

A MESSAGE FROM THE SGD DIRECTOR: LYNN STAEHEL

Greetings from Tucson and the School of Geography and Development, your academic home!

It has been some time since we have been in touch, and we want to let you know about the exciting things happening in SGD, but also to share news with you about our alumni, friends, and colleagues. Even with the ease of social media, it is easy to lose track of friends, so we hope to reconnect you with friends and with the School.

The School is an exciting place to study and to work. We have a number of new colleagues this year on the faculty, and a few of them are featured on page 2. We also have welcomed Andrew Comrie back into the School after his service in the university administration. There is also a great group of new undergraduate and graduate students who have joined us. Check out their webpages and see what they are up to. You will see that they are up to a lot!



Exciting ideas and important research have long been hallmarks of the School. We continue our work related to adaptation to environmental change, development, population, political change, cities, and the future. In all of this, questions of justice in Tucson and beyond are a primary concern, as we share our commitment to making a better world.

Enjoy the newsletter, and please keep in touch!

Lynn

SGD UNDERGRAD DINO KADICH NAMED AS GATES-CAMBRIDGE SCHOLAR

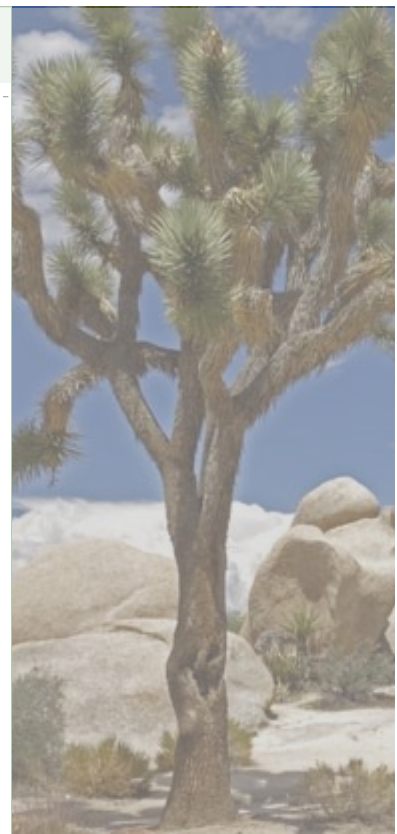
Dino Kadich, who is pursuing a BA in Geography at SGD, has been selected as a 2017 Beinecke Scholar and received a Gates-Cambridge Scholarship,—both of which are highly competitive national fellowships that will support Dino's Graduate education



Recently, Kadich was also selected as a UA Pillar of Excellence due to his outstanding scholarly achievements and extracurricular involvement. We caught up with Dino to find out more about his success in SGD, his research, and his plans for the future.

Q: What made you want to study geography at UA? **DK:** I came to the University of Arizona without a clear idea of what I wanted to do. As I was trying to figure things out, I discovered that geographers were asking really fascinating questions about a range of things I was interested in—development, cities, youth cultures, etc. I was so surprised that these questions were often answered by talking to regular people and thinking about how big structural processes happen in everyday life. That was the allure.

Q: What was your senior thesis about? **DK:** In the summer of 2016, I went to Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, to conduct an ethnography of young people in that city's vibrant hip-hop culture. As someone who came to the U.S. as a refugee from Bosnia, this work was personally relevant to me as I tried to puzzle out my own identity. My work has demonstrated how young people create alternate pathways to belonging in a context where traditional notions of civic belonging to a 'nation'/state seem impossible. (cont. p 4)



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Special points of interest

- Sapana Doshi wins prestigious ACLS Humanities Fellowship
- Longtime faculty members Stephen Yool and Beth Mitchenck retire
- Diversity and Inclusion Committee formed

We want to hear from you SGD Alumni!

The School of Geography and Development is revitalizing its connections to alumni and friends so please send us your news and contact information! [You can leave SGD a message and update here](#) or email our front office by contacting amandab@email.arizona.edu.

SGD FACULTY NEWS

Over the past two years SGD has seen many new faculty join our department. Specializing in everything from urban gangs to climate reconstruction here is a snapshot of our newest faculty.

