2021 Steering Committee Meeting Florence, Alabama November 21 2021; 11am – 2pm Central

Agenda

- 1. Welcome and Introductions
- 2. Thanks to outgoing officers and representatives
- 3. 2021 Meeting
 - a. Financial support
 - b. AAG Resources
 - c. Virtual components
- 4. AAG Program Excellence Award Competition, 2020 and 2021
- 5. Elections
 - a. Need nominations from Steering Committee for Nominations Committee, Honors Committee, and IDEAL Committee for business meeting.
- 6. Vice President and Program Chair Report (Rahn)
- 7. Treasurer's Report (Potter)
- 8. Secretary/Webmaster's Report (Ramseyer) and Communications (Resler and Ramseyer)
 - a. AAG Southeastern Community
 - b. Updated Webpage
 - c. Social Media
 - d. Need for a consolidated method for communication
- 9. Southeastern Geographer Report (Sultana and Knapp)
- 10. State Report Highlights (State Representatives)
- 11. Student Representative Update (VanSchoick)
- 12. SEDAAG 2022 Atlanta Meeting Update (Brasher)
- 13. SEDAAG 2023 (M. Allen, ODU)
- 14. Considering the future landscape of SEDAAG meetings; soliciting future hosts/collaboration with AAG?/hybrid components and associated costs/inflation/partnering with other conferences
- 15. AAG Southeastern Div. Regional Councilor update (Sultana)
- 16. Honors Update (D. Allen)
- 17. Education Committee Report (Rahn)
- 18. Geography Bowl Report (Drake)
- 19. Other topics?

2021 Treasurer's Report

Southeastern Division of the American Association of Geographers

Financial Summary

The total assets of SEDAAG are \$205,451.00 an increase of \$28,557.88 from last year's meeting.* Of these assets, \$55,353.56 is considered Reserve Funds and \$25,400 represents the Scholarship Fund (Executive Committee Direction at 2012 Annual Meeting). Appendices I and II provide itemized details on all assets and transactions.

Revenues

Total revenues since 10/16/2020 were \$53,983.23 up from \$38,694.62 the previous year. **This included interest earnings and Project Muse royalties.** The major source of revenue was membership dues processed through UNC Press (\$2,338) down from \$4,599 the previous year. The 2020 virtual meeting resulted in a profit of \$6,745. The AAG again contributed \$1,500 to support SEDAAG. However, revenue totals for this year should be viewed with caution as we received the remaining funds in the Project Muse Royalties account that had accumulated over several years* as well as the profit from the SEDAAG 2020 Virtual Meeting.

*Project Muse Royalties At the end of FY13 the journal incurred a deficit, which UNC Press agreed to cover, with the understanding any future surpluses would be used to offset that and any future deficits, while allowing SEDAAG the option to request all or a portion of those reserve funds when needed. By April of 2020, the reserve account was \$44,819.30. We received \$34,000 of those funds in 2020 and received the remaining funds and royalties (\$26,846.60) in 2021 when the account was dissolved.

Expenditures

Total expenditures since 10/16/2020 were \$25,635.79, up from \$24,241.57 the previous year. The most significant expenditures were \$10,000 to UNC-Greensboro to support management and editorship of the *Southeastern Geographer* (Executive Committee Direction at 2014 Annual Meeting) and a \$12,500 deposit for the SEDAAG 2022 Annual Meeting in Atlanta. Other major expenditures included 2020 Annual Meeting awards/plaques/World Geography Bowl winners, etc. (\$2,735.79). Note: SEDAAG annual budget supports Status of Women in Geography breakfast and the SAGE lunch held at the Annual Meeting.

SEDAAG Membership (as of 10/16/20)

SEDAAG membership has increased (301 members) from the previous year (160). Non-student membership increased from 116 to 180, while student membership increased from 44 to 121 members. While we have certainly rebounded, our membership numbers

are still concerning (see 12-year trends in membership in this report) and warrant **ongoing discussion and planning.** Appendix III provides details on total, non-student, and student membership over the past 12 years.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Potter

Treasurer, SEDAAG, Georgia Southern University

Appendix I: Checking

Date	To/From	Note	Deposit	Withdrawal	Balance
11/12/2020	SEDAAG	Starting Balance			11,280.62
11/12/2020	UNC Press	SEDAAG Dues	1,103.00		12,383.62
		July-Sept 2020			
11/13/2020	Yvonne	2020 Master's		250	-Never
	Marsan	Poster			cashed-
	(#1072)				
11/17/2020	ESRI	SEDAAG	500		12,883.62
		Sponsorship			
	Void (#1066)				
	Void (#1067				
11/23/2020	Reagan Yessler	2020 Master's		500	12,383.62
	(#1071)	Paper			
11/30/2020	Lilian Hutchens	2020 Undergrad		250	12,133.62
	(#1068	Grad Poster			
		Award			
12/01/2020	Sierra Moore	2020 Undergrad		250	11,883.62
	(#1069)	Grad Poster			
		Award			
12/04/2020	Dawn Drake	Geobowl		54.95	11,828.67
	(#1073)	Plaque/Shipping			

1/08/2021	Yasin Wahid Rabby (#1070)	2020 PHD Paper		1000	10,828.67
3/5/2021	AAG	Revenue from SEDAAG 2020 Conference	6,745		17,573.67
4/14/2021	Dawn Drake (#1074)	Geobowl Archive		65.84	17,507.83
5/10/2021	#1075 voided				
5/10/2021	#1126 UNC			10,000	7,507.83
5/17/2021	#1128 Nicholas Grondin	Geobowl		150	7,357.83
5/25/2021	UNC Press	Jan-April Dues	1,753		9,110.83
5/27/2021	#1131 Peter Forister	Geobowl		155	8,955.83
6/02/2021	#1129 Alex Chrvala	Geobowl		150	8,805.83
6/07/2021	#1130 Sarah Vanschoick	Geobowl		150	8,650.83
7/01/2021	#1127 Kyler Stanley	Geobowl		160	8,490.83
8/20/2021	UNC Press	SEDAAG Mar 21- June Dues	1,235		9,725.83
8/20/2021	SEDAAG Mar 21-June Dues	FY 21 Surplus	13,782.45		23,508.28
10/1/2021	Check AAG	SEDAAG Support	1,500		25,008.28
10/12/2021	ESRI	SEDAAG Sponsorship	500		25,508.28
11/12/2021	#1132 Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center	SEDAAG 2022 Atlanta Meeting deposit		12,500	13,008.28

Appendix II: Money Market Savings

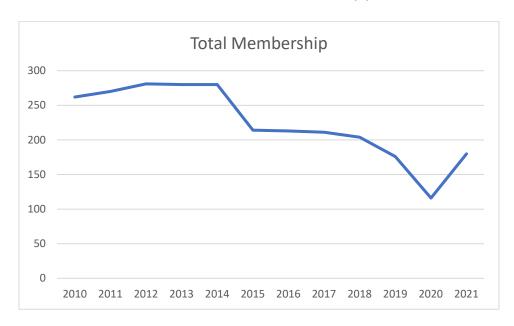
Date	To/From	Note	Interest	Deposit	Withdrawal	Balance
11/30/2020		Interest	1.36			165.579.31
12/31/2020		Interest	1.40			165,580,71
1/29/2021		Interest	1.41			165,582.12
2/26/2021		Interest	1.27			165,583.29
3/22/2021	UNC Press	SE Royalties		26,846.60		192,429.99
3/31/2021		Interest	1.48			192,431.47
4/30/2021		Interest	1.58			192,433.05
5/28/2021		Interest	1.63			192,434.68
6/30/2021		Interest	1.58			192,436.26
7/30/2021		Interest	1.63			192,437.89
8/31/2021		Interest	1.63			192,439.52
9/30/2021		Interest	1.58			192,441.10
10/29/2021		Interest	1.63			192,442.72

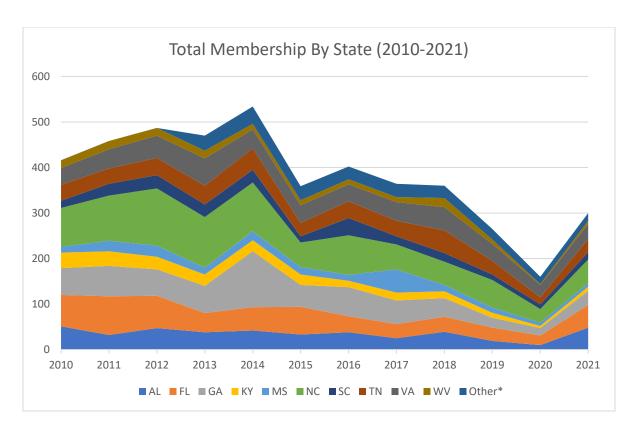
Appendix III: Total Membership

Total N	/lembers	hip											State
2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Chng	
51	32	47	38	42	33	38	25	39	19	10	48	380	AL
69	85	71	42	51	61	35	31	33	29	21	50	138	FL
59	67	58	60	123	48	64	52	41	22	16	31	94	GA
34	32	28	25	24	23	14	17	15	11	5	9	80	KY
13	23	24	15	20	16	13	51	14	11	7	8	14	MS
85	99	126	111	107	54	87	55	51	61	30	52	73	NC
16	26	29	28	28	14	38	18	19	12	10	16	60	SC
35	34	38	41	47	29	37	34	50	30	16	29	81	TN

37	42	49	60	42	39	37	41	51	37	27	33	22	VA
17	18	17	17	12	11	11	11	20	10	2	7	250	WV
-	-	-	33	38	31	28	29	27	23	16	17	6	Other*
416	458	487	470	534	359	402	364	360	265	160	301	88	Total

^{* &}quot;Other" includes for non-students AR, CO, KS, LA (3), MD, MI, MO, NE, OH, PA, RI, TX, WI (2), and WY.



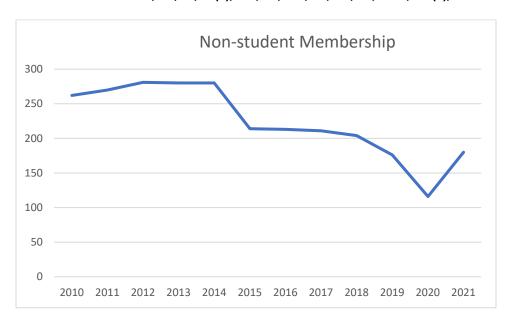


Appendix IV: Non-Student Membership

-p p													
NON-S	TUDENT N	/IEMBERS	HIP										State
2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Chng	
26	22	39	25	19	21	19	16	21	10	10	22	120	AL
39	50	35	30	29	33	17	18	17	24	14	25	79	FL
28	22	26	27	45	19	27	23	21	18	12	12	0	GA
20	20	20	18	20	16	11	14	10	8	5	7	40	KY
10	13	16	9	13	11	10	28	9	8	6	7	17	MS
52	57	70	62	61	38	43	32	30	32	20	30	50	NC
14	17	14	17	14	12	21	14	13	11	6	11	83	SC

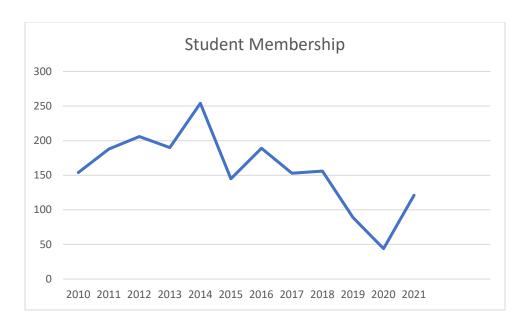
28	21	17	18	22	13	20	13	22	15	7	16	129	TN
31	32	30	31	26	20	20	27	33	24	22	26	18	VA
14	16	14	15	11	10	8	8	12	10	1	7	600	WV
-	-	-	28	20	21	17	18	16	16	13	17	31	Other*
262	270	281	280	280	214	213	211	204	176	116	180	55	TOTAL

* * "Other" includes: AR, CO, KS, LA(3), MD, MI, MO, NE, OH, PA, RI TX, WI (2), WY



Appendix V: Student Membership

STUDE	NT MEME	BERSHIP											State
2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Chng	
25	10	8	13	23	12	19	9	18	9	0	26	-	AL
30	35	36	12	22	28	18	13	16	5	7	25	257	FL
31	45	32	33	78	29	37	29	20	4	4	19	375	GA
14	12	8	7	4	7	3	3	5	3	0	2	-	KY
3	10	8	6	7	5	3	23	5	3	1	2	100	MS
33	42	56	49	46	16	44	23	21	29	10	22	120	NC
2	9	15	11	14	2	17	4	6	1	4	5	25	SC
7	13	21	23	25	16	17	21	28	15	9	13	44	TN
6	10	19	29	16	19	17	14	18	13	5	7	40	VA
3	2	3	2	1	1	3	3	8	0	1	0	-100	WV
-	-	-	5	18	10	11	11	11	7	3	0	-100	Other*
154	188	206	190	254	145	189	153	156	89	44	121	175	TOTAL



