



SouthEastern Division
Association of American Geographers

NEWSLETTER

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Table of Contents

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT	1
SEDAAG 2013 ELECTIONS.....	3
INVITATION TO THE 68th ANNUAL SEDAAG MEETING	3
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS -- 2013 SPECIAL AWARDS	7
SEDAAG SMALL GRANT PROGRAM -- CALL FOR APPLICATIONS	8
UNDER-REPRESENTED STUDENT TRAVEL AWARD -- CALL FOR APPLICATIONS.....	8
SAGE (STAND ALONE GEOGRAPHERS) TRAVEL FELLOWSHIP	9
REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT.....	9
REPORT FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT.....	12
REPORT FROM THE TREASURER.....	13
2012 SEDAAG RESOLUTIONS	13

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Doug Gamble, University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Greetings from the Cape Fear, I hope this newsletter finds you cool with a somewhat relaxing summer term. As you will see in this Newsletter, there has been much activity since our very successful meeting in Asheville, particularly a major update of our web presence including online submission of papers for the Roanoke meeting. In the late summer and early fall, please keep an eye out for updates on the SEDAAG website regarding elections, the annual meeting, and other items. If you, or a colleague, are not receiving the Newsletter electronically, please let us know and we will make sure you get on the list.

New Webpage

Our SEDAAG webpage has undergone a complete redesign and reconfiguration. Please spend some time to familiarize yourself with the new page (still the same address www.sedaag.org). Many thanks to Bill Carstensen for maintaining our previous webpage and to UNC Press for their assistance in development of the new page. Further, Susan Walcott, Vice President, was instrumental in developing the new online paper submission process. Now you can renew your membership, register for the annual meeting, and submit your paper through the SEDAAG website!! One important item is that the 2013 STUDENT HONORS COMPETITION WILL STILL HAVE THE TRADITIONAL PAPER SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS. The papers should be submitted to the current honors chair, Dr. Chris Badurek, badurekca@appstate.edu. One of the best features of the new webpage is the ability to post announcements that are archived chronologically under the News tab. If you want to receive e-mail alerts concerning the posting of an announcement, go to the upper right hand corner of the home page and subscribe through e-mail or a reader; a vast improvement from our previous listserv.

New Student Award

You may remember that in 2012, SEDAAG created the Under-represented Student Travel Award. The purpose of the award is to provide funds for under-represented students, particularly indigenous peoples, Hispanic/Latino, and African American, to travel to the meeting and become members of the region. The fund for the awards was established by SEDAAG members John and Bev Passerello of Lexington, Kentucky. We appreciate their generosity. Students are encouraged to apply and all members of SEDAAG are encouraged to make a contribution to the fund. Such contributions should be sent to Heidi Lannon, SEDAAG Treasurer.

Finances, Annual Meeting, and Hotels

As you are aware, the Executive and Steering Committees have been closely watching the expense of annual meetings and the financial wellbeing of the organization. A combination of the recent economic landscape, the growth of our annual meeting, and financial challenges to higher education have had a great impact on our operating procedures and increased the caution with which we approach annual meeting expenditures. The great news is that the Asheville meeting was a complete success in terms of attendance and finances. We had over 400 attendees, one of our largest meetings ever, and turned a sizable profit. Local Arrangements Chair Bill Graves, UNC Charlotte, is commended on his great planning and leadership. Through his efforts we have learned valuable lessons on how to ensure revenue neutral or profitable meetings, and are able to provide greater financial stability for future SEDAAG activities and awards. However, please remember that a profitable meeting relies upon your support of the annual meeting hotel. Hotel booking information for the meeting in Roanoke will soon be available on the SEDAAG website. Please support the conference hotel and BOOK EARLY!

SEDAAG Officers, Representatives, and Committees

SEDAAG is commonly referred to as the most vibrant or best regional division of the AAG. I believe the reason for our success is that the members are actively involved in the organization. SEDAAG officers, representatives, and committee members gladly squeeze in another service assignment for the region because they believe it is worth supporting. To that end, we need to continually identify 'new' people who are willing to become involved in SEDAAG. I will make a concerted effort this year to make sure all members are aware of opportunities to become involved in SEDAAG through committees or other positions. You will see announcements about committee vacancies and the need for nominees. If you have yet to serve SEDAAG in one of these capacities, I ask you to please give it serious consideration. Many of the positions require minimal work but result in a very positive return. So please consider serving SEDAAG.

I look forward to seeing you all in Roanoke in November!! If you have any questions or comments regarding these announcements or other SEDAAG business, please send me an email: gambled@uncw.edu

SEDAAG 2013 ELECTIONS

In August, SEDAAG will hold elections for the following positions:

- President
- Treasurer
- Alabama Representative
- Florida Representative
- Kentucky Representative
- South Carolina Representative
- West Virginia Representative

Biographical sketches of the candidates for each position will be listed on the website in the coming weeks. This election will be conducted online – like it was last year. You will only be eligible to vote if you have paid your annual dues ON or BEFORE August 15, 2013 (dues are for the calendar year, January to December – so you may as well pay now!)

