

NEWSLETTER

FOR THE URBAN GEOGRAPHY SPECIALTY GROUP OF THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN GEOGRAPHERS

DECEMBER 2004

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Inside This Issue:

From the Chair	1
From the Editor	2
Honors, Awards, & Competitions	3
Calls for Papers	4
Job Postings	5
New Books, New Resources	5
Travel-Study Announcements	6
<i>Urban Geography</i> Editorial	7
Board Member Election Bios	8
Board Member Election Ballot	9

FROM THE CHAIR:

This is the final newsletter before the holidays are upon us. First, I would like to take this chance to welcome our new newsletter editor, Eric Boschmann and to thank our outgoing editor, Margaret Hudson, one last time. Eric is a graduate student at Ohio State University working with Mei-Po Kwan. His work focuses on the confounding issues related to spatial mismatch, urban growth, commuting, and accessibility of marginalized and disadvantaged populations in the urban environment. Welcome Eric!

Second, if you have the chance, please remind undergraduate and graduate students of the opportunities that we offer in terms of fellowships, graduate student funds to attend the AAG meetings, and other competitions. The deadlines are approaching for submitting MA and PhD theses (February 1), as well as the Glenda Laws undergraduate essay competition. The undergraduate competition, in particular, usually needs some strong prodding from faculty mentors, so if you have received a great paper over the last year please encourage the student to submit it. Details on where and how to submit theses and papers can be found on page 3 in this newsletter.

Third, we have included short biographies of election candidates for the UGSG Executive Board. Thanks to everyone who has been willing to serve on the board and to Gerry Pratt for assembling the current candidates. Please return your ballot to me (by email or post) by January 28. For your information, the biography of Mona Atia has been included with the others as our next graduate student representative (serving from 2005-2007).

Finally, many thanks to Dan Trudeau and Owen Dwyer for coordinating the specialty group sessions for the upcoming Denver meetings. This is a big job and I'm grateful that they were willing to receive and sift through the multitudes of email requests I sent their way. I will provide information about the sponsored sessions in the next newsletter, which should be out prior to the next AAG conference.

Wishing everyone the best over the holidays and in the new year.

Katharyne Mitchell

FROM THE EDITOR:

The Urban Geography Specialty Group *Newsletter* is an effective and efficient medium for communication among urban geographers (from literally around the world) to share urban-related events, resources, achievements, and announcements. As the new editor, I look forward to facilitating the crossroads of these exchanges. While I do plan to follow the general format set by the former *Newsletter* editors, I am always open to suggestions, comments, and ideas. The electronic reader-friendly newsletter format will be maintained, and 3 issues will be published annually: a pre-AAG issue; a late summer / early autumn issue; and a year end issue. The appearance of the newsletter, including typeface, masthead design, layout, is an evolving work. Further, it might be interesting to give this newsletter a name, other than *Newsletter*.

I wish to express my gratitude to several individuals who have helped me in this transition to *Newsletter* editor: Eugene McCann and Margaret Hudson, past *Newsletter* editors, and Katharyne Mitchell, UGSG chair. Ultimately, however, there are numerous hands that contribute to the successful production of this newsletter.

Please note: the **November 2004** issue, Margaret Hudson's final issue as editor, is still available from the UGSG website.

Sincerely,

Eric Boschmann, In-coming *Newsletter* Editor
PhD Student
The Ohio State University

UGSG Membership Information

- **UGSG Membership:** \$7 with AAG membership; student membership is free.
- **Address and e-mail changes** of UGSG members should be sent to: address@aag.org, where a master membership list is maintained.
- To subscribe to URBGEOG, the UGSG's **discussion forum and listserv**, follow these instructions: [1] Send an e-mail message to listserv@listserv.arizona.edu with no subject line, and include the following message, with appropriate name changes:
subscribe urbgeog firstname lastname
- [2] Make sure to disable automatic e-mail signature functions [3] You will be sent an automated message that provides information on how to post to the list and how to unsubscribe, etc.
- Calls for submission to and notification of availability of the Newsletter are e-mailed to both the listserv and Specialty Group membership list. Distribution of the Newsletter is via the UGSG website.

