entitled "North East Geographical Seminars." The Geography Departments of the following universities sponsor the series: University of Newcastle, University of Durham, Newcastle Polytechnic, and Sunderland Polytechnic.

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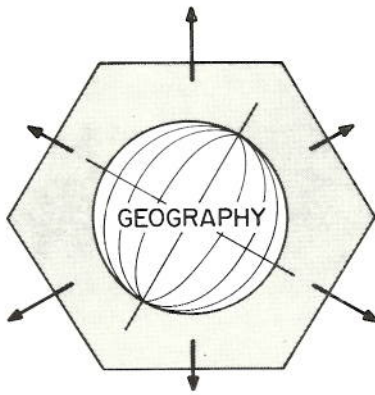
The annual meetings of the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers was held in Lexington, KY, November 23-25. Papers given include: Henry W. Lawrence, "The Evolution of the Tree-Lined Avenue in European Cities, 1850-1950"; Laurence W. Carstensen, Jr. and Allan B. Cox, "Simulation of Orienteering Using Surrogate Travel Techniques and Video disc Technology"; and Susan Brooker-Gross and Thomas A. Maraffa (Youngstown State University), "Job Search After Migration in Dual-Earner Households." In addition, local geographer Nancy Alderman of the Blacksburg Planning Department joined Susan Brooker-Gross in participating on a panel discussion of the Status of Women in Geography.

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Andrew Patrick O'Neill joined the Geography family: born November 17 to parents Mike and Wende.

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The next Diffusion will appear after the new year. Happy Holidays!



January 15, 1987

DIFFUSION

Bill Carstensen is completing a research project entitled "Computer-Assisted Mapping from Unrectified Soil Survey Maps" on a grant from the USDA Soil Conservation Service. Vern Shanholtz and Rick Byler (Agricultural Engineering) also are working on the project.

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Allan Cox is engaged in an internship with Educational Technologies, Learning Resources Center to help design computer-interactive videodisc systems.

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Paul Knox's review of Comparative Resource Allocation by Groth and Wade appeared in Environment and Planning C, 1986, pp. 381-2.

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"Evaluation of Spontaneous Potential for Monitoring Groundwater Movement in Karst Terrain", is Dennis Slifer's thesis, defended December 17. His committee chair was James Campbell.

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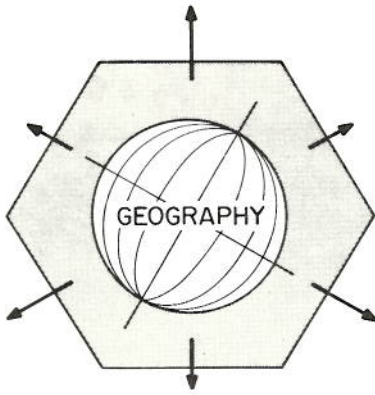
The Department welcomes a new graduate student to the program this quarter: Priti Mathur.

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Geographer Tom Wilbanks will speak on "International Energy Policy" on January 29, at 7:00 pm in CEC, Room G. The Urban Affairs and Planning Department brings Wilbanks from Oak Ridge National Laboratory for this lecture.

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This evening, January 15 at 8:00 in CEC auditorium, Dr. Evelyn Fox Keller will address the question "Is Gender to Sex as Science is to Nature?" Her visit is co-sponsored by the Geography Department along with 15 other campus units.



January 29, 1987

Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University

Margaret Mayers successfully completed her final exam for the M.S. degree, defending her thesis "Generalization Strategies for Raster Data," on January 19. James Campbell chaired her committee. Meg has accepted employment with TGS Technology, Inc., in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. She will be a Remote Sensing Applications Scientist in the Geo-Science Section, working at the USGS EROS Data Center.

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Bonham Richardson will give a presentation on Caribbean Migration at Jesus College, Oxford University. The paper is part of a program dealing with Third World ethnicity.

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The Tijdschrift voor Economische en Sociale Geografie accepted for publication in early 1987, the manuscript "Intrahousehold Commuting Behavior in a Non-metropolitan Setting" by Thomas A. Maraffa (Youngstown State University) and Susan R. Brooker-Gross.

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Mary Rojas will speak Thursday, February 12 at 5:00pm in McBryde 136 as a guest of the Virginia Tech Geographic Society. Her topic will be "The World Conference on Women: Nairobi, Kenya."