Alabama SEDAAG Survey Summary: 2020-2021 Academic Year

Surveys solicited by Dr. Lynn Resler, Professor at Virginia Tech Summary prepared by Dr. Jordan Cissell, Assistant Professor at Samford University

A. Institutional Information

Approximately 9 universities in Alabama offer courses and/or degrees in geography or related fields. Four of these universities responded to the 2021 SEDAAG Survey. The contacts and degree information for these four departments are summarized in the table below:

Table 1. Universities Responding to the 2020-2021 SEDAAG Survey

Institution	Department and Survey Contact	Geography Degrees Offered
Auburn University	Department of GeosciencesDr. Luke Marzen	 B.S. in Geography B.A. in Geography Undergraduate Certificate in GIS M.S. in Geography Ph.D. in Earth System Science Graduate Certificate in GIS
Samford University	 Department of Geography and Sociology Dr. Jennifer Speights-Binet 	B.S. in Geography B.S. in Geography with GIS Concentration Minor in Traditional Geography Minor in Environmental Studies Undergraduate Certificate in GIS Graduate Certificate in GIS (in partnership with Department of Biological & Environmental Sciences)
University of Alabama	Department of GeographyDr. Matthew Therrell	 B.S. in Geography B.A. in Geography B.S. in Environmental Science Minor in Geography Minor in GIS for Geography Majors Minor in GIS for Nonmajors Minor in Environmental Studies Undergraduate Certificate in GIS M.S. in Geography Ph.D. in Geography Graduate Certificate in GIS
University of North Alabama	Department of GeographyDr. Michael Pretes	 B.S. in Geography B.A. in Geography B.S. in GIS Minor in Geography Minor in GIS Undergraduate Certificate in GIS M.S. in GIS

B. Trends in Student Enrollment in Geography Courses

Enrollment in **undergraduate** geography courses is *stable* at Auburn University, and it is *declining* at the University of Alabama and the University of North Alabama. At Samford University, enrollment in physical and world regional geography courses is *stable*, and enrollment in GIS courses is *increasing*. Enrollment in **graduate** geography courses is

increasing at Auburn University, the University of Alabama, and the University of North Alabama.

C. Trends in Geography Majors

The number of **undergraduate** geography majors is *declining* at Auburn University, the University of Alabama, and Samford University. At the University of North Alabama, the number of Geography majors is *increasing*, while the number of GIS majors is *declining*. The number of students in **graduate** geography programs is *increasing* at Auburn University, the University of Alabama, and the University of North Alabama. Growth in the M.S. program at the University of North Alabama includes both in-person and online students.

D. Trends in Course Offerings

Auburn University's undergraduate and graduate course offerings are *stable*. Samford University's undergraduate course offerings are *stable*, with 4-6 sections of general education courses averaging 26 students each, and 2-3 upper-level courses averaging 14 students each. The University of Alabama is *increasing* undergraduate and graduate course offerings, particularly environmental geography courses. The University of North Alabama is *increasing* the number of technology-focused courses and physical geography courses and *decreasing* the number of world regional and human geography courses, in response to changes in student demand.

E. Jobs for Geography Graduates

All departments reported that graduates are finding jobs in GIS and related fields. Auburn University also reported that majors found planning, resource management, and business/marketing jobs; Samford University reported business, education, and graduate school; the University of Alabama reported planning, government environmental, and private environmental jobs; and the University of North Alabama reported a variety of jobs but emphasized the prevalence of GIS jobs at large GIS consulting firms.

F. Personnel

Table 2. Personnel

University	Department Head	Full-Time Geography Faculty	Part-Time Geography Faculty	New Geography Faculty
Auburn University	Dr. Ming-Kuo Lee	9	0	 Dr. Jake Nelson, Assistant Professor Dr. Bonnie Bounds, Lecturer
Samford University	Dr. Jennifer Speights- Binet	4	1	Dr. Jonathan Fleming (2018)Dr. Jordan Cissell (2020)

University of Alabama	Dr. Matthew Therrell	13	7	•	0 new faculty Likely to hire in 2022-2023
University of North Alabama	Dr. Michael Pretes	6	4	•	Dr. Matthew Balentine, Assistant Professor Mr. Jesse Lane, Visiting Lecturer

G. State of Geography

The State of Geography in Alabama is varied. Auburn University and the University of Alabama both reported growth, particularly in their graduate programs and research output. Samford University reported challenges in recruiting majors, but also reported an increasing interest in and support of geography/GIS in departments throughout the university. The University of North Alabama has experienced marginalization in the wake of the university's new emphasis on career-specific programs, and the department is in a transitional/rebuilding phase. **Each department's complete response is quoted below:**

Auburn University: "We have a stable to growing geography department. The strength is the graduate programs including the new PHD in Earth Systems Science. There is a renewed effort to recruit new undergraduate majors."

Samford University: "Our strengths include: (1) Strong, energetic faculty willing to work to develop the program. (2) Increasing interest in GIS. Health Informatics requires our GIS certificate, and several programs in Biology/Environmental science require at least 1 GIS course. (3) History, Sociology, and Political Science often cross-list our courses in Urban Geography, American Landscapes, and Human-Environmental Relationships. We value this cross-disciplinary support from our colleagues. Our weaknesses include: (1) Low number of majors. (2) Large number of professional schools pull students from Arts and Sciences, contributing to the national trend of the professionalization of higher education. (3) Academic quality of students."

University of Alabama: "Our department is doing well, particularly in research productivity. There is a noticeable shift towards students in our Environmental Science program. This seems to be common in the state. Number of graduates from our GIS program is relatively unchanged. The Geology department on our campus is tending towards teaching more environment-oriented courses that might be viewed by many as more in line with a Geography department. Our college has generally been very supportive budget-wise."

University of North Alabama: "Our department and programs have been increasingly marginalized, partly because of the university's focus on new and career-specific programs such as engineering and culinary arts, and partly because of some issues that arose in the department three years ago that resulted in the departure of three tenured faculty. We have been moved into a different and less desirable building on campus. Our budget and technology needs are adequate and have not declined. We are in a state of flux and trying to rebuild the department."

H. State of SEDAAG

Auburn University reported limited involvement with SEDAAG, and suggested that targeted efforts by SEDAAG to encourage faculty membership might help boost participation. Samford University reported strong faculty and student involvement with SEDAAG and commended SEDAAG for creating opportunities for undergraduate participation. The University of Alabama reported that many faculty members are involved in SEDAAG, and that their experiences have been positive. The University of North Alabama noted the challenges posed by COVID-19 and suggested that more flexibility on SEDAAG conference dates might help boost participation. **Each department's complete response is quoted below:**

Auburn University: "Our current faculty have not been very involved with SEDAAG. It might help for SEDAAG leadership to encourage individual faculty members to join SEDAAG."

Samford University: "Our department is contributing significantly to SEDAAG leadership. The Vice President and Alabama State representative are from Samford. Another faculty member serves on the Education and Honors Committees. We commend SEDAAG for the creation and support of the undergraduate competition. We have had many students present, and several students win first prize. I encourage SEDAAG to continue this program and perhaps offer more financial support for undergraduates to participate."

University of Alabama: "I have not been involved enough with SEDAAG to have a strong opinion. But my limited experiences have been positive and I know many of my colleagues are more involved and appreciate the division."

University of North Alabama: "Like everything else, COVID-19 has thrown SEDAAG and other organizations into the shade (only temporarily, I hope). We are hosting this year's SEDAAG conference and I hope that is an opportunity to enhance interest in the region. SEDAAG, like other AAG regions, suffers from heavy competition from other conferences and especially from the AAG (which is viewed as a more important conference). SEDAAG has difficulty attracting attendees from large, research focused institutions (though does better in this than most other AAG regions). SEDAAG might consider being more flexible about conference dates."

2021 Kentucky SEDAAG State Representative Report Submitted by: Margaret M. Gripshover Department of Earth, Environmental, and Atmospheric Sciences, Western Kentucky University

HIGHLIGHTS and LOWLIGHTS

As in previous years, none of the departments in Kentucky that were contacted regarding the SEDAAG survey responded to requests to participate in the survey. That is likely due to the overwhelming workload and stress placed on faculty during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the flood of emails that department chairs are faced with each day. It may also be a reflection of the decreasing interest in SEDAAG expressed by academic geographers in Kentucky over the past decade or so. Only one or two geography departments in Kentucky have been consistently active participants in SEDAAG over the past fifteen years—the University of Kentucky and Western Kentucky University. The last time the University of Louisville hosted a SEDAAG meeting was in 1992, and the last time the University of Kentucky hosted a SEDAAG meeting was in 2001.

Geography programs (especially those with a focus on human geography) are facing uncertain futures in Kentucky. Since 2017, two degree programs (majors in Geography) have been eliminated at **Morehead State University** and **Eastern Kentucky University** (EKU). Since 2018, EKU's program has been limited to a BS in GIS.

- The **University of Kentucky** continues to offer BA, BS, MS, and PhD degrees in geography but places a stronger focus on its graduate, rather than its undergraduate, programs. They have a large and diverse faculty covering nine research clusters in: Black Geographies, Critical Financial Geographies, Critical Mapping and GIS, Digital Geographies, and Environmental Geographies, Political Ecology, Political Geographies, Queer and Feminist Geographies, Social Theory, and Urban Geographies.
- The University of Louisville's Department of Geography and Geosciences offers a BS in Applied Geography, a certificate in Geospatial Technologies, and Meteorology.
- Murray State University's geography program is the smallest in their college and is housed in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences. They offer a BS in Geography and GIS with a strong environmental focus. There are no geographers on their faculty with a background in human geography.
- Over the past few years, the Geography program at Northern Kentucky University in the
 Department of History and Geography has concerns that "performance-based funding" is a
 direct threat to their Geography program but was able to continue its BA in Geography and
 minor in Geography with just two full time geography faculty.
- The Department of Earth, Environmental, and Atmospheric Sciences (EEAS) Western Kentucky University (formerly the Department of Geography and Geology) currently offers BS in Environmental, Sustainability, and Geographic Studies (ESGS), a GIS certificate, and a MS in Geoscience with specialization options that include human and environmental geography and GIS. In 2021, EEAS lost two full-time geography faculty who took early retirement buy-outs. Those two faculty lines will not be replaced. The department has seen numbers of majors in their ESGS program, holding steady and increasing slightly over the previous few years with 72 majors.

2021 Mississippi State Report, the Southeastern Division of the American Association of Geographers

Brian Williams, Department of Geosciences, Mississippi State University

A. Institutional Offerings

Of the 8 public colleges and universities in Mississippi only Mississippi State University and University of Southern Mississippi offer degrees in Geography. Alcorn State University, Delta State University, Jackson State University, Mississippi University for Women, and Mississippi Valley State University do not offer Geography degrees, though MUW offers a Minor in Geography, initiated in 2020. Most schools offer only a few courses in Geography while some offer related courses and degrees, in particular Geographic Information Systems and Technology. Delta State University has a separate G.I.T. Center that offers a B.S. in Applied Science and Geospatial Analysis and Intelligence.

Institution	Home Dept/Contact	Geography Degrees Offered
Mississippi State University (MSU)	Geosciences/John Rodgers	B.S. Geosciences (Concentrations in Professional Geology, Geography, Environmental Geoscience, Broadcast Meteorology, Professional Meteorology, Geographical Information Systems), Geospatial & Remote Sensing Minor M.S. Meteorology, Geography, Geology, Geospatial Sciences, and Environmental Geosciences PhD in Earth & Atmospheric Sciences.
University of Southern Mississippi (USM)	School of Biological, Environmental, and Earth Sciences/Jake Schaefer (Director of School), George Raber (Geography Program Director)	B.S./M.S. Geography B.S. Geo. Info. Technology
University of Mississippi (UM)	Sociology and Anthropology/Catarina PassidomoPublic Policy and Leadership/David Rutherford Department of Teacher Education/Ellen J. Foster	No geography degree
Delta State University (DSU)	Social Science and History/Joseph Lane Center for Geospatial Information Technologies/Talbot Brooks	No geography degree Separate Geospatial Information Technology Center with B.S. in Geospatial Analysis and Intelligence

Mississippi University for Women (MUW)	History, Political Science, and Geography/Ann M. Fletchall Frazer	No geography degree Minor in Human Geography
Alcorn State University (ASU)	Advanced Technologies/Jermiah Billa	No degree (B.S. in Applied Science with GIS concentration)
Jackson State University (JSU)	History and Philosophy/Lomarsh Roopnarine	No degree Numerous courses on the books, but not many appear to be regularly offered.
Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU)	Department of Social Sciences/Richard J. Mushi	No degree Fundamentals of Geography (Social Science 101) satisfies an elective for numerous degrees. Political Geography (PS 430) is also offered.

