



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER 2020

Issue 3

MACALESTER GEOGRAPHY

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Upcoming Dates!

- ★ **GEOG/ENVI 478 Senior Seminar Presentations (more Zoom link + time information on p.3)**
 - Monday December 11th, 11:00 am - 1:30 pm
 - Friday December 14th, 11:00 am - 1:30 pm
- ★ **Save the Dates:**
 - **Pathways in Geography Event Alumni Panel**
 - Thursday January 28th, early evening
 - **Lanegran Day Lecture with Dr. Lindsay Naylor (more information on p.4)**
 - Wednesday February 3rd, 4:45 - 6:15 pm CST
 - **Student Discussion with Dr. Lindsay Naylor (more information on p.4)**
 - Thursday February 4th, 11:30 - 12:30 pm CST

Letter from your GTU co-presidents:

Greetings fellow geographers,

Thank you for reading this month's department newsletter! Read more to learn about this module's geography capstone students, exciting spring events (can anyone say Lanegran Day?!), [joining GTU](#), and much more. This has been a difficult year, semester, and module, and as all of them come to a close, please enjoy a much-deserved winter break. Our geography department is vibrant, loving, and ever-curious, and we look forward to being in community with you all next semester, however that may look. As always please reach out to us with questions, concerns, and ideas. As always, your experience and opportunities in our department is our first priority!

Warm regards,
Anisha and Jim
GTU Co-Presidents

arajbhan@macalester.edu; jsmith17@macalester.edu

Faculty Announcements!

Professor Bill Moseley recently published a couple of articles on COVID-19 and food security included below. The first is open-access. The second is written with Jane Battersby, a long time friend of the department based at the University of Cape Town (South Africa).

- Clapp, J. and W.G. Moseley. 2020. “This Food Crisis is Different: COVID-19 and the Fragility of the Neoliberal Food Security Order. *Journal of Peasant Studies*. 47 (7): 1393-1417. DOI: 10.1080/03066150.2020.1823838.
 - <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/03066150.2020.1823838>
- Moseley, W.G. and J. Battersby. 2020. “The Vulnerability and Resilience of African Food Systems, Food Security and Nutrition in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic.” *African Studies Review*. 63(3): 449-461. DOI: 10.1017/asr.2020.72
 - <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/768833/summary>

Professor Eric Carter joined President Rivera, Lily Alexander '14 (Geography alumna), and Dr. James Ochi for the Macalester “Big Questions” event: “Will anything be the same after COVID?” on December 1st, 2020.

The link to the recording can be accessed here:

- <https://www.macalester.edu/big-questions/>



GEOG/ENVI 478 Senior Seminar: The Political Economy of Urban Sustainability

Fall 2020 Presentation Times

Friday 12/11 11:00 am - 1:30 pm

[Registration Link - Day 1](#)

11:05 am:

Claire Hamerlinck - Cultural and Social Sustainability in Sydney: Reflecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in Policy

11:23 am:

Konrad Bostrom - Bridging Sustainability and Consumerism: The Political Economy of Jordan's Abdali Project

11:41 am:

Finn Odum - Develop, Deny, Displace: The impact of urban regimes on neighborhood equity

-10-minute break-

12:10 pm:

Likhwa Ndlovu - Permission to pollute? Enbridge, Environmental Justice and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

12:28 pm:

Alison Lange - Rising Seas and Sinking Cities: Manila's Fight to Stay Above the Surface

***For more information on specific projects see p.7 - 13 of the newsletter**

Monday 12/14 11:00 am - 1:30 pm

[Registration Link - Day 2](#)

11:05 am:

Daniel Westhoven - Housing Risk and the Role of Care

11:23 am:

Sabine Peterka - No Place Like Home: A Multi-Framework Analysis of Boston's Intergenerational Homeshare Program

11:41 am:

Janett Casillas - Participation and Social Sustainability in a Buenos Aires Public Housing Project

-10-minute break-

12:10 pm:

