

# Newsletter of the Geomorphology Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers

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http://www.aag-gsg.org/geomorphorum.shtml

#### 2011 AAG GSG AWARDS

# 2011 Melvin G. Marcus Distinguished Career Award

David Butler

(Texas State University).

# **Acceptance by David Butler**

Thank you so very much, it is with a sense of deep humility that I accept this wonderful award. The Geomorphology Specialty Group has been my primary "home" within the AAG for over 30 years now, and so this is just so deeply meaningful to me.

When Melinda Daniels contacted me with the news that I had been chosen to receive the Mel Marcus Award, I was shocked. I believe I said "Holy Crap!" several times in the first 2 or 3 sentences in response. The people who have received this award before me — I mean, these people are my heroes! I still can't believe I am now a part of that list......



I have been extraordinarily fortunate to have had the support of the most understanding woman in the world, my wife of over 35 years, Janet Butler. Words can't express..... and I marvel every day at how she has put up with me.

It's been one of the great pleasures of my career to watch my son, Will Butler, grow into a geomorphologist and mountain geographer. Working with him on our two published projects was one of the highlights of my life. Thank you, Son!

I've had the great, good fortune of working with wonderful people and having the support of great friends and mentors in my life. I had great training with Jack Shroder at Nebraska-Omaha, and with Curt Sorenson, Bill Johnson, and Wake Dort at the University of Kansas. I was amazingly fortunate to land my first job at Oklahoma State, where I was able to be befriended and mentored by Jack Vitek, and work with George Malanson and Steve Walsh. Those knuckleheads are my best friends, and have been now for 30 years. Much of what I have accomplished has been in collaboration or cooperation with them.

Dick Marston has been a true friend over much of this time as well, and I deeply appreciate his friendship and support. More recently, I have made new friends with Markus Stoffel and the wonderful people at the Swiss Dendrolab. It has been a wonderful, energizing relationship working with Markus, Michelle Bollschweiler, and the students of the lab.

I've also had the wonderful fortune of working with just great students over the course of my career. Many of them are here tonight, students past or present, and believe it or not, I love you all.

I still can't believe it – all I've done is spend my career doing what seemed like a good idea, studying and doing geomorphology, primarily in a place I love so much, Glacier National Park, with a family I cherish, and somehow it has resulted in me being here tonight. I guess there's a lesson there somewhere – be true to yourself and your loves in life. Thank you so very, very much.

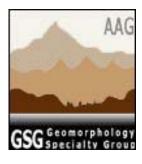
#### 2011 Reds Wolman Student Research Award

Ph.D.: Rebecca Manners. (Utah State University)

"Multi-Scalar Geomorphic and Vegetative Feedbacks in the Colorado River Basin".



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 Geomorphist listing service currently maintained by Chris Houser at Texas A&M Universit



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