UGSG Website: <http://geog.uwm.edu/ugsg>

Executive Board**Chair**

Katharyne Mitchell, 2004 – 2006
University of Washington
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Vice Chair

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Dan Trudeau, 2004 – 2006
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HONORS, AWARDS, COMPETITIONS

AAG STUDENT TRAVEL SUPPORT. The UGSG has a small amount of money available to support students presenting on urban topics at the AAG meetings in Denver. These funds will cover only a small portion of the total costs, and awards are intended to support presentations on topics related to the specialty group's urban focus. To apply, please send a short letter stating the nature of your participation (paper or poster presentation), degree program, institutional affiliation, and reason for attendance at the meetings. (Don't spend much time on this as you would for a formal, full-length application: the award is very small, normally about \$75). Also include a copy of your abstract and a copy of your registration information. Send materials to Elvin Wyly, Department of Geography, University of British Columbia, 1984 West Mall, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z2 Canada. Materials may be sent by email (ewyly@geog.ubc.ca), but please make sure attachments are legible (i.e., in plain text or *.rtf format). The deadline for receipt of applications is **January 28, 2005**, and awards will be announced as soon as possible thereafter.

HONORS GIVEN. The 2004 **Massey Medal** of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society, presented annually for lifetime contributions to improving our understanding of the geography of Canada, was awarded to **Professor Larry S. Bourne** of the Department of Geography and Program in Planning at the University of Toronto. The medal was formally presented by the Governor General of Canada at a ceremony held in Ottawa on November 4th. Of symbolic importance, given that cities are now back on the political agenda in most countries, this is the first time that the Massey medal has been awarded to an urban geographer. The official citation refers to Professor Bourne's numerous contributions "to the emerging field of urban geography, both in academia and in the realm of policy-making".

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS. The **Glenda Laws Award** is administered by the Association of American Geographers and endorsed by members of the Institute of Australian Geographers, the Canadian Association of Geographers, and the Institute of British Geographers. The annual award and honorarium recognize outstanding contributions to geographic research on social issues. This award is named in memory of Glenda Laws—a geographer who brought energy and enthusiasm to her work on issues of social justice and social policy. All early to mid-career scholars involved in geographic research on one or more social issues will be eligible for this award. Nominations should include two letters of recommendation from scholars or members of community organizations familiar with the research upon which the nomination is based, a curriculum vita, and a scholarly paper based on original research. The award will be presented at the Awards Luncheon at the AAG Annual Meeting. The deadline is **December 31, 2004**. Please forward nominations to committee chair: Maureen Hays-Mitchell, Department of Geography, Colgate University, Hamilton, NY 13035, mhaysmitchell@mail.colgate.edu. As with all AAG awards, the Award Committee may decline to make an award in any given year.

COMPETITION DEADLINES. As mentioned in the president's letter (page 1), the deadline for several competitions is **February 1, 2005**. All submissions should be sent in hardcopy form to both committee members except in the case of severe financial hardship, in which case individual arrangements can be made via email. [1] Send **MA theses** to: Sarah Elwood, Department of Geography & Regional Development, University of Arizona; and Eugene McCann, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC. [2] Send **PhD dissertations** to: Katharyne Mitchell, Department of Geography, University of Washington; and Scott Salmon, Miami University of Ohio, Ohio. [3] Send **Glenda Laws undergrad papers** to: David Wilson, Department of Geography, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign; and Alison Mountz, Department of Geography and Maxwell School, Syracuse University.

