A generous donation from University of Oregon alumnus Dave Petrone and his wife, Nancy, will provide initial funding for an expansion of Condon Hall that will include new laboratories and classrooms for geography, as well as a new facility for the university’s map and aerial photograph collections. The $2.5 million donation will also provide student scholarships, an endowed faculty position for a map and aerial photography–geographic information system librarian, and funds for sports marketing and a new health research center. Petrone says he and his wife were motivated to make the gift by their admiration for the UO, its leaders, faculty members and volunteers, and by their desire to promote high-quality academic programs.

As a graduate student, Sandra F. Pritchard Mather says the opportunities she received in the UO’s Department of Geography helped to set her on the path of success. She’s extending the same opportunity to today’s graduate students by endowing a graduate fellowship fund in the department. “I’m really excited about this gift,” she said, “because it offers me the chance to give something back to the university and, especially, to the department that provided me with so much.”

Sandy retired from a long career at West Chester University’s Department of Geology and Astronomy in 1999. An additional endowment fund was established in honor of Professor Bill Loy to establish an annual award for student mapping achievements. The endowment was funded with generous contributions by the Loy family and Bill’s colleagues and students. The first Loy Award for Excellence in Cartographic Design and Geographic Visualization was awarded in May 2005. See the photo on page 10 for the winners.

The Department of Geography thanks all of our past and future donors for their generosity, their vision, and for providing resources and opportunities for upcoming generations of UO geography students. Gifts such as these help us maintain our tradition of excellence and foster more initiatives in teaching, research and community service.
Department Head News

From Pat McDowell

As I write this, I am just starting my second year as department head. I was head from 1993–96, succeeded by Alex Murphy and then Cathy Whitlock. While I’m not new to the position, it is a stimulating challenge. The Department of Geography’s size and activities in teaching, research, and service continue to expand, so it seems like there is a lot more to manage than there was in 1996! One of the benefits of the headship is the opportunity to work closely with all members of the department, and to understand the full range of what we do here.

Our faculty members have continued to strive for and achieve excellence in the field of geography and beyond. I am especially impressed by the diversity of exciting new faculty projects and interests. For example, Shaul Cohen’s new research in Northern Ireland explores similarities with other ethnoterritorial conflicts. Shaul has made several trips to Northern Ireland and developed many contacts with participants on both the Catholic and Protestant sides there. Andrew Marcus and Jim Meacham are aiming for a new level of excellence in atlas design with their latest project, the Atlas of Yellowstone. Susan Hardwick continues to expand both her research on immigrants and her education efforts. She brought forty high school geography teachers to campus this summer to attend a workshop on teaching Advanced Placement Geography in high schools.

We currently have searches for two new faculty members underway. The first is in biogeography, to fill Cathy Whitlock’s position. Cathy accepted a position at Montana State University last year. It was sad to see Cathy go, but she was able to fulfill her desire to be closer to her favorite field area, Yellowstone National Park. We wish her well. The second search is for a faculty member with an interest in political economy and a regional specialty in East Asia or Southeast Asia. This person will take the place of Ron Wixman, who is retiring at the end of the academic year. Happily, Ron will continue to teach one or two courses each year for several years. We are particularly excited to bring in a faculty member with a focus in Asia to help connect the Department of Geography to the University of Oregon’s strong programs in East Asian languages and literatures, Asian Studies, and the Center for Asian and Pacific Studies.

We are very proud of our strong and growing student base. This year we have more undergraduate majors in geography than ever before. There are about 130, up from around 90 in 2002. We’re excited to see our majors going on to interesting and fulfilling geographical pursuits, such as Kyle Walker, who graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the Honors College and went on to grad school in geography at the University of Minnesota, or Jesse Manley, now working for CH2M Hill, a geo-technical engineering firm, in Portland. Our graduate admissions levels hold steady at around eight to fourteen new students each fall. These are selected out of sixty to eighty applicants, and the process becomes more competitive every year. Our grad students continue to work hard and bring honor to our department, as evidenced in the lengthy list of graduate awards and research projects included in this newsletter.

In mid-September the entire faculty (with the exception of Ron Wixman, who is on leave this term) was able to get away to our annual retreat, held this year at the university’s marine biology lab, the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, at Charleston on Coos Bay. We enjoyed the opportunity to take stock of our department’s direction and discuss new goals. One of the department’s goals for the near future is to continue to strengthen teaching and researching in geographic information science (GIS). Through the efforts of Assistant Professor Amy Lobben, Infographics lab director Jim Meacham, and Adjunct Instructor Nick Kohler, we have developed a strong set of courses and research projects over the last five years. The remaining missing piece is a faculty member with a focus on GIS who can link the technology to research in human and physical geography. We hope to add that new position in the near future.

It is exciting to be department head at a time when geography is capturing increasing attention from the public and policy makers. Remote sensing images appear on CNN, and maps increasingly are used to help us understand the news. Homeland security, natural disasters, global climate change, and rapid globalization of the economy are presenting new challenges for geographers. The State of Oregon is struggling with inequality of population growth and employment opportunities in different parts of the state. Geographers provide an understanding of environmental and human processes on the landscape that is essential in society’s response to such challenges. My goal is to help our faculty and staff to provide teaching and research that meets these needs, and to find the resources necessary for this mission.

