

AAG Urban Geography Specialty Group

NEWSLETTER

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MARCH 1985

LETTER FROM THE VICE CHAIR

With the AAG annual meeting just around the corner, it seems appropriate to raise some issues that will claim our attention when we meet in Detroit in April.

Program Committee co-chairs Peter Muller and Marilyn Brown and individual session organizers are to be commended for putting together an outstanding set of UGSG-sponsored sessions for the Detroit meetings. The list of sessions listed elsewhere in this newsletter is evidence that urban geography continues to be a viable and flourishing sub-field of the discipline.

I encourage you to begin thinking now about the 1986 meetings in Minneapolis. Bring your ideas for 1986 to Detroit and we'll be a step ahead in putting those ideas into practice. We are fortunate that Jennifer Wolch has agreed to serve as interim program coordinator for the 1986 meetings (until her sabbatical begins next year). Send Jennifer your suggestions or see her in Detroit (School of Urban and Regional Planning, USC, University Park, Los Angeles, CA 90089; tel. (213) 743-2264).

The UGSG Long-Range Planning Committee has been established, with myself, Don Dahmann, Randy Smith, David Hodge, and Marilyn Brown as members. The committee's charge is to define a set of goals and priorities for the UGSG for the next five years. The success of this effort depends on receiving suggestions, comments, and ideas from the full UGSG membership. Contact any committee member. This will be a major topic for discussion at the UGSG Business Meeting in Detroit and in future issues of the Newsletter.

A preliminary agenda for the UGSG Business Meeting in Detroit is published below. Plan on attending and participating. A feature of the meeting will be an open discussion of directions and activities for the UGSG. This is an opportunity to get the long-range planning process off on a sound footing. In addition, the Board of Directors meeting, open to all UGSG members, will be on Sunday, April 21, from 5-6p.m., in the Raphael Room, level 4 at the Westin Hotel.

I look forward to seeing you in Detroit.

Bob Lake
Vice-chair, UGSG

UGSG BUSINESS MEETING IN DETROIT

The UGSG Annual Business Meeting will be held on Monday, April 22, 1985 from 6-7 p.m., in the LaSalle-A Room of the Westin Hotel in Detroit. All members are encouraged to attend and participate. The following is a preliminary agenda. Anyone wishing to add (or delete) an agenda item, should contact Bob Lake, UGSG Vice-chair, at (201) 932-3135, or see him in Detroit.

Preliminary Agenda

1. Approval of minutes
2. Treasurer's report
3. Election results
4. Dissertation competition award
5. Plans for 1986 Annual Meeting, Minneapolis
6. Newsletter Editor's report
7. Long-range Planning Committee report
8. Committee nominations and assignments
 - a. Annual Meeting program committee
 - b. Nominating committee
 - c. Long-Range Planning committee
 - d. Dissertation award committee
9. Open discussion of directions and activities for the UGSG
10. Contact with NCGE and other groups
11. Other business

UGSG ELECTION BALLOT ENCLOSED

The ballot for the election of the UGSG Board of Directors is included on the second sheet of this newsletter. Brief statements from each candidate are also included in this newsletter. In addition to the persons elected in this election, four persons will remain on the Board of Directors: Roman Cybriwsky, who will become past chairperson, and Briavel Holcomb, Randy Smith, and Jennifer Wolch, 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. Therefore, all ballots should be mailed to Randy Smith.

UGSG SESSIONS IN DETROIT

The UGSG is sponsoring eight sessions at the AAG meetings in Detroit. The wide-ranging content of these offerings points both to the diversity of current research in urban geography and to the willingness of members of the specialty group to organize and chair these sessions. UGSG sponsored sessions include:

