

PACIFICA



The Association of Pacific Coast Geographers Spring 2009

CANDIDATES FOR THE VICE PRESIDENCY

Vincent J. Del Casino Jr.

Associate Professor and Chair of Geography
California State University, Long Beach

Ph.D., Geography, 2000, University of Kentucky
M.S., Geography, 1995, University of Wisconsin – Madison
B.A., Int'l Relations/East Asia Studies, 1990 Bucknell Univ.

Service to Geography/APCG: I began my work for the Association of Pacific Coast Geographers in 2004, when I organized my first session for the meetings in San Luis Obispo. I was also asked to be part of the Membership Committee, and when I became the Chair of the Committee in 2005, I organized a series of "signature sessions" for the Eugene meeting, most of which targeted newly minted Ph.D.s, assistant professors, and graduate students. One such session brought together six current journal editors from across the discipline to discuss academic publication. I have returned to that position this year, and will once again target a campaign to expand our membership and highlight key areas of need for our growing membership. In addition to my Committee work, I also Co-Chaired the 2007 APCG Meeting in Long Beach, California. That meeting was the largest annual meeting on record. As a special initiative, the Department of Geography at CSULB sponsored the participation of almost 100 of its own students, giving many of them their first professional academic experience.

In addition to my work for the APCG, I am an active member of the AAG and the discipline of Geography. This includes my participation in a number of specialty groups, organizing paper sessions in addition to special sessions supporting the work of these groups. I currently serve as Book Review Editor for the journal *Social and Cultural Geography*. Over the last nine years, I have reviewed over 50 journal articles for journals as wide ranging as *Progress in Human Geography*; *Health and Place*; and *Sexualities*. I have also served as a reviewer for a number of important presses

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Martha Henderson

Professor of Geography
Evergreen State College

PhD. Geography, 1988, Louisiana State University
MA Geography, 1978, Indiana State University
BS Social Sciences, 1974, Western Oregon University

A year after I received my bachelor's degree in the Willamette Valley, I went on a road trip to the Colorado Plateau, where I met up with all of the western field representatives of The Wilderness Society in Utah. The group had a business meeting to conduct and a float trip down the San Juan River seemed like a good place to deliberate. We were all young, determined environmentalists. Dave Forman, lean and bearded, stood up at the campfire one night and announced he was going to leave the Society and create a more radical group to be known as Earth First! When it came to my turn, I announced I was going to graduate school in geography. "Geography?" asked Forman. "Yeah," I answered. "Thinking about our relationship to Earth is my way of committing to bringing peace into the world," I said. That night seems so long ago (34 years, to be exact.)

My journey from the San Juan River to faculty member at The Evergreen State College in Washington included years of seasonal work in wildland fire, land surveying and outdoor recreation management for the U.S. Forest Service in Oregon, a Ph.D. in geography from LSU, and teaching at the University of Minnesota, Duluth where I was tenured and promoted to Associate Professor. I joined the graduate faculty of Evergreen in 1995 and will become Director of the Masters of Environmental Study this fall. I am currently the Coordinator for the Environmental Studies Planning Unit, a position similar to chairing a department. These

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APCG DIRECTORY

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

President:

Stuart Aitken

Department of Geography
San Diego State University
San Diego, CA 92182-4493
619-594-6498
saitken@mail.sdsu.edu

Vice President:

Dorothy Freidel

Department of Geography
Sonoma State University
Rohnert Park, CA 94928
707-664-2314
freidel@sonoma.edu

Secretary/Treasurer:

Robert Richardson

Department of Geography
CSU, Sacramento
Sacramento, CA 95819-6003
916-278-6410
richardsonrt@csus.edu

Past-President (ex-officio):

Darrick Danta

Department of Geography
CSU, Northridge
Northridge CA 91330-8249
818-677-3522
ddanta@csun.edu

AAG Councillor (ex-officio):

Nancy Wilkinson

Dept. of Geography
San Francisco State University
San Francisco, CA 91439
nancyw@sfsu.edu

PUBLICATIONS

Yearbook

Editor: **Jim Craine**

Department of Geography
CSU, Northridge
Northridge CA 91330-8249
818-677-3520
james.w.craine@csun.edu

Pacifica

Editor: **Sriram Khé**

Western Oregon University
Monmouth, OR 97361
503-838-8852
khes@wou.edu

Archivist: **Andrew Bach**

Western Washington University
Bellingham, WA 98225-9085
360-650-4774 (office)
andybach@cc.wvu.edu

APCG Website:
position vacant

2009 Annual Meeting

Local Arrangements

Stuart Aitken

San Diego State University
619-594-6498
saitken@mail.sdsu.edu

COMMITTEES

Awards Committee:

James Keese, Chair
Social Sciences Department
CalPoly, San Luis Obispo
San Luis Obispo, CA
805-756-1170
jkeese@calpoly.edu

Women's Network:

Vicki Drake, Chair
Coordinator, Geography
Santa Monica College,
Santa Monica, CA 90405
310-434-8652
drake_vicki@smc.edu

Distinguished Awards Committee:

Jenny Zorn

CSU, San Bernardino
San Bernardino, CA 92407
909-880-7500
jzorn@csub.edu

Membership Committee:

Vincent Del Casino
California State University
Long Beach, CA 90840-1101
562-985-4978
vdelcasi@csulb.edu

Margaret Trussell Scholarship:

Martha Henderson, Chair
Evergreen State College
Olympia, WA 98505
360-867-6841
mhenders@evergreen.edu

Nominations Committee:

Kate Berry
Department of Geography
University of Nevada, Reno
Reno, NV 89557-0048
kberry@unr.edu

Mexican American Travel
Scholarship Committee:

Daniel Arreola, Chair
Department of Geography
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ 85287-0104
480-965-4794
daniel.arreola@asu.edu

Cultural Geography Fieldwork
Scholarship Committee:

Paul Starrs, Chair
University of Nevada, Reno
Reno, NV 89557-0048
775-784-6930
starrs@unr.nevada.edu

Budget Committee:

David Plane, Chair
Department of Geography
University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721
520-621-1738
plane@email.arizona.edu

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Reformation, Revolution, and 'Doing Geography'

Stuart Aitken, San Diego State University

In my last column I wrote about some of the stuff of geography that got me excited, and opined that the maps and cartographic elegance that entranced me as a youth are now joined by a hoard of Google Earth® and other geo-visual and global positioning systems in an elegant potpourri of representational technologies. If the focus of my excitement is expanded so too is the focus of a whole new demographic. Young people today are less likely to read a newspaper and more likely to fire up a Kindle Reader® or iPhone®; they are less likely to pull out a Thomas Brothers map and more likely to pull up Mapquest®; they are less likely to consult a USGS topographic sheet and more likely to rely on a phone-based GPS. Cartographic elegance is more than likely found in a lithograph or print hanging on a collector's wall rather than in a sailor's trunk or a hiker's backpack.

At one level the technology is a good thing because it provides a large swathe of people access to spatial data and access to analytic tools at reasonable prices. This is the wonder of any technology: it has a hugely democratizing potential. Witness the speed with which The Reformation spread through 16th Century Europe, using Gutenberg's technology. The invention of the commercial printing press in Mainz revolutionized how knowledge and information were shared. It did not take long for Erasmus' Novum Instrumentum (1516) to demonstrate the corruption of the Latin Vulgate's New Testament. The new technology -- the instrumentum -- enabled translation of the Bible into 'vernacular tongues' for reading by the 'ploughboy' and the 'simplest woman'. Witness two Mexican uprisings -- one in the state of Morelos that culminated in the revolution of 1910, and one in the state of Chiapas in 1994. In the former, Emiliano Zapata used the new technology of railroads to move his guerilla fighters and quickly take control of the northern Mexican states. In Chiapas, the 1994 inauguration of NAFTA inspired contemporary Zapatistas to challenge the image of Mexico as a modern, youthful nation, eager for change and unencumbered by centuries of rural poverty and oppression. The technology they used in this challenge was the Internet (for an excellent geography perspective on this uprising, see Froehling 1997). Am I suggesting that new mapping and geo-visualization technologies have the propensity for revolution akin to the European Reformation and Mexican revolutions? I believe that these technologies are fomenting important spatial -- and hence social and political -- changes to which we need to heed. Space -- its representations and affects -- is opening up in a flurry of democratization and other affects.

