Sally Ride “Wows” Full House Audience for Second Annual Lovell Lecture

By Dr. David Butler

Dr. Sally Ride, America’s first woman in space, and currently a Professor of Space Science and Physics at the University of California San Diego, gave the Second Annual Lovell Lecture on February 7, 2000, to a full house audience of about 900 in Evans Auditorium. About half the audience was comprised of schoolchildren, and the enthusiastic audience cheered and roared for Dr. Ride. Dr. Ride was introduced by the Department of Geography Chair, Dr. Lawrence Estaville; Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Robert Gratz; and the Director of the Lovell Center Conference Library.

James and Marilyn Lovell Center for Environmental Geography and Hazards Research, Dr. David Butler. Dr. Ride’s lecture topic was “The View from Space.”

During her presentation, she used photographs taken from her two Space Shuttle missions, along with photos taken by other shuttle astronauts, to illustrate a variety of significant environmental issues. She described and discussed erosion associated with deforestation on the island nation of Madagascar, air pollution associated with widespread fires in the Amazon Basin (also associated with deforestation), atmospheric phenomena, and natural hazards. Particularly striking for the audience were images of major hurricanes, where shuttle astronauts were able to photograph down through the hurricane’s eye directly to the ocean beneath it, and a sunset view of clouds building up to the tropopause that separates the troposphere from the overlying stratosphere. After her talk, Dr. Ride answered questions, primarily from schoolchildren.

Prior to the Lovell Lecture, a dinner held in Dr. Ride’s honor was hosted by the Lovell Center, was sponsored by the Department of Geography, the Grovesen Center for Geographic Education, and numerous local San Marcos businesses. At the dinner, Dr. Butler presented Dr. Ride a copy of the National Geographic Society book Orbe, a book of stunning photographs taken by NASA astronauts, which had been autographed by Captain Jim Lovell. The Lovell Center also presented Dr. Ride with a framed set of high-altitude false-color images of the hills of San Diego where Dr. Ride lives. This gift was prepared and framed for Dr. Ride by Dr. Ron Eyton, one of the Lovell Center Scholars, and Ph.D student Linda Prosperie.

Many Lovell Center Scholars, our outstanding office staff spearheaded by Angelika Lester, the Lovell Center graduate assistant Wendy Bigler, Lisa DeChano and a nearly endless list of wonderful student volunteers helped with the arrangements for the dinner and Second Annual Lecture, and the event would not have been nearly as successful without their outstanding efforts. On behalf of the Lovell Center, I’d like to invite you to come next year for the 3rd Annual Lecture. Future issues of this newsletter will contain information about this event, so watch this space!

FOUR MORE NEW GEOGRAPHY SCHOLARSHIPS!

The Geography Department is very pleased and excited that four faculty—Sent Visser, Dick Boehm, Denise Blanchard-Boehm, and Pam Showalter—have generously provided us with three new scholarships and that Gamma Theta Upsilon (GTU) has provided support for one new scholarship. This year generous and caring supporters—an alumnus, a staff person, GTU, and 18 faculty and families have now funded 21 new scholarships for our Geography students! These new scholarships will be presented to the selected outstanding students at the Fifth Annual Alumni Reunion and Student Celebration to be held on April 29. Below is a listing of the new scholarships, the names of the supporters, and the annual scholarship amounts. We hope other individuals will honor special persons in their lives by likewise establishing future Geography scholarships to help support our students financially while they complete their studies.

1. Tim Staskus and Family support the Phillip A. Staskus Undergraduate Geography Scholarship, $1,000 annually
2. Angelika Lester and Sherry Wahl support the Irene L. Wahl Geography Scholarship, $500 annually
3. Gamma Theta Upsilon (GTU) supports the Richard A. Earl Gamma Theta Upsilon Geography Scholarship, $500 annually
4. Byron and Thomas Augustin support the Bruce Lee Augustin Undergraduate Geography Scholarship, $500 annually
5. Richard Boehm supports the Frank and Ivy Boehm Geography Scholarship, $500 annually
6. Denise Blanchard-Boehm supports the Blanchard Geography Scholarship, $500 annually
7. Denise Blanchard-Boehm and Pamela Showalter support the Natural Hazards Scholarship, $500 annually
8. Brock Brown supports the Peggy Steele Clay Outstanding Pre-service Teacher in Geography Scholarship, $500 annually
9. David Butler supports the Ray and Marian Butler Environmental Geography Scholarship, $500 annually
10. Fred and Anu Day supports the Amita Malwade Graduate Scholarship in Human Geography, $500 annually
11. Richard Dixon supports the George D. Barte Memorial Scholarship Supporting Research in Climatology or Coastal Geography, $500 annually
12. Ron Eyton supports the R. J. Eyton Undergraduate AAG Travel Scholarship, $500 annually
13. Susan Hardwick supports the Alice Rechlin Perkins Outstanding Female Graduate Student in Geographic Education Scholarship, $500 annually
14. Jerry Touchstone Kimmel and Ruth Touchstone support the Roy H. Touchstone Graduate Scholarship for Nature and Heritage Tourism, $500 annually
15. James Kimmel and Madelyn Kimmel Holley support the Ross Kimmel, Jr. Undergraduate Scholarship for Nature and Heritage Tourism, $500 annually
16. James Petersen supports the Martha Sue Baker Morrow Scholarship for a Teacher Candidate for Secondary Geography Teaching, $500 annually
17. Fred and Arlene Shelley support the A. E. and Alvina Beckworth Scholarship, $500 annually
18. David Stea supports The Four Brothers Scholarship, $500 annually
19. Sent and Mary Visser support the Adriana Samantha Visser Memorial Scholarship, $500 annually
20. Ben Zhan supports the Mao-Geng Zhan Scholarship for Academic Excellence in Geography, $500 annually
21. An anonymous faculty person supports the Joe and Jerry Moore Scholarship in Water Resources, $500 annually

