Dear Maps and Apps FIG Student,

Welcome to the University of Oregon, and to the Maps and Apps Freshman Interest Group (FIG)! My name is Cole Peterson, and I will be your FIG Assistant this fall. Our FIG is a combination of two four-credit classes and a one-credit college connections class that ties the two topics together. These classes include: Computer Information Science 110 – Fluency with Information Technology (four credits), Geography 181 – Our Digital Earth (four credits), and Geography 199 – College Connections (one credit). Professor Chris Bone and I will teach the college connections class, which will help tie together the information learned in both classes to make it more applicable to everyday life.

Now let me tell you a little about myself! I am from Bozeman, MT, and I am now a sophomore at the University of Oregon. I am a Pre-Business major, and I am leaning toward majoring in accounting once I am accepted into the Business School. I am also working towards a minor in Computer Information Technology. In school, I have been very interested in watching Oregon football and basketball, and I also have played on multiple intramural teams. GO DUCKS! Other than school, I enjoy playing and watching sports, watching movies, hanging out, and playing the occasional FIFA match.

Here is a little bit about your College Connections Professor, Dr. Christopher Bone. Chris is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography. Chris’ teaching mostly focuses on Geographic Information Science, which covers technologies such as web-based mapping (think of Google Maps), social media, geographic data, and computer models. Chris’ research interests are in developing computer models for simulating human and natural disturbances to
forests, which include harvesting trees, bark beetle outbreaks and invasive pathogens. In his spare time, Chris enjoys playing piano, cycling in the Loraine Valley and hiking in the hills surrounding Eugene.

**In preparation for class in the fall**, Chris and I would like you to take ten pictures of your hometown. More directions on the summer assignment are found on our Maps and Apps wordpress website: http://blogs.uoregon.edu/mapsandapps14/. Please have all your pictures taken and uploaded before the Week of Welcome meeting on Friday September 26.

On our Maps and Apps website you can see the syllabus, as well as the different assignments throughout the term. Chris and I will also use this site as a method of communication, and it will be a great resource for you in the Maps and Apps FIG.

⬇⬇ DON’T FORGET ⬇⬇

On **Friday September 26**, we will hold our first FIG meeting. Please meet in **Columbia 150 at 10:00 A.M.**, and be on time. We will be leaving Columbia 150 to meet with Chris to talk about the FIG, so it is important to be on time. We are both very excited to meet you all, and we hope you had a great summer. If you have any questions, feel free to email me.

npeters3@uoregon.edu See you soon!

Your Maps and Apps FIG Assistant,

Cole Peterson

npeters3@uoregon.edu