Using GIS and GPS, anyone can visually construct, deconstruct, de-territorialize and re-territorialize spatial realities, and the result is a profound experiential and epistemological shift. The questions that remain are profoundly ontological; and I'll get to that in a moment. Referentiality and legitimation without accountability to larger democratic changes are no longer tenable. There is no

PRESIDENTIAL COLUMN: REFORMATION, REVOLUTION, AND 'DOING GEOGRAPHY'

longer an unproblematic and empirically verifiable 'space' to which we can refer. The weakened representational function of space (of maps, of visual images) produces little sense of permanence, history, or material investment (except, perhaps to hang the map on your wall as a collectors' piece). What is left is esthetic and affective, and it is openly political. This is, without doubt, a good thing. We are much better able to feel and move through space, to be affected by it virtually and to open up spatial data for inquiry and critique (witness the collaboration between Google Earth and the US Holocaust Memorial Museum over dynamic remotely sensed representations of the crisis in Darfur).

Of course, there is another side to this trend towards open spatial data and ease of analysis. The average beginning salary for GIS-proficient graduates drops precipitously as the software becomes affordable and more user-friendly. This is not necessarily a bad thing although it has led many geography departments to rethink the usefulness of diplomas in GIS for attracting undergraduate students. All spatial professions – urban planning, architecture, police and military, transportation planning, the US census, environmental consultancy, a variety of health and human services, taxi-driving -- command geographical information data-bases and the technologies to analyze, create and display spatial knowledge. Neo-geographers -- who have never taken any geography classes or opened a geography text -- are blogging and twittering about newly discovered or created landscapes and maps. So what is left for geography as a profession? Is it running behind technological, destined to expire like the moribund 1980s profession of 'word-processing'. And what of the discipline of geography? Are we looking at a shrinking, anachronistic knowledge domain akin to phrenology?

Phrenology was once considered a science. This discipline of mapping bumps in the brain and correlating them to personality disorders flourished in the 19th Century. With its focus on predicting personality and character-traits, phrenology is distinguished from craniometry, which studies skull size, weight and shape, and physiognomy, which studies facial features. These latter disciplines continue today because they do not claim exclusive rights on their ability to predict personality traits or intelligence. Rather – if they are practiced well -- they use cultural theories from anthropology and methodologies from ethnography; they look at the complex relationships between bodies, material lived experiences and social and political dynamics. It is no surprise that I argue – in the wake of sophisticated geo-technologies and a seemingly transparent, and googleable earth – that geography is more important than ever, that the discipline has more to offer than before, and that its ascendancy as a knowledge domain is not hinged upon the technological advances but rather on its abilities to comprehend their meanings. The discipline's vitality hinges on its ability to elaborate the complex relations between bodies, material lived experiences and spatial and political dynamics in a

way that opens up spatialities inherently derived from and produce by these relationships.

The advent of new geo-visual technologies produces domains of knowledge that have the potential of breathing new, and ontologically different, life into geography. In terms of an ontological different worldview, I believe that with digital and post-digital technologies, we can now 'see' what mere representations cannot necessarily show us (Aitken and Craine 2009). This happens, in part, through the creation of virtual environments. By this I mean that they help create a virtuality that is about the here and now rather than some weird neuromanced space created out of the imagination of William Gibson and other sci-fi writers. It is virtual in the sense that it is vital and embodies the current moment as past/future, space/non-space, representation/affect. This is geography's density and condition of existence. Put another way, we now have a new realm of images and experiences with an extended, and valid, re-territorialization of the so-called real.

In 1984, Peter Gould argued that 'geography is what geographers do.' He used this catch-phrase to get beyond some of the problematic jostling that attempted to define geography but in actuality did little more than plague our academic discourses with petty navel-gazing in the 1970s and early 1980s. At the time, academics tried to pull the centrality of what we do into a variety of realms including spatial analysis, regional synthesis, postmodern places and so forth. Practitioners used specialty group membership and citation indexes to ground the centrality of the discipline through numbers and measurements. All this energy was virtually useless.

A full-fledged discipline only takes wing after the grid of value judgment has been successfully applied to what it does – and to its body of knowledge, which is then problematically transformed into assigned categories. For academic geographers and practitioners alike, the concerned "That's me! Am I like that?" gives way to the smug arrogance of "Yes indeed, that's me and I'm proud to be a geographer" (cf. Brian Massumi 1992, 76). This arrogance is particularly clear amongst geographers who claim their part in the ascendancy of GIS technologies to administrators who are grasping for money-makers in failing economies. I argue with Brian Massumi and Peter Gould that if the body/the discipline/the academic/the practitioner does not say "I do," then it is in trouble. With a focus on "I am," there is rigidity and stagnation. The body loses momentum, it is placed in the sense that it becomes a sedentary concept, trapped in its exclusivity like a gated-community Disciplined school paths become career paths, a new boss replaces the old boss, things become-the-same, the politics of transformation is foreclosed upon.

"Children grow up in the image of their parents. And so the world turns. The body is led as on a leach from one threshold to another. A respectable person with respectable satisfactions is born. Praise the Lord! It's a human. Everything is now I-to-I in civilized connections. Problem is, some eyes are higher than others" (Massumi 1992, 77).

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VINCENT DEL CASINO

in Geography, including Routledge and the University of Minnesota.

My service also extends into my local community, where I have participated in outreach programs for HIV reduction programs as well as teacher training programs in history and social science.

Professional Experience: Although I have only been at CSULB since 2000, I have been in the classroom in different capacities since 1990, when I joined Teach for America. In 2000, I joined the California State University, Long Beach Geography and Liberal Studies Departments as an assistant professor. My joint position meant that I taught both geographers and future elementary school educators. In 2005, when I received early tenure and promotion., I moved my appointment completely into Geography. In 2007, I was elected Chair of Department, a position in which I have served since the Fall of 2007.

Research Interests: I consider myself a broadly trained human geographer with a strong interest in social and cultural geography, geographic methodology, tourism and leisure studies, the geographies of sexuality and health, homelessness, and HIV/AIDS outreach, advocacy and health care programs. Regionally, I have a long-term research program in Southeast Asia, particularly Thailand, where I have conducted research since the early 1990s. I also have a strong research program in the United States, particularly focused on Long Beach, California, where I have conducted research on the intersections of drug use and HIV risk among self-identified gay and bisexual men as well as research on the intersections between homelessness and public transportation accessibility.

Publications: I recently published a single-authored upper division textbook on social geography for the Wiley-Blackwell series in *Critical Introductions to Geography*. In addition, I co-edited *Mapping Tourism*, and currently serve as lead editor on the Wiley-Blackwell *A Companion to Social Geography*. I have also authored or co-authored twenty peer-reviewed articles and book chapters in edited volumes, and have contributed to a number of encyclopedias. In 2011, I will be joining Sallie Marston, Paul Knox, Diana Liverman, and Paul Robbins as one of five authors on *World Regions in Global Context* (Prentice Hall).

To Do List for APCG: I would like to employ my experience to continue the expansion of the organization, and promote the APCG. This means tapping into the needs and interests of some of the newest members in our region's undergraduate and graduate programs and engaging new colleagues as well. We can expand the broad-based diversity of our membership by highlighting research and outreach programs in the region. The annual meeting could serve as a venue for bringing scholars in from both Mexico and Canada. We might also dialogue with colleagues in different disciplines, through interdisciplinary research colloquia at our annual meeting and by using our regional publication. APCG can take advantage of this visibility for the good of its membership and the broader society it serves.

MARTHA HENDERSON

administrative positions at Evergreen require working across disciplinary boundaries with faculty and students in natural and social sciences.

