

ZHAOXU SUI

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Updated April 2025

EDUCATION

The Pennsylvania State University

2024 - Present

Doctoral Student

Advisor: Dr. Anthony C. Robinson

Research Interests: Territorial Representations on Maps, Toponymy and Cartography

Lab Affiliations: GeoGraphics Lab

University of Oregon

2022 –2024

Master of Science, Geography

Advisor: Dr. Carolyn S. Fish

Master Thesis: “Deconstructing Borders, Territories, and Toponyms: Cartographic Designs in the Political Disputed Territory of Sakhalin”

Lab Affiliations: Cartofish Lab, S3C Lab, Infographics Lab

University of Minnesota

2019 - 2021

Bachelor of Science, Geography

Minors: GIS, Population Studies, Interdisciplinary Design

GPA: 3.99/4.0, Graduated with High Distinction, Dean’s List

Capstone Project: Flooding Risk Assessment in Jinan, China, in ArcGIS Story Map

RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

Graduate Research Assistant

2023

Supervisor: Dr. Carolyn Fish

Department of Geography, University of Oregon

- Project: Why Conduct Cartographic Research: A Comparison of Cartographic Research Contributions in Four International Cartographic Association (ICA) Affiliated Journals.

Undergraduate Research Assistant

2021

Supervisor: Jeff Matson

Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA), University of Minnesota

- Project: Web Mapping Creative Enterprises in the city of Minneapolis

Undergraduate Research Assistant

2020 – 2021

Institute on the Environment, University of Minnesota

- Project: Sweetie Pie – Urban Gardening on Northside Community, Minneapolis

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Article

Fish, C., Roth, R., Guidero, E., Raposo, P., **Sui, Z.** (2025). Why Conduct Cartographic Research: A Comparison of Cartographic Research Contributions in Four International Cartographic Association (ICA) Affiliated Journals. *International Journal of Cartography*: 10th Anniversary Issue. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23729333.2025.2475411>

Non-Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

Sui, Z. (Accepted). Review of The Rise and Fall of the National Atlas in the Twentieth Century. *Cartographic Perspectives*.

Sui, Z. and Lessani, M. N. (In Review). Towards Real Internationalization: Kashida Justification on Maps. *Cartographic Perspectives*.

Referred Conference Abstracts

Sui, Z. (Accepted). Visualizing States Across Cartographic Designs. *Abstracts of the ICA*.

Sui, Z., & Fish, C. S. (2023). Endonyms or Exonyms: How map purpose, data source, and map language impact place naming on maps. *Abstracts of the ICA*, 6, 1–2.
<https://doi.org/10.5194/ica-abs-6-249-2023>

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATIONS

Conference Session Organization / Chair

Houtman, L. and **Sui, Z.** (2024). Putting the Human back in Cartography: Designs and Practices. *American Association of Geographers 2024 Annual Meeting, Honolulu, HI*, April 18, 2024.

Conference Presentations

Sui, Z. (2025). Characterizing State Narratives in Cartographic Designs. *North American Cartography Information Society Annual Conference, Detroit, MI*, March 24-28, 2025.

Sui, Z. (2024). Mapping the Transition: The Evolution and Resilience of Specialist Map Retailers around the world. *1st AsiaCarto Conference, Hong Kong, China*, December 11-13, 2024.

Kelso, N., Patterson, T., Plewe, B., **Sui, Z.** (2024). Rebuilding Natural Earth: An Updated Public Preview of Version 6. *North American Cartography Information Society Annual Conference, Tacoma, WA*, October 16-19, 2024.

- Sui, Z.** (2024). Making a 3D relief globe. *North American Cartography Information Society Annual Conference, Tacoma, WA*, October 16-19, 2024.
- Sui, Z.** (2024). Deconstructing borders, fill-colors, and toponyms: cartography designs in the political disputed territory of Sakhalin. *American Association of Geographers 2024 Annual Meeting, Honolulu, HI*, April 18, 2024.
- Sui, Z.** (2023). Secure Political Claim: How Japanese Regulate Map Labeling on Southern Sakhalin Island (Karafuto). *North American Cartography Information Society Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, PA*, October 11-14, 2023.
- Sui, Z.** (2023). Endonyms or Exonyms: How map purpose, data source, and map language impact place naming on maps. *International Cartographic Conference, Cape Town, Western Cape, South Africa*, August 14, 2023. *American Association of Geographers 2023 Annual Meeting, Denver, CO*, March 27, 2023.
- Sui, Z.** (2023) AI use in atlas projects. *Map AI Workshop, International Cartographic Conference, Stellenbosch, Western Cape, South Africa*, August 12, 2023.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

Grants and Fellowships

Anne C. Wilson Graduate Fellowship, EMS College, Penn State	\$5,000 2024
University Graduate Fellowship, Penn State	\$32,000 2024
AAG Cartography Specialty Group Masters Student Research Grant	\$ 300 2024
AsiaCarto Conference Travel Grant with Registration Waiver	\$250 2024
North American Carto. Info. Society (NACIS) Student Travel Grant	\$1,500 2021-2024
U.S. National Committee (USNC) to the Int'l Carto. Conference Travel Funding	\$2,344 2023
Mather Fellowship, Department of Geography, University of Oregon	\$875 2023