B. Enrollment Trends

As a whole, enrollment trends in the state of Mississippi appear stable. Most schools in the state offer only a few introductory courses in geography. At the University of Mississippi, geography courses can be found in Sociology and Anthropology, Public Policy & Leadership, Geology, and the Department of Teacher Education. At USM, there has been a slight decline in enrollment in recent years, and this decline has been most significant during the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite stable enrollment in general education courses, there has been some decline in upper-division major courses, due also to departure of faculty members who have not yet been replaced. However, early enrollment numbers provide some cause for optimism for a rebound from in Spring 2022. MSU has experienced a similar trend—increasing enrollment for GEC courses, and stable to slightly decreasing enrollment in upper level courses. MUW launched a Geography minor in 2020, presenting an opportunity for growth in the standing of the discipline in the state of Mississisppi.

In general, enrollment trends are probably best described as stable. Most schools (universities and the numerous community and junior colleges) only offer a few introductory courses in geography and enrollments in those seem stable and consistent, according to responses. At the University of Mississippi, geography courses are scattered across campus between Sociology and Anthropology, Public Policy and Leadership, and Geology (GIS). The enrollment trends seem stable. At USM, the trend has been a slight decline over the past five years. Graduate enrollment has contracted slightly over the same period, largely due to faculty members leaving who were not replaced. Undergraduate enrollment in GEC courses has remained steady and healthy, though upper level course offerings are slightly fewer. At MSU, student enrollments in courses across the department are presumed to be stable or increased. MUW has started offering a minor in Geography, with hopes for growth. Delta State has seen growth in its G.I.T. Center and the B.S. it offers and Geography hopes to be part of its growth.

C. Major Trends

Only two schools in the State of Mississippi offer a Graduate Degree. USM offers a B.S. and M.S. in Geography, having discontinued its PhD program. MSU offers a B.S. in Geosciences with possible concentrations in Geography or GIS, along with Professional Meteorology, Broadcast Meteorology, Geology, and Environmental Geoscience. At the graduate level, MSU offers M.S. degrees in Meteorology, Geology, Geospatial Sciences, Environmental Geosciences, and Geography, as well as a Ph.D. program in Earth and Atmospheric Sciences. The Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Ph.D. functions as a general degree, and including students specializing in Geography, Geology, GIS, and Meteorology.

In recent years, the numbers of geography majors in Mississippi has declined slightly at both USM and MSU, and at both undergraduate and graduate levels. The departure of faculty members at both schools has contributed to declining enrollment numbers.

D. Course offerings

Course offerings appear to be stable across most institutions. At USM, due to the departure of faculty and a reorganization of the program into the School of Biological, Environmental and Earth Sciences (BEES), no new courses have been offered, and adjuncts are filling in instructional gaps. At Mississippi State, two human geographers have departed over the past four years, and one has joined the department. This has meant a churn of new courses in development, but has limited the full institution of new courses in recent years. More courses, and a systematic reconsideration of the offerings, is planned. Additionally, existing courses like Human Geography and Geographies of the US South have been revamped to integrate current developments in the field. MUW has gradually increased course offerings, and intends to continue to expand them with the new minor in Geography. At Delta State and Alcorn State, Geospatial techniques concentrations are not connected to other geography offerings. At Mississippi Valley State, the Fundamentals of Geography (SS 101) is an elective or required course for many degrees. Jackson State appears to have numerous Geography courses on the books (comparable with coursework for a Geography major), but it is unclear if many of these courses are being offered currently. World Geography courses satisfy key social science electives, and GIS-related courses are offered in several departments.

E. Jobs for geography graduates

Most graduates reportedly find jobs in both private and public sector positions. Many find work in GIS-related positions, while others work for state and local government agencies and municipalities. Stennis Space Center, near New Orleans, provides both internships and jobs for a number of geography graduates in geospatial positions. Some students find positions in planning, while others have found positions in the private sector, for example in real estate. Still others have found positions in research institutions and in graduate programs. In general, students tend to find more jobs in geospatial-related positions.

F. Personnel

Institution	Home Dept/Contact	Number of geography faculty	New geography faculty
Mississippi State University	Geosciences/John Rodgers	22 Geosciences faculty, of which 7 have full or partial appointments in Geography, GIS, or Remote Sensing (plus 4 instructors)	0 (Jordan Lynton, a new faculty member in Cultural Anthropology, had a PhD minor in Geography & GIS)
University of Southern Mississippi	School of Biological, Environmental, and Earth Sciences/Jake Schaefer (George Raber, Geography Program Coordinator)	7 (4 Hattiesburg campus) (3 Gulf Park campus)	0
University of Mississippi	Sociology and Anthropology/Catarina Passidomo	1	0
	Public Policy & Leadership/David Rutherford	2	0
	Department of Teacher Education/Ellen J. Foster	1	
Delta State University	Social Science and History/Joseph Lane	1	0
	Geospatial Information Technologies/Talbot Brooks	1	
Mississippi University for Women	History, Political Science, and Geography/Ann M. Fletchall Frazer	1	0
Alcorn State University	Advanced Technologies/Jermiah Billa	2	0
Jackson State University	History and Philosophy/Lomarsh Roopnarine	2	1 (John Proctor, Adjunct Faculty)
Mississippi Valley State University	Department of Social Sciences/Richard J. Mushi	N/A	N/A

G. Faculty Searches

Mississippi State University will be seeking an Tenure Track Professor of GIS & Human Geography, Pending Approval. There are no other faculty searches reported.

H. State of Geography

The State of Geography in Mississippi is in flux. The program at MSU, which is part of the Department of Geosciences, is healthy overall, but has been impacted by faculty departures and a limited number of faculty focused on Geography. The program at USM has been able to maintain itself amidst integration in the new School of Biological, Environmental and Earth Sciences, but has seen a sustained decline in faculty members, which have impacted course offerings and upper-level enrollment. A concern at both programs is the need for support to fill vacated positions and maintain a core of faculty in Geography. Other colleges and universities in the state maintain lack geography concentrations, but offer geography courses. An increase in institutional support and popularity of geospatial technologies and techniques is apparent, but at two institutions (Alcorn State and Delta State) there does not appear to be a well-developed connection between these and comprehensive geographical training. A decline in high school graduates and undergraduate enrollment in the future remains a major concern. On the other hand, the new offering of a Geography minor at MUW is a promising development. An expanded geography focus at one of the HBCUs (Jackson State, Alcorn State, or Mississippi Valley State) would be a promising development that would significantly boost the standing of geography in the state, and one that could merit support. Interactions between geographers across the state can provide an important catalyst for growth and collaboration in a discipline that appears fragmented and disconnected at the state level.

I. State of SEDAAG

Respondents at MSU and USM indicated that they appreciate the role of SEDAAG as a regional division, and remain committed and involved, but beyond these programs, interaction and recognition of the organization may be limited in the State of Mississippi.



North Carolina

State of Geography Report



2021

Compiled by Sarah Praskievicz, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Environment, and Sustainability, University of North Carolina Greensboro

SEDAAG North Carolina State Representative

Introduction

Fourteen four-year colleges/universities in North Carolina offer an undergraduate minor and nine offer an undergraduate major in geography or related fields. For graduate studies, eight offer an MA or MS, and four universities offer a PhD.

Geography Programs in North Carolina

Institution	Location	Туре	Minor	Major	MA/MS	PhD
Appalachian State	Boone	Public	✓	√	✓	
Barton College	Wilson	Private	✓			
Catawba College ¹	Salisbury	Private	✓			
East Carolina	Greenville	Public	✓	✓	✓	
Elon	Elon	Private	✓			
Fayetteville State ²	Fayetteville	Public	✓	✓		
Meredith College ³	Raleigh	Private	✓			
NC Central⁴	Durham	Public	✓	✓	✓	
NC State⁵	Raleigh	Public			✓	√
UNC Chapel Hill	Chapel Hill	Public	✓	✓	✓	√
UNC Charlotte	Charlotte	Public	✓	√	✓	√
UNC Greensboro	Greensboro	Public	✓	√	✓	√
UNC Pembroke	Pembroke	Public	✓	✓		
UNC Wilmington ⁶	Wilmington	Public	✓	✓	✓	
Western Carolina	Cullowhee	Public	√			

¹offers a minor in Geographic Information Systems and Technology

⁵offers a Master of Geospatial Information Science and Technology and a Ph.D. in Geospatial Analytics

²offers a major and a minor in Geospatial Science

³offers a minor in Geoscience

⁴offers BS and MS degrees in Environmental, Earth and Geographic Sciences

⁶offers an MS in Geoscience

Institution Highlights

Five department chairs responded to the request for information. Highlights of their responses are detailed below:

North Carolina State University does not have a geography department but does have a Center for Geospatial Analytics that offers a Master of Geographic Information Science and Technology, Graduate Certificate in GIS, and Ph.D. in Geospatial Analytics. Only one undergraduate course in geography is taught at NCSU, a cultural geography class offered by the sociology department. Additional undergraduate courses in geography and related fields are under development. While there are gaps in geography fundamentals taught at NCSU because of the lack of a geography department, the university emphasizes interdisciplinary collaborations, particularly in GIS.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has a Department of Geography that offers degrees at the undergraduate, master's, and Ph.D. levels. Last year, the department hired two new faculty, who are the department's first Black women faculty members, and another new tenure-track position has been approved for this year. The department will be petitioning to have the word "Environment" added to its name.

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro has a Department of Geography, Environment, and Sustainability that offers degrees at the undergraduate, master's, and Ph.D. levels. There have been no new faculty hires in the past year, but an instructor who was formerly part-time has been increased to a full-time Academic Professional, serving as Associate Director of the department's Environment and Sustainability program in addition to her teaching duties. The department has recently added a BS in Geography (formerly there was only a BA) as well as new BA and MS programs in Environment and Sustainability.

The University of North Carolina at Pembroke has a Department of Geology and Geography that offers undergraduate degrees. Trends in enrollment in geography courses and number of geography majors are stable or growing. More applied courses are being offered, but the overall number of courses has remained the same.

Western Carolina University does not have a geography department but does have a Department of Geosciences and Natural Resources that offers a minor in geography. The geography courses taught at WCU fall into two categories. One category is human geography courses that support the "cultural diversity perspectives" degree requirements of the gen-ed curriculum, as well as upper-division human geography courses that are mostly taken by international studies or political science students rather than students within the department. The other category is geospatial technology and remote sensing courses that are taken by geoscience students.

Chairs from the other institutions contacted (Appalachian State University, Barton College, Catawba College, East Carolina University, Elon University, Fayetteville State University, Meredith College, North Carolina Central University, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, University of North Carolina at Wilmington) did not respond to the request for information.

Geography Courses/Student Trends

All respondents indicated that enrollment in geography courses is stable or growing. Some respondents indicated that the number of geography majors was stable or growing, while one department reported a decline, possibly because of pandemic-induced online learning reducing the number of "discovery" majors. Graduates of the responding institutions find employment in private industry, local/state/federal government, nonprofits, research institutions, and academia.

Geography Faculty

Departments that returned the survey ranged from 1 full-time faculty member (and 1 part-time) to 22 full-time (and no part-time).

Respondents reported a total of 2 new tenure-track hires, 1 new full-time instructor, and 1 part-time instructor upgraded to full-time.

State of Geography

Respondents mentioned the challenges of dealing with the pandemic, specifically making technology accessible to GIS students. Budget concerns were also raised in the context of austerity and hiring freezes potentially affecting the ability to fill faculty positions left vacant after retirements. The tension between promoting geography as an independent discipline versus promoting interdisciplinarity (especially regarding environment/sustainability and GIS) was a common theme. Promoting diversity at all levels within geography was also mentioned as a major challenge that responding institutions are taking steps to address. Another challenge mentioned was the need to recruit community-college transfer students as geography majors. The role of introductory general-education courses in attracting new majors was discussed.

State of SEDAAG

Responding institutions regard SEDAAG as a strong region within the AAG. One respondent mentioned the need to collaborate with the national AAG climate action task force to reduce the climate impacts of our conferences. Another respondent brought up the need to rejuvenate attendance at SEDAAG meetings.

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE REPORT 2020-2021

Conor Harrison, South Carolina State Representative Associate Professor, Department of Geography, University of South Carolina

Summary

The overall state of geography in South Carolina (S.C.) appears to be stable, although I received fewer responses this year than last. One bright spot is Coastal Carolina University, which is a growing university with a growing enrollment in geography courses.

As it stands there are a few programs that offer at least a minor degree or concentration in geography and only one that offers a major, Masters, and PhD (UofSC-Columbia). This has remained unchanged for more than a decade. The rest of the geography courses taught in the state are generally embedded in non-geography departments in smaller schools as part of general education requirements, with most enrollments in lower-level core classes. The total number of faculty and students in each remains unknown but past surveys have shown that there are roughly 20-24 schools with at least one geography class. There is at least some opinion that there seems to be little connection between geographers at the state level.

