


CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH 7	Career Fair Alumni Arena Main Gym 3pm - 6pm
MARCH 16	Spring Break
APRIL 17-21	AAG in San Francisco, CA University at Buffalo, SUNY Reception Room: Nikko Hotel - Mendocino I and II Date: Thursday, April 19 Time: 8:00pm - 12:00am
MAY 12	Commencement

www.geog.buffalo.edu

 **University at Buffalo**
The State University of New York
University at Buffalo
The State University of New York
The Department of Geography
105 Wilkeson Quad
Buffalo, NY 14261-0055

Non Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Buffalo, NY
Permit No. 311

 **University at Buffalo**
The State University of New York

THE COMPASS



Winter/Spring 2007

Vol. 1, Issue 4

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

This is my last Editorial as Chair of UB Geography. I plan to go on a one-year vacation (oops, research sabbatical) at the end of the current semester. The new Chair (yet to be identified) will have the pleasure of welcoming three new faculty members. These new people include Enki Yoo and Sara Metcalf (urban and regional analysis), and Le Wang (GIS/remote sensing). These folks will be spotlighted in the next edition of the Compass. The new Chair will also have the pleasure of welcoming Risa Palm to the Department. Risa is the Provost of the SUNY system, and has declared UB Geography as her home Department. This is a major honor! Not many Departments have their own Provost! But Risa is not just a senior Administrator. She is a research-active scholar with an internationally recognized specialization in the social dimensions of natural hazards. By the start of the next semester, UB Geography will have 19 faculty members, which is close to our target base of 22. Of these 19, 7 are female. I think that makes UB Geography the second most female-intensive Geography Department in the United States, after the University of Washington. We didn't plan to do this. It's simply a reflection of the fact that our female hires over the years have been the very best in terms of academic credentials. Our male hires have been OK too. UB Geography has completed its National Research Council (NRC) assessment, and our national ranking as a PhD-granting Department should be known by early next year. If we are not part of the top-10, then I will eat my hat. I will be wearing that hat during our AAG reception in San Francisco this coming April (see back page for details). All friends and former students are invited to attend, socialize, and have fun. My hat, of course, is a Sabres' hat.

Cheers,



Alan MacPherson
Professor and Chair

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Department of Geography Hooded Sweatshirts are NOW Available!

They are light gray, with a blend of 50/50 cotton and sizes are small through extra-large.

Buy yours for only \$40 each - that includes shipping to addresses in the continental U.S. To make your purchase, please contact Betsy at babraham@buffalo.edu

All proceeds go to the Department of Geography Undergraduate Student Association (UGSA). Our sincere thanks go out to Razy Kased, USGA President, for his efforts in planning this sale.

Front, logo on left side:



4	Faculty News
6	Happenings Past ...
12	Grants and Awards Received
14	Grant Deadlines
16	Student news
17	Career Fair
17	Alumni News
19	Donations
20	Our Thanks
21	Other News
21	In Memoriam

The COMPASS is published for the students, alumni and friends of:
University at Buffalo
The State University of New York
The Department of Geography
105 Wilkeson Quad
Buffalo, NY 14261-0055
Phone: (716) 645-2722
www.geog.buffalo.edu

Special thanks to Renee Ruffino, Creative Design Director, College of Arts and Sciences and student intern, Mengting Wang for the design and layout of The COMPASS.

Dr. Alan D. MacPherson, Chair and Editor
Donna Banach, Co-Editor
Cover photo by
Valerie Randall, Cowlesville, NY



TRINA HAMILTON, Assistant Professor, Ph.D.

When I came to interview in November 2005 it snowed. I got out just before they started canceling flights. But I was told, “They really exaggerate on the weather channel.” And, “Rochester gets way more snow than we do.” Then came the historic (because things like this never happen here) ice storm of October 2006. But I have to say that living under layers of blankets and bumblng around with a flashlight

for a few days was far less challenging (I was born in Edmonton, Alberta after all) than facing my first large undergraduate class in Fillmore 170. But I survived, although my classroom entertaining skills clearly still need honing. These challenges aside, my first semester at UB was full of pleasant surprises and a really gracious welcome from faculty, staff, and students alike. I relished the debates in my grad class, the camaraderie of fellow and prospective faculty over Thai and Chinese lunches, and the general intellectual vitality of the department. It also doesn’t hurt that there’s a great wine bar (owned by one of last semester’s guest speakers) around the corner from my house for decompressing at the end of the week. It’s great to be on board, and I can’t thank everyone enough for his or her help in smoothing my transition.



