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"America's Climate Choices" Reports Released by NRC

As part of its most comprehensive study of climate change to date, the National Research Council (NRC) has issued three new reports detailing the reasons why the U.S. should act now to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and develop a national strategy to adapt to the inevitable impacts of climate change. Two additional reports will be released this fall. The reports comprise a congressionally-requested suite of five studies known as "America's Climate Choices."

The three reports recently released are "Advancing the Science of Climate Change," "Limiting the Magnitude of Future Climate Change," and "Adapting to the Impacts of Climate Change." "America's Climate Choices" also includes two additional

reports that will be released later this year: "Informing an Effective Response to Climate Change" will examine how to best provide decision makers information on climate change, and an overarching report will build on each of the previous reports and other work to offer a scientific framework for shaping the policy choices underlying the nation's efforts to confront climate change.

Geography's Role

A number of leading geographers have played key roles in conducting these studies. **Tom Wilbanks** (Oak Ridge National Laboratory), is chair of the

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Seattle and the Pacific Northwest AAG Annual Meeting, April 12-16, 2011

Seattle, site of the upcoming 2011 AAG Annual Meeting, sits at the center of what is popularly called the Pacific Northwest. This larger region encompasses Washington, Oregon, Alaska, British Columbia, Idaho and western Montana. With 17 million people, the Pacific Northwest has grown at about double the rate for the United States as a whole since World War II. Why has it grown so fast? We argue that a unique combination of economic, social, cultural, political and environmental factors have combined to allow this region to prosper.

The Economy

The remote position of the Pacific Northwest, far from the iconic manufacturing belt and the centers of

power in New York and Washington, D.C., was long a real disadvantage to participation in national markets, but it proved productive as a gateway to Alaska and especially to trade with Asia. Trade constitutes a large component of the economy, especially for Vancouver and Seattle-Tacoma. The far corner position has also proven pivotal to the development and continuing presence of major military bases, most notably around Puget Sound.

The immense stands of superb old growth coniferous forests, dominated by Douglas fir, western red cedar and western hemlock, made lumber the dominant sector of the economy from 1852-1929. Portland, Vancouver, and Seattle developed as regional capitals for trade, commerce, and services. This was especially true for Seattle, which became the primary middleman to Alaska-Yukon gold. World War I was fateful in propelling Seattle to dominance, first through the growth of the shipbuilding industry and second

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Seattle's Pike Place Market is an iconic tourist destination and the largest farmers market in the U.S.

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AAG Specialty Groups and Affinity Groups are voluntary associations of AAG members. Each year, many of these groups confer awards on both faculty and students in conjunction with the AAG Annual Meeting. Recipients are listed below. Photographs are provided for those recipients who were in attendance at the AAG's annual awards luncheon, which took place in Washington D.C. at the 2010 Annual Meeting in April. For a full list of AAG Specialty and Affinity Groups, descriptions, and contact information, see www.aag.org/sg/sg_display.cfm.

Africa SG

2010 Kwadwo Konadu Agyemang Distinguished Scholar Award

Garth Meyers PhD, University of Kansas

Distinguished Service Award

Joseph Oppong PhD, University of North Texas

Student Research Paper Award

Brian Dowd, University of California Santa Cruz

Applied Geography SG

Class Exercise Competition

Timothy Hawthorne, Ohio State University, "Map 2 Serve: Serving the Community with Cartography"



Hawthorne

Biogeography SG

Henry Cowles, Excellence in Publishing in Biogeography Award

Bryan Shuman, A.K. Henderson, C. Plank, I. Stefanova, and S.S. Zeigler. "Woodland-to-forest transition during prolonged drought in Minnesota after ca. AD 1300." *Ecology*, 90: 2792–2807.

Student Research Grant Competition

Kimberly Meitzen, University of South Carolina, "Hydrogeomorphology and Vegetation Ecology of Abandoned Meander Wetlands in a Large Floodplain".

