

SPECIAL POINTS
OF INTEREST:

- New online geography degree
- Study abroads in India and Greece
- International Archaeology Day

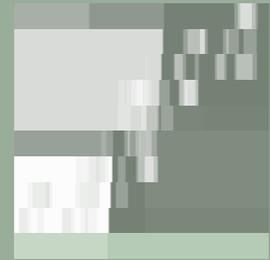


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Footprints

“Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.” –Ralph Waldo Emerson



FALL 2014

Message from the Chair

By Dr Susan Smith

The Department of Geography and Anthropology has been exciting this summer and fall semester. WE are expanding our program offerings by offering an online version of our B.A. in Geography. This will be the first fully online geography BA in the country. You can read more about it below.

Our faculty has also continued to grow. This semester we hired two new anthropology faculty members to teach general education and physical anthropology courses. Read more about Alice Fazlollah and Ben Mersey inside. We are also pleased to welcome Lauren Parkinson as our new student

assistant. She has been a big help since joining us in September.

Students have been traveling the world conducting research or studying in India, Greece and China. They have also been working closer to home conducting research in the KSU Arboretum and sponsoring events for International Archaeology Day and GIS Night. Look for our student profiles throughout the newsletter.

We also have a new slate of leaders for our Department Advisory Board. We are excited to welcome Gwen Koehler

as our new president and Nancy Bauer as our vice president. The Board is revamping the bylaws and working to get the members more involved in the department. We are excited about working more closely with the board in the coming years.



New Online Geography B.A.

The Department of Geography & Anthropology is pleased to announce that the B.A. in Geography will be available as a completely online degree beginning in Spring Semester 2015. The Board of Regents approved the fully online degree earlier this fall, which mirrors exactly the 123 degree program in the KSU Catalog. It is the first online

B.A. for Kennesaw State University and is among the first fully online geography degrees in the nation. As with the traditional degree, the online B.A. in Geography will prepare students to function effectively in a world of diverse cultures and environmental challenges. A geography degree can lead to a rewarding career in business,

education, government (at any level), non-profit organizations, or research. Dr. Garrett Smith has been named the coordinator for this project. Please contact him for more information at gsmith@kennesaw.edu

Faculty and Alumni Updates

Dr Jun Tu: Published the following paper: Wei Tu, Jun Tu & Stuart Tedders (2014) Estimating neighbourhood-level socioeconomic effect on preterm births using a multilevel approach: a case study in Georgia, USA, *Annals of GIS*, 20:3, 181-191.

Drs. Mark Patterson and Nancy Hoalst-Pullen published the book *Geography of Beer: Regions, Environment*. It's a great read! Also, the Beer doctors are doing a study abroad in Summer 2015 to Ireland, Belgium and the Netherlands on Europe and the Geography of Beer!

Dr Vanessa-Slinger-Friedman: Slinger-Friedman, Vanessa; Terantino, Joe; Randall, Chris; Aust, Philip J.; Powell, Tamara. Refining Advanced Professional Development for Online Teaching and Course Building: An Evaluation From the Faculty Perspective. *International Journal on Advances in Life Sciences*. Forthcoming Spring 2015.

Mike Vest (GIS, 2013): I enjoy working with an engineering firm in Metro Atlanta, where by trade I am an Illustrator, Graphic Artist, GIS professional, as well as an instructional comic artist

added for extra spice. My KSU career has successfully launched me into a viable industry in communications where I use not only software skills attained, but also critical and creative thinking skills.

Liz Parrish (BS GISc, 2009) is a Senior Database Analyst with ESRI (Environmental Systems Research Institute). She built upon her skills gained at KSU during a 3-year term as the GIS Analyst for the City of Johns Creek, Georgia. She provides Tier 2 technical support to customers in who utilize Esri's enterprise geodatabase products on platforms such as SQL

Server, Oracle, DB2, and PostgreSQL. She is a subject matter expert on versioning and replication in the enterprise geodatabase environment.

Tim Poe (GIS, 2008) was awarded the 2014 Commissioners Achievement Award for his outstanding service at



Congrats to Gamma Theta Upsilon



A sincere congratulations to the Gamma Theta Upsilon's (GTU) newest chapter, Mu Upsilon (MY) and its charter members! This chapter was officially recognized on May 1, 2014 at Kennesaw State University, and was the culmination of the hard work of many students and their chapter advisor, Dr. Nancy Hoalst-Pullen (Alpha Xi chapter).