Commitment to civility by studying human relationships to Earth has been full of intellectual challenge, amazingly bright and creative humans (plus a few scoundrels), maps and manuscripts, hot days on the desert, endless hours in dusty archives, and years with students. Research on topics in political ecology and ethnicity has been my primary focus. I have co-edited one volume on geographical contexts of American Indians. I have published numerous articles and book reviews on American Indians, American public lands and landscapes, wildland fire and forestry management in Greece, and geographic education. I have three book manuscripts I am committed to finish. One investigates the transfer of power from faculty to student based on a month long walk I made with students across the state of Washington. A second manuscript is an historical geography of central Nevada, and the third is based on my experiences in Greece as a Fulbright scholar. I was an NEH participant in a summer seminar entitled "Nature Writing" and was also a member of a two year seminar at UC Santa Barbara. I am currently working on a funded project to bring educational opportunities in food security and alternative energy to at-risk youth in Lewis County, Washington, one of the poorest counties in the Pacific Northwest.

Commitment to APCG began the minute I arrived in Washington. I fully support our regional meetings. I have attended the APCG meetings, given presentations, been active in the Women's Network, and for the last three years shepherded the Trussell Awards. I have also served as a judge for student awards. It has been my honor to review these young scholars' work. The Women's Network plays a vital role in supporting all women geographers. I have very much enjoyed participating in and attending APCG meetings and field trips. My time with APCG members has been a critical to maintaining my identity as a geographer.

My vision for APCG is four fold: 1) develop a presence in academia beyond geography by interacting with other regional professional groups with whom we share common interests; 2) create a strong web-based presence that will attract students to undergraduate and graduate programs in our region; 3) become a support system for all students by maintaining web-based geographical data links including alternative educators; and 4) continue APCG members' long history of commitment to field-based learning and research. I strongly support student preparation for careers in the twenty first century.

Finally, we senior scholars and faculty members have much wisdom to share with one another and younger geographers. I envision strengthening ties between departments especially in an era when academic resources may be scarce. The Association of Pacific Coast Geographers has a great deal to contribute to this new, hopefully peaceful, world.

CANDIDATES FOR SECRETARY

Vicki Drake **Santa Monica College**

MA, Geography, CSU Northridge (1996)
BA, Geography, CSU Northridge, (1994)

Associate Professor of Geography, and
Department Chair of the Earth Science Department
Santa Monica College, Santa Monica, California.

Since 2000, I have been a faculty member in the Earth Science Department at Santa Monica College. I became chair of the department in 2004 and was re-elected as chair in 2008. Although community college Geography instructors are expected to teach all types of Geography classes, I have managed to keep my focus on Physical Geography, Field classes, and GIS.

My Master's Thesis (Hydrophobic Soil Genesis, Santa Monica Mountains, southern California) was a continuation of my Senior Thesis. I am still researching this topic, only now I've extended it to using Remote Sensing. While participating in a NSF grant, I have been examining Landsat 5 and Landsat 7 imagery to determine vegetation loss and burn severity due to wildfires, using pre-fire and post-fire datasets.

My involvement with APCG dates back to my undergraduate senior year. I presented my Senior Thesis (Post-fire Development of Hydrophobic Soils in Big Sycamore Canyon, Santa Monica Mountains, southern California) at the APCG conference held at CSU, Northridge in the early 1990s for which I won an award. Several years ago I took over the Women's Network Coordinator position and have found it to be a wonderful experience. About two years ago, I, with the help of Jenny Zorn, set up a fund-raising program for the Women's Network that has brought in monies to aid in keeping the Travel Grant program funded.

My one big goal is to help define the Secretary's role, since this has traditionally been a combined position (Secretary-Treasurer). I am also interested in increasing membership in the APCG, and especially encouraging the upcoming female geography students.

Andrew Ellis **Arizona State University**

PhD, Climatology (1997) University of Delaware
BA, MS Geography (1991, 1994) University of Delaware

Associate Professor of Geography
School of Geographical Sciences
Arizona State University

Andrew Ellis holds the position of Associate Professor in the School of Geographical Sciences at Arizona State University and is also an affiliate of ASU's Environmental Fluid Dynamics Program within the School of Earth and Space Exploration.

Ellis arrived at ASU in 1997 after obtaining a Ph.D. in Climatology from the Department of Geography at the University of Delaware. After a one-year appointment as Visiting Assistant Professor of hydroclimatology he was hired as an Assistant Professor and was promoted to Associate Professor in 2004. While at ASU he has served as State Climatologist for Arizona and as Director of ASU's Office of Climatology.

Ellis' research interests have evolved from snow cover-atmosphere interaction and lake-effect snowfall studies early in his career, to research focused on hydroclimatic variability, drought, and climate change-water resource issues in recent years. His climate science research agenda over the past five years has been geared to support ASU's emergence as a global leader in sustainability science. Specifically, his current research interests are focused on improving our understanding of past hydroclimate variability and change, improving hydroclimatic monitoring, and improving prediction of the hydroclimatic impacts of potential future climate change.

Ellis' service to AAG includes the positions of Secretary-Treasurer of the Cryosphere Specialty Group and as Director of the Young Scholars Program and Member of the Honors Committee of the Climate Specialty Group.

CANDIDATE FOR TREASURER

Robert Richardson **Professor Emeritus** **California State University, Sacramento**

PhD (Geography), University of Oregon
MS (Geography), Louisiana State University
BS (Geography), University of Wisconsin

My degrees are all in geography.

I began teaching in 1969 at San Fernando Valley State (later CSU Northridge), then came to CSU Sacramento in 1977.

I am fully retired (or perhaps retarded) since the Spring '08 semester ended, but have been allowed to keep a

portion of my old office where the APCG data resides.

I have been Secretary/Treasurer since 1997. With the position now split in two, I offered to continue as Treasurer for another term, or year, if creating staggered terms for Secretary and Treasurer would be useful.

I will have to quit doing this at some point, but have thoroughly enjoyed working with the members and officers and attending the annual meetings over the years. My math and computer skills are decent and I'm as honest as the day is long (and with tidal friction coupled with melting of polar ice, the days are getting longer!).

PACIFIC COAST REGIONAL COUNCILLOR'S REPORT, MARCH 21, 2009

NANCY WILKINSON, SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY

University Budgets are in trouble throughout the region, especially in California, which had no state budget for the first six-plus months of the fiscal year even as enrollments continued to grow, leading to impaction declarations on some campuses. Arizona and Oregon also report very hard times, manifest in financial exigencies and program retrenchment.

Impact on Geography Departments:

- Cancelled searches and postponed retirement replacements.
- Reduced operating budgets, loss of funding for part-time faculty.
- Increased scrutiny by administrators; fortunately, Geography enrollments remain high in most Pacific Coast universities.
- Admissions caps on transfer students proposed at several California State University campuses such as Long Beach pose a threat to Geography, which gain significant numbers of new majors at the Junior level.
- Programmatic retrenchment can be a threat. At Southern Oregon University, Geography lost a position and significant curricular offerings when it became part of an interdisciplinary Environment Studies program.
- University-wide general education (GE) requirement revisions coincide with financial strains at several campuses. This is a potential threat to programs heavily invested in existing graduation requirements, but also

presents an opportunity for Geography to develop courses to support "technological competency" requirements under discussion on several campuses. One colleague noted, "It might be a moment for geography to become more 'mainstream' as universities revise their GE to include more 'skill-based' subjects, critical thinking, and technology."

What AAG can do to help?

- Provide a model curriculum or collection of information on GIS for Spatial Thinking/GIS in GE.
- Provide a clearinghouse for model curricula for BS/MS programs, which are increasing in popularity. Various "studies" programs also provide opportunities for Geography to enhance exposure and enrollments. For example, new programs at the University of Alaska include a B.A. in Circumpolar North and Pacific Rim Studies, a B.S. in Landscape Analysis and Climate Change Studies, a B.S. Environmental Studies, a B.S. in Geographic Information Science and Technology, and a Professional Masters Degree in Resource Management and Geography. The University of Arizona will add a BS in Geography this Fall, and San Francisco State University has proposed a new MS in GIScience.
- Provide funded support for the junior faculty training programs that NSF had supported. A number of the faculty have taken advantage of these programs; however, with limited funding, it will be a challenge for universities to support attendance at these workshops in the future.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

With this scenario, the future/past/spatial/affect I spoke of earlier loses the potential of the virtual: it does not open up new possibilities but eternally returns to the same. Rather, what I want is the continual creation of difference. Renewal is not about defining ourselves through the representational "I am," but rather through an affective, transformational "I do." A body is what a body does. It belies conventional expressions and authorized disciplinary categories (academic/practitioner, professor/student, GIScientist/critical social theorist, and so forth) to create something new and different, continuously. And there is nothing frightening about that; it is a normative stance prescribing what we do. It is our work, and it prescribes the possibility of change away from social and spatial inequality, where some eyes are higher than others.

