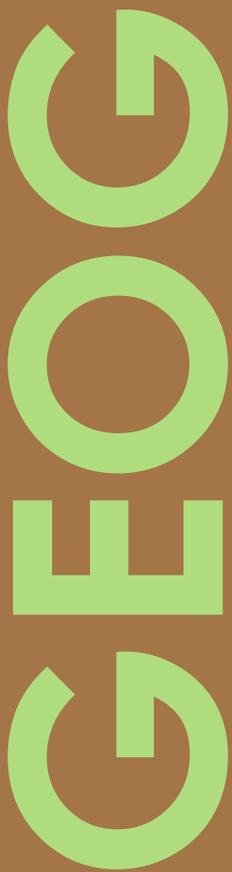


# geography

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF GEOGRAPHY AT CLARK UNIVERSITY



WHERE'S YOUR WORLD? Spring/Summer 2013



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Spring/Summer 2013



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Or visit the Geography site!

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# welcome

Greetings from Director Bebbington

Another academic year completed, another raft of achievements and activities in the Graduate School of Geography. This Spring/Summer Newsletter gives us a chance to recognize and celebrate the many degrees awarded, papers presented and national, university and departmental awards won by our students. Here I want to make special note of the great work of our undergraduates and Master's students. At this year's Annual Meetings of the Association of American Geographers in Los Angeles they put on a remarkable show – presenting their research, winning awards and conveying such a professional image of our program. It is hard to ask for better brand management than that. Rather than have consultants convey to the world just how vibrant and creative a community we have here, our students do this for us in spades. Similarly, the second CUGA "Practicing Geography" annual lecture is a source of pride. The initial idea for this lecture was to have a more modest variant of the Atwood Lecture that would be conceived and led by our undergraduates. They came up with the idea of "Practicing Geography" as a focus and decided that they would use the lecture to invite BA and MA alumni back to campus to give presentations on how they have gone on to use geography in their post-Clark professional life. Two years in the lecture now has momentum behind it and is on its way to becoming another mini-institution in the GSG

At the bottom of this page you will see that the GSG is hosting the 2013 NESTVAL conference on October 18-19th. Taking advantage of people's presence we are following this with a GSG reunion. We do hope you can make this. Our graduates are one of our other voices out there and we need you and your support more than ever to help us sustain and project our reputation. We hope to welcome as many of you as possible in the Fall.

All the best, Tony Bebbington

## reminders>>



### NESTVAL >>

The **New England-St. Lawrence Valley Geographical Society (NESTVAL) Conference** will be held **October 18-19, 2013**, at Clark University. The themes will be "Climate Justice," "Economic and Financial Crisis," and "Reimagining Mid-Sized Cities;" however presentations on any topic of interest to the membership are encouraged.

In conjunction with NESTVAL, the first **GSG Reunion** will take place **October 19-20, 2013**. Alumni are welcome to come a day early to participate in the NESTVAL activities!

### NESTVAL call for papers>>

Abstracts for papers and posters of no more than 200 words and proposals for sessions must be submitted by September 30, 2013 to be included in the program. Abstracts should be submitted in electronic format to [NESTVAL2013@clarku.edu](mailto:NESTVAL2013@clarku.edu)

Detailed conference information including the final program will be available online at <http://nestvalonline.org>.

### Fall 2013 faculty leaves>>

The following GSG faculty will be on leave during the Fall 2013 semester:

- Karen Frey
- Dianne Rocheleau

And returning in the Fall from leaves taken during 2012/13, we will welcome back:

- James Murphy
- Mark Davidson

# FACULTY FORUM



Professor **Christopher Williams** was interviewed by WBEZ— a Chicago NPR station— in March regarding the storms that were taking place in the Midwest , and how they could potentially impact the substantial Midwest droughts.

Professors **Karen Frey, Alex Gardner, Christopher Williams, Ron Eastman, Colin Polsky, and Robert “Gil” Pontius** were all featured in a May *Telegram and Gazette* article, in response to an article originally written by Geography alum, Anne Gibson (PhD, '95), for Clark Alumni magazine.

A study by Professor **Alex Gardner** titled “A Reconciled Estimate of Glacier Contributions to Sea Level Rise: 2003 to 2009,” was recently published in *Science* magazine. Professor Gardner lead an international team of researchers that determined the global contribution of glaciers to sea level rise. In the study they find that glaciers account for one third of all observed sea level rise but only contain 1% of global land ice. An abstract of the study can be found [here](#).

Professor **John Rogan** and co-author Zachary Christman (Clark Geography alum) were selected as the third place recipients for the 2013 ESRI Award for Best Scientific Paper in Geographic Information Systems for "Error Propagation in Raster Data Integration: Impacts on Landscape Composition and Configuration."

Professor **Dominik Kulakowski** recently testified before the Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation of the Committee on Natural Resources of the United States House of Representatives. He spoke about the Depleting Risk from Insect Infestation, Soil Erosion, and Catastrophic Fire Act of 2013. His full testimony can be found [here](#).

Professor **Karen Frey** has two exciting field sessions planned with her students at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Undergraduates Samuel Berman and Casey DeMarsico will be traveling to East Siberia with the Polaris Project, while graduate students Christie Wood and Kristin Shake will be on the Canadian Coast Guard Sir Wilfred Laurier icebreaker for fieldwork.

Professor **Colin Polsky** is completing his work, with co-author Prof. D. Brown (U. Michigan), on the Land-Use and Land-Cover Change chapter of the White House National Climate Assessment report. Polsky is also advancing his funded research on the social and ecological dimensions of U.S. residential lawn care. In collaborations with Professors **Gil Pontius** and **Sam Ratick**, these NSF projects explore the geographic patterns of lawns, and the social and climate factors that may help explain these patterns, using a close-ended telephone survey, an open-ended set of semi-structured interviews, and remote sensing/GIS and spatial statistical analysis.

Director **Anthony Bebbington** traveled to Lima, Peru in February for the launch of his book, “Industrias extractivas, conflicto social y dinámicas institucionales en la región andina .”