GTU is a nationally recognized geography honor society that celebrates the accomplishments of outstanding students in geography. Their mission is to further interest in the profession, strengthen

student and professional training, advance the status of Geography, encourage student research, create and administer funds to further study/research in the field of Geography, and to encourage members to apply geographic knowledge and skills in service to humankind.

The 10 charter members of "MY GTU" that were initiated on May 3, 2014 include the following individuals:

Matt Alfort
Kraig Barrett
Kimberly Crawley

Luis Esteva
Shanks Gavin
Tad Hammer
Carrie Hatcher
Jennifer Heitert
Gina Perleoni
Kathryn Tucker

The newest members (to be initiated on November 22, 2014) include:

Natalie Hamlin
Joseph Jarquin
Lauren Parkinson

Congratulations to each of these students!

Study Abroad: China

This past summer, geography professor Dr Jun Tu attended the Study in China Program organized by the Asia Council of University System of Georgia. He served as the on-site assistant director and taught Geography of Asia and World Regional Geography.

Twenty-five students, including five from Kennesaw State University, participated in the program. The group went to the cities of Beijing, Xi'an, Zhengzhou, Luoyang, and Shanghai and visited iconic sites such as

the Great Wall and the terracotta soldiers.

The program is also being offered next summer from May 8th to June 5th. The program cost is \$3,850, and the deadline to apply is February 4th, 2015.



Beer Geography

What does beer and geography have in common? More than you may think! Drs. Nancy Hoalst Pullen and Mark Patterson have been studying the spatial links between beer and location, and have recently co-edited a volume entitled *The Geography of Beer: Regions, Environment, and Societies*. Since the release, more than two dozen publications - including Huffington Post, Popular Science, Science, and Yahoo News - have covered aspects of the book and its unique perspective on understanding beer. Additionally, the Fall 2014 edition of the KSU magazine highlights the research these professors are doing. With a potential 2nd volume in the works, Hoalst-Pullen and Patterson are currently researching the sustainability trends found with craft brewing industry with GIS student Blake Pierson.

Welcome New Department Members!



Alice Fazlollah joined us this semester as a limited term instructor of Anthropology. She has an MA in Anthropology from UGA and is pursuing her PhD in Anthropology from UT Knoxville. She is teaching upper division physical anthropology courses as well as general education classes.



Ben Mersey is a new part time instructor of Anthropology, teaching Introduction to Anthropology. He has Master's degree from University of Cambridge. He is pursuing his PhD in Integrative Biology at the UC Berkeley.



Lauren Parkinson is our new office assistant. She is a senior majoring in geography.

Welcome to the Department of Geography and Anthropology!

Catching a Glimpse of India Through Archaeology

By Blake Bottomley

Editor's note: Excavations at Jawasiya-Arni were funded by National Geographic and KSU's Center for Teaching and Learning.

In December 2013, Caitlin Syfrett and I travelled to India's northwestern state of Rajasthan, where we assisted Dr. Teresa Raczek and her Indian colleagues on an archaeological excavation as a directed applied research project. After spending half an eternity on planes, we recovered from our jet lag in the gorgeous city of Udaipur before heading out to the field. We spent our days working at the site of Jawasiya-Arni, a sand dune that rose out of the scrubby landscape and rested between a river and a lake. Before heading to work, we started our mornings with a hearty breakfast and a cup of chai. Afterwards, we loaded up the field truck with our equipment and ventured across the Rajasthani countryside to the site, where our days consisted of setting up trenches, excavating them, screening for artifacts, or mapping the sand dune with a total station. Sifting sand through a wire screen was a nice change of pace from the

sticky red Georgia clay that I'm used to. I also learned an Indian technique for setting datums and found my Zen in the frustrating hours that I spent setting up the tripod for the total station. Working hours were sunny and warm for the most part, but we did have a few frigid days where we



were smothered by the thickest, eeriest fog I've ever seen. Overall, I had a blast working in Rajasthan, but transitioning to a new culture wasn't easy. Luckily, I had plenty of help along the way. India is filled with some of the nicest people I've met, and many were eager to invite us into their homes, have us over for dinner, give us advice, come to our aid, or just ask questions about who we were and where we were from. During the excavation, we hired two women from a nearby village who liked to joke around while we were digging, often repeating strings of English words and phrases. Greeting or thanking them would typically get me a response similar to this: "Thanks. Thank you. You're welcome. Good morning. Good night." The ladies spoke Mewari, a local language, and they tried to teach me a little bit. My brain was crammed with new Hindi words for foods, places, people, actions, concepts, and more. I was also still learning India's ways of eating, bathing, using a toilet, and being polite, among other things, so tackling a third

