

THE GRATICULE

Macalester Geography Department Newsletter



Projections from the Chair

From the Desk of Professor Dan Trudeau

The Geography Department is embarking on a process to design a new logo to represent our community! Dio Cramer '20 has agreed to create the logo. Thanks to generous donations from alumni, we are able to compensate Dio for her efforts.



Dan Trudeau, Geography Professor & Chair

We are excited for this process and invite you to share your thoughts about Geography and our community by contributing ideas and images through this [form](#). We will share these with Dio to offer guidance and inspiration. To that end, we ask that you contribute your ideas by January 15th, 2023.

As you know, Geography is a visual discipline, and so it is only fitting that we have a visual identity to represent our Macalester Geography community. We expect that the logo will be used on the department's website, letterhead, and other forms of correspondence. Our hope is that having a new logo will spur a new round of designs for t-shirts, stickers, and other ways to display your Mac Geography affiliation.

We look forward to your contributions and will keep you updated about the process as it unfolds.

Save the Date

Lanegrn Day -- February 16, 2023!

Guest Speaker, Dr. Emily Yeh
University of Colorado Boulder



This Issue:

- Projections From the Chair
PAGE 1
- Out and About
PAGE 2
- Special Event
PAGE 3
- Where Are They Now
PAGE 4
- A Mac Tradition Returns
PAGE 5
- Geography Awareness Week
PAGE 6
- Faculty Spotlight
PAGE 7
- Student Spotlight
PAGE 8
- Geography Winter Dinner
PAGE 9

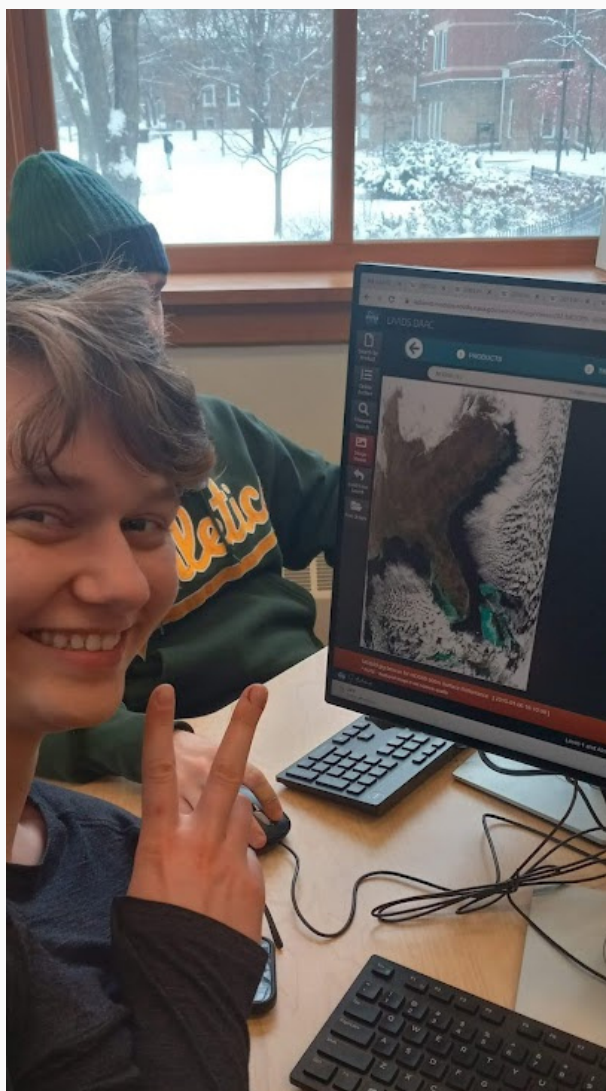
Out & About



Geography of Africa FYC Visits Bill's House



Plenty of Wonderful Capstones



Remote Sensing ventured as far out as the clouds would allow them in their final project



Geography Happy Hour



World Cup Watch Parties

The Importance of Place: Exploring Geographies of (Im)Mobilities, Landscapes, and People

Celebrating the Inaugural Lecture of Holly Barcus as DeWitt Wallace Professor of Geography



On November 17th, students, faculty, alumni, and staff gathered together in person and via zoom to attend the inaugural lecture of Holly Barcus as DeWitt Wallace Professor of Geography.