RESEARCH NEWS

CALL FOR COLLABORATION. GEST-Group for the Study of Society and Territory, a research group based at UFRGS-The Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre-RS, Brazil, is interested in establishing agreements and collaborating with colleagues in other institutions, cities and countries. We can either be a South American and/or American "leg" of comparative research projects and/or have colleagues as partners in any of our projects. We are also willing to collaborate with other colleagues applying for NEH, and/or NSF grants as well as other funding agencies worldwide such as the European Science Foundation. We are also interested in receiving foreign scholars to give lectures here. GEST is an

interdisciplinary research group composed of professors, researchers, graduate and undergraduate students. Members work on subjects ranging from the History and Geography of Housing and Cities in South America to the Spatial Dynamics of Crime in the Metropolitan Region of Porto Alegre-RS, Brazil. Other research interests in the group include economic restructuring; spatial cycles and their spatial impacts; residential and intra-metropolitan mobility; and the grape and the colonization of the Brazilian territory: A Geography of Wine. If you would like to establish any kind of collaboration with GEST and/or discuss possibilities, please write to Prof. Dr Joel Outtes, DPhil (University of Oxford), Head, GEST-Group for the Study of Society and Territory, UFRGS-Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, E-mail: Outtes@uol.com.br.

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALLS FOR PAPERS

JUSTICE BY DESIGN? PLANNERS NETWORK CONFERENCE ON DESIGN. June 2-5, 2005 in the Twin Cities, Minnesota. Come to the Twin Cities in June for a highly interactive Planners Network conference on planning and design. Architect Mike Pyatok and Landscape Architect Anne Spirn will be keynote speakers at the conference. If you would like to organize a session or tour, see the instructions at http://www.designcenter.umn.edu/reference_ctr/pnCalls.htm or simply email Richard Milgrom rmilgrom@umn.edu. State the proposed session content, format, and a list of potential speakers, panelists, or participants. Topics include: Planning and designing with aboriginal communities; Housing; Universal design in the urban environment; Community design; Sustainable/ecological design; Healthy cities; Public art; Food and the city; Planning and organizing beyond design; and Open workshops. Check the website for details: http://www.designcenter.umn.edu/reference_ctr/planNetConf.html.

POSITIUM: MOBILE POSITIONING IN GEOGRAPHY AND URBAN PLANNING. June 9-10, 2005, Tartu, Estonia. Organised by: Institute of Geography University of Tartu; Centre for Urban Studies Estonian Academy of the Arts and Positium Ltd. **Theme:** Nowadays, virtually every person carries a mobile phone, and recent technical advances in mobile phone technologies have theoretically made it possible to know the rough location of any mobile phone and therefore of any person. This enables new possibilities to cost-effectively collect socio-spatial data for urban and rural planning, geographical studies etc. We call this approach the social positioning method. **The goal of the conference** is to introduce and discuss the applications of mobile positioning and location based services on geographical and social research, planning and architecture. During the conference it will be possible to participate in a real-time positioning experiment. **Working groups:** I. Mobile positioning in geography, social studies and participatory processes; II. Mobile positioning, urban planning and architecture; III. Technical solutions of social positioning and operators. **Call for papers:** We invite all interested persons to present papers with results of scientific studies and applied projects of a relevant theme. Everyone who wants to present a paper must submit an abstract, maximum 250 words, before March 1, 2005 to organisers: rein.ahas@ut.ee. Acceptance of papers will be announced electronically March 15, 2005. Final program will be announced April 15, 2005. Deadline for extended abstracts May 15, 2005. Registration: 250 EUR before March 1, 2005; 300 EUR after March 1, 2005. Conference web-site: www.positium.com

BEFORE AND AFTER THE WORLD TRADE CENTER: RECENT TRENDS AND PERSPECTIVES ON THE NORTH AMERICAN CITY. Special session/workshop at the 55th Meeting of the German Association of Geographers, October 6, 2005, Trier University, Germany. The recent reconfiguration of global politics – phrased in the metaphor of the destroyed WTC – can be observed in the continuous transformation of cities. Researchers of different disciplines approach new processes, constellations and conflicts in the city from different perspectives. Common, however, is the mutual understanding that traditional approaches to analyse the social, cultural, as well as economic changes in urban spaces can no longer cover the complexity of modern urban spaces. It is to be expected that changed macro-political conditions will affect the North American city in many dimensions. Political preferences frame urban planning, the development of different parts of the city, and the daily life of the citizens. Aspects such as urbanism, transformation, and globalisation are therefore of major importance for urban development. It is expressed in catch words such as ‘citadelization’, ‘privatization’, and ‘reterritorialization’. How do the different actors react to these changes? How do they contribute to them? What are the political as well as social implications? **The aim** of the planned session is to address the complexity of the city on a global, regional, or local scale. We will certainly never cover all different aspects of urban change. Therefore, we are going to discuss a few aspects that contribute to the