References

- Aitken, Stuart C. and James Craine (2009) *Into the Image and Beyond: Affective Visual Geographies and GIScience*. In Sarah Elwood and Meghan Cope (eds) *Qualitative GIS: A Mixed Methods Approach*. pp 139-155. Los Angeles and London: Sage
- Gould, Peter (1984) *The Geographer at Work*. New York & London: Routledge
- Massumi, Brian (1992) *A User's Guide to Capitalism and Schizophrenia: Deviations from Deleuze and Guattari* Boston: MIT Press.

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Good Yearbook News

Shortly after the Fairbanks meeting, Joel Bradshaw (University of Hawaii Press) sent me the good news that income from MUSE (online journals) is climbing. The amount we receive annually is based on the number of "hits" MUSE records for the *Yearbook*.

Last December Bradshaw asked if we might want to put all *Yearbook* issues, all the way back to volume 1, in MUSE. The Executive Council agreed, although we will have to pay an estimated \$6,500 to cover costs of digital conversion of volumes 1-65. In the long run we should be ahead financially, and everything ever published in the *Yearbook* will be available worldwide.

Publication of Interest

The Natural Resources Conservation Service recently published a handsomely illustrated volume titled *The History of Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting; Interviews with U.S. Department of Agriculture Pioneers*. Volume 57 of our *Yearbook* included an article related to this topic titled "James Edward Church, Jr., and the Development of Snow Surveying for Runoff Forecasting" by APCG member Evelyne Stitt Pickett.

You may request a hardbound copy by calling 1-888-LANDCARE. A PDF version is available online at the NRCS website; note that it is over 300 pages long.

ANNUAL MEETING IN SAN DIEGO: SEPTEMBER 30--OCTOBER 3

Welcome!

The Department of Geography at San Diego State University is honored to host the 2009 APCG Annual Meeting, which will be held at the Town and Country Resort and Convention Center in San Diego, California between September 30th and October 3rd, 2009.

The Conference venue is an excellent facility centrally located to various attractions in our dynamic city. Popular attractions in the city include the world-famous San Diego Zoo and Sea World. The Gaslamp Quarter in Downtown San Diego is a renowned historic district with many entertainment options. Sports fans can visit Qualcomm Stadium to cheer on the San Diego Chargers or Petco Park to root, root, root for the Padres! Our award-winning trolley is a cheap, convenient, and environmentally friendly way to explore the city. San Diego is easily accessible by rail and air. The Pacific Surfliner offers breathtaking views of the Pacific Ocean while San Diego's international airport provides service by twenty-five airlines. For those traveling by rail, the trolley system connects to the train station and has a stop immediately adjacent to the conference venue.

Scholarship and camaraderie are the hallmarks of APCG meetings. An Opening Reception will be held on the evening of Wednesday, September 30th, followed by field trips on Thursday, October 1st. Our Annual Social Event is slated to be a family-style Mexican Dinner (complete with the appropriate entertainment) in Old Town San Diego. Formal paper sessions, including the President's Plenary Session, will be held on Friday the 2nd and Saturday the 3rd. The Awards Banquet and Presidential Address will be held on the evening of the 3rd at the conclusion of the formal conference. There will be many chances to network

and socialize with colleagues, including the Department Chairs' Lunch on Friday and the Women's Network Luncheon on Saturday. Details will be online soon at geography.sdsu.edu/apcg.

While its 1.3 million residents make San Diego the eighth largest city in the United States, San Diego's neighborhoods and communities allow it to maintain the intimate feel of a smaller city. San Diego boasts an idyllic Mediterranean climate, almost seventy miles of beaches, and a whopping 264 days of sunshine and blue skies a year. Our location is unique: bounded by the Pacific Ocean, Mexico, and the Laguna Mountains and the Anza-Borrego Desert, San Diego offers entertainment options for everyone. In addition to the exciting lineup of field trips, there will be plenty of opportunities for individuals to explore San Diego and beyond.

San Diego State University is at the forefront of research and teaching within the discipline of geography. The Department of Geography boasts a nationally top-ranked PhD program and MA and undergraduate programs that are amongst the best in the country. The research of the geography faculty is internationally known and covers a diverse array of topics. Research is funded by a number of top national and international agencies.

We hope that you will make plans to join us in Southern California! San Diego will provide a great opportunity to compare the western part of our Pacific Coast region after experiencing its antithesis at the Association of American Geographers meeting in Las Vegas. We look forward to seeing you in San Diego!

Stuart Aitken & Fernando Bosco
Co-Coordinator, APCG 2009

Call for Papers, Posters and Sessions

Conference Registration

Conference registration forms will be available shortly at <http://geography.sdsu.edu/apcg/>.

The early registration deadline is set for June 28th, while regular registration closes on August 16th. Late registration is any time after August 16th. Details on field trip and meal costs will be available on the conference website shortly.

Submitting Papers & Posters

If you plan to present a paper or poster, please submit an abstract of 200-250 words by August 16th, 2009. Papers are scheduled for 15-minute presentations with 5 minutes for questions. Posters are restricted to 4'x 6' in size. All presenters must be current APCG members and pay meeting registration fees. If you are not a current member, please add your membership fee to the cost of registration. If registration is not received by August 16th, the abstract will not be included in the program. Each registrant is entitled to submit no more than one abstract, either for a poster or for a spoken paper, although you may be listed as a non-presenting co-author on more than one abstract.

Special Organized Sessions

The APCG encourages submission of organized sessions, which focus on a particular theme of interest to our mem-

bership. To submit an organized session, please do the following: (1) ask each member of your session to register for the conference; (2) collect all abstracts for your session; and (3) submit an entire organized session proposal with the title of the proposal and all abstracts electronically either as an attachment or in-text to APCG.2009.abstracts@gmail.com by 11:59 PM PDT on August 16th, 2009. If you choose to submit a panel session, please include the names of the panel participants, the title of the panel, and an abstract for the entire session. Members of sessions who have not registered will not appear in the final program and they may be replaced with another paper presented, so please make sure your session participants all register in time.

Digital and Other Media

Digital projectors compatible with standard formats will be available and a PC laptop with MS PowerPoint 2007 and MS Word 2007 will be available for presenters. It is crucial for presenters to bring an electronic copy of their presentations on a USB drive or CD. We cannot attach personal laptops to the equipment. You are strongly encouraged to bring backups and hard copies (transparencies or hand-outs) for all digital media. Standard overhead and slide projectors can be made available if requested by August 30th. Send requests to APCG.2009.SDSU@gmail.com.

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ANNUAL MEETING IN SAN DIEGO: FIELD TRIPS

Coastal Geomorphology and Natural History of Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve

First, we will observe accelerated seacliff erosion due to narrowing beaches at Encinitas and Solana Beach, San Diego County. Along these shorelines, average erosion rates at seacliff bases have doubled relative to historical rates. Seacliff slope angles have steepened, producing seacliff failures that typically extend to the seacliff brink. Second, we will visit Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve - one of the wildest stretches of land on our Southern California coast! The reserve is famous for its beautiful exposures of sedimentary rocks, shrubland vegetation, and spectacular vistas along its coastal bluffs. The preserve is also home to the Torrey Pine which is the rarest pine in the United States and one of the rarest pines in the world.

Cabrillo National Monument and San Diego Bay Harbor Cruise

The first half of this field trip will be a visit to Cabrillo National Monument, which lies at the tip of the Point Loma Peninsula, just west of the city of San Diego. The Monument offers tremendous views of the San Diego region and excellent opportunities to explore the natural and cultural history of the area.

