Letter from the Chair

Welcome to MadGeogNews!
It’s my pleasure to welcome you to an exciting edition of our new newsletter. I’d like to use this opportunity to first fill you in on several happenings that are in the works or were recently completed in the department.

First, we were successful in hiring two new faculty members. Ian Baird (PhD’08, University of British Columbia), an environmental geographer working in Southeast Asia, was the new UW-Madison Hmong Studies hire, and started in fall 2010. Ian’s research is on questions of minority relations and identity politics in Cambodia and Laos, as well as on agricultural systems and sustainable development. He has spent nearly 25 years in the region, and we are very excited to have him join the program.

Second, Holly Gibbs PhD’08 (Nelson Institute), has accepted an offer and will be joining us in fall 2011. Holly was hired as part of the Wisconsin Biofuels Initiative, and she works on sustainable biofuel production on degraded lands in a wide variety of geographic settings. See Page 3 for more information on Holly and Ian.

We were also given permission by the College of Letters and Science to conduct a search in GIScience (Geovisualization) during fall 2010. This search is necessitated by the resignation of Professor Mark Harrower, who decided to make spring 2009 his last semester. We can only hope we will be lucky enough to recruit a new faculty member in GIScience who brings the kind of dedication to research and teaching that Mark added to the program. He will be greatly missed. Similarly, Professor Leila Harris left the program in January 2010 to take up a position in Vancouver at the University of British Columbia. This represents a significant loss to both the people-environment and human geography programs, and we continue to press the college for permission to refill these positions, as well as previous faculty losses.

I hope this newsletter finds you well. Please stop in next time you are on campus — we’d be happy to welcome you in person!

— Bob Kaiser
New Geography, New Partnership

by Bob Kaiser

During the spring 2010 semester, professors Zhu, Turner and I traveled to China, where we explored the potential for a collaborative research and teaching relationship with the geography program at Beijing Normal University (BNU). BNU, a top-tier geography department in a top-tier university in China. We were invited to join their initiative on the concept of ‘new geography.’ This invitation was extended to us due to our world-renowned reputation and pioneering work in the various fields of geography. The concept of new geography encompasses the integration of physical and human geography with geospatial technology (including GIS, RS, GPS and spatial modeling). This integration will allow geography, as discipline, to play a pivotal role in solving environmental, economic and social problems. This invitation stipulates full-scale collaboration between the two top programs ranging from undergraduate education, graduate training and joint faculty research projects. Our visit coincided with Chancellor Martin’s visit to BNU, which created huge excitement from both sides about the prospects of what geography can bring in addressing environmental, economic and social problems. We returned very optimistic about this extension of our program, and the faculty approved moving forward. A-Xing, Matt and I even presented our trip to students and faculty at one of the spring’s Beer and Loafing lectures, which was — or so I was told — one of the best ever!! We will begin our joint activities with BNU as early as summer 2010, with our first research projects and distance learning initiatives scheduled to be launched during the fall 2010 semester. Stay tuned for further developments!

Emeriti Updates

Bill Denevan writes:

“In 2009 I published Carl Sauer on Culture and Landscape, edited with Kent Mathewson PhD’87, LSU Press.

“Nearing 80, I am still playing tennis three times a week. I was out for a while after falling and breaking my wrist and smashing my knee cap in February. Susie and I are going to Wimbledon next year.”

Yi-Fu Tuan writes:

“For me, the two big events of the past year were: first, the dinner for 100 incoming honors freshmen in which I shamelessly peddled the theme of “Human Goodness” before their pristine minds became coated with sticky layers of sophomoric sophistication; and, second, the surprise party at A-Xing’s home, marking my 80th birthday (Chinese counting). I had such a good time that I decided to have another 80th birthday (Western counting) this time in California. So you see, dear friends, there is life even at 80 — but only just.

“I also published Religion: From Place to “Placelessness.” If you need a coffee-table book, this is it, for half of the book is made up of colored photographs, the work of a professor of art at the University of North Carolina.”

