The Geography Department welcomes several new graduate students this fall: Thomas Bailey (B.A. Concord College), Carol Hanson (B.A. Framingham State College), Wengi Hu (B.S., M.S., Peking University), Heidi Kalin (B.S., Ball State), Stuart McKenzie (B.A., VPI & SU), Neeta Mehrotra (B.S., Calcutta University), Limei Ran (B.A., Wuhan Technical University), Barbara Terry (B.S., Concord College), Fred Wildes (B.S., University of Maine, M.A. University of Oklahoma), Roy Burlew (B.S., Liberty University), and Louisa Mason (B.A., Radford University).

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Bon Richardson recently completed the manuscript of an essay entitled "The Migration Experience" that will be published as Chapter 15, Volume V of the UNESCO-sponsored General History of the Caribbean project.

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Bob Morrill consulted with the Arlington (Va) Public Schools this past year to develop a geography course, "Geography and the World Today," for their middle school curriculum.

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"Videographic and Surrogate Travel: The Map-Environment Interface," by Bill Carstensen and Allan Cox was published this summer in Cartographica.

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The U.K. was the site of the annual meeting of the Society for Caribbean Studies where Larry Grossman presented an invited paper, "Bananas and the Environment in St. Vincent." His trip was supported by a VPI & SU Supplemental Grant.

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Closing out the activities of the 1989-90 academic year were papers presented at the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers, in Toronto, last April: Larry Grossman, "Bananas, Crops, and Cows: Agricultural Change in St. Vincent," Michael P. O'Neill (now at Utah State University) "Morphology of Tributary Junction formed in Cohesive Sediments," and Gearoid O Tuathail, "Critical Geopolitics:

(over)
Charles Good was appointed to the International Research and Scholarly Exchange Committee of the Association of American Geographers, for a three-year term.

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With the support of the A&S Small Grants program, Larry Grossman investigated the impact of British foreign aid on economic stratification in the Windward Islands' banana industry. His research was undertaken in Barbados and St. Vincent this summer.

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Bob Morrill has participated in long-range planning for the National Council for Geographic Education during the past year. The completed plan calls for restructuring to better meet the needs of geography education in the 1990s.

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Bill Carstensen's article "Angularity and Capture of the Cartographic Line During Digital Data Entry," appeared this summer in the journal Cartography and Geographic Information Systems (formerly The American Cartographer).

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Friday, September 14, Kristi Hunt reported on her summer research in the Dominican Republic at a Departmental Colloquium. Her work was supported by a Cunningham Fellowship.

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A review of H. J. Galloway's The Sugar Cane Industry by Bon Richardson appears in the latest issue of the Annals of the AAG (volume 80, pp. 467-469).

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The Geography Department Lecture Series will present Dr. Charles Goodsell (VPI & SU, Center for Public Administration and Policy) speaking on "Research at the Confluence of Politics and Architecture." The lecture will be held in 136 McBryde, Friday, October 5 at 4:00 p.m.
The Virginia Tech Geographical Society, the honor society Gamma Theta Upsilon, and the local chapter of ASPRS-ACSM elected officers for 1990-91: VTGS--Tony McDowell, President; Jennifer Thomas, Vice President; Tim DeHart, Treasurer; and Heidi Kalin, Secretary. GTU--Dawn Gallimore, President; and Mario Field, Vice President. ASPRS--Chris Libeau, President; and Kirstin Runberg, Vice-President. The fall picnic was held October 7.

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Bill Carstensen and Bob Morrill received support from Information Systems/Communications Resources at VPI & SU for their project "GIS as a Tool to Teach Geography." One graduate assistantship is funded for this project.

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The final activity of the SCHEV Funds for Excellence Project: "Curriculum Transformation: A Pilot Project" was the visit of Professors Johnella Butler and John Walter of the University of Washington, on September 13 and 14 to conduct workshops and discussions on race and classroom climate. The grant was co-authored by Virginia Fowler (English), Carol Burger (Women's Research Institute) and Susan Brooker-Gross (Geography).

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The VTGS and the Geology Club co-sponsored a visit by Ms. Carol Sennott and Mr. Jeff Aldridge, recruiters from Defense Mapping Agency, on September 25.