When the election opens, you will receive an email from Matt Mitchelson (Kennesaw State Univ, mmitch81@kennesaw.edu) providing you with a secure link through which your ballot can be accessed – we will again use Question Pro software to run the election. Every current SEDAAG member will be able to vote for President and Treasurer; only members residing in the states holding elections this year will vote for their state representative.

The email address used for the election is that provided to UNC Press when you first joined SEDAAG – it is NOT necessarily the same as that on this listserv! If you did not receive a ballot last August, your email address is not correct. Please email Matt if you think that your email address may be incorrect! If you have a spousal membership, it is likely that only one email address is provided for you and your spouse, but both are eligible to vote; in that case, email Matt and he'll set up a second name and email address.

If you are able to control your email filters, you may also want to allow email from Matt so that the ballot link does reach you. If you have any questions about the election process, please email Matt: mmitch81@kennesaw.edu

INVITATION TO THE 69th ANNUAL SEDAAG MEETING

The Department of Geography at Virginia Tech welcomes the SEDAAG membership to Roanoke, VA for the annual meeting of the Division. The meeting will be held November 24-26, 2013 at the Hotel Roanoke. Room rates for the conference are \$125 per night. Conference registration information and a link to registration will be available shortly at the SEDAAG website. Bill Carstensen is the local arrangements coordinator and can be contacted at carstens@vt.edu. NOTE: People presenting papers or posters at the annual meetings must be a current member of SEDAAG. If you are not a SEDAAG member, please join before registering for the meeting. Go to SEDAAG's website (www.sedaag.org) to get join. If you do not wish to join SEDAAG, please pay the non-member registration fee, which is the equivalent of the regular registration fee plus membership dues. It is the hope of the Executive Committee that all meeting participants will choose to join SEDAAG and enjoy the benefits of membership, which include a subscription to the *Southeastern Geographer*.

CALL FOR PAPERS AND POSTERS
68th SEDAAG Meeting
Roanoke, Virginia

November 24-26, 2013

All are invited to attend, submit a paper or poster, and participate in the program at the upcoming 68th SEDAAG Meeting in Roanoke, Virginia. Both graduate and undergraduate students are strongly encouraged to participate the meeting. Graduate students are encouraged to submit a paper for the Student Honors Competition. Undergraduate students are encouraged to submit a poster for the competition sponsored by the education committee (a separate announcement will be sent a later date about this competition). Special sessions organized thematically around specific research areas, methodological approaches, or regions are welcome. Please see the sections below for further information on special sessions. The Program Chair for the 2013 meeting is Susan Walcott from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. All submissions should be submitted via the **online submission form**. Please note that all paper/poster presenters and session chairs must be members of SEDAAG (membership information can be found at www.SEDAAG.org).

I. SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS

Submit via the [online submission form \(click here\)](#)

The deadlines:

For all **paper submissions** is **Friday, August 23, 2013**

For all **poster submissions** is **Friday, September 6, 2013**

Submissions received after the deadlines will not be accepted. All papers and poster submissions received by the deadline will be reviewed by the Program Committee in a blind review process. Inclusion on the program is subject to acceptance following review. Notify the Program Chair immediately if confirmation of material receipt is not received within one week.

****NOTE NEW PROCEDURE**:**

ALL material will now be submitted via the SEDAAG webpage in the form of a 1,000 – 1,500 word paper. Fill in all the information required in the **online submission form**. This is critical to ensure that presentations/posters are organized into the correct categories.

Document Format for All Material Descriptions.

The **author's name, address, or affiliation must NOT appear** anywhere in the paper description submitted for review. All descriptions must be between 1,000 and 1,500 words total. If the paper description or abstract contains more than one paragraph, leave two spaces between paragraphs. Short abstracts (250 words) for each paper should be submitted as a file on the [online submission form](#). The abstract for each accepted paper will be published on the web. Authors are responsible for editing and proofreading their own abstracts; they will be posted as submitted.

Paper Submissions: Additional Guidelines

In lieu of submitting an eight-page paper, as has been the custom in SEDAAG in the past, this year, those wishing to present a paper are asked to submit a description of research, which should be between 1,000 and 1,500 words. This description of research should identify the research problem, methods, and findings. Accepted papers must be presented in fifteen minutes or less. *Each room used for paper sessions will have an LCD projector for Power Point presentations.* To avoid delays associated with setup time, it is *extremely important* that presenters using digital projectors bring presentation on a jump drive at least 15 minutes before the session begins and upload it to the PC.

