



President's Column

by Michael Longan
President

The tagline that appears at the top of GTU's website "Recognizing Geography's Next

Generation of Leaders" describes what we do, in a nutshell. However, receiving recognition is only the start of a much longer leadership journey. Induction into GTU is not simply recognition for a job well done, but is also a call to leadership. We call on you to be a leader in your local chapter, by helping to organize events where you can share your interest in geography with geography students and others on your campus. We call on you to apply your geographic skills in service to your community. We call on you to be of service to the discipline of geography not only by being excellent scholars, but also by demonstrating how a geographical perspective can help to solve problems, no matter what vocation you ultimately choose. Finally, as stated in our constitution, we call on you to "apply geographical knowledge and skills in service to humankind."

As the new president of the GTU International Executive Committee I have entered an exciting period in my own leadership journey. I am supported by my predecessor, Immediate Past President Dr. Burrell Montz, whose leadership has enabled GTU to better achieve our mission. I am also supported by our new First Vice President, Dr. Susy Ziegler and our new Second Vice President Dr. Jimmy Wilson both of whom have served as amazing chapter sponsors and from whom I have already learned much. We also have new Regional Councilors who have answered the call of leadership: Dr. Patrick May (New England/St. Lawrence Valley), Dr. Ryan Weichert (West Lakes), and Dr. Karen Johnson-Webb (East Lakes). Finally, we have named a new editor for the Geographical Bulletin, Dr. Casey Allen whose biography we have shared in this issue.

As Historian Dr. Dawn Drake illustrates in her column, not everyone who becomes a member of GTU hears the call to leadership that GTU challenges us with. Included also in this issue is a call for applications for GTU scholarships and a short note of encouragement from one of last year's amazing recipients. You'll find information on our members meeting and booth at the AAG in Boston. Finally, Development Coordinator Dr. Howard Johnson asks for your input concerning what GTU as an organization should be doing for its initiates in the future. Please provide him with your feedback!



Apply for a GTU Scholarship by June 1

by Susy Ziegler, 1st Vice-President

Gamma Theta Upsilon holds a scholarship competition each year. The Maxfield, Richason, and Rechlin Scholarships are awarded annually to a junior or senior with career or graduate school aspirations. The Buzzard Undergraduate Scholarship is awarded to a college senior to use toward graduate school expenses. The Buzzard Graduate Scholarship is awarded to a continuing Master's or Ph.D. student. The deadline is not until June 1, but before students and faculty members scatter for the summer we hope that applicants will consider lining up the materials and letters of recommendation that they will need to submit a complete application packet.

Details about the 2017 GTU Scholarships are posted at <http://www.gammathetaupsilon.org/scholarships.html>. A total of five awards of \$1000 each are available to support the education of GTU members. Follow the links from the scholarship page to access the criteria, instructions, template



for the cover page, and timeline. Applications should be e-mailed to suziegle@nmu.edu no later than June 1, 2017 at 11:59 p.m. U.S. Pacific Time.

The GTU Scholarship Committee looks forward to reading about the accomplishments and contributions of GTU undergraduates and graduate students who will continue their geography education next year as they prepare to be part of the next generation of leaders in geography. Questions about applying for scholarships may be directed to 1st Vice-President Susy Ziegler at suziegle@nmu.edu or 906-227-1104.

GTU Scholarship Recipient on What It Meant to Him

by Susy Ziegler, 1st Vice-President



Jory and his service dog Daisy volunteer at the South Carolina Geo-Bee.

Undergraduate Jory Fleming received a 2016 Maxfield Scholarship from Gamma Theta Upsilon. Jory reflected, "It's an incredible honor to be the recipient of the Maxfield Scholarship. Geography is not just a major, but a passion and joy for me to study. GTU has been a big part of that. [The Kappa Psi chapter at the University of South Carolina]

served as an avenue to connect students studying geography in many meaningful ways.... Through volunteering at the National Geographic Geo-Bee and map-a-thons for the US Agency for International Development we've made a difference in the community here and around the world. I hope that every GTU member reflects on experiences they've had with their chapters, and then decides to share those stories by applying for a scholarship!"