Urban Geographer, Stefano Bloch, joins SGD Faculty



Stefano Bloch joined SGD in fall 2017 as an Assistant Professor after completing an Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Cogut Center for the Humanities at Brown University from 2013-2017, where he was also serving as a Presidential Diversity Postdoctoral Fellow in the Urban Studies program. As a cultural geographer and urban ethnographer, Stefano conducts research on transgressive subcultures, urban gangs,

policing, and neighborhood change, with expertise in the history and theorization of graffiti as a socio-spatial practice as well as the use of auto-ethnographic research methods. He has four current projects including a collaborative project on the spatial correlations between violent crime clusters and where quality of life crimes in the form of graffiti occur, based on 2 years of primary data collection and geo-tagged crime data from Providence, RI. Stefano's forthcoming book, *Going All City* is in its final editing stages and so be on the look out for a feature on it next fall. You can find out more about Stefano on [his website](#)

Water governance scholar Andrea K. Gerlak joins SGD

Andrea Gerlak came to SGD in fall 2016 after serving as a Senior Policy Scholar at UA's Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy and as the Director of Academic Development with the International Studies Association. Andrea's research focuses on institutions for governing water resources. She examines cooperation and conflict around water, including questions of institutional change and adaptation to climate change in rivers basins, and human rights and equity issues in water governance. Andrea is a senior research fellow with the Earth System Governance Project, an international social science research alliance exploring political solutions and novel, effective governance mechanisms to address global environmental

challenges. Committed to public engagement and interdisciplinary research, you can find out more about Andrea's work on pg 8 and [her website](#). Andrea has been active in teaching and building community within SGD's newest major-Environmental Studies. She is also a lead mentor in the UA's Institute of the Environment Carson Scholars Program, working with graduate students across campus to improve their science communication skills



Our new Masters in Development Practice (MDP) Director: Dr. Katharine Snyder



Katharine Snyder joined SGD as the Director of our Masters in Development Practice (MDP) program in fall 2016. She joined after working many years as a Senior Social Scientist in the development sector, most recently at the International Center for Tropical Agriculture in Nairobi Kenya. In addition to directing

MDP affairs, Katharine maintains an active research profile includ-

ing a project on [Long-term Livelihood Change in Tanzania](#), which revisits life in her Ph.D. fieldsite to see how political and economic changes in Tanzania have had an impact on the livelihoods of rural community members. Among her numerous other ongoing research projects Katharine writes that her work is driven by an 'ongoing interest in how global development narratives shape the practice of development on the ground and have an impact on local livelihoods, gender relations and land-use strategies.' You can find out more about Katharine's work on [her webpage](#).

Critical financial geographer, Mark Kear, and Earth systems geographer Kevin Anchukaitis join Fall 2015



Coming from Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, British Columbia in fall 2015, Mark Kear specializes in economic and urban geography. His work uses a variety of qualitative methods to explore the variegated landscape of post-credit-crunch experimentation in non-prime financial institutional development and subject formation through financial education and coaching. In addition to developing quite the fanbase among SGD undergraduates, Mark has recently published papers in journals such as *Antipode*, *Geoforum*, *Economic Geography*, *Economy and Society*, and the *Journal of Cultural Economy*. More info about Mark can be found [on his website here](#)

Kevin joined SGD in fall 2015 coming to us from Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts where he was an Associate Research Scientist. Describing himself as a paleoclimatologist, dendrochronologist, and earth systems geographer, he specializes in the reconstruction

of climate variability and change over the last 2000 years and the interaction between past climate and human society. Current projects include drought and precipitation reconstruction using tree rings from the mountains of Central America, a project combining dendrochronology and climate model analysis with a substantial fieldwork component. [To find out more about Kevin see his website here](#). Also see his work featured on pg. 7.

Mark and Kevin have jointly shared the honor as serving as the 2017-18 SGD colloquium committee chairs. They have worked hard to bring in an array of excellent speakers—find out more about SGD's vibrant colloquium on pg 8.