Poster Description Submissions: Additional Guidelines

In addition to submitting an abstract, you are asked to submit a low-resolution version of your poster for review. Following the acceptance of your poster, you are asked to print it in high resolution for presentation. **Poster set-up:** Stands for presenting posters will be provided by SEDAAG. Poster dimensions will be 36" x 48". Materials should be of professional quality and legible from a distance of three feet. Text should be confined to brief statements.

II. ORGANIZING A SPECIAL SESSION

Special sessions are a valuable contribution to SEDAAG meetings, providing a topical or thematic focus for paper presentations. Organizers of special sessions should adhere to the following guidelines: Special session plans should be submitted by **Monday, August 12th, 2013**

Due date of August 23rd for all materials for the special session still applies. Organizers should provide a draft *special-session plan* to the program chair that includes the session title, session chair, intended paper titles, authors' names (and discussants, if appropriate), and institutional affiliations. All papers submitted are subject to the regular submission and review process. Organizers of special sessions should collect and send all material to the Program Chair. It is the responsibility of the session organizer to see that all material is submitted on time and in its completed form. **Note:** Please send your proposed special sessions to the Program Chair in a Word attachment including: 1) the session name; 2) participants with their affiliations, e-mail address, and names of their papers; and 3) the order in which you want the papers to be presented. Session organizers are welcome to assign discussants, either for the entire session or for individual papers (though it is no longer necessary). If discussants are used, it is the organizer's responsibility to arrange for discussants before submitting the proposed session. Time and space constraints dictate that a special session should have a minimum of four papers. The program chair reserves the right to add papers to the session or to merge special session papers into other sessions, especially if three or fewer papers survive the review process.

III. GUIDELINES FOR THE STUDENT HONORS COMPETITION

The Student Honors competitions consist of paper competitions for both the Master's and Doctoral level and one combined poster competition for Master's and Doctoral levels. **Eligibility:** To be eligible to participate in the Student Honors competition, the graduate student must have been enrolled in a geography program and in residence at the sponsoring department at the time his or her research was done. The sponsoring department must be located within the SEDAAG region. Ph.D. students must still be enrolled as a student at the time his or her paper is presented. Master's students who have graduated since doing their research may present their papers at the first SEDAAG meeting following graduation. Papers should represent original research. Maps, illustrations, and other audiovisual materials should be designed or constructed by the author. No multiple-authored papers will be accepted.

Departmental Responsibilities: Sponsoring departments should verify the eligibility of the graduate student for the Honors competition and conduct preliminary screening of such papers to ensure that those submitted are quality products. To the extent possible, departments should ensure that authors of papers accepted in the Honors competition will be able to attend the 2013 meeting and be present at the awards ceremony.

Awards: Normally, one Master's-level paper award, one Doctoral-level paper award, and one Master's/Doctoral poster award are presented each year, but decisions regarding the Honors award are left entirely to the discretion of the Honors Committee. The Ph.D. paper award will be for \$1,000, the Master's paper award will be for \$500, and the Master's/Ph.D. poster award will be for \$500. Each award includes a year's paid membership in the Association of American Geographers (AAG) and a plaque. Presentation of awards will be made at the **Honors banquet**. All students who have papers accepted in the final competition will have their annual meeting registration fee and Honors banquet fees waived.

Topics: Papers and posters on any geographic topic may be entered into the Honors competition. Every paper, poster and oral presentation will receive a critical and impartial evaluation.

Evaluation Procedures: Papers and posters submitted for the Honors competition will undergo preliminary screening by the Honors Committee. Those accepted for the competition will be referred to the Program Committee for inclusion in one of the student honors competition sessions. Papers and posters not included in the competition but accepted for the program will be placed in appropriate sessions elsewhere in the program. Each **paper** submitted to the Honors competition will be evaluated for its quality as a written report on original research undertaken by the author, and for its oral presentation and defense. The written and oral evaluations will be weighted 60 percent and 40 percent, respectively. Each **poster** submitted to the Honors competition will be evaluated for its quality as a written report on original research undertaken by the author, for its oral presentation and defense, and for its visual presentation of the poster. The written, oral, and visual evaluations will be weighted 30 percent, 30 percent, and 40 percent respectively. Content will be the primary general criterion in the written evaluation, but the author should use proper English as well as appropriate illustrations and documentation. The paper should be prepared as if it were to be published, although draft copies of maps and figures for the written review will be accepted. A primary criterion will be a well-defined research objective and a research procedure appropriate to achieving it. The paper should focus on one or more research questions and present at least a tentative answer, or they will be scored lower.