Summer workshop participants for high school teachers of Advanced Placement Human Geography.
In fall 2004, the Department of Geography was very pleased to welcome Assistant Professor Amy Lobben to the university. Before coming to Oregon, Amy spent four years as a faculty member at the Department of Geography at Central Michigan University, where she was also the director of the geographic information science (GISci) master’s degree program. Amy’s primary interests are in cartography and GISci.

Amy is currently teaching the introductory Maps and Geospatial Concepts course (GEOG 311) in addition to working with the department on developing future GISci course offerings. Her specific research interests have focused on discovering how people use, learn from, and perceive maps. Amy is currently trying to answer this question and others by using fMRI (functional magnetic resonance imaging)—producing an image of a person’s brain activity while they perform map-reading tasks such as map rotation and self-location.

Amy plans to extend her research to address additional navigational tasks involved in map reading, including visualization, spatial memory, and way finding. In this same area, Amy is exploring gender-related differences in skills and ability as well as the relationship between intelligence and navigational map reading. Amy has already enjoyed success in furthering her research interests with two new grants she received this summer.

Amy has also been active in professional service. As an elected member of the United States National Committee for the International Cartographic Association, she obtained funding to allow U.S. participants to attend their annual meetings. She has served as a judge for the National Geographic Society annual cartography award. She also founded the International Geographic-Spatial Data Visualization Symposium as part of the International Conference on Information Visualization.

Joining her in the move to Eugene are her husband and their four sons: Marshall (age thirteen), Evan (age eleven), Benjamin (age six), and Jeffrey (age five). Amy is not without other family connections in Oregon. Her entire extended family lives here, from Klamath Falls to Portland.

In fall 2003, J. J. Shinker accepted a position as an assistant professor in the Department of Geography, Geology, and Anthropology at Indiana State University. When asked what helped prepare her for that position, J. J. remarked that it was her entire UO geography experience. Taking courses and working closely with adviser Pat Bartlein gave her necessary knowledge about climatology, while teaching courses gave her valuable classroom experience. The process of researching, preparing for presentations and writing her dissertation was a growth experience that taught her about academic professionalism and the role that she would fill later as a university professor.

When it came to the job search, many faculty members and grad students at the UO were very helpful to J. J., giving her advice on how to converse with deans and department heads during the interview process.

The transition from student to faculty member was an exciting one. She enjoys “participating at another level than you get from being a graduate student, where you are looking at the department from another perspective.” The most difficult part of her transition, other than her students insisting on addressing her as “Dr. Shinker,” has been the difference in her interactions with students. She attributes this to the shift from being labeled a student to being labeled a professor. J. J. is trying to weaken the student-professor division by encouraging students to call her by her first name in classes, and by always leaving her door open for students to drop by and chat.

John Green is now a geomorphologist and project manager for Pacific Watershed Associates in Santa Rosa, California. The company is an environmental consulting firm that focuses on the control and prevention of human-caused erosion (primarily from roads) in upland areas of watersheds that support salmonid populations. John says that the skills and concepts he learned in courses at the University of Oregon were invaluable in preparing him to work in the field of habitat restoration.

Although his job focuses on environmental issues, much of John’s time is spent managing projects, people, and heavy equipment. The process of proposing a master’s project and the methodology needed to get it done, then implementing it while overcoming obstacles along the way, gave him valuable experience in project management. Teaching courses and working with the faculty were also beneficial to the development of his interpersonal skills.
Newly Awarded Grants Fund Research Projects

Grants provide the opportunity for faculty members and students to pursue innovative and exciting projects, and they are also extremely valuable for the additional resources that they bring to the department. Virtually all of the Department of Geography’s faculty members are in various stages of pursuing grant money for a diverse number of projects. In the last year, five important proposals have been accepted. We congratulate the following grant recipients.

Amy Lobben received two grants over the summer. The first, from the UO’s Educational Technology Fund, is titled “Reaching across Disciplines: Providing a Hybrid Instructional Report and Accompanying GIS Research and Instructional Tools (ArcIMS Server) for Faculty [Members] and Students throughout the University of Oregon Campus.” Amy and her coprincipal investigator, Kathleen Leué of the Social Science Instructional Lab, received funding to create a web-based GIS Server and educational modules for use in a hybrid human geography class. The goal of this two-year project is to design modules that allow students to individually investigate specific subjects as part of course work. The project will then assess student learning through this method and compare it to traditional methods. Doctoral graduate student Lynn Songer is funded for two years by this grant.

Amy’s second grant is from the National Science Foundation, titled “Tactile Mapping Software for Blind and Visually Impaired Navigation and Science Education.” Amy and her co-principal investigator, Steve Fickas of the computer and information science department, were awarded the grant to investigate the mapping needs, environmental cognition, and symbolization for the blind and partially sighted. Research will identify perception and understanding differences between sighted and blind or partially sighted communities. Experiments will also yield a tactile symbol set to be used on navigation and thematic maps. Following the experimental phase, software will be authored that will allow anyone to create tactile maps using new standardized symbols for navigation and contain the capability of a mini-GIS. Doctoral graduate student Megan Lawrence is funded by this project.