Orhon Myadar wins UA grant to conduct interdisciplinary research with Tucson refugee community

SGD Assistant Professor Orhon Myadar (pictured right), in collaboration with 3 other UA scholars, received funding from the Confluencercenter for Creative Inquiry's 2016-2017 Faculty Collaboration Grants program for a project entitled ***Dismantling Fear: Voices from Tucson's Refugee Community***, which documents and shares stories of refugees who are members of the Tucson community. Orhon hopes that this project will 'illuminate refugees' unique and singular stories of hope, dreams and challenges and counter narrate the often too reductionist and universal label "refugees." Orhon's collaborators include Lisa Hochtritt from the School of Art, Najwa Nabti from the College of Law, and Stephanie Troutman from the Department of English. See more about the project [here](#)



Assistant Prof Sapana Doshi wins prestigious humanities fellowship from the ACLS

Sapana Doshi recently won a highly prestigious award from American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) for the Advancement of the Humanities. She is collaborating with Malini Ranganathan (Assistant Professor, American University) and literature scholar David Pike (Professor, American University) to mesh ethnographic research in India with literary and cultural analysis to investigate why descriptions of rapid urban change in India and the broader Global South are so often tied to narratives of corruption.



Greg Barron-Gafford's Agrivoltaics Learning Labs: A place for physical and social science learning

Greg and his 10 person team have established a series of Agrivoltaic Learning Labs at Biosphere 2 and local schools within the Tucson Unified School District. Agrovoltaics consists of co-developing the same area of land for both solar photovoltaic power as well as for agriculture. Greg's work shows agri-voltaics have enormous potential for sustainable development in Arizona ([find out more here!](#)). The Agrivoltaic Learning Labs (ALLs) are becoming sites for engaged and hands-on learning by K-12 students and college students at the University of Arizona. College students from around the country also come to participate as Greg's ALLs are a site for NSF's Research Experiences for Undergraduates program. Perhaps, most exciting is that visitors of all ages that come to Biosphere 2 and are interested in participating in this research as part of their tour!



SGD FACULTY WIN HIGH HONORS IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Several geographers at UA have received top awards from professional geography associations in the last few years. Building on Jan Monk's Distinguished Service Award from the Association of American Geographers (AAG) in 2000, Sallie Marston and JP Jones III have both recently been awarded Lifetime Achievement Honors by the AAG. Professor Diana Liverman received Distinguished Scholarship Honors from the AAG along with medals from the Royal Geographic Society and the American Geographic Society. Elizabeth Oglesby was awarded the Gilbert White Public Service Honors by the AAG. Congratulations to all the award winners! Pictured below L to R Jones III, Oglesby, Liverman and Marston and Monk below.



Andrea K. Gerlak's participatory green infrastructure project in South Tucson

SGD faculty Andrea K. Gerlak is the co-PI on a new project called *Tucson verde para todos: Engaging communities for an equitable and greener Tucson*. This project starts from the idea that green infrastructure (GI) plays a critical role supporting livable, and sustainable cities, yet, the distribution of GI is not

always equitable and the absence of GI in low-income, underserved communities serves to put already stressed communities at even greater risk.

To better address equity and justice issues around GI, Andrea's project engages communities on Tucson's south side, and help bring about transformative change by harnessing and building from community interest, NGO study and action, city commitment, and university facilitation. To address inequities and overcome historic distrust, public engagement must be more than a box checked – and more than a single-focus process that prohibits conversations about complex issues to be discussed, such as health and safety. The project will explore a variety of engagement strategies, mindful to learn from past experience in the community. This project has been funded by the Agnese Nelms Haury Program in Environment and Social Justice. To find out more about this work visit [the website](#).



WHERE ARE OUR BA/BS ALUMNI NOW?

Sara Mattio, URD* 2014, GIS Analyst, City of Philadelphia

Patrick Brewer, EVS** 2015, Energy Fellow, City of San Jose

Stephen Ludwig, BS Geography 2013, Senior GIS Technician, City of Phoenix

Andrew Cunningham, BS Geography 2017, Geological/Environmental Consultant, Mining Company

Jessica McGarey, EVS 2015, Wildlife Intern and Science Communicator, Sonoran Desert Network Desert Research Learning Center

Brianna Zurita, EVS 2016, Project Coordinator, Center for Climate Adaptation Science and Solutions

James Cornish, URD 2012, Commercial Office Broker, CBRE Inc, Phoenix, AZ

Kyle Hartfeild, BA Geography 2008, Assistant Research Scientist, Arizona Remote Sensing Center

Melanie Summers, BS Geography 2012, Product Engineer, ESRI

Gary Sumner, URD 2009, Planner and Real Estate Developer, Houston TX

Kyle Nelson, URD 2016, Transportation Planner, Michigan Department of Transportation

Gregory Christakos, BS Geography 2013, Enterprise Specialist, ESRI

Thomas Lovelis, BS Geography 2017, GIS Technician, TerraSouthwest Systems

Blake Fisher, URD 2017, City Planner, City of Sierra Vista

KEY

*URD = BS Urban and Regional Development

**EVS = BA Environmental Studies

SGD UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

SGD is a wonderful community for it's four majors. Meet some recent alumni here!

