

UW Geography Alumni News and Notes

A cross-section of UW Geography Dept. alums.

David Abernathy (PhD, 2000)

Publications: Thomas, R.N., Dobson, G., Dezendorf, P., Cantrell, M. and Abernathy, D. (2009).
Development of a parcel-based density analysis tool to evaluate growth patterns in Western North Carolina.
Journal of Conservation Planning, Vol.5, 38-53.

David teaches Geography at Appalachian College, and is spending part of his sabbatical year with his family in Panama. He continues his work on sensor networks on the Cocobolo Nature Reserve, and hopes to be working on ecological niche modeling and carbon sequestration monitoring on the reserve as well.

Kathleen Braden (PhD, '74)

Affiliate UW Geography faculty, Kathleen is also Professor of Geography at Seattle Pacific University, She recently published "The Fate of Wilderness Reserves in Russia" in the August, 2008 issue of the [International Journal of Wilderness](#) and an article with Natalya Prudnikova of Altay University, "The Challenges of Ecotourism Development in the Altay Region of Russia", in [Tourism Geographies](#), Vol. 10, No. 1, 1–21, February 2008. She also shares regular information on nature conservation in Russia for the community blog of the Wild Foundation (<http://www.wild.org/category/blog/>) and served on the national review committee for faculty Fulbright grant applications to former republics of the USSR.

Jess Browning (PhD, '95)

Dr. Jess Browning received his PhD in Economic Geography at the University of Washington. He taught regional economic development and international trade courses in the Geography Department between 1990 and 1995 and became Director of the, then new, Global Trade, Transportation, and Logistics Program (GTTL) in 1995. Jess retired from the UW and the GTTL Program in August 2000, but continued to do outreach for the University serving on local and national committees involving trade and transportation. He also represented the UW and GTTL as a U.S. Delegate to APEC and represented Central Administration in helping to form a consortium of eight universities to do research and education in the fields of business, logistics, marine affairs, and advanced technologies. He also wrote, presented, and published numerous papers dealing with trade and transportation. His last teaching assignment was a short course in a global logistics masters program (Summer 2007) in Korea. Jess fully retired in November of 2007, although he continues to serve on GTTL's Interdisciplinary Committee as Director Emeritus of the Program, and as Affiliate Professor in Civil and Environmental Engineering. He currently is engaged in home projects and is doing research on the migrations of ancient peoples in the Near East and Europe regions.

Rodney Erickson (PhD, '73)

I'm in my 11th year as Executive Vice President and Provost at Penn State University and still enjoying the job very much, although it has taken me a long way from Geography (my most recent journal article was published in a higher education finance and policy journal).

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Stephen Golant (PhD, '72)

STEPHEN M. GOLANT, PhD is currently Professor in the Department of Geography at the University of Florida in Gainesville (golant@geog.ufl.edu). He continues to research and write in the areas of senior housing and long-term care. His most recent publications include:

- ❖ (with Joan Hyde), *The Assisted Living Residence: A Vision for the Future*. Baltimore, MD: The John Hopkins University Press, 2008, 464 pages.
- ❖ "Affordable Clustered Housing-Care: A Category of Long-Term Care Options for the Elderly Poor," *Journal of Housing for the Elderly*, Vol. 22, No. 1/2, 2008, pp. 3-44.
- ❖ "The Future of Assisted Living Residences: A Response to Uncertainty," In Stephen M. Golant and Joan Hyde (Eds.), *The Assisted Living Residence: A Vision for the Future*. Baltimore, MD: The John Hopkins University Press, 2008, pp. 3-45.
- ❖ Stephen M. Golant, "Irrational Exuberance for the Aging in Place of Vulnerable Low-Income Older Homeowners: A Commentary." *Journal of Aging and Social Policy*, Vol. 20, No. 4, 2008, pp. 379-397.
- ❖ "The Gender Inequalities of Eldercare." *Aging Today*, Vol. 30, No. 2, March-April, 2009, p. 3.
- ❖ "Aging in Place Solutions for Older Americans: Groupthink Responses Not Always in Their Best Interests." *Public Policy & Aging Report*, Vol. 19, No 1, 2009.

Larry Goss, (Ph.D., '73)

Larry is a Geography professor at Salem State College. My study of proprietor employment trends in Massachusetts for 2001 to 2006 was published by the Enterprise Center in Salem, Massachusetts, and has had distribution on the web. A recent cost benefit analysis I did for Hampton Beach State Park in New Hampshire helped lead to over \$14 million in state capital budget funding to replace all of the state park buildings at that popular beach.