JARED ALDSTADT, Assistant Professor, Ph.D.

Moving across the country and starting a new job is a big transition for anyone, but my wife and I decided to up the difficulty level by doing it eight months pregnant. We did get settled just in time. Our daughter, Madoka, was born just after midnight on September 21st. She is, of course, the center of our new world. My first teaching assignment was the maps and mapping course. This class has a diverse enrollment, with all grade levels and many different majors. This

was a new challenge for me, but by the end of the semester I was enjoying dispelling stereotypes about our discipline and introducing the latest geographic information technologies. I look forward to next fall when I can continue to personalize and update the course.

It has been great to be back home in Western New York. I look forward to visiting some of my favorite places, and seeing more of my old friends. I sincerely thank the department and my students for their understanding during my sleep-deprived, first semester.

SUNY new provost holds a doctorate in Geography

On September 26th, The State University of New York hired a new provost and chief academic officer, Dr. Risa I. Palm. Palm previously served as the Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost at Louisiana State University. From 1997–2003, she served as Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Previous positions include: Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Oregon (1991-1997); Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and Dean of the Graduate School at the University of Colorado, Boulder (1987–1991); Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at the University of Colorado, Boulder (1984–1987); and Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Colorado, Boulder (1981–1984).

Dr. Palm received both a B.A. degree in History, with a minor in French, and a B.S. degree in Social Studies Education from the University of Minnesota. She subsequently received an M.A. degree in Geography from the same institution. In 1972, she was awarded a Ph.D. in Geography from the University of Minnesota. From 1972 to 1981, she was a faculty member, beginning her career as an Assistant Professor at the University of California, Berkeley.

IN MEMORIAM

Ilse E. Ebert, wife of Dr. Charles Ebert, passed away on September 10, 2006. Born Ilse Pohle in Berlin, she moved from there with her family as a child but was in several German cities targeted by American and British bombers during World War II. She married Charles H.V. Ebert, who served with the U.S. Army during the Berlin Airlift. She immigrated to the United States in 1949.

Mrs. Ebert was an active member of the University at Buffalo Women’s Club. Over many years the Eberts hosted numerous international students and faculty members.

OUR THANKS

Donations received 9/06 through 1/07

Mr. Uldis Alks B.A. '65
Mrs. Cheryl A. Benjamin B.A. '86
Mr. Robert Beutner M.A. '05
Mr. Charles E. Boshane B.A. '71
Mr. William Chin B.A. '79
Mr. Michael B. Clark B.A. '88
Mr. Stewart A. Cook B.A. '70
Mr. & Mrs. William G. Dempsey B.A. '75
Mr. Justin Dombrow B.A. '97
Mr. John Eapen B.A. '96
Mr. Gregory A. Ernst B.A. '86
Mr. John M. Fauss B.A. '80
Ms. Elaine Fenz
Mr. Michael A. Froelich B.A. '74
Mr. William R. Fulton B.A. '62
Mr. Nicholas J. Geraci B.A. '84
Dr. Susan M. Giusto B.A. '83
Mr. Chad C. Goodwin B.A. '93
Mr. Steven I. Gordon B.A. '70
Mr. Kevin Alexander Green B.A. '01
Mr. Clifford S. Hall B.A. '02
Dr. Kush M. Haq Ph.D. '01
Dr. Shixiong Hu Ph.D. '04
Ms. Haley A. (Davis) Huntress B.A./M.A. '05
Mr. Bruce Ingebretsen B.A. '82
Col. Mark A. Jelonek B.A. '82
Mr. Christopher P. Kaiser B.A. '91

