

September 7, 1992

Virginia Polytechnic Institute
and State University

DIFFUSION

Charles M. Good has been selected for nomination to the 1993 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend Competition by the Virginia Tech Humanities Summer Stipend Committee. He will be writing the results of his research on "Medicine, Health and Development in British Colonial Africa: The Role of Religious Missions."

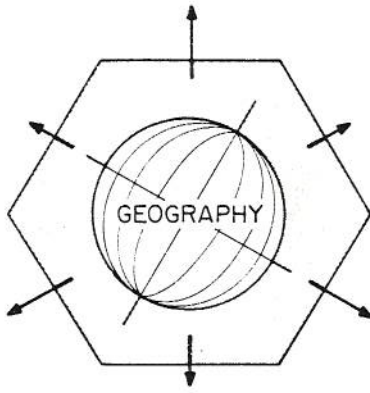
We welcome new graduate students this fall: Leonard Baer (Oberlin College); Judith Hall (Emory University), Jennifer Hernandez (University of Arizona); Patricia Mims (Mary Washington College); Scott Oglesby (University of Maryland-Baltimore County); Emilene Peters (University of Port Elizabeth); and Rhoda Raymond (Appalachian State University).

Joining the faculty for 1992-93 is Professor Peter J. Taylor, C.C. Garvin Distinguished Visiting Professor. On leave from his home institution, University of Newcastle-on-Tyne, Professor Taylor will pursue his research and teaching in World-Systems Political Geography.

Professor Sitanshu Mookerjee, retired professor of geography and former Vice Chancellor at Kalyani University, India, spoke Friday, August 28 "On the Travails of a Geographer" for the department's Lecture Series.

"Depression Riots and the Calling of the 1897 West India Royal Commission" is research by Bonham Richardson to be published by the New West Indian Guide (The Netherlands).

Masters student Limei Ran defended her thesis work over the summer: "Single Digital-Photo Correction for aGIS Application and Error Analysis". She begins this fall a doctoral program at the University of Kansas.



September 28, 1992

DIFFUSION

"The Political Ecology of Banana Exports and Food Production in St. Vincent, Eastern Caribbean," by Larry Grossman has been accepted for publication by the Annals of the AAG.

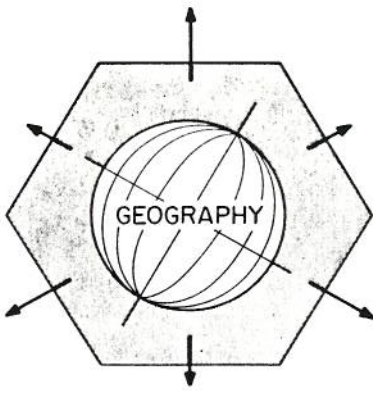
Bonham Richardson was elected to the Board of Directors of the Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers for a three-year term beginning July 1992.

Drs. Aarre Heino and Harri Andersson and twenty students from the Department of Geography at the University of Turku, Finland, visited the department as part of a field trip to the southeastern United States. Bill Carstensen and Bob Morrill led a local field expedition on September 15.

Rapsody Dawn Gallimore successfully defended her M.S. thesis, "Relationship between Growth Patterns and Planning Practices: A Case Study of the City of Roanoke" on September 8.

Gerard Toal presented "The Effacement of Place? U.S. Foreign Policy and the Spatiality of the Gulf Crisis" at the Geography Department Lecture Series, September 25 at 3:30 p.m. in 136 McBryde Hall.

1992-93 Officers of the Virginia Tech Geographical Society are Brian BeCraft, President; Tom Rafferty, Vice President; Laura Sakowicz, Secretary; and Andrew Murdoch, Treasurer. Elected to positions in Gamma Theta Upsilon are Chuck Harris, President; Brian BeCraft, Vice President; and Scott Oglesby, Secretary-Treasurer.



October 19, 1992

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Peter Taylor will present the Garvin Lecture "The Last of the Hegemons: British Impasse, American Impasse, World Impasse" at 7:30 pm on October 20 in the Recital Salon of Squires.

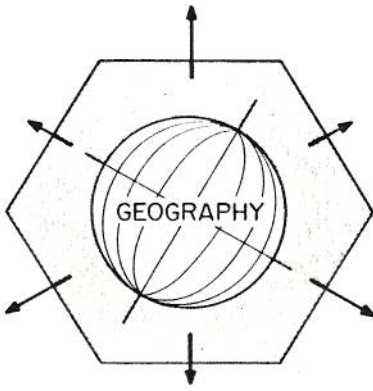
Neeta Mehrotra successfully defended her M.S. thesis, "An Automated Method for Locating Sinkholes in Montgomery Co., Va., Using Digital Elevation Models" on October 5.

