Digital Facsimiles of the Paper Issues of the Cultural Ecology Newsletter

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Digital Facsimiles of the Paper Issues of the *Cultural Ecology Newsletter*

A Project of the Cultural and Political Ecology Specialty Group to Celebrate the Centennial of the Association of American Geographers

*Edited by Andrew Sluyter*

The Cultural and Political Ecology Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers

2004
# Table of Contents


XXXI. No. 32/33, *Highlights from CEN #32—Fall 1998 and CEN #33—Spring 1999* ...... 6 pp.
Introduction to the Paper Issues of the Cultural Ecology Newsletter

Do you remember the paper Cultural Ecology Newsletter (CEN) that showed up in your mailbox twice a year, usually some shade of yellow, folded in half and stapled? It meant a lot to me as I was joining this intellectual community as a doctoral student at Texas during the 1990s. We still have a version of CEN, of course: the web-based version that Bob Kuhlken founded in 1996, that fully replaced the paper version in 1999, and that became the Cultural and Political Ecology Newsletter (CAPEN) with the Spring 2002 issue. That web-based newsletter offers the advantage of broad public access. This facsimile project extends that same access to the paper issues of CEN, complete sets of which become scarcer and more faded by the year.

The centennial of the Association of American Geographers (AAG) in 2004 provides the stimulus for that facsimile project. The histories of AAG specialty groups, like Cultural and Political Ecology, reflect the intellectual dynamism of the association as a whole. Specialty group newsletters, like CEN, provide one record of the changing ideas and people involved in that dynamism. By reproducing as digital facsimiles all the paper issues of CEN, as listed in the following table, this project contributes a resource for research on the intellectual and institutional history of the AAG.

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Scanned images of each of the paper CEN issues are saved as separate PDF files, designated by the issue numbers listed in the foregoing table. Opening, viewing, and printing those PDF files requires Adobe Reader® software, not included on this CD but freely available at www.adobe.com in the latest version. Once that software is installed on your computer, you can open any of the CEN facsimile issues by selecting its number in the table.

Two of the issues contain newspaper clippings that I have eliminated from the facsimiles for copyright reasons. Issue no. 4 contains a clipping of a newspaper story at the bottom of page 3. The article, “Kenya plans school to aid small farms,” is by John Worrall and comes from the 17 April 1984 issue of The Christian Science Monitor. Issue no. 7 contains a clipping of a cartoon at the bottom of page 2. The caption under the single panel reads, “Ranching as a labor-intensive business,” the cartoonist is Jerry van Amerongen, and the copyright is 1984 by The Register and Tribune Syndicate.

As a brief history of CEN, William E. Doolittle edited the first issue (Fall-Winter, 1980-81) and called it Cultural Ecology Specialty Group of the AAG Newsletter. By the second issue, though, the masthead had become Cultural Ecology Newsletter, and that name persisted through to the last paper issue. In 1984, CEN started coming out twice per year, typically designated as the Winter-Spring and Summer-Fall issues, each of them about half a dozen pages long. Donald J. Ballas took over as editor with the Summer-Fall 1986 issue and, initially at least, dramatically increased the page length. After one issue that Philip W. Porter edited in an interim capacity, Kent Mathewson took on editorial responsibility for an unrivaled dozen issues, from Winter/Spring 1989 to Spring 1994, the dual season designation disappearing during his term. Various associate editors—Robert Kuhlken, Christopher Coggins, Frederick Sunderman, Stanley Stevens, and Igor Ignatov—assisted Mathewson. One of them, Robert Kuhlken, took over as editor with the Summer 1994 issue and eventually oversaw the transition from paper to web-based versions, with Spring 1996 becoming the first of the on-line CEN issues. Beginning that year, Kuhlken produced paper versions of only the Spring issues, the rationale being that they appeared just before the national AAG meeting, announced the specialty group’s sponsored sessions, and therefore should continue to be printed and mailed to those members who did not use the Internet. When Simon Batterbury took over as editor with number 32 (Fall 1998), the paper CEN essentially stopped. Its last gasp, printed on metric stock because Batterbury then resided in England, provided no more than a summary of the web-based issues (nos. 32 and 33). CAPEN, accessible at www.u.arizona.edu/~batterbu/cesg/letter.html, continues to build on the heritage of two decades of paper CEN issues.

—Andrew Sluyter, Baton Rouge

* My thanks to the Department of Geography and Anthropology of the Louisiana State University for support to scan the paper CEN issues; to those past chairs of the specialty group whose names appear on the mailing labels of the facsimiles and who donated their copies to the archive that passes from one chair to the next; to Paul Robbins, the current chair, for the loan of that archive and enthusiasm for this project; and to the former CEN editors who provided feedback on drafts of this essay.
The Cultural Ecology Specialty Group officially came into existence with the mailing of the recent AAG membership renewal form. Although the organizing petition received the required 50 signatures and an organizational meeting held during the annual convention at Louisville, we were not officially recognized until listed on the membership renewal form. Every member of the AAG, and not just those who attended the Louisville meeting, now has the opportunity to join. Hopefully, a few hundred members will check Specialty Group number 08 on the form. A minimum of 100 is necessary for the Group to remain solvent without additional justification. For every member, the Group will receive 50 cents from the AAG.

The Organizational Meeting. A small but enthusiastic group attended the organizational meeting in Louisville. Three things were accomplished at the gathering: (i) the purpose and the philosophy of the Group were discussed; (ii) officers were elected according to the guidelines for Group organization (AAG Newsletter, Dec., 1978 p. 1); and, (iii) plans for the Group's initial activity for the 1981 annual meeting were outlined.

Officers. The following people were elected as the Group's Board of Officers:

Chairperson: William E. Doolittle, Department of Geology and Geography, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS 39762.

Secretary-Treasurer: Lawrence G. Wolf, Department of Geography, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH 45221.

Director, Eastern States: Susan E. Place, Department of Geography, Radford University, Radford, VA 24142.

Director, Central States: James D. Clarkson, Department of Geography, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109.

Director, Western States: Michael J. Watts, Department of Geography, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720.

Each of these persons was elected for a two-year term. It has been suggested recently, however, that the terms of at least two of the officers be extended to three years. This procedure would result in a "rotating" Board rather than one in which the entire slate is elected at one time. Give this item some consideration. It will be brought up at the Los Angeles business meeting.

1981 Activity. It was decided at the organizational meeting that the Group's initial activity should consist of a single special session to be part of the 1981 annual meeting of the AAG in Los Angeles. The Group agreed that this session should involve position papers on the Philosophy and Methodology of Cultural Ecology by three invited scholars and a commentary of each paper by invited discussants. The paper presenters are as follows:
Ben Wisner, University of Wisconsin, Cultural Ecology and the Challenge of Development.

C. Gregory Knight, Penn State University, Cultural Ecology and Ethnoecology: Who Counts?

Margaret FitzSimmons, U.C.L.A., Beyond Cultural Ecology: Materialist Analysis of Human/Environment Relations.

B.L. Turner II and Douglas L. Johnson (Clark University), and Michael J. Watts, (University of California-Berkeley) have agreed to serve as discussants.

1982 Activities. Planning the 1981 activity was not an easy task. The five month period from May to the October deadline for submitting papers proved to be the greatest problem. It was exacerbated by the tendency of cultural ecologists to leave the country during the summer. Planning for the 1982 meeting to be held in San Antonio will be much easier, and the meeting will be much better (in quantitative terms), if more people partake in the organizing. Specifically, it would be to the betterment of the Group if a number of sessions (e.g. Cultural Ecology 1: , Cultural Ecology 2: , etc.) could be organized on a variety of cultural ecological topics. Hopefully, some of you will come forward and agree to organize sessions on the topic of your choosing. Remember, one of our goals (as discussed in the organizational meeting) is to improve the quality of the AAG annual meeting.

Procedures for organizing an activity are as follows:

1. The activity organizer shall submit a detailed written request to the Chairperson and forward a copy of the request to each of the Directors and the Secretary-Treasurer. A stamped postcard addressed to the Group Chairperson will be included with the copies sent to officers other than the Chairperson.

2. Each officer will either approve or disapprove the request and state accordingly on the postcard. Other comments and suggestions also may be stated on the card. Cards will be forwarded to the Chairperson.

3. The Chairperson will review each of the officers' comments and cast a personal vote of either approval or disapproval. A minimum of three favorable votes is required for the activity to receive Board sanction.

4. The Chairperson will notify the activity organizer of the Board's decision. Suggestions made by the Board members may be included.

5. The organizer shall submit a detailed report to the Group chairperson upon completion of the activity. This report will be forwarded to the Secretary-Treasurer and retained in the Group's files.

Please do not be turned-off by the details involved with this procedure. Working with a five-person Board scattered across the country is a logistical problem that can be best overcome by using a format such as that outlined above.
Group Constitution. A constitution has been drawn up and tentatively approved by the current Board of Officers. Of course, final acceptance is contingent upon approval of the membership. To simplify matters, and cut down on mailing costs and paper work, it is proposed that all voting (eg. the election of officers, ratifying and amending the constitution) be conducted at the annual business meeting. Give this item, and the constitution as a whole, your greatest consideration.

SUGGESTED CONSTITUTION FOR THE CULTURAL ECOLOGY SPECIALTY GROUP

Article I  Name

The name of this association shall be the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers (CESG/AAG).

Article II  Purpose

The purpose of this Group is (i) to promote research, education, and other scholarly activities pertaining to cultural ecology; (ii) to advance communication between cultural ecologists and the geographical community; (iii) to promote interdisciplinary communications and activities among all scholars interested in the ecological aspects of culture; and (iv) to work with the AAG annual meeting program committee in organizing activities related to cultural ecology.

Article III  Philosophy

The Group, because it is composed of people with a variety of cultural ecological interests, will promote activities on topics that range from prehistory to third world development and from environmental to economic problems. The application and development of general theory is encouraged, but will not preclude empirically-oriented activities or those of a pedagogical nature. Cultural Ecology is recognized as an interdisciplinary field that is broad in scope with Cultural Ecologists being a rather eclectic group. Accordingly, all types of activities concerned with the study of human-environment relations will be facilitated and endorsed by the Group.

Article IV  Membership

Any member of the Association of American Geographers may elect membership in Cultural Ecology Specialty Group upon joining the Association or renewing membership. The AAG central office will certify membership in the CESG each year after payment of AAG dues.

Article V  Board of Officers

The Board shall consist of a Chairperson, a Secretary-Treasurer, and three Directors, one each from the Western, the Central, and the Eastern States.

Article VI  Duties of the Officers

Chairperson. The Chairperson shall (1) preside at the annual business meeting of the Group; (2) provide liaison between the Group and the AAG and other organizations interested in cultural ecology; (3) make final decisions pertaining to Group activities and affairs in those cases where it is infeasible to acquire approval of the entire Board.
Secretary-Treasurer. The Secretary-Treasurer shall (1) record the Minutes of the business meetings; (2) maintain files of Minutes, program and other materials of interest to the membership of the Group; (3) maintain and account for all monies belonging to the Group.

Directors. The Directors shall (1) meet as a part of the Board and act as a voting body in the management of Group affairs and activities; and, (2) aid the Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer in the conduct of their offices as requested.

Article VII. Terms of Office

Each member of the Board shall serve a term of two years. Tenure in office shall begin at the end of the business meeting at which they were elected, and shall terminate at the end of the next meeting at which elections are held. No member of the Board shall serve more than two consecutive terms of office.

Article VIII. Nominations and Elections

Nominations will be made from the floor at the annual business meeting, with elections to be held at the same meeting. Members need not be present to be either nominated or elected. A member may submit a nomination by mail thirty (30) days prior to the meeting if attendance is not possible. Persons nominated for office must agree to serve if elected. Prior written agreement is required of those not present at the time of nomination.

Article IX. Vacancies.

In the event that either the Chairperson, or the Secretary-Treasurer is unable to complete a term of office, the Board of Officers will choose one of its members to fill the vacancy until the next business meeting is held and a replacement is elected.

Article X. Activities.

The exact nature of Group activities is intentionally not specified so that a variety of ideas can be entertained. Activities such as, but not limited to, symposia, workshops, field trips, research projects, and publications, may receive Group sanction. Any member may organize a Group activity. The organization of any activity under the auspices of the Group requires prior written approval by the Board of Officers, and submission of a detailed report to the Group Chairperson upon completion of the activity. Procedures for organizing Group activities will be determined by the Board of Officers. The Board will insure that at least one Group activity is included as part of the AAG annual meeting program each year.

Article XI. Amendments

Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed by presentation of a written petition to the Group Chairperson at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual business meeting. A 2/3 vote of the members present at the business meeting is required to amend the Constitution.

This Constitution will become effective when approved by a 2/3 vote of members present at the 1981 annual business meeting.
ALIVE AND WELL. The Cultural Ecology Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers has been quite productive and active during the past few years. However, there seems to be a lack of participation among the membership. While the Group has sponsored a number of activities that have been well-attended and successful, there is something less than a ground swell of interest in organizing activities and serving as an officer. The resurrection of this newsletter is an attempt to create a feeling of belonging in hopes that more members will take an active part in the Group.

Originally, the Group decided not to have a newsletter because of the expense. As it turns out, the Board now feels that money saved was not money well-spent. Furthermore, the recent increase in the amount the Group receives from the AAG (from 50c to 75c/member) should off-set the cost of mailing. In addition, while the Group has in the past paid the registration fees for non-AAG members to participate in Group activities, the AAG will begin letting invited non-members participate at greatly reduced rates. Hence, we can well afford a newsletter -- one intended to add a sense of belonging and increase participation.

RECENT ACTIVITIES. A number of activities were organized and held as part of the annual meeting of the AAG in Denver. For openers we held an "Open Forum" for members to discuss topics of current concern among cultural ecologists and to voice their opinions on future Group activities, as well as the future of the Group. Among other things, the idea of this newsletter came out of the forum.

"Future Trends in Hazard Research" was the topic of a special session organized by W. Doolittle. The session consisted of invited papers by anthropologist Payson D. Sheets of the University of Colorado, James K. Mitchell, and Robert W. Kates. Over 70 persons attended this thought-provoking session.

In conjunction with the Rural Development Specialty Group, Susan Place and Ben Wisner organized two sessions on "Human Consequences of Complex Development Interventions." Papers were presented by Susan Place, Larry Grossman, Patricia Ballard, Susanna B. Hecht, David Drakakis-Smith, Barbara Bury, Thomas J. Bassett, and Robert W. Roundy. Ben Wisner and Lakshman Yapa served as discussants. Both sessions were well attended and intellectually stimulating.

BOARD OF OFFICERS. Because of a number of problems, including scheduling conflicts on the part of the AAG annual meeting program committees and other commitments on the part of our membership, a business meeting with an election of officers was not conducted at the 1981 San Antonio meeting. Members of the Board agreed to serve in their positions until such an election was held. At the Denver meeting, Larry Wolf stepped down as Secretary-Treasurer and Larry Grossman was elected to take his place. Next year we must have an election! Hopefully, the newsletter will serve as a device whereby people will nominate officers. Elections, according to the Bylaws, will be held at the Washington meeting. Until then, the Board of Officers is as follows:
THINGS TO PONDER. Are you planning to give a paper at the Washington meeting next April? Are you currently organizing, or are you willing to organize a session for this meeting? Are you conducting some research that may be of interest to the Group? Do you want others to know your address if you will be working out of the country this year? Do you know someone who will make a good officer for the Group? Are you willing to serve as an officer?

The purpose of this newsletter is multifaceted. Among other things, it will be a way in which individual members can keep in touch with the membership at large. It will also serve as a medium for conducting some Group business; and, it will provide an opportunity for members to become more involved. Note the last page. Please fill it out and return it to William E. Doolittle, Department of Geography, University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712.

A second newsletter will be mailed out in December. It will include information that you provide on the attached sheet. Announcements of upcoming activities, addresses of members in the field, news of members' current research activities, and nominations for office will be included. Please respond. The Group depends on your participation.
Information provided below may be included in the next issue of the CULTURAL ECOLOGY NEWSLETTER. Anyone willing to participate, organize, or serve will be contacted by the Group Chairperson as soon as possible.

Name, Address, and Phone:

Are you preparing a paper for the Washington meeting that could be included in a Group-sponsored session? 

Title:

Are you organizing a session that could be held under the sponsorship of the Group? (We can arrange for paying registration fees for invited non-members.)

Title:
Participants:

Will you organize an activity for the Washington meeting? 

Title:
Participants:

Please provide a brief description of your current research.

Field address:

Are you willing to serve a two year term as an officer of the Group?

Please name someone who you think might serve:

(Please return this form to: William E. Doolittle, Department of Geography, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas 78712,)
UPCOMING ACTIVITY. Will you be attending the AAG annual meeting in Washington? If you are, then be sure to participate in the Group's business meeting. It is tentatively scheduled for 6:00 p.m. Monday, April 23 in the Lincoln East room. Be sure to check your program however, as times and places sometimes change. Your attendance at this meeting is essential. We will elect new officers and decide on future activities and long-term goals.

DETROIT, 1985. The proverbial wheels (no pun intended) are already turning for our Group's activities as part of the 1985 Annual meeting of the AAG to be held in the Motor City. Robert W. Roundy, Cook College, Rutgers University, is organizing a session on "Urban Life and Health" -- a seemingly appropriate topic for the Detroit setting. The session will probably be co-sponsored by the Medical Geography Specialty Group.

ANTHROPOLOGY. The Anthropological Study Group on Agrarian Systems publishes a newsletter "Culture and Agriculture." In addition to news, short and medium-length articles can be found in this publication. If you are interested in having your name added to their mailing list contact Dr. Theodore Downing, Department of Anthropology, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721.

INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH ACTIVITIES. This issue of the newsletter is the first to publish the responses of members to the questionnaire in the previous issue. The idea is, of course, to let everyone know what each of us is up to. In order to perpetuate this activity please fill out the last page and forward it to the address on the bottom.

William M. Denevan, University of Wisconsin-Madison, is continuing his work on ancient agriculture in Latin America, especially terrace ecology in the central Andes of Peru.

Dorine M. Foster, U.C.L.A., is writing her thesis on recycling as a means to help combat the growing crisis in Southern California.

Gregory Knapp, University of Texas at Austin, has a new job (note the affiliation). He is working on agricultural adaptations in the highlands of Ecuador with emphasis on soil fertility management; alternatives to canal irrigation on the Peruvian coast; and theory in human ecology.

Nancy Davis Lewis, University of Hawaii - Honolulu, has been working in Polynesia on the topic of fish poisoning. Her general areas of interest include medical geography, and marine resources.
Robert Roundy, Cook College, Rutgers University, is focusing his individual attention on toxic hazard mitigation among fishermen in New Jersey, and is part of a study group at Rutgers looking at water resource development and human well-being. He is also studying toxicants and their influence upon nutritional well-being in the Third World.

Lance A. Sentman, University of Oregon, is attempting to work on urban cultural ecology using sources of domestic energy in Central America, but is having difficulties with governments and armies.

B.L. Turner II, Clark University, continues his research on farming systems and the behavior of smallholders.

ANYTHING TO SAY? If you have anything you would like to inform others about (e.g. a new publication series, an upcoming meeting or symposium, a new grant opportunity), please forward it on to the editor for inclusion in the next issue of the newsletter. One way we can keep in touch and contribute to our cause is by communicating. Keep in mind, however, that the newsletter is published only twice a year. Notices should be made well in advance.
Information provided below may be included in the next issue of the CULTURAL ECOLOGY NEWSLETTER. Anyone willing to participate, organize, or serve will be contacted by the Group Chairperson as soon as possible.

Name, Address, and Phone:

Are you preparing a paper for the Detroit meeting that could be included in a Group-sponsored session?

Title:

Are you organizing a session that could be held under the sponsorship of the Group? (We can arrange for paying registration fees for invited non-members.)

Title:

Participants:

Will you organize an activity for the Detroit meeting?

Title:

Participants:

Please provide a brief description of your current research.

Field address:

Are you willing to serve a two year term as an officer of the Group?

Please name someone who you think might serve.

(Please return this form to: William E. Dolittle, Department of Geography, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas 78712.)
NEW OFFICERS: We had a good turn-out at last April's annual meeting of the AAG in Washington. If you were not there you missed a good opportunity to decide on future activities and new officers. Elections were held and the following people were chosen to serve until the 1986 meeting to be held in Minneapolis:

Chairperson: Gregory W. Knapp, University of Texas at Austin
Secretary-Treasurer: William E. Doolittle, University of Texas at Austin
Directors:
  Eastern States: Larry Grossman, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
  Central States: Kent Mathewson, University of Wisconsin, Madison
  Western States: Tom Krabacher, University of California-Davis
Newsletter Editor: William Doolittle

MEMBERSHIP: According to the AAG, there are 112 members in the CESG. We have, therefore, been given $84.00 to operate with this year. Most of these funds will be used for publishing and mailing two issues of the newsletter.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES: As announced in the last issue, Robert W. Roundy, Cook College, Rutgers University is organizing a special session on "Urban Life and Health" to be held as part of the 1985 annual meeting of the AAG in Detroit. If you are interested in participating, please give Bob a call. Although time is running out, he may be able to find a place for you in this session.

Gene Wilken and Chuck Bussing are also organizing a special session. This one is the "Analysis and Development of Small Scale Agriculture in the Third World." They too are soliciting participants. See their letter below.

**ANALYSIS AND DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL SCALE AGRICULTURE IN THE THIRD WORLD**

**AAG-DETROIT 21-24 APRIL 1985**

**SPONSORED BY:**
Cultural Ecology/Rural Development Specialty Groups

This is a follow-up to Charles Bussing's letter of 11 April and the preliminary discussions held at the AAG meetings in Washington D.C. Arrangements for the special session on analysis and development of small-scale agriculture in the Third World are proceeding rapidly. We are fortunate to be sponsored by both the Cultural Ecology and Rural Development Specialty Groups, which should ensure good coverage and participation. In addition, response from individuals has been strong and positive. It appears we have the opportunity to put together a session with real content.
The tentative title of Analysis and Development of Small-Scale Agriculture suggests two areas where geography has been productive, and where it has much to offer. Certainly, our efforts at field and analytical work are among the brightest chapters in the profession. In the past, geographers have focused on production, ecological, spatial, social, perceptual, and temporal aspects of small-scale agriculture and on its adaptive features. In the development (diagnostic/prescriptive) area, our attention has been, and could even more be directed toward goal definition and conflict, strategies, intervention points, and methods, with appropriate technology and institutions, and mechanisms of change. Analysis and development are not always linked, but they should be, and this area itself is one of great promise.

Initial arrangements have been made. The time for action is now. We need the title of your paper right away, and an abstract by early September, the 15th at the latest. In accordance with instructions in the AAG Newsletter (copies enclosed), send titles and abstracts directly to Dr. Charles E. Rusling, Kansas State University.

Please send your titles and abstract as soon as possible. We will all benefit from a well-organized, coherent session.

Charles E. Rusling
Department of Geography
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS 66506
(913) 532-6727

Gene C. Wilken
Department of Economics
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO 80521
(303) 491-6956/6324

MEMBER'S ACTIVITIES:

Donald J. Ballas, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, is currently working the changing ecology and land-use among the Teton Dakota Indians in the 17th and 18th centuries. His work focuses on the group now known as the Redbud Sioux as they moved from the upper Great Lakes region westward onto the Great Plains. He is also in the process of revising his cultural geography study manual.

Karl W. Butzer has accepted a Centennial Professorship in the Department of Geography at the University of Texas at Austin as Dickson Professor of Liberal Arts. Dr. Butzer was also recently elected to membership in The American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Donald L. Clawson, University of New Orleans, has been awarded a Fulbright Lecture-ship at the University of the Philippines, Dillman. In addition to lecturing, he will continue his research on small-scale tropical agricultural systems and the Green Revolution.
Susan E. Place has moved. She is now at the Department of Geography, University of New Mexico where she is continuing her work on the human consequences of natural resource conservation in Central America. Specifically, and assuming a war doesn't break-out, Susan is conducting research on the impact of national park creation on the local inhabitants of Tortuguero, Costa Rica.

Bonham C. Richardson, VPI&SU, has just finished another book manuscript entitled Panama Money and Social Change: Barbados, 1900-1920. This work is the product of Bon's NSF-funded fieldwork in Barbados in 1981 and '82. The book deals more with migration and social change than it does with ecological issues. However, it should still be of interest to cultural ecologists.

Donald E. Vermeir, L.S.U., is presently working on the pharmaceutical qualities of geophagical clays in West Africa. He is also conducting research on the medicinal plants consumed with geophagical clays among the Beni-speaking peoples of Nigeria.

E. Joan Wilson Miller, Illinois State University, is investigating ethnic evidence in vernacular architecture in E. England.
THE SEEDHEAD NEWS
Published Quarterly By
Native Seeds/SEARCH
3950 W. New York Drive
Tucson, Arizona 85745

Editor, Karen Reichhardt. Contributing Editors, Barney T. Burns, Mahina Drees, Gary Nabhan. Write the editor if you wish to order back issues or contribute an article.

YES! I'd like to help in the conservation of native crops and their wild relatives in the American Southwest. Enclosed is a contribution to Native Seeds/SEARCH for: (check off)

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP (1 YR., $10.00)
(Includes newsletters, and 10% discount on seed purchases, workshops & publications)

LIFETIME ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP ($100.00)
(All of the above for every year...)

LISTING OF SEEDS AVAILABLE ($1.00)
(Garden packets of over 50 varieties of native plants, $1.00/packet)

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARD RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION PROJECTS (Your choice)
-Native seed collection/conservation:
-Virus-free tepary grow-out:
-Conservation of wild chile stands:
-Nutritional analysis of native foods:

TOTAL ENCLOSED:_____

YOUR NAME:
ADDRESS:
TOWN & ZIP:

Send to: Native Seeds/SEARCH
3950 W. New York Drive
Tucson Arizona 85745
CONFERENCE AND FIRST CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

• When: April 26-28, 1985 (immediately after the AAA meeting)

• Where: College of Human Ecology
  University of Maryland at College Park
  (in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area)

• Registration Fee: $95 for non-members, $25 for SHE members.

Come to Washington at the best time of the year: Spring. The First Annual Conference of the Society for Human Ecology will give you the opportunity to hear and meet some of the best researchers and practitioners in the field. A number of first-rate speakers have already agreed to present invited papers on diverse topics, such as, among others:

• The Nature and Scope of Human Ecology
• Statistical Approaches to Human Ecology
• The Human Ecology of the Pine Barrens

Your contribution is welcome. Proposals for two categories of submissions are solicited at this time:

• Individual Papers
• Round-table discussions on topics including, but not limited to: Historical Perspectives, Philosophy of Human Ecology, Education, Practical Applications.

In order to maximize the opportunity for communication among participants, we intend the conference to be relatively small and of limited duration. Therefore, your early submission is recommended, so that we can give you early assurance of acceptance which may help you plan in advance and obtain travel support, if needed. Please submit your proposal in the form of an abstract of no more than 300 words, typed double-spaced, to:

Society for Human Ecology
Room 1401, Marie Mount Hall
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742

A preliminary conference program and registration material will be mailed in the Fall of 1984. The conference proceedings, to be edited by Richard Borden, will be distilled from the contributions presented at the conference.

We hope to receive your proposal soon.

April 30, 1984
Dear Colleague:

This is an invitation for you to join the Society for Human Ecology (SHE).

The purpose of the Society for Human Ecology is to provide a forum through which scientists, scholars, and practitioners may exchange ideas and information and promote an understanding of human ecology and of its application to the well-being of people. More specifically:

- to promote the advancement of the ecological perspective in interdisciplinary studies and practice;
- to identify problems, discover their origins, examine possible solutions and their implications, and to make recommendations for implementing those solutions;
- to look ahead to the consequences of human action on our social, natural, and built environments;
- to encourage approaching the future with a clear sense of interdependence among all parts of the ecological system.

The Society holds an annual conference, conducts seminars and symposia, and is developing a quarterly newsletter. Regular membership benefits include:

- One-year subscription to the news-journal *Human Environments*, published by the Program in Social Ecology, University of California at Irvine.
- Reduced registration rates at the Annual Conference.
  (Student members' benefits are limited to subscription to *Human Environments* and reduced conference fees.)

Membership in the Society is on a calendar year basis (January 1st to December 31st) and becomes effective upon receipt of the application form and membership dues of:

- $45 for regular membership
- $15 for student membership

---

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

Name

Highest Degree Obtained______ Major_____________________

Position______________________________

Organizational Affiliation________________________

Mailing Address______________________________________

City________________ State________ Zip____________

Telephone (Office)________________________ (Home)________

Disciplines/Areas of Interest__________________________________________

Mail this form and check to:

Guido Francescato
Executive Director
University of Maryland
Room 1401, Marie Mount Hall
College Park, MD 20742
(301) 454-2144

February 10, 1984
Information provided below may be included in the next issue of the CULTURAL ECOLOGY NEWSLETTER. Anyone willing to participate, organize, or serve will be contacted by the Group Chairperson as soon as possible.

Name, Address, and Phone:

Are you preparing a paper for the Minneapolis meeting that could be included in a Group-sponsored session?  

Title:

Are you organizing a session that could be held under the sponsorship of the Group? (We can arrange for paying registration fees for invited non-members.) 

Title: 
Participants:

Will you organize an activity for the Minneapolis meeting?  

Title: 
Participants:

Please provide a brief description of your current research.

Field address:

Are you willing to serve a two year term as an officer of the Group? 

Please name someone who you think might serve:

(Please return this form to: William E. Doolittle, Department of Geography, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas 78712.)
UPCOMING ACTIVITIES: The upcoming annual meeting of the AAG promises to be a good one. The Group is co-sponsoring five separate sessions with three other specialty groups. We will also be holding our annual business meeting at which plans for the 1987 meetings in Minneapolis will be outlined. Please be sure to attend this meeting. The number of activities planned for this year is a direct result of the turn-out at our last business meeting. In short, the better the participation at the business meeting one year, the better the activities the following year.

Unfortunately, the AAG Program Committee has several of our sessions scheduled for the same hour. Room assignments have been made and announced, so there is no hope of getting the times of sessions changed. Be sure to check your program for room assignments when you get to Detroit. Here is our program as it is currently listed.

Monday, April 22, 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Business Meeting.
Perhaps we can go to dinner after the meeting. The annual Alumni Night starts at 7:30!

Tuesday, April 23, 8:00 a.m. to 9:40 a.m., with the co-sponsorship of the Environmental Perception Specialty Group.

**Landscape Images**, organized and chaired by Kenneth E. Foote.
- Joseph Sorenfeld: Behavioral Landscape as Environmental Control
- Leo E. Zorn: Landscapes in Narrative Cinema
- Eugene Rochberg-Halton: City Semiosis
- Robin W. Doughty: Nature Writing and Environmental Experience
- Discussants: Yi-Fu Tuan, Barbara Rubin Hudson

Tuesday, April 23, 8:00 a.m. to 9:40 a.m., with the co-sponsorship of the Rural Development Specialty Group.

- Gregory W. Knapp: Multifunctional Field Demarcation in Ecuador
- William M. Denevan: Terrace Abandonment in the Peruvian Andes
- Derrick J. Thom: Farming Systems in Mali
- Discussants: Susanna Hecht and Donald E. Vermeer

Tuesday, April 23, 10:00 a.m. to 11:40 a.m., with the co-sponsorship of the Rural Development Specialty Group.

- Frederick Sowers: Household Differences in Agro-Pastoral Production
- Thomas J. Bassett: Responses to Labor Conflicts: Ivory Coast
- Frederick L. Bein: Sahelian Farmer Management of Clay Soil
- Joshua Dickinson: Small Scale Agriculture
- Discussant: C. Gregory Knight
Tuesday, April 23, 1:00 p.m. to 2:40 p.m., with the co-sponsorship of the Medical Geography Specialty Group.

Urban Life and Health, organized and chaired by Robert Roundy.

Robert Roundy, Neil Weinstein, Harold Whelan, Thomas Belton, Bruce Ruppel: Toxic Risk Perception and Mitigation
Michael R. Greenburg: Accuracy of Reporting Death
Christopher J. Smith: Alcohol Abuse in the City
Mark W. Rosenburg: Health Care Delivery in Canada
Nancy Davis-Lewis: Mortality in the Pacific Islands

Tuesday, April 23, 1:00 p.m. to 2:40 p.m., with the co-sponsorship of the Rural Development Specialty Group.


Panelists: Bret Wallach, Donald E. Vermeer, Charles E. Bussing, Joshua Dickinson, and C. Gregory Knight

In addition to the Group's scheduled activities, there are a few other sessions that should be of interest.

Monday, April 22, 1:00 p.m. to 2:40 p.m.
Third World I: Populations, Attitudes, Cognition, and Resource Use in the Arid West

Tuesday, April 23, 8:00 a.m. to 9:40 a.m.
Third World III: Agricultural Development

Tuesday, April 23, 1:00 p.m. to 2:40 p.m.
Cultural Geography II: Theory

Tuesday, April 23, 1:00 p.m. to 2:40 p.m.
The Discipline of Geography and the Study of Underdevelopment

Tuesday, April 23, 3:00 p.m. to 4:40 p.m.
The Role of Geographers in Rural Development

Wednesday, April 24, 8:00 a.m. to 9:40 a.m.
Carl O. Sauer Special Session I

Wednesday, April 24, 8:00 a.m. to 11:40 a.m.
Poster Session I: Agriculture, etc.

Wednesday, April 24, 10:00 a.m. to 11:40 a.m.
Carl O. Sauer Special Session II

Wednesday, April 24, 1:00 p.m. to 2:40 p.m.
Historical Geography IV: Agriculture and Land Use

With the exception of some time conflicts, this has all the indications of being a great program.
MINNEAPOLIS, 1986. To date, little has been done in the way of organizing activities for the 1986 meeting. It is never too late to start thinking about it. If you wish to organize a session, just fill out the form on the back and send it in. We need to get the ball rolling soon. Remember, there are some good people from allied disciplines in the Twin Cities. The AAG has money to pay invited non-geographer's registration fees. If you know someone in the area (or anywhere for that matter) and would like them to participate, funds can be obtained.

THE GEOGRAPHY OF THE GROUP.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Number of Members</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bay Area</td>
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<td>Baton Rouge</td>
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<td>Los Angeles</td>
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<td>Other</td>
<td>88</td>
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*compiled from the membership list of August, 1984.

$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$. The Group has recently received a copy of a letter sent to the AAG offices in Washington from Thomas A. Noble, Executive Associate, American Council of Learned Societies. In his letter Mr. Noble states, "...we do not get many applications from geographers..." and "We would, however, welcome more applications from scholars doing cultural geography..."

If you would like grant information, contact Mr. Noble at the Society's headquarters, 228 East 45th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017.

DIRECTORY. The Society for Human Ecology has recently published a directory of Human Ecologists. If you don't have a copy you really should get one, and get yourself listed in the next edition. You do not have to be a member of the Society to be listed.

If you want a copy, or want to be included in the next edition, contact Dr. Richard J. Borden, Director of Human Ecologists, College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor, ME 04609.

SOCIETY FOR HUMAN ECOLOGY. Speaking of the Society, it is holding its annual meeting directly after the AAG meeting. Dates of the conference are April 26-28, and the location is the University of Maryland, College Park.

It should be a good meeting. The main objective is to define the focus of Human Ecology as it relates to the concerns and issues of our time. Presentations range from "Nature and Scope of Human Ecology" to "Computer Applications in Human Ecology." It is too late to submit a paper, but attend if you can.
SHE, AGAIN. Are you a member of the Society For Human Ecology? You ought to be! For membership information contact Professor Guido Francescato, Executive Director, Society for Human Ecology, College of Human Ecology, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742.

HAVE YOU SEEN? This is a new feature for the newsletter.


WHO'S WHERE, AND WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

Nigel J.R. Allan, L.S.U., recently returned from the IGU Congress in Paris and some fieldwork in the French Alps. He has also just received grants to conduct field work on the human aspects of mountain geocology of the Himalayas. The grants are from the American Institute of Pakistan Studies and the Smithsonian Institution. He has recently published the results of his National Geographic Society funded research on mountain systems in Geography 69 (1984) and Applied Geography (1985).

Larry Grossman, Virginia Tech, is continuing his research on the relationship between diet and economic development in Papua New Guinea.

Clarissa Kimber, Texas A&M, is now on sabbatical in the Lesser Antilles. She is collecting plants of disturbed sites to augment her own collection and those of the Jose Jesus de Jemez collection of the Tracy Herbarium at TAMU. Also, she is continuing to examine the herbal medicines used in the Antilles.

Melanie M. Patton, UCLA, will be in Africa 1985-86 doing her Ph.D. field research on "Sedentarization and Development Needs for the Turkana Pastoralists of Northern Kenya." She can be contacted c/o Daystar, Box 44400, Nairobi, Kenya.
Nancy L. Woolworth, Minnesota, received a grant to conduct archaeological excavations of a 17th century French trading post and a 16th century Santee Dakota village from the Minnesota Historical Society. Her long-term goal is to develop a model of Santee Dakota settlement patterns, 1550-1862, in Minnesota.

GROUP FINANCES. This, too, is something new—a public accounting by the Group’s Treasurer, William Doolittle.

Income:  $75.00  6/23/83, AAG Rebate
64.00  5/17/84, AAG Rebate

Expenses:  $13.80  6/27/83, Newsletter (No. 2) printing
26.20  6/27/83, Newsletter (No. 2) mailing
22.00  3/07/84, Newsletter (No. 3) mailing
18.50  8/20/84, Newsletter (No. 4) printing
30.00  8/20/84, Newsletter (No. 4) printing

Cash on Hand:  $48.50  Most of which will be spent on the
printing and mailing of this Newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP. For some reason our membership seems to have declined somewhat this past year. The word from the AAG office is that for 1985 we only have 84 members as of January 16, and will be getting only $63.00 on which to operate this year.

We suspect that some members have either forgotten to pay their dues, not checked the appropriate box on the renewal form, or are planning to send their renewal forms in later. If you know of someone who might be remiss, please give them a nudge. On second thought, a shove would be better. Also, how about recruiting a member or two? It is surprising that our activities have increased so dramatically while our membership declined.

SOUND OFF. Got something to say? Say it! The editor welcomes letters, comments, reviews, and critiques. It would be nice to have members stating their ideas, especially on the nature, philosophy, methodologies, and history of cultural ecology in this newsletter. If you want to say it, I'll print it!

Free for the asking! An interesting newsletter.

AALS news

ASSOCIATION FOR ARID LANDS STUDIES / P.O. BOX 4620/LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409
Information provided below may be included in the next issue of the CULTURAL ECOLOGY NEWSLETTER. Anyone willing to participate, organize, or serve will be contacted by the Group Chairperson as soon as possible.

Name, Address, and Phone:

Are you preparing a paper for the Minneapolis meeting that could be included in a Group-sponsored session? __________

Title:

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___________

Title:

Participants:

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Title:

Participants:

Please provide a brief description of your current research.

Field address:

Are you willing to serve a two year term as an officer of the Group?

Please name someone who you think might serve:

(Please return this form to: William E. Doolittle, Department of Geography, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas 78712.)
During the past two years our membership has declined, albeit only slightly, largely because members have been late in paying their AAG dues. Our numbers and hence our rebate that allows us to function is based on the number of members who pay their dues by 31 December. Also, many members fail to check the appropriate box on the renewal form. Just because you became a member one year does not mean you are a member forever. Each year the specialty group rolls are purged and every member has to rejoin. The reason for this inconvenience is that new groups are formed and existing groups are dropped each year. In sum, to remain listed as an active member and to keep the funds coming, you need to pay your AAG dues by the end of December (the first notice is on its way) and check the appropriate box.

If you were not at the annual AAG meeting in Detroit you missed many good sessions. Our Group was especially active with a total of five sessions. As a new feature in the "Newsletter," we are now republishing the abstracts of the papers for those unable to attend. Thanks go out to all who organized, presented papers in, and acted as discussants for these sessions.

THE BEHAVIORAL LANDSCAPE: A QUESTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL by Joseph Sonnenfeld, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843

Landscape is a reflection of the environment which is contained within it; and in its cultural form it also records the environmental consequences of human behavior. But the landscape also influences behavior more directly: it arouses attention, and it conceals and communicates information, all of which contribute to its stimulus quality. The characteristics and sources of such landscape influence will be discussed within the context of wayfinding and privacy-seeking behavior.

LANDSCAPES IN NARRATIVE CINEMA: A CONCEPTUAL VIEW by Leo E. Zonn, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona 85287

This essay examines the nature and character of landscape images as they are presented in contemporary narrative cinema. These images are best appreciated within the context of individual-landscape transactions, and so a conceptual framework is proposed in which the cinema medium is seen to function as a filter in these transactions. The capacities of the medium and the intentions of the individuals creating the image are of particular concern in understanding such a function. Examples are drawn from a wide array of motion pictures, although Australian cinema since 1970 is of foremost concern.

CITY SEMIOSIS by Eugene Rochberg-Halton, Department of Sociology, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana 46556

The buildings, places, and institutions of the city are not merely aesthetic entities or inert objects or even simply structural codes, but are signs that live objectively in the transactions people have with them. They signify history, relationships, current practices and goals; communicate a sense of place and participation; and grow, through cultivation, in the minds of those who care for and about them. The metropolitan environment, from this semiotic perspective, is a living sign-practice transcending the present moment, and objectively situated in the minds and hearts of the inhabitants, as well as forming an external dimension of their minds and hearts.

NATURE WRITING AND LANDSCAPE EXPERIENCE by Robin W. Doughty, University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78712

This paper examines the nature essay in North America from two viewpoints. First, it suggests that nature writing complements, augments, or qualifies regional consciousness. Secondly, the literary genre reflects an individual's concern, sensitivity and understanding of the natural world. Modes of relating to nature suggest themselves. The essay demonstrates how opening up to nature may result in subjectively important lessons about the environment and one's rapport with it. Reflection on experience reveals the self as observer and actor. Nature writing provides an experiential rather than descriptive treatment of nature, offering clues for greater regional awareness and personal responsiveness.
MULTIFUNCTIONAL FIELD DEMARCATION IN THE ECUADORIAN ANDES by Gregory Kapp, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas 78712

In the Ecuadorian Andes, field boundary markers are more widespread and functionally more important than terracing for small-scale agriculture. A variety of traditional multi-functional demarcation landforms and hedgerows are discussed in their environmental and socio-economic contexts, and their significance for agricultural development is assessed.

TERRACE ABANDONMENT IN THE PERUVIAN ANDES, EXTENT, CAUSES, AND PROSPECTS FOR RESTORATION, by William M. Derban, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706.

For the Peruvian Andes, it is estimated that there are at least one million hectares of agricultural terracing, mostly prehistoric in origin, of which 600,000 hectares are currently abandoned. Explanations for abandonment include climatic change (less rain for irrigation), depopulation, and a variety of socio-economic factors. A better understanding of the causes of abandonment can contribute to a significant revival of agriculture on marginal mountain slopes. Research on these issues is currently underway in the Colca Valley, Department of Arequipa, Peru, and preliminary results can be reported.

FARMING SYSTEMS IN THE INLAND DELTA, MALI by Derrick J. Thom, Utah State University, Logan, Utah 84322

The Inland Delta derives its name from the fact that the Niger River overflows and annually inundates over 20,000 square kilometers. This annual flooding has resulted in the concentration of a diversity of ethnic groups, a relatively dense population, and a variety of farming systems that are adapted to the local circumstances. Most cultivation in the Inland Delta is dependent upon irrigation; natural flood irrigation, controlled flood irrigation, recessional irrigation (cultivation of dérèbe) and total water control systems. Each of the farming systems is discussed in terms of site, timing and productivity.

WAGES AND EXTRACTION IN FARMING AND RURAL ANALYSIS by Susanna Hoch, University of California-Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

In much development planning and analysis, it is assumed that simple commodity products satisfy their income needs through only the sale of agricultural products. This paper reviews some of the literature on Latin American and suggests that 1. wages are a major form of income and 2. small scale extraction is critical to household and market needs. Neglect of these factors in agricultural planning leads to weak analyses and inadequate planning.

CULTURAL ECOLOGY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT SPECIALTY GROUPS: Analysis and Development of Small Scale Agriculture in the Third World, II. Duluth B (5).

BREAKING-UP THE BOTTLENECKS: PEASANT RESPONSES TO LABOR CONFLICTS IN FOOD CROP AND COTTON CULTIVATION IN THE NORTHERN IVORY COAST, by Thomas J. Bassett, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL 61801.

Since the early 1970s, the extension and intensification of cotton cultivation in the northern Ivory Coast has led to conflicts in the scheduling of labor-time between food crops and cotton. Households in the cotton growing areas have adjusted to these competing labor requirements on a number of levels, depending on their economic standing and ethnic identity. This paper examines the responses of Senoufo and Dyula households to the problem of labor bottlenecks in the areas of agricultural practices, labor mobilization and cultural change.

SMALL FARMER MANAGEMENT OF MONOMORILLONITE CLAY IN THE SUDANSE SABLE by Frederick L. Reif, Indiana University at Indianapolis, Indianapolis, Indiana 46202.

Traditional third world agricultural technology is often ignored by development planners resulting in frequent failure of modern enterprises. There is value in native agrarian technology because it has a trial and error experience with the physical environment. Much experience should be considered in development efforts. A case study of farmers in the Sudanese Sable demonstrates a need to consider local soil management techniques. The use of Monomorillonite clay soils is examined with regard to soil moisture management and underground granaries.


Industrial-era toxicants are known to contaminate the waters, sediments, and aquatic life of many urban New Jersey waters. Shoreline fishermen along Newark Bay and Upper New York Bay have been interviewed for the past two years to determine their perception of the risk associated with these toxicans and the methods they use to avoid these risks, results of which are described here. Preliminary assessment of risk to the health of fish consumers is also presented.


Three case studies illustrate an analytic approach: 1) Development of a local tobacco industry with economic benefits of disease related costs, 2) Changes in the supply of fresh as opposed to salted fish leading to nutritional improvement and potential reduction in risk of cancer of the nasopharynx, and 3) Transport developments providing increased social and economic benefits to some but not a majority of urban dwellers, and increased traffic related injuries and deaths and levels of air pollution.

SYMPTOMS, SEVERITY, AND ILL-DEFINED CONDITIONS: GEOGRAPHICAL VARIATIONS IN THE ACCURACY OF REPORTING OF DEATH by Michael H. Greenberg, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, 08903.

The geographical distribution of CODS codes 770-796 (eighth revision) was studied as a way to locate counties with poor mortality records and to try to account for poor records. Weak state government record keeping programs and a low socioeconomic status population seemed to be important explanatory factors. The main conclusion was that mortality records can be improved by persuading some states to improve their programs.
ALCOHOL ABUSE IN THE CITY by Christopher J. Smith, State University of New York at Albany, Albany, New York 12222

Empirical evidence suggests a clear-cut relationship between city living and higher prevalence rates of both heavy and problem drinking. In this paper some of the competing explanations for this relationship are evaluated, using macro and micro-level data. The results indicate that the importance of city living in the etiology of alcohol abuse should not be overstated. It appears that the urban variable is just one of many in the complex, multi-causal chain of events that drives people not only to drink, but to drink to excess.

HEALTH CARE DELIVERY IN CANADA: SOME CONCERNS FOR RESEARCH by Mark W. Rosenberg, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1S 5B6.

Institutional changes that are occurring in the Canadian health care system are first discussed. Then recent research in health care delivery in Canada is reviewed by placing work in a matrix of "subjects" and "approaches". The classification is used as an instrument for identifying areas of research where more work is needed. These areas of research are not specific to Canada alone. They need to be addressed by researchers in other countries as well if health care delivery is a topic of geographical research is to progress.

Mortality in the Pacific Islands. by Nancy Davis Lewis, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822.

Country and regional analyses of mortality are presented for 21 countries and territories of the Pacific. Life expectancies, age specific death rates, and proportional mortality by cause are examined to establish contemporary patterns of mortality as well as secular change. In general, Polynesia and Micronesia have mortality profiles more closely resembling those of the developed world, while levels and causes of mortality in Melanesia are similar to those of the less developed world. The exceptions to these expected patterns, significant in terms of public health, are explored. The regional analysis includes demographic, environmental and socioeconomic variables which help to explain the patterns.

BUSINESS, SUCH AS IT IS:

A number of items were discussed at the Group business meeting in Detroit. Three things were decided. First, beginning with the Minneapolis meeting we will have a student paper competition (see details below). Second, for the purposes of promoting interdisciplinary contact it was decided to discuss exchanging newsletter mailing lists with the Society for Human Ecology. The responsibility for doing so was left up to the editor who will be getting on with this soon. Third, for now at least, it was decided to send free copies of the newsletter to non-geographer, non-members who have expressed an interest in keeping abreast of what we are doing.

MINNEAPOLIS:

Plans are currently underway to have at least two Cultural Ecology Specialty Group-Sponsored sessions at the next annual meeting of the AAG. Nancy L. Woolworth, University of Minnesota, is organizing both sessions. These will deal with North American Indians, one focusing on the east lakes-woodlands and one on the west lakes-plains.

If any member is interested in participating in, or organizing another session then please fill out the form on the back and send it in. There are some talented non-geographers in the Minneapolis area that could be included as paper presentors or discussants. They are eligible and indeed funds are available from the AAG to cover their registration.
STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION:

Any student who is presenting a paper on a cultural ecological topic at the Minneapolis meeting of the AAG next May is eligible to enter the Group's paper competition. All that is required is for four copies of the paper (not abstract) be sent to the Group's chairperson, Gregory W. Knapp, Department of Geography, University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78712, by 1 February 1986. The Group's three regional directors will act as judges. The winner will be announced and the prize awarded at the AAG business session at the Minneapolis meeting.

The competition will be based strictly on the quality of the paper. Presentation will not be a consideration. The competition will be blind; no one other than the Group's chair will know the identity of the entrants. There will not be a special session made-up of contestants, as is done with the best dissertation paper. Entrants can participate in either general or special sessions. The number of entries will not be announced. If you are a student who would like to enter, or if you know a student who might be interested, then by all means make plans now.

CONGRATULATIONS:

One of our more distinguished colleagues in anthropology, Emilio F. Moran, was recently elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Professor Moran is, of course, a cultural ecologist and one interested in our Group. Our congratulations go out to him.

SPEAKING OF SCIENCE:

A few of us were recently discussing geographers' publications in interdisciplinary science journals, specifically Science. We came to the conclusion, albeit with no quantitative data, that geographers as a group tend to avoid publishing in such outlets. We could think of only three geographers who published in Science in the past few years—Don Vermeer, Billie Turner, and Nigel Smith, all of whom are cultural ecologists. Perhaps there are others whom we missed. If you can think of them please drop a note to the editor or better yet add the citation to the back page of the newsletter and return it. As it now stands, we appear to be representing not only ourselves but also the entire discipline in the science community. The urban quantifiers who insist on spelling science with a capital "S" don't have anything on us.

WHO'S WHERE AND WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

Lydia M. Puleipher, Tennessee, is directing an interdisciplinary study of Galways Plantation, Monserrat, West Indies. Her team includes archaeologists, anthropologists, historians, as well as geographers. The study spans the period from 1660 to the present and involves assessment of cultivation practices, resource management customs. The focus is on understanding the imprint a slave village would have left on the landscape. Field work was conducted this past June and July.

Gregory W. Knapp, Texas, is spending the summer in Ecuador investigating traditional and prehistoric soil fertility maintenance. He has an eye on a larger project comparing practices on the highlands with those of the lowlands. He also has a graduate student who is working in the highlands on an irrigation system that has been in operation for at least 500 years.
Information provided below may be included in the next issue of the CULTURAL ECOLOGY NEWSLETTER. Anyone willing to participate, organize, or serve will be contacted by the Group Chairperson as soon as possible.

Name, Address, and Phone:

Are you preparing a paper for the Minneapolis meeting that could be included in a Group-sponsored session? ____________

Title: ____________________________

Are you organizing a session that could be held under the sponsorship of the Group? (We can arrange for paying registration fees for invited non-members.)

Title: ____________________________

Participants:

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Title: ____________________________

Participants:

Please provide a brief description of your current research.

Field address:

Are you willing to serve a two year term as an officer of the Group?

Please name someone who you think might serve:

(Please return this form to: William E. Doolittle, Department of Geography, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas 78712.)
HAVE YOU SEEN?

*Interciencia*, Vol. 9, No. 6, Nov-Dec 1984. This is a special issue dealing human ecology in the Amazon. It is edited by Emilo F. Moran and Rafael Herrera, and includes a paper by one of our members, Bill Denevan.


Upcoming Activities

As per tradition the Group is sponsoring several sessions at the annual meeting of the Association. Organized activities are as follows:

Tuesday, May 6, 7:00 a.m. (that's right folks, seven!), with the co-sponsorship of the Native American Specialty Group.

Cultural Ecology of North American Indians: In the Woodlands and on the Prairie, organized and chaired by Nancy L. Woolworth.

Victor Konrad: Soil Analysis and Archaeology in the Northeastern Woodlands.

Fred Lukermann: Iroquois Anomaly.

Nancy L. Woolworth: The Dakota Anomaly, 1640-1702.

Alan R. Woolworth: The Yanktona; Dakota Indians.

Michael Scullin: Corn Cobs and Tree-Rings.

Tuesday, May 6, 10:00 a.m. with the co-sponsorship of the Native American Specialty Group.

North American Indians organized and chaired by George A. Van Otten.

Martha L. Henderson: The significance of Huckleberry on the Warm Springs Reservation.

George A. Van Otten: Regional Impacts on Indian Land Redistribution in Northern Arizona.

Dick G. Winchell: The Spatial Implications of Navajo Tribal Government Reform.

Ronald A. Janke: Chippewa Indian Land Losses.

(continued page two)

Honors of the A.G.S.

Last September the American Geographical Society awarded Professor James J. Parsons of the University of California at Berkeley the David Livingstone Centenary Medal for providing "continuity and breadth of cultural geographical coverage for low latitude areas that is without precedence in the English-language geographical literature."

The medal was established in 1913 at the suggestion of the Hispanic Society of America in memory of the explorer David Livingstone on the centenary of his birth. It is given in recognition of eminent scientific achievement in the field of geography of the southern hemisphere.

Also awarded an honor by the AGS was Professor Wolfgang Meckelein of the University of Stuttgart. He was given the Charles P. Daly Medal for his extensive research on deserts, especially the Sahara, and human survival in arid lands. The medal was established in 1902 "for valuable or distinguished geographical services or labors." No individuals are more deserving of these honors than Professors Parsons and Meckelein. The Groups' congratulations go out to them.

No. 7, Winter-Spring 1986
Publication of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers

Published at the Department of Geography, The University of Texas at Austin.

Editor: William E. Doolittle
Bibliography

As Chairperson of the Group, Greg Knapp recently got the task of compiling a bibliography of the 30 most useful cultural ecological books for the AAG and National Geographic Society. He did a fine job of abstracting well over 50 works. Several members of the Group also lent their assistance to identifying the most appropriate volumes. The final list was cut to 29, but several of the items Greg annotated were cross-referenced in other sections, e.g. cultural geography, New World prehistory, and biogeography.

Greg did such a fine job that the news blurb for the bibliography highlights our section and refers to cultural ecology as one of the "emerging fields of geographical research". Copies of A Geographical Bibliography for American Libraries can be obtained from the AAG central office for $21.95.

Science

It was reported in the last newsletter that only four geographers—all cultural ecologists—published in Science within the past few years. Some other names need to be added to the list that includes Don Vermeer, Billie Turner, Bob Kates, and Nigel Smith. Barbara Williams, another cultural ecologist and member of the Group also has a Science article to her credit, as do non-members Ron Dorn, Theodore Oberlander and Gilbert White.

Have You Seen?

J. Desmond Clark and Steven A. Brandt (eds.), From Hunters to Farmers: The Causes and Consequences of Food Production in Africa. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1984


Robert C. Eidt. Advances in Abandoned Settlement Analysis: Applications to Prehistoric Anthroposols in Columbia, South

(continued next page)
(continued from page two)


Three new publications are available from the Commonwealth Human Ecology Council (CHEC):

L. Gertler, K. Bennett, and K. Levitt (eds.). Planning with People.
** These books may be ordered from: CHEC Secretariat, 63 Cromwell Rd., London SW7 5BL.

Who's Where and What are They Doing?

Donald J. Ballas, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, is in the process of revising and finalizing a manuscript on the changing ecology and economy of the Teton Dakota Indians as they moved from the Upper Great Lakes region on to the Great Plains.

Clifton (Skeeter) Dixon, Texas A & M, had the hotel he was staying in collapse during the Mexico City earthquake. Luckily he was across town when the catastrophe struck. Surprisingly enough, his truck which was parked in an underground garage also survived intact. Last month, while collecting data from farmers in the Balsas Valley, he encountered a pack of less than friendly dogs. Despite these experiences work on his OAS sponsored dissertation to investigate the role of beekeeping in traditional agricultural systems of northwestern Mesoamerica seems to be progressing. He can be reached at Morelos 116, Depto. #4, Tlpa, Guerrero, Mexico.

Kent Mathewson, Wisconsin, is continuing his work on ancient raised-field agriculture in the Guayas Basin, Ecuador. He is also continuing to investigate Alexander von Humboldt's contribution to New World cultural ecology.

Doug Johnson and Billie Turner, Clark, along with Bob Kates, Brown, are involved in a project to study millennial long population changes. Unlike most demographic studies that are confined to relatively brief periods of time, their work, is focusing on long waves of population growth and decline in such diverse regions as central Italy, northwestern Peru, southwestern United States, and the valleys of the Indes, and Yangtze rivers. Basic questions guiding the research are: (1) Is recurrent growth and decline a characteristic of regions, and, if so, what are the characteristic patterns of recurrence? (2) How do waves of growth and decline relate to changes in environment, society, and technology? and (3) Can the observed waves be explained by existing themes of population change?
Information provided below may be included in the next issue of the CULTURAL ECOLOGY NEWSLETTER. Anyone willing to participate, organize, or serve will be contacted by the Group Chairperson as soon as possible.

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Participants:

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Title:

Participants:

Please provide a brief description of your current research.

Field address:

Are you willing to serve a two year term as an officer of the Group?

Please name someone who you think might serve:

(Please return this form to: William E. Doolittle, Department of Geography, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas 78712.)
**Membership**

Our official membership as of January 1986 is 115. This is up considerably from the 84 official members in January 1985. It is down, however, from our August 1985 count of 139. The AAG calculates specialty group membership twice each year. The summer figure is always higher than the winter count because of members who pay their dues after the first of the year. Unfortunately, our rebate is based on the lower winter figure.

**Business**

The Group's annual business meeting will be held at the Minneapolis meeting on Monday, May 5th at 6:00 p.m. It is important to be there as a number of major items will be discussed and issues resolved. First, a new slate of officers will have to be elected for two-year terms. Second, a new editor for the newsletter will have to be chosen. Please give both of these matters serious consideration.

**Group Finances**


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**Group Composition**

A tally of the Group's 139 members as of August 1985 revealed which areas and departments had the greatest number of cultural ecologists.

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<tr>
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</tr>
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</table>

Berkeley remains the major center of Group interest despite the lack of faculty membership! There has also been a noted decline in Boulder and LSU with lesser declines at Tennessee, and Chapel Hill. New to the top 12 are Kentucky, Virginia Tech, and Arizona.
Society for Human Ecology

SHE will hold its 1986 annual meeting at the College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, Maine, October 17-19. The theme of the conference will be "Human Ecology: Research and Applications." Papers, symposium themes, and round-table discussion topics are invited and will be accepted through May 1, 1986. Deadline for abstracts is July 1. All abstracts must be typed double-spaced and about 300 words in length. Program will be finalized by July 15.