Reunion Bliss...
Join the Fun this year.
See story pg 3. Pictures Pg. 6

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Greetings from the Chair  
Dr. Lawrence Estaville

What can I say about your Geography Department when it has Sally Ride visit, 21 new student scholarships, and its first two Ph.D. graduates in the queue? Well, I can say that Shuttle Astronaut Sally Ride (from the chant “Ride Sally Ride” era) gave a simply superb presentation on the view from space of the Earth’s fragile environment before a packed and excited house in Evans Auditorium in February! Dr. Ride’s presentation was the second in the Lowell Lecture Series sponsored by the department’s James and Marilyn Lovell Center for Environmental Geography and Hazards Research. And I can say that four more Geography faculty, Senor Viscager, Dick Boehm, Dennis Blanchard-Boehm, and Pam Showalter, generously agreed to support three new scholarships! Indeed, GTU also donated funds to support a scholarship as well, which brought the total number of new Geography scholarships established this year to an incredible 21!! The supporters of these 21 new scholarships will present them to our outstanding students at the 23rd Annual Alumni Reunion and Student Celebration on April 29. And I can say that Todd Votteler and Lisa DeChano are both poised to become our first two Ph.D. graduates in May 2000! What a way to begin the new millennium.

Dr. David Stea, director, and Dr. John Tiefenbacher, associate director, led the establishment of the Center for Texas-Mexico Applied Research, an SWT interdisciplinary academic research center that will work on real-world environmental and development problems in collaboration with Mexican universities. The Texas-Mexico Center complements the four other academic research centers for which the department provides leadership: The Lovell Center (David Butler, director); the Grovvenor Center for Geographic Education (Dick Boehm, director), which will host William Allen, the editor of the world-renowned National Geographic Magazine, as the third speaker in the Grovvenor Lecture series on 17 April in The Teaching Theatre of the LBSC; the Center for Nature and Heritage Tourism (Jim Kimmel, director); and the Freshwater Research and Policy Center (Joe Moore, director). And our Texas Watch Program (Eric Mendelman, coordinator) is reaching out to water quality volunteers across the state.

The number of graduate students is now 516, 163 MAG, and 24 Ph.D. students and is the largest Geography Department in North America! Our students continue to participate enthusiastically in Gamma Theta Upsilon (GTU), the Student Planning Organization (SPO), the National Association of Geographical Educators (NAGE), and the Student and Professional Support for Women in Geography (SWIG), and the Graduate Student Forum. Several of our students were honored once again during the past year with awards at national and state conferences or were congratulated for their publications!

The total number of SWT Geography faculty is 29, the largest geography faculty in North America and the faculty with the largest number of women in the nation! Your Geography faculty have published almost 1,000 publications, have been honored with 11 publication awards for outstanding books and articles, and have won 23 teaching awards from universities or national and state professional organizations! And, we will most likely have a new Master of Science (M.S.) in Geography program and a GIS certificate program established and accepting students for Fall 2000!

Angelika Lester continues to do a simply superb job as our department office manager! Joan Pasquali and Jena Ellsworth are excellent office staff who also make certain our ship stays on a steady course! And without Dan “the computer man” Hemenway we would be dead in the water with more than 300 department computers to be maintained! You can see that I am very proud to be the chair of your department! You, too, should be very proud to be a part of your nationally recognized Department of Geography! Well, I could go excitedly on and on, but more details in this newsletter, on our website at www.geo.swt.edu, or on our video (for a copy of the video, call the department at 512-245-2170 or e-mail: geography@swt.edu). For “up close and personal,” be here for your Sixth Annual Alumni Reunion and Student Celebration on April 29! I hope to see you and your families at this annual Department highlight to join more than 500 alumni having a day of fun and food, presenting student awards, reminiscing, networking, attending workshops, visiting vendor displays, and showing the department’s new equipment and facilities!

Graduate Program Coordinator’s Column

By Dr. Fred M. Shelley

The 1999-2000 academic year has been an exciting and pivotal year for the graduate programs in the Department of Geography. We have seen the completion of our first two Ph.D. degrees, the development of important new initiatives at the doctoral and master’s degree levels, the establishment of numerous graduate scholarships, and continued progress in the completion and placement of Master of Applied Geography students.

Todd Votteler defended his dissertation on February 21. Lisa DeChano’s dissertation defense will take place on March 31. Todd and Lisa will receive their doctorates on May 12, marking the establishment of the Master of Science degree will almost 1,000 publications, have been

Congratulations to all! In December, 16 students were awarded the MAG degree. These include Lydia Bean (who has entered the Ph.D. program at SWT), Buck Buchanan, B. J. Carpenter, Kay Gayet, Rainy Day, Reed Dickerson, Mark Garcia, Josephine Jarrell, Greg Klaus, Allison Moore (who is now a full-time student of the Texas Watch staff), Dean Roth, Paul Schultze, Steve Schwalling, Jennifer Umkehr, Rick Wilson, and Penelope Younger. Congratulations!

We at SWT take great pride in the achievements of our excellent graduate students and graduate alumni. We are confident that the admission of part-time Ph.D. students and the establishment of the Master of Science degree will bring a new dimension of excellence to our graduate program activities. Of course, the success of our graduate programs is not achieved or enjoyed by a strict rule of the hard work of our faculty, our graduate students, and our office staff—especially Joan Pasquali, the Assistant to the Graduate Coordinator who runs out of her way to help our current and incoming students meet their goals. I am confident that with your help, the graduate programs will continue to achieve increased national and international recognition for excellence.

We will be sending you a copy of the report on the progress of the graduate program and our plans for the future. We hope to keep you informed about the progress of the graduate program and we hope to see you there!
LEST WE FORGET

By Dr. Arlene Shelley, Newsletter Editor

I can’t help but think about how all things are tied together and how the responsibility for making our world a better place starts with each of us as individuals. All of us must work together if we are to reap the rewards that are waiting for us, our children, and our children’s children.

