

**SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:**

- **New Chair**
- **Directed  
Applied  
Research**
- **Study Abroad**
- **New Faculty**
- **Retiree**
- **We are on  
the Web**



**INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE:**

Summer Research	2
Alumni	2
In the Valley	2
New Faculty	3
New Class	3
Dr. Trendell	3
Giant Map	4

# Footprints

"Because we all leave a mark on the world."

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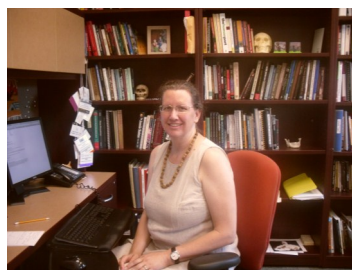


## Our New Chair and Her Vision

We welcome Dr. Susan Kirkpatrick Smith as the new Department Chair of the Department of Geography & Anthropology. Dr. Smith started her career at Kennesaw State University in 2005 as an Assistant Professor of Anthropology in the Department of Geography & Anthropology where she recently served as Assistant Department Chair.

Dr. Smith believes "teaching anthropology is about helping students understand anthropology as a discipline with a particular focus in the world. The anthropological lens shows students how this discipline can help them have a deeper understanding of their

world and helps them comprehend facts that otherwise would seem to have no connection to their lives."



Dr. Smith has also written a number of publications in her field, including "On Human Origins and Prehistory", "Skeletal and Dental Evidence for Social Status in Late Bronze Age Athens" and "Differential Diagnosis and Discussion of a Large Nasal Neoplasm from a

Late Bronze Age Athenian Male."

Dr. Smith's vision for the Geography and Anthropology Department is, "to continue to focus on high quality undergraduate teaching both inside the classroom and in the field. "I believe that one of the strengths of our department is in how well our faculty members integrate their research with their teaching. This provides so many of our students with hands-on research experience that is not available to undergraduates at many universities.

Feel free to drop Dr. Smith an email: [ssmith1@kennesaw.edu](mailto:ssmith1@kennesaw.edu) if you have any questions or comments.

## Watershed Anyone??

Drs. Nancy Hoalst-Pullen (GIS director) and Mark Patterson (Environmental Studies director) offered a Directed Applied Research class (GEOG 4100) this summer to 25 students. The students undertook a watershed assessment of Long Island Creek by conducting water quality analysis, tree and fish inventories, land use

mapping and visual site surveys. Students explored the topics of landscape ecology, land use planning, geospatial technologies, urban tree risk assessment and water quality management. Students were also certified by the State Adopt-A-Stream program to carry out physical and chemical water quality testing. Results of the



study were presented before the Watershed Alliance of Sandy Springs, the National Park Service, and the Sandy Springs Planning Department. Drs. Hoalst-Pullen and Patterson expect to offer this course again next summer.

# Summer Research & Study Abroad



*Dr. Mark Patterson received a \$24,000 grant renewal from the US Geological Survey under the AmericaView Program. As a Co-PI, he has been awarded \$475,000 under this program since 2003.*

During the summer of 2011, the department had five faculty members who traveled to other countries for research, a field school and study abroad.

Dr. Susan Kirkpatrick Smith, Associate Professor of Physical Anthropology, took 3 students to Crete, Greece to participate in research at the Institute for Aegean Prehistory Study Center to analyze human skeletal remains.

Dr. Terry Powis, Associate Professor of Archaeology, conducted a field school in

Belize. He took 13 students from KSU with him to work at Pacibitun, a Mayan site in the jungle of Belize.

Dr. Brandon Lundy, Assistant Professor of Cultural Anthropology, spent part of his summer in Guinea-Bissau, West Africa. There he examined food systems and livelihood patterns of a marginalized community.

Dr. Jun Tu, Assistant Professor of Geography, taught on a summer study abroad to China. The students

went to Beijing, Jiang Xi, and Shanghai. While there, he also attended the 19th International Conference on Geoinformatics which was held in Shanghai. The theme for the conference was "GIS in Education and Business."

Dr. Mario Giraldo, Assistant Professor of Geography, participated in a Study Abroad to Madrid, Spain.

*"Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow mindedness..."*

*Mark Twain*

## Program Growth & Alumni News

In 2004 our first degree program was a Bachelor of Science in Geographic Information Sciences. We then developed a Bachelor of Science in Anthropology and a Bachelor of Arts in Geography in 2007. Since 2004 we have had a total of 108 graduates between all three programs. We currently have 228 Anthropology Majors, 130 Geographic Information Science Majors, and 95 Geography Majors in the Department of Geography & Anthropology at KSU.