Mr. Kipp M. Koren B.A. '02
Mr. Jeffrey P. Krasoski B.A. '83
Mr. Robert W. Lang B.A. '91
Mr. Robert M. Lorenzo B.A. '94
Mr. James F. MacLeay B.A. '89
Ms. Lisa A. Matthies M.A. '04
Mr. David S. McClure B.A. '86
Mr. Eric C. Montz B.A. '06
Mr. Alan C. More M.A. '71
Mr. Steven M. Moulton M.A. '95
Mr. Daniel E. Neumann B.A. '67
Mr. Richard D. Quodomine M.A. '03
Dr. Chi H. Sham Ph.D. '84
Mr. Joseph G. Szustakowski B.A. '66
Mr. Henry H. Tobin B.A. '88
Dr. Louis Michael Trapasso B.A. '75
Dr. Irina Vasiliev M.A. '88
Dr. David A. Weiskopf M.A. '93
Dr. William F. Wiczorek Ph.D. '88
Mr. Donald R. Wiesnet M.A. '51
Mr. Robert M. Wilson B.A. '85
Mr. Harold O. Wolf B.A. '60
Dr. Zongxiang Yang Ph.D. '01
Mr. Jae-Kyoung You B.A. '96
Dr. May Yuan Ph.D. '94
A Friend of Geography
Anonymous
Classmate of 1983

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Jared Aldstadt, on the birth of their daughter, [Madoka Carolyn Aldstadt](#), born September 21, 2006 and weighing 7 pounds and 7 ounces.



Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Chris Renschler, on the birth of their son, [Meer Renschler Pandey](#)!



EMERITUS NEWS

Jim McConnell, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Emeritus, presented a paper, co-authored by Alan MacPherson, professor and chair, at the Linea Terrarum International Borders Conference in El Paso, Ciudad Juarez, and Las Cruces, Mexico in March 2006. The paper focused on the impacts of new U.S. border security measures on North American cross-border trade, logistics management, and the location of production. McConnell and MacPherson also co-authored, with A. Vance and V. Vanchan, an article in *Professional Geographer* (2006) titled "The impact of U.S. government antiterrorism policies on Canada-U.S. cross-border commerce: An exploratory study from Western New York and Southern Ontario." Following his retirement in May 2006, McConnell taught two summer courses in UB's undergraduate program at the Singapore Institute of Management.

NEW FACULTY

We welcome three new faculty to our department this fall.

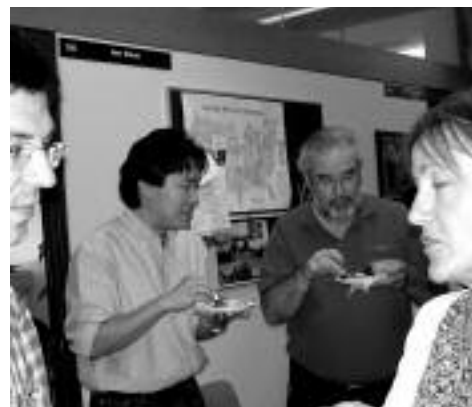
Sara S. Metcalf arrives from University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Her research interests include Spatial Dynamics of Social Inequity and Environmental Justice, Social Learning, Agent-based Modeling, and GIS.

Le Wang, Ph.D., Assistant Professor from Texas State University at San Marcos where he teaches courses in Remote Sensing.

Eun-Hye (Enki) Yoo, Ph.D., from University of California, Santa Barbara. Enki specializes in Spatial Analysis & Modeling SG.

HAPPENINGS PAST...

The Annual State of the Department meeting was held on September 8th in our new seminar room located in room Wilkeson 145H. Reception followed in Department.



Richard D. Quodomine (B.A. 1996, M.A. 2993 with Drs. MacPherson and Thill) is happy to report that he is the new GIS Coordinator for the Transit Bureau at DOT in Albany. Rich will be carrying on the administrative duties of keeping track of the licensing and training that transit agencies are afforded as part of our statewide license. He will also be carrying on the stewardship of the wealth of transit GIS data files started by the interns back in 98 and continued on in a variety of fashions. Rich will also be tackling the use of the BLAT (Business Location Access Tool) developed by the data Acquisition Bureau in transit applications (especially welfare-to-work and other employment related services). He will also begin using TRIPS data as a resource for a variety of service based applications that start with building linear networks from the stop point - time based data. This will help portray services as they are scheduled and provide accurate service indications for Title VI analysis and a variety of other planning applications. In addition, Rich will be learning the ways of supporting the suburban carriers in the NY Metro area on the SDMS application that supports getting them into TRIPS.