The evaluation of the **oral presentation** will be independent of the evaluation of the written paper, and will focus on the professional quality of the presentation and the adequacy with which questions are answered. It is important that the oral presentations be lively and well-illustrated. Appropriate modifications of the written paper should be incorporated into the oral presentation wherever suitable, although major alterations of the written paper are discouraged. The quality, appropriateness, and visual appeal of any maps, figures, and illustrations will be an important part of the evaluation. All visual aids should be intelligible from the back of the room. In order to leave adequate time for questions, each oral presentation should adhere strictly to the time limits (usually about 15 minutes) for delivery specified by the person chairing the session. The evaluation of the visual presentation of the poster will include quality, appropriateness, and visual appeal of any maps, figures, and illustrations and their relevance to the topic of the research. Materials should be of professional quality and legible from a distance of one meter (~3.3 ft.). Text should be confined to brief statements. Stands for posters will be provided by SEDAAG. Maximum poster dimensions are 36" x 48" (91cm x 122 cm).

Voting. No Honors Committee member shall vote on a paper by a student from his or her institution or to whom they are related, although this restriction shall not discourage or prevent that member's participation in the discussion preceding the formal Committee vote.

Submission of Honors' Papers and Posters: All Honors submission 8 page papers/posters are to be sent to the Honors Committee Chair, Dr. Chris Badurek, at: badurekca@appstate.edu, as well as complete the webpage information in case the submission is not accepted for the competition and returns to the general pool to be assigned to a regular session. A paper or poster submitted for the Honors competition must be accompanied by a letter or email from the student's advisor or head of the sponsoring department verifying the status and eligibility of the student and indicating whether it is for the M.A./M.S. paper, PhD paper, or Master's/PhD poster competition. Papers submitted for the Honors competition must conform to the *Submission Instructions for All Participants* for procedures and formatting of papers and abstracts. Indicate on the webpage whether the paper is for the Master's or Doctoral level competition. Poster descriptions submitted for the Honors competition must conform to the *Submission Instructions for All Participants*. If submitting a paper, indicate whether it is for the Master's or Doctoral level competition

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS -- 2013 SPECIAL AWARDS

Lifetime Achievement Award: Nominees for this award should meet the following criteria: (1) An extensive record of research and publication in scholarly journals, books, and other appropriate formats; (2) A record of excellence in teaching and advising as evidenced by teaching awards, students advised, and other appropriate measures; (3) A record of service contributions to the individual's educational institution in the form of administrative positions, committee work, and community contact; (4) A record of support to the geography profession whether through formal services to international, national, or regional organizations or informal work in the public domain.

Research Honors Award: Nominees for this award should meet the following criteria: (1) A significant record of quality research and publication in scholarly journals, books, and other appropriate formats. This record may reflect the cumulative work of several years or the publication of important contributions in a shorter period of time; (2) Evidence of research leadership at both an institutional (college, university, industry) and organizational level (professional associations) where scholarly papers are presented and students and colleagues are advised.

Outstanding Service Award: Nominees for this award should meet the following criteria: (1) Evidence of exceptional professional commitment to geography at any level, including service to professional organizations; colleges and universities; primary and secondary education; local, state, or national government; private business and industry; (2) Examples of worthy contributions include but are not limited to appointed or elected professional offices, journal editorships, professional organization committees, speaking or otherwise providing leadership in a variety of public forums, and publication in the popular press.

Excellence in Teaching Award: Nominations are invited for the newly established SEDAAG Excellence in Teaching Award. The award acknowledges sustained excellence and creativity in the college classroom. Nominations from current and former students are especially welcome. Nominees for this award should meet the following criteria: (1) Exceptional commitment to effective geography teaching; (2) Record of efforts to help diffuse excellent geography teaching beyond one's immediate classroom (teaching-related publications, workshops, web sites, textbooks, etc.); (3) Recognition of teaching excellence by department, school, or other organizations; (4) Support of teaching excellence via student evaluations or comments.

Merle C. Prunty Student Scholarship: The Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers annually awards the Merle C. Prunty Scholarship to an outstanding undergraduate student from our region with the objective of encouraging talented undergraduate students to pursue professional careers in geography.

Eligibility: Applicants must currently be juniors or seniors and enrolled as geography majors (or geography minors) in a college or university located within the Southeastern Division. Applicants must demonstrate an interest in pursuing a professional career or the clear potential to pursue academic work beyond the baccalaureate degree. Applicants are evaluated by the SEDAAG Honors Committee on the basis of scholastic record and professional promise.

Notification: Award recipients will be named at the Honors Banquet at the 2013 Division meeting in Roanoke, Virginia. All applicants will be informed of the outcome by mail.

Application Materials: Materials submitted in the application must include: (1) A cover letter that includes a summary of educational background and academic honors; (2) A statement of professional goals, not to exceed two typewritten pages; (3) One copy of each undergraduate transcript inclusive of college course work through Fall 2013; (4) Letters of recommendation from three persons familiar with the academic work and professional aspirations of the applicant. The letters should include an evaluation of the applicant's potential for development as a professional geographer.

