Photo Contest

This year, the department launched its first photo contest. Why a photo contest? Geographers and earth scientists often have a natural aptitude for observation, and receive training in observing and interpreting cultural and physical landscapes as part of their course work. Photographs are an important way that geographers and earth scientists record their observations, and often make up an important piece of a geographer's field book.

In the Fall 2009 semester, we solicited photo entries from faculty, staff, and students and received over 35 submissions. The department voted on their favorite photos, and selected three first place winners, two second place winners, and three third place winners. These photos are framed and on display in Shearer Hall, along with several honorable mentions. You can also see some of our photos winners on the department’s website and on our Facebook site.

We plan to make this an annual tradition, and next time will be soliciting photos from our alumni, so always keep a camera with you!

First place: Kenai Lake  Photographer: A.J. Beck
This is a photo of Kenai Lake and one of the many ridges that surround its beautiful waters. Kenai Lake is located about 30 miles north of Seward, Alaska and is a popular retreat destination. This photo, taken on a cool, calm morning in the Alaskan spring, displays the simple, peaceful tranquility of the Alaskan landscape.

First place: Navajo Loop Trail  Photographer: Jaci Braund
This picture is on the Navajo Loop Trail in Bryce Canyon, Utah. This unique picture represents a Geography or Earth Science theme because it showcases the beautiful rock creations and the precarious placement of a tree in this arid environment. The enormous rock formations at Bryce Canyon, including the towering walls in the photo, were formed by millions of years of erosional processes discussed in numerous lectures in the Geography Earth Science Department.

First place: Aletsch Glacier  Photographer: Dr. Christopher Woltemade
The Aletsch Glacier flows over 30km in the Swiss canton of Valais, making it the longest glacier in the Alps. Three tributary flows combine to form the main valley glacier, with distinctive medial moraines indicating the separate contributions. A recent "trim line" on the opposite valley wall indicates that the ice was recently 100m thicker than it is today. Earlier, in the Pleistocene Epoch, the glacier was about 300m thicker and deposited the lateral moraine in the immediate foreground. The region is now a UNESCO world heritage site that preserves the glacial landscape, old growth forests, and the native wildlife.

If you have an article or suggestion for our next newsletter, please contact Judy Mentzer at jpment@ship.edu or call the department at 717-477-1685.
Greetings alumni and friends! The 2008-2009 academic year marked the 75th anniversary of the Geography-Earth Science Department at Shippensburg University. From its humble beginnings in 1933 under the guidance of its first department chair, Keith Allen, the department has grown from 1.5 faculty members to 15, with more than 245 undergraduate and graduate majors. Over that time span, we’ve graduated more than 2100 students, most of whom live and work in Pennsylvania and surrounding states. We continue to maintain a strong presence in the local environmental community through our emphases on geotechnology and practical experience. Indeed, in a recent “branding” survey by the University, the Geography-Earth Science Department was specifically recognized as one of the strongest programs at Shippensburg University by alumni, community leaders, and employers.

This success was not without its challenges. During the last two years, we’ve been concentrating on establishing a comfortable equilibrium in the department after years of substantial and sometimes disruptive change. We now have a full complement of permanent faculty that we hope will serve us well for the coming decade and beyond. While we continue to hope for an additional faculty member in GIS, the realities of the state budget suggest this may be some time in coming. Meanwhile, we continue to aggressively pursue changing technologies and grant funding to insure that our students have the best training and most rewarding research experiences possible.

The department also finished its five year review last year. Academic departments are required to assess themselves every five years, and then be evaluated by the Dean and Provost. We are also required to bring an outside reviewer to the department. Our reviewer, Dr. James Lowry of the University of New Orleans, was extremely impressed with the department. Indeed, over the past five years the Geography-Earth Science Department has published 66 refereed journals (an average of nearly one per year per faculty member), presented 141 presentations at national and regional meetings (an average of almost two papers per year per faculty member), and received over $1.5 million in research grants. These numbers rival research institutions like Penn State or the University of Maryland, and are all the more remarkable given our heavy teaching loads.

One of the biggest accomplishments of the current year was the landing of a $197,000 National Science Foundation Grant by Drs. Zume and Cornell. The grant is designed to integrate technology throughout our curriculum, and involves, in part, the purchase of a Ground Penetrating Radar system for analysis of shallow sediment characteristics. Drs. Woltemade, Tom Feeney, and Drzyzga also contributed to the grant. The program will be initiated over the next several years and should go a long way to strengthening our applied geotechnology curriculum.

Speaking of accomplishments, Dr. Jan Smith recently stepped down as President of the National Council of Geographic Education, a high-profile position at the forefront of American Geography. This fall she was asked by the National Geographic Society (NGS) to become the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Geographic Alliance, a NGS-funded statewide network focused on geography teaching and improving academic standards in Geography. Dr. Smith is setting up shop in Rowland Hall and will soon have her staff and offices in place. We congratulate Dr. Smith on her dedication and service to geography, and her continued contributions to our education programs.

Dr. Pomeroy is ending his first year as the Interim Director of the Institute for Public Service and Sponsored Programs, the grants administration arm of the university. He will serve a second year in this capacity next year. George continues to teach one class per semester for us, and we look forward to his return to the department full time in Fall 2011.

Geography students continue to be involved in research with faculty and engaged in field study. Drs. Cornell and Jantz took a group of students to Curacao in the Caribbean last year and each participant was required to produce a poster related to a particular research topic. Dr. Pomeroy will be leading students on a field trip to China this summer. This will be his third trip to China over the past six years. Other trips to Europe and New England are planned soon.

In a short message like this, it’s impossible to cover all of our faculty accomplishments, especially given the number and breadth of the various activities. Please review the faculty updates provided elsewhere in the Newsletter and on our redesigned website (http://web-space.ship.edu/geog). Collectively, they show a dedicated, highly energized, technically proficient faculty focused on student achievement and on service to their community, university, and discipline.

Most of all, we are appreciative of the support our alumni provide to the Geography-Earth Science Department, through service on our Advisory Board, by hiring our students (for internships and full-time positions), and by making donations to the department through the SU Foundation. The department was especially grateful to receive a large gift from the estate of Geography alumni Paul and Ruth Gensler last year. The monies generated from the principle on this account will be used to support student research and travel. In addition, retired faculty member Dr. Jane Ehemann and her mother Isabelle Kaufman (now deceased) have established the Ehemann Scholarship Award and a separate fund to support student research. The family of Dr. Craig Oyen has also established a travel fund in Craig’s name for students engaged in geologic research. Likewise, Dr. Jack Ford’s family initiated a scholarship in his honor many years ago. We urge you to consider making a contribution to one or more of these funds (or directly to the department), by contacting Beth Herr at the SU Foundation, or by contacting me directly.

