

CAPEN

The CAPE Newsletter

Issue Number 50
Fall 2007



Association of American Geographers

Letter from the Chair

Greetings to everyone from Michigan! I've just returned from an amazing three-week trip to China where I attended a LCLUC meeting as well as giving several invited talks at universities. China is a very dynamic place, yet the issues confronting that country are immense. Many topics are amendable to CAPE type analysis.

The Boston AAG 'Call for Papers' season is in full swing. Procedures for CAPE sponsorship are listed to the right. Though I have already given sponsorship to some sessions before PINs and abstracts, I would prefer receiving complete session descriptions before extending such sponsorships. Please be aware of other sessions that are posted via the listserve; coordinating with similar themes permits an avoidance of overlap when sessions are being scheduled. I also remind and urge you to be creative about session type. CAPERs seem stuck on the oral paper session, yet there are also illustrated papers, posters and interactive short papers. Please check the AAG site for descriptions. AAG is warning us that there are not enough rooms to run all the sessions which means there will be more session earlier (Tuesday), later (Saturday), and located in obscure small rooms in nearby hotels.

It is not too early to urge consideration of Graduate Student Paper and Field Study Awards. I also remind you to nominate for the annual Netting and Blaut awards. Information about all these is available via our website and reproduced here in the newsletter.

-Antoinette WinklerPrins

Submissions welcome

CAPEN is a forum for all members of the Cultural and Political Ecology Specialty Group. Submissions of book reviews, members news, notes on meetings and conferences, missives from the field, position announcements, calls for papers and other notices are requested. CAPEN is published semi-annually; please send submissions to the editor.

Call For Papers AAG 2008 Boston

Many sessions are currently being put together by CAPE members. Please monitor the CAPE Listserv (AAG-CESG-L@LISTS.PSU.EDU) for themes that may fit with your work.

If you would like CAPE sponsorship, session organizers should first have all session participants submit and have accepted an abstract for the AAG Boston meeting. Organizers should then submit a session proposal, with titles and registration PINs for all participants to the CAPE Chair, Antoinette WinklerPrins. CAPE is pleased to co-sponsor with other specialty groups. The deadline to request CAPE sponsorship of your session is October 31

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New Specialty Group STUDY OF THE AMERICAN SOUTH

Bill Graves and Derek Alderman are happy to announce the establishment of a new AAG specialty group--the Study of the American South. The Study of the American South Specialty Group strives to create a national platform for: (a) promoting study of the social, political, cultural, economic, and ecological aspects of the American South; (b) encouraging critical reflection on the issues, processes, intrinsic qualities, and interconnections that shape the region and its landscapes; (c) exchanging research and teaching ideas among scholars of the American South; and (d) building greater ties between geographers and the larger, cross-disciplinary southern studies community. Membership is open to any sub-field and not restricted to scholars based in the southeastern United States.

Please consider joining the group when your AAG membership comes up for renewal. Or you can send in membership dues with a note to the AAG office saying that it is for the South specialty group. Dues are \$5 for regular members and \$1 for student members.

Please also note that we are in the process of setting up an administrative page and listserv through AAG. Over the coming months, we will also be establishing a specialty group web page to help disseminate information. If anyone has a desire to help out, do not hesitate to let me know. Bill and I have declared ourselves interim co-chairs out of administrative necessity. A formal election of officers will happen at the 2008 AAG meeting in Boston and we welcome your interest in assuming a leadership position.

Finally, the specialty group is happy to sponsor special organized sessions at national and regional meetings--just contact us. Let's start organizing sessions for the Boston AAG meeting! Do you have any ideas for potential topics and/or participants?