The conference promises to be an exciting and productive gathering with human ecologists from around the world. It will be highlighted with tours of Acadia National Park, boat trips for whale, seal, and seabird watching. The beautiful fall foliage in northern New England will also be at its peak.

For more information contact:
Richard J. Borden, Society for Human Ecology, College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor, Maine 04609, Tel. (207) 288-5015.

Green Geography

A number of "socially conscious" geographers met last year at the Detroit AAG meeting with the intent of kicking-off a series of annual workshops on "Green Geography". According to the group's first newsletter, Green Geography "reflects a consciousness of, and a concern for, ecological sanity in the use of and care for the planet". The group will discuss some of the basic tenets of modern society including profit maximization, resource and labor exploitation, private property, and short term planning. The group admits a bias toward "appropriate technology, a move toward decentralization and human-scaled political, economic, and social institutions, a concern with individual responsibility and participation, democracy, and a deep aversion toward violence and exploitation of any kind." They have another workshop planned for the Minneapolis meeting. If you are interested in the workshop or the group, contact Mary Waterstone, Department of Geography, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio 44240.

Cultural Ecology Newsletter
Department of Geography
The University of Texas at Austin
Austin, TX 78712-1098
SPECIALTY GROUP OFFICERS

At the May 1986 business meeting in Minneapolis, the following new officers were elected for the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group: Chairperson, William M. Denevan, Department of Geography, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706; Secretary-Treasurer, Donald J. Ballas, Department of Geography & Regional Planning, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA 15705; Western Regional Councilor, Martha Works, Department of Geography, Portland State University, Portland, OR 97207; Central Regional Councilor, William E. Doolittle, Department of Geography, University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712; Eastern Regional Councilor, B.L. Turner II, Graduate School of Geography, Clark University, Worcester, MA 01610.

A NOTE TO MEMBERS & NON-MEMBERS

While supplies last, copies of this issue of the Cultural Ecology Newsletter will be sent to selected individuals and to Geography departments which do not currently have group members, as well as to CGSP members.

We hope that this issue will be circulated in departments in order that interest — and perhaps membership — will be increased.

All persons interested in relationships between humans and the natural environment are invited to join the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group. To do so, just list that group on your 1987 AAG membership form.

* * * * *

CULTURAL ECOLOGY IN PORTLAND

To date, only one Cultural Ecology session has been planned for the Portland AAG Meeting. This will be on Medical Geography and Ecology, organized by Nancy Lewis, and co-sponsored with the Medical Geography Specialty Group. Two other sessions that we were

(continued on page 4)
EDITOR'S COMMENTS

This is my first issue of the Cultural Ecology Newsletter. It's a bit smaller than I had anticipated for several reasons including mild "problems" of setting up procedures, etc., for printing and typing the first issue, my own summer schedule and obligations, and a relative lack of information and news from our members. Also, we want to get this in the mails by the first week of September, 1986 because, among other things, we wish to remind you that September 26 is the deadline for submitting papers and arranging sessions at the coming 1987 AAG meeting in Portland, OR.

IUP has supported the printing and mailing of this issue (other than overseas mailings which I will pay with group funds). I would also like to thank Dr. Ruth I. Shirey, Chairperson of the Department of Geography and Regional Planning, for her encouragement, Ms. Lynne Hughes, our departmental secretary, for typing and other assistance, the IUP Publications Office, and the IUP Printing Center.

I hope to publish a somewhat larger Winter-Spring issue, before the Portland meeting. You may "help the cause" by submitting information on your activities, conferences, workshops, field trips, special courses, and related news pertaining to cultural ecology. Let us know if you change your address (notify the editor at the IUP address on p. 1) so we can get the next Newsletter to you as soon as possible.

-Donald J. Ballas, Editor

HAVE YOU SEEN?


Surarerks, Vanpen. 1986. Historical Development and Management of Irrigation Systems in Northern Thailand, Department of Geography, Chiang Mai University, Bangkok.


CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

The viability of a Specialty Group such as ours can be measured by the number of special sessions we sponsor or co-sponsor at AAG Meetings, attendance at those sessions, the number and quality of publications by ourselves and other cultural ecologists, courses in cultural ecology, and numbers of interested undergrad and grad students. From a slow start by our group in 1980, our numbers have increased from 70 in 1982 to 133 in the summer of 1985. Many other cultural ecologists in the AAG, whether they call themselves that or not, are potential members. Remember to check the appropriate box on the AAG memberships renewal form each year in order to become or remain a member of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group.

At the AAG meeting in Minneapolis we sponsored two special sessions and co-sponsored two others. For the two we sponsored, attendance were about 50 to 100, which is very good. A number of people told us these were the best sessions they attended at the Meeting.

As for research and publications in cultural ecology by members, it is difficult to know just how productive we are, but there have been some outstanding books and articles recently. We will continue to list books in cultural ecology by both geographers and non-geographers under "Have You Seen?" and we will continue to list research in progress under "Members' Activities." We are adding a new section on "Recent Publications by Members." On the form which accompanies each Newsletter please provide these kinds of information, as well as changes of employment, and any special awards, etc.

Despite our progress, my own feeling is that we are not a very visible group within the AAG. One way to improve is to more frequently identify ourselves as cultural ecologists within geography and in our research projects and publications. For example, it turns out that while there is a Cultural Ecology Specialty Group within the AAG, Cultural Ecology is not on the AAG list of Topical Proficiencies for which an AAG member can list up to three on his membership application. In the AAG Directory these proficiencies are listed for every member, and statistics on the number of members for each proficiency are used for a variety of purposes to show where the "action" is in American geography. I have asked Executive Director Bob Aangeenbrug to list Cultural Ecology as an AAG Proficiency, but no decision has been made yet. Certainly we have more members than some of the existing Proficiencies.

Finally, I think we can carry out much more discussion among ourselves as to the nature of cultural ecology, where it stands and where it is going, and our contribution to research and education both in geography and outside geography. At our Business Meeting at the Portland AAG Meeting I would like to have an open-ended discussion of these issues and what our Specialty Group should be doing other than sponsoring sessions and producing a Newsletter. Be sure to attend. I would also like to begin planning for a Special Session at the Phoenix AAG Meeting where we can discuss the state of cultural ecology, with a few provocative speakers and lots of time for panel and open discussion. Send me any ideas you have.

* * * * *
PORTLAND (continued from page 1)

planning on have been set back to the Phoenix Meeting.

There is still time to plan more special sessions, and hopefully some of you will do so. If so, fill out the information form which accompanies this Newsletter, and send to Bill Denevan. He will then send you instructions. All materials will have to be submitted to the Program Committee by September 22nd. The more quality sessions we have, with good attendance, the better will be the image of cultural ecology within the AAG.

To be assured of adequate representation in the Meeting, Bill Denevan is willing to organize an open-ended session(s) consisting of mixed papers on any topic in Cultural Ecology. If interested, contact Bill Denevan (608-262-1954 or 608-262-2138). He already has one title, but will need two or three more. Otherwise, the papers will go into the general sessions.

* * * * *

GROUP FINANCES

At the May 1986 Business Meeting of the CESG, a balance of $35.25 was turned over to the new Secretary-Treasurer. No expenses have been paid at this writing, although postage costs for overseas mailing of the Newsletter will take a considerable portion of the balance. Publication of this issue of the CFN was made possible through the support of the Department of Geography & Regional Planning, Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Cash on hand was $86.25 on 2/10/86; expenses of $50 on 5/1/86 for the Student Award left the current balance of $36.25.

* * * * *

RECENT PUBLICATIONS IN CE BY SPECIALTY GROUP MEMBERS


* * * * *
MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

William E. Doolittle, University of Texas-Austin, spent the first part of summer 1986 collecting data on prehistoric canal irrigation technology in southern Arizona; he will be doing the same type of research in northern New Mexico later in the year. Bill's current project involves synthesizing all of the currently available data (reports, survey and excavation notes, etc.) on canals in the American Southwest and northern Mexico.

Nancy Davis Lewis, University of Hawaii, is currently researching a host of topics such as health and human adaptation in the Island Pacific, Pacific Island mortality index, the use of traditional pest control practices by limited-resource farmers, and peace research in the Pacific.

Josseph Shilhav, Bar-Ilan University, Israel, is working on a manuscript entitled "Faith and Territory: Spatial Conflicts in Jewish Perspectives"; its main thesis draws a link between spatial politics and notions in Jewish territoriality. Dr. Shilhav is also doing research on the ecology of ultra-orthodox Jewish communities in modern urbanized surroundings.

Bill Denevan (Wisconsin) has completed editing a Technical Report on the project he has been directing on the causes of terrace abandonment in the Colca Valley, Peru. Unbound xerox copies are available from him for $25 (The Cultural Ecology, Archaeology, and History of Terracing and Terrace Abandonment in the Colca Valley of Southern Peru, 569 pp., 1986).

(continued on page 8)

MOTHS WINS AWARD

Patricia A. Mothes, University of Texas at Austin, was the winner of the $50 student award presented by the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group at the 1986 AAG meeting in Minneapolis in May 1986. Announcement of her award also appeared in the AAG Newsletter, August 1986.

Her paper was titled: "Pimampiro's Canal: Traditional Irrigation in Ecuador." The canal dates back to pre-Hispanic times; it has been in continuous use for over 600 years and through three major political-economic regimes.

Competition is now open for the 1987 student award of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group. Any student who is presenting a paper on a cultural ecological topic at the Annual Meeting of the AAG in Portland, OR in April 1987 is eligible to enter. Four copies of their papers (NOT the abstracts) must be submitted by February 1, 1987 to the Group's Chairperson (Dr. William M. Denevan - see address on page one of this newsletter). Competition will be based strictly on the quality of the papers; presentation will not be a consideration. Entrants may participate in either general or special sessions (there will not be a special session made up of contestants for the award). The Group's three regional councilors will act as judges; prior to selection of the winner, only the Chairperson will know the identity of the entrants.

Awards for best student paper will not necessarily be given every year, depending on the quantity and quality of papers submitted. Also, the amount of the award may vary, depending on funds available.

* * * * *
CULTURAL ECOLOGY PAPERS AT THE MINNEAPOLIS AAG MEETING, MAY 1986

Let me risk the wrath of our readers by not printing herein the abstracts of the four Cultural Ecology paper sessions (two were co-sponsored with the Native American Specialty Group) at the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers held in Minneapolis, MN on May 3-7, 1986. I can see value in publishing them, if space permits, and may try to do so in the future if our Group members feel strongly that they should be, but there are also some "problems" and "extenuating circumstances."

One problem is space; individually, each abstract is not very long or complete, but collectively they take up considerable Newsletter space (in trying them for the four sessions listed below, I found that it would take at least two or probably three pages even single-spaced and one column as I'm using on this page). Many, if not all, members of our Group received or have access to the volume of Abstracts for the meeting printed by the AAG. Also, despite pleas by our parent organization to use good, clear typing ribbons, etc., a few of the abstracts in that volume are barely legible.

More and/or larger sessions at future meetings would require even more space in our Newsletter. I wonder if that space might better be used for letters/communication between readers, more news concerning member's activities and publications, etc.? Here, let me list the Cultural Ecology sessions of the 1986 meeting, providing the affiliation (at least at "paper time") of the authors, and hope that said authors will be willing and able to send abstracts or other information pertaining to their papers if so requested by members of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group.

Cultural Ecology of North American Indians: In the Woodlands and on the Prairie (co-sponsored with the Native American Specialty Group):

"Sois Analysis and Archaeology in the Northeastern Woodlands" by Victor Konrad, University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469.

"The Dakota Anomaly, 1640-1702" by Nancy L. Woolworth, Geography, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455.

"The Yanktonai Indians" by Alan R. Woolworth, Minnesota Historical Society, 690 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55101.

"Corn Cobs and Tree Rings" by Michael Scullin, Mankato State University, Mankato, MN 56001.

North American Indians (co-sponsored with the Native American Specialty Group):

"The Significance of Huckleberry on the Warm Springs Reservation" by Martha L. Henderson, Department of Geography & Anthropology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70793.

(continued on page 7)
CULTURAL ECOLOGY PAPERS AT MINNEAPOLIS MEETING (continued from page 6):

"Regional Impacts of Indian Land Redistribution in Northern Arizona" by George A. Van Otten, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ 86011.

"The Spatial Implications of Navajo Tribal Government Reform" by Dick G. Winchell, West Georgia College, Carrollton, GA 30118.

"Chippewa Indian Land Losses" by Ronald A. Janke, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN 46383.

Irrigation, Society, and Change:

"Early Irrigation in the American Southwest" by William E. Doolittle, Geography, University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712.

"Origins of Intercommunity Water Distribution, Sierra de Espadan, Spain" by Karl Butzer and Elisabeth Butzer, University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712 and Juan Mateu, Universidad de Valencia, Valencia, Spain.

"The Qanats of Mahan" by Paul Ward English, Geography, University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712.

Andean Landscape Ecology and Archaeology:

"Humboldt and the Origins of Andean Landscape Ecology and Archaeology" by Kent Mathewson, Geography, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706.

"Pimampiro's Canal: Traditional Irrigation in Ecuador" by Patricia Mothes, Geography, University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712.

"Prehispanic Raised Fields and Water Control on the Daule River Floodplain, Ecuador" by David M. Stemper, Department of Anthropology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706.

***

STUDENT MEMBERS: The Cultural Ecology group has consistently had one of the highest percentages of student membership, a situation we hope to maintain. If you are a student member of the AAG with interests in cultural/ecological aspects of geography, we hope you will consider joining our group. Just list Cultural Ecology as one of your three choices of Specialty Groups on your AAG membership form.

***
NEWS & NOTES

NCGE Meeting: The 1986 meeting of the National Council for Geographic Education will be held in Chicago, IL on October 9-12. Perhaps for next year's annual meeting, some of us who are also members of that organization can plan a workshop and/or session on two on the teaching of cultural ecology.

Yucatan Session: At the Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers (CLAG) meeting in Merida, Yucatan, Mexico, January 5-10, 1987, there will be a session on cultural ecology organized by Bill Denevan. Contact Bill if you would like to be involved in the session; his phone numbers at Wisconsin-Madison are (608) 262-1954 or (608) 262-2138.

Speaking of meetings, I wonder if we could informally arrange some sort of "social" get-together at the Portland and Phoenix meetings, affording us an opportunity to get to know each other? Or, could we maybe put a "check" or write CE (in green?) before our names on registration name cards so that we can more easily recognize members of our Group?

Also, I hope that our many student members may feel free to speak and/or write to us faculty members in order to learn about our graduate programs, to thus make "contacts," and generally to get acquainted with other students, professors, and "applied geographers" with interests in cultural ecology. On that score, I would appreciate hearing about programs, courses, field trips, etc., pertaining to CE which can be noted in our Newsletter.

Thanks to William Whipple Abbe, retired Army Corps of Engineers geographer, for his kind letter (passed on to me) complementing Bill Doolittle on the great job he did with the CE Newsletter. Judging only from the address labels, it seems that we have several "nonacademic" or applied geographers as members of our Group. Welcome aboard!

Among the 160 CESG members (as of mid-1986) are four from Canada and one each residing in Kenya, Costa Rica, Brazil, Israel, Rwanda, Sweden, Australia, Zambia, and Japan.

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MEMBER'S ACTIVITIES (cont'd):

Greg Knapp (Texas) will be conducting field research on traditional soil management in Ecuador, Peru, Argentina, and Chile during 1986-1987 on a Fulbright Research grant.

Jim Delehanty, Ph.D. Candidate at the University of Minnesota with a dissertation in progress on the migration of Hausa farmers in Niger, has been appointed Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin, Madison starting January 1987.

Barbara Brower, Ph.D. Candidate at the University of California, Berkeley with a dissertation in progress on pastoralism in Nepal, has been appointed Assistant Professor at the University of Texas, Austin starting January 1987.

Mario Hiraoka (Millersville University of Pennsylvania) is in the Peruvian Amazon near Iquitos with a grant from the National Geographic Society to study adaptation by riverine settlers to black water river conditions.

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INFORMATION REQUEST FORM
Cultural Ecology Specialty Group, AAG

Your help is needed to produce a good newsletter and to arrange
sessions and other activities at national meetings of the AAG. Please
complete any portions of this form which are pertinent to your plans
or activities (also feel free to change it slightly and/or to submit
additional information via memos, letters, etc.) and return it to:

Donald J. Ballas, Editor
Cultural Ecology Newsletter
Dept. of Geography & Regional Planning
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Indiana, PA 15705

Your name, address, & phone:

Are you preparing an independent paper for the Portland AAG meeting
that could be included in a Cultural Ecology session of mixed papers?:

Title:

Are you organizing a session, workshop, or other activity for the
Portland meeting that could be held under the sponsorship of the
Group? (We can arrange for paying registration fees for invited
non-AAG members):

Title:

Please provide a brief description of your current research, and list
your publications (within the past year or so) in cultural ecology
(you might include mention of grants, field work, etc.):

(OVER, PLEASE)
Please tell us any other news about yourself of potential interest to readers of the Newsletter -- honors, awards, speeches/papers, new titles and/or employment positions, etc.:

Suggested books, articles, theses, dissertations, and other publications for listing in the Cultural Ecology Newsletter:

Any other comments, etc. - on meetings, courses or institutes, and other matters of interest to members of the CEG:

Field or other address for the next five or six months if NOT your "regular" mailing address:

Are you willing to serve a two-year term as an officer of the Group?:

Please name someone (with their address/affiliation) who you think might wish to serve in such a position:

Other notes or comments??

PLAN AHEAD! It is definitely not too early to start planning for sessions, individual papers, workshops, etc., for the Annual Meeting of the AAG in Phoenix, Arizona, April 7-10, 1988.
NOTES AT PRESS TIME

Some changes were necessitated in the format of this Newsletter after our secretary and your editor had everything "ready to go" to press. Most, I hope and believe, have been resolved in such a manner as to permit the publication of a good newsletter.

The IUP seal, planned for the title page, "had to go" due to recent decisions (not favorably received by all!) regarding the use of a new logo, so we used that of our parent organization. Printing in color ink would have been even more expensive for our department and quite possibly have also taken more time. As it was, the IUP Printing Center was overwhelmed with work in August 1986, resulting in a somewhat greater printing delay than we had anticipated.

I originally planned to make the "Information Request Form" a loose "insert," but we couldn't have had the Newsletter bound and mailed as planned and had to rearrange the pages (giving us this last, unexpected page). You may clip the form or xerox it, as you prefer, without "losing" any other pages of the C EN. By using better, heavier paper than first anticipated, we trust that your copy will be received in good condition without being folded twice and stapled. Thanks are hereby extended to Ms. Lois J. Drayer, Director of the Printing Center, for her assistance and advice.

PAY AAG DUES EARLY!

You can help the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group and any others you select for membership by paying your 1987 AAG dues before the end of the year.

 Rebates to specialty groups (75¢ per member) are based only on the number of persons who pay their dues before the first of that year (when you pay your dues later, we receive no rebate). Forty-five of our current 160 members (including your editor) did not pay their 1986 dues by January 1 of this year.

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HUMAN ECOLOGY MEETING

At "press time," a flyer was received concerning the 1986 Conference of The Society for Human Ecology which will be held at the College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, ME on October 17-19. Participants represent various disciplines, and come from many other countries as well as the United States.

There will be various sympo- sia, "roundtable discussions," paper and poster sessions, field trips, etc. For more information (note that time is now very short), contact Richard Borden, SHE Conference, c/o College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor, ME 04609, (phone 207-288-5015).
CE SESSIONS AT AAG MEETING

The following sessions will be sponsored or co-sponsored by the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group at the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers in Portland, OR on April 22-26. Information below is taken from the Preliminary Program in the January 1, 1987 issue of the AAG Newsletter; you may wish to study that schedule (and the final one you will receive with convention registration) for other sessions or papers of interest to cultural ecologists.


AAG PORTLAND MEETING

Our parent group, the Association of American Geographers, will hold its annual meeting in Portland, OR in April 1987. Sessions organized by the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group (CESG) are described in this newsletter. There are, of course, other sessions of interest to many members of our group, and some members are involved in other sessions and activities.

The CESG Business Meeting will take place on Thursday, April 23 from 5:40 to 6:40 P.M. in Salon E of the Marriott Hotel. Please note that this is a CHANGE from the time and day listed in the AAG Newsletter.

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Number 9, Winter-Spring 1987

Newsletter of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers

Publication supported by the Department of Geography and Regional Planning, IUP, Indiana, PA 15705

Editor: Donald J. Ballas

(continued on page 4)
EDITOR'S COMMENTS

I am writing this during the third week of January 1987, having just begun work on this edition of the Cultural Ecology Newsletter (CEN for short). I wanted to start work on it as early as possible because I am on sabbatical leave this semester, and won't feel "free" to travel very long or far until this Winter/Spring issue is written, proofread, printed, and mailed.

I just received my January 1987 AAG Newsletter yesterday, with the preliminary program for the Portland Meeting from which the CE sessions are extracted for this CEN. I also have to wait (not for long, I hope) for the new 1987 list of Specialty Group members; we may have lost some members, but I hope we have increased membership (I'll try to let you know elsewhere in this newsletter).

Again, please send me your "Information Request Form" (the original or a xeroxed copy) and/or other notes, reprints, etc., for newsworthy items which we may be able to use in the CEN. We can't promise to print everything we receive (preference will be given to matters pertaining most directly to cultural ecology), but will certainly try to use as much as we can, when appropriate and when space permits.

Incidentally, the "Chairman's Column" in issue Number 8 (Summer/Fall 1986) was written by Dr. William M.

Denevan, our new chairperson (as of May 1986); his name was omitted somehow from the end of his column during printing. Other editorial errors in that issue were, I hope, relatively minor.

Let me thank the Department of Geography and Regional Planning (Ruth I. Shirey, Chair) here at IUP (we're not supposed to use our full Indiana University of Pennsylvania name anymore!) for absorbing the costs of producing, printing, and mailing issues 8 and 9. Also, many thanks to our Departmental Secretary, Ms. Lynne Hughes, and the IUP Printing Center (Ms. Lois J. Drayer, Director).

- Donald J. Ballas, Editor

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please let us know if and when you happen to change addresses; it will save us time and money, and help expedite delivery of your copy of the CEN. Send your address changes to: Donald J. Ballas, Geography and Regional Planning, IUP, Indiana, PA 15705.

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CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

The AAG is preparing a volume entitled Geography in America, a major assessment of the state of the discipline. The specialty groups will be largely responsible for producing chapters on the subdisciplines. The Cultural Ecology Specialty Group has been asked to make a contribution, which would be presented in preliminary form in a plenary session at the 1988 meeting in Phoenix. We will discuss this at our business meeting at Portland.

In addition to discussing our Chapter for Geography in America, I would like an open discussion of what we, as a specialty group, can do to promote cultural ecology. I would also like to discuss having a session at Phoenix consisting of position papers on the nature of cultural ecology, something similar to the Cultural Ecology session at the Los Angeles AAG Meeting, which was very successful. This can provide a larger context for the plenary session presentation mentioned above.

At our request, the AAG has added cultural ecology as an AAG proficiency. This is included on membership applications as of 1987, so be sure to check off the appropriate number, as one of the three subfields you can designate. The statistics generated are used for a number of purposes to indicate the relative importance of different subfields in geography.

- William M. Denevan,
  Chair, CESG

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NEWS & NOTES

Attempts to organize an informal dinner get-together for our group at the Portland AAG meeting failed due to the crowded schedule of events and other "complications." Perhaps we can at least meet each other by attending our cultural ecology sessions, at various other scheduled events, and especially at our CESG Business Meeting at 5:40 P.M. on Thursday, April 23 at the Marriott.

Over 80 new members joined our specialty group for 1987 before January 1! welcome to the CESG! We did not receive names and addresses for new members or renewing members who paid their AAG dues after January 1. If they send us their names and addresses, we will send them copies of this newsletter while supplies last. OR, they can pick up a copy at the Business Meeting on Thursday, since we hope to bring some "extra" copies.

Again, please send us information on publications, meetings, courses, research grants, and other matters of potential interest to members of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group.

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(continued in next column)
CE SESSIONS (from page 1)


Mountain Geography. Larry W. Price and Nigel Allan, organizers; Nigel Allan, chair. John W. James and Christopher H. Exline, Political Borders That Ignore Prominent Physical Boundaries -- The California-Nevada Case; Katherine J. Hansen-Bristow, Geographic Interactions Within the Greater Yellowstone's Centennial Mountain Ecosystem; Carol Harden, Extrapolating Soil Erosion Estimates: An Andean Example; Martin Price, Forestry and Tourism in the Swiss Alps; Nigel Allan, Agropastoral Systems in Inner Asia. FRIDAY, April 24, 1:40-3:30 P.M.

Although it is not sponsored or co-sponsored by our group, the session on Historical Cultural Ecology chaired by Patrick McGreevy may be of interest to many of us. It is scheduled for 1:40-3:20 P.M. on Saturday, April 25.

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STUDENT MEMBERS

Of the 158 CESG members who paid their AAG membership dues by January 1, 1987 (and thus for whom we receive rebates for our group), 49 were students (there were 101 professors and 8 "others"). We are happy and proud to have so many student members; please continue (or begin!) to encourage your students or fellow students to join the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group. It's "free of charge" (other than your AAG dues!); just list the CESG as one of your three choices of specialty groups on your annual AAG membership forms.

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(continued in next column)
HAVE YOU SEEN?


Reisner, Marc. Cadillac Desert. NY, Viking, 1986 (Recommended by group member J. Miller as "an excellent popular history of water and the west").


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MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

Michael Watts, University of California-Berkeley, has done fieldwork in recent months on small-scale irrigation perimeters in The Gambia and agrarian change in northern Nigeria. He held a Gilbert White Fellowship from Resources for the Future, Washington, DC, gave lectures on the African food crisis at Cornell, Johns Hopkins, and Resources for the Future, and participated in two panels on African Agriculture at the African Studies Association meeting in Madison, WI in November 1986. Michael is also the editor of State, Oil, and Agriculture published by

(continued in next column)
MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES (continued)


Clifton V. Dixon's current research concerns the role beekeeping plays in agroecosystems of southern Mexico. His work, funded by grants from the O.A.S., has focused on the agricultural systems of the Tlapanecs, Nahuas, and Mextecs of the southern sierras of Guerrero. He has been collecting pollen samples to examine bee/plant relationships, researching the antiquity of beekeeping, and measuring time input-caloric output of the agricultural systems in his study area. Professor Dixon is at Memphis State University, Tennessee.

Jeanne Kay (University of Utah) was a Fulbright Lecturer at the University of Haifa, Israel in 1985-86. She has been researching "Attitudes Toward Nature in the Jewish Bible" and presented a paper on "Restoration of American Wilderness: A Humanistic Perspective" at the Third International Conference on Environmental Quality and Ecosystem Stability in Jerusalem. She has had a number of publications in the past couple of years (see publications listed elsewhere in this newsletter), and is working to establish an interdisciplinary graduate emphasis in ethnohistory at Utah.

Ronald G. Knapp (SUNY at New Paltz) is the author of

China's Traditional Rural Architecture: A Cultural Geography of the Common House, published in October 1986 by the University of Hawaii Press (2840 Kolowalu Street, Honolulu, HI 96822). The advertising flyer reads in part: "This fascinating volume explores the nature of rural housing in China from neolithic times to the present and looks at the forces that have shaped Chinese dwellings, including those with a historical, environmental, social, and cosmological basis."

James A. Miller (Clemson University) has been doing research on regional transformation of the Draa River Valley, southern Morocco, focusing on the impact of the Mansour Ed-Dhebhi Dam on the Oued Draa. Research in Morocco was supported by an Islamic Civilization Research Grant (Fulbright) in 1985-86 (he was the author of Ifnill: a Moroccan Mountain Community in Change, Westview Press, 1984). He spoke twice on his research to the Geography Faculty at the University of Marrakesh.

Clint E. Davis (Austin Community College, TX) is presently working under an E.D. Farmer Grant, studying the origins, technology, and maintenance of macro-scale water systems (dams and aqueducts) on the central plateau and northern boundary of 17th and 18th century Mexico. He delivered a paper on the Espada irrigation system and aqueduct to the Semana de las Misiones. His

(continued on page 7)
MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES
(continued)

dissertation chairperson is Dr. Karl W. Butzer, also a member of the CESG.

Riva Berleant-Schiller (University of Connecticut) is studying the effects of political change on land use and tenure in Barbuda, Lesser Antilles, on a grant from the University of Connecticut Research Foundation. Professor Berleant-Schiller, with Lydia Pulsipher, wrote an article on subsistence cultivation in the Caribbean (see "Recent Publications in CE by Specialty Group Members" elsewhere in this newsletter).

Larry Grossman (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University) spent three weeks in Kenya in September 1986 preparing for extended field research on dietary implications of contract farming. The trip was funded by a grant from the Educational Foundation at Virginia Tech.

Donald E. Vermeer (Louisiana State) sent me reprints of three of his latest articles on geophagy (earth-eating) and reports that "the one from Science got enormous response." Don organized and chaired a symposium on "Geophagy: Current Views on a Worldwide Practice" at the 1986 annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Philadelphia (he also presented a paper entitled "Geophagy in West Africa and the American South"). He had about 25 press interviews and 15 to 20 radio interviews in response to the symposium, which "made" the New York Times (Tuesday, July 22, 1986, p. C-3). Dr. Vermeer has been appointed Associate Dean of the College of Agriculture and Director of International Affairs and Programs at LSU.

Nigel J.R. Allan (Louisiana State) spent half of 1986 doing field work for his study of the agropastoral systems of Inner Asia. Three summer months were in the Karakorum Mountains, with the three months of fall 1986 in the Tien Shan and Tibet. Professor Allan had three articles on mountain topics published during 1986 (see "Publications" elsewhere in this newsletter) and is heavily involved in both of our sessions on mountain ecology at the AAG Portland meeting (plus two other sessions!) in April 1987. Nigel is also one of the editors of Human Impact on Mountains, forthcoming in 1987 from Rowman and Littlefield.

Stephen C. Jett (University of California, Davis) published three or four items in 1986, and has at least three other contributions "in press" at this writing. "Ecologically," he has been continuing his work on Navajo agriculture. Steve has a chapter on the Navajo hogan in a forthcoming book of readings on the cultural geography of the American Indians; more about the volume, which will contain chapters by four or

(continued in next column) (continued on page 8)
MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES (continued)

five CESG members, in the next newsletter.

William M. Denevan (University of Wisconsin-Madison) has been named the Carl C. Sauer Professor of Geography. He is continuing his project on terrace abandonment in the Colca Valley in the southern Andes of Peru. Recently he submitted the manuscript for a monograph on agroforestry in the Peruvian Amazon to the New York Botanical Garden. He was one of two geographers participating in a conference on "Tropical Rainforest Management Strategies" held in Boulder, CO in February; the other geographer was Susanna Hecht of UCLA.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS IN CE BY SPECIALTY GROUP MEMBERS


Ronald G. Knapp, China's Traditional Rural Architecture: A Cultural Geography of

(continued in next column)
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Cultural Ecology Specialty Group, AAG

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Donald J. Ballas, Editor
Cultural Ecology Newsletter
Dept. of Geography & Regional Planning
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Indiana, PA 15705

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Your name, address, and phone:

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Are you preparing an independent paper for the Phoenix AAG meeting that could be included in a Cultural Ecology session of mixed papers?

Title:

---

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Please provide a brief description of your current research, and list your publications (within the past year or so) in cultural ecology (you might include mention of grants, field work, etc.):

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Are you willing to serve a two-year term as an officer of the Group?:

Please name someone (with their address/affiliation) who you think might wish to serve in such a position:

Other notes or comments?:

PLAN AHEAD! It is definitely not too early to start planning for sessions, individual papers, workshops, etc., for the Annual Meeting of the AAG in Phoenix, AZ, April 7-10, 1988.
RECENT PUBLICATIONS
(from page 8)

the Common House. Honolulu, University of Hawaii Press, 1986


CORRECTION

The zip code in the address of our CESG western councilor, Martha Works, was reported incorrectly in the last newsletter. Her address, with corrected zip, is as follows: Dr. Martha Works, Department of Geography, Portland State University, P.O. Box 751, Portland, OR 97207.

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Note from the Chair

This issue of the Fall Newsletter is brief and primarily pertains to advance planning for the AAG Meeting in Phoenix in April. The Program deadline is September 25th, and it is essential that those considering papers or sessions in cultural ecology be alerted to this deadline. Hence we are rushing to print with a short issue. The Winter Newsletter will be much fuller, including news of member activities and publications.

William M. Denevan
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Cultural Ecology at the AAG Meeting in Portland, April 1987

We were well represented on the Program at Portland with four sessions sponsored or co-sponsored. The session on "Comparative Long-Term Population Change," organized by Doug Johnson and Bill Turner, was particularly well attended, with nearly 100 in the audience.

The award for the best student paper went to Abu Muhammad Shajaat Ali of Clark University. A prize of $50 was given to Mr. Ali by Bill Denevan at the AAG Business Meeting.

The Cultural Ecology Business Meeting was attended by about 25 people. It was agreed that we continue the Award for Best Student Paper. Most of the discussion at the Meeting involved our contribution to Geography in America (see below).

Sessions at the AAG Meeting in Phoenix, April 1988

The deadline for submitting papers and organized sessions for Phoenix is September 25th. See the AAG Newsletter for May 1987 for procedures. If you are organizing a session that is appropriate for sponsorship or co-sponsorship by the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group, please notify Bill Denevan. We will advertise our sponsored sessions in the next Newsletter and this should result in a larger attendance than otherwise. The more sessions we sponsor, the better our status with the AAG. The AAG office does keep statistics on numbers of sessions and attendance, for the various specialty groups, and these are used in various ways. The Chair reports such information to the AAG office in annual reports.

If you have a paper on cultural ecology that does not fit into a special session, let me know and if we have three or four we can create a session of miscellaneous papers which I or one of the other officers will chair.

Nigel Allan (LSU) and Larry Price (Portland) are planning a session or several sessions on mountain geography for Phoenix. If you are interested in participating, contact one of them. Their sessions on mountain cultural ecology at Portland were very successful.
Best Student Paper Award, Phoenix

We urge students giving papers at Phoenix that can be considered cultural ecology to submit their papers for consideration for the award for the best student paper in cultural ecology. We hope to again give a $50 prize. The paper can be in a cultural ecology session or in any session at the Meeting. See the May 1987 Newsletter for instructions on submitting titles and abstracts. Four copies of the full paper to be read should be sent to Bill Denevan by January 15th. The length should not be over ten pages of text, double spaced, plus bibliography.

President's Plenary Session on Cultural Ecology, Phoenix

AAG President Terry Jordan has asked Bill Turner (Clark University) to give a Plenary Session on Cultural Ecology at the Phoenix Meeting. Plenary Sessions are organized by the President on major topics of interest to the geography profession. They are one hour long and are scheduled at times when there are no other sessions, so there is no competition. Usually they are the best attended sessions at the AAG Meetings. We hope that most of you can be there.

The Cultural Ecology Chapter in Geography in America

A volume titled Geography in America, consisting of chapters prepared by the AAG specialty groups, is being organized and edited by Gary Gaile and Cort Willmott. The purpose is to review the content and status of the major subfields of American geography. At our business meeting in Portland, an advisory committee for the cultural ecology chapter was appointed, consisting of Bill Denevan, Larry Grossman, Bill Turner, Michael Watts, Phil Porter, and Karl Butzer. It was agreed that Karl Butzer will be the principal author. A draft will be prepared and presented by Karl in several sessions of preliminary draft chapters of the various specialty groups at Phoenix. Your attendance is urged. Suggestions for the chapter can be sent before or after Phoenix to Karl or to other members of the advisory committee.
CULTURE & AGRICULTURE

The editors of Culture & Agriculture sent me a copy of their "newsletter" (more like a small journal), offering an exchange with the Cultural Ecology Newsletter which I gladly and immediately accepted. It is a quarterly publication of the Anthropological Study Group on Agrarian Systems, currently published by the Department of Human Ecology at Rutgers University.

The issue I received, Number 31, Winter 1987, is a 20-page publication containing a 6-page article on the agricultural ecology of the Aswan High Dam (CE member Karl Butzer is cited in the list of references), a four and a half page "Readers' Column" with responses to a previous article on "Disappearing Jungles -- Another View," and a four-page article entitled "Evolution of a Pennsylvania Dairy Farm," in addition to book reviews and announcements of publications, conferences, and related items.

Culture & Agriculture, based on the issue at hand, is a very well-produced newsletter which would seem to be of considerable interest to many or all members of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group. To subscribe (becoming a member of the ASGAS in the process), send $10 for individual or $25 for institutional memberships to: Culture & Agriculture, P.O. Box 231, New Brunswick, NJ 08903. Checks should be made payable to ASGAS; back issues are available at $3 per issue.

BOOK ON AMERICAN INDIANS

Member Thomas E. Ross of Pembroke State University, NC, is the co-editor (and original "organizer") of a book of original readings on the Indians of North America. The handsome paperbound volume, A Cultural Geography of North American Indians, is available for $29.50 from Westview Press in Boulder, Colorado.

The 331-page volume contains seventeen chapters by fifteen authors, five of whom are members of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group. Not all of the selections are strictly on cultural ecology, but all or most of them should be of interest to many of our CE members. The book itself and Janell Curry-Roper's chapter (the most purely "ecological" one by a CE member) are cited in this issue's list of publications by members.

Tom Ross wrote three chapters: The introductory and concluding ones, and Chapter 16 on the Lumbees. Donald J. Ballas wrote Chapter 2 on "Historical Geography and American Indian Development." Jeanne Kay (we haven't received her membership renewal yet!) co-authored Chapter 4 concerning American Indian territoriality, and Janell M. Curry-Roper penned the selection on Houma ecology. Stephen C. Jett contributed Chapter 13 on "Cultural Diffusion in Native-American Architecture: The Navajo Hogan."
CULTURAL ECOLOGY AT THE AAG MEETING IN PHOENIX

The Cultural Ecology Business Meeting will be held at 3:00-4:00 P.M. on Wednesday, April 6. Please try to attend. New officers for the next two years will be elected (Chair; Eastern, Central, and Western Regional Councilors; and Secretary/Newsletter Editor). If you wish to nominate someone for one of these positions or volunteer for one of these positions, please contact me. We have no candidates for the best student paper award given at the AAG Meeting, so we should again discuss the advisability of continuing the award. We will also discuss the possibility of having a panel discussion on "Directions of Cultural Ecology" at the next AAG Meeting. The AAG has asked us to discuss the possibility of having a small dues fee for our group.

For cultural ecologists, the highlights of the Phoenix Meeting will be two presentations on the nature and status of cultural ecology. One will be the AAG President's Plenary Session II, by Bill Turner, speaking on "Reviving Geography from the Top Down: The Specialist-Synthesis Merger and Cultural Ecology," 11:50-12:40, April 8. The other will be a summary of our statement on cultural ecology, for the book Geography in America, prepared and presented by Karl Butzer. In the Preliminary Program this is scheduled to be the first paper in the "Geography in America" session, 3:40-5:20 P.M., April 7.

The only other session the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group is sponsoring is "Mountain Geography: Human Activities in High Mountains," organized by Nigel Allan and Larry Price. However, there are several other sessions that are essentially cultural.

(continued on page 2)

Number 11, Winter-Spring 1988

Newsletter of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers

Publication supported by the Department of Geography and Regional Planning, IUP, Indiana, PA 15705

Editor: Donald J. Ballas
ecology. These include "Land in African Agriculture" (two sessions), and "Third World Peasant Agroecology," as well as several individual presentations including those by Jorge Brea, Martha Works, Mario Hiraoka, John Wiener, and Carl Johannessen/Anne Parker, among others. See the final program for scheduling. Keep in mind that all times listed in the Preliminary Program are subject to change. We have recommended that several changes be made to avoid conflicts between the sessions listed above.

William M. Denevan  
Chair, CESG  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

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EDITOR'S COMMENTS

This is my last issue of the CEN. I had considered continuing in the position if Group members so desired, but have decided to step down due primarily to matters of health, as well as for other reasons. It will be helpful if my successor has the time and energy needed to serve as secretary-treasurer-newsletter editor, and perhaps to be associated with a department large enough to offer some graduate and/or undergraduate assistance, and hopefully enough money to help "subsidize" the printing and mailing, at least the printing, of this newsletter.

The "new" secretary-treasurer-editor will be elected at the annual AAG meeting in Phoenix in April 1988. You may wish to wait until he or she is chosen to submit news, etc., for the next issue, but I will be happy to forward such materials to the new editor if they should be sent to me.

This issue is not as large as I had initially planned, primarily due to the lack of news and other information from Group members. This may be partly due to "modesty" (and/or busy schedules), but we hope that you will send information on your activities, publications, field trips, workshops or courses, etc., related to cultural ecology.

I again wish to thank IUP (Indiana University of Pennsylvania) and my department for "absorbing" the considerable costs of printing and mailing this and the last three issues of the CEN; this has allowed us to build up at least some "reserve" in our treasury. I also thank William M. Denevan for his assistance in submitting names of publications, news of members, and other material for the newsletter, and, in general, for doing such a fine job as chairman of our CESG, and our departmental secretary, Lynne B. Hughes, for typing and much other assistance in producing and distributing the Cultural Ecology Newsletter.

Donald J. Ballas  
* * * * *
MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

Wayne Bernhardtson (University of California, Berkeley) is currently working on the cultural-historical geography of sheep farming on the Falkland Islands for his Ph.D. dissertation, stressing "cultural ecological aspects of topics important within the historical context." For his publications on Chilean/Andean cultural geography (one in English, two in Spanish), see this issue's "Recent Publications in CE by Specialty Group Members."

George F. Thompson is the Acquisitions Editor for the Johns Hopkins University Press, 701 West 40th Street, Suite 275, Baltimore, MD 21211. He is currently completing a collection of original and previously unpublished essays entitled What is Landscape?, currently under review by two Ivy League presses. George is interested in publishing good monographs ("not too narrow") and good textbooks in geography and environmental studies for the Johns Hopkins Press. Relating to that, he invites interested members to phone (301-338-6909) or write him if they are in the Baltimore/Washington area.

Nigel J.R. Allan (Louisiana State University) is tentatively organizing three sessions for the Phoenix AAG meeting in April 1988: recreational impact in mountains; cross-cultural analysis in the Andes & Himalayas; and one on over-grazing and deforestation. His two sessions on mountain geography at the Portland AAG convention both had "standing room only." Nigel also delivered a paper at the IGU Study Group on High Altitudes Conference at Anchorage/Fairbanks on August 23-29, 1987.

William I. Woods has been appointed Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography & Earth Science at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, but continues to serve as Director of the SIUE Contract Archeology Program. His current research in cultural ecology includes investigations in Illinois, Mexico, and Italy. The Illinois work concerns settlement, land use, and habitat deterioration associated with the pre-historic Mississippian Period. He presented a paper on the Illinois work last December and has authored an article related to that research in SIUE Occasional Paper No. 7. The Mexican research is a long term collaborative endeavor with Dr. Melvin Fowler (Wisconsin-Milwaukee) on the Puebla Valley. Last fall and winter, Dr. Woods spent five weeks in southern Italy conducting a multidisciplinary program at the San Vito site on the Sele Plain which seeks to define the changing man-land relationships in the area since the 7th Century B.C.

Kent Mathewson is moving from the University of North Carolina to Louisiana State University.

Craig Knapp returned to Austin in August after a year (continued on page 4)
of field work in the Andes on a Fulbright Fellowship.

Bill Denevan received Honors at the 1987 AAG Meeting in Portland.

Bill Turner was Chair of the Organizing Committee of the international, interdisciplinary conference on "The Earth as Transformed by Human Action" held at Clark University in October 1987. Cultural ecologists participating included Karl Butzer, Michael Watts, Bill Denevan, Harold Brookfield, Michael Williams, and John Bennett.

Cultural ecologists participating in the "Symposium on the Fragile Lands of Latin America" at the Latin American Studies Association Meeting in New Orleans, March 17-19, include: Janis Alcorn, Bill Denevan, Bill Doolittle, Susanna Hecht, Mario Hirooka, John Treacy, Gene Wilken, and Bill Turner.

Jeanne and Paul Kay have been appointed editors of The Professional Geographer.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS IN CE BY SPECIALTY GROUP MEMBERS

Thomas E. Ross (member) and Tyrel G. Moore (editors), A Cultural Geography of North American Indians. Boulder, CO, Westview Press, 1987. (Five of the chapter authors are CE Specialty Group Members.)


John Leightly, "Ecology as Metaphor: Carl Sauer and (continued on page 7)
INFORMATION REQUEST FORM

Cultural Ecology Specialty Group, AAG

Your help is needed to produce a good newsletter and to arrange sessions and other activities at national meetings of the AAG. Please complete any portions of this form which are pertinent to your plans or activities (also feel free to change it slightly and/or to submit additional information via memos, letters, etc.) and return it to:

Donald J. Ballas, Editor
Cultural Ecology Newsletter
Department of Geography & Regional Planning
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Indiana, PA 15705

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Your name, address, and phone:

Are you preparing an independent paper for the Baltimore AAG meeting that could be included in a Cultural Ecology session of mixed papers?

Title:

Are you organizing a session, workshop, or other activity for the Baltimore meeting that could be held under the sponsorship or co-sponsorship of the Group?

Title:

Please provide a brief description of your current research, and list your publications (within the past year or so) in cultural ecology (you might include mention of grants, field work, etc.):
Please tell us any other news about yourself of potential interest to readers of the Newsletter -- honors, awards, speeches/papers, new titles and/or employment positions, etc.:

Suggested books, articles, theses, dissertations, and other publications for listing in the Cultural Ecology newsletter:

Any other news, comments, etc. -- on meetings, courses, or institutes, and other matters of interest to members of the CESG:

Field or other address for the next five or six months if NOT your "regular" mailing address:

Are you willing to serve a two-year term as an officer of the Group:

Please name someone (with their address/affiliation) who you think might wish to serve in such a position:

Other notes or comments?:

PLAN AHEAD! It is definitely not too early to start planning for sessions, individual papers, workshops, etc., for the Annual Meeting of the AAG in Baltimore, MD, March 19-22, 1989.


William E. Doolittle, Pre-Hispanic Occupance in the Valley of Sonora, Mexico, University of Arizona Publications in Anthropology, Number 48, University of Arizona Press, Tucson, AZ.

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HAVE YOU SEEN?


Michael Dove, Swidden Agriculture in Indonesia: The Subsistence Strategies of the (continued on page 8)

Janis Alcorn, Huastec Mayan Ethnobotany, University of Texas Press, Austin, 1984.


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MEMBERS & MONEY

Our mailing list from the AAG central office lists 159 members in the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group (43 are student members) as of January 1, 1988; this is up from 133 in 1985. The mailing labels we'll receive from the AAG in May 1988 or so will include the names of those additional members who paid their 1988 dues after January 1, although we will receive no rebates for them.

The treasurer's report for the CESG as of March 1, 1988 is as follows:

$104.70 = balance as of January 1, 1988
- 50.00 = to AAG, mailing labels, February 15, 1988
+119.25 = from AAG, membership rebates, February 1988
$173.95 = balance as of March 1, 1988

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CULTURE & AGRICULTURE

I have just received the second issue of C & A (Culture & Agriculture) in its exchange with the CEN. As mentioned in a previous issue of our newsletter, it is a fine small publication, larger than the Cultural Ecology Newsletter, although printed in about the same format and style as the last three or four issues of our CEN. C & A is the newsletter or bulletin of the Culture and Agriculture Group, published by the Department of Human Ecology at Rutgers University; subscriptions to this quarterly publication are $10 for individuals and $25 for institutions.

Each issue (of those I've seen) has at least one "lead" article, plus a "Readers' Column" with commentaries on previous articles, and a variety of announcements, notes, etc. The Fall/Winter 1987 issue (15 pages) has an article on "Forest Fallowing in the Southern Appalachian Mountains" by John S. Otto, and also contains a Cumulative Index for the years 1977-1987; virtually every entry in the ten-year index seems to be of interest to many members of our Cultural Ecology Specialty Group.

Donald J. Ballas

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NOTES FROM A CURMUDGEON
(PRO TEMPORE)

I am not at all convinced that the AAG leadership made a wise decision to promote Specialty Groups within the association. I can see the advantages of having scholars with similar interests cooperate in designing activities that reflect their interests and enthusiasms. I am worried about the risks inherent in having different groups within the AAG "doing their own thing" and possibly ignoring and not talking and listening to, and cooperating and working with geographers with kindred and even non-kindred interests.

The above statement may seem troubling to readers of this newsletter, since the six or so people who attended the Cultural Ecology business meeting at Phoenix elected me to serve as the chair of the group for the next two years. (No newsletter editor was to be found at Phoenix, so I am putting out an interim, brief newsletter. I am delighted to say that subsequent issues will be edited by Kent Mathewson, Louisiana State University, who has generously agreed to be editor and treasurer (offices that are merged

(continued on page 2)

CULTURAL ECOLOGY
AT THE AAG MEETING IN BALTIMORE
1922 MARCH 1989

The following sessions (organized and/or co-sponsored by the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group) are noted as being of potential interest to members of the CEGS:

HUNGER IN EAST AFRICA
(cosponsored with Africa SG and Medical Geography SG)
Organizer: Thomas E. Downing, NCAR
Participants: Sudhir Wanmali (chair), Robert W. Kates, Marilyn Little, Frank E. Bernard, Thomas E. Downing, and Benjamin Wisner (discussant)

(continued on page 4)
NOTES (from page 1)

in our bylaws.)

Perhaps my reservations derive from concerns more specific to Cultural Ecology itself. I view this approach in geography as one of the grand themes in geography, one of perhaps three or four ways of being a geographer, and thus highly encompassing of what geographers do. If I were forced to reduce geography to two themes only, they would be the study of (1) the mutual relations of human beings and the places/environments they use (what in a simpler age was called man/land or man/environment relations) and (2) spatial analysis. Stated other ways: study of site and situation, of place and location.

Evidence for the encompassing or inclusive nature of Cultural Ecology may be illustrated anecdotally by the fact that as colleagues have read drafts of Karl Butzer's perceptive and useful overview of Cultural Ecology for the forthcoming Geography in America, edited by Gary Gaile and Cort Wilmott, they nearly always say, "yes this is a good presentation, but why are the works of XXX not included?" If Karl were not constrained by limits on the length of the article, he could go on adding work after work, and scholar upon scholar. Thus, it seems that Cultural Ecology is susceptible of very broad definition. The fact that 219 members of the association chose to support the Specialty Group when they paid their dues last year suggests broad interest

in the theme and in the possibility of mutual cooperation.

Well then, on what shall we cooperate? What issues are important? I would like this newsletter to serve a purpose additional to the useful circulation of information about publications, up-coming meetings, and news about the activities of scholars of interest to members of the Specialty Group. I invite readers of this newsletter to speculate within these pages on what they think are important challenges and opportunity facing cultural ecologists and geographers more generally. Further, having speculated, cultural ecologists could act. I see the Toronto meetings as the next good forum for cooperation. [As you can see from elsewhere in this newsletter, we have arranged considerable cooperation with other specialty groups for the Baltimore Annual Meeting.]

Let me suggest two themes where cross-disciplinary, and cross-specialty group discussion is needed:

1. Conjoining the science of environmental monitoring with the work of cultural ecologists. There's an important scale issue here. I have just received two publications of interest. One poses the question of how geographers are to be part of the rapid progress being made in the study of environmental systems.* The other poses the question of how geographers can contribute to the development of productive, sustainable systems of agricultu-

(continued in next column)
ture/livelihood in Africa.**

Mapping land use and land use change, the ancient dream of Dudley Stamp, remains unfulfilled: the ambition espoused years ago by Wilbur Zelinsky and R. Mansell Prot-hero, that the geographers of the IGU produce the one to one millionth map of the world's population, has yet to be realized.

2. Conjoining the various perspectives that flourish within of the Socialist Geography Specialty Group with work in Cultural Ecology. Although members of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group no doubt espouse a range of views about how the world works, it could be fruitful to confront questions of agency and structure more formally and in dialogue with members of that specialty group.

At Phoenix, participants in the five sessions on Restructuring Human Geography said time and again that the use value of human geography had not been established. The same might be said of Cultural Ecology. What is it good for? I believe that there are good answers to that question, and that the value of cultural ecology ranges from aesthetics to practical engineering (if that represents a range); but we could certainly benefit by some thoughtful discussion of what we do and how our findings are used.

That is enough (perhaps even too much) for now.

* Earth System Sciences Commi-


** AAG LONG-RANGE PLANNING

Tom Baerwald, newly appointed program director for Geography and Regional Science at the National Science Foundation, is also chair of the AAG Long-range Planning Committee. He invites members of specialty groups to give their views and suggestions regarding the 11 goals (and some 32 ancillary objectives) presented in the AAG Newsletter of October 1988. I urge you to read the recommendations of the Long-range Planning Committee carefully and to communicate your ideas to Dr. Thomas J. Baerwald, c/o the AAG Central Office, 1710 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009-3198.

* * * * *
BALTIMORE (cont. from page 4)

EAST ASIAN AGRICULTURE
Organizer: Gregory Veeck
Participants: Shengtang Ma, Forrest R. Pitts, Gregory Veeck, and Jack Williams
Discussants: Kenji Oshiro and Clifton Pannell

HISTORICAL APPROACHES IN CULTURAL ECOLOGY
Organizer: Karl Zimmerer
Participants: Kent Mathewson, Stanley Stevens, Martin Lewis and Karl Zimmerer

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE
(a panel discussion)
Organizer: James K. Mitchell, chair of Natural Hazards SG
Participants include Jeffrey A. Gritzer and Robert W. Kates

PHOTOGRAPHY & LANDSCAPE CHANGE
Organizer: Ken Foote

Another session of interest:

WILDERNESS: HUMAN IMPACT AND PRESERVATION
Organizers: Kathy Hansen-Bristow (Montana State University) and David Cole (U.S. Forest Service)

** ** **

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please let us know when you change addresses; it will save us time and money, and help expedite delivery of your copy of the CEN. Send your address changes to:

Dr. Kent Mathewson
Department of Geography & Anthropology
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

RECENT PUBLICATIONS IN CULTURAL ECOLOGY


Thanks to Bill Denevan for the above items.

** ** **

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The Business Meeting of the CESG will take place on Tuesday, March 21st, either at 11:30 AM or 2:00 PM (the program committee has yet to decide). Please set those times aside.
RESEARCH GRANTS ON THE URBAN UNDERCLASS

Members of the CESG may be interested in a new program of the SSRC which supports (with funds from the Rockefeller Foundation) awards for research on the urban underclass. To cite a news release from SSRC: "The aim of the program is to encourage research on the structures and processes that generate, maintain, and overcome the conditions and consequences of persistent and concentrated urban poverty. The program is designed to develop and improve understanding of the urban underclass and to recruit and nurture a pool of talented and well-trained scholars who will continue to carry out research on this and related issues."

Undergraduate Research Assistantships support research done with faculty or advanced graduate students, can be individual or group based, and can carry stipends up to $4,000 plus research-related expenses up to $1,500.

Dissertation Fellowships provide support up to 18 months, at $1,000/month with an additional $4,000 for research expenses.

Postdoctoral Grants for one year of support carry a stipend up to $30,000 with an additional $7,500 for research related expenses.

Further details, including deadlines for application, can be obtained from:

Social Science Research Council Research on the Urban Underclass 605 Third Avenue New York, NY 10153

GIVING THANKS

Thanks to Nigel J. R. Allan, LSU, for his efforts to organize sessions with cultural ecological themes for the Baltimore meetings. Nigel is off to Nepal in December and will visit the Pamirs and Caucasus in the Soviet Union in 1989. We wish him well in his uphill travels.

Thanks to Bill Denevan, for the fine work he did as Chair of the CESG during the past two years. Guiding our specialty group through the task of preparing a chapter (the writing of which was done so ably by Karl Butzer) for the volume Geography in America took much skill, tact and persistence.

Lavish, effusive thanks to Bill Doolittle and Don Ballas for the work each in turn has done since Fall, 1980, to edit the Cultural Ecology Newsletter.

* * * * *

EVERY CESG MEMBER FLAT ON THE CANVASSED (INFORMATION REQUEST)

No news is bad news! At least that is the case when it comes to newsletters. Please send to Kent Mathewson, news of your doings (cultural-ecological), citations for outstanding articles, books, or dissertations in cultural ecology you have come across recently, the title of the paper you intend to present at the Toronto meeting, great quotes you have come across, research opportunities that have come to your attention, and so forth. Your help will make the Newsletter useful and fun to read.
JOBS FOR CULTURAL ECOLOGISTS

The CEGS agreed to splurge $15.00 of our budget to help support a job database for geographers, an experiment of the AAG Central Office, in conjunction with TMS Systems, Inc., to develop and manage "a computerized job database to match geographers seeking employment with interested employers." The program has been described in recent issues of the AAG Newsletter, and will not be described here. Suffice it to say that one can be listed in the database for 12 months (for a fee ranging between $25 for student members to $110 for non-AAG members). Forms are available from the Central Office, and both Phil Porter and Kent Mathewson will maintain a supply, so you can write either of them directly.

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STUDENT PAPERS
IN CULTURAL ECOLOGY
AT BALTIMORE

A prize will be awarded at the Baltimore AAG meetings for the best paper presented in Cultural Ecology by a student. If you intend to present a paper, please mail an advance copy to the judging committee, which will be chaired by Michael Watts, UC-Berkeley. The award will be announced at the annual banquet. By having papers mailed in advance, those scheduled to be presented the day after the annual banquet can be considered. The deadline for submission of papers to Mike Watts is 1 March 1989.

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CULTURAL ECOLOGY NEWSLETTER

CULTURAL ECOLOGY AT THE AAG MEETING IN BALTIMORE

CESG BUSINESS MEETING

The CE Business Meeting is scheduled for 2:40-4:40 PM, Tuesday, March 21st. Our meeting is scheduled at the same time as the Cultural Speciality Group. There is a 5 percent overlap between the two groups. There is also a conflict with the Environmental Perception SG. We apologize if this inconveniences anyone, but the alternative was to move the meeting to Monday afternoon, where it would have conflicted with five area studies SGs (Latin America, Asia, Africa, etc.) as well as the Hazards SG and the Medical Geography SG.

If you have agenda items, please send them to Phil Porter, Department of Geography, Univ. of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455. One agenda item will be the question: How can we get younger members involved in CE activities? Please give this some thought. You might also give thought to organizing a session for the Toronto meetings and think of making the necessary phone calls to line up participants. It is not too early to begin planning for the 1990 meetings. If you have ideas on future sessions in cultural ecology beyond Toronto, please propose them at the meeting. I urge all to attend the meeting and make it an occasion for a good exchange of ideas on ways to make our speciality group an exciting and useful enterprise.

(continued on page 2)

CE SESSIONS AT BALTIMORE

The preliminary program lists the following sessions organized by members of the Cultural Ecology SG. See listings for details. Thanks to all who have participated in organizing these sessions.

3021 Hazards, Cultural Ecology, Climate Speciality Groups:
Global Environmental Change, Mon., 20 March, 7:40-9:20 AM

4061 CESG: Historical Approaches in Cultural Ecology, Tues.
21 March, 12:45-2:25 PM

5003 Cultural Ecology, Africa and Medical Speciality Groups:
Hunger in East Africa, Weds., 22 March, 9:35-11:15 AM.

Also of note: The Cultural Geography Speciality Group has a very interesting series of sessions planned throughout the meetings. Of special interest is

3091 Cultural Geography: Cultural Ecology (Regional Identities), organized by Susan Place, Mon., 3/20, 1:25-3:05 PM

Number 13, Winter-Spring 1989


Publication supported by the Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA. 70803

Editor: Kent Mathewson
STUDENT PAPERS IN CULT. ECOLOGY

This is a reminder that the ESG will present an award for best student/younger geographer paper at Baltimore. If you are interested in ensuring that your paper is considered, please be in touch with Mike Watts, Department of Geography, University of California, Berkeley.

