

AAG Urban Geography Specialty Group  
**NEWSLETTER**  
Vol. 6, No. 1                      MARCH 1986

**LETTER FROM THE CHAIR**

Your responses to the UGSG Membership Survey contained in the last Newsletter provided a profusion of comments, suggestions, and proposals for UGSG activities. Implementing only a fraction of them will ensure us a full agenda for the next several decades!

The clear front-runners in terms of membership interest include some sort of policy analysis role and activities to increase student involvement in urban geography and the UGSG. The Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) and the Board of Directors are currently discussing how and in what format we should undertake these and other activities. These discussions will be continued during the AAG Meetings in Minneapolis. I urge all of you who are interested in forming the UGSG agenda for the next several years to participate in these discussions. Contact any member of the LRPC or Board of Directors with your ideas, comments, or concerns. And plan to attend the Directors meeting and the Business meeting in Minneapolis. Both are open to all UGSG members (see below for information).

The UGSG is sponsoring 11 sessions at the AAG Meetings in Minneapolis. Our thanks are due to Eric Sheppard (University of Minnesota) for coordinating this year's UGSG Annual Meeting program, and to the organizers and chairs for putting together a varied, valuable, and provocative set of sessions.

A final note of sincere appreciation goes to Janet Byler who is stepping down as Newsletter Editor after this issue. Janet has served as Editor for the last two years, not only distributing 600 copies of each issue of the Newsletter, but doing it at no cost to the UGSG thanks to the generosity of Temple University. Janet's will be a tough act to follow.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you in Minneapolis!

Bob Lake  
UGSG Chair

**THANKS...**

Assistance with this mailing was provided by the Department of Geography, the Urban Studies Program, and the Institute for Public Policy Studies of Temple University.

**UGSG Board of Directors Meeting and Business Meeting**

The UGSG Board of Directors will meet in Minneapolis on Sunday, May 4, from 5:00-6:00 PM, in the Regency Room of the Hyatt Hotel. The meeting is open to all UGSG members. The principal agenda item will be to discuss the Long Range Planning Committee's report on future activities for the UGSG. Plan to attend and to participate in this discussion.

The UGSG Annual Business Meeting will be held on Monday, May 5, from 4:00-5:00 PM. The Business Meeting will be devoted to discussing the LRPC report and implementing its recommendations. This will be the opportunity to have a role in defining UGSG activities and to become involved in their implementation. Don't just think about it: be there!

**UGSG Newsletter Editor Needed**

Beginning with the next (June/July) issue, the UGSG Newsletter needs an Editor. After two years as Editor, Janet Byler (Temple University) is stepping down. The Newsletter represents the single most important means of communication among UGSG members. Volunteers for the Editor's position should contact Bob Lake, UGSG Chair (201-932-3135). Also, we need departments, firms, and/or individuals to assist with the costs of printing and mailing future issues of the Newsletter. Contact Bob Lake.

**UGSG Ballot Enclosed**

The ballot for the election of the UGSG Board of Directors is included on the second sheet of this newsletter. In addition to the persons elected in this election, four persons will remain on the Board of Directors: Bob Lake, who will become past chairperson, and Hazel Morrow-Jones, Eric Sheppard, Neil Smith, and Rebecca Smith, who will be serving the second year of their two-year terms. In the event that a vacancy occurs on the board in the upcoming year, our usual procedure is that the fourth place finisher in the board election will be appointed to serve out the vacancy.

To be eligible to vote in the election, you must be a member of the specialty group as of 1 January 1985. Many more persons are on the UGSG mailing list than are eligible to vote. Ballots sent to ineligible persons have been voided. The UGSG By-Laws stipulate that the election ballots are to be tallied by the UGSG secretary/treasurer. Because the incumbent secretary/treasurer is running for vice-chair, however, please send the ballots to the head of the nominating committee, Roman Cybriwsky.

Objectives in Serving on the UGSG Board: to continue making the UGSG an effective medium for the exchange of information and ideas among urban geographers and to expand its involvement in the development and dissemination of cooperative research among members.

### **Susan Christopherson**

Current Position: Visiting Assistant Professor, Geography Department, UCLA.