-Derek Alderman

Western African Cyberseminar

For the West-Africanists, there is a cyberseminar going on, organised by PERN-PRIPODE and based on a batch of new studies coordinated from France, about "Population-Development-Environment Linkages in the Sudano-Sahelian Zone of West Africa" see

<http://www.populationenvironmentresearch.org/seminars.jsp>

-Simon Batterbury

For Graduate Students

Texas A& M Seeking Doctoral Students

The Geography Department at Texas A&M University and participating faculty would like to encourage prospective Geography doctoral students to apply to the new Integrated Graduate Education and Research Traineeship "Applied Biodiversity Science: Bridging Ecology, Culture and Governance".

The vision of Applied Biodiversity Science (ABS) is to achieve integration between biodiversity research and on-the-ground conservation practices. Three pillars support the program: (1) integrated research in biological and social sciences; (2) cross-disciplinary research and collaboration with conservation institutions and actors in the field, and (3) application of conservation theory to practice. Research teams of faculty mentors and students, in collaboration with international partners, will develop complementary dissertations related to two research themes: (A) Ecological Functions and Biodiversity; and (B) Communities and Governance. The ABS-IGERT will produce scientists prepared to understand ecological functions of local ecosystems, and also the activities and needs of surrounding communities in wider social, economic, and political contexts. *The regional focus of this research and educational opportunity is Latin America. *

Please consult the ABS website (<http://biodiversity.tamu.edu>) or one of the participating Geography faculty (Christian Brannstrom; Will Heyman; Wendy Jepson; Andrew Millington) for more information.

Applications for Cultural and Political Ecology Specialty Group Field Study Award

The Cultural And Political Ecology Specialty Group welcomes submissions for its Field Study Award. The award is intended to support masters or exploratory doctoral field work. See the CAPE webpages for more information

<http://www.stetson.edu/artsci/cape/Awards/awards.htm>

PESO Welcomes Submissions for the Eric Wolf Prize

The Political Ecology Society (PESO) announces the Eric Wolf Prize for the best article-length paper based on dissertation research. We seek papers based in substantive anthropological field research that make an innovative contribution to Political Ecology, widely conceived. To be eligible for the competition, scholars must have received their Ph.D. within the two years prior to publication of this announcement and must be nominated by a faculty member. A cash prize of \$500 accompanies the award and the paper will be published in the Journal of Political Ecology.

The preferred format for papers is electronic, but CDs and paper will also be accepted. Please use the style guidelines provided on the Journal of Political Ecology webpage: <http://jpe.library.arizona.edu/>. Electronic copies should be sent to twcollins@utep.edu and paper and CD copies to: Tim Collins; Department of Sociology & Anthropology; University of Texas at El Paso; 500 West University Avenue; El Paso, TX 79968. The deadline for submission is January 15, 2008

Submissions Requested for the Cultural and Political Ecology Student Paper Award

The Cultural And Political Ecology Specialty Group welcomes submissions for its student paper competition. Students at the undergraduate, master, doctoral level are eligible. Detailed submission guidelines can be found at the CAPE webpages. One recipient will be chosen to receive a \$100 prize and official recognition at the AAG conference in Boston 2008. The deadline for submission is March 30, 2008.

