



President's Column

--Thomas A. Wikle

For this first edition of *Quarterly News* I'd like to discuss the purpose and meaning of discipline-based honor societies. Contrary to what some believe, honor societies such as GTU aren't elitist organizations. Being invited to join has nothing to do with service, political affiliation, or personal connections. GTU membership is conferred on the basis of an outstanding academic record. Your membership in GTU serves as a symbol of your accomplishments that is recognized and valued by potential employers and others. With that said, are you satisfied with GTU as a line on your resume?



More than 60,000 persons have been recognized as GTU members and many of them have become leaders on college campuses and within businesses, government agencies and non-government organizations. GTU recognizes not just good students, but leaders who become corporation CEOs, university presidents and senior government officials.

I sincerely hope you'll consider becoming involved in a GTU leadership position on your campus where your passion for geography can be shared with others. GTU is a lifetime membership. I hope that you'll remain connected to GTU throughout your professional work, wherever it takes you!

New Chapters in 2012

- Mu Kappa Hofstra University
- Mu Lambda University of Colorado, Denver
- Mu Mu Florida International University
- Mu Nu Normandale Community College
- Mu Xi Calif. State University, Fullerton
- Mu Omicron Calif. State University, Stanislaus

Congratulations to students and faculty sponsors!

Lambda Zeta Chapter Officer Parlays GTU Scholarship into GIS Career

--Randy Bertolas, Wayne State College

Heather Hegi didn't have to be told to be an active GTU member at Wayne State College in northeast Nebraska. She was constantly looking to improve herself, and always driven to help others through campus and community service.



Born and raised in the small town of St. Paul, Nebraska, Heather came to Wayne State College with no particular major in mind. Four years later, she graduated Cum Laude in May

2009 with a major in Geography and minors in Earth Science and Environmental Studies. Just after graduation, Heather learned that she had been awarded GTU's Benjamin F. Richason, Jr. Scholarship. The \$1000 scholarship helped her in attending the University of Minnesota where she graduated two years later with a Master's degree in Geographic Information Science. Heather has since landed a great job working as a GIS Technician for the City of Golden Valley, Minnesota.

While in school, Heather qualified for initiation into the Lambda Zeta chapter of GTU that had been chartered at Wayne State College in 2002. She realized the value of GTU membership and served as Vice-President of her local chapter. Heather twice participated as a student worker at the Nebraska State Geographic Bee and also assisted with the Nebraska GIS Day Activities at a nearby community college. She participated in numerous campus and community service activities through GTU.



Heather presented a paper at the 2009 South Dakota State Geography Convention and went on to complete an honors project entitled, "Newly Independent Countries: An Examination of the Viability of Selected States from 1992-Present." During the summers of 2008-09, Heather interned for the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish, and Parks. While at the University of Minnesota, she co-organized the 10th Annual GIS Career and Networking Fair on campus and she also had the opportunity to serve as a Student Assistant at the 2011 Esri International User Conference in San Diego

According to Heather, "The combination of leadership experience provided by GTU, the aid GTU provided in funding my education, and the on-the-job experience gained in my internships all helped when I applied for a permanent position in GIS."

Historian's Column: The New Historian on the Block

--Dawn M. Drake

It only seems appropriate that the first edition of the GTU Newsletter should include an introduction of one of the newest GTU Executive Committee members – ME! As GTU's new historian, I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself, my plans, and how you can be a part of GTU history.

Most days you can find me sitting at a desk or teaching in a classroom in the Department of History and Geography at Missouri Western State University in the beautiful city of St. Joseph, Missouri (yes, the same St. Joseph where the Pony Express got its start and Robert Ford killed Jesse James). As the only geographer in the department, I teach a variety of courses from world geography to physical geography with a little GIS for good measure. But my passion is economic geography. I have a PhD from the University of Tennessee where I studied the geographic nature of competitive decisions in the US farm machinery

industry as well as agricultural applications of GIS. I continue in those research areas today, so when I am not in my office, I am most usually out in the field – literally. My research frequently takes me to see what real farmers are doing – in the field and at trade shows. I'm currently working on numerous research projects including an industry case study and a comparison of marketing strategies for firms at trade shows in the US and Canada.

But enough about me in general; let's get back to what you really care about – GTU. My association with Gamma Theta Upsilon goes back many years, beginning with my undergraduate days at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Over the course of my undergraduate and graduate career, I served as one of the student representatives to the Executive Committee for almost seven years. Today I am pleased and honored to be the historian of this fine organization. It is my goal as historian not only to preserve and protect the history of our organization, but also to modernize our archives and make them a more accessible tool for geographers.