Melanie Morris, Environmental Studies 2014, Assistant Director of Sustainability, Suffolk County Community College, New York



work closely with student groups and help to create

In my role, I'm responsible for examining all college activities in the context of sustainability. I'm also tasked with developing new strategic, academic and community partnerships to align with best sustainability practices. I

new programs and events, for example, a reusable bottle campaign, graduation gowns made out of recycled bottles, farmers markets, and car free day; just to name a few. I also create and manage our communication for the office, including the department website, social media outlets, promotional materials and advertisements. Another big accomplishment is the success of our energy conservation program, which has saved the college over two million dollars in a little under three years.

Chelsea Halstead, BA Geography, class of 2012— Founder/Deputy Director of the Colibri Center, Tucson AZ

Following numerous fellowships post-graduation and a long involvement in migrant rights on the border, Chelsea went on to co-found the Colibrí Center for Human Rights in 2013, which is a nonprofit based in Tucson, Arizona. Colibrí combines forensic science and human rights advocacy in an effort to help identify the dead and support families of the missing on the U.S.-Mexico border. In 2014, she was the recipient of

the Award for Excellence in Global Service from the University of Arizona. In 2016, Colibrí launched a massive DNA project aimed at identifying the remains of people who have died while crossing the border



Zachary Baker, BS Urban & Regional Development 2016, Economic Development Manager, Downtown Tucson Partnership

Weeks after I officially graduated, I was hired as the Economic Development Manager at the Downtown Tucson Partnership (DTP hereafter). I had previously interned for the partnership as an Economic

Development Intern for a full year while at the U of A. Since being hired, I was responsible for coordi-

nating the Building Illumination Program; A program that involved numerous communications with dozens of Downtown Tucson property owners, property managers, merchants and support staff. Our mission is to be the catalyst for making Downtown Tucson the place people want to live, work, and play; where new ideas happen; and that is the economic development and cultural epicenter of the region.

Janine Clark, BS Urban & Regional Development 2015, Policy Aide, Office of Mayor Steve Adler, Austin, TX

After I graduated I accepted an AmeriCorps VISTA position in the office of Austin Mayor Steve Adler. In that position I developed processes, resources, and partnerships to increase resources available to underserved communities in Austin. Conducted preliminary spatial and social impact analyses for the 2016 Mobility Bond. Oversaw writing of the Mayor's Task Force on Institutional Racism and Systemic Inequities Final Report. After my year of service, I was hired as a Policy Aide for the office. Currently, I conduct policy, data, and spatial analysis to inform initiative and policy decisions, write policy, oversee constituent

relations and PIRs, and manage our internship program. Policy areas include sustainability, budget, water, anti-displacement, active transportation, and the Neighborhood

Housing and Community Development, and the Community Services branch.



{Kadich: Continued from pg 1}



Q: Did you have a particularly impactful experience at SGD? DK: One of the first classes I took in geography was Environment and Development with Dr. Claude Peloquin. I was totally amazed by how thoroughly and thoughtfully geographers and anthropologists had debunked many of the assumptions that development projects are premised on. I've been incredibly fortunate to work with Prof. Lynn Staeheli on her research and mine over the past two years. Her mentorship has been ceaselessly inspiring and challenging.

Q: What are your mid and long career aspirations DK: In the fall, I will be moving to the UK to pursue a Master's in Geographical Research. After that, I hope to get a PhD in Geography and become a professor, with my research focused on participatory and creative methods and understanding how people understand, navigate, and negotiate various (contentious) forms of belonging in their everyday lives.

SGD GRADUATE PROGRAM

SGD has so many amazing grad students: here we select just a few so you can learn more about their work!



