The geography department welcomes four new graduate students for the 1982-83 academic year: Liz Garland (BA, Mary Washington); Julia King (Sierra Leone); Steve McDevitt (Hunter College, CUNY); Mike Story (East Tennessee State).

The distinguished geographer, Dr. Peter Gould of the Pennsylvania State University, will visit the department on October 7-8 as part of the University's Visiting Scholar program. Tom Maraffa is handling arrangements for Dr. Gould's visit.

Alan MacEachren has been selected to receive a Distinguished Teaching Achievement Award by the National Council for Geographic Education.

Susan Brooker-Gross's article "Public Stereotypes of Virginia Locations by Knowledge and Preference" has been accepted for publication in the Virginia Social Science Journal.


Dr. Henry Bauer, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, will visit the department on the morning of October 1st.

"Diffusion" usually appears every other Friday. Please do not forget to place items of interest in the "Diffusion" mailbox, Room 243, Henderson Hall.
Dr. Peter Gould lectured about "Mechanistic Thinking in the Human Sciences" on October 7th and "Thinking Through the Requirements of a Truly Human Geography" on the 8th as part of the University's Visiting Scholar Program.

On October 27th Dr. E. Relph, a geographer from the University of Toronto, will lecture about "Modern Landscape and the Politics of Place." The lecture is part of a conference concerning the rural landscape hosted by Virginia Tech's Landscape Architecture Program.

Bon Richardson gave a paper entitled "Panama Money and Village Economics in Barbados" on October 12th at the meetings of the Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers in Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic.

Tom Maraffa recently gave a paper entitled "Extended Commuting on the North American Landscape" as part of the meetings of the Working Group on the Geography of Transport, International Geographic Union, that were held in Athens, Georgia.

Susan Brooker-Gross presented a paper, coauthored by Tom Maraffa, at the meetings of the West Lakes Geographers in Terre Haute, Indiana, on October 8th: "Multiworker Households and Home-Work Separation: Gender Differences."

Alan MacEachren's article "The Role of Complexity and Symbolization Method in Thematic Map Effectiveness" has been accepted for publication in the Annals of the Association of American Geographers.

Jim Bohland's article "The Urban Transition and the Evolution of the Medical Care Delivery System in America," has been accepted for publication in Social Science and Medicine.

Faculty are reminded to submit book orders for the winter quarter.
October 29, 1982

DIFFUSION

Two departmental faculty are attending the meetings of the National Council for Geographic Education (NCGE) in San Diego. Alan MacEachren is receiving a teaching award and Tom Naraffa is presenting a paper at the meetings.

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Two departmental faculty recently have been selected to serve on editorial boards. Charles Good is a member of the advisory board for the Association of American Geographers' Resource Publications in Geography. Bon Richardson is an editorial advisor for Caribbean Geography, a journal published in Jamaica.

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Julia King talked about Sierra Leone at a meeting of the Geography Club on October 20th.

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Susan Brooker-Gross's article "Spatial Aspects of Newsworthiness" has been accepted for publication by Geografiska Annaler, a Swedish journal.

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Jim Bohland's article "The Spatial Consequences of Bureaucratic Decision-Making: UDAG Grant Allocations," has been accepted for publication in Environment and Planning.

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Course announcements for many of the department's winter quarter courses are available for interested undergraduates.
November 12, 1982

DIFFUSION

We will have three departmental representatives at the annual meetings of the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers (SEDAAC) in Memphis, Tennessee, November 21-23. Susan Brooker-Gross will discuss "Sense of Place and the News" there. Don Kiel will present a paper in the graduate students' honors competition. Tom Maraffa also will attend the meetings.

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Charles Good and five others are serving on the planning committee for an international conference on traditional medicine that will be held in Washington next June. The conference will be sponsored by the National Council on International Health.

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On November 3rd Bob Morrill conducted a Geography Curriculum Development Workshop for elementary school teachers of Roanoke's city school system.

