September 30, 1983

DIFFUSION

Larry Grossman's book manuscript, Peasants and the Commercial Economy in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea has been accepted for publication by the Princeton University Press. The book will appear in Autumn, 1984.

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In August Charles Good participated in the Traditional Medicine and the Medical Geography panels at the Eighth International Social Science and Medicine Conference at the University of Stirling, Scotland. His trip was funded by an NSF travel award and a VPI & SU supplemental grant.

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The geography department welcomes Laurence "Bill" Carstensen, our new cartographer. His Ph.D. is from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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Tom Maraffa attended the Appalachian Planning Conference held September 8-10 on the campus of Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina.

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On September 28th Bill Carstensen, Tom Maraffa, and Bob Morrill operated a departmental display at the University's "Jobs for the Future" program at the Squires Student Center.

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On September 14th the geography department office moved from its temporary summer location at Derring Hall to our new office area on the third floor of Patton Hall.

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"Diffusion" deals with the activities of VPI & SU geographers and usually appears every two weeks during the regular school year. Please place suitable material for "Diffusion" in the mailbox at 301 Patton Hall.
Undergraduate geography major Tim Johnson has been awarded a $1,000 Undergraduate Scholarship Award for 1983-84 from the National Council for Geographic Education.

** Bill Carstensen's article "A Continuous Shading Scheme for Two-Variable Mapping" appears in Cartographica, vol. 19, nos. 3 and 4 (1983), pp. 53-70. **


** Bob Morrill's article "Childhood Experiences and the Four Traditions of Geography," has been accepted for publication in Journal of Geography. **

On October 7th, Jim Campbell gave a Geodetic Engineering Seminar on "Generalization of Thematic Maps" at the VPI & SU Civil Engineering Department.

** Graduate student Les Smith is employed as a part-time library assistant in charge of the map collection at the Carol Newman Library. **

Faculty members are reminded that textbook orders for Winter Quarter, 1984, classes should be given to Jane and Glenn no later than October 17th.
October 28, 1983

DIFFUSION

This morning, at 11 AM, Mr. Donald Light of the U.S. Geological Survey will
give a Geodetic Engineering Seminar on "Current Topics of Interest in
Cartography" at 121 Patton Hall.

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Graduate student Don Kiel has successfully defended his M.S. thesis,
"Effectiveness of Highway Map Symbolization: Color vs. Black and White."

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Bob Morrill has been elected to the National Council for Geographic Education
Executive Board. His term will begin January 1, 1984.

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On October 14th Jim Campbell presented a talk concerning uses of geographic
data bases for resource management at the 35th annual meeting of the Virginia
chapter of the Soil Conservation Society of America in Blacksburg.

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On October 20th Bill Carstensen spoke about geographic data bases at the con-
ference on "Computerizing the Virginia Planning District Commissions" in
Richmond.

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Bon Richardson's editorial about background to recent events in Grenada
appeared in the Roanoke Times and World News, October 26, 1983

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A registration form is posted in the graduate school office for the "Workshop
on Employment and Career Development for Geographers" which will be held on
the afternoon of November 21st at the SEDAAG meetings in Orlando, Florida.

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Registration for Winter Quarter 1984 begins Tuesday, November 1st.
On Monday, November 14th, the departments of Geography, Philosophy, and Religion will host an open house in our new quarters on the third floor of Patton Hall.

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Jim Bohland has been awarded a grant from the Geography and Regional Science Division of the National Science Foundation for his research project, "Multi-Scale Analysis of U.S. Elderly Population Change, 1960-1980."

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Jim Campbell's article, "The Missing Geographic Dimension of Soil Taxonomy," has been accepted for publication in the Annals of the Association of American Geographers.

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Bill Carstensen's article, "Perceptions of Variable Similarity on Bivariate Choroplethic Maps," has been accepted for publication in The Cartographic Journal.

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John Davidson, a recent graduate of the geography department, now works for Autometrics, a photogrammetric engineering-geographic information system firm in Washington, DC.