Jessica Graybill (PhD, 2006)

Jessica Graybill was one of three geographers to receive a 2008 ACLS Fellowship for her continuing research in the Russian Far East – Sea of Okhotsk region.

Iain Hay (Ph.D, '89)

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The past year has been an eventful one professionally with an interesting mix of teaching, research and service activity. In July 2009 I commenced a secondment with the Australian Learning and Teaching Council as the national Discipline Scholar for Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities. This new role involves leading and supporting educational change amongst and for Australia's Deans in these academic clusters.

In May 2009 I received the Taylor and Francis Award of the Royal Geographical Society with the Institute of British Geographers for 'For excellence in the promotion and practice of teaching and learning in Geography in Higher Education'. Sadly, I was unable to go to London to accept this award. The RGS/IBG award followed some Australian recognition in the form of admission as a Fellow of the Australian College of Educators "For outstanding leadership and contributions to scholarship in geographical education in Australia and internationally."

In mid-2008 I was elected Vice-President (President Elect), of the Institute of Australian Geographers. Amongst other activities, look forward to developing stronger links with AAG.

On the research front, I have recently taken up a role as General Editor, for Springer Science+Business Media's new series of 1,000 page *International Handbooks of Human Geography*. I've also recently completed work on the third edition of *Qualitative Research Methods in Human Geography* (Oxford, Toronto), due for publication in early 2010. And I am half-way through editing a compilation for Open University Press of autoethnographies by 24 scholars recognised internationally as some of the world's great university teachers.

Finally, my work over the past two decades on geographies of domination and oppression was recognised by the award of a higher doctorate (LittD) from the University of Canterbury in April 2009. This was a delightful honour.

Delia Heck (Rosenblatt) (Ph.D., '96)

Delia Rosenblatt Heck is an Associate Professor of Environmental Science and the Director of Assessment and Institutional Research at Ferrum College. Her research focuses on using GIS to analyze water quality and invasive aquatic weeds at lakes in southwestern Virginia. Additionally, she works with the Appalachian Colleges Community Economic Development Partnership on a Last Mile Broadband project using GIS to identify areas in rural Franklin County with unmet demand for high-speed internet access and potential locations for wireless towers to expand economic development opportunities. She lives with her husband John and children, Benton (10) and Peter (7) in Callaway, VA.

Daniel Karnes (MA, '95)

Daniel works in the US Army Corps of Engineers Engineer Research and Development Center's Topographic Engineering Center, concentrating on producing geospatial products and services to support war fighters principally deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. This effort has involved development of web mapping sites, and extensions to ArcGIS Desktop including a metadata editor solution that addresses evolving Department of Defense and Intelligence Community standards. He currently is developing solutions that will move legacy geospatial products into the Army geospatial data model, adapting them to a service-oriented architecture environment.

Eric Larson (Ph.D. '95).

Eric is on the faculty of MEDEX Northwest, the physician assistant training program in the School of Medicine. He does quite a bit of health workforce research, some rural health services work, and a bit of international health services work. He was in Australia in 2008 as an International Visiting Fellow of the Australian Primary Health Care Research Institute. (Contact: ehlarson@u.washington.edu)

Ed McCormack (PhD, '97)

Es is a senior Research Engineer with the Washington State Transportation Center (TRAC) and a Research Assistant Professor in the UW Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. His main area of research is the use of technology to improve transportation mobility and security. This research has sent him far afield, including : spending much of last year in Norway while trying to track containers; in the Cascade Mountains testing unmanned aircraft for avalanche control, and riding around with Homeland Security at the Canadian border. He occasionally teaches courses in freight transportation and critical infrastructure protection.

Robert Norheim (MA, '96)

Robert Norheim is a GIS Analyst for the UW's School of Forest Resources and Climate Impacts Group for the last eleven years. Rob supports research programs in climate change, montane ecology, and forest fires (and the interrelationships between the three) with spatial analysis and mapping.