Niki vonHedemann, PhD Candidate

Niki's research investigates the social and ecological impacts of national forestry incentive programs in the Western Highlands of Guatemala. These programs are a form of

Payments for Ecosystem Services that aim to enhance both conservation and development through paying rural participants to complete reforestation and forest preservation activities. Her most recent dissertation fieldwork was funded by the National Science Founda-

tion, the Inter-American Foundation, and the Philanthropic Educational Organization. Spending over 19 months in Guatemala since 2012, she uses mixed-methods including participant observation, rapid carbon assessments to measure forest carbon capture, and over 140 semi-structured interviews. Her results indicate that while indigenous and communal forest user groups have successfully lobbied for greater inclusion in these incentive programs, there remain limitations due to the programs' links to unequal land distribution patterns.

Leland Sutter, MA Student

Leland's research lies at the nexus of soil and plant relationships, starting at the organismal scale, then applying those relationships to large landscapes. More specifically, he is interested in semi-arid and arid lands, with a focus on soil-plant water and carbon movement. Interdisciplinary questions are at the heart of Leland's research methods, drawing upon all fields of the physical sciences. His associations include the USDA-ARS, Biosphere 2, and the CZO research group. He is supported by an NSF Graduate research Fellowship Find out more at [Leland's website!](#)



Richard (RJ) Johnson, PhD Candidate

Rj is researching the impacts of US border and immigration enforcement for migrants and their families in rural Guatemala, particularly how mass deportation may change rural landscapes and livelihood opportunities. He uses mixed-methods that incorporate in-depth interviews with migrants and their family members, ethnographic observations, and some basic quantitative analysis. RJ's

work has shown that deportation often perpetuates cycles of undocumented migration from Guatemala as deportees struggle to repay the profound debts they accumulate to fund their journeys north. He recently published an article in the journal *Antipode* about his work. RJ's work has been generously supported by the Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad grant and a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship.

Surabhi Karambelkar, PhD Candidate

Surabhi's research looks at the role of institutions, particularly laws and policies, in creating and addressing conflicts over our scarce water resources. Her dissertation is set in the iconic Colorado River Basin that is entering its eighteenth year of an unprecedented drought. As part of her research, she is focusing on hydropower generation at the two largest dams in the basin—Hoover and Glen Canyon—to understand: (i) how laws and policies create interdependencies between hydropower generation and other water uses for

irrigation and environmental needs, (ii) how these laws and policies influence dam operations in the basin, and (iii) who benefits and loses as a result of these legal/policy interdependencies between water uses and changes in hydropower generation. Surabhi's research is supported by the Hydro Research Foundation Research Awards Program.



RECENT GRAD STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Borgias, Sophia and Carl J. Bauer. (2018) *Trajectory of a divided river basin: law, conflict, and cooperation along Chile's Maipo River*. *Water Policy* 20(1): 127-145.

Gay-Antaki, M., & Liverman, D. (2018). *Climate for women in climate science: Women scientists and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 115(9), 2060-2065.

Lawlor, Emma and Silber Coates, Noah. (2017). *Seeking a Home in Nogales*. NACLA.

Nichols, Carly (2017). *Millet, milk and maggi: contested processes of the nutrition transition in rural India*. *Agriculture and Human Values*, 34(4), 871-885.

Lynch, Casey R (2017) *"Vote with your feet": Neoliberalism, the democratic nation-state, and utopian enclave libertarianism*, *Political Geography*, 59, 82-91.

WHERE ARE OUR PHD ALUMNI NOW?

PhD (2017) Lily House-Peters—Assistant Professor, California State University-Long Beach

PhD (2017) Katharine Sammler—Assistant Professor, California State University-Maritime Academy

PhD (2017) Miriam Gay-Antaki, Visiting Assistant Professor, Colorado College

PhD (2017) Sonya Ziaja, Climate Policy & Research at California Public Utilities Commission,

PhD (2017) Marissa Isaak, Assistant Professor, Central New Mexico Community College, Albuquerque, NM

PhD (2016) Zachary Sugg, Martin Daniel Gould Center Fellow, Stanford Law School

PhD (2015) Melinda Butterfield, Assistant Professor, Wilamette College

PhD (2015) Melanie M. Colavito, Human Dimensions Specialist with the Ecological Restoration Institute, Northern Arizona University

PhD (2015) Jeremy Slack, Assistant Professor, University of Texas-El Paso

PhD (2014) Manuel Prieto-Montt - Instituto de Investigaciones Arqueológicas y Museo, Chile

PhD (2013) Jamie McEvoy - Assistant Professor, Montana State University

PhD (2013) Jeffrey McGovern - Air Force Historian, Twelfth Air Force (Air Forces Southern)