Philip W. Porter
Chair, ESG
University of Minnesota

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EDITOR'S COMMENTS

This is my first issue as editor of the CEN. I am delighted to have been offered the opportunity to serve the ESG as treasurer and as editor of the Newsletter. Agreeably the treasurer's task is a simple one, given the sums and outlets for allocations involved (details next issue). At least for this issue, my job as editor has been made equally simple. Little material has been submitted. Therefore the questions of selection and editing are minimal. However, I would hope by the next issue you will help me make this communication more complex, less the work of one person, and altogether representative of what is after all one of the AAG's most diverse, challenging and dynamic speciality groups.

Please send news of your own activities and publications, of books and articles of note, of programs or research opportunities for both faculty and students.

I would like to second Phil Porter's suggestions in the last CEN (Number 12) concerning the conjoining or forging cross-disciplinary and cross-speciality group discussion with those who study the workings of environmental systems at a variety of scales on the one hand, and on the other, geographers (especially those affiliated with the Socialist SG) who conceptualize questions concerning the natural environment from political economic and/or critical perspectives.

To promote this multidirectional dialogue, the ESG might consider sponsoring a session at Toronto devoted to exploring the strengths and the limitations of cultural ecology in contributing to the growing popular and scientific debates over the global environmental crisis(es). And in a separate session (though possibly conjoined with the above?) the ESG might sponsor a joint session with the Socialist SG to explore themes of mutual interest. A topic with practical appeal would be one such as mentioned above, i.e. global environmental crisis. Or, a more theoretical intersection of shared concerns might engage the question of cultural ecology and its relationship to social theory. Along similar lines, but with the Cultural SG we might want to sponsor a joint session in which the question of cultural ecology's place within (?) cultural geography is considered. A new cultural geography is seemingly in the process of emerging. This is in part indicated by the belated formation of a speciality group devoted to cultural geography. The new cultural geography is perhaps as much concerned with theory as traditional cultural geography putatively is unconcerned with it. Whatever the case, it seems to me that
cultural ecology has always assumed a distinctive position in relation to the other "themes" within cultural geography through the explicit efforts of cultural ecologists to formulate theory as part of their study of society-nature or human-environment interactions. If this is so, then this distinction should offer common ground for an ongoing dialogue with members of the Cultural SG.

Kent Mathewson

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COMMENTARY BY MEMBERS

William E. Doolittle
Department of Geography
University of Texas - Austin

"Taking Care of Business"

A scholar who has distinguished himself by writing critically insightful pieces such as "Earnest and the Orphans: A Fable for the Instruction of Young Geographers" (Annals, Association of American Geographers 50:297-299 [1960]) is not a curmudgeon, but one whose perspective should be given much consideration. Accordingly, the points raised by Phil Porter in the most recent issue of the Cultural Ecology Newsletter (No. 12) are worth pondering personally and discussing openly. Although there is plenty of grist for our mills in Phil's column, I wish to comment here on only one -- the nature of our cooperation.

Phil argues that a major disadvantage of Speciality Groups is that scholars with common interests run the risk of talking among themselves, and not interacting enough with scholars who have different but related geographical concerns. I, too, feel this is a problem, but it is not our greatest and most immediate problem. After being involved intimately with the Cultural Ecology Speciality Group since its inception (indeed, I was even responsible for its conception), I feel that we suffer greatly because we ignore, do not talk or listen to, each other! Instead, we are a fragmented group made up of individuals who are not only interested in cultural ecology but are involved in a diversity of other topics. As evidence, I submit the findings reported in the Annals, Association of American Geographers 78:1-28 (1988) which shows that cultural ecology is on the fringe of the discipline because cultural ecologists have diverse and eclectic interests.

With the exception of the one held at the Phoenix AAG convention, I have attended every CESG business meeting. Each year I am amazed that less than five percent of the group's membership attends the very activity that should bring us all together. One year while serving as the group's chairperson, I even tried to attract participation by calling the business meeting an "open forum." This, too, failed. Members have repeatedly opted not to discuss our common interests and chart the course of our future activities. If we've done anything, it's the opposite.

Article III of the CESG Bylaws states, in part, that "...because it is composed of people with a variety of cultural ecological interests, [the Group] will promote activities on topics that range from prehistory to Third World development and from environmental to economic problems." This statement was written with the intent of being sufficiently broad to encompass a number of
different and specific activities. Since the group was founded, however, members have chosen to fission into other groups with related but specific goals. For example, since our founding in 1980 the Rural Development, Contemporary Agriculture and Rural Land Use, and Cultural Geography speciality groups have been founded by either current or former members of the Cultural Ecology Speciality Group. Why could the activities of these groups not have been held under the auspices of cultural ecology? Clearly there is no answer except one of specific identity.

To be sure, our group has co-sponsored many activities with these groups. But why co-sponsor? Why not be inclusive rather than exclusive? Quite simply, cultural ecologists are a diverse lot. We need not, however, use our diversity against ourselves. Rather than fragmenting our activities, we need to spend more time together and less time apart. Are the annual business meetings not the place to begin to do this? I think so, and encourage every member of the CESG to become more involved in this most basic aspect of our professional activities.

In his comments Phil invited "readers of this newsletter to speculate within these pages on what they think are important challenges and opportunities facing cultural ecologists." Here is my initial response. In addition to pleading for members to involve themselves more in group activities, especially the group's business meeting, I also beg for more dialogue to appear in this publication.

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NEWS FROM THE MEMBERS

Karl Zimmerer (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill) writes that cultural ecology continues to be well represented in the geography and anthropology departments there. Faculty members Melinda Meade, Karl Zimmerer, Carol Crumley, and Bruce Winterhalder offer a range of courses with cultural ecological emphases within the Geography and Anthropology Departments. Chapel Hill has long been noted as a center of research in human ecology, but primarily within its programs in sociology and demography. Recently, interest in cultural ecology has increased.

Prospects for cultural ecological work through the Latin American studies program with new support from the Tinker Foundation appear to be especially promising.

Nigel J.R. Allan (L.S.U., Baton Rouge) has been joined by Kent Mathewson, who was at U.N.C.-Chapel Hill for two years before moving farther south. Nigel continues to travel far afield taking the high roads. He plans to be in Nepal in March and in the late spring will be traveling to the Soviet Union for work in the Pamirs. His book (co-edited with Greg Knapp, U.T.-Austin) Human Impact on Mountains was published last fall (see NEW PUBLICATIONS NOTED).

Donald E. Vermeer has moved in the past year from L.S.U. to become the new Chair of Geography at George Washington Univ. in Washington, D.C. Among the new appointments at G.W.U. is Martin W. Lewis with a recent geography Ph.D. from U.C.-Berkeley. Martin's work has included studying subsistence farming and commercial agriculture in Northern Luzon.
RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY
AT NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

Dr. Harry Tsutusi, Chair of Geography at N.A.U. extends an invitation to CESG members to apply for the Museum of Northern Arizona/N.A.U. Scholar-in-Residence Program which provides about a $10,000 stipend plus housing and utilities. He suggests that it would be a good source of supplemental support for someone planning a sabbatical and who has interests in the Colorado Plateau. The research topic should be of interest or benefit to the museum. Previous scholars have come primarily from archaeology, biology, and geology. For more information, please write Prof. Tsutusi at N.A.U., Box 15016, Flagstaff, AZ 86011.

BITNET ANYONE?

Phil Porter recently responded to a questionnaire from Lawrence T. Lewis, chair of the Microcomputer Speciality Group, on behalf of the CESG as to use by our members of BITNET or other electronic mail systems. He could find only two members on a directory prepared by David M. Mark of the University of Buffalo: Jeanne Kay, Univ. of Utah and co-editor of The Professional Geographer and Greg Knight, Penn. State Univ. has just started using BITNET in December. He would like to take the liberty of giving the BITNET mailing addresses of Jeanne, Greg and himself. If other users are members, he would like to know, as he finds BITNET a very convenient and inexpensive way to be in touch with colleagues.

J. Kay PAKAY@UTAHCCA.BITNET
G. Knight CKK@PSUV.M.BITNET
P. Porter PORTER@UMNACVX.BITNET

NEW PUBLICATIONS NOTED


END NOTES: DID YOU SEE?

Last fall the N.Y. Times ran a feature story on recent efforts to rehabilitate ancient raised fields in the Lake Titicaca Basin of Peru. W.M. Denovan was correctly named as one of the discoverers of the fields, but then identified as "an archaeologist" at U.W. Madison. Plus ça change...

More enigmatically, a report (J. Hist. Geog. 14, 4 p 411) on the 87 "E.T." conference at Clark U. gives kudos to co-host "Brian L. Turner, III" !?
Information provided below may be included in the next issue of the CULTURAL ECOLOGY NEWSLETTER. Anyone willing to participate, organize, or serve will be contacted by the Group Chairperson. (Please send on separate sheet of paper)

Name, Address, and Phone:

Are you preparing a paper for the Toronto meeting that could be included in a Group-sponsored session? Title:

Are you organizing a session or other activity that could sponsored by the CESG? (We can arrange for paying fees for invited non-members.) Title: Participants:

1. Please provide a brief description of current research; titles of recent publications; meetings attended; changes in employment or mailing address.

2. Please suggest references of recent books, articles, theses, and dissertations that would be of interest to the readership.

3. Please suggest news of upcoming meetings, conferences, courses, etc. that would be of interest to CESG members.

Department of Geography and Anthropology
227 Old Geology Building
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-4105

Address Correction Requested
CULTURAL ECOLOGY NEWSLETTER

Number 14, Summer 1989

CULTURAL ECOLOGY AT THE AAG MEETINGS IN TORONTO

A GENERAL INVITATION

If you wish to organize a session under the sponsorship of the Cultural Ecology Speciality Group for the AAG Toronto meetings, please do so. Please inform Kent Mathewson or Phil Porter of your plans. The deadline for submission of all materials to the Central Office of the AAG is 22 September 1989. Details and forms are provided in the May 1989 AAG Newsletter.

CESG SESSIONS AT TORONTO

Planning for the following session has been completed.

"Human Ecology of Global Warming" (two sessions): "Theory and Concepts" and "Policy and Response"
Peter Morrisette (INCAR) and William Riebsame, Dept. of Geography, Univ. of Colorado, Boulder, CO. 80309.

The following sessions are in process of being organized. If you are interested in participating please be in touch with the organizer as soon as possible.

"Macro-scale Geographical Issues for Native Americans"
Co-sponsored with the Native American Speciality Group. Organizer: Martha Henderson, Dept. of Geography, Univ. of Minn.-Duluth, Duluth, MN 55812. (218) 726-6300.


CEN is produced, distributed, and funded by the Department of Geography and Anthropology, LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70803

Editor: Kent Mathewson

"Gradus ad Nososphere, Steps in a Journey Toward Nature/Society Theory"

"Human Modification of the Soil Environment"
Co-sponsored with the Geomorphology Speciality Group. Organizer: Nicholas Dunning, Dept. of Geography, Univ. of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 625-6080.

"Articulation of Modes of Production and Cultural Ecology"
Co-sponsored by the Socialist Geography Speciality Group. Organizer: Michael Watts, Dept. of Geography, Univ. of Calif.-Berkeley, Berkeley, CA 94720. (415) 642-3903. For more information see page 2.

* * * * * *
FROM THE CHAIR

CESG - SSG SESSION

One approach to explaining the existence of underdevelopment in a country is that of the articulation of modes of production, which involves the penetration of capitalist and class relations into relatively autonomous social formations. Cultural ecology has often taken for its theme a similar task of trying to describe and account for the relationships between human populations and their use of environment. Cultural ecology is sometimes criticized for ignoring external relations; Marxist-derived accounts are sometimes criticized for ignoring or misconstruing internal relations, dynamics, and environmental aspects of development. It would seem that there is a basis discussion of differing approaches.

There are still other themes and contributors. Ester Boserup on agricultural growth and technological change also is, at its base, concerned with modes of production, labor mobilization, and social institutions which control them. Still another body of work, associated with Goran Hyden and James Scott, concerns the economy of affection, which refers to a set of reciprocal and obligatory social and economic relations within a lineage-based or kin-based society. Here we are commonly dealing much more with social groups organized according to patriarchal and gerontocratic principles. Capitalist relations might therefore pose a threat to these principles, al-

though in practice they are often simply coopted or appropriated by the advantaged patriarchal and gerontocratic groups.

The purpose of a session at the Toronto AAG meetings is to explore the above described approaches to understanding peoples and environments, and within the context of social theory to see if a convergence or new synthesis is emerging for geographical research.

TO CESG STUDENT MEMBERS:

For some years the CESG has awarded, or has tried but not succeeded in awarding, a prize for the best paper in cultural ecology presented by a student at the Annual Meetings of the AAG. Although we advertised the "competition" for the Baltimore meetings in the CEN, we had no timely submissions. Thus I have taken a more direct approach by writing you individually. If for some reason you haven't received my letter, the following recapitulates the details.

How to enter:

1. Arrange to present a paper at the 1990 AAG meetings in Toronto. The deadline for submission of abstracts is 22 September 1989. See AAG Newsletter for May 1989 for details.

2. Send one copy of your full paper to each member of the CESG Awards Committee by 1 March 1990. The manuscript should use Annals or PG mat and not exceed 25 pages of typewritten, double-double-spaced text.
The chair of the CESG Awards Committee is Mike Watts, Dept. of Geography, Univ. of Calif., Berkeley, CA 94720. The other members are Melinda Meade, Dept. of Geography, Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27214, and Susan Woodward, Dept. of Geography, Radford University, Radford, VA 24142.

Competition is open to all students and to former students who have become regular members of the AAG within the last year or two.

Philip W. Porter, Chair CESG

* * * * *

OPTIONAL DUES:

At the Cultural Ecology Speciality Group business meeting in Baltimore we agreed that we would assess our own dues, rather than pay the AAG Central Office to administer them, and that we would make dues entirely voluntary. A suggested schedule is:

- $10.00 Professor or Business Equivalent
- 7.50 Associate Prof.
- 5.00 Assistant Prof.
- Gratis Student

Please make check payable to Kent Mathewson and send it to him c/o Department of Geography and Anthropology, L.S.U. Baton Rouge, LA 70803.

Dues will go to support Student Awards, the Newsletter, and help in travel costs of special participants in sessions organized by the Cultural Ecology Speciality Group at annual meetings.

* * * * *

EXCERPTS FROM THE CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT TO THE AAG

I. Officers (two year terms)

Chair: Phil Porter, U.M. - Minn.
Regional Councilors:
Eastern - Nigel Allan, L.S.U.
Central - William Woods, S.I.U. - Edwardsville
Western - Mike Watts, U.C. - B.

Secretary-Treasurer & CEN Editor: Kent Mathewson, LSU

II. Past Year's Accomplishments

A. CE Sessions at Baltimore (*organ. ** ch. *** disc.)

1. "Global Environmental Change" co-sponsored with Hazards & Climate Speciality Groups, J.K. Mitchell (Rutgers) * **
   R.W. Kates (Brown)
   B.L. Turner, II (Clark)
   J.R. Mather (Delaware)
   J.A. Gritzner (W.R.I.)
   W.E. Easterling (R.F.)

2. "Historical Approaches in Cultural Ecology"
   K. Zimmerer (U.N.C.) * **
   K. Mathewson (L.S.U.)
   S.F. Stevens (U.C. - Berk.)
   M. Lewis (Geo. Wash. Univ.)

3. "Hunger in East Africa" co-sponsored with Africa and Medical Geography S.G.'s
   T. Downing (N.C.A.R.) *
   S. Wamzali (IPPR) **
   R.W. Kates (Brown Univ.)
   M. Little (U.W. - Madison)
   F.E. Bernard (Ohio Univ.)
   B. Wisner (Hampshire C.) ***

4. "Photography and Landscape Change," co-sponsored with Cultural Geography S.G.
   K.E. Foote (U. Texas) * **
   T. Jablonsky (U.S.C.)
   T. Vale (U.W. - Madison)
   B. Wallach (U. Okla) ***
B. Cultural Ecology Chapter for Geography in America

Karl W. Butzer authored the chapter on cultural ecology for the volume Geography in America edited by G. Gaile and C. Wilmott and to be published by C. E. Merrill later this year.

C. Plenary Session at 1988 AAG Phoenix Meeting


V. Membership

There were 220 members on the CESG mailing list in fall of 1988, although there were only 159 reported on the membership list, Jan. 1989. The difference probably has to do with when members pay their annual dues. [Members are urged to pay their AAG dues in Nov. or Dec. to ensure that CESG receives the largest possible head count for the per member rebate that is allocated to each specialty group at the beginning of the new year.]

VI. Financial Report

A. For period 6 April 1988 to 31 May 1989

Balance: $173.95 as of 4/5/89 (transferred to K.M. 11/20/88)

Income:
15.00 (contrib. P.W.P)
5.00 ( " John Rees)
141.30 AAG rebate, 2/89

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335.30

Expenses:
15.00 Geog. Job Database at AAG
50.00 Mailing labels, AAG Cen. Office

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65.00

Balance:
270.30 5/31/89

Note: Production and bulk mailing costs of CEN (Nos. 13,14) were borne by the Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State University.

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

Joseph Hobbs (Geography Dept., Univ. of Missouri) is currently (5/89 - 12/89) in the Sinai Peninsula of Egypt studying the resource management practices of the Gebelia Bedouins. He hopes to determine how the traditional environmental knowledge and practices of the Gebelia might be incorporated in planning for a national park to be established near Saint Catherine's Monastery. His field address is: c/o American Research Center in Egypt, 2 Midan Kasr el-Doubara, Garden City, Cairo, Egypt.

William Noble, also in the Geog. Dept. at U.M.-Columbia, sends word of the 11th International Conference of the International Assoc. for the Study of People in their Physical Surroundings, Ankara, Turkey, 8-12 July, 1990.
INFORMATION REQUEST FORM

Cultural Ecology Speciality Group, AAG

Please complete any or all portions of this form and return it to:

Kent Mathewson, Editor CEN
Department of Geography and Anthropology
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

Name, address, and phone:

Are you preparing a paper for the Toronto AAG meeting that could be included in a Cultural Ecology session?
Title:

Are you organizing a session, workshop, or other activity for Toronto that could be sponsored by the CESG?
Title:

Current research, recent publications, recent grants, field work:

Recent honors, awards, speeches/papers, new titles and/or employment positions, etc:

Suggested books, articles, theses, dissertations, and other publications for listing in the CEN:

Field or other address for the next six months if NOT your "regular" mailing address:
Cultural Ecology Newsletter
Cultural Ecology Specialty Group
Association of American Geographers

Number 15, Fall 1989

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

CESG SESSIONS AT TORONTO AAG

Summary of sessions:

1) Crisis Zones and Global Environmental Change
Organizers: B.L. Turner and Roger Kasperson
Address: Graduate School of Geography, Clark University, Worcester, MA 01610-1477.
(508) 793-7336
Other SGs involved: Hazards, Historical, Energy and Environment, Water Resources

2) Gradus ad Noosphere: Steps in a Journey Toward Nature/Society Theory
Organizer: Cindi Katz
Address: Environmental Psychology, Box 295, The Graduate School and University Center,
City University of New York, 33 W. 42nd Street, New York, NY 10036-8099 (212) 642-2575
Other SGs involved: (Research Career Seminar)

3) Human Modification of the Soil Environment
Organizer: Nicholas Dunning
Address: Dept. of Geography, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455
(612) 625-6050
Other SGs involved: Geomorphology

4) Recent Research on North American Native Populations: Observations on Canadian and U.S. Experience at the Macro-Scale
Organizer: Martha Henderson
Address: Dept. of Geography, University of Minnesota-Duluth, Duluth, MN 55812
(218) 726-6300
Other SGs involved: Native American

5) Sharing without Melting: Can Encapsulated Societies Survive? Lessons from Native American Experiences
Organizer: John Weiner
Address: Dept. of Geography, Campus Box 260, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309
(303) 492-8311; 444-0580

6) The Human Ecology of Global Warming
Organizer: Peter Morriseau
Address: Environmental and Societal Impacts, National Center for Atmospheric Research, P.O. Box 3000, Boulder, CO 80307-3000
(303) 497-3000
Other SGs involved: Hazards

7) Ecopolitical Economy of Underdevelopment
Organizer: Lakshman Yapa (Penn State) and Ben Wisner (Hampshire College)
Address: Dept. of Geography, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802
LY (814) 865-3433; EW (413) 549-4606 ext. 624

8) Geographic Research at the International Agricultural Research Centers
Organizer: Abe Goldman
Address: Dept. of Geography, 3141 Tulington Hall, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611
(904) 392-0494

9) Ecology, Culture and Economy in the Central Andes
Organizer: Karl Zimmerer
Address: Dept. of Geography, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599 (919) 962-8901
Other SGs involved: Latin American

What's Inside

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Cultural Ecology Newsletter
Number 15, Fall 1989

Kent Mathewson, Editor
Robert Kuhlen, Assoc. Editor

Publication supported by the Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State University. Baton Rouge, LA 70803
**Editor's Notes**

In the next two years, several meetings are scheduled for the Lower South region that should be of interest to cultural ecologists. A number of CESP members are already planning to participate. Other CESP members are encouraged to mark their calendars and attend these meetings.

**SYMPOSIUM AT LSU: "CULTURE, FORM, AND PLACE"**

February 23-24, 1990 the Department of Geography and Anthropology will host a symposium honoring sixty years of cultural and historical geography at LSU. The LSU geography program was begun in 1928 with the arrival of the Berkeley geomorphologist R.J. Russell. The next year Fred B. Kniffen, student of Carl Sauer and Alfred Kroeber, arrived from Berkeley to teach cultural geography and anthropology. Professor Kniffen will celebrate his ninetieth birthday on January 15th, 1990. The joint department of geography and anthropology was further strengthened in 1948 with the addition of Robert West, also a Sauer-Berkeley student. Thus the occasion also honors West’s forty plus years at LSU. Secondarily, the celebration marks the fiftieth anniversary of Carl Sauer’s 1940 presidential address to the AAG, “Forward to Historical Geography,” which was delivered on the LSU campus. While never explicitly committed to cultural ecology as such, over the years the department’s orientation and research has demonstrated considerable affinity for the kind of work done by cultural ecologists.

The centerpiece of the celebration will be a series of papers presented by distinguished invited speakers and by departmental alumni. Several CESP members are on the program including Karl Butzer and Bill Turner, and LSU alumni Martha Works, Clifton “Skeeter” Dixon, and Jim Blaut. Also planned are a banquet, a crawfish boil, and an excursion to a “traditional” Cajun Mardi Gras celebration on Sunday.

All CESP members are cordially invited to attend. For more information please contact Kent Mathewson, Department of Geography and Anthropology, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. (504) 388-6073.

**20TH ANNUAL MEETING OF CLAG**

The Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers (CLAG) will hold its 20th annual meeting October 24-27, 1990 at Auburn University, Auburn, AL. Like its first meeting in 1970 and its tenth anniversary in 1980, the 1990 conference will emphasize “inventory and prospect” sessions. Selected speakers will review trends in their areas over the past ten years and offer recommendations for future research. Of the nine special sessions planned, five will be chaired by CESP members! They are: David Clawson, “Ecology and Natural Resources and Conservation”; Bill Denevan, “Aboriginal and Peasant Cultures”; David Hill, “Teaching Latin America”; Greg Knapp, “Regional and Economic Development”; and Connie Weil, “Social and Humanistic Geography.” CESP members are also well represented among those presenting papers within these sessions and others.

Anyone who wishes to present a paper on a Latin Americanist theme in one of the six volunteered sessions may do so. Please contact Tom L. Martinson, CLAG, Department of Geography, Auburn University, Auburn, AL 36849 for more information.

**1991 AAG MEETINGS IN MIAMI**

It is not too soon to begin thinking about the AAG meetings in Miami. Lester Rowntree, Chair of the newly organized Cultural Geography Specialty Group and CESP member, is interested in organizing one or more joint sessions of the CGS and CESP exploring the current intersections and divergences within cultural geography and cultural ecology. One focus might be on theory and method. He also proposes that one or more anthropologists and/or archaeologists be invited to participate. The 1981 AAG meetings in Los Angeles featured two well organized and productive sessions along these lines. The first, organized by Bill Doolittle under the auspices of the newly formed CESP was on “Philosophy and Methodology of Cultural Ecology.” This was the first session at an AAG meeting organized by the CESP. Papers were presented by Greg Knight. Ben Wisner and Margaret FitzSimmons. Discussants were Bill Turner, Michael Watts, and Doug Johnson.

The second session was the special session on cultural adaptation organized by Karl Butzer which included papers by Butzer, Bill Denevan and Bill Turner, and archeologist Patrick Kirch. Anthropologist Donald Hardesty served as discussant. Symbolically, the Miami meetings would be the fitting place to take stock and review the past decade’s development of cultural ecology in geography as well as in its “sister” discipline of anthropology. It also might be the time and place to consider present and future developments.

Recent trends within archaeology have interesting parallels with the relationship between cultural ecology and cultural geography that could be explored. Just as the “New Archeology” developed in part as a critique of traditionalist archaeology, so cultural ecology emerged within geography in part as a critique of traditionalist cultural geography. The current critique of the “New Archeology” has taken on various names, including “post-processual” approaches. What seems to be emerging as key foci within the “New Cultural Geography” would suggest potential critiques of cultural ecology, and parallels with the post-processual approach(es) in current archaeology.

If you are interested in participating in a session (or sessions) addressing these or similar
issues, please contact Lester Rowntree, Chair, Cultural Geography Specialty Group, Dept. of Geography, School of Social Sciences, San Jose State University, San Jose, CA 95192-0116 (408) 277-3463, or you can contact me here at LSU.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICANISTS

The 47th International Congress of Americanists will be held in New Orleans, July 7-11, 1991. Cultural ecologists in general and CESG members in particular have been avid participants in past ICA meetings. The same can not be said for geographers as a whole. This is the first ICA to be held in the U.S. in a number of years. It would seem to be a good chance for geographers of disparate interests to participate in this broadly international forum. Any CESG member interested in proposing a symposium on a specific topic for consideration by the Executive Committee should, by April 1, 1990, write to:

Secretariado ICA 1991
Roger Thayer Stone Center for Latin American Studies
Tulane University
New Orleans, LA 70118-5698

Any CESG member interested in presenting a paper in a special memorial session on Andean Cultural Ecology in honor of John M. Treacy, should contact me or Greg Knapp, Department of Geography, University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712.

CALL FOR INPUT

Due to increased interest in cultural-ecological approaches on the part of geographers in general, and particularly by graduate students and faculty here at LSU, it is anticipated that the CE Newsletter will be expanding its format. Short research notes, commentaries, and book reviews are welcome submissions. Assuming an adequate and enthusiastic response, there is also the possibility of maintaining a quarterly publication schedule. ’Nuff said.

News from Members

Larry Grossman (Virginia Tech, Blacksburg) writes that he has just finished field research in the Caribbean on St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Topics of investigation include: history of Windward Islands banana industry; impact of peasant banana farming on agricultural change, dietary patterns, and social relations of production; and current patterns of pesticide use. Research was funded by NSF and NGS and was conducted from 7/88 to 8/89.

Dale Lightfoot (Boulder, Colorado) will be presenting a paper at Toronto entitled “Prehistoric Pebble-mulched Fields of the Galisteo Anasazi: An Agricultural Adaptation to Environment”. Fieldwork for this paper was conducted in the Galisteo Basin south of Santa Fe during August and September of this year. Dale gave a paper at the AAG Regional meeting in Ogden last month entitled “A Locational Analysis of Prehistoric Dwellings in the Chimney Rock Archaeological Area: Settlement Geography of a Chacoan Outlier”. Continuing research interests include prehistoric human-land interaction and current applications of prehistoric agricultural strategies.


Bill Doolittle (University of Texas, Austin) is the author of a chapter entitled “Arroyos and the Development of Agriculture in Northern Mexico” in Fragile Lands of Latin America: The Search for Sustainable Uses. John O. Browder (ed.). Boulder: Westview Press 1989. Also appearing in the DESFIL Newsletter (3.2.3) is Bill’s article “Subversion of Logic and Abandonment of Chinampa Agriculture”. This year’s CLAG meetings provided opportunity for getting in some field time surveying Aztec aqueducts in the Basin of Mexico.

Stephen C. Jett (University of California, Davis) is currently conducting research on the nature and history of Navajo agriculture, trails, place names, and sacred places.

William Withington (University of Kentucky, Lexington) reports on receiving the accolade of “Kentucky Colonel” upon his retirement at the Ellen Churchill Semple Dinner last April. He continues his long standing interest in the cultural geography and economic development of Indonesia with an offering at the upcoming Toronto AAG meetings.

In Memoriam

Dr. John M. Treacy, CESG member and Visiting Assistant Professor of Geography at George Washington University, died October 23 in Washington, D.C. of a meningitis infection. He and his wife, Blenda Femenias, a specialist in Andean textiles and a Ph.D. candidate in anthropology at UW-Madison had spent July and August in highland Ecuador and Peru. John had recently completed his Ph.D. at UW-Madison under William M. Denevan. John was a key member of the Colca Valley Terrace Project (1984-1986), an interdisciplinary team headed by Denevan that studied the causes of terrace abandonment in southern Peru. His dissertation, "The Fields of Coporaque: Agricultural Terracing and Water Management in the Colca Valley, Arequipa, Peru," was based on work begun under the auspices of the project.

Like many of us, John came to geography and specifically to cultural ecology with previous training and interests outside of these fields. His undergraduate degree (BSFS '70) was in Foreign Service from Georgetown University. And like some of us, John had purposefully punctuated his schooling with stints of travel, work and non-academic experience. For John these included two years with the Peace Corps in Peru, and later owning and operating the bar/restaurant El Retablillo in Cuzco in the mid-1970's. El Retablillo became a popular way station for Andeanists of all interests, but especially for anthropologists and archaeologists.

Treacy returned to the U.S. in 1978 and shortly thereafter enrolled in the Ibero-American Studies M.A. program at Madison. His interest in geography was sparked through two summers (1979-80) working with the Samborondon Project, a UW-Madison Geography and Anthropology survey of ancient raised fields and cultural persistence in the Guayas wetlands of coastal Ecuador. John subsequently entered the Ph.D. program in geography. Before embarking on his dissertation work with the Colca Project, John managed to squeeze in a six month field season in eastern Peru studying the swidden agroforestry system of the Bora, as part of the UW-Madison project on Bora agroforestry directed by Denevan.

By all accounts, in all of these projects, John Treacy was an exemplary field worker for whom the goals of the common good always came first. As the bibliography below indicates, Treacy left us with a valued written record of his contributions in his brief career as geographer and cultural ecologist. What this record unfortunately does not indicate is his selfless and extensive efforts at helping with numerous translations of documents, collecting botanical specimens, and putting people working on Andean topics in touch with one another. In everyday field situations John used his considerable skills in local languages and "small-scale" diplomacy to make the tasks at hand less burdensome for his co-investigators, and at the same time less intrusive and more comprehensible for the local people being prevailed upon.

For those who knew him, it is on these last terrains that "Juanito" will remain indelibly.

El Maestro.

Publications by John M. Treacy

1982  "Bora Indian Agroforestry" Cultural Survival Quarterly Vol. 6 no. 2, pp. 15-16.


STUDENT PAPERS: A REMINDER

The AAG Meeting will be in Toronto 19-22 April 1990. All students presenting a paper with a cultural-ecological theme are strongly encouraged to submit it for the Cultural Ecology Student Paper award, which includes a cash prize. The chair of the CESG Awards Committee is Mike Watts, Department of Geography, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720. The other members are Melinda Meade, Department of Geography, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; and Susan Woodward, Department of Geography, Radford University, Radford, VA 24142.

Some of you may have recently shed the status of "student member" of the AAG. In that case, congratulations. Nonetheless, the CESG has adopted the practice of considering papers from former student members for a year or two after their change in status. If you fit that description, you are still cordially invited to participate.

How to enter: Submit one copy of your full paper to each member of the CESG Awards Committee by 1 March 1990. The manuscript should use Apna's or PC format and not exceed 25 pages of typewritten, double-spaced text.

Financial Report

As of November 1, the CESG has $361.83 in its account. We thank the following members for contributing voluntary dues (based on the agreed upon scale: $10.00 Professor or Business Equivalent; $7.50 Assoc. Professor; $5.00 Asst. Professor;Gratis student):Bill Denevan, Phil Porter, Barbara Freddrich, Bill Doolittle, Kent Mathewson. In that we have in the neighborhood of 200 members (and students are in the minority), we have considerable room for more volunteers.

Request for Information

CESG membership update:

1. Current research, recent publications, recent grants, fieldwork:

2. Recent honors, awards, speeches, papers, new titles and/or employment positions, etc.: 

3. Suggested books, articles, theses, dissertations, or other publications for listing in the CE Newsletter:

4. Field or other address for the next six months if different from regular mailing address:
CESG BUSINESS MEETING

The Cultural Ecology Specialty Group business meeting was held during the AAG meeting in Toronto, on April 20, 1990. There were thirty-four members present. The first order of business was the election of new officers. The current slate of officers, whose term expires June 30, 1990, are as follows:

**Chair:** Philip W. Porter, Department of Geography, University of Minnesota.

**Eastern Regional Councilor:** Nigel Allan, Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State University.

**Central Regional Councilor:** William Woods, Department of Geography and Earth Science, Southern Illinois University.

**Western Regional Councilor:** Michael Watts, Department of Geography, University of California, Berkeley.

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Kent Mathewson, Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State University.

New officers were elected for a two year term, to serve from July 1, 1990 to June 30, 1992. They are as follows:

**Chair:** Cindi R. Katz, Environmental Psychology Program, Graduate School and University Center, City University of New York, 33 W. 42nd Street, New York, NY 10036-8099.

**Eastern Regional Councilor:** Dianne E. Rocheleau, Graduate School of Geography, Clark University, Worcester, MA 01610.

**Central Regional Councilor:** Thomas J. Bassett, Department of Geography, University of Illinois, 607 S. Mathews Avenue, Urbana, IL 61801.

**Western Regional Councilor:** Nigel Allan, Department of Geography, University of California, Davis, CA 95616.

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Kent Mathewson, Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803.

Among items discussed at the business meeting was at least one topic that promises to foster debate. Bill Turner proposed that we consider changing the name of the specialty group from Cultural Ecology to Cultural/Political Ecology. The purpose of such a change would be to encourage members of the AAG who have ecological interests, but who incorporate aspects of political economy and social theory into their research, to join our specialty group. A discussion then followed concerning such a name change. Tom Bassett volunteered that he prefers the term Political Ecology, and Greg Knapp suggested not using a slash, but rather the name “Cultural and Political Ecology”. Bill Denevan felt that a notice should be placed in the newsletter to generate input and response from the membership at large. Karl Butzer offered the observation that rather than trying to reflect current trends, we need to be as inclusive as possible. He pointed out that the term cultural ecology has a generic and neutral meaning that best serves this end. Larry Grossman wondered if some people might be further inhibited by such a name change. Phil Porter concluded that this issue should be kept on the table, with an open invitation for further discussion. Options discussed included debate on the topic via the newsletter, followed by a mail-in ballot representing the entire membership of the CESG. Another idea may be to hold a forum devoted to the issue at the Miami AAG meeting.
Baton Rouge

Recently the Department of Geography and Anthropology at LSU hosted a three-day symposium on "Culture, Form, and Place." Officially billed as a celebration of sixty years of cultural and historical geography at LSU, it was less formally designed as a "Kniffen/West Fest" in honor of the long tenures of Sauer students Fred Kniffen and Robert West at LSU. Kniffen arrived at LSU in 1928 after working with Alfred Kroeber and Carl Sauer at Berkeley on the ethnography of California Indians and Northern Mexican landscapes. This early work touched on themes that Julian Steward would later elaborate and redirect with strong ecological foicers and theoretical groundings. In Louisiana, Kniffen turned his attention to local topics, especially folk housing and material culture studies. Kniffen at 90 continues his research, writing, and publishing. West arrived at LSU twenty years later with similar training. West has continued his extensive research on Latin American topics. Many aspects of his field work and writings have served as substrata for subsequent work by cultural ecologists.

Among the two dozen papers presented, a number (several by CESG members) had cultural ecological orientations. Karl Butzer spoke on Spanish colonial settlement of the Mexican Bajio. Bill Turner reviewed recent work on ancient Maya agricultural landforms. Terry Jordan presented his recent work on Amerindian contributions to the formation of southern U.S. regionalism. Bob Neuman (LSU) discussed the presence of bison in prehistoric Southern landscapes. Clifton Dixon described agricultural adaptations of Italian colonists in Costa Rica. Martha Wicks analyzed long-distance trade patterns in colonial New Mexico. Jim Blaut delivered a fitting summary to the symposium, reflecting on "Mind and Matter in Cultural Geography." A volume of papers presented at the symposium is planned for publication in the Geoscience and Man series in early '91.

Austin

A conference on "The Cultural Map of Spanish America: Data and Methods" organized by Greg Knapp and hosted by the Geography Department and the Institute for Latin American Studies at the Univ. of Texas, was held March 23. All of the papers presented (eight) engaged cultural ecological issues to varying degrees. Peter Herlihy's paper dealt with mapping the Embera Indian comarca (autonomous area) in Panama. Greg Knapp considered the potential and problems using linguistic data from Andean censuses to map potential ethnic territories. Richard N. Adams (Texas) covered similar ground for Guatemala. Kent Mathewson argued for more research on multi-racial tropical riverine peoples as ecologically constituted ethnic peoples. Karl Butzer described and analyzed the historical ecological processes whereby Spanish regionalism was transferred and simplified in the Americas. George Lovell et al (Queens), Bill Davidson (LSU), and Bruce Mannheim (Michgan) presented papers on their historical work involving cultural mapping in Guatemala, Honduras, and Peru respectively.
Notes from the Chair

Cultural Ecology, A Change of Name?

The issue about a name change for the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group is not a trivial one. There are, it seems to me, two crucial components to the matter.

One is that the community of interests and esprit we already have and which have been so well developed by Bill Doolittle, Bill Denevan, Karl Butzer, Kent Mathewson and others over the years must not be damaged or lost. As Karl noted to me, since the appearance of his chapter on Cultural Ecology in Geography in America, the number of AAG members choosing Cultural Ecology Specialty Group membership when paying annual dues has grown considerably, some 23 percent this past year. I place this as the most important consideration and feel that we need to get a clear reading on members' views on this matter. If a name change were to drive away current members, I would view that with considerable alarm. After all, the whole purpose of specialty groups is to promote cooperation and exchange of ideas.

The second component has to do with an important development in ecological thought within geography, termed political ecology by some. Political ecology, a term already widely recognized among anthropologists, incorporates the wider influences that condition cultural ecological study, namely connections that cross ecological boundaries and that link local areas and systems to wider influences. Some of the most promising young geographers who take a cultural ecological approach, incorporate a wider political economy dimension in their research. Few of these geographers currently belong to the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group. There is much to be gained by the intellectual discussion we could hold together, and much to be lost if these geographers feel that they must operate separately and perhaps even organize an alternative specialty group.

Bill Turner raised the matter for discussion at the business meeting of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group, 20 April 1990. There was considerable discussion, much pro and little con, although the circumstances probably were not conducive to consideration of negative aspects. A "straw poll" gave about 24 pro-change, 5 against change, and perhaps 5 abstentions. For myself, I would be content to keep the name of the specialty group the same, if it were absolutely clear to the AAG membership that it welcomes geographers whatever their particular way of doing ecological research. It may be that the discussion which flows from our business meeting, if reported widely enough in our newsletter and in the AAG Newsletter, will make it sufficiently known that the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group welcomes those whose ecological research incorporates viewpoints and explanatory variables which historically have not been commonly used in cultural ecological research (and which, indeed, for some kinds of research are not appropriate).

-- Phil Porter

News from Members


Tom Downing (University of Birmingham) is compiling a bibliography on African famine and flood systems. He now has over 1000 references in geography and anthropology, and would appreciate additional copies or reprints on this topic: School of Geography, University of Birmingham, Birmingham B15 2TT, UK.

Nigel Allan (Louisiana State University) has recently published an article "Kashgar to Islamabad: the impact of the Karakorum Highway on mountain society and habitat" Scottish Geographical Magazine 105(3):130-141. He is also busy editing a compilation with the working title When Three Empires Meet: Hindukush, Karakorum, and Himalayan Societies in Transition.

Simon Carter (Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical) would like to hear from development practitioners interested in participating in a session at Miami entitled "Combining cultural ecology and political ecology for development projects". Write him at CIAT, Apartado Aereo 6713, Cali, Colombia.

Student Paper Awards

There were two winners in the annual competition for the best student paper in cultural ecology this year: Thomas M. Whitmore, Clark University; and Karl Zimmerer, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Each winner received an award of $100. The title of Whitmore's paper is "Dynamic Systems Modeling in Cultural Ecology", and Zimmerer's paper is entitled "Common Field Agriculture in the Central Andes: Struggles Over Production, Space, and Ecology in the 16th and 20th Centuries." Congratulations!

Financial Report

As of May 10, the CESG has $301.16 in its account. We thank the six members who paid voluntary dues in the past year (based on the agreed upon scale: $10.00 Professor or Business Equivalent; $7.50 Assoc. Professor; $5.00 Asst. Professor; Gratis, student). Since this is less than five percent of the CESG membership, we hope this number will increase considerably during the year ahead.
Request for Information
CESG membership update:

1. Current research, recent publications, recent grants, fieldwork:

2. Recent honors, awards, speeches, papers, new titles and/or employment positions, etc.:

3. Suggested books, articles, theses, dissertations, or other publications for listing in the CE Newsletter:

4. Field or other address for the next six months if different from regular mailing address:

Department of Geography and Anthropology
227 Old Geology Building
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-4105

Address Correction Requested
As raised in the CESG business meeting at Toronto and reviewed in the spring issue of the newsletter, the question of a name change for this speciality group continues to generate debate. In correspondence and conversations with members over the summer and during the fall, I sense that some individuals who were initially willing to consider (or were even advocating) a name change have moved away from their earlier support of a change. Others, who were never in favor of a change, have expressed their lack of enthusiasm in clear terms. Finally, those who continue to favor explicit recognition of political economy and/or political ecology interests and approaches within the group's formal designation have either: 1) not communicated their positions to us, or 2) have suggested that it may not be productive to bring the issue to a vote at this time.

In this issue we are publishing letters received thus far on the question of a name change. We hope that others will contribute their thoughts on ways we can extend the scope of our membership, be it through a name change or by other means. We expect to publish a spring issue of the newsletter before the Miami AAG meetings. Please send materials for this issue by the beginning of March.

In this issue we also welcome the comments of our new chair Cindi Katz. Among the priorities that Cindi has set for the CESG over the next two years is to encourage greater student participation. In support of this objective, the editors of the CEN have initiated a book review section. Students are particularly encouraged to submit reviews.

To date we have received word (with tentative participation by several of those listed) of the following CESG co-sponsored sessions for Miami:
2. Food Security and Agricultural Crisis in Africa, (with the Africa S.G.); Organizer: Robert E. Ford. Chair: Phil Porter. Papers by: Abe Goldman; Calvin Masulea; Earl Scott; Robert Ford; Jenny Olson; Tom Downing.
3. Greater Amazonia: Local Cultures Regional Ecologies, (with the Latin American S.G.). Organizer: Kent Mathewson. Chair: Bill Denevan. Papers by: Kent Mathewson; Bill Denevan; Mario Hiraoka; Nigel Smith; Ray Henkel.

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Cultural Ecology Newsletter
Number 17 Fall, 1990

Kent Mathewson, Editor
Robert Kuhlken, Assoc. Editor

Publication supported by the Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803
Letters

To the Editor:

It is with both regret and joy that I missed the CESG business meeting held as part of the AAG meeting in Toronto. My regret stems largely from the tenacious association I have long maintained with the group, its members, activities, and organization. My joy is a function of having missed what, as best I have been able to determine, was a most unfortunate event.

I knew well before the meeting that the issue of a name change would be brought up for discussion, but I did not realize that it would be put to a vote. Furthermore, I have been told by more than one person in attendance that the individuals who promoted the idea of a name change appear to have mustered a sizeable following of individuals (many of whom may not have been bona fide members) who rarely, if ever, attend business meetings to dominate the vote. The Board’s decision to wait a year before taking final action was prudent. If a vote is taken next year, the membership status of each voter needs to be verified. Perhaps the voting procedures need to be changed, but this, of course, is another matter.

Now the name change itself appears to be much ado about nothing. Phil Porter, in the last issue of this newsletter, articulated the pros and cons of the matter in a most thorough manner. I agree with Phil on almost every point but would like to add two others. I also wish to pass on information about a recent name change elsewhere, and make a suggestion of my own.

The argument that a name change, to include political ecology, would increase membership is fallacious. Every member of the group is a member of the AAG and every year, as part of their membership renewal materials, receives a brief but detailed description of each group’s goals and purposes. This blurb is intended to do exactly what proponents argue is needed in an name change: provide more information. It should also be noted that the description of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group provided by the AAG is both broad in scope and explicitly mentions theoretical studies of political economy. I ought to know, I wrote it. Indeed, I went to great lengths to be inclusive rather than exclusive. If you don’t believe me, take Casey Stengel’s advice — “look it up”. Can a one- or two-word name change accomplish more than this description? Probably not, unless those whom we are trying to attract cannot read more than a few words at a time, or we decide to put a flashy wrapper on what used to be packaged in plain brown paper. I, for one, prefer both members with accomplished reading skills, and sustained tradition over vogue.

Phil mentioned the possibility of losing members. I am all in favor of attracting new members, but I’m not so sure that those wanting a name change are concerned about retaining certain current members. A number of members are only marginally, if at all, interested in things political. Let’s not forget that policy is nothing more than the codification of certain aspects of culture; culture subsumes politics.

As of September 1, 1990, what was formerly the Department of Home Economics at the University of Texas at Austin became the Department of Human Ecology. As part of the College of Natural Sciences (which includes botany, zoology, microbiology and geological sciences; geography is one of 17 departments in the College of Liberal Arts), it is clear that the home economists wanted to change their image. Will the name change work? Only time will tell, but I doubt it. Home economics may be an inappropriate label for the study of topics such as nutrition and food preparation, but no more so than human ecology, which is a misnomer if there ever was one.

Putting the “political” proposal in light of recent changes at UT, I have a suggestion for changing the name of what is now the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group. Let’s call it the Geographical Decision Making Specialty Group. By doing so, we can simultaneously maintain interdisciplinary linkages, recapture lost traditions, and reflect timeliness. We’ll also be sufficiently narrow in scope to preclude membership entirely.

— William E. Doolittle

To the Editor:

While I tentatively supported the suggestion that our name be changed to “Cultural and Political Ecology” at the CESG business meeting in Toronto, after further thought and discussion I don’t believe it is a good idea.

I think that “Cultural Ecology” fully incorporates “Political Ecology” and that there is no reason for political ecologists to feel excluded. There are other subfields of cultural ecology that could also be added to our name, resulting in a very cumbersome title - historical cultural ecology for one. Other specialty groups might also want to add subfield titles, and I could see the entire specialty group concept breaking down as a result, as would also occur if specialty groups broke up into numerous subgroups.

That political ecologists are not only welcome to our specialty group, as currently titled and described, but have strong support from members, is indicated by our election of several political ecologists to be our officers for 1990-92.

— William M. Denevan
Ed. note: The following statement is from a letter to Phil Porter (former chair of CESG) in response to Porter’s statement “Cultural Ecology, A Change of Name?” in the last newsletter. It is printed here with the author’s permission, in lieu of a separate letter to the editor.

Since the meetings I have given some thought to the matter of the name change for our specialty group. I think that you are correct in pointing out that the circumstances at the general meeting were not conducive to consideration of the negative aspects. Indeed, probably most of those present were unaware that such an action was even being considered. I was not prepared to debate the merits of the proposal and voted for the change in an effort to maintain what was perceived to be the consensus. Upon retrospect, I think my action was wrong.

Group names are developed both to identify common interests and distinguish one group’s interests from those of others. The relative weights of the inclusive versus the exclusive functions of a group name are what we are considering. To me, cultural ecology includes human-environment interactions through space and time. One could not ask for a more inclusive focus. There are no restrictions as to methods, techniques, regions, or periods. Rather, it is the approach or manner of viewing a problem that binds us together. The work of which I am aware that falls under the rubric of political ecology could just as easily be called cultural ecology and, in most cases, good cultural ecology. Therefore, in terms of the inclusive function a name change is not warranted; political ecology is clearly subsumed in cultural ecology as politics are subsumed in culture.

In regard to the exclusive function of a group name, i.e., setting oneself apart from others, it seems to me that this is often done merely to call attention to one’s activities and to say that what I’m doing is new and different from the research of others. The social sciences especially tend to be plagued with recurrent waves of “new” perspectives, which often are neither new nor especially productive in the long run. In my experience in geography and archeology I have repeatedly been struck by the bandwagon mentality and a certain arrogance that is associated with the practitioners of the current vogue. As to our specific consideration of a group name change, Karl Butzer was correct in displaying his displeasure; it simply isn’t necessary and would perhaps tend more toward exclusion than the desired inclusive purpose.

— William I. Woods

Notes from the Chair

This fall marks the tenth anniversary of our specialty group. Our membership continues to grow as does our visibility at the national meetings. As was noted in the last newsletter, membership took a great leap forward following the publication of Karl Butzer’s chapter on cultural ecology in Geography in America. As we assess the present and look toward the future two issues stand out in need of reflection and action — the proposal to change our name and the role of student members. My thoughts on these, sketched out below, are meant to begin a conversation and a process that leads to fruitful change. I hope to hear from you on these and other topics of concern.

What’s in a name?
The proposal to change our name was raised by Bill Turner at our business meeting in Toronto and addressed by Phil Porter and Kent Mathewson in the spring newsletter. This edition of the newsletter presents some additional views on the matter. The initial proposal was to change the name to Cultural/Political Ecology Specialty Group, but in the course of the conversation in Toronto Greg Knapp changed the violence of the slash to a more embracing “and”. In the spirit of conjoining and not slashing I endorse the change of our name to Cultural and Political Ecology Specialty Group. As people who see our work as “ecological”, that is, concerned with the interrelationships between organisms and their environments, it seems fitting that we extend our work in the ecological sense to address the patterns of these relationships in their totality. Part of this totality is political for both us and the objects of our inquiry. Whether we address this broader context explicitly or not does not obviate its existence. In the diverse, gendered, stratified and post-colonial world within which we are operating it is not simply fashion or the latest trend to be aware and clear about the political implications of research. As scholars we too operate in a context, and that context, at whatever scale we choose to bound it — from the university, through the discipline, the nation and the world — has changed dramatically in the last quarter of a century. Let us recognize and even celebrate these changes which have opened up possibilities for so many more, by acknowledging the political context of human-environment relationships. A name that reflects this awareness may draw new members to our group, diversify the research that we embrace, and foster new relationships between our specialty group and others, along with those outside the field. (Continued on page 4)
Who are we?

In response to a survey conducted by Kristen Monzel of Syracuse University on the role of student members in specialty groups, I examined the profile of our current membership and discovered that nearly a third of our members are students. Yet we have no student members on our board and have had only one in the past. I propose that we create a new position on our board for a student member. I would like to hear your views on this question, especially from student members. My experience in other specialty groups suggests that there are particular student interests that may not come to the fore without such representation. Incidentally, I notice we don’t charge students dues. Perhaps taxation should come with formal representation?

One reason we collect dues is to sponsor prizes for student papers. My intent is to increase student involvement and to recognize the achievements of recent graduates whose work is concerned with cultural and political ecology. Among the possibilities to consider, would be to offer a parallel prize for papers presented at regional meetings where students are proportionately better represented than at the national meetings. In addition, we may want to consider offering a dissertation award. Again, let me remind you that your dues will enable us to expand the number and nature of prizes offered, and in so doing will improve our visibility in and outside the field.

A final note

I would like to call your attention to the 1992 Congress of the International Geographical Union. If the Congress is to be truly international the travel and lodging costs of participants from economically poor areas must be defrayed. To this end, a Host and Travel Grant Program has been established, chaired by Don Vermeer. Professor Vermeer has requested our assistance in two ways. The first is to contribute to the H/T Grant Program Committee. The second is to sponsor an international participant by contributing the $50 registration fee for someone subsidized under the Program. Please remember that this fee is prohibitive for many potential participants from underdeveloped countries. A committee will screen all requests for subsidy under the program. It will seek “a) younger professionals from economically poor areas of the world; b) those who will assume important future roles in their countries; and c) those who participate in the IGC.” I urge you to send your pledge or check to Donald E. Vermeer, Chair, Host and Travel Grant Committee, 27th International Geographical Congress, 17th and M Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

---Cindi Katz---

News from Members

Anne Whyte (IDRC, Ottawa, Canada) reports on her recent appointment as chairperson of the Canadian Global Change Program. Prior to that she was named a Fellow in the Royal Society of Canada.

John Metz (Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights), now teaching in the Department of History and Geography, has several recent publications: “Conservation practices at Chunkhola, an upper elevation village in west Nepal” Mountain Research and Development 10(2): 7-15; and “Forest-product use in upland Nepal” Geographical Review 80: 279-287.


Lamaduri (aka Jody Solow, Cambridge University) is currently conducting fifteen months doctoral research in the Solomon Islands, funded by grants from the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, Institute for the Study of World Politics, and the Fulbright Program. The title of her project is “The strategy of the commons: transformations in the meaning and management of communally held resources on Vella Lavella Island.” Lamaduri can be reached by mail (via dugout canoe, she tells us) at: Walapata Village, Lamulambu Postal Agency, Vella Lavella Island, Western Province, Solomon Islands.

Robert E. Ford (Brigham Young University) has recently returned from several months in Africa consulting on the issues of food security, desertification, and land use/population change. He has also published an article: “The dynamics of human-environment interactions in the tropical montane agrosystems of Rwanda: implications for economic development and environmental stability” Mountain Research and Development 10(1): 43-63.

Review by Robert Kuhiken, Louisiana State University

There are few scholars who are able to successfully synthesize and explicate research findings from multiple disciplines such as botany, anthropology, and agronomy. Michael Eden happens to be one. A British geographer, Eden is an experienced fieldworker who has reported in the past on both human and physical aspects of the environment. He now competently constructs the bridge between natural and cultural systems.

Fortunately for us, this book is not another simplistic plea to save the rainforest. It is a lively and holistic presentation of existing knowledge regarding ecological relationships in the Amazon basin. It is comprehensive in that the human species is seen as an actor upon the ecosystemic stage. Realizing that full protection of the Amazon is a preservationist’s pipe dream, Eden emphasizes sustainable exploitation of renewable natural resources. While there are excellent discussions of ecosystem stability and of the recent findings concerning Quaternary climate variability and its effects on biodiversity, the clear message here is that “exaining the stability of natural systems also leads logically to considering the sustainability of managed systems.”

The Amazon basin comprises more than rainforest, and Eden exhibits a keen awareness of the diversity and environmental heterogeneity of the region. An entire chapter is devoted to savannas and wetlands, both of which also recur as headings in most other chapters. By the author’s estimates, the sub-1000m elevation Amazon watershed contains 613 million ha of forest, 15-20 million ha of dry savanna, and 28 million ha of herbaceous wetlands. By way of a contemporary assessment of deforestation, from the forested area may be subtracted roughly 60-65 million ha of cleared lands. Eden terms the traditional dichotomous categories of terrafirme and varzea “oversimplified”, and calls for “more refined levels of environmental analysis.”

The ten chapters are well organized and follow an eminently logical sequence. Chapters one and two offer an introduction and outline on the geography and physical characteristics of the area. Chapter three on ecosystems begins with the familiar examples of biological richness and species diversity, and finishes with a discussion of ecosystem dynamics and effects of anthropic disturbance. Chapter four focuses on indigenous resource exploitation. Strategies involving fishing, hunting, and especially shifting cultivation are presented with copious citations. What makes this chapter so exciting is that many of the cited studies are very recent, and are here for the first time being synthesized and compared with data collected earlier. Eden stresses that “indigenous knowledge itself constitutes a valuable resource”, and seeks ways to apply it in sustainable development schemes. He writes that “the modern colonist may not immediately see indigenous subsistence activities as attractive or instructive, but they deserve attention in view of their persistence over millennia and of the dismal and inferior performance of their modern equivalents.”

Chapter five - “Modern colonization and exploitation of the rainforest” - outlines a series of case studies portraying the range of human interaction with the forest environment. Chapter six does the same for savannas and wetlands. Within each chapter Eden offers summaries and generalizations. Chapter seven explores the possibility of prescriptive models for Amazonian development. Alternatives to the extensive pioneer ranching or extractive logging activities currently prevalent include the following: agrosilvicultural systems; mixed forest silviculture; semi-intensive livestock rearing relying on mixed grass-legume pastures; and silvopastoral systems. Each is portrayed with open minded balance - disadvantages as well as advantages are discussed.

Chapters eight and nine comprise an assessment of overall environmental impact, along with a regional vision for “integrating land development and conservation.” Environmental diversity translates into a wide range of resources, the exploitation of which must be on a sustainable basis. Eden feels that diversification of resource use “would replicate the pattern that evolved spontaneously in pre-Columbian Amazonia.” He claims that “A compartment strategy offers a suitable framework for such diversification, facilitating adaptation to the natural variability in the region.” While some may take issue with the author’s adoption of Odum’s compartmentalized landscape model for resource zoning in the Amazon, there would seem to be no other feasible scheme at the moment, given the social and political impetus behind development. It is too late for trial and error.

Chapter ten examines the current status of land management in Amazonia. As any geographer who studies human-environment systems knows, institutional aspects of resource management are of paramount

Review by Michael Yoder, Louisiana State University

This collection is derived from papers presented at the Symposium on Fragile Lands of Latin America, held during the 1988 LASA meetings in New Orleans. “The search for sustainable uses” serves as the focus of these essays. Inspiration for the volume was not simply the alarm over rainforest destruction, rather it was the continental wide crises facing a variety of environments. The search for sustainable uses for these disparate but fragile lands provides the volume’s rationale. As the authors make clear, sustainability must be viewed in an ecologic as well as economic context. They argue that sustainable uses can be more profitable in both the short and long terms. They collectively prescribe land uses involving “appropriate technologies”, usually derived from pre-Columbian practices.

The book is organized logically along topical lines. Its five parts include: 1) introductory material about Latin America’s environmental crisis and fragile lands, and technology transfer; 2) strategies for tropical rainforest management, with an emphasis on the Amazon; 3) strategies for sustainable agriculture in the Andean highlands; 4) a strategy for sustainable agriculture on desert streambeds in Sonora; and 5) research in progress. The volume has the advantage of a multi-disciplinary array of contributors, most working within the purview of cultural ecology.

Six of the seventeen essays are by geographers. William Denevan provides the introduction, giving definitions, a geographical overview, and a categorization of fragile lands. Traditional technologies, he argues, are often better than capital-intensive or energy-intensive technologies in the long run. Mario Hiraoa’s essay addresses floodplain environment, settlement patterns, and agrosystems of the ribereños of the Peruvian Amazon. Hiraoa writes that their short fallow swidden system is not only sustainable and productive, but capable of increased productivity above current levels. Susanna Hecht considers indigenous soil management systems in the Amazon basin. She concludes that indigenous knowledge of nutrient poor tropical soils enables production of high calorie and protein yields. John Treacy’s essay addresses the agroecologic and economic aspects of terraces in Peru’s Colca Valley. William Doolittle considers the problems associated with agriculture in an environment of unpredictable moisture in northern Mexico. He feels that arroyo lands offer a solution, pointing out that there is potential for improvement on existing fields.