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Multiple affiliations at UW:

- * Fire and Mountain Ecology Lab (College of Forest Resources)
- * Fire and Environmental Applications Team (USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station, Pacific Wildland Fire Science Lab)
- * Pacific Northwest Climate Impacts Group (NOAA Joint Institute for the Study of the Atmosphere and Ocean)

Frank Norris (Ph.D., '94)

norris@nps.gov

Frank is the staff historian for the National Trails System Office with the National Park Service in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He was recently chosen to head a congressionally-requested effort to evaluate whether various Texas-based cattle trails - including the Chisholm Trail and Great Western Trail - should be designated as national historic trails. He also recently completed a two-volume administrative history of Denali National Park and Preserve, entitled "Crown Jewel of the North."

Rita Ordonez (MA, '94)

In February, 2009, Rita received Mt. Vernon, Washington "Outstanding Community Service" award created a vegetable garden and initiated cooking classes at Lincoln Elementary School. Approximately thirty (30) students are now involved in the garden club. She has also been actively involved with the Mt. Vernon Farmers' Market

Christine Owens (Roberts) (MA, '92, PhD '97)

Cris recently retired from the Missouri Institute of Mental Health (MIMH) as a Research Assistant Professor. MIMH is part of the University of Missouri's School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry. She was an evaluator for substance abuse prevention projects for both Washington and Missouri, and a project director for a 5-year, \$2.3 million per year substance abuse prevention grant for Missouri.

Robert Roose (MA, '90)

Robert is a Support Services Manager at the Spokane Public Library
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George Saito (BA, '58, MA '62)

I received both my BA (1958) and MA (1962) from UW. I have many fond memories of the Geography Department during my undergraduate and graduate school years. Most of my fellow grad students like Dick Morrill, Art Getis, Julian Minghi, Bill Beyers, et al went on to get PhD's but I decided to get a job after the MA. I spent most of my career as a planner. Geography gave me a great background to start in the planning business. I retired from the Federal Aviation Administration in 1998 after 36 years of service as an airport and community planner. During my career, I met many planners in local, regional, and Federal government as well as in consulting firms who were Geography graduates. Now, I have been busy traveling, getting rid of things at the house, doing home projects, or attending Husky football and basketball games. Go Huskies and take care to all. Sincerely, George Saito, Shoreline WA

Ronald Schultz, (Ph.D. '71)

Ron retired from Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton in 2006. He continues to consult for south Florida cities and school boards on population/enrollment issues and districting boundaries and am active professionally with the Florida Society of Geographers along with completion of several research projects and publications. In addition to his annual summer month+ in the great Pacific NW, he has a small farm in western NY, near Lake Chautauqua, that keeps him active with tractors and assorted farming gear.

2009 Optimization of Hydrogen Stations in Florida Using the Flow-Refueling Location Model, *International Journal of Hydrogen Energy*, DOI 10.1016/j.ijhydene.2009.05.050 (w/ M. Kuby, L.Lines, Z. Xie, J-G. Kim, S.Lim).

2008 A Rental Car Strategy for Commercialization of Hydrogen in Florida, *International Journal of Hydrogen Energy*, 33 (2008) pp. 5312-5325, (w/ L. Lines, M. Kuby, J. Clancy, Z. Xie).
City Commission Election Districts: (Geographic) Rationality and Realty in a Florida Context, *Florida Geographer*, Vol. 39 (2008) pp. 51-70.

Joe Symons (PhD, '73)

Following the less traveled road, a early-70's PhD from UW/Geography resides now on Orcas Island, having pestered San Juan County officials about unrestricted growth policies for almost 2 decades. A recently published book, *Potholes in Paradise*, illustrates some of the real world challenges that a concerned citizen (even with a doctorate) faces in attempting to be a local Growth Management Act land-use advocate. See doebay.net for an entry point to where a Geography Degree can take you. Joe Symons.

Nick Velluzzi (PhD, 2007)

Nick lives in Brooklyn and works for the UAW International.

Sean Wellnitz

Sean was part of the cast & crew for the movie, *Manzou: From Beijing to Shanghai*, the story of young four Americans from Seattle (two are UW alums) who, immediately following the Beijing Olympics, traveled by bicycle 1000 miles between China's two largest cities to learn more about the Chinese people, their culture and the rapidly changing environment in which they live.

Julia Youngs

Julia is a partner in the law firm Selden & Youngs, PLLC, focusing on strategic business and estate planning. Additionally, she serves as general counsel for Earthwise Ventures, Inc., (www.earthwiseventures.com), a company that develops and coordinates for-profit, philanthropic investment projects in sub-Saharan Africa. “