The SC Geographic Alliance continues to be active and robust, and has had some notable successes in getting geography more embedded in K-12 education. It was a very active participant in the revision of South Carolina's new social studies standards, successfully including a full year of world regional geography in the 7th grade. This is the first year for the full implementation of geography, and from my experience with a seventh grader, the curriculum is excellent – far from naming capitals and oceans. Hopefully that will have long term benefits for geography at the state's colleges and universities.

Largely because of COVID-19, there is generally less to report. On the whole, very few faculty and students attended the 2020 annual meeting. The suggestion to partner with other smaller geography conferences on occasion to allow for better networking and to reduce competition for scarce travel funds appeared again this year.

More detailed information about specific institutions in South Carolina is below.

<u>University of South Carolina – Columbia</u>

Department of Geography at UofSC offers both Bachelor of Arts (B.A) and Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degrees at undergraduate level. Students have a choice of specialization in GIScience or physical/environmental for BS degrees and general BA or BS degrees. At the graduate level, the department offers the Master of Arts (M.A.), Master of Science (M.S.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

The UofSC Geography Department currently has around 70 majors. The Department has significantly ramped up undergraduate recruitment and is benefiting from revisions to its major requirements that make it easier to double major. There is currently an effort to re-think the structure of several 100- and 200-level courses to better attract new majors. The Department still suffers from a lack of racial and ethnic diversity, though it has begun partnering with UofSC's

TRIO program. The Department has offered smaller sections of introductory courses for the TRIO program, which is comprised of first generation and students from under-represented backgrounds.

Clemson University

No response was received from Clemson University this year, which only offers a minor in Geography (housed in the Department of History and Geography). In the past, a total of 11 courses are offered in rotation by 2 tenure-track professors. World Regional Geography and Introduction to Geography courses satisfy university core requirements (cultural awareness credit) and are therefore heavily subscribed. In all, roughly 650 to 800 students are registered in geography classes per year, including online summer courses. The number of minors has been increasing – in 2020 the reported number was around 40.

College of Charleston

No report received this year from the College of Charleston, which only offers a minor in Geography that is housed in Department of Political Science. Traditionally the Department has three full time faculty, each with other duties in other programs on campus. While there has been some engagement with SEDAAG, time constraints are the biggest factor for the lack of engagement.

Coastal Carolina University

The Coastal Carolina University Geography program is housed in Dept. of Anthropology and Geography, which joined together in 2017. The Department offers a combined BA degree. Additionally, it offers minors in GIS, human-environment studies, and a Geospatial Technologies Certificate. There has recently been a slow increase in majors and minors, and more courses are being offered. Course enrollments are growing, particularly those related to GIS. The department employs 5 full-time faculty and 2 adjuncts. They are hiring for a tenure track professor of GIS this year. In addition, other interdisciplinary programs on campus are hiring geographers, although this has led to potential for programmatic challenges, competition, and potential turf war between traditional departments and interdisciplinary programs.

Historically, the program has not had much engagement with SEDAAG. The timing of the conference is an issue for some, and a suggestion was made to potentially partner with other fall geography conferences (e.g., Race, Ethnicity, and Place; Applied Geography Conference) on occasion to reduce competition and provide better networking opportunities.

Francis Marion University

The FMU offers a minor and a collateral program in Geography housed in Department of Political Science and Geography. The number of minors is low, but stable. Course enrollments are dropping in the more specialized 200+ level classes, often causing these to be canceled. high in introductory courses but lower in the upper level. The Department employs two full time and one part time faculty members.

Winthrop University

Winthrop University offers a Geography minor in Dept. of Interdisciplinary Studies, with a focus on Human Geography and its sub-disciplines. The department did not respond to the request for information this year.

USC Upstate

USC-Upstate currently does not offer a degree in Geography and unfortunately is very much on the decline. The department did not respond to the request for information this year.

Midlands Technical College

Midlands Technical College does not offer a degree in Geography. It has an Associate in Arts with Geography concentration in Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences that started in Fall 2020. In the first year it has been offered there are currently six students in the geography concentration. Three geography courses are offered: Introduction to Geography, World Geography, and Physical Geography. The department has one full-time and a new part-time geography faculty member – Dr. Austin Crane. The trends in geography course offerings and student enrollments in these courses are stable. However, most students intend to transfer, and thus pursue an interdisciplinary set of courses to prepare for their 4-year institution. UofSC and Midlands Tech have been working together to help transferring students join the geography department at UofSC.

Virginia: State of Geography Report 2021 Submitted by Anamaria Bukvic, Assistant Professor, Virginia Tech SEDAAG Virginia State Representative

State Summary

Regardless of the disruption due to the COVID pandemic, most of the geography programs in Virginia are doing well and successfully adapting to new circumstances. Most departments are seeing steady undergraduate and graduate enrollments, in good part reflecting the continuous students' interest in geospatial training. Based on seven out of eight responses this year, it seems that overall:

- Large state universities tend to perform better than the smaller liberal arts colleges because of their capacity to offer new/more courses, innovate, and recruit students.
- Geospatial/GIS skills and certificate programs are in high demand among students.
- Graduates find employment mostly in GIS, urban and environmental planning, and government agencies/institutions.
- Most universities do not plan new hires in 2022, except ODU (lecturer position) and VT (tenure-track position).

Concerning SEDAAG, two respondents commented that the division is healthy, inclusive, and doing well despite the COVID pandemic. One respondent also noted that the leadership performance and online delivery of the 2020 event during the pandemic were outstanding. The new website is also a significant improvement. Other comments are as follows:

- Most will not attend this year's event due to COVID concerns.
- Many programs do not regularly participate in SEDAAG activities due to lack of time or information about SEDAAG.
- Some programs would like to learn more improving SEDAAG visibility may increase participation.
- It would be helpful to organize smaller specialty meetings and gatherings relevant to our region and targeted topics.
- Distance and location matter when deciding whether to attend.
- Everyone is stretched thin, and many do not have the capacity to get more engaged.
- Linking the annual with other relevant meetings may broaden participation.
- ODU geography program expressed interest in hosting the annual meeting in the Hampton Roads area in the future.
- It would be helpful if SEDAAG leadership would help raise awareness of geography discipline (externally) and small geography programs by providing external review or letter of recognition/support from the SEDAAG President to upper administration.
- Having the journal indexed in Web of Science (or similar) would improve submission rate, which is important metric for publishing records and faculty promotion.

PROGRAM SUMMARIES

Emory and Henry College is doing well, serving many students with limited teaching capacity. The student enrollment has somewhat declined due to a change from two to one full-time geography faculty. The teaching load is sustained by one full-time faculty who teaches eight different geography courses over three years and one part-time adjunct faculty who helps with two courses annually. Another environmental science faculty teaches two earth science courses each year, which serve the major. Overall, there are now fewer geography courses, fewer majors,

and lower enrollments, primarily due to limited capacity to support the geography courses and student recruitment and retention. No new hires are planned for the next academic year. Despite the declining number of majors, many students are interested in the geography major with a total geography course enrollment in a given year of around 125 students. Additional enrollment of 25 students in the earth science courses required for most geography majors brings this number to a total of 150. The crosspollination with the Environmental Studies major helps with the robust enrollment. COVID impacts affected important programmatic travel activities, but they will hopefully resume soon. The Gamma Theta Upsilon chapter has been small but active. The department chair will not attend the SEDAAG conference this year due to COVID.

George Mason University did not respond this year.

James Madison University's Geographical Sciences program experienced a slight increase in enrollments this past year. The course enrollment is limited by the limited number of faculty available to teach them, mainly allowing only majors to enroll in the courses. The number of majors increased to just under 200 and minors to 55, with 25 additional students enrolled in the Geospatial Intelligence Certificate Program. All these numbers represent an increase in numbers compared to those in the past. The number of courses also lightly increased, with more offered in human geography, physical geography, and human-physical interactions. One-third of students end up working in the geospatial intelligence field, with others finding jobs in environmental studies, urban planning, local GIS departments, international development, etc. The program has 9.5 full-time and four part-time faculty with no new hires plans for the upcoming year.

The University of Mary Washington experienced a slight decline in undergraduate and graduate enrollment due to the COVID pandemic and students selecting larger schools. Trends in decrease are aligned with the overall decrease in the number of students at UMW but still proportional to the percent of total enrolment. The geography course offering is stable. Students with GIS skills work for various government agencies, contractors, and private companies; others work in the greater DC-VA region in the non-profit sector, for government, or become planners or educators. A good number attend graduate school. Currently, there are 10 full-time and five part-time geography faculty and no plans for a new hire in the next year. The geography program remains strong and well-respected at UMW. Based on the recently conducted external review of their MS in Geospatial Analysis, the program plans to introduce some curricular changes and renewed marketing and outreach efforts (e.g., the requirement of three core undergraduate courses and four additional ones to broaden the scope before students specialize in one area to ensure students have a strobing foundation in geography). They are content with keeping their current program's name Geography and have a good reputation and reach on campus, serving GIS needs of many students and providing GIS certificate. Currently, the program has 10 full time and 5 part time faculty and no plans for a new hire.

The Department of Geospatial Science (formerly named Geography) at **Radford University** experienced a decline in enrollment and majors in geography courses. The course offering is stable, although the total number of traditional geography courses was reduced while new courses were added to support concentrations in Geoinformatics and Environmental Studies. Most graduates end up working as GIS analysts, environmental scientists, and image processing specialists. Currently, the program has four full-time and three part-time faculty, with no new hire plans for the next academic year.

At **Virginia Tech**, the Department of Geography is healthy and robust. It consistently ranks in the top three departments on campus for student credit hours per FTE. Additionally, three faculty were promoted to Professor in July 2020, and external grants have increased 66% since 2011.

Total undergraduate majors are steady, with an increase in BS Meteorology and a decrease in BA Geography. Undergraduate enrollment is on the decline in the one large section online gen ed course. This is due to a combination of COVID and a restructured gen ed landscape with many more options. Enrollment in BA Geography and BS Meteorology (total150 majors in Fall 2020). This program is in demand and has gained a strong reputation since its inception in 2012. According to IPEDS data, Virginia Tech ranks #9 nationally in the number of bachelor's degrees awarded in the Geography CIP code (45.0701) in aggregate for the last five years of available data ending in 2018-19. According to the same data, Virginia Tech ranks #2 nationally in the number of bachelor's degrees awarded in the Meteorology CIP code (40.0404) in aggregate for the last five years of available data ending in 2018-19.

We have considerably increased undergraduate and graduate course offerings due to new hires. Subfields included geospatial, coastal, climate, environmental security, and health geography. We offer among the highest number of gen ed courses on campus with 13. The gen ed landscape has become increasingly crowded. This presents more competition and challenges with student credit hours. Meteorology major graduates find jobs with the National Weather Service and the military especially among ROTC students. Geography has 19 full-time and one part-time faculty. A new 2021 tenure-track hire, Dr. Eranga Galappaththi, is a human geographer specializing in coastal, indigenous fisheries, and climate change/adaptation. One hire in geospatial (GIS) is planned for next year. VT Geography won the VT Exemplary Department Award in 2021 and completed a Strategic Plan and a 5-year Academic Program Review in 2020-2021. The department is also pursuing two new majors under BS Geography: Applied Climate Science and GIS. There is some campus-level competition, particularly concerning the proposed Applied Climate Science major. Undergraduate applications increased by over 50% for the 2020-21 cycle. likely due to VT's transition to the Common Application. There was only a minor reduction in the budget due to COVID and no disruption in operations. Regarding technology, the geography department created a new GIS lab space with 32 machines and multiple flat-screen monitors before the pandemic, with maintenance secured from the VT central funding source.

Old Dominion University experienced an increase in enrollment in geography courses due to the development of online course offerings and lower-division general education courses, both of which reach a broader audience. The majors are also increasing primarily due to online program development and new certificate and minor programs. Geography course offerings remain steady. Geography has been identified for potential growth at the graduate level in GIS. The graduates get employment in urban and environmental management and planning and particularly in GIS professions. Currently, the program has seven full-time and four part-time faculty. The only new hire planned for next year is for a lecturer. The program is generally stable but aware of potential challenges in the future due to the diversion of geospatial students into the data science discipline. although there is a potential for synergies between the two. As much as GIS faculty struggle to keep up with rapid changes in technology and geospatial data, the computing support and staff struggle even more. The COVID pandemic affected the program in many different ways - it opened new opportunities for innovation (e.g., in cloud computing) but also affected the focus and mental health across board, and student recruitment. One of the priorities of the Geography program is to improve the institutional connectivity across campus by linking the curriculum with other campus initiatives and increasing visibility and awareness of the utility and value of geographic education. ODU Geography is one of the only formalized programs in southeast Virginia though we have forged relationships with nearby partners such as William and Mary and Christopher Newport University. Over recent years, the program's identity has been transformed with the hiring of new assistant (some now associate) professors. Currently, the program has seven full-time and four part-time faculty, and plans to hire a lecturer in spring 2022. Most graduates end up working in urban and environmental management and planning and particularly in GIS professions.