PhD (2013) Casey Kahn-Thornbrugh - Project Director, Tohono O'odham Community College

PhD (2013) Stephen Delgado - Senior Country Manager, USAID

PhD (2013) Biricik Gozde Ozacar - Research Assistant, Middle East Technical University, Turkey

PhD (2013) Frederick Scott Pianalto - Industrial Hygienist, Veteran's Administration Hospital

PhD (2013) Majed Akhter - Assistant Professor, Indiana University

PhD (2013) Ashley Coles - Lecturer, Georgia Southern University

PhD (2013) Anne-Marie Hanson - Assistant Professor, University of Illinois, Springfield

PhD (2013) Richard Daniel Griffin - Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR KEVIN ANCHUKAITIS'S LAB GROUP ARE THE STARS OF A SHORT FILM!

In November 2017, Mari Clevon from the Office of Research, Discovery, and Innovation (RDI) accompanied Kevin and members of his lab group on fieldwork related to an NSF grant on climate reconstruction, forests, water resources, and dendroclimatology in the western highlands of Guatemala. Mari was able to film a diverse set of activities and interviews, from community meetings and presentation, visits to friends and collaborators in the Mam Maya region around Todos Santos, field sampling in the Altos Cuchumatanes, and reconnaissance in the Pacific slope coffee growing region. Mari is producing a series of short documentary films about our work for RDI, the first of which (called '[Guardabosques](#)') was screened by Mari during the Loft Cinema's regula First Friday Shorts' last week and for which she won the Grand Prize for February! [See more](#)



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT @ SGD



the UNIVERSITY OF arizona
COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL GARDEN PROGRAM

The University of Arizona's Community and School Garden Program (CSGP), led by SGD Professor Sallie Marston, connects Tucson educators and community organizations with university students eager to participate in the school garden movement occurring throughout the country. University student interns are matched with low-income school and community placement sites where they support the installation, development and maintenance of a garden program. A main component of CSGP is the Supporting Environmental Education & Communities (SEEC) program, which works with K-12 students across TUSD to connect them with meaningful participatory environmental research experiences. With the support of CSGP interns and the SEEC program, students collect data for local and national citizen science programs while developing their own original research projects. Students present their findings during formal poster presentations and an art gallery exhibit each Spring. This year, SEEC has worked with over 150 students at Borton, Grijalva, J.B. Wright, Mansfield Middle, Manzo, and



Rincon High schools. Students at each school have been trained to monitor phenology data in their garden for the USA National Phenology Network's Nature's Notebook. To learn more about this program please visit <https://schoolgardens.arizona.edu/> and join us during the SEEC's annual art-science fusion gallery exhibit on April 20th from 5:30-7:00pm in the ENR2 Building, room S215.



News from the Public Political Ecology Lab (PPEL)

Dr. Tracey Osborne's PPEL group has been primarily focused on the **Climate Alliance Mapping Project (CAMP)**, which builds interactive climate justice story maps that bring together scientific data and digital stories produced by affected communities to educate the public, connect local communities with global climate justice networks, and inform policy decisions. Check out their website [here](#)!

[Watch a video](#) on National Geographic about CAMP

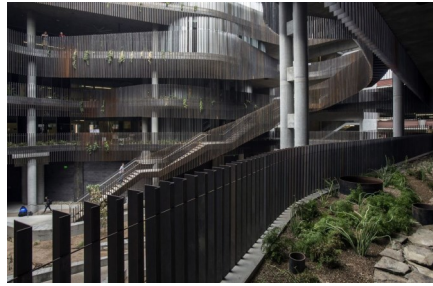
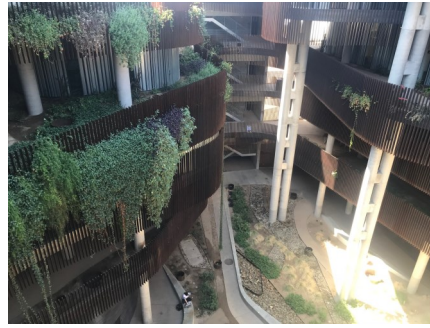
Thought Leaders in SGD: Tucson Public Voices Fellows