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Celebrating the formation and deepening of ties between geographers in Beijing and Madison.
Welcome, New Faculty

Ian Baird joined the Department of Geography in fall 2010. Ian is a human geographer who comes to Madison from Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, where he spent his childhood. He’s spent most of the last 24 years living, working and conducting research in Laos, Thailand and Cambodia. He speaks Lao, Thai and Brao fluently (with some knowledge of Khmer), and will be working closely with the Center for Southeast Asian Studies at UW-Madison.

Ian’s research interests are varied and include upland peoples in mainland Southeast Asia, including the Brao and the Hmong; identities; political ecology; human-environment relations; co-management of natural resources; development and post-colonial studies; social movements; social theory; social and spatial (re)organization; boundaries; and 19th- and 20th-century mainland Southeast Asia history. Please check out Ian’s website at geography.wisc.edu/faculty/baird for further details on his research and teaching interests.

Holly Gibbs will be joining the Department of Geography in fall 2011. In the meantime, she will finish the last year of her David H. Smith Conservation Research Fellowship at Stanford University’s Program on Food Security and Environment while soaking up the California sunshine.

Her research focuses on land use, carbon cycle and policy issues associated with bioenergy sustainability. Holly quantifies and maps shifting drivers, patterns and consequences of tropical land use change. She also analyzes the ripple effects of globalized economic drivers on agricultural expansion, and integrates land use science and economics to better understand the indirect effects of energy, climate and conservation policies. Holly will teach the People, Land and Food course with an emphasis on global demands for food, feed and fuel. She will also develop a new course on Carbon Cycle Science and Policy.

Sauer Joins Science Hall Staff

Susan Sauer ’75 joins the Geography Department as our financial specialist. Having previously worked at other notable campus sites including Eagle Heights, Humanities and the Primate Center, Susan has a deep appreciation of historic Science Hall. A Madison native, Susan remembers visiting the Science Hall mastodon with her father as a young child, and much later, sitting for lectures in Room 180, fulfilling the science requirements for her BS in art from UW-Madison. “UW ceramics professor Don Reitz pointed to Science Hall as a beautiful example of clay sculpture. I think about this every time I enter the building.”
Amy Burnicki presented research at the Accuracy 2010 conference held at the University of Leicester in the United Kingdom examining how errors contained in land-cover maps impact the predicted patterns of land-cover change. The Accuracy 2010 conference is the latest in a series of conferences (International Symposium on Spatial Accuracy Assessment in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences) examining the accuracy and uncertainty associated with spatial data used in natural resource applications.

Professor Burnicki will begin a new research project with the help of current graduate student Jing Gao. The project will examine past land-cover changes in southeastern and northwestern Michigan to predict where future changes in land-cover are likely to occur. The model developed for this project identifies areas likely to change in the future by relating past land-cover changes to various socioeconomic and biophysical factors (e.g., distance to urban center, slope). It also examines the pattern of past changes to ensure future changes have similar spatial structures. Professor Burnicki is also looking forward to working with incoming master’s students in the GIS subgroup Magdalena Wisniewska and Christopher Gavin.

The Erica Marin-Spiotta lab enjoyed an exciting first year and has continued to grow in numbers! Lab members currently include: Emily Atkinson (PhD, Geography), Emily Eggleston (MS, Geography), Nina Chaopricha (PhD, E&R), Peyton Smith (PhD, Soils) and Marc Mayes (MS, E&R). The lab recently bid farewell to Gabrielle Hinahara, who presented her senior thesis at the AAG meeting. The lab also hosted two undergraduate research scholars, Zach Stewart and Dylan Hill, who got first-hand experience in building a lab from scratch. This summer, Zach and Wei Jiang are helping process more samples.