The second half of the trip will be a two-hour narrated cruise that goes through the north and south bay, taking in features and historic landmarks such as the California Sea Lion colony, the Star of India, the Coronado Bay Bridge, the USS Midway, contemporary naval facilities, and an unparalleled view of San Diego's skyline.

Coastal Estuaries and Lagoons

San Diego County enjoys numerous coastal estuaries and lagoons. Typically, most of them had been reconfigured and randomly developed by the mid-20th century.

After the 1960's, however, a sense of natural resource stewardship began growing in the region, and today most of these water bodies enjoy some form of statutory protection. On this field trip, we will look at several of these coastal wetlands, and learn of their past degradation, history of preservation, and current status. Among those visited will be San Dieguito Lagoon, perhaps the largest coastal estuary restoration project in the nation.

Walking Tour of Downtown San Diego

Since being relocated from Old Town in 1970, San Diego's downtown has witnessed a nearly constant cycle of boom and bust, the stories of which can be told through the city's present-day architecture, from older Victorian houses to modern-day high rises and everything in between. Today, downtown San Diego is vibrant with activity, both day and night, thanks to redevelopment efforts in the past three decades. Major sites along the way include the Gaslamp Quarter, Petco Park, Horton Plaza, and Little Italy. Field trip participants will take the trolley to and from downtown and the walking tour of downtown San Diego will last approximately two hours.

San Diego Zoo

The APCG planning committee is currently finalizing the details of a field trip to the world famous San Diego Zoo. With more than 4000 animals representing over 800 amphibian, bird, mammal, reptile, and insect species from a variety of habitats and ecosystems, as well as more than 700,000 exotic plants, the San Diego Zoo is a biogeographic bonanza. In addition, conservation research has been an important part of the zoo's mission over the past 35 years. Although finalized information is not available at the time this newsletter is going to press, we invite you to check the conference website for more details shortly.

CALL FOR PAPERS CONTINUED

How to Submit Abstracts

E-mail abstracts to APCG.2009.abstracts@gmail.com, preferably as an attachment as a Word file or pasted directly into the e-mail, and use the subject "Paper Abstract" or "Poster Abstract".

All abstracts must be received by 11:59 pm on August 16th, 2009. Final inclusion in the Conference Program will be withheld until registration is paid in full (see deadlines above).

Preparing the Abstract

In the header of the abstract include the name, affiliation, and e-mail address of each presenter and the title of the paper. Skip a line and type the body of the abstract. After the abstract, please indicate on a separate line if the submission is a "student competition" entry. Indicate on a separate line if you are willing to chair a session.

Sample Abstract

Keith S. Hadley, Portland State University hadley@pdx.edu and Karen B. Arabas, Willamette University karabas@willamette.edu. Forest Structure and Succession Across a

Naturally Fragmented Landscape in Central Oregon.

This study examines spatial patterns of forest structure and post-fire succession on 11 natural forest isolates (.3 to 83 ha) in central Oregon. Our objective was to determine how stand composition and structure vary at different spatial scales in response to topographic conditions, area, isolation, and disturbance. To meet these objectives, we focused our analyses on stand structure comparisons and stand distributions within and among the isolates. Our results indicate a complex interaction of multi-scale processes are involved in stand development. Whereas autogenic models of succession, e.g., facilitation, tolerance, and inhibition, and accelerated succession appear to explain current stand compositions and structures, these processes are spatially constrained by topographic conditions and isolate area and isolation. We conclude that stand development and succession are spatially discreet processes forged by the spatial and physical constraints of the surrounding landscape.

Keith is available to Chair a session.

ANNUAL MEETING IN SAN DIEGO

Announcements, Competition and Grants

APCG Women's Network

The Network invites all faculty members of the APCG to nominate an outstanding female undergraduate or graduate student for a Women's Network Travel Grant to attend this year's meeting in San Diego, California. The 2009 Travel Grant awards will be \$150.00 per award. The Margaret Trussell Scholarship Committee also invites masters and doctoral candidates in the APCG service area to apply for the Trussell Scholarship.

Nominations for the Women's Network Travel Grant must be sent to Vicki Drake (see below), postmarked by JULY 30, 2009, and should consist of a few paragraphs outlining the student's interests and abilities in geography. Please ask your student nominee to provide the Women's Network with a one-page statement detailing why they want to attend the meeting and their current interests and goals in the field of geography. Email nominations are accepted. Students need to include a contact phone number and address, as well as a current e-mail address, with their one-page statement. Recipients will be notified in August via email or 'snail-mail'. All recipients must be members of the APCG and registered for the conference.

This program is entirely funded through contributions to the Women's Network of the APCG. Last year, to assure a more secure funding for the Travel Grants, we introduced a successful fund-raising campaign to honor someone (living or passed on) who are (or have been) mentors in Geography. This year, we again give members the opportunity to send a donation to the Women's Network Travel Grant, along with the name of the 'honoree'.

The Women's Network will have a no-host luncheon at the Fall 2009 conference in San Diego, California, at which time the award recipients will be asked to speak about their interests and goals and how the Network might assist them in reaching those goals. The luncheon costs for the recipients will be covered by the Women's Network Travel Grant Fund. It is not necessary that the student present a paper; rather, the monetary award provides an opportunity for a student to gain experience from attending a major regional meeting

Send nominations by APCG members and student statements (and any questions) to::

Vicki Drake
drake_vicki@smc.edu

Margaret Trussell Scholarship

The APCG Women's Network announces its annual competition for 2009 Margaret Trussell Graduate Student Scholarships. The Women's Network has established the following criteria for students who are interested in applying:

1. Awards shall be made to support the research endeavors of women students pursuing graduate studies.
2. Applicants must be members of the APCG during the year the award is given.
3. Up to two awards will be made this year in the amount of \$1000 per award.
4. The intention is to give one award to a geography stu-

Mexican American Travel Scholarship (MATS)

Travel Grants to Attend the 2009 APCG Annual Meeting
\$150 for Undergraduates; \$200 for Graduate Students

Application Deadline September 1, 2009

The MATS was created to help make it possible for Mexican ancestry students—both undergraduate and graduate—from Geography programs in the APCG region to attend annual meetings.

The scholarship is particularly appropriate for the APCG because students of Mexican ethnic origin constitute the largest population in our region that is underrepresented in Geography. Awards are to be applied to travel, accommodation, and registration expenses at APCG meetings.

Application requires two steps:

- 1) A statement about the student's interests in geography and the student's Mexican family background, and
- 2) A supporting letter of reference from a faculty member.

For 2009, the committee will make up to four awards, two for undergraduates and two for graduate students. Undergraduates must attend the San Diego meeting and attend the annual banquet to receive their award. Graduate students must register and present a paper or poster to the conference, and must attend the annual banquet to receive their award. At the banquet, recipients will be asked to say a few words about their geography interests and their Mexican heritage.

John and Bev Passerello, James Allen, and Daniel Arreola constitute the committee to evaluate applications and make awards.

Send applications as electronic attachments (Word or .pdf) and have faculty send letters as same to:

Daniel Arreola, Chair, MATS APCG
daniel.arreola@asu.edu

dent pursuing a master's degree and one to a student pursuing a doctoral degree. Please make clear in a cover letter whether you are a master's student or a doctoral student.

5. Application requirements: a proposal of no more than 1000 words including project title, topic to be investigated, background, and methods (please include the applicant's Martha Henderson

6. Award recipients will be required to present a paper concerning the research supported by the award at the APCG meetings in the year following the award, and to write a brief summary of their findings for *Pacifica*. Publication in the *Yearbook* of the APCG is encouraged. Recipients must acknowledge receiving an APCG Margaret Trussell Scholarship in any publication based on the supported research.

7. Submit to the chair of the Margaret Trussell Scholarship Committee, Martha Henderson, a hard copy of the complete package and an electronic copy of your cover letter, proposal and letters of recommendation.

The deadline for submitting all required documents is 5:00 pm PDT on July 15, 2009.