Awards

AsiaCarto Conference Best Presentation Award	2024
Carto. and Geographic Info. Society (CaGIS) Student Scholarship Award	\$1,000 2024
University of Oregon Rippey Grant Research Awards	\$1,000 2024
International Cartographic Association (ICA) Scholarship for ICC 2023	\$500 2023

University of Minnesota Ecolab Sustainability Scholarship	\$7,500 2020
University of Minnesota Global Excellence Scholarship	\$25,000 2019-2021
Global 10th Place Gold Medal Recipient, 15th International Geography Olympiad	2018

AFFILIATIONS AND SERVICES

North American Cartographic Information Society (NACIS)

Student Board Member	2025 – Present
Director, Mentor Program	2025 – Present

American Association of Geographers (AAG)

Student Chair, Cartography Specialty Group	2023 –2024
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Associated Graduate Students in Geography (AGSG), University of Oregon

Colloquium Chair, Representative at Large	2023 –2024
Social Chair, Treasurer	2022 –2023

Belonging, Dignity and Justice (BDJ) Committee, Department of Geography, Penn State

Student Representative	2025 – Present
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Cartographic and Geographic Information Society (CaGIS)

WORK & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Employee – Student Cartographer 2024 – Present

GeoGraphics Lab, Penn State

- Commissioned Map Projects with professionals in Penn State, Millbrook Marsh Nature Center, Penn State Online Geospatial Education.

Student Mapping Assistant 2024

Department of Anthropology, University of Oregon

- Project Invisible No More! with Dr. Lynn Stephen

Teaching Assistant – “GIS I” 2023 - 2024

Department of Geography, University of Oregon

- Geography 393 & 490: Data Driven Cartography
- Geography 481: GIS I

Employee – Student Cartographer 2022 – 2024

Infographics Lab, University of Oregon

- Commission Projects with Global Initiative of Ungulate Migrations (GIUM) Initiatives and USGS Wild Migration Report.

Student Mapping Assistant <i>Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships, University of Minnesota</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Commission Project with Bluff Country Hiking Club, Chatfield, MN. 	2021
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CARTOGRAPHY AWARDS

Arthur Robinson Print Map Award

Cartographic and Geographic Information Society (CaGIS)

Copies are preserved at the Library of Congress, Washington D.C.

“Earth Transit” Honorable Mention	2024
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“Travel Map of the World” Honorable Mention	2023
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“Comprehensive Map of the World and Beyond” Honorable Mention	2021
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Bill Loy Award for Excellence in Cartography

Infographics Lab, Department of Geography, University of Oregon

“Reference Atlas of the World” Honorable Mention	2023
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U-Spatial Mapping Prize

Department of Geography, University of Minnesota

“Comprehensive Map of the World and Beyond” Most Ambitious Award	2021
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SELECTED CARTOGRAPHY EXHIBITIONS

Sui, Z. (2024). What if China Adopted the US National Park Service System? *North American Cartography Information Society Annual Conference, Tacoma, WA, October 16-19, 2024.*

Sui, Z. (2024). Himalayan Mountainscapes. *British Cartographic Society Map Award Commended Entries, October 16-19, 2024.*

Sui, Z. (2024). Earth Transit. German Newsmedia *ZeitMagazin*, February 2024.

Sui, Z. (2023). Travel Map of the World. *Online Map Gallery of International Cartographic Conference, Cape Town, Western Cape, South Africa, August 14, 2023.*

Sui, Z. (2022). The Sahara. *North American Cartography Information Society Annual Conference, Minneapolis, MN, October 19-22, 2022.*

Sui, Z. (2021). Comprehensive Map of the World and Beyond. *North American Cartography Information Society Annual Conference, Oklahoma City, OK, October 13-16, 2021.*

VOLUNTEERING

Student Mentor , <i>GeoGraphics Lab, Penn State</i>	2025 - Present
Cartographer , <i>Zanjarajuno Natural Reserve, Ecuador</i>	2024 - Present
Graphic Designer , <i>GISphere</i>	2023 – Present
Data Contributor , <i>Natural Earth Dataset</i>	2022 – Present
Cartographer , <i>Department of Anthropology, University of Oregon</i>	2024
Graduate Workshop Organizer , <i>Department of Geography, University of Oregon</i>	2023
Graphic Designer , <i>Huafeng Magazine Club, University of Oregon</i>	2022 –2024

SKILLS

GIS	ArcGIS Suite (Pro, Online, Desktop, Mapbox, QGIS)
PROGRAMMING	Python(Geopandas, ArcPy), Javascript (d3)
GRAPHIC DESIGN	Blender, Adobe Illustrator, InDesign, Photoshop, Procreate
WEB DESIGN	HTML, CSS, Dora, Wix, Wordpress, ArcGIS Web Apps
LANGUAGES	Chinese: Native, English: Proficient, Japanese: Elementary