I believe that academia works in the same way. I remember being an undergraduate English major at a regional college in Oklahoma in the 1960s. My goals were simple—to get out on my own, have some fun, and take as few courses as possible to get my teaching degree. Of course, I only took those courses that I thought would “ace.”

After graduation, I worked in business and education for about ten years before returning as a student to the University of Oklahoma to work toward a teaching certificate and a master’s degree in natural science. Fortunately, I had two spectacular professors in physical geography—Dr. Katie Hirschboeck and Dr. Lisa Hageman. Dr. Brock Brown, who is now undergraduate Coordinator in the Department of Geography at SWT, introduced me to my first field excursion. Through these teachers, I learned that I could ask questions that didn’t already have answers. My whole world changed!

After finding geography, I couldn’t get enough! I knew I wanted to be a geographer, and I didn’t mind long hours in the classroom, the library, the laboratory, and the field. Learning became a whole new way of life! Now, every time I plan a lesson to present to my undergraduate students, I try to remember that most of them take my courses only because they are required for graduation. My goal is to find ways to excite the students about geography and encourage them to consider geography as a major. Without students, I wouldn’t have the privilege of sharing my passion for our wonderful discipline.

Once students are hooked on geography, the web grows wild. Students are concerned about how geography functions in the real world, and parents are often anxious to know that there are real job prospects available for their sons and daughters who are majoring in geography. This is one reason why it is so important to keep our network with our alumni well tended. As alumni, you can provide a pathway for our students. Not only are many of you in a position to provide jobs or internships to our students, but you can act as mentors to our students. Many of you have volunteered to speak to our classes and student organizations. When our students and faculty meet with alumni, it gives all of us a chance to alter preconceived notions and to more accurately meet the needs of our current students.

I encourage all of you to participate in the important process of tending to our students. There are many ways to support our program, and I hope each of you will identify ways that you feel comfortable in doing so. I hope that each of you has a terrific 2000 and that you will be able to join your fellow alumni, current students, and faculty at the 6th Annual Alumni Reunion and Student Celebration on April 29. We in the Department welcome your suggestions and your ideas, and we especially appreciate your taking time to meet our terrific students. One day our students will themselves be alumni, and they will pass on to future generations of students what you have given to them.

Alumni News
6TH ANNUAL ALUMNI REUNION AND STUDENT CELEBRATION!

By Dr. Fred M. Shelley

The 6th Annual Alumni Reunion and Student Celebration will be held on Saturday, April 29. Make your plans now to attend what promises to be the most exciting Reunion ever!

The theme of this year’s reunion is “Celebrating Students: Honoring Past and Present.” This theme is especially appropriate this year, because the Department will present some 21 new scholarships for the first time in addition to the nearly two dozen continuing scholarships and awards to deserving undergraduate and graduate students. In addition, Dr. Estaville will present Outstanding Leadership Awards to former chairs Dr. Allen Hellman and Dr. Richard Boehm and to Mr. Gerald Hill, Vice President for Development. Outstanding Service Awards will be presented to Dr. James Harrison, Distinguished Professor Joe Moore, and Dr. Arlene Shelley. This year’s Outstanding Alumni Award will be given to Mark Carter.

The tentative schedule of events is as follows. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. outside the Alkek Teaching Theater. The program will begin at 9:30 in the Teaching Theater and will include the annual State of the Department address by Dr. Lawrence Estaville, Department Chair, and a special National Geographic Society presentation by Peggy Steele Clay. The Awards Ceremony will begin at 11:00 a.m. After lunch, a special ceremony honoring winners of the scholarships and recognizing those persons after whom the scholarships have been named will take place at 1:15. Both the Awards Ceremony and the Scholarship Ceremony will also take place in the Teaching Theater.

At 2:40, the Reunion will move to the Evans Liberal Arts Building where several workshops, department tours, and lab demonstrations will be held. Workshops tentatively planned include workshops on job networking and resume preparation; presentation of High resolution GPS units; a panel discussion on opportunities for women in geography; a presentation on 100 years of hurricanes in Texas; a presentation and demonstration of global positioning systems; and a presentation by members of the Texas Watch staff. At 5:00, we will move to Aquarena Springs for the traditional barbecue dinner.

Hotel Rooms for Alumni Reunion Weekend

A block of hotel rooms has been reserved for participants of the Alumni Reunion & Student Celebration. For the nights of April 28 & 29, anyone attending the Department of Geography’s annual celebration can get a room at La Quinta Inn-San Marcos at a special rate (price depends on room type). If you want a nice and inexpensive place to stay that weekend, mention the ‘SWT Geography Block’ when you call the hotel for reservations. You must call the hotel directly at 512-392-8850 to make your reservations—the 1-800 number will not recognize local discount rates for the rooms. The block of rooms will be released on April 1, so plan ahead and make your reservations soon!

Down Memory Lane with Memorex at the Alumni Reunion

By Dr. Brock Brown

When making preparations to attend the 2000 Geography Alumni Reunion spend a bit of time recalling those fond moments as a student because we want to remember with you!! At this year’s reunion BBQ we will have a video camera set up under the tent to record your account of memories past. We hope that over the years this event will enable us to develop a wonderfully rich and admittedly unauthorized history of the events that have shaped our Department. So, dig deep into those old memory cells and bring a story to share!!

GTU Alumni

GTU will have a table at the Alumni Reunion on April 29. If you have not picked up or received your certificate, they will be available at the GTU table. After that date, contact Dr. Richard Earl and we can have your certificate sent to you. If you are interested in joining the national GTU alumni chapter, contact Dr. Earl at REEAR@SWT.EDU.