understanding of recent urban transformations. Researchers from disciplines such as geography, sociology, urban planning, history, or cultural studies are invited to contribute to the discourse by presenting new research projects or theories on the North American city in the 21st century. **Paper proposals** (about 300 to 500 words) are welcome until **January 31, 2005** to one of the following e-mail addresses: Prof. Dr. Werner Gamerith, Geography, University of Passau, Germany, e-mail: werner.gamerith@uni-passau.de ; Dr. Ulrike Gerhard, Department of Geography, University of Wuerzburg, Germany, e-mail: Ulrike.gerhard@mail.uni-wuerzburg.de .

JOB POSTINGS

URBAN GEOGRAPHY – UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO. The Department of Geography and Program in Planning, University of Toronto, invites applications for a tenure-stream appointment in the field of Urban Geography. This is a position with expertise in contemporary cities, with priority given to applicants who specialize in one or more of metropolitan development, social inequalities and social-spatial polarization. An interest in North American cities would be an asset. The appointment will be at the rank of Assistant Professor and will begin on July 1, 2005.

The appointee would be expected to contribute to graduate teaching and supervision and undergraduate teaching. The successful candidate will be expected to develop an externally funded research program. The successful candidate must have a Ph.D. in geography or a closely related discipline, an established record of high quality scholarly research and publication, and a demonstrated commitment to excellence in teaching. Additional information on the Department can be obtained through the World Wide Web at <http://www.geog.utoronto.ca/>

Please send applications to Professor Joseph R. Desloges, Chair, Department of Geography and Program in Planning, University of Toronto, 100 St. George Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5S 3G3. Applications should include a curriculum vita, a statement outlining current and future research interests, examples of publications, and materials relevant to teaching experience. Applicants should also ask three referees to write letters directly to Professor Desloges. Materials must be received by January 10, 2005 (no e-mail applications will be accepted).

The University of Toronto is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from visible minority group members, women, Aboriginal persons, persons with disabilities, members of sexual minority groups, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas. We offer opportunities to work in many collaborative programs, including Aboriginal, Canadian, environmental, ethno-cultural, sexual diversity, gender and women's studies. The University of Toronto offers the opportunity to teach, conduct research and live in one of the most diverse cities in the world.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.

USAJOBS. Approximately 14,000 jobs are listed each day on the Office of Personnel Management website, <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>. Government agencies that hire *geographers* include Commerce (Census Bureau, USGS, NOAA), Department of Defense, Department of State, Department of Transportation, HUD, Homeland Security, USDA and others. Search broadly on USAJobs, as the federal job classification system does not accurately describe job titles. For instance, classifications like community planner, management analyst, surveyor, social scientist, analyst, wildlife conservation specialist, biologist, cartographer, homeland security specialist, economist, or contract manager all may be related to geography or GIS. For more information, contact: Seth R. Marcus, HUD / Office of Policy Development and Research, e-mail: seth_r_marcus@hud.gov

NEW BOOKS, NEW RESOURCES

- *New State Spaces: Urban Governance and the Rescaling of Statehood*, by Neil Brenner, New York University (Oxford University Press, 2004; 336 pages; \$24.95; <http://www.oup.co.uk/isbn/0-19-927006-6>). In this synthetic, interdisciplinary work, Neil Brenner develops a new interpretation of the transformation of statehood under contemporary globalizing capitalism. Whereas most analysts of the emergent, post-Westphalian world order have focused on supranational and national institutional realignments, *New State Spaces* shows that strategic subnational spaces, such as cities and city-regions, represent essential arenas

in which states are being transformed. Brenner traces the transformation of urban governance in western Europe during the last four decades and, on this basis, argues that inherited geographies of state power are being fundamentally rescaled. Through a combination of theory construction, historical analysis and cross-national case studies of urban policy change, *New State Spaces* provides an innovative analysis of the new formations of state power that are currently emerging.