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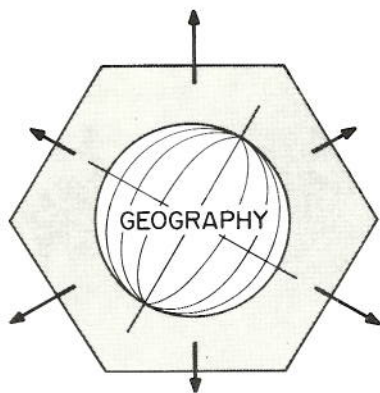
On January 19, Jim Campbell spoke to the Department of Entomology Seminar Series on "Recent Developments in Remote Sensing."

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Mike Story, Geography graduate student, recently accepted a position with TGS Technology, Inc., in Denver, Colorado.

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Peasants, Subsistence Ecology, and Development in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea by Lawrence S. Grossman is reviewed in the recent Annals of the Association of American Geographers. (December 1986).



Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University

February 12, 1987

DIFFUSION

Robert Morrill has been chosen as a corresponding member of the Geographical Society of Finland. The honorary membership is in recognition of Bob's contribution to the field of geography and ties with Finnish Geographers.

Bruce Obenhaus, now Map Librarian and Geography Graduate Student, has expanded duties and responsibilities for the map collection under recent library reorganization. By Spring Quarter, the map collection will be moved from its current third floor location to the first floor.

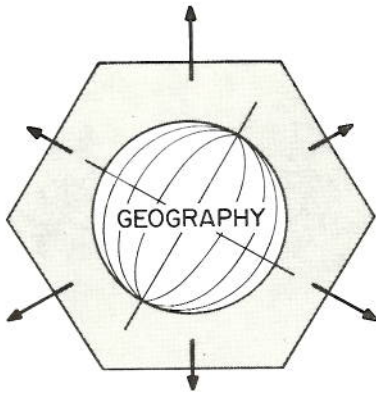
The Southeast Division of the Association of American Geographers elected Susan Brooker-Gross as Secretary for 1986-88. She will assume the duties of Newsletter Editor as well.

On February 19, Bob Mercready of Lazerscan, Inc. will address the Virginia Tech Geographical Society on "Lazerscan: Who Are They and What Do They Do?" In part answer, Lazerscan is an international computer mapping firm specializing in hardware and software design, sales and applications. The talk will be at 5:00 p.m. in 136 McBryde.

On January 29, two Geography majors received awards for scholarship. John Dameron (senior) received the Remote Sensing Award, and Alan Moore (junior), the Outstanding New Cartographer Award. Students from all curricula who take introductory remote sensing or cartography courses are eligible.

Jay Flynn co-authored a book on computer applications in BASIC for the Atari 1040ST and 520ST computers: Compute! 's ST Applications, by Compute! Publications. Jay is a second year geography graduate student.

Faculty are reminded of the reception this afternoon, 4:30-5:30pm, for Dr. Thomas Kennedy, candidate for Arts and Sciences Dean. The reception is at the University Club.



March 5, 1987

Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University

DIFFUSION

Virginia has been named a Geographic Alliance State by the National Geographic Society. During 1987-88, the National Geographic Society will provide \$50,000 and the Commonwealth of Virginia will provide \$50,000 to develop and implement programs to improve geographic education in grades K-12 in Virginia. Robert W. Morrill is a member of the steering committee for the Virginia Geographic Alliance

Michael Story defended his MS thesis, "Maximizing Accuracy and Efficiency of Digital Image Classification" on February 24. Jim Campbell chaired his committee.

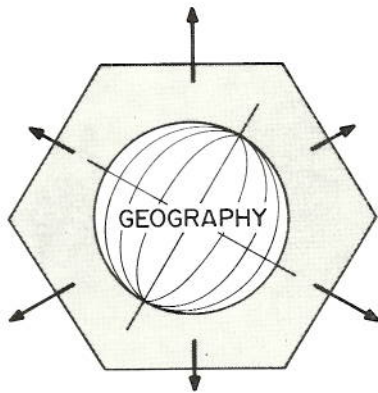
Laurence W. Carstensen has been nominated for a Distinguished Teaching Award from the National Council for Geographic Education. He was also nominated for a University Certificate of Teaching Excellence to the College of Arts and Sciences at Virginia Tech.