Rachel McCaffery - Shared Mobility in Minnesota: Evaluating Potential Solutions to the First/Last Mile Problem in the Twin Cities

12:28 pm:

Jim Smith - Competing Sustainabilities: Air Pollution and Mitigation Initiatives in Ulaanbaatar

12:47 pm:

Anisha RajBhandary - Hmong in the Twin Cities: Influence of History on Diaspora Experiences and Personal Identities

Annual Lanegran Day Event

This year will be the *5th annual Lanegran Day event*, supported by an endowment established in 2015 to honor the legacy of **David A. Lanegran, Professor Emeritus of Geography**, who retired from full-time teaching that year after 46 years at Macalester College. In his distinguished career, Prof. Lanegran received the AAG's Gilbert Grosvenor Honors for Geographic Education award, was president of the National Council for Geographic Education, and served as chief reader for AP Human Geography.

The Lanegran Day event typically includes a special guest who gives a lecture and meets with students more informally. Last year's guest was a Macalester Geography alum (and student of Prof. Lanegran) from 2010, **Anne Brown**, who is now Assistant Professor of Planning, Public Policy & Management at the University of Oregon.

—Professor Laura Smith

This year's Lanegran Day Speaker is Dr. Lindsay Naylor from the University of Delaware Department of Geography and Spatial Sciences!

Lanegran Day Lecture, Wed. February 3rd, 4:45 - 6:15 pm CST

Request Zoom Link [here](#)

Fair Rebels? Solidarity and Fair Trade in Movement

In this talk Dr. Naylor will discuss solidarity and fair trade drawing on the arguments made in her recent book, *Fair Trade Rebels*. Specifically, she will focus on the partnerships between coffee growers and roasters that are created through fair trade certification. For fair trade cooperatives, producing under the fair trade label has assisted with establishing important ties to buyers in the U.S. that allow not only for secure sources of income, but also a critical space for support and creating an ethic of care. This ethic of care is a key element of fair trade certification that is rarely examined. Here, Naylor will discuss what is fair trade, who is it for, and who gets to decide.

Informal Discussion with Students, Thurs. February 4th, 11:30 - 12:30 pm CST

Informal lunchtime meeting to discuss graduate school applications, field work, Dr. Naylor's Embodiment Lab, student Q&A, and more!



Geography Awareness Week Recap!

This year for Geography Awareness Week (GAW) the Geography Department hosted geography teatime (11/17), had a fascinating talk by Professor Adam Bledsoe from the University of Minnesota titled “Maroon Futures: Quilombo struggles in the Bay of Aratu, Brazil” (11/18), and held a Departmental Trivia Night (11/19)!

Anti-Blackness of Capital

Extractive industries have been a mode of capital accumulation in Bahia for ~70 years

Extractive industries in Bahia based on ignoring Afro-Brazilian spatial politics

Spatial expansion of petroleum, military, and industry only possible through the displacement and poisoning of Afro-Brazilian communities

Assumption of Black a-spatiality prevents legible claims for redress



Adam Bledsoe

Lecture by Professor **Adam Bledsoe** from the University of Minnesota (11/18/20) starts off the Macalester Geography 2020-2021 Speaker Series!

Geography Trivia Night! -- Made by Jim Smith and Anisha RajBhandary; Moderated by Jim Smith (11/19/20)



Student Winners: Karson Hegrenes, Grace Armon, & Finn Odum
Faculty/Staff Winners: Prof. Eric Carter, Prof. Dan Trudeau, & Laura Kigin

Trivia Question:

With 201 different lakes in Minnesota with this name, this is the most common lake name in the state.