- Society and Space: Social Theory and Urban Form, Monday 22 April, 10:10-11:50. Organized and chaired by Jennifer R. Wolch. Papers by Gill Chin Lim, Susan Christopherson, Michael Curry, James Duncan. Discussion by Michael Storper, Ruth Fincher.
- Women in the City I: Struggle for Space, Monday 22 April, 1:00-2:40. Organized and chaired by Briavel Holcomb. Papers by Myrna Breitbart, Vicky Muniz, Jacquelyn Beyer, Rebecca L. Smith. (Jointly sponsored with the Committee on the Status of Women Geographers.)
- Metropolitan Detroit: It Problems and Prospects (A Meeting with Planners and Policy Makers), Monday 22 April, 1:00-2:40. Organized and chaired by Robert Sinclair and Bryan Thompson. Panelists: Edward J. Hustoies, Mel Ravitz.
- Women in the City II: Women and Work, Monday 22 April, 3:00-4:40. Organized and chaired by Briavel Holcomb. Papers by Suzanne Mackenzie, Kristin Nelson, Damaris Rose & Paul Villeneuve. Discussion by Hazel Morrow-Jones. (Jointly sponsored with the Committee on the Status of Women Geographers.)
- Industrial Dynamics of American Cities, Tuesday 23 April, 10:00-11:40. Organized by David R. Meyer. Chaired by Rodney A. Erickson. Papers by David R. Meyer, Robert G. Cromley, Edward J. Malecki. (Jointly sponsored with the Industrial Geography Specialty Group.)
- Roundtable on Social Theory and the Future of Urban Geography, Tuesday 23 April, 1:00-2:40. Organized and chaired by Edward W. Soja. Panelists include Allen J. Scott, Yi-Fu Tuan, Ruth Fincher, Ronald J. Johnston, David Harvey.
- Gentrification and the New Middle Class, Tuesday 23 April, 3:00-4:40. Organized and chaired by Neil Smith. Papers by Neil Smith and Peter Williams. Discussion by David Harvey. (Jointly sponsored with the Socialists Geographers Specialty Group.)
- Erickson's Model of Suburban Spatial Change, Wednesday 24 April, 8:00-9:40. Organized and chaired by James O. Wheeler. Papers by James O. Wheeler & Robert S. Hamby, John L. Bridges, Peter O. Muller & Ira M. Sheskin, Rodney A. Erickson. Discussion by Truman A. Hartshorn.
- The Local State, Wednesday 24 April, 8:00-9:40. Organized by Gordon L. Clark. Chaired by Gordon L. Clark, Stanley D. Brunn. Papers by John Mercer, Andrew M. Kirby, Adam I. Moos, Vera Chouinard. Discussion by Stanley D. Brunn. (Jointly sponsored with the Space and Society Specialty Group.)

Finally, other sessions of interest to urban geographers scheduled for the Detroit AAG meetings include: (1) a series of five paper sessions on the geography of Asian cities co-sponsored by the UGSG and the Asian Geography, China, and Regional Development and Planning Specialty Groups; (2) five contributed paper sessions on aspects of urban geography; and (3) various special sessions on the 1990 Census, urbanization, urban microclimates, and industrialization.

CENSUS SESSION

The Geography Division of the U.S. Census Bureau will present a session at the 1985 AAG meeting in Detroit on planning that is being done for revising Census Geography for the 1990 Decennial Census. The session will consist of four papers that will be presented by professional staff from the division. The papers and presentors for sessions include:

"The Re-Configuration of Census Statistical Areas: Recommendations and Considerations for Implementation"
Gail Leithauser, A.B.D., Statistical Areas Section

"Recommendations and Considerations on the Redefinition of Geographic Areas for Census Enumerations and Tabulations"
Joel Sobel, Ph.D., Geographic Base Development Branch

"The Redefinition of Urban and Rural for the U.S. Census of Population: Assessing the Need and Alternative Approaches"
Marel Lang, Ph.D., Geographic Areas Branch

"Geographic Issues Affecting the Utilization of 1990 Census Data"
Les Solomon, Ph.D., Data User Services Division

The reviewers for the session will be Richard Morrill of the University of Washington and John Adams of the University of Minnesota. The information from the session will be valuable to professional geographers who use Census data extensively in their research since potential changes in the ways that census data are enumerated, tabulated, and published in 1990 will be the focus of the papers.