This summer, Pat McDowell received a grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Klamath Basin Ecosystem Restoration Program to support a three-year project on the Sprague and Sycan rivers in southern Oregon. It is a collaborative project, along with Jim O’Connor of the U.S. Geological Survey Office in Portland, Oregon. Their goal is to understand geomorphic processes shaping the channel and floodplain of rivers in the Klamath Basin to aid in restoration project planning and site selection. The project involves GIS mapping of river channel positions on aerial photos from 1940 to the present, field study of old oxbows and channel scars, and completing a geomorphic map of the valley floor. Graduate student Pollyanna Lind is supported by this project. Several field trips to the research area were made this summer, including canoe trips to get acquainted with the river.

Last year, Susan Hardwick was awarded a grant from the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) to support a three-year program which offers content training for teachers who are traditionally isolated in rural areas in Oregon. The resulting Quality Content Teaching program is a partnership between the UO’s College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Education. Susan and collaborator Marilyn Olson, courtesy associate professor of education, selected teachers from schools in Douglas County, the south coast, and local districts to participate in summer seminars. Over its three years, the program will provide at least 240 teachers with resources and support.

Graduate students Mary Crooks and Lynn Songer are assisting with this project.

Susan also received a three-year grant from the National Geographic Society to host summer workshops, sponsored by the National Council of Geographic Education (NCGE), for high school teachers of Advanced Placement Human Geography classes. Collaborators on this project are Michal Levasseur of Jacksonville State University and Osa Brand, outreach director for NCGE. The goal is to help novice teachers master the geography content needed to successfully teach their own students. Garron Hale and Cathleen Leué in the UO Social Science Instructional Lab are assisting with the design of the online portion of the project. Twenty-five teachers from all over the country will participate in each of the workshops. The Eugene workshop in July 2005 helped launch the project, and additional workshops will be held in Washington, D.C., in 2006 and Alabama in 2007. Graduate student Barbara Cates assisted Susan in the preparation of the 2005 conference.
News from the InfoGraphics Lab

Since Bill Loy and Jim Meacham founded the InfoGraphics Lab in 1988, the lab’s focus has been on finding creative and innovative ways to tell stories with spatial data. The lab continues to take on challenging and interesting projects that assist the campus community, the general public, and public agencies. The InfoGraphics Lab also emphasizes instruction by providing students with valuable experiences that help them attain the skills they need to reach their educational and professional goals.

During the last couple of years the lab has taken on a great variety of cartographic and GIS projects. The lab continues to work closely with the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board staff to produce maps and graphics to communicate the wide-ranging efforts that are part of Oregon’s plan to improve Coho salmon habitat. This effort has produced a recently published biennial plan and north coast Coho assessment reports.

For the Oregon Department of Transportation, the lab has contributed to the development of the statewide geospatial framework. This included a transportation data model as well as road-mapping data for many central and northeast Oregon counties. In addition, the lab is beginning research work on a new official highway map of Oregon, led by project coordinator Mike Engelmann.

Since 1988, the lab has also coordinated the UO campus-mapping program. This program has evolved under InfoGraphics Lab assistant director Ken Kato into a state-of-the-art GIS mapping system that serves many of the departments managing the campus, including facilities services, planning, public safety, telecommunications, network services, housing, library services, and several others. Many new map products have been released this last year, including a campus at night map and a new interactive campus page (http://www.uoregon.edu/maps.shtml). This fall, a new version of the University of Oregon Atlas of Trees will be released.

Following the success of the Atlas of Oregon, the lab is pursuing two new atlas publications—the Atlas of Yellowstone, with Andrew Marcus as senior editor and Jim Meacham as cartographic editor, and a cultural atlas of the ancient Mongolian Altai, with art history professor Esther Jacobson-Tepfer and project photographer Gary Tepfer.

InfoGraphics Lab designer and developer Erik Steiner has teamed up with architecture associate professor Jim Tice to create a research website focusing on the renowned 1748 Nolli map of Rome (http://nolli.uoregon.edu).

Other faculty collaboration projects include assisting with mapping on Susan Hardwick’s ongoing research of migration, ethnicity, and refugee communities. An article focusing on this mapping effort was published this fall in The Professional Geographer.

Several promotions have been awarded within the lab’s staff this last year. Ken Kato was promoted to the position of assistant director of the InfoGraphics Lab. Mike Engelmann was promoted to a program coordinator position and is in charge of the lab’s transportation GIS projects, and lab director Jim Meacham was promoted to the rank of senior research associate.

Perhaps the biggest reward, however, is seeing the growth and development of the lab’s students as they build on the skills and concepts they have gained in the department’s cartography and GIS courses. Students who have worked in the lab continue to find good jobs in the mapping field in both government and private sectors.
Exciting Research Opportunities for Graduate Students

Department of Geography graduate students have been traveling far and wide in pursuit of their research interests. Four doctoral students are highlighted here.