The lab is pursuing new and exciting research projects, including determining the source of buried organic matter preserved almost 10,000 years ago in Nebraskan sand dunes with Professor Mason. With the Land Tenure Center, the lab has been studying how tropical soil carbon pools respond to land-use conversions. The preliminary results and its implications for carbon sequestration were presented to USAID in Washington, D.C. In Colorado, the lab has also been working with archeologists to reconstruct household gardens in a World War II Japanese-American internment camp. In Turkey, the lab will be measuring the impact of different land-cover types on soil carbon in a landscape that has been farmed for thousands of years. In Puerto Rico, the lab will also use new molecular tools to study how microbes control carbon and nitrogen cycling during forest succession. Several of the students won academic and research awards. The lab is looking forward to another busy, fun year.

Alice Halfen, department administrator, was recently elected as a member of the Council for Non-Represented Classified Staff (CNCS) serving through June 2012. The CNCS is empowered to deal with issues affecting non-represented classified staff at the university level.

In April, Matt Turner and Lisa Naughton gave a talk in Washington, D.C. hosted by USAID on “The Importance of Land Tenure in Payment for Ecosystem Services Initiatives” for an audience of international development agencies and nonprofit environmental organizations.

Jim Knox continues with his long-term research interests dealing with water, sediment and fluvial geomorphology responses to human and natural environmental changes for time-scales ranging from contemporary to geologic. Research publications during the past year included: “Channel, floodplain, and wetland responses to floods and overbank sedimentation, 1846-2006, Halfway Creek Marsh, Upper Mississippi Valley” in Geological Society of America Special Paper 451, pp. 23–42 (co-authored with Faith Fitzpatrick of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and Joseph Schubauer-Berigan of the U.S. EPA); and an article, “Mississippi River flood history preserved in floodplain sedimentary deposits” published in the St. Louis, Mississippi River Science Meeting proceeding volume, Finding the Balance Between Floods, Flood Protection, and River Navigation.

Early this year, Professor Knox presented an invited keynote lecture: “Historical changes in erosion and sedimentation along Driftless Area channels
and floodplains” at a symposium on stream restoration sponsored by the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the University of Minnesota St. Anthony Falls Hydraulics.

Professor Knox’s new research projects include investigating driftless area quaternary deposits of southwestern Wisconsin, a cooperative project with the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey and the USGS. Another new project examines climate and land-use influences on sediment movement and storage, and channel morphologic changes, in Wisconsin’s upper Kickapoo River system. This research is supported by a $25,000 award related to Professor Knox’s Easterbrook Distinguished Scientist Award from the Quaternary Geology and Geomorphology Division of the Geological Society of America and by funds associated with Jim’s Evjue-Bascom Professorship. Faith Fitzpatrick of the USGS is a co-investigator on the Kickapoo Project. The project involves repeat surveys of river cross sections surveyed earlier by Professor Knox and his former students Bill Johnson, Allan James, Dave May, Frank Magilligan and Shawn Higgins.

Fall semester 2010 represents Professor Knox’s 43rd year on the faculty at Wisconsin. Professor Knox is particularly proud of the many excellent graduate students he supervised. The most recent are Colin Belby MS’05, PhD’09 (30th PhD student) and Samantha Greene ’08, MS’10 (54th MS student).

In June, Lisa Naughton and Nora Alvarez MS’01 participated in a workshop on Indigenous Land Rights and Forest Carbon Payments, in Peru following up on their research on land-use change in the region.

Naughton organized ice-fishing trips for students enrolled in People, Wildlife and Landscapes. During these events, students interviewed fishers about their interactions with other fishers. Several pikes were captured and released!

Amber Reierson, payroll and benefits coordinator, attended the UW-Extension workshop entitled, Workplace Writing this past October.

Keith Woodward recently received an AHRC-NSF Collaborative Research Grant totaling $910,743 (with Sallie A. Marston, Deborah P. Dixon MS’91, and John Paul Jones III) for a multi-sited study of artist-scientist collaborations that address emerging issues connected with transformations in biotechnology, climate change science, astrophysics and other areas.