CALL FOR PAPERS- PEDESTRIAN CONFERENCE

The Transportation Division of the City of Boulder is currently soliciting papers, exhibits, slide shows, and films for the Sixth Annual Pedestrian Conference to be held in Boulder, Colorado on September 19-20, 1985. Papers which describe current work or research in the field of pedestrian planning are requested. Case studies of innovative projects are highly encouraged.

Titles and abstracts of 250 words must be submitted by March 15, 1985. Four copies of each abstract are required. Any proposals received after March 15 will not be eligible for publication in the Conference Proceedings.

For further information contact:

Pedestrian Conference Coordinator
Transportation Division
City of Boulder, P.O. Box 791
Boulder, CO 80306

or call (303) 441-3266.

CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS

The following are brief statements from each of the candidates for the UGSG Board. The statements were submitted to the UGSG Newsletter based on a request for information on current activities and research, service to the AAG and/or the UGSG, and objectives in serving on the Board.

Chairperson (1 Elected)

Robert W. Lake

Associate Professor, Center for Urban Policy Research, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

Current activities and research: Public policy evolution on racial segregation; improving public participation in toxic waste facility siting; urban restructuring and locational requirements of industry; developing methods for measuring regional low-cost housing needs; served as co-editor of *Urban Geography*.

Service: UGSG Vice-chair (1984-85); UGSG Board of Directors (1980-1981; 1983-1984); UGSG Annual Meeting Program Chair (1983-84); Annual Meeting Program Committee (1981-82); frequent organizer of and participant in UGSG paper sessions and panel discussions at AAG annual meetings.

UGSG Plans: My principal goals for the UGSG are (1) to establish a long-range planning process to define future directions for the UGSG; (2) to expand UGSG activities in support of research and teaching; and (3) to broaden member participation in UGSG activities and encourage attendance at annual meetings.

Vice-chairperson (1 Elected)

Peter O. Muller

Professor and Chairperson, Department of Geography, University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL

Current activities and research: Contemporary suburbanization; postindustrial metropolitan spatial structure; transportation and urban form; international urban geography.

Service: AAG Councillor from Middle State Division (1979-1980); co-organizer, first UGSG meeting (1979); co-chair, local arrangements committee, AAG (1979); member, editorial committee, *Southeastern Geographer*.

UGSG Plans: To continue the high visibility of the UGSG on the national scene; to promote better communication among urban geographers; to seek ways of applying expertise of urban geographers to understanding the transforming metropolis; to promote greater concern with international urban geography; to promote more effective teaching of the subdiscipline; to promote better communication with urbanists in other fields and with the public.

John S. Pipkin

Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Geography and Regional Planning, SUNY, Albany, NY

Current activities and research: urban, economic, and quantitative geography; urban social geography and theory; retail structure of cities and regions; geographic ideology.

Service: member of various speciality groups; program chair, UGSG (1984-85); UGSG Board member (1985-86)

UGSG Plans: I think the mainstay of the UGSG--like geography as a whole--is to push for better public awareness of its accomplishments.

Board Members (3 Elected)

Michelle Behr

Research and Teaching Associate, Department of Geography, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287

Current activities and research: Urban population change, residential mobility and migration, suburban areas, statistical methods, survey research methods.

Service: Member and active participant at annual meeting of the AAG; participant in UGSG paper sessions; Population Specialty Group regional correspondent.

UGSG Plans: I would like (1) to continue encouragement of young scholars (dissertation award, participation in paper sessions); (2) to broaden/increase dissemination of UGSG members' research through the creation of discussion paper series; and (3) to continue UGSG's high visibility within the AAG through paper sessions at meetings and promoting UGSG membership.

Joe T. Darden

Dean, Urban Affairs Programs and Professor of Geography, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Current activities and research: Urban social geography, urban residential patterns, urban disinvestment, patterns of suburbanization.

Service: Secretary/Treasurer of East Lakes Division, AAG (1978-80); chair of East Lakes Division, AAG (1983 to present); program committee for the Detroit meetings, AAG (1984-85).