Students who would like to apply for a 2017 GTU scholarship will find the details at <http://www.gammathetaupsilon.org/scholarships.html>.

Editor Named for Geographical Bulletin



New Geographical Bulletin Editor Casey Allen

Gamma Theta Upsilon, the International Geographical Honor Society, has named Casey Allen, Associate Professor of Geography at the University of Colorado at Denver as the new editor for the Geographical Bulletin. The Geographical Bulletin is published twice yearly by GTU and exists to highlight student scholarship in geography though both students and faculty may submit articles for review. We are fortunate to have Casey on board! He sent us the following biography:



“A champion of fieldwork, award-winning teacher, mentor, Early Career Scholar, and Fulbright Scholar to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Dr. Casey D. Allen maintains wide-ranging interests. Though well-regarded in the fields of geomorphology (the “Science of Scenery”), rock/cultural stone decay, humanistic geography, and geographic education, his true passion rests in helping students explore, discover, appreciate, and learn about landscapes as Traditional and Romantic Geographers. Case also holds keen interests and expertise in regional studies, sustainability, geo/digital humanities, geoarchaeology, and biological soil crusts. He was founding sponsor for University of Colorado Denver’s GTU chapter, where he currently holds the post of associate professor, while also serving as Editor for The Geographical Bulletin – GTU’s peer-reviewed publication focused on student research. On a more personal note, Case was raised on a farm, has held many different jobs over the years, and enjoys a cold & frothy root beer, desserts, hiking & camping, movies, lean and meaty steaks, basketball, playing in the dirt, the Oxford Comma, music and the Arts, softball, the color gray, nutmeg, hot chocolate, True Love, volleyball, sci-fi/fantasy, roaming in the rain, and good Theatre. Learn more at <http://caseallen.com>, and follow his somewhat eclectic re/tweets on Twitter: @caseallen”

For more information about the Geographical Bulletin, archives of past issues, and instructions to authors visit:
<http://www.gammathetaupsilon.org/geographical-bulletin.html>



Historian’s Column

by Dawn M. Drake
 Historian

As I was looking for a topic for this edition of the Historian’s Column, I did what I often do – I turned to the archives of the *Geographical Bulletin*. As I perused the pages, looking to see what was being published a decade, two decades, or even three decades ago, I am came to the [November 1977 issue](#). An article about the geographic analysis of crime rates caught my eye. Maybe it is because I am working to convince the law enforcement academy and forensic science program on my campus of why GIS training matters to the profession, but I thought it seemed like an interesting direction to go. Then I looked at more of the titles from issue:

“Study of a Service Area” by Mary Wegner

“A Geographic Analysis of Crime Rates in Southwest Michigan: 1967-1973” by James Lee

“The Diffusion of Transportation Effects in An Urban Network” by David Burik

“Climatic Preference” by Jeffrey Lutz

Now, to a geography geek like me (and all of you, I would imagine, if you religiously read my column), this seems like exciting stuff – a virtual cornucopia of articles with themes in applied geography. This is the type of material that was cutting edge in the late 1970s. Even more exciting, three of the four articles were written by students. As I continue to stare at the table of contents, thinking about what I wanted to write, I noticed something else about this particular issue of the *Geographical Bulletin*. On the page opposite the table contents there is what appears to be a handwritten note dated December 16, 1977. Realizing that some of the issues of the



Geographical Bulletin that are in the collection that resides with the historian were donated to complete the library, I thought that this might be a personal comment. Then I read it more closely:

Sir –

I can't believe it! As a recent graduate of geography and a member of GTU, I received my first copy of GTU's Geographical Bulletin today. I really can't believe it! It's so stupid – there is nothing in it but 4 "scholarly" articles. What the hell are the AAG annals for, then?

Is there any concrete purpose to this geog bulletin? Why is it that anything that has to do with geography has to have stupid articles in them? No wonder geography is so dull!

