GEOMORPHORUM

newsletter of the geomorphology specialty group
of the
association of american geographers

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Geomorphology and the Progress of Science

by Anne Chin

As many of you know, I currently also wear the hat of Director of the Geography and Regional Science (GRS) Program of the National Science Foundation (NSF). I write this column from the vantage point of having seen the production of research from the "inside," where I see the totality of the process from beginning to end, and where I also see the entire community of participants. My perspectives are enriched and colored by my experiences, and I wish to share some of what I've learned over the past six months in this office.

As a program officer, my daily tasks are to process grant applications that come into the program, and to track the numerous current awards that require action, such as annual reports and the like. As such, much of my time is spent on administrative and clerical work. Beyond the routine chores, however, my job is also to assess the frontiers of science, to continually search for new avenues of inquiry, and to direct our research efforts there. It is these aspects of my activities that keep my senses alive, as I realize the critical and pivotal role that I play in facilitating the progress of science. Below, I share some observations pertaining to the progress of science, as they relate to our participation as geomorphologists.

First, I am struck by the very large number of individuals that must necessarily give input into the funding process at NSF. I may not have appreciated this point fully before, but it became readily apparent as I became immersed in the review process. With each proposal, for example, at least six colleagues are typically invited to provide a review. If ~120 proposals are considered, as in the GRS program last Fall, and adding proposals managed by other programs in joint reviews with GRS, the total number of individuals contacted exceeds 800. Not everyone responds, of course, but even at 60-70% response rate, approximately 500 colleagues would have contributed toward the evaluation of proposals during

one review cycle that produced 15-20 awards. The roles of these colleagues are critical to the ultimate funding decisions that are made. Program officers consider each review carefully and, assisted by an advisory panel, make decisions only when a requisite number of reviews is received for each proposal. Thus, at the end of the day, it becomes clear that the progress of science truly depends on a collective effort of the entire community.

Second, it also seems convincingly clear that "the 21st century is interdisciplinary." These are in fact words spoken by Rita Colwell, former Director of NSF, just a few weeks ago at a workshop held in Arlington, Virginia, focused on integrating social sciences into environmental observatories. The transition toward more interdisciplinary work is not a new idea for geomorphologists. Last July, I also wrote about this issue in the Chair's column of Geomorphorum (Changing of the Times, Issue No. 1, 2006). However, although geomorphologists may work naturally with colleagues in allied fields in the natural sciences and engineering (such as ecology, zoology, and civil engineering), the times may be upon us to extend these efforts into developing interdisciplinary work that includes the social sciences. Social scientists are contemplating jumping into environmental work, and geomorphologists have an opportunity to meet them in these efforts.

Third, the harsh realities are that we are working under very uncertain times. Whereas there may have been a time when expanding economies supported growth in research and education, now, funding for research is not as plentiful. Budget uncertainties, coupled with increasing pressures for investigators to secure external funding, mean that competition for grants is greater than ever. These times demand that we approach research in much more strategic and focused ways than before. We must define the cutting edges more clearly and attack those edges with sharpened tools. We must find ways to cost-share among institutions and individuals. Our research must also produce broad impacts that include education and societal benefits. In short, we must achieve a lot with modest budgets. These are tall orders, but, such are the times, and we are at that place in our history.

I very much appreciate the opportunity to have served as Chair of GSG this year. I look forward to seeing many of you at our next Annual Meeting in San Francisco this April.

NEWS FROM CANADIAN GEOMORPHOLOGICAL RESEARCH GROUP

by Dirk de Boer, President, CGRG

The Canadian Geomorphology Research Group was established in 1993 at the International Association of Geomorphology Congress in Hamilton, Ontario. It provides a voice for geomorphology in Canada. CGRG is affiliated with the Geological Association of Canada (GAC), Canadian Geophysical Union (CGU), Canadian Association of Geographers (CAG), l'Association Québécoise pour l'étude du Quaternaire (AQQUA), and Canadian Quaternary Association (CANQUA). CGRG organizes and sponsors technical sessions, workshops, and field trips for its members; maintains a comprehensive, online bibliography of Canadian geomorphological, Quaternary, and environmental geoscience publications (http://cgrg.geog.uvic.ca/cgi-bin/search.cgi); unites and mobilizes its members through newsletters; and brings recognition to outstanding, young Canadian earth scientists through the Olav Slaymaker and J. Ross Mackay awards. Last year, the J. Ross Mackay Award was won by Dr. Duane Froese (University of Alberta) in recognition of his contributions to the understanding of the late Cenozoic environmental history of eastern Beringia. Our web site is maintained at: http://cgrg.geog.uvic.ca/.

