

Committee on the Status of Women in Geography  
Southeast Division of the Association of American Geographers  
Annual Meeting Report  
November 26, 2003  
Submitted by Helen Ruth Aspaas, outgoing chair

The Committee on the Status of Women in Geography (CSWiG) continues to maintain communication among interested SEDAAG members and to move forward with program ideas that provide opportunities for SEDAAG members at the annual meetings. Communication is maintained primarily through a listserv that is continually updated when faculty and students submit names and email addresses of colleagues. Please feel free to send email addresses of colleagues to Holly Hapke at [hapkeh@mail.ecu.edu](mailto:hapkeh@mail.ecu.edu). The updating of the CSWiG email list is an ongoing process.

CSWiG held its annual no-host dinner-out in Charlotte on Monday evening, November 24. Special thanks are extended to Heather Smith and Jamie Strickland who arranged the excellent venue. A nice variety of undergraduate and graduate students, pre-tenure, associate and full faculty were among the attendees. Following a pleasant dinner of a variety of pizzas and salads, we enjoyed a lively discussion on possible CSWiG topics and initiatives. A list of potential panel topics was suggested along with themes for paper sessions for the 2004 SEDAAG meeting.

CSWiG continues to respond to the goals and challenges faced by SEDAAG members. We all agreed that the 2004 SEDAAG meeting should feature a repeat of the two very successful panels from the 2001 meeting in Lexington that were sponsored by CSWiG and organized by Holly Hapke. One panel addressed the tenure process and the second focused on the job application/interviewing process for new Ph.D.s who are seeking academic positions. Because of the excellent feedback on these two panels, we expect to present them again in 2004. A third suggestion that received good support was a panel that focuses on the publication process and can feature editors who regularly attend SEDAAG meetings. These editors can provide clarification on the manuscript submission process that leads to successful publication.

Other suggestions included: grant and funding opportunities, applying to graduate programs, career opportunities in geography, women and GIS, long views on the academic career, career and family themes, and mentoring. Attendees responded positively to the suggestion of a pre-meeting retreat that could focus on the above themes that are particularly relevant to women.

Holly Hapke graciously volunteered to serve as incoming chair of the committee. She was voted into the position by cheerful acclamation. During the upcoming months, I will gladly work with Holly to help bring these excellent ideas into full fruition. I close with a sincere word of appreciation for energetic colleagues and enthusiastic students who support the efforts of CSWiG in SEDAAG.