Corey Johnson is taking part in the Robert Bosch Foundation Fellowship Program, a program that selects twenty young American leaders from various fields and sets up internships for them in government and private sector institutions in Germany. He is working for three months at the Federal Ministry of Economics and Labor in Berlin in the department that deals with spatial development policies in the former East Germany. Corey will then go to Dresden for four months to work with the Saxony Economic Development Corporation. The fellows also take part in three seminars designed to expose them to the political, economic, and cultural landscapes of Germany and the European Union. Corey is conducting his Ph.D. research on the challenges of globalization and European integration that currently confront the old geographies of nation-states in Europe.

Matthew Derrick is spending the year in St. Petersburg, Russia. He was one of ten Americans chosen to participate in the American Councils for International Education Russian Flagship program, under the auspices of the National Security Education Program’s National Flagship Language Initiative, to address the critical need for U.S. professionals who are able to read, write, speak, and understand Russian. As part of the program, he studies Russian twenty-five hours a week at St. Petersburg State University, and he will teach a course in political geography at the Herzen Institute in the spring. Matt is concurrently pursuing further research on Russia’s ethnic geography.

Megan Dixon, assisted by funding from the UO’s Center on Diversity and Community and Department of Geography, spent three and a half weeks in St. Petersburg, Russia, in late summer carrying out preliminary dissertation research. She conducted interviews and other research on a new Chinese-financed residential district and investigated the tension between green space and new residential construction. She also presented a copy of the *Atlas of Oregon* to the geography department at St. Petersburg State University.

Ann Laudati just returned from a year in southern Uganda, funded by the Society of Women Geographers’ Evelyn Pruitt National Dissertation Fellowship. She conducted research on conflicts over land, resource use, crop raiding, and access to tourist dollars in Bwindi Impenetrable National Park. The policies that now dictate the conservation and management of Bwindi and the lands that surround the park are implemented and enforced by powerful outsiders. Ann’s research focused on talking to “local communities” that surround the park, whose voices are rarely included in the decision-making process that creates park policy and subsequently affects rural livelihoods. She visited approximately 100 communities and utilized open-ended interviews, town meetings, and questionnaires to better understand how the benefits of tourism and the costs of protected space are shared unequally among different community members.

Summer Jobs Complement Student Learning

Every summer, geography students head out into the working world to gain experience and training that complements their geography coursework and prepares them for employment after graduation. Here is a quick look at what a few of them did.

Kate Metzger worked as a hydrologist for the U.S. Forest Service in the Chattahoochee National Forest in Clayton, Georgia. Kate is part of the Student Career Experience Program, where students work for two summers and then complete two years of postgraduate training to become certified Forest Service employees. Kate will become a Forest Service hydrologist at the end of her training, although she does not know at which of the 155 national forests she will be working. Her training this summer focused on resource management and conservation, and involved projects such as stream rehabilitation; hydrologic research; fish, habitat, and vegetation surveys; archaeological surveys; and boundary marking.

Recent graduate Jason Stuckey worked as a GIS technician as part of a four-man crew that maps forest fires by collecting infrared data from a helicopter. Jason spent the majority of his time working with fires in southern California where his main role was preparing and mapping field data that was collected several times each day. Jason’s maps were used to coordinate and plan firefighting efforts and provided timely visualizations for land managers.

Alethea Steingisser spent her summer working for the National Park Service’s Interpretive Design Center in Harpers Ferry National Park, West Virginia. The center is the creative core of park service publications, producing all the black-banded park brochures that are handed out when paying entrance fees at any national park. Alethea worked as a cartographic intern with cartographer Tom Patterson on map redesign for the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail park brochure. Patterson introduced Alethea to the uses of Photoshop for shaded relief mapping. Alethea uses these new skills for her thesis maps and within the InfoGraphics Lab, where she works on research and cartography for the upcoming *Atlas of Yellowstone*. 

Ann Laudati talking to schoolchildren in the Ndego parish of Uganda as part of her Ph.D. research on community perceptions of conservation.
Students Receive National and International Awards

University of Oregon geography graduate students are no strangers to varied and innovative research and other accomplishments. In the past two years, many were recognized for their outstanding achievements in subject areas across the discipline. The Department of Geography is proud to honor their achievements.

Christy Briles was awarded two grants in 2004, the first from Sigma Xi and the Mazamas and the second from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California.

Matt Derrick was one of ten Americans chosen to participate in the American Councils for International Education Russian Flagship program, under the auspices of the National Security Education Program’s National Flagship Language Initiative.

Megan Dixon was chosen to receive a Graduate Research Award in 2005 from the University’s Center on Diversity and Community.

Nancy Hiemstra received a Graduate Research Award from the University’s Center on Diversity and Community in 2004 and was also the recipient of the Margaret Trussel student scholarship awarded by the Association of Pacific Coast Geographers.

Michael Hughes received the 2005 University Club Fellowship from the University Club of Portland.

Susan Hume received the Outstanding Dissertation Award from the Ethnic Geography Specialty Group at the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers in 2004.

Patrick Hurley was awarded the 2004 Udall Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship.

Corey Johnson received the 2004 International Trade and Development Grant awarded through the Oregon University System, as well as the German Academic Exchange Service’s German Studies Travel Grant. He was also awarded travel funds from the Association of American Geographers and the National Science Foundation to attend the thirtieth congress of the International Geographical Union in Glasgow, Scotland, in August, 2004. In spring 2005, Corey received a Robert Bosch Foundation Fellowship.