In 2007, we have a number of excellent meetings on the agenda, such as the combined annual meeting of the Geological Association of Canada and the Mineralogical Association of Canada (May 23-25) in Yellowknife, the capital of the Northwest Territories. I would like to draw your special attention to the Symposium on Permafrost organized by Steven Solomon and Steve Kokelj and co-sponsored by the Canadian National Committee for the International Permafrost Association. Almost half of Canada's landmass is underlain by permafrost, making Yellowknife a superb location for this meeting.

Also in 2007, the Canadian Quaternary Association will meet in Ottawa, the capital of Canada, from June 4-8. Numerous special sessions of interest to the geomorphology community are planned, and the CGRG will sponsor a special session on "Rivers and Fluvial Processes," organized by Greg Brooks. Fluvial geomorphology has been the focus of many excellent special sessions at various national meetings in Canada, and the upcoming special session at CANQUA continues this rich tradition. I invite all of you with an interest in any aspect of fluvial geomorphology to participate, and I extend a special invitation to students, as student oral and poster presentations are eligible for the Olav Slaymaker Award.

REPORT FROM *GEOMORPHOLOGY* JOURNAL

by Dick Marston, Andy Plater, and Takashi Oguchi, Co-Editors-In-Chief

Geomorphology publishes peer-reviewed works across the full spectrum of the discipline, from fundamental theory and science to applied research of relevance to sustainable management of the environment. The journal's scope includes geomorphic themes of: tectonics and regional structure; glacial processes and landforms; fluvial sequences, Quaternary environmental change and dating; fluvial processes and landforms; mass movement, slopes and periglacial processes; hillslopes and soil erosion; weathering, karst and soils; aeolian processes and landforms, coastal dunes and arid environments; coastal and marine processes, estuaries and lakes; modelling, theoretical and quantitative geomorphology; DEM, GIS and remote sensing methods and applications; hazards, applied and planetary geomorphology; and volcanics.

An important aspect of *Geomorphology* submissions is the range of options for manuscript type and length. Research papers make up the majority of submissions. Review articles are also welcomed. Short commentaries on particularly current disciplinary research directions, knowledge gaps, or agenda-setting themes are accepted, along with short communications that aim to bring exciting new research techniques or urgent issues to light. In addition, book review contributions critique recent publications across the range of geomorphic themes. In recent years, special issues have grown in number, targeting the important developments in geomorphology from a variety of conferences and conference sessions. Special issues published in 2006 included "Ice Sheet Geomorphology," "Quaternary landscape Change and Modern Processes in Western North America," "Linking Geomorphology and Ecology," "Mountain Rivers-Part 1-Watershed Scale Processes and Channel Morphology," "Sediment and geochemical Budgets-Papers in Honor of Professor Olav Slaymaker," "Sedimentary Source-to-Sink Fluxes," and "The Hydrology and Geomorphology of Bedrock Rivers."

In 2006, *Geomorphology* published 10 volumes containing a record total of 4,008 pages. The number of pages increased 16% over 2005, which had increase 40% over 2004. A total of 30,203 pages have been published since its outset in July 1987. The journal continues to enjoy enormous growth in manuscripts submitted and number of pages allocated to the journal published by Elsevier. Over 200,000 full-text PDF files of articles were downloaded worldwide in 2006 through Elsevier's Science Direct service, greatly increasing exposure of the journal. Personal subscriptions for AAG members remain at ~ $100 per year.