The Tucson Public Voices (TPV) Fellowship is part of a national initiative led by The Op-Ed Project whose goal is to increase the influence of women and minority thought leaders through the publication of op-eds. In Tucson The Op-Ed Project has collaborated with the UA and the Women's Foundation of Southern Arizona since 2013 to intensively mentor women and minorities in the community who are thought leaders. **SGD has had an amazing 5 women faculty participate in this highly competitive program!** (Pictured above L to R Diana Liverman, Beth Mitchneck, Andrea Gerlak, Tracey Osborne, Elizabeth Oglesby)

SGD Professor, [Diana Liverman](#) (2013-14 TPV Fellow) published numerous op-eds —although the one that made the biggest splash was [this Washington Post op-ed](#) about how to teach about climate change without making students feel hopeless. Now retired Professor [Beth Mitchneck](#) was next up as a 2015-16 TPVF, and had many published op-eds including one about university race relations published in [US News and World Report](#) and one in [Foreign Affairs](#) about the refugee humanitarian crisis in Ukraine.

In 2017-18 SGD has had three faculty join the TPVF program. [Dr. Elizabeth Oglesby](#) has had numerous op-eds published including [this story](#) in The Hill about migration from Central America. Also [read this UA News story](#) about Oglesby's role in the Guatemalan genocide trial and the importance of public scholarship. Dr. Andrea K. Gerlak has had three op-eds published in The Hill including [this piece](#) about how to enact radical change for America's waters and [this one](#) on how rural America fares from Trump's infrastructure plan. Dr. Tracey Osborne is also a TPV fellow this year and is getting ready to publish her first op-ed!! For more info about TPVF see [this link here](#).



Some views of the slot canyon-inspired interior courtyard of ENR2

SGD'S NEW HOME: ENR2

Completed in 2015, Environment and Natural Resource 2 building is part of the University of Arizona's commitment to environmental sustainability and research. The building, inspired by the slot canyons of the Southwest contains offices, classrooms, auditoriums and gathering rooms for public programs, in addition to a café and a stunning central courtyard that fosters circulation and gathering. The five-story structure hosts the School of Geography and Development, the School of Natural Resources and the Institute of the Environment, and some divisions of the Department of Mathematics. The LEED platinum-certified building incorporates cutting-edge technologies that epitomize the UA's dedication to sustainability in higher education. These include water harvesting, energy efficiency, and the use of sustainable materials. SGD Professor Diana Liverman was the faculty representative on the design committee and raised funds for small floor inserts that represent desert critters. To learn more about the building, including its innovative sustainable features, please visit the [ENR2](#) page on the PDC website, or take our [self-guided tour](#).

SGD DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE IS FORMED

As part of UA's broader commitment to increasing diversity, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee was formed in SGD in fall 2016. It began by drafting a statement that highlighted the ways the School of Geography and Development is committed to fostering inclusive learning environments that embrace the diversity of experiences and interests represented in our communities and the broader world.

Our next job is to put actions behind the words and offer those actions as a template for others to use as well.

The committee has also administered a department wide questionnaire to understand sentiments surrounding diversity. The committee drafted an action plan that includes several actions items such as a inclusivity workshop training, a DEI climate assessment, and anti-harassment and anti-violence training create safe and inclusive spaces for learning, dialogue, and changing practices.

Fond farewells in SGD: 2 longtime professors retire



Dr. Stephen Yool-longtime SGD professor said farewell to SGD in December 2016, retiring after 24 years of amazing undergraduate teaching, graduate student mentoring, and top-notch scholarship. We caught up with Steve for a little Q&A to see what life was like post-SGD

What are you doing now that you aren't a full-time faculty in SGD now? **Steve:** I remain a full-time geographer, travelling since retiring, to London (for Wimbledon), Italy (to hike Cinque Terre), Scotland (for touring and whiskey tasting). But when home, I'm a volunteer live news reader for Sun Sounds of Arizona; I play accordion with 3 groups; I give private music lessons; and I serve on two University-level advisory committees.

What was your most memorable time as a faculty in SGD? **SY:** I have many fond memories of SGD, but one that sticks out is an NSF grant Dr. Andrew Comrie and I garnered to purchase the computers that launched the Spatial Analysis Laboratory (SAL). Dr. Margaret Wilder, then Associate Dean of SBS, brokered a space deal with the Music School that gave us Harvill 401, the first location of the SGD SAL; and the rest is history, as they say.