This year, Professor Woodward published a number of pieces that focus on the political dimensions of contemporary theory in human geography. He contributed an invited chapter, “Events, Spontaneity and Abrupt Conditions,” to Taking Place: Non-Representational Theories and Geography that assesses the critical heritage of non-representational politics. He also published works detailing the politics of affect theory — “Geographies of Affect” (with Jennifer Lea) and “Affective Life” — in two collections devoted to social geography. The next in a series of collaborative articles (with Sallie A. Marston and John Paul Jones III) devoted to ‘site ontology’ in human geography, entitled “Of Eagles and Flies: Orientations Toward the Site,” is forthcoming in Area. A further piece in that series is currently being revised for Progress in Human Geography.

Geography Library

The Geography Library has put honors theses, master’s theses and Geography 565 Colloquium projects online at Minds@UW. Let the library know if your thesis or project can be added to the department’s online collection.

Summer into fall of 2009 was spent dealing with the 10th leak in 10 years from the air conditioner upstairs. We lost a few books this time and saved many more with just minor damage. On the bright side, the Librarian’s Office did receive a complete repainting. Leak number 11 this summer was small as the installed ‘improvements’ were not large enough.

Four long-time student assistants have graduated this past year. New faces already grace the desk. Student assistants traveled to Hong Kong and Ecuador this year, among other places.

Paddy Rouke, assistant to the librarian, has provided quality service for over five years — from providing instructors with online reserves and reserve options, to careful explanations to users on how to manage the myriad library systems, to completely managing the department’s instructional equipment. In her spare library time, she has taken up the art of preserving some of our materials that are crumbling and falling apart.

Geography librarian Tom Tews recently celebrated his 26th year working in the library. He wonders when the traditional 25-year Rolex will be coming his way. He also was fortunate to travel to the AAG Meetings in Washington, D.C. this past spring. One of his highlights was visiting the Geography and Map Division of the Library of Congress, where he was able to present them with a copy of the department’s publications: Geography at the U of Wisconsin Madison by Professor Glenn Trewartha, and a copy of Professor Clarence Olmstead’s Science Hall, the First Century.

Your support is always appreciated, whether a kind word, a donated book or a monetary donation.
SCO Welcomes New Staff, Plans for Future

SCO Strategic Planning Initiative
It has been a busy year internally at the State Cartographer’s Office (SCO). Following Howard Veregin’s appointment as state cartographer in September 2009, the office embarked on a strategic planning initiative to update its 2006–2009 Strategic Plan. With assistance from the UW Office of Quality Improvement, SCO staff (Howard Veregin, Jim Lacy, AJ Wortley and Brenda Hemstead) held a series of intense team discussions to begin to flesh out a new strategic plan for 2010–2013. A draft plan was developed and shared with the SCO’s oversight committee in June 2010 and is now being shared with our other stakeholders for additional commentary. Look for more information about the plan at sco.wisc.edu.

New Staff Join SCO
AJ Wortley, senior outreach specialist in the State Cartographer’s Office, was elected president-elect of the Wisconsin Land Information Association (WLIA) in February 2010. AJ’s term as President will begin in February 2011. As president-elect, AJ is also coordinating the next WLIA Annual Meeting, which will be held in Madison in February 2011. On a related note, Howard Veregin, state cartographer, was elected to the WLIA board of directors for a two-year term starting in February, 2010.

Founded in 1987, WLIA is a grassroots organization to foster the understanding, development, operation and maintenance of a network of statewide land information systems (visit wlia.org).

The SCO’s newest staff member is Timothy Kennedy, who joined the office as the new administrative program specialist. In his new role, Tim will support the SCO in efforts to research, develop and implement new technologies for delivering geospatial data and information. Prior to joining the SCO, Tim worked for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Center for Land Use Education at UW-Stevens Point. Tim holds a bachelor’s degree in environmental science from Carroll College in Waukesha, Wisconsin, and a master’s degree in natural resources and land-use planning from UW-Stevens Point. Tim is continuing his education in pursuit of his PhD at UW-Madison.

Please join us in welcoming Tim!