UPDATE ON BINGHAMTON GEOMORPHOLOGY SYMPOSIUM

by David Butler, Steering Committee Chair

History. The Binghamton Geomorphology Symposium held its first conference in 1970 on the topic of Environmental Geomorphology. Since, 36 annual symposia have been held on a range of topics. A brief history of the Binghamton Symposium and a complete list of topics dating from 1970 may be found at: http://geography.uoregon.edu/amarcus/Binghamton2006/history.htm.

How are topics of the Binghamton Symposium chosen? Each annual symposium begins with a short proposal submitted by potential organizers to the Binghamton Geomorphology Symposium Steering Committee. Individuals active within the discipline of geomorphology are encouraged to propose a topic. Symposia are typically approved 2-3 years in advance of the meeting. This lead time gives organizers opportunity to seek travel funds for international participants, and for authors of invited papers to produce their manuscripts. Instructions for submitting proposals for Binghamton Symposia are found at: http://geography.uoregon.edu/amarcus/Binghamton2006/BGS-proposal.htm. See "Other Announcements" in this newsletter for topics of recent and upcoming symposia.

Where are papers of Binghamton Symposia published? The early Binghamton Symposium volumes were published as stand-alone books by commercial publishers. Many of these books are now out-of-press, so that copies must be sought through used books channels. Most of the other volumes since the 1990s were published as both a special issue of the journal *Geomorphology* and as a stand-alone book (the so-called "maroon books") by Elsevier. Information on several of these volumes is available at the "history" link listed above. The 1996 volume, *The Scientific Nature of Geomorphology* (edited by B. Rhoads and C. Thorn), is also available at: https://netfiles.uiuc.edu/brhoads/www/book.htm. Recently, Elsevier made the editorial decision to suspend publishing the maroon book due to low sales numbers and availability of Binghamton papers from the ScienceDirect on-line site for *Geomorphology*. This decision was made without consultation with, and over the strident objections of, the Binghamton Geomorphology Symposium Steering Committee. As a compromise, Elsevier has produced maroon-bound copies of the special issue of the Binghamton *Geomorphology* journal issue for the 2005 and 2006 meetings (ordering information can be accessed at the afore-cited "history" link, as well as in the "Other Announcements" section of this newsletter). The

Steering Committee continues to discuss the future of publication delivery methods for the annual Binghamton papers, and your suggestions are welcome. Please send suggestions to the Steering Committee Chair, **David Butler**, at db25@txstate.edu.

The Binghamton Steering Committee. Membership on the Steering Committee is comprised of both long-term (so-called "permanent") and rotating members. Committee structure and its members are available at: http://geography.uoregon.edu/amarcus/Binghamton2006/BSC.htm. The committee welcomes ideas, suggestions, and comments!

MELVIN G. MARCUS DISTINGUISHED CAREER AWARD: ACCEPTANCE

Last March in Chicago, the GSG presented the Marcus Distinguished Career Award to **Stan Trimble** of the University of California, Los Angeles (see Issue No. 1, 2006 Geomorphorum). Stan's acceptance remarks, which were not available at press time of Issue No. 1, are reproduced below.

Acceptance Remarks
by Stanley W. Trimble

I'm grateful to the GSG for this award. I'm also grateful to Andy Ward, agricultural engineer of Ohio State University, who made the nomination, and to the several geomorphologists who wrote on my behalf. It came as a complete surprise. Andy sends his sincere regrets for not being here tonight.

One of the few advantages of getting old is that hopefully the memory gets long. I well remember the early meetings of the caucus of physical geographers. The first meeting I attended was in Atlanta in 1973 but at Seattle in 1974, Tony Orme chaired a particularly inspired meeting. Four years later in New Orleans, several of us formed the GSG and I consider myself fortunate to have been Secretary in 1981-82 and Chair, 82-83.

Geographical geomorphology has come a long way since then. When I left graduate school in 1972, some geographical geomorphologists were pulling the white lab coat ever tighter, trying to pass themselves off as geologists or engineers. Now, we see engineers calling themselves geomorphologists. That is a very good omen, but we should always strive to be good geographers rather than second-rate engineers or geologists.