In closing, may I please ask you to take just a few minutes to complete the attached survey? It’s one of the only ways that we can get a good idea of how we’re doing and what needs to be changed. If there’s something you liked about our program and want to see it maintained, let us know. Conversely, if we need to change something, we’ll never know unless you tell us. The next few years will be especially challenging to the department as State support of Higher Education continues to dwindle. You can help us by providing valuable feedback for the important decisions yet to come. Thank you and best wishes!
Internships are an important component of a degree from the Department of Geography-Earth Science, providing students with what is often their first professional experience. It gives students a chance to apply what they have learned in the real world, learn new skills, and establish important professional relationships that often lead to job opportunities after graduation. Here are a few examples of some of our recent interns.

**Intern: Jonathan Grantham**  
*Placement: Anne Arundel County Office of Planning and Zoning, MD*

My eight-week internship at Anne Arundel County’s Office of Planning and Zoning, in the Research and GIS Division has been challenging, easy, and exciting, all at different times. I worked on several projects, which ranged from digitizing forest conservation easements to updating geodatabases. Using the skills I learned in GIS I and II as well as Cartography class, I discovered I possessed a solid foundation for my internship. However, I still learned an incredible amount. The biggest skill set I developed, was the use of the modeling functions within ArcGIS, which allowed me to automatically perform the same operation many times. I also was able to teach my co-workers about ArcGlobe and ArcScene. The county invites individuals in different GIS offices to produce a map for the Map Gallery. The county hangs the maps at the county executors’ office and at a public library. I decided to map the money flowing into the state after the passage of President Obama’s stimulus plan. Using 3d modeling, I produced a “bar graph” map using the polygons of each county. This internship was extremely worth the time and energy I put into it.

**Intern: Amy Kaufman**  
*Placement: READCO Development, LLC in Old Lyme, CT*

I had worked at READCO in the past, but had never been exposed to the day-to-day processes that support the company’s core business, real estate development. It was not until transferring to Shippsburg as a Land Use major that I realized how many parts make up the whole of responsible land development. I was fortunate that READCO’s President, Mario DiLoreto, was amenable to my returning in an educational capacity as an intern. My goal was to apply what I have learned, specifically in my Urban Geography and Economic Geography classes, to actual development projects in progress and to observe the project management and finance tools in action. This experience has helped me prepare for future employment on many levels. I learned to interact with high-level executives with confidence and poise, I learned how development projects unfold from inception to completion, and I learned some of the many, many intricacies involved in financing and managing each unique project. While I have a lot more to learn, I feel that I have a far better understanding of the land use/development process business today than I did prior to this internship.

**Intern: Nathan Merkel**  
*Placement: Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission*

My first day at the PA Fish and Boat Commission was quite an adventure. We were working on the Susquehanna River doing young-of-the-year small-mouth bass surveys. The waders I was given were too big for my feet and I was not in the water more than 20 minutes when I tripped and fell into the river. The last survey we completed was on the Big Spring creek to see how the different habitat projects were helping the natural reproduction of brook, rainbow, and brown trout, and by that time I had found my river legs. When I first started my internship I did not know a green side darter from a mimic shiner. Over the six weeks and hours of working on the Susquehanna River and the different streams and creeks, I learned how to identify the different species of shiners, daces, and darters. I also obtained a greater biologic knowledge to add to my knowledge of the Geo Sciences. I could understand a lot of the factors that affected the different streams and rivers that we examined from run off, sedimentation, or a stream having a neutral pH due to the influence of limestone. My internship with the PFBC was terrific, and gave me great experience in the field of Fisheries Management and the Geo Sciences. I do not believe I could have found a better internship that incorporated hands-on experience in field and office work. I am planning to take a civil service test in order to be qualified for any positions that may come up with the PFBC.

**Intern: Kevin Watkins**  
*Placement: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Silver Spring, MD*

I had the amazing opportunity to work at NOAA, the part of the U.S. Department of Commerce that deals mainly with issues surrounding the oceans and other water bodies in the U.S. and Caribbean. The internship was extremely beneficial and it was a phenomenal experience. I worked in the Special Projects Office working on various GIS and mapping projects, which helped to strengthen my GIS skills. One project was to create a map showing results of a test of the Emergency Notification System (ENS) developed to automatically contact everyone in the NOAA staff directory by phone, cell phone, and e-mail. Our test worked very well with over 70% response across the U.S. I designed a graduated symbols map with sized pie charts showing the ratio or responses. Creating this map was challenging but a great learning experience. The Geography/Earth Science department really has done a tremendous job teaching me the proper skills to succeed in the real, working world.
“Understanding Ancient Shorelines in the National Parklands of the Great Lakes,” which explains the complicated series of glacial and post-glacial lakes visitors observe at the various Great Lakes national parklands. In addition, I was the lead author on an edited book chapter entitled “The Physical Landscape: A Glacial Legacy” in the recently published book *Michigan Geology and Geography*. The book was designed to serve as a state-of-the-art compendium of Michigan geology and geography, and includes contributions from 54 authors from a wide variety of academic disciplines. Finally, along with Dr. Drzyzga and graduate student Griffith Jones, I’m working on a manuscript that uses GIS to evaluate the age and importance of glacial landforms in the eastern part of Michigan’s Upper Peninsula.

Since relinquishing my chairmanship of the University Forum (faculty senate), I’ve focused on departmental matters and building our enrollments. I continue to serve on the College Council of the College of Arts and Sciences and was on that organization’s Executive Committee for the past two years. I also serve on a number of university and departmental committees. During the three to four hours per week that I’m not at work, I reside with my wife, Gretchen, at the base of South Mountain outside Shippensburg, on a stabilized colluvial apron of Pliocene/Pleistocene age.

**Sean Cornell**

Hello everyone! I can’t believe it has already been four years that I’ve been at Ship. The last two years have been a whirlwind of activity for my family and me. Since I completed my dissertation, I have become fully engaged in developing and teaching in the Earth Sciences, carrying out research with students, and serving on various campus committees. As you may recall, I teach many of the geology classes and I also teach Oceanography, Coastal Environmental Oceanography, and Geography-Geology Field Studies. In the latter role, Dr. Jantz and I took 16 students to Curacao for a week trip in advance of the spring semester 2009. Each student developed an independent research project while in the field, completed their projects back at Ship, and presented them at the spring GTU banquet. It was an excellent learning experience for the students and faculty alike. We plan to go back in winter 2011 and will be joined by a colleague and students from Sonoma State University.