Zynczak, Aaron (B.A. 1993) Aaron is the Director of International Banking Department at Carolina First Bank in Columbia, SC.

DONATIONS

We graciously accept donations that help support your alumni department. Donations may be used to establish or maintain alumni scholarships, facilities, equipment, programs for alumni and students, and centers and programs that would not be possible without your help.

Please contact **UB Foundation, Inc.** for information on donations that can help you support the causes you care about and provide significant benefits to UB students. In the memo portion of your check, please write "Dept. of Geography". Mail your check to:

UB Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 1232, Buffalo, NY 14240-1232

<http://giving.buffalo.edu>

Ronald Kalafsky (Ph.D. 2002), Professor at the University of Tennessee was awarded a grant from the Canadian Embassy in Washington for his research. "The Manufacturing Sector and Human Capital: Shortages and Implications for Innovation among Ontario-Based Producers. Dr. Kalafsky's study of Ontario-based manufacturers endeavors to examine the dearth of skilled workers in the industry; what positions are in the highest demand; relationships between human capital expenditures and firm performance; and relationships between manufacturers and local educational/governance institutions. A two-part study, consisting of a postal survey and a series of firm-level interviews within the metalworking and machinery industries in Ontario, will be implemented in order to examine this critical economic issue. Ron is also one of the editors of Industrial Geographer.

Gushue, Lewis P. (BA 1993) with a certificate in GIS/Cartography. After graduation, Lew briefly worked at the NYSDOT in Albany in the Mapping Service Office as a Mapping Technician. He then moved to Erdman Anthony and Associates, a consulting engineering firm headquartered in Rochester, NY where he worked as a Senior Photogrammetrist until last July. Last summer he partnered with five others to form EA MAPPS LLC, a professional geospatial consulting firm specializing in photogrammetry and GIS services. Lew currently reside in West Henrietta (a suburb of Rochester) and have two beautiful daughters, Kaylyn (4) and Madison (8 months).

Kathy (Burtless) Ophardt (BA, 1991). Kathy is a stay home mom of two children. Matthew is 10 and Emily 5. Her husband Eric attended UB for Civil Engineering and he is the Bike/Ped Coordinator for NYSDOT's Main Office in Albany. Kathy worked for about 5 years before the children were born. Much of her work was in the planning profession. She stated that the GIS courses she took while she attended UB proved to be absolutely invaluable! She was able to use them on a variety of projects. If you ever get to see a copy of the report for the Governor's Casino Project, you will see some of her work. She also worked on the maps that were used to show proposed casinos in both the Buffalo-Niagara Region, as well as in the Catskills.

In 1998, she earned her Master's in Regional Planning from SUNY Albany after 4 years of evenings' study at night. She applied for and received the ITE scholarship.

Over the last few years, the Ophardt family has moved around the state for Eric's job. Kathy became active in organizing the Future City Competition, which teaches middle schoolers about careers in engineering, architecture, and planning. This year she plans to return to work. If the opportunity became available, she would love to work on a project that involved researching the impact of autism across the state.

This year's [Geography Department Fall Picnic](#) was a rainy muddy day with an unexpected turnout! About twenty graduate students, faculty and families came together at Ellicott Creek Park on September 23rd to chase the rain away.



OCTOBER SURPRISE STORM

October 12, 2007 - The day began as a typical fall day in Western New York. By lunchtime, however, we began to see the first snowflakes of the season. At the end of the workday, several inches of heavy slushy snow had accumulated. It was too early in the season to think about wearing snow boots or have the snowbrush in the car!

I worried about our two trees in front of our home, a weeping cherry and a silver birch. Later that evening I went outside with a broom and carefully tapped the branches underneath to relieve the tree of the weight heavy snow. The snow continued to fall throughout the night mixed with bouts of thunder and lightning.