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There has been a call for geography papers to be presented at the Virginia Soil Science Association meetings at Charlottesville, March 30-31, 1984.

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Several members of the department will attend the annual meetings of the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers in Orlando, Florida, November 19-22. Susan Brooker-Gross will be a paper discussant and Bill Carstensen will chair a paper session.
On December 2nd Tom Park successfully defended his M.S. Thesis, "An Analysis of Insurance Office Location in Roanoke, Virginia, from an Industrial Perspective."

Bob Morrill has been appointed to serve on the national NCCE/AAG Committee on Guidelines for Geographic Education in Grades K-12.


An article coauthored by Susan Brooker-Gross and Tom Maraffa, "Aspects of the Journey to Work Within a Small City Laborshed" has been accepted for publication in Urban Geography.

Bon Richardson's article "Freedom to Slavery in the British Caribbean: Ecological Considerations," has been accepted for publication in Caribbean Geography.

Dr. Robert McEwen of the U.S. Geological Survey will give a talk on "Cartographic Science in the 80s," on December 9 at 11 a.m. in 121 Patton Hall.

Please be sure the department's coffee pot is unplugged if you are the last one to leave the department area at night or during the weekend.

Diffusion will appear next after the holiday recess. Best wishes for a pleasant and safe vacation.
Undergraduate geography majors Tim Johnson and Mark Lynch discussed their internship experiences in Botetourt County at a meeting of the geography club on January 17th.

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On December 29th Bon Richardson gave a paper entitled "The Social and Economic Impacts of the Panama Canal on Barbados," at the 98th Annual Meetings of the American Historical Association in San Francisco.

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Jim Campbell gave a presentation of "Automated Production of a Large Scale Thematic Atlas" at the National Workshop on Computer Uses in Fish and Wildlife Programs, December 5-7, 1983, in Blacksburg.

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Bill Carstensen discussed "Geographic Data Bases: Creation Techniques and Limitations," at a Graduate Seminar in Geodetic Engineering on January 16th.

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A geography department faculty meeting was held on the afternoon of January 16th.

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Textbook orders for the Spring Quarter should be given to Glenna by Wednesday, January 25th.
February 3, 1984

DIFFUSION

Sue Naraffa gave birth to a 7 lb. 15 oz. baby girl, Emma Rose, on January 30, 1984.

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Glenna King has accepted a position in the office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, effective February 1, 1984. Glenna was a secretary in the department for five years.

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Bob Morrill is reporting on his work dealing with geography in public school curricula at a meeting of the NCGE/AAG Executive Board in Houston, Texas, February 3-4.

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On February 1st Charles Good spoke at the first meeting of the "Professional Geography Colloquia" series organized by Susan Brooker-Gross. On February 15th Tom Naraffa will discuss his summer writing seminar.

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Jim Bohland's chapter on "Urban Development and the Provision of Public Services: The Example of Medical Care in the United States" appears in Public Provision and Urban Development (London: Croom Helm, 1983).

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Geography enrollments for Winter Quarter, 1984, number 610, the highest ever for the department.
February 24, 1984

DIFFUSION

Susan Brooker-Gross has been appointed to the Editorial Board of the Southeastern Geographer.

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Mrs. Vanessa Scott has accepted the geography department's offer of a secretarial position effective March 13th.

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Steve Cherry successfully defended his M.S. thesis, "Geographic Analysis of a Soil Boundary," on February 10th.

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Charles Good has been awarded a grant to develop the Geography "world regions" sequence for the University Core Curriculum. The grant is sponsored by the State Council of Higher Education in Virginia through its Funds for Excellence program.

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Bill Carstensen is the cartography advisor to the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping/American Society of Photogrammetry (ACSM/ASP) student chapter at VPI & SU.

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The professional geography colloquia series continues at 3:30 pm on February 29th with a panel on "Writing Books."