- *Urban Multiculturalism and Globalization in New York City*, by Michel S. Laguerre (New York: Palgrave Macmillan Press, 2004). This book demonstrates that the American city is traversed by diverse transnational temporal flows that crisscross, but do not coincide with the mainstream temporal itinerary or trajectory. Further, it argues that these temporal flows are by nature global, since they are an extension of homeland cultural practices and as such are diasporized, transglobalized, and operative precisely because they are sustained by ongoing transnational relations.

- *Crossing the Neoliberal Line: Pacific Rim Migration and the Metropolis*, by Katharyne Mitchell, University of Washington, Seattle (Temple University Press, 2004; 296 pages; \$24.95). "A vivid account of the rise of a Pacific Rim city, Katharyne Mitchell's ethnography of transnational migration and urban change in Vancouver demonstrates how both social liberalism and neoliberalism are constituted in 'actually existing' spaces by real people. Theoretically rigorous and empirically rich, scholars of neoliberalism, globalization, transnationalism, and multiculturalism should all read this fascinating book." —Wendy Larner, Sociology, University of Auckland

- Urban Geographers are invited to visit the website www.fed-up-honeys.org to download the report "Makes Me Mad: Stereotypes of young urban womyn of color" which draws connections between public representations and disinvestment in the Lower East Side neighborhood of New York City. The project is a result of a participatory action research project facilitated by AAG member Caitlin Cahill, at the City University of New York. For more information e-mail Caitlin at caitcahill@aol.com.

TRAVEL-STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IN THE CARIBBEAN. Virginia Tech is hosting a two-week Maymester course in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, May 15-30. The interdisciplinary course will be team-taught with the participation of urban geographer, Joe Scarpaci, Geography Dept., Virginia Tech. It is available to graduates and undergraduates for 3-6 semester credits. The program will work closely with a five-year old squatter settlement and compile a property map, land use map, and GIS database for this young community of migrants who work in the hotel and tourist industry. Estimated costs (incl. airfare from Virginia), \$2,000, plus summer-rated tuition. Spanish skills desirable but not required. Punta Cana is the host of the Punta Cana Biodiversity Center and a university consortia including Virginia Tech. For more information: scarp@vt.edu, 540/231-7504.

TOKYO NEIGHBORHOODS AND ARCHITECTURE WORKSHOP. Temple University will offer a two-course, six-credit workshop for undergraduate students in summer 2005. The venue is Temple University Japan, Temple's branch campus in the center of Tokyo. The dates are July 1 – August 16, 2005. The courses are as follows: (1) "Metropolitan Tokyo," a course in Geography and Urban Studies to be taught by Professor Roman Cybriwsky, Tokyo resident and author of the book "Tokyo: The Shogun's City at the 21st Century" (Wiley, 1998). (2) "Tokyo Notebook," a course in the Architecture Department by Professor Geeta Mehta, a practicing architect in Tokyo. An optional introductory-level course "World Urban Patterns" (Geography and Urban Studies C060, 3 credits) is available from May 17 – July 29, 2005 for students who might lack the appropriate background. Additional information and application materials are available at the following website: <http://www.temple.edu/studyabroad/> and from Roman Cybriwsky at via email at roman@tuj.ac.jp. Tokyo is one of the most dynamic and complex cities in the world. It is extraordinarily modern and cosmopolitan, yet it also reflects the deep traditions and styles of ancient Japan. This workshop provides an overview of this great city via lectures, readings, guest speakers, field trips and other excursions. Topics to be covered include Tokyo history and historic sites, the changing economy, housing and working conditions, distinctive neighborhoods and commercial districts, prominent landmarks, Tokyo nightlife, and the city's architectural treasures, both old and new.