Special thanks to Jane Salerno, Angela Bazydlo, and the Clark News Hub team for these and other great stories. Be sure to subscribe to the [News Hub](#) to stay up-to-date on the latest news from Clark University.

## Remembering Marcia Szugda-Emani

**On Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013**, friends and family gathered together in the Winton Dining Room at Clark University's Higgins University Center for a very special luncheon. The luncheon marked the launch of a new undergraduate award created in memory of Marcia V. Szugda-Emani, who passed away in January, 2013 from complications of metastatic breast cancer. Marcia spent many years as a loved and valued member of the Clark family, working as Administrative Assistant in the Environment, Technology and Society (ETS) program and in the Graduate School of Geography, and in the creation of the Environmental School at Clark.

To keep Marcia's spirit and passion for the environment alive, her husband, Dr. Srinivas Emani (PhD, 2001) has endowed a new award in her memory to help support undergraduate student research in Geography, Global Environmental Studies, and Earth System Science.

**The Marcia V. Szugda-Emani Annual Memorial Environmental Scholarship** will be awarded yearly to an outstanding junior or senior in one of the three Graduate School of Geography majors who shows a passion and commitment to environmental education and research. This award reflects the spirit of collaboration and opportunity offered to Geography students and Marcia's long commitment to supporting and furthering undergraduate environmental education.

The first annual Marcia V. Szugda-Emani Memorial Environmental Scholarship award was given this year to Emily Sturdivant. At the time of the luncheon, Emily was wrapping up her senior year as a Geography major and Spanish minor. She graduated with Highest Honors in Geography (and with a cumulative overall GPA of 3.93) on May 19th, 2013.

Emily has taken a variety of Geography courses at Clark, but her focus gravitates mainly toward Earth System Science and Geographic Information Science. Emily was a

Presidential Scholar while in the undergraduate program at Clark, and she was placed on the Dean's list many times. Emily will begin the 5th year MA GIS program in the fall.

Emily was selected to receive this award by members of the Undergraduate Studies Committee. The selection process involved several factors, including: GPA, research both on campus and off, and faculty nominations. Emily's excellence in her research (which extended to places like East Siberia and the Dominican Republic) is a testament to her true investment in environmental work. Just recently, Emily traveled with a handful of other undergraduates to present her research at the AAG conference in Los Angeles— an accomplishment that any undergraduate should be proud of!



Emily (2nd from right) with Dr. Srinivas Emani (far right) and (from L to R): Emily's Grandmother, Dorothy Wass; Aunt, Gretchen Rehak; and Grandfather, Herbert Wass.

The luncheon brought together many old friends of Marcia's and of the Graduate School of Geography, as depicted in the following photos.



Dr. Srinivas Emani with GSG Director Anthony Bebbington



Display board showcasing photos of Marcia Szugda-Emani with friends and family



GSG Director Anthony Bebbington presenting Emily Sturdivant with her award certificate



Dr. Srinivas Emani with Assistant Vice President of University Advancement, Andrea Marth



Friends of Marcia's and fellow Clark employees, Sheila Hokanson (left) and Pam Moore (right)



Luncheon guests listening to the speeches from Marcia's family and friends

## *In memoriam...*

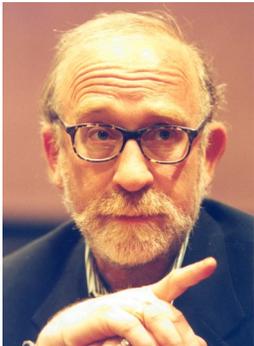
# *Remembering David Campbell*

titled, "Strategies for Coping with Drought in the Sahel: A Study of Recent Population Movements in the Department of Maradi, Niger." After receiving his doctoral degree from Clark, David held a Post-Doctoral position funded by the Rockefeller Foundation at the Institute for Development Studies,



University of Nairobi, Kenya from 1976-1979. He joined the Michigan State University faculty in 1979, and from 2000 to 2007 he was Associate Dean for Research in the College of Social Science at Michigan State University. He conducted research and lived in a number of African countries including Kenya, Cameroon, Zimbabwe and Rwanda. Colleagues of Professor Campbell's told Clark staff that David worked right through his illness, even teaching a Research Designs course in this past Spring semester. David will be remembered for his commitment to his students and his research. The Clark family would like to extend sincerest condolences to the friends and family of Professor David Campbell.

# alumni updates



## ...a note from Tom Koch "The morals in the map"

In the 1960s, geography was evolving, a logical positivism was in the air. So, too, was the sense of social responsibility that passed among us as activism. After graduation and six months in Ecuador, part of working on a health project in the Amazonian basin, I went into news.

Geography was the perfect background for a young reporter in those days. Whether the story was a tornado in West Springfield or the plight of Puerto Rican labourers in New England there was a geography to the story.

In 1990 I wrote the first book on elder care from the perspective of the family caregiver, *Mirrored Lives*. It was the first book in a trilogy and its close description of the changing relations of our family, and the attendant geographies, created a broad interest in the subject. I was back in medicine. The aging series was a trilogy and led to others, including the first books on news and public information. Then, while working as a research associate in bioethics, I came to the problem of graft organ transplantation. In a lecture to geographers on allocation a graduate student asked about the organs: "How do they travel and what does that say?" That question led to several years work, eight papers, a PhD dissertation and a book, *Scarce Goods*. GIS mapping was the principal tool used to analyze the problem.

For most of the last decade research and work have been divided between mapping and public health, on the one hand, and medical ethics on the other. In *Cartographies of Disease* (2005) and *Disease Maps: Epidemics on the Ground* (2011) the history of public health and a communal enterprise was traced through maps that, from 1690 to the present, detail the history of national and international approaches to disease, endemic and epidemic. More recently, the work in ethics and public health led to a critique of bioethics published by MIT Press in 2012: *Thieves of Virtue: When Bioethics Stole Medicine*. The book was dedicated to Clark's professor of philosophy Walter Wright, with whom I first studied in the 1960's.