Registration for this year’s Reunion, including two meals, is only $15 ($10 for students and children under 10. Children under 10 are free). Everyone is invited. Come celebrate the achievements of your Department and help us to honor our outstanding students and alumni! A registration form is available in this Newsletter, and it can also be downloaded from the Department’s website. I hope to see you and your loved ones on April 29!!

11:00 Awards Ceremony
12:15 Lunch
1:15 Scholarship Ceremony
2:40 Workshops I
3:50 Workshops II
5:00 Barbecue, Aquarena Springs
See Pictures on Page 6.
ATTN: MARK CARTER: DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

By Doc Augustin

Mark Carter has been selected as the Distinguished Alumnus to mark the beginning of the new millennium. It is an appropriate honor to mark a man who represents what geography at Southwest Texas State University is all about.

Mark was born in Bristol, Connecticut, a few years ago. Although he is a Yankee by birth, he is a Texan at heart. When he was nineteen, he joined the Navy to experience world geography. He has since then traveled all over the world. He ended up as a twenty-five year old freshman at SWT. During his freshman year orientation program, he was introduced to “Doc” Augustin and decided to major in geography. After three years at SWT, he longed to actually have an income, dropped out of school, and returned to Connecticut.

Once in Connecticut, he was hired by ESPN as a Satellite Earth Station Engineer. In this position, he was responsible for communicating with stationary satellites to provide sports programming throughout the world. One of the highlights of this job was that he usually had lunch with Chris “He could go all the way to the moon.”

His next position was with the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He served as a graduate assistant for Fordham University, a program which kept in close contact with the Geography Department. The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee is known for its research and implementation of interactive television systems for Distance Learning Programs, which keeps in close contact with the Geography Department.

Since then, he has served as the Founding Chairman of the Geography Alumni Reunion Committee. He held that position for three consecutive years. He has also served as the Chairman of the University Staff Council, as a committee member of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Accreditation team, as a member of the University Council, and as an SWT Menter.

Mark Carter is a true friend of the Department of Geography and a worthy selection for the Distinguished Alumni Award. CONGRATULATIONS, MARK!!!!

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT - MARK BOCKENHAUER

Dr. Mark Bockenhauer (MAG 1987), Assistant Professor of Geography at St. Norbert College in DePere, Wisconsin, was recently awarded the St. Norbert College Outstanding Teacher Award for 1999 and the Leonard Lavida Award for Excellence in Teaching.

After graduating from SWT, Mark entered the Ph.D. program in Geography at the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee. He completed his Ph.D. in 1994 and then joined the St. Norbert faculty. Mark teaches courses in World Regional Geography, Social Geography, and Environmental Studies.

Above and beyond his teaching, Mark has been involved in a variety of professional activities. Mark served as co-principal investigator for a 1997-99 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Partnership Program (NOPP) grant. He has also held a major role in developing and implementing the $2.15 million “COAST” (Coastal Oceanography for Geoclassics, Atlantic, Urban, Scientific and Teachers) effort, with “Sea Scholars’ trips” sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Foundation.

Mark is active in promoting geographic education across Wisconsin. He continues to coordinate the Wisconsin Geographic Alliance (WIGA). In June, 1999 he led a 12-day geographic education Field Camp in Austin. His primary responsibility is financial feasibility analysis of existing and proposed low-income, multi-family projects throughout the state of Texas. He encourages students to get involved in real estate, and works to help people find opportunities to get out of poverty. In 1999, he was asked by the United Nations and the U.S. Department of Education to help plan a joint Unfortunately, the document contains some errors and incomplete information, making it difficult to accurately transcribe. The text is fragmented and contains incomplete sentences and paragraphs. It appears to be a mix of student profiles and academic achievements, but the content is not coherent enough to provide a clear and comprehensive representation of the document's natural text. Therefore, I am unable to provide a reliable plain text representation.
**A long Interstate-35**

**WOMEN IN GEOGRAPHY PREPARE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY**

By Dr. Arlene Shelley and Dr. Susan Hardwick

The SWT chapter of Supporting Women in Geography (SWIG), which is dedicated to advancing the status of women in geography, promoting gender awareness, and facilitating research on gender and geography, has had a very active and successful year.

Being a woman in a male-dominated discipline was one of the many topics discussed at the first annual women's retreat, sponsored by SWIG, at the SWAAG meeting in October. Over 35 women, faculty and graduate students, gathered at SWT's University Camp near Wimberley for insightful journeys into such areas as culture, arts, ethics, and determination. An orienteering course designed by MAG student Meg Garrett challenged the women to depend on their abilities and their partners, as did a "Low Ropes" course facilitated by the SWT Outdoor Center. MAG student Michelle Pulich led a wildlife trek along the banks of the Blanco River. Former SWT professor Dr. Julie Tuason, who now teaches at the University of Texas at Austin, led an informal song and jam session, and Dr. Caldwell discussed her new book, Romantic Deception (see story elsewhere in this issue). Lively discussion, encouraged by the relaxed climate of the retreat, reinforced mutual support for women within the discipline. Plans are already under way to hold another retreat before next year's retreat, reinforced mutual support for women within the discipline.

Two additional events are planned for April. SWIG at SWT and UT have organized a panel discussion to be held at the AAG meeting in Pittsburgh. The theme of the discussion will be "Creating a WarmClimate for Female Graduate Students in Geography." The participants include SWIG faculty sponsors Fred Shelley and Susan Hardwick, SWT MAG student Vanessa Eckert, and Megan Blake, Clark University; Maria Elise Christie, UT; Michelle Driedger, McMaster University; Kim Elmore, University of North Carolina; Jennifer Fluri, Penn State; Marlene Jackson, University of Western Ontario, and Rebecca Dobbs, University of North Carolina. At the Alumni Reunion and Student Celebration, SWIG will host its second annual panel discussion on opportunities for women in geography. All alumni, women and men, are welcome and encouraged to participate.