Brittany Jones received a Foreign Language Area Studies scholarship.

She also received a Graduate Research Award from the UO’s Center on Diversity and Community in 2005.

Ann Laudati was awarded the Society of Women Geographers’ Evelyn Pruitt National Dissertation Fellowship in 2004.

Pollyanna Lind was awarded a fellowship by the North Umpqua Foundation in 2004. This year, with Pat McDowell and Jim O’Connor of the U.S. Geological Survey office in Portland, Pollyanna received a grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Klamath Basin Ecosystem Restoration Program.

Jennifer Marlon won the best student poster award in the Biogeography Specialty Group at the Association of American Geographers (AAG) annual meeting in 2004. She was also awarded a UO scholarship for 2005–6.

Maylian Pak was chosen to receive a Graduate Research Award from the University’s Center on Diversity and Community in 2004.

Eric Sproles received a UO scholarship award in 2004. Eric also received the Best Student Research Proposal from the Water Resources Specialty Group of the AAG last spring. This summer, Eric was selected to be the student ambassador for the Cartographic and Geographic Information Society, and represented the society at the Economic and Social Research Institute International User Conference in San Diego.

Erik Strandhagen won first place in the Student Illustrated Paper Competition, sponsored by the Cartography, GIS, and Remote Sensing Specialty Groups in 2004. His poster also won first place at the University Council on Water Resources in Portland. Erik was additionally awarded the AAG Cartography Specialty Group Master’s Thesis Research Grant.

The Department of Geography and the Graduate School awards Summer Research Grants to allow graduate students to pursue their research during the summer months. In 2004, the awardees were Christy Briles, Barbara Cates, Megan Dixon, Kevin Green, Nancy Hiemstra, Brittany Jones, Ann Laudati, and Guoping Tang. In 2005, awards went to Barbara Cates, Minie Choi, Amanda Coleman, Shannon Cram, Jonathan Day, Megan Dixon, Nancy Hiemstra, and Brittany Jones.

Recent Department Graduates

Doctor of Philosophy

Susan E. Hume
“Just Drops in the Ocean: The Contextualized Identities of African University Students in Their Home Countries and in the United States”

Nicholas P. Kohler
“Protected Areas and Landscape Change in Mainland Southeast Asia”

Adam F. Light
“Design Patterns for Cartography and Data Graphics”

Anna-Minna Pavulans
“Identities in Motion: Citizenship, Mobility, and the Politics of Belonging in the Post-Cold War Era”

Master of Science

Vicki B. Rubinstein
“Interpretation of Charcoal Accumulation Rates in a Sediment Core from Carp Lake, Washington”

Erik Strandhagen
“View of the Rivers: Representing Streamflow of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem”

Master of Arts

Barbara E. Cates
“Behind the Industrial Façade: An Exploration of Urban Revitalization and Migration in Portland, Oregon’s Pearl District”

Matthew A. Derrick
“Contested Autonomy: Tatarstan under Putin”

Megan M. Lawrence
“The Neural Basis of Map Comprehension and Spatial Abilities”

Maylian J. Pak
“Poverty, Race, and Community Organization: Social and Environmental Justice in Eugene, Oregon”
Faculty Updates

Pat “Bart” Bartlein
Pat Bartlein continues to work with longtime collaborators and friends. His paper with former grad student Adam Light, titled “The End of the Rainbow?” on color-scheme use in scientific publications, was seen by 45,000 American Geophysical Union members and provoked some nice (and some cranky) comments. Last spring, he was invited to give a lecture at the University of Minnesota as part of their Global Change and Changing Landscapes series: “A hierarchical view of the climatic controls of wildfire in the western United States.” He is currently working on the application of nonlinear time series analysis methods in paleoclimatology. Bart points out two contributing factors to continuing excellence in Oregon wine: great climates leading to outstanding recent harvests (global warming?) and continued success in introducing warm-weather grape varieties (Syrah, Grenache, Tempranillo, Viognier) to the mix of varieties (global warming again?). Always good and widely available: Pinot Gris from King Estate; interesting white wines: Viognier from Abacela (2004) and Griffen Creek (2002); new négociant-style wine: A to Z claret (2002); good-value Pinot Noir: Evesham Wood W.V. (2004); Broadley W.V. (2004); nice summery rosé: J. K. Carriere “Glass” (2004).

Shaul Cohen
Shaul Cohen continues to expand his ethnoterritorial conflict project in Northern Ireland, conducting research there again last winter and over the summer. In conjunction with this work, he has also established ties with peace and reconciliation groups in the Republic of Ireland that work with Israeli and Palestinian colleagues. Shaul is mirroring this work on campus, where he is now the cochair of the Peace Studies Program and coordinator of the study-abroad Ireland Program. He is also writing a multidisciplinary classroom text on the Middle East with his wife, adjunct assistant professor of anthropology Diane Baxter. Shaul’s book, Planting Nature: Trees and the Manipulation of Environmental Stewardship in America, came out last spring from the University of California Press. He will soon be teaching a course on the Israel-Palestine and Northern Ireland conflicts in the law school as part of a new master’s program on conflict resolution. Shaul is also proud to say he straightened and neatened his office.