The work on ethics and mapping in public health are now growing together. Maps trace an ethical as well as an epidemiological history. The nature of that relation was the subject of lectures in 2012 in the CDC and Emory University in Atlanta, Madison, WI, Seattle, WA; and Toronto, Canada. In February I was a guest speaker at a London, UK celebration marking the 200th birthday of physician and cholera researcher, John Snow. In June I was invited to speak on these issues in both Oslo and Bergen, Norway.

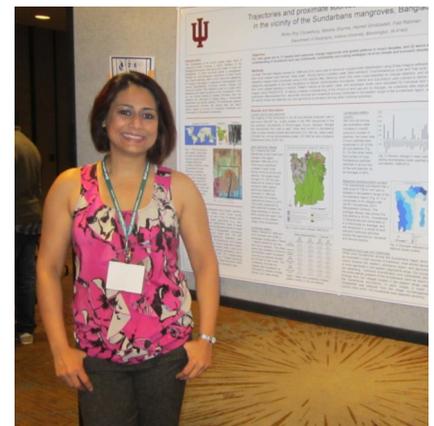
As I learned at Clark, and in visits there during the 1990s, nothing helps prepare a book or research paper as well as public lectures to people committed to a field of study. Now the lessons of those lectures are being used to fashion new books and research articles on the morals in the map, the ethics of the shared spaces we inhabit.

Tom Koch  
Toronto, ON  
<http://kochworks.com>

## Clark University Alum named 2012-2013 Outstanding Junior Faculty Award Recipient at Indiana State University

Rinku Roy Chowdhury (PhD, 2003) was recently selected as a recipient of the "Outstanding Junior Faculty" award at Indiana University. Roy Chowdhury joined the Department of Geography in the College of Arts and Sciences at Indiana University in 2008 after teaching at the University of Miami from 2003-2008. Her research areas include land change science, cultural and political ecology and the use of GIS and remote sensing technology.

This award will support cross-continental analyses of coastal mangroves in Mexico and Bangladesh. Mangrove forests are threatened by urban development, water diversions, aquaculture, overharvesting and climate change. She will develop comparative models of mangrove vulnerability to anthropogenic and biophysical drivers, building on funded research combining remote sensing and socio-ecological surveys. The results will help identify how vulnerability may be mitigated by increasing coping capacity at the community and household levels.



Rinku Roy Chowdhury at the AAG's in Los Angeles in April 2013.

(full story can be found [here](#))

celebrating 25 years since

# The Earth Transformed

On April 2nd, 2013, the **Albert, Norma and Howard '77 Geller Endowed Symposium** (co-sponsored by the George Perkins Marsh Institute, the Mosakowski Institute for Public Enterprise and the Graduate School of Geography) celebrated the 25th anniversary of “The Earth as Transformed by Human Action”— an international conference held a quarter century ago at Clark which highlighted international research tracing the effect of human activity on the global environment for the previous 300 years. The endowed lecture, titled “From Earth Transformed to Sustainability Science,” was just one of several free public events that took place to celebrate “ET +25.”

To kick off the event, two panel discussions featuring Clark faculty were held, in which they showcased and explored future directions for a sample of the global-change research underway at Clark.

The first panel discussion was titled “Global Change and Adaptation,” and it featured Professors Karen Frey, Ron Eastman, and Colin Polsky. The moderator for this discussion was Graduate School of Geography Director, Anthony Bebbington. The second panel discussion, “Social Transitions and Global Change,” featured Geography Professor James Murphy, as well as IDCE Professors Jennie Stephens and Timothy Downs. Robert Johnston, Director of the George Perkins Marsh Institute, moderated this discussion.

The lecture, which took place in Tilton Hall, was introduced by Clark University President David Angel.

Featured speakers were **William Clark** (Harvey Brooks Professor of International Science, Public Policy, and Human Development, Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University), **B.L. Turner II** (Gilbert F. White Professor of Environment and Society, Arizona State University; Distinguished Research Professor, Clark University), and **Robert Kates** (Emeritus, Brown University; Affiliate Faculty, Clark University).

The events were well received, with over 100 guests in attendance and many more viewing through a live-stream web presentation.

The evening culminated with a celebratory dinner held at Harrington House, hosted by President David Angel.

For those who missed ET +25, the lecture can be viewed [here](#).

ALBERT, NORMA AND HOWARD '77 GELLER LECTURE  
“FROM EARTH TRANSFORMED TO SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCE”  
B.L. TURNER II | WILLIAM C. CLARK | ROBERT W. KATES  
APRIL 2, 2013  
LECTURE AT 4 PM | TILTON HALL  
William C. Clark • Harvey Brooks Professor of International Science, Public Policy and Human Development, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University  
Discussion with B.L. Turner II • Gilbert F. White Professor of Environment and Society, Arizona State University, Distinguished Research Professor, Graduate School of Geography, Clark University  
Robert W. Kates • Emeritus, Brown University, Affiliate Faculty, Graduate School of Geography, Clark University (Moderated by Deborah Martin)  
PUBLIC PANEL DISCUSSIONS  
All associated with the event are two public panel discussions to be held earlier on the same day:  
12-45-2 pm | LURIE CONFERENCE ROOM  
Global Change and Adaptation  
Karen Frey, Ron Eastman, Colin Polsky (Moderated by Tony Bebbington)  
2:15-3:30 pm | LURIE CONFERENCE ROOM  
Social Transitions and Global Change  
Jennie Stephens, Timothy Downs, James Murphy (Moderated by Robert Johnston)  
EVENT CO-SPONSORS:  
The George Perkins Marsh Institute  
The Graduate School of Geography  
The Massachusetts Institute for Public Enterprise  
CLARK UNIVERSITY  
THE EARTH TRANSFORMED BY HUMAN ACTION SYMPOSIUM

\*special thanks to Angela Bazydlo, Associate Director of Media Relations, for contributing to this story.