The University of Richmond reported stable student enrollment, majors in geography courses, and course offerings. Graduates tend to enroll in grad school, or get positions in planning, GIS consulting, transportation, and government.

The Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers ANNUAL SURVEY OF GEOGRAPHY PROGRAMS IN THE SOUTHEAST

	(Academic Year)
Name of person completing	questionnaire:
A. Institutional Information	
1. Name of Institution:	
2. Name of Department:	
3. Geography degrees awarded (check all t	hose that apply):
No geography degree: Under	graduate degree:
Masters degree: Docto	ral degree: Other (please specify)
	in geography courses at your institution? Growing, s into graduate versus undergraduate if appropriate.
2. What is the <u>trend</u> in majors in geography Divide comments into graduate versus unde	courses at your institution? Growing, declining, stable? ergraduate if appropriate.
3. What is the <u>trend</u> in course offerings in gundergraduate, gen ed, trends related to spe	geography at your institution? [quantity, graduate versus cific subfields in geography, etc.]
4. Please comment, in general terms, the typlaced.	ypes of jobs into which your geography graduates are

D. Geography Facul	ty
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1. Name of Chair/Department Head:		
2. Number of geography faculty:	Full time	Part time
3. Please list the new geography faculty job faculty in the upcoming academic year.	oining your departmen	t and indicate if you will be hiring new

E. State of Geography:

Please provide a few statements summarizing your view on the "State of Geography" in your institution and state, identifying both positive and negative aspects. Feel free to speak to specific a range of specific issues, including but not limited to budget, curriculum, turf wars, technology.

F. State of SEDAAG

Please provide a few statements summarizing your view on the "State of SEDAAG," providing some feedback on the Division's strengths and weaknesses. What suggestions do have in improving the Regional Division as it seeks to serve members through the annual meeting, journal, awards program, etc.?

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The Department of Geospatial Science (formerly named Geography) at **Radford University** experienced a decline in enrollment and majors in geography courses. The course offering is stable, although the total number of traditional geography courses was reduced while new courses were added to support concentrations in Geoinformatics and Environmental Studies. Most graduates end up working as GIS analysts, environmental scientists, and image processing specialists. Currently, the program has four full-time and three part-time faculty, with no new hire plans for the next academic year.

At **Virginia Tech**, the Department of Geography is healthy and robust. It consistently ranks in the top three departments on campus for student credit hours per FTE. Additionally, three faculty were promoted to Professor in July 2020, and external grants have increased 66% since 2011.

Total undergraduate majors are steady, with an increase in BS Meteorology and a decrease in BA Geography. Undergraduate enrollment is on the decline in the one large section online gen ed course. This is due to a combination of COVID and a restructured gen ed landscape with many more options. Enrollment in BA Geography and BS Meteorology (total150 majors in Fall 2020). This program is in demand and has gained a strong reputation since its inception in 2012. According to IPEDS data, Virginia Tech ranks #9 nationally in the number of bachelor's degrees awarded in the Geography CIP code (45.0701) in aggregate for the last five years of available data ending in 2018-19. According to the same data, Virginia Tech ranks #2 nationally in the number of bachelor's degrees awarded in the Meteorology CIP code (40.0404) in aggregate for the last five years of available data ending in 2018-19.

We have considerably increased undergraduate and graduate course offerings due to new hires. Subfields included geospatial, coastal, climate, environmental security, and health geography. We offer among the highest number of gen ed courses on campus with 13. The gen ed landscape has become increasingly crowded. This presents more competition and challenges with student credit hours. Meteorology major graduates find jobs with the National Weather Service and the military especially among ROTC students. Geography has 19 full-time and one part-time faculty. A new 2021 tenure-track hire, Dr. Eranga Galappaththi, is a human geographer specializing in coastal, indigenous fisheries, and climate change/adaptation. One hire in geospatial (GIS) is planned for next year. VT Geography won the VT Exemplary Department Award in 2021 and completed a Strategic Plan and a 5-year Academic Program Review in 2020-2021. The department is also pursuing two new majors under BS Geography: Applied Climate Science and GIS. There is some campus-level competition, particularly concerning the proposed Applied Climate Science major. Undergraduate applications increased by over 50% for the 2020-21 cycle. likely due to VT's transition to the Common Application. There was only a minor reduction in the budget due to COVID and no disruption in operations. Regarding technology, the geography department created a new GIS lab space with 32 machines and multiple flat-screen monitors before the pandemic, with maintenance secured from the VT central funding source.

Old Dominion University experienced an increase in enrollment in geography courses due to the development of online course offerings and lower-division general education courses, both of which reach a broader audience. The majors are also increasing primarily due to online program development and new certificate and minor programs. Geography course offerings remain steady. Geography has been identified for potential growth at the graduate level in GIS. The graduates get employment in urban and environmental management and planning and particularly in GIS professions. Currently, the program has seven full-time and four part-time faculty. The only new hire planned for next year is for a lecturer. The program is generally stable but aware of potential challenges in the future due to the diversion of geospatial students into the data science discipline. although there is a potential for synergies between the two. As much as GIS faculty struggle to keep up with rapid changes in technology and geospatial data, the computing support and staff struggle even more. The COVID pandemic affected the program in many different ways - it opened new opportunities for innovation (e.g., in cloud computing) but also affected the focus and mental health across board, and student recruitment. One of the priorities of the Geography program is to improve the institutional connectivity across campus by linking the curriculum with other campus initiatives and increasing visibility and awareness of the utility and value of geographic education. ODU Geography is one of the only formalized programs in southeast Virginia though we have forged relationships with nearby partners such as William and Mary and Christopher Newport University. Over recent years, the program's identity has been transformed with the hiring of new assistant (some now associate) professors. Currently, the program has seven full-time and four part-time faculty, and plans to hire a lecturer in spring 2022. Most graduates end up working in urban and environmental management and planning and particularly in GIS professions.

The University of Richmond reported stable student enrollment, majors in geography courses, and course offerings. Graduates tend to enroll in grad school, or get positions in planning, GIS consulting, transportation, and government.

The state of geography programs within West Virginia is generally not very strong. I contacted West Virginia University (WVU), West Liberty University (WLU), Marshall University (MU), Concord University (CU), Shepherd University (SU), and Fairmont State University (FSU), and received reports from all but FSU. Most programs report stable conditions, although the largest program in the state (WVU) reports a decline in undergraduate enrollment and major numbers especially. The opportunities for growth seem to be in the online setting, where MU has a growing MA program, and WVU is preparing to launch a MS in GIS program.

Themes from the reports include the potential for growth with online graduate degrees, as mentioned above. Another common theme is budgetary constraints. Only one program, WVU, is preparing to hire new full-time faculty, and it is preparing to hire fewer faculty than have recently left, leaving the total number decreased. MU is planning to hire two part-time faculty, and has asked for a full-time faculty position, but is not optimistic about getting it. Meanwhile, SU reported not being able to replace faculty who retire with another geography faculty member. A strength of geography's position within the universities is the contributions we make to core general education curricula, with SU, WLU, and WVU reporting it as a contributor to course enrollments. Unfortunately, the geography program, and the Department of Geology and Geography at WVU have been designated as programs to undergo academic transformation, primarily due to declining major numbers. The final outcome of this transformation has yet to be determined.

The COVID pandemic was cited as having substantial impacts upon programs in the state. WLU lost majors because of it. CU does not have travel support because of it. The poor internet connections in more remote parts of West Virginia can be a barrier to effective education during the pandemic.

The SEDAAG Division is well-regarded by programs in the state, with WLU reporting that "the quality of work and level of rigor in the journal and conference are particularly impressive". Reports from WVU and MU note the quality of the annual meeting and the journal.

The geography programs across the state of West Virginia have been impacted by changes in the higher education landscape, and by the pandemic, and some are faring better than others. That said, "the state of geography at West Liberty is cautiously optimistic." SU recommended reinvigorating the NCGE Alliance and better collaboration within universities in the state. There are opportunities as well, with an online degree at MU seeing success and the development of an online degree at WVU.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jamison Conley, PhD

West Virginia University

SEDAAG 2023: Connecting Our World

Norfolk, Virginia, USA

Tentative Date. Sunday, November 19 – Tuesday, November 21, 2023

Contacts.

- Michael Allen (<u>mallen@odu.edu</u>), Associate Professor of Geography, Geography Program
 Director, Co-Coordinator of the Virginia Geographic Alliance
- Nicole Hutton (<u>nhuttons@odu.edu</u>), Assistant Professor of Geography

Others on Local Planning Committee.

- Don Zeigler, Emeritus Professor of Geography
- Jonathan Leib, Professor of Geography, Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Letters
- Thomas Allen, Professor of Geography
- Thomas Chapman, Associate Professor of Geography
- Jennifer Whytlaw, Assistant Professor of Geography
- Timothy Kidd, Senior Lecturer of Geography



Figure 1. Old Dominion University is in Norfolk, Virginia

Overview. Old Dominion University (ODU) Geography Program, in coordination with the Virginia Geographic Alliance (VGA), seeks to host the 2023 Southeastern Division of the American Association of Geographers meeting in Norfolk, Virginia (Figure 1). Home to 24,000 students, Old Dominion University is in the City of Norfolk in the metropolitan Hampton Roads region of coastal Virginia. With a population of 240,000 residents, the City of Norfolk is the North American home to NATO Allied command and the world's largest naval base. At the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay, the Hampton Roads region (population: 1.7 million) includes a variety of activities and field excursions applicable of interest to Geographers, Colonial Williamsburg, Tangier Island, and the Great Dismal Swamp. Like other regions, the brewery scene expanded over recent years, and now houses nationally known breweries such as The Veil and Benchtop. New, multi-modal infrastructure encourages walkability along the Elizabeth River Trail, and the Elizabeth River Ferry offers opportunities to explore Olde Towne Portsmouth. The proposed location, Hilton Norfolk The Main, is within walking distance of the NEON Arts District, USS Wisconsin, City Park, McArthur Memorial, Slover Library, and Chrysler Museum. In 1994, Dr. Don Zeigler and Old Dominion University hosted SEDAAG in Virginia Beach. Fort Monroe, Colonial Williamsburg, Tangier Island, and the Great Dismal Swamp. The local brewery scene expanded over recent years, and now houses nationally known breweries such as The Veil and Benchtop. New, multi-modal infrastructure encourages walkability along the Elizabeth River Trail, and the Elizabeth River Ferry offers opportunities to explore Olde Towne Portsmouth. Downtown Norfolk is within walking distance of the NEON Arts District, <u>USS Wisconsin</u>, <u>Town Point Park</u>, <u>McArthur Memorial</u>, <u>Slover</u> Library, and Chrysler Museum. In 1994, Dr. Don Zeigler and Old Dominion University hosted SEDAAG in Virginia Beach.

Seven airlines fly to Norfolk International Airport, which currently have non-stop flights to airports which service the region, including: Atlanta, Charlotte, Charleston SC, Miami, New Orleans, Orlando and Tampa. Amtrak services Norfolk with train service from Washington, DC, Fredericksburg, and Richmond, and Interstate 64 has its eastern terminus in Norfolk and Hampton Roads.

<u>Additional Resources</u>

- Visit Norfolk: https://www.visitnorfolk.com
- Olde Towne Portsmouth: https://oldetowneportsmouth.com/
- Visit Virginia Beach: https://www.visitvirginiabeach.com
- Hampton Roads Transit Authority: https://gohrt.com/
- Norfolk International Airport (KORF): https://www.norfolkairport.com/
- Norfolk Amtrak (NFK): https://www.amtrak.com/stations/nfk
- Norfolk Tide Light Rail: https://gohrt.com/routes/light-rail/
- Elizabeth River Trail: https://elizabethrivertrail.org/

Collaborators, Exhibitors, and Co-Sponsors (*Confirmed)

- Virginia Geographic Alliance*
- Christopher Newport University (Drs. Johnny Finn and Federica Bono)*
- William and Mary Center for Geospatial Analysis (Dr. Shannon White)*
- Norfolk State University (Dr. E. Arnold Modlin)
- Elizabeth River Project (<u>Learning Barge</u>)
- Norfolk Botanical Gardens
- Chesapeake Bay Foundation
- NASA Langley
- Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)
- First Landing State Park (Virginia State Parks)

Hotel Accommodations

We solicited proposals from 3 local conference facilities:

- Sheraton Norfolk Waterside: 777 Waterside Drive, Norfolk, VA
- Norfolk Waterside Marriot: 325 E. Main Street, Norfolk, VA
- The Hilton Hotel: 100 E. Main Street, Norfolk, VA

Each offer accommodation discounts, competitive food and beverage services, meeting and dining facilities. All are located in downtown Norfolk, within walking distance of dining options, Town Point Park, and the Elizabeth River Ferry Terminal.

We have attached The Hilton Hotel proposal. Hotel Accommodations: \$149 per night

At the submission of this proposal, we are still waiting for the other two formal proposals which we believe will be more competitive than the provided estimates.