Overall, the work can be regarded as optimistic. A central message is that there exists hope in overcoming the unfortunate confictual relationship that has developed between ecology and economy. The six essays by geographers and, no less, the eleven by researchers in other disciplines undoubtedly will be of interest and use to cultural ecologists, cultural geographers, and others interested not only in the fragile lands of Latin America, but in the methodological and theoretical aspects of “applied” cultural ecology.


Review by Robert Kuhlken, Louisiana State University

This collection of 21 papers presents recent research undertaken by proponents of one of the newest conjunctions of disciplines. Authors include Miguel Altieri, J.D. Lambert, John Farrell, and David Pimentel, all recognizable names from the literature of this rapidly expanding field of inquiry. Alfred Siemens, the only geographer among the 34 contributors, offers a paper on Pre-Hispanic agricultural intensification in Veracruz.

Gliessman, who is associated with the Agroecology Program at UC Santa Cruz, views agroecology
as an emerging interdisciplinary field, involving research mainly in ecology and agronomy. In the introductory first chapter to this book, he acknowledges a debt to three prior publications: Agricultural Ecology, edited by Cox and Atkins (1979); the similarly titled Agroecology: the Scientific Basis of Alternative Agriculture, edited by Altieri (1983); and Agricultural Ecosystems, edited by Lowrance et al (1984). Not mentioned but equally antecedent would be the work of Timothy Bayliss-Smith and A. Terry Rambo.

The book is divided into two parts: "Basic Ecological Concepts in Agroecosystems" and "Agroecosystem Design and Management". Issues addressed range from pesticide abuse and integrated pest management, to dependence on monoculture and risk reduction strategies. On the whole it represents an unbalanced approach - heavy on the ecological and biophysical factors and little emphasis on the human side of the equation. With one or two exceptions, the perspective is not geographic: there are few maps and fewer photographs. This is a major shortcoming, for not only is agriculture a spatial activity, it is one firmly rooted in human defined and oriented place. But perhaps this is an unfair criticism, asking the book to do something that is rather beyond its intent, which is the presentation of recently developed research methods for "quantifying and evaluating agroecosystem sustainability." Despite the book's limited dimension, its contents demand our attention.

THE RAINY SEASON: HAITI SINCE DUVALIER

Review by Edward Britton, Louisiana State University

During a time of debate among cultural ecologists on the place of "political ecology", Amy Wilentz has produced a haunting work on Haiti of the post-Duvalier years of 1986-1989, a period of great social and political turbulence. A professional journalist, Wilentz interprets the headline stories of the day in terms of their impact upon both the great and the small. While much of this drama is played out in an urban setting, Wilentz traces policy effects as they ripple out to rural villages. She gives insights as to how peasants try to make sense of it all, and how they get caught up and manipulated in the jostling for power by the various socio-economic factions.

Wilentz appears to have produced a thorough and factually accurate work, addressing the topics that capture the essence of Haiti of the late 1980s. She poignantly frames issues that cut to the vital core of what makes Haiti what it is today. Through the course of the book, an earnest effort is made to interview and quote representatives of opposing interests.

Haiti, however, is not uniform in its poverty; it is hard to ignore the resplendent villas on the heights above Port-au-Prince. Capital flows from Haiti to investments in the USA and Canada. Not all political parties in Haiti want an economic transformation, nor enfranchisement of the "have-nots" nor any disruption of the status quo. By the end of the book, Wilentz is compelled to take sides.

Wilentz is courageously far-ranging in her spatial coverage, escaping from the comforting womb of the capital city hotels, and moving beyond the "bias of the tamac". No one tours Hinche or Bombardopolis in casually passing through to somewhere else.

Wilentz gets high marks for the technical merits of her reporting, and turns out to be a fine writer as well. The unfolding story is riveting. Particularly effective is her use of suspenseful subplot installments of the radical priest Ariside and his "Ti-egliz" ministry. She introduces the reader to sooty charcoal shippers, tragic vegetable vendors, and voodoo dancers. There is no sensationalism here, just plenty of rum.

Perhaps the most important contribution in The Rainy Season is the questioning of recent development projects - not the oft-criticized showcase mega-projects, but even the decentralized, environmentally benign projects overseen by anthropologists! Something as seemingly innocuous as the planting of trees takes on a new shade of meaning as Wilentz gives a forum for peasant perspectives. She provides a worthwhile service here if she nettes a few more of us out of our tidy rationalized view of the world and how to save it.

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Financial Report

As of November 1, the CESG had $349.51 in its account. We have received no voluntary dues for the 1990 calendar year. Once again, members are reminded of the agreed upon scale: Professor or business equivalent - $10; Assoc. professor - $7.50; asst. professor - $5; student - gratis. At the Miami meeting the AAG central office will require all specialty groups to choose from one of several funding mechanisms. Details will appear in the spring newsletter.
Request for Information

1. Current research, recent publications, recent grants, fieldwork:

2. Recent honors, awards, new titles and/or employment positions:

3. Suggested books, articles, theses, dissertations, or other publications for listing in the CE Newsletter:

4. Field or other address for the next six months if different from regular mailing address:

Department of Geography and Anthropology
227 Old Geology Building
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-4105
CESG at Miami

Listed below are sessions at the Miami AAG meeting that are concerned with cultural ecology and should be of interest to members of the specialty group. Those sponsored or co-sponsored by the CESG are in bold print. Please note that the CESG business meeting has been changed from the originally scheduled time to avoid a conflict.

Saturday, April 13
5:00 p.m.
Cultural Ecology Specialty Group Business Meeting

Sunday, April 14
8:00 - 9:40 a.m.


9:50 - 11:30 a.m.

1:00 - 2:40 p.m.

2:50 - 4:30 p.m.
Nature and Agriculture: Sustainable Agriculture. (with Contemporary Agriculture and Rural Land Use) Organizers: Rebecca Roberts and Margaret FitzSimmons. Chair: Rebecca Roberts. Papers by Christopher Bryant, David Lighthall, Robert McCallister et al., John Pierce, Michael Troughton. Discussant: Tom Johnston.


4:40 - 6:20 p.m.

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Issues and Responses to Sustainable Agriculture. Organizers and Chairs: Janel Curry-Roper and John Pierce. Panelists: Michael Troughton, Barry Smit, Mike Briklastich, Darrell Napton, Rebecca Roberts.


Monday, April 15
8:00 - 9:40 a.m.

9:50 - 11:30 a.m.


1:00 - 2:40 p.m.


2:50 - 4:30 p.m.

4:40 - 6:20 p.m.

Tuesday, April 16
8:00 - 9:40 p.m.

1:00 - 2:40 p.m.

2:50 - 4:30 p.m.

**Student Paper Award**

The CESG invites all students to submit papers on a topic in cultural ecology for consideration for an award. Papers for presentation at the Annual Meeting in Miami or which have been presented at a regional meeting since April of 1990 are eligible. The prize is $100. In the case of multiple winners the prize will not exceed $75. The judges are our regional councilors. Please submit a copy of papers for consideration to each judge. Papers should be received by the judges no later than April 10. Their addresses are as follows:

Nigel Allan, Dept. of Geography, University of California, Davis, CA 95616.

Thomas Bassett, Dept. of Geography, University of Illinois, 607 S. Mathews Avenue, Urbana, IL 61801.

Dianne Rocheleau (before April 1): Graduate School of Geography, Clark University, Worcester, MA 01610; (after April 1): c/o Cindi Katz, Environmental Psychology Program, CUNY - Graduate Center, 33 West 42nd Street, New York, NY 10036.
Notes from the Chair

Perhaps this is the experience of time-space compression in everyday life, but it feels like I am writing these notes in the few minutes I have been able to rescue that are theoretically post-war and fleetingly pre-Miami. Since it’s only a few minutes, I am going to focus on the nuts and bolts of the future and spare you my disheartened thoughts on the more murky past.

I am pleased to announce a student paper competition and apologize that it was not announced in the previous CESG newsletter or in the AAG newsletter. To compensate, the judges have generously agreed to receive papers until April 10. Information on the competition can be found on page two of this newsletter. I hope that all student members will feel encouraged to submit a paper.

Among the ridiculous number of sessions at the Annual Meeting, there are many either sponsored by CESG or of special interest to our membership. I have culled these from the program and they are listed on the first two pages of this newsletter. It is at best a partial list, and I apologize if I have omitted a session or two. I plead “glaze over” at even scanning through the range of sessions packed into three days.

While on the topics of sessions and pleading, I would like to make a special plea for next year — please consider having formal CESG sponsorship of appropriate sessions. And remember, as a specialty group we are entitled to invite three non-member or international guests to the Annual Meeting whose registration will be paid by the Association. As I went over the program, there were many sessions CESG should have sponsored, but nobody asked me to do so. Worse, at present we have sponsored only one guest for the Meeting in Miami. Sponsoring guests and sessions are easy ways to increase our visibility and expand our contribution to the profession. I urge you to keep both in mind when you make plans for next year in San Diego.

Finally, the time of our business meeting has been changed to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 13. The original time conflicted with a session sponsored by CESG in which many of our members are participating. I am eager to receive any agenda items that members would like to see covered at the business meeting.

I look forward to seeing you in Miami and to an interesting meeting.

— Cindi Katz

Letters

To the Editor:

Given the number of comments I have received, principally from friends, in response to my recent letter in the Cultural Ecology Newsletter (#17), it seems that I was not only wrong about my impressions of the last business meeting, but may have offended a number of members. In that letter I said that I was “told by more than one person in attendance that the individuals who promoted the idea of a name change appear to have mustered a sizeable following of individuals (many of whom may not have been bona fide members) who rarely, if ever, attend business meetings to dominate the vote.” A comparison of a list of those in attendance with a list of members at the 1989 Baltimore meeting proved me wrong. Furthermore, and much to my chagrin, my informants did not appear on either list. Carelessly, I relied upon what turns out to have been third-hand information. I apologize to all members of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group, and especially to those who raised and discussed the issue of a name change, for even insinuating that a cabal might exist. I do, however, maintain my previously stated position about the name change.

— William E. Doolittle

To the Editor

A name change for the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group was never the central issue of my proposal made at the Toronto business meeting. As I began by saying then and reiterate more carefully here, the proposal was a mechanism to stimulate us to address the more fundamental questions of pluralism and the health of our group. (Raising the intellectual issue without a concrete proposal as a wedge would have never led us to the current exchange.) In my mind, pluralism — the hallmark of holistic approaches claimed by both our discipline and our subfield — is intimately tied to the health of our group, from its intellectual base to the number of its quality members. While the health of our group is strong and perhaps improving, I believe that we fall considerably short of the mark that we can achieve and should seek. Allow me to sketch in broad strokes my reasoning and the connection to the name change proposal.

(Continued on page 4)
Cultural ecology does not have a monopoly on the study of nature-society relationships within geography (which, by my count, has at least seven other specialty groups so engaged), nor is it perceived by most to be one of the more important components of the discipline. This situation arises both from the noninterest, misunderstanding, or myopia of non-members and from the cultural ecology group's own view of its place and role within and without geography. If we seek to strengthen cultural ecology, nature-society studies, and geography, then we must begin to address thoughtfully the pros and cons of the different roles that our specialty group can play. Our key task, in my opinion, is to increase the dynamism of nature-society discourse, and hence the visibility of cultural ecology, most probably by actively seeking to unite for discussion and interchange the fragmented but complementary strains of nature-society studies within geography. I speak here of a level of interaction that transcends the occasional jointly sponsored session with other groups at the AAG. This sponsorship is usually given out of political necessity for AAG approval. The degree of intellectual interaction or even mutual interest in most of these sessions can be questioned by merely observing the composition of the audience and the discussion, if any. Our group is no more to blame for this situation than any other, but this does not mean that we should not take the lead in attempting to change it. We should seek the intellectual high ground.

The history of knowledge is one of increasing fragmentation, not only of expertise (which is necessary) but of intellectual interest (which can be counterproductive). The history of approaches to realms of study is one of generational shifts in perspectives. In organizations and fields such as ours, pluralism is diminished through a process of splintering into smaller, finetuned specialty groups, and through the lack of interest of many junior scholars (the newer generation) in the configuration of the existing "cores". As they mature, many of these scholars will move closer to the cores they once rejected, only to find that they no longer exist in their original form, having been reshaped, if only moderately, by the issues that prompted the rejection in the first place.

Some of us seek the security of established cores, others, the dynamism of edges and the pluralism that generally pervades this zone. Cultural ecology, like some of the other nature-society specialty groups, could be much more intellectually exciting, visible, and significant, I believe, if we sought to increase communication between the core and edges, thereby increasing pluralism of thought. This communication, of course, should be a two-way street.

Moreover, the long-run health of the subfield and specialty group is related to the number of quality junior scholars engaged in it. I fear that we fail to attract the full breadth of junior talent interested in our avowed subject. Do not misinterpret me; we have excellent young scholars in our specialty group, but we could have many more of them. It is here that the perception of interests and the associations of names, correct or not, matter. No specialty group name is neutral, claims to the contrary notwithstanding, if only because of the connotations it acquires by perception of the work done within its domain. This does not mean that all names or interests are equally value-laden; some are much more pluralistic — open to competing values — than others, although the belief in pluralism is itself a value. The very roots of cultural ecology in Stewardian anthropology, Sauerian historical geography, and classical German geography, however, connote preferred interests and views of our specialty group. And the practice of our current work, mine included, solidifies this view in the eyes of many.

Granted, a name change per se will not increase pluralism in our group, nor necessarily attract a larger breadth of junior talent. I even concede that I find Cultural Ecology — stripped of its connotations — potentially more pluralistic in content and perspectives than any other name that has brevity and a bit of "zing" to it. The reason for suggesting the change, however, is worthy of our concern. If we keep the name, how do we take the intellectual high road, fostering greater pluralism and attracting more of the junior talent who are working on the very same subjects that we study, but choose not to associate with our group, in part because they perceive us to be uninterested in or even hostile to their perspectives? Though some of them do not seek a pluralistic group, others do, and we should strongly encourage their participation, not view it as the intrusion of "outsiders" seeking to alter our warm, comfortable nest. Indeed, if our group can be radically altered easily, then we are intellectually weak and deserving that fate.

I have always been prone to hyperbole, perhaps overstating the case; and my perceptions are colored by an East-West coast experience where few of the very best junior scholars in nature-society studies have historically selected cultural ecology as their principal specialty group. I worry, though, about a specialty group whose members challenge the name change as "faddish" and appear to justify retention of it on the grounds that we claim to be open to all perspectives and interests within the nature-society set. Such responses fall short of the mark and may say something about
ourselves. Do we not understand, for example, that cultural ecology is virtually absent internationally in geography and that this subfield itself is less than 30 years old? I can imagine that the cultural-historical geographers of the 1960s ascribed a "bandwagon mentality" to the pioneer cultural ecologists among us and criticized the label as "faddish." Do we not realize that the comments that appeared in this newsletter about the membership credentials of those voting at the Toronto meeting may signal the real value that many of our group place on pluralism and on "openness to all perspectives"?

Judging by the exchange on the subject thus far, it appears to me that a name change may do more damage than good to the specialty group. Indeed, it may even precipitate the loss of some of our most productive members. And I would be disingenuous if I did not admit that I am delighted to witness "traditional" cultural ecologists defending their group, engaging in an element of "turf-protecting." We care! I am also delighted to witness the pluralism of the words employed in this defense, but somewhat disappointed by the implied messages of some (at least as I interpret them), which very much may be "business as usual" and "watch out for interlopers."

I contend that the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group is not as healthy as it could be. We have grown in numbers on paper for a number of reasons: the resurgence of environmental geography; several major publications over the last few years promoting the subfield; activities taken by our secretary to make the group known to a larger audience; and, at least in the case of my program, the apparent realization by tutors and students alike that their research interests overlap with those of cultural ecology. I suspect, however, that this increase in numbers has been gained largely through those who list us as second or third in their interest priorities, and hence do not actively participate with us. Witness the number of students entering our paper awards program as an example. The large doctoral programs are replete with graduate students doing nature-society research, many of whom deliver papers at the AAG meetings, but very few of whom participate in our sessions or enter our paper competition. Why?

I am also worried about some responses that imply a conspiracy theme — non-members voting in our Toronto business meeting! — rather than tackle the larger intellectual issues. To my knowledge, every person in our meeting was a member of the cultural ecology group, whatever their record of active participation within it. I have always assumed that we wish these members to participate with us; we certainly use them.

come funding and body-count time with the AAG! Is that all we wish of them? Or do we wish to enter an exchange that allows all parties to understand the interests and interchanges that are possible among them?

A final point, please, before I lose permanent contact with both my mentor and some of my students. No one loves their discipline and subfield more than I, and few have participated as diligently with the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group. It is this very love that prompts my concerns. Cultural-ecological geography is not about to wither away as a significant professional and intellectual cluster, but are we as strong as we could be? Or, are we satisfied with the level of our status and accomplishments? Will we not be stronger professionally and intellectually with greater pluralism, and do we seek that strength? If so, we must confront the issues behind the proposed name change. A small step towards addressing these issues was taken with the infusion of "new blood" into our officer positions. This will not be sufficient; it may even have adverse effects. At least, however, we actively reached out with the goal of experimenting with pluralism.

— B.L. Turner II

**Book Review**


Review by Robert Kuhlken, Louisiana State University

This work attempts an analysis of agriculture based on what the author feels are its four components: land, water, labor, and energy. Various combinations of these four are, of course, determined by culture. Though the subtitle is somewhat misleading, John W. Bennett in the foreword accurately states that the book "marks a point of maturity for anthropology's interest in agriculture."

The book contains nine chapters and is organized into two parts: the Neolithic Revolution of plant and animal domestication and ever-increasing intensification; and the "NeoCaloric Revolution" (the so-called "Green Revolution") characterized by fossil fuel energy inputs. Any lingering mind sets regarding primitive vs. modern agriculture are quickly dealt with: "A vital step in understanding both nomadism and swidden is to stop..."
thinking of their practitioners as primitive and begin to appreciate the ingenuity and appropriateness of their adaptations.

Regarding intensification, Schusky writes that "the history and prehistory of the intensification of agricultural production is primarily a story of change in political and economic organization." So far, so good. But his broad-brushed assumptions concerning irrigation are cumbersome, and painting everything in Boserupian light tends to cloud the picture. One might question some of the judgement calls, such as "(irrigation) did nothing to improve the welfare of the average person, but it did contribute to inequities while at the same time it severely degraded the environment." He agrees with Wittfogel's thesis that "civilization or urban society arose largely because of irrigation," but wisely cites Julian Steward's findings that the two do not always occur hand in hand: "some marginal areas with extensive irrigation managed their systems without highly centralized authority."

Chapter five begins with a discussion of how economic and political systems of "reciprocity" became "redistributive." Schusky then launches into modernization and dependency theory in a nebulous analysis that offers no improvement over Brookfield's Interdependent Development. The attempt to simplify the economic history of the world in terms of its level of agricultural production leaves one wondering if the explanation is too simplistic.

Culture and Agriculture is loaded with information; the problem is that it's here, there, and everywhere, disjointed, almost between the lines. The prose is uneven at times, packed too tightly with anecdotes or the merely tangential. Considering food packaging as a costly component of marketing, the author writes: "the small aluminum tray of a frozen TV dinner requires more calories to produce than are in the food on the tray."

Despite these criticisms, the book is valuable for its distillation of complex cultural-historical processes. The author is very good at encapsulating lengthy time spans of agricultural history. For example, the invention of the horse collar which allowed draft animals to pull "a heavy, sometimes wheeled, iron plow"; the development of the three-field system by A.D. 1000; and the consolidation of small independent farms into large manors all happens in a single paragraph.

Schusky is at his best when assessing the effects and consequences of embracing the Green Revolution, and is critical of its dependence on fertilizers, pesticides, and other energy intensive inputs. Throughout the book there hums a cautionary tone that the incredible increases in productivity spawned by the Green Revolution cannot be sustained. Furthermore, the author reminds us that probably all food plants have already been discovered, and ways of growing them worked out over several millennia. There is still room for improvement, however, especially in pest resistance and in studies of tropical crops like taro and cassava.

Perhaps most interesting to cultural ecologists, the author outlines the process whereby social relationships at the village level are destroyed as political power is transferred to urban-based hierarchies. There is a good discussion of the displacement of local food crops by export crops, and how the credit to pay for their production often results in debt peonage. This section of the book is marred, however, by strained comparisons. Shuffling back and forth between North American and Third World agriculture tends to confound the issues and scatters the pieces to the puzzle.

Chapter eight presents case studies from North and South Korea, Cuba, and Taiwan, focusing on modernization of agriculture within an economic development context. The final chapter - "The future of culture and agriculture" - outlines the many promising research directions aimed at lessening agriculture's dependence on fossil fuel inputs, and examines trends in agricultural commodity trading on the world market. Calling for a "balanced mixture of industrial and agricultural development," Schusky claims that "the real future for agriculture of the Third World lies largely in production of its own food." While such a need is obvious, its realization will not come easy.

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**Financial Report**

As of January, the CESG had $349.51 in its account. We have received no voluntary dues since the last newsletter. This year may be our last chance to pay CESG dues on a voluntary basis. At Miami all of the specialty groups will be asked by the AAG Council to consider the following changes:

1) Dues of $1.00 or more will be collected by the AAG for all specialty groups;
2) Specialty group rebates from the AAG (currently $0.90 per member) will be eliminated to defray the costs of collecting, apportioning, and remitting dues;
3) AAG members will be able to join as many specialty groups as they wish;
4) Specialty groups will no longer be required to provide services to members who do not pay dues.
News from Members

Jeanne Kay (University of Nebraska) is currently investigating the Native American land base during the 19th century. This research, conducted jointly with David Wishan, is supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Jeanne is also focusing on women in the West: environmental relationships during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Peter Urich (Australian National University) recently completed a masters degree at the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, and has been awarded a three-year Overseas Postgraduate Research Scholarship at ANU, in the Department of Human Geography. He has several publications out: “Tropical karst management and agricultural development: example from Bohol, Philippines” Geografiska Annaler 71 B(2):95-108; and “Rock carved cisterns of Batuan, Bohol, Philippines” Asian Perspectives 29:89-97.


Nicholas Dunning (University of Cincinnati) is working on a paleoecological/archaeological project in the Pasión region of Guatemala, with funding from U.S.A.I.D.

Request for Information

1. Current research, recent publications, recent grants, fieldwork:

2. Recent honors, awards, new titles and/or employment positions:

3. Suggested books, articles, theses, dissertations, or other publications for listing in the CE Newsletter:

4. Field or other address for the next six months if different from regular mailing address:
NOTE: The Cultural Ecology Specialty Group Business Meeting in Miami has been rescheduled. See details inside.
Organizing San Diego

Now is the time to make plans for organizing sessions at the 1992 AAG Annual Meeting in San Diego. Abstracts are due in just a few weeks. So far, these CESG members have put out a call for session papers:
Tom Bassett: Political Ecology (see Tom’s letter).
Address: Department of Geography, University of Illinois, 607 South Mathews, Urbana, Illinois 61801; tel (217) 333-1880, fax (217) 333-9758.
Stan Stevens: Subsistence, Conservation, and Environmental Change in “Traditional” Societies; papers which discuss environmental impacts of “traditional” subsistence strategies and land use practices, especially those which consider environmental change and preservation in the light of indigenous conservation ethics and local resource management institutions and practices.
Address (until August 15): East-West Center, Environment and Policy Institute, 1777 East-West Road, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96848; tel (808) 946-4878, fax (808) 944-7970 c/o EAPI; (after August 15): Department of Geography, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720; tel (415) 642-3903, fax (415) 642-3370.
Kent Mathewson: Topics in Cultural Ecology; all CESG members who anticipate presenting papers on a cultural-ecological theme at San Diego, but are not already involved with an organized session, are invited to deliver presentations within this session.
Address: Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803; tel (504) 388-6073, fax (504) 388-2912.
Nigel Allan has expressed interest in organizing a field trip. Please contact him with your ideas.
Address: Department of Geography, University of California, Davis, California 95616; tel (916) 752-0790.
Other members planning to organize sessions in San Diego who want CESG sponsorship should make a request to the Chair. This will minimize schedule conflicts. Please contact Cindi Katz, Environmental Psychology Program, Graduate School and University Center, City University of New York, 33 West 42nd Street, New York, New York 10036-8099; tel (212) 642-2970, fax (212) 642-2971.

Notes from the Chair

Our specialty group continues to grow and thrive. CESG members were key participants in many stimulating paper and panel sessions and had the chance to enter into many lively exchanges with one another at the Annual Meeting in Miami. Our formal presence at the meeting was substantial—we sponsored nine special sessions and two guests: Ms. Jamie Monson of the History Department at UCLA, and Mr. Roberto Castillo Vasquez of the Geography Department at the University of Costa Rica. From all reports I heard, CESG sessions were both interesting and well attended.

Unfortunately our business meeting was scheduled at an inconvenient time on Saturday afternoon before many people arrived, and as a result was not that well attended. It was, however, a productive meeting. We decided to go along with the experiment to have dues collected by the Association. (These have been set at $5.00 for regular members and no charge for student members). With this expanded coffee we will contribute $150 to sponsor the attendance of three geographers—

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Cultural Ecology Newsletter
Number 19, Summer, 1991

Kent Mathewson, Editor
Robert Kuhlen, Assoc. Editor

Publication supported by the
Department of Geography and Anthropology,
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803
one each from Africa, Asia, and Latin America — at the IGU Conference next summer. (I remind you that Don Vermeer is also collecting individual contributions for this worthy cause). We agreed to expand the number of student prizes to two — one for the best paper presented at either a regional AAG meeting or at the Annual Meeting; and one for the best paper on a theme in cultural ecology derived from a doctoral dissertation or master’s thesis. We also agreed to add a student representative to the CESG board. The latter two themes are expanded on below.

In our discussion of the student prizes in Miami we attempted to make it as easy as possible for students to enter. As noted above we will offer two prizes, one for a paper derived from a thesis or dissertation and one for a non-thesis related paper. In recognition of the difficulty students may face getting a paper to judges several weeks in advance of the Annual Meeting, we agreed to allow papers presented at either the previous or upcoming Annual Meeting. The same paper should not be entered twice, however. As was decided last year, papers presented at any of the AAG regional meetings during the academic year are eligible for the competition. I encourage all student members to enter their papers in the competitions. A copy should be sent to each of our Regional Councilors: Nigel Allen, Tom Bassett, and Dianne Rocheleau. The prize for each competition is $100.

We will hold elections for a student board member by including a ballot in the next newsletter. I invite your nominations to be sent by November 1. Please send a brief biographical note, including research interests with the nomination.

Although I hate to disturb your summer reveries — reading, writing, field research, possibly even recreation — it is time to begin turning our attention to next year’s Annual Meeting in San Diego. At the Miami Meeting we discussed sponsoring several sessions and possibly even a field trip in the Southern California/Baja area. I welcome all suggestions for special sessions and will be contacting those of you who mentioned ideas in Miami. The Cultural Ecology Specialty Group is now in its tenth year. Shortly after the Miami Meeting I received a note from Bill Doolittle with a copy of our first newsletter. Bill pointed out that in 1981, our first year, we sponsored only one activity — a special session on the Philosophy and Methodology of Cultural Ecology, with invited position papers from Ben Wisner, C. Gregory Knight, and Margaret FitzSimmons. B.L. Turner, Douglas Johnson, and Michael Watts served as discussants. Bill suggested that we sponsor a similar session in San Diego to reflect on these positions and questions a decade later. I am moving ahead with this idea and would love to hear your views and suggestions for themes, questions, participants, discussants, etc. Please do involve yourselves and let me know your ideas.

I remind you that we are entitled to invite three participants to the Annual Meeting as guests of the AAG. Those invited must be either non-U.S. based geographers or non-geographers working in the U.S. Please keep this in mind when you plan special sessions. With the AAG collecting our dues we will have a larger discretionary fund. We may want to sponsor a speaker or other special activity at next year’s meeting.

While on the topic of special speakers, this is the last year of the AAG Council’s experiment to allow specialty groups to join together and invite a plenary speaker. This program has been worthwhile and interesting, at once exposing geographers to the research of prominent scholars to learn more about the work of geographers. I support the continuation of this program and urge you to let the Council know if you do as well.

On a less enthusiastic note, I was disturbed to learn that the Council voted to allow the Annals to institute page charges. While those whose institutions cannot pay will not be charged individually, having a charge for pages may make many would-be authors uncomfortable enough to seek publication elsewhere. As a junior faculty member from a financially strapped institution with no funds for graphics, reprints, etc. I object to this decision, and encourage you to let the Council know your opinion. Perhaps if there are enough objections it will be put to a vote by all members.

Before you return to your reveries, please join me in congratulating Robert Kuhlken for winning the student paper competition in Miami. Bob has been sharing responsibility for the newsletter with Kent and is about to leave for Fiji for thirteen months, so it’s also time to thank him for all his help to CESG and wish him the best in the field. Finally, a much belated note of thanks to my predecessor Phil Porter. Our deep appreciation to Phil, who brings so much to our specialty group and did so much for it as Chair. Okay, go back to those reveries, Fall is almost here.

-- Cindi Katz

Student Paper Award

This year’s student paper award winner is Robert Kuhlken, Louisiana State University, for his paper presented at the Miami AAG meeting: “Settin’ the Woods on Fire: The Cultural Ecology of Rural Incendianism.” The editors wish to thank our regional councilors for serving as judges: Nigel Allan, University of California, Davis; Thomas Bassett, University of Illinois; and Dianne Rocheleau, Clark University.
Appeal/admonition to peripatetic members

I realize that celebrating stasis, fixity, immobility, and similar pre-processual postures and Platonic concretes come as close to constituting a cultural ecological sin or fallacy as might exist. Nevertheless, the editors of this newsletter (and probably all S.G. newsletter editors) are constantly vexed by trying to keep up with our more mobile members. Bulk mail items (such as this newsletter) that are undeliverable, can either be returned with first class penalties and postage due, or are discarded. After routinely receiving twenty to thirty penalty returns each issue, we have elected to take the second course. We no longer request undelivered issues be returned to us. Slowly aging copies of the CEN are sitting in dead letter boxes from Socotra to Syracuse to Sunda. We can only hope they practice recycling!

For those of you who do not have your AAG mailings sent to a fixed mailing address such as the academic department or organization you are affiliated with, we urge you to keep the AAG up-to-date on your whereabouts. We realize that students (often by necessity) change addresses frequently: from neighborhood to neighborhood; from university to university; to and from the field. If you are a student and you are not receiving mail at your department because they don’t provide you with a box, then you might want to consider individual or collective action to remedy this. It will probably make things simpler for you; it certainly will for us.

Appeal for potential book reviewers

As you may have noticed from the past several issues of CEN, we have instituted a book review section. Accordingly, we are actively soliciting review copies from publishers. We have received various items recently, though only a few fall within the immediate bounds of cultural ecology. Books currently available for review are listed below. We invite anyone willing to write a short review (ca 300 - 500 words) of one of these books (or another book you think appropriate) to contact us. We will be happy to send you the book in exchange for your review. Student members are especially encouraged to participate. They will receive priority in the case of more than one volunteer reviewer.


ICA Conference Report

The 47th International Congress of Americanists was held at Tulane University in New Orleans, July 7-11. Since the last century the I.C.A. has met every three years in a different world city, alternating between Europe and the New World. Some two thousand scholars from several dozen countries were represented in the program. As has traditionally been the case, anthropologists and archaeologists formed the largest disciplinary group. Geographers and cultural ecologists were represented, but in seemingly lesser numbers than in the recent past. Perhaps the site — New Orleans in July — dampened the enthusiasm of would be geographer-attendees. Many of those who did attend are members of the CESG. The following CESG members presented papers:

Nick Dunning, “Ecology, Soils, and Ancient Settlement in the Chichén Itzá Area, Yucatán”
Dan Gade, “Malaria and Race in Andean America”
Kent Mathewson and Bob Kuhiken, “Exiles of the Lost Cause: Confederate Colonists in Latin America”
Bonham Richardson, “The ‘Guy Fawkes’ Riot in Grenada in 1885”
Robbie Webber, “Cattle Ranching in Achoma”
Barbara Williams, “Lands in Early Colonial Tepetlaoztoc: Houseplots, Gardens and Fields”

A quick scan of the program and chance encounters on campus running from building to building in torrential downpours or in sessions and social events suggests that the following non-CESG geographers were there: Alan Craig, Oscar Horst, Frank Innes, Linda Newson, and David Preston. Dick Kesel served on the Organizing Committee. The Vice Presidents included Robert West and Alfred Siemens, and David Preston was named one of the Honorary Vice Presidents. Harold Blakemore was one of three Honorary Presidents (In Memoriam). L.S.U. and Wisconsin geography and anthropology graduate students served as volunteer operators of audio-visual equipment. Apologies for anyone I missed in this accounting.

In 1993 the 48th I.C.A. will be held in Stockholm. I would encourage all geographers with Americanist interests to consider attending. Geographers have yet to participate in numbers large enough (or with sufficient organizational clout) to warrant a special section of the program devoted to geography. Given the strength of geography in Sweden, this might be the time to do it. Anyone interested in organizing a session for Stockholm with an emphasis on cultural ecology, or more generally geography, please contact me.

-- Kent Mathewson
CESG Business Meeting - Minutes


The treasurer’s report opened the meeting. There arose the matter of dues, and the impending collection of all specialty group dues by the AAG central office. Following a discussion of student paper awards, there was a motion to add a student representative to the board of officers for the CESG. Cindi requested that faculty members send her nominations consisting of name, brief biographical note, and research interests. Voting will be conducted through the newsletter.

Cindi stressed the importance of CESG sponsorship for sessions at next year’s San Diego meetings, to avoid schedule conflicts. Members interested in organizing a session should send her the names of proposed participants and paper titles.

Concerning the subject of the name change, there was some discussion, mostly of the nails-in-the-coffin variety. By way of addressing the intent of the name change proposal, Robert Ford suggested a special session in San Diego relating to political ecology. And Bill Turner suggested a special session on the “theory and method” of cultural ecology, to include speakers from other disciplines, especially anthropology.

Bill Turner announced a “think tank” on Global Land Use Change in Snowmass, Colorado, with five slots allotted to graduate students. Interested applicants should contact him for further details.

On a final note, Kent suggested that the CESG contribute funds to the IGU toward travel costs for Third World participants. This was approved by a vote of those present.

Financial Report

As of July 1, the CESG had $397.95 in its account. Expenditures since 1/1/91 have been: $100.00 for student paper prize; $50.00 contribution for I.G.U. registration fees; $50.00 for newsletter costs (supplies, printing, mailings). Since the beginning of the calendar year we have received: annual AAG rebate of $129.90; $20.00 in voluntary dues. An additional $100.00 will be sent to complete our pledge to the I.G.U.

New Journal

We have received notice of a new publication that will be of interest to CESG members. The Indian Society of Human Ecology has announced the first volume (1990) of the Journal of Human Ecology, "designed for the prompt publication of original and significant articles in the field of Human Ecology, Biology, Genetics and Culture related to environmental issues. It aims at disseminating knowledge which may solve the deteriorating Man-Environment relationship."

A style sheet and additional information concerning manuscript submissions may be obtained from M.K. Bhasin, Managing Editor, Department of Anthropology, University of Delhi, Delhi - 110 007, India. Individual subscriptions are US$40 per year for three issues (student rate US$30) and may be ordered from Kamla-Raj Enterprises, 2273 Gali Bari Paharwali, Chawri Bazar, Delhi - 110 006, India.

Assistantship Available

A Graduate Research Assistantship in Tropical Paleocoeology is available in the Department of Geography, University of Tennessee, Knoxville. The project seeks to reconstruct the history of forest clearance, agriculture, fires, and other natural and cultural disturbances in Costa Rican rainforests based on the analysis of microfossils in sediment cores from lakes and swamps. Requirements: B.S./B.A. or M.S./M.A. in geography, ecology, biology, geology, or related field, and admission to the graduate program in Geography. Relevant laboratory/field experience helpful but not required. Student will have the opportunity to write M.S. or Ph.D. thesis on some aspect of the research. This is a two-year position with possibility of extension; starting date is January, 1992. Interested applicants should immediately contact Dr. Sally Horn, Department of Geography and Graduate Program in Ecology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee 37996-1420. Phone: (615) 974-2418. FAX: (615) 974-6025. E-mail: shorn@utkux1.utk.edu. The University of Tennessee is an EO/AA employer.

Editors’ note: You may wonder why this issue’s “News from members” appears so LSU-centric. We simply have not received word from the membership at large regarding whereabouts, publications, research, etc. So that we can provide a more balanced report, please send in the “Request for Information” form. As they say downriver in N’awlins: “Where y’at?”
News from Members

Stan Stevens (East-West Center, Honolulu) is back from another field season in the Himalaya and will be in Hawaii for the rest of the summer. The fall semester will find him teaching at Berkeley; in January he begins his new appointment as Assistant Professor at Louisiana State University. Stan’s new book, entitled *Claiming the High Ground: Sherpa Settlement and Subsistence*, is being published by the University of California Press.

Nigel Allan (University of California, Davis) has recently published articles based on continuing fieldwork in high altitude cultural ecology: “Household food supply in Hunza Valley, Pakistan” *Geographical Review* 80:399-415; and “From autarky to dependency: Society and habitat relations in the south Asian mountain rimland” *Mountain Research and Development* 11:65-74. He is the recipient of an IREX Grant for Soviet-U.S. academic exchange this summer, and is investigating population migration and resettlement in the Pamir Mountains.

Lincoln DeBunce (Louisiana State University) is currently doing fieldwork on Pohnpei. His research deals with the cultivation and ritual consumption of kava (*Piper methysticum*), and its influence on the island’s cultural and physical landscapes. Linc can be reached c/o Historic Preservation Office, P.O. Box 158, Kolonia, Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia 96941.

Ricky Samson (Louisiana State University) has been awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to investigate the impacts of modernization on traditional resource exploitation, land use, and settlement patterns of the Pech Indians, in central Honduras. Ricky and Amy left for the field the first week of July. Their address for the next six months will be: A.P. 3932, Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Robert Kuhlken (Louisiana State University) is also the recipient of a Fulbright Award. Bob will be conducting research on agricultural terracing in Fiji. For the next thirteen months, he claims he can be reached at: Department of Geography, University of the South Pacific, P.O. Box 1168, Suva, Fiji.

Michael Yoder (Louisiana State University) is now enrolled in the Organization of Tropical Studies Field School in Costa Rica, an intensive six-week session devoted to tropical managed ecosystems. For his dissertation, Mike anticipates studying smallholder persistence in the Valle General, Costa Rica, from a political ecological perspective.

Letters

To the editor:

It is ironic that a proposal to change the name of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group (CESG) to the Cultural and Political Ecology Specialty Group, as a means of recruiting new members, has become such a divisive issue. In the end, I agree with Phil Porter's comments in the Spring 1990 Newsletter that the objective of the proposal is to send a signal to junior scholars that we are an open and diverse group (ideologically, methodologically, topically) that welcomes new approaches in our field of study. Let me suggest an alternative, and hopefully less divisive means of realizing this goal. I propose that at the next three annual meetings, we offer a special session on "political ecology" sponsored by the CESG and other interested specialty groups. I would be happy to chair this session and actively solicit papers. If interest is high, we can continue to organize such a session on a regular basis. At the very least, we will be sending a clear signal to potential members that the CESG welcomes scholars working within this paradigm.

— Tom Bassett

Dear Friends / Fellow CESG Members:

I am writing from the Solomon Islands where I am conducting my doctoral research. The title of my project is “The strategy of the commons: Transformations in the meaning and management of communally held resources on Vella Lavella Island, Solomon Islands.” I live in a leaf house beside the sea with a wild puppy. There are no roads — and no plumbing or electricity. All travel is by foot (barefoot because of the slippery mud) or by dugout canoe and sea kayak. My batteries (for tape recorder) are recharged by the sun. Water comes from the river. At this point I am grateful to find secret stashes of paper and pens that have not completely molded into history, been devoured by GIANT cockroaches and rats, or been terminally pooped upon by the endless menagerie of critters during their nightly rampages through my house.

My address (until October, 1991) is Lamaduri, Leona Postal Agency, Vella Lavella Island, Western Province, Solomon Islands. After October: Department of Geography, Cambridge University, Downing Place, Cambridge CB2 3EN, England.

With warm regards,

— Lamaduri (Ms. Jody Solow)

Review by Kent Mathewson, Louisiana State University

At first glance this book, which employs the senses (mostly visual) and sensibilities (mostly moral) of nineteenth century travellers to reconstruct, render portraits of, and comment on the succession of landscapes encountered between Veracruz and the sierran summit, does not track the main paths of cultural ecology. In places, the author obliquely suggests as much. But the intersections are frequent and insightful enough to recommend it to all cultural ecologists with an interest in the humid tropics. Moreover, it stands as an example of what might be termed “humanistic” and/or “historical” cultural ecology.

For more than two decades, the author has studied cultural adaptations to Mesoamerica’s eastern lowlands. He has been a central figure in the discovery and investigation of prehispanic raised field systems there. Along the way, Siemens has taken close note of what travellers recorded about these environments. This book then, is the result of extensive study and reflection on outsider’s encounters with these landscapes. Archival work in various countries, especially Germany, allows him to draw upon an impressive array of travel accounts to recount impressions of the old route from the coast to summit via Jalapa. Throughout, Siemens is concerned to show that the imagery (often faulty and prejudicial) of 19th century North Atlantic visitors, has persisted and influenced modern prescriptions for “development.”

The book is organized pleasingly to pay homage to and subtly mirror the style of the period’s travelogues. Thus, Geertz’s notion of “blurred genres” is given an added twist! Once under way, the text takes the reader from off-shore sightings and apprehensions of what awaits one in the tropics (Chapter 1) to “The Macabre Port” of Veracruz (Chapter 2). The urban landscape is seen through the eyes of visitors, and perceptions and projections of what lies ahead — disease (Chapter 4) and bandits (Chapter 5) — are ventilated. Plodding inland (Chapter 6) through wetlands and forests, preconceived imagery is matched with actual landscapes. Reaching slightly higher and drier terrain (Chapter 7), the traveller was typically slow to record the relief. Impressions of the local folk (jarochos) are offered and analyzed (Chapter 8). Only after breaching 1,000 meters (Chapter 9) are accounts adjusted to acknowledge and celebrate a “return” to “familiar” environs and agreeable settlements (Jalapa). The last segment of the journey (Chapter 10) brought most travellers to even more familiar conditions (conifers and cool air) and vantage points on the summit precipitated final reflections about the tropics before descent toward Mexico City. The last chapter (11) is summational.

Cultural ecologists will find this book instructive for several reasons. First, it is an inquest into the state of the lowland tropics of Veracruz as seen and conceptualized by outside visitors in the last century. Second, it is something of a personal quest by the author to explore and present material dealing with cultural adaptations to past and present landscapes in new/old ways. Cultural ecology’s foundational strengths lie in its relations with the earth and life sciences. It is currently being challenged and invigorated by encounters with political economy and social theory. Siemens’ study suggests a rather different departure; one that explores literary modes and recognizes cultural ecology’s antecedents in the natural history narrative tradition.


Review by Robert Kuhlken, Louisiana State University

This book, by an agronomist at Ohio State University, is at once informative and disappointing. Lal is clearly well-versed in the methods of soil loss measurement and tropical agronomy, and his authority is backed by a long list of similar titles. His tunnel vision approach, however, may limit successful application of the many technological solutions he proposes.

Fifteen chapters are organized into five sections: introduction; basic processes; measurement and prediction; erosion control; and special topics (steep lands and wind erosion). The five chapters in “basic processes” and the two chapters in “measurement and prediction” are valuable for understanding the physical properties of eroded and eroding lands, and for designing research to document and quantify the damage. Chapter 8 contains a lengthy discussion of the universal soil loss equation (USLE), and includes a series of “isocren” maps for a number of countries and regions. Lal is critical of depending on the USLE for assessing land degradation in equatorial areas. He
claims “it was not designed for such ecological regions,” and concludes that it is “an empirical regression model that lacks conceptual basis.”

The remainder of the book outlines erosion control techniques relating to land use, crop management, and conservation tillage. There is an uneasy assumption implied that these strategies have been developed under the auspices of scientific research at major mid-latitude universities. But as Gene Wilken has so eloquently documented in his book Good Farmers, practices such as live mulch and cover crops often have been worked out in detail for quite some time by the people who depend on them. Indeed, investigations of indigenous agricultural technologies, both past and persistent, constitute one of the leading research frontiers within cultural ecology. This type of holistic and interdisciplinary inquiry is rarely reciprocated.

As stated in the preface, this book is designed for “researchers in soil science and agronomy.” Thus, it will appeal more to physical geographers and geomorphologists than to cultural and political ecologists. The author somewhat naively claims that the book “addresses the problem of soil erosion, its causes and consequences, and methods to control it.” In focusing strictly on the physical landscape, Lal confuses the symptom with the disease. There is no mention of the production pressures on the Third World land base which are ultimately behind the degradation. This book may have its place, but perhaps it should be read concurrently with the work of Piers Blaikie.

On the whole, Lal’s book seems disorganized. Discussions of terraced agriculture, for example, appear in three widely separate places in the text. Not only is this treatment of terracing redundant, but it is marred by questionable blanket statements such as: “Terraces are effective only if combined with appropriate soil surface management, e.g. mulching and cover crops. In general, terraces are more effective for erosion control in orchards and plantation crops than in seasonal or annual crops.” This would be news to many tropical farmers.

Soil Erosion in the Tropics should have been a better book. The author is experienced in his field, and is familiar with a wide range of literature on technical aspects of tropical agriculture. But in today’s postmodern world, that is not enough. Humans and their social institutions and political structures are inexorably linked with natural processes; our scholarship must reflect this. I am reminded of a roundtable discussion among several prominent geographers that was published in the 1937 Annals of the AAG. Derwent Whittlesey asks “Why is soil cultural?” And Fred Kniffen responds “Well according to my way of thinking, it is not, but soil erosion is.”


Review by Joseph Tuomey, Louisiana State University

This monograph reports the findings of research on Yucatecan food storage practices, one of the more quotidian aspects of their household life. The focus is on maize storage in modern Maya households located in the Puuc region of Yucatán, Mexico. The volume is commendably presented in Spanish and English on alternating pages. In five chapters Smyth offers a competent and detailed report on the results of his field observations of selected houselots or solares in 15 separate communities. His methodology includes ethnographic interviews backed by archaeological excavation and pollen analysis.

Chapter 1 details Smyth’s rationale for this type of study, the geographic setting of the field observations, the methodologies employed, and a brief overview of agricultural practices of the region. Chapter 2 examines the various storage structures and techniques employed in the Puuc region and the relative importance of each system. Maize processing and cooking are also examined, and Smyth develops a spatial model of the relationships of storage to processing areas within the solares. Chapter 3 looks at some of the implications of storage behavior in terms of food surplus, accumulation of wealth, and agricultural production.

Chapter 4 covers the archaeology of storage behavior. Smyth attempts to extrapolate from modern storage practices to determine their influence on the archaeological record. He suggests that Maya storage structures are permanent and close to house size and shape. This could possibly diminish population estimates which are based on house counts if the archaeological data concur with this supposition. This question, however, is not developed further, and is apparently left for future study. Chapter 5 presents conclusions and suggestions for subsequent research on topics associated with Maya food storage strategies.

My criticisms of this work are minor. There are a few typographical errors, for instance. I also feel the title could have better reflected the emphasis on maize storage. Very little consideration was given to other food storage activities. In sum, Smyth’s work is a sound study of a largely neglected area of everyday life among the Maya.
Request for Information

1. Current research, recent publications, recent grants, fieldwork:

2. Recent honors, awards, new titles and/or employment positions:

3. Suggested books, articles, theses, dissertations, or other publications for listing in the CE Newsletter:

4. Field or other address for the next six months if different from regular mailing address:

Department of Geography and Anthropology
227 Old Geology Building
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-4105
CESG at SAN DIEGO

Listed below are sessions at the San Diego AAG meeting that are concerned with cultural ecology and should be of interest to members of the specialty group.

Sunday, April 19

3:25-5:05

Organizer: Michael J. Castellon, University of Wisconsin - Madison
Chair: Duane Griffin, University of Wisconsin - Madison
3:25 Michael J. Castellon, University of Wisconsin - Madison, Tragedy Averted or Postponed?: Communal Forest Preservation in Totonicapan, Guatemala;
3:40 Joseph M. McCann, University of Wisconsin - Madison, Fruits and Fibers: Extraction, Depletion, and Domestication in Peruvian Amazonia;
3:55 Maya Kennedy, University of Wisconsin - Madison, Pastoral Identity in the Changing Cultural Landscape of Highland Sardinia;
4:10 Duane Griffin, University of Wisconsin - Madison, Cooperation Between Environmentalism and Ethnic Communities: Opportunities and Constraints.

Monday, April 20

8:00 - 9:40

Organizer: Diane Rocheleau, Clark University
Chair: Diane Rocheleau, Clark University
Panelists: Diane Rocheleau, Clark University, Ben Wisner, Hampshire College, Alvin W. Urquhart, University of Oregon, Janelle M. Curry-Roper, Central College, Douglas L. Johnson, Clark University, Lyn Garling, U.C. - Santa Cruz.

9:55 - 11:25

Organizer: Kent Mathewson, Louisiana State University
Chair: Kent Mathewson, Louisiana State University
9:55 Joseph Sonnenfeld, Texas A&M University, Inupiat (Eskimo) Travel: An Evolving Tradition;
10:10 Nicholas P. Dunning, University of Cincinnati, Timothy Beach, University of Georgia, Ancient Terracing and Slope Management in the Maya Lowlands;
10:25 Andrew Sluyter, University of Texas, A Quantitative Model for Understanding the Pre Columbian, Long-Distance Transport of Maize in Western Mesoamerica;
10:40 Dean P. Lambert, University of Texas, William R. Fowler, Vanderbilt University, Precolonial and Colonial Cacao Production in Izalco, El Salvador;
10:55 Melinda Laituri, University of Arizona, Risk in a Multicultural Setting: Ambo Nogales;
11:10 Renee Prell, Univ. of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, Analysis of Factors Influencing a Mayan-Mexican Environmental Movement.

9:55 - 11:25

Organizer: Susan E. Place, CSU - Chico
Chair: Susan E. Place, CSU - Chico
Panelists: Kathryn E. Nava, Karl Zimmerman, Univ. of Wisconsin - Madison, Diana Liverman, Pennsylvania State University, Davin Ramphali, Louisiana State University, Susanna Hecht, UC - Los Angeles, Michael Perelman, CSU - Chico

1:30 - 3:10

Organizer: Nanda R. Shrestha, Univ. of Wisconsin - White-(Continued on page 2)

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water
Chair: Nanda R. Shrestha, Univ. of Wisconsin - Whitewater
Panelists: Barbara Brower, University of Texas, P.P. Karan, University of Kentucky, David Zurick, Eastern Kentucky University, Nanda R. Shrestha, Univ. of Wisconsin, Whitewater, Barry Bishop, National Geographic Society

1:30 - 3:10
Chair: Cindi Katz, CUNY

3:25 - 4:40
Organizer: Thomas J. Bassett, University of Illinois
Chairs: Thomas J. Bassett, University of Illinois, Dianne Rocheleau, Clark University
3:25 Deborah D. Paulson, University of Wyoming, Land Tenure, Deforestation, and Socioeconomic Change in Western Samoa
3:40 Davin Ramphall, Louisiana State University, Capital, Environment, and State Legitimation Crisis in ‘Cancer Alley,’ Louisiana;
3:55 Melanie Patton Renfrew, UC - Los Angeles, Sedentarization of Turkana Pastoralists, Social Stratification, and Cultural Evolution;
4:10 Roderick P. Neumann, UC - Berkeley, Wildlife Conservation and Village Moral Economy in Tanzania;
Discussant: Cindi Katz, CUNY.

Tuesday, April 21
8:00 - 9:00
Organizer: Stanley F. Stevens, Louisiana State University
Chair: Stanley F. Stevens, Louisiana State University
8:00 David Zurick, Eastern Kentucky University, Coping With Instability: Local Land Management in Nepal’s Hill Region;
8:15 Thomas J. Eley, University of Alaska, Resource Management and Natives in Rural Alaska;
8:30 Bernard Nietschmann, UC - Berkeley, Conservation by Indigenous Self Determination in Nicaragua;
8:45 Stanley F. Stevens, Louisiana State University, Subsistence Conservation and Environment in Highland Nepal.
Discussant: Martin W. Lewis, George Washington University.

9:55 - 11:25
Organizer: Gregory Knapp, University of Texas
Chair: Gregory Knapp, University of Texas
9:55 Barbara Brower, University of Texas, Grazing Tenure and Range Conservation in Sherpa Nepal;
10:10 Gregory Knapp, University of Texas, Nature and People in Highland Ecuador;
10:25 Sarah Oswood Brooks, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Agricultural Bench Terraces as a Prehispanic Adaptation to Drought in the Colca Valley, Peru;
10:40 Norman D. Johns, University of Texas, Cacao Cultivation in Bahia, Brazil: Implications for Sustainable Agriculture;

1:30 - 2:30
Latin American, Cultural Ecology, Historical, and Climatology Specialty Groups: Columbian Encounter I: Environment, Indians, and Exploration.
Organizers: William E. Doolittle, University of Texas, Randall S. Cerveny, Arizona State University.
Chair: Randall S. Cerveny: Arizona State University.
1:30 Thomas M. Whitmore, UNC - Chapel Hill, B.L. Turner, Clark University, Cultivated Landscapes of MesoAmerica.
1:45 William E. Doolittle, University of Texas, Native North American Cultivation Practices, 1492: Myths and Misunderstandings;
2:00 William M. Denevan, University of Wisconsin - Madison, The Landscape of the Americas in 1492: The Pristine Myth;

3:25 - 4:30
Latin American, Cultural Ecology, Historical, Climatology, Specialty Groups: Columbian Encounter II: Climate, Contact, and Conquest.
Organizers: Randall S. Cerveny, Arizona State University, William E. Doolittle, University of Texas.
3:40 Jay S. Hobgood, Ohio State University, Randall S. Cerveny, Arizona State University, Climatological Aspects of the First Voyage of Christopher Columbus;
3:55 Carville Earle, Louisiana State University, Pioneers of Providence, The Anglo-American Experience, 1492-1800;
4:10 W. George Lovell, Queen’s University of Kingston, Disease and Depopulation in Colonial Spanish America.
Discussant: Karl W. Butzer, University of Texas.

3:25 - 4:55
Cultural Ecology: Vegetation/Agriculture.
Chair: Christine M. Rodrigue, CSU - Chico
3:25 S. Reza Ahsan, Western Kentucky University, Water Resources of Village Katmikol-Girhinda, Bihar, India;
3:40 Scott Mensing, UC - Berkeley, European Impacts on Fire Frequency and Oak Woodlands in Coastal California;
3:55 Lisa Kennedy, Indiana University - Indianapolis, Timothy Brothers, Indiana University, The Changing Geography of Vegetation Place Names in the Prairie - Forest Border Region
of Indiana;
4:10 Curt Robinson, UC - Davis. The Diffusion of Mustard During the Age of Discovery;
4:25 Norman J. Hetland, UC - Berkeley. Perennial Pacific: The Unified Geography of Agricultural and (Perhaps) Cultural Sustainability in Selected Island Sub-Regions;
4:40 Christine M. Rodriguez, CSU - Chico. Cultural Geography Has Reached a Dead End in Domestication Studies by Ignoring Cognate Research for 25 Years.

Notes from the Chair

Money, money, money

As I write from a university in fiscal duress, in a city fast going bankrupt, it is a pleasure to report that CESG is richer than it has ever been. With the AAG central office collecting our dues, we have over $600 at our disposal for the present year. This unprecedented largesse gives us the opportunity to do something special in the coming year in addition to producing the newsletter and offering awards for student papers. I would like to spend some time at our business meeting in San Diego actively exploring creative ways to spend the money. Among the possibilities are to invite a special guest to next year’s meetings, to sponsor symposia at either the regional or national meetings, to provide support for student research, or (a voice from LSU whispers) to purchase hardware for producing the newsletter. I welcome all suggestions and urge you to be creative with this modest fund. It’s cheering to think of ways we might make up for some of the bruises most academic departments suffer during financial crises.

Student paper competition

While on the topic of spending money, I remind everyone of our student paper competitions. The competitions are described in this newsletter and in the March Newsletter of the AAG. I urge all eligible students to participate, it’s a good way to get wider exposure for your work. Thanks to our regional councillors, Nigel Allan, Tom Bassett, and Diane Rocheleau for acting as judges for the competition for the second year.

Elections

Hmmm second year, it is time to elect new officers for the CESG. We will hold the election at the business meeting in San Diego, and until that moment I will be happy to receive nominations for chair, secretary-treasurer, regional councillors, and student representative. I am especially eager to receive nominations for student representative because I am less familiar with our student membership, and when push comes to shove I may not know all the possible shoulders to tap.

Annual Meeting

Our specialty group is well represented at the annual meetings. We are sponsoring nine sessions and hosting Lyn Garling and Michael Perelman as guests. Unfortunately our group’s multiple initiatives and the annual meeting space-time crunch have led to a couple of unresolvable scheduling conflicts. While Sunday is a quiet day for CESG sponsored events, Monday is quite jammed. One session on Traditional Resource Management Systems in Transition, organized by Mike Castellon, has been moved from Tuesday to Sunday 3:25-5:05. Two conflicts on Monday apparently remain: The CESG business meeting conflicts with a session on Politics, Ecology and Development in the Himalayas which CESG co-sponsored with the Asian, Political, and Socialist Geography Specialty Groups; and in the morning two sessions sponsored by CESG conflict. Americanist Topics in Cultural Ecology organized by Kent Mathewson and the Political Ecology of Latin America organized by Susan Price are both scheduled for 9:55-11:35. All of this and 15 minute papers too!

I look forward to seeing all of you in San Diego and hope that you will attend our business meeting scheduled for Monday 20 April, 1:30-3:10. Remember our bi-annual elections will take place during the meeting and there’s all that lucre to spend.

Thanks and Good Bye

These will be my last notes as chair. I have enjoyed serving the CESG and getting to know many of its members better. Thank you for making ours a productive, interesting and dynamic specialty group. Hope to see you in San Diego.

Cindi Katz.

Student Paper Award

Student Paper Awards

The Cultural Ecology Specialty Group offers two student awards of $100. The first is for a paper on a theme in cultural ecology derived from a master’s thesis or doctoral dissertation completed since September 1990. The second is for a paper presented at a regional or national meeting of the Association of American Geographers over the past year (from the 1991 annual meeting throughout the 1992 annual meeting, inclusive). Students entering their papers in the competition must be the sole author and a paper may only be submitted once. Awards will be presented at the awards lunch at the AAG annual meeting. To be considered for this year’s awards entrants should send copies of their paper to each of the three
councilors of the CESG: Nigel Allan, Dept. of Geography, Univ. of California, Davis, CA 95616; Thomas Bassett, Dept. of Geography, Univ. of Illinois, Urbana, IL, 61801; and Dianne Rocheleau, Graduate School of Geography, Clark University, Worcester, MA 01610. Papers must be received by 10 April 1992. Questions concerning the competition should be directed to Cindi Katz, Environmental Psychology Program, CUNY-Graduate Center, 33 West 42 Street, New York, NY 10036; (212) 642-2568.

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**Book Reviews**

**RAISING AND SUSTAINING PRODUCTIVITY OF SMALLHOLDER FARMING SYSTEMS IN THE TROPICS: A HANDBOOK OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT** by Willem C. Beets; 738 pp; illus, bibliog, index. Alkmaar, Netherlands: AgBé Publishing, 1990. ISBN 974 85676 1 3 for hardback ($65) and 974 85676 4 8 for paperback. Also available in French.