Teaching and Research Interests: teaching cultural and social geography and urban and regional development; research on service industries, ethnic labor markets, women's employment, generally topics at the intersection of social and economic geography.

Major Achievements in the Last Five Years: completion of a two year study of the changing interregional location of the motion picture industry and its impact on the LA regional economy; receipt of an NSF grant to examine the implications of the spatial pattern of women's employment.

Prior Service and Involvement in AAG/UGSG: currently on a member of the board of the Committee on the Status of Women Geographers; member of the Nystrom award committee (1984).

Objectives in Serving on the UGSG Board: to increase the number and quality of AAG program sessions and publications dealing with the implications of service employment, particularly as it affects different groups in the population.

### **Kevin McHugh**

Current Position: Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Arizona State University

Teaching and Research Interests: urban, social, and population geography; current research activities include work on migration decision making and constraints, spatial patterns of migration and population redistribution, and interrelationships between changing household structure and residential mobility.

Prior Service and Involvement in AAG/UGSG: member, UGSG and population geography and environmental perception specialty groups; member, Regional Science Association, Population Association of America, Arizona Academy of Science, Local Arrangements Planning Committee (AAG Annual meeting, Phoenix, 1988).

Objectives in Serving on the UGSG Board: to implement activities suggested by the UGSG Long Range Planning Committee, including (1) large scale joint research projects, (2) establishing a policy review function, (3) sponsoring a monograph series, and (4) establishing ties with other groups with urban interests; to take an active role in the newly created AAG Spotlight Series, a publication on the metropolitan area in which the AAG annual meeting is held. The first Spotlight volume will be on Phoenix, the location of the annual meeting in 1988; to encourage geographers with urban interests to become involved in UGSG activities.

### **Eldor Pederson**

Current Position: Associate Professor, Department of Geography, The George Washington University.

Teaching and Research Interests: urban geography, political geography, urban transportation, non-western urbanization.

Major Achievements in the Last Five Years: author, Transportation in Cities (1980), Human Geography (1983), Department Chair (1980-83).

Prior Service and Involvement in AAG/UGSG: AAG--member tellers committee to count election ballots; specialty code review committee; 1984 Annual Meeting Local Arrangements Committee.

Objectives in Serving on the UGSG Board: to continue and strengthen participation in AAG annual meetings; to expand the newsletter.

### **Geraldine Pratt**

Current Position: Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Geography, Clark University.

Teaching and Research Interests: social urban geography, housing, geographic perspectives on the occupational segregation of women.

Major Achievements in the Last Five Years: AAG Urban Specialty Group Dissertation Prize (1985); Co-PI of NSF funded project investigating geographic perspectives on the occupational segregation of women (1986-87).

Prior Service and Involvement in AAG/UGSG: frequent participant in paper sessions at AAG annual meetings.

Objectives in Serving on the UGSG Board: to encourage the effective use of UGSG sessions at annual meetings in order to (1) promote the visibility of urban geography in the discipline. (2) enable discussion among urban geographers, and (3) create opportunities for young scholars in urban geography; to encourage sustained contact between this AAG specialty group and 'sister' organizations.

### **Victoria Rivizzigno**

Current Position: Associate Professor, Department of Geology and Geography, University of South Alabama.

Teaching and Research Interests: teaching--urban and economic geography, research methods; research--county business patterns of Alabama, teaching methods in urban geography.

Major Achievements in the Last Five Years: working with local and state curriculum directors to encourage and develop geography in K-12; consultant for Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Prior Service and Involvement in AAG/UGSG: chaired/organized sessions at national meetings; secretary/treasurer of higher education specialty group.

Objectives in Serving on the UGSG Board: to encourage cooperation between UGSG and applied and higher education specialty groups; to update and revise urban texts to reflect current theory and applied research; to encourage urban education in general.

The following biographical information has been supplied by the nominees for UGSG officers and Board of Directors listed below. The Editor of the Newsletter sincerely regrets that the name of Eldor Pederson was inadvertently omitted in the last issue of the Newsletter from the list of persons nominated for the UGSG Board of Directors by the Nominating Committee.

### Chairperson (1 elected)

#### **Peter O. Muller**

Current Position: Professor and Chair, Department of Geography, University of Miami.