This honor is issued to professors whom Macalester recognizes for their major contributions in a particular field. Macalester's DeWitt Wallace Professorships were established in 1976 through a gift from DeWitt Wallace, son of Macalester president, James Wallace.

If you were unable to attend, a recording of Holly's lecture can be found [here](#).



Where Are They Now?

Emma Heth '20

Interview by Cecelia Kaufmann '24

C: Hi Emma and thank you for meeting with me today! I am interested in hearing about your experiences in the Macalester Geography Department, what you are up to post-graduation, and any other reflections or insights you have from your time at Mac! First question: How did you end up in the Geography Department at Macalester? What were some of your first impressions?

E: Hi, and thanks for meeting with me! The first time I ever thought about the Geography Department was through a visit to the Career Center -- Geography was in the top things for me to study. I went 'Hmm haven't thought about that' and then I took Intro to International Studies as so many Macalester students do. My first Geography class at Macalester was People, Agriculture, and the Environment with Bill Moseley. It [Geography] changes how I view the world, it aligns with how I think and learn, using a lot of visuals and being both academic and focused on social engagement and being more practical, not just an intellectual exercise. It was really Bill's class that got me hooked. "I ended up sort of following the Environment and Agriculture path, where I took Geography of Development and Underdevelopment and Bill's senior seminar. This is true of many Geography courses, but with Bill's courses you are learning theory along the way and by the time we were in his senior seminar course we were talking about education theory and having self-reflection about how we were experiencing the course...it was so meta. I feel like I learned so much from the experience of the course, not just the content. In that course we talked about how learning comes more from each other rather than authority, in the context of Geography and environment issues, but within the class itself we held classes at students' houses to hold it on an even playing field and Bill was a participant rather than a lecturer to model how it is modeled in the classroom and the research world.



"My first Geography class at Macalester was People, Agriculture, and the Environment with Bill Moseley. It [Geography] changes how I view the world, it aligns with how I think and learn, using a lot of visuals and being both academic and focused on social engagement and being more practical, not just an intellectual exercise."

~ EMMA HETH

C: That's awesome! Now, let's take it back even further. How did you end up at Macalester?

E: I grew up in Denver, Colorado, and one of my best friends sister's was here, so that's how I first heard about Macalester. I was mostly interested because of the internationalism piece. I had taken a few courses in middle and high school, but didn't realize I could study Geography in college. Some college geography disproves what I learned in AP Human Geography with nuance and critical thinking. *Continued on the next page*

Where Are They Now?

C: I agree, I only took one course in Geography during high school. Upon coming to Mac and taking courses within the department, I didn't necessarily have my perceptions of what I knew as Geography dissolved, just extremely reshaped and expanded. So, what are you up to now?

E: One of my biggest takeaways from my Geography education was collaboration is the key to solutions and was one of the things I was really interested in with my career. I briefly worked for the Western Governors' Association and advocated on the national level for the 22 governors in the Western U.S.. For that job, it was hands-on policy and collaboration which was a funny niche because it was with the governors [with varying backgrounds]. That was a six-month fellowship that wrapped up, so then I went to work on a farm. Then I got the job I have now which is at [Meridian Institute](#). I get to do a job that I feel drawn to and they do important work. Meridian is a non-profit consultancy which does collaboration process design for the world's complex and controversial problems. A lot of the time it is environmental issues, but it can also be health, economy, basically anything that improves lives, the economy, or the environment. I get to work with a lot of facilitators and mediators and I get to partner with them to create strategies, building agendas, and planning to bring people together. I work on a couple different projects, but my biggest project is [Lacuna Fund](#). It's a philanthropic initiative that funds researchers in machine learning, which ties together both of my majors. It is a lot about equitable data science; the data used to build models now are based around North American, male, and white populations and our work is to expand this. I also get to do a lot of work around data in agriculture and the environment.