Review by Simon Batterby, Clark University.

This is an enormous tome of over 700 pages, 250 figures, countless photographs and eight long chapters "using 2,234 references;" it reflects Beets’ experiences over twenty years working as an agricultural consultant and project planner in Asia and Africa. His approach sounds promising to a geographer and cultural ecologist - to integrate work on tropical farming systems from a variety of disciplinary perspectives and to outline sustainable, culturally sensitive ways to improve agricultural productivity.

Unfortunately the book lacks the cohesiveness and rigor of earlier treatments of the topic, notably by Sanchez, Ruthenberg et al. A large number of conceptual diagrams disrupt the text and, while some are useful, often times these contradict each other, lack vital connecting arrows (p159) or simply extend for pages (p10-15). The text itself is hard to read and, in the English edition at least, needs editing. There are too many concepts underlying the approach to farming systems; nuggets of key information presented in the chapters are often repeated elsewhere in the book in different form, or lost in the telling as the author springs another 'technical report' style subject heading on the reader. I would also question some aspects of Beets' view of tropical farmers themselves, who he feels are "often not convinced" of the need for development (p63), have "wrong" cultural practices (p71, 154), are almost always male and must not exceed FAO-calculated 'carrying capacities' (Ch.3, p236). It is worrying that too much technical data is not properly referenced despite the wealth of sources used.

To his credit, Beets' wide field experience has given rise to a refreshing pragmatism. Theoretical arguments about the nature of agricultural change, the deficiencies of existing studies, or the competing claims of disciplinary perspectives do not interest him; no debating points are scored and most of his points are backed by field data or examples. There are two parts to the book; Part One sets the scene and outlines the contexts in which farmers operate. The best material is in chapter 4 on 'Natural Resources and Agro-Technical Aspects of Tropical Farming Systems' - here Beets appears to be on safe ground and summarises a lot of rather dry material on soils, climate and crop suitability in a logical way. In Part Two, he tackles the productivity issue. Following from a typology of different farming systems in chapter 6, the 193-page chapter 7 covers every possible way of raising and sustaining productivity in these systems; improved husbandry, varietal selection, water conservation, marketing, institution-building, land reform, agricultural extension networks and more.

This monolithic book will join others as a handbook or reference text on tropical farming systems, if only because its ambitious breadth of coverage. Geographers should appreciate this. Even if you don't like the quality, you can always feel the width.


Review by Sally Horn, University of Tennessee

This book by a researcher with the French Institute for Scientific Research for Development through Cooperation (ORSTROM) concerns the role and functioning of scientists in developing countries. The study focusses on the experiences of 489 agricultural scientists in 67 developing countries who received grants support between 1974-84 from the International Foundation for Science (IFS). IFS is an independent, nongovernmental body formed in 1972 to support research in the agricultural sciences deemed to be important national development. IFS presently has 85 member organizations in 71 countries; in 1984 major contributors to the IFS budget were (in order of contribution): Sweden, the U.S., Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Australia, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Belgium, and Switzerland. Grants (U.S. $10,000 maximum annually) are given to individual scientists in developing countries in support of work conducted in those countries. Priority fields are aquaculture, animal production, food crops, afforestation and mycorrhiza, fermentation and applied microbiology, natural products, and rural technology.

The experiences of the IMF grantees are revealed by a survey, personal interviews and discussion, and bibliometric research (where, what, and with whom they have published). Most of the grantees surveyed were based in Asia (43.6%) and Africa (32.7%); Latin America (17.6%) and the Pacific (1.6%) were less well represented. The geographical distribution largely reflects IMF priorities; the low Latin American percentages are explained in part by the fact that IMF deliberately fails to advertise its programs in certain Latin American nations where the scientific infrastructure is perceived as already strong (viz., Argentina, Brazil, Venezuela, 
Mexico.) As mentioned, all of the IMF grantees were engaged in agricultural research, but their experiences probably are similar to those of many other scientists in developing countries, including geographers.

The first four chapters of the book detail the results of the IMF survey and interviews, with particular attention given to the origins and education of the grantees (Ch 2), research as a profession (Ch 3), the actual practice of research (Ch. 4), and research production (Ch. 5). The story that emerges is both grim and heartening: we may gripe that conditions are bad for U.S. academics, but our concerns are mostly trivial when compared with the very substantial obstacles faced by scientists in developing countries: i.e., isolation from other scientists, lack of basic as well as specialized materials and supplies, the need to pursue graduate work abroad, insufficient library materials, reliance on foreign funding. The heartening part of all this is that scientists do manage to carry out good work in spite of these obstacles, and to find personal and professional satisfaction in their scientific careers.

The last chapter of the book presents a comparative study of scientific communities in three countries: Costa Rica, Senegal, and Thailand. This was to me the most interesting part of the book, partly because of my experiences working with Costa Rican scientists and partly because it is the most integrative chapter in the book. As the author himself points out, the global and regional statistics used in the previous four chapters tend to blur differences between countries characterized by very different histories, cultural makeup, and levels of development. This final chapter, drawn from the author’s recent Ph.D. dissertation, focuses on the differing attributes of developing countries and the way in which they have affected science and the lives and work of scientists.

Is this book a must for your personal bookshelf? Probably not, but I’d ask your university library to order a copy. For those of us who regularly collaborate with scientists in developing countries, the problems and solutions outlined in the book will be familiar, but perhaps we owe it to our foreign colleagues to try to understand better the context in which they conduct their research. Graduate students ought to be exposed to these issues also, especially students about to embark on research in developing countries.

For readers interested in a basic introduction to native American populations, this book is a good beginning. Most abstracts include information on location, language, culture history, and population, but as is the case in most reference compilations, individual contributions are of variable quality. A recent “selected bibliography” of over 50 pages provides an incomplete but very useful record of research over the last two decades. Two appendices (“tribes by country” and “chronology of the conquest of Central and South America”) are useful additions to the text but they must be used with caution. Appendix One: “tribes by country” has so many mistakes. Miskito are listed in Belize and Guatemala (where there are none), and the list of Panamanian Indians includes only three groups—the very important Kuna group is not mentioned.

Perhaps the most serious problem is that much information is simply out-of-date, often by as much as 50 years. As an example: there is no recognition that the Guatuso and Maleku (their modern name) of Costa Rica are the same group. Further, the Maleku certainly do not “live in multifamily houses without walls” (p. 139). About ten years ago, the Canadian development agency constructed tin roofed-cement block houses for most of the Maleku. Even before, for at least three decades, they lived in single family structures.

Of course, it is far too much to expect one compiler to keep abreast of the rapid changes among all Indian groups in the Americas. Still, anyone who relies upon this reference work without consulting more recent and authoritative sources, does so at her/his own peril. Specifically for those interested in cultural ecology, details of the physical environment are lacking.

The compiler is a history professor at Sam Houston State University in Texas.


Review by Chris Coggins, Louisiana State University.

Rainforest Politics is a comprehensive analysis of the historical, economic, and political roots of rainforest destruction in South-East Asia. The author, a British environmental scientist and lobbyist, gives equal weight to the environmental and social impacts of forest destruction. His emphasis on the multiplicity of factors affecting forestry policy and practice in the region, and his thorough delineation of the distinct conditions in each country, bring home the basic thesis that if we are to understand and deal with this social, political, and ecological issue, it must be on a case by case basis. Broad generalizations about the causes and remediation of deforestation in South-East Asia (and elsewhere) simply do not stand up to scrutiny.

After a brief introduction, Hurst devotes a chapter to each of the following countries in order: Indonesia, West (peninsular) and East (Sabah and Sarawak) Malaysia (two
separate chapters), Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, and Thailand. The final chapter, a regional overview, discusses historical, economic, and political factors that are common to all of the countries. This chapter also introduces some alternative forest management schemes.

Each country is introduced with a brief historical and geographical sketch. This is followed by sections on: forest resources and destruction rates, the environmental impacts of deforestation, social and economic costs, the development of present forest policy, present causes of forest destruction, government plans for forest futures, and case studies featuring key forces at work behind and in front of the baleful snarl of chainsaws and bulldozers.

Drawing from a broad spectrum of government documents, scientific research, and the popular press, Hurst shows how colonial and bureaucratic legacies affect forest policy. Development strategies adopted from and funded by western countries often serve the elite in the recipient countries. These large-scale forest “harvest,” hydropower, and agribusiness schemes displace the poor, forcing them to clear more forest land. The much vaunted “trickle down” of benefits from foreign investments and lending agencies flows back to the corporations and wealthy land owners, largely bypassing the inhabitants of the rainforest. Though many of the “host” countries have progressive forest legislation, it is seldom enforced. Reforestation mandates are seldom followed by timber companies, and governments lack the necessary funds for such programs. Most replanting programs have involved softwoods like eucalyptus, an exotic species with no integrity in a rainforest ecosystem.

Though these problems occur in all of the countries to some degree, Hurst does an excellent job of highlighting the exceptions. For example, while most of the countries have little, or only incipient legislation protecting the land rights of tribal peoples, Papua New Guinea, with some 800 culture groups, requires tribal consent in granting timber rights, with 75% of the royalties returning to the tribe. This is clearly an exceptional case in the region, where corruption in government and in the timber trade is a major problem, and indigenous people are routinely uprooted. Hurst holds up the Philippines under Marcos as a worst case scenario of autocracy, graft, and exploitation.

Hurst suggests that westerners can contribute to the preservation of the rainforests by advocating indigenous land use systems, land reform, social forestry, agroforestry, and minor forest products industries. Though tribal peoples are commonly regarded as the lowest class in Asian societies, Hurst believes that “their old ideas can be promoted as new innovations.” This would be more acceptable, he says, if presented to the ruling class within a framework of western methods and ideas, which they regard highly.

This book is an ambitious project that succeeds in showing the interconnections between global political and economic forces, forest policies in individual countries, and impacts on the cultural ecology of tribal groups and the rural poor. Differences in the conditions of each country are emphasized, so that a distinct picture emerges for each. My only complaint is that there are no maps, despite the numerous references and case studies pertaining to mountain ranges, rivers, and regions within each country. For those interested in a comprehensive view of the forests of South-East Asia, their status and their future, this book should be regarded as a primary source.

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OTHER NEWS

Conference on Empowering Political and Economic Transformations
Boulder, Colorado
April 15-17, 1992

The conference will provide a forum to assess the effects of recent political and economic transformations on the ability of individuals in varied social groups and contexts to gain access to power. Papers are welcome that deal with changing relations as they affect class, nationalism, gender, race, development, culture, or electoral politics. The conference is sponsored by the Political Geography Specialty Groups of the AAG. It will be held at the University of Colorado in Boulder just prior to the AAG conference in San Diego. Over 10 direct flights a day link Boulder to San Diego. The University anticipates being able to help defray costs for participants. Contact Lynn Staeheli, Department of Geography, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309-0260 USA, phone (303) 492-4695, fax (303) 492-7501, E-mail STAEHLL_@CUBLDR.Colorado.edu.

Summer Course in Barbados

The Virginia Tech Department of Geography will sponsor a three-semester credit undergraduate summer course in Barbados, West Indies, from July 6-19, 1992. Students will have the opportunity to participate in a number of scheduled activities dealing with social, economic, and political dimensions of the island. Barbados’s small size - eighteen miles long and a “smile wide,” according to tourist brochures, lends itself to island-wide field observations of many kinds. Day-long field excursions and seminars dealing with issues pertaining to among other things - sugar cane plantations, small-scale agriculture, tourism, urban development, race and politics, and conservation policies and problems.

Accommodations will be at the dormitories on the campus of the University of the West Indies at Cave Hill, which is located on the northern edge of greater Bridgetown, in the southwestern corner of the island. The two-week schedule includes ample time for beaching and shopping.

The estimated cost for the course will be $1700, which includes all international airfare, food, and lodging in Barbados, and ground transportation in Barbados. Contact Professor Bonham Richardson, Department of Geography, 301 Patton Hall, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, VA 24061 (703-231-5514) for more details.
Richard Wilk, Secretary/Treasurer of the Society for Economic Anthropology invites CESG members to join the SEA. The SEA is an interdisciplinary unaffiliated association. Members come from the fields of cultural anthropology, archaeology, sociology, economics, applied anthropology, political science, agriculture and a wide variety of others. Members' interests include:

* The cross cultural study of economic activities and processes.
* The critical examination of formal economic methods and concepts.
* Historic and prehistoric systems of production, trade and consumption.
* Political economy and patterns of economic history.
* Decision making, exchange theory and microeconomics.

A year's membership in the SEA costs $15 (the student rate is $5, if you want to relay this information to any of your students). The benefits of membership include:

* The SEA newsletter - information, announcements, and information exchange among scholars who share your interests.
* Annual meetings - this year the meetings will be held jointly with the Society for the Advancement of Socio-economics, on "Individual Choice and the Generation of Institutions," March 27-29 in Irvine, CA.
* Discounts on the purchase of the SEA publication series from University Press of America - high quality volumes of edited papers on current topics, useful as texts and sourcebooks.
* Nominate papers for the Harold K. Schneider annual student essay competition.

Wilk writes that the membership is still small enough to have a lot of face-to-face interaction at their meetings, and they value the contributions (both financial and intellectual) of every member. He asks that you pass this invitation along to any colleagues or students that might be interested.

Richard Wilk
Society for Economic Anthropology
Anthropology Dept.
Indiana University
Bloomington, IN 47405

John Metz writes that he will be in Nepal for 6 months starting in January. He will be researching the impact of human use on forest species composition, structure, and dynamics. This is a return visit to where he did his dissertation research. He has Fulbright-Hays and NSF grants to fund the work. John also sends word of his recent publications:


Martin L. Parry, has been appointed as the IBM director of the Environmental Change Unit (ECU) at the University of Oxford. The Environmental Change Unit is dedicated to interdisciplinary research on the nature, causes, and impact of environmental change, and to the development of management strategies for coping with future changes.

Thomas E. Downing is also moving to Oxford University, where he will be continuing his work on food security and global change. With funding from the U.S. EPA, and in collaboration with researchers in Chile, Kenya, Malaysia, Senegal, and Zimbabwe, he will complete a series of case studies on food vulnerability. A summary monograph should be printed in mid-1992.

Karl Zimmerer has returned from a year's field work in Bolivia. In the past year Karl has published a series of articles on his Andean research. Among them are:


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**News from Members**

Thomas Whitmore has been appointed an assistant professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Sofronio Parafina has recently moved to the Department of Geography, Texas A&M University.

Donald Vermeer sends word that planning for the IGC is proceeding at pace. Don thanks the CESG again for our $150 contribution to the IGC Host and Travel Grant Program.
1. Current research, recent publications, recent grants, fieldwork:

2. Recent honors, awards, new titles and/or employment positions:

3. Suggested books, articles, theses, dissertations, or other publications for listing in the CE Newsletter:

4. Field or other address for the next six months if different from regular mailing address:

Department of Geography and Anthropology
227 Old Geology Building
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-4105
Notes from the Chair

Cultural Ecology and Political Ecology Highlighted

Cultural ecological and political ecological approaches are favorably reviewed in two recent publications. In his review of Gary Gaile and Curt Willmoitt’s Geography in America, Wilbur Zelinsky finds just 8 out of the 34 chapters to be “exciting contributions.” Making the “honor roll” is the cultural ecology chapter authored by Karl Butzer. (See Progress in Human Geography 1992, 16(1): 119-222. In the new AAG commissioned volume, Geography’s Inner Worlds, edited by Ron Abler, Melvin Marcus, and Judy Olsen, political ecological and cultural ecological approaches are highlighted in the chapters authored by Greg Knight, Bonham Richardson, and John Pickles and Michael Watts.

Specialty Group News

Membership in the CESG took a dramatic leap in 1992. As of October, 295 geographers belonged to the group. This is up 40% from last year’s high of 211. The graph below shows the trend in membership since 1985.

Annual Meetings

The bad news is that the guest policy allowing specialty groups to invite up to three non-North American geographers to participate in the annual meeting for a modest $15 registration fee was rescinded 11 to 7 by the AAG Council at their spring 1992 meeting. The decision was protested by specialty groups, forcing the issue to be taken up again at this fall’s Council meeting. The decision was sustained and the AAG central office is currently revising specialty group bylaws. The new policy currently taking shape is that specialty groups will still be able to invite non-geographers to participate in the annual meetings but they must pay the much higher membership rate. In partial compensation, the AAG will increase the amount of the funds that it is currently allocating on an experimental basis ($2000 in 1992) to subsidize the expenses of “one or more non-geographers invited to appear in plenary-like sessions sponsored by three or more specialty groups.”

I would also like to bring to the attention of CESG members that as long as there is interest, I am willing to organize one or more political ecology sessions at the annual meetings. I made this offer last year in an effort to end the divisive debate over changing the name of the specialty group to reflect the interests of political ecologists. The political ecology session at the San Diego meetings was very successful. Let’s maintain the momentum!

Tom Bassett
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champlain

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Cultural Ecology Newsletter

Number 21  Autumn, 1992

Kent Mathewson, Editor
Frederick Sunderman, Stanley Stevens,
Associate Editors

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Department of Geography and Anthropology.
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803
Cultural Ecology Sessions at Atlanta '93

Gender, Class, and Ideology in African Agrarian Systems, Co-sponsored by the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group and the Africa Specialty Group
Organizer and Chair: Thomas J. Bassett (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)
Leslie Gray (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign) and Michael Kevane (University of California, Berkeley), Variation in Agricultural Practice in Sheikani, Western Sudan.
Richard A. Schroeder (University of California, Berkeley) Bounded Enthusiasm: Fencing in Female in Gambian Gardens.
Susanne Frieberg (University of California, Berkeley) "Gentlemen Farmers," Gender, and Structural Adjustment in a Regional Food Economy (Burkina Faso).
Thomas J. Bassett (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign), Hired Herders and Herd Management in Fulani Pastoralism (Northern Côte d'Ivoire).

Social Constructions of Nature Sponsored by the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group.
Chair: Edmunds Burske
Discussant: Margaret Fitzsimmons.

Organizer and Chair: Stanley F. Stevens (Louisiana State University).
Paul G. Sneed (East-West Center, Honolulu). Towards Comanagement of National Parks in Canada and the United States.
Peter H. Herlihy (Southeastern Louisiana University). Geographic Research in Establishing the Tawahka Homeland Within Mosquitia's Solidaridad Reserve System.
Stanley F. Stevens (Louisiana State University). Protected Areas and Indigenous Peoples: Global Perspectives.
Bernard Nietschmann (University of California, Berkeley). Strengthening Indigenous Territorial Autonomy With Protected Areas.

AN APPEAL TO LATIN AMERICANISTS FOR ASSISTANCE. Kent Mathewson and Karl Zimmerer are writing review articles for a special 40th anniversary issue of the Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography. Mathewson is reviewing work in human geography on tropical America over the past 40 years, and Zimmerer is doing the same for physical geography. Please call our attention to any of your own work that merits inclusion. If possible, please send us a current copy of your c.v. or the relevant pages. Thank you for your assistance.

Stan Stevens (LSU) reports that his book on Sherpa cultural ecology and economic and environmental change in the Mount Everest region of Nepal will be available by April from University of California Press (Claiming the High Ground: Sherpas, Subsistence, and Environmental Change in the Highest Himalaya, 535 pages). The book contains extensive analysis of high-altitude land use and resource management (agriculture, pastoralism, forest use, and local resource management institutions) and economic and environmental change since the early 19th century.

Stan spent the summer in Nepal and China (his tenth field research trip to Nepal and his fourth trip to China). His new work in Nepal examines economic and environmental change in forty villages in the Dudh Kosi watershed in eastern Nepal inhabited by Sherpas, Rais, Magars, Gurungs, and Hindu hill castes.

Donald E. Vermeer writes:
The 27th International Geographical Congress has come and gone! It was quite an event, and my overall evaluation is that it was a success.

One of the noteworthy innovations was the Host and Travel Grant Program, the first time an organized effort has been made to support colleagues from poor areas of the world. The Program offered partial or full financial support to one hundred sixteen (116) individuals, and the total amount disbursed was about $200,000. The Host and Travel Grant Committee reviewed 604 applications at its meeting in September, 1991. An additional 377 late applications were received, a few as recently as the third week of July, 1992. The absolute need of our professional colleagues in poor areas of the world was strongly demonstrated by the Program.

The Host and Travel Grant Program sincerely thanks The Cultural Ecology Specialty Group for its contribution of $150 to the Host and Travel Grant Program. The collective contributions of various groups and hundreds of individuals made the H/T Program a success that the Dutch (1996) and the Germans (seeking the 29th Congress in 2000) will have to stretch to duplicate. We have established a precedent in kind and amount of support for all future congresses. That is a positive legacy.

This book presents the results of a decade of field work and archival research in Ecuador. Knapp's synthesis is an ambitious endeavor, for it traces and interprets change in mountain agriculture from pre-Inca times to the present. An "adjoint" methodology is used, meaning that environmental problems are defined by beginning with social needs in relation to the physical environment. This methodology differs sharply from culture/environment studies which first consider the physical environment as a separate entity humans shape to their designs. A conceptualization of Andean agriculture within the constructs of adaptive dynamics and the niche concept comprises the theoretical core of this work.

Readers looking for a study of Andean agriculture within a social theory or world-systems context will be disappointed. Knapp chooses instead to focus specifically on agricultural adaptation in the Andes of northern Ecuador. Chapter 1 introduces the study region and provides an overview of his research program. Chapter 2 is a discussion of the relevant physical environment for agriculture. This differs from the standardized discussions of physiography which preface many regional geographies. It is presented from the "adjoint" perspective in which human labor and material inputs are integral elements of the environment, inseparable from frost, slope, elevation, and so forth. Chapter 3 is a consideration of small-farmer adaptive strategies, covering such essentials of agriculture as drainage and irrigation, field construction and maintenance, cultivation and fallowing. Chapter 4 presents results of an effort to model agricultural yields and labor inputs given the possibilities and limitations detailed in Chapters 2 and 3. Chapter 5 contains a discussion of prehistoric agricultural adaptations, based on archaeological, archival, and ethnographic sources. Chapter 6 delves into the intricacies of prehistoric irrigation strategies in the study area, as irrigated fields were one of two principal intensification adaptations in pre-Hispanic times. The other strategy, raised field systems, is considered in Chapter 7. Chapter 8 presents the results of Knapp's modeling efforts to determine the adaptive efficiency of raised fields, irrigated fields, and rain-fed agriculture in pre-Hispanic times. The final chapter contains the author's summary conclusions and observations of traditional agriculture in the contemporary agricultural landscape. The author's call to consider the actual and potential contributions of traditional Andean agriculture in modern Ecuador is compelling. Knapp argues that adaptations developed through millennia of trial and error are too significant to be cast aside in the name of progress.

Knapp's study is timely, for he chronicles the adaptive dynamics of Andean agriculture as traditional mountain cropping practices are rapidly declining in deference to pastoralism. It must have been a challenge to present this information within the confines of 220 pages; the author is to be commended for his pithiness. Anyone with serious research interests in Andean geography and history, cultural ecology, mountain studies, archaeology and anthropology, or any combination thereof should familiarize themselves with this book.

--- Fred Sunderman, Louisiana State University.

DEFORESTATION IN THE POSTWAR PHILIPPINES. David M. Kummer. 179 pp; figs. (one map), 31 tables. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1991. $17.00 (paper).

David Kummer's book presents the first quantitative theoretical analysis of the tropical deforestation process at a provincial scale. Given the importance of the topic, it is surprising that almost all previous work has been descriptive in nature, and has been done at a scale which renders the conclusions of little practical use. Kummer attempts to quantify the change in forest cover in the Philippines since 1950, then to correlate these changes with various social factors. His primary conclusions are that 1) deforestation in the Philippines has resulted from logging and the subsequent expansion of agriculture, and 2) these mechanisms must be analyzed from a political economy perspective in order to understand how the national experience falls into a global scale pattern.

The material is divided into eight chapters. The Introduction defines the term "deforestation," and describes social groups who benefit from deforestation. Chapter 2, "Tropical Deforestation: a Literature Review," selectively discusses sources for each of the major regions experiencing deforestation. This review highlights the importance of political-economic factors in the deforestation process. Chapter 3, "The Decline of Philippine Forest Cover," is a fairly detailed description of the data available, and the problems involved in accurately quantifying forest cover at a national scale. I appreciated Kummer's observation that, contrary to popular fantasy, digital satellite images do not automatically make a forest inventory accurate. The problems involved in using digital imagery are discussed in reference to the two most recent (1987) surveys of Philippine vegetation.

"The Postwar Philippines," Chapter Four, outlines some of the social factors involved in forest exploitation. Specifically these factors are demographic changes, the neglect of development in the industrial sector, extreme income disparity and the increase in poverty, and the expansion of agriculture. This last factor is important as it increasingly affects ecologically sensitive upland areas. Chapter 5, "The Deforestation Process in the Philippines," concisely summarizes the main forces at work at the national scale. It is here that Kummer asserts that logging followed by agricultural expansion is the primary mechanism of deforestation. Logging, however, depends on access to primary forest areas,
and it is differential access to forests which is really the heart of the problem. Access is controlled by a corrupt political elite.

The following two chapters, "Data Sources" and "Statistical Analysis of Deforestation," detail the inputs and techniques used in the quantitative analysis. Using provincial data from 1957, 1970, and 1980, Kummer correlates several variables: forest cover; urban, upland, agricultural, and total populations; road type and kilometerage; total area and arable land per province; forest concession number, area, and Annual Allowable Cut (AAC); and log productivity. Most of the variables are defined differently for 1957, but are included as general trend indicators. Statistical treatments of the data include multiple regressions and correlation coefficients, principal component analysis of the 1957 variables, and panel analysis of the 1970 and 1980 data. The final chapter, "Implications and Conclusions," synthesizes conclusions from the statistical analysis and the previous national-scale observations.

Kummer's book is a valuable contribution to the literature on tropical deforestation. However, the quantitative analysis is hampered by the fact that some of the key variables cannot be quantified. Forest classifications and areas are imprecise and inconsistent, provincial forestry data are often unreliable, and the extent and effects of different types of shifting agriculture are unknown. Moreover, corruption cannot be reliably quantified. It is, by nature, undocumented. Although this study is an attempt at provincial-scale analysis, there is very little inter-provincial comparison presented. More maps would be useful, especially in support of the observation that access to primary forest and distance from Manila are key variables in some correlations.

The book is very strong in detailing problems with data collection, and Kummer uses the available data well. This analysis is especially useful in 1) dispelling the misconception that population increase causes deforestation, and 2) supporting the thesis that access to primary forest is a key determinant of forest conversion. The author includes data collection problems as part of the larger problem of national development and forest management. Two prevailing generalizations about deforestation processes can be used as examples. Southeast Asian governments still blame shifting cultivation for deforestation, but Kummer points out that there still exists no hard data to support the claim, much less any distinctions in impact among various swidden methods. Secondly, several major logging groups in Southeast Asia have claimed that they are forced to overcut because their concessions are short-term. Kummer points out that longer-term concessions would not be an economic incentive for the few controlling individuals to practice conservation and silviculture, and that those same loggers probably have a hand in the definition of concessions anyway. These observations are directly applicable to Indonesia and East Malaysia.

*Deforestation in the Postwar Philippines*, then, is strongest in its analysis of non-quantifiable factors, and the application of that analysis to questions involving regional political economics. English language literature on forest use in Southeast Asia has mostly described situations at the subdistrict or regional scale. Kummer's book initiates analysis at the provincial scale, which should be more useful for development planning. His analysis, it is hoped, lead to a clearer definition of the role of intranational politics and economics in development planning.

—Andrew Maxwell, Louisiana State University


This collection of essays examines environmental, demographic, social, and political aspects of interaction among the peoples inhabiting northern Mexico and the Southwest and Southern Plains of the United States up through the seventeenth century. It looks beyond the traditional viewpoint of trade as the primary mode of interaction to examine intermarriage, raiding, political control, and dependency. An ecological perspective is maintained throughout, focusing on adaptations that occurred in these relations as migrations introduced more and different actors onto the scene and climatic change affected the viability of subsistence strategies.

In Chapter 2, John Speth suggests that Pueblo-Plains trade arose only a few hundred years before the arrival of the Spanish, as population aggregation and the depletion of local game reached critical thresholds in Pueblo areas. This led to greater dependence on farming and a desire to acquire meat protein from distant areas. The tendency for Plains women to marry higher status Pueblo men perhaps encouraged specialization in hunting among Plains men as a means of accumulating the wealth needed to attract a wife. Specialization and complementarity encouraged exchange, as did nonsynchronous food shortages among the two groups.

Spielmann continues the argument for mutualism in Chapter 3 by examining whether Pueblo groups competed with Plains nomads for bison via their own hunting activity and whether raiding pueblos was an economically viable means for Plains groups to obtain subsistence resources, especially corn. Both of these are rejected.

In Chapter 4, Judith Habicht-Mauche presents archaeological evidence that links the expansion of Southwestern pottery-making techniques into the Southern Plains with the adoption of Southwestern food complexes and their associated technologies of transport, storage, and processing.

David Snow, in Chapter 5, makes a case for the existence of core-periphery inter-pueblo trade prior to the evolution of Pueblo-Plains specialization and mutualism. His arguments are based on growing season restrictions on corn maturation at higher altitudes and the consequent consumption of green corn and need to acquire seed corn.

In Chapter 6, Christopher Lintz models the evolution of Pueblo-Plains exchange from a system of environmental buffering to one based on mutualism by examining settlement locations and artifacts of the Antelope Creek people of the
Texas Panhandle.

The next two chapters highlight political organization. Timothy Baugh traces social and economic changes that occurred among Plains Caddian villages as Apaches, Comanches, and Spaniards intruded into the area, altering trade relations with new political alliances. David Wilcox examines the evidence for nonegalitarian multi-settlement polities centered on primate pueblos.

The final chapter, by Francis Levine, brings the discussion into historic times by examining archaeological evidence for the comanche trade between Hispanic New Mexicans and Plains Indians and reasons for the vitality that sustained it through two centuries of Spanish, Mexican, and American control.

The book’s dozen maps vary in effectiveness. About half would be more elucidating to the non-specialist if they identified more of the place names referred to in the text. The authors admit that some of the hypotheses put forward are speculative, since potsherds and bison bones form scant evidence for complex interactions. The book is nonetheless impressive for its well-reasoned approach, regional scope, and combination of historic and systemic perspectives.

---Katie Algeo, Louisiana State University


Reading or examining old accounts of explorers’ journals and maps often gives a contemporary geographer a cherished glimpse into the time-space frameworks that once dominated the discipline. This exercise also permits an insight into how the geographer-explorers constructed their world. This book is about how the Imperial British, from their base in India, reconnoitered Central and Inner Asia using “native informants” just over a century ago. This effort was all part of the “Great Game” between Britain and Russia that started in the 1840’s and still exists in India’s (the British surrogate) beligerence towards its mountain neighbors and its hegemonic posturing. On another level the recent 19-year civil war in Afghanistan was a product of these international shenanigans.

Waller focuses on the period 1865-1885 when the British were anxious to extend their commercial and political influence in this part of Asia. The “pundits” were the British trained and supervised Himalayan natives who journeyed all over Central and Inner Asia, counting their paces and clicking off the rosary beads at 100 count, and using the altered spinning prayer wheels as counters. Periodically the pundits surreptitiously took bearings from instruments concealed in their luggage. Much of the nineteenth century surveying in the trans-Himalaya was conducted in this manner. The area includes present day Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Xinjiang, and Tibet.

Not much of the discovery is actually shown in this book, because the few maps are too gross a scale and quite inaccurate. For the real contributions of these amateur geographers one has to examine the old topo sheets from the area that include footbridges, fodder depots for mules and other such military minutiae.

All the imperialist posturing is given in great detail, but for some intellectual background to the time and place of this book, one should read Ken Hewitt’s excellent essay “European Science in High Asia,” published in Tinkler’s edited book History of Geomorphology: From Hutton to Hack (Boston: Unwin Hyman, 1988). Hewitt demonstrates that the British did little for science when compared to the Continentals’ contributions. For the area to the east of Hewitt’s concern read Peter Bishop’s The Myth of Shangri-La: Tibet, Travel Writing and the Western Creation of Sacred Landscape (Berkeley: UC Press, 1989). Waller’s book gives the details, the latter two give coherence to all these travels creating the geographical fantasies that we in the West have made of places like the “Orient,” or this case, Turkestan and especially, “Tibet.”

---Nigel J.R. Allan, University of California, Davis.


This study seeks to “evaluate the nature of change” between 1970 and 1980 in Itacoatiara, a long-settled municipality in the middle Amazon. Particular concern is with “credit facilities, changing land tenure arrangements, and employment generation” and the response of the population to them. Those classic factors of production are the basic analytic referents of the study and migration within the municipality is given special attention. To investigate change there, the authors carried out extensive surveys in the municipality in 1981, covering “most of the major economic establishments” and, impressively, “575 heads of household.”

Chapter 1 sketches the municipality at the beginning of the period, with two-thirds of employment in the primary sector, traditional debt-dependent production credit, and land controlled directly by producers. Chapter 2 presents actors prominent during the period of study, including the state as builder of infrastructure and subsidizer of enterprise, local and outside elites competing for state favors and land, and the Church organizing communities in rural areas. Chapter 3, the best of the book, examines changes that occurred by the end of the decade: migration from the municipality by younger and better educated persons, doubling of low-skilled employment opportunities in the city in the secondary and tertiary sectors; migration within the municipality from the floodplain to the city and to uplands made accessible by roads, the appropriation of the previously unclaimed uplands largely by the elites; the over-extension of production credit, which led to a spree of consumer spending, and finally, changes in resource use including the expansion of pastures on the floodplain and overfishing locally in the face of competition from commer-
cial fishermen. Chapter 4 presents results of the surveys to explain some of these changes, especially intra-municipal migration driven by employment and income opportunities rather than by land or credit shortage, and to point out future trends, seen as worrisome given the respondents’ vague perception of problems and means to their resolution.

To someone also studying change in a traditional community in the Amazon, the authors’ discussion generally rings true, at least as far as it goes. But other factors, such as educational opportunities in the city and the bright light of television might also have been useful in understanding migration, and other important changes that were observed, as in natural resource use, were not further discussed. My chief concern is that this book is just too succinct to cover the broad topic staked out at the beginning, or even to do justice to the centerpiece of the study—the extensive survey of heads of households. Thus, the text of the household questionnaire is not given nor are the results of the survey elaborated as fully as appears might have been possible. For example, in analyzing householders’ perceptions of problems, respondents are grouped by current residence but not, in a time of migration, further broken down by previous residence (Tables 22 and 23). In other words, I would like to have heard more. And as the authors have apparently been keeping track of their study area, I look forward to the possibility of an extensive update on change there during the 1980’s.

—Scott Douglas Anderson, Museu Goeldi, Belem.

THE CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY OF HEALTH CARE

This admirably readable book examines the role of the interaction of cultural and spatial factors in health care delivery. Its chapters are organized around themes in cultural geography (including diffusion, cultural ecology, and cultural materialism). Each chapter connects current thought and empirical research on a particular theme in cultural geography to issues of health care delivery. Cultural ecologists may find especially interesting Gesler’s discussion of the role of context in shaping the diffusion process; linkages between economic and environmental marginality; and the significance of the “popular arena” in health care in cosmopolitan as in more traditional societies.

Gesler draws on a very wide range of literature in geography and addresses health care delivery in terms of more general work on, for example, core-periphery relationships, regional inequalities, and structure and agency. One might fault the book for its eclecticism (Gesler wears this label proudly) and lack of depth or full treatment of some concepts (e.g., cultural evolution and folk societies) and debates. However, Gesler’s purpose is to survey cultural geography (itself certainly eclectic) as it has been and could be applied to health care delivery, and the price incurred in such an ambitious undertaking is to offer suggestive rather than thorough explanation of many points.

The substitution of bibliographic endnotes rather than a systematic bibliography at the end of each chapter or at the end of the volume and imperfect proofreading and editing are shortcomings of the book. Among the volume’s strengths are its accessibility to students, since Gesler assumes no prior knowledge of cultural or medical geography, and the effective use of richly detailed examples. Exposure to even a chapter or two from this book will broaden any reader’s appreciation of the applicability of geographical concepts and methods to health care problems in the “real world.”

—Connie Weil, University of Minnesota.

FARMING IN NATURE’S IMAGE: AN ECOLOGICAL APPROACH TO AGRICULTURE. By Judith D. Soule and John K. Piper. 286 pp.; biblio., index. Washington D.C. and Covelo California: Island Press, 1992. $34.95 (cloth), $19.95 (paper).

Soule and Piper present an interesting and readable, although somewhat polemical, view of one of the newer approaches to agricultural land use. The introduction states this work is about the “marriage of ecology and agriculture”, while the preface says it is a “scientifically backed plea for the radically new form of agriculture...”. The basic premise underlying this book is that modern agriculture is a seriously flawed method of production and that the roots of the problem lie with the industrialization of agriculture. The overall tone of the work indicates that the book is written for public consumption and not for the scientific community.

This work begins with a brief examination of some of the problems facing modern agriculture, primarily in the United States. These include: soil loss and degradation; chemical contamination of farmers consumers and the environment; loss of genetic diversity; groundwater mining and poor energy conversion ratios when using fossil fuels. Soule and Piper consider modern industrial agriculture to be in a crisis state and in danger of imminent collapse.

They attribute this crisis to the influence of agribusiness concerns that have vested interests in maintaining the status quo in agricultural research, to economic forces that prevent farmers from being good stewards of the land and to government policies that encourage short term rather than long term views of proper farm management.

Chapters 3 and 4 discuss features of the natural ecosystems and the manner in which these features could apply to agricultural systems. There is a strong emphasis on the concept of sustainability with Chapter 3 being a primer in ecology to help the reader better understand the arguments presented in Chapter 4. The natural prairie is proposed as a model for a grain production agroecosystem on the Great Plains. Unfortunately, the details of how a human managed agroecosystem of this type could successfully mimic a natural ecosystem are not provided and more research with a long term, holistic perspective is called for.

This is followed by a brief canvass of some of the research, conducted at the Land Institute of Salinas, Kansas
which is related to conversion to sustainable agroecosystems. Much of this research centers on four basic questions: 1. seed yields of perennials, 2. overyielding (the synergistic effect of increased yields found in intercropped fields) in perennial polyculture, 3. internal supply of fertility, and 4. management of weeds, pests, and plant pathogens.

The authors close with a discussion of some of the social and economic issues that will have to be addressed in order to encourage change to sustainable agroecosystems. Incentives for these changes, as well as obstacles to change are examined.

Overall, this work is provocative as an introduction to the task of developing sustainable agroecosystems. As a geographer, I would have liked to see some maps of the regions being discussed. There are some inaccuracies - such as the claim that Maya swidden fields in Chiapas, Mexico, maintain high maize productivity levels for five to seven years after clearing, while in fact, two or three years is more common. This point could have been corrected by a more careful reading of the literature on swidden in Mexico. I would not recommend this book for every bookshelf, but it is worth consulting.

—Joseph Tuomey, Louisiana State University


This book is a bold accounting of the plethora of environmental, economic, social, and political problems in China today. It was published in 1988 during an opening when the Chinese government tolerated some freedom of expression. The book was well received by both academic and popular audiences. It stands as an objective and propaganda-free account of China’s gravest problems. In the wake of the events of Tianmanmen square, the book has added historical value. For the reader, the question remains, how will the environmental movement, institutional reform, and economic development (seen here as inseparable elements), coevolve in post-Tianmanmen China?

The book begins with an analysis of the relationships between population pressure, land degradation, and the depletion of natural resources. He Bochuan suggests that Mao’s failure to heed the warnings of Chinese demographers in the 1950’s led to the recent “great leap” in population growth. Lack of a family planning policy allowed the population to grow from about 700 million in 1964 to 1 billion in 1981. The author traces the trajectory of population growth from the Han Dynasty in the year 0 to projections for the year 2000. Exponential growth began in the 1700’s, when the Kang Xi emperor began a tax system based on land rather than on family size. Until the late 20th century, “more kids - more wealth” has been the rural canon, and by the year 2000, the population will have reached 1.3 billion. A bulge in the lower tiers of the population pyramid will mean a large number of young workers will have to be employed in the near future, and early in the next century there will be a massive increase in the elderly population. Both of these problems, in addition to a preponderance of males in the population, will have severe social and economic impacts, according to He Bochuan. With 94.4% of the population on 36% of the land (mostly in the Southeast), shortage of land, water, housing, and energy are chronic. These problems appear intractable, intensifying air and water pollution, deforestation, water depletion, land slumping, saline intrusion, top soil loss, and silting of lakes, rivers, and reservoirs. The paucity of agricultural and forest lands is made worse by desertification and urban and industrial development. The author proposes a Civilian Conservation Corps for China, to simultaneously absorb surplus labor and implement effective stewardship.

Each chapter integrates environmental issues, development, social processes, and economics. Chapters 1-3 are on population, land degradation, and economic stagnation. Chapters 4 and 5 cover energy, transportation, industry, and agriculture. Chapters 6 and 7 discuss international trade and regional development. Chapter 8 is on education, and Chapter 9 on air and water pollution. It is hard to imagine a contemporary American work that would attempt to cover this range of subjects. He Bochuan’s unifying theme is crisis.

Though the book was written for the general public, each chapter has a barrage of numbers: statistics, tables, and graphs. The author avoids a direct attack on contemporary political ideology and the “powers that be,” but all that is influenced or controlled by the present regime is fair game. He Bochuan views all of China as an ecosystem, describing the component political, economic, social, and environmental relations, and argues that the system is heading for a crash. The only way out, he says, is through wise resource stewardship, education, and an economic shift toward light industry and high-technology. It is not a pleasant book to read. It paints a bleak picture with hordes of grim facts backed by armies of statistics, all driving home the point that China is in deep trouble. With this book, He Bochuan joins Vaclav Smil in chronicling the enormity of land degradation in China, and in sounding the alarm for all those who will listen.

—Christopher Coggin, Louisiana State University


In this ethnographic sketch of life and change in a Nahua-speaking community of Mexico, Alan Sandstrom presents a convincing argument that ethnic identity can be a conscious strategy for coping with the modern world, not simply clinging to age-old traditions. In every aspect of life, from subsistence activities to clothing styles, language use and even ritual practices, he shows how the villagers of Amatlan
continuously make choices to minimize control from outside and enhance their own interests. What has allowed them to survive through 500 years of domination, he says, is their willingness and ability to adapt to changing circumstances in a way that preserves their fundamental world view and values.

Amatlan (a fictitious name) is a village of about 600 people in Veracruz, in the foothills of the Sierra Madre Occidental. Largely ignored by the Spanish because there was no gold and because of its hot, humid climate and difficult terrain, it is now divided between traditional communities making a living by slash-and-burn agriculture and cattle-ranching mestizos. Sandstrom, an anthropologist, has been studying the area since 1972, when he spent a year in Amatlan doing research for his doctoral dissertation. During the 1980s he returned several times, and in 1990 spent five months there with his family. Besides his own observations and other published accounts, he relies on six unpublished accounts written in the 1970s by Nahua speakers about their own communities in that region, part of a Mexican project for bilingual speakers.

After a discussion of the physical setting, the subsequent chapters examine: the people of Amatlan, social organization, household economy, religion and, finally, his thoughts on ethnic identity and culture change. A glossary defines anthropological terms, and an insert of color photographs adds visual images of some of the native religious rituals, traditional clothing and homes. Although he limits citations in the text, there is an extensive and current bibliography.

The Nahua presented by Sandstrom are not “exotic others” but rather people who are trying to live meaningful lives in the face of powerful forces that keep them at the margins of Mexican society. They participate in the market economy because they need cash to pay taxes, and to buy tools, cloth, and some foods and seeds. They minimize their participation to preserve their autonomy and limit contact with mestizos, whose culture they know well and don’t like—Mestizos offend them by their focus on hierarchy and control instead of egalitarian principles and harmony. They choose to dress like Indians (in clothing, in fact, adopted from the early Spaniards) and behave in certain ways in public, and grow reliable subsistence crops they can store and eat instead of risky cash crops. There are costs to this strategy: as Indians they face prejudice from the mestizo community. There are also benefits: Indians have access to government help (they used this to get electricity for their town) and they often pay less for services than equally poor mestizos.

The study includes many topics of interest to cultural ecologists, especially Sandstrom’s discussions of subsistence strategies (with detailed description of maize culture), household economics, the relative wealth of villagers, and specific examples of how economic forces originating far away influence life at the village level. A major theme throughout the study is the effect of chronic land shortage in the region. Conflict over access to land arises not just between communities and the neighboring cattle ranchers, but also among villagers and even within families. Sandstrom tells the story of a man accused of murdering his brother over a complex set of circumstances related to ejido politics and land. Considering the importance of this issue, it is surprising that there is little discussion of land degradation, no attempt to establish, for instance, if there has been a drop in yields as fallow cycles have been shortened.

A major strength of this work is Sandstrom’s writing. From the beginning, an account of his first attendance at a ritual deep in the tropical forest, where the shaman explained the intricacies of the sacred paper-cutting ritual, he uses evocative descriptions of his field experiences to illustrate his points and ties them to thorough (and jargon-free) discussions of current anthropological theories. His personal account of culture shock, and his frank descriptions of violence within the community help explode some of the romantic myths concerning both field work and idyllic village life.

—Kit Anderson, Louisiana State University

**Editor’s Notes**

The remarkable 40% increase in the C.E.S.G.’s membership figures in the past year (see Chair’s Notes) deserves comment and perhaps analysis. Space constraints preclude a formal survey in this issue. We may include one in the next issue. Several possibilities for the increases come to mind. First, recent statements by C.E.S.G members on the purpose and promise of cultural ecology have helped to explain the field to geographers in general. These include documents such as Bill Turner’s AAG plenary address and ’89 *Annals* article making “...the case for cultural ecology.” Karl Butzer’s entry on cultural ecology in *Geography in America* (1989) and his chapter in “The realm of cultural ecology...” in *The Earth as Transformed by Human Action* (1989). Second, the presentation of research interests and results by younger C.E.S.G. members in the *Annals* and other journals lately has been impressive. In the past two years the *Annals* has featured articles by: A. Bebbington; J. Carney; C. Katz; M. Lewis; D. Liverman; T. Whitmore; and K. Zimmerer. In the Sept. ’92 special issue, the majority of authors are cultural ecologists. One message this work sends is that cultural ecology itself is dynamic, adaptive and attracting new practitioners.

Other possible factors are more prosaic. Since we began editing the Newsletter at LSU in 1989, we have sent complimentary copies to non-members each mailing, picking up new members each time. Perhaps the most significant factor, however, has been the change in billing arrangements and the number of specialty groups one can join. But without the signs of vitality preceding these changes, I doubt that we would be seeing these increases. Of course, the question is whether we can sustain it. Why not send us your thoughts or suggestions on this for the next issue?

On a related topic, we have expanded the book review section. Priority will be given to student members. Potential student reviewers should write us and indicate your areas of interest or particular books you would like to review. Unsolicited reviews (ca 200-300 words) will be considered.
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Requests for Information

1. Current research, recent publications, recent grants, fieldwork:

2. Recent honors, awards, new titles and/or employment positions:

3. Suggested books, articles, theses, dissertations, or other publications for listing in the C.E. Newsletter:

4. Field or other address for the next six months if different from regular mailing address:

Department of Geography and Anthropology
231 Howe/Russell Geoscience Complex
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-4105
CESG at ATLANTA '93
Listed below are sessions at the Atlanta AAG meeting that are concerned with cultural ecology and should be of interest to members of the specialty group.

TUESDAY APRIL 6
12:30 to 5:00 PM
Workshop: Preparing for and Undertaking International Fieldwork
Leaders: William Berentsen, University of Connecticut, Michael L. McNulty, University of Iowa, Gary L. Gaille, University of Colorado.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 7
8:00-9:30
Organizer and Chair: Connie Weil, University of Minnesota
8:00 Carole E. Hill, Georgia State University, National and Cultural Influences on Primary Health Care Changes in the Rural Frontier of Costa Rica;
8:20 Connie Weil, University of Minnesota, Central Planning Meets Local Reality: Health and Health Care on the Nicoya Peninsula;
8:40 Jim Weil, Marquette University, Deforestation, Re forestation and Changing Employment Opportunities on the Nicoya Peninsula;
9:00 Jeanine Koshevar, Univ. of Calif.-Berkeley, NGO Involvement in Small-Scale Enterprises of Indigenous Women in Coto Brus;
9:20 Elizabeth M. Larson, Central Michigan University, Absence of Place: Readjustment and Integration of Nicaraguan Refugees in Costa Rica.
9:55-11:35 A.M.
Sustainable Society.
Chair: William Y. Osei, Algoma University College.
9:55 Patricia Grivetti, Univ. of Calif.-Los Angeles, Forest Practitioners: Promoting Sustainable Economies in Forest Communities;
10:15 Barbara Brower, University of Texas, The Forest Service Conspires in a Range War in the West?
10:35 Richard F. Hasselman, Radford University, Joseph C. Smith, Radford University, Undergraduate Preparedness for Transition to a Sustainable Society;
Organizers: Melissa Savage, Univ. of Calif.-Los Angeles, Kenneth R. Young, Univ. of Maryland-Balt Co.
Chair: Melissa Savage, Univ. of Calif.-Los Angeles.
9:55 Kathleen C. Parker, University of Georgia, Temporal Scale and Population Dynamics of Columnar Cacti;
10:10 David Shankman, University of Alabama, Channel Migration and Vegetation Patterns in the Southeastern Coastal Plain;
10:25 Robert E. Frenkel, Oregon State University, Rosemary Streetfield, Oregon State University, Restoring Willamette Valley Wet Prairie in Oregon with Fire;
10:40 Kenneth R. Young, Univ. of Maryland-Balt Co., Blanca Leon, Museo de Historia Natural, Asuncion Cano, Museo de Historia Natural, Niels Valencia, Museo de Historia Natural, Regional Approaches to Conservation Planning: Examples from Peru;
10:55 Karl Zimmerer, University of Wisconsin, Spatial Pattern in the Conservation and Extinction of Agricultural Biodiversity.
Latin America: Rural Development.
Chair: Roger A. Clapp, Univ. of Calif.-Berkeley.
9:55 Richard A. Crooker, Kutztown University, Charles T.

(Continued on page 2)
10:35 Alberto Lourenco, Univ. of Calif.-Los Angeles, Declining Eldorado: Implications of the "Garimpo" Cycle on the Retracting Amazon Frontier;
10:55 James R. Samson, Louisiana State University, Indigenous Lands in a Developing Region;
11:15 Roger A. Clapp, Univ. of Calif.-Berkeley, Forest Policy as Industrial Policy in Chile.

1:30 p.m. to 3:10 p.m.

Cultural Geography Specialty Group: Ecumene I. Organizer and Chair: James Duncan, Syracuse University. 1:30 Dennis Cosgrove, Loughborough University, Ecumene: An Introduction.
1:50 Jonathan Smith, Texas A&M University, Writing From the Margins: Travel Writers and the Academics;
2:10 David Ley, University of British Columbia, Where Asia Edges Europe: The Case of the Missing Sequoias;
2:30 Philip Cragg, St. David's Univ. Coll., Lampeter, Selling the "Third World": Imaginative Geographies of the 'Ethnic' and the 'Colonial' in British Consumer Culture.

Historical Cultural Ecology Chair: Susan E. Wurtele, Queen's University. 1:30 Robert G. Leblanc, University of New Hampshire, The Differential Use of Salt Marsh in Eastern North America; 1:50 Carlos Rincon Mautner, University of Texas, Conceptualization and Interpretation of the Land and Natural Phenomena in the Pre-Hispanic Northwestern Oaxaca and Southern Puebla Areas;
2:10 Marshall E. Bowen, Mary Washington College, Nevada Dry Farmers' Responses to Drought and Jackrabbit Invasions;
2:30 Christiana Miewald, University of Nebraska, Nutritional Impacts of Reservation Life for the Omaha: 1854-1992;
2:50 Susan E. Wurtele, Queen's University, Immigrant Pioneer Women: Equal Partners or Overworked Victims?

THURSDAY, APRIL 8

8:00 a.m. to 9:40 a.m.


9:55 a.m. to 11:35 a.m.

Cultural Ecology Specialty Group: Allies or Enemies? Indigenous Nations and Protected Areas. Organizer and Chair: Stanley F. Stevens, Louisiana State University. 9:55 Stanley F. Stevens, Louisiana State University, Protected Areas and Indigenous Peoples: Global Perspectives;
10:15 Paul G. Sneed, East-West Center, Towards Comanagement of National Parks in Canada and the United States;
10:35 Peter H. Herhly, Southeastern Louisiana University, Geographic Research in Estabishing the Tawakla Homeland within Mosquitia's SOLIDARIDAD Reserve System;
10:55 Bernard Nietschmann, Univ. of Calif.-Berkeley, Strengthening Indigenous Territorial Autonomy with Protected Areas.

Discussant: Stanley F. Stevens, Louisiana State University.

1:30 p.m. to 3:10 p.m.

1:50 Teresa Dawson, Pennsylvania State University, Negotiations Over Nature: Ontology Challenges Epistemology;
2:30 Sharon J. Brooks, Pennsylvania State University, The Society-Nature Relationship Viewed Through the Lens of Space Exploration;

Discussant: Margaret FitzSimmons, Univ. of Calif.-Los Angeles.

Environment/Human Influence Chair: L. Michael Trapasso, Western Kentucky University. 1:30 John B. Wright, New Mexico State University, Landscape Conservation in Utah and Colorado: The Persistence of Historical Geography;
2:10 Chris Coggins, Louisiana State University, Paynes Prairie: Settlement History and Landscape Change in a Valley Polje;
2:30 Sandra Luque, Rutgers University, Richard Lathrop, Rutgers University, John A. Bognaar, Rutgers University, Natural and Human Processes Interacting to Cause Landscape Change in the New Jersey Pinelands;
2:50 L. Michael Trapasso, Western Kentucky University, Kelly Kaletsy, SE District of Ohio EPA, Measurement of the Effects of Food Preparation Activities on the Microclimate of Mammoth Cave, Kentucky.
3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Modern Ethnic Agriculture.
Chair: Trevor A. Burwell, University of Calif.-Davis.
3:25 William A. Noble, Univ. Of Missouri-Columbia, The Changed Toda of the Nilgiris, South India: Buffalo Herders to Farmers;
3:45 Dina Chuensganguansat, University of Hawaii, Lyndon Wester, University of Hawaii, Farming for Survival: Lao Immigrants in Hawaii;
4:05 Christopher A. Airriess, Ball State University, Vietnamese Market Gardens in New Orleans;
4:25 Larry Grossman, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Pesticides, Caution and Experimentation in St. Vincent, Eastern Caribbean;
4:45 Trevor A. Burwell, Univ. of Calif.-Davis, The Cultural Ecology of Mescal Making in Sonora, Mexico.

FRIDAY APRIL 9
7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Organizer and Chair: Carville Earle, Louisiana State University.
7:30 Allan G Bogue, University of Wisconsin, Geography, Social Scientists, and Frederick Jackson Turner.
Discussant: Carville Earle, Louisiana State University.

SATURDAY APRIL 10
8:30 a.m. to 9:40 a.m.

Cultural Ecology Specialty Group Business Meeting.
Chair: Thomas J. Bassett, University of Illinois.

9:55 a.m. to 11:35 a.m.

Organizers: Mark Bassin, University of Wisconsin, Anne Mosher, Louisiana State University, Terence Young, Clemson University.
Chair: Michael R. Curry, Univ. of Calif.-Los Angeles.
9:55 Mark Bassin, University of Wisconsin, "Space Melting into Spaces": Nature as Culprit in Russian Cultural History;
10:15 Terence Young, Clemson University, Viewing the Wilderness, or Recognizing Determinism in Two Environmental Movements;
10:35 Anne Mosher, Louisiana State University, Environmentalism and the Landscape of Industrial Betterment;
10:55 Yi-Fu Tuan, University of Wisconsin, Environmental Determinism and the City: A Historical-Cultural Note.
Discussant: Derek Gregory, University of British Columbia.

Organizer: Clifton Dixon, Memphis State University.
Chair: Steven D. Patterson, Univ. of Calif.-Los Angeles.
9:55 Nicholas P. Dunning, University of Cincinnati, David Roe, 3D Environmental Services, Alfred Traverse, Pennsylvania State University, Timothy Beach, University of Georgia, Thomas Killian, Smithsonian Institution, The Paleoecology of Laguna Petexbatun, Peten, Guatemala: A Preliminary Analysis;
10:15 Eugene Wilson, University of South Alabama, Physical Processes and Seasonal Changes, Northwest Coast of Yucatan;
10:35 Steven D. Patterson, Univ. of Calif.-Los Angeles, Phenology as a Link between Ecology and Culture;
10:55 Clifton Dixon, Memphis State University, Yucatan, Mexico's Empty Quarter No More.

1:30 p.m. to 3:10 p.m.

Organizer and Chair: Thomas J. Bassett, University of Illinois.
1:30 Leslie Gray, University of Illinois, Michael J. Kevane, Univ. of Calif.-Berkeley, Variation in Agricultural Practice in Shekken, Western Sudan;
1:50 Heidi Glaesel, University of Wisconsin, The Massai and the Masai Mara: People, Park and Policy;
2:10 Richard A. Schroeder, Univ. of Calif.-Berkeley, Bounded Enthusiasm: Fencing in Female Labor in Gambian Gardens;
2:30 Susanne E. Freidberg, Univ. of Calif.-Berkeley, "Gentlemen Farmers," Gender and Structural Adjustment in a Regional Food Economy;
2:50 Thomas J. Bassett, University of Illinois, Hired Herders and Herd Management in Fulani Pastoralism (Northern Cote d'Ivoire).

3:25 p.m. to 5:05 p.m.

Institutional and Political Aspects of Cultural Ecology.
Chair: Paul F. Starks, University of Nevada-Reno.
3:25 Paul Robbins, Clark University, Negotiating Ecology: Institutional Perspectives on the Cultural/Political Ecology of Agriculturalists;
3:45 Abe Goldman, University of Florida, Sustainability and Unsustainability in African Agriclyktire;
4:05 Robert E. Ford, Utah State University, Environmental Security and Famine Vulnerability in Niger (West Africa): A Case Study in Political Ecology;
4:25 Christopher Miller, University of Georgia, Lee Lines, Arizona State University, Potential Impact of Seasonality on Neotropical Extractive Economies;
4:45 Paul F. Starks, University of Nevada-Reno, "Cattle Free by '93" - Environmental Radicalism in the Anti-Grazing
I would like to encourage more of it. The CESG Newsletter can be helpful to graduate students and faculty alike in planning such activities. Timing conference deadlines with the newsletter's publication is the tricky part.

The 1993 annual meeting of the African Studies Association offers an excellent opportunity to present our research to an interdisciplinary audience. It will be held December 4-7 in Boston. The theme of this meeting, "Ecology and Environmental Issues in Africa," should be of direct interest to many CESG members. The program committee is welcoming but not restricting sessions and roundtables on the topics of development, demography and the effects of changing disease environments, urbanization, population mobility, and agrarian and pastoral strategies. Jesse Ribot of MIT and I hope to organize a session or two on political ecological approaches to resource use and environmental change. If you wish to participate in one of these sessions, please contact either me (217-333-6335; e-mail: bassett@uiuc.edu) or Jesse (617-253-6254). You must be a member of the ASA to participate. Scholars who are not resident in North America or whose major area of expertise is not Africa may be exempted from the membership requirement. If you would like to be included in a different paper session organized by the CESG, please contact me. NOTE: The deadline for submitting proposals is March 15.