Larry Grossman's article, "Pesticides, People, and the Environment in St. Vincent" has been accepted for publication by Caribbean Geography.

Bob Morrill traveled to the annual meeting of the National Council for Geographic Education in Santo Domingo through September 27.

Bon Richardson presented a Chalk Talk, "The Caribbean Since 1492: What Columbus Set in Motion" on October 17.

Alumnus Vince Angelo presented "Life in GIS" to the Lecture Series and VTGS on October 16 to discuss his work and other job opportunities with ESRI.



November 2, 1992

Virginia Polytechnic Institute
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DIFFUSION

Susan Brooker-Gross has been elected as Vice-President of the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers. Her two year term will begin November 24, 1992.

Bonham Richardson published a commentary in the October 26 edition of Roanoke Times & World News. His insightful comments about Canada's referendum on the Charlottetown Accord called the United State's media to task for ignoring this crucial issue.

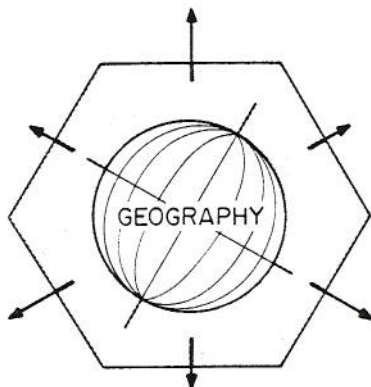
Bill Carstensen and Robert Morrill have been awarded a grant by the U.S. Department of Education, Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education, for their project "Geosim: A GIS-Based Simulation Laboratory for Introductory Geography."

Peter Taylor, visiting Garvin Professor, will give a Chalk Talk on November 21. His topic will be "The English and Their Englishness."

Susan Brooker-Gross has been selected as a full member in the International Geographical Union Commission on "Networks Communication and Telecommunication." She represents the United States alongside eight other countries.

Bon Richardson lectured aboard the Royal Viking Sun from New York to Montreal in October as a Visiting Professor in Georgetown University's World Affairs Program.

Upcoming lectures in the Friday Afternoon Lecture Series include Janet Momsen speaking on November 13 and Fred Shelley speaking on November 20.



November 30, 1992

Virginia Polytechnic Institute
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DIFFUSION

Larry Grossman's article "Pesticides, Caution, and Experimentation" has been accepted by Human Ecology.

Several geographers from the department participated in the Southeastern Division of the AAG annual meeting in Louisville, Kentucky from Nov. 22 to 24. Leonard Baer was a member of the Virginia World Geography Bowl team. Robert Morrill and Lawrence Carstensen, assisted by Charles Reid, led a workshop on GeoSim. Susan Brooker-Gross participated in a panel sponsored by the Committee on the Status of Women in Geography.

Bonham Richardson spoke at Winthrop University on Nov. 10 as part of Winthrop's quincentenary celebration. He presented the final lecture on changes in Caribbean environments as part of a series entitled "Convergence of Cultures: 1492-1992."

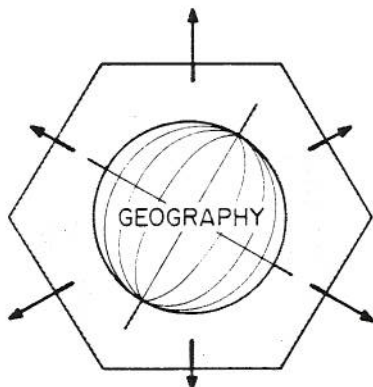
National Geographic Awareness Week was held November 16-20. This year's theme was water resources and conservation. The week was marked by a display in Newman Library and a lecture by Kathy Severback of the Water Resources Center.

Janet Momsen, from the University of California at Davis, presented a talk entitled "NAFTA: a Caribbean Perspective" on Nov. 13.

Fred Shelley, from Florida State University, lectured on "What Happened November 3rd? The Geography of the 1992 Presidential Election" on Nov. 20.

Peter Taylor gave a Chalk Talk about "The English and Their Englishness" on Nov.. 21.

S.K. DeDatta, Director, Office of International Research and Development, will give a lecture on "International Development: Challenges and Opportunities" on Dec. 4 at 3:30.



March 8, 1993

DIFFUSION

Larry Grossman's article "Pesticides, People, and the Environment in St. Vincent" was published in Caribbean Geography Volume 3, No. 3, pp. 175-186, 1992.