# AAG 2013

**In April**, faculty and students (at the PhD, Masters, and undergraduate levels) traveled to Los Angeles to present their research at the annual Association of American Geographers conference. The following students received awards for papers or posters that they presented:

**Samuel Berman (undergraduate)**: received first place in the R.S. Tarr Student Illustrated Paper Award, AAG Cryosphere Specialty Group for the paper: Berman, S. L. & K. E. Frey. "Thermokarst Lake Analysis and Comparison in Cherskiy, Northeast Siberia." (Advisor: Karen Frey)

**Laura Hansen (MA GIS)**: received 2nd place for a joint Remote Sensing, GIS, and Cartography Specialty Groups' award for her poster "Establishing a measure of accuracy for land change models to determine REDD project effectiveness for carbon sequestration." (Advisor: Gil Pontius)

**Laura Hansen (MA GIS)**: won 3rd place from the Spatial Analysis and Modeling Specialty Group for a co-authored paper "Implementing Visual Contrast in Viewshed Determination" with GISDE student **Luyang Ren** (Paper Advisor: Ron Eastman; Program Advisor: Gil Pontius).

**Luyang Ren (GISDE)**: won 3rd place from the Spatial Analysis and Modeling Specialty Group for a co-authored paper "Implementing Visual Contrast in Viewshed Determination," with MA GIS student **Laura Hansen**. (Advisor: Ron Eastman)

**Teresa Bomschlegl (PhD)**: won the Robert B. West award (CLAG field study award) from the Latin American Specialty Group. "Environmental law enforcement and the possibilities for socio-ecological justice in the hydrocarbon sector in Ecuador." (Advisor: Anthony Bebbington)

**Rory Horner (PhD)**: won the 2013 A.K. Dutt Best Graduate Student Paper Award of the Regional Development and Planning Specialty Group (RDPSG) of the Association of American Geographers. (Advisor: Yuko Aoyama)

**Rory Horner (PhD)**: won the 2013 Peter Gould Student Paper Competition of the Association of American Geographers' Health and Medical Geography Specialty Group, for a paper titled "Rising powers as harbingers of public-health oriented patent law? The Indian pharmaceutical industry and economic geographies underlying health." (Advisor: Yuko Aoyama)

**Kelly Kay (PhD)**: won Best Graduate Student Paper from the AAG European Geography Specialty Group, for her paper "Europeanization through Biodiversity Conservation: Croatia's Bid for EU Accession and the Natura 2000 Designation Process." (Advisor: James McCarthy)

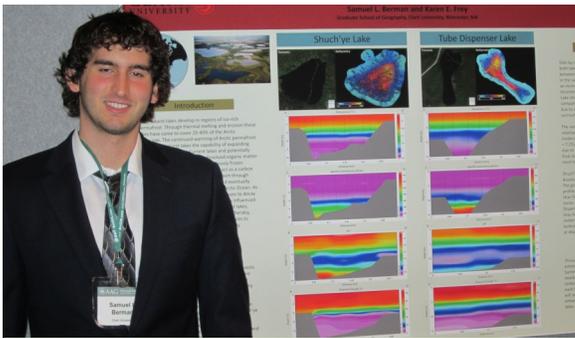
**Kelly Kay (PhD)**: was also selected as a finalist for the AAG Graduate Student Affinity Group Research Award. (Advisor: James McCarthy)

**Chris Knudson (PhD)**: received the AAG Cultural and Political Ecology Specialty Group Field Study Award, which will help to cover his expenses for field work this summer in St. Lucia. (Advisor: James McCarthy)

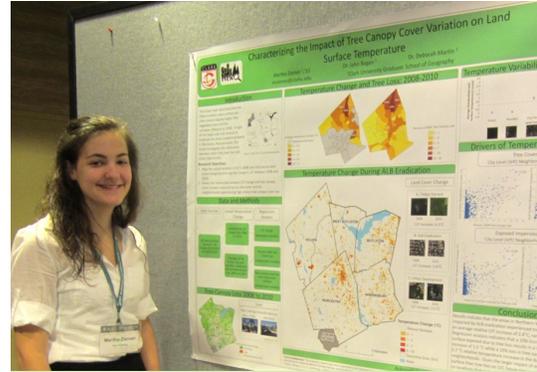
**Jill Williams (PhD)**: won the PhD student paper award from the Political Geography specialty group of the AAG for her paper "Border Enforcement, the Humanitarian State, and the Scalar Politics of Care." (Advisor: Deb Martin)

**Our GISDE students** also presented their research at the AAG's. A special congratulations goes out to the following six students, who were each offered NASA DEVELOP Internships:

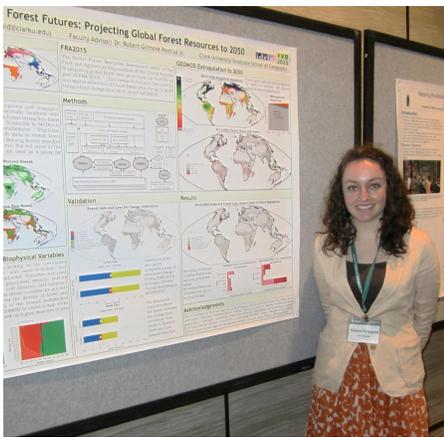
**Hayley Solak**  
**Ryan Williams**  
**Chris Ferraro**  
**Xiyu Li ("Sally")**  
**Anne Baker**  
**Supriya Khadke**



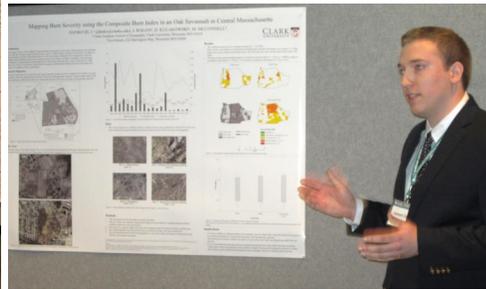
Samuel Berman (Environmental Science major; ESS track) stands with his poster



Martha Ziemer (Geography major) stands with her poster



Yelena Finegold (Geography major) stands with her poster



Joseph Danko (Geography major) presents his poster to onlookers



Matthew Manley (Global Environmental Studies major) and Shannon Palmer (Geography major) take a break from their sessions



Matthew Manley (Global Environmental Studies major) discusses his research



Samuel Berman (Environmental Science major; ESS track) and Emily Sturdivant (Geography major) take a quick photo break

\*depicted students Joseph Danko, Yelena Finegold, Matthew Manley, Shannon Palmer, Emily Sturdivant, and Martha Ziemer are all going on to a 5th year Master's program here at Clark. Samuel Berman (a junior when this photo was taken) has already begun his 5th year MA application process.