AAG Atlanta Business Meeting

The CESG business meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 10 at 8:30 a.m. Yawn. The meeting will take place in the Consulate Room of the Marriott. If you would like to include an item on the agenda, please contact me before hand.

Student Paper Prize Competition

The CESG will again offer a $100 award to the best paper presented by a graduate student on a theme in cultural ecology at a regional or national meeting of the Association of American Geographers over the past year (from the 1992 annual meeting through the 1993 meeting). Students entering their papers in the competition must be the sole author and not have been awarded a Ph.D. at the time of presentation. Papers should not exceed 20 pages of double-spaced text. The prize will be presented at the awards luncheon at the Atlanta meeting which is scheduled for Wednesday, April 7. To be considered for this year's award, entrants should send a copy of their paper to each of the three regional councilors of the CESG no later than March 26: Prof. Thomas Whitmore, Dept. of Geography, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599; Prof. Karl Zimmerer, Dept. of Geography, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706; and Prof. Susan Place, Dept. of Geography, California State University, Chico, CA 95929.

Good Luck!

Tom Bassett.

Lacking immunities to Old World diseases, particularly smallpox, measles, typhus, plague and influenza, Native Americans suffered population losses estimated as high as 90 percent. In Secret Judgements of God, Cook and Lovell have gathered together case studies that examine effects of Old World diseases. Seven different case studies explore how the population losses suffered by Native Americans affected the social and political structures in colonial Spanish America. Woodrow Borah presents an excellent review of previous research on disease and the effects. Virgin epidemics have on previously unexposed populations. The editors' final chapter looks at the ways in which diseases are transmitted, the symptoms they cause, and the variables that affect the mortality rates. Also included is a concise and extremely useful glossary of Spanish and Native American terms.

The contributors have made extensive use of colonial documents from a wide variety of archives in Middle America, South America and Spain. Using these primary documents is not without its problems. Colonial government and church officials who wrote the surviving documents had little or no medical knowledge and were completely ignorant of germ theory. Medical terminology was imprecise and while the effects of an epidemic may be traced, the disease that caused it cannot be identified. Many important documents have been lost or destroyed and often information was simply not recorded or collected.

The contributors have focused their case studies on different locations and time periods within the colonial era to take advantage of documentation that does exist. Study areas include regions in Central Mexico, Guatemala, Ecuador, Colombia, Peru and Chile. Old World diseases did not effect all areas uniformly. Environmental constraints, such as temperature, humidity, and altitude, as well as cultural factors, such as customs regarding "sneezing and disposal of nasal secretions can have a marked effect on the spread of epidemic infections." The effects also varied throughout the period as colonial officials tried to stem the tide of diseases through different measures.

All of the case studies are well done, but several stand out from the rest, particularly Lovell's chapter on the early colonial period in Guatemala and Linda A. Newson's chapter on epidemics in Ecuador. The reader should read Cook and Lovell's final chapter before the case studies in order to gain a better understanding of the diseases that are discussed. Anyone with an interest in Latin American colonial history, population, and Native American studies will find this book of interest and extremely informative.

-----Taylor E. Mack, Louisiana State University
KARNALI UNDER STRESS: LIVELIHOOD STRATEGIES AND SEASONAL RHYTHMS IN A CHANGING NEPAL HIMALAYA. Barry C. Bishop. Chicago: Committee on Geographical Studies, the University of Chicago, 1990. xviii and 460 pp., maps, diags., tables, photos, appendix., $24.00 paper.

Mountain environments provide a special set of conditions and constraints that require specific adaptations. In KARNALI Under Stress, Barry Bishop has attempted a systematic regional synthesis with an interdisciplinary cultural-ecological point of view; the central theme being that of the relationship of humans to their habitat. The study examines ways the people of KARNALI region traditionally have coped with constraints on their ways of life, and how their old methods are holding up in the modern world under new and more intense stresses.

The book contains eight chapters. The first chapter provides an introduction to the study plus a description of field work. The second chapter provides a thorough discussion on the Himalayan environment. The third chapter presents the current distribution of Himalayan ethnic groups as the culmination of a history of in-migration by groups from adjacent regions. Bishop also explains unique local modifications of the traditional Hindu caste system in this section. The fourth chapter focuses on changes that occurred in the past two centuries, including how events occurring in the greater portion of the continent have affected the lives of KARNALI peoples. The fifth chapter explains how settlement patterns, labor customs and local, agriculturally-based economies are fitted to environmental conditions and available resources, and how cultural and political constraints affect them. The sixth chapter deals with transhumance as an important adaptation to climatic zonations, the use of wild resources, extractive industries, and home crafts. Chapter seven discusses unique adaptations to regional trade constraints and opportunities. Chapter eight presents a summary of issues discussed in the previous seven chapters, and develops a simplified model of the KARNALI Zone subsistence cultural-ecological system. The book concludes with a discussion of the strains placed on the local ecological balance by rapid changes in the system that are leading to a downward spiral, and which threaten to completely unravel it. Bishop blames this in part on outside influences, but also acknowledges that the traditional cultural adaptations developed over many centuries are insufficient to cope with the rapid changes currently taking place.

KARNALI Under Stress represents an admirable attempt to provide a comprehensive discussion of the cultural-environmental interactions that characterize the KARNALI Zone of the Nepali Himalaya. While Bishop’s synthesis of all the variables involved may fall short at times, nevertheless he manages to convey a better understanding of the factors, both contemporary and historical, that have led to the current situation which faces the KARNALI peoples. The charts, maps, and graphs are of high quality and add to the discussion.

There are, however, some problems with this book that limit its usefulness. The first, and major consideration is the time lag of twenty years between the completion of fieldwork and publication. Given the rapidity of changes occurring in the region, much of the information is now obsolete. Also, because of the author’s attempt to cover such a broad array of topics pertinent to a cultural-ecological study on a regional scale in one volume, the reader may be left with the feeling that some topics received only superficial treatment. Apparently, the author’s focus on the KARNALI region has also led to a few misrepresentations of facts and events concerning adjacent regions. Despite these problems, the book provides a good introduction both to the KARNALI region, and to the application of cultural-ecological principles to real-world problems.

—— Steven J. Rainey, Louisiana State University


This is an important contribution to the literature on intensive agriculture in Mesoamerica. This collection of studies is a compilation of papers originally presented at a special symposium on prehistoric agriculture, during the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in May of 1987. “Greater Mesoamerica,” in this case, refers to the area between the Anasazi Southwest and the southern periphery of Mesoamerican civilizations. While gardens have long held the interest of a few geographers, most of the authors in this work are archaeologists. Subsequently, the chapters aim to describe how “settlement agriculture” has affected the distribution and extent of farming activities, as viewed through the archaeological record. Another asset of this book is that every chapter also attempts to grapple with the question of agricultural intensity, and how this is reflected in the spatial arrangement of settlement patterns.

Chapters 1 and 2 set the tone for the rest of the work. Editor Thomas Killian provides a brief introduction to the topic of “settlement agriculture,” and reviews some of the main contributions of the volume. Killian also outlines some of the problems when dealing with gardens, namely the lack of existing systematic methodologies, theories, and sources of data. In Chapter 2, William T. Sanders and Killian draw upon examples from Mexico and Guatemala to detail the variety of environmental, cultural, and economic contexts of gardens. Chapter 2 is important because it clearly shows the importance of regional variety and diversity when examining settlement agriculture. This is a recurrent theme (and problem) in the following chapters. Sanders and Killian demonstrate the importance of economic factors when farmers decide which crops to grow in their gardens. Rural areas will almost always have a few staple crops in the garden. Areas closer to large urban areas may be more tied to cash markets and thus emphasize high-value, low-bulk crops.

Part I of the volume (Chapters 3, 4, and 5) focuses on semi-arid environments in Greater Mesoamerica. In Chapter
3, Maxwell and Anschuetz review agricultural strategies employed in the American Southwest, known through ethnographic observation and fieldwork. They then demonstrate the apparent weakness of the ethnographic record in explaining the agricultural diversity known through the archaeological record. Maxwell and Anschuetz clearly show the limited value of the Southwestern ethnographic record when examining prehistoric systems of grid agriculture.

William Doolittle, in Chapter 4, also uses a combination of ethnographic and archaeological information in his study of house-lot gardens in southwestern Mexico. The ethnographic data is a survey of cultivars and horticultural techniques presently used in the region. The archaeological record of the same general region is used to suggest parallels and similarities between past and present gardening systems. Not surprisingly, Doolittle’s chapter is also the most geographical of the studies. In Chapter 5, Susan Evans provides a valuable account of agave’s probable importance to pre-Columbian highland Mexico. Her contribution is inherently strong because she attempts to reconstruct the calorific value of agave, the use of its sap as an extra source of liquid in an arid region, and the various other uses of the plant.

Part II (Chapters 6, 7, and 8) is an interesting collection of articles pertaining to the distribution of artifacts, and how these help in reconstructing spatial patterns of garden agriculture in lowland Mesoamerica (Mexico and Belize specifically). In Chapter 6, Killion reconstructs gardening in prehistory by analyzing contemporary patterns of artifact refuse. He also creates a somewhat useful model for examining gardens in prehistoric contexts, although this model is probably more useful in lowland areas of Mesoamerica.

Robert Santley (Chapter 7) and Patricia McAnany (Chapter 8) pursue similar objectives as Killion does Chapter 6. Although their methodologies are interesting, the evidence for the patterns of agricultural land use are more tenuous. In Santley’s case, the data for spatial patterning is derived from “probable” locations for agriculture, and the different distances between housing structures and these possible fields. For McAnany, the problem is clearly the small sample size from her site in Pultrouser Swamp. These are interesting and suggestive pieces however, and they complement Killion’s very well.

In Part III of this work, Christian Zier (Chapter 9) reconstructs a preserved (through volcanic activity) agricultural landscape in El Salvador. Zier’s clear and concise writing makes for easy reading, and his treatment of a post-eruption agricultural landscape is excellent. In Chapter 10, Joseph Ball and Richalene Kelsay use soil phosphate levels in an attempt to locate possible gardening activities in the Upper Belize Valley. Though the methodology used by Ball and Kelsay promises to enrich archaeological data in the future, their immediate contribution awaits further efforts at reconstructing spatial patterns of agriculture in Belize.

Part IV is a summary and critique by two leading scholars in the field, B.L. Turner II and William T. Sanders. Turner is justifiably concerned with the confusion of terminology when examining agricultural systems in pre-Columbian contexts. Anthropologists, archaeologists, and geographers have rarely discussed the possibility of standardizing this terminology, although this volume suggests progress in achieving that goal. Sanders, in turn, examines the possibilities and problems of the methodologies presented herein. This last section offers useful suggestions for combining inter-disciplinary approaches to similar problems and questions.

As a whole, Gardens of Prehistory is an outstanding collection of provocative pieces. Most figures, tables, and photographs complement the text well, and there are few typos. It should be read by anthropologists, archaeologists, and geographers interested in the pre-Columbian agricultural landscapes of “Greater Mesoamerica.”

Eric Perramond, Louisiana State University

News from Members

Nigel Allan (Dept. of Geog., Univ. of California-Davis) calls our attention to GeoJournal (May 1992, vol. 27, no. 1). It is a special issue edited by Nigel on “Mountain Environments.” It contains a variety of papers of interest to cultural ecologists, including Allan’s overview of mountain environment research, Ken Hewitt on “Mountain Hazards,” and Karl Zimmerer on “The Loss and Maintenance of Native Crops in Mountain Agriculture.”

Simon Batterbury (Research Visitor, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Wye College University of London) writes that he will “be in the field” (with Fulbright funding). Dan is attempting to delimit the southern extension of manioc cultivation in South America. He is particularly interested in this boundary in terms of its cultural-historical and cultural ecological significance.

Daniel W. Gade (Dept. of Geog., Univ. of Vermont) is currently “in the field” (with Fulbright funding). Dan is attempting to delimit the southern extension of manioc cultivation in South America. He is particularly interested in this boundary in terms of its cultural-historical and cultural ecological significance.

Jennifer Olson (Dept. of Geog., Michigan State Univ.) is scheduled to return this month from Rwanda. Olson has been doing field work on her dissertation topic involving “coping strategies with land degradation in Rwanda.” She received funding from NSF, SSRC, and other sources.

Francisco Watlington-Linares (Dept. of Geog., Univ. of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras, PR 00931) sends word of the completion of his dissertation (1990 Univ. of Florida) on “Adaptive Viticulture in the Caribbean Basin,” and his current research on the “neolithic transition in Puerto Rico” involving surveys of agricultural origins and prehistoric demographic evolution on the island. Prof. Watlington-Linares welcomes potential collaborators, especially those who might help with securing additional funding.
1. Current research, recent publications, recent grants, fieldwork:

2. Recent honors, awards, new titles and/or employment positions:

3. Suggested books, articles, theses, dissertations, or other publications for listing in the CE Newsletter:

4. Field or other address for the next six months if different from regular mailing address:

Department of Geography and Anthropology
227 Geoscience Complex
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-4105
Notes from the Chair

Who are we?

At the CESG business meeting in Atlanta, I looked out into the room and saw mainly white males in the audience. I wondered, is this gathering representative of the CESG membership or are we a more diverse body? I asked the AAG central office to provide me with a profile of our membership to compare with the association as a whole. The data for the association appears in the April 1993 AAG Newsletter. Note: these data, including categories and labels, are generated by the central office based on biographical information provided by members in the application form. The most recent data appearing in the AAG Newsletter are for 1992. The data for the CESG in the following tables are for 1993.

<table>
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<th>Occupation Classification</th>
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<th>Females</th>
<th>Totals</th>
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<td><strong>109</strong></td>
<td><strong>314</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Students make up 57% of the CESG membership. This is almost 2.5 times their representation within the association (24%).

One striking difference between the CESG and the AAG membership as a whole is that we are overwhelmingly (89%) located in colleges and universities. This compares with 67% for the association.

In summary, on the basis of limited data, our group’s profile indicates we are a relatively diverse lot. In comparison to the association, there are slightly more minorities among us, many more women, and large numbers of students. My fears of homogeneity are happily unfounded. I hope that at the next CESG business meeting, more women, minorities, and students show up. We will be holding elections for CESG officers for two-year terms.

Tom Bassett
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
**Student Paper Competition**

The Cultural Ecology Specialty Group will again offer a $100 award to the best paper presented by a graduate student on a theme in cultural ecology at the San Francisco meetings of the AAG. Students entering must be the sole authors of the papers and not have received a PhD at the time of the meetings. Evaluation will be based on the hard copy (<20 pp. double-spaced) of a paper presented at the San Francisco meetings and on the presentation of that paper. Submit paper and AAG meeting session title, day, and time to: Thomas Whitmore, Department of Geography, C.B. 3220, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599. Papers must be received no later than March 15.

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**News from Members**

Thomas J. Eley is employed as a Subsistence Coordinator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arctic, Yukon Flats, and Kanuti National Wildlife Refuges. His current research involves management of subsistence use and subsistence resources on Arctic, Yukon Flats and Kanuti National Wildlife Refuges in interior and Arctic Alaska. These three refuges comprise a region about the size of Nicaragua and include Arctic and alpine tundra, taiga forest and riverine wetlands. The indigenous residents include Gwich'in and Koyukon Athabaskan Indians and Inupiat Eskimos.

Kendra McSweeney (University of Tennessee - Knoxville) completed her thesis in May: "Human Interaction with the Cocala (Orbigua cohame) in the Palm Landscape of Belize, Central America." She will begin an internship at National Geographic in September.

Stephen C. Jett (University of California - Davis) is the current AAG representative to the Anthropology Section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and thus in a position to promote geographers' proposal for sessions to be held at the AAAS meetings. He thinks the AAAS would be an ideal venue for cultural ecologists' presentations, and invites members of the Specialty Group to send him proposals for special sessions (up to five speakers). He needs such proposals by October 31 to be available for discussion at the "pre-meeting" held each year at the November conference of the American Anthropological Association.

Melanie Patton Renfrew has accepted an assistant professorship at the University of Guam. She will help build a geography program there. Her new permanent address is:
College of Arts and Sciences, S.B.S. + S.W.
Univ. of Guam, UOG Station
Mangilao, Guam 96923

Renae Prell received his Ph.D. in December 1992 from the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee. His dissertation is now available from the UW-M library: "Mexican and Mayan Environmentalism: Physical, Economic, Political and Cultural Factors that Influence the Environmental Movement in Quintana Roo, Mexico. He is now an Assistant Professor of Geography at Valparaiso University, Indiana. He received a Valparaiso University research grant to continue monitoring the environmental movement in Yucatan, Mexico.

Christine M. Rodrigue (California State University - Chico) has two new articles:

Michael Steinberg writes that he would like to organize a session for San Francisco on the general theme of indigenous peoples and protected areas. Alternatively he would like to present a paper in a session of this sort. Please contact Michael at:
4000 N. Morris #10
Milwaukee, WI 53211, Tel. (414) 962-6649.

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**Book Reviews**

**THE POTATOES OF SOUTH AMERICA: BOLIVIA.**

--Karl Zimmerer, Dept. of Geography, U.W. - Madison

This weighty volume is a systematic homage to the potatoes of Bolivia. Carlos Ochoa, chief potato taxonomist of the International Potato Center (CIP) in Lima, provides a comprehensive classification and description of cultivated spuds and their wild relatives. Spurred by the tremendous diversity and previously poor understanding of this botanical complex in Bolivia, Ochoa has chosen it to initiate a definitive series on potatoes of the central Andean countries (Peru and Ecuador to follow). Ochoa's present work divides the tuber-bearing Solanum of Bolivia into seven sub-generic series, which are further subdivides into 31 wild species and 7 cultivated counterparts. This taxonomic framework orders the detailed description of each taxon. Morphological and cytological characteristics, habitat and distribution, affinities and crossability, and usefulness for breeding are discussed. A generous number of line drawings, photographs, and watercolor paintings illustrate the text. Maps too are supplied, although in lesser number and lower quality.

_The Potatoes of South America: Bolivia_ offers consider-
able interest to geographers. Ochoa's classification and description of potato taxa furnish an invaluable staple for future geographical study of agriculture in Bolivia. At least two major (and interrelated) areas of geographical research are well-served by this book: agricultural origins and history, on one hand, and the biological diversity of crops and wild crop relatives (agricultural biodiversity) and its relation to agricultural development, on the other. For research on agricultural origins and history, the volume compiles more complete information than previously available on the ecological biogeography of these major foodplants and the present-day descendants of their presumed progenitors. One important contribution of Ochoa's opus to this study concerns distributions of the latter. Wild potatoes in Bolivia, including the closest relatives to crop forms, are concentrated geographically in the inter-Andean valleys (Zonas de los Valles) and eastern Andean slopes (Yungas). This geographical concentration, rather than in the intermontane basins of the Altiplano, needs to be accounted for in geophysical depictions of early agriculture in the Andean highlands.

Geographical study of agricultural biodiversity and its relation to agricultural development also is aided significantly by The Potatoes of South America: Bolivia. For this study, systematic delimitations in Ochoa's book provide a more useful rendering of taxonomic categories, although perhaps unlikely to be the conclusive one given the evolutionary labyrinth of this botanical group. The volume's lengthy consideration of wild crop relatives offers an especially important contribution. This emphasis, which is frequently missing from descriptions of economically useful plants, provides descriptions of environmental tolerances and requirements and their relation to distribution patterns. It highlights the weeding of many wild potatoes and their occurrence in such disturbed areas as rangeland grazed by livestock (e.g., S. acaule) and tree-fall gaps (e.g., S. velatimarmoratum). These ecological insights raise geographical questions about the nature of disturbance regimes in relation to the biological diversity of wild potatoes.

Carlos Ochoa and his The Potatoes of South America: Bolivia continue a flourishing tradition of solanology in Bolivia that has frequently entwined with geographical research. Indeed, the first taxonomic description of a potato in Bolivia was provided by French natural historian Alcides D'Orbigny during his travels there in 1823-33. Later, German phytogeographer Karl Fiebrig, Soviet plant collectors Sergei Juzepczuk and Sergei Bukasov, British taxonomist Jack Hawkes, and Bolivian botanist Martin Cárdenas likewise established familiar names in Bolivian solanology (Ochoa provides a useful review of these researchers and others in the Chapter One). It is worth observing that Cárdenas and Peruvian Ochoa constitute national figures in this research tradition and that both have represented features of political populism found in the agronomic traditions of their countries.

On a final note, the magisterial quality of The Potatoes of South America: Bolivia warrants salutation. The translation by potato expert Donald Urgent appears nearly flawless (although I don't understand his untranslated retention of macizo "massif" on page 15 in Chapter Two, "Geography and Climate"). Visually the book is adorned with thirty-five commissioned watercolor paintings of potato plants and tubers by Franz Frey, which, notwithstanding their lavishness, furnish useful scientific depictions. Unfortunately, the quotidian character of potatoes and the political populism of Andean potato research are betrayed by the cost of this volume (perhaps not surprising in light of the current inflation of many biodiversity publications), whose price at $119 in an era of budget cut-backs in university libraries will likely mean much borrowing through inter-library loans.


--James A. Miller, Dept. of History, Clemson University

Robert Klitgaard is right: 'Africa is where the toughest challenges are' (p. 7). His two-year tour of duty in Equatorial Guinea (1987-1989), chronicled here, is a latter-day journey into a new heart of darkness very different from the old one. In Africa, "the world's basket case" (p. x), Klitgaard's challenge was to develop and implement a World Bank structural adjustment program for a country whose geography is strange, whose leaders are distant and mysterious, whose economy is negligible and products unneeded, and whose people live in an atmosphere framed by the brutality and oppression of a regime (President Macias, 1969-1979) undeniably among the worst in contemporary history.

Klitgaard's personal account is at times amusing, at times disturbing, and always entertaining. A former professor of economics at Harvard, Klitgaard decided to take his ideas to the field, and has worked as a consultant in economic development programs in numerous developing countries. As such, Klitgaard is worth our attention, since he is one of the few who acts upon his ideas, and those ideas, so vital to the concerns of cultural ecologists, take concrete form in the halls of the World Bank, AID, UNICEF, and the platter of other donor agencies. Their people tend, in this reviewer's estimation, having been a Foreign Service officer himself, to be generally high-principled people whose initial values are often vitiated by the dispiriting realities of Third World corruption and greed. In Malabo, the microscopic capital of Equatorial Guinea, Klitgaard is virtually alone: the international donor community is so small that the author finds himself essentially accountable unto himself alone. In this setting, he can design a program without worrying about competing influences from elsewhere: it's Klitgaard versus his own intellectual resources versus the remote rulers of the country. It is also Klitgaard versus the psychology of development, for throughout this very useful account of his travails as the ever-so-useful World Bank helper-man, one wonders, why bother? His good-hearted, seemingly (at least from his accounting of the evidence) wel- conceived attempts to get Equatorial Guinea's economy moving again are fended off, time and again, by the Equatoguineans themselves. As Klitgaard hears when he encounters the Minister of Finance on his way out of the country: "In Africa you have to understand that people do not have a common

--Robert Kuhlen, Dept. of Geog. & Anthro., L.S.U.

This book is another inspired offering from Westview Press, known for its timely publication of research in Third World resource management and cultural-ecological studies. It is a compilation of papers produced by social scientists in the Sociology Project of the Small Ruminant Collaborative Research Support Program (SR-CRSP), a U.S. government funded scheme designed "to strengthen the ability of both U.S. and host country institutions to apply agricultural science to solving world food and nutrition problems." While many aid programs of this type rely heavily on a narrow agronomic perspective, and are often tainted with a condescending Green Revolution mentality, the research presented here is quite different, and should be of great interest to most members of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group.

Editor Constance McCorkle has deftly maintained a conscientious focus on "the intermeshing socioeconomic, cultural, and ecological underpinnings" of agropastoral systems, using case studies from Peru, Brazil, Morocco, Kenya, and Indonesia. In the introduction, she writes that "the goal of the present volume is to elucidate the 'people' part of plant/animal production systems." Furthermore, there is a welcome holistic viewpoint regarding pastoralists as necessarily practitioners of both animal and plant husbandry. This is an improved perception over many past research efforts which saw "herders" as somehow categorically separate from other agriculturists, a distinction that may be more revealing of academic compartmentalization than the actual situation in the field. As McCorkle reminds us: "Very few 'pure' cultivators or 'pure' pastoralists are to be found in the developing world. The overwhelming majority of rural peoples 'impurely' raise both plants and animals."

The book consists of eleven chapters divided into three sections: an introductory chapter comprises the first section, followed by two main sections with the headings "Form and Functioning" and "Change and Development," each containing five chapters. The case studies which make up chapters within the "Form and Functioning" section discuss goats and maize on the north coast of Peru; goats, sheep, and mixed farming in Brazil's serras; sheep and goats with corn and barley in Morocco's Atlas Mountains; and, of particular note, several chapters concerned with Andean agropastoral strategies of labor allocation and social organization. The section on "Change and Development" deals with improving sheep and goat productivity among the rice farmers of Java; highlighting the role of women within a dairy goat development project in Kenya; two additional chapters investigating the evolution of agropastoral systems in Kenya; and one examining the introduction of alfalfa as an indicator of further intensification in the already intensive crop-livestock regime of Peru's Cocala Valley, a locale that is familiar terrain to many readers of this newsletter.

The unifying focus throughout the collection is one of human-environment relationships, but with an emphasis on social and institutional structures. Not content with merely outlining a variety of cultural adaptations to diverse physical conditions, most of the papers exhibit an awareness of political ecology as well. For example, when explaining the curious lack of transhumance in the northern Peruvian Department of Piura, Avi Perevolotsky calls upon the historical need for hacienda-based labor resulting in restrictions placed upon pastoralists using rangelands beyond the immediate area. This example also serves to highlight another of the volume's many strong points: its attention to time depth. No cultural-ecological study can be deemed complete without the benefit of diachronic perspective. Moreover, such historical predilection best operates on several scales, from microgeographic investigation of past events to a wider linking of locality with World System. This is recognized by McCorkle in the introduction: "Incorporating the human ecology into the analysis of agropastoral systems does not stop at the borders of the local community, however. It means going beyond, to look at broader geosocial contexts in which rural producers are ultimately imbedded."

The book is rich in tables, which help convey the complexities of some of the data presented. An especially powerful two-page spread on pages 82-83 shows the various agricultural and pastoral components of a Quechua seasonal work cycle. On the down side, there are not enough maps, and their cartographic execution appears inconsistent; some are confusing, with incomplete or no legends, while some are too simplistic, more like diagrams. And perhaps I am simply betraying my visual bias, but I am bothered that there are no photographs. Not one. But these are small gripes, and should not detract from a general sense of praise for a job well done. Overall, the book fully represents a competent and functional contribution to our field. As a chronicler of geographic fieldwork by non-geographers it provides many of us with a clear incentive to sharpen our own research skills.


--Scott A. Brady, Dept. of Geog. & Anthro., L.S.U.

Dismayed by the prospect of teaching a course on the Tyrolean culture area shared by Austria and Italy without sufficient, accessible instructional materials, anthropologist Martha Ward gathered an eclectic, well-chosen collection of sources and personal experiences and has woven them into a winning ethnography, The Hidden Life of Tyrol. This work guides the reader on a grand tour of Tyrol, physical and cultural, past and present. Prominent themes include the region's Alpine environment, culture history, agriculture and pastoralism, land tenure, spirituality, ethnicity, tourism and politics.
While possibly sacrificing depth for breadth, this work will be of particular interest to cultural ecologists for three primary reasons. First, transhumance is identified as a defining Tyrolean cultural trait; it is, thereby, an oft-recurring and thoroughly examined theme. Secondly, the increasing significance of tourism to Tyrol’s cultural ecology is explained. The growth of skiing and woodcarving, two rather insignificant traditional activities, into lucrative pursuits illuminates this development. Hence, the trappings of the ski industry, lifts, lodges and slopes, and the “kitsch” of mass-produced handcarved religious trinkets are suitably grouped together with more conventional ecological concerns such as fodder, pasture and elevation. And finally, this study demonstrates the possibilities of broadening cultural ecology’s realm of inquiry beyond the study of the relationships that exists between “traditional” cultures of the developing world and their physical environments.

Tyrolean transhumance, Alpenwirtschaft, was studied previously by Cole and Wolf (1974), (whom Ward cites frequently) and more than a century ago by August Meitzen, who was unfortunately omitted. Nevertheless, the author deepens our understanding of this livelihood. From travelers’ accounts and diaries she uncovers “hidden” elements of Tyrol’s cultural ecology. In one such instance, she focuses on a teenage farmer’s lonely, dawn to dusk, summertime drudgery in an Alpine dairy hut. The result is a rare and useful perspective from which to view Tyrolean transhumance. The discussion of primogeniture and impartible inheritance, both Germanic traditions, also provides additional glimpses into the “hidden” tyrolean ecology. Primogeniture prevented all but a family’s eldest son from becoming landed farmers. Impartible inheritance ensured the farm would be passed down to him intact and undivided. Other siblings were left to pursue trades or assume a subordinate tenancy on their older brother’s farm. The author tracks down these traditions and describes their consequences on everyday life.

The Hidden Life of Tyrol is a broad, informative look at Tyrol that reflects the author’s enthusiasm for the place and its people. It is recommended for those who are interested in Europe’s cultural geography or are looking for new directions in cultural ecology.

AMERICAN DREAMS, RURAL REALITIES: FAMILY FARMS IN CRISIS. Peggy F. Barlett. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1993. xxii and 305 pp., map, tables, app., notes, bibliography and index. $45.00 cloth; $18.95 paper.

—Christopher F. Meindl, University of Florida

Family farms in the United States are widely perceived as waging a futile battle against the nation’s large corporate farms. In American Dreams, Rural Realities: Family Farms in Crisis, Peggy Barlett investigates the viability of smaller to medium-size family farms in Dodge County, Georgia during the economically harsh 1980s. By focusing on one representative agricultural county in middle Georgia, and incorporating the results of studies in other regions, she attempts to explain the status of family farms across the country.

Barlett begins by describing the historical development of agriculture in Dodge County: from the simple frontier settlements of the 1870s, to the sharecropping system of the post World War I era, and finally, to the modern era of capital intensive farming. She also reviews the clash between “agrarian” and “industrial” value systems within the agricultural community. Accordingly, farmers adhering to the agrarian tradition are more likely to pursue a cautious management style; they are generally content with a modest lifestyle and avoid farm expenses that would put them deep into debt. On the other hand, farmers that embrace industrial values usually pursue a more ambitious farm management style; they insist upon a more affluent lifestyle and frequently incur substantial debts by investing heavily in land and agricultural equipment. According to Barlett, “adoption of these industrial values was a response to the dire poverty of the Depression years and offered hope for a rise in social status.” (p. 82).

During the 1970s, farmers across the nation experienced relative prosperity but these profitable years vanished by 1980 when a combination of drought and falling prices for farm produce challenged even the most successful farmers. Between 1982 and 1989, one-third of all farms in Dodge County went out of business. Yet Barlett demonstrates that medium scale family farms were just as likely as large scale farms to survive the crisis-filled 1980s. She credits cautious farm management—the style most likely to be adopted by family farmers—as the key to farm survival.

This book will be of interest to cultural ecologists as well as others interested in the impact of culture upon the landscape. Peggy Barlett does a fine job of exploring how and why family farms are not likely to disappear any time soon.

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Request for Information

1. Current research, recent publications, recent grants, fieldwork:

2. Recent honors, awards, new titles and/or employment positions:

3. Suggested books, articles, theses, dissertations, or other publications for listing in the CE Newsletter:

4. Field or other address for the next six months if different from regular mailing address:

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227 Geoscience Complex
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Baton Rouge, LA 70803-4105
Cultural Ecology Newsletter
Cultural Ecology Specialty Group
Association of American Geographers

Number 24, Spring 1994

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

CESG at San Francisco 1994
Listed below are sessions at the San Francisco AAG meeting that are concerned with cultural ecology and should be of interest to members of the specialty group.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

8:00 am - 9:40 am
Biogeography and Cultural Ecology Specialty Groups: Biogeographical Landscapes and People: Implications for Conservation-with-Development I
Organizer: K.S. Zimmerer
Chair: K.R. Young
Presenters: M. Savage; J. Metz; F.R. Echavarria; S.P. Horn; B. Brower
Discussant: M.A. Blumler

Environment, Development, and Discourse
Organizers: A.K. Wessels; L. Yapa
Chair: S. Roberts
Presenters: J.M. Gonzales; A.K. Wessels; M. Dilley; L. Yapa
Discussant: M. FitzSimmons

9:55 am - 11:35 am
Biogeography, Cultural Ecology and Latin American Geography Specialty Groups: Biogeographical Landscapes and People: Implications for Conservation-with-Development II
Organizer and Chair: K.S. Zimmerer
Presenters: R.A. Vocks; M.J. Castellon; L.A. Bolick; T.A. Perreault; K.R. Young
Discussant: K.S. Zimmerer

IGU Commission on Critical Environmental Situations and Regions and U.S. Forest Service: Land Use Dynamics in the Amazonian Uplands: Implications for Sustainability and Development
Organizer and Chair: R. Walker
Presenters: E.A. Sermo; E. Moran; N.J.H. Smith; F.N. Scatena; A.K. Homma; P. Beaumont

Conserving Plant and Animal Resources
Chair: P. Starrs
Presenters: J. Akama; C.L. Lant; D. Zurick; G.C. Smith; L.E. Grivetti; K.R. Hirtzel; P. Starrs

Manifest Ecological Destinies: Local Rights and Global Environmental Agendas
Organizers: R.P. Neumann; R. Schroeder
Chair: R.P. Neumann
Presenters: R. Schroeder; H. Rangan; R.P. Neumann; N.L. Peluso
Discussant: M.J. Watts

1:30 pm - 3:10 pm
Cultural Ecology: Latin America
Chair: M. Steinberg
Presenters: M.S. Yoder; D. Klooster; M. Hiraoka; T.W. Gillespie; M. Steinberg

3:25 pm - 5:05 pm
Latin American, Cultural Ecology, and Historical Geography Specialty Groups: The Geographical Personality of Robert C. West's Sonora
Organizer and Chair: W.E. Doolittle
Presenters: W.E. Doolittle; C. Radding; D. Liverman; P.H. Herlihy
Discussant: W.V. Davidson

THURSDAY, MARCH 31

9:55 am - 11:35 am
Regional Development in Asia
Chair: A.M. Shajaat Ali
Presenters: N.J. Hetland; J. Lee; H. Jiang; A.M. Shajaat Ali; A. Roy

(Continued on page 2)

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Cultural Ecology Newsletter
Number 24  Spring, 1994

Kent Mathewson, Editor
Frederick Sundeman and Igor Ignatov, Associate Editors

Publication supported by the
Department of Geography and Anthropology,
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803

Organizer: K. Mathewson
Chair: J.J. Parsons
Presenters: D.W. Gade; C. Kimber; K.S. Zimmerer; G. Knapp
Discussant: B.Q. Nietschman

1:30 pm - 3:10 pm

Regional Development and Planning Specialty Group Business Meeting

Cultural Ecology, Historical Geography, and Latin American Specialty Groups: Indigenous Peoples and Landscapes II: Papers Honoring William M. Denevan

Organizer: K. Mathewson
Chair: B.L. Turner
Presenters: R. Byrne; B. Williams; A.H. Siemens; O.T. Coomes
Discussant: B.L. Turner

3:25 pm - 5:05 pm


Organizer and Chair: W.G. Gartner
Presenters: R. Kuhlken; C. Branstrom; S.O. Brooks; L.S.Z. Greenberg; W.G. Gartner

5:20 pm - 7:00 pm

Cultural Ecology Specialty Group Business Meeting

FRIDAY, APRIL 1

8:00 am - 9:40 am


Organizer and Chair: C.M. Rodrigue
Presenters: J. Baldwin; R.P. Palmieri; A. Krim; C. Rodrigue

9:55 am - 11:35 am


Organizer and Chair: C.M. Rodrigue
Panelists: J. Baldwin; A. Krim; R.P. Palmieri; M.A. Blumler; J.M. Blaut; C.M. Rodrigue

1:30 pm - 3:10 pm

Climate and Cultural Ecology Specialty Groups: Relativism VIII: Huntington’s Legacy: Ethnocentrism or Valuable Theory?

Organizer: J.E. Chappell
Chairs: J.E. Chappell, J. DeMeeo
Panelists: C.C. Held; G.J. Martin; J.E. Chappell; J. DeMeeo

Agro-Ecology in the Third World

Chair: K. Suryanata
Presenters: K. Suryanata; N.D. Johns; N. Hidalgo-Monroy; S. Hoffman; J.R. Keese

3:25 pm - 5:05 pm

The Political Ecology of Agrarian Transformation

Organizers: J. Pickles; M. Meurs
Chair: J. Pickles
Panelists: J. Pickles; D. Weiner; J. Muldavin; R.B. Begg
Discussant: M. FitzSimmons

SATURDAY, APRIL 2

8:00 am - 9:40 am

Models and Methods in Cultural Ecology

Chair: T.M. Whitmore
Presenters: N.P. Dunning; J.H. Holmes; C. Farley; S. Batterbury; T.M. Whitmore

9:55 am - 11:35 am

Conceptual Issues in Cultural Ecology

Chair: J.D. Wiener
Presenters: M. Spyrou; E.H. Davis; A. Winkler; K. MacDonald; J.D. Wiener

11:45 am - 1:25 pm


Organizer: T.J. Bassett
Chair: T.J. Bassett
Panelists: T.J. Bassett; D. Rocheleau; K.S. Zimmerer; J. Camey; P. Blakie

Notes from the Chair

Elections:

The two-year terms of the current CESG officers come to an end this June 1994. We will be holding new elections at our business meeting in San Francisco scheduled for Friday, March 31 at 5:20 p.m. Nominations for the following positions are welcome between now and then: Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Regional Representatives: West, Central, and East, and Student Representative. Please come to the meeting to participate in this important vote!
Fellowship Competitions:

At last year’s business meeting, we agreed that it would be of interest to CESG members, particularly graduate students, to report in the Newsletter on fellowship programs with which some of us have had experience as proposal reviewers. See below for the first in this series. See also John Metz’s report (‘Other News’) on Asian languages offered at US universities.

The SSRC/ACLS International Pre-dissertation Fellowship Program:

This innovative one-year fellowship program sponsored by the Social Science Research Council and the American Council of Learned Societies is to “internationalize American social science” by supporting graduate students who wish to strengthen their language skills and knowledge of a developing country. The program favors students in disciplines that are underrepresented in development studies such as economics, political science, psychology, and sociology. However, geographers have been successful in this competition and should apply. Only students enrolled in PhD programs in the following universities are eligible: UC Berkeley, UCLA, UCSD, Chicago, Columbia, Cornell, Duke, Harvard, Illinois, Indiana, MIT, Michigan, MSU, Minnesota, UNC, Northwestern, Penn. Princeton, Stanford, Texas at Austin, Washington, Wisconsin-Madison, and Yale. In the 1993 competition, there were 137 applications although only 88 were forwarded to the program committee. Forty-four fellowships were awarded, and three went to geographers. The distribution of fellowships by geographic region was: Latin America and Caribbean (16 Awards), Africa (13), China (5), Near and Middle East (2), SE Asia (6), S. Asia (0), Central Asia (2).

Most (38) of the fellowships went to second and third year graduate students reflecting the program’s interest in supporting individuals early in their training. Fellowships were awarded to 24 men and 20 women. Eight of the 44 identified themselves as minorities. Successful applicants had outstanding credentials who managed to weave their theoretical and regional interests into a tightly conceived and creative training program. The IPFP program puts great weight on the social theoretical strengths of the proposal and how the training programs will aid the development of dissertation proposals. Language training is critical. Funds can be used for exploratory field research, course work, and language training abroad. For more information write to the IPFP, Social Science Research Council, 605 Third Street, New York, NY 10158.

Desertification a Myth?

In 1972 the US Agency for International Development declared that the Sahara was moving southwards at a rate of 30 miles a year. At that rate there would be sand dunes in central Côte d’Ivoire! Not so. In fact, according to a January 18 New York Times article by William K. Stevans, the very notion of desertification in Africa has been cast into doubt by Swedish scientists at the University of Lund. Using aerial photographs, satellite images, and field observations for the period 1962-1984, the Swedes found no discernible southward movement of the desert. Rainfall, not human influences, appears to be the critical variable of vegetation fluctuations over this period. The article raises a host of questions of interest to cultural and political ecologists, not the least being that “there is the risk that the desertification issue will become a political and development fiction rather than a scientific fact.”

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News from Members

Sarah Osgood Brooks, doctoral candidate at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, has returned to southern Peru to continue her dissertation research on the origins of irrigated agriculture in the Colca Valley. She will be excavating terrace sites at high altitudes to determine the dates of the first construction of bench terraces and irrigation canals. Her research is being funded by the Archaeology Division of the National Science Foundation. William Denevan serves as co-principal investigator.

Dale Lightfoot of the Department of Political Science and Geography at Old Dominion University writes that he conducted fieldwork in Syria in January and February 1993. He studied the history, ecology, and current status of 'Qanat Romani' irrigation systems. He also received a grant from the American Schools of Oriental Research to continue this research in the summer of 1994. Dale has three recent publications:


The editors apologize to Renae Frell for the confusion that was (en)gendered in CEN 23 concerning her status. Noster culpa.

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**Other News**

**John Metz** has collected information about various universities around the US that teach the languages of South and Southeast Asia. He writes that this is not an exhaustive list. He also includes some Middle Eastern languages which turned up as he was checking.

**University of California - Berkeley**
Dept. of South and Southeast Asian Studies
College of Letters and Sciences
Berkeley, CA 94720
Languages: Hindi/Urdu; Sanskrit; Tamil; Malay/Indonesian; Thai. Beginning through advanced.

**University of Chicago**
Dept. of South Asian Languages and Civilization
Chicago, IL 60637
Languages: Bengali; Hindi; Sanskrit; Tamil; Urdu. Beginning through advanced.

**Cornell University**
Dr. Brett de Bary
388 Rockefeller Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853
Languages: Bengali; Burmese; Cambodian; Chinese; Hindi; Indonesian; Japanese; Nepali; Sanskrit; Sinhala; Tagalog; Tamil; Telugu; Thai; Tocharian; Turkish; Vietnamese. Beginning through advanced.

**Duke University**
Dept. of Asian and African Languages and Literature
Durham, NC
Languages: Arabic; Chinese; Hebrew; Hindi; Japanese; Swahili; Urdu. Beginning through advanced. Occasionally taught: Farsi; Korean.

**Harvard University**
Dept. of East Asian Languages and Civilization
Cambridge, MA
Languages: Chinese; Japanese; Korean; Mongolian; Tibetan; Vietnamese. Beginning through advanced including literature.

Dept. of Near Eastern Languages
Languages: Arabic; Aramaic; Armenian; Hebrew; Iranian (Farsi or Persian); Swahili; Turkic.

Dept. of Sanskrit and Indian Studies
Languages: Sanskrit; Pali; Literary Tibetan; Colloquial Tibetan; Bengali; Gujarati; Nepali; Oriya; Sindi; Urdu/Hindi. Beginning through advanced including literature.

**University of Hawaii at Manoa**
Dept. of Indo-Pacific Languages
College of Languages, Linguistics, and Literature
459 Spaulding Hall
Honolulu, HA 96822
Languages: Burmese; Cambodian; Hawaiian; Hindi; Hokano; Indonesian; Lao; Prakrit; Samoan; Sanskrit; Tagalog; Thai; Vietnamese. Beginning through advanced.

**University of Iowa**
Dept. of Asian Languages and Literature
Iowa City, IA 52242
Languages: Hindi; Sanskrit; Arabic.

**University of Michigan**
Dept. of South and Southeast Asian Studies
130 Lande Hall
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1290
Languages: Burmese; Hindi/Urdu; Marathi; Sanskrit/Pali/Prakrit; Indonesian; Old Javanese; Tagalog; Thai. Beginning through advanced classes.

**University of Minnesota**
Dept. of Asian and Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures
192 Llanoer Court
320 16th Ave SE
Minneapolis, MN 55455
Languages: Hindi; Marathi; Sanskrit; Urdu; Indo-Aryan; Persian (Farsi).

**Ohio University**
Dept. of Linguistics
College of Arts and Sciences
Athens, OH 45701-2979
Languages: Indonesian/Malaysian.

**University of Pennsylvania**
Dept. of South Asian Regional Studies
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6209
Languages: Hindi; Urdu; Modern Tamil; Classical Tamil; Bengali; Gujarati; Nepali; Malayalam; Punjabi; Marathi; Telugu; Sinhala; Kannada; Sindi. Beginning through advanced including accelerated.

**University of Texas**
Dept. of Oriental and African Languages and Literature
Austin, TX 78712-1157
Languages: Arabic; Chinese; Hebrew; Hindi; Japanese; Malayalam; Farsi; Sanskrit; Turkish.

**University of Washington**
Dept. of Asian Languages and Literature
Seattle, WA 98195
Languages taught regularly: Uighur; Chinese; Hindi; Japanese; Korean; Sanskrit; Tamil; Thai; Tibetan; Turkic.
Languages taught occasionally: Kannada; Nepali; Punjabi; Sinhala; Marathi; Telugu; Urdu.
Robert Klitgaard is right: “Africa is where the toughest challenges are” (p. 7). His two-year tour of duty in Equatorial Guinea (1987-1989), chronicled here, is a latter-day journey into a new heart of darkness very different from the old one. In Africa, “the world’s basket case” (p. x), Klitgaard’s challenge was to develop and implement a World Bank structural adjustment program for a country whose geography is strange, whose leaders are distant and mysterious, whose economy is negligible and products uneeded, and whose people live in an atmosphere framed by the brutality and oppression of a regime (President Macias, 1969-1979) undeniable among the worse in contemporary history.

Klitgaard’s personal account is at times amusing, at times disturbing, and always entertaining. A former professor of economics at Harvard, Klitgaard decided to take his ideas to the field, and has worked as a consultant in economic development programs in numerous developing countries. As such, Klitgaard is worth our attention, since he is one of the few who acts upon his ideas, and those ideas, so vital to the concerns of cultural ecologists, take concrete form in the halls of the World Bank, AID, UNICEF, and the platter of other donor agencies. Their people tend, in this reviewer’s estimation, having been a Foreign Service officer himself, to be generally high-principled people whose initial values are often vitiated by the dispiriting realities of Third World corruption and greed. In Malabo, the microscopic capital of Equatorial Guinea, Klitgaard is virtually alone: the international donor community is so small that the author finds himself essentially accountable unto himself alone. In this setting, he can design a program without worrying about competing influences from elsewhere: it’s Klitgaard versus his own intellectual resources versus the remote rulers of the country. It is also Klitgaard versus the psychology of development, for throughout this very useful account of his trials as the ever-so-useful World Bank help-man, one wonders, why bother? His good-hearted, seemingly (at least from his accounting of the evidence) well-conceived attempt to get Equatorial Guinea’s economy moving again are fended off, time and again, by the Equatoguineans themselves. As Klitgaard hears when he encounters the Minister of Finance on his way out of the country: “In Africa you have to understand that people do not have a common interest... first comes the family, then the clan, the province, the region, and finally the country. But the country is the last thing” (p. 255).

Some who approach Africa with ideologies forged a generation ago do not recognize how desperate the situation has become in Africa: they haven’t been there lately. Some who look at Africa today place blame on events that transpired long ago: they weren’t there then. Few realize how much security Africans, in their own lives, have lost. Individuals like Klitgaard work hard within the system, but find there really is no system — at least none which fits our image of administration and government. It may look real but it’s not. Klitgaard’s experience is not unique. Equatorial Guinea may be the bottom of “the basket,” but much larger, more critical places — Zaire, Liberia, Ethiopia — are remarkably similar to the spirit he invokes here. Academic geographers rarely experience this side of the fence: policy development and implementation in the Third World. This will take you there.

*Editor’s Note: A portion of the above review was omitted in CEN 23. It is reprinted here in its entirety.

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— Eric Perramond, Louisiana State University

This is simply a well-written, well-illustrated book on an important topic. Stephen Trimble has presented an organized introduction to the Native Americans of the U.S. Southwest. The focus, as he states, is on contemporary twentieth-century events and people. The end product however, is more than a photo-journalist’s account. The author has wittingly blended traditional interests of anthropology, ethnohistory, and geography into one volume. The “Southwest” presented here spans from eastern California and Nevada to New Mexico, from Colorado into southern Arizona. Within this geographic area, Trimble spent the better part of eight years collecting interviews, photographs, and observations.

In his preface, Trimble states that he has written for the non-specialist. Even if he considers himself an amateur anthropologist, the author is sensitive to issues of cultural representation and misrepresentation. Most of what is given as inside information in the volume is directly quoted from his Amerindian informants. The introduction is brilliantly written and carefully sets the physical “stage” for the rest of his book. The bulk of the work is divided into three parts. Part one covers the “Plateau Peoples,” largely the Pueblo, Navajo, and Paiutes. Part two is geared towards “Upland Peoples,” or the Yavapai, Apache, Utes, and Southern Paiute. The final section covers the “Desert Peoples,” the O’odham, the Maricopa, the Colorado River tribes, and the Yaqui.

Trimble has avoided the traditional “narrative” formula for historical writing and this may be a source of irritation for some, as he skips from one topic to another. But it is refreshing
to see that the author has captured the fractured lives of Southwestern Native Americans in his prose. His writing reflects his preference for dialogue over narrative, relying on the "stories every person tells in his or her own way" (xiii). Very few factual errors and typos interrupt the text, and geographers will be pleased to see many maps and hundreds of photographs.

Cultural ecologists may cringe at Trimble’s conclusion entitled “We Are the Land” after reading about the development of Native American (sometimes by Native Americans) lands for mineral and resource exploitation in the twentieth-century. Trimble does not, to his credit, overextend his treatise on Amerindian ecology however. Local events and local history, tied to heart-felt testimonies and life stories, are the strong points of this volume.

Although this book was written for the non-specialist, anthropologists, historians, and geographers should all enjoy this book for its clarity and beauty. My paperback edition is still intact after several readings and copious notes. The quality of the paper, print, photography, and maps only enhance the appearance of this truly remarkable work. Anyone even casually interested in Southwestern Native American experiences in the twentieth century should pick this volume up for the personal library or the coffee table.


--- Igor Ignatov, Louisiana State University

This collection is a summary of various topics related to the problems of rainforest ecology in Latin America. It presents a range of perspectives on the mysterious, powerful and fragile world of the Neotropical Rainforest, with both new and classical contributions. Several major events in 1992 triggered an increased interest in the Latin American rainforests. The Quincentennial was one. The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, or Rio Earth Summit, was another. These two events mark a new phase of awareness in the environmental drama whose scenario continues to unfold.

In her introduction Susan Place summarizes Latin American environmental history. The remainder of the book is divided into four major parts. The selections in Part I deals with a variety of both historical and modern perceptions of the Latin American rainforest from Bates’ field notes and the early 20th century romantic writings of William H. Hudson and Jose Rivera to the early modern but controversial scientific contributions of Betty Meggers and Clifford Evans’s “Environmental Limitations on Culture in the Tropical Forest”. Part II comprises seven contributions on various explanations of tropical deforestation. Ecologist John Terborgh, taking a Malthusian point of view, argues that population pressure is a primary factor in deforestation. Geographer James J. Parsons, pioneer in the study of the impact of cattle on deforestation, provides an overview of scholarly research on cattle and deforestation in "The Scourge of Cows".

K. Thomson and N. Dudley focus on another important agent of deforestation, the oil and gas industry in Amazonia. Dave Trees is interested in the "developmental" programs of the Brazilian government, whereas Joshua Karliner is concerned with political ecology and U.S. Foreign Policy and stresses his attention on Central America. The papers by Jose A. Lutzenberger “Who is Destroying the Amazon Rainforest?” and Tadeu Valadares “Deforestation: A Brazilian Perspective” focus on Brazil and the question of the responsibility for Amazonian deforestation, analysing the roles of the various agents in this destructive process.

Part III of the book deals with the question “Why Save the Rainforest” which has become a rallying cry of environmentalists around the world. Several approaches are represented. Whereas John Terborgh “A Glimpse at Some Tropical Habitats” and Norman Myers “A Cornucopia of Food” generally follow within the broad traditional ecological paradigm, Mark Plotkin “The Healing Forest” and Darrell A. Posey “Alternatives to Forest Destruction: Lessons from the Mebengokre Indians” stress the invaluable cultural heritage of the native rainforest inhabitants. The economic dimension is represented by David R. Francis who summarizes the results of a study of the Costa Rican economy by environmental economist Roberto Repetto. This part of the volume is crowned by Nigel Smith’s analysis of the lessons from a tropical forest where the author shows how the Amazon has repeatedly defeated human attempts to tame it.

The fourth section of the book, “Prospects for Development: Alternative Future for Latin America’s Tropical Rainforest”, deals with the contested subject of sustainable development. Chico Mendes provides a brief introductory analysis of the related social issues “Fight for the Forest: Building Bridges” followed by two contributions by Peter Bunyard and A.B. Cunningham focusing on “Indigenous Policies” and “Native Environmental Knowledge”. Denise Stanley offers extensive analysis of the traditional economies of Honduran resin tappers. Rhona Mahony represents and criticizes the “debt-for-nature swap” concept, one of the most promising and highly touted innovations in the conservation world during the 1980s. The idea of alternative rainforest uses is discussed by John Browder. The damaging role of tourism in Amazonia is analyzed by Ty Harrington. Three brief contributions, revealing the ecological dimension of the problem, are represented by James Nations “Protected Areas in Tropical Rainforests: Five Lessons”, K. Phillips “Pern’s Rainforest: The Kindes Cut”, and Michael Lipske “How a Monkey Saved the Jungle”.

The book also has appendices on readings and films related to various problems of the rainforest ecology.

Overall, the work is provocative for non-professionals and useful for specialists. It succeeds in showing the complex set of interconnections between rainforest ecology and biology, indigenous cultures, economic forces and political powers. The conciseness of the volume could be viewed as both a shortcoming and an advantage. As an successfully written collective overview of the rainforest dilemma, combining various approaches and dimensions of the problem, the volume will be a useful addition to most any geographer’s, ecologist’s, or anthropologist’s library.
CULTURE, FORM, and PLACE

Essays in Cultural & Historical Geography

Edited by Kent Mathewson

GEOSCIENCE AND MAN VOLUME 32

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Malcolm C. Webb

Louisiana's "Archeogeography": Mapping the Remaining Indian Mounds
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Rethinking the "New Orthodoxy": Interpreting Ancient Maya Agriculture and Environment
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The Sixteenth-Century Environment of the Central Mexican Bajío: Archival Reconstruction from Spanish Land Grants
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The Ingenious ingenios: Spanish Colonial Watermills at Potosí
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Terry G. Jordan

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Gene Wilhelm

Material Culture and Environmental Change on the Illinois River
Craig E. Colten

The Marigold (Tagetes spp.) and the "Cult of the Dead" in Puebla-Tlaxcala
James J. Parsons

Culture in Place: Costa Rica's Italian Agricultural Colony
Clifton V. Dixon, Jr.

Morphologic Patterns of Resort Evolution along the Gulf of Mexico
Klaus J. Meyer-Arendt

Landscape Transformation in Ontario's Norfolk Sand Plain
Samuel R. Sheldon

Mind and Matter in Cultural Geography
James M. Blaut

AVAILABLE MAY 1994

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Request for Information

1. Current research, recent publications, recent grants, fieldwork:

2. Recent honors, awards, new titles and/or employment positions:

3. Suggested books, articles, theses, dissertations, or other publications for listing in the CE Newsletter:

4. Field or other address for the next six months if different from regular mailing address:

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Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-4105
Meet your new officers

CESG members present at the business meeting during the San Francisco AAG meetings elected a slate of new officers for a two year term (July 1, 1994 - June 30, 1996):

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e-mail: gamath@lsuvvm.bitnet

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Student Representative
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Department of Geography
University of Wisconsin
Madison, WI 53706

Approximately thirty-five CESG members attended the specialty group business meeting in San Francisco. Under consideration and discussion were a number of issues, including student paper awards, travel grants for student research, sponsorship of guests at AAG meetings, and other relations with the AAG central office. More on the San Francisco meeting can be found inside on page 4. Guidelines for submitting papers for the student paper awards will be published in the next issue of the newsletter, along with information about applying for a travel grant.
Editor's notes

I am pleased and honored to begin my role as editor of the Cultural Ecology Newsletter on this, its 25th issue. In the spirit of this quasisevent anniversary milestone, it may be time to take stock, if not of who we are, at least where we are and how many there are of us. I wish to thank Tom Bassett for supplying a complete report on the past year's activities for the CESG. In that report he included a graph of membership, the data from which I have taken and modified according to the latest figure based on the AAG mailing labels. As the graph above indicates, generally there has been a steady increase in the membership rolls for our specialty group, with many new members this year. This has allowed the group to rebound from the downward trend of the previous year (1993, with 275 members) and to surpass even the former high point of the year before (1992, with 314 members). There are this year 341 members of the CESG. Regarding where we are, the graph and maps on the next page help tell the story. The top ten member states are indicated by the map. There is a three-way tie for seventh place between OR, NY, and FL, each with 12 members. There are no CESG members in the following states: AK, AR, DE, ME, NV, NH, NM, ND, RI, and SD. Besides the top ten states, the remaining states have the following number of CESG members: AL-1; CT-6; GA-4; HI-3; ID-1; IL-10; IN-4; IA-2; KS-5; KY-2; MD-6; MI-7; MN-7; MS-3; MO-3; MT-1; NE-2; NJ-8; NC-6; OH-6; OK-4; PA-7; SC-5; TN-7; UT-3; VT-2; VA-7; WA-6; WV-1; WY-2; D.C.-2. Extra-territorial locations for CESG members are as follows: Canada - 12; Brazil - 2; Colombia - 2; Japan - 2; and one member each of the following places: Australia, Bruner, England, Italy, Kenya, South Korea, Mexico, Thailand, Niger, Switzerland, Puerto Rico, and Guam.

Reading one of those other specialty group newsletters the other day, I came upon an interesting project that should be of some utility as adapted by the CESG. Which departments offer a course (graduate or undergraduate) entitled Cultural Ecology, or that includes cultural-ecological methods and viewpoints as its dominant theme? Who teaches these courses? What textbooks and other readings do you employ? Do you have a copy of your syllabus you can send me? For Nigel Allan's Cultural Ecology graduate seminar at LSU we used Changing the Face of the Earth by I.G. Simmons. In future newsletters I will list these texts or other course materials, and possibly several of the outlines. (Thanks to Carolyn Prorok and the Geography of Religions and Belief Systems specialty group newsletter from whence this idea sprung).

One suggestion for spending money from our budgetary surplus comes to mind: Why not host a social gathering at Chicago? All those no-host parties with outrageous bar prices can be tiresome and counterproductive to getting together, especially for students. Speaking of students, they showed us all up in San Francisco. If any of you attended the party thrown by the Globehead staff - mainly graduate students from Penn State - you found stimulating conversation and a bathtub full of iced beer. Surely our specialty group could spot some bucks for beer and wine - not only would it ensure our membership collects in one place, but would stimulate the growth of the CESG by exposing non-members to our discussions and concerns. What do you think? Please send suggestions, news, letters, gripes, syllabi, and book reviews, etc. to:

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Clemson, SC 29634-1507
c-mail: kuhlen@clemson.clemson.edu
Ed. note: The above map was produced using USA GEOGRAPH, a choropleth map program for the Macintosh. Unfortunately, the Canadian provinces were not able to be included (sorry, Oliver). The graphs were done using the spreadsheet/charting modules of GREATWORKS. And, while we're at it, the entire newsletter is produced on a Macintosh LC III using PAGEMAKER.
Looking back at San Francisco

During the CESG business meeting, the membership decided upon several requests and questions to be placed before the AAG Council:
1. Some members strongly urge Council to reinstate the policy of allowing specialty groups to invite two non-geographer guests to participate in the annual meetings without paying the registration fee. The savings to the Association by eliminating this option is not at all apparent.
2. In response to the central office's interest in organizing a "public issue response team" within the Association to speak to the public on current affairs, the membership agreed that the CESG Chair should serve as the group's liaison with the central office. In the event the central office is contacted by a news agency or public group that seeks an opinion or more information on a topic of interest to the CESG, the Executive Director should contact the Chair of our group. The Chair is in the best position to provide the names of individuals whom the Executive Director might contact.