C: That sounds amazing! So, thank you for your time and my last question is: What advice do you have for Geography majors at Macalester?

E: Trust that your Geography major will serve you well, even if it doesn't feel obvious to you. It will, and can get used in different ways.

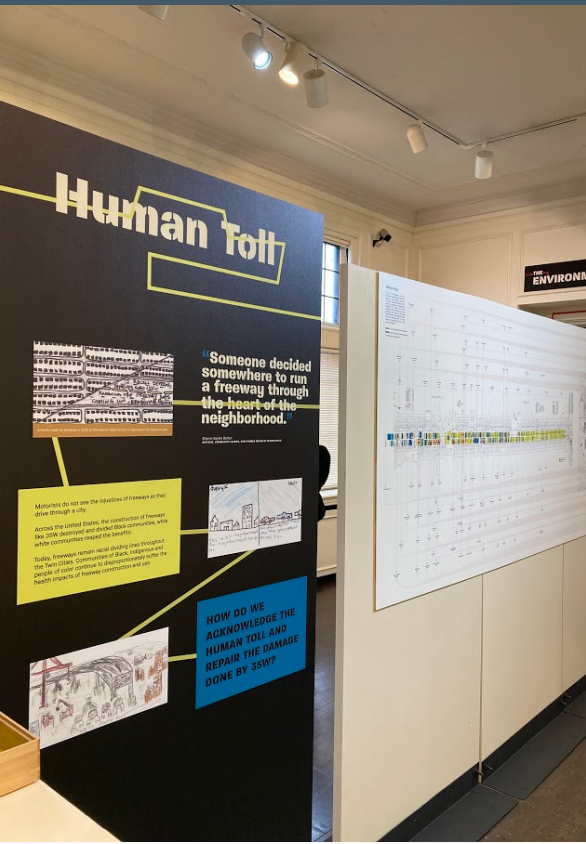
A Mac Tradition Returns -- The Midnight Breakfast!

After being absent for several years, the long standing tradition of the "Midnight Breakfast" returned to Cafe Mac. By the over-whelming turnout, it was clear the breakfast has been missed. A great BIG thanks to all students, faculty, and staff who volunteered at the event.



Professors Bill Moseley and Scott Legge with

Geography Awareness Week!



NOVEMBER 12- KICK OFF "HUMAN TOLL" MUSEUM FIELD TRIP





From a recent trip of hers to Germany - this is a Biergarten in Bamberg



Photo by Kelsey McDonald

Kelsey McDonald

The *Graticule* is happy to introduce Kelsey McDonald, who will be rejoining the Macalester Geography Department this coming spring semester to teach Health GIS. Kelsey specializes in spatial and social epidemiology and is an experienced researcher in geographic health questions, particularly in urban spaces. Her academic career was inspired by a love of traveling and learning about places. One of these places of interest is Germany, which began when she spent a semester there during high school. After earning her BA in German at the University of Minnesota–Morris, Kelsey earned her MA in Geography at San Francisco State University (thanks to a fortunate visit to the library). After perusing a San Francisco public library, Kelsey noticed a book by Harm de Blij, Good Morning America’s geography editor. de Blij’s book sparked a discovery of geography and aligned with Kelsey’s avid interest in place and qualitative and quantitative collaborations. Her Geography MA was then topped off with a PhD in Epidemiology from the University of Minnesota, and many years of research experience.

Kelsey calls a few places home but grew up in Stillwater, Minnesota. She has also spent a fair amount of time here at Macalester. From 2015 to 2019, she taught several classes in geography as well as math and computer science and even braved the module system in the summer of 2021. She looks forward to this coming semester, in particular her class’ final projects. Past projects, such as measuring traffic accidents in Mongolia or a Health GIS project examining the potential relationship between hospital admissions due to asthma and wildfires in California counties, have been incredibly interesting to her. Mac students have a wealth of perspectives and interests that Kelsey can't wait to work with and learn from as they tackle problems together. Outside of work (and the pandemic allowing), Kelsey loves to explore and travel, especially in Germany or Hawaii. A new venture has been macro photography, close-up photography of small subjects, which began during the pandemic when she wasn't traveling and still wanted to explore. Macro photography has allowed her to explore at new scale!