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Two visiting geographers, Drs. Gerald Karaska of Clark University and Lakshman Yapa of Penn State, will give a development seminar at the Architecture Annex at 7:00 pm, November 17th. Their appearance will be as part of the EUS course on "Spatial Aspects of Rural Development."

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On November 4th and 5th Jim Bohland gave invited lectures at the geography department and gerontology center at West Virginia University in Morgantown.

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A departmental faculty meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 16th at 8:30 am in Henderson 252.
December 3, 1982

DIFFUSION

Susan Spano has been awarded the Hugh B. "Red" Loving Scholarship sponsored by the Potomac Region of the American Society of Photogrammetry. Susan's award was a result of competition with students from several colleges in the University.

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Susan Brooker-Cross's article "News and Metropolitan Hinterland and Hierarchy" has been accepted for publication in Urban Geography.

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Bob Morrill has been elected by the Executive Board of the National Council for Geographic Education to serve on the regional Awards Committee.

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Alan MacEachren has been named Treasurer of the North American Cartographic Information Society.

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Tom Maraffa has developed Geography 3480 (Geography of Appalachia) which will be a part of the Appalachian Studies Concentration offered through the LASC major.

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Jane and Glenna request that faculty submit final exams and winter quarter syllabi for typing as soon as possible.

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The next 'Diffusion' will appear during the Winter Quarter, 1982. Best wishes for a safe and pleasant holiday season.
January 14, 1983

DIFFUSION

The department welcomes Mark Rehn, a new graduate student whose BA in Geography is from the University of Pittsburgh.

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Susan Brooker-Gross was elected to the honors committee of the Southeast Division of the AAG at the November meetings in Memphis.

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Bon Richardson will discuss his recent research in Barbados at the next meeting of the Geography Club which will be held at Molly Duquette's apartment (8300B Fox Ridge) at 7:30 pm on Thursday, January 20th.

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Professor John Friedmann of UCLA, a well-known authority on urban development and planning, will visit the EUS department on January 20-21. Contact Rick Simon (X6042) for details.

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Graduate students should be aware that registration for the Spring, 1983 quarter will begin on February 3rd and end on the 10th, rather than on the previously announced dates of February 10-17.

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Please be sure to unplug the coffee pot in Henderson 243 before leaving the building. It was apparently left running during the entire New Year's Eve weekend.
Charles Good has accepted a contract with Guilford Press in New York for his forthcoming book, *Traditional Medicine and Health Care in Africa*.

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Susan Spano has been selected as one of the National Geographic Society's summer interns. The selection process is described by the NGS as "highly competitive."

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The Ph.D. granting programs in geography in the United States have been recently assessed and ranked. The top ten (of 48 evaluated) based on their "effectiveness . . . in educating research scholars and scientists" are: (1) Minnesota (2) Wisconsin (3) Cal-Berkeley (4) Ohio State and Penn State (tie) (6) Chicago (7) UCLA (8) Clark and Washington (tie) and (10) Iowa.

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First year graduate students are reminded that Programs of Study are to be submitted to the graduate school prior to completing 18 credit hours. Normally this means that the program should be submitted before the end of a student's first winter quarter. (See p. 22 of graduate catalog.)

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Bob Morrill and Susan Brooker-Gross are preparing one-page handouts describing several undergraduate course offerings in geography in the Spring Quarter.

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Faculty members are reminded that Spring Quarter textbook orders are due.
Steve Jones, now in Australia, recently finished his M.S. thesis concerning LANDSAT analysis of turbidity, Lake Anna, Virginia.

Jim Campbell's study Mapping the Land: Aerial Imagery for Land-Use Mapping has been accepted for publication in the resource publication series of the Association of American Geographers.

Bon Richardson's article "The Origins and Continuity of Return Migration in the Leeward Caribbean" appears in Return Migration and Remittances: Developing a Caribbean Perspective (Washington: Smithsonian Institution, 1982), pp. 35-44.