The CESG sponsored eleven sessions at the 1994 annual meeting of the AAG in San Francisco:
1. Biogeographical Landscapes and People: Implications for Conservation with Development I.
   **Organizer:** Karl Zimmerer.
2. Biogeographical Landscapes and People: Implications for Conservation with Development II.
   **Organizer:** Karl Zimmerer.
   **Organizer:** R. Neuman and R. Schroder.
   **Organizer:** Bill Doolittle.
5. Indigenous Peoples and Landscapes I: Papers Honoring William M. Denevan
   **Organizer:** Kent Mathewson
6. Indigenous Peoples and Landscapes II: Papers Honoring William M. Denevan
   **Organizer:** Kent Mathewson
   **Organizer:** Bill Gartner
8. The Origins of Domestication and the Hahn-Sauer-Simoonses Tradition: The Dehiscence of Debate I.
   **Organizer:** C.M. Rodrigue
   **Organizer:** C.M. Rodrigue
10. Relativism VIII: Huntington's Legacy: Ethnocentrism or Valuable Theory?
    **Organizer:** John Chappell
    **Organizer:** Tom Bassett

Of course, a number of other sessions addressing topics from a cultural-ecological perspective were on the agenda. And, as many of us know, these increasingly seem to appear with frustrating conflicts on the concurrent schedule. This is one of the main reasons for seeking specialty group sponsorship - to ensure that no conflicts will occur with other sessions sponsored by that specialty group. It's time to make those last minute plans for Chicago.

Looking ahead to Chicago

Tom Bassett tells us that so far three sessions are in the planning stages for CESG sponsorship at the Chicago meetings:
1. Political Ecology
2. Environmental History
3. People and Soil

We need to be aware of the earlier deadline of September 1 for submission of abstracts to the AAG. If you wish to organize a session to be sponsored by the CESG at Chicago, please contact Kent Mathewson or a regional councilor immediately.

And beyond ...

Discussions during the business meeting at San Francisco yielded the following directives:
1. We will continue to sponsor special sessions and guests at the AAG meetings, and to produce newsletters to facilitate communication among our members.
2. We will continue to support active student participation through our no-dues policy for students; through increased involvement in the governance of the CESG; and through paper awards and travel grants.
3. We will strengthen ties with British geographers working in the area of cultural and political ecology.

Financial Report

The AAG-regulated method of collecting specialty group dues has bolstered our financial status considerably. With retiring Secretary-Treasurer Stan Stevens off to the field, most of the following report was submitted by retiring Chair Tom Bassett:

**Balance (as of 3-17-94):** $1,781.91

**Estimated income for 1994-95:** $650.00

**TOTAL estimated assets for 1994-95:** $2,430

**Estimated expenses for 1994-95:**
3 newsletters @ $100 = $300
2 student paper prizes @ $100 = $200
1 travel grant @ $500 = $500
AAG Awards Banquet (2 @ $15) = $30
AAG meeting guest participation fees = $200

**TOTAL estimated expenses for 1994-95:** = $1,230.
Book Review

Unfinished Conquest, The Guatemalan Tragedy

Review by Michael K. Steinberg, Louisiana State University

Unfinished Conquest, The Guatemalan Tragedy describes the historical, cultural, and economic factors that drive Guatemala’s civil war - Central America’s longest running conflict. The author, Victor Perera, describes the fighting between the guerilla groups and the government, beginning in the late 1970s, which Perera calls the “third conquest” of the Mayan people. The first conquest began with the Spanish invasion and subjugation of the Mayan people 500 years ago, and the second was the economic conquest of the highlands by the coffee barons during the late-19th century.

The book has two main themes. First, Perera describes why Guatemala’s conflict is unique to Central America, even though it has been fought along the same Cold War theme that has been common in this region. To understand the foundations of the Guatemalan conflict, according to Perera, it must be examined in the context of the Spanish conquest and the social institutions and values the invasion introduced. The weapons have changed since the original Spanish entrada, but the goals are the same: control of indigenous labor, lands, and minds. These goals are constant in Guatemala, and continue to fuel the conflict because they are largely unaffected by fluctuations in the global geopolitical arena.

The second theme of the book is the role played by evangelical Protestant missionaries in this convulsive political and social situation. As in the conversion efforts by Catholic clergy beginning 500 years ago, the rural Maya are again targets of foreign missionaries, this time by preachers instead of priests. According to Perera, the second religious invasion has a political and social role in Guatemala that goes beyond converting Mayan Catholics to Protestantism. Rural Mayans who hold to their synchronized indigenous and Catholic beliefs are labeled as “devils” and “communists” by many Protestant missionaries, politicians, and military personnel. This helps rationalize the atrocities committed against the rural Maya by the military and right wing death squads. Perera also describes the extensive cultural changes Mayan communities have experienced since the influx of Protestant missionaries beginning with the 1976 earthquake. This influx divided communities along religious lines and eliminated many cultural traditions.

The book’s format is a combination of “journalistic reportage, personal narrative, oral testimony, and ethnographic investigation.” Perera concentrates on four regions, the Ixil Triangle, Santiago Atitlan, and Huehuetenango, all in the highlands, and the Peten lowland. These are the areas most impacted by evangelical conversions, guerilla activities, and military counterninsurgency. Throughout these sections Perera paints a grim picture of Mayan village life composed of economic hardship and exploitation by the landowning class, guerilla contact and recruitment, and military retaliation.

This persecution is not reserved for Guatemalans alone. Perera discusses the efforts of several foreign priests and residents who work on behalf of Mayan rights, and the violent consequences with which their actions are rewarded. The military described by Perera is so consumed with destroying communism that even these foreigners aren’t immune to retaliation and punishment.

This book will be of interest to cultural ecologists because it discusses a variety of issues dealing with indigenous cultures, the natural environment, and the battle to control each. These issues include land tenure and political turmoil, population pressure on resources, government-planned settlements, protected area development versus the desires of local people, and the impacts of foreign missionaries on cultural traditions such as the cofradia.

The book falls short in a few areas. Because it is written in a journalistic style, the author does not make any citations in the text itself. Although there is an extensive bibliography, by documenting his claims throughout the text the author could have made the book stronger and more useful to individuals conducting research on Guatemala. Also, there is a shortage of maps. The book contains only two, a Guatemalan country map and a map showing the location of villages in the Lake Atitlan area. Maps with greater detail located in appropriate chapters would eliminate the awkward habit of searching for villages on the country map at the beginning of the book.

Overall, Unfinished Conquest, The Guatemalan Tragedy is an informative book that contributes to the available literature on Guatemala’s civil war. This is an important work in that it describes in detail some of the pressures and changes indigenous cultures are experiencing. Perera is also successful in showing that the recently popularized term “ethnic cleansing” is alive and well in the Americas and has been for many years.

Ed. note: Book reviews from all members of the CESG are welcome. Students, especially, are encouraged to send in reviews. C’mon, don’t be shy - I know from experience they make great filler for fledgling cv.'s. We will publish a list of books available for review in the next issue of the newsletter. If you wish to review one of these, simply let us know and we will arrange to get you a copy. Kent tells me that there are a number of reviews pending from members who received a review copy of a book. Please send me those reviews (on disk, if possible) so we can keep ourselves informed as to current literature. Meanwhile, check the new books section of your library, and if there is a title that interests you with a 1993 or 1994 publication date, send in a review and we will try to obtain a review copy for you from the publisher.
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3. Suggested books, articles, theses, dissertations, or other publications for listing in the Newsletter:

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CESG at Chicago

Wednesday, March 15

African Cultural Ecology

Chair: L. A. Lewis

8:00 D.J. Nemeth, Humankind/African Desert Locust Relations: A Story Untold
8:20 C. Farley, Local Soil Knowledge and Management in the Highlands of Uganda
8:40 D. Johnson, The Impact of Borders and Warfare on African Nomads
9:00 D. Edmonds, “Development,” “Green” and Other Discourses in the Ndole Land Dispute
9:20 L.A. Lewis, The Critical Role of Human Activities in Land Degradation: A Rwandan Example

Cultural Ecology Specialty Group: Resource Management in Africa and the Middle East

Chair: D. R. Lightfoot

10:15 C.A. Kull & A.A. Rabarison, Agricultural Land-Use Evolution in the Hautes Terres of Madagascar
10:35 G.E. Matzke & N. Nabane, Gender Aspects of a Wildlife Utilization Initiative in a Zimbabwe Community
11:15 D.R. Lightfoot, Qanats in Jordan: Infiltration Galleries at the Periphery of Early Levant Empires

Cultural Ecology and Latin American Specialty Groups: Protected Areas Conservation in Latin America

Organizer: P.H. Herlihy

Chair: M. J. Castellon

1:30 H.A. Smit, Implications of a Colonization Front: Converting Honduras’ Forest to Fields
1:45 D.A. Smith, Indigenous Resettlement and the Establishment of the BOSAWAS Reserve, Nicaragua
2:00 J. Sundberg, NGO Landscapes: Conservation in the Maya Biosphere Reserve, Peten, Guatemala
2:30 P.H. Herlihy, Can Indians Map the Biosphere? Participatory Research and Protected Areas Management in Central America

Discussant: K.S. Zimmerer

Cultural Ecology and Latin American Specialty Groups: Perspectives in Environment and Development

Organizer & Chair: G.W. Knapp

3:25 A. Goldberg, Uprising and Deal-Making: Oil Development on Indigenous Lands in Ecuador

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Cultural Ecology Newsletter
Number 26 Winter, 1995

Robert Kuhlken, Editor
Michael Steinberg, Book Review Editor

Publication supported by the Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803
3:45 K.S. Zimmerer, Farming with Floodwater Irrigation in Bolivia: Surpluses and Subsidies from Nature and Culture
4:05 D.A. Salazar, Environmental Diversity and Medicinal Plant Supplies among the Pemon Indians of Venezuela
4:25 M.A. Blumler, Nonlinear Dynamics of Human-Environment Interactions in the Near East

Discussant: G.W. Knapp

Thursday, March 16

Cultural Ecology, Latin American, and Socialist Specialty Groups: Development and Discourse Theory

Organizer: J.M. Gonzalez
Chair: M.Fitzsimmons

8:00 J.M. Gonzalez, The Creation of Poverty Through Agricultural Development in Colombia
8:20 L.S. Yapa, Can Post-modern Discourse Theory Help Alleviate Poverty? Yes
8:40 A. Escobar, The Making of the Third World: Poststructuralism and Development

Discussants: B. Wisner & R. Peet

Cultural Ecology Specialty Group: Pleistocene Geography I

Organizer: B.G. Gladfelter
Chair: B.G. Gladfelter

8:00 J.T. Abbott, C.D. Frederick & L. Ellis, Geologic Selectivity in Prehistoric Site Location, Fort Hood, Texas
8:20 M.D. Blum & R.A. Risklis, Holocene Paleogeography of the Central Texas Coast, Part I: Geomorphic Evolution in Response to Sea Level Rise and Climatic Change
8:40 R.A. Risklis & M.D. Blum, Holocene Paleogeography of the Central Texas Coast, Part II: The Human Dimension as Evidenced in the Archaeological Record
9:00 C.D. Federick, Landscape Disturbance Before and After the Conquest in Central Mexico: A Review of the Field Evidence
9:20 C.L. Hansen, Gravel Mantled Pediments West of the Salton Sea, California

Cultural Ecology Specialty Group: Pleistocene Geography II

Organizer: B.G. Gladfelter
Chair: B.G. Gladfelter

9:55 B.G. Gladfelter, Environment and Archaeology in Sinai During the Upper Paleolithic
10:15 A.Miller Rosen, Environmental Change and the Abandonment of Cities in the Early Bronze Age of Southeastern Turkey
10:35 J. Schulderein, Prehistory and Geography of the Northern Aegean: Perspectives from Konispol Cave, Southern Albania
10:55 D.M. Helgren, Prehistoric Settlements and Their Modern Discovery. Site Locations Since the Lower Pleistocene in the Semliki Rift, Zaire

Friday, March 17

Cultural Ecology Specialty Group: Central American Cultural Ecology

Chair: T. Whitmore

1:30 M.K. Steinberg, The Changing Cultural Ecology of Mopan Mayan House-Types in Belize
1:50 A.H. Siemens, M. Heimo & D. Millette, The Canyons of Central Veracruz, Mexico
2:10 P. Farrell, T. Beach & B. Dahlin, Under the Roots of the Chukum Tree: A Preliminary Soil Analysis for the Chunchuchil Region
2:30 M. del Carmen Guzman, G. Soberon and J. Giardino, Mapping Environmental Units (EU) in the Estero del Soldado, Guaymas, Sonora, Mexico
2:50 T. Whitmore, Computer Simulated Population Reconstruction for Pre-Columbian N. Yucatan, Mexico

Cultural Ecology and Socialist Specialty Groups: Political Ecology and Environmental Justice I

Organizers: L. Pulido, D. Rocheleau
Chair: D. Rocheleau

8:00 D. Rocheleau, Re-Integrating Home, Habitat, and Workplace: Stores, Questions, and A Proposal
8:20 R.P. Neumann, Designing Nature: The National Park Ideal in Social-Historical Context
8:40 B. Wisner, A Tale of Two Cities: Popular Struggles Over Health and Safety in Greater Johannesburg and Greater Los Angeles
9:00 C. Wilmsen, Sustained Yield Forestry and the Politicization of Resource Management Concepts

Organizer: T. J. Bassett
Chair: T. J. Bassett
9:55 A. Goldman, Ethnic Composition and Conflict in Africa: Some Implications for Political Ecology
10:35 M. Turner, Regional Ramifications of Changes in the Distribution of Livestock Wealth within Households of Western Niger

Cultural Ecology and Socialist Specialty Groups: Political Ecology and Environmental Justice I

Organizers: L. Pulido, D. Rocheleau
Chair: D. Rocheleau
9:55 P. Taylor & R. Garcia-Barrios, From Environmentalism to Political Ecology and Back to Environmental Justice
10:15 D. Berman-Santana, Beyond Resistance: Environmental, Economic, and Political Empowerment of Marginalized Communities
10:35 V. Santiago, Puerto Ricans and the Environment

Discussants: J.L. Emel & R.A. Schroeder

Cultural Ecology and Environmental Perception Specialty Groups: Cultural Ecology of Mapping Behavior

Organizer: J.M. Blaut
Chair: D. Stea
1:30 J. Stephens, Mapping in Prehistory
1:50 D. Stea, Theoretical Overview of Universal Mapping
2:10 J.M. Blaut, Universal Mapping: Some Ethnographic and Developmental Evidence

Discussants: W.E. Doolittle & T. Saarinen

Notes from the Chair

Parkinson’s Law is alive and well! After previously serving terms as Regional Councilor, Secretary-Treasurer, and Newsletter Editor for the CESG, I was “advanced” to the Chairship at the San Francisco business meeting. I thank the membership for its vote of confidence, and my predecessor Tom Bassett and the previous board members for their effective and inspired stewardship. An all new slate of officers has been placed at the helm of an organization that has enjoyed a steady increase in membership over the past decade. Ten years ago there only 100 of us. Today, we are at or slightly beyond the 400 mark! Students constitute more that 50 percent of our membership. This would seem to indicate vitality and continued relevance, not only for this specialty group but for cultural ecology in general.

Despite debates and issues during this period that threatened serious factional splits and possible new formations, we have been able to maintain a reasonably pluralist view of what can be accommodated under the label of cultural ecology. I would hope that this consensus not only persists, but can be expanded. All geographers concerned with the conjunctures of nature and society, culture and environment, human agency and landscape (trans)formation, should find this a congenial grouping.

The San Francisco business meeting was not only notable for its efficiency (and brevity), but for the initiatives proposed and passed on behalf of student members. First, the policy of minimal dues ($0) for students was reaffirmed. Second, a more concerted effort to involve students in a juried paper competition was mandated. Third, a program to award student fieldwork was enacted (for details on these competitions see page 13). Fourth, the policy of providing students with an opportunity for publishing book reviews in this newsletter was reiterated.

Turning to plans for the Chicago meeting, there will be at least eleven CESG sponsored or co-sponsored sessions. There are also a number of sessions featuring papers with cultural ecological topics and themes. Please note the time and date of the CESG business meeting: Wednesday, March 15 from 5:20 to 6:20 pm. Finally, we hope to have an officially sponsored Cultural Ecology party at the meetings (possibly in conjunction with a rumored repeat of the LSU-Texas bash). This would be a first, and probably the beginning of a “tradition.” Details available at the business meeting.

—Kent Mathewson
Editor's notes

The call for syllabi, reading lists, and course material that was issued in the last newsletter has begun to reap some response. While many of us must be content to inject a cultural-ecological perspective into such courses as Introductory Cultural Geography, Economic Geography, and even World Regional, such insistence on human-environment relationships could lead to some misunderstandings (I fear my students think all of Peru is peopled by Incan terraced-builders!). There are those of us, however, who are in the enviable position of teaching courses entitled Cultural Ecology, or perhaps even more exciting, have recently been given the go-ahead to design and implement a new course so entitled. Dale Lightfoot called the other day with news of such a task ahead of him at Oklahoma State, and wanted to know if I'd received any comparable course materials from the veterans out there. So far, I've received communications from Tom Whitmore at the University of North Carolina and Scott Hoefle, at Rio de Janeiro's Pontificia Universidade Católica, both of whom submitted reading lists. Tom writes that his list comes from "a seminar I developed (a couple of years ago) to explore the themes of thought in CE... I'd probably change and/or add new things if I were teaching it today." And Scott's letter explains: "Enclosed is a syllabus for a 4th year undergraduate course offered last semester called Ecology and Culture which includes cultural ecology as one of the approaches treated." He continues: "As most U.S. cultural ecologists are usually involved in research in Latin America I left the syllabus in Portuguese which any Spanish speaker can read. The spirit of the course is expressed in I.G. Simmons' new book Interpreting Nature: Cultural Constructions of the Environment and A. Wilson's The Culture of Nature." These two reading lists are reprinted on the next two pages. I hope others will take the time to submit similar materials so that we can hone the instructional edge to what, sadly, remains primarily only our research interests.

Now is the time for student members to submit papers for the two CESP awards available. On page 13 of this newsletter you will find an application form to accompany submissions for the student paper awards and guidelines for the travel grant recently established at the San Francisco business meeting. The names and addresses of our current officers are listed here. Good luck!

Book reviews have become an important element in the newsletter, and are always welcome submissions. Students, especially, are encouraged to submit reviews of recent publications of interest to our specialty group. Following the book reviews in this issue is a list of books available for review that publishers have sent us. We need to get these books out to those interested in writing a review. And, as anyone who's ever been in the former editor's office knows, Kent needs to move some books out of there to make room for breathing and other scholarly activities. Book reviews are limited to 300-400 words. Unsolicited reviews are welcomed. Books listed on pages 11-12 are available for review, but will be sent to reviewers only with prior submission of a completed review (hard copy, double-spaced, with all publication details included and a diskette in Macintosh format). Sorry, limited labor and funds preclude prior mailing, but we will be delighted to send you the book upon receipt of the review. Most, if not all, of these books should be available through libraries. Please direct all book review correspondence to Michael Steinberg, CEN Book Review Editor, Dept. of Geog. & Anthro., L.S.U., Baton Rouge, LA 70803 (msteinb@tiger.lsu.edu)

Please send news, letters, suggestions, syllabi, book reviews, etc. (on disk) to:
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News from Members

Stan Stevens (Louisiana State University) is in Nepal for a year of fieldwork on a new cultural and political ecological study of land use, resource management, and economic and environmental change in a 25–village area in the mid-altitude reaches of the Dudh Kosi Valley south of Sagarmatha National Park. This project involves extensive interviewing and household survey work in communities inhabited by five different peoples. Technical applications for gathering data include g.p.s.-based mapping of resource use and management patterns, time sequence analysis of aerial photos and Landsat images, and development of a geographic information system. The project is funded by a Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad grant, with support from the Joint Committee on South Asia of the American Council of Learned Societies, the Social Science Research Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Ford Foundation. Stan’s recent publications are: “Tourism, Change, and Continuity in the Mount Everest Region, Nepal” (1993) Geographical Review 83:410–27; and “Indigenous Peoples and Protected Areas: New Approaches to Conservation in Highland Nepal” (with Mingma Norbu Sherpa), in Parks, Peaks, and People, ed., L. Hamilton, D. Bauer, and H. Takeuchi, pp. 73–88 (Honolulu: East-West Center, 1993).

P.P. Karan (University of Kentucky) and David Zurick (Eastern Kentucky University) also report on fieldwork from the Himalaya. They have been awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation for a collaborative multiyear project assessing environmental change in 138 mountain districts in northern Pakistan, northwest and northeast India, Nepal, Sikkim, and Bhutan. Through several phases the study will look at regional variability in environmental history, local identities and regional trends in land use, and linkages with market economies, infrastructural developments, and government policies. The overall thrust of the Himalaya Project is to ascertain, for much of the mountain region, the historical and contemporary forces that shape nature/society relations and that change the mountain environment. A large Himalaya database is being developed that, upon completion of the study, will be made available to interested scholars and others working in the region. Also, Karan has a new book co-authored with Hiroshi Ishii: Nepal: Development and Change in a Landlocked Himalayan Kingdom (Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, 1994). This publication is available by request from Professor Ishii, ILCAA, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, 4-51 Nishigahara, Kita-Ku, Tokyo 114, Japan.

Dale Lightfoot (Oklahoma State University) somehow managed to move from Old Dominion University to the Department of Geography at OSU this fall after spending four summer months studying the impact of modern technology on qanat irrigation in Jordan and Syria (funded by the American Schools of Oriental Research and the Social Science Research Council). He also reports three new publications: “Morphology and Ecology of Lithic-Mulch Agriculture” Geographical Review 84:172–85; “An Assessment of the Relationship between Development and Institutionally Preserved Lands” Area 26(2): 112–122; and “The Agricultural Utility of Lithic-Mulch Gardens: Past and Present” Geojournal (forthcoming December 1994).

Thomas Tucker has been appointed to the Peace Corps for Nigeria. His assignment involves a medical mission aimed at eradicating the guinea worm. He would welcome correspondence from other CESG members: c/o Peace Corps Nigeria, P.O. Box 8614, Kaduna, Nigeria, West Africa.

Michael Tripp (University of Victoria) has spent three of the last four summers around Lake Baikal, conducting doctoral research on the “Emergence of National Parks in Russia.” This work emphasizes analysis of the degrees of “fit” between varying local, national, and international perceptions of nature and senses of region/territoriality. He has worked as a consultant to The World Bank and is the author of a recent report by that organization, entitled “Social Dimensions of Natural Resource Management in the Lake Baikal Region: Parameters, Priorities, and Options.”


Ed. note: This column is generated by your responses to the questions on the back page of the newsletter, so please share with us your recent activities by sending in this questionnaire.
Reading Lists for Cultural Ecology Courses

SEMINAR IN DEVELOPMENT OF THOUGHT IN CULTURAL ECOLOGY
Thomas M. Whithmore, University of North Carolina

Origins and Overviews


Functionalist Ecologies


Ecosystem Studies


Adaptation Focus


Demographic and Technological Approaches

Political Economy Approaches

Cultural Ecology in Development

TOPICOS ESPECIAIS NA GEOGRAFIA HUMANA - ECOLOGIA E CULTURA
Scott William Hoenle, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro


Bibliografia Básica

Review by Andrew Suyker, University of Texas, Austin

Although a regional monograph, The Ystad Project has methodological significance for all scholars with interests in paleo and cultural ecology, historical and cultural geography, biogeography, and global change. From 1982 to 1990, a group of 30 scholars at Lund University undertook a study spanning the last six millennia of the human ecology of the environs of the port of Ystad. This volume represents a synthesis of that research, drawing on Quaternary studies, plant ecology, archaeology, history, and geography to explicate the changing relationship between environment and people in a 289 km² region of rural Sweden.

This interdisciplinary collaboration has few if any peers vis-à-vis its combined thematic, spatial, and temporal scope. In seven chapters, the authors provide 1) an overview of the project's genesis and conceptual framework; 2) a discussion of methods; 3) a largely descriptive synthesis of broad changes in the regional landscape from the Late Mesolithic period (ca. 4000-3200 B.C.) through the twentieth century; 4) a more detailed description of landscape changes in four subregions representative of four physiographic zones; 5) an analysis of the processes underlying such specific themes as soil erosion and the transition to sedentary settlement and the general, regional landscape changes; and 6) a discussion of the study's application to such contemporary issues as environmental conservation.

The wealth of data convincingly supports the diachronic landscape reconstruction and confirms the promise of interdisciplinary research. The dominant lines of evidence are fossil pollen, plant macrofossils, settlement remains, and archival documents and maps. But other data, ranging from stable isotopes to aerial photography, also contribute. At times, interdisciplinary research results in a fragmentary and hesitant collection of chapters with the ambiguities of each discipline raised to the power of the jargons of the others. In contrast, Berglund has integrated each contributor's strand into an exemplary volume.

Cartography—often in color, always well-designed—is the leitmotif that facilitates that integration. Sequential maps present changing patterns of settlement, environment, and land use. The dedication to mapping also signals the spatial concerns of the project and refreshingly contrasts with such aspatial examples of human paleoecology as Cronon's Changes in the Land. That particular volume, although superb in other ways, even seminal, pleads for maps, even one solitary map, to illustrate landscape changes—let alone to analyze their underlying processes. A cartographically vacuous investigation of "the changing circumstances of such things as pine trees, pigs, beavers, soils, fields of corn, forest watersheds, and other elements of the New England landscape" (Cronon, p. vii) seems incongruous. As Berglund and collaborators demonstrate, ecological processes qua landscape processes are as overwhelmingly spatial as they are temporal.

Through spatial-temporal analysis, the Ystad Project members achieve a number of processual insights. For example, elaboration of regional agroecosystems entailed specific, spatial-temporal changes in local, intra-, and inter-regional energy and nutrient flows. On a different theme, the reduction in grass species diversity has been the result of landscape fragmentation manifested as a decrease in mean grassland patch size, a corollary increase in the ratio of grassland periphery to area, and fewer dispersal corridors.

But while the authors gain through spatial-temporal analysis, they go astray for want of a socially critical approach—one of the strengths of Cronon's New England study. In general, though far from dogmatically or uniformly, the authors follow Malthus and Boserup in emphasizing population and technology as causal rather than as recursively related through individuals to environment and ideology in an ongoing process of ecological structuration. Thus, in discussing nineteenth-century land enclosure, the spatial-temporal correlation with accelerated soil erosion identified in an earlier section remains unexamined. Given the rich data base, significant insights should have been possible regarding the process of land degradation in relation to the transition from communal tenure to private property. Rather than fully considering capitalists' perceptions of and strategies to control resources and labor, the stress is on changes in population and technology as the unproblematic determinants of the passage of people from farm to factory and of soil from land to lake. By the same token, however, critical scholarship is itself just now rekindling a concern with the spatial (Soja 1989) while continuing to ignore early efforts in that direction by such radical geographers as Eliise Reclus and Peter Kropotkin.

Overall editing and production are excellent, particularly given the single year between the termination of eight years research and publication. Yet two flaws glare: first, no index; second, bibliographic errors.
of sequence and omission. Considering the volume’s length, the detailed table of contents only somewhat expiates the omitted index. The bibliographic errors are few, and not surprising considering the multiple authors and some 850 listed sources, but still exceptional.

In sum, this volume is in many ways a methodological rather than a theoretical archetype for scholars who aspire to reconstruct landscape changes and to understand their underlying, human ecological processes. It is a topical volume which reflects the growing research effort addressing those processes at global through local scales. And it is a rigorous volume with a commitment to elegant, comprehensive data presentation which ensures a value that will last beyond the authors’ immediate interpretations. As Carl Sauer (1969:145) commented during the course of his own human paleoecological studies, the “facts we dig up may find a permanent place in human learning … the constructions we place upon them, if they survive, survive as data of history.”

References


Review by John Heppen, Louisiana State University

This collection of essays by a wide range of international ecologists and environmentalists challenges many of the conventional and not so conventional ideas concerning environmental problems and global ecology. Conceived in part as a reaction to the UNCED Earth Summit in Rio, this collection of works offers a different approach to the problems of environmental degradation. The editor, Wolfgang Sachs, logically coalesces seventeen essays into four subsequent parts. Part I, “In the Wake of Rio,” criticizes the Rio conference as a failure. Part II, “Confusion Over Sustainability,” examines the debate and definitions of “sustainable development.” Part III, “Against Environmental Management on a Global Scale,” speaks out against a global management of the world’s environmental resources. And Part IV, the most effective part of the book, “Ecology from Below,” provides case studies of how people in “the South” (Third World) attempt to live harmoniously with their environment.

“Global Ecology and the Shadow of ‘Development’”—the first chapter by Sachs—sets the agenda for the rest of the book. Sachs presents the Rio conference as an environmental sell-out in which environmentalism is regarded as the highest stage of developmentalism (p.1). A key theme throughout the book is presented in this first chapter: that the global environmental movement has been usurped by the North through supranational organizations like the United Nations, in which the goal of preserving the environment has been changed into a movement which economically benefits the North as well as Southern elites in the name of environmentalism. A criticism of the environmentalism associated with the Rio conference is presented in the statement by Nicholas Hildyard in the second chapter: “The global managers thus threaten to unleash a new wave of colonization, in which the management of people—even whole societies—for the benefit of commercial interests is now justified in the name of environmental protection” (p.33). Chapters 3 and 4 by Matthias Finger and Tariq Banuri respectively, discuss the geopolitical processes associated with the take over of the environmental movement. The last chapter in Part I by Klaus M. Meyer-Abiich, explores the global ramifications of climatic change for both the North and the South.

Part II discusses the debates over sustainable development. Chapter 6 by Paul Elkins explores the definitions of sustainable development and offers an ecologically based definition. The next chapter by Hans Achterhuis says that Western capitalism and its ways of thinking are incompatible with the idea of sustainable development. Christine von Weizsacker in chapter 8 examines the different definitions of biodiversity and the reasons needed for biological diversity. Chapter 9 by Donald Worster finds deep flaws in the idea of sustainable development and offers a solution which seeks the preservation of species as the main goal of environmentalists.

The third part of the book, speaks out against the evils of globally managed environmentalism. The main reasons are presented by Vandana Shiva in Chapter 10, in which this movement is equated with a new form of imperialism or colonization. Similarly, Larry Lohman in the next chapter discredits globalism due to cultural differences between groups of people. Eduardo Gudynas, in Chapter 12, speaks out against “economism”—the Northern belief that only the environmentalists in the North know the proper way to save the environment. This again is consistent with the main themes of the book. The last chapter consists of an interview with Guy Beney, in which he rebukes the
globalization of the ecology movement.

Part IV is the most effective part of the book, in that it explores sub-national solutions to ecological problems. In Chapter 14, Frederique Apfel Marglin and Purna Chandra Misha describe the harmonious, ecological relationship between farmers and the land in Orissa on India’s eastern coast. The next chapter by Yash Tandon examines solutions to environmental problems brought forth by Africans in villages in the Eastern and Southern regions of the continent. Chapter 16, by Smitu Kothari and Pramod Parajuli, and Chapter 17 by Anil Agarwal and Sunita Narain deal with the Indian sub-continent. Kothari and Parajuli argue that harmonious relations between man and nature cannot be achieved without social justice, and they offer intriguing case studies in support of that cause. Agarwal and Narain in the last chapter of the book propose a program of development at the village level, whose main goal is an increase in biomass.

The problems and solutions found in this book deserve to be debated by scholars as well as those involved in practical applications. This book is appropriate for graduate and upper level undergraduate discussions. The main strength of this volume is that it is multidisciplinary, and challenges many of the conventional ideas regarding global ecology. Another strength, especially in the last part, is that it presents examples of people at the grass roots level solving ecological problems without the global apparatus so roundly critiqued in the first parts of the book. One weakness of this book is at the level of analysis. Dividing the world into two monolithic Northern and Southern camps, especially in the first two parts of the book, over-generalizes the debate. It ignores many differences within the two camps. Also, an all-encompassing concluding chapter would have been helpful in bringing the themes of the book into a concluding synthesis. Despite these shortcomings, the volume deserves to be part of the ongoing debate over global ecology.


Review by Douglas Deur, Louisiana State University

The deconstructionist project is perhaps most elegantly manifested in the creation of revealing biographies of biographers and histories of historians, giving us a glimpse of the factors which have conditioned widely accepted modes of representation. In Rosalind Morris’ work, we see tentative steps toward a salvage ethnography of the salvage ethnographers.

In this revised edition of her Master’s thesis in anthropology, Morris observes changes in the representation of Northwest coast cultures in film. The history of ethnographic film on the Northwest coast provides Morris with ample time depth for her analysis, originating with the experimental work of Boas and Curtis, and continuing essentially uninterrupted into the present era of film projects sponsored by federal, provincial, and tribal governments. Morris explores this history, seeking evidence of changing forms of representation which, Morris contends, reflect changes within the historically hegemonic vision of the indigene as ‘Other.’ Thus, while encouraging the use of film as an ethnographic medium, she accompanies this with many words of caution.

Morris is trained in both film and anthropology, and accordingly, the content of this work can be placed somewhere between film criticism and critical anthropology. Morris begins with theoretical chapters which bridge these two fields, and then enters into a chronological discussion of filmic representation, divided into three general periods: the phase of reconstructive ethnography (indigenous culture as vanishing curiosity), the phase of post-War museum ethnography (indigenous culture as vanished curiosity), and the phase of post-1960s revivalist ethnography (indigenous culture as a phoenix from the ashes). Interestingly, though the subject is visual representation, the book contains no photographs, save one cover photo; Morris instead uses written synopses as a means of selectively depicting film content.

While this is an interesting work, it has many shortcomings. Morris’ critique is diffuse. While she articulates a number of important questions through this process, much of her criticism seems only marginally relevant, and is often internally contradictory. Other, potentially illuminating points, such as her implication of visual anthropologists in the “commodification” of indigenous material culture, receive only passing, anemic treatment. As might be expected of this genre, her approach to the films is often ‘psychoanalytic,’ interpreting the symbolic value of filmic content without directly addressing the context of its creation. (Despite frequent hypothesizing to the contrary, we must accept that sometimes a totem pole is just a totem pole.) Further, Morris writes in the frequently convoluted dialect of postmodern deconstruction, detracting from the popular accessibility and appeal of the work, while adding little conceptual veracity to her argument; if the book has an intended audience, it is a very circumscribed one. And ultimately, Morris’ criticism of past ethnographic representation of Northwest coast cultures is a rather predictable derivation of the critical anthropology praxis.
Morris' work ventures, however, into relatively new territory when discussing recent efforts by indigenous peoples to represent themselves to outsiders through film. Reflecting an emerging sense of tribal identity, and a variety of political goals, the distinctive character of this indigenous filmmaking can give us a unique glimpse of how these people hope to be viewed from without. Here we see perhaps most poignantly the creation of new worlds from fragments.

The questions of filmic representation which Morris raises are of growing concern for cultural ecologists, generally. Media accounts increasingly condition popular understandings of remote peoples and environments, and may influence the current resuscitation of 'traditional' practices, within the arenas of ethnic tourism and indigenous neotribalism. We can therefore hope that someone - perhaps Morris - will use this exploratory work as a foundation for more focused subsequent analysis. The practice of cultural ecology would no doubt be the better for it.

Books Available for Review

CESG at Charlotte

A number of sessions at the upcoming Charlotte meetings are being sponsored by the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group or should prove to be of some interest to CESG members. These are listed here as follows:

**Wednesday, 8:00 AM**

**Feminist Political Ecology: Crossing Borders**
Organizer: D. Rocheleau; Chair: J. Monk
B. Thomas-Slater: Structural Change, Power Politics, and Grassroots Organizations: Gendered Perspectives;
E. Wangari: Gendered Resource Tenure in Kenya: The Case of Mbeere in Embu District;
D. Rocheleau: Landscapes of Co-Habitation: A Feminist Analysis of Biodiversity in Zambana-Chaucuey;
D. Wast-Walter: Challenging the State: Austrian Women Questioning Democracy and Economic Development;

**Wednesday, 9:55 AM**

**Historical Environments**
Organizers: C. Colten and G. Buckley; Chair: C. Colten
F. Sunderman: Post-Contact Choctaw Landscape Change in the Pearl River Basin, Mississippi, 1540-1830;
D. Hardin: Regional Environmental Variation, Agriculture, and Landscape Change in Colonial Tidewater Virginia;
M. Shaffer: The Lure of the Beach: A Case Study of Wrightsville Beach, NC, 1887-1934;
M. Williams: Shadows of the Forest.

**Cultural Ecology of Agriculture and Resource Conservation**
Chair: C. Coggins
D. Paulson: Exploring the Sustainability of Western Samoan Agriculture Through the Lens of a "New Ecology”;
D. Alvic: Agricultural Patterns on Pohnpei: Subsistence Farming in Paradise;
G. Matzke and C. Armentrout: Measuring Community Use and Associated Environmental Impacts on a Zimbabwean Wilderness Area;
J. Fischer: Natural Resource Tenure and Management in Futuna Jalon, Guinea;
C. Coggins: Biodiversity and Environmental History: Research in China’s Southeast Plains.

**Wednesday 11:50 AM**

Ecologies of Agricultural Soils, Land Use, and Risk
Chair: T. Whitmore
D. Robertson: The Mired Landscape as Place: Unearthing Opportunities for Effective Reclamation;
M. Meyers: A Reinterpretation of "Field Raising" Relative to Population, Labor, and Fallow;
A. Winkerprins: Local Soil Knowledge and Economic Change on the Amazon Floodplain;
C. Cordova: Soil Erosion and Flooding in Response to Settlement Pattern Change;
T. Whitmore and B. Williams: Famine Risk in the Contact-Era Basin of Mexico.

**Thursday, 8:00 AM**

Ecologies of Land Influences
Chair: S. Park
G. Gomez: Linking Region and Place: "A Wetland Biography" of Louisiana's Chenier Plain;
N. Hetland: Lies, Damn Lies, Heuristics: Holocene/ Hypermodern Patterns of Sonoma Agriculture;
J. McDonal: Paleo-Indians at Saltville, Virginia: The Environment and Ecology of the Earliest Humans in America;
J. Grishner: Environment, Economy, and Society in Kazakhstan: The Past as Prologue;
S. Park: Cultural Ecology and Historical Geography: Early Korean History Revisited.

(Continued on page two ...)

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Thursday, 1:45 PM
Agropastoral Landscapes in Transition
Organizer: D. Lambert; Chair: D. Lightfoot
D. Lambert: A Comparison of Soil Loss Rates in the Tropics;
A. Sluyter: 16th Century Livestock Introduction, Native Repopulation, and Vegetation Change in the Tropical Lowlands of Veracruz, Mexico;
J. Grolle: Famine, Migration, Resettlement and Recovery: Case Studies from Northwestern Nigeria;
D. Lightfoot: Impact of Modern Canals on Traditional Canal Networks and Village Connectivity, Tafilalet Oasis, Morocco.

Thursday, 3:40 PM
Global Perspectives on Pastoralism
Organizer: B. Brower; Chair: L. Huntersinger
L. Huntersinger and R. Liffmann: The Urban Range: Attitudes, Characteristics, and Practices of California Ranchers;
M. Turner: Grazing Management and the Maintenance of Cropland Fertility by Agropastoral Communities of West Africa;
M. Fernandez-Gimenez: The Ecological Consequences of Collectivization and Privatization of Livestock Production in Mongolia;
B. Brower: As a Friend to the Children, Command Me the Yak.

Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Young Children’s Mapping Abilities
Organizers: J. Blaut and D. Stea; Chair: D. Stea

Culture, State, and Local Institutions in Rural Landscape Change
Organizers: B.L. Turner and D. Rocheleau; Chair: B.L. Turner
P. Robbins: The Patchwork Landscapes of Authority and Ecology in Western Rajasthan;
S. Batterbury: Performers, or Planners? Agrarian Change and Farmer Knowledge in Burkina Faso and Niger;
S. Steinmann: Migration, Gender and Agropastoral Intensification in Morocco;
P. Benjamin: Rigid Borders, Flexible Landscapes: Social and Environmental Change in M. Meru;

Friday, 8:00 AM
Earthworks: An On-Line Journal of Geography
Organizer and Chair: K. Foote

Friday, 9:55 AM
Agroforestry and Traditional Resource Management in Latin America: Concepts and Cases
Organizer and Chair: M. Castellon
M. Castellon: Liberating Agroforestry: Lessons from Traditional Resource Management Systems in Latin America;
M. Hiraoka: Pigs and Palms in the Estuarine Floodplain of Amazonia.

Friday, 5:35 PM
Cultural Ecology Specialty Group Business Meeting

Saturday, 8:00 AM
Sustainability: Local Struggles and Global Processes
Chair: J. Bhattacharyya
A. Buttimer: Appropriate Scales for Sustainable Development: Is Tipperary So Far Away?;
M. Nyamwange: Some Interpretations of Ecological Deterioration in Africa;
E. Whitesell: What do Tlingits and Caboclos Have in Common? Local Struggles Over the Conservation of Rain Forests in Alaska and Amazonia;
K. O’Brien: Agrarian Transformations, the Zapatista Uprising, and the Future of the Selva Lacandona;
J. Bhattacharyya: State, Popular Participation, and Environmental Protection in India.

Reciprocal Surveillance/Reciprocal Obligations: Research Ethics and American Indian Communities
Organizers: R. Rundstrom and D. Deur; Chair: R. Rundstrom

Saturday, 9:55 AM
Labor, Space and Place
Organizer and Chair: A. Turnage
B. Gaie: Monuments to Labor in the Staging of Industrial Heritage;
A. Turnage: Spatial Division of Labor Within the Workplace: Race, Gender, and Cigarette Technology;
D. Triplett: Re-Thinking the Characterization of the Worker with the Example of the Jamaican Peasant;
S. Banasick: The Role of Labor Unions in the Restructuring of the Japanese Space-Economy;
S. Larkin: The Legacy of Coal in Appalachian Organizing.

Saturday, 3:40 PM
The Uses of Nature
Organizer and Chair: T. Young

Cultural Ecology Newsletter
Number 27 Spring, 1996
Robert Kuhlken, Editor
Publication supported by the Department of Geography and Land Studies Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA 98926
Notes from the Chair

San Francisco, Chicago, Charlotte - it has a kind of counter (Bishop) Berkeleyan drift to it - as well as serving as the sites of the three last AAG meetings, and perform the last three CESG business meetings. As chair, my term comes to a close with the Charlotte meeting (or shortly thereafter). I suppose this is the occasion for stock taking, but beyond reporting a continuing upward, though probably not westward, trend in numbers, and a healthy roster of sponsored sessions, I can't reflect back on any starting new developments, threatened defections, or even heated debates in our sub-field or specialty group. In terms of cultural ecology, the mid-years of this decade would seem to have been rather placid ones.

The beginning to the decade portended more. From one side an emergent political ecology offered explicit challenges and potential revitalization. From another angle, the "cultural turn" within the social sciences (and the postmodern de(con)struction derbies on all academic margins) promised complex reorderings (or simple disorder) depending on one's perspective. From yet another vantage point one might have foreseen a makeover/takeover of the field by eco-techocrats, whether rooted in an ethos of "sustainability" or in supply-side science with its laser-like focus on scarce funding sources. Yet none of this has really come to pass. Aspects of these alternatives have made their impacts, but in the main, cultural ecology largely continues on a trajectory that was set in its basic directions long ago.

One of its cultural hearths was certainly Berkeleyan (not the idealist variety). Between Steward and Sauer much of the groundwork for cultural ecological geographers was laid. From there a strong imperative to do work beyond modernity's edges was forged. To our credit we continue to be the non-regional specialty group most actively involved with field research in foreign areas and with what little remains of "pre-modernity" (both in its survivals and its signatures). We continue to serve as one of geography's most constructive bridges between the social and physical sciences. And it remains that we have a productive and powerful set of approaches for grappling with a wide range of nature/society questions and problems. Given all this, should we simply stay the course and domore of the same? For some of us the answer should be "yes." Core was the term Steward used to bound the coupling of culture and ecology. Cultural ecology's own core activities need to be recognized by all and attended to by those so disposed. Beyond this there is room for all manner of adaptations. So for others, the answer to the above question should and will be "no."

As for prescription, I think that is better left to each on her or his own. As for prospection, of course I have some ideas (none novel) of what might be worthy sites and situations for future research. First, the notion of "site" should be reconsidered across the total expanse of geographic scales. As a sub-discipline cultural ecology has moved from the micro- to meso-scaled research with considerable success. Moving from there on to macro- and global-focused research has been more daunting - or perhaps simply less appealing. With the notable exception of Kates, Turner and a few others, engaging the challenges of working at these largest scales has not enlisted as many cultural ecologists as one might expect given the funding and collaborative opportunities in this arena. Second, considering "situation" in its geographic and temporal senses, new research opportunities are constantly emerging at all scales. Again, to point to a few that are, or soon will be, demanding attention (with various patrons ready to support research) they include the so-called "soft national security threats" i.e. environmental degradation as causative factor in international conflict(s), and in the continued devolutionary forces at work in most of the world's presentation states. Cognate questions and problems can be identified at lesser scales. All will require blurring the boundaries between conceptualizations of what is "cultural," "ecological," and "political." The political ecologists among us have been working on this for awhile now, they can show interested others some of the ways to proceed. At the same time, quite new approaches will emerge. As long as some tend to the hearth, and others forage widely - even wildly - cultural ecology will be in good shape.

- Kent Mathewson

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The Robert McC. Netting Award

On 4 February last year cultural ecologists lost one of our most distinguished colleagues. Dr. Robert McCorkle Netting, Professor of Anthropology, The University of Arizona, succumbed to bone cancer and complications resulting from valley fever. Netting’s professional career spanned more than 30 years. It was characterized not only by research and publications of the highest quality, but also by a deep appreciation for geography and geographers. Focusing on human-environment interactions, especially subsistence and development issues, his activities were, and his writings are, as much geographical as anthropological. He bridged the two disciplines perhaps better than anyone else, and certainly from the anthropological side.

In honor and memory of him, his life’s work, and interdisciplinary spirt, I move that the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers has established an award to be made to that person whose professional activities best embody those of Robert McC. Netting.

The award will be named “The (year) Robert McC. Netting Award in recognition of distinguished research and professional activities that bridge geography and anthropology.”

The award will normally be made annually, but an award need not be made in any one year if a deserving candidate cannot be identified. Under no circumstances will more than one award be made annually.

The award will be in the form of a plaque or framed certificate.

Awardees will be selected by the officers of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group through a process agreed upon amongst themselves.

Awardees need not be a member of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group, the Association of American Geographers, or be a geographer.

The award will not necessarily be made for any one piece of work or a single activity, but rather will be for significant and substantial interdisciplinary work. This is not intended to be a “book award,” although the author of a particularly important book, one making a major impact, should not be excluded. The intent is to recognize scholars who have distinguished themselves through involvement with interdisciplinary geographical/anthropological projects, and/or have published extensively in both anthropological and geographical journals, and/or whose work is read and appreciated by practitioners in both fields, and/or whose service to both disciplines is meritorious.

The award will be presented by the Chair of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group, or her or his designate, at the awards ceremonies at the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers.

The award will be announced in the first issue of the Cultural Ecology Newsletter, published by the specialty group, the AAC Newsletter, and the Anthropology Newsletter, published by the American Anthropological Association. The announcement each year will be followed by a list of previous awardees by year.

The first award will be made in 1996.

William E. Doolittle

2 June 1995
CESG FIELD STUDY AWARD
CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Students are invited to submit applications for the 1996 CESG Field Study Award. One or two awards of up to $500, subject to approval by the CESG Awards Committee, will be granted for 1996. The principal objective will be to defray travel expenses for reconnaissance field work for intended thesis or dissertation research. Proposals should include: 1) title page with name of applicant, address and phone number, title of intended research, starting date and duration of field reconnaissance, location of research; 2) project description of no more than 1000 words (excluding references) of proposed travel and research, expected significance, and probable research methodology; 3) list of cited references; 4) statement of how award will be allocated, e.g. air travel, surface travel, food and lodging, etc.; 5) curriculum vitae. Copies should reach the Awards Committee consisting of the CESG chair and the following two regional councilors (Kent Mathewson, Oliver Coomes, and Nick Dunning) on or before April 20, 1996. Addresses are listed on page 3 of this newsletter. Notification of the results will be made as soon as possible after the deadline but no later than May 15, 1996.

1996 CESG STUDENT PAPER AWARD

The Cultural Ecology Specialty Group sponsors an annual award to recognize distinguished student research and paper presentation at the national meeting. Candidates may be undergraduates, graduate students, or a recent Ph.D. within a year of the dissertation defense. The student must be the sole author and presenter. Judging criteria include: soundness and creativity of the research design and methodology; validity of conclusions; and quality of presentation. A prize of $100 will be awarded for the best paper. Four copies of the text of the presentation and/or the paper upon which the presentation is based, must be submitted to a CESG officer (regional representative, chair, or secretary/treasurer) at or after the 1996 CESG Business Meeting, but before April 15. The results will be announced in the Cultural Ecology Newsletter and the AAG Newsletter.

If you wish to be considered for the Award, submit an application using the form below and a copy of the abstract that you sent in to the AAG. The deadline for notification that you intend to enter the paper competition is April 1, 1996. Please send form and abstract to: Kent Mathewson, Dept. of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. FAX: (504) 388-4420.

APPLICATION: CESG Student Paper Award

Name: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________

Address: ___________________________

E-mail address: ___________________________

Title of Paper: ___________________________

Affiliation: ___________________________

Status (circle one): Undergraduate       Graduate       Recent PhD

Section in which paper will be presented at Charlotte: ___________________________

Signature: ___________________________
Chicago Business Meeting


Among the several items of interest discussed during the course of the meeting:
Bill Doolittle proposed the establishment of an annual award to honor the contribution of Robert McC. Netting to cultural ecology as an interdisciplinary field of scholarship. Phil Porter suggested a liaison with the American Anthropological Association. It was moved and seconded to proceed with instituting this award.

There was some discussion on the handling of funds and the coordination of this activity with the AAG central office. Bill Turner moved to let the officers work this out and to come up with a recommendation.

Melinda Meade offered comments on the possibility of collaboration with field research in Vietnam.

There was a general discussion on exploring alternative formats for presenting research, including a general dissatisfaction with the AAG meeting structure, the convocation in only large cities, and limitations of multiple meeting rooms with concurrent sessions.

Greg Knapp announced the creation of Earthworks, an on-line refereed journal. Subsequent discussion concerned the placement of the Cultural Ecology Newsletter into an electronic format. The consensus was that this is indeed a good idea, but that some members would still want to receive a hard copy through the mail.

Jim Parsons told of a professor in Chile who had established a “Carl Sauer Memorial Library” and that this might be a good place to donate reference materials or texts. Those interested in donating materials should contact Professor Parsons.

News from Members

Nigel Allan (University of California, Davis) recently published two books that relate to the South Asia mountain rimlands. Mountains at Risk: Current Issues in Environmental Studies, ed. N. Allan (New Delhi: Manohar Publishers, ISBN 81-7304-133-4) is an edited volume with contributions by research scientists and scholars specializing in mountain areas. Almost all chapters in the book are written by authors who are writing directly about the Greater Himalaya or mountain problems germane to the Himalaya. Karakorum, Himalaya: Sourcebook for a Protected Area (Karachi: IUCN-Pakistan, ISBN 969-8141-13-8) is a 950 item bibliography that covers Ladakh, Baltistan and Gilgit Districts and adjacent areas. It is the documentation bibliography that will accompany the nomination of the Central Karakorum National Park to UNESCO for consideration as a World Heritage Site.

Nigel also sent word of the dissolution of the Department of Geography at UC-Davis. You can now reach him at his new departmental address: Nigel J. R. Allan, Professor of Geography, Dept. of Environmental Design, University of California, Davis, CA 95616-8585. E-mail: njrallan@ucdavis.edu.


Scott Hoeffe (Pontificia Universidade Catolica, Brazil) is busy refining an advanced course on environmental perception and cultural landscape. This course “focuses on frontier settings where the difference between rival modes of land use and worldviews is sharpest.” To generate student discussion, he is using a number of commercial films exemplifying the different historical, present, and future landscapes treated in the course, including Last of the Mohicans, Greystoke, The Mission, and Blade Runner. He can be reached at the Dept. de Geografia e Meio Ambiente, Pontificia Universidade Catolica, 22.453.900 - Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil.

Kent Mathewson reports that he has been named reporter for a new section on “Cultural Landscapes and Ecology” in the journal Progress in Human Geography. The term will run for three years. Kent invites CESG members to send him suggestions on possible themes and to call his attention to references to forthcoming or recently published work, especially in journals or books of limited circulation. He is also exploring the possibility of organizing one or more sessions at the 1997 Fort Worth AAG meetings on the general theme of “political ecology and devolution, decentralism, and libertarianism—left & right.” Anyone interested in participating in panels or presenting papers from any angle on these or any other related topics should contact him at gamath@lsuvvm.sncc.lsu.edu.
B.L. Turner II: National Academician!

B.L. Turner II, founding member of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group, was recently elected to the National Academy of Sciences. The National Academy is perhaps the most prestigious elective body to which a U.S. scientist can belong. Relatively few geographers have belonged since its establishment by President Lincoln in 1863. Turner joins eight other current geographers: B.L.J. Berry, J.R. Borchert, W.Isard, R.W. Kates, W.R. Tobler, G.F. White, M.G. Wolman, and J. Wolpert. Turner is the third member of the CESG to receive this honor (along with Kates and White). The only other specialty group with more members is Natural Hazards.

Turner is well known for his pioneering research on agricultural terraces and raised fields in the Maya lowlands, theoretical contributions to cultural ecology, and more recently, his leadership roles in the study of the human dimensions of global environmental change. He is the author of numerous journal articles, *Once Beneath the Forest*, and co-editor of *Pre-Hispanic Maya Agriculture: Comparative Farming Systems: The Earth as Transformed by Human Action: Population Growth and Agricultural Change in Africa: Changes in Land Use and Land Cover: A Global Perspective; and Regions at Risk.* He is currently Alice C. Higgins Professor of Environment and Society, and Director, George Perkins Marsh Institute, Clark University.

Congratulations Billie Lee!

Student Awards

Congratulations are in order for four student members of the CESG, for winning awards in the categories listed below.

Paper Competition

The CESG held a competition for the best paper presented by a graduate student at the national AAG meeting. The first place prize of $100 was awarded to Annmarie Terraciano, University of Wisconsin, for her paper “Contesting Terrains: Tenure Reform and the Social Dimensions of Land Conflict.” A second prize of $50 was awarded to Juanita Sundberg, University of Texas, for her paper “NGO Landscapes, Conservation in the Maya Biosphere Reserve, Peten, Guatemala.”

Fieldwork Proposal

The CESG also instituted a new competition for best fieldwork proposal, an award that was proposed and approved at the 1994 business meeting in San Francisco. The award carries a maximum $500 prize with the main objective being to defray travel expenses for intended thesis or dissertation research. There were two awards presented for 1993: a first place award of $500 was given to Karen Patterson, Virginia Tech University, for her proposal to study “Gender-based Household Variations in Attitudes, Behavior, and Practices: The Impact of Pesticide Use in Jamaican Nontraditional Agricultural Exports.” A second place award of $250 was given to Andrew Stuart, Rutgers University, for his proposed study “OrTurtles and People: Conflict and Cooperation on the Pacific Coast of Nicaragua, 1983-1995.”

AAA Environment Section

Emilio F. Moran sends word of the recent creation of a new Environment Section (ES) of the American Anthropological Association. The Executive Board of the AAA unanimously approved the creation of the Environment Section within the AAA. It is very important that all those members of the AAA who support the engagement of anthropology with environmental issues and the relations of our species with the environment join the Section immediately. Dues are $15 annually and you can find in the AAA Newsletter details about how to join. Until there are 250 paid members, the Section is not fully in existence, only virtually so. According to the newly outlined Rules of Procedure for the ES, the mission of the Section is to foster research and communication on issues relating to the interface between culture and the environment (including rural, suburban and urban communities), particularly with how people interact with, respond to and bring about changes in the physical and biotic environment. The goals of the Section are:

a. to foster anthropological research on the human/environment interface and comprehensive anthropological approaches to understanding people/environment interactions;
b. to foster cooperation between the AAA and other organizations concerned with environmental issues;
c. to foster development of theories that bear upon how the human species has interacted with, responded to, and brought about changes in the physical environment;
d. to foster and facilitate communication between environmental anthropologists and environmentalists in other fields;
e. to gather and distribute information of value to its members, the discipline, and the public that bears on people and the environment;
f. to serve as a facilitator in the promotion of anthropological contributions to understanding human/environment interactions and ameliorating environmental problems;
g. to foster outreach to, and dialogue with, nongovernmental environmental organizations;
h. to contribute to environmental education;
i. to contribute to the amelioration of problems faced by human populations living in threatened environments;
j. to direct non-anthropologists to colleagues in our discipline who may be able to assist them in environmental research;
k. to be a resource for identifying members of the discipline qualified to speak to environmental issues.

Membership in the Section shall be open to any member in good standing of the AAA who supports the stated goals and purposes.

Any request for more information may be sent to Emilio Moran, E-mail address: MORAN@INDIANA.EDU
There are two possible criticisms, or more accurately, concerns about this powerful visual work. First, the political slant of the book appears to minimize the impact that the strife has had on people other than the poor. Many of the soldiers, most of whom were conscripts, suffered from confusion and guilt associated with their role in the conflict. Also, the middle class, and to a lesser degree the elite were caught in a nation that was tearing itself apart, each suffering in their own way. The universal impact of this war, however, should in no way diminish the extreme hardship experienced by the poor and powerless of El Salvador.

A second concern is that the specialized nature of the book’s subject matter and the relative ignorance of the North American public about affairs in Latin America may make the book limited in appeal and circulation. This is not a criticism of the book, but rather a concern that North Americans can have such powerful impacts on people and lands about which they know little. In sum, this book serves as a poignant, graphic, and well-crafted synthesis of the violence and hardship that have plagued the people of El Salvador.

Changes in Land Use and Land Cover: A Global Perspective

Review by William E. Doolittle, University of Texas

Since 1986 the Office for Interdisciplinary Earth Studies (OIRES) at the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research has organized a series of two-week summer Global Change Institutes at Snowmass, Colorado. The fourth such institute, held in 1991, was the first to involve social scientists as well as physical scientists in a truly interdisciplinary forum to examine both the human causes and global consequences of altered land use patterns on the planet. Changes in Land Use and Land Cover is composed of the papers delivered at, and the findings of, that workshop. The book consists of 17 chapters broken into six parts, plus two appendices. The first part, which is also the first chapter outlines the thrust of the volume. Co-authored by the editors, it makes the distinction between land cover, typically the domain of physical scientists, and land use, usually the realm of social scientists. Particularly insightful is the dichotomization of land cover changes: conversion and modification. The former is a change from one class of land cover to another (e.g., from grassland to cropland), while the latter is a change of condition within a land cover category (e.g., the thinning of a forest). Relationships between land cover and land use are demonstrated to be even more complex and multifaceted than previously thought. Part II consists of three chapters which are the individual reports of working groups on land use/cover change. The first group was charged with the responsibility of creating a “wiring diagram” for such studies. The result of the group’s effort is a systems diagram which identifies the critical components and flows at the local, regional, and global levels, and for social drivers, decision-making processes, and biogeochemical factors. The
eight modules which constitute the diagram are discussed independently, resulting in a very complex relationships being easily comprehended. Indeed, this chapter, by itself, would make an important contribution to any advanced undergraduate class dealing with nature-society interactions. Chapter 3 constructs a typology and regionalization of change. The group commissioned with the task drew up a three-dimensional model (cube) with drivers, processes, and land cover types, represented on each of the respective axes. A temporal dimension is discussed but not modeled. The chapter ends in a most innovative way; with case-study application of the model to four different areas. The third working group had the most difficult of tasks; anticipate changes to occur during the next several decades. So difficult was this task that it resulted principally in a consideration of things that must be considered in order to make appropriate plans. This chapter is actually quite interesting in that it articulates the strengths and weaknesses with various individual strategies. It also shows how shortcomings can be mitigated by using a variety of data and models.