language was out of the question for me at that point. Fortunately, our hosts, friends, and even strangers were patient with me as I was learning. When we weren't excavating, we were visiting nearby sites like Balathal and Chatrikhera, touring incredible landmarks like Chittorgarh Fort, and exploring the cities. Simply walking around was a sensory overload as we tried to take in all of the sights, sounds, and smells in a place that seems to always be moving. The realization that I was seeing only a brief glimpse of an enormous country was overwhelming. Traveling and working in India were incredible experiences, and I'm grateful that I had the opportunity to do so.

Top: One neighbor rides his bike as others deliver the morning milk to the dairy in Gilund, India

Left: KSU Anthropology students Blake Bottomley and Caitlin Syfrett excavate at Jawasiya-Arni.

"My brain was crammed with new Hindi words for foods, places, people, actions, concepts, and more."



Tree Hugging Results in Spatial Mapping

GIS students Stephanie Roper and David Zeh spent the summer with Dr. Nancy Hoalst-Pullen researching KSU's Arboretum to determine the spatial composition and dynamics of the small mixed hardwood forest. So far, the frequency and distribution of every tree within the <1 ha area were identified by species and measured. Roper and Zeh are the third set of students to meas-

ure this permanent plot since 2008. Preliminary findings are showing a significant loss of canopy-size loblolly pines (*Pinus taeda*) and flowering dogwoods (*Cornus florida*) an increase in beech (*Fagus grandifolia*) and linden (also known as lime tree or basswood) (*Tilia americana*) species in the understory. Once mapped, this data will identify spatial patterns of this small urbanized forest

patch over the eight year period.



Left: GIS student David Zeh is measuring the diameter at breast height (dbh) of a tree within the KSU Arboretum.

Greece Osteology Field School: My Experience in Crete

By Anthony Chieffo



My trip to Crete was an immense opportunity, and I am very glad that I was able to go. The island of Crete isn't a very large place. You could easily catch a bus trip from one side of the island to the other over the course of a day. I stayed in town called Pachia Ammos which was situated along the northern coast. The location is absolutely beautiful. The water was bright crystal blue and the mountains surrounding the valley were stunning. The beach was also wonderful and the food was amazing. What stood out most of all were the people that lived there. The general attitude is much different than what we are faced with here in Georgia where we are bombarded with advertisements, noise, and grid-lock

traffic. In Pachia Ammos none of that was present. The streets were generally quiet, and you only realized people were around during the evenings when people would eat out at one of the many restaurants by the sea.

The archaeological sites dotting the landscape of Crete were numerous. My first fieldtrip was a walk to one of the nearest sites, Gournia, and I remember how often I found pottery just lying around. Apparently there is so much pottery in Crete, that not all of it can be analyzed. As a result you can find many potsherds just lying about. The INSTAP Study Center for East Crete I worked at with Dr. Smith was also very impressive. The research center itself employs people from various academic disciplines. I was able to get an insider's perspective about the research process of many projects from start to finish. My experiences at the study center were an amazing opportunity to

round out many of the ideas swimming in my head and helped me narrow those down what I want to do after I graduate.. Now I am looking at graduating from Kennesaw State University soon and it is really hard to imagine where I would be without this fantastic study abroad experience. I would recommend to every student to invest the time and go abroad in some capacity. It will only serve to better your college experience and give you a better idea of where it is you want to take it afterwards.

"It is really hard to imagine where I would be without this fantastic study abroad experience."



Anthony Chieffo on the island of Crete (left).

Ethnoarchaeology and Immersion in India

By Krista Cross

Editor's note: The author participated in the KSU Anthropology Education Abroad Program, "Craft and Society in India" in Summer 2014. In the program, students earned 6 credits for studying Indian culture and archaeology and undertaking an ethnoarchaeology research project. Working in pairs with translators, students engaged in participant observation and practiced interviewing techniques to learn about craft production in Udaipur. Students also toured monuments and museums in Delhi, Jaipur, Chittorgarh, and Agra. An exhibition of their research is on display on the 4th floor of Social Sciences through December 2014.