I really can't imagine a career that could give me more satisfaction (please note present tense). For this, I'm grateful to many people, firstly to my parents for their support and encouragement. And secondly to my wife, Alice, and daughters, Alicia and Jennie, not only for putting up with heat, humidity, rain and mosquitoes while helping me in the field, but also for waiting patiently in the car while I stopped on at least 10,000 bridges to look at streams.

I'm also grateful to my teachers: Louis De Vorsey, an historical geographer; A.P. Barnett, an agricultural engineer; John Hewlett, a forest hydrologist; Stafford C.Happ, an engineering geologist, and Kirk H. Stone, my major professor and the only geographer at the University of Georgia willing to put up with my eclecticism.

But I've had many other teachers, some close and some often at a distance, to whom I owe much. Among these are Karl Butzer, Claudio Vita-Finzi, Reds Wolman, Luna Leopold, Stan Schumm, (Sir) Ron Cooke, Ken Gregory, Bob Meade, Pierre Crosson, Michael Williams, Clinton Edwards, Walter Wischmeier, Ven Te Chow and Ron Shreve. To these, I must add people of my own generation: Tom Dunne, Will Graf, Des Walling, Andy Ward, John Costa, Andrew Goudie, John Boardman, Michael Conzen, Olav Slaymaker, Tim Burt, George Foster, Terry Toy, Peter Wilcock, and, yes, Jim Knox.

Finally, I want to pay homage to Mel Marcus, the fellow for whom this award is named. A gentle giant, Mel was always a leader in geography. Although not in the same subfield of geomorphology, we shared several interests and values, but a *passion* we shared was the music of Stan Kenton. In my office at UCLA hangs a picture of Mel as a jaunty young Air Force pilot serving in Korea, c.1952. He's standing in the cockpit of his Douglas A-26 Invader, arguably the most beautiful aircraft ever built. That's the way I like to remember Mel.

Thank you again for this award.

ANNUAL MEETING OF ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN GEOGRAPHERS

Geographers and colleagues will converge in San Francisco, California on **17-21 April 2007** for the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. As always, the GSG is sponsoring a range of paper sessions, field trips, and special events. In particular, the Blackwell Lecture on Geomorphology and Society features **Matt Kondolf** of the University of California, who will speak on river restoration in North America. **Richard Marston,** Past President of AAG and member and former Chair of GSG, will deliver the Past

President's Address during the annual banquet. Exciting field trips to the Sierra Foothills and Sacramento Valley (to examine the effects of hydraulic mining) and to northern San Mateo County (to view human impacts and geomorphic hazards) are also planned. Brief descriptions of these events follow, as well as a list of the special sessions sponsored by the GSG. The preliminary program on the AAG website (http://www.aag.org) contains more complete descriptions and individual author information. The GSG website (http://www.aag-gsg.org) also provides links to the session information. The organizers (in parentheses) may additionally be contacted for more details.

Special Sessions Sponsored by GSG

Aeolian Geomorphology I, II, III (J. T. Ellis and P. A. Gares) 17 April 12:00-5:40 pm

The research presented in these three sessions covers a broad spectrum of spatial and temporal scales within aeolian geomorphology.

Blackwell Lecture on Geomorphology and Society: River Restoration in North America: Meandering Channels for All? (A. Chin) 19 April 11:50 am – 12:50 pm

This invited annual lecture series features G. Mathias Kondolf of the University of California, who will speak on the science, practice, and challenges of river restoration in North America.

Climate Reconstructions: From Land to Sea I, II (M. Goman and C. H. Yansa) 20 April 2:00 – 5:40 pm

The climate record is examined on a variety of timescales (i.e. historic to Pleistocene) and resolutions (i.e. annual to millennial), and through a variety of proxy (biologic and geomorphic) and instrumental analyses.

Environmental and Ecological Restoration I, II (J. A. Fritshle and M. Daniels) 19 April 8:00 – 11:40 am

Flood Hazards in the Central Valley I, II (L. A. James and S. L. Cutter) 21 April 8:00 – 11:40 am

These sessions should interest those with research in flood hazards or the flood conveyance system of the Sacramento Valley, California. This region has one of the greatest flood hazards in the nation and presents an on-going conflict between development and known flood risk in the post-Katrina era when new flood policies are being considered. These papers and panel session evaluate the hydrologic and geomorphic systems that control flooding in the Central Valley, growing levels of social vulnerability, and the implications of these two converging conditions.