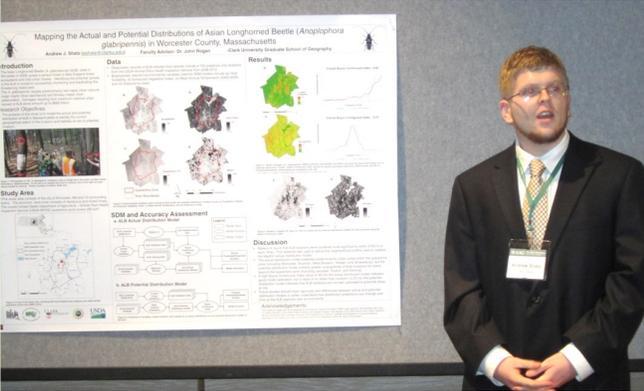
undergraduates\*

# AAG

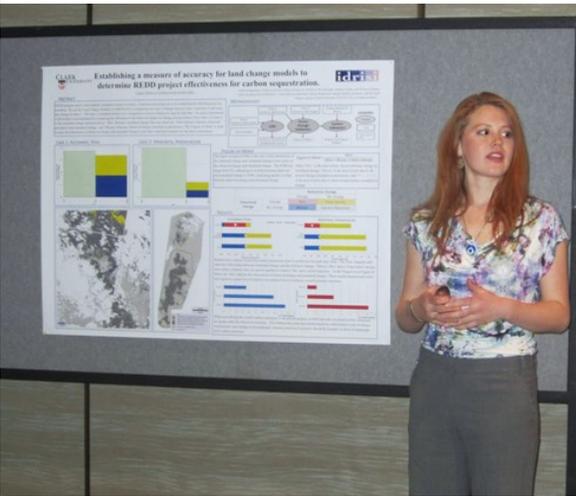
# photo album

# 2013

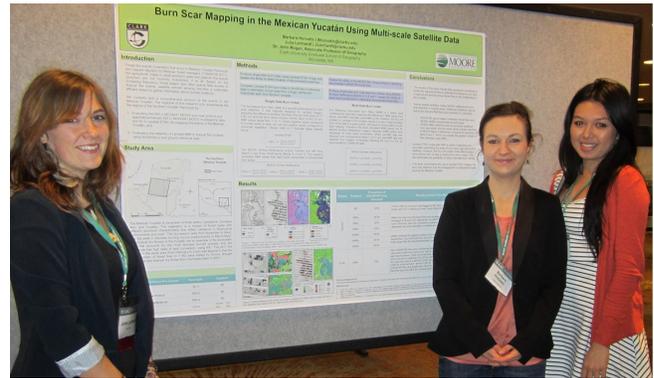
5th year MA GIS



MA GIS student A.J. Shatz presents his poster



MA GIS student Laura Hansen presents her poster



GISDE students Julia Lenhardt and Barbara Horvatic pause from presenting their poster to take a photo with fellow GISDE student Luisa Young

GISDE

PhD



Doctoral student Lauren Bonilla presents her research



Doctoral student Nick Cuba presents his research

# AAG

## The Party!

Each year, Clark Geography hosts a party during the AAG's as a way to bring current students and faculty together with Clark alumni and with colleagues from other institutions. This year, the party was held at the Bonaventure Brewing Company, conveniently located right inside the Westin Bonaventure Hotel (where most of the AAG events were taking place).

## photo album

# 2013



(L to R): Clark University PhD alums Laura Schneider (Rutgers University), unknown friend, Rinku Roy Chowdhury (Indiana University), GSG Graduate Program Administrator Brenda Nikas-Hayes, and Mazen Labban (Rutgers University).



(L to R): Clark student Andrew Hostetler (BA, 13) with PhD alums Zachary Christman and Stentor Danielson



(L to R): Sam Blanchard (former Clark Geog Undergrad and MA GIS Student, now at UC Berkeley School of Natural Resources), Robert Rose (Assistant Director of Wildlife Conservation Society Conservation Support), John Rogan (Clark University), and Michaela Buenemann (New Mexico State University)



(L to R): Sam Ratick (Clark University), Stephen Young (Salem State University), and Alex Kappel (BA '13)

The Graduate School of Geography at Clark University cordially invites you to attend:

**The Clark Party at AAG, Los Angeles**

Please join us for appetizers and drinks at the:

**Bonaventure Brewing Company**  
 (Located inside the Westin Bonaventure Hotel, 4th floor, suite 4th A)  
 Thursday, April 11th  
 7:00pm-10:00pm

For more information on AAG, please contact Brenda Nikas-Hayes at 858.444.2444 or bnikas@clarku.edu.

Bonaventure Brewing Company  
 4th South Figueroa Street | Suite 4th A  
 Los Angeles, California | 90071  
 (213) 756-4882



Clark Students Crystal Fam (BA, 13) and Young Long Kim (PhD c.)



GSG Graduate Program Administrator, Brenda Nikas-Hayes



Nick Giner (PhD, 13), Joe Krahe (Clark undergraduate alum), and Crystal Fam (BA, 13)



Deb Martin (Clark University) with Jill Williams (PhD, 13)



Phil O'Keefe (Northumbria University), Corrado Poli (Libera Università IULM Milano, Italy), Kathryn Louise Meng (PhD c.), Miles Kenney-Lazar (PhD c.), and Richard Peet (Clark University)



Andrew Hostetler (BA, 13), Deb Martin (Clark University), and Alex Kappel (BA, 13)

AAG presentation and party photos courtesy of Graduate Program Administrator, Brenda Nikas-Hayes

“ **The first aerial photographs** were taken from a balloon 1858. Today, balloon mapping has become a popular means of creating up-to-date, highly detailed digital maps. For example, during the 2010 Gulf oil spill, balloon mapping was used extensively to show the spread of oil.