UGSG Plans: To help promote and strengthen urban geography as a specialty area; to expand the service role that the speciality area can play in assisting geography departments with program and faculty development and evaluation.

Hazel A. Morrow-Jones

Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO

Current activities and research: Research interests include urban residential land use, the institutional framework surrounding residential land use at all scales, the application of remotely sensed data to urban analysis, and the impact of changes in household composition on residential location choices. Teaching interests include world regional geography, population, remote sensing, land utilization, urban geography, residential mobility, migration, and policy analysis.

Service: Board member, Population Specialty Group; session organizer, Detroit AAG meetings; member, Nystrom Award Committee; delivered papers, chaired session, served on panels and as discussant for national meetings; given papers at various regional AAG meetings; secured departmental support for UGSG newsletter.

UGSG Plans: Since its inception, the UGSG has been a strong positive force for the advancement of urban geography. I hope to contribute to its continued success by concentrating my efforts on improving the ties between academic and applied geographers, and encouraging policy oriented work among urban specialists.

CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS (cont.)

In addition, I would like to work toward an increase in the number of joint initiatives between the UGSG and other specialty groups within the AAG.

Eric Sheppard

Associate Professor, Department of Geography, University of Minnesota

Current activities and research: Research activities include the generation and transmission of growth in urban systems, i.e., eco-demographic theories of a political economic type; the redevelopment of U.S. CBD's; corporate control in the urban system. Teaching activities include urban and economic geography, geographical theory.

Service: Member, AAG committee on transportation; founder and sometime chair, AAG socialist geography speciality group; member, editorial board, Annals AAG (1981-1984).

UGSG Plans: To increase research emphasis and exchange in the areas of inter-urban systems and international urban research. I would like to see the UGSG expand its contacts with researchers of similar interests in other countries and their respective geographical associations.

Neil Smith

Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Columbia University, New York, NY

Current activities and research: gentrification, housing, urban restructuring; uneven development, deindustrialization; history and philosophy of geography (esp. life, career, ideas of Isiah Bowman).

Service: Organized several sessions at AAG meetings in the last 3 years, including a UGSG session (co-sponsored with the Socialist Geographers Specialist Group) for 1985 in Detroit.

UGSG Plans: I think that the most important function the UGSG can serve is to encourage intellectual excellence in urban geography students. This involves creating opportunities as well as encouragement and would be my main objective.

Rebecca L. Smith

Assistant Professor, Department of Geology and Geography, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA

Current activities and research: Teaching activities include urban geography, quantitative methods, and the New England Region. Research interests focuses on household composition and the residential structure of cities, alternative housing forms for non-traditional households, and homelessness.

Service: Regional representative for the AAG Committee on the Status of Women in Geography; frequent participant in paper sessions at AAG annual meetings.

UGSG Plans: To promote the use of UGSG sessions at the annual meeting as a forum for discussing the variety of research directions and theoretical perspectives encompassed by urban geography; to work to make urban geographers more visible outside the AAG by strengthening contacts with other disciplines as well as with non-academic practitioners of urban geography, especially urban planners.

UGSG BOARD ELECTION BALLOT

For CHAIRPERSON (Term ends 4/1986)
(Vote for One)

___ Robert W. Lake

MARK AND MAIL THIS BALLOT
TO:

For VICE-CHAIRPERSON (Term ends 4/1986)
(Vote for One)

W. Randy Smith
Department of Geography
Ohio State University
Columbus, OH 43210

___ Peter O. Muller

___ John S. Pipkin

Ballots must be received
by 10 April 1984 in
in order to be counted.

For BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Term ends 4/1986)
(Vote for One)

___ Michelle Behr

___ Hazel A. Morrow-Jones

___ Joe T. Darden

___ Eric Sheppard

___ Neil Smith

___ Rebecca L. Smith

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Items suitable for inclusion in the UGSG Newsletter or any correspondence about address changes should be send to:

Dr. Janet Washbon Byler
Institute for Public Policy Studies
Temple University 025-27
Philadelphia, PA 19122

THANKS to Temple U.

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