Fluvial Geomorphology I, II, III (P. F. Hudson and M. Slattery) 19 April 1:00 – 6:40 pm

The themes in these sessions are sediment transport, river channels, and floodplains. The geographic focus is broad and includes a range of climatic and geologic settings. The papers consider fluvial processes from the basin scale to channel-reach scale.

Geomorphology - Works in Progress and Preliminary Results (M. Lafrenz and L. Davis) 18 April 8:00 – 9:40 am

This Interactive Short Paper Session allows for five-minute presentations that summarize initial research results or introduce research in progress in any aspect of geomorphology.

Geomorphology Specialty Group Graduate Student Paper Competition I, II, III (M. Craghan) 18 April 8:00 am – 2:40 pm

Home Ground: Language and the American Landscape (W. L. Graf) 20 April 10:00 – 11:40 am

A discussion with Barry Lopez about his newest book, Home Ground, that explores the language Americans use to describe their physical landscape. The session includes analysis of the humanist and scientific approaches to language for landscapes, and an exploration of the intersection of rational and mystical perspectives that combine to generate a unique perspective on American landscape.

Human Impacts on Watershed Processes I, II, III, IV (J. Faustini, J. Jones, Shixiong Hu, and Yong Q. Tian) 20 April 8:00 – 3:40 pm

This series of sessions explores human impacts to hydrogeomorphic, biogeochemical, and ecological systems and processes in watersheds in a range of environments. Focus areas include (1) mountain watersheds; (2) geochemistry, water quality, and nutrients; (3) watershed management, particularly with respect to streamflow and fluvial processes in urbanizing landscapes; and (4) ecological impacts and processes.

Hurricanes III: Geomorphic Impacts (H. Williams) 20 April 12:00 – 1:40 pm

NSF GK-12 Programs in Geography and Geosciences (J. M. Harbor and S. P. Horn) 19 April 8:00 – 9:40 am

Graduate students, faculty, and teachers will present NSF-funded projects that pair graduate fellows with K-12 teachers to enhance

instruction in geography and the geosciences. This illustrated paper session will showcase GK-12 projects, what we are learning from these projects, as well as to help others interested in applying for NSF GK-12 funding.

Periglacial and Feeze/Thaw Processes (F. D. Wilkerson) 18 April 8:00 – 9:40 am

This session involves the role of freeze/thaw processes in the development of patterned ground and other periglacial landforms in both mountainous and non-mountainous environments.

Rock Weathering and Rock Art: Sustainability of Cultural Resources Etched in Stone (S. J. Gordon) 21 Apil 4:00 – 5:40 pm

This session focuses on the contributions that geographers interested in rock weathering may make to preserving rock art, an important cultural resource. The development of a Rock Art Stability Index is the theme of the contributions.

Scale Matters: the Role of Fine-Scale Phenomena in Landscapes I, II (B. S. Owen and J. E. Haugland) 17 April 2:00 – 5:40 pm

Blackwell Lecture on Geomorphology and Society: River Restoration in North America: Meandering Channels for All?

Matt Kondolf's lecture will address critical challenges facing scientists and environmental managers in restoring river landscapes. River restoration has become a big business in North America, with over 40,000 projects in the United States since 1990, costing over $17 billion. Many of these projects involve new experimental treatments, but remarkably little monitoring and post-project appraisal has been conducted, limiting the advance of the science and practice of river restoration.

This presentation will discuss common restoration approaches in North America, focusing on those that have the objective of creating a stable, single-thread, meandering channel. Designs for river restoration often call for meandering channels even though the river may not have been meandering historically, and where sediment load and flow regime are not consistent with such channel forms. Using his wealth of experience in numerous restoration cases in the U.S. and abroad, Kondolf will reveal how and why such restoration projects tend to fail. He will explore the basis for why form-based approaches continue to be popular in river restoration, tracing such popularity to long-held landscape theories and public preferences. The Blackwell Lecture on Geomorphology and Society will conclude with a discussion of how scientists and environmental managers can meet the challenges confronting the practice of river restoration in North America and elsewhere. The lecture will be held on Thursday 19 April, 11:50 am – 12:50 pm.