In GEOG 190— Introduction to GIS— students built a highly-detailed map of Clark University's campus. In addition to learning the basics of balloon mapping to be used in their own projects, students learned about ortho-rectifying flat images to map a curved earth. The balloon also sparked conversations about what is public and private and the current legality of taking images from the sky.

Armed with a digital camera, some twine, and a large helium balloon, Clark students were able to create a digital map of their campus far beyond what commercial services like Google or Microsoft may offer.”

-**Jim Thatcher, PhD (c)**  
Instructor, Introduction to GIS



Jim Thatcher (Instructor, PhD c.) and John Lauermann (TA, PhD c.) inflate the balloon



Jim Thatcher (Instructor, PhD c.) and John Lauermann (TA, PhD c.) attach the digital camera to the balloon



The balloon taking off, high above Clark University



Aerial images of Clark University and the surrounding neighborhood



An aerial shot of the students in GEOG 190

## “Practicing Geography”

In April 2013, CUGA teamed up with the Geography department to host the 2nd annual “Practicing Geography” lecture. This year’s speaker was Clark alum, Nicholas Malizia (BA ’05/MA ’06).

Nick’s lecture was titled “Life After Clark: One Geographer’s Perspective.” In this talk, Nick emphasized the diversity in the job market for Geography graduates, particularly those with GIS experience. After completing his MA GIS degree, Nick went to work in the private sector rather than continuing in academia. Though he eventually went on to earn his PhD, Nick found that there were great jobs available right after Clark, with plenty of opportunity to grow.

Nick told our students about some of these career opportunities, and encouraged them to consider entrepreneurship. He stressed that there are more jobs in GIS than there are qualified candidates, and reminded our students that if they continue with their studies and are fortunate to go onto earn the 5th year Master’s degree from Clark, they will have established a foundation that will set them apart from other applicants in some of the most selective GIS jobs.

The purpose of the “Practicing Geography” lecture is to give our undergraduate students a sense of what our alumni have gone on to accomplish. The 3rd “Practicing Geography” talk will be held in Fall 2013, so stay tuned for more details!

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF GEOGRAPHY & CUGA PRESENTS:  
The 2nd Annual CUGA Address on  
**PRACTICING GEOGRAPHY**

**nicholas malizia**

**Life After Clark:**  
One Geographer’s Perspective

Nick earned his BA (’05) and MA (’06) from Clark University and has since held a variety of positions in academia and the private sector. He is currently employed at the Boston Consulting Group.

Wednesday  
**April 17th**  
7:00pm  
» jefferson academic center »  
room 222

CLARK UNIVERSITY

If any alumni are interested in speaking for a future “Practicing Geography” lecture, please contact Colleen Dolan (cdolan@clarku.edu).

## “Practicing Geography” (photo album)



CUGA rep Lucas Earl introducing the “Practicing Geography” lecture



Professor Gil Pontius with Nick Malizia. Gil was Nick’s advisor in the BA/MA program here at Clark



CUGA reps Joey Danko and Michelle Andrews chatting before the lecture



Guest speaker Nick Malizia talking to engaged Geography students.

## student news:

Clark undergraduates Michelle Andrews '14 and Christina Geller '13 and a group of graduate students enrolled in the Wildlife Conservation GIS Research Seminar taught by Associate Professor of Geography John Rogan and Research Assistant Professor Florencia Sangermano, recently traveled to the Bronx Zoo, the headquarters of the Wildlife Conservation Society, to present policy recommendations to WCS staff about species habitat protection for guanaco in Argentina and elephants in Tanzania. The full story can be found [here](#).



Lucas Earl '14, a Geography major, was selected as a 2013 recipient of the prestigious NOAA Steinbrecher Fellowship (in partnership with The George Perkins Marsh Institute and the Mosakowski Institute). Lucas will work on the project *Land-based Influences on the Ecology of Coastal Freshwater and Marine Ecosystems* in Puget Sound, Washington during the summer. His Clark faculty mentor is Professor Christopher Williams.

Samuel L. Berman '14, an Environmental Science (ESS track) major, was recently named a 2013-2014 Steinbrecher fellow. Sam will participate in the Polaris Project 2013 and conduct research on organic carbon storage and transport in a watershed in East Siberia with Professor Karen Frey.

Clark University GISDE student Tyler Dahlberg won the 2013 Summer of Maps fellowship, which comes with a \$5,000 stipend. The full story can be found [here](#).

Clark University Geography student Yelena Finegold '13 has traveled to Rome to spend the summer completing the Forest Futures summer internship with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (UN FAO). Prior to leaving for Rome, UN FAO also sent Yelena to Thailand to present research at an international conference. Yelena will begin the 5th year MA GIS program in the fall.



For more on these and other great stories, be sure to check out the Clark News

>> Hub



how do YOU

# LEEP?

**Ellen Churchill Semple Award:**

Joseph Danko III

**IDRISI Excellence in GIS Award:**

Yelena Finegold

**NCGE Excellence in Scholarship Award:**

Lauren Ziemer

Martha Ziemer

**Linda Roth Memorial Activist**

**Scholarship Award:**

April Herleikson

**Marcia V. Szugda-Emani Memorial  
Environmental Scholarship Award:**

Emily Sturdivant

Michelle Andrews

Corinne Jachelski

Cody Litchfield

David Love II

Rebecca Miller

Zoe Ritter

Hannah Sonderby

**Peter J. Condakes Summer Research Fellowships:**

We have recently awarded two summer research fellowships to Clark Geography and Global Environmental Studies students, made possible by a generous donation from Clark alum, Peter Condakes. The Peter J. Condakes Summer Research Fellowship Award was designed by Mr. Condakes to allow undergraduates to work on a summer research project alongside a faculty advisor. Open to sophomores or juniors majoring in Geography, Global Environmental Studies, or Earth System Science, the award is granted annually to the strongest applicants. This year we selected two students as recipients, who brought equally engaging and exciting proposals to the table. The two Condakes Fellows for 2013 are Global Environmental Studies student Gabrielle Kent and Geography student Zoe Ritter. Each will receive \$1500 to support summer research expenses. We commend them for their great proposals, and look forward to recapping their research in a later issue!