<http://www.stetson.edu/artsci/cape/Awards/awards.htm>

Publications Featuring Members of CAPE

Articles

- Sultana, F. 2007. "Water, water everywhere but not a drop to drink: Pani politics (water politics) in rural Bangladesh," *International Feminist Journal of Politics* 9(4).
- Sultana, F. 2006. "Gendered waters, poisoned wells: political ecology of the arsenic crisis in Bangladesh" In *Fluid bonds: Views on gender and water*, ed. K. Lahiri-Dutt, pp. 362-386. Kolkata: Stree Publishers.
- Kull, C., C. Ibrahim, and T. Meredith. 2007. "Tropical forest transitions and globalization: neoliberalism, migration, tourism, and international conservation agendas," *Society and Natural Resources* 20(8): 723-37.
- Galt, R. 2007. "Regulatory risk and farmers' caution with pesticides in Costa Rica," *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 32(3):377-94.
- Perramond, E. 2007 (in press). "Tactics and strategies in political ecology research," *Area* 39(3).
- Robbins, P., A. Chhangani, J. Rice, E. Trigosa, and S.M. Mohnot. 2007. "Enforcement authority and vegetation change at Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Reserve, Rajasthan India," *Environmental Management*. 40(3):365-378.
- Robbins, P. 2007. "Nature talks back" for *Politics and Practice in Economic Geography*, edited by Adam Tickell, Eric Sheppard, Jamie Peck and Trevor Barnes, pp. 49-59. Sage Publications.
- Robbins, P., R. Farnsworth, and J.P. Jones III. 2007 (in press). "Insects and institutions: how do bureaucracies adapt to emerging environmental problems?" *Journal of Environmental Policy and Planning*.
- Waite, T.A., L.G. Campbell, A.K. Chhangani, P. Robbins. 2007 (in press). "La Niña's signature: synchronous decline of the mammal community in a 'protected' area in India," *Diversity and Distributions*.

Books

- Heynen, N., J. McCarthy, S. Prudham, and P. Robbins (eds.). 2007. *Neoliberal Environments: False Promises and Unnatural Consequences*. New York: Routledge.
- Robbins, P. (ed.). 2007. *The Encyclopedia of Environment and Society*. Thousand Oaks (CA): Sage Publications.
- Robbins, P. 2007. *Lawn People: How Grasses, Weeds, and Chemicals Make Us Who We Are*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press.
- Davis, D.K. 2007. *Resurrecting the Granary of Rome: Environmental History and French Colonial Expansion in North Africa*. Athens: Ohio University Press.
<http://www.ohioswallow.com/book/Resurrecting+the+Granary+of+Rome>

Publications Featuring Members of CAPE

Special Issues

Antipode "Privatization: Property and Remaking of Nature-Society Relations" (Vol. 39, no.3), guest edited by Becky Mansfield.

Development Policy Review: 'Developmental States in the New Millennium' (September 2007) Guest editors: Verena Fritz and Alina Rocha Menocal, ODI.

The developmental state is back at the center of international policy debate. Building states that work is increasingly recognized as crucial for achieving development progress. This special issue of Development Policy Review seeks to promote a discussion about the conditions under which more developmental states may emerge in today's poor countries - and what may be holding them back.

Geoforum (forthcoming) "Piers Blaikie's Life Work: Political Ecology-Past, Present, and Future" guest edited by Joshua Muldavin.

Geographical Research "Indigenous Peoples' Knowledges and Rights" (Vol. 45 Issue 2), guest edited by: Jay T. Johnson, Garth Cant, Richard Howitt and Evelyn Peters.

The aim of this special edition of Geographical Research is to encourage and contribute to further discussions regarding geography's interactions with Indigenous peoples' knowledges and our (occasional) role in supporting Indigenous communities' struggles toward the realization of a variety of cultural, economic, political, land and resource rights both within and outside national and international structures. The papers collected here reflect a diverse engagement between Indigenous peoples and the discipline of geography. .

Smithsonian Project Opportunity

The Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian is considering the compilation of an edited, scholarly book on Climate Change and Indigenous Peoples. Towards this end, we are looking to identify scholars working on this topic in Latin America who might be interested in either contributing materials to the text or even serving on the editorial board.

Climate change is affecting indigenous peoples of the Americas in various ways. The changes to the Arctic and the resultant affects on indigenous communities are already being well documented. Several conferences in the United States have drawn attention to Climate Change and Tribal Lands, with attention particularly focused on alternative energy programs. While indigenous peoples of the North are largely concentrated onto reserves and are contending with reducing fossil fuel consumption, indigenous peoples of the South are more incorporated into national populations and are facing issues of fossil fuel production. In both areas, issues of water availability, agriculture, shifting plant populations, and changes in ecological cycles from climate change will have significant impacts on indigenous populations. In both areas, the problem is one of environmental justice, but in Latin America it intersects more with issues of Human Rights.