As an anthropology student I possess a paramount desire to explore and engage in other cultures. Even though images give us an idea of how a culture seems, I believe that immersing oneself in the culture opens doors to actually feel the experience. However, it has always been a challenging task for me to define what is so intangible. What we feel when we travel cannot be explained by words alone. Although I have previously traveled to other countries, studying in India is easily one of the greatest travel experiences I have encountered.

The primary vision of the summer 2014 trip to India was to study the contemporary craft production and the changing role of artisans in today's India. Through the three week period we travelled to New Delhi, Jaipur, and then to Udaipur. We also made planned outings to visit palaces, temples, gardens, forts, and the magnificent Taj Mahal.

The itinerary of the trip allowed us students to maximize our precious time spent abroad. When landing in New Delhi I could tell we were in a developing city with great historical context. We took advantage of a very precise educational tour led by a local expert, visited the Red Fort, and trekked to Agra to see one of the seven wonders: the Taj Mahal. Exploring the rising city and nearby surroundings allowed us to analyze development. But the real surprise to me was how some traditional values still linger on even though modernization seems to be on the rise.

Amongst the busy streets of India it was easy to fall into an ethnocentric

view right away. At the same time, assumptions made before leaving home were challenged when actually in India. Life seemed different, but diverse in a beautiful way. New Delhi reminded me a lot of New York City, super busy and filled with the echoes of sounding horns.

When travelling between cities on the trains, we encountered beggars, the homeless, the wealthy, the poor, etc. at every station. All cultures have these divisions, but these train rides to and from our destinations were very memorable. I particularly enjoyed the random chai sellers and fellow travelers who seemed to stare at my eyes.

Unfortunately, I missed the next leg to Jaipur, the Pink City because I caught a mild case of "Delhi belly," which is by all means a common condition for a foreigner to catch. After recovering, I was able to grab a train to Jaipur with our T.A. and meet up with the group the night before heading out to Udaipur. It was not until we arrived in the city of Udaipur where the trip reached the climax for me and allowed me to truly think critically and appreciate Indian traditions. Upon arriving in Udaipur the medieval streets and architecture fascinated me. It was easy for my mouth to drop as this city was surrounded by the beautiful Aravalli Hills, lakes, and water reservoirs. We stayed in the heart of the city at Hotel Mewar Haveli for a couple of days before shifting to the Rajasthan Vidyapeeth University Guest House. The atmosphere was simply remarkable and the peace almost made me forget about how hot it was in India.

In Udaipur, we were accompanied with the lovely spirit of Ian Forber Pratt, Director of Foster Care India, and three translators. We initially met up with our translators where we outlined the goals of our research project. Then, we narrowed down our interests to a local potter and basket weaving family. The translators accompanied us every day as we worked with and observed the local artisans throughout the week.

During our time in Udaipur we also

attended several classes. These classes presented us with historical framework, economic details, and research method guidelines which helped us piece together our ethnoarchaeology projects. I personally chose to study the craft of pottery. Throughout my project I worked with a translator who helped mold my questions into a research project. My project questioned the role that modernization has played in affecting the traditional pottery of the artisans. I learned the changes made in the process of creating pottery and how these changes help produce more profit today. He expressed the idea that pottery can be used for more than just water carrying and storage which essentially unlocks an opportunity for the craft to remain present in India even as plastic containers and steel becomes more prominent. While I learned that the potter I worked with was innovative, spontaneous, and even prodigious, he was also very eccentric. I say that kindly as I was extremely impressed by his efforts spent amongst his community and his loyalty to the craft. He has remained engaged in the craft ever since he was born. Now he teaches the craft to locals in an attempt to pass it down and sustain its importance amongst a developing society.

To summarize this trip in a short form is very hard to do. I gained valuable insights and knowledge about a culture that is very complex. Artisans are amazing to watch when they are at work, and their work represents a historical link to understanding different components within a culture based on traditions and craft use. Not only did I gain a whole new appreciation of artisan's work, I also was rewarded with sharing this experience with other students and teachers who love going outside of their comfort zones in an attempt to better their understanding of different cultures.



"The peace almost made me forget about how hot it was in India."



Top: Craft and Society in India participants pose in front of Humayan's Tomb in Delhi.

Bottom: KSU Anthropology students observe the process of cutting bamboo.