Student Updates

Undergraduates
- **Eric Grazia** participated in the NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates at UW-Platteville in summer 2010 (dune undergraduate Geomorphology and geochronology with Dr. J. Elmo Rawling III).
- **Genevieve Schaad**, former geography undergrad, was involved with the Geography Club, acting as co-chair for this organization while pursuing her degree. Genevieve is currently working for the State Cartographers office.

Graduate Students
Here are a few exciting news items about the awards and honors our graduate students receive. We have a hard time keeping up on all their accomplishments, so please don’t be shy and keep us in the loop!

- The Trewartha Research Grant Awardees in 2010 were Andy Davey, Cathy Day, Fei Ma, Marigold Norman, Nancy Parker, Leslie Sinak, Katie Wirka, Emily Atkinson, Leif Brottem and Amanda Kolpin.
- **Leif Brottem** was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship.
- **Nina Chaopricha** is being supported by a National Science Foundation China IGERT Traineeship, and was awarded a Student Peer Mentor Award, an American Geophysical Union (AGU) Student Travel Grant, and a Nelson Institute Graduate Student Travel Grant.
- **Mark Cooper** received a Whitbeck Graduate Dissertator Award for “Making the New Greenhouse Economy: Science, Markets & Expertise in Climate Policy,” and a 2009 AAG Rural Geography Specialty Group Student Research Grant.
- **Cathy Day** was awarded a Trewartha Fellowship for summer 2010 master’s fieldwork, a FLAS fellowship for summer 2010 for advanced Hausa language training in Niger, and a 2010–2011 academic year FLAS to study Arabic.
- **Kara Dempsey** was awarded the Graduate Student Mentor Award, the University Honored Instructor Award, a Vilas Conference Travel Grant Award and a University Writing Fellowship (“Teaching Writing Instruction across the University”).
- **Po-Yi Hung** received support for his dissertation research from the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange. He was also awarded the 2009 Young Scholar Award of China Times Cultural Foundation.
- **Jing Gao** received graduate student participation grants to attend the Vespucci Summer Institute on
The Geography Club provides opportunities for enrichment and camaraderie among fellow geo-enthusiasts, and continues its tradition of active student participation. Members of the club offer their advice to other students regarding geography classes and concerns as well as engage everyone to participate in club activities.

Memorable events (past and present) include carving pumpkins at our Halloween meeting. The club saw sporadic publication of the club newsletter, Madison Geographic, and we continue our fundraising with the sales of our famous WI geography cow T-shirts. We put our own labor into the cow T-Shirt product line tie-dyeing a batch of white shirts (with the Ghostbusters theme song as background music, as club tradition dictates). Our monthly Coffee with Yi Fu program continues to be very popular. Other activities include our holiday potluck, a lunch invitation to the club from Yi Fu Tuan, plus a field trip to Chicago to deliver Science Hall recycled CDs to a plastics plant in Chicago. A trip to the Chicago History Museum is also part of the day.

Last April, members participated in the Geography Student Symposium before traveling to the National AAG conference in Washington D.C. The Geography Club was proud to have members present at the former, and several members attending the AAG in the nation’s capital. The members enjoyed the presentations, networking and socializing that took place. Some students paired up with kids from Missouri State University to compete and earned a third-place finish for the West Lakes AAG Division team in the World Geography Bowl of trivia held annually at the conference.

As the new semester draws to an end and another starts, please keep an eye out for our events and don’t be afraid to pull up a chair and chat with any of our members!

Geographic Information Science, Florence, Italy, June–July, 2009

• Kevin Gibbons’ documentary short film America’s Dairyland was shown at a handful of film festivals and won the award for Best Documentary Short at the Indie Gathering Film Festival in Cleveland.

• Jacquelyn Gill was honored with the William S. Cooper Award from the Ecological Society of America (ESA) for her paper “Pleistocene Megafaunal Collapse, Novel Plant Communities, and Enhanced Fire Regimes in North America,” published in Science last November. The paper attracted widespread media attention.

• Chris Limburg was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship.

• Chris Muellerleile was awarded a research grant for his work on financial derivatives and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission by the Economic Geography Specialty Group of the AAG.