The Virginia Tech Geographic Society will host guest speaker Ronald Bolton on March 4 at 10:00 AM in 136 McBryde. Bolton, Chief of the Aeronautical Chart Division, National Ocean Service, will also meet with people interested in employment options with the Service, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Patton 301.

VPI&SU was recently awarded a grant of \$166,000 from Virginia's Center for Innovative Technology for the purpose of improving and reconfiguring the University's Spatial Data Analysis Laboratory. The Geography Department will be participating in the new laboratory through a network node in Patton Hall, designed to serve the Departments of Geography and Civil Engineering.

Larry Grossman presented "Life and Livelihood in Papua New Guinea" to the International Club coffee hour on February 20.

Two representatives from Mapcom, who are also recent Geography Department graduates visited the department on February 27th. John Beebe and Vince Nicchitta spoke from 3-4 pm in 136 McBryde. Mapcom is a Richmond-based mapping company.



Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University

DIFFUSION

April 16, 1987

Bill Carstensen and Allan Cox demonstrated their videodisc orienteering simulation, Auto Carto 8, April 3, in Baltimore. The presentation was entitled "The Map-Environment Interface: Surrogate Travel by Videodisc." The following day, Carstensen and Cox gave an invited seminar presentation to the departments of Geography, Anthropology and Education at the University of Maryland-Baltimore County campus.

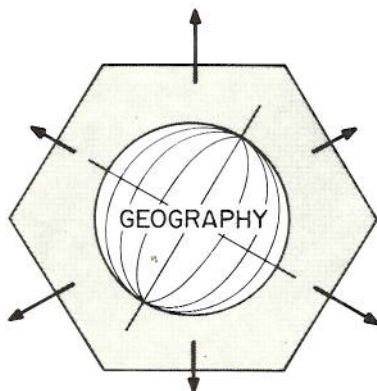
Cambridge University Press has accepted Bonham Richardson's book proposal for The Caribbean in the Wider World, 1492-1992 as part of the series "Geography of the World-Economy."

On April 9, the Virginia Tech Chapter of Gamma Theta Upsilon inducted charter members: Stephen Cook, Allan Cox, John Dameron, Teresa Fromwiller, Michael Lupien, Alan Moore, James Owecke, James Wood, Emmett Wright, and John Young. GTU members James Campbell and Susan Brooker-Gross also inducted chapter advisor, Michael O'Neill into honorary membership.

Holly Myers-Jones will be presenting "Black Suburbanization and the Metropolitan Opportunity Structure," at the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers in Portland, Oregon, April 22-26. Her paper is part of a special session on "Race, Ethnicity and Residential Patterns."

"Medical Geography and Public Policy" is the title of a panel discussion organized for the April 24 agenda of the AAG annual meeting by Charles Good.

Michael O'Neill defended his Ph.D. dissertation Monday, April 13, at Buffalo (SUNY - Buffalo). The dissertation is entitled "Meandering Channel Patterns: Analysis and Interpretation."



DIFFUSION

Virginia Polytechnic Institute
and State University

April 30, 1987

Research by Mike O'Neill and Dave Mark (University at Buffalo) was published in Earth Surface Processes and Landforms volume 12, pp. 127-136, entitled "On the Frequency Distribution of Land Slope."

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Jane Vyula and Vanessa Scott participated in the Professional Secretaries International Conference at the Sheraton Red Lion Inn, April 22.

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The 1987 Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers was attended by Geography Department faculty and students. Larry Grossman presented "Diet and Development in a Papua New Guinea Village"; Bill Carstensen, "Videodiscs and Surrogate Travel: Applications in the Instruction of Map Use"; Allan Cox, "Map Position Finding from Nonmotion Photographic Images"; Michael O'Neill, "Slope Frequency Distributions Using Digital Elevation Models"; Susan Brooker-Gross, "Nineteenth Century Newspapers and Urban Centers in the American South"; and Henry Lawrence, "Ornamental Vegetation as an Element of the Cultural Landscape." Robert Morrill and Teresa Fromwiller also attended the meetings.

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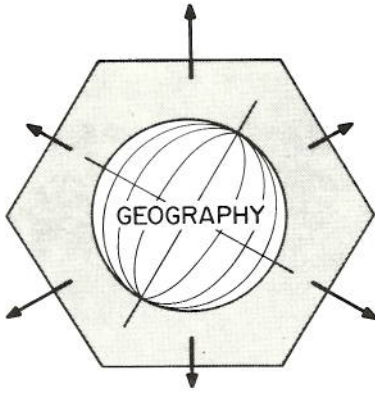
In addition to their papers, Allan Cox and Bill Carstensen gave a three-hour, hands-on demonstration of their videodisc orienteering simulation. Interested AAG participants attended the demonstration in the computer cartography lab at Portland State University, Saturday, April 25.