Kite photo by Chris Benton

Past President's Address: Land, Life, and Environmental Change in Mountains

Richard Marston's Past President's Address will explore one of the greatest challenges facing mountain scientists: the need to separate environmental change due to human activities from change that would have occurred without human interference. Linking cause-and-effect is especially difficult in mountain regions where physical processes can operate at ferocious rates and ecosystems are sensitive to rapid degradation by climate change, resource development, and land use/land cover change. Pressure is increasing for resource development in mountains, home to 600 million people and the source of water for half of the world's population. In addition, highland inhabitants are more vulnerable to natural hazards and political-economic marginalization than populations elsewhere.

This presentation will highlight special insights that geographers offer to understanding human impacts on mountain landscape stability. Marston's address will illustrate the complex feedbacks between biophysical and human phenomena, drawing from the work of the growing international community of mountain scientists, as well as his own research in the Himalaya-Karakoram, the French Alps, the Rocky Mountains, and the coastal ranges of Oregon and southeast Alaska. The lecture (free of charge) will be held following the AAG banquet on Thursday 19 April, 8:30 – 10:00 pm.

Photo by Anne Chin

Field Trips

Tracking Hydraulic Mining Sediment in the Sierra Foothills and Sacramento Valley 15-17 April 2007 (A. James, M. Singer, R. Aalto). This 2.5-day trip before the meeting will examine the effects of hydraulic mining on fluvial sedimentation, channel morphology, and the flood conveyance system in the Sacramento Valley. Stops include hydraulic gold-mine pits, deep gravel deposits below mines, channels in the Sacramento Valley, and depositional areas in Sutter and Yolo Bypasses. Mine tailings will be emphasized, as well as the impacts they have had on environmental and flood conveyance systems. The trip leaves from the conference hotel early Sunday morning April 15 and returns to the same location by 3:30 pm Tuesday April 17.

Coastal, Fluvial and Hillslope Geomorphic Systems of San Mateo County: Human Impacts and Hazards 21 April 2007 (J. Davis). Participants of this trip will visit coastal, fluvial and hillslope sites in northern San Mateo County, focusing on areas of significant human impact, geomorphic hazards, and biogeomorphic restoration. Coastal sites include Ocean Beach (San Francisco), Mussell Rock at San Andreas Fault (Daly City), and Pacifica beaches, where many homes have been lost due to cliff erosion. Hillslope sites include a colluvial hollow in Pacifica that produced a fatal debris flow in 1982. Fluvial processes will be examined along San Pedro Creek, including three restoration sites designed to remove barriers to anadromous steelhead migration.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

In addition to the AAG meeting and other conferences in the U.S., numerous gatherings around the world call attention to important geomorphological processes and phenomena. These workshops and symposia provide the venues for exchanging ideas and developing international collaborations. Below, colleagues wrote in with invitations to join them at conferences in the U.K., Malta, Mexico, Turkey, China, and Spain, in addition to those in Canada described earlier. These are just some of the many rich opportunities that await us around the globe this year.

GSG members and colleagues in Europe may be interested in the **European Geosciences Union (EGU) General Assembly 2007**, held in Vienna, Austria on **15-20 April 2007**. The EGU General Assembly will bring together geoscientists from Europe and the rest of the world into one meeting covering all disciplines of the Earth, Planetary and Space Sciences. The Geomorphology Division, in particular, will offer over 25 sessions on a range of topics, including aeolian processes and landforms, coastal geomorphology, bedrock channel morphology and dynamics, large rivers, karst geomorphology, high mountain geomorphology, the role of vegetation in geomorphological connectivity and land degradation, planetary geomorphology, and linking process and pattern in glaciated landscapes. See the conference website for more details: http://meetings.copernicus.org/egu2007/.