• Jason Nu received a FLAS Grant to study Portuguese at UCLA during summer 2010.

• Travis Tennessen received a Whitbeck Graduate Dissertation Award for “Making the New Greenhouse Economy: Science, Markets & Expertise in Climate Policy.”

• Jamon Van Den Hoek was offered a visiting researcher position from December 2010 through fall 2011 with the Geomatics Lab in Humboldt University, Berlin, where he’ll collaborate with lab researchers on remote sensing analyses of forest cover change in southwest China.

• Tim Wallace was elected to be the next Student Board Member for the North American Cartographic Information Society (NACIS).

• Jeremy White will be starting as a graphics editor at the New York Times starting January 17, 2011. He also served as an intern at the Times during summer 2010.

• Katie Wirka was awarded a FLAS Summer Fellowship to study the Czech language in Czech Republic during summer 2010.

Certificate Students

Congratulations to Nicholas Davey, Sarah Bell Ferrare, Derrick Frese, Andrew McGuire, Bevin Moeller, Ryan Munes, George Oliver, A.D. Riddle, Zach Uttech, Dan Wandersee, Krystan Wilkinson and Michael Winer for attaining their GIS Certificate!
Finding Their Direction

Beautiful Maps, Talented Cartography Students
It’s been a successful year in the Cartography Lab, managed by Tanya Buckingham. Many students have worked on a variety of projects creating informative maps and diagrams for people across campus, the state and the country. The topics of the projects completed this year span the globe, from the U.S. Civil War to a medicine man of Portugal to an interactive map of Wisconsin art, and beyond.

Geospatial Science
Department Helps Build Stronger Campus Geospatial Science Network
The Department of Geography is at the center of organizing efforts to enhance geospatial science collaboration and education on the UW-Madison campus. Staff members in the department’s State Cartographer’s Office, Robinson Map Library, Cartographic Laboratory and GIS Certificate Program are working with other members of the UW Spatial Information and Analysis Consortium (SIAC) across campus to better understand and address the emerging needs of faculty, staff and students in the geospatial sciences and those applying geospatial technologies to their work and research. This year, staff played a key role in organizing a number of outreach and “in-reach” events and in the development of campus resources. Please see siac.wisc.edu for further information.

Other News
Graduates
Several of our students have graduated and will be moving on in their professional careers. We wish graduates Ben Coakley, Daniel Huffman, Kevin McGrath and Colter Sikora all the best.

Project Glimpses

UW Arboretum
(uwarboretum.org/map)
A new interactive map of the Arboretum is now available online. Users can explore the Arboretum from anywhere in the world, investigate current research or find the recommended hike of the month.

Wisconsin Department of Transportation
(dot.state.wi.us/travel/bike-foot/statemap.htm)
The Wisconsin State Bike Map has just been delivered to the press and will be available this summer.

Natural Earth Data
(http://www.naturalearthdata.com)
Natural Earth Data was released and has caught the attention of cartographers worldwide.

Biodiversity Atlas of Florida
Tanya visited the Florida Resources and Environmental Analysis Center (FREAC), at Florida State University as a consultant for a week to assist with production on an Atlas of Florida Biodiversity.

Cartography Initiatives

Children Map the World
The International Barbara Petchenik Children’s Map Competition, hosted by the International Cartographic Association, gained a lot of interest this year. From more than 100 maps collected in the U.S., five were sent to the International Exhibit and one U.S. student was selected as top place.

Journal: Cartographic Perspectives
The first special, digital issue of Cartographic Perspectives was a success, and has led to another issue, which Tanya is guest-editing along with Robert E. Roth PhD’69, a PhD candidate at Penn State. The issue is expected at the end of the summer.

North American Cartographic Information Society
Tanya Buckingham was the program chair for the North American Cartographic Information Society annual meeting held in St. Petersburg, Florida, in October. She assembled a great lineup of presentations, workshops and events. At the meeting in October, Tanya assumed the role of president of the society and became one of the organization’s executive directors.
The History of Cartography Project

Editors and staff of the History of Cartography Project made significant progress on the final three volumes of The History of Cartography Series in the past year. Detailed information about developments in volumes 4–6, as well as all the talented individuals associated with them, are available at geography.wisc.edu/histcart.