CAREER FAIR

The next morning, the sky was a beautiful cotton candy pink and blue. I grabbed my camera and hiked through two feet of snow in the driveway to check on the trees. Each of our two trees only lost one branch. Other trees, mostly maples that lined our street, were not so lucky.



Weeping Cherry (his name in Don ... Don Cherry for all you Canadian hockey fans!)



A view down the street.



This year's [Career Fair](#) was held in conjunction with the University's Career Fest on Friday, March 7th in the Alumni Arena Main Gym.

More information can be found at

<http://www.ub-careers.buffalo.edu/careerfest>



If your business or employer would like to be in our database for Career Fair services, please email Donna at dbanach@buffalo.edu.

ALUMNI NEWS

If you are a recent alumni, please make certain we have your mailing and email addresses! Please send your information or news to Donna Banach dbanach@buffalo.edu. Thanks!

Marc A. Adler (M.A. 1983) received the Milton Plesur Excellence in Teaching Award from UB's Undergraduate Student Association for his commitment to students and quality of teaching. He is an adjunct instructor at UB, where he teaches marketing and advertising classes. Adler serves on the UB Alumni Association board of directors and is vice president for client services at Flynn & Friends of Buffalo, NY. He resides in Williamsville, NY.

Calvin Chin (B.A. 1989) was promoted to director at Burham Securities Inc., an investment management and banking firm in New York, NY. He also serves on the UB College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Advisory Council and lives in Scarsdale, NY.



Eric Delmelle (Ph.D. 2005) and Elizabeth Cahill (M.A. 2006) have announced plans for their wedding this fall! They both are employed in Department of Geography in Idaho. Eric is an Assistant Professor in the Geography Department of the University of Idaho (Moscow) where he teaches Geographical Information Systems and Spatial Support Decision Systems. Elizabeth is an Instructor and teaches classes in GIS. They enjoy the great outdoors of Idaho! Best wishes!

STUDENT NEWS

All graduates (February, May and September) will be listed in the Fall/Winter editions of The Compass.

The **UGSA** participated in two Student Activity community service functions during the holidays.

1. Pop tops! Pop can rings were donated to the Ronald McDonald House.
2. The annual Holiday Food and Clothing Drive were donated to the Buffalo City Mission.

Great work on giving back to the community! Thanks to Razy Kased, UGSA President and Dave Roberts, Vice President.

Anneliese Vance, Ph.D. candidate, is a recipient of a Graduate Student Excellence in Teaching Award from the University at Buffalo for 2006-2007. Congratulations!



Dave Roberts hooking up solar panels at the Northern Wisconsin field site, Summer 2006. Photo by Mike Loranty.

Undergraduate Research Experience: by David E. Roberts, Current Geography Major

Before graduating it was my goal to gain experience working on a current research project within the Department, so that it would greatly improve my prospects for graduate school. I was lucky enough to be given an opportunity by Prof. Scott Mackay to work with Mike Loranty (Ph.D. student, Geography) on an NSF project that is examining mechanisms underlying spa-

tial patterns of forest canopy transpiration across variable soil moisture regimes and other natural spatial gradients. As an introduction to the project, I helped set up the project field sites for the summer 2006 field campaign in Northern Wisconsin. In addition, I helped collect extensive spatial data, which would be later used to analyze canopy competition between individual trees within the forest. While in Wisconsin, with help from Mike, I decided to make soil moisture measurements to determine if significant differences in plot mean soil moisture could be attributed to the choice of locations for 3 sub-plot soil moisture measurements. The sampling method I choose was to take a total of 30 samples in each of two wetland and two upland plots, as opposed to the 3 random samples specified in the field protocol for the NSF project. During the Fall 2006 semester I analyzed the data using a sampling algorithm I wrote to randomly select many combination of 3 sub-plot soil measurements and generate plot means for each sample. I also applied Geostatistics to my 30 sub-plot values in each plot to quantify spatial autocorrelation properties of soil moisture. My results showed that the sampling method that I used produced more conclusive soil moisture estimates in wetland regions of the forest. To improve my knowledge of the research process I created a poster of my research and presented it at the American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting in San Francisco, in December 2006. I found that the knowledge I obtained from going through the process of doing research and presenting it to other scientists has given me a much clearer view of what graduate school is like.