PhD Student Paper Competition 2010

Grant P. Elliott, University of Missouri, "Multi-Scale Influences of Climate on Upper Treeline Dynamics along a Latitudinal Gradient in the Rocky Mountains, USA"

Masters Student Paper Competition 2010

Matthew C. Kwit, Northern Illinois University, "Sugar maple leaf phenology, light levels, carbon gain, and regeneration at and north of the current range limit"

Business Geography SG

2010 Outstanding Scholarship and Service Award

Grant Thrall, University of Florida

2011 Outstanding Scholarship and Service Award

Lawrence Estaville, Texas State University, San Marcos

Cultural and Political Ecology SG

2010 Student Paper Award

Andrew S. Roberts, CUNY Graduate Center, New York Botanical Garden, "The hillock-depression complex: illegible landscapes and land use in spatio-temporal context on the Tonle Sap floodplain, Cambodia"



Roberts

2010 Field Study Award

Emma Gaalaas Mullaney, Pennsylvania State University, "The Contentious Politics of Corn: Conflicting Agro-Economic Narratives in Mexico's Central Highlands"



AAG president Carol Harden (left) presents Mullaney with the CPESG Field Study Award.

2010 Robert McCorkle Netting Award

Antony (Tony) Bebbington, University of Manchester

Communication Geography SG

Stanley Brunn Student Paper Prize

First place: Blake L. Mayberry, University of Kansas, "He is a good horse and we love him: Media and landscape in the Indian removal period"

Second Place: Emily Fekete, Kent State University, "Linguistic Uses of Space in American Sign Language"

Second Place: Susan Wilcox-Adams, The University of Texas at Austin, "On the Trail of the Devil Cat: Jaguar Hunting Narratives in the United States and Mexico"

Economic Geography SG

Best Dissertation Award

Marion Werner, University of Minnesota, "Global Displacements: Geographies of Work and Industrial Restructuring in the Dominican Republic."

Graduate Student Research Award

Carolyn Hatch, University of Toronto

Chris Muellerleile, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Student Conference Paper Award

Kate Geddie, University of Toronto, "Capitalizing on Knowledge Bases: Labor Market Considerations among International Postgraduates in London, UK."

Climate SG

Lifetime Achievement Award

Anthony J. Brazel, Arizona State University



Carol Harden presents Anthony Brazel with the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Climate Specialty Group.

Ethnic Geography SG

Outstanding Dissertation Proposal Award

First place: Celia (Luna) Vives-Gonzalez, University of British Columbia, "Negotiating Borders: Generated Transnationalism from Senegal to Spain"

Second place: Mark Lawrence Santiago



Vives-Gonzalez

Outstanding Student Paper Award

First Place, Melissa Kelly, University of Uppsala

Honorable Mention, Edris Montalvo



Kelly

European SG

Student Paper Competition

First Place: Katherine Hepworth, University of Technology, Sydney

Second Place: Celia (Luna) Vives-Gonzalez, University of British Columbia, "Women through the Border"



Hepworth

Geographical Perspectives on Women SG

Janice Monk Service Award

Professor Saraswati Raju, Center for the Study of Regional Development and Women's Studies Program, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, India

Susan Hanson Dissertation Proposal Award

Beth Bee, PhD student, Pennsylvania State University, "Women weathering the climate: Adaptive capacities and changing rural livelihoods in central Mexico"

Jacquelyn Micieli, PhD student, Syracuse University, "Re-memembering 9/11: the (geo) Politics of Mourning and Memorialization"

Glenda Laws Student Paper Award

Roberta Hawkins, PhD candidate, Clark University, "One Pack = One Vaccine = One Global Motherhood? A Feminist Analysis of Ethical Consumption"



Hawkins

Geomorphology Specialty Group

Mel Marcus Distinguished Career Award

John F. Shroder, Jr., University of Nebraska

G.K. Gilbert Award for Excellence in Geomorphological Research

Sheryl Luzzadder-Beach, George Mason University

Timothy Beach, Georgetown University



Timothy Beach and Sheryl Luzzadder-Beach

Graduate Student Paper Award

Patrick Dryer, Missouri State University, "Catastrophic valley entrenchment and debris fan formation in the Bluefields River, Westmoreland Jamaica"

Shelby Zelonis, University of South Carolina, "Geomorphic analysis of a rural fluvial system during pre- and post-dam removal conditions: A case study in eastern Virginia"

GIS SG

Honor Student Paper Competition

First Place: Qiusheng Wu, University of Cincinnati, "Object-Oriented Representation and Analysis



Wu

of Costal Changes for Human-Induced Damage Assessment"

Second Place: Grant Fraley

Graduate Student Affinity Group

Research Awards

First place: George Roedl, West Virginia University, "Land use and land cover change using quantitative and qualitative methods: Spatial and temporal change along the Mississippi Gulf Coast"

First place: Sharon Wilcox Adams, University of Texas, "Encountering El Tigre: Jaguars and people in the U.S.-Mexico Border"