NOTE: The following editorial will be published in *Urban Geography*, Vol. 25, No. 6:

PLURALISM AS PRINCIPLE IN *URBAN GEOGRAPHY*

Much has been written and even more surmised of late concerning the purported theoretical and political predilections of this journal. Recent editorial transitions provide a timely opportunity to reaffirm the principle that has guided *Urban Geography* since its inception. The journal's conceptual predispositions, political inclinations, and partisan preferences can best be summarized in a single phrase: there are none. In subject matter, conceptual orientation, analytical approach, and methodological technique, pluralism characterizes the subfield of urban geography and thus necessarily characterizes the journal that seeks to represent it. As the mirror of the discipline, *Urban Geography* reflects the multiplicity of urban geographies. No manuscript is ever accepted or rejected on grounds of doctrinal orthodoxy or canonical compliance. Nor could it be while the journal continues to eschew—as it does—adoption of a further delimiting adjective before its name. In an entirely literal sense, *Urban Geography* is, and will be, bounded only by what urban geographers do.

The absence of a defining editorial orthodoxy is not an abdication of principle but rather a recognition of the strengths and advantages of pluralism. An editorial in this journal more than a decade ago noted the value of eclecticism (Lake, 1993: 506):

the value that is gained by the transposition of pieces against one another, where each piece reveals not only itself but something about the other pieces as well. Each article serves as a mirror against which other articles, based on other assumptions and using other approaches, are refracted and cast in a new light. When an article is exposed to the bright light of alternative frameworks, it is easier to see what is there and what is missing—revelations that might not be so evident without the glare of competing assumptions in such close proximity.

This principle was reaffirmed most recently in this journal by Jennifer Wolch (2003), who noted the value of “radical openness” to alternative frameworks and assumptions as a “critical method in urban geography.”

Urban Geography's commitment to catholicity continues through recent transitions in the editorial masthead. Effective this issue, Brian Berry has relinquished the position of Editor-in-chief after twenty years of decisive leadership of the journal, Truman Hartshorn assumes the title of Executive Editor, and Robert Lake and Peter Muller provide continuity in the role of Co-Editors. After a brief hiatus, the journal is re-inaugurating the Legal Geographies feature under the editorship of Steve Herbert, publishing concise examinations of the powerful nexus of spatiality and law. Judith Kenny has taken up the reins of Book Review Editor of the journal. Inquiries and manuscript submissions can be directed to any member of the editorial team. As always, *Urban Geography* welcomes submissions reflecting the full spectrum of inquiry comprising the multifaceted domain of urban geography.

-- The Editors

REFERENCES

- Lake, R., 1993, In praise of eclecticism. *Urban Geography*, Vol. 14, 505-506.
Wolch, J., 2003, Radical openness as method in urban geography. *Urban Geography*, Vol. 24, 645-646.
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UGSG BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS

Bios of Candidates for Board Members, 2005-2007 ([Vote for 1](#)):

Mary Thomas, Assistant Professor, UCLA

My research brings urban geographic inquiry to bear on theories of identity and subjectivity. I have looked to the everyday lives of teenage girls in the southern United States, and recently in Los Angeles, to explore these connections and to contrast girls' urban racial and sexual identities in different social-cultural regions. I examine girls' social-spatial, sexual, and consumptive practices in the city to show how they respond to normative and economic constraints and authoritative restrictions on their activities. The heterosexual and racial identities of youth (and for that matter of adults) have been understudied in geography. While prolific feminist approaches, for example, have deemed girls' sexual activities to be harmful and resultant on sexist situations that prioritize boys' sexual desires and power, I argue that a geographical lens shows that girls enjoy the pleasure of producing space for sex, even while they may not enjoy sex itself. These spatial pleasures, e.g., creating time/space away from sanctioning adult eyes, suggest that girls do have a motivation in engaging in sex that others may lament. In forthcoming papers, I also highlight the ways that racial identification is fundamentally a spatial process for girls. One example is how African-American girls confront the reactions of police to their presence in urban public space, and indeed, through these spatial struggles they learn what 'black' means in racist cities. My teaching reflects my research concerns for exploring the urban spaces of social difference, and I advocate anti-racist and feminist approaches to studying urban geographies. As a board member, I would like to contribute to building strategies that seek to bring more minority and international students and scholars to our discipline, and that similarly encourage critical examinations of the urban effects of racial, sexual, and class segregation.