Geomorphologists are scheduled to convene at the Italo-Maltese Workshop on "**Integration of the geomorphological environment and cultural heritage for tourism promotion and hazard prevention**," held **25-27 April 2007** in Malta. Organized under the auspices of the International Association of Geomorphologists, the aim of this workshop is to raise awareness of the strong relationship that exists between the environment and the cultural heritage in several regions of the world, including Malta. The workshop will provide opportunity to present current research on the topic at an international venue. The First Circular and registration form can be found at http://www.terra.unimore.it/download/Geomorfologia/Italo-Maltese%20Workshop/. The website for the workshop is: http://www.terra.unimore.it/maltaworkshop/. For further information, contact: Mauro Soldati (soldati@unimore.it), Paola Coratza (paola.coratza@unimore.it), Odette Magri (odette.magri@um.edu.mt).

The **2007 AGU Joint Assembly** will be held for the first time in Acapulco, Mexico, **22-25 May 2007**. Papers are invited for a technical session entitled "Research on Tsunami Deposits." This session focuses on recent progress in field, experimental, and numerical studies of modern, historic, and paleo-tsunami deposits, and the recent development, application and integration of methodologies. Papers are invited on geologic records of tsunamis that provide information on the

timing, source location, size, and their recurrence intervals around the world. Case studies, including international interdisciplinary efforts, are especially encouraged, as are papers on methods for evaluating the long-term behavior of tsunami-generating active faults and assessing the likelihood of future events. For additional information, contact the conveners: Maria-Teresa Ramirez-Herrera (mtramirez@berkeley.edu); Marco Cisternas (marco.cisternas@ucv.cl); Martitia P. Tuttle (mptuttle@earthlink.net); Marcelo Lagos L. (mlagoslo@uc.cl). The electronic abstract submission deadline is **1 March 2007**.

The **International Symposium on Geography "GEOMED"** aims to foster international collaboration among scientists dealing with geography and related subjects in the Mediterranean region. Held in Antalya, Turkey on **5-8 June 2007**, the symposium will cover themes ranging from geomorphology and climate change to natural hazards and mountain environments. The Mediterranean Ecosystems Working Group will lead a field trip to examine topics including karst topography, coastal geomorphology, climate-soil-parent material-vegetation-landform interactions, environmental change, and anthropogenic influences on Mediterranean ecosystems. For more information, visit the symposium website http://geomed2007.balikesir.edu.tr or e-mail Prof. Dr. Recep Efe at refe@balikesir.edu.tr.

The **International Workshop on Environmental Changes and Sustainable Development in Arid and Semi-arid Regions**, with IAG as one of the co-organizers, will take place in **10-17 September 2007** in Inner Mongolia, China. Interesting pre-and post-conference field trips will be organized. Specific themes of the workshop include:
case studies and theories relating to land degradation and sustainable development in arid and semi-arid as well as sub-humid regions of various continents; comparisons of regional-scale reconstruction of Late Quaternary changes in the deserts of various climate zones (monsoon regions, subtropics and westerlies); natural and human impacts on the landscape in various climate zones; interactions among aeolian, fluvial and lacustrine processes in desert margins. Deadlines are: early bird registration 1 April 2007; receipt of abstracts 1 June 2007; final payment for regular registration 10 August 2007. The conference website contains additional details, including costs and special issues of journals to be published: http://www.iggcas.ac.cn/iw07/index.htm. For more information, contact **Xiaoping Yang** (xpyang@263.net.cn, xpyang@mail.igcas.ac.cn.)

The **International Conference on Granite Caves** will be held on **19-21 September 2007** at the University of Coruna, Galicia, Spain. The theme will be "Granite caves and related speleogenesis." Topics will include technical speleology on granite caves, genesis and classification of granite caves, mapping on granite caves, opal and allophone speleothemes, caves in sandstone, quartzite, and quartz. Pre-and post-field trips and other activities will take place in several parts of Galicia, including the surroundings of A Coruna, Santiago de Copostela, Vigo and Baiona. For additional information, contact: M. Vaqueiro Rodriguez (Chairman Speleology mauxo@mauxo.com) , J.R. Vidal Romani (Chairman Geology xemoncho@udc.es), and A. Martelli Emancipato (Secretariat registration, payment and circular xeoloxia@udc.es).