Teaching and Research Interest: urban geography-suburbanization, changing metropolitan structure, intraurban movement systems, other courses include economic, social, and world regional geography.

Major Achievements in the Last Five Years: Suburban Business Centers Project (co-PI); Sunbelt Conference/Miami-1985 (PI); books on suburbanization and (co-author) economic, human, and world regional geography.

Prior Service and Involvement in AAG/UGSG: Co-organizer first UGSG meeting (1979); Vice-Chair, UGSG (1985); President, Middle States Division (1976); Middle States Regional Councilor (1977-80); Co-chair, Local Arrangements Committee AAG Annual Meeting (1980).

Objectives in Serving on the UGSG Board: Enhance communication and interaction among urban geographers; promote new ventures, especially research projects and the expansion of international urban geography; nurture existing projects and plans, and widen participation in UGSG.

### Vice-chairperson (1 elected)

#### **Paul Knox**

Current Position: Professor, Urban Affairs Program, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Teaching and Research Interest: urban social geography, comparative urbanization, urban service delivery, urban restructuring and disadvantaged households, the design professions and the built environment.

Major Achievements in the Last Five Years: Elected to Committee of the Urban Geography Study Group of the IBG; nominated for the British Association Lyell Lectureship for outstanding teachers in Environmental Sciences; invited to editorial board of *TESG*, *Environment and Planning C*, *Applied Geography*, and *Journal of Urban Affairs*; published 2 books, edited 2 books, wrote 25 articles.

Prior Service and Involvement in AAG/UGSG: AAG member for six years prior to immigrating to the US in March, 1985 (so most of my professional service has been to the IBG).

Objectives in Serving on the UGSG Board: To increase the involvement of the UGSG in encouraging young research workers in urban geography; to explore the idea of establishing limited-life working parties to involve UGSG members in topical issues; to promote linkages with urban geographers in other countries.

### **W. Randy Smith**

Current Position: Associate Professor, Department of Geography, The Ohio State University.

Teaching and Research Interests: the evolution and structure of regional urban systems; urban historical geography; international migration to the US (post 1945) at the urban system scale.

Major Achievements in the Last Five Years: monograph on urban systems analysis; recent papers in *Urban Geography* and *The Canadian Geographer*; seed-grant (with D. Selwood, North Texas State University) on office function dynamics in the "local urban system".

Prior Service and Involvement in AAG/UGSG: member, AAG, CAG, NCGE; UGSG Board (1983-86), secretary/treasurer (1983-86); UGSG Long Range Planning Committee (1985-86); teaching awards committee, NCGE.

Objectives in Serving on the UGSG Board: to ensure that the UGSG continues through regular assessment and modification its two main functions: the publication of the Newsletter, giving more attention to status reports on work of individual departments, members, or public/private sector employees; the organization of special sessions at the annual meetings through selecting themes or topics for sessions and reassessing the number of sessions which we offer. Also to develop more fully, UGSG "outreach" activities: junior members should be encouraged to participate in the dissertation competition and to participate and organize a special session at the annual meeting--the future of the UGSG depends on attracting junior level people as members; in a research capacity we could provide more information on ongoing activities of IGU commissions with an urban focus or on other national groups of geographers (IBG)--work has started in some areas and needs to be continued; we need to utilize more fully the experiences and talents of those members who are employed in the public/private units, perhaps by establishing "applied urban geography" sessions at regional meetings of the AAG where we could draw on regional expertise.

### Board Members (3 elected)

#### **Thomas Baerwald**

Current Position: Director, Geography Department, Science Museum of Minnesota.

Teaching and Research Interests: patterns and processes of contemporary metropolitan development, relationship between transportation and urban land uses, evolution of multi-use suburban concentrations, and commuting behavior.

Major Achievements in the Last Five Years: overseeing development of permanent museum exhibit on Minnesota, continuing active research, expanding involvement in AAG activities.

Prior Service and Involvement in AAG/UGSG: West Lakes Regional Councilor (1985-88); Program Chair and Field Trip Coordinator AAG Annual Meeting (1986); UGSG Chairperson (1980-82); Editor, UGSG newsletter (1980-84).

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