Since I arrived at Ship, I have been a representative to the Marine Science Consortium’s Academic Advisory Council. Since that time, the MSC has expanded its mission and is in the middle of a $15 million dollar campus revitalization program at our Wallops Island, Virginia facility. Shippensburg is very excited about our future at the consortium, and we are excited about our new buildings and programs. Our new 216 bed residence hall and new Educational Center will be the first LEED buildings built on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. The consortium continues to offer pre-college programs, college programs, and family and Elderhostel programs and will continue to do so year round (www.msconsortium.org). Despite declining resources at each of the consortium’s home institutions, by working collectively, we will be able to expand our programming. With our new mission, additional new programs are being developed and, more importantly, new summer courses will be on the books for our students. Alumni contributions to our various student research grants would ensure that we have the financial resources to do these types of activities in the future.

On other notes, my wife Angel is now a tenured faculty member at Carlisle High School where she teaches English to students with learning disabilities. Our twins, Jenna and Ethan, are in first grade and going on high school, and Hannah our bookworm is enjoying her second grade experience at the Grace B. Luhrs University Elementary School. They keep us busy, and I feel like they are growing too fast. One of the benefits of having them at the Luh’s School is that I get to spend some time with them in their classrooms. This year, I received a PA DEP Environmental Education Grant to help develop curriculum and materials for a composting and rainwater collection system that we are currently installing, along with over 5,000 worms. Each grade level is benefiting from these resources, and college-level students in science education programs are also benefiting from the collaboration.

If you are ever on campus, get in touch and I will take a few minutes to show you what we are growing! Seriously, keep in touch with us and let us know what you are up to!!!

**Scott Drzyzga**

Hello Gang. Many good things have happened since our last newsletter. I earned tenure in January 2009 and was promoted to Associate Professor in August 2009. And, on a personal note, I bought a great old house with Arts & Crafts-era quality and character. Yes, I am still developing a rigorous curriculum in applied Geographic Information Science & Technology with Drs. Smith, Jantz and Feeney. And yes, I’m still using the “sand tables” to...
help students to build a geographic information system from scratch using their own two eyes and hands; the experience seems to have become a minor rite of passage around here. You might recall that Drs. Blewett, Fuellhart, Applegarth, and I wrote a series of winning grant proposals that allowed us to install $157,000 worth of new classroom technology throughout Shearer Hall. Now every classroom has the same technology we have in our GIS and Ford Labs. We also purchased 11 high-end GPS receivers and data-loggers, which we immediately integrated into GIS III, Applied GIS, Field Techniques, and several field courses. Many students have leveraged these GPS devices to support their own research projects. Luke Hershey, for example, used one in his effort to map the geospatial distribution of Shippensburg University’s wireless signal strength; James Manuel used several to survey a portion of the Conococheague Creek and establish a stream monitoring program; Kaja Spaseff is using one in her effort to map sea grass beds in the Chesapeake Bay area; and Kara Bushman just walked out of my office with one to support her work at Caledonia Park. Perhaps you’ve seen our own Kevin Watkins, who is the new face of Shippensburg University’s internSHIP campaign and just accepted a full-time position at NOAA. It’s great knowing we provide our students with the educational opportunities and tools that enable them to practice outside the classroom what they learn when they’re inside the classroom, and give them that extra edge in the job market. Our GIS and Ford Labs are running ESRI ArcGIS/ArcInfo 9.3.1 (9.4 is coming soon), ESRI Business Analyst, ERDAS Imagine 2010 and Trimble GPS Pathfinder Office 4.1, among many others, and are updated every semester.

Drs. Marr, Pomeroy and I released our research findings regarding the economic and transportation-related impacts of the warehousing industry on rural Pennsylvania, which was great then, but the economic recession has been changing everything since. New work is now needed. Dr. Jantz and I are in the middle of other funded research (National Science Foundation) that focuses on understanding and modeling urban growth patterns and processes in the Baltimore metropolitan area. By the time this newsletters comes off the press, we’ll have presented our work at the Association of American Geographers 2010 national meeting (Washington, DC) and at the Chesapeake Modeling Symposium 2010 (Annapolis, MD). Dr. Jantz and I are writing more research proposals that, if funded, will let us continue our work at the national level. Above and beyond meeting and working with a diverse array of talented people from across the country, our research projects enable us to bring new science, unique datasets, and a variety of new and relevant experiences into our classrooms. The quality of all my courses is improved by every one of our research experiences.

**Alison Feeney**

I have been busy the past few years expanding my knowledge and skills with GIS and improving pedagogy on distance education. I continue to teach GIS and cartography to a wide audience of students on campus as the interest in GIS spreads to all majors. During the summers and J-term I teach general education and occasionally GIS online. Currently I am working with a graduate student researching historic maps of Bermuda using GIS technology.

**Tom Feeney**

I reported in the last newsletter that I was “wading in knee-deep water at springs in the Cumberland Valley and trying to talk to data loggers.” I’m still doing that. In addition though, I have also been working with cavers from the National Speleological Society to access one of the larger local caves that has a history of flooding quickly and draining very slowly. Recent graduate Jeremiah Greenland was instrumental in running an elevation survey that tied several hydrologic features and the cave to a local benchmark. We now have a data logger in there running every 15 minutes collecting water level, temperature, and basic chemical data so that we can hopefully make some sense of it all. Along the same line, recent grad Gary Lasako just finished up his master’s thesis study of Green Springs’s hydrology and geochemistry.

I continue my dye tracing efforts with Dr. Todd Hurd in Biology. After a successful trace back in 2005, we have run a few more. Unfortunately, the trace results have been less clear, and have raised a number of questions. Just when we thought we were starting to understand some things! On a slightly different path, I look forward to working with Drs. Zume and Cornell on bringing geophysics to the department and the region with a recent NSF-funded project. I have little practical experience with geophysical tools, but look forward to the challenge of bringing these tools to our students. This will be a great asset to all of our majors; Drs. Zume and Cornell, and Woltemade should really be commended for bringing this project to the department.

Outside of Shearer Hall, Alison and I are kept pretty busy with our three little guys who are growing up very quickly it seems. Please keep in touch.

**Kurt Fuellhart**

Since the last newsletter, I have continued my teaching in general human geography, economic geography, and East Asia. With colleague Tim Hawkins, I recently worked with undergraduate student Sarah Stengl Millward on her project to relate climate factors with tree growth in the local area; the results of the project will be published soon. My work in air transport geography has also continued. Over my sabbatical during part of 2008, I worked with airport consulting firm UCG Associates on a project to map out air cargo links connected to part of the eastern United States to examine opportunities for growth for a client. During 2009, I also completed a project that examined patterns in award and upgrade ticket availability throughout United Airlines’ international route system. This research was presented at the recent Association of American Geographers meeting in Las Vegas. Looking ahead, I am working on several air transport projects, including one assessing the position and role of “second cities” in the global air transport system with colleague Kevin O’Connor at University of Melbourne. On another topic, fellow Ship geographer Christopher Woltemade and I have begun work to assess the interrelationships between economic factors and resource conservation for rural Pennsylvania municipal water systems.