The three chapters that make up the third part of the tome examine global and world-region changes in three broad land types: forest/woodland, grassland, and settlement. The first two are clearly global and the emphasis is on land cover. The third represents the most intensive form of land use. Each contains a wealth of information, often elucidating some factor that is traditionally overlooked or under appreciated. For example, the chapter on forests points out the huge impact of fuelwood gathering and charcoal making, and it factors in reforestation. Likewise, the chapter on settlements highlights the problem of distinguishing land cover from land use in urban environments. Physical geographers are sure to find the three chapters that comprise Part IV of great interest. One deals with atmospheric chemistry and air quality, one with soils, and one with hydrology and water quality. Each demonstrates how land cover alterations inadvertently set in motion further, secondary, processes of environmental change. Also, although many land cover changes do not constitute environmental degradation in their own right, they begin to do so when the full sum of their consequences is added up.

The four chapters making-up the fifth part of this book will be familiar to human geographers as they each deal with a specific driving force of change. One covers population and income, one focuses on technology, one treats political and economic institutions, and one discusses culture and culture change. Each successfully addresses how some proposed forces are usually dismissed without consideration while the importance of others is taken for granted. Not atypically, both positions are simplistic at best, and totally wrong at worst. As a unit, these chapters suggest that though much has been asserted, little is actually known, and promising avenues exist for future studies. Graduate students in search of theses or dissertation topics will do themselves a great favor by giving these chapters careful inspection. Three participants were asked to reflect not on substantive issues, but rather on data and modeling matters of land use/cover change from the perspectives of social and natural sciences. One chapter in Part VI deals with land-atmosphere interactions exclusively.

The second explores an integrated social framework for understanding global change. And, finally, the last chapter in this section examines the acquisition, assessment, and analysis of data. One theme pervades these chapters—modeling, which is intended to simplify complex relationships, is much more difficult than even the most skillful research may think in no small way because global data are difficult to define. For all their shortcomings, however, data and models need to be employed. Two participants provide a great service in conclusion by presenting a directory of data collections useful for analyses of land use/cover and changes therein. This directory is Appendix I. Appendix II is a list of the 50 workshop participants and their addresses.

This is an excellent volume in numerous respects, and should be attractive to numerous geographers, not the least of whom are those cultural ecologists who have been demanding that more attention be paid to nature-society interactions at scales greater than the local or community level. This book breaks new ground and shatters tradition by focusing on the world as a whole. Its subtitle, A Global Perspective, may, however, be somewhat misleading to most geographers, and this undoubtedly rests in the fact that only one-fifth of the institute’s participants are members of our discipline. For better or worse, this book is not an inventory and prospectus volume. It focuses not on space or regions, but on interactions and models.

Greetings from the flooded fields of the Kittitas Valley. As you can see, the Cultural Ecology Newsletter sports something of a new look, reflecting a relocation to its new home here in the afternoon shadow of Mount Rainier. I wish to thank CFSG members for their patience regarding the slight lapse in delivery of the newsletter. We are on the quarter system here and I am a first-year faculty member faced with at least seven new course preparations this academic year alone. Not that I am whining, mind you. For spring break just ahead there’s a choice between steelhead in the Grande Ronde, crappie and bass in Potholes Reservoir, or those big Lahontan Cutthroats in Lake Lenore. But on to relevant matters. Due to popular demand, the Cultural Ecology Newsletter will soon have its own web page, linked to the site for the Department of Geography and Land Studies here at Central Washington University. We are still not on-line at this time, so don’t start those search engines revving yet. More news on this development should reach you with the next (hard copy) newsletter. Also coming in the next issue are book reviews by Doug Dear and Dean Sinclair, and a complete course description and reading list for a Cultural Ecology Proseminar conducted by Phil Porter and Connie Wei at the University of Minnesota. Finally, as I will be unable to join you in Charlotte, will someone please record the minutes of the business meeting and send them in?

- Robert Kuhlken
e-mail: kuhlken@cwu.edu
Request for Information

1. Current research, recent publications, recent grants, fieldwork:

2. Recent honors, awards, new titles and/or employment positions:

3. Suggested books, articles, theses, dissertations, or other publications for listing in the Newsletter:

4. Field or other address for the next six months if different from regular mailing address:

Department of Geography and Land Studies
Central Washington University
Ellensburg, WA 98926-7420

Karl Zimmerer
Geography / Univ of Wisconsin
550 N Park St
Madison WI 53706-1491
CESG at Fort Worth

A number of sessions at the upcoming Fort Worth meetings are being sponsored by the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group or should prove to be of some interest to CESG members. These are listed here as follows:

**Wednesday, 8:00 AM**
**The State and Environmental Management in Africa**
Organizers and Chairs: R. Schroeder and R. Neumann
D. Edmunds: The State, "Tribes", and the Environment in Uganda;
R. Neumann: State-directed, Community-based Environmental Management: Exploring Historical Continuities in Africa;
C. Katz: War, Poverty, and Deforestation in Sudan;

**Political Ecology and the New Cultural Geography**
Organizer and Chair: G. Knapp
C. Drennon: An Imposed Geography: Mapping the Body Politic of Macedonia;
K. Offen: Interpreting the Past in Wasakin, A Sumu-Miskitu Community in Northeastern Nicaragua;
J. Sundberg: Strategies for Authenticity, Space, and Place in the Maya Biosphere Reserve, Peten, Guatemala.
Discussant: K. Foote

**Wednesday, 10:00 AM**
**Political Ecology and the New Cultural Geography: Latin America**
Organizer: K. Zimmerer; Chair: T. Mutersbaugh.
T. Mutersbaugh: Resources, Community, and Identity: Commodities Development Versus Village Subsistence;
M. Castellon: The Politics of Indigenous Knowledge in Guatemalan Conservation;
K. Zimmerer: Knowledge of Environmental Change: The Fate of Irrigation in Bolivia.
Discussant: G. Knapp

**Wednesday, 10:00 AM**
**The Evolution of a Landscape: Washington’s Upper Yakima River Basin**
Organizer and Chair: R. Kuhlken
R. Kuhlken: Adaptation and Change in an Upper Yakima Basin Agricultural Landscape;
A. Root: Evaluation of Water Reallocations Programs in the Yakima River Basin, Washington;

**Thursday 8:00 AM**
**Mexico: Environment and Development I**
Organizers: E. Young and M. Works; Chair: M. Works
E. Perramond: Greener Pastures? Trends in the Cattle Industry of Sonora, Mexico;
G. Burt: Political Ecology of Land-Use/Cover Change in Alamos, Sonora, Since 1970;
E. Young: Locals and the Ongoing Conservation-Development Battle: Baja California Sur, Mexico;

**Thursday 10:00 AM**
**Mexico: Environment and Development II**
Organizers: M. Works and E. Young; Chair: E. Young
M. McClade: Theft, Class, and Community: Controls of Land Use in Mexico;
J. Harner: Place Meaning, Regional Identity, and Copper Mining in Sonora, Mexico;
M. Works: Policy, Poverty, and Ecology: Impacts on Craft Production in Mexico;
D. Cochran: Indigenous Peoples As Colonists and Colonized: Environment-Development Perspectives in Tehuantepic, Mexico;
D. Carr: Environmental Perceptions and Resource Use in Sian Ka’an Biosphere Reserve.

**Thursday, 1:45 PM**
**Reciprocal Surveillance/Reciprocal Obligations: Continuing Dialogue on the Ethics of Geographical Research Among American Indians**
Organizers: R. Rundstrom and D. Deur; Chair: R. Rundstrom

(Continued on page two ... )
Thursday, 1:45 PM
Environmental History of Northern Mexico I
Organizers: K. Butzer and C. Frederick; Chair: C. Frederick
K. Butzer: Laguna Mayran: Alluvial and Lacustrine Records Illuminate Environmental History of Northern Mexico;
C. Frederick and J. Abbott: A Ponded Holocene Flood-Plain of Pre-Colonial Age at Saltillo, Mexico;
J. Abbott and C. Frederick: A Holocene Alluvial Record from Uppermost Rio Nazas, Durango, Mexico;
C. Cordova: Late Quaternary Pollen and Sedimentary Facies in North-Central Mexico.

Thursday, 3:45 PM
Environmental History of Northern Mexico II
Organizers: K. Butzer and C. Frederick; Chair: K. Butzer
E. Lundelius, Jr.: Domesticated Animal Bone and Post-Contact Geomorphic Disequilibrium in Northern Mexico;
E. Butzer: Archival Documentation of Extreme Climatic Events, Northern Mexico (16th-19th Centuries);
Discussants: C. Mock and B.L. Turner, II.

Doing Fieldwork in South Asia and Africa: Insider-Insider Perspectives
Organizers: J. Metz and N. Shrestha; Chair: N. Shrestha.

Thursday, 5:45 PM
Cultural Ecology Specialty Group Business Meeting

Friday, 3:45 PM
Soils in Cultural Context: The World
Organizers: T. Beach and N. Dunning; Chair: W. Woods
P. Crossley: Chinampa Anthrosols of San Luis Tlaxialtemalco;
W. Woods: Who Put the Black in the Terra Preta?
D. Keeler, M. Moseley, D. Satterlee: Effects of Floods and Landslides on Late Prehispanic Canals in the Rio Osmore Region of Southern Peru;
P. Lehman: Human Impact Downslope From a Neolithic Archaeological Site;
S. Marriott: Effects of Furrow Irrigation on Duplex Soils in Swaziland.

Saturday, 8:00 AM
Land Use and Environmental Change in Africa
Organizers: T. Bassett and L. Gray; Chair: T. Bassett
L. Gray: Is Land Being Degraded? Physical Measurement and Social Explanations from Burkina Faso;
P. Walker: Roots of Crisis: Population, Environment, and Social History of Smallholder Tree Planting in Malawi;
J. Otieno: Contract Farming and Environmental Change in Kuria District, Western Kenya;
Discussant: D. Campbell.

Saturday, 10:00 AM
The Linkages Between Sustainability and Vulnerability
Organizers: K. Dow and W. Solecki; Chair: W. Solecki.

Friday, 10:00 AM
Soils in Cultural Context: Mesoamerica
Organizers: T. Beach and N. Dunning; Chair: N. Dunning
T. Beach: Ancient and Modern Soil Constraints on Northwest Yucatans Development;
P. Farrell and M. Smyth: Pedi-Archeological Evidence for Ancient Gardening in the Puuc Region of the Yucatan Peninsula;
G. Bocco, F. Rosette, C. Siebe: Geopedological Knowledge for Indigenous Natural Resources Management in Michoacan;
J. Jacob: Patterned Grounds for Dismissal: Hypothesis Testing of Human Impacts;

Friday, 1:45 PM
Landscapes of Power
Organizers: M. Pasqualetti
D. Robertson: Oil Derricks and Corinthian Columns: The Evolution of Oil Development on the Oklahoma State Capitol;
A. Simon: Structures of Power: The Electrifying Landscape;
M. Pasqualetti: Energy Conflicts: Their Spatial Roots and Our Technological Responses;
P. Kellner: Electric Utilities and Park Building in the Pacific Northwest;
A. Blowers: Nuclear Oases: The Last Frontier.

Saturday, 1:45 PM
Latin America: Households and Resource Management
Chair: J. Goett
D. Weir: Changing Indigenous Land and Water Usage at a Sonoran Oasis;
M. Hiraoka: Ribeirinho Home Gardens of the Amazon Estuary;
E. Keys: Three Yards: Measuring Women’s Agricultural Contributions in Guatemala;

Saturday, 3:45 PM
Land, Sovereignty, Representation: Contested Native Lands in Northwestern North America
Organizer and Chair: D. Deur
M. Henderson: Representing Themselves: Re-Creation of a Traditional Skokomish Indian Landscape;
B. Ritter: In God We Trust: Protecting American Indian Land in Trust;
K. Brealey: Totems, Transit, and Stopping Trains: Spatial Change and Continuity on the Upper Skeena River, British Columbia;
D. Deur: Subsistence, Territorial Sovereignty, and Ethnographic Representation on the Northwest Coast.
The Cultural Ecology Newsletter is now on-line. For access to current and back issues, along with other items of interest to the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group, point your browser to:
http://www.cwu.edu/~geograph/cult.html

Notes from the Chair

I am pleased and honored to be serving my first year as the new Chair of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group. As the annual meeting at Fort Worth draws near the CESG is once again climbing to its seasonal peak of activity. Announcements of the CESG Graduate Student Paper Award and sponsored sessions are contained in this newsletter. Latebreaking news prior to the meeting can be accessed via the CESG web page noted above. The web site and newsletter are under the able and generous direction of Bob Kuhlken in the Department of Geography and Land Studies at Central Washington University.

Note that our business meeting this year on Thursday April 3rd promises something extra with a planned discussion of research methodologies that include ethnographic and qualitative approaches. Successful studies in cultural ecology frequently stand out in terms of the diverse and often innovative array of methods that may be applied. For example, physical geography techniques such as soils and sediment analysis and vegetation sampling may be combined in the same study with the use of historical documents, oral histories and other ethnographic methods, and economic and demographic data. (One needs consider only some of the sub-field labels that are most closely akin to cultural ecology in order to sense the extent of possible methods: environmental geography, human, political, and historical ecology; society/nature, human environment.) Not surprisingly no easy formula can prescribe the right mix of methods since each research problem in cultural ecology demands a particular set of techniques. Yet it does seem that at times the assessment of appropriate methods is glossed over at the peril of a project itself, due perhaps to the diverse and seemingly daunting range of possibilities.

In past CESG discussions it was said that brief overviews of one or two areas of research methods would be a welcome addition to the business meeting and would possibly lead to follow-up discussions and perhaps even organized sessions in the future. With that in mind I would invite your participation in these and other CESG activities at the Forth Worth meeting and encourage that we begin the planning for next year’s event in Boston.

- Karl Zimmerer
Student Awards

Student Paper Award
Congratulations to two student members of the CESG, for winning the 1996 Student Paper Award competition:

The first place prize of $100 was awarded to Simon Batterbury (Brunel University) for his paper entitled "Performers, or Planners? Agrarian Change and Farmer Knowledge in Burkina Faso and Niger."

A second prize of $50 was awarded to Chris Coggins (Louisiana State University) for his paper entitled "Cultural Ecology, Landscape Ecology, and Nature Conservation in the Southeastern Chinese Uplands."

Field Study Award
There was no field study award for 1996 because there were no proposals submitted.

1997 CESG FIELD STUDY AWARD

Students are invited to submit applications for the 1997 CESG Field Study Award. One or two awards of up to $500, subject to approval by the CESG Awards Committee, will be granted for 1997. The principal objective will be to defray travel expenses for reconnaissance field work for intended thesis or dissertation research. Proposals should include: 1) title page with name of applicant, address and phone number, title of intended research, starting date and duration of field reconnaissance, location of research; 2) project description of no more than 1000 words (excluding references) of proposed travel and research, expected significance, and probable research methodology; 3) list of cited references; 4) statement of how award will be allocated, e.g., air travel, surface travel, food and lodging, etc.; 5) curriculum vitae. Copies should reach the Awards Committee, consisting of the CESG chair and the regional councilors, on or before April 25, 1997. Addresses are listed on page three of this newsletter. Notification of the results will be made as soon as possible after the deadline but no later than May 23, 1997.

1997 CESG STUDENT PAPER AWARD

The Cultural Ecology Specialty Group sponsors an annual award to recognize distinguished student research and paper presentation at the national meeting. Candidates may be undergraduates, graduate students, or a recent Ph.D. within a year of the dissertation defense. The student must be the sole author and presenter. Judging criteria include: soundness and creativity of the research design and methodology; validity of conclusions; and quality of presentation. A prize of $100 will be awarded for the best paper. Four copies of the text of the presentation and/or the paper upon which the presentation is based, must be submitted to a CESG officer (regional representative, chair, or secretary/treasurer) at or soon after the 1997 CESG Business Meeting, but before April 11. The results will be announced in the Cultural Ecology Newsletter and the AAG Newsletter. If you wish to be considered for the Award, submit a letter of application and a copy of the abstract that you sent in to the AAG. The deadline for notification that you intend to enter the paper competition is March 28, 1997. Please send letter and abstract to: Karl Zimmerer, Department of Geography, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706.
Cultural Ecology Newsletter
Cultural Ecology Specialty Group
Association of American Geographers

Number 31, Spring 1998

Ellensburg, Washington

CESG at Boston

A number of sessions at the upcoming Boston meetings of the AAG are being sponsored by the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group. These are listed here as follows, beginning with Thursday morning, March 26:

Thursday 7:30 AM
Access to Resources and Environmental Histories in Latin America and Africa I: Resource Control and Environmental Histories.
Organizers: A. Bebbington and S. Batterbury; Chair: A. Bebbington.
A. Sluyter: Insights into Cultural-Ecological Imperialism from the Sixteenth Century Livestock Invasion of Veracruz, Mexico;
G. Endfield and S. O’Hara: An Archival Investigation of Colonial Impacts in Michoacan, West Central Mexico;
Discussant: B. L. Turner, II.

Thursday 9:30 AM
Access to Resources and Environmental Histories in Latin America and Africa II: Resource Access and Local Environments.
Organizers: A. Bebbington and S. Batterbury; Chair: S. Batterbury.
E. Young: A Feminist Political Ecology of Marine Resource Conservation in Baja California Sur, Mexico;
D. Klooster: A Mexican Experience with Community Forestry: Natural Resource Alienation Despite Community Management;
C. Lund: A Question of Honor - Protection of Property and Institutional Competition in Land Struggles in Northern Burkina Faso;

Thursday 9:30 AM
Environmental and Social Change in Africa.
Organizer and Chair: T. Bassett.
P. Walker: Environment and Political Change in Southern Africa;

T. Bassett and Zueli Koli: Bi: Rereading the Ivorian Savanna, 1950-1990;
M. Turner: Historic Changes in the Organization of Agropastoral Production in the Vicinity of Parc W in Niger (1940-Present);
Discussant: J. McCann.

Thursday 1:30 PM
Cultural Ecology Specialty Group Business Meeting
Agenda includes:
Election of Officers for 1998-2000
Appointment of Newsletter/Web Page Editor

Thursday PM
Poster Session: Agriculture, Cultural Ecology, and Environmental Management.

Thursday 4:45 PM
Indigenous People and Protected Areas: Global Perspectives.
Organizer: M. Steinberg; Chair: K. Mathewson.
M. Steinberg: Conflict of Interest: Indigenous Exploitation Patterns, State Control, and Wildlands in Southern Belize;
J. Hobbs: The Bedouin Support Program in Egypt’s St. Katherine Natural Protectorate.

Friday 7:30 AM
Water, Environment, and Settlement in Late Prehistoric and Colonial Northern Mexico.
Organizers: K. Butzer and C. Frederick; Chair: K. Butzer.
P. Lehman, C. Frederick, B. Albert: Aridification of Late Holocene Riparian Environments, Saltillo, Mexico;
C. Frederick, M. Bateman, B. Winborough: Late Holocene Eolian and Lacustrine Sedimentation: Laguna Mayra, Coahuila, Mexico;
B. Butzer: Water, Indians, and Settlers: Colonial Competition for Resources, Northern Mexico;

(Continued on page two ... )
Friday 11:30 AM

Historical Approaches in Political Ecology.
Organizer: K. Zimmerer; Chair: T. Bassett.
J. Carney: The African Origins of Rice Cultivation in the Americas;
K. Zimmerer: Sustainability Interventions and Discourses in Andean South America;
N. Peluso: Legal Precedent and Property Rights in Forests of Southeast Asia;
S. Hecht: Sacred Groves and Sacrifice Zones: Ideation and Ideology in Amazonian Deforestation.
Discussant: T. Bassett.

Friday 2:45 PM

Organizers: D. Napon, B. Ballenger; Chair: G. Berardi.

Friday 4:45 PM

Organizer and Chair: K. McAfee.
D. Rocheleau and N. Kubo: International Green Discourse and Local Degradation in Two Forests;
R. Schroeder: Environmental Quid Pro Quo: Power, Politics, and African Debt Swaps;
K. McAfee: Selling Nature to Save it: Biodiversity as a Transnational Commodity;
M. Sinj: Nature or Nation? Territorializing the Frontier in the Malaysian Rainforest;
Discussant: D. Demeritt.

Saturday 7:30 AM

Human Diversity and Global Sustainability.

Saturday 9:30 AM

Critical Geographies of South Asia II: Negotiating Community and Environment.
E. Mawdsley: After Chipko: From Environment to Region in the Uttarakhand;
P. Tobbins: Paper Forests: Imagining and Deploying Exogenous Ecologies in Arid India;
K. O'Reilly: Tracking Community: An Investigation Into Social Environmental Institutions.
Discussant: J. Wescoat, Jr.

Saturday 1:15 PM

Organizers: K. Mathewson and D. Deur;
Chair: K. Mathewson.

K. Offen: Miskitu Ethnogenesis and Indirect English Colonialism in the Western Caribbean, 1700-1786;
C. Braunsomboon: Recent Sediment Deposition as Indicators of Twentieth-Century Environmental Change in Southeastern Brazil;
B. Gartner: An Atlas of Pre-Columbian Raised Fields in the Upper Midwest;
D. Deur: Estuarine Rhizophore Cultivation on the Northwest Coast: A Critical Assessment;
Discussant: K. Zimmerer.

Saturday 3:15 PM

Local People, Environment, and Development in Mexico.
Organizer and Chair: E. Young.
E. Olenberger: Gendered Local Knowledge and Resource Mapping of Magdalena Bay.
K. Pearson: Involving Women in Conservation Development in Magdalena Bay, Mexico: The Role of the State and Non-Governmental Organizations;
H. Eakin: Vulnerability and Adaptation of Small-Scale Farmers to Climatic Variability in Tierra del Fuego, Mexico;
L. Paulson: The Political Ecology of Tingambato, Mexico;

Sunday 7:30 AM

Environment, Development, and Conservation in Latin America I.
Organizers: M. Steinberg and M. Castellon;
Chair: M. Steinberg.
E. Keys and J. Maxwell: Town and Country in the Kachchh Region of Gujarat;
J. Tuomio: Seventy Five Years of Change: Adaptation and Continuity of Indigenous Culture in Santa Catarina Palope, Guatemala;
S. Rainey: Soil Management Strategies in Two Highland Guatemalan Municipalities;
P. Claggett: Where Farmers Make Their Fields and Why: A Comparative Study in the Peruvian Amazon.
Discussant: M. Castellon.

Sunday 9:30 AM

Environment, Development, and Conservation in Latin America II.
Organizers: M. Castellon and M. Steinberg;
Chair: M. Castellon.
J. Sandberg: Disneyification and Landscape Change in Nature Protection: Examples from the Maya Biosphere Reserve, Guatemala;
D. Carr: Population and Land Cover Change in the Sierra del Lacandon National Park, Peten, Guatemala;
M. Castellon: Subsistence, Conservation and Conflict in Guatemala's Sierra de las Minas Biosphere Reserve;
W. Mace: Alternative Trade and Small-Scale Coffee Production in Oaxaca, Mexico.
The Cultural Ecology Newsletter is now on-line. For access to current and back issues, along with other items of interest to the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group, point your browser to:
http://www.cwu.edu/~geograph/cult.html

Notes from the Chair

Wow, what an ample variety of Cultural Ecology sessions are slated for the Boston AAG meeting! (See the listing in this issue.) At the fin de siecle this umbrella of cultural ecology is covering a spread of promising and important ground. Our sub-field is deeply engaged with major concerns of the times about nature and culture, society and environment, and people and resources. I hope that we can continue to expand these efforts in the coming years.

On a more immediate note, thanks are due to the many persons who organized sessions with CESG sponsorship for the Boston meeting. Remember that by attaching this sponsorship you reduce the possibility of schedule conflicts.

The annual Business Meeting of the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group is set for 1:30 pm on Thursday, March 26. Elections are needed to choose the new officers of the group. The position of newsletter editor for the group also needs to be filled, since long-time ace Bob Kuhlken is stepping aside. Perhaps someone with interest and expertise in desktop and/or web publishing could help to build further on Bob's fine efforts. Many thanks are owed Bob.

Other agenda items for the meeting include discussion of the '99 Honolulu meeting and the announcement of this year's Netting Award. Also, you may remember that following last year's business meeting a special discussion on "Ethnographic techniques in field research" was led by Tad Mutersbaugh and me. The idea for this informal discussion came from graduate students in the group. It has been suggested that a similar style of discussion might be held this year.

I welcome your comments and invite your suggestions about agenda items. I'm looking forward to seeing you soon.

-Karl Zimmerer
Student Awards

**Student Paper Award**
Congratulations to **Douglas E. Deur** (Louisiana State University), for winning the 1997 Student Paper Award competition for his paper entitled "Subsistence, Territorial Sovereignty, and Ethnographic Representation on the Northwest Coast."

**Field Study Award**
There were two field study awards of $400 each for 1997:

- **Kathryn Pearson** (University of Arizona)
- **Michael K. Steinberg** (Louisiana State University)

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**1998 CESG FIELD STUDY AWARD**

Students are invited to submit applications for the 1998 CESG Field Study Award. One or two awards of up to $500, subject to approval by the CESG Awards Committee, will be granted for 1998. The principal objective will be to defray travel expenses for reconnaissance field work for intended thesis or dissertation research. Proposals should include: 1) title page with name of applicant, address and phone number; title of intended research, starting date and duration of field reconnaissance, location of research; 2) project description of no more than 1000 words (excluding references) of proposed travel and research, expected significance, and probable research methodology; 3) list of cited references; 4) statement of how award will be allocated, e.g. air travel, surface travel, food and lodging, etc.; 5) curriculum vitae. Please send a copy of your proposal to each member of the Awards Committee, consisting of the CESG chair and the three regional councilors, before **April 10, 1998**. Addresses are listed on page three of this newsletter. Notification of the results will be made as soon as possible after the deadline but no later than May 15, 1998.

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**1998 CESG STUDENT PAPER AWARD**

The Cultural Ecology Specialty Group sponsors an annual award to recognize distinguished student research and paper presentation at the national meeting. Candidates may be undergraduates, graduate students, or a recent Ph.D. within a year of the dissertation defense. The student must be the sole author and presenter. Judging criteria include: soundness and creativity of the research design and methodology; validity of conclusions; and quality of presentation. A prize of $100 will be awarded for the best paper. Four copies of the text of the presentation and/or the paper upon which the presentation is based, must be submitted to a CESG officer (regional representative, chair, or secretary/treasurer) at or soon after the 1998 CESG Business Meeting, but before April 10. The results will be announced in the Cultural Ecology Newsletter and the AAG Newsletter. If you wish to be considered for the Award, **submit a letter of application and a copy of the abstract that you sent in to the AAG**. The deadline for notification that you intend to enter the paper competition is **March 20, 1998**. Please send letter and abstract to: Karl Zimmerman, Department of Geography, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706.
The 1997 Robert McC. Netting Award

(Ed. note: When the 1997 Netting Award was announced at the Fort Worth business meeting, I asked the award committee if I might write a brief tribute to this scholar who is such an inspiration for my own efforts. After all, it was Professor Brookfield who directly influenced my dissertation research, both topically and regionally. I still vividly recall an evening during the Toronto AAG meetings. I had just ducked off the frigid sidewalk into a cozy fern bar to find Kent Mathewson and Greg Knapp sitting before a table piled high with discarded crustacean parts and punctuated by a new bottle of wine. Professor Brookfield had also just finished a meal at a nearby table and then joined us. My ever-convivial advisor noted that I was interested in conducting research in Fiji on agricultural intensification, a subject our esteemed table guest knew a bit about already. The Professor fixed me with that quick gaze of his and through a cloud of pipe smoke suggested that I ought to look rather closely at irrigated terrace abandonment. Several years later I was sitting bleary-eyed in a video production booth in Suva putting the finishing touches on a recently taped documentary on an extant terrace system I had located on a remote island in the group. A knock on the door brought in Eric Waddell, then chair of the Department of Geography at University of the South Pacific, along with his post-graduate advisor from Australian National University, Harold Brookfield, who was in Fiji on a research trip. They watched the video I had made and pronounced it well done, and I felt extremely heartened. Remembering that day, however, has prompted me to drop my own plans of writing something, but rather to ask Eric if he might wish to do that. And so, published here is the eloquent tribute by Eric Waddell to the achievements and contributions made to our subfield by his friend and mentor Harold Brookfield, the 1997 recipient of the CESG-sponsored Netting Award.)

HAROLD CHILINGWORTH BROOKFIELD

Harold Brookfield is a magnificent loner whose writings strike at the very heart of the discipline of geography. They are concerned with matters of common sense, of ordinary people and of reality. Their roots run deep. For these with a soft spot for geographical memorabilia, for the discipline’s much cherished classics, his name first surfaces almost half a century ago in the Indian Geographical Society Silver Jubilee Souvenir and N. Subrahmanym Memorial Volume, Madras 1952. It is this collection which contains W. Kirk’s classic article on “Historical Geography and the Concept of the Behavioural Environment” which was compulsory reading for all geographers of a certain generation! Harold’s article was not such a grand cru. It is about suburban growth in such distant European cities as Worthing, Amsterdam and Utrecht - and I have never known him make any reference to it! But even in this distant professional life Harold Brookfield had already made what was to become an unswerving intellectual commitment, to work on the borderlands between disciplines. In this initial, metropolitan phase of his personal and professional life, the borderlands stood between geography and sociology. But they were soon to swing to the no man’s land between geography and anthropology, subsequently moving on to a broad but reasoned array of other disciplines: agronomy, ethnobotany, paleobotany and prehistory.

Like so many of his kindred spirits, Harold’s professional and personal life is an itinerary where experience continually nourishes the intellect: his discovery of western Ireland in the early 1950s, followed by a brief stint teaching in South Africa and doing fieldwork in Mauritius. Then it was on to Australia and, in 1957, to a position at the Australian National University and an initial foray into the New Guinea Highlands. His destiny was sealed. He had arrived in Papua New Guinea at the dawn of a golden age, born, on the one hand, of the frequenting of a myriad of vibrant subsistence peoples and, on the other, of integration into a remarkably vigorous intellectual community that expressed little concern for defending the territories of individual academic disciplines.

Henceforth Harold was to dedicate himself to the study of rural societies in the Third World and, more specifically, to the dynamic relationships between land and people, all considered through that singular window of local study. Only the geographical focus has changed through time. First it was the New Guinea Highlands, followed, in the mid-’60s, by a broadening of interests to all of Melanesia. In the 1970s he made a brief detour into the West Indies, only to return, in the middle of the decade, to Fiji. And this was followed by a more crucial shift, in 1984, to Southeast Asia and to the study of more complex rural societies subject to profound and rapid change. The commitment was now clearly to Development Studies.

(Continued on page six ... )
The wealth of scholarship that this itinerary has generated is quite remarkable: Struggle for Land (with Paula Brown, 1963); Melanesia: A Geographical Interpretation of an Island World (with Doreen Hart, 1971); Colonialism, Development and Independence: The Case of the Melanesian Islands in the South Pacific (1972); The Pacific in Transition (edited collection, 1973); Interdependent Development (1975); Population, Resources and Development in the Eastern Islands of Fiji (with R.D. Bedford et al., 1977); Land Degradation and Society (with Piers Blakie, 1987); Islands, Islanders and the World: the Colonial and Post-colonial Experience of Eastern Fiji (with T.P. Bayliss-Smith et al., 1988); The City in the Village: The in situ Urbanisation of Villages, Villagers and their Land around Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (with A. Samad Hadi et al., 1991); South-East Asia’s Environmental Future: The Search for Sustainability (edited collection with Y. Byron, 1993); Transformation with Industrialization in Peninsular Malaysia (edited collection, 1994); In Place of the Forest: Environmental and Social Transformation in Borneo and the Eastern Malay Peninsula (with L. Potter et al., 1995), and so forth. And those are only some of the books!

Harold has always been a source of intellectual inspiration, to what are now at least two if not three generations of students and colleagues living on several continents. He was the architect of what Marvin Mikesell once called “the New Guinea syndrome”, an unpretentious but remarkably solid intellectual tsunami whose effects where felt in a distant and inward-looking North American geography then largely obsessed with quantifying. Subsequently he was to propose a more grounded perspective on development studies, explore issues of land degradation and make a significant contribution to the debate on environmental change.

In his contribution to academic scholarship Harold Brookfield has successfully negotiated a number of “revolutions” and maintained a healthy distance with respect to them all. The only one which almost seduced him was the quantitative revolution which “led him away from the truth” and resulted in his writing what he now believes to be a largely nonsense contribution to his collection The Pacific in Transition.

What was it that has kept him on course and made his work so important to us all in cultural ecology and, indeed elsewhere in and beyond geography? Perhaps, in the final analysis, it is Harold’s fundamental sanity, a sanity which is grounded in the real world that lies beyond academia. This is expressed in his commitment to fieldwork - and the sincere regret that the last time he was able to do any was in Malaysia back in 1986. Fieldwork, he affirms, keeps the scholar in contact with people who derive their daily sustenance from productive activities, in his case rural peasants. Fieldwork is also rooted in specific places. Such scholarship, put simply, is for Harold a “satisfactory way of doing things”. It is more personally rewarding and it makes more sense. Further, in allaying “local study with comparative method” (the title of one of his articles and, in his view, one of his best publications, from the Annals of the AAG, 1962) it is possible to “see the wood for the trees” and generate theoretical discussion out of practical work.

This is scholarship which is constructed out of the virtues of sanity and common sense.

Harold is now well past his 70th birthday but he is as busy as ever. His office is just down the corridor from the Department of Human Geography at the Australian National University where he worked for some 20 years. Now a Visiting Fellow in the Department of Anthropology he still doesn’t feel the need to call himself anything - a geographer, a cultural ecologist, or whatever - but he still professes an unquestionable faith in a geography which is about environmental relations rather than spatial organization. And in this age when we are in the throes of being swept up in yet another disembodied intellectual revolution he unashamedly affirms that he is “an unrepentant premodern.”

Harold Brookfield is a magnificent outsider and cultural ecology is much the richer for it.

— Eric Waddell  9 December 1997
Welcome to the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group (CESG) Newsletter. This is my first turn at the wheel and on behalf of our membership I would like to extend many thanks indeed to Karl Zimmerer, our past Chair, and his board for all their fine work. Our new slate of Officers is in place and looking forward to hearing from you. At last count, CESG had 359 members, up by more than 20% over past years.

Plans are advancing well for the AAG’s annual meetings this year in Hawaii, and CESG will be there in full force. Thirteen sessions sponsored by CESG. Dozens of promising papers in other sessions. Field trips to places you’ve only dreamed of going (there’s still spaces available on some). And a special series, as a prelude to the forthcoming book, Geography in America at the Down of the 21st Century, in which Tom Bassett and Karl Zimmerer will present their work on the state of Cultural Ecology. Our Business Meeting is scheduled for March 26th (6:45-8:00). Some items for the agenda: on getting an electronic CESG discussion list up and running; planning for CESG’s contribution to the AAG’s Centenary celebrations in 2004; the AAG’s “Contact List Project”; and this year’s McC Netting award. The deadline for student award submissions this year is March 27th.

For late breaking news about plans for the conference – or if you just want to keep up on what’s happening with CESG – please check out our electronic Newsletter at the address above. There’s more on the webpage – thanks to Simon Batterbury’s unfailing efforts – than we can possibly include in a slim hard copy of the Newsletter. At the site, readers can find timely job adverts, calls for papers and other contributions, some terrific course syllabi on cultural ecology, and recent literature (including a list of book received for review). Bookmark the site!

Your suggestions and comments for the agenda in Honolulu would be most welcome. If you are not able to attend the AAGs this year but have points that you’d like raised at our Business Meeting, please do contact one of our regional councillors or let me know at coomes@felix.geog.mcgill.ca

Some things are never easy to put into words. I feel deeply grateful to the CESG of the AAG for having chosen me to receive the first Robert McC. Netting Award. This honor has a special meaning to me because I knew Bob Netting well and admired immensely his studies in cultural ecology - in the high valleys of Switzerland as well as among the Kofyar of Nigeria and his more general methodological work. He truly saw no impediment to crossing disciplinary boundaries, wherever a research question took him. Again, I am pleased and grateful for this action by the Cultural Ecology Specialty Group.

Philip W. Porter, University of Minnesota

A testimonial on Bill and his work will be available on the CEN web site shortly.

Organized sessions at the Honolulu AAG meetings, 23rd March-27th March 1999

Cultural Ecology Specialty Group Business Meeting (497) 26th March, 6:45-8pm

Geography in America: Nature/Society Relationships (125) Organizers: Cort J. Willmott, University of Delaware, Gary Gale, University of Colorado-Boulder Chair: Bill O. Turner, Clark University Mar 26th, 7:00am

(7:00am sharp) Karl Zimmerer, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Thomas Bassett, University of Illinois. Cultural Ecology.

Pacific Islands Geography II: Human-Environment Systems (70) (Sponsor: CFSG) Organizer and Chair: Robert Kuhlkem, Central Washington University. Discussant: Martin Lewis, Duke University 24th March, 11am-12:40pm
Clinton Mikami, University of Hawaii. Native Forest Replacement by Alien Forest Plantations on Oahu.

James Michael Daniels, University of Wisconsin, Madison. Hydrologic and Sedimentologic Responses to Agricultural Land-use Change on Mo'orea, French Polynesia.

George Curry, Curtin University of Technology. Changing Patterns of Resource Tenure in a PNG Lowland Village.

Robert Kuhlenk, Central Washington University. Political Ecology and Agrarian Change in Fiji.

Cultural Ecology: Diversity, Conservation, and Land Management (17)
Organizer and Chair: Oliver Coomes, McGill University. 24th March, 11am-12:40pm

Antoinette WinklerPrins, University of Wisconsin, Madison. Focus on the Land Manager: Integrating Political Ecology and Soil Quality Research.

Stephen J. Rainey, Louisiana State University. Local Perspectives on Depreciation of Soil Resources.

Robert Daniels & Thomas Bassett, University of Illinois. The Adoption of Conservation Measures in the Lake Nakuru Catchment, Kenya.

Natalie Lerch & Oliver Coomes, McGill University. Home Gardens, Crop Diversity, and Exchange of Planting Material.

Oliver Coomes, McGill University, Brad Barham, Yoshito Takasaki, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Kittisack, Chanthaboune, McGill University. Rain Forest Reliance: The role of household wealth, demographic composition, and life experience in economic reliance on forest product extraction.

Sacred to Profane: Illicit Drugs in Traditional Landscapes and Cultures (Sponsor: CESG)
Organizer and Chair: Michael K. Steinberg, Louisiana State University. Discussant: Bernard Nietschmann - University of California - Berkeley. 24th March, 11am-12:40pm

Caldicott T. Kimber, Texas A&M University. Darrel L. McDonald, Steven F. Austin University. Cultural Biogeographical Dynamics: Sacred Peyote Gardens in South Texas.

Eric P. Perramond, University of Texas - Austin. Desert Traffic: Moving Drugs Through Northwest Mexico.


Cultural Ecology: Ecological Relationships and Land Use Change (161)
Chair: Robert Dull, University of California-Berkeley. Mar 24th, 3:00pm-6:40pm

Rheyman Laney, Clark University. Agriculture and Environmental Conservation: Mutually Exclusive in Malagasy Landscapes?

Mario Hiraoka, Millersville University. Transhumance in the Amazon Flood Plain.


Peter S. Alagona, Univ of California-Santa Barbara. Land-Use History, Perception, and Ecological Change: A Case Study in the Los Alamos Valley, California.

Robert Dull, University of California-Berkeley. Prehistoric Agriculture and Holocene Landscape Degradation in Western El Salvador.

Illustrated Paper Session: A Tribute to Dr. Jack D. Ives and His Contributions to Mountain Geography (167)
Organizers, Chairs: Katherine Hansen, Montana State University, Deborah L. Elliott-Fisk, University of California-Davis. Mar 24th 3:00pm-6:40pm

NGOs in Rural Landscapes: Mediating the Human-Land Relationship (166) (Sponsored by CESG and Latin American Specialty Group)
Organizer: Chair: J. Christopher Brown, Univ of California Los Angeles. Discussant: Anthony Bebbington, University of Colorado-Boulder. Mar 24th 3:00pm-6:40pm

Juanita Sundberg, University of Texas-Austin. NGOs and the Institutionalization of Environmental Knowledge and Practice.

Andrea B. Chavez, Syracuse University. Lower Urubamba Valley Ecological Change from an NGO Perspective.

Michael I. Castellon, University of Denver. Conservation Games: Indians, NGOs, and the State in Guatemala's Sierra de Las Mamas.

J. Christopher Brown, Univ of California Los Angeles. NGOs and Alternatives to Deforestation in Rondonia, Brazil.

Environment and Development in China 1: Environmental Change and Sustainability (230)
(Sponsored by China Group and CESG)
Organizer: Carolyn Cartier, University of Oregon. Chair: Joshua S.K. Hidav, Univ of California Los Angeles. Mar 25th, 9:00am-10:40am

C.P. Lo, University of Georgia. Ping-ri Li, Guangzhou Institute of Geography. Environmental Consequences of Economic Re-Orientiation in the Zhujiang Delta Region of China.

Kenneth K.K. Wong, Hong Kong Baptist University. The Challenges of Sustainable Development in Taiwan: The Perceptions of University Students.

Connie King, Bruins, University of Cincinnati. Sprawls Toward Progress: Examining Land Use Changes and Sustainability.

Hong Jiang, University of Iowa. Environmental Change and Society: The Pastoral Community of Uxin Ju in Inner Mongolia, China.


Politics and Practice of Natural Resource Management 1: Politics of Environmental Partnerships (239) (Sponsored by CESG, CA&RLU, Rural Development, Human Rights Specialty Groups)
Organizer & Chair: Carl Wilmens, University of California-Berkeley. Discussant: Anthony Bebbington, University of Colorado-Boulder. Mar 25th, 9:00am-10:40am.
Gigi Berardi, Western Washington University, Environmental Partnerships Between Alaska-Native Villages and Conservation Organizations: Kodiak Island

Jodi L. Bailey, University of California-Berkeley, International NGOs and the Politics of Environmental Partnerships in Ecuador

Randall K. Wilson, University of Iowa, Community-Based Collaborative Management on the San Juan National Forest: An Analysis of Participation

Carl Willsen, University of California-Berkeley, Relations Among Social Movement Organizations and the Emergence of New Political and Ideological Terrain

Incendiary Landscapes: Fire and Contestation (25+) (Sponsored by CESG) Organizers: Paul F. Starrs, University of Nevada-Reno, Lester Rowntree, San Jose State University
Mar 25th, 11:00am-12:25pm

Lesley Head, University of Wollongong, The Other Side of the Pacific: Social and Ecological Dimensions of Hunter-Gatherer Fire Use in Australia Lynn Huntsinger, University of California-Berkeley, Fire Stories and the Struggle for the Forests of the Lower Klamath River Basin

Peter Goin, University of Nevada-Reno, Human Nature's Fire

Lester Rowsntree, San Jose State University, Burned Nature: Issues of Science and Restoration Policy Following Catastrophic Wildfire

Paul F. Starrs, University of Nevada-Reno, "Aquí No Se Quema": Fire and Dental in the Spanish Oak Woodland

Mar 25th, 11:00am-12:25pm

Panelists: Scott Slocombe, Wilfrid Laurier University, Christopher Dahl, University of Hawaii, Paul Snedker, Prescott College, Maureen G. Reed, University of British Columbia, Deborah D. Paulson, University of Wyoming, Edward Whitesell, Evergreen State College

Livelihoods and landscapes in transition I: cultural and political ecologies of the contemporary Andes (Sponsors: CESG, LASG) Organizers: Anthony Bebbington, University of Colorado, USA/ICASBS, Stanford University, Simon Batterbury, Brunel University, UK
March 26th, 9am-10:40am

Discussions: Richard Schroeder, Rutgers University, March 26th, 9am-10:40am

Paul Robbins, Department of Geography, Ohio State University, Species and Careers: Competing State and Local Knowledges in India

Simon Batterbury, Geography & Earth Sciences, Brunel University, UK. A Political Ecology of Livelihood Diversification in Semi-Arid West Africa (Niger)

Leslie C. Gray, Department of Demography, University of California, Berkeley. The Environmental Effects of Population Growth, Technological Change and Affluence in Southwestern Burkina Faso.


Livelihoods and landscapes in transition III: cultural and political ecologies of contemporary forest environments (Sponsors: CESG, LASG) Organizers: Anthony Bebbington, University of Colorado, Boulder, USA/ICASBS, Stanford University, Simon Batterbury, Brunel University, UK
Discussions: Dianne Rocheleau, Clark University, March 26th, 9am-10:40am

Thomas Perreault, Department of Geography, University of Colorado, Boulder. Indigenous organizations, rural livelihoods, and identity construction in Ecuadorian Amazonia.


Cynthia Leigh Sorrenson, Department of Geography, Ohio State University. Regional Development, Household Response, and the Distribution of Fire Activity in the Brazilian Amazon.

Designs on Their Land: Political Ecology of Community Based Resource Management (442) (Sponsored by CESG, Latin American, and Values, Ethics, and Justice Specialty Groups) Organizers: Dianne F. Rocheleau, Clark University, Chair. Anthony Bebbington, University of Colorado-Boulder
March 26th, 1:30pm-2:30pm

Richard A. Schroeder, Rutgers University, Dorothy L. Hodgeson, Rutgers University, Mapping the Massa: Dilemmas of Counter-Mapping Community Resources in Tanzania.


David Edmunds, CIFOR, Multi-Stakeholder Negotiations: Why and How Forest-Resident People Participate.

Dianne E. Rocheleau, Clark University, Luis Malaret, Clark University, Complex Cultures and Emergent Ecologies. Social Relations and Biotic Communities in Three Dominican Landscapes.

Reinaldo Cline-Cole, University of Birmingham, Particular Knowledge as "Common" Property in "Participatory" Dry Land Forestry in Nigeria
Community Participation in Resource Management of Tropical Coastlines (470)
Organizer, Chair: Neila B. Forest, University of California-Berkeley
Discussant: Bernard Q. Nietschmann, University of California-Berkeley
Fri 26th March, 4.45pm-6.25pm

Nicola J. Acott, Common Ground Consulting, Developing a Coastal Management Policy for South Africa: The Role of Public Participation and Science in the Policy Formulation Process

Neila B. Forest, University of California-Berkeley, Rituals, Patronage, and Coastal Zone Management: Fijian Fishing Communities

David S. Hayes, Cal State Coastal Conservancy, Community Participation in Waterfront Historic Resources: Restoration of Old Havana (Cuba)

Scott J. Parker, The Trust for Public Land, Community Conservation, and the Coast at Waahole/Waikane

Joseph J. Talavera II, University of California-Berkeley, Impacts of Island Tourism: Local vs Trans-National Ownership in French Polynesia

Soils in Archaeological and Cultural Context I: Maya Lowlands (511) (Sponsored by CESG and Geomorphology Specialty Group)
Organizers, Chair: Timothy Beach, Georgetown University, Nicholas P. Dunning, University of Cincinnati
27th March, 7.00am-8.40am

Sheryl Luzzadder-Beach, George Mason University, Soil Infiltration in Two Regions of the Maya Lowlands

Russell A. Almaraz, USDA - NRCS, Preliminary Land Quality Assessment of the Yucatan Lowlands, Mexico

Richard E. Terry, Brigham Young University, Takeshi Inomata, Yale University, Payson Sheets, University of Colorado, Reading the Soil/Chemical Signatures of Ancient Maya Activities

Nicholas P. Dunning, University of Cincinnati, Vernon Scarborough, University of Cincinnati, Fred Valdez, Jr., University of Texas-Austin, John Jones, Texas A&M University, Sheryl Luzzadder-Beach, George Mason University, Timothy Beach, Georgetown University, Water Mountain Breakdown: Ancient Maya Landscapes in Northwestern Belize

Soils in Archaeological and Cultural Context II: The Americas (540) (Sponsored by CESG and Geomorphology Specialty Group)
Organizers, Chair: Timothy Beach, Georgetown University, Nicholas P. Dunning, University of Cincinnati
27th March, 9.00am-10.40am

Dorothy E. Freidel, Sonoma State University, Eugenia Robinson, Tulane University, Pat Farrell, University of Minnesota-Duluth, Archaeology, Volcanism, and Climate in the Antigua Valley, Guatemala


Gregory A. Pope, Montclair State University, Ruth Rubenstein, Poetry Park Nature Center, A Waste of Time? Prehistoric Sewage in the American Southwest

William G.gartner, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Architecture as Allegory, Sediment as Text: Geomorphology and Native Myths

Soils in Archaeological and Cultural Context III: The World (565) (Sponsored by CESG and Geomorphology

Specialty Group)
Organizers: Timothy Beach, Georgetown University, Nicholas P. Dunning, University of Cincinnati
Chair: Dean G. Wilder, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
March 27th, 11.00am-12.25am

Timothy Beach, Georgetown University, Field Report on the Pedoarchaeology of Turkey's Mediterranean Coastal Valleys

Jay Noller, Vanderbilt University, Lisa Wells, Vanderbilt University, Paleoagricultural Soil Catenas in Cyprus: Reaping Rewards from Mediterranean Hillslopes

Ronald G. Blom, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Robert E. Crippen, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Jana Owen, Univ of California-Los Angeles, Juris Zarins, Southwest Missouri State Univ, Possible Ancient Anthrosols Near Lost City of Ubar Site-Oman

Centennial: Contemporary Reflections on the Contributions of the Berkeley School of Geography (554) (Sponsored by University of California-Berkeley)
Organizer, Chair: Jorja S. Sarich, University of California-Berkeley
Discussant: Bernard Q. Nietschmann, University of California-Berkeley
March 27th, 9.00-10.40am

Gray Brechin, University of California-Berkeley, Data for the New Pacific Empire: The Roots of the UC-Berkeley Geography Department in the Spanish-American War

Sandra Nichols, University of California-Berkeley, Carl O. Sauer: Sustainable Agriculture's Forgotten Champion?

Ryan E. Galt, University of California-Berkeley, The Impact of Carl O. Sauer: Agricultural Origins and Dispersals

Jorja S. Sarich, University of California-Berkeley, Reflections on Landscape, Past, Present, and Future

Critical Approaches to Marine Conservation and Development for the 21st Century (Sponsor: CESG)
Organizers and Chairs: Emily Young, University of Arizona, Carolyn Trust, University of California, Berkeley
27th March, 1pm-2:40pm

Becky Mansfield, Department of Geography, University of Oregon, Globalization, State Regulation, and Regional Specificity in the North Pacific

Lara A. Davis, Department of Geography, University of Washington, Rethinking Nature through the Culture of Fishing: The cases of Southern India and the Pacific Northwest

Craig Thorburn, Department of Geography, University of California-Los Angeles, Who's in Charge Here? Coastal and Marine Resource Management Institutions in the Kei Islands, Indonesia

Carolyn Priest, Department of Geography, University of California-Berkeley, Global Alliances and Local Resistance in an Eastern Caribbean Marine Protected Area

Emily Young, Department of Geography and Regional Development, University of Arizona, Development and Conservation of Coastal Marine Areas: Issues for the 3rd Millennium.

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Members' News

Tony Bebbington, Assistant Professor at the University of Colorado, Boulder, is spending the 1998-9 academic year as a Fellow of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioural Sciences, Stanford University. Bebbington is only the fifth
geographer (and the youngest) to be awarded this Fellowship in the last 15 years.

Karl Butzer, Raymond C. Dickson Centennial Professor of Liberal Arts at the University of Texas, Austin, was elected a member of the National Academy of Sciences in 1996. Professor Butzer's work has elucidated the relationships of paleoenvironmental change, resource availability, and human adaptation, and made important theoretical contributions to understanding the spread of early hominids, the origins of anatomically modern people in sub-Saharan Africa, and the co-evolution of early agricultural lifeways with their biotic resources. Butzer joins eight other geographers as NAS members. He is the fourth member of the CESG to receive this honor (along with Kates, Turner and White). Congratulations.

Michael K. Steinberg, a student at Louisiana State University, has been awarded a grant from the National Geographic Society for a project entitled "An Ethnobotanical Survey of an Endangered Culture and Environment." His research is in southern Belize, with the Mopan Maya.

Billie Lee Turner II, Milton P. and Alice C. Higgins Chair of Environment and Society at Clark University, was elected and inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in October, 1998. The American Academy is a learned society that recognizes achievement in the natural sciences, social sciences, arts, and humanities. Turner's election brings the number of geographers in the AAAS to ten. He joins Karl Butzer, Robert Kates, and Gilbert White as members of the CESG in the Academy.

Gilbert F. White, Gustavson Professor Emeritus at the University of Colorado, Boulder, is working with a multi-country team coordinated by John J. Thompson (IIE, UK) on a re-study based on Drawers of Water (Chicago University Press, 1972). Thompson and colleagues have obtained funding from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, the Dutch Directorate General for International Cooperation (DGIS), and the Rockefeller Foundation. Drawers of Water was a seminal assessment of domestic water use and environmental health in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. For details see http://www.oneworld.org/80ti/draw/.

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**Announcements**

**The Society for Human Ecology**

The Society for Human Ecology, based in Canada, publishes the Human Ecology Review (see http://members.aol.com/distext/HER.html), a peer-reviewed journal of interest to members. Look out for their Annual Conference entitled "Living with the Land: Interdisciplinary Research for Adaptive Decision Making" to be held in Montreal from May 27-30, 1999. For details see http://felicyx.geog.mcgill.ca/SHE or contact Thom Meredith, Department of Geography, McGill University, Email: she@felicyx.geog.mcgill.ca

**Conference of the Society for Ethnobiology**

The 22nd Annual conference will be held from March 10-13, 1999 at the Jardín Etnobotánico, Centro Cultural Santo Domingo, Oaxaca, México. Symposium proposals and individual presentations are invited. In the U.S. and Canada, please contact: Mollie S. Toll, Office of Archaeological Studies, Museum of New Mexico, Box 2087, Santa Fe NM 87504-2087, USA: mtoll@mnr.state.nm.us. Tel. (505) 827-6343 fax: (505) 827-3904.

**Conference: "Society, Nature and History. Long Term Dynamics of Social Metabolism"**

This conference will be held from Sept. 30th - 2nd Oct. 1999 in Vienna, Austria. It is hosted by the Institute of Interdisciplinary Studies of Austrian Universities. It will discuss issues of long term societal transformation with an emphasis on the last 200 years, focussing on the energetic and material exchange relations between societies and their natural environment. For further information see http://www.univie.ac.at/ifecco/ or contact Dr. Verena Winiwarter at IFT - Seidenagasse 13 A - 1070 Vienna, Austria. Verena.Winiwarter@univie.ac.at.

**Conference: Patterns and Processes of Land Use and Forest Change in the Amazon**

The 48th Annual Conference Sponsored by the Center for Latin American Studies University of Florida. Dates: March 23-26, 1999, on the campus of the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida. The conference will present the findings of state-of-the-art research projects on land use and land cover change in the Amazon. Further information and registration: http://www.latam.ufl.edu/ or contact Charles H. Wood, Director Center for Latin American Studies Tel.: (352) 392-0375 cwood@latam.ufl.edu.

**Journal of Political Ecology**

The on line "Journal of Political Ecology: Case Studies in History and Society" is a peer reviewed journal begun in 1994 that welcomes submissions from a broad range of disciplines and hopes to encourage research into the linkages between political economy and human environmental impacts. It is provided free and supported by the Political Ecology Society (PESO). See http://www.library.arizona.edu/jej/jepe/jpeweb.html for all details and back copies.

**Job at CATIE**

CATIE in Costa Rica seeks a Ph.D. in agroecology to lead the sustainable tropical agriculture program. See http://www.catie.ac.cr/oportunidades/posiciones_vacantes/posicion2.htm for details.

**NSF Arctic Social Sciences Program**

The National Science Foundation's Arctic Social Sciences Program welcomes interdisciplinary social science research proposals on human-environment interactions in the circumpolar north. Other themes of interest include rapid social change and community viability. Contact: Dr. Pae L. Korsmo, Program Director, Arctic Social Sciences, Room 755, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230, USA. Phone: 703-306-1029; fax: 703-306-0648. pkorsmo@nsf.gov

**Meeting Reports**

"Constructivism and Realism in Environment and Development".

This seminar was held at the LSE in London, on December 7th 1998. The organizers were Tim Forstyth (IDS, Sussex) and John Harris (LSE).

The seminar reflected on some of the philosophical positions underlying research on environment-development linkages. Four key sessions dealt with (a) developments in political
ecology (b) the so-called 'new' ecologies, offering a more complex understanding of biophysical reality than linear, equilibrium-based explanations; (c) understanding 'dominant' discourses, and (d) explanation based on realist and critical realist philosophies. Full text at http://www.brunel.ac.uk/depts/geog/ecn/ecn33.html

Joint meeting of faculty and students from Clark University and the University of Colorado, Boulder on human-environment research in Geography

24-25th March 1998, Clark University, Worcester MA, USA

This meeting dealt with (a) conceptual frameworks in human-environment studies; (b) the role of natural sciences in cultural and political ecology, (c) scales of investigation, and (d) the role of institutions. Full text at http://www.brunel.ac.uk/depts/geog/ecn/ecn32.html

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Book Reviews

All CEGS members, and others, are invited to submit reviews of books that would be of interest to our Specialty Group. Publishers would be invited to send books to the Editor, and willing reviewers are sought.


Reviewed by Simon Batterbury. Full text at http://www.brunel.ac.uk/depts/geog/ecn/ecn33.html


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Reviewed by Douglas Deur, Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State University. ddeur@pacifier.com. Full text at http://www.brunel.ac.uk/depts/geog/ecn/ecn33.html

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1998-2000 CEGS Officers

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Electronic CEN

Do you appreciate receiving news on cultural ecology and related fields via this Newsletter? Do you have items to contribute?

Please tell us. We are finding it increasingly hard to maintain a printed copy of the Newsletter, when conference, job and other announcements are so numerous and arrive so frequently. It is therefore expedient to move progressively to a digital CEN that is disseminated via the World Wide Web, and we have been offering this since 1996. You will find its Web address on page One.

If you are happy to be deleted from the mailing list for printed copies and to read the Web version instead, please inform Oliver Coomes at the address on this page. The resultant cost savings can be used to support awards and other CEGS activities.

Thankyou

Simon Batterbury

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1999 Field Study Award
1999 Student Paper Award

Details of these awards, valued at up to $500 and $100 respectively, may be obtained from the CEGS website. Students are invited to submit applications via a Committee member (see this page) by the time of the CEGS Business Meeting at the Honolulu AAG. The 1998 Student Paper Award went to Dan Koosher (Princeton) and the Field Study Awards to Eric Carter (Wisconsin-Madison) and Robert Daniels (Illinois).