Anyone, male or female, interested in supporting women as geographers is encouraged to join SWIG and participate in SWIG activities. The number of women in academic and non-academic geography is increasing steadily, and through SWIG we hope to reinforce a warm climate for women geographers at SWT and to enhance educational, exploratory, and career opportunities for women geographers in Texas and throughout the country.

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**ESRI Training Offered at SWT**

Beginning in March 2000, the Department of Geography and the Grosvenor Center for Geographic Education, in collaboration with ESRI, will be offering GIS training classes here at SWT. These courses are specifically geared for the government and business users of GIS technology, targeting those people who utilize ESRI products. ESRI-certified trainers will offer curriculum that is identical to that offered at the ESRI training site in San Antonio.

In order to take advantage of the state-of-the-art computer facilities available in the Department of Geography, these training sessions will be held during spring break, summer months, and other holiday periods, to avoid conflicts with regular class schedules. A first course being offered is "What's New in ArcInfo 8," which will be held on M Arch 13-17 (Spring Break). The choice of which classes will be offered in the future will be based on market demand.

For information on these training courses, please contact Judy Behrens at 512-245-1823 or jbe@swt.edu. This information will also be accessible through the homepages of the Department of Geography, the Grosvenor Center for Geographic Education, and the SWT Office of Continuing Education.

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**National Geographic Editor to Present Grosvenor Lecture**

By Judy Behrens

William L. Allen, Editor of National Geographic Magazine, will be visiting the SWT campus in April as the guest of the Grosvenor Center for Geographic Education and the Department of Geography. M. R. Allen, who originates from Tylee, Texas, has served as Editor of National Geographic Magazine since 1995, and has worked on the publication for almost three decades.

At 7:30 pm on Monday, April 17, M. R. Allen will be delivering the 3rd Annual Grosvenor Distinguished Lecture in the Teaching T heater of the LBJ Student Center. Gilbert M. Grosvenor, Chairman of the Board of National Geographic Society delivered the inaugural address of the lectureseries in 1998. James A. Baker III, 61st Secretary of State of the United States presented the 2nd Annual Grosvenor Lecture in Spring 1999.

M. R. Allen's lecture will be free and open to the public. Seating for this event will be limited, and it is suggested that anyone who is interested in attending should call the Grosvenor Center at 512-245-1823 to reserve a spot. Information about the lecture will be available on the Geography Department website:

http://www.geo.swt.edu/
Pictures from Celebrations Past

TODD VOTTETLER
DEFENDS PH.D. DISSERTATION
By Dr. Fred Shelley

On February 23, Todd Votteler successfully defended his doctoral dissertation entitled “Water from a Stone: The Limits of Sustainable Development of the Texas Edwards Aquifer.” Todd, who completed his dissertation under the supervision of Distinguished Professor Joe Moore, was the first person in the University’s history to complete and successfully defend a doctoral dissertation.

In his dissertation, Todd reviewed the geology and physical geography of the Edwards Aquifer along with the history of litigation surrounding its management. Declining water levels in the Aquifer can jeopardize continued flow of water into the Comal Springs near New Braunfels and the San Marcos Springs, imperiling several endangered species which inhabit these springs. He then used correlation analysis to determine the extent to which levels of indicator wells in San Antonio, Uvalde, and Hondo could accurately predict declines in flow levels of the Comal and San Marcos Springs, and he discussed methods to predict years of critical spring discharge before they occur. He pointed out that the ability to forecast critical period years at the springs would aid in the sustainable management of the Edwards Aquifer and could help to avoid violations of the Endangered Species Act and transboundary disputes during low rainfall and recharge periods and droughts.

At the defense, Todd presented his findings to an audience of over 60 faculty, students, staff, and interested members of the community. He then fielded questions about the dissertation, its contributions to geographic theory, its implications for further research, and its implications for policy from his committee, which included Mr. Moore, Dr. David Butler, Dr. Richard Earl, Dr. Fred Shelley, and Dr. Tom Aruffi (Biology).

Todd earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of the South and a master’s degree from the University of Michigan before entering the Ph.D. program at SWT. For several years, he served as Special Master in the ongoing Edwards Aquifer litigation.

SWT’s second Ph.D. defense will take place on March 31, when Lisa DeChano will defend her dissertation. Lisa’s dissertation is tentatively entitled “Natural Hazard Perception in Glacier National Park, Montana, USA” and was written under the supervision of Dr. David Butler. Lisa’s defense will take place at 12:30 p.m. in Room 105-106 at Alkek Library and is open to the public.

Todd and Lisa will be awarded their Ph.D. degrees at the Graduate Commencement on May 12. Congratulations to both!
Alumni Bits continued from page 4

Jeff Lewellin (B.S., 1986), who has been in the environmental industry for twelve years, currently works as Emergency Response Coordinator for the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission in Corpus Christi.

Christopher Looney (B.S., 1998) is a Planner with the City of San Angelo, Texas. He writes recommendations, prepares reports and ordinances and delivers presentations to various commissions and boards. He participated in the implementation of a new zoning ordinance for San Angelo and is now immersed in many projects as the Department works on a Comprehensive Plan for San Angelo. Chris is enjoying his new experiences on the fringe of the "Texas Wild West." He is active in community theater and has already performed in five shows since moving to San Angelo. Chris encourages SWT undergraduates to take Technical Writing to complete their sophomore English requirements. "It was one of the most useful classes I took at SWT."

D avid Nix (B.S., 1991) is Director of Marketing for Motel Six in Dallas.

Amber O’Dell (B.A., 1997), is an underwriter for the Hartford Insurance Group in San Antonio.

Gary Russell (B.S., 1992), is Environmental Manager for Waste Management in Houston.

D an Searle (B.A., 1979) is Claims Manager for UPS in San Antonio. He enjoys traveling the world and especially loves to hike in Big Bend and experience the spiritual connection between sky, rock, and heart. He recalls with pleasure experiences on the fringe of the University of New Mexico and pursuing his interests in bio-geography and phytogeography.