If you are interested in this project, or would like to recommend scholars in Latin America who should be consulted, please contact Dr. Douglas Herman at the National Museum of the American Indian: hermand@si.edu

The CAPE website can be viewed at <http://www.stetson.edu/artsci/cape/index.htm>. A source of historical information for the specialty group, archives of past newsletters, officers, special conference sessions, award and honor recipients, and other types of information are available. If you would like to add material to the site contact the webmaster, Tony Abbott. Tabbott@stetson.edu.

Member News

Tony Abbott spent four weeks in Ecuador finalizing research on *Trichocerues pachanoi* as a nexus for economic, spiritual, and gender tension. He is preparing to take a small group of students on a mentored field experience to the Ecuadorian Sierra and Selva in May-June 2008.

Ryan Galt has been hired as Assistant Professor in the Department of Human and Community Development & the Agricultural Sustainability Institute at the University of California, Davis. In addition, he is also a faculty member of the Geography Graduate Group, which grants PhD's in geography.

Patrick Hurley (College of Charleston) together with **Cari Goetcheus** at Clemson University (Landscape architecture), was awarded \$34,000 from the South Carolina Department of Archives and History to examine the Sweetgrass basket-making communities in the unincorporated areas of Charleston County and Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina. The research focuses not only on historic resources, but importantly includes an assessment of changing natural resource use among this predominantly African American group of artisans. This research will provide insight into the ways that urbanization and shifting property regimes have influenced natural resource use in the Low-country.

Brent McCusker and **Edward Carr** were awarded an NSF Human Social Dynamics grant to study the linkages between livelihood and land use change in southern Malawi. The exploratory grant provides for field research in 2007 and 2008 in the area around Zomba and the Shire River Valley. The Office of International Science and Engineering provided additional funds to take 3-4 undergraduate students from both West Virginia University and the University of South Carolina to Malawi for in-field research.

Eric Perramond has a new editorial appointment with ACME: An International E-Journal for Critical Geographies, after three years (2004-06) with Journal of Latin American Geography (JLAG). <http://www.acme-journal.org/Volume6-1.htm>

Paul Robbins was promoted to Full Professor in May

Karen Sue Rolph recently graduated at Stanford, completing a long and large ecological anthropology project in highland Peru.

Farhana Sultana now at Kings College London received her Ph.D. from the Department of Geography, University of Minnesota. Her Thesis is titled "Suffering for Water, Suffering from Water: Political Ecologies of Arsenic, Water and Development in Bangladesh." She also presented a Plenary Lecture, "Sustainability: A Post-Mortem", at the Annual Conference of the Royal Geographical Society & Institute of British Geographers, London, 31 August – 2 September 2007

Michael Watts, recipient of the 2007 Robert McC. Netting Award, was assaulted and shot by gunmen in Point Harcourt, Nigeria in July. Injuries sustained were apparently not serious. A more detailed account of the incident appears in the September issue of the AAG newsletter.

Bill Woods enjoyed three weeks of fieldwork with graduate students at sites near Iranduba across the Rio Negro from Manaus. He has also accepted an offer to be on the Scientific Review Board for the Bulletin of the Museu Paraense Emilio Goeldi, one of oldest scientific periodicals of Brazil, published since 1894. It is edited in two versions, Natural Sciences (ISSN 1981-8114) and Human Sciences (ISSN 1981-8122), and published three times a year.

Miss Kerry Waylen, PhD Student, Conservation Science, Imperial College London would like to ask for your help, to collect information for her PhD research. She is interested in finding examples of conservation projects in developing countries which have aimed to take community needs and views into account, but whose design and implementation has not properly reflected the values of the local community. She would like to know of any examples of the following: 1) projects whose design/implementation emphasized values that did not reflect those motivating local people, 2) evidence that such mismatches may affect project outcomes, 3) projects whose approach is modified to take account of local values, which subsequently affects outcomes. Please do not hesitate to contact her at kerry.waylen04@imperial.ac.uk.