
COASTAL LETTERS



Newsletter of the coastal and marine geography specialty group of the association of
American geographers

Vol. 20, No. 1

Website: http://aag_coma.homestead.com

April 2008

Table of Contents

Specialty Group Officers	1	Jeff Ueland, Secretary-Treasurer
Membership Renewal Reminder	2	Department of Geography
Editor's Comments	2	Ohio University
Musings from the Chair – Steve Namikas	2	Athens, OH 45701
News and Views from Members	2	Phone: (470) 593-0304
CoMa Guide to the Boston AAG Meeting	4	E-mail: ueland@ohio.edu
Sponsored Sessions	4	
CoMa Specialty Group Meeting Info	6	
Student Paper Competition Information	6	Tom Allen, Board of Directors
Physical Geography Reception Information	7	Department of Geography
New Books and Articles	7	East Carolina University
R.J. Russell Nominations	8	Greenville, NC 27858
		Phone: (252) 328-6230
		Email: ALLENTH@ecu.edu

Specialty Group Officers

Steve Namikas, Chair
Department of Geography and Anthropology
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
Phone: (225) 578-6142
E-mail: snamik1@lsu.edu

Jean Ellis, Board Member
Department of Geography
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843-3147
Phone: (979) 843-7141
E-mail: Jean.T.Ellis@nasa.gov

Harry Jol, Vice-Chair
Department of Geography and Anthropology
University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004
Phone: (715) 836-3472
E-mail: JOLHM@uwec.edu

Jennifer L. Rahn, Board Member
Department of Political Science & Geography
Old Dominion University
Norfolk, VA 23529-0088
Phone: (254) 710-4934
E-mail: JRahn@odu.edu

Membership Renewal Reminder

Don't forget to renew your membership in the Coastal and Marine Geography Specialty Group. Also, when you renew your membership with the AAG, update your E-mail address – and remind your colleagues! Dues have not changed from 2006-2007. Membership dues for the Specialty Group are currently \$1 for students and \$5 for regular and associate members.

Editor's Comments

- 1) Welcome to all of you who have recently joined the Coastal and Marine Geography Specialty Group (CoMa).
- 2) Have you been getting CoMa E-mail? If not, please send an E-mail to Jeff Ueland to be added to our list. Also, if you would like to be removed from the mailing list please let me know as well. Additionally please forward this newsletter to anyone who you think might be interested.
- 3) If you have announcements or other items to be distributed via the e-mail list please forward them to the editor. Items can be sent at any time. Time sensitive items such as job opportunities can be distributed immediately, upon request. Other items will be included in the next issue of the newsletter.
- 4) Please note all the interesting papers being presented in this year's Norbert Psuty student paper competition. Plan to attend and support the research of these scholars.
- 5) Please send your nominations for the Russell Award. The information for this award can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Jeff Ueland, Editor (jueland@bemidjistate.edu)

Musings from the Chair – Steve Namikas

Dear CoMa members,

Growth and change, the two unavoidable constants (at least if we really do live in an expanding universe!). Both are strongly in evidence this year in the Coastal and Marine Specialty Group. The overall surge in membership in the AAG recently has been reflected in the tremendous growth of our own specialty group, which has more than doubled in size over the past few years. And it is similarly reflected in the number of sessions sponsored or cosponsored by CoMa at the annual meeting. This year we have 18 in total. Although geomorphology remains perhaps the best-represented geographic sub-field, other sessions focus on biogeography, GIS, climatology, hazards, and urban geography, and policy/planning issues can be found mixed throughout the offerings. We are also once again reaching beyond the AAG and co-sponsoring a series of sessions with the IGU Commission of Coastal Systems. CoMa appears to be fulfilling its promise as a specialty group that can cut across the traditional disciplinary divisions. But we still could have better representation from human geographers and need to encourage our colleagues with appropriate interests to seriously consider participating. Along with growth we have change. This year I will step down as chair of CoMa and pass the reins to Harry Jol. We will need to elect a new vice-chair at the business meeting this year to replace Harry. Also, Tom Allen's seat on the Board of Directors will need to be filled. Please plan on attending, as usual beverages will be provided. - Steve Namikas, Chair

News and Views from Members

The inaugural "Share-a-Thon" of the Tampa Bay Science Education Leadership Group (TBSELG) was held on Friday February 15, 2008, in the College of Marine Science at the University of South Florida, St. Petersburg campus. The Share-a-Thon was convened by Dr. Paula Coble (USF College of Marine Science), Ann Tihansky (USGS), Erica Moulton (St. Petersburg Pier Aquarium) and Ali Hudon (USF College of Marine Science).

The meeting brought together more than 45 people from various agencies involved with environmental education and outreach (E&O) in the Tampa Bay region.

The purpose of this initial Share-a-Thon was to meet other E&O professionals and compile environmental education resources/programs (particularly those regarding Tampa Bay and its associated watersheds) from local, state, and federal government agencies, non-profits, and the region's educational institutions. The meeting featured presentations on the E&O programs of the USF College of Marine Science, local/state