Expenses	Estimated Cost	No.	Total
Executive Committee Breakfast	\$ 11.99	5	\$59.95
Steering Committee Lunch	\$ 18.99	20	\$379.80
Sunday Reception	\$ 24.99	150	\$3,748.50
Drink (2pp), Food, Bartender Fee, Sales Tax			
Breakout Rooms	\$ 250.00	12	\$3,000.00
Monday Meals	\$ 42.99	350	\$15,046.50
Monday Banquet	\$ 45.99	300	\$13,797.00
Audio/Visual			\$1,000
Other Contingency Costs			\$4,000.00
Total			\$41,031.75

*Conference room rental is free with a \$14,000 food and beverage minimum

Income	Cost	No.	Total
Exhibitors	50	15	\$750
Registration (faculty)	130	175	\$22,750
Registration (students)	80	220	\$17,600
Total			\$41,100

Support is also possible through partner organizations to reduce participant cost.

Potential Field Excursions

Norfolk Walking Tour. Information on the City of Norfolk Cannonball Trail Tour can be found here. FREE

Coastal Landscapes. Coastal Virginia offers cultural and historically significant landmarks such as Fort Monroe and the <u>Great Dismal Swamp</u>. The Chesapeake Bay's <u>Brock Environmental Center</u> and forthcoming Elizabeth River <u>Resilience Lab</u> offer insight as to how coastal communities respond and adapt to environmental stress.

Tangier Island. Tangier Island is located 2 hours north of Norfolk, Virginia and accessible only be plane or boat. The island offers insight into life on the water, and likely will become the first climate refugees in Virginia. The Virginia Geographic Alliance leads professional training workshops that highlight the cultural and environmental intersections of Tangier. More information on Tangier Island can be found here.

Virginia's Historic Triangle. Comprised of Colonial Williamsburg, Yorktown, and Jamestown, the Historic Triangle highlights the first English settlement in North America and portrays life during the American Revolution and 18th century Colonial Virginia. More information on the Historic Triangle can be found here.

Potential Keynote Speakers

- Retired Rear Admiral, <u>Ann C. Phillips</u>, USN, Special Assistant to the Governor for Coastal Adaptation and Protection. On, October 18, 2021, Ann was nominated for Administrator of the United States Maritime Administration at the U.S. Department of Transportation.
- Dr. Edward Ayers, Rucker-Boatwright Professor of the Humanities and President Emeritus
 of the University of Richmond. Dr. Ayers is the Executive Director of New American
 History.



Friday, September 10, 2021

DOWNTOWN
NORFOLK'S
NEWEST
DESTINATION

Dear Michael,

On behalf of the entire staff, we would like to thank you for considering the NEW Hilton Norfolk The Main to host the Political Science and Geography 2023.

The Hilton Norfolk The Main is an iconic and premier meeting destination on the East Coast. As part of the renaissance of Downtown Norfolk, the Main features 300 guest rooms, 50,000 square feet of flexible meeting space including a conference center called the Exchange with the latest technology and "think tanks" to create the ultimate meeting experience, as well as three world-class restaurants.

Our convenient conference floor plan offers an impressive venue for your event along with our creative catering menus, personalized service, and warm staff.

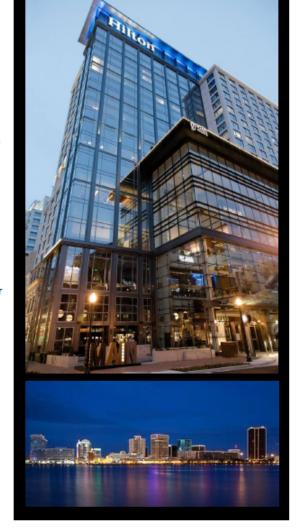
The following is a detailed proposal as headquarters hotel highlighting our hotel, location, and meeting space for your review.

We look forward to working with you to make this event a huge success and showing you first-hand how well served your conference will be in our fine hotel.

Sincerely,

Stacey

Stacey Lisborg | Sales Manager t: (757) 763-6249 | e: Stacey.lisborg@themainnorfolk.com





OUR LOCATION

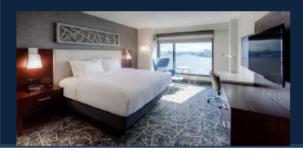
Located in the heart of Downtown Norfolk at the corner of Granby and Main Streets, The Main is within walking distance to many of Norfolk's top attractions, shopping, and dining. The Main is also easily accessible from Norfolk International Airport (ORF), only nine miles away.





GUEST ROOMS

Norfolk Hilton The Main features 300 exquisite guest rooms, including 11 suites, with stunning views of the Elizabeth River. The eclectic décor creates a hotel environment unlike any other in Virginia. Expect the Hilton Norfolk The Main to transcend standards and deliver an unparalleled guest experience.





AMENITIES

Norfolk Hilton The Main features 5,000 sq. ft. the Health and Wellness Area with an indoor swimming pool and extensive fitness center. Located in the lobby will be a state-of-the-art business center open 24 hours a day providing complimentary Internet access.



EAT & DRINK

Take in the Views and Delectable Cuisine









- Lounge, wine and piano bar featuring Trattoria-Inspired Italian Fare
- Open kitchen with exposed pizza station
- Private dining room



- Hip, urban space featuring region's finest seafood and craft beers
- Fresh seafood display including live lobster tanks
- Two private dining rooms



- 10,000 sq. ft. 5th floor rooftop garden and lounge overlooking the Elizabeth River offering 100 craft beers
- Floor to ceiling doors to "bring the outside in"
- Grain offers oversized fire pit, entertainment stage and a lawn chess set







MEETING SPACE

Hilton Norfolk The Main features 50,000 square feet of flexible meeting space with two ballrooms, including the 18,500 square foot Main Ballroom which is the largest hotel ballroom in Virginia, plus an abundance of pre-function space.

The Exchange is an IACC certified technologically advanced, state-of-the-art conference center with dedicated professional staff and classrooms that intentionally open up the "think tanks" where ideas and dialogue can be exchanged.

For meetings ranging from 10 to 2,000 attendees, The Main offers the perfect space for productive and enhanced meetings in upscale surroundings as well as thoughtful details such as built-in registration desks, ergonomic chairs, and continuous break stations.









Rates and information are valid until Friday, September 24, 2021 at which point a formal agreement can be prepared in order to hold space and lock-in rates.

DATES/GUESTROOM RATES

November 19 - 21, 2023 - \$ 149.00

	Sun 11/19	Mon 11/20
Run of House	. 50	. 50

85% Attrition
15.5% and a \$3.00 room tax, subject to change

HOTEL CONCESSIONS

Hotel is pleased to offer the following concessions based on 85% pick-up of contracted rooms and achieving the Food & Beverage minimum.

- (_1_) Complimentary Room Night Per Every (50) Paid Room Nights, based on a cumulative basis
- (_2_) Complimentary Upgrade(s) to a King Riverview Room at the Group rate
- . (_2_) Complimentary VIP Amenities to be delivered on the date of arrival
- · Complimentary internet access in all sleeping rooms booked under the group block
- Complimentary package handling for (5) boxes (up to 50 lbs. each)
- 10% Discount on rental of in-house audio-visual equipment Hilton Norfolk as the sole provider

PARKING INFORMATION

All garages in Downtown Norfolk, to include Hotel garage, are owned and managed by the City of Norfolk.

Hourly and overnight parking rates are established by the city.

- Parking for overnight guests is as follows:
 - Self-parking: \$20 per car per night with in-and-out privileges
 - · Valet: \$26 per car, per night with in-and-out privileges
- Parking for individuals attending a meeting, banquet, or other function is available. Rates based on the following city-established hourly rates:
 - Self-parking \$1.50/hour
 - Valet \$1.50/hour + \$6 valet fee

AUDIO VISUAL

Our internal Audio Visual Department can assist with all of your AV meeting needs.

If you would like to use an outside AV contractor or bring in your own equipment, surcharges will apply.

Upon request and based on your AV needs, our AV Manager can put together a quote for you.

EXHIBITS/VENDORS

The Hotel does not keep an inventory of 6' or 8' tables, so the fees associated with rental of tabletops are listed below. Rental charges include exhibit space, tables, chairs, linens, general cleaning, lighting, heating and ventilation, and does not include drayage, decoration, security services, labor or storage of display materials and show merchandise prior to and following scheduled exhibition, or excessive trash removal.

\$50.00 per tabletop per day without electricity

Additional \$30 per table per day for electricity, which will include one standard 110-volt outlet per booth

FOOD & BEVERAGE MINIMUM

We ask that you fulfill a food & beverage minimum of \$14,000.00 exclusive of 24% service charge and sales tax.



Date	Start Time	End Time	Function	Room	Setup	Agr	Room Rental
11/19/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Breakout Meeting	Energy 1	Classroom	30	250.00
11/19/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Breakout Meeting	Energy 2	Classroom	30	250.00
11/19/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Breakout Meeting	Granby Salon A	Classroom	30	250.00
11/19/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Breakout Meeting	Granby Salon B	Classroom	30	250.00
11/19/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Breakout Meeting	Granby Salon C	Classroom	30	250.00
11/19/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Exhibit – Poster Viewing	Granby Salon E	Exhibit Booth 8x10	•	1000.00
11/19/2023	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Reception	Granby Salon D	Reception	140	•
11/20/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Breakout Meeting	Energy 1	Classroom	30	250.00
11/20/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Breakout Meeting	Energy 2	Classroom	30	250.00
11/20/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Breakout Meeting	Granby Salon A	Classroom	30	250.00
11/20/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Breakout Meeting	Granby Salon B	Classroom	30	250.00
11/20/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Breakout Meeting	Granby Salon C	Classroom	30	250.00
11/20/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Exhibit – Poster Viewing	Granby Salon E	Exhibit Booth 8x10	•	1000.00
11/20/2023	6:00 PM	10:00 PM	Dinner	Granby Salon D	Rounds of 10	140	

HILTON NORFOLK THE MAIN THIRD FLOOR PLAN

CAPACITIES & DIMENSIONS

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	Street Sig Its	Service:	Collegits	Centrers	Tester	Sergortto	Swapter	Confirmence	U-Stape	Hilliam
The Granby Ballroom	8,436	111.00' x 76.00'	19	352	950	450	800	n/a	n/a	n/a
Granby A	875	35.00' x 25.00'	19	40	100	60	90	20	18	20
Granby B	875	35.00' x 25.00'	19	40	100	60	90	20	18	20
Granby C	875	35.00' x 25.00'	19	40	100	60	90	20	18	20
Granby A, B & C	2,660	35.00' x 76.00"	19	104	322	180	300	52	52	60
Granby D	2,964	39.00' x 76.00'	19	130	350	180	300	60	50	66
Granby E	2,964	39.00' x 76.00"	19	130	350	180			50	66
The Granby Ballroom Foyer	5,000		19	n/a	n/a	n/a	500	n/a	n/a	n/a
Energy	1,856	32.00' x 58.00'			210	100	140	32		32
Energy 1	900	30.00' x 30.00'	11	40	105	60	90	20	18	20
Energy 2	900	30.00' x 30.00'		40			90			
Fusion	1,334	46.00' x 29.00'	11	48	130	80	100	24	24	24
Momentum	2,160	45.00' x 48.00'		84	210	120	150	40	32	40
Momentum 1	924	42.00' x 22.00'	11	36	115	60	90	24	20	24
Momentum 2	546	21.00' x 26.00'		16	45	30	50		12	
Momentum 3	546	21.00' x 26.00'	11	16	45	30	50	16	12	16
Imagination	800	25.00' x 32.00'		24		40	65			
Adrenaline	513	19.00' x 27.00'	11	16	40	30	35	16	14	16
xchg.1	375	25.00' x 15.00'			35	20			10	
xchg.2	384	24.00' x 16.00'	-11	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	8	n/a	n/a
xchg.3	405	15.00' x 27.00'				20		12		
xchg.4	378	14.00' x 27.00'	11	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	8	n/a	n/a
xchg.5	450	18.00' x 25.00'			40	20	25	12	10	
xchg.6	420	28.00' x 15.00'	11	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	8	n/a	n/a
xchg.7	420	28.00' x 15.00'	11	12	35	20	25	12	10	12
Collaboration	851	37.00' x 23.00'	13	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1783	660	33.00° x 20.00°	10	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	22	n/a	n/a
Ghent	697	41.00" x 17.00"	10	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	22	n/a	n/a

KEY

Meeting/Conference Rooms

Amenities

Elevator

"Seating capacities are conservatively calculated to provide maximum comfort for attendees based on two people per 6ft X 24in table with ergonomic chairs





HILTON NORFOLK THE MAIN FOURTH FLOOR PLAN

CAPACITIES & DIMENSIONS

		Luw	Cathing St.			**	鑫		L	
The Main Ballroom	18,382	101.00' x 182.00'	24	1,300	2,200	1,200	2,000	n/a	n/a	n/a
Salon A	1,802	34.00' x 53.00'	24	108	190	120	150	40	45	40
Salon B	1,802	34.00" x 53.00"	24	108	190	120	150	40	45	40
Salon C	1,802	34.00' x 53.00'	24	108	190	120	150	40	45	40
Salon A, B, C	5,353	101.00' x 53.00'	24	324	576	280	450	120	100	120
Salon D	4,242	101.00" x 42.00"	24	228	450	240	350	120	100	120
Salon E	4,242	101.00' x 42.00'	24	228	450	240	350	120	100	120
Salon F	1,598	34.00' x 47.00'	24	100	140	100	150	40	45	40
Salon G	1,598	34.00' x 47.00'	24	100	140	100	150	40	45	40
Salon H	1.598	34.00' x 47.00'	24	100	140	100	150	40	45	40
Salon F, G, H	4,747	101.00' x 47.00'	24	300	480	320	450	120	100	120
The Main Ballroom Foyer	7,800	- Carlotte Control	24	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,000	n/a	n/a	n/a
Paul D. Fraim Center for Excellence	2,703	51.00' x 53.00'	16	90	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Coat Room	301	20.00° x 15.00°	8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

KEY

Meeting/Conference Rooms





DESCRIPTION OF GROUP AND EVENT

The following represents an initial proposed option between Norfolk Waterside Marriott, 235 East Main Street, Norfolk, VA, 23510, (757) 627-4200 and Southeast Division of the Association of American Geographers.