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Wende O'Neill defended her Ph.D. dissertation, "Origin-Destination Trip Table Estimation Using Traffic Counts" in March at SUNY-Buffalo.

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Alan Moore has been selected for a 1987 Summer Fellowship Award, sponsored by the Virginia State Council of Higher Education. He will take graduate courses and special seminars at Virginia State University.



Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

May 14, 1987

DIFFUSION

The Cartography Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Laurence W. Carstensen as acknowledgment for Outstanding Service. The framed certificate was presented April 23, 1987 during the AAG annual meetings in Portland, Oregon.

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Henry W. Lawrence's review of Farming the Frontier: The Agricultural Opening of the Oregon Country, 1786-1846 by James Gibson was published in the Spring 1987 number of Environmental Review.

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Bonham C. Richardson has been invited to participate in a conference on initiating international research on patterns of Caribbean migration and the Caribbean diaspora. The conference, to be held June 17-19 at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies in London, hosts invited scholars from Europe, North America and the Caribbean.

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Urban Affairs and Planning geographers participated in the Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting: James R. Bohland, Panel Discussant on "Policy and Geography"; and Paul L. Knox, "Urban Restructuring: People Poverty and Place Poverty in America's Metropolitan Areas."

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Robert Morrill has been appointed chair of the Guidelines in Geographic Education Review Committee. The Committee, part of the Geographic Education National Implementation Project, will review the Guidelines in preparation for a second edition. Over 30,000 copies of the first edition have been distributed since 1984.

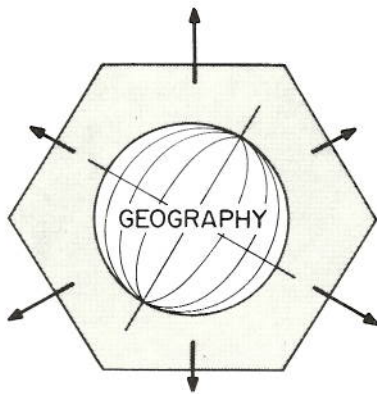
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Faculty are reminded that textbook orders for Fall 1987 are due to Vanessa Scott by May 28.

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The Women Artists and Scholars Lecture Series, co-sponsored by the Geography Departments along with other campus units, presents Dr. Sue Rosser, May 19 at 8:00 pm in Squires Old Dominion Ballroom. Rosser's topic is "Feminist Scholarship in the Sciences: Where Are We Now and When Will There Be a Theoretical Break-through?"

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Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University

May 28, 1987

DIFFUSION

The Geography Department will award 25 BA degrees on June 13 and another 4 in the summer. Four MS degrees will be conferred in the Spring commencement ceremony.

Jane Vyula and Vanessa Scott attended the annual Arts and Sciences Secretaries Seminar on Wednesday, May 13, at the Blacksburg Sheraton.

The Virginia Tech Geographical Society elected officers for 1987-88: Dave Eborall, President; Alan Moore, Vice President; Janine Sellers, Secretary; and Steve Cook, Treasurer. The geography honorary society, GTU, elected Alan Moore, President; Emmett Wright, Vice President and Historian; and Jim Wood, Secretary/Treasurer. The groups are advised by Mike O'Neill.

G. Robinson Barker, Director of Commercial Applications, SPOT Image Corporation, will speak June 4 at 5:00 p.m. in 136 McBryde. His presentation, sponsored by GTU, is entitled "Commercial Applications of Digital Image Data."

Robert Morrill recently presented two talks at workshops for teachers. On May 22, he spoke on "Interdependence in Geography" to Youngstown State University's Geography Teacher's Workshop, and on May 25, he presented "Finland: Small Country -- Big Lessons?" to the Roanoke County Schools Teachers' Workshop.

James Barnett, dual major in Geography and Geology has been awarded a graduate assistantship in Geography at East Carolina State University.

Robert Morrill will attend the Steering Committee meeting of the Virginia Geographic Alliance, Saturday, May 30, at Virginia Commonwealth University

Diffusion will next appear Fall 1987.