Options:

- a) Long Lake
- b) Clear Lake
- c) Rice Lake
- d) Mud Lake



Trivia prizes included geography tote bags and notebooks

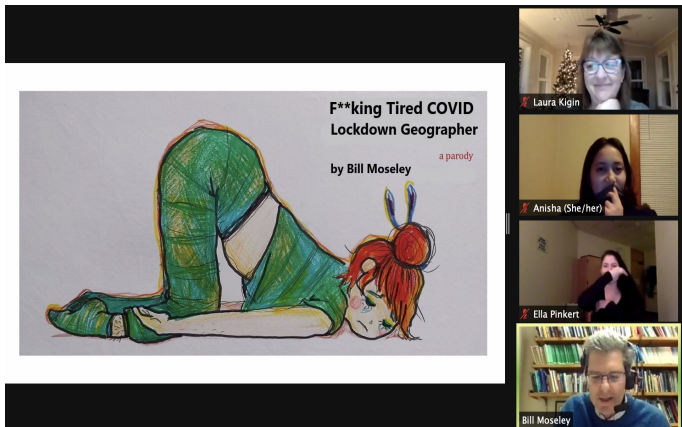
Geography Department Virtual Winter Gathering

Monday evening (12/8/20) was the Geography department's annual winter gathering. In the past, this event is normally hosted as a departmental dinner.

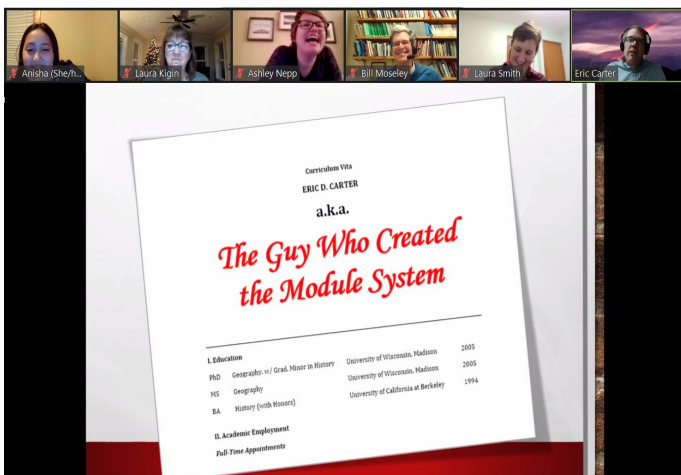
This iteration of the Geography Department winter gathering was held virtually and included geography themed bingo, a geography-themed parody of *The Hungry Caterpillar* by Professor Moseley, and a '2020: Year in Review' by Professor Eric Carter.



A parody by Prof. Bill Moseley



2020: Year in Review by Prof. Eric Carter



GEO

B	I	N	G	O
Community and Global Health Concentration	Mentions country music	Social determinants of health	Gentrification	Urban Studies Concentration
Remote sensing	Story about the Peace Corp	Food deserts	Urban sustainability	Mentions UN or "High Level Panel of Experts"
Mentions one of the geography department community partners	Professor pet sighting	Neoliberalism	Iron Range	Farmer market
West African peanut sauce	Political economy	Free Square	Shameless plug for one of their classes	Fancy Virtual zoom background
Mentions Dave Lanegran (professor other than Dave himself)	Professor family member sighting	Quip about GIS	People, Agriculture and the Environment Concentration	Professor tries to say something while they're muted
"Green cities"	Makes a lame joke (please note the joke to share later)	Urbanization	AAG (Association of American Geographers)	Tells a story from their 'youth' -- time as a undergrad or grad student

Fall 2020 Capstone Feature!

Students in the senior seminar “**Cities of the 21st Century: The political economy of urban sustainability**” have been hard at work during module 2, conducting capstone research on their selected topics. The 12 seniors in the class have explored broad frameworks concerning resilience and sustainability and worked to apply the power analysis of political economy and geography’s enriching approach to the study of human-environment interactions. Macalester students as a group characteristically have a wide set of interests and geographers love to explore. It is therefore unsurprising that the seniors’ projects reflect a richly diverse set of topics, including housing access, energy transitions, intra-city mobility, the risks to coastal cities from rising sea levels, the social impact of urban development mega-projects, citizen participation in policy and planning, and the incorporation of immigrants and indigenous people into city life. Moreover, the students have together examined urban sustainability issues in contexts located in four different continents. Alongside this breadth, the seniors have delved deeply into issues of justice, access, and social equity as these relate to their specific research interests.