Martha Henderson
mhenders@evergreen.edu

ANNUAL MEETING IN SAN DIEGO

Announcements, Competition and Grants

Student Paper or Poster Competition

Papers by students are a significant portion of the presentations at our annual meeting. Students benefit by presenting to a diverse audience and receiving expert feedback on their research. To encourage participation and to recognize and reward student scholarship, the APCG annually presents seven awards:

- 1) Tom McKnight and Joan Clemens Award for an Outstanding Student Paper, \$250
- 2) President's Award for Outstanding Paper by a Ph.D. Student, \$150
- 3) President's Award for Outstanding Paper by a Master's Student, \$150
- 4) President's Award for Outstanding Paper by an Undergraduate Student, \$150
- 5) Harry and Shirley Bailey Award for Outstanding Paper in Physical Geography, \$150
- 6) Committee Award for Regional Geography, \$150
- 7) President's Award for Outstanding Poster Presentation, \$150

The awards are open to undergraduate and graduate students who are APCG members. Papers and posters may be co-authored if all are students, and the paper or poster must be presented at the annual meeting. Evaluation is made by the APCG Awards Committee based on the extended abstract and the presentation.

Applicants need to: 1) Submit the regular short abstract (200 word max) to APCG.2009.abstracts@gmail.com as outlined in the Call for Papers/Abstracts; and 2) Submit an extended abstract (1,250 word max) AND a student paper and poster competition application form to Jim Keese by September 11, 2009.

Travel Awards for Student Presenters

To encourage student participation in the annual meeting, the APCG will commit \$3,000 to travel grants of \$150 each (except for students from the San Diego area who

will receive registration fee grants of \$50). If grant applications exceed the \$3,000 total, recipients will be selected by a random lottery. To be eligible for a travel grant, a student must be an APCG member and must present a paper or poster at the annual meeting. However, you do not need to be entered into the paper/poster competition to be eligible for a travel grant. Travel grant applications can be emailed, mailed, or faxed to Jim Keese, and must be received by September 11, 2009. Winners will be notified by September 14, 2009, and will be awarded grant checks at the banquet in San Diego (or by mail afterward).

Student Paper or Poster Competition, Travel Grants

Each year the APCG offers certificates and monetary awards in seven categories for outstanding student papers and posters presented at the annual meeting. To enter the student paper or poster competition, students must complete the following steps:

- 1) Submit a regular short abstract (200 word max) to APCG.2009.abstracts@gmail.com by the date indicated in the Call for Papers/Abstracts.
- 2) Submit an extended abstract (1,250 word max) AND a student paper and poster competition application form to Jim Keese by September 11, 2009.
- 3) Register for the conference and be a member of the APCG.

The paper or poster must be presented at the annual meeting. Papers and posters may be co-authored if all are students. Evaluation is made by the APCG awards committee based on the extended abstract and the presentation. All student presenters (even if not in the competition) may apply for travel grants of \$150 by September 11, 2009.

To obtain more information, the mailing address, and applications for travel grants and student awards, go to <http://www.csus.edu/apcg/grants.htm> or contact Jim Keese, jkeese@calpoly.edu, (805) 756-1170.

Cultural Geography Scholarship

The Association of Pacific Coast Geographers (APCG) announces the continuation of an annual tradition — a competition for a \$500 award for Cultural Geography Fieldwork. Recipients can use the funds right away, and would then be able to present at least preliminary results at the annual meeting in San Diego.

1. The intention is to award a geography graduate student pursuing a master's or doctoral degree in cultural geography in a department of geography in the APCG region.
2. Applicants must be members of the APCG.
3. One award will be made each year. The award committee may choose not to award in a given year if proposals are judged unworthy.
4. Application requirements:
 - a. Proposal from the applicant not to exceed 1,000 words. Proposal must include project title, topic to be investigated, the context of research, methods, and a brief budget that explains how the award will contribute to student field research for a master's thesis or doctoral dissertation.
 - b. Two letters of recommendation, including one letter

from the applicant's major advisor that certifies the student will apply award to field research in cultural geography.

5. Award recipient will be required to present a paper or poster about the field research supported by the award at the APCG meeting at the meeting immediately following the award. In addition, the award recipient must write a brief summary of the field research findings for *Pacifica*. Recipient must acknowledge the Cultural Geography Fieldwork Scholarship from the APCG in any publication based on the supported field research. Publication in the *Yearbook of the APCG* is encouraged.
6. Submit three copies of the proposal and request letters of recommendation be sent directly to the Chair of the Cultural Geography Fieldwork Scholarship of APCG. Deadline for receipt of proposals is 01 June, 2009. Applicants will be notified in late June.

Submit both a hard copy and an electronic copy of the application to:

Paul F. Starrs, Department of Geography
University of Nevada, Reno, NV 89557
contact info: 775.784.6930, or starrs@unr.edu

NEW AND CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS

Welcome to the following 44 new members who have joined since the last list in the Fall 2008 issue of Pacifica. About half joined with their registration for the Fairbanks meeting. (*Asterisk denotes a former member who has rejoined.)

John Agnew
Josh Brown
Kenneth Barrick*
Nick Burkhart
Caitlin Chason
Sheila Dailey
Pamela Dalal
Jerry D. Davis*
Cary de Wit*
Zachary Dorn
Ted Eckmann
Kyra Engelberg
Patrick Heidkamp*
Patricia Heiser
George Henderson
Rick Holscher*
Donald Holtgrieve*
Katie Kennedy
James Klepek
Jennifer Kusler
Russ Kusler
Julie Laity
Chris Lippitt
Brett J. Lucas
Dan Mann
Laszlo Mariahazy*
Monica Markel
Dr. Stuart McFeeters*
Peter H. Meserve*
Eric Meyers
Eileen O'Halloran
Brian Pompeii
Lily Ray
Kate Riffey
Brandon Rowley
Nate Royal
Scott Rupp
Peggy J. Smith*
Emily Sousa
Alethea Steingisser*
Emily Talen
Jodi Titus*
Areeya Tivasuradej
Nick Toye

Many thanks to the following Contributing Members from 2008 and 2009. Of the 414 members who have renewed or joined for 2009 as of 3/21/09, 18% are Contributing Members. Of the total dues received so far for 2009, Contributing Members have paid 31% of the

total dues receipts. Looked at another way, Contributing Members have paid \$1559 more than if they were Regular Members—and some are students or retired—and twenty have not yet renewed. At Fairbanks the APCG gave travel grants totaling \$5,400 and President's awards totaling \$600.

Joy Adams
Stuart Aitken
James P. Allen
Daniel D. Arreola
Jaime M. Avila
Tyler W. Barrington
Steve Bass
Charles F. Bennett
Kate A. Berry
Warren R. Bland
Theodore R. Brandt
Mary Elizabeth Braun
John A. Carthew
Robert W. Christopherson
Bobbé Z. Christopherson
Richard Cocke
Michael P. Conzen
Mark & Christy Cook
Pamela Corcoran
Howard J. Critchfield
William K. Crowley
Darrick Danta
Robin Datel
Carolyn M. Daugherty
Mary Imandt de Jesus
Cary de Wit
Vincent J. Del Casino, Jr.
Susan Digby
Dennis J. Dingemans
Kevin Donnelly
Gary S. Dunbar
Tom Edwards
Richard A. Eigenheer
Tracey Ferguson
Lloyd Flem
Larry Ford
Barbara Gleghorn
Reginald Golledge
Jeffrey D. Hackel
Keith Hadley
Tim Hallinan
James P. Harris

Martha Henderson
John Heppen
Fred Hirsch
Christy Jocoy
Sharon G. Johnson/Edell
Martin R. Kaatz
Samanthe Kadar
Tina Kennedy
Earl W. Kersten
Sriram Khé
William A. Koelsch
Jeffrey F. Krizek
James S. Kus
Paul Laris
Kelli L. Larson
Larry L. Loehner
William G. Loy
Donald Lynch, Ph.D.
Robert MacLeod
Elliot G. McIntire
Robert L. Monahan
David A. Plane
Gregory J. Poseley
Rhea Presiado
Donna Prince
Philip R. Pryde
Robert T. Richardson
Loretta Rose
Les Rowntree
Gundars Rudzitis
Randall Rush
William Russell
Dan Scanny
Michael Schmandt
Dr. Nancy J. Selover
Debra Sharkey
Larry Simón
Everett G. Smith
William W. Speth
Paul F. Starrs
Dale Stradling
Nancy Summers
Cari Torres
Michael Tripp
David Unterman
Donald E. Vermeer
James W. Wickes
Siri Nimal Wickramaratne
Nancy Lee Wilkinson
Martha Works
Joanne Scott Wuerker
Terence Young



Thanks to River City Bank of Sacramento for providing all of our banking services and supplies at no cost for the past nine years.