All nomination materials will be accepted ELECTRONICALLY. Send nominations for AWARDS with FULL CV of candidate and 3 letters of support in the body of an email and/or attached as MS Word or PDF documents by September 21, 2013 to Honors Committee Chair, Dr. Chris Badurek, at: badurekca@appstate.edu.

SEDAAG SMALL GRANT PROGRAM -- CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers is pleased to announce an annual Early Career Small Grant Competition for junior faculty. Funds for small grants of up to \$750 per year will be generated by the SEDAAG Endowment Fund.

Proposals on any topic that will further geographic understanding are invited. The competition is open to junior faculty who are members of SEDAAG and who have received a doctoral degree within the previous 5 years. Grant recipients will not be eligible in future annual competitions. Proposals may not be longer than 3-pages and must include a brief budget indicating how the grant funds would be used. A separate attachment of the applicant's curriculum vita is welcome but no additional supplementary material should be included. A brief report of the funds' use will be provided by the recipient by November 1 following the grant award.

Proposals must be received no later than September 21, 2013. Proposals will be judged by the SEDAAG Executive Committee. Electronic submissions in MS Word.doc are preferred and should be sent to: President, Dr. Doug Gamble at: gambled@uncw.edu. The winner of the year's competition will be notified and announced at the SEDAAG annual meeting.

UNDER-REPRESENTED STUDENT TRAVEL AWARD -- CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Now in its second year, the Under-represented Student Travel Award was developed to assist under-represented students to attend and present papers, posters or participate in the World Geography Bowl at the SEDAAG annual meetings. The selection of student winners will be the responsibility of the SEDAAG Student Honors Committee. The Committee will review student applications, notify award recipients and present the student travel fund awards at SEDAAG annual meetings.

Applicants for the travel grants should be undergraduate or graduate Geography students who self-identify as African American, Hispanic/Latino, or those belonging to indigenous peoples. As some students attend institutions without the availability of a geography major, a major in geography is not required. The applicants

must present a paper, poster or participate in the World Geography Bowl at a SEDAAG annual meeting. Students, however, are not required to be from institutions in the SEDAAG region. Qualified candidates may apply and receive the award more than once, although qualified first-time applicants will be given preference. Students must submit a statement concerning their cultural background, interest in Geography and paper or poster subject matter if presenting their research at the meeting. In addition, a letter of support from a faculty member should also be submitted. Applications and support letters are to be submitted to Doug Gamble, SEDAAG President (gambled@uncw.edu) no later than September 21, 2013. Travel grant awards will be \$200 per student. In addition, the student will receive free registration for the meeting and a one-year membership in SEDAAG.

SAGE (STAND ALONE GEOGRAPHERS) TRAVEL FELLOWSHIP

Application for funding to attend the Annual SEDAAG meeting in Roanoke, Virginia, November 24-26, 2013. The SAGE group of the Southeast Division of the Association of American Geographers (SEDAAG) recognizes that there are many solo geography practitioners in our profession, and we are trying to attract these stand alone geographers into SEDAAG. To do so, we are offering a Travel Fellowship for North Carolina SAGE geographers to attend the regional meeting in Roanoke. Applicants must have at least one post graduate degree in geography, must be fulltime instructional employees, must be solo geography practitioners in their institutions of higher learning, and must be housed in a non-geography department or program. Please include a letter from your department or division head indicating that you will be granted leave to attend this professional meeting if you are selected. Please submit a letter justifying your rationale for attending the SEDAAG meeting.

Application deadline is August 24, 2013. Recipients announced by September 30, 2013. Please submit the information requested with supporting documents to Dr. Amanda Rees and Dr. Eric Spears, spears_ek@mercer.edu

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

1. Congratulations to Incoming Elected Officers and State Representatives
 - a. Vice President: Susan Walcott – UNC Greensboro
 - b. Secretary: Katherine Hankins – Georgia State University
 - c. Georgia: Andy Walter – University of West Georgia
 - d. Mississippi: Bandana Kar – University of Southern Mississippi
 - e. North Carolina: Tom Crawford – East Carolina University
 - f. Tennessee: Madhuri Sharma – University of Tennessee
 - g. Virginia: Bob Oliver – Virginia Tech
 - h. Caribbean: David Barker – University of West Indies Mona
 - i. Student: Liz Shockey – UNC Charlotte
2. Thanks to Officers and Representatives rotating out after 2011 meeting
 - a. Vice President: Ron Kalafsky, University of Tennessee
 - b. Secretary: Josh Inwood, University of Tennessee
 - c. Georgia -- Katherine Hankins, Georgia State University
 - d. Mississippi – Kathy Sherman-Morris, Mississippi State University
 - e. North Carolina – Mike Lewis, UNC Greensboro
 - f. Tennessee – Micheline Van Riemsdijk
 - g. Virginia – Dawn Bowen, Mary Washington University
3. Student representative for 2013 will be appointed, need graduate student nominees from Virginia.
4. New SE Geographer contract with UNC Press – contract updated to reflect publication of 4 issues annually, inclusion of e-books increase in UNC Press subscription revenue 2012-2016 (\$15-17 per issue)

as compared to \$12-15), website redesign and maintenance (\$2500 onetime fee), and increase from 35-40% retention of fees and profit.