**Human-Environment Regional Observatory:**

The 2013 Human-Environment Regional Observatory Fellows have settled in, and are already hard at work researching the Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) and it's local impact. Two of the main focuses of HERO research this summer will be on implications for urban tree management and residential reaction to tree removal as a result of the ALB.



Six of the HERO Fellows are Clark students, and six more have joined us from schools across the country.

**2013 HERO FELLOWS ARE:**

From Clark:

- ◆ Michelle Andrews
- ◆ Sean Cunningham
- ◆ Joseph Hersh
- ◆ Michino Hisabayashi\*
- ◆ Gaia Khairina\*\*
- ◆ Cody Litchfield

From other schools:

- ◆ Regan Fink (Kenyon College)
- ◆ Katherine Green (UC Davis)
- ◆ Matthew Hess (Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania)
- ◆ Paul Quackenbush (Middlebury College)
- ◆ Michelle Ritchie (Southern Connecticut State University)
- ◆ Carlee Shults (Whittier College)

\*Michino Hisabayashi has been selected as the 2013-2014 academic year HERO Fellow, funded by the Mosakowski Institute.

\*\*Gaia Khairina has been selected as the 2013-2014 O'Connor HERO Fellow.

# Staff Stories:

## Catching up with Graduate Program Administrator, Brenda Nikas-Hayes

“ Greetings everyone! I was excited when asked to write something about my job as Graduate Program Administrator for the Geography PhD Program here at Clark. When I came to Clark and more specifically to The Graduate School of Geography in September 2008, I had no idea that this department and the people in it would become so important to me personally. Almost from the first day, I knew the GSG was going to be my home away from home and I was content to settle in and make it the best place to be for anyone that came into the program and the place where people wanted to return even for a visit, or to give a talk, or reengage with current faculty and students and that is happening more every year.

In the near five years I have been here we have graduated an average of 10 doctoral students at each Commencement, no small feat! In my position I sit on



(L to R): Rory Horner, PhD; Brenda Nikas-Hayes; Prajjwal Panday, PhD

the Graduate Studies Committee and have been actively involved in putting in place and strengthening the Program Structure with a comprehensive and reasonable timeline for accomplishing milestones within the 5-7 year range helping to improve our performance on key NRC (National Research Council) measures, keeping Clark GSG among the very top programs nationwide. Through helping our PhD students navigate the Program Structure and requirements I feel I make a difference by being that “go to” person to ease the pressures of institutional paperwork and requirements that would otherwise take valuable time and energy away from their studies, research and writing. I am amazed and proud to be part of this shining example of a world-class Geography program. The intellectual engagement of this department is infectious and I have absorbed so much knowledge from everyone here students and faculty alike. If only they had a geography degree through the COPACE program, I would be the first to apply!

I have also been fortunate to work with the HERO Program, an NSF REU Site Program for undergraduates, and have come to know many of our undergraduate students and students from around the US through HERO. We have some truly talented undergraduates as well and they too are inspiring to watch grow and succeed. This April at AAG, I represented Clark Geography at the exhibit hall and was able to see our HERO and Geography undergrads present their research findings and learn more about them as young people ready to go out there and tackle global hot-button issues.

It was so wonderful to meet many alumni at the AAG Clark Party and put faces with names that I know through email communication. I look forward to meeting more and seeing some of the same faces in Tampa in 2014. One result of this outreach is that former alumni are now returning to Clark after many years absence to give talks on where they are now and discuss their research. This connection with

alumni is both enriching for current students and gives the alumnus a chance to reconnect with the department personally and professionally.

This fall in conjunction with Clark GSG hosting the NESTVAL (New England St. Lawrence Valley Geographical Society) conference also we are hosting our first Reunion of former GSG students. Many alumni have already expressed their interest in attending as well as presenting their work at paper sessions for NESTVAL. I look forward to the success of this dual event and am thrilled to be an integral part of the organization for both!

On the personal side, I am also a proud Clark Parent. My youngest son just finished his freshman year and is now a dual Theater and Geography major, influenced by the “phenomenal” (his words) faculty he had in his two geography PLS classes. What could be better than that!? I wake up every day and say, “I love my job” and the experiences I have through the people of the Clark University, Graduate School of Geography are the reason for that feeling. Please stay in touch— you know how to reach me!  
bnikashayes@clarku.edu . ”

**-Brenda Nikas-Hayes**  
Graduate Program Administrator  
Assistant to the Director HERO  
(508) 793-7337



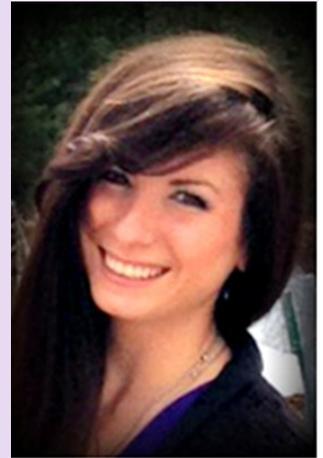
**Brenda with UG, MA, and PhD students in Los Angeles, CA in April 2013**  
Back Row (L to R): Nick Giner (PhD '13), Matthew Manley (BA '13), AJ Shatz (MA (c.))  
Front Row (L to R): Yelena Finegold (BA '13), Brenda Nikas-Hayes, Emily Sturdivant (BA '13), Shannon Palmer (BA '13), Martha Ziemer (BA '13), Nate Mietkiewicz (PhD(c.))