Marc Wilson (B.S., 1988) works as GIS Technician for the City of Cedar Park, Texas. He resides in Cedar Park with his wife, Tamara, and daughters Shelby and Kylie.

Peggy Wiggie (M.A., 1991) completed requirements for the Ph.D. in Geography at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and successfully defended her Ph.D. dissertation on January 28, 2000. She is working for the Superfund Section of the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources in Raleigh.

Don York (B.A., 1987) has been with the Houston Police Department since 1988. He is now working with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration as a special agent assigned to the Dallas Field Division.

ALUMNI: Please share your news about your professional activities and personal accomplishments with fellow SWT Geographers in future issues of the newsletter! Send your news by e-mail to Dr. Fred Shelley at fhg3@swt.edu or by regular mail to Dr. Shelley at the Department of Geography, Southwest Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas 78666.

Brock Brown Honors Teacher in Residence
Peggy Steele Clay

D.C. teachers at 8:00 on a Saturday morning have more energy than industrial-strength coffee. Thirty-two teachers circle the Staff Auditorium abuzz with anticipation. Word has spread throughout the District that Peggy Steele Clay and the D.C. Alliance put on workshops that are worth climbing out of bed to attend. Teachers trust that they’ll be invigorated by the lecturers, practice hands-on methods of teaching the new content, earn graduate credits, have fun — and be surprised.

Peggy is teacher-in-residence and coordinator of the District of Columbia Geographic Alliance. A long-time 2nd grade teacher in Florence, Alabama, Peggy was hired at the Society in 1996 after eight years of participating in geographic workshops and institutes.

Her ability to reach learners of all ages so inspired Professor Brock Brown of Southwest Texas State University, that he wrote a check and established an endowed scholarship for student teachers from the geography department. His department chair, Dr. Lawrence Estaville and the SWT Foundation, added to the pot.

A popular instructor in the Geographic’s summer institutes, Brock didn’t hesitate on what to call the endowment. “I wanted to name it after someone who is inspirational,” Brock said. “Peggy is one of the most exceptional geography teachers in North America. She reaches across borders to gize them. You find energy in people’s eyes… Peggy believes. Teachers fly in from classrooms around the country to spend one Saturday a month with D.C. teachers.”

Last summer, she took eight District teachers to South Florida for a joint institute with 24 Miami teachers. “The premise was that the physical landscape is different, but we have common problems and we looked for and found common solutions as pertained to inner city teaching and urban geography.”

This summer Peggy is taking 24 teachers to the Fish and Wildlife Center in Shepherdstown for a technology institute coordinated by Gwen Faulkner, the technology trainer for Harriot Tubman School and Steering Committee Chair for the D.C. Alliance. Later in the summer, the District teachers will learn how to use Washington, D.C. as a lab to upgrade geography skills, and by the end of the summer, at least three District teachers will present to their counterparts at the annual meeting of the National Council for Geographic Education, which will be held in Chicago this year.

Typical of Peggy, one of the sessions will feature a joint presentation between the District and the Alabama Alliance. “We’re reaching teachers in schools we haven’t been in before. The Alliance is in every section of the city,” said Peggy. “I have found in the District of Columbia Public Schools, teachers teaching, pupils learning, and parents supportive.”

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programs that can turn people's affection for the Hill Country into knowledge and understanding that can lead to careful stewardship of the region's natural and cultural assets. This project will provide visitors to Freeman Ranch with a comprehensive interpretation of the Texas Hill Country, including its history, environmental dynamics, and current issues. Audiences for the programs will include educational groups of all levels, tourists, and participants in Elder Hostel-type programs.

The Window on the Texas Hill Country program will be based on solid research in all of the factors that affect the region and will provide crucial information that can help prevent deterioration of the Hill Country. This program will also provide valuable educational and professional experience for students in several University programs, including the Public History Graduate Program and the minors in Southwestern Studies and Nature and Heritage Tourism.

Topics of the interpretive program will include:
- history and culture
- environmental characteristics, including geology, hydrology, wildlife, and vegetation
- problems and opportunities of modern ranching and farming in the Hill Country
- private property rights
- environmental regulations
- changes in land ownership and use patterns, including transportation and suburbanization
- community dynamics and issues

As the list of topics illustrates, the interpretive program will not be superficial. It will address issues that are fundamental to the future of the region. On-going comprehensive research will be the foundation of the Window on the Texas Hill Country program. The program will provide substantive information in ways that are appropriate for the various target audiences. The program will be based on sound academic research, including the following:
- periodic surveys of Hill Country residents
- monitoring and analysis of land use trends
- monitoring and analysis of environmental trends

Freeman Ranch is the logical location for this regional interpretive program. The Ranch is located in the center of the rapidly urbanizing Austin-San Antonio Corridor, which lies on the eastern edge of the Hill Country. Freeman Ranch is the only sizeable area of Hill Country landscape under public management that is centrally located in the region. More importantly, it is not a park, but it is a working ranch that illustrates the problems and processes associated with sustainable management of the Hill Country. The environmental and land management processes at Freeman Ranch will provide a substantial part of the content of the interpretive programs. The existing facilities at the Ranch are suitable for the initial phases of the program. However, as the interpretive program grows it will be necessary to develop a suitable visitor center.

The interpretive program will include the following:
- displays and materials for drop-in visitors
- regularly scheduled programs
- half-day and day-long programs
- multi-day programs on specific issues
- programs tailored for specific groups
- videos
- an interpretive Internet site
- guidebooks to specific places and regions in the Hill Country

Jim Kimmel, director of the Center for Nature and Heritage Tourism and an associate professor in the Department of Geography, has initiated the funding process for the program. Research and development of the program should be underway by the Fall of 2000.