ORGANIZATION: Southeast Division of the Association of American Geographers

CONTACT: Name: Michael Allen

Street Address: John H Biggs Faculty Fellow City, State, Postal Code: Charlotte, NC 28223-0001

Phone Number: (724) 433-4109 E-mail Address: mallen@odu.edu

NAME OF EVENT: SEDAAG Annual Meeting 2023

REFERENCE #: M-LNHH7FZ

OFFICIAL PROGRAM DATES: Sunday, 11/19/2023 - Tuesday, 11/21/2023

GUEST ROOM COMMITMENT/GROUP ROOM RATES

The Hotel agrees that it will provide, and Southeast Division of the Association of American Geographers agrees that it will be responsible for utilizing, 305 room nights in the pattern set forth below (such number and such pattern, the "Room Night Commitment"):

Date	Day	Suites	Water View Upgrades	Run of House	Total Rooms
11/19/2023	Sun	1	2	67	70
11/20/2023	Mon	1	2	132	135

GROUP ROOM RATES

Start Date	End Date	Room Type	Rate
11/19/2023	11/21/2023	Run of House	\$149.00
11/19/2023	11/21/2023	One (1) Hospitality Parlor with one (1) connector	Complimentary
11/19/2023	11/21/2023	Two (2) Water View Upgrades	\$149.00

Hotel's room rates are subject to applicable state and local taxes (currently 15% + \$3.00) in effect at the time of check-out.

SPECIAL CONCESSIONS

- One complimentary Hospitality parlor with one connecting guest room
- ~ Three VIP upgrades to Water View with concierge privileges at the group rate
- ~ Complimentary wireless internet is all attendee guest rooms
- ~ Complimentary wireless internet in all related meeting rooms areas
- Four complimentary valet parking passes for the duration of the event
- ~ Meeting room rental waived based on a \$25,000.00 food and beverage minimum

FUNCTION INFORMATION AGENDA/EVENT AGENDA

Based on the requirements outlined by Southeast Division of the Association of American Geographers, the Hotel has reserved the function space set forth on the below Function Information Agenda/Event Agenda.

Date	Day	Start Time	End Time	Function Type	Setup	# People
11/20/2023	Mon	8:00 AM	3:00 PM	Breakout	Theatre	25
11/20/2023	Mon	8:00 AM	3:00 PM	Breakout	Theatre	25
11/20/2023	Mon	8:00 AM	3:00 PM	Breakout	Theatre	25
11/20/2023	Mon	8:00 AM	3:00 PM	Breakout	Theatre	25
11/20/2023	Mon	8:00 AM	3:00 PM	Breakout	Theatre	25

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Date	Day	Start Time	End Time	Function Type	Setup	# People
11/20/2023	Mon	12:00 PM	6:00 PM	Exhibits	Exhibits	10
11/20/2023	Tue	6:00 PM	5:30 PM	Reception	Cocktail Rnds	140
11/20/2023	Tue	8:00 AM	3:00 PM	Breakout	Theatre	25
11/20/2023	Tue	1:00 PM	5:00 PM	Breakout	Theatre	25
11/20/2023	Tue	1:00 PM	5:00 PM	Breakout	Theatre	25
11/20/2023	Tue	1:00 PM	5:00 PM	Breakout	Theatre	25
11/20/2023	Tue	1:00 PM	5:00 PM	Breakout	Theatre	25
11/20/2023	Tue	5:00 PM	8:00 PM	Dinner	Rounds of 10	200

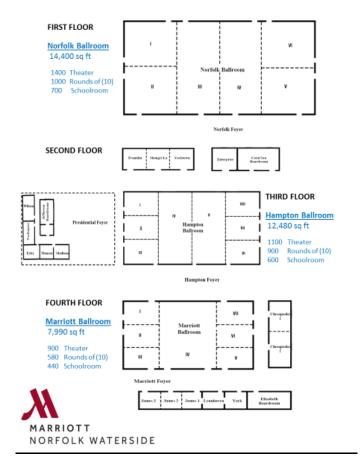
All meeting rooms, food and beverage, and related services are subject to applicable taxes (currently 12.5%) and service charge (currently 24%) in effect on the date(s) of the event.

NORFOLK WATERSIDE MARRIOTT HOTELS CONVENTION CENTER

Please see the following links for detailed information;

Norfolk Waterside Marriott Meeting Capacity - WEBSITE

2021 Norfolk Waterside Marriott Catering Menus



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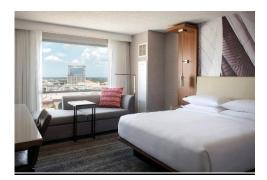
REDESIGNED MARRIOTT

The Norfolk Waterside Marriott Hotel has completed a total renovation/remodel.

Each of our 405 guest rooms have been fully redesigned, in both bath and bedroom areas. The 60,000 sq. ft. convention center has also been fully remodeled with new HVAC, lighting as well as walls carpeting and furniture. Hallways, Public Space and Restaurants have also been redesigned with a new M Club included with our new lobby.

















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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL SPECIALLY PREPARED FOR 2023 Southeast Division of the American Association of Geographers



Presented by: Christine Palmer

Director, Sales & Events Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel (757) 640-2752 cpalmer@norfolksheraton.com



Guest Sleeping Rooms

The Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel will provide the following guest room block over the dates listed. The group room rate is \$139.00 per night single/double occupancy plus applicable taxes (currently 15% and \$3.00 occupancy tax). Guest room rate available three day's pre and post subject to hotel availability. All guest rooms feature refrigerator, coffee maker, in room safe and lighted vanity mirror.

Available Dates
November 18 – (21), 2023

	Sat	Sun	Mon
Traditional King or	40	125	125
Double Queens			

Complimentary and Upgraded Rooms:

One complimentary one-bedroom suite
One complimentary room for every forty paid room nights





Meeting and Event Space

York Hall/Stratford Halls – General Session/Banquet – York Hall is 6,315 square feet and will more than adequately accommodate your 300 guests for your Dinner Banquet and General Sessions.

Grande Promenade – Registration/Poster Session Area – Outside the York/Stratford Halls, the Grande Promenade can accommodate your poster session as well as coffee break stations and registration.





4th Floor Meeting Facilities – Breakout Rooms – Four rooms overlooking the Elizabeth River, and are 680 square feet. Rooms are comprised of Eppington, Greenway, Montpelier and Riverview. Westover, Wilton, Brandon and Claremont are also located on the 4th floor and range from 450 to 1,975 square feet. These rooms are one level up from the main meeting area and

feature extended hallway that can be used as a mingling area.

Meeting Room Rental - Meeting room rental charges for will be waived based on meeting a \$16,000 plus tax and service charge food and beverage minimum.





Diagrams

Please refer to the our meeting space diagram/capacity chart link below.

 $\frac{https://www.marriott.com/hotels/event-planning/business-meeting/orfsi-sheraton-norfolk-waterside-hotel/\#m-capacity-container$

Value Added Benefits

Complimentary high speed internet
One complimentary one-bedroom suite
Complimentary meeting space

(based on meeting a food and beverage minimum of \$16,000 plus tax and service charge)

Marriott Reward Planner Points



Food and Beverage Options

A sample of selections will be available in our banquet menu options.

Location

We are the only waterfront hotel in downtown Norfolk.

Our Harborview rooms boast sunrises and sunsets views.

Within walking distance to many attractions and unique dining establishments.

Please refer to the Visit Norfolk website http://www.visitnorfolktoday.com
for additional information on attractions and dining options within walking distance of the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel.

Norfolk International Airport (ORF) is 8 miles from the hotel.



Norfolk Voted by Travel + Leisure for 50 Best Places to Travel

Waterside District

Adjacent to the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel! Waterside District is Norfolk's premier dining and entertainment district where you can enjoy an evening with your colleagues. Waterside District features the best of national, regional and local restaurants and offers live music, festivals and more.

http://www.watersidedistrict.com/



Atmosphere

Renovated in spring 2018! The atmosphere at the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside is second to none. Contemporary and open style décor as well as the only waterfront hotel located in Norfolk. Breathtaking views of the Elizabeth River and working riverfront abound.

Enjoy getting around town the FRED way--Free Ride

Every Day. FRED will get you in and around downtown in a stylish golf cart.

Business / Guest Services

The Sheraton Norfolk Waterside features a complimentary lobby business center powered by Microsoft featuring internet workstations, printing services and access to complimentary wireless via guest laptop.

Guest Amenities

Outdoor, seasonal swimming pool, 24-hour fitness facility and located on the Cannonball Trail perfect for walking or jogging along the Elizabeth River.







FRESH & AUTHENTIC

SOUTHERN-STYLE SEAFOOD SERVED BEST - RIGHT BY THE WATER

Waterside Seafood Company is Norfolk's newest waterfront culinary experience. Specializing in fresh, quality seafood and featuring tasty small plates, inventive cocktails and more, we pride ourselves on providing quality cuisine in a relaxing atmosphere. The restaurant offers sweeping views of the historic Elizabeth River – the perfect backdrop to dine and unwind.







Airport Shuttle/Amtrak Service

The Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel can recommend airport shuttle services through one of the many transportation companies. The Airport Connection operates outside of baggage claim at the Norfolk International Airport.

The Amtrak station is located at Harbor Park. The hotel will provide complimentary shuttle to and from the station based on availability.



Parking

Convenient, covered and secured automobile self-parking is located at the Dominion Tower Parking Garage, adjacent to the hotel and other nearby facilities.

Self-parking is currently offered at \$13.00 per day and valet parking is available for \$27.00.





Thank you for the opportunity to host your 2023 conference. It will truly be my pleasure to be of service you and your attendees!

Sincerely,

Christine Palmer

Director, Sales & Events Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel (757) 640-2752 cpalmer@norfolksheraton.com







Friday, September 10, 2021

DOWNTOWN
NORFOLK'S
NEWEST
DESTINATION

Dear Michael,

On behalf of the entire staff, we would like to thank you for considering the NEW Hilton Norfolk The Main to host the **Political Science and Geography 2023.**

The Hilton Norfolk The Main is an iconic and premier meeting destination on the East Coast. As part of the renaissance of Downtown Norfolk, the Main features 300 guest rooms, 50,000 square feet of flexible meeting space including a conference center called the Exchange with the latest technology and "think tanks" to create the ultimate meeting experience, as well as three world-class restaurants.

Our convenient conference floor plan offers an impressive venue for your event along with our creative catering menus, personalized service, and warm staff.

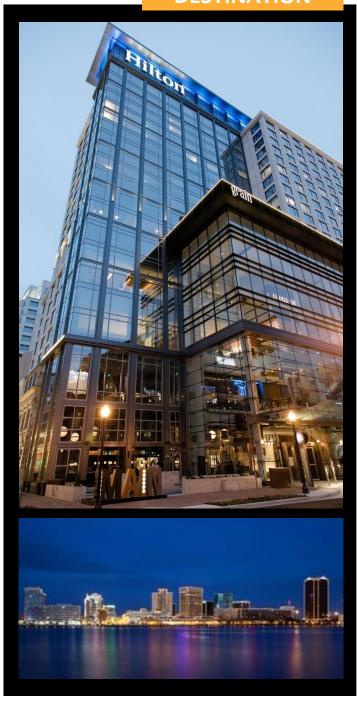
The following is a detailed proposal as headquarters hotel highlighting our hotel, location, and meeting space for your review.

We look forward to working with you to make this event a huge success and showing you first-hand how well served your conference will be in our fine hotel.

