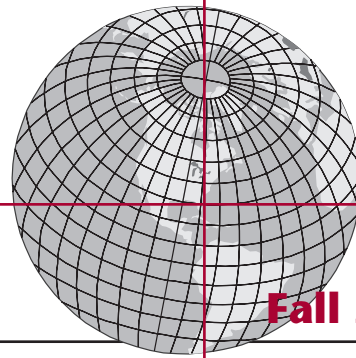


# Indiana University Department of **Geography**



College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Association

**Fall 2010**

## **Pryor named Provost Professor**

In March 2010, Professor Sara Pryor received the distinction of being named Provost Professor. This recognition is meant to bring significant honor to those members of the faculty who have achieved local, national, and international distinction in both teaching and research/creative activity and their interaction.



*Pryor*

Professor Pryor's research focuses on two major areas: (1) physical climatology, specifically climate change and variability, and impacts on the energy and agricultural sectors; and (2) atmospheric chemistry and biogeochemical cycling with the atmosphere-surface exchange of reactive gases and particles.

In addition to her position at IU, she is also a visiting distinguished professor at the Atmospheric Environment Institute at the University of Aarhus in Denmark and a visiting senior scientist with the Department of Wind Energy and Atmospheric Physics at the Risø National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Denmark.

## **AAG Meeting**

The 2010 Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers was held in Washington, D.C., in April. Many of our faculty and graduate students attended the meeting.

*(continued on page 2)*

## **Evans leads new project in Zambia**

In a new project funded by the National Science Foundation, research led by Professor Tom Evans, in collaboration with Scott Robeson at Indiana University and Kelly Caylor at Princeton University, will study how smallholders in rural Zambia cope with climate variability.

Climate variability and its corresponding impact on soil-water availability and provision of ecosystem services dramatically affect rural livelihoods in many parts of the world. This is particularly the case in the semi-arid tropics, which contain 22 percent of the world's population and high concentrations of chronic poverty and inadequate food consumption. In rural Zambia, smallholders adopt a variety of coping mechanisms such as labor exchange, food-for-work programs, food-aid, or having adults skip meals to survive periods when crops fail. Evans and colleagues will study the geographical dimensions of those coping strategies and use different modeling techniques to identify hotspots of vulnerability.

This work builds on, and is a collaboration with, a large-scale research project developed by Dr. Chieko Umetsu and colleagues at the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature in Kyoto, Japan, where Evans spent spring 2010 on sabbatical.

This three-year project will ramp up in fall 2010 through spring 2011 with fieldwork consisting of household surveys, remote-sensing analysis, soil-moisture measurements, and hydroclimatic modeling.



*Professor Tom Evans will work in rural areas of Zambia on research funded by NSF.*



### NASA project to study carbon cycle

A new \$527,000, three-year project, led by Professor Faiz Rahman, will use an array of satellite data and field observations to study complex terrestrial ecosystems. Rahman's co-principal investigators are Danilo Dragoni, assistant scientist in geography, and postdoctoral fellow Daniel Sims. The ambitious project will gather data from four forests at three heights, simultaneously. During a crucial 30-minute window, NASA's MODIS satellite will fly over a target forest, providing images from low Earth orbit (about 420 miles above sea level). During that same half-hour, project scientists will gather information about forest productivity from airplane flyovers at 3,000 feet and from towers within the forest canopies. The chartered airplane will be specially fitted with equipment that simulates satellite imaging systems, but at much higher spatial resolution. The research plan will compare satellite to ground-based to airplane data to see if there are discrepancies and, if there are, try to figure out why. This research will provide a better understanding of the carbon balance of eastern U.S. forests and the impacts of global change on these forests.

To support the department, visit  
[www.indiana.edu/~geog](http://www.indiana.edu/~geog).



## 25th annual awards banquet in April

The Department of Geography's 25th annual awards banquet was held on April 27 in the Indiana Memorial Union's Federal Room. **Benjamin Sperl** received this year's Paul W. and Marie K. Baumann Endowed Scholarship Award. The Outstanding Senior in Geography Award for the academic year went to **Emilee Schwartz**. Phi Beta Kappa inductees were **Robert Barnell**, **Lindsey Harmon**, and **Emilee Schwartz**. Several geography majors — **Robert Barnell**, **Lara Hamburger**, **Ross MacMillan**, **Jacob Schumacher**, **Emilee Schwartz**, and **Benjamin Sperl** — were on the Dean's List for 2009.