Kate Boyer, Clinical Assistant Professor, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

My name is Kate Boyer, and I am currently employed as a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Science and Technology Studies at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York. My research cuts across fields of Urban Social Geography, Feminist Geography, and Urban Policy, and I am principally interested in questions of work, urban culture and social justice. I received my Ph.D. in Geography from McGill University in 2001, where my dissertation focused on the role of the feminization of clerical work in advancing conceptions of modern womanhood that were consummately urban in nature. My post-doctoral research brings my interests in gender, space and power into a more contemporary and policy-oriented realm, focusing on the intersection of information technology, social policy and urban politics in the contemporary U.S. In this vein I am particularly interested in the way IT shapes interpretations of welfare reform, and the new political mobilizations of low-income advocacy and activist groups challenging neoliberal social policy offensives. Before my present position I worked as an analyst at a public policy think-tank studying welfare reform between 2000 and 2002, and before that I served as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Urban Studies in the department of Geography and Planning at SUNY-Albany between 1998-2000. I have been active in the AAG and CAG since 1992, and have served as a board member of Geographic Perspectives on Women and Qualitative Geography Specialty Group. So, I would bring something of a policy and an interdisciplinary perspective to my role as board member. In the past I have tended to work well with others and get things done on time, so these are some of other traits I would hope to bring as a board member of the Urban Geography Specialty Group.

Jason Hackworth, Assistant Professor, University of Toronto

My current research examines the influence of neoliberalism on the process of urbanization. This includes individual studies on gentrification, public housing policy, and shifts in urban governance. This work is motivated by the belief that the process of urbanization is being fundamentally transformed by the ideology of neoliberalism. In order to contest this shift, I think that it is crucial to better understand what it is (and is not). I have published this work in a variety of journals including *Urban Geography*, *Environment and Planning A*, *The International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, *Tijdschrift voor Economische en Sociale Geografie*, and *The Journal of Planning Education and Research*. I've long been impressed with the

efforts of the UGSG to reach out to students through travel funding, paper competitions, and Annual Meeting sessional support. If elected as board member, I will try to build on these strengths. I am also interested in broadening the regional reach of the subdiscipline by encouraging submission, presentation, and awarding of work (especially from graduate students) that addresses non-Western contexts.

Bio of Appointed Student Board Member, 2005 - 2007:

Mona Atia, Graduate Student, University of Washington

I aim to synthesize work on capital mobility and transnational finance networks, with perspectives on the production and management of difference in the city, in order to bring a geographical perspective to bear on discourses of terrorism finance. My research examines the connections between the historical acts that erode individual privacy in the interest of global capital, and the post-9/11 policies that undermine American civil liberties. I draw specific attention to how regulatory frameworks amend existing laws regarding the surveillance and monitoring of individuals, their actions, and transactions. These frameworks, coupled with discursive associations between Islamic charities and terrorism, specifically target, discipline, and delegitimize Islamic financial networks and charitable practices. As such, ethnic/religious profiling becomes a legitimized facet of everyday life for the American Muslim. Since surveillance and social control occur most widely in urban environments, I use qualitative methods to explore how Arab Muslims in the urban communities of Chicago and Washington, D.C. have changed their giving habits while being subjected to increased suspicion in their daily lives. As a board member of the Urban Geography Specialty Group, I seek to further inter-disciplinary dialogue on 'the city' broadly speaking, and promote inclusionary practices that will diversify our field.

UGSG Board Election Ballot

Board Member 2005 - 2007 (Vote for 1):

- Kate Boyer
- Jason Hackworth
- Mary Thomas

Return Ballots by January 28, 2005

to Katharyne Mitchell
E-mail: kmitch@u.washington.edu

Ballots sent by postal mail should be addressed to:

Katharyne Mitchell
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Box 353550
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Seattle, WA 98195