Sincerely,

Stacey

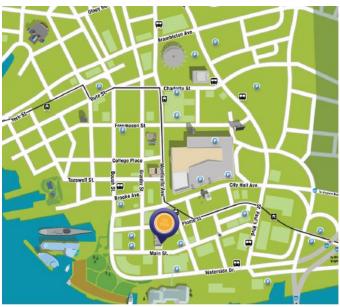
Stacey Lisborg | Sales Manager t: (757) 763-6249 | e: Stacey.lisborg@themainnorfolk.com



OUR LOCATION

Located in the heart of Downtown Norfolk at the corner of Granby and Main Streets, The Main is within walking distance to many of Norfolk's top attractions, shopping, and dining. The Main is also easily accessible from Norfolk International Airport (ORF), only nine miles away.

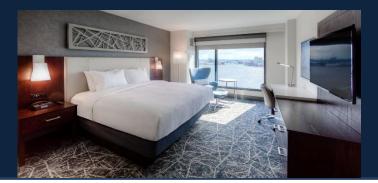




GUEST ROOMS

.............

Norfolk Hilton The Main features 300 exquisite guest rooms, including 11 suites, with stunning views of the Elizabeth River. The eclectic décor creates a hotel environment unlike any other in Virginia. Expect the Hilton Norfolk The Main to transcend standards and deliver an unparalleled guest experience.





AMENITIES

Norfolk Hilton The Main features 5,000 sq. ft. the Health and Wellness Area with an indoor swimming pool and extensive fitness center.

Located in the lobby will be a state-of-the-art business center open 24 hours a day providing complimentary Internet access.



EAT & DRINK

Take in the Views and Delectable Cuisine









- Lounge, wine and piano bar featuring Trattoria-Inspired Italian Fare
- Open kitchen with exposed pizza station
- Private dining room



- Hip, urban space featuring region's finest seafood and craft beers
- Fresh seafood display including live lobster tanks
- Two private dining rooms



- 10,000 sq. ft. 5th floor rooftop garden and lounge overlooking the Elizabeth River offering 100 craft beers
- Floor to ceiling doors to "bring the outside in"
- Grain offers oversized fire pit, entertainment stage and a lawn chess set







MEETING SPACE

Hilton Norfolk The Main features 50,000 square feet of flexible meeting space with two ballrooms, including the 18,500 square foot Main Ballroom which is the largest hotel ballroom in Virginia, plus an abundance of pre-function space.

The Exchange is an IACC certified technologically advanced, state-of-the-art conference center with dedicated professional staff and classrooms that intentionally open up the "think tanks" where ideas and dialogue can be exchanged.

For meetings ranging from 10 to 2,000 attendees, The Main offers the perfect space for productive and enhanced meetings in upscale surroundings as well as thoughtful details such as built-in registration desks, ergonomic chairs, and continuous break stations.









Rates and information are valid until **Friday, September 24, 2021** at which point a formal agreement can be prepared in order to hold space and lock-in rates.



November 19 - 21, 2023 - \$ 149.00

	Sun	11/19	Mon	11/20
Run of House		50		50

85% Attrition
15.5% and a \$3.00 room tax, subject to change

HOTEL CONCESSIONS

Hotel is pleased to offer the following concessions based on 85% pick-up of contracted rooms and achieving the Food & Beverage minimum.

- (1) Complimentary Room Night Per Every (50) Paid Room Nights, based on a cumulative basis
- (_2_) Complimentary Upgrade(s) to a King Riverview Room at the Group rate
- (_2_) Complimentary VIP Amenities to be delivered on the date of arrival
- Complimentary internet access in all sleeping rooms booked under the group block
- Complimentary package handling for (5) boxes (up to 50 lbs. each)
- 10% Discount on rental of in-house audio-visual equipment Hilton Norfolk as the sole provider

PARKING INFORMATION

All garages in Downtown Norfolk, to include Hotel garage, are owned and managed by the City of Norfolk.

Hourly and overnight parking rates are established by the city.

- Parking for overnight guests is as follows:
 - Self-parking: \$20 per car per night with in-and-out privileges
 - Valet: \$26 per car, per night with in-and-out privileges
- Parking for individuals attending a meeting, banquet, or other function is available. Rates based on the following city-established hourly rates:
 - Self-parking \$1.50/hour
 - Valet \$1.50/hour + \$6 valet fee



Our internal Audio Visual Department can assist with all of your AV meeting needs.

If you would like to use an outside AV contractor or bring in your own equipment, surcharges will apply.

Upon request and based on your AV needs, our AV Manager can put together a quote for you.

EXHIBITS/VENDORS

The Hotel does not keep an inventory of 6' or 8' tables, so the fees associated with rental of tabletops are listed below. Rental charges include exhibit space, tables, chairs, linens, general cleaning, lighting, heating and ventilation, and does not include drayage, decoration, security services, labor or storage of display materials and show merchandise prior to and following scheduled exhibition, or excessive trash removal.

• \$50.00 per tabletop per day without electricity

Additional \$30 per table per day for electricity, which will include one standard 110-volt outlet per booth

FOOD & BEVERAGE MINIMUM

We ask that you fulfill a food & beverage minimum of \$14,000.00 exclusive of 24% service charge and sales tax.



Date	Start Time	End Time	Function	Room	Setup	Agr	Room Rental
11/19/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Breakout Meeting	Energy 1	Classroom	30	250.00
11/19/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Breakout Meeting	Energy 2	Classroom	30	250.00
11/19/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Breakout Meeting	Granby Salon A	Classroom	30	250.00
11/19/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Breakout Meeting	Granby Salon B	Classroom	30	250.00
11/19/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Breakout Meeting	Granby Salon C	Classroom	30	250.00
11/19/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Exhibit – Poster Viewing	Granby Salon E	Exhibit Booth 8x10		1000.00
11/19/2023	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Reception	Granby Salon D	Reception	140	
11/20/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Breakout Meeting	Energy 1	Classroom	30	250.00
11/20/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Breakout Meeting	Energy 2	Classroom	30	250.00
11/20/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Breakout Meeting	Granby Salon A	Classroom	30	250.00
11/20/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Breakout Meeting	Granby Salon B	Classroom	30	250.00
11/20/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Breakout Meeting	Granby Salon C	Classroom	30	250.00
11/20/2023	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Exhibit – Poster Viewing	Granby Salon E	Exhibit Booth 8x10		1000.00
11/20/2023	6:00 PM	10:00 PM	Dinner	Granby Salon D	Rounds of 10	140	

HILTON NORFOLK THE MAIN THIRD FLOOR PLAN

CAPACITIES & DIMENSIONS

	Total Sq Pt	LxW Room Size	Ceiling Ht	555 555 555 555 555 555 Classroom	Theater	Banquet 10	Reception	Conference	U-Shape	H-Shape
The Granby Ballroom	8,436	111.00' x 76.00'	19	352	950	450	800	n/a	n/a	n/a
Granby A	875	35.00' x 25.00'	19	40	100	60	90	20	18	20
Granby B	875	35.00' x 25.00'	19	40	100	60	90	20	18	20
Granby C	875	35.00' x 25.00'	19	40	100	60	90	20	18	20
Granby A, B & C	2,660	35.00' x 76.00'	19	104	322	180	300	52	52	60
Granby D	2,964	39.00' x 76.00'	19	130	350	180	300	60	50	66
Granby E	2,964	39.00' x 76.00'	19	130	350	180	300	60	50	66
The Granby Ballroom Foyer	5,000		19	n/a	n/a	n/a	500	n/a	n/a	n/a
Energy	1,856	32.00' x 58.00'	11	80	210	100	140	32	30	32
Energy 1	900	30.00' x 30.00'	11	40	105	60	90	20	18	20
Energy 2	900	30.00' x 30.00'	11	40	105	60	90	20	18	20
Fusion	1,334	46.00' x 29.00'	11	48	130	80	100	24	24	24
Momentum	2,160	45.00' x 48.00'	11	84	210	120	150	40	32	40
Momentum 1	924	42.00' x 22.00'	11	36	115	60	90	24	20	24
Momentum 2	546	21.00' x 26.00'	11	16	45	30	50	16	12	16
Momentum 3	546	21.00' x 26.00'	11	16	45	30	50	16	12	16
Imagination	800	25.00' x 32.00'	11	24	70	40	65	20	16	20
Adrenaline	513	19.00' x 27.00'	11	16	40	30	35	16	14	16
xchg.1	375	25.00' x 15.00'	11	12	35	20	25	12	10	12
xchg.2	384	24.00' x 16.00'	11	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	8	n/a	n/a
xchg.3	405	15.00' x 27.00'	11	12	35	20	25	12	10	12
xchg.4	378	14.00' x 27.00'	11	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	8	n/a	n/a
xchg.5	450	18.00' x 25.00'	11	12	40	20	25	12	10	12
xchg.6	420	28.00' x 15.00'	11	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	8	n/a	n/a
xchg.7	420	28.00' x 15.00'	11	12	35	20	25	12	10	12
Collaboration	851	37.00' x 23.00'	13	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1783	660	33.00' x 20.00'	10	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	22	n/a	n/a
Ghent	697	41.00' x 17.00'	10	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	22	n/a	n/a



Meeting/Conference Rooms

Amenities

^{*}Seating capacities are conservatively calculated to provide maximum comfort for attendees based on two people per 6ft X 24in table with ergonomic chairs





HILTON NORFOLK THE MAIN FOURTH FLOOR PLAN

CAPACITIES & DIMENSIONS

	New Sq. R	Law	Casting Ho		IIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII	**	*	-		199
The Main Ballroom	18,382	101.00' x 182.00'	24	1,300	2,200	1,200	2,000	n/a	n/a	n/a
Salon A	1,802	34.00' x 53.00'	24	108	190	120	150	40	45	40
Salon B	1,802	34.00' x 53.00'	24	108	190	120	150	40	45	40
Salon C	1,802	34.00' x 53.00'	24	108	190	120	150	40	45	40
Salon A, B, C	5,353	101.00' x 53.00'	24	324	576	280	450	120	100	120
Salon D	4,242	101.00' x 42.00'	24	228	450	240	350	120	100	120
Salon E	4,242	101.00' x 42.00'	24	228	450	240	350	120	100	120
Salon F	1,598	34.00' x 47.00'	24	100	140	100	150	40	45	40
Salon G	1,598	34.00' x 47.00'	24	100	140	100	150	40	45	40
Salon H	1,598	34.00' x 47.00'	24	100	140	100	150	40	45	40
Salon F, G, H	4,747	101.00' x 47.00'	24	300	480	320	450	120	100	120
The Main Ballroom Foyer	7,800		24	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,000	n/a	n/a	n/a
Paul D. Fraim Center for Excellence	2,703	51.00' x 53.00'	16	90	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Coat Room	301	20.00' x 15.00'	8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

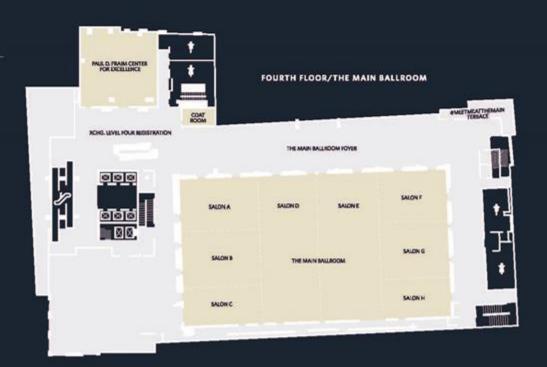
KEY



Meeting/Conference Rooms

Amenities

Elevator



Report to SEDAAG Steering Committee

November 21, 2021 Florence, AL

1. 2021 Bowl Preview (As of 11/16)

- 5 teams (Florida, 2 teams from Georgia, Alabama, TN/MS/VA combined team)
 - o 36 Students pre-registered by a faculty sponsor or using the Google form
 - o Questions and volunteers sufficient to field up to 6 teams
- 8 rounds of questions written by eight writers
- 12 volunteers managing Sunday's bowl
- Faculty Dream Team participants: Dr. Emily Yeh, Dr. Lynn Resler, Dr. Jamison Conley, Jesse Lane, Dr. Jordan Brasher, and Dr. Michael Allen
- Dream Team round questions written by Dr. Caleb Smith
- Championship round questions written by Dr. Dawn Drake

2. Future Needs and Concerns

- Schedule Conflicts
 - Important source of travel funding for students
- State Coordinators?

3. Budget

- Expenditure earlier in the year for archival boxes and acid-free folders (\$65.84)
- Receipt for 6 winning team plaques and 1 MVP plaque (\$192.30) given to Amy
- Travel funding for 2022 AAG
 - o \$500 from AAG is provided whether division matches or not
 - o In 2019, we received an additional \$500 from AAG because we also fund our students
 - Please approve travel funding for the team for 2022 at whatever level you feel appropriate and notify me, so I can give the students the best information possible when deciding to join the team for AAG.

Submitted by:

Dr. Dawn M. Drake Missouri Western State University ddrake4@missouriwestern.edu