

# Urban Geography Specialty Group Newsletter

Assoc. of American Geographers

<http://geog-nt.geog.buffalo.edu/ugsg>

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## letter from the chair

Recently, I received an email message from an undergraduate geography student. She would be reporting to her classmates on urban geography and asked for information on the specialty group's membership. – How many members belong to the UGSG? What issues concern them? In response, I sent off the list of session (and paper) titles sponsored by our specialty group at the last AAG conference and a copy of the 2000-01 report, which includes membership numbers (565 subscribers) and a record of our annual business meeting.

This representation of our membership apparently did the trick. She responded with both thanks and assurance that she felt fortunate to be the student making a presentation on the group her classmates find most interesting! Such exchanges are common in my role as chair. I find these inquiries encouraging – not only because of the interest and early support shown but also because it demonstrates that students are being asked to consider the organizational aspects of our discipline. There are geographers behind the geographies produced for public consumption. That obvious point can be lost – as many a perplexed face has indicated in my Geographic Thought course when we begin discussing the sociology of knowledge.

That brings me to my message to the membership in this Fall newsletter. Much of our 'organizing' depends on material contained in this issue. The ballot is enclosed - please vote! Helga Leitner, chair of the nominating committee, has assembled a collection of strong candidates. Your votes will help insure that the board is representative of its members' interests. Please send your ballots to me by January 25<sup>th</sup> either in their paper form or by email.

Also, students (and advisers), please note the information on the annual student paper and thesis/dissertation competitions. Although we have seen some very good entries, greater participation is always a goal. Not only is it an opportunity to earn recognition for your work and compensation for your travel, the judges provide comments that may assist you with your work.

With that reminder of why we do the things we do, I must return to the end of the semester rush. I would appreciate hearing from you if you have thoughts on the specialty group's operation. While I frequently respond to students, I only occasionally hear from current members. What are we missing -?-

Have a wonderful winter break.

**Judith Kenny**

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, [jkenny@csd.uwm.edu](mailto:jkenny@csd.uwm.edu)

## annual student competitions

### Dissertation Competition

**Deadline: January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2002**

The UGSG Dissertation and Masters Thesis Awards Committee (Geraldine Pratt, Chair, Katharyne Mitchell, and Jamie Peck) solicits submissions of dissertations for the 2001 UGSG Dissertation Award. The winner of the award will receive \$250. The dissertation must have been completed during the 2001 calendar. Dissertations submitted for awards with other AAG-affiliated organizations are not eligible. *Send one copy to each of the judges:* Professor **Geraldine Pratt**, Department of Geography, University of British Columbia, Vancouver B.C. V6T 1Z2 Canada – [gpratt@geog.ubc.ca](mailto:gpratt@geog.ubc.ca); Professor **Katharyne Mitchell**, Department of Geography, The University of Washington, Seattle, Washington 98195 – [kmitch@u.washington.edu](mailto:kmitch@u.washington.edu); Professor **Jamie Peck**, Department of Geography, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin 53706, – [jpeck@geography.wisc.edu](mailto:jpeck@geography.wisc.edu). Arrangements may be made to send the dissertation as an email attachment or disk copy if you confirm this with each of the judges. Please contact Geraldine Pratt [gpratt@geog.ubc.ca](mailto:gpratt@geog.ubc.ca) with questions.

### Masters Thesis Competition

**Deadline: January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2002**

The UGSG Dissertation and Masters Thesis Awards Committee (Geraldine Pratt, Chair, Katharyne Mitchell, and Jamie Peck) solicits submissions of theses for the 2001 UGSG Masters Thesis Award. The winner of the award will receive \$150. The thesis must have been completed during the 2001 calendar. Theses submitted for awards with other AAG-affiliated organizations are not eligible. *Send one copy to each of the judges* (listed in the Dissertation competition announcement, above). Arrangements may be made to send the dissertation as an email attachment or disk copy if you confirm this with each of the judges. Please contact Geraldine Pratt [gpratt@geog.ubc.ca](mailto:gpratt@geog.ubc.ca) with questions.

## MORE COMPETITIONS, OVER ®

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Geography as well as a graduate level seminar in the same area.

1995 – 1996 *Research Assistant, Hesperian Foundation, Berkeley, California.*  
*Duties:* Organized the reference library at the Foundation offices and conducted research for a women's health book for developing countries entitled *Where Women Have No Doctor.*

#### **AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS**

2001 – 2002 *Dissertation Year Fellowship, University of California Institute for Labor and Employment.*

2000 – 2001 *Dissertation Research Grant, University of California Mexus Program.*

1999 – 2000 *Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Fellowship, National Science Foundation.*

1999 *Center for Latino Policy Research Minigrant.*

1990 *Phi Kappa*

1990 *National Honor Society*

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

“When the Global Becomes Local: Colonia Development and the Social Reproduction of Labor on the Border.” (2002) *Memoria of a Research Workshop: Irregular Settlements and Self-Help Housing in the United States*, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, Cambridge, MA.

“Puras Mujeres: Women's Leadership in New Mexican Colonias” (forthcoming) *Border Women*, Ellen Hansen and Helen Mattingly eds., University of Arizona Press, Tucson, AZ.

#### **CONFERENCES AND PANELS**

“The Politics of Access and Production in Community Research.” Presented at the Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, March 2002, Los Angeles, California.

“When the Global Becomes Local: The Development of Colonias and the Social Reproduction of the Working Poor.” Presented at the University of California Institute for Labor and Employment Graduate Student Research Conference, January 2002, University of California, Santa Cruz.

“When the Global Becomes Local: Colonia Development and the Social Reproduction of Labor on the Border.” Presented at the Lincoln Institute Experts Conference on Colonias, September 2001, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

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