5. Treasurer Heidi Lannon reports that SEDAAG is healthy despite another meeting loss in Savannah. Main reason was inability to get tax-exempt status. This status was secured for Asheville, but will be addressed on state by state case in future. Further, overestimate of ratio of regular to student registration added to shortfall. Attempts to better estimate ratio for Asheville appear to be successful and will continue for Roanoke. Sponsorship (UNC Press, US Geospatial Intelligence Foundation, and SEDAAG geography departments) for events was aggressively sought this year to lower cost to SEDAAG and this will be continued in the future.
6. Annual Meeting – healthy preregistration numbers and hotel room commitment left, all suggest a profitable event in Asheville. New Student Coffee Hour and Jobfair. Roanoke, VA 2013 to be hosted by Virginia Tech University. 2014 site not confirmed yet. Inquiry to have a combined Applied Geography/SEDAAG meeting in Louisville Kentucky 2015 or 2016.
7. Website redesign – UNC Press has worked with us to develop a website that includes listserv ability, online membership renewal, a website for the Southeastern Geographer, and meeting registration.
8. Due to across the board increases in operation and the desire not to use funds in the endowment for operational costs and annual meetings as opposed to awards, the SEDAAG Executive and Steering Committee recommended an increase in annual dues to \$50 for regular members and \$25 for student members. The increase was passed unanimously at the Business Meeting.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SOUTHEASTERN STATE REPORTS

Alabama—All departments in Alabama report growth in student enrollment in geography courses. Most units report growth or stability in terms of numbers of majors and an increase in geography course offerings. The University of Alabama anticipates offering a new PhD in geography during 2013-2014. In terms of hiring, the University of Alabama anticipates hiring during 2013-2014; the University of South Alabama welcomed a new hire Dr. Frances Mujica in August 2012. Although geography has lost one faculty position, South Alabama will likely have to wait to fill that slot due to the current economic reality. Samford University hired a new adjunct; University of North Alabama hired Dr. David Brommer and Dr. Jonathan Fleming; Yingru Li joined (PhD 2012 University of Utah) Auburn University in Fall 2012. Auburn advertised a position for a geomorphologist to begin fall 2013.

Georgia— Geography remains relatively strong in Georgia, with either steady or growing enrollments in geography courses and expanded course offerings at most institutions. Several departments are seeking combined degrees to address increasing pressure from the Board of Regents to meet graduation numbers. Six schools within the University System of Georgia continue to offer geography degrees (Georgia Southern, Kennesaw State, Georgia State University, University of Georgia, Valdosta State, and University of West Georgia; although effective fall 2013 Georgia State will no longer offer geography degrees but B.A./B.S. degrees in Geosciences with a concentration in geography). At least five institutions currently employ stand-alone geographers. New hires were reported at Georgia State University, University of West Georgia, Kennesaw State University (another one anticipated for August 2013), Georgia Southern University (two anticipated for August 2013), the University of Georgia, and Columbus State University.

Kentucky— In Kentucky, there are a total of seven institutions that offer degrees of Geography or related fields: Eastern Kentucky University (EKU), Morehead State University (MoSU), Murray State University (MuSU), Northern Kentucky University (NKU), University of Kentucky (UK), University of Louisville (UL), Western Kentucky University (WKU). This report is based on the responses of these institutions except EKU and UL. Among the institutions, (1) MoSU has incorporated Geography into the Department of International and Interdisciplinary Studies, and they do not offer Geography

degrees/courses any more; (2) UK offers undergraduate, Masters, and Ph.D. degrees in Geography; (3) MuSU and WKU offer undergraduate and Master's degrees in Geography; (4) NKU offers undergraduate degrees in Geography.

Overall, there are a total of 52 Ph.D. students, 64 Master's students, and 229 undergraduate students who are Geography majors in the academic year of 2011-2012. In terms of the number of students enrolled in all geography courses, UK and WKU had a total of 7,814 undergrads and 249 postgrads, while MuSU and NKU got 900 undergrads and 15 postgrads. None of the institutions have a plan to hire new faculty this academic year and for years to come, presumably reflecting the hard economic situation across the state. The only department that made a full-time hire during the past academic year was WKU (i.e. Dr. Leslie North).