Not surprising the *Bulletin's* editor at the time, Dr. James Gallagher, was somewhat taken aback by this and chose to print the unsigned note as a part of the Editor's Comments for that issue. In those comments, Dr. Gallagher elucidates the mission of the *Geographical Bulletin* stating "Some time ago the Executive Board of Gamma Theta Upsilon agreed that the best evidence of professionalism was the publication of a scholarly journal.... The unique characteristic of *The Geographical Bulletin* is that the first priority for publication is to students; the lowest priority is to full professors." He goes on to explain the challenges of publishing student work that is sometimes uneven in quality and delivery. He also encouraged more student submissions.

So I guess the long and the short it is not the exciting applied research that was being done in the 1970s, even though many of those same topics are still heavily researched in geography today. In the end the purpose of this column is going to be to echo Dr. Gallagher's words from so long ago and encourage more students to publish. The *Geographical Bulletin* has long been an important avenue for students to get their first publication

credits. The Executive Committee at GTU is committed to continuing that tradition. Our new editor, Dr. Casey Allen, is excited to receive submissions from students, whether graduates or undergraduates, and help them to become published researchers. Wouldn't it be cool to have your research be among the titles we talk about in the Historian's Column many years later? Much like the lottery, you have to enter to win. Unlike the lottery, the odds are probably in your favor that the editorial board will help you succeed. So, get out there and submit!

GTU in Boston



Join us in Boston!

GTU is bringing back our annual in-person membership meeting. It will be held at the AAG meeting in Boston on Friday April 7, 2017 at 12:00 P.M. in Hynes Convention Center Room 300. Also, members of the International Executive Committee and other GTU volunteers will also be present at the GTU Booth in the Exhibit Hall. If you're going to Boston be sure to stop by and learn more about GTU and provide us with feedback about how we can make GTU better.



Ideas for GTU Requested

by Howard Johnson, Development Coordinator

GTU is all about recognition and opportunity. Membership in GTU is recognition of scholarly achievement. Membership also creates opportunities to apply for scholarships and to publish in a peer reviewed journal. As Development Coordinator, I am interested in feedback from the chapter members regarding your thoughts on what GTU might be doing for its initiates in the future. For example, would you want more scholarships, larger scholarships, both? Would you want travel stipends to attend regional AAG meetings? What other ideas might you have that GTU could consider as possible projects worthy of an honor society?

Talk it over in your chapters and send your thoughts to me at hjohnson1@gmail.com. I look forward to your responses.

Student Outreach Assistants Needed

The membership of GTU recently voted to create a new leadership position for students: Student Outreach Assistants. Each regional division of GTU is represented by a Student Outreach Assistant and there are currently openings in 6 regions. To be eligible students must be members of GTU within the region they represent. They are appointed by their regional councilor for a term of 2 years and retain the position as long as they still reside in the region of appointment and remain a student. The responsibilities are to assist regional councilors with events at regional AAG meetings, help our Outreach Coordinator (Dr. Randy Bertolas) maintain GTU's social media, and serve as a liaison between students and the GTU Executive Committee. If you are interested in becoming a Student Outreach Assistant, contact your regional councilor

<http://www.gammathetaupsilon.org/contact.html>

GTU Merchandise

It is never too early to order GTU cords, stoles, and pins for your induction ceremonies. In fact, an early order means you will beat the rush and will insure that the items get to you on time (without having to pay for overnight shipping!). Check out what is available at the Herff Jones site (https://www.hjgreek.com/index.cfm?event=Products.showCategories&Organization_ID=635). Other items including frames and desk accessories can be obtained from Church Hill Classics (<http://www.diplomaframe.com/gatu>).



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Want to know what's going on with GTU internationally? Interested in telling the world about your great GTU Chapter event? Looking for ideas for your next chapter event? All that and more can be found on GTU's official Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/GammaThetaUpsilonInternational/>

Share Your News!

If you have news from your local chapter that you'd like to share, an account of a great chapter activity, or other items of interest to GTU's membership, we invite you to submit your item for consideration in the next edition of the GTU Newsletter. Send your news to Mike.Longan@valpo.edu.