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Supported by a second National Geographic Society grant, Charles Good is studying the impacts of pioneer medical missions on African health and development during the colonial era. He traveled to archives in Frascati, Italy in March and conducted fieldwork in Malawi during the month of May 1990.

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Bob Morrill presented "An Overview of Appalachian Geography and Culture" to participants in the Virginia Rural Leadership Development Program at a regional meeting in Pearisburg, Virginia, September 13.

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October 22, 1990

DIFFUSION

Alan Moore and Stephen Kay, graduates of Geography, are pursuing graduate degrees (Ph.D. and M.S., respectively) at the University of Kansas.

Susan Brooker-Gross's paper "Teaching About Race, Gender, Class and Geography through Fiction" has been accepted for publication by the Journal of Geography in Higher Education (England).

Bob Morrill has been invited to teach a special course, "Geography and Autobiography" as part of pilot programs recommended by the University Forum at Liberal Education.

"Putting Mackinder in his Place: Material Transformations and Myth," by Gerard Toal has been accepted for publication in the Political Geography Quarterly.

Bill Carstensen and Bob Morrill presented "GEOSIM: A GIS-Based Simulation Laboratory for Introductory Geography," at the Geography Lecture Series, October 19.

Among the committee responsibilities of Geography faculty this year are those on Arts and Sciences College Committees: Bonham Richardson, Nominations Committee, and Library Committee; Bill Carstensen, Curriculum Committee; Susan Brooker-Gross, Personnel Committee and Service Planning Committee.

An op-ed piece by Robert Freis, "Mystery, menace threatened peace on Appalachian Trail," appeared in the September 21 issue of the Roanoke Times and World News. Robert is a senior in Geography, and assistant regional representative for central and southwestern Virginia for the Appalachian Trail Office.

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November 5, 1990

DIFFUSION

Patricia Mahoney will present "Analysis of Technological Change and Relief Presentation in USGS Topographic Maps" in the Geography Department Lecture Series, Friday, November 9 at 4:00 p.m. in 136 McBryde.

Larry Grossman, Carol Hanson, Kristi Hunt, and Bon Richardson attended the meetings of the Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers (CLAG), October 24-26.

The Virginia Geographical Society will sponsor a reception honoring Bob Morrill, past president of the National Council for Geographic Education Thursday, November 8, at the annual meeting of NCGE in Williamsburg, VA.

Two special study graduate level courses will be offered this spring: "Topics in Regional Geography: Africa" taught by Charles Good, and "Topics in Regional Geography: Middle America" taught by Bon Richardson.

Susan Brooker-Gross attended the Applied Geography Conference in Charlotte, NC, October 25-27.

A member of the Virginia Tech Faculty Committee for Social Justice, Bob Morrill introduced Dr. Acklyn Lynch, who spoke on "Race, Reality, and American Education, on Wednesday, October 31, in the Continuing Education Center.

Bill Carstensen met with scientists from India in California Oct 15-17 to discuss uses of GIS in wasteland reclamation in India. In November, he will continue these discussions with site visits in India.

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November 26, 1990

DIFFUSION

Patricia Mahoney took the Student Honors Award for the best paper by a master's student at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, November 18-20, in Columbia, South Carolina. Her paper was entitled "Analysis of Technological Change and Relief Representation in U.S.G.S. Topographic Maps".


"Geography in Virginia: Building Towards the Twenty-First Century," by Bob Morrill along with Justin Friberg and Don Zeigler (Old Dominion University), appeared in the Fall-Winter issue of The Virginia Geographer.

The Virginia Tech Geographical Society sponsored a presentation by Steve Sedlock, representative of Mapcom Systems, Inc. and a 1986 graduate of the department. His presentation, "Opportunities in GIS and Mapping Employment", on November 12 was a part of National Geography Awareness Week.