TURNING POINT:

POPULATION GROWTH AND DECLINING OIL PRODUCTION IN THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1970

GARY PETERS, CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO

Like many geographers, I enjoy reading bumper stickers, and one that impressed me recently read, "Why is our oil under their soil?" The fact that Americans might pose such a question suggests one source of our problems. The American sense of entitlement is incredible and government has squandered vast resources to help us get what we assume is ours.

I agree with Taleb (2007, p. 10) that "[O]ur minds are wonderful explanation machines, capable of making sense out of almost anything, capable of mounting explanations for all manner of phenomena, and generally incapable of accepting the idea of unpredictability." Thus I offer no predictions, but argue instead that following the course of two diverging trends in the United States--population growth and oil production--poses serious questions for our future.

From 1860, the year after the first oil well was drilled near Titusville, Pennsylvania, until 1970 oil production and population growth followed similar trajectories--upward. Between 1860 and 1970 crude oil production rose from virtually nothing to a peak output of almost 10 million barrels per day.

During that same time the nation's population grew from 31.4 million to 205 million. After 1970, trends in population growth and oil production in the United States diverged, and the implications of that divergence cannot be overstated. American fascination with, and dependence upon, passenger vehicles has continued almost unabated, while our ability to fuel a growing fleet of vehicles has forced us to become ever more dependent on imported crude oil. By 2008 our population was 305 million, our passenger vehicle fleet over 250 million, and our petroleum imports around 11 million barrels per day (through October).

Americans have had nearly four decades to adjust to these diverging trends but have remained in denial, as have most of our leaders. In the meantime the world has changed in ways that make continued denial seem impossible. In 1970 the United States was the world's largest producer and consumer of oil. Today it remains the largest consumer, but Saudi Arabia is the largest producer. In 1970 there were 3.7 billion people on Earth; today there are close to 6.8 billion, and that number increases by nearly 80 million each year. Though Americans comprise only about 4.5 percent of the world's population, they consume nearly 25 percent of its crude oil.

In the United States a growing population watched as oil production peaked in various regions--Pennsylvania, California, and Oklahoma--but few imagined that a national peak could be reached. Not until the first "Oil Shock" occurred in 1973 did Americans sense that cheap gasoline might not last forever; few, if any, knew that American oil production had already peaked.

As a result, a major question now facing Americans is this: Can we continue our demographic growth and our automobile-oriented lifestyle when our own crude oil production is declining, our need for imported oil persists, and the rest of the world wants to live more like we do? My answer is no, for reasons presented below.

According to the latest population projections for the United States, between 2008 and 2040, the population may grow by another 100 million people, which is about the same as the current combined populations of Germany and Poland. At the same time, the global population, according to the United Nations, is projected to be 9.3 billion in 2050.

Table 1 shows projected oil production for the United States. Total consumption is projected to be 21.65 million barrels per day in 2030, not much beyond the 20.7 million barrels per day that Americans consumed in 2007, when the population was only 302.2 million, 70 million below 2030's projected population. World oil production (total liquids) during the same period is projected to grow to 112.5 million barrels per day by 2030, though the highest monthly production reached so far was 86.86 million barrels per day in July, 2008. There is considerable debate about whether another 25.6 million barrels per day can be added to world petroleum production. For example, the head of France's Total, Christophe de Margerie, said recently that world oil production may reach a plateau at around 90 million barrels per day.

Table 1

Oil production, imports, and consumption, 2010 to 2030

Source (million barrels per day)	2010	2020	2030
Crude oil	5.61	6.46	7.38
Other liquids	4.06	4.72	5.39
Net imports	9.92	8.92	8.79
Consumption	19.79	20.23	21.65

Source: Energy Information Administration, Annual Energy Outlook, 2009: Early Release Overview.

We could quibble about these projections. They will be buffeted by everything from price fluctuations and investment changes to regional conflicts, all unpredictable. I would rather focus on some of their implications and argue that those diverging trends, more people and lower domestic oil production, cannot be sustained much farther into the future. Between 2010 and 2030 our nation's population is projected to increase by over 63 million, or just over 20 percent. Our total oil consumption is projected to increase by only 9.3 percent, which assumes that per capita oil consumption will decline over the next two decades. Furthermore, net petroleum imports (crude plus other liquids), which were around 11 million barrels per day in 2008, are

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projected to decline to 8.79 million barrels per day in 2030, a decline based on optimistic assumptions about future petroleum production in the United States (shades of “drill, baby, drill”).

If our need for imported oil declines by more than three million barrels per day over the next two decades, maybe there isn't a problem, but don't count on it. Table 2 shows our leading sources of imported petroleum (oil plus other liquids).

Table 2
Major sources of imports of petroleum
(year to date as of November, 2008)

Country	Millions of barrels/day
Canada	2.446
Saudi Arabia	1.538
Mexico	1.306
Venezuela	1.194
Nigeria	0.994
Iraq	0.636

Source: Energy Information Administration, January 30, 2009.

What does the future look like for these countries? According to the Energy Information Administration's International Energy Outlook 2008, Canada's petroleum production is projected to increase from 3.8 million barrels per day in 2010 to 5.3 million barrels per day in 2030. This projection, however, depends heavily on steady expansion of production from tar sands, which right now is contracting because of low crude oil prices. As *The Economist* (2009, p. 40) noted, “Up north in the tar sands, many projects are being postponed, as the credit crunch adds to the woes caused by low oil prices and high labour and material costs.” Furthermore, under President Obama the United States may be less willing to purchase oil produced from tar sands because the process creates more carbon emissions than traditional drilling. Canada's conventional liquids production is projected to decline from 1.9 million barrels per day in 2010 to 1.1 million barrels per day in 2030, an indication of how much Canadian production must rely on tar sands in the future. In the meantime Canada's population is projected to grow to 36.7 million in 2025, up from 33.3 million in 2008. Without doubt this will increase Canadian demand for its own petroleum production, possibly diminishing exports.

Saudi Arabia's petroleum production is projected to increase from 10.5 million barrels per day in 2010 to 13.7 million barrels per day in 2030, an increase of more than 30 percent. Whether that is possible or not is a subject of considerable argument because transparency is lacking in Saudi Arabia. In any case Simmons (2005, p. 342) made a statement worth consideration: “Once Saudi Arabia's oil output does start to fall, whenever that may happen, it will signal definitively that the world's oil supply has peaked....

To ignore the risks posed by this event any longer is folly.” At the same time Saudi Arabia's population is projected to grow from 28.1 million in 2008 to 40.5 million in 2025, again stimulating greater demand at home for Saudi crude and eating into potential exports.

Mexico's petroleum production is projected to decline from 3.0 million barrels per day in 2010 to 2.8 million barrels per day in 2030. However, according to Martinez (2009, p. 1), “Petroleos Mexicanos, Mexico's state oil company, will probably report its fastest drop in production since 1942, eroding revenue as plunging crude prices limit the amount of cash available to drill for new reserves.” Cantarell, the second largest oil field in the world, has been declining in production. At the same time, Mexico's population is projected to increase from 107.7 million in 2008 to 130.2 million in 2025.

Venezuela's petroleum production is projected to increase from 2.5 million barrels per day in 2010 to 3.5 million barrels per day in 2030. However, that includes some wishful thinking. In 1998 production was around 3.4 million barrels per day, but by 2007 that had dropped to around 2.6 million barrels per day, a fall that has occurred since President Hugo Chavez took office in 1999. Venezuela's population is projected to increase from 27.9 million in 2008 to 34.8 million in 2025. If gas prices there remain artificially low, then more crude oil will be needed to meet local demand. Again, export volume could be threatened.