PART-TIME PH.D. STUDENTS TO BE ADMITTED

By Dr. Fred M. Shelley

The SWT administration has recently approved the Department's request to admit a limited number of part-time students to the Ph.D. programs in Environmental Geography and Geographic Education, effective in the Fall of 2000. The part-time option will allow qualified students to work toward their doctorates without having to quit their jobs or accept assistantships in the Department.

A total of four to five part-time Ph.D. students will be admitted to begin work in the fall semester of 2001. Part-time students in the Ph.D. program will be selected by the faculty later this spring from among applicants who meet the program's formal admission criteria, including a 3.5 GPA in master's-level work and a score of 1100 on the verbal and quantitative portions of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). Part-time students will be expected to meet all of the admission, retention, and degree progress standards of the Department and will be expected to complete their 31 hours of coursework within four years.

Later this spring, an application period and deadline for these part-time slots in the Ph.D. programs will be announced. In the meantime, persons who might be interested in the Ph.D. program on a part-time basis should contact Dr. Fred Shelley at the Department (e-mail fs03@swt.edu).

MYTHIC GALVESTON GOES TO PRESS!

By Dr. Arlene Shelley

Geographic education and human geography professor Dr. Susan Hardwick has submitted her book manuscript to Johns Hopkins University Press in a fanfare of excitement! Mythic Galveston: Reinventing the Texas Gulf Coast is slated to be a part of the prestigious Center for American Places scholarly book series on life and landscape in North America. Hardwick, working closely with her research associates SWT Ph.D. students Susan Hume and Lydia Bean and cartographer/remote sensing expert Linda Prosperie, spent the last three years gathering data from personal interviews with island residents, census records, ship's passenger lists, historic newspapers, and other archival material.

Mythic Galveston is the first book to explore the relationships between social processes and spatial patterns of the residents of Galveston in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The release of Hardwick's most recent book on the centennial celebration of the worst natural disaster ever to strike the U.S., the Great Storm of Galveston, is well-timed.

Research questions framing her analysis include: Exactly what social and cultural processes have shaped the evolution of the city of Galveston since its earliest settlement by aboriginal peoples? How did these processes create the island city's distinctive sense of place and its evolving spatial patterns? What role did divisions between various groups of residents in the city play in the development and maintenance of Galveston's socioeconomic and political systems?

These and other questions are answered in over two hundred and fifty pages of text and illustrated by numerous maps, photos, and tables. Look for Mythic Galveston in bookstores in the fall.
Across the U.S.
WORLD 2000
By Dr. Fred M. Shelley

Nearly 1,000 geographers and historians from across the United States convened in Austin, February 10-12 for the World 2000 conference, which was co-sponsored by the Department. The conference brought together scholars and teachers of world history and world geography, who discussed the daunting task of how to make sense of the history and geography of our complex world in a single semester!

The conference program included presentations by many well-known geographers and historians on various aspects of geographical research and teaching. The paper sessions were followed by instructional sessions, at which teachers and teacher consultants discussed adapting the research ideas for classroom use. Among the well-known presenters in geography were Dr. Phil Gersemel (University of Minnesota), Dr. Stan Brunn (University of Kentucky), Dr. Kit Salt (University of Missouri), Dr. Alec Murphy (University of Oregon), and Dr. Julian Minghi (University of South Carolina).

A highlight of the conference was a banquet presentation by Dr. Harm de Blij, who is well known throughout the country for his frequent appearances on "Good Morning, America." Following Dr. de Blij's presentation, a reception sponsored by the Gilbert M. Grosvenor Center for Geographic Education was held in honor of Dr. de Blij and Dr. James Petersen, President of the National Council for Geographic Education. Nearly 200 professional geographers and geography teachers, including many alumni of the Department, attended the reception.

Above and beyond his duties as President of the NCGE, Dr. James Petersen of the SWT Geography Department served as co-organizer for the World 2000 conference. Jim devoted nearly two years of hard work to make World 2000 a success. Several other SWT faculty including Dr. Byron Augustin, Dr. Brock Brown, Dr. Fred Day, Dr. Susan Hardwick, and Dr. Fred Shelley gave presentations and helped in conference organization. Nearly 20 SWT Ph.D., M.A. and undergraduate students volunteered their time to serve as registration and session assistants during the conference. Special thanks to Nancy Middelbrooke, who stepped in at the last minute to coordinate volunteer assignment efforts.

Prior to the Conference, SWT’s chapter of Supporting Women in Geography (SWIG) in conjunction with the University of Texas chapter of SWIG sponsored a panel discussion on the past, present, and future of women in geography. Panelists included Dr. Jan Monck of the University of Arizona, Dr. Mona Domosh of Florida Atlantic University, and SWT’s own Dr. Susan Hardwick. An audience of nearly 80 persons engaged in spirited discussion of problems facing women in contemporary professional geography and consideration of future prospects for enhancing the status of women in the profession.

Thanks to the efforts of Jim Petersen and the numerous SWT students and faculty who volunteered their time to help, the World 2000 conference was a great success!

Sally Caldwell finds six signs that he’s lying

Dr. Sally Caldwell, Internship Coordinator and Assistant Professor, recently published the book Romantic Deception: The Six Signs He’s Lying. The book was published by Adams Media Corporation and is already in its second printing. Romantic Deception, is about women who have been involved in romantic relationships with men who have lied about their identities by misrepresenting their careers, marital status, educational or military background. She defines romantic deception as "the unrestrained misrepresentation of significant facts in the context of an intimate relationship." She argues that romantic deception is far more common than people realize "or are willing to admit," and she says that she wrote the book to shed light on what she regards as a pervasive problem. Since the book has been published, she has received letters and telephone calls from all over the country.

Why do romantic liars get away with these misrepresentations? Dr. Caldwell argues that romantic liars are masters of the art of deceit. They know how to lie, and how to cover the tracks of their lies. Romantic relationships are built on trust, and especially under conditions of mutual attraction and passion, we assume that what we are being told is the truth.