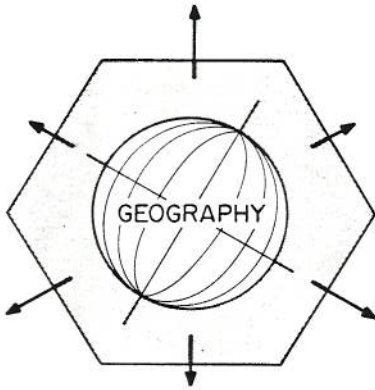
Charles Good was the moderator at the recent conference on "The Future of South Africa." The day-long symposium was held February 16 and was sponsored by the Virginia Tech African Studies Association. Featured speakers included Dr. S.E.M. Pheko of the Pan Africanist Congress of Anzania, Dr. Sipho Mzimela of the Inkatha Freedom Party, Mr. Paul Jacobs of the South African Embassy, and a representative from the African National Congress. Mr. Randall Robinson of TransAfrica gave the keynote address. The event offered a rare opportunity for the public to witness divergent viewpoints and perspectives on the South African situation as the participants discussed their varying solutions.

San Antonio, January 28-31, was the venue for the work of the AAG Task Force on Faculty Roles and Rewards on which Susan Brooker-Gross serves. The group's report will be published in the next AAG Newsletter.

Loretta J. Bush successfully defended her thesis on February 12. Her topic, "Evaluating the Accuracy of Line Thinning Algorithms after Processing Scanned Line Data," was presented in 301D Patton Hall.

Dr. Martin W. Lewis from George Washington University spoke on "Economic Development, Ritual Persistence, and Environmental Degradation in the Highlands of Northern Luzon, Philippines" on February 12 as part of the Friday Colloquium series.

Carol Hanson successfully defended her thesis topic, "Utilization of Abortion Services: A Local Level Analysis," on February 5. Her case study involved a Roanoke clinic and was presented in 301D Patton Hall.



April 20, 1993

DIFFUSION

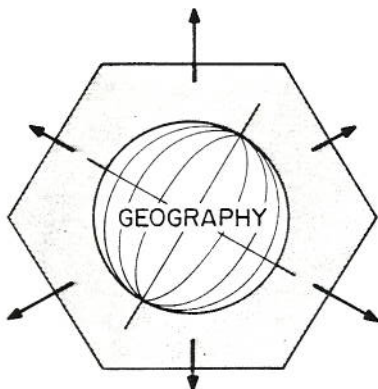
Jeffrey Euwema will be presenting his thesis defense, "The Decline of Sugar Production and the Rise of Cocoa Production in Grenada 1870-1917: The Changing Fortunes of a Cocoa Peasantry" on Tuesday, April 20th, at noon. The defense will take place in 301D Patton.

Peter Taylor presented a Friday afternoon seminar at 4 p.m. on April 16 entitled "What's So Special About a Hegemon? A Tale of Three Moderns."

Several members of the department attended the AAG's eighty-ninth annual meeting in Atlanta, Georgia from April 6 to 10. Dr. Gerard Toal presented a paper on "The Possibility of Critical Geopolitics." Dr. Bill Carstensen was a panelist for the Cartography Specialty Group's discussion on equipment grants. Dr Jim Campbell presented an exhibit on the SPOT survey of agricultural land uses in Brazil's Amazon.

The GTU Awards Banquet will be held on Thursday, April 22, at 6 p.m. in Bogen's Attic.

The VTGS/GTU Spring Picnic will be held on Friday, April 23, at 5 p.m. in the Turner Street Shelter, Town Park. Faculty, graduate, and undergraduate students are invited.



June 8, 1993

DIFFUSION

Bonham Richardson won the Gordon K. Lewis award for best book in Caribbean geography for 1992-93 for his volume The Caribbean in the Wider World. The award was announced at the Caribbean Studies Association meeting in Jamaica.

Peter Taylor's article "The Last of the Hegemons: British Impasse, American Impasse, World Impasse" appeared in the May 1993 issue of the Southeastern Geographer.

The Geography Department graduated fourteen students with Bachelor of Arts degrees and four students with Master of Science degrees on May 8.

Bon Richardson was elected an Arts & Sciences Faculty Association representative to the Faculty Senate.

The following students were presented awards at the Honors Banquet: Shane Parson, Outstanding Student in Cartography; Laura Sakowicz, Outstanding Student in Human Geography; Martina Hofbauer, Outstanding Student in Physical Geography; Charles Harris, Outstanding Student in Remote Sensing and the recipient of the NCGE-AAG Award for Excellence of Scholarship.

Dr. Abdi Samatar spoke on "Political Reconstruction and the Crisis in Somalia" on April 26 in Pamplin 30. Dr. Samatar is a native of Somalia and currently teaches at the University of Minnesota. His lecture was sponsored by the African Students' Association and VTASA. His talk included recent information from the peace talks in Addis Ababa.

Dr. Liliana Goldin visited the Department from April 28 to April 30. Her visit included a colloquium Thursday afternoon on her work in Latin America.

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