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Diffusion will next appear after the Spring recess in mid-March.
March 30, 1984

DIFFUSION

Bon Richardson's book, Caribbean Migrants: Environment and Human Survival on St. Kitts and Nevis, has been named an "Outstanding Academic Book of 1983" by Choice, a publication of the Association of College and Research Libraries.

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Jim Bonland's article, "Neighborhood Variations in the Use of Hospital Emergency Rooms for Primary Care," has been accepted for publication in Social Science and Medicine.

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The department's Professional Geography Colloquium series continues with Susan Brooker-Gross speaking about "Feminist Research in Geography" on Thursday, April 5th.

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Two departmental course sequences have been approved by the University Curriculum Committee for inclusion in the undergraduate core curriculum.

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Dean Henry Bauer made his annual visit to the department on March 2.

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Graduate School Dean Roger Teekell will meet with department faculty on April 3rd at 9 a.m. to discuss graduate school issues.

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Please unplug the coffee pot in Patton 301 if you are the last person to leave.
April 13, 1984

DIFFUSION

Recent geography MS Don Kiel is now working as a transportation planner for the city of Johnson City, Tennessee.

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Larry Grossman's article, "Sheep, Ceremonial Exchange, and Coffee in Papua New Guinea," has been accepted for publication in the Geographical Review.

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Tom Maraffa recently gave an invited lecture ("Extended Commuting in Virginia's Coal Counties") at the Rural Development Workshop sponsored by the VPI&SU Agricultural Economics Department.

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Bob Morrill met with a national committee of professional geographers to draft a proposal concerning Geographic Education Guidelines, K-12, in Dallas, Texas, March 18-20.

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Susan Brooker-Gross has assumed the chair of the Women's Network Task Force on Professional Development at VPI&SU.

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The geography department's spring undergraduate enrollment is 595, giving us a total of 1777 for academic year 1983-84.
Several members of the geography department participated in the annual meetings of the Association of American Geographers, in Washington, DC, April 22-25. Jim Campbell spoke about "Orbital Radar Imagery" at a remote sensing workshop; Bill Carstensen gave a paper entitled "Digital Production of the Green Bay, Wisconsin Area Street Map"; Charles Good participated in a medical geography workshop; Tom Maraffa and Don Kiel gave a paper entitled "Spatial Adjustments to Airline Deregulation: Piedmont Airlines."

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Professor Trevor M. Harris of Brighton Polytechnic spoke to the department about "Geographic Information Systems and Rural Planning in the United Kingdom" on April 30th.

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Professor Michael Watts of UC-Berkeley will speak about "Rural Development Projects, Food Policy, and the Current Crisis in the Sahel," at 2 pm in McBryde 136 on Tuesday, May 8th.

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Professor Donald E. Vermeer of Louisiana State University will speak about "Upstaging Upjohn: Traditional Geophysical Clays in the Markets of West Africa," at 3:30 pm in McBryde 136 on Tuesday, May 15.

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Tom Maraffa is the Secretary-Treasurer elect of the Virginia Social Science Association.

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Fall book orders are due to Vanessa by May 14th.
May 25, 1984

DIFFUSION

Bob Morrill has been appointed as the geography specialist on the Commonwealth of Virginia Textbook Evaluation Committee for 1984.

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Tom Maraffa recently gave a paper entitled "Extended Commuting and the Expansion of Southern Megalopolis" at the meetings of the Virginia Social Science Association in Charlottesville.

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On May 2nd Jim Campbell gave a paper on "Estimation of Topographic Relief from Digital Multispectral Imagery" at the SPIE conference in Arlington.

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On May 31st Bon Richardson will give a paper ("The Influences of Insular Geography on Economic Boom and Bust") at the meetings of the Caribbean Studies Association in St. Kitts, West Indies.

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Geographer Paul Knox of the University of Dundee, Scotland, will join the Virginia Tech EUS faculty next fall.

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Faculty members are reminded to give final exams to Jane and Vanessa as soon as possible.

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"Diffusion" will next appear during the fall term of academic year, 1984-85. Best wishes for a safe and productive summer.