In the coming editions of the GTU Newsletter, I will be introducing you to the GTU archives. I also hope to make the Historian's Column a place where memories are preserved. This is where every



local GTU chapter can help out. While the history of GTU as a whole is interesting, it is not nearly as interesting as the

individual chapter's own histories. At least once a year I would like to devote the Historian's Column to local chapter history. This can be anything from a complete history of a chapter to a short recollection of a particularly memorable moment in your chapter's past. And when I say past, it does not need to be 100 years ago. We want to hear from our newest chapters, too. This is a



chance for students and chapter sponsors to discover (or rediscover) their own past and share it with all the members of GTU. Chapters that are interested in contributing local histories should contact me at ddrake4@missouriwestern.edu for more information. I look forward to hearing from all of you and if you see me at AAG, say hello! I always like to meet other GTU members.

2012 Scholarship Recipients (\$1,000)

Buzzard Undergraduate: Zachary Kalina, Wayne State College

Buzzard Graduate: Preston Cumming, University of Colorado - Boulder

Maxfield: Michelle Coe, University of Arizona

Richason: Hope Shimek, Texas State University

Rechlin: Alicia Gray, Southern Connecticut State University

Robert G. Buzzard, Founder of GTU

Dr. Buzzard, the founder of Gamma Theta Upsilon, received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the University of Chicago in 1916 and 1917, respectively. He served in World War I, after which he undertook his PhD at Clark University, completing it in 1925. He accepted a position at Illinois State Normal University in 1923 and taught there until 1933, at which time he became President of Eastern Illinois State Teachers College (now Eastern Illinois University).

While at Illinois State Normal University, Dr. Buzzard founded GTU, on May 15, 1928, as a "national professional fraternity in Geography," fulfilling what he saw as a need for such a national professional organization for geography students. Dr. Buzzard served as Secretary/Treasurer until 1933 and later as President (1946-1948).

Following his retirement from Eastern Illinois State Teachers College in 1956, Dr. Buzzard taught at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale (1957-1959) and at Arizona State University in

Tempe (1959-1961). Dr. Buzzard received several honors, including the first GTU Distinguished Service Award in 1972 and an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Eastern Illinois University in 1976. He died in 1979 in California at the age of 88.

GTU Regional Councilors

Regional Councilors assist with chapter reactivations, provide support for the establishment of new chapters, and serve as a source of advice and information to faculty sponsors.



- ENGLAND-ST. LAWRENCE VALLEY**
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James Doerner, University of Northern Colorado
- SOUTHWESTERN**
Juana L. Ibanez, University of New Orleans
- PACIFIC COAST**
Killian Ying, California State University Los Angeles



Middle States Update

--Tim Hawkins, Middle States Regional Councilor

The Middle States Division of GTU is excited to welcome the Mu Kappa chapter of GTU which was established at Hofstra University in May 2012. The chapter advisor is Dr. Kari Jensen. Please join me in welcoming one of our newest chapters!

Geographical Bulletin: Call for Papers

--Steven M. Schnell, Editor



The *Geographical Bulletin* is soliciting manuscripts for upcoming issues. The *Geographical Bulletin* is a peer-reviewed journal whose primary mission is to provide an outlet for undergraduate and graduate student research in all areas of geography. Non-student

submissions are also welcome. To foster and encourage student publication, a "Best Student Paper" award with a \$200 prize is awarded each year to the best paper authored by students. For a style sheet, visit GTU's website www.gammathetaupsilon.org/geographical-bulletin.html. For further information, contact Steven M. Schnell, Editor, Geographical Bulletin, Department of Geography, Kutztown University of Pennsylvania, Kutztown, PA 19530. (610) 683-1595. E-mail schnell@kutztown.edu

Gifts to the Education Fund

The Gamma Theta Upsilon Executive Committee would like to thank the following individuals who contributed to the GTU Education Fund in 2012:

- Amber D'Angelo
- Glenn Williams
- Juana Ibanez
- Randy Bertolas
- Michaela Buenemann

Alums: Join the Omega Omega Chapter

Omega Omega Membership



Enclosed is a payment for 1 year/\$10
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\$25 \$50 \$100 other: \$_____

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Return this form to:

Richard A. Earl, GTU Omega Omega Chair
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www.gammathetaupsilon.org