Susan Brooker-Gross has been invited to continue her service on the Membership Committee of the Southeastern Division of the AAG.


Independent Study and Undergraduate Research Requests for the Spring Quarter are due in the Dean's Office by March 1st.

VPI & SU geographers are invited to a party at Molly Duquette's apartment (8300-B Foxridge) at 9 pm on Friday, February 18th.

Geography department T-shirts are now available in the graduate office.
April 1, 1983

DIFFUSION

Alan MacEachren's article "Map Complexity: Comparison and Measurement" recently was judged the best 1982 article promoting the theory and practice of cartography by the Andrew McNally Award Committee of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping.

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Jim Campbell's book manuscript, Soil Landscape Analysis, has been accepted for publication by Littlefield, Adams and Company of Totowa, New Jersey. The coauthor is Dr. Francis Hole of the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

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Tom Maraffa has been selected as one of fifteen participants in the 1983 Virginia Tech Faculty Writing Workshop, June 20-July 22.

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Grad student Greg Johnson, now employed by Synercom Technology of Houston, Texas, recently returned and talked to the computer cartography class about computer mapping systems he has helped to develop.
April 22, 1983

DIFFUSION

Graduate student Joe Curd has accepted a position as a mapping supervisor in the Department of Taxation of the State of Kentucky in Frankfurt, Kentucky.

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Graduate student Ellen White (formerly Loiselle) is the co-recipient of the 1983 National Geographic Society Student Award for Cartography for her paper "Assessment of Line Generalization Algorithms Using Characteristic Points."

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Susan Spano has been chosen as one of the five outstanding seniors in the College of Arts and Sciences.

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On March 13-18 Alan MacEachren attended the annual meeting of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping and presented the paper "Selection and Organization of Data: Neglected Topics in Cartographic Education."

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On April 8 Bon Richardson gave a talk about his Barbados research at the Department of Geography at the University of Illinois at Urbana.

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Geography department enrollment totals 640 for the Spring Quarter, 1983. The 1982-83 enrollment is 1776, up 8 percent from last year.

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The department's softball team won its season opener against the biologists on April 20th, 15-14. Tom Maraffa hit a three-run homer with two out in the last inning.
DIFFUSION

May 6, 1983


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Larry Grossman has been elected Secretary/Treasurer of the AAG Cultural Ecology Specialty Group.

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Tom Maraffa has been elected to the Executive Committee of the Virginia Social Science Association.

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Charles Good spoke to members of the geography club on May 3rd about health care in East Africa.

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Bon Richardson recently participated in an orientation session at the VPI & SU Cooper House for students who will be spending the summer doing volunteer work in Haiti.

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The departmental softball team (now with a season record of 1-2) lost to the physical plant team 16-12 on May 4th.
May 25, 1983

DIFFUSION

Susan Brooker-Gross officially has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure effective September, 1983.

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Laurence "Bill" Carstensen, Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin at Green Bay, has accepted the department's offer to join the faculty next fall. Carstensen received his Ph.D. at the University of North Carolina in 1981.

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Jim Campbell's article "Spatial Estimates of Soil Temperature" has been accepted for publication in Soil Science, an international journal.

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Tom Maraffa and Susan Brooker-Gross's research on non-metropolitan commuting patterns has been the subject of a statewide radio interview and a recent article in the Virginia Tech Spectrum.

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Charles Good has been elected to a two-year term as a member of the Personnel Committee of the College of Arts and Sciences.

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Bon Richardson has received a "summer stipend" from the VPI & SU Center for Programs in the Humanities to support writing this summer.

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The faculty/grad student softball team has ended its season with a 1-3 record and eagerly awaits the game against the geography undergraduates on May 27th.

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The next "Diffusion" will appear during the Fall Quarter, 1983. Please continue to put newsworthy items in the pigeonhole in the department office.