Several awards were made to undergraduates for outstanding academic performance in the department's major courses. Four Thomas F. Barton Awards were given: **Jessica Runkle**, for G107 Physical Systems of the Environment, taught by Roman Zlotin; **D. Chase Nicholas**, for G110 Human Geography, taught by Jill Rickly-Boyd; **Jacob Schumacher**, for G314 Urban Geography, taught by Tony Grubestic; and **Erin Tobey**, for G315 Environmental Conversation, taught by Rebecca Lave.

**Catherine "Tessa" Pilachowski** received the Norman J.G. Pounds Award for

outstanding performance in Lisa Braverman's G120 World Regional Geography.

**Matthew McClinton** received the Robert C. Kingsbury Awards for G237 Cartography and Geographic Information taught by Bassil El-Masri.

Two Stephen S. Visher Awards were given this year: **Amal Akbik**, for outstanding performance in G109 Weather and Climate, taught by Constance Brown; and **Paola Crippa**, for outstanding paper in climatology for her paper "Possibilities for Limiting or Reversing the Impacts of Global Warming using Geoengineering."

Many awards were also given to our outstanding graduate students. **Jill Rickly-Boyd** received the Alumni Associate Instructor Teaching Award. Departmental Graduate Fellowship Awards for outstanding graduate student research went to **Bassil El-Masri** and **Lisa Braverman**. Chair's Graduate Student Recognition Awards went to **Catherine Brabant**, **Lisa Braverman**, **Rebecca Clouser**, **Paola Crippa**, **Bassil El-Masri**, **Bradley Lane**, **Todd Lindley**, **Elizabeth Mack**, **Cameron Meyer**, and **Jill Rickly-Boyd**, all of whom are active in research and maintain at least a 3.9 grade point average.

## AAG Meeting

(continued from page 1)

### Faculty presenters

Professor **Rinku Roy Chowdhury** presented a paper titled "Turning the Curve: A Critical Review of Theoretical, Methodological, and Empirical Contributions of Kuznets Approaches," co-authored with Emilio Moran. In addition, she was co-author of another paper presentation (by Eric Keys), titled "Bid Rents and Social Capital: Commodity Prices and Land Use in Southern Mexico." Both papers were part of a session titled "Familiar Patterns, Unexpected Processes: Reconstructing Land Mosaics."

Professor **Rebecca Lave** presented her paper "Producing Environmental Knowledge in All the Wrong Places: Citizen Science or Citizen Scientists."

Professor **Tom Evans** presented his paper "Exploring the Effects of Land Use Policies in Urban-Rural Fringe Areas in the Mexican Context: An Agent-Based Approach." He

was also the co-organizer of the session 4555 Perspectives on Geographic Complexity (4): Agent-Based Modeling and Sustainability Science.

### Graduate student presenters

**Bassil El-Masri** presented his paper "Developing a Data-Driven Process-Based Model for Remote Sensing of Ecosystem Productivity."

**Jill Rickly-Boyd** co-organized two sessions on theorizing tourism and presented her paper "Authenticity and Aura: A Benjaminian Approach to Tourism Experience."

**Brian Johnson** was the chair and organizer of "Contemporary Issues in Land Use Control" Paper Session I and II and also presented his paper "Tightly Controlling Exurbia: The Case of Porter County, Ind."

**Yan He** presented her paper "'Splendid China' Park: A Case Study of Cultural Contestation between China and the United States." She also co-authored a paper with Charles Greer titled "West Lake to Hou Hai: Retention of Cultural Institutions in the Chinese Landscape," which was presented by Greer.

## Class notes

**Richard F. Kott**, BA'53, is retired from the U.S. Air Force. He was a command pilot overseeing jet fighters, bombers, and transport and sea-planes. Kott taught geography at the U.S. Air Force Academy, the University of Maryland, and George Washington University. He also worked for the Earth Observation Satellite Co., General Electric, and Lockheed Martin. Kott lives in Fort Washington, Md., and is currently "writes commentaries on a variety of subjects."

"I play roller derby in Bloomington, Ind., [and] helped found the Bleeding Heartland Rollergirls in 2006, writes **Veronica L. Hites**, BA'91, BS'94. She is an executive assistant in the IU Bloomington Office of Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs. Hites lives in Bloomington.

**Peter G. Samaris**, BA'99, is a fourth-grade dual-language teacher at Oak Terrace Elementary School in Highwood, Ill., a suburb of Chicago. Oak Terrace Elementary serves nearly 600 children, grades K–5, with

dual-language problems. More than 50 percent of the school's population has Spanish as its primary language. Samaris lives in Evanston, Ill.

**Tyler L. Winslow**, BA'07, is a digital geographer for the Department of Commerce in Jeffersonville, Ind. He is also a member of the U.S. Air Force Reserves at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio. Winslow lives in Sellersburg, Ind.