## Staff Stories:

Meet the newest member of the GSG staff.

### >> Kristi Ingles >> Office Coordinator

Kristi Ingles joined the GSG staff in January 2013, just one month after she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications from UMASS Amherst. Kristi sought employment at Clark because she is a firm believer in the benefits of higher education, and she wanted



to work in an environment that would foster creativity and continuous growth. As a natural communicator, she has adapted quickly to her new role as the first point of contact in the Geography main office. She hopes to someday continue her studies and pursue a graduate degree in Communications.

Contact Kristi

>> phone: (508) 793-7434  
email: kingles@clarku.edu

## LENDING A HELPING HAND

In July, 2013, Undergraduate Program Coordinator Colleen Dolan will be traveling to Grand Goâve, Haiti to volunteer at the newly established Be Like Brit orphanage. The orphanage was built by the Gengel family of Rutland, in memory of their daughter Britney. Britney traveled to Haiti in 2010 to volunteer with a group from her school when a massive 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck. Britney, along with three other students and two professors from Lynn University, were among the nearly 300,000 people who were killed that day.

As a lifelong friend of Britney and the Gengel family, Colleen feels deeply connected to this cause. She is looking forward to this trip, and happy to be traveling alongside her sister, (and fellow Clark employee) Erin. While in Haiti, the Dolan sisters will help to implement a wellness program for the Orphanage's children, and she will also assist with manual labor both in the orphanage and in the surrounding village.

>> For more about Be Like Brit, visit <http://belikebrit.org/>



# 2013 milestones

The 2013 academic year has come to an end. As we kick off the summer, we want to take a moment to congratulate the members of the class of 2013! On May 19th, 2013, we were proud to award ten Doctoral degrees, four Master of Arts degrees in Geography, twenty-two Master of Science degrees in Geographic Information Sciences for Development and Environment, and forty-three Bachelor of Arts degrees in Geography, Global Environmental Studies, and Earth System Science. The list below showcases our graduates and their accomplishments. To the class of 2013, we wish you the very best in all of your future endeavors!

## **Recipients of Bachelor of Arts in Geography:**

Frida Archibold Turner  
Daniel Auerbach  
Nara Baker  
Leonardo Ballerini  
Harrison Bass  
Elena Cohen  
Joseph Danko III  
Crystal Fam  
Yelena Finegold  
Christina Geller  
Andrew Hostetler  
David Jackson  
Jun Ha Lyu  
Amanda McQuade  
Molly Mills  
Adam Morse  
Shannon Palmer  
Daniel Perovich  
Noam Raffel  
Mary Robbins  
Chantha Son  
Emily Sturdivant  
Faye Terry  
Martha Ziemer

## **Recipients of Bachelor of Arts in Global Environmental Studies:**

Liam Byrne  
Virginia Cooke  
Stella Doughty  
April Herleikson  
Kathryn Maguire  
Matthew Manley  
Andrea Moshier  
Emma Pennock

## **Recipients of Bachelor of Arts in Global Environmental Studies (continued):**

Elizabeth Redlich  
Ann Salerno  
Ruth Vizard

## **Recipients of Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Science, ESS track:**

Thorsen Akerley  
Christopher Cleary  
Jordan Daley  
Lauren Haley  
Deborah Hecht  
Alexander Kappel  
Josue Yarleque Ipanaque  
Lauren Ziemer

## **Recipients of Master of Arts in Geography (these students are doctoral candidates who have completed Master's requirements):**

Miles Kenney-Lazar (Feb. 2013)  
Christie Logvinova (Oct. 2012)  
Pheakkdey Nguon  
Luke Trusel (Oct. 2012)

## **Recipients of Master of Science in Geographic Information Sciences for Development and Environment:**

Shreya Basu (Oct. 2012)  
Ermyas Birru  
Kevin Butler  
Dan Cheng (Oct. 2012)  
Jie Cheng  
Annalise Aldrich Erkinen (Oct. 2012)  
Megan Ewert (Oct. 2012)  
Jitka Hiscox (Feb. 2013)  
Barbara Horvatic  
Lori Johnson (Oct. 2012)  
Julia Lenhardt  
Qiao Li  
Rachael Maingot  
Nathan Mietkiewicz  
Luyang Ren  
Douglas Russell Sands  
Yun Sun  
Jenna Lee Turner  
Jing Wang (Oct. 2012)  
Jacob Wasilkowski  
Luisa Young  
Chenyang Zhao

## **Recipients of Doctor of Philosophy of Geography:**

Bardan Ghimire (Oct. 2012)  
*"Biochemical and Biophysical Consequences of Disturbances in Forests of the Western United States"*

Nicholas Giner  
*"Validating, Analyzing, and Predicting Lawn Maps: Applications of GIScience and Spatial Analysis in the Northern Boston Suburbs"*

Daniel Haberly (Feb. 2013)  
*"Sovereign Wealth Funds, Dependent Development, and the New Alliance Capitalism"*

Edmund Harris  
*"Visions, Plans, and Maps: Making Space for Food Systems Change in Massachusetts"*

Rory Horner  
*"The State, Patents, and the Development of India's Pharmaceutical Industry"*

Maya Manzi (Feb. 2013)  
*"Agrarian Social Movements and the Making of Agrodiesel Moral Territories in Northeast Brazil"*

Neeti Neeti (Oct. 2012)  
*"Implications of Space-Time Orientations for Spectral Decomposition of Geographic Time Series"*

Prajjwal Panday (Feb. 2013)  
*"Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region at the Forefront of Global Change: An Assessment of Snowmelt, Hydrology, Vegetation, and Climate"*

Seth Schindler (Feb. 2013)  
*"Producing Urban Space and the Transformation of the Retail Sector in Delhi, India"*

Dominique Werboff (Oct. 2012)  
*"The Role of Institutions in Shaping Livelihoods and Land Use/Cover in Northern Negros Natural Park, Philippines"*

**Congratulations  
to all!**



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