Dr. Caldwell's book has already gained national attention. It has been mentioned in Cosmopolitan and Glamour magazines. In March, she appeared on the Jenny Jones Show, and will appear on a Discovery Channel Special entitled "Sweetheart Swindlers."
A round the W orld

Travel and Study Abroad

Geography of Europe in Europe, June 2001

In June 2001, the Department of Geography at the University of West Texas State University will conduct its third biennial Geography of Europe field excursion. Participants in the class will receive 6 hours of graduate credit, either GEO 3310 Regional Field Studies or GEO 3344 Geography Curriculum, and GEO 5395, Special Problems and Topics: Geography of Europe. These courses can be used toward the requirements for the SWT Department of Geography Masters of Applied Geography degree programs. Leading the trip will be Professors Fred Day and Richard Earl, both regular faculty of the SWT Department of Geography. The study day will provide an in-depth geographic analysis of the geography of Europe and classroom lecture and discussion at Franklin College, Lugano, Switzerland.

Students will learn about the variety of physical and cultural phenomena in the European region. The final itinerary has not been set, but the intent is to expand the trip from previous times to include central Switzerland and Paris, France. A theme of the class will be the “imperial city,” we intend to begin our tour in the first great imperial city, Rome, and to conclude in one of great imperial cities of the colonial era, Paris. After three nights and two days in Rome we will travel by private motorcoach to Pisano and Florence, great Renaissance cities along the Arno River. We will spend two nights and one day in Florence and will be in both the geographically significant features and world famous art treasures of that city such as the Duomo, the David statue, and the Uffizi Gallery. N ext, we will travel by motorcoach to Venice for two nights and a full day of exploring that fascinating, historic city. From Venice we will travel to Lugano via Eural in the spectacular Swiss-Italian Lake District. We will stay at Franklin College, a private American college, for 12 days. Somedays will have formal class lectures on the Geography of Europe and will work on individual research projects involving the geography of Europe. We will stay on campus in spacious dorms with cooking facilities. Other days we will go on day trips to spectacular sites such as St. Moritz, Vallee Verzasca (featured in the James Bond movie Goldeneye), the military fortress town of Bellanzona, and to Milan to see its wonders from the fashion district to Leonardo’s Last Supper. We will take Eural to Zurich, the financial center, for an afternoon and night and continue on to three nights and two days in Paris.

The cost for the trip will be approximately $3500 plus an additional $500 for tuition. This amount covers all airfare, lodging, motorcoach, tour guides in Rome, Venice, and Paris, and rail transportation. It does not cover meals. The trip is designed so that those who want to extend their study and travel in Europe may do so conveniently. Return flights can be scheduled for an additional fee (approx. $200) and participants can extend their Eurail passes for an additional 8 days of rail travel for $500.

Both course instructors are veteran geographers with years of field experience and travel in Europe. Prof. Fred Day has studied at the University of Poitier in France. Dr. Earl was one of the faculty for the 1999 SWT Geography of Europe field excursion and has traveled and studied throughout Europe. Both professors have led numerous field trips and field excursions in their teaching careers including field trips for the annual meetings of the Association of American Geographers, the National Council for Geographic Education, the Southwest Division of the Association of American Geographers, and the Arizona-Nevada Academy of Science. To receive further information on this trip, including the specific trip itinerary, contact Richard Earl at RE02@SWT.EDU or Dept. Geography, SWT, San Marcos, TX 78666.
Explore the Cultural and Environmental Geography of Mexico

A geography course being offered during the upcoming Summer II session will present a unique opportunity for graduate-level students to explore the culture and environment of Mexico through a combination of travel/study experience. While being introduced to the rudiments of field study (design, preparation, conduct, analyzing, and reporting), participants will study the environmental and cultural geography of the Baja region of Mexico, within the context of the Republic of Mexico. Special emphasis will be placed upon how this area of study relates to the history and economy of the region, and upon the urban geography of the capital city, Guanajuato. Additional field excursions will explore neighboring colonial cities and the rural environs of Guanajuato.

The instructors for this summer course are Dr. David Stoa and Dr. John Tiefenbacher. Dr. Stea is a Professor of Geography, Director of the Center for Texas-Mexico Applied Research, Associate Director of the Grosvenor Center for Geographic Education, and Center Scholar in the James and Marilyn Lovell Center for Environmental Geography and Hazards Research. He has spent nearly a decade of his life living, teaching, and researching in Mexico, and was Visiting Lecturer at Universidad de Guanajuato, among other institutions. Dr. Tiefenbacher is an Associate Professor of Geography, Associate Director for the Center for Texas-Mexico Applied Research, and Center Scholar in the James and Marilyn Lovell Center for Environmental Geography and Hazards Research. He has published several research papers on hazards and the environmental problems of the U.S.-Mexico border region and is currently conducting research on bi-national comparisons of agricultural responses to disasters and nature preserve management in both countries.

For more information about this course, including a description of course requirements, a calendar of class activities, the course reading list, and an estimation of costs associated with the class, visit the following website: http://www.geo.swt.edu/programs/gg5395/index.html.

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Alumni Information Update

Mail this form to: Dr. Fred Shelley
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SIXTH ANNUAL ALUMNI REUNION & STUDENT CELEBRATION

REGISTRATION FORM

Saturday, April 29, 2000
9:00am Registration/9:30am Program
Begins in Alkek Teaching Theater

Name(s):
Home address:
Day phone: Evening phone:
E-mail: Fax:

Number attending reunion:
(List all names above):
Amount enclosed:
$15.00 per person, $10.00 for students and children under 18
(children 10 and under are free)

Method of Payment: Cash Check Credit Card
Credit Card Number: Expiration Date:
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PLEASE MAIL OR FAX FORM TO:
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Department of Geography SWT, 601 University Drive, San Marcos, TX 78666
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