On campus, I chair the University Research and Scholarship Committee, which provides funding for significant faculty research projects. In addition, I have continued in my role as the university’s NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative, working work with student-athletes, university administration, the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference, and NCAA to help insure academic integrity and student well-being in our athletics program. In the community I am working with a number of business and government leaders to examine prospects to better integrate the Carlisle Airport into the regional economic fabric. I lead the Opportunities Sub-Group.

(continued on page 6)
Tim Hawkins

Hi everyone!
I continue to teach and research in the fields of meteorology and climatology. Since the last newsletter, I have also been teaching a graduate research methods course and have become the graduate program coordinator for the department. I very much enjoy watching both graduate and undergraduate student ideas develop from initial concept to final research project. Some projects I have been working on recently with students include: assessing students’ ability to learn meteorology in three dimensions, examining meteorological influences on local air pollution and analyzing the impact of historical and projected climate change on local water supplies. Some of my own personal projects include analyzing how soil moisture influences stream flow and analyzing the relationship between changes in farmland and changes in climate.

I continue to maintain the weather station on campus and I am advisor to the geography honor society GTU. I also serve as co-chair of the University’s Environmental Steering Committee and have been actively involved in many of the planning initiatives regarding sustainability and environmental stewardship on campus. I hope you are all doing well and would love to hear an update from you!

Claire Jantz

Like my colleagues, I have kept very busy over the past two years. I continue to maintain several ongoing research projects, including an NSF-funded project (with Dr. Drzyzga) to study the effects of urban growth on the hydrologic system in the Baltimore, MD region, a NOAA-funded project to study how urbanization and population pressures influence water resources on the Delmarva Peninsula, and a project funded by the National Park Service to study land use changes in the Upper Delaware Watershed — where the Delmarva Gap National Recreation Area and the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River park units are located. I also completed a research project that relates population growth to potential impacts on ecosystem services in Albemarle County, VA. I especially enjoy being able to work with graduate students on these projects, students like Michael Maret, A.J. Beck, James Manuel, Ron Hess, and Eric Atkins.

I have also collaborated with Dr. Marr on two new lines of research in northern Chile: a study of the nitrate mining in the Atacama Desert, and a study looking at Aymara population patterns in the Andes. After spending a few weeks over two summers with Dr. Marr in the field, you can imagine we have some stories to tell, including one about getting our truck stuck in the Atacama Desert (one of the driest places on Earth) many, many miles from civilization, and enjoying a nice long walk out to the main road. Despite these experiences, I continue to pursue collaborative research with Dr. Marr in both Mexico and Chile.

I continue to teach several classes, including World Geography, Conservation of Natural Resources, Land Use, Urban Geography, and a new graduate course entitled “Chesapeake Bay and the Science of Land Cover Change.” All of my courses benefit greatly from the research I do outside of the classroom. I also serve as the department’s internship coordinator, so if any alumni out there are looking for internships, please get in touch!

Paul Marr

I recently returned from Chile’s Tarapacá region where Dr. Jantz and I have been working on two projects: an examination of the Atacama Desert’s nitrate mines and village abandonment in the Andes Mountains. The nitrate project was funded by C-Fest and the village abandonment project was funded under USRP. Claire and I are in the process of putting the final manuscript draft of “Aymara village abandonment in the Colchane area of Chile” together and hope to send it to the Journal of Latin American Geography this spring. We hope to get the nitrate paper out sometime next fall. Claire and I have also been working on two grant proposals, one examining the Purépecha region of Michoacán, Mexico and the other a larger follow-up study of Aymara village abandonment.

During summer 2009, I was involved in the Fort Morris archaeological excavation here in Shippensburg and the paper “In search of Fort Morris” will appear in the Spring 2010 volume of the journal Material Culture. Interest in this project was much greater than expected and has led to several other potential projects to locate lost French and Indian War-era forts. Drs. Drzyzga, Pomeroy and I completed our examination of warehousing and trucking in rural Pennsylvania funded by the Center for Rural Pennsylvania, and soon I hope to do some follow-up work. My graduate student, Michael Ross, and I published his thesis results “Socioeconomic conditions on the Pennsylvania frontier: The Germans and Scots-Irish of Cumberland county, 1765-1775” in the 2008 edition of The Middle States Geographer.

I was recently elected as Secretary of the Middle States Division of the AAG, which should bring the conference to Shippensburg in fall 2012, when I take over as divisional president. I added two new classes to my list: Historical Geography and a graduate transportation methods course. I was also lucky enough to be awarded a year-long sabbatical in 2010-2011. My goal is to finish several projects: colonial demographic changes on the Pennsylvania frontier (c.1770-1790s), mining transport during the Colorado gold rush (c.1880s), and changes in modern trade routes between Chile and Bolivia. I also plan to do a little traveling, both here and abroad, and to continue my relentless (if fruitless) pursuit of trout.

George Pomeroy

Hey Folks!
Since the last newsletter I have engaged in all sorts, shapes, and sizes of exciting, challenging, and enjoyable activities. Through all these things, I can still safely say that working with students, whether it be in the classroom, with internships, or on research projects, is the most rewarding part of the best job in the world! The most substantial of these activities is a recent and temporary move to Old Main to serve as the Interim Director of the Institute for Public Service. This new charge is proving to be both challenging and exhilarating. At the same time, I will continue to teach one class a semester (likely to the chagrin of our current students). In the summer of 2008, my wife Jennifer and I co-taught our second field course to China. With an intrepid group of students, we visited Shanghai, Hangzhou, and Beijing on the eve of the Olympics. Among the many particular places we explored and engaged were the rapidly disappearing hutong of Beijing, the neon streetscapes of cosmopolitan Shanghai, numerous temples, and a host of historic sites, crowned by a walk upon the Great Wall. To add to the mix we traveled with our own children,
spent several days in the field collecting data, maps and a database of their cemetery. We were interested in creating a GIS project for Old Trinity Church, which was built in the 17th Century and restored in the 1950s. The Old Trinity Church is now housed at the National Council for Geographic Education website as well as designing a new GIS, World Geography, and I also work with our students during their student teaching semester. I have spent most of this year working on projects related to the Pennsylvania Alliance for Geographic Education, which is now housed in our department. The PA Alliance is a non-profit organization that focuses on teaching and learning of geography at all levels in Pennsylvania and is funded by the National Geographic Education Foundation. National Geographic supports the Alliance in each of the states. I also have been developing online resources for teachers to be housed at the National Council for Geographic Education website as well as designing a new Geography of Europe class.

Recently, I worked with Kim Kalaha ’09 and Dr. David Hastings, Computer Science, on a historical GIS project for Old Trinity Church located in Church Creek, MD (Eastern Shore). The church was built in the 17th Century and restored in the 1950s. The Old Trinity Church was interested in creating maps and a database of their cemetery. We spent several days in the field collecting data, looking at old tombstones, and swatting flies and mosquitoes. It is an exciting and lively project despite the subject.