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Conference organizers Allan James and Andrew Marcus report that the **2006 Binghamton Geomorphology Symposium** was a great success. Participants from around the world convened at the University of South Carolina in October to assess "The Human Role in Changing Fluvial Systems." The symposium commemorated the 50th anniversary of *Man's Role in Changing the Face of the Earth,* a classic book on human impacts on the environment. Now, limited copies of the 2006 proceedings volume, *The Human Role in Changing Fluvial Systems* (James, L.A. and W.A. Marcus, editors), are available for sale. The book begins with a retrospective look at the past 50 years of human impact research on fluvial systems, followed by assessments of change at regional and global scales, and examination of drivers of change that include dams, urbanization, mining, animals, and channelization. The cost of the volume is $45 for one; two for $88; or three for $130. Shipment to locations outside the conterminous United States requires an additional $5 for single orders or $8 for two or three books. To order, please send a check made out to **Allan James** at: Geography Department, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, USA. All proceeds from this sale go to the Binghamton Steering Committee for future Binghamton meetings. Further details of the book can be found at http://geography.uoregon.edu/amarcus/Binghamton2006/.

In addition to the 2006 proceedings volume described above, the Proceedings of the **2005 Binghamton Geomorphology Symposium** (Geomorphology and Ecosystems) will also be available in the near future. Contact Chris Renschler at rensch@buffalo.edu for details.

The **Southeastern Friends of the Pleistocene** Fall field trip, "Catastrophic Flood and Debris Flow Deposits of Gorges State Park and the Toxaway River Gorge Transylvania County, North Carolina," will take place on **29-30 September 2007**. The trip will be led by Rick Wooten of the North Carolina Geological Survey. It features stops to examine flood deposits from the catastrophic failure of the Lake Toxaway Dam in 1916, and an active, 4-acre (16,000-m^2) weathered-rock slide along the Toxaway River. Many features along Toxaway River are attributed to the dam failure and subsequent debris flow. Following this excursion, an optional half-day field trip on Sept. 30 will take participants to the Peeks Creek debris flow area of Macon County, North Carolina. The area was affected by Hurricane Ivan, which triggered a debris flow on 16 Sept. 2004 that destroyed 15 homes in the Peeks Creek community and killed five people and critically injured two. The field trip will visit the community to see the remaining effects from the debris flow. It will also feature debris flow deposits. Both field trips will involve strenuous to moderately strenuous hikes. Additional details will be distributed via the SEFOP master-list. For questions concerning logistics and registration, contact **Martha Cary (Missy) Eppes** at meppes@uncc.edu.

The **2007 Binghamton Geomorphology Symposium** will focus on "Complexity in Geomorphology." Scheduled for **5-7 October** at Duke University (Durham, North Carolina), conference organizers **Mark Fonstad** (mfonstad@txstate.edu) and **Brad Murray** (abmurray@duke.edu) are bringing together an international cast of geographers, geologists, and engineers who use complex-systems concepts and techniques to address geomorphologic questions. Questions they will explore include: Do landscapes operate with straightforward relationships between forcing and response, or do they suggest nonlinear feedbacks leading to the emergence of large-scale structures? Do complicated arrangements of flow, sediment transport, and vegetation imply complicated causes, or do we look for simple interactions that give rise to self-organized patterns and complex dynamics? In this symposium, participants will learn about state-of-the-art modeling and data-analysis techniques, and how they facilitate advances in our understanding of surface processes. Poster sessions and a pre-meeting field trip are also planned. For more information, visit http://www.nicholas.duke.edu/geomorphology/index.html or contact the organizers.

Geomorphorum is issued twice a year by the Geomorphology Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers. The purpose of this newsletter is to exchange ideas and news about geomorphology, and to foster improved communication within our community of scholars. The editor of Geomorphorum welcomes news, comments, and suggestions from all members of the geomorphological community. Issues of Geomorphorum are posted on the website of the GSG; new issues are announced through the Geomorphlist listing service currently maintained by David Wilkins at Boise State University.