This diverse set of capstone projects are ultimately connected by a common concern: *to understand the ideas, institutions, and practices that shape our collective future*. All are welcome to attend the public presentations of students’ capstone projects. You are cordially invited to join our two-part program where we will learn from these seniors’ inquiries and celebrate their achievements.

—Introduction by Professor Dan Trudeau



Sabine Peterka, she/her, '21
Environmental Studies Major; Music Minor

No Place Like Home: A Multi-Framework Analysis of Boston's Intergenerational Homeshare

I researched a program in Boston that matches older homeowners and student renters to live together in a homeshare. I analyzed the program through three lenses: intergenerational solidarity, just sustainabilities and sharing cities.



Janett Casillas, she/her, '21
Geography Major; Anthropology Minor

Participation and Social Sustainability in a Buenos Aires Public Housing Project

My capstone project is on a public housing project in Buenos Aires that was carried out using a participatory "process-project" model that aimed to involve the residents of the neighborhood in the decision-making and planning of the project. In my literature review of public housing projects in Buenos Aires, I found that several authors argued for the city to integrate participation of the residents in the planning of these projects, so I am looking at this initiative that did and what the outcomes were + how they relate back to these arguments. I am also looking at how this initiative relates to the ideas of social sustainability that we have been talking about in class.



Finn Odum, she/they, '21
Geography Major; Media and Cultural Studies Minor; Community Global Health Concentration

Develop, Deny, Displace: The impact of urban regimes on neighborhood equity

My capstone investigates the role of development and community regimes on equity in urban areas, specifically when it comes to the construction of new sports arenas in low income neighborhoods. The final product will be a web page with an in-depth case study about the effects of the Staples Center complex in downtown LA and its attached CBA and an interactive map for visitors to explore.



Anisha RajBhandary, she/her, '21
Geography & Asian Studies Majors;
Chinese & Data Science Minors

Hmong in the Twin Cities: Influence of History on Diaspora Experiences and Personal Identities

My capstone project seeks to examine how the living experiences and identities of Hmong in the Twin Cities have been influenced by their war, migration and refugee experiences. Through this research, I consider how identity construction changes over time and how it relates to Asian diaspora and sustainability frameworks. This research continues to inform an honors project I have been working on throughout the year.



Claire Hamerlinck, she/her, '21
International Studies & Geography
Majors; Spanish Minor

Cultural and Social Sustainability in Sydney: Reflecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in Policy

After spending a month in Australia in 2018, I was interested in learning about the Indigenous peoples whose traditional names marked street signs and cities, but who were otherwise not acknowledged. The experiences during that trip inspired this project. In Australia, the majority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples live in the continent's major cities, yet urban landscapes do not adequately reflect their cultures, colonial histories or traditional ownership of the land. Sydney is incorporating aspects of social and cultural sustainability into policy as an attempt to increase public recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their culture. This paper emphasizes why social and cultural sustainability initiatives are vital for Indigenous peoples in urban settings, and how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are included in the creation and implementation of these initiatives.



Daniel Westhoven, he/him, '21
Environmental Studies Major; Geography
Minor; Critical Theory Concentration

Housing Risk and the Role of Care

In the form of a web-accessible essay, this project uses recent affordable housing agreements in Philadelphia as a starting part for a broader discussion of urban resilience and housing markets. By engaging with right to the city arguments and exploring practices of commoning, it is revealed that an ethic of care is critical to the success of initiatives that counter institutional practices by employing mutual aid. Moreover, these approaches offer an alternative to conventional modes of housing, thus bringing about changes in the built environment that encourage cities to be more just, sustainable, and livable.