Charles Good presented "Pioneer Medical Missions in Colonial Africa" at the African Studies Association’s annual meeting in Baltimore, MD., November 1-4. Charles also chaired a panel on "The Impact of International Agencies in Health Care Delivery."
February 11, 1991

DIFFUSION

Larry Grossman presented "Political Ecology of the Windwards Islands Banana Industry" to the Geography Department at the University of Minnesota on January 25th, and as part of their continuing lecture series on Social Theory in Geography, a lecture on "Political Ecology in Geography" on January 26th.

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The National Science Foundation has awarded Charles Good funding for field research this summer to continue his study of "Pioneer Medical Missions in Colonial Africa."

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A review of the Geographic Education National Implementation Project -- GENIP -- by Bob Morrill appears in the December 1990 newsletter of the National Council for Geographic Education.

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Bon Richardson has written the entry about "Guyana" that appears in the Encyclopedia Britannica, 15th edition (1990), Vol. 20, pp. 441-446.

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Joyce Rodges from the Student Conservation Association spoke to a full room on the SCA's Resource Assistant Program at the February 7's VTGS meeting.

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The Executive Director of the Association of American Geographers, Ron Abler, will be on campus visiting the geography Department on February 22. At 4:00 p.m., he will discuss "U.S. Geography in the 1990s" in 136 McBryde. (For further information contact Bon Richardson, 231-5514)

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
DIFFUSION

Bill Carstensen participated in a panel on "The Grant Review Process from an Insider's Viewpoint: National Science Foundation," along with Anne McNabb (BIOL) as part of the College of Arts and Sciences series on grant opportunities. The panel was February 11.

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Bob Morrill was the guest speaker for the Alleghany Highlands Chapter of the Virginia Tech Alumni Association on Feb. 11, talking about geographic education in the United States and Virginia.

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"The Journey to Daycare" was the title of a presentation by Susan Brooker-Gross to the Department of History and Geography at Clemson University on February 12.

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The next graduate seminar will be February 28 at noon in 301D Patton with Marshall Teese (University Counseling) speaking on "Stress and Time Management." The past two weeks welcomed Cheryl Ruggiero (Writing Center) on graduate school writing, and a discussion of Completing Your...Masters Thesis in Two Semesters or Less led by Susan Brooker-Gross.

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Vince Angelo (B.A., Geography) will speak on Friday, March 1, on job opportunities with ESRI. His talk and equipment demonstration will be 3:30 p.m. in 136 McBryde.

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
March 20, 1991

Virginia Polytechnic Institute
and State University

DIFFUSION

The 1990-91 Lecture Series continues with Dr. Duncan Porter (VPI & SU, Biology) speaking on "The Geographical Correspondence between Charles Darwin and Asa Gray," Friday, March 22, 4:00 p.m. in 136 McBryde.

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Bon Richardson gave a public lecture in Bridgetown, Barbados, on February 26 entitled "Panama and the Caribbean," as part of a lecture series sponsored by the National Cultural Foundation of Barbados and the University of the West Indies.

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Geography graduate Steve Kay (B.A., 1990) now pursuing graduate studies at the University of Kansas, is being awarded the Cambridge Instruments Scholarship in Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing at the ACSM/ASPRS/Auto Carto 10 Conference.

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Bruce Obenhaus presented the final session in the Graduate Studies seminar on "Reference Tools for Graduate Studies" on March 7.

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Dr. Lydia Pulsipher, (Geography, University of Tennessee) will speak on "Houseyard Cultures in the Eastern Caribbean," on April 5, in 136 McBryde at 4:00 p.m.
Diffusion

April 2, 1991


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Larry Grossman received a Supplemental Grant from the University for travel to the Caribbean Studies Association in Havana, Cuba, where he will present his work in a panel on "Peasant and Agrarian Identity in the Caribbean."

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Jane Vyula and Vanessa Scott successfully completed their course in Advanced MicroSoft Word on March 19.

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Jim Campbell and Bill Carstensen traveled to Baltimore on March 24-25 for AGSM/ASPRS/Auto Carto 10, where Jim chaired the Publications Committee meeting.

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Gerard Toal will be on leave in 1991-92, taking a position as Lecturer in Geography at the University of Liverpool.

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Cartography & GIS (formerly The American Cartographer) has named Bill Carstensen to be book review editor.

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Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University