Kemal Gokkaya, MA student



After the storm



Department of Geography courtyard

GEOGRAPHY AWARENESS WEEK

During the week of November 13th to the 18th the following events were held to celebrate Geography Awareness Week:

- Professor David Mark presented “Geography without Borders: Landscape and Language in Australia and Navajo Country”.
- Geographic Information Science Day, “GIS and 3D Visualization for the Urban Environment: An Inter-Disciplinary Symposium” co-sponsored with University of Buffalo Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Presentations included our invited guest speaker, Professor Michael Batty, of the University of London, Steven W. Russell, Jr., Erie Co. Division of Water Quality Management, Professor Naru Shiode and Li Yin, University of Buffalo and Professor Irene Casas and Robert Garrity, University of Buffalo.



Panel Discussion on GIS day.
Left to Right: Robert Garrity, Naru Shiode, Steve Russell Jr., Michael Batty, Li Yin



Canadian - American Studies Committee Spring 2007 Grant Competition

Proposals are invited from full-time faculty and graduate students at UB for projects and activities that are designed to encourage and promote increased awareness and understanding at UB of Canada and of relations between Canada and the United States. More information can be found at: <http://canam.buffalo.edu/grants/index.shtml>
Deadline is Monday, March 19, 2007.

The 2008-2009 U.S. Student Fulbright Competition will open on May 1, 2007. You can find more information online at: <http://us.fulbrightonline.org/thinking.html>

Canadian Studies Grant Programs 2007-08 will be announced shortly. Please check here for more details: <http://geo.international.gc.ca/can-am/washington/studies/grantguide-en.asp>

The Antipode Graduate Student Scholarship, supporting a new generation of radical geographers. Graduate students in radical geography are invited to apply for this year-long award of \$2000 and a complimentary 3 year subscription to Antipode. These funds are intended to provide resources to attend an international conference and cover additional research expenses. To complete an online application form visit <http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/anti/appfm03.asp>

The successful applicant will be a current doctoral student working in any field of radical geographical scholarship. Applications are especially encouraged from the developing world and/or from those traditionally marginalized in the academy. The closing date for the 2007-2008 scholarship applications is 31st March 2007.

Hugh W. Calkins Applied GIS Award

An award to honor Dr. Calkin's career in the field of Urban Planning and Geography was established in 2005. The first award, which will be given annually to a graduate student from the University at Buffalo's geography department, was awarded at last year's graduation ceremony to Bo Ae Chun. Bo Ae's work exemplifies the principles Hugh developed and taught for many years. If you would like to contribute to this award, please make checks payable to UB Foundation, Inc. and mail to NCGIA, SUNY at Buffalo, 301 Wilkeson, Buffalo, NY 14261. Thank you!

Chris Renschler, Assistant Professor and GIAL Director.
NSF, "Geomorphology and ecosystems – 36th annual Binghamton Geomorphology Symposium; New York Rivers United. "Cattaraugus Creek multi-county watershed protection strategy".

State University College at Buffalo, "Soil and water assessment toll (SWAT) modeling for the Cattaraugus Creek watershed".

Pete Rogerson, Professor.
Korea Res. Inst. For Human Settlements, "Research on development of methodologies and models for monitoring the real estate market".

- Jeff Gower presented "Let's Be Frank: An Overview of the Oeuvre of Frank Lloyd Wright".
- Undergraduate/Graduate/Law Presentations On Environmental Management
- IGERT Colloquium with Dale Hess and Maureen Mayer
- Reception for Mark Goldman, Geography Awareness Week Keynote Speaker. Mr. Goldman is a Buffalo Urbanist, Historian and Author of several books including City on the Lake: The Challenge of Change in Buffalo, New York.