Susan Hardwick
Susan Hardwick continues her teaching and research on the geography of immigration, urban geography, and geographic education. In her second year as head of the UO Canadian Studies Consortium, her work on immigrants and refugees is heading north. This summer, she conducted fieldwork in western Canada for a new project on American immigration to Canada between 1965 and 2005. She has been doing focus groups and conducting a series of interviews in ex-patriot communities in British Columbia and Alberta, focusing on immigrant spatial patterns, citizenship, and shifting identities. As usual, Jim Meacham will be supervising the mapping phase of the project.

Last summer, she welcomed a record-breaking number of new teachers into the department’s summer master’s program. Susan’s husband, Don Holtgrieve, Ph.D. ’73, is now in residence full time in Eugene after five years of commuting from their house in Chico. He is enjoying life coauthoring a forthcoming textbook on North America, serving as summer program codirector, and being a part-time Condon Hall geographer-in-residence. Their four grown sons conveniently all live along the West Coast.

Amy Lobben
Amy Lobben spent much of the past year adjusting from the midwest into new everything: department, office, house, town, university, children’s schools, and geographical region. To that end, she worked toward making research connections on campus as well as around the state. She is now working on two projects, funded by the National Science Foundation and the University of Oregon Educational Technology Committee, with campus collaborators Steve Fickas (computer and information studies) on the former and with Cathleen Leue (Social Science Instructional Laboratory) on the latter. In addition, Amy is working on a project with Geoffrey Duh (Department of Geography, Portland State University), funded by the Northwest Academic Computing Consortium. They will develop and apply optimization algorithms to facilitate the use of geovisualization techniques for geography education. At the 2005 meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Amy presented papers and was elected vice chair of the Cartography Specialty Group. She also presented papers at the International Conference on Information Visualization in London and the International Cartographic Conference in La Coruña, Spain.

Andrew Marcus
This year, Andrew Marcus is devoting more time to teaching and research after a frenetic year as president of the University Senate. In that capacity, he worked on revising the Student Conduct Code, oversaw the development of new policies for the retention and promotion of non-tenure-track faculty members, recommended ways to further integrate intercollegiate athletics and academics in his work on the President’s
Task Force on Athletics, plus a host of other activities. Last year, he also initiated a course on modeling watershed and river hydrology. Now, Andrew has two major new projects underway. Following in Bill Loy’s footsteps, Andrew, Jim Meacham, geography graduate students, and InfoGraphics staff are launching the development of the Atlas of Yellowstone. Sample pages from the atlas and a brochure describing the project have been prepared for fundraising purposes. The hope is to raise enough funds to produce the atlas by the end of 2006. In another new project, Andrew is collaborating with Allan James at the University of South Carolina to produce a special Binghamton geomorphology conference volume that revisits the classic volume Man’s Role in Changing the Face of the Earth. He and Allan are editing a series of twenty papers that review the role of humans in altering river systems. Andrew has also initiated a new course on modeling watershed and river hydrology, and is leading a freshman group on a field trip to Olympic National Park, where they will investigate the potential impacts of the Elwha River dam removals scheduled for 2008.

**Pat McDowell**

Pat McDowell became department head again in fall 2004. She continues to serve as a core faculty member in the Environmental Studies Program, teach Fluvial Geomorphology and Watershed Science and Policy, and conduct a number of research projects. Her major research project, funded by the National Science Foundation, seeks to understand how large floods shape river channels and floodplains, how humans have responded to floods during the twentieth century, and the implications for fish habitat. The principal study rivers are the Umatilla in northeastern Oregon and the Applegate in southwestern Oregon. The project supports graduate student Michael Hughes, plus a number of undergrads. Pat, along with Jim O’Connor of the U.S. Geological Survey office in Portland, started a new project on the Sprague and Sycan rivers in the Klamath Basin in southern Oregon in June 2005, with funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Klamath Basin Ecosystem Restoration Program. This project’s goal is to understand geomorphic processes shaping the channel and floodplain of the Sprague River in order to aid in restoration project planning and site selection. Grad student Pollyanna Lind is supported by this project. Finally, in 2004–5, Pat served on a National Research Council committee studying in-stream flows in Texas. This project gave Pat a chance to look at water management issues that are causing conflict all over the U.S. in areas with high growth rates and competing demands for water from agriculture, urban areas, and environmental needs. The results of the study were published as a book, Methods for Establishing Instream Flows for Texas Rivers (National Academy Press, 2005).

**Jim Meacham**

This past year, Jim Meacham had the opportunity to spend a field season in the Altai Mountains of northwest Mongolia as part of an ongoing research effort directed by art history professor Esther Jacobson-Tepfer. He is mapping a rich complex of petroglyphs and surface monuments dating back to the early Bronze Age. This mapping effort is part of a joint Mongolian-American-Russian Altai project, established in 1994 to survey and document surface archaeology in the region. The objective of this international effort is to develop a better understanding of the complex ancient cultural ecology of the Mongolian Altai. Along with Esther, Jim is collaborating with project photographer Gary Tepfer in the creation of a cultural atlas of the region. Other projects include the publication of an article for The Professional Geographer covering work with Susan Hardwick on ethnicity and refugee communities in the Portland area, and the development of a new comprehensive atlas of Yellowstone National Park with Andrew Marcus.