Last summer I was chosen to attend a workshop at ESRI in Redlands, California along with 25 others from across the U.S. The workshop focused on ways for those of us who teach GIS to develop outreach to K-12 students and teachers. It was a really remarkable week to be at ESRI—I stood in line at the cafeteria behind Jack Dangermond and met developers, engineers, and experts in all areas of GIS.

I am sure I speak for everyone in the department—we love hearing from you and finding out what you have been doing since leaving Ship. Please keep in touch and come back and visit!

**Kay Williams**

As I end my 17th year with the university and the department, it is good to have what we hope is our permanent faculty for several years to come. But even with all the changes over the past few years, I think our department is as strong as or stronger than we were in the past, especially with all the new technology, expertise and renewed energy brought to the department by our recent hires.

Now that some of the recent dilemmas in my life have been mostly resolved, I am trying to get back into the higher degree of service to the department and the university. I have added Physical Geography as an annual course as well as continuing to teach Conservation of Natural Resources, Introduction to Biogeography, and Meterological Studies. In the fall, the graduate class Problems of the Atmospheric Environment. We have decided to discontinue Atmospheric Studies to be replaced by Meteorology due to many of our Earth Science education majors needing that course on their record. Therefore, I will need to re-organize the atmosphere class to include more of a focus on weather.

Another task I have returned to is assisting with internships, which I gave up in 2005 after 10 years. Dr. Jantz is now our internship coordinator and I am the internship supervisor. The university as a whole is realizing that internships are incredibly important, and they are trying to make it more organized. We had our first “Internship Summit” in March 2010 and our department, which has had a very strong program for many years, served as a model.

One of my best adventures ever occurred when I attended the National Council for Geographic Education (NCGE) fall meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico. It was absolutely wonderful experiencing all the new things there, especially the rainforest. It was also unusual for me to be somewhere that English is not the first language. I really felt truly welcomed. Several of us were able to attend, including two retirees. It reminded me of a former faculty member, Sonia Arbona, since that is her hometown.

My extended family is now complete with the birth of the second grandson, Zachary Eli, on May 12, 2009. His brother Alex is in kindergarten and doing fantastic! He also started swimming lessons in the fall and will continue this spring, and will start playing soccer. I spend as much time with them as I possibly can; they grow up so fast!

**Christopher Woltemade**

Over the past year I’ve been working together with graduate student Erick Ammon to measure infiltration rates on residential lawns in the Shippensburg area. The study was designed based on several conversations in the Geo-environmental Hydrology course that questioned whether soil compaction during home construction significantly reduces infiltration rates. Based on testing well over 100 sites, we can say that infiltration is significantly lower on lots built in the past 10 years than on older residential sites and is also much lower than standard values from soil surveys. This has strong implications for stormwater management and hydrologic modeling of urban growth effects. I have submitted a paper on this work (recently accepted) to the Journal of the American Water Resources Association and will be presenting the results at the AAG in Washington DC later this year.

I’m now shifting my work to focus on residential water conservation in Pennsylvania. Kurt Fuellhart and I have begun this work and plan to continue the project through 2010.

(continued on page 8)
On the personal side, Andrea and I continue to be active with our Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs. We now have two Swizzies—3-year-old Porter and 4-year-old Abbey, who we adopted in 2009. We do a lot of pack hiking with them both—Porter has now carried his packs for a total of over 400 miles, including many trips carrying books back and forth to the Shippensburg Public Library!

Joseph Zume
How time flies! I am already in my third year here at Shippensburg University. So far, the ride has been smooth and fun though not unchallenging...and I still feel like SHIP IS IT!! I couldn’t have asked for a better work environment. An adage in my tribe says, “The River tried to go it all alone but very soon found itself meandering.” It is a way of saying no one succeeds independently. For my three years here, I have found such great support in my colleagues, I am confident I would never meander. I have NEVER before seen a more vivacious and congenial department than ours and I feel very blessed to be a part of it.

I have continued to teach Hydrology, Atmosphere, World Geography, and the Regional Geography of Sub-Saharan Africa. In the near future, I plan to develop a graduate-level course on groundwater flow and contaminant transport, as well as an undergraduate course on Water Resources Economics. Also on the radar is a field trip to Africa someday soon. You can see that I am very ambitious.

I must admit that the transition from a graduate student to a tenure-track faculty has not been an easy one. I still struggle to balance my teaching, research, service, and family responsibilities, but thank God for my senior colleagues who are always there for advice. I even turned Dr. Christopher Woltemade into another dissertation adviser! Well, the struggle continues until the battle is won. In June 2009 I participated in the “Early Career Geoscience Faculty” workshop hosted by the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. This one-week workshop focused on the development of effective teaching strategies, course design, working with research students, balancing professional and personal responsibilities, time-management, etc, and couldn’t have been more apt.

Research wise, it has been slow but steady. I recently investigated the impacts of traditional burial practices on groundwater quality in rural north-central Nigeria. The study was funded by CFEST and a manuscript from it has been submitted to the Journal of Water, Air, and Soil Pollution. Also recently, Dr. Sean Cornell and I, with strong support from Drs. Christopher Woltemade and Tom Feeney, secured an NSF grant to integrate shallow geophysical imaging technology into our geoenvironmental curriculum.

I have also continued to render my services to the university, community, and the profession. I serve as the APSCUF/SU Student Affairs Committee Chair and I coach youth soccer for the Shippensburg AYSO. Professionally, I remain an active member of the American Association of Geographers (AAG), National Groundwater Association (NGWA), American Geophysical Union (AGU), and the Pennsylvania Geographical Society (PGS).

Despite the heavy demand on my time from the job, I still find time to do stuff with my beloved daughters, Ngodoo and Nguveren. We spend a lot of time cooking, juggling, riding bikes, etc., and recently, they even forced me into Zumbaaaaaaaaaaa!!

Fort Morris Update
The Fort Morris archaeological project came to a close during summer 2009, ending on a high note. After weeks of excavation and moving many tons of soil, former state archaeologist Steve Warfel is convinced the team had located Shippensburg’s colonial fort. According to Steve, “The 2009 archaeological excavation at 333 East Burd Street unearthed compelling evidence of Fort Morris (1755–1764) in the form of an extraordinary artifact collection. The objects were recovered from a preserved historic land surface and the fill of two cellars, both remnants of fort structures. Hundreds of pieces of mid-18th century British pottery types, 19 gunflints (some reused as strike-a-lite flints), 34 lead musket balls and shot, flintlock gun parts, Spanish silver coins and King George II copper halfpennies (one dated 1757), mid–18th century buttons, cufflinks, and buckles all represent site habitation by members of the British Army. The artifact types and quantities are distinctive of sites occupied by the military in the mid-18th century. The artifact collection is comparable to ones recovered from other contemporary French and Indian War fort sites, such as Fort Loudoun, Fort Ligonier, and Fort Augusta.” Although the fort’s palisade wall was not found, there is hope of a return to the site soon to perform a more targeted excavation in an effort to this feature. A display of the fort artifacts will be ready by May 2010 and we urge alumni to stop by the Shippensburg Historical Society to see this fascinating piece of Shippensburg’s history.