### Tell Us Your News!!

**We want to include your updates in the newsletter. Please send us your accomplishments or news you would like to share with your fellow alumni and department.**

[ga.hss.kennesaw.edu/resources](http://ga.hss.kennesaw.edu/resources)

## In The Valley

In 2008, Kennesaw State University acquired 54.8 acres of land, "In The Valley" which once belonged to Cora Harris, an author and professional writer from Bartow County. Dr. Wayne Van Horne, Associate Professor of Anthropology offered an Environmental Anthropology class during the Maymester session of 2011 at the

"In The Valley" site, as well as Pine Mountain Trail and Allatoona Dam. Students engaged in field trips, field method projects, and class and lab experiences to learn about ecological and environmental anthropology. Students also learned about the natural history of the Southeastern U.S.

This two week class had a considerable amount of outdoor activity and strenuous exercise. The class learned to identify types of geology and different species of plants, native trees, and wildflowers. The course is intended to provide both academic training and expertise working in an anthropological fieldwork research environment.



*"In The Valley"*

Picture from KSU Sentinel. Apr. 21, 2009

## New Faculty



Starting in the fall of 2011 we welcome the following faculty members to the

Department of Geography and Anthropology.

**Teresa Raczek, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Anthropology.** Dr. Raczek obtained her Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. Her research is focused on prehistoric archaeology in northwest India.

**Matthew Mitchelson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Geography.** He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Georgia. Dr. Mitchelson researches geographies of imprisonment as urban-political economies.

**Debarati Sen, Ph.D., Assistant Professor in Anthropology and Conflict Management.** She earned her Ph.D. from Rutgers University. Her research uses a feminist anthropology lens to look at sustainable development and

ethnic conflict.

**Steven Onofiok, Ph.D., Part-time Instructor of Geography.** Dr. Onofiok received his Ph.D. in Soil Science from University of California—Davis.

**Wotsuna Khamalwa, Ph.D., Part-time Instructor of Anthropology.** Dr. Khamalwa received his Ph.D. from Universität Bayreuth, Bayreuth, Germany.

**Catalin Pavel, Ph.D., Assistant Part-time Instructor of Anthropology.** Dr. Pavel received his Ph.D. at the University of Bucharest, Romania.

## New Class for Fall 2011

Dr. Brandon Lundy, Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Dr. Wotsuna Khamalwa, a visiting Professor of Anthropology and Religion from Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda, are team teaching a new Anthropology course titled Anth. 3340, Religion, Magic, and Culture this fall. This course examines the anthropological approach to religion and magic,

which privileges local religious experiences and practices and places them in socio-cultural context. Cosmologies, religious systems and magical systems of thought are explored from an anthropological perspective. Students exit this course with a sense that anthropology does have an invaluable, distinctive approach to religion and human life.



Operators of a Sacred Grove, southern Guinea-Bissau, West Africa

*“The Power of Imagination makes us infinite”*  
**John Muir**

## Retired But Not Forgotten

Dr. Harry Trendell retired from his full-time faculty post on July 1st. Dr. Trendell will continue to promote geography and support the department as an adjunct professor - so not to worry, the laser pointer and the FBI attaché case will still be on campus. Dr. Trendell's new office will be located in Social Science Building, room 4005.

Dr. Trendell has been with Kennesaw State since 1987. Dr. Trendell has taught Urban Geography, Cultural Geography, World Regional Geography, Historical Geography, Geography of Europe and Political Geography.

In his spare time when Dr. Trendell isn't teaching he likes to golf and is looking forward to

making a lot of below par scores. Who knows maybe he will get that green jacket yet!

Congratulations on your retirement; we are glad to have you back as an adjunct professor starting Fall 2011.



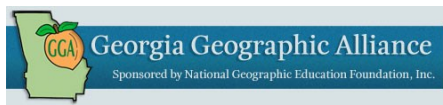
# Giant Map of North America

The Giant Traveling Map of North America brings geography home in a big way for American students. On this 26'x 35' map, students traverse the continent from Alaska's Aleutian Islands to the Panama Canal and from Iceland to Baja. Along the way students use their bodies to represent physical features, go on a westward journey to track population growth, and play an action-packed game of Simon Says. Older students looking for a challenge compare U.S. state carbon dioxide emissions

and explore major watersheds of the continent. Like all Giant Traveling Maps, this map comes with a trunk of activities, games, props, and educational resources.

The Giant Map will be displayed in the Social Science Building Atrium from October 24 to November 3, 2011.

For more information contact  
Nicole Vallencourt at  
[Nicole@gaofgeorgia.org](mailto:Nicole@gaofgeorgia.org)



*"You're Nowhere Without Geography"*

**Alumni, please don't forget to submit your information forms!**

**<http://ga.hss.kennesaw.edu/resources>**

**And, please support the Department and our students with your donations—**

**Any amount is appreciated and be sure to designate Geography & Anthropology**

**<http://www.kennesaw.edu/giving>**

**Or, mail us a check made payable to the KSU Foundation with your information form.**



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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.

**We're on the Web!**

**<http://ga.hss.kennesaw.edu/>**