**Alec Murphy**

Alec Murphy’s frequent flyer account is in healthy shape after crossing the country multiple times in his role as president of the Association of American Geographers (AAG). In addition to his work on the AAG executive committee and appearances at regional meetings, Alec has spoken to senior administrators at a number of universities, participated in workshops for geography department heads, and helped to organize the second AAG-sponsored “Mapping the News” conference. Highlights included chairing the AAG centennial meeting in Philadelphia and giving the past president’s address in Denver (soon to appear in the Annals of the Association of American Geographers). On the research front, Alec continues his work on Europe; he gave the opening address at a 2004 symposium in Slovenia on US-EU relations, and he is working on a new edition of The European Culture Area. He has also launched a new project on state justifications for territorial claims (with recent publications in Geopolitics and The Geography of War and Peace: From Death Camps to Diplomats, an edited compilation published by Oxford University Press). He is also trying to raise geography’s visibility in the wider world—most recently speaking to some 2,500 people at the Chautauqua Institution in upstate New York on the relevance of geographical thinking for the conduct of foreign policy.

**Lise Nelson**

This year, Lise Nelson continued her research on immigration and place in Woodburn, Oregon, and wrapped up two articles drawn from her work in Mexico. They will be published in the Annals of the Association of American Geographers and the Journal of Latin American Geography next year. In February 2005, A Companion to Feminist Geography was published by Blackwell Press, a hefty forty-

*Continued on next page*
chapter volume Lise co-edited with Joni Seager (York University). Lise is currently working with Peter Nelson (no relation) of Middlebury College on a research grant proposal. That project will explore the linkages between domestic baby-boomer migration and Latino immigration to rural places in the United States. Using both quantitative and qualitative data, it will examine the ways in which these two migration streams are transforming rural conceptions of place and belonging.

On a personal note, Lise married Andrew Schulz, an art historian, last summer. Andrew accepted a position in UO’s art history department this fall, which means Lise will relish the many hours this year not spent commuting to Seattle twice a month.

Peter Walker
In addition to gaining tenure in the fall of 2004, Peter Walker recently published two review articles in Progress in Human Geography on how political ecology integrates ideas from physical ecology and from planning and policy, a recognition which has been marginalized until now. During summer 2004, Peter worked with funds from a UO Summer Research Award to establish new research sites examining the politics and ecology of rural sprawl on the West Coast. This past summer, he extended this research to a more regional level to include Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, and Washington. He has broadened the project to ask more ecologically based questions, including how social change has affected regional physical ecology. Last summer he also took a family vacation to the island of Kauai in Hawaii that spurred new research ideas about land-use controls and the politics of the tourist economy as it relates to traditional rights of native Hawaiians.

Ron Wixman
Last year, Ron Wixman led five summer lecture leader tours to Mongolia, Siberia, the Black Sea, the Aegean Sea, and the Adriatic Sea. Last spring, the News Hour with Jim Lehrer program, along with the League of Women Voters, selected sixteen cities in the United States to host a radio talk and phone-in open discussion with the American public on two separate occasions. The city of Juneau, Alaska, asked Ron to be their representative speaker. The first talk was on America and the world (stressing the U.S. role in international affairs, military, and moral status) while the second focused on the U.S. in Iraq. This fall, Ron is on sabbatical and traveling extensively. He will teach winter and spring terms before retiring at the end of the academic year.

Congratulations!
Kyle Walker and Megan Edgar were the 2004–5 recipients of the Trussell Family Scholarship. This award goes to geography undergraduates with high scholastic ability and an interest in pursuing a career that serves humanity.

Front Office News
In any academic department, the front office is the initial point of contact for students, visitors, faculty members, and anyone who has business with the Department of Geography. The department is fortunate to have such a warm and welcoming staff to fulfill this role.

Mary Milo begins her seventh year as undergraduate and graduate secretary, and says she is delighted by the improvements made to the front office this past year. In conjunction with the tea room upgrade, the front office entryway and mailboxes were remodeled, modernizing the office’s appearance and opening up space. Jeff Wilson, M.A. ’81, contributed beautiful oak doors and mailboxes. Mary expresses her deepest thanks to the alumni for their generous support of this project.

When she’s not keeping the department’s grant finances in order and working half time, accounting technician Andrea Heid will get a chance to use her background in fine art and art education. Last fall, she was appointed to a four-year term on the Oregon Arts Commission by Governor Ted Kulongoski.

Sandra Knauber is the new office manager. Sandra comes from the Romance languages department, where she has worked for the past ten years. Sandra says the knowledge and involvement of the faculty and office staff have helped smooth her transition.