The Annual Department Holiday Party was held on December 8th



Photos contributors throughout: Sean Bennett, Irene Casas and Deelesh Mandloi

GRANT DEADLINES

IGERT in GIScience Fellowships Available
Applications are still being accepted for Fall 2007 IGERT in GIScience fellowships. The program combines interdisciplinary science with a wealth of practical experience, opportunities and research training. To be considered for this program, applicants must apply to the department doctoral program and be a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident. Online applications are available at www.geog.buffalo.edu/giscience

The Baldy Center For Law & Social Policy provides grants for faculty research projects, funds conferences and workshops, and helps to cosponsor events organized by other UB departments or organizations. Details on guidelines, application forms and deadlines are found at <http://www.law.buffalo.edu/baldycenter/researchgrants.htm>
The Center also serves as a focal point for the interdisciplinary research and training in law and related graduate disciplines. It encourages and coordinates the dual and collaborative degrees programs and provides numerous opportunities for student involvement in center activities. Students are invited to participate in faculty seminars and work-in-progress presentations and in other activities specifically tailored to the needs of graduate students, such as dissertation workshops.
<http://www.law.buffalo.edu/baldycenter/studentinfo.htm>

Alan MacPherson missed the Super Bowl party due to a bit of snow!

Arctic winds hit Western New York on Super Bowl Sunday, causing white-outs that sent motorists spiraling into ditches and spinning out on roadways. The treacherous mix of lake-effect snow and brisk winds, especially in the Southtowns (where Alan lives!), was blamed for numerous traffic accidents. No serious injuries or fatalities were reported.



GRANTS AND AWARDS RECEIVED

The RSAI presented its annual **Dissertation Competition award** at the 2006 North American meetings in Toronto to Dr. Eric Delmelle for his thesis entitled "Optimization of Second-Phase Spatial Sampling Using Auxiliary Information." Dr. Delmelle received his Doctorate from the State University of New York at Buffalo, and was supervised by Prof. Peter Rogerson. Honorable Mentions were awarded to Drs. Georgeanne Artz (PhD: University of Iowa) and Julie Hwang (PhD: SUNY at Buffalo).

This makes 2 years in a row for UB students. In 2005 Dr. Ikuho Yamada was awarded for her work "Analysis of Spatial Clusters when the Phenomenon is Constrained by a Network Space". Dr. Yamada received her Doctorate from the State University of New York at Buffalo, and was supervised by Prof. Jean-Claude Thill.

Details and a list of previous winners of the Regional Science Association International dissertation competition are at:

<http://www.regionalscience.org/CompNAwards/rsaidissertationcontest.htm>

Congratulations Eric!!

Here's a sampling of grants received by faculty over the past year:

Sharmistha Bagchi-Sen, Professor.

NSF, "HSD Collaborative Research, Data Driven Analysis of Interdisciplinary Research Teams".

Sean Bennett, Associate Professor.

NSF, "Acquisition of a Particle Image Velocimetry (PIV) system for quantifying geophysical flows".

Lian Bian, Associate Professor.

NIH, "Simulating possible health outcomes of communicable diseases for three communities".

CDIC, Inc. "Simulating project".

Irene Casas, Assistant Professor.

Sweet Home School District, "Redistricting and school bus route optimization for Sweet Home School district: A GIS approach".

Scott Mackay, Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies.

Department of Energy, National Institute for Climate Change. "Collaborative Research: Improving prediction of climate change impacts on wetland-rich landscapes: Testing model mechanisms with flux-data assimilation at multiple sites". Prediction of climate change impacts on terrestrial carbon fluxes is highly uncertain. Upland ecosystem models, even when constrained with flux tower data, fail to explain interannual variability in CO₂ fluxes in the upper Midwest. One possible reason is lack of model mechanisms for wetland biogeochemistry and hydrology, where fluxes would be expected to vary with changes in depth to saturation. We will develop a wetland-landscape model and assimilate long-term multiple flux tower observations to simulate wetland and upland mechanisms simultaneously, with evaluation against unassimilated flux observations. The 3-year project is collaboration between UB Geography (Mackay) and the University of Wisconsin Department of Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences.

David M. Mark, Professor, Director NCGIA.

NSF, "IGERT"