International Archaeology Day 2014

By Cody Black and Chelsey Schrock



The Kennesaw State University Student Anthropology Club and Lambda Alpha Anthropology Honors Society celebrated International Archaeology Day on Saturday, Oct. 18 by hosting a community outreach event in Cave Spring, GA to educate families about archaeology and the historic Vann Cabin. Many Kennesaw State University Geography and Anthropology faculty, anthropology students, and members of the Cave Spring Historical Society made the trip out to Cave Spring to assist with the event and help it succeed. A small but enthusiastic turnout of families was eager to learn.

KSU faculty, students, and alumni offered various activities to



educate the local community about archaeology. At the bone

identification table participants attempted to identify various animal skulls and re-assemble a plastic replica of a human skeleton. Next to that, kids learned about stratigraphy by making a small jar necklace with layers of colored sand. They practiced artifact identification by examining a collection of odd replicas and artifacts and then they tried their hand at hitting a target with wooden blow darts. With the help of Dr. Hoalst Pullen, participants also learned how to take dendrochronology core samples and determine age



from wood. Finally, at the sand pit, children used proper tools to excavate buried features (brick alignments) and “artifacts” (plastic trinkets). Nearby, an archaeologist’s toolkit was laid out and children learned about how each tool was used.

Each child was given a “passport” booklet that contained a grid page for mapping features in the dig pit, and a note page for recording finds. Additional games, puzzles, and archaeological information were provided in the passport. Chil-

dren who earned a stamp in their passport at each station won a prize. Throughout the event, students and alumni mapped the Vann Cabin property with a total station. Support for the event came from the Department of Geography and Anthropology, Student Anthropology Club, Lambda Alpha Anthropology Honor Society, Cave Spring Historical Society, Centennial Finishes, Inc., Fletcher Mechanical, Firehouse Subs, and several anonymous individuals who donated time, materials, and funds.

The Vann Cabin, built by Avery Vann, and potentially the oldest structure in Floyd County, Georgia, is part of the National Trail of Tears. Many families have owned the cabin over the years, building additions that hid the original cabin. However, four years ago the Cave Spring Historical Society found the original structure and is now working to preserve it. The Engaged Archaeology class in Spring 2015 semester will focus on the Vann Cabin as its case study.

Top left: Children examine a specimen under a microscope

Bottom left: Children examine the model skeleton

Middle: Dr. Hoalst-Pullen demonstrates how to make a dendrochronology core

Top right: Children learn excavation techniques in the dig pit.



2014 GIS Night at Burnt Hickory Brewery

Kennesaw State University celebrated GIS Day on Wednesday, November 19th at **Burnt Hickory Brewery** in Kennesaw, GA.

GIS Day is an internationally recognized day to celebrate geographic information systems (GIS). At KSU, GIS Day is a time when GIS faculty, students, alumni and the GIS community come together to support the GIS program at KSU.

This year, the GIS faculty and students shared experiences and accomplishments, and enjoyed various geography-oriented trivia games. Robin Dorff, Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, opened the night with a standing room only crowd. After the Superman-inspired "State of the Program" was given by Dr. Nancy Hoalst- Pullen, various GIS

students showcased their research in a series of 1 minute lightning round presentations.

In addition, an array of awards were given out to various students and alumni. These included the 2014 Outstanding GIS Senior Kat Tucker, the 2014 Outstanding GIS Certificate Student Rebecca Mattord, the 2014 GIS Engagement Awards to the Watershed Alliance of Sandy Springs and Brad Neubert,

and the 2014 GIS Alumni Award to Rebecca Mattord. GIS Certificates were also handed out to over a dozen students who have completed the five GIS courses with a 3.0 or better. A heartfelt congratulations these individuals and organizations!

KSU's GIS program graduates well-trained professionals that go on to be employed at world-class companies and organizations including ESRI, Quantum Spatial, The Centers for Disease Control, Georgia DOT, Norfolk Southern, and The Department of Defense.

Thanks to the sponsors: ESRI, URISA, Quantum Spatial, Chatura Solutions, Clearion Software, Critigen, TSCG, and the Dept. of Geog. & Anthropology.

Thanks to all who attended this year, and hope to see you next year!



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Mission Statement

"The Department of Geography & Anthropology prepares students for better global citizenship by educating them about the world and its peoples."

Focus

Critical thinking about cultures, environments, space and place is central to this mission. As the pace of globalization increases in the 21st century, these elements are vital in fostering an awareness, understanding and ability to conceptualize, articulate and influence the forces that are changing the Earth's human and environmental landscapes.