Mississippi— Mississippi has 28 colleges that offer at least one geography course. Overall, the responses from the colleges and universities across Mississippi indicate a more positive outlook on the state of geography in Mississippi in 2012. This could possibly be due to non-response from schools where impressions were quite negative last year. Several schools indicated an increased interest in geography. Multiple schools also noted the lack of geographic literacy of their students. One cited only 20% displaying adequate geographic knowledge and another mentioned the inability of students to list the 4 states neighboring Mississippi. More attention to “fundamental place name” geography in K-12 was requested by one respondent. Overall the instructors at community colleges were very enthusiastic about geography.

At specific schools, Mississippi Gulf Coast CC is offering GIS for the first time. Mississippi Gulf Coast community college was hopeful that with USM now offering a geography degree at their Gulf Coast campus that more students may major in geography at MGCCC. While enrollment at Jones County CC is down overall, the respondent noted an increase in interest in geography majors. No school indicated a decrease in geography students. The large universities (MSU and USM) report a high number of grants and generally healthy departments. USM recently took on the editorship of the *Southeastern Geographer* and is doing quite well. MSU has recently experienced large changes including a new interim department head and the retirement of several faculty members starting this school year and expected for the next 1-3 years.

Tennessee— Student enrollments are increasing a little at East Tennessee State University and the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. Enrollments are stable at the University of Tennessee at Martin and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, and slightly declining at Middle Tennessee State University. The numbers of geography majors are increasing at the University of Tennessee at Martin and East Tennessee State University, stable at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, and slightly declining at Middle Tennessee State University. The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga does not offer a geography major. Geography course offerings are stable at East Tennessee State University, the University of Tennessee at Martin, the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, and the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. Course offerings have slightly declined at Middle Tennessee State University due to a staffing shortage, but this department currently has a search for a new faculty member. The University of Tennessee at Martin also experiences a staffing shortage and is unable to offer an introductory Physical Geography/Meteorology lab science sequence. This academic year searches are being conducted for four new faculty members. East Tennessee State University has a search for two geospatial tenure track lines, the University of Tennessee at Knoxville has a search for a Physical Geographer/Climatologist, and Middle Tennessee State University has a search for a new faculty member.

West Virginia— The state of geography at West Virginia’s institutions of higher education remains strong and varied in 2012. West Virginia University (WVU), the state’s largest institution, offers undergraduate, Master’s and Ph.D. degrees in geography. WVU also offers a certificate program in GIS. Notably, the graduate program at WVU was recently given the status of *Program of Excellence* by the University System of West Virginia Board of Governors.

Marshall University, West Virginia’s second largest institution, continues to offer undergraduate and Master’s degree programs in geography. While Marshall supports a geography department and WVU supports a Department of Geography and Geology, several smaller institutions offer undergraduate students the ability to major, concentrate or minor in geography within divisions or departments of social sciences. For example, within its Division of Social Sciences, Concord University offers a B.A. in Geography with three areas of emphasis including: Environmental Geosciences, Cartography and GIS and Pre-Environmental Law. Similarly, the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences at West Liberty University continues to offer a broad, liberal arts geography major in its B.A. and B.S. Social Science degree program. These programs require that upper-level geography courses be offered on a regular basis. Lower-level geography courses remain integral to the Secondary Education degree programs and to General Studies requirements.

Enrollments of undergraduate and graduate students in geography programs are reported to be stable or showing slight increases. There are ongoing and innovative efforts to attract students to the discipline at the undergraduate and graduate levels. For example, institutions are increasingly offering geography courses online. At the graduate level, Marshall University now offers an Accelerated Master’s Program in geography that permits seniors to skip some electives and take graduate courses. West Liberty University has recently revised its geography major and, beginning in fall 2013, will offer two new, more specialized geography minors: Physical Landscapes and Cultural Landscapes.

Administrative support for geography in West Virginia’s colleges and universities appears to be fairly consistent. For example, WVU reports the recent addition of two post-doctoral positions supported by the University. West Liberty University reports support at the College and Department levels for curricular innovation and for the retention of three full-time geographers. However, there are concerns across the state about the potential impact of shrinking General Education requirements and their potential effects on the number of geography courses offered. These concerns are offset somewhat by the relatively secure place that geography appears to enjoy in current Social Studies Education programs.

In general, geography appears to be relatively stable and secure in higher education in West Virginia. However, geography is among the Liberal Arts disciplines that continue to struggle in the competition for students and for institutional visibility and resources.

REPORT FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

For the SEDAAG Annual Meeting in Asheville, there were 138 paper presentation and 129 posters. A special thanks to Heidi Lannon for the undergraduate poster proposal process. And while the submission process went smoothly for the most part, there is a need to refine the call for papers and to move to an online submission form. Furthermore, the maximum length of the paper should be reduced in part due to the time-consuming tasks of peer review. Instead of a full paper, an abstract or extended description of research could be submitted. The new vice president will work with UNC Press to move to an on-line submission system.

REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

Financially, SEDAAG is healthy. Assets total over \$100,000, and the 2012 fund balance increased by over 10% (Revenues-Expenses). Of the total assets, almost half is considered Endowment and 1/6th represents the Hart Fund balance.

The major source of revenues for SEDAAG is membership dues reported through the UNC Press in addition to contributions from AAG. SEDAAG received generous donations from John and Bev Passerello to establish the Geography Student Diversity Scholarship. Proceeds from the Savannah conference did not cover the cost of the meeting.

SEDAAG Membership

There were a total of 535 Members in November 2012, up from 486 in November 2011. Members from SEDAAG region states are shown by state and status.

State	Student			Non-Student			Total		
	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012
AL	25	10	8	26	22	39	51	32	47
FL	30	35	36	39	50	35	69	85	71
GA	31	45	32	28	22	26	59	67	58
KY	14	12	8	20	20	20	34	32	28
MS	3	10	8	10	13	16	13	23	24
NC	33	42	56	52	57	70	85	99	126
SC	2	9	15	14	17	14	16	26	29
TN	7	13	21	28	21	17	35	34	38
VA	6	10	19	31	32	30	37	42	49
WV	3	2	3	14	16	14	17	18	17
TOTAL	154	188	206	262	270	281	416	458	487

Note: Total membership is 535 with other members outside the 10-state organization.

2012 SEDAAG RESOLUTIONS

Whereas the outgoing officers of the Division have served admirably, contributing their expertise and time to the continued well-being of the Division, therefore be it resolved that the secretary convey the Division's gratitude to **Ron Kalafsky**, outgoing Vice President, and to **Josh Inwood**, outgoing Secretary.

Whereas the state representatives from **Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia** collected and synthesized information on the status of geography in their states, encouraged membership, served the interests of members in their states, and contributed their professional wisdom and personal commitment to the well-being of the Division, therefore be it resolved that the secretary express the Division's gratitude to **Katherine Hankins, Kathleen Sherman-Morris, Michael Lewis, Micheline van Reimsdijk, and Dawn Bowen**.

Whereas the **67th** meeting of the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers has provided opportunities to share research and ideas, and to build and renew collegial relationships, therefore be it resolved that by this action, the Division thanks all participants, especially student participants and new members, for their time, commitment, and efforts in making this a successful conference; further be it resolved by this resolution, that the Division thanks the authors, panelists, session chairs, and field trip leaders for their excellent contributions to the conference program.

Whereas the Local Arrangements Committee has extended hospitality to the participants and Division members in inviting and hosting us in **Asheville, North Carolina**, and whereas committee members have created a stimulating program for the opening session and field trips, therefore be it resolved that the secretary express the Division's gratitude to the Local Arrangements Committee: **Bill Graves, Barbara John, Tyrel Moore, Jonathan Kozar, Liz Shockey, and Saskia van de Gevel**.

Whereas **Jack Cecil** provided us with a delightful keynote lecture at the opening session, therefore be it resolved that the president convey the Division's gratitude to him.

Whereas the Program Committee has freely given of their time to review submissions for the meeting and helped plan a substantive and thoughtful meeting, therefore be it resolved that the secretary express the Division's gratitude to **Ron Kalafsky**, Vice President and Chair of the Program Committee and to its **17** members.

Whereas the Honors Committee has generously donated their time, commitment, and expertise to the review of Honors papers and presentations, and to the consideration of Divisional awards, therefore be it resolved that the secretary express the Division's gratitude to **Dawn Bowen**, Honors Committee Chair, and to committee members **Chris Badurek, Dawn Drake, Burrell Montz, and Jason Ortegren**.

Whereas **Jamison Conley** has organized another World Geography Bowl, thereby providing another opportunity for our students to enjoy friendly competition at this meeting, therefore be it resolved that the secretary convey the Division's gratitude.

Whereas **Carl Andy Reese** and **David Cochran**, Co-Editors of the *Southeastern Geographer*, have faithfully and ably served the Division in editing our regional journal and maintaining its high standards, and as they now step down from that position, therefore be it resolved that the secretary convey the Division's gratitude.

Whereas **Julie Winkler**, of Michigan State University, has graced us with her presence, and kindly agreed to present the Honors Banquet address, therefore be it resolved that the secretary convey the Division's gratitude.

The Resolutions Committee moves these resolutions, and requests their adoption by acclamation.

By the Resolutions Committee: **David Holt** (Chair), **Toni Alexander** and **Craig Laing**.

18 November 2012

Ashville, North Carolina