Update from Jack Benhart
Since retirement from SU, I have been teaching Urban Geography in the Fall Semester at York College of Pennsylvania and Introduction to Geography at Florida Gulf Coast University during the Spring semester. I continue to chair the Franklin County Planning Commission, the Southampton Township Planning Commission, and serve on the Letterkenny General Authority. Recently, I have been working on the effort to revitalize and upgrade the Shippensburg Public Library. On the research front, I have been working on the Everglades Reclamation Project, the Environmental Planning Projects in Collier County Florida and the Planned Community of Ave Maria in Collier County. During the past two years, I have been working on a children’s book entitled Kidscape: A Look at Your Local Community. On the family front, Pat and I have been enjoying our 5 grandchildren Carlee 13, Haley 11, Jake 11, Lauren 9 and Peter 4 and assisting my 90 year old mother. If you need additional information please contact me. Best wishes. Jack
The Geography-Earth Science Department at Shippensburg University updates and compiles a directory of past graduates of the department every two years. We are also very interested in your opinions of departmental courses and degree programs in order for us to assess our program. The information you provide will help us make changes that will improve our department. Thank you for taking time to complete this survey. If possible, please return the survey by June 30, 2010. You may also complete the survey online at our department website http://webspace.ship.edu/geog/ and click on Alumni.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name: ________________________________ ________________________________ _____________

Permanent Address: _________________________________________________________________

Telephone Numbers:  Home _________________________  Work ___________________________

Email Address: ________________________________ ________________________________ _______

Year of Graduation: ___________________

Major: (Check one):

  _____Earth-Space Science          _____Geography-Liberal Arts
  _____Comprehensive Social Studies  _____Urban-Rural Studies
  _____Geoenvironmental Studies (undergrad)  _____Geoenvironmental Studies (graduate)
  _____Geographic Information Systems (GIS certification)

What have you been doing since your graduation from Shippensburg University??

Would you prefer to receive a digital copy of the newsletter in the future? _____Yes     _____No

Do you feel that your degree from the Department of Geography-Earth Science at Shippensburg prepared you to get a job in your field of study?

  _____ Yes
  _____ No

Additional Comments:

Overall, how well did the courses taken in the department prepare you for your present job or the job you hope to attain in the near future? (Check one)

  _____ Well prepared
  _____ Adequately prepared
  _____ Poorly prepared

Additional Comments:
Below are two lists. The first is a list of communication and analytical skills; these are skills the department works to develop through our classes. Please indicate how frequently you use each skill in your position today and how helpful you think our program was in developing the skill. (Circle the appropriate response.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SKILLS</th>
<th>FREQUENCY OF USE</th>
<th>HELPFULNESS IN DEVELOPING SKILL</th>
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<td>Very</td>
<td>Somewhat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Collection and Research</td>
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<td>Problem Solving</td>
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<td>Analytical and Quantitative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
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The second list, below, identifies the different content areas of focus in our program. Please indicate how frequently you use the content in your position today and how helpful you think our program was in developing the content.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTENT AREAS</th>
<th>FREQUENCY OF USE</th>
<th>HELPFULNESS IN DEVELOPING CONTENT</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Very</td>
<td>Somewhat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Atmospheric</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental Land Use Planning</td>
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<td>Geology - Soils</td>
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<td>Hydrology</td>
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<td>GIS/Cartography</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic-Regional</td>
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How would you rate the quality of your internship or student teaching experience with regard to the following categories? Are you evaluating _____ Internship _____ Student teaching experience (Check one) (Please go on to the next category if you did not have an internship or student teaching experience at Shippensburg.)

Enhance your professional growth
Learning new skills and knowledge
Preparation for present job
Fairness/consideration of on the job supervisors
Others (please comment)

Geographic Perspective and Life-Long Learning

A major goal of our program is to assist our students in developing a geographic perspective and encourage our students to become life-long learners. This may be the first time you have ever thought about either of these ideas, but we would like you to evaluate the following:

--To what extent the Geography-Earth Science program contributed to “your ability to see and understand the world in terms of: who, what where, when, places and things are distributed across space; why and how they got there; evaluate the ever-changing relationship between humans and the environment; and sometimes make predictions & propose solutions to current problems.” (Circle the most appropriate response)

Significantly Contributed
Moderately Contributed
Did Not Contribute At All

--To what extent the Geography-Earth Science program contributed to you developing as a life-long learner (Circle the most appropriate response)

Significantly Contributed
Moderately Contributed
Did Not Contribute At All

Would you like to receive an electronic newsletter and alumni survey in the future?  YES  OR  NO
If yes, please make sure you provide a permanent email address on the reverse

Thanks again for taking time to complete our Alumni Survey!
Over the past two years, department faculty have been awarded nearly $400,000 in new research funding! Here’s a list of our new projects (*indicates a student), and you can see all the information about these projects and new publications at our department website.


Estimating Ecosystem Services in Albemarle County and Charlottesville, VA. Claire Jantz. 2008-2009. Advocates for a Sustainable Albemarle Population. $25,000


A Comparison of Selected Wisconsin Counties Using an Atmospheric Hazard vulnerability Assessment. AJ Beck* and Tim Hawkins. 2009. Shippensburg University Institute for Public Service. $1083

Creating an Interactive Map and Flexible Database for the Cemetery at Old Trinity Church. Jan Smith, Kim Kalaha* and David Hastings. 2009-2010. Old Trinity Church Association. 2009-2010. $5,000

Impact of residential soil compaction on urban storm water runoff. Christopher Woltemade. 2009. SU URSP. $13,475


Landscape Influences on the Collapse of the Nitrate Mining Industry in the Tarapacá Region of Chile. Paul Marr and Claire Jantz. 2008-2009. PASSHE FPDC. $5,682

A Meteorological Analysis of Particulate Matter Pollution for Carlisle, PA. L Rundall* and Tim Hawkins. 2009. Shippensburg University Institute for Public Service. $514

National Science Foundation Chautauqua Faculty Development Short Course: Ecology and Geology of the Colorado Front Range. Christopher Woltemade. 2009. SU CFEST. $1,672.