Nigeria's petroleum production is projected to increase from 2.6 million barrels per day in 2010 to 3.5 million barrels per day in 2030. However, early in 2009 workers were protesting insecurity and violence in the Niger Delta's oil fields, a reminder that oil production in Nigeria has long been plagued by violence. Nigeria's population, 148.1 million in 2008, is projected to grow to 203 million by 2025, and that growth is almost certain to push local demand for oil upward.

Iraq's petroleum production is projected to double, from 2.0 million barrels per day in 2010 to 4.0 million barrels per day in 2030. It has been erratic for years, dropping from 2.6 million barrels per day in 2000 to 1.3 million barrels per day in 2003, when the United States invaded, then increasing to 2.1 barrels per day in 2007. The nation has substantial oil reserves, but it is not clear what Iraq's future might look like as the United States begins to extract itself from a war and occupation that is now six years old. Worse yet, Ricks (2009, p. 325) could be right when he wrote that “[T]he quiet consensus emerging among many people who have served in Iraq is that we likely will have American soldiers engaged in combat in Iraq until at least 2015....the events for which the Iraq war will be remembered probably have not yet happened.” Iraq's population is projected to grow from 29.5 million in 2008 to 40.3 million in 2025, but it is hard to say what these figures might translate into for

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Iraq's oil exports.

In summary, as population growth and the demand for petroleum continue upward in the United States, coupled with declining domestic oil production, it will become ever more difficult, if not impossible, to continue to import enough petroleum to meet that demand. Among the ten nations with the world's largest oil reserves, not all are friendly or dependable. Included are Saudi Arabia, Canada, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela, Russia, Libya, and Nigeria.

Whereas the United States is projected to grow by 41.8 million people between 2008 and 2025, its top six suppliers of petroleum are projected to grow by a combined population of 110.9 million. Those extra 110.9 million people are going to consume more petroleum than the present populations of those countries, perhaps considerably more. As internal consumption grows, exports may decline. At the same time, China and India will consume more petroleum in the years ahead, mostly from imports, putting those nations and others in stiffer competition with the United States for whatever "exportable" petroleum exists. In addition, the International Monetary Fund projected that the number of cars worldwide will increase from 600 million in 2005 to 2.9 billion in 2050. Furthermore, future crude oil supplies are likely to become heavier and sourer, complicating the refining process and adding costs.

Since President Carter said the nation must end its "intolerable dependence on foreign oil," most, if not all, of

our presidents have fretted about our national addiction. In 2006 President George W. Bush said that "America is addicted to oil." But few have encouraged us to kick the habit; none has succeeded. Junkies are not easily dissuaded from the highs that their habits provide, no matter what the costs. In the case of oil those include not just the raw material cost, but also the cost of our military presence in the Middle East and elsewhere, the cost of maintaining our pattern of vast urban sprawl, and the environmental costs, from extraction to climate change. That may be about to change, but the turning point for the United States can be traced back to 1970. Our denial and inaction since then are inexplicable.

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* Unless otherwise noted, the first person listed is the chair of the committee

PACIFIC COAST TEAM WINS THE 2009 WORLD GEOGRAPHY BOWL CHAMPIONSHIP

JOY ADAMS, HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY & ZIA SALIM, SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Following an evening of intense competition against teams from throughout the U.S. and Canada, the Association of Pacific Coast Geographers (APCG) team took top honors at this year's World Geography Bowl Competition in Las Vegas on March 24.

The World Geography Bowl is held during the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers (AAG). Each regional division within the AAG is eligible to enter a student team, and this year's tournament saw nine regions vying for the championship title.

After an early loss to the powerhouse team from the Southeast Division (SEDAAG), APCG finished the preliminary rounds with an overall record of six wins and two losses, qualifying the team to again face the undefeated SEDAAG team in the finals. Team captain Zia Salim and 2009 MVP Jon Rossiter, both of San Diego State University, led the team in a first-round shutout of SEDAAG. While Round Two saw SEDAAG make a spirited rally, APCG held onto its lead to emerge as the 2009 champions.

Captain Zia Salim congratulated the team for maintaining their competitive spirit without taking themselves too seriously: "From intense practice before the conference, to making an APCG banner, to planning strategy, our team worked hard but had a lot of fun. It was an extra exciting moment at the very end when all that effort paid off in spades (and in Las Vegas of all places!)."

"For me, the GeoBowl was the highlight of the annual meeting this year," added co-coach Joy Adams, of Humboldt State University. "I think this is the first time that APCG has ever won the GeoBowl, and I was so excited about our team's outstanding performance that I could hardly sleep Tuesday night!" Co-coaching the team along with Adams was Bronwyn Owen Haugland of Truckee Meadows Community College.

This year's team roster included Melinda Alexander and Nick Burkhart of Arizona State University; Ted

Eckmann of the University of California-Santa Barbara; Jenny Novak of the University of Southern California; Denielle Perry of the University of Nevada-Reno; and Sarah Champion, Caitlin Chason, Jon Rossiter, and Zia Salim of San Diego State University.

Rossiter took top MVP honors, winning an illuminated globe for earning the highest point average per game among all individual players. APCG's sole undergraduate player Nick Burkhart also placed within the top ten individuals.

Team members competing in the finals received a deluxe world atlas and travel book from event sponsors Penguin Books and National Geographic.



APCG's 2009 World Geography Bowl team

Captain Zia Salim (kneeling), Caitlin Chason (holding banner)

Row 2 (l-r): Sarah Champion, Denielle Perry, Jenny Novak, Coach Bronwyn Owen Haugland, Coach Joy Adams, Nick Burkhart

Row 3 (l-r): Jon Rossiter and Ted Eckmann

SPECIAL THANKS FROM THE TREASURER!

Contributions to our several special Funds have continued coming in: the Women's Network Travel Grant (\$500), the Cultural Geography Fieldwork Scholarship (\$755), and the Mexican American Travel Scholarship (\$1,605).

Thanks to the following who have contributed to one or more of these funds:

James P. Allen	Kathryn (Katie) Gerber	David J. Larson	William W. Speth
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ABOUT THE APCG

Founded in 1935 by a gathering of geographers including graduate students and faculty from universities, normal schools and junior colleges, and a few from government and industry, the Association of Pacific Coast Geographers has a long and rich history promoting geographical education, research, and knowledge.

Members gather at the annual meetings for social and intellectual interaction. They receive the annual Yearbook, first published in 1935, that includes abstracts of papers from the meetings and a number of full-length peer-reviewed articles. Members also receive the bi-annual newsletter *Pacifica*, first published in Fall 1994. Since 1952 the APCG has also been the Pacific Coast Regional Division of the Association of American Geographers, serving AK, AZ, CA, HI, ID, NV, OR, WA, BC, and YT.

Pacifica is a publication of the Association of Pacific Coast Geographers, a regional division of the Association of American Geographers. The newsletter appears two times a year in fall and spring. The deadline for submission of announcements and reports for the Spring issue is March 15, and for the Fall issue is a fortnight after the conclusion of the annual meeting.

For further information about *Pacifica* contact Sriram Khé at: khes@wou.edu or at 503-838-8852.

MEMBERSHIP

Questions about membership should be directed to Bob Richardson at the address below, or phone (916) 278-6410, fax (916) 278-7584, or e-mail apcg@csus.edu. Visit the APCG web site at www.csus.edu/apcg/ for information about the organization and for a new member application form.

APCG member dues, although raised for 2001, remain modest: Regular \$20; Joint (2 people at same address) \$23; Student and Retired \$10; Contributing \$25 or more (any contribution over \$20 is tax deductible). Joint members receive only one copy of *Pacifica* and one Yearbook.

Dues are paid for the calendar year. Unless indicated otherwise, checks dated before November 1 will be credited to the current year, while those dated after November 1 will be credited to the next year. Only current year members receive the Yearbook. Current members will be sent a membership renewal notice near the end of the calendar year.

CORRECT ADDRESS?

Most mailings to members are done using the APCG's Non-Profit authorization. Non-Profit mail is not forwarded, so to be sure you receive your copies of *Pacifica* and the Yearbook it is critical that you provide new address information to the Association.

The Association of Pacific Coast Geographers, Inc.

Department of Geography

CSU, Sacramento

Sacramento, CA 95819-6003