"I am currently an analyst for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, where I work in domestic national-security issues," writes **Jared D. Stancombe**, BA'09. As a scholar, Stancombe focuses on complex military operations, counter-insurgency, stability operations, and counterterrorism, with regional focuses in the Middle East and Central Asia. He adds, "I am also in the U.S. Marine Corps officer selection program, and I will be leaving for officer candidate school in May 2011. I hope to become a Marine Corps infantry officer." Stancombe lives and works in Washington, D.C.

## Faculty and graduate student news

**Rebecca Barthelmie** was an invited speaker at the National Science Foundation-sponsored U.S.–Egypt Workshop on Wind Energy Development in Cairo, Egypt.

**Tony Grubestic** has accepted a position at Drexel University.

**Rebecca Lave** (along with co-PIs at the University of North Carolina and Kentucky) received a grant from the NSF to conduct a study of stream migration banking. She is also lead editor for a special issue on the commercialization of science in the journal *Social Studies of Science*, which will be published in October 2010.

**Dan Knudsen** and **Amy Miller Gray** presented a short paper and poster on *Peircean Semiotics and Tourism Promotion: Some Advice We'd Give Visitors in Denmark If They Asked* at the Travel and Tourism Research Conference in San Antonio in June.

**Scott Robeson** was invited to be an associate editor of the *Journal of Applied Meteorology and Climatology*. He continues to serve on the advisory board for IU's Office of Sustainability.

**Rinku Roy Chowdhury** was elected chair of the Human Dimensions of Global Change Specialty Group at its business meeting at the Association of American Geographers.

**Amy Miller Gray**, PhD student, received a summer research grant from IU's Caribbean and Latin American Studies Center for her research on tourism in Kuna Yala, Panama.

**Yan He**, MA student, received a Moody Grant from the Lyndon B. Johnson Library and Museum, an East Asian Studies Center conference travel grant, and a travel scholarship from the National Committee on United States–China Relations. She presented "Cultural Contestation Between China and the United States: A Case Study of 'Splendid China' Park" at the Landscape, Space, and Place Graduate Student Conference at IUB in March.

**Brian Johnson**, PhD student, has a forthcoming paper, "The Speed and Accuracy of Voice Recognition Software–Assisted Transcripts Versus the Listen-and-Type Method: A Research Note," in *Qualitative Research*.

PhD student **Bradley Lane**'s paper "TAZ-level Variation in Work Trip Mode Choice Between 1990 and 2000 and the Presence of Rail Transit" was published in the *Journal of Geographical Systems*.

**Jill Rickly-Boyd**, a PhD student, and **Michelle Metro-Roland**, PhD'08, had a paper, "Background to the Fore: The Prosaic in Tourist Places," accepted to the journal *Annals of Tourism Research*.



## Congratulations 2009–10 graduates!

### MA/MS/PhD

Valerie Anderson, MS  
Melissa Davis, MS  
Jared Desrochers, MS  
Shanon Donnelly, PhD  
Norma Froelich, PhD  
Alexis Kargl, MA  
Takatsuga Kobayashi, PhD  
Garth Lindner, MS  
Elizabeth Mack, PhD

### BA/BS Graduates

#### August 2009

Tyler Andrews  
Victoria Clark  
Madeline Cole  
Andrew Smith  
Malaney Varaljay

#### December 2009

Katy Kramer  
Mark Musselman  
Pamela Rickly  
Adam Rife  
Mark Sadler  
Kyle Wooten

#### May 2010

Marc Birschach  
Robert Barnell  
Baxter Burnworth  
Jessica Colaluca  
Brock Easley  
Kirsten Ellision  
Richard Jablonski  
Christopher Landers  
Allison Mann  
Jaron Newton  
Ziona Riley  
Jacob Schumacher  
Emilee Schwartz  
Stephen Strader  
Blake Thomas  
Jason Watson



# Geography

This newsletter is published by the Indiana University Alumni Association, in cooperation with the Department of Geography and the College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Association, to encourage alumni interest in and support for Indiana University. For activities and membership information, call (800) 824-3044 or send e-mail to [ualumni@indiana.edu](mailto:ualumni@indiana.edu).

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Assistant Dean for

Advancement ..... Tom Recker

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Last name while at IU \_\_\_\_\_

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Univ. ID # (PeopleSoft) or last four digits of SS # \_\_\_\_\_

Home address \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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Company/Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Company address \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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\* Please indicate clearly upper and lower case.

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Spouse name \_\_\_\_\_

Last name while at IU \_\_\_\_\_

IU Degree(s)/Yr(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Your news: \_\_\_\_\_

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