

Gamma Theta Upsilon and *The Geographical Bulletin*

Gamma Theta Upsilon (GTU) was established in 1928 as a professional geography honor society. The organization was founded by faculty members and students at Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois to recognize and promote scholarship in geography. Since its inception, over 300 chapters have been added, mostly in the United States. Currently, the society has over 70,000 members worldwide.

The purpose of the society remains embodied in the symbolism found in the key insignia printed on the back cover of the *Geographical Bulletin*. The body of the key is seven-sided and represents the seven continents of the Earth. The Greek letters ΓΘΥ represent the three great environmental domains of our planet: Ge (Earth), Thalassia (sea), and Hypaithrois (atmosphere). The waves in the center of the key signify the major oceans of the world and the star is symbolic of Polaris, which guided travelers over the lands and oceans of the northern hemisphere for centuries.

With the rise of globalization, the need to have an understanding of the complex array of forces that shape our world is more critical than ever before. Gamma Theta Upsilon is committed to fostering geographic knowledge and education among the public. Currently, the society awards five scholarships to undergraduates, graduating seniors, and to a graduate student in the field of geography that hold membership in the society. In cooperation with the Association of American Geographers, the society also funds the “Visiting Scientist Program,” which sponsors prominent geographers to work with university and college Geography Departments.

Gamma Theta Upsilon also publishes *The Geographical Bulletin*, a peer-reviewed journal that publishes articles and reviews of interest to geographers and laypersons alike. While *The Geographical Bulletin* began publication as an outlet for student research in 1970, it welcomes submissions from established geographers, researchers, and other scholars, and publication occurs biannually (usually in May and November). Many students who have gone on to graduate school in geography and related fields have seen their first professional publication appear in *The Bulletin*. To encourage student publication, Gamma Theta Upsilon awards a “Best Student Paper Award” and a two hundred dollar prize annually. Published articles are available free of charge in PDF form on the GTU website, as well as being indexed through EBSCO’s databases and selectively abstracted in *Current Geographical Publications of the American Geographical Society*, *Geo-Abstracts*, and *Sociological Abstracts*.

www.gammathetaupsilon.org

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

The Geographical Bulletin is published semi-annually (May and November) by the Geography honor society, Gamma Theta Upsilon. In keeping with its goals of promoting geography awareness, GTU offers *The Geographical Bulletin* as an open-access, online journal that does not charge authors for either submission or subsequent publication.

The Geographical Bulletin began publication in 1970. A complete 25-year cumulative bibliographic index, by author, is printed in Volume 38, Number 1 (May 1996), and available on the website. While supplies remain, back issues from 1970 through the present are available for \$5.00 per issue.

For questions about *The Geographical Bulletin*, including potential article submission, please visit the website (<http://gammathetaupsilon.org/geographical-bulletin.html>) or contact:

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THE GEOGRAPHICAL BULLETIN

May
2020

Vol. 61
No. 1

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ISSN 2163-5900 © The Author(s).

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Gamma Theta Upsilon

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Like previous years, I am pleased that this issue includes a range of different topics and locales. While Zaque and Rivillas explore the geotypes of Colombia in South America, Marr takes us to South Mountain, Pennsylvania for a geoarchaeological assessment of Prehistoric metarhyolite quarry pits. Then, Combs and Burger take a keen look at the urban-rural Medicaid divide in Nebraska, while Smith and Sandoval use GIS to analyze violent and property crimes around the Next National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency in St. Louis, Missouri. Though the first three articles are penned by established scholars, the last represents an intensive spatiotemporal study spearheaded by a PhD student (Smith). This issue also includes a book review authored by a doctoral student (Baker) and a timely essay about being evacuated during the COVID 19 pandemic (Allen and Groom).

Keep in mind that *The Geographical Bulletin* represents a friendly venue for first-time scholars, and it is my hope that students – from undergraduate to PhD-level – continue to submit their work for review and potential subsequent publication. Additionally, *The Geographical Bulletin* is always looking for entries in our *Geographical Essays and Reviews* section. These editor-reviewed-only pieces can include not just book reviews, but also write-ups such as chronicling your field experiences (like the Allen and Groom essay in this issue!), explorations of (new and old) geographic paradigms, chapter histories, potential new pedagogies, and/or special biographies. To submit a potential manuscript to this section, follow the guidelines at the end of this issue or on GTU's website (<http://gammathetaupsilon.org/geographical-bulletin.html>).

And, as always, a special thank you to all the peer reviewers. Our double-blind review process remains a key strategy in producing useful articles. Without your help, we would not be able to showcase as strong of research. Your reviewing makes a difference. If you would like to be added to our reviewer list, please email me. We would appreciate your service. I also want to thank the Editorial Board for their continued insight and guidance. It is always appreciated.

And remember: while *The Geographical Bulletin* champions student research, it is NOT only for student research. As this issue demonstrates, even well-established scholars publish with *The Geographical Bulletin*. We might not be as large a publication as other journals, but we have been around longer than most! Keep us in mind when submitting your next manuscript.

Casey D. Allen, Editor

THE GEOGRAPHICAL BULLETIN

RESEARCH ARTICLES