Tori Paul is beginning her third year as the geography department’s work-study student and her fourth year as an undergraduate at the University of Oregon. She is pursuing a degree in English with an emphasis on nineteenth-century British literature, and a minor in communication studies. Her professionalism and willingness to take on any project make her an important asset to the front office.
Emeriti News

Carl L. Johannessen

Carl has been busy working on research and writing for publication. His paper, “Early Maize in India? A Case for Multiple Working Hypotheses,” recently came out in Culture, Land, and Legacy: Carl O. Sauer and the Berkeley School of Geography, published by the Department of Geography and Anthropology at Louisiana State University. Carl’s largest accomplishment last year was the completion of his book, Scientific Evidence for Pre-Columbian Transoceanic Voyages to and from the Americas, written in collaboration with archaeologist John L. Sorenson from Brigham Young University. In October, he is attending the Conference of Latin American Geographers in Michoacán, Mexico. While in Mexico, Carl will continue research on evidence of early diffusion of cultural traits. He is also promoting the idea of a nonprofit, private, expandable library for maintaining the personal libraries of retired research professors.

Clyde Patton

After fifty-one years, Clyde has finally given up teaching. He still enjoys life in New York City, getting tours at the Museum of Natural History, and jogging around the reservoir in Central Park. He also recently became a great grandfather. Last year Clyde and his wife Pat Caro took a trip to Jordan, where they visited the Gulf of Aqaba and explored ancient history at the ruins of Petra. Clyde was duly impressed by the city of Petra, which flourished from 100 B.C. to 100 A.D. before it became part of the Roman Empire. It is now a city of rubble, although the structures of the ancient city survive. He was fascinated by the numerous tombs, a theater, baths, and other structures built by carving into the soft sandstone, and by how they have survived the ravages of time.

Ed Price

Last year, Ed Price contributed a chapter, “Crafting Culture History,” to Culture, Land, and Legacy: Carl O. Sauer and the Berkeley School of Geography, published by the Department of Geography and Anthropology at Louisiana State University. He turns ninety this fall—happy birthday, Ed!

Joe Searl

Joe is happy to report that he and his wife Jan are comfortably settled into their new house, and they have decided to never move again! This is his third year on the steering committee for the Eugene Irish Cultural Festival. During last year’s festival, he lectured on mid-nineteenth century Ireland. He will give another lecture on the same topic on March 11 at Sheldon High School. Joe continues to be interested in different ways of communicating place through video projects, especially in which place is often distorted. Last year, with Eric Olds, Joe experimented with various video ideas at Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in southern Utah. In April, he and Eric will travel to Korea, and Joe will have the opportunity to visit places where he served in the Korean War.

Ev Smith

Ev and Sally Smith continue to enjoy life to the fullest. This fall, for the third year in a row, they traveled to Idaho for the Sun Valley Swing ‘n’ Dixie Jazz Jamboree. Last year they went on a two-week tour of colonial Mexico, and this November they returned to Mexico, this time to Puerto Vallarta, for a week with their two sons and their families. Ev has a continuing interest in clearly presenting to the public what’s going on geographically in the Willamette Valley. He also keeps thinking of trips farther away. He quipped, “Life is good in retirement.”

Al Urquhart

In the last year, Al has moved twice within Eugene. After completely rebuilding a small 1948-vintage house from the ground up with the intention of selling it, he decided to move into it. He then saw the possibility of adding a little cottage behind it, to rent to a friend. That process is now almost complete except for all of the landscaping—the part he most enjoys. Al’s travels took him to Hawaii and Alaska, as well as to North Carolina. He still reads a lot, paints a little, and recently bought a beautiful, Eugene-made ukulele, which he is enjoying learning to play. Al is concerned with the ever-increasing exploitation of the Earth’s resources and landscapes, and believes that geographers can make an important contribution to these issues by becoming involved and offering their unique insights and perspectives.

Welcome, New Graduate Students!

The Department of Geography is excited to welcome its new graduate students.

Jacob Blair earned a B.S. from our department last year. His interests focus on geographic visualization.

Christine Bowman got her bachelor’s degree in geography from UCLA. She is interested in fluvial geomorphology.

Mary Crooks received a bachelor’s degree in geography at the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand. Her interests include cognitive mapping and human geography topics.

Diana Fischetti got a bachelor’s degree in environmental studies from the University of Colorado. She is interested in international development and environment issues.

Sam Fox earned a bachelor’s in recreation resource management from the University of Montana. He is currently getting a joint degree in public policy and management. His interests lie in territoriality, conflicts over natural resources, and nature-society interactions.

Jon Jablonski is both our new map librarian and a new grad student in the department. He has a B.F.A. from the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee and an M.L.I.S. from the University of Washington.

Adam Lake studied environmental science at Lawrence University in Wisconsin. Also getting a degree in public policy and management, his interests lie in political and social interactions and ways in which they are influenced by resource issues.

Erin Machell has a B.A. in anthropology and history from Oregon. She is interested in political ecology and Central America.

Ginger Mansfield got her bachelor’s degree in geography from the University of Minnesota. Her focus is on migration and policy.

Safy Nurhussein received his bachelor’s degree in politics from Oberlin College. His interests encompass capitalism, nature, farming, and development issues.

Lee Pera has a bachelor’s degree in Spanish from the University of Minnesota. She has broad human geography interests centering on development and Latin America.
The Department of Geography thanks the following individuals and companies for their generosity and support.

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