Pennsylvania Alliance for Geographic Education Planning Grant. Jan Smith. 2009. National Geographic Education Foundation. $23,000

Pennsylvania 2009-2010 Alliance Program Grant. Jan Smith. 2009. National Geographic Education Foundation. $79,000


A Synoptic Climatology for PM 2.5 Data for Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Tim Hawkins. 2009. SU Center for Land Use. $5,050.

A Synoptic Climatology for PM 2.5 Data for Carlisle, PA: Phase II. Tim Hawkins. 2009. SU Center for Land Use. $4,750


Burd Run Update

The Burd Run stream and wetland restoration site continues to be a popular field trip destination and research site. The tree plantings along the riparian buffer are growing nicely. If you haven’t been to the park recently, you should stop by to see it sometime. The restored wetland is doing a great job reducing the nitrogen loading to downstream waters including the Chesapeake Bay. Based on our monitoring data, I’ve estimated that over 14,000 pounds of nitrogen have now been removed since this small wetland was restored in 2001. We should be doing more of this!
**China Field Course**

“Sensory overload” probably best characterizes the Geography-Earth Science Field Studies course in China during the summer of 2008. The 19-day program, co-directed by George Pomeroy and Jennifer Pomeroy, found students studying urbanization, development, and planning in Shanghai and Beijing, arguably the “fastest changing places in the world” with respect to these topics and change generally. Students also received lectures and interactive lessons in calligraphy, traditional Chinese painting, Chinese language, and tai chi. In addition to the study topics, students visited a number of sites historical and cultural significance, including several of China’s leading Buddhist temples, the Bund historic district of Shanghai, various markets (bird, fish and insect; antique), Tiananmen Square, and the Forbidden City, as well as capping the final day of the program with a walk on the Great Wall.

**Geography-Geology Field Studies of Curacao, Netherlands Antilles**

Right before the spring ’09 semester, Drs. Cornell and Jantz led an eight-day field study to Curacao. Sixteen students participated in the semester-long course that included the field experience. The field experience exposed students to the physical and biogeography of the region (both on land and under the sea), the geologic and plate tectonic history of Curacao, as well as how these features have impacted the region’s human history from colonization through today. A particularly poignant set of experiences included our visit to Salina St. Marie (a colonial salt-pan worked by slaves), and then the visit to the Kura Hulanda museum, which is dedicated to telling the story of the slave trade in particular detail. The photo shows the central courtyard and an artist’s work that pays homage to Africa and the peoples who were subjugated to colonization and slavery.

As if the field experience were not enough, all students were required to identify an independent research question during the field experience and collect relevant data. Upon return to Ship, they worked throughout the spring semester to complete their projects. Undergraduate students presented their projects during our Spring GTU Honors Banquet, and graduate students presented their projects at the Graduate Research Symposium held at the Dixon University Center in Harrisburg. All projects were excellent and we were proud of the learning outcomes showcased. The course will be run again in spring 2011 so we are looking forward to another successful field experience.
**PA Alliance for Geographic Education**

The Pennsylvania Alliance for Geographic Education found a new home in Shippensburg University’s Department of Geography-Earth Science on July 1, 2009. The hosting of the Pennsylvania Alliance recognizes the university’s commitment to teachers and to education in the state of Pennsylvania.

The program will operate as part of Shippensburg’s Geography-Earth Science Department under the leadership of Dr. Janet Stuhrenberg Smith, Associate Professor. Smith said a number of factors influenced the National Geographic Society’s decision to move the Alliance office to SU, including its reputation in education as well as its central location. “The National Geographic Society wanted to see the office hosted by an institution that has a long history focusing on geography education and a long history of outreach to schools,” she said.

The goal of the Alliance, a collaborative effort between professional geographers and kindergarten through grade 12 teachers, is to promote and strengthen geography education in the state. Smith said National Geographic initiated contact and was familiar with her work as president of the National Council for Geographic Education in 2008. “They asked if I would be willing to serve as Alliance Coordinator and if the university would be willing to act as host,” she said, adding that everyone from her own department through university President Bill Ruud supported the idea. Since its establishment in 1987, the Alliance has been based at various locations including Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Bloomsburg University and, most recently, at the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle. “We are thrilled to have the Pennsylvania Geographic Alliance located at Shippensburg University and Dr. Jan Smith at the helm,” said Robert E. Dulli, deputy to the chairman at the National Geographic Society. “Jan follows a line of excellent Pennsylvania coordinators. We are confident that the record of success that has been built over the past two decades will continue.”

Smith said the Alliance plans to continue holding workshops and conferences focused on supporting geography education in the schools. The Alliance will also develop a 10-year strategic plan to improve geographic literacy in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. A 2006 National Geographic-Roper poll suggested that young people are ill-prepared for what has been described as “an increasingly global future.” The study, based on a representative sampling of 510 adults, aged 18 to 24 in the continental United States, suggested that only 37 percent of young Americans can identify Iraq on a map and that about half couldn’t locate New York. Smith agreed that many students, grades kindergarten through 12, are not getting the geography education they need, but said that locating places on a map is only part of the discipline. “It’s not just about where something is,” she said. “To really understand geography you really need to understand all the interconnections between people and the earth.” And geography, she said, is the discipline that brings the earth together, studying things like soil, climate, and physical landscapes but also brings “in the human side—all the cultural, economic, and political choices people make.”

Smith noted that the world is becoming increasingly smaller. “The economy is global; it’s no longer local. The clothes we wear, the food we eat are frequently coming from other countries.” And if somebody says they don’t care about geography, “It says, ‘I don’t care about the world we live in,’” she noted. Funding for the Alliance comes from the National Geographic Education Foundation with each state responsible for generating local funds.

### GTU Update

Gamma Theta Upsilon (Omicron Chapter) has had a busy 2009 and will have an even busier spring. The year started off with the initiation of four new members bringing the total membership to 25. Socially, we organized a geographic-themed pot luck dinner in October and hope to make this an annual event between members and faculty. In Shearer Hall, GTU continues to strive to meet the department’s tutoring needs by committing over 130 hours of volunteer tutoring during the past academic year. Events for the spring semester include having a booth at the university’s Annual Children’s Fair, attending the Annual Association of American Geographers Meeting in Washington D.C., assisting at the Pennsylvania State Finals Geography Bee, cleaning up Burd Run on ShipShape Day, and the GTU Banquet.