What was your favorite part of being an SGD geographer? That's an easy question. These are a few of my favorite things: I was inspired by my SGD colleagues; and I enjoyed the sense of community within SGD. I loved teaching, looking forward to class most every day; and I always got terrific TAs. There was great satisfaction in receiving a grant that supported student research, seeing their efforts come to fruition as research papers, theses, dissertations; and feeling so proud when they earned tenure as faculty and had their own grad students. And I always had a blast reading the names of the graduates at SBS convocations.

SGD also said good-bye to longtime professor Dr. Beth Mitchneck in 2016. Beth moved back east to be closer to her two daughters and in addition to maintaining an emeritus office at UA will serve as vice provost for faculty success at UMass Lowell. Beth



ALTSCHUL SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED

The School of Geography and Development is very grateful for a generous gift from Professor Emeritus Bob Altschul and his wife Donna Altschul that will allow us to establish the Dieter and Donna Altschul scholarship for a graduate student in the school. Professor Altschul taught in the school from 1963 to 1995 with interests in physical geography and Africa. Donna Altschul has a Masters degree in geography from UA with a focus in cartography. Thank you Bob and Donna!



SPECIFIC PROJECTS TO SUPPORT

Community and School Garden Program: is aimed at connecting Tucson educators with university students eager to participate in the school garden movement occurring throughout the country. The CSGP matches university student interns with Tucson community organizations and schools to support the installation, development and maintenance of a garden program. [Find out more about CSGP.](#)

HOW TO SUPPORT THE PROGRAM

The School of Geography and Development is revitalizing its connections to alumni and friends so please send us your news and contact information! **You can leave SGD a message and update [here](#) or email our front office by contacting amandab@email.arizona.edu.**

We are also seeking support for SGD students and projects that will allow us to further build the program and help our great students succeed. We are very grateful to our current donors. The current funds that you can contribute to are:

Strabo Student Research Fund Your donation will be used to fund student research, internships and study abroad.

Ptolemy Development Fund : Your donation will be used to provide SGD with **general funds** for strategic investments and outreach activities including public lecture series, conference, workshops and other events

Von Humboldt Faculty Research Fund : Your donation to this fund will support **SGD faculty with seed money** to initiate research projects.

Varenius Technology and Infrastructure Fund: Your donation to this fund will contribute to the **purchase and upgrade of technology** for teaching and research in areas such as Geographic Information Science and Physical Geography. SGD offers a professional Masters in Geographic Information Systems and Technology

Master's in Development Practice : The MDP program brings together talented students and faculty who have dedicated themselves to addressing the challenges of global poverty and defining new approaches to enhancing well-being for the under-resourced and socially excluded. The Arizona MDP program emphasizes holistic, social justice-based approaches to pressing development challenges and prioritizes context-specific solutions. Your donation to this foundation fund will support an **individual MDP student** conducting their summer practicum. [Find out more about the MDP.](#)

Geographic Information Systems Technology Programs: The School offers a fully online BS-GIST, MS-GIST, and post graduate professional certificate in GIST as well as an in-person MS-GIST degree. These programs integrate GIScience, cutting-edge GISystems, and geospatial technology, with management skills for use in government, corporate, non-profit, and academic settings. [Find out more about GIST](#)

For additional information, or to discuss your investment in the School of Geography and Development, please [contact us](#).

SGD COLLOQUIUM AND LECTURE SERIES

One thing that SGD prides itself is its vibrant colloquium series. Featuring annual endowed lectures including the My Arizona lecture (that pays homage to Southwest cultural and environmental geographies) and the Jan Monk Distinguished Lecture (which features a diverse range of feminist geographers), the colloquiums are always the spot to be on Fridays at 3:30. This year's My Arizona lecture featured David Yetman, expert on deserts in the Americas and an Emmy award-winning media presenter (pictured below, center). The annual lecture hosted by the graduate students (SAGA) featured Dr. Laura Pulido (pictured right), geographer and leading environmental justice scholar. The Jan Monk Distinguished Speaker is Jennifer Hyndman, who will use a feminist approach to discuss the refugee crisis. [Find out more about colloquium here.](#) Also noteworthy is that SGD Professor Emeritus Marv Waterstone just completed the second semester of co-teaching a 7 week course entitled "What is Politics?" with renowned public intellectual Noam Chomsky (pictured below). Read more [here](#).