Roedl

First place: Emma Gaalaas Mullaney, Penn State University, "The contentious politics of corn: Conflicting agro-economic narratives in Mexico's central highlands"

Student Paper Awards

First place: Natalie Koch, University of Colorado-Boulder, "The Monumental and the Miniature: Imagining 'Modernity' in Astana"

Second place: Lauren Martin, University of Kentucky, "'Catch and Return': The Embodied Geopolitics of Deterrence in U.S. Immigration Enforcement Policy and Practice"

Second place: Oh Seok Kim, University of Southern California, "Comparision of two GIS-based land change modules for constructing REDD baselines in Bolivia"



Kim

Hazards SG

Gilbert F. White Thesis/Dissertation Award

Monica Zappa, University of Oklahoma, "Assessing Human Vulnerability to Hurricanes: A Case Study of Bluefields, Nicaragua"

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History of Geography SG

Fred E. Lukermann
Innovative Scholarship
in History of Geo-
graphy

Kenneth R. Olwig,
Swedish University
of Agricultural Sci-
ence



Olwig

Human Dimensions of Global Change SG

Ewan Robinson, University of Illinois
Nathan Kettle, University of South Caro-
lina

Indigenous Peoples SG

Graduate Student Paper Competition

Marcela A. Palomino Schalscha of the
University of Canterbury, Christchurch,
Aotearoa/New Zealand, "Indigenizing
Development in the Queuco Valley, Alto
Bio Bio, Chile"

Mountain Geography SG Awards

2010 Chimborazo Student Research Grant
Award

Christopher J.
Crawford, University
of Minnesota - Twin
Cities, "Assessing
Multi-temporal
Seasonal Snow
Cover Variability
across the Northern
Rocky Mountains
using Landsat Remote Sensing"



Crawford

Honorable Mention

Melanie Stine, Texas State University-
San Marcos, "A Biogeomorphic Study on
the Impacts of Fire at Alpine Treeline"

Barry Bishop Disting-
uished Career Award
Sally P. Horn, Uni-
versity of Tennessee



Horn

Mauna Kea Student Presentation Award

Brandon Krumwiede, University of Mon-
tana, "Glaciations and Glacier Variations
in the Central Altai Mountains, Western
Mongolia"

Political Geography SG

Stanley D. Brunn Young
Scholar Award

Alison Mountz, Syra-
cuse University



Mountz

Julian Minghi Outstand-
ing Research Award

Stuart Elden, Dur-
ham University,
"Terror and Territory:
the Spatial Extent of
Sovereignty"



Elden

Qualitative Research SG

Research Awards

Masters: Samantha Herr, University of
Kentucky, "Bicycle-Commuting: Green-
ing the City and Citizen-Subject"

PhD: Zoë O'Reilly, National University
of Ireland, Maynooth, "Counter topog-
raphies of forced migration: narratives of
identity and belonging"

Remote Sensing SG

Lifetime Achievement Award

Curtis Woodcock, Boston University

Early Career Award

Qian Yu, University of Massachusetts-
Amherst



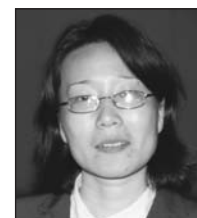
Qian Yu (right) at the awards ceremony with Carol Harden.

Student Honors Papers Awards

First Place: Caiyun
Zhang, University
of Texas-Dallas

Second Place:
Nicholas Giner,
Clark University

Third Place:
Sachidananda
Mishra, Mississippi
State University



Zhang



Giner

Remote Sensing/GIS/
Cartography Student
Illustrated Paper
Awards

First Place: Moumita
Dutttagupta, Salem
State College

Second Place: Yuji
Zhang, Clark Uni-
versity

Third Place: Jenner
Alpern, Clark University



Dutttagupta

Rural Geography SG

Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence
in Rural and Agricultural Geography

Michael Bunce, University of Toronto at
Scarborough

John Fraser Hart
Award for Research
Excellence

Michael Woods, In-
stitute of Geography
and Earth Sciences,
Aberystwyth Uni-
versity



Woods

Donald Q. Innis Award for Research Excel-
lence

Marla R. Emery, Research Geographer,
USDA Forest Service, Aiken Forestry
Sciences Laboratory

Student Research Grants

PhD: Mark Cooper, Department of
Geography, U. of Wisconsin-Madison,
"Making Markets and Remaking Subjects:
New Zealand Farmers and the Regulation
of Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Emis-
sions"