### Departmental Scholarship Winners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarship</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winsor Award (GTU President or graduating senior)</td>
<td>Eli Yearick</td>
<td>Katie Criswell</td>
<td>AJ Beck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harold Crouse Memorial, 1 award @ $1,125</td>
<td>Jim Spatz (for 2007-2008 academic year)</td>
<td>Stephen Kuch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judith L. Achuff Memorial Scholarship, 2 awards @ $200</td>
<td>Katie Criswell and Sarah Stengl</td>
<td>Krista Grove and James Heiss</td>
<td>Christian D’Annibale and James D’Annibale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence Tyson Wolfram Memorial Scholarship, 1 award @ $275</td>
<td>Amy Lee</td>
<td>James Manuel</td>
<td>Danielle Bowers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Ford Scholarship, 1 award @ $650</td>
<td>Melissa Mimna</td>
<td>Gary Lasako</td>
<td>Kaja Spaseff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Jane H. Ehemann Scholarship, 1 award @ $950</td>
<td>Hugh Lewis (inaugural awardee)</td>
<td>Amanda Locke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Craig Oyen Memorial Research Award, 1 award @ $350</td>
<td>Kara Bushman (inaugural awardee)</td>
<td>Kaja Spaseff</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Departmental Service Award, 1 award @ $50</td>
<td>Eliza Gross</td>
<td>Melissa Mimna</td>
<td>Erick Ammon, Jeremiah Greenland, Gary Lasako, James Manuel, and Kaja Spaseff for outstanding service during the Shearer Hall flood of 2009.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THANK YOU for your continuing support of our department and our students! Funds donated to the department by alums and other supporters are absolutely critical for offering great opportunities for our students. If you are looking to give back to the department, we have a variety of funds and scholarship programs. How do you make a gift? Go to the SU Foundation website→Make a Gift→Find Funds (http://www.sufoundation.org/opportunities/funds). Our funds can either be found under the “Academic Scholarships” link or the “College/Department Funds” link. Alternatively, you can send a check made out to the SU Foundation with the name of the fund specified in the “Memo” line.

**Geography-Earth Science Funds:**

**The Geography-Earth Science Department Fund:** Donations to this fund go directly to the department and are used to support student travel and research. Find this fund under “College/Department Funds” on the SU Foundation website.

**The Harold U. Crouse Award:** Harold Crouse was the president of Peoples Bank in Shippensburg and served on the University’s Board of Trustees. His son Jim was one of our majors in the 1970s and went to an environmental position in Florida. Jim and his sister took the initiative to create this award, which is given annually to a geoenvironmental sophomore or junior who has a major GPA of at least 3.2, and who demonstrates good character and citizenship. Preference is given to graduates of the Shippensburg school district. Find this fund under “Academic Scholarships” on the SU Foundation website.

**Lawrence Tyson Wolfram Award:** Lawrence Wolfram was one of our students in the 1960s and went on to become an earth science teacher in Maryland. He died prematurely, and this fund was established in his memory by his family. This award is given annually to a sophomore, junior, or graduate student in geoenvironmental studies or geography earth science who has a GPA of at least 2.8, shows good moral character, and who demonstrates an interest in environmental education and youth development. Find this fund under “Academic Scholarships” on the SU Foundation website.

**Jack Ford Scholarship:** Dr. Jack Ford came to Shippensburg in the 1970s and started many of our computer-related courses in the department, including our remote sensing courses. Our remote sensing lab is named in his honor. This fund was established by Dr. Ford’s wife and sons. This award is given annually to a geoenvironmental or geography earth science graduate student who shows evidence of academic success, research activities, community involvement, character, leadership, and initiative. Find this fund under “Academic Scholarships” on the SU Foundation website.

**Judith L. Achuff Award:** Judy Achuff was within a few weeks of graduation when she was killed by a drunk driver. Judy had a bubbly personality, worked hard and was well liked by everyone. This fund was established by fellow students and the family in Judy’s memory. The award is given annually to a sophomore or junior in geography earth science who has shown academic improvement, and who demonstrates leadership on campus or within the broader community. Find this fund under “Academic Scholarships” on the SU Foundation website.

**Dr. Jane H. Eheman Fund:** Dr. Jane Eheman was a long-time faculty in the Geography-Earth Science Department and taught several courses related to regional tourism and development. An avid traveler, Dr. Eheman continues her world travels during her retirement. The purpose of this fund is to provide funds to support students’ international travel for accredited courses in the Department, the development of workshops for teachers of geography or environmental issues, student travel to professional Geography/Earth Science meetings, scholarship(s) for Geography or Earth Science majors, and Department-sponsored research projects.

**Dr. Craig Oyen Memorial Research Award:** Dr. Craig Oyen joined the faculty at Shippensburg in 1998 and taught courses in geology and oceanography and co-taught field courses in the Grand Canyon, Arizona; and Vancouver, British Columbia. Dr. Oyen was devoted to providing optimal field learning experiences for his students, aimed towards generating increased interest in and knowledge of geologic sciences. Established in Dr. Oyen’s memory by his family, this award is given annually to an undergraduate or graduate student who shows evidence of striving for academic excellence, demonstration of leadership, interest in field studies and research activities, and, ideally, possessing a strong interest in geology. Funds are used to support field studies or research or for supporting travel to a professional conference.

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**Another Successful Career Day**

On November 12, 2009, the department hosted another successful career day. Over twenty organizations came to recruit our students for internships and careers. Thank you for your support of our department and our students!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organizations that attended the 2009 Career Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aquatic Environmental Consultants                                                 Parsons Brinckerhoff, Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources                       Skelly &amp; Loy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Johnson, Mirmiran &amp; Thompson                                                       GeoDecisions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cumberland County Planning Commission                                              Franklin County Conservation District</td>
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<tr>
<td>McCormick Taylor                                                                   Franklin County Planning Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Franklin County Area Development                                                    U.S. Department of Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania Parks and Forestry Foundation                                          Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection                                Valley Quarries</td>
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</tbody>
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**Weather Station Update**

The university weather station and website, administered by Tim Hawkins, continues to serve Shippensburg students and the community. To date, the real time website (http://webspace.ship.edu/weather) has had over 35,000 hits. Students frequently use the data for research projects and Tim Hawkins regularly provides weather and climate information to local media outlets.

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**SAVE THE DATE**

**October 22-23, 2010**

Shippensburg University Homecoming Weekend
Faculty Attend National Teaching Conference.

Several current and former faculty members attended the National Conference for Geographic Education in San Juan, Puerto Rico from September 23-27, 2009. NCGE is a conference where K-12 and college teachers and researchers share current best practices and research results regarding geographic education.

Faculty and friends included: Jan Smith, Jack Benhart (Emeritus Faculty), Don Ziegler (Ship alum & Professor at Old Dominion, also a former national GTU president), Will Rense (Emeritus Faculty), Kay Williams, Tim Hawkins, Irene Hawkins (Spouse), Mike Applegarth, Ramona Medellin (Friend), George Pomeroy.

Check out our updated department website. If any of you have not visited the University’s website in recent months, we have been going through a face lift. The university is transitioning to a web management system for web development. Although we are not yet through that transition, we do have a newly formatted website with a fresh look so check it out at: http://webspace.ship.edu/geog/. In the upcoming months, we will be moved to a new website, which will likely be www.ship.edu/geog.