The History of Cartography Series News: Full-Color Printing and Digital Intent

A crucial component of The History of Cartography is the liberal illustration of maps. As a result of lengthy dialogs with History of Cartography Project director Matthew Edney, series publisher the University of Chicago Press (UCP) has made plans to print all illustrations in color for forthcoming volumes in the series and is pursuing options for digital publication.

Color began to bear significant meaning in topographical mapping during the 18th century and proved to be a key aspect in how 19th- and 20th-century maps communicated information. With the new plan, editors will no longer have to painstakingly determine which images to include among the limited number of color plates available and place them in separate galleries in the books. Instead, all illustrations will be printed in full color and may be positioned near the entries in which they are discussed. This will add to the usefulness of volumes 4–6 and help make them reference tools of first resort.

Furthermore, UCP has recently committed to publish The History of Cartography in digital as well as print format. The digital publication of future volumes 4 and 5 as well as the republication of existing volumes 1, 2 and 3 will ensure that the History’s provision of intellectual access to early maps reaches the widest possible audience. Details of digital publication are in the very earliest stages of development. Issues concerning free access versus subscription fees, the feasibility of securing publication rights for images, and the logistics of sustaining a website for online access will be addressed as UCP develops a viable business plan for this endeavor. Although many variables exist, the History of Cartography Project and UCP agree that the truly invaluable resources of the text, captions, precise references to images, and bibliographic apparatus of the volumes will remain intact.

We are grateful to the staff in the UCP reference books and marketing departments, among others, who have made these advances possible.

David Woodward Memorial Fellowship in The History of Cartography and Other Support

Arthur and Janet Holzheimer sponsor an annual resident fellowship, which enabled Carla Lois (Universidad de Buenos Aires) to visit the Geography Department during May and June 2010. Dr. Lois made excellent use of the wealth of reference resources on campus, at the American Geographical Society Library at UW-Milwaukee, the Newberry Library in Chicago and the Osher Map Library at USM while she was in the U.S. She is writing on property mapping and topographic mapping in Latin America for volumes 4 and 6 of the History.

Other support for the History of Cartography Project is provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Science Foundation, the UW-Madison College of Letters and Science and Graduate School, private foundations and many generous individuals. Project manager Beth Freundlich continues to pursue new federal grant opportunities and work closely with the UW Foundation to secure additional funding from private and corporate sources.
The Changing Landscapes of Wisconsin
A Digital Archive of Historic Aerial Photographs

In 2008, the Robinson Map Library and the State Cartographer's Office (both sub-units of the Department of Geography) in collaboration with the University of Wisconsin Digital Collections Center and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, received grant funding from the Ira and Ineva Reilly Baldwin Wisconsin Idea Endowment to digitize and create public access to a digital archive of the oldest aerial photographs of Wisconsin. The three-year grant project is currently under way and is set to be completed in December 2010. The Baldwin Endowment is a unique gift to the University of Wisconsin-Madison that is designed to involve faculty, staff and students, and to honor the Baldwins’ pioneering leadership in extending the talent, knowledge and resources of the campus to the people of the state, the nation and the world. This endowment funds projects that exemplify the Wisconsin Idea, one of the longest and deepest traditions surrounding the University of Wisconsin. The Wisconsin Idea is the principle that education should influence people’s lives beyond the boundaries of the classroom. Synonymous with Wisconsin for more than a century, this idea has become the guiding philosophy of university outreach efforts in Wisconsin and throughout the world.