Konrad Bostrom, he/him, '21
Geography Major

Bridging Sustainability and Consumerism: The Political Economy of Jordan's Abdali Project

My project is on a mixed-use development in Jordan's capital city. I was interested in this topic because the development is being sold as environmentally and socially sustainable, while simultaneously encouraging exclusion and consumerism.



Rachel McCaffery, she/her, '21
Geography Major; Community and
Global Health Concentrator

Shared Mobility in Minnesota: Evaluating Potential Solutions to the First/Last Mile Problem in the Twin Cities

The "first/last mile" problem refers to how transit users access their nearest transit stop. Having to walk large distances to one's nearest stop has been shown to drastically discourage transit ridership. For my capstone project, I aim to establish a theoretical framework which evaluates different solutions to the problem, such as bikeshare and rideshare. By synthesizing existing literature, I will evaluate the feasibility and equity of these different shared mobility modes and then illustrate how they may be applicable to the Twin Cities.



Charlee Gorham, they/them, '21
Geography Major

Reimagining Just Futures

A zine for the movement against Line 3 introducing political economy theory. I chose to present this information visually and accessibly for activists of all kinds.



Likhwa Ndlovu, he/him, '21
Geology & Geography Majors

Permission to pollute? Enbridge, Environmental Justice and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

In 2015 the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency completed their Environmental Justice framework setting a new standard for the fair treatment and involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income. Concurrently, Enbridge began their permitting process for the Line 3 'Replacement' Project on the 24th of April, 2015. These two events converged this past summer, unfortunately revealing inadequacies on the MPCA's implementation of both science and environmental justice. Under this context, my capstone addresses the simple question: "Why did the MPCA approve Enbridge's Line 3 401c water quality permit?" I hope to produce a short podcast series that offers background on the 401 c permit's significance and discusses the socio-political complexities of the Line 3 movement.



Jim Smith, he/him, '21
Geography & Economics Majors;
Religious Studies Minor

Competing Sustainabilities: Air Pollution and Mitigation Initiatives in Ulaanbaatar

As a rapidly growing population center and one of the coldest cities in the world, Ulaanbaatar faces a challenging and interesting circumstance. Despite being in Mongolia, known as "the land of the eternal blue sky," Ulaanbaatar's wintertime air pollution measurements are among the worst in the world, often exceeding 100 times the WHO-recommended levels. This research analyzes the factors that have led to this hazardous situation, evaluates the policy and initiatives that seek to address it, and uses this situation to identify broader tensions between concepts of environmental, social, and cultural sustainability.



Alison Lange, she/her, '21

Environmental Studies & Geography
Majors; Geology Minor; Urban Studies
Concentrator

**Rising Seas and Sinking Cities: Manila's
Fight to Stay Above the Surface**

In the rapidly urbanizing delta megacity of Manila, flooding has emerged as a threat that is imminent, yet also presents a potential for large-scale destruction at more distant time horizons. The Philippines is one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world, experiencing more than 20 typhoons a year in addition to rising sea levels, earthquakes, land subsidence and volcanic eruptions. With climate change, the typhoons are only projected to become more frequent and stronger, creating the need for more flood-resistant architecture and solutions in the city. Thus, the people of Manila is in a position where they needs to make one of two choices: become more innovative in the ways in which they live or retreat inland. In my capstone, I explore the ways in which Manila is confronting their sink as well as the different ways individuals are affected by flooding events through a series of informal interviews and online surveys.

**Join GTU, the International
Geographical Honor Society!**

Why join?

- Provides a network to become better acquainted with other Geography students and interact with Geography faculty
- Members are eligible for GTU scholarships
- Demonstrates dedication to and excellence in Geography

Requirements:

- Must have completed a minimum of 3 geography courses
- Have a B average in Geography and rank in the upper 35% of your class
- Have completed at least 3 semesters of college coursework

Learn more and apply [here!](#)

**Are you a current
Geography Major or Minor
who wants to be featured
for the department?**

Contact

fodum@maclester.edu or
sdewan@maclester.edu to fill
out a Majors Profile form!