Julia Chamberland '23

Interview by Brennan Standel '24



Julia is a senior from Grinnell, Iowa, majoring in Environmental Studies and Geography with a Food, Agriculture and Society concentration. Grinnell is a small town with a population of 9,000 people, so Julia was excited to experience living in a city. Arriving at Macalester, her journey to geography was a textbook “discovery major”. Her first step was in People, Agriculture and the Environment with Bill Moseley. It was eye-opening, his class gave her space and tools to reflect on her hometown and led her to the realization of the disconnect between people and food. It spoke volumes that in her small town, in an agricultural region, she was not connected at all to how food was produced. This realization has driven her pursuit in the human-environment side of geography to clear the often murky food system and explore food sovereignty. A formative part of this was working on a farm, where she applied her classroom experience while learning experientially. Julia highly encourages everyone, at some point in their lives, to take part in hands-on work.

After graduation, Julia is hoping to earn the Thomas J. Watson Fellowship, a one-year grant for purposeful, independent exploration outside the United States, awarded to graduating seniors. She is in the middle of the application process and is a National Finalist! If Julia is selected she has a project she would like to implement analyzing food systems through the lens of cooking. She would travel to Argentina, Ghana, India, and Aotearoa (New Zealand) and create cook-booklets documenting the food, recipes and collaborator stories. This would help her understand and explore the place and food spaces at a micro-scale while seeing the effect of larger-scale problems facing people every day. To any newcomers to geography, Julia stresses the importance of self-driven projects. She believes that these sorts of projects not only help discover what you are passionate about, but also help build your ability to tackle big future projects like the Watson. Besides the Watson, after graduation Julia really looks forward to just having a free weekend.



Geography Winter Dinner

Tis the season of layers, hot cocoa, and frantic last minute paper writing and exam studying. To celebrate the holidays and the achievements of the past semester the Geography Department enjoyed a feast of pasta and cannolis. In addition to delicious food, the event was full of good company and holiday cheer. Chair of the department, Dan Trudeau started us off with a dedication to all who made this semester special. Laura Smith then took time to congratulate and celebrate Carter Rutherford's graduation this semester which concluded with a touching letter from Catherine Chang, a hearty round of applause, and a well-earned graduation goodie bag. From there, our GTU co-presidents Maura Haas '23 and Noah Velick '23 gave us a taste of GTU's new initiative, Geography Community Connections, with some friendship speed dating. Stay tuned for more activity from Geography Community Connections next semester! To mark the occasion, Bill Moseley penned a poem inspired by his Geography of Africa FYC and "A Visit from St. Nicholas" by Clement Clarke Moore. The night was then ushered out with karaoke singing the Festivus song led by Bill and his band; Eric Carter and Xavier Haro-Carrion rocking the kalimba and the superb dancing Dan. Suffice to say, it was a joyful night together and was a great way to end the semester and look forward to the New Year!



Professors Bill Moseley, Eric Carter, Xavier Haro-Carrion, and Dan Trudeau

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Writers & Editors

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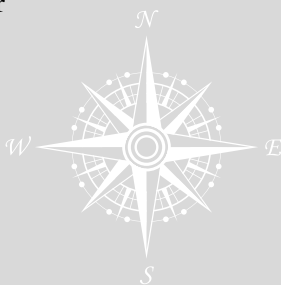
Laura Kigin

Dan Trudeau

Contributors

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Noah Velick '23



Join our LinkedIn Group ([Macalester College Geography Network](#)), Facebook Group ([Macalester College Geographers](#)), or follow us on Instagram ([@macgeography](#)).

Support Geography

When giving to Macalester, consider making a gift to the Geography Department. To direct your gift to our program, please select "other" in the "designate gift to" option and write "Geography" in the comments. Your gift will support high-impact activities, including field trips and professional development opportunities for students that are a signature part of the Macalester Geography experience.

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macalester.edu/geography