The Robinson Map Library’s aerial photograph and associated index collections are the most popular materials in the library. Approximately one-third of users who visit the library annually do so with the sole purpose of using the historic photographs. The focus of the Baldwin project was a series of photographs originally produced by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) from 1937–1941, because these represented the oldest and rarest in the collection. A rare collection of the oldest aerial photos of the state of Wisconsin, taken by the USDA from 1937–1941 and now stored at the Arthur H. Robinson Map Library in Science Hall at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Visit geography.wisc.edu/maplib and sco.wisc.edu for further information and access to the entire collection of 1937–1941 historic aerial photographs.

Robinson Map Library

The past year has been an exciting one in the Robinson Map Library. The Changing Landscapes of Wisconsin: A Digital Archive of Historic Aerial Photographs is winding down as the final year of the grant project is completed. Students and staff in the Map Library, the State Cartographer’s Office and the UW Digital Collections Center at Memorial Library are excited about the launch of the website in late 2010.

In other aerial photograph news, Map Library student assistants have been busy re-organizing the collection to make room for an additional collection of aerial photos given to the library by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Forestry Division. These photos cover the northwest quarter of the state for the years 1997–1998 at a scale of 1:15,840 (or 1 inch = ¼ mile). Full integration of these photos into the existing collection of over 200,000 prints will be expected sometime before the end of 2010.

Map Library student employees continue to work diligently at various projects focused on improving access to our diverse collections. Kristen Erickson, Brianne Markowski, Sunny Reichertz, and Carly Myers have worked tirelessly over the past year and kept the library in an active and vibrant state. A new collection of interesting maps donated to the library by UW Professor Emeritus of Landscape Architecture Philip Lewis has kept everyone busy organizing, cataloging and filing the impressive cartographic collection that reflects his 50-plus year career in regional landscape design.

Jaime Stoltenberg continues her role as Map and GIS librarian, entering her seventh year of service in the Department of Geography. She encourages all alumni and friends to visit the Robinson Map Library and hopes to see many of you soon!
Alumni Support

Geography Alumni Support Appreciated

The Department of Geography would like to thank all donors for their past support of our programs and research. Without your generous support, we would not be able to fund many of the activities that make our department one of the best in the country. We are indeed fortunate to have received various endowments and trusts from individuals or corporations which generate an annual income for our use. These endowment funds provide a base income from the interest earned that allows us to estimate what type of additional support the department can budget each year.

While the establishment of endowments and trusts helps us plan for the future, the individual donations and gifts we receive from our alumni are truly vital to the success of our program. In fact, gifts of $100 or less combined to total $2.4 million in support of the university in 2008. These gifts empower the university to continue its tradition of teaching, research and outreach excellence; ever expanding the boundaries of the Wisconsin Idea. The Department of Geography received over $12,000 in gifts of $1,000 or less from 73 donors this past fiscal year. These funds alone allowed us to fund domestic and international travel for faculty pursuing their research; help fund graduate research efforts; and supplement travel costs to various conferences for our grads and undergrads. They also allowed us to make needed renovations to Science Hall, to support the Geography Club and other student-related activities, including the annual fall and spring picnics, the departmental reception at the AAGs, and the Spring Student Symposium, as well as other student-initiated seminars and workshops. It is without a doubt the community-building lifeblood of the Geography Department.

We ask for your continued support and encourage you to make future donations to our department through the UW Foundation, the official fundraising and gift-receiving organization for UW-Madison. You can contact the Foundation from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Central time, Monday through Friday, or e-mail them at uwf@supportuw.org. To make an online donation, visit supportuw.org/making-a-gift.

Thank you for your generous support — past, present and future!

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Science Hall Renovations

The Geography Department and the Nelson Institute began working with UW architects on a feasibility study to look at renovation of the basement and first floor of Science Hall. This includes a long-overdue update of the large first-floor lecture hall, as well as a reconfiguration of the department’s main administrative offices. A student services center is in the works as well as a commons area for students and faculty that will be shared between the Geography Department and the Nelson Institute.

Join Us for an Open House

We are beginning to plan for a spring 2011 Science Hall Open House, with tours of the building and the renovated lab spaces, a variety of activities with students and faculty, and a reception.

Mark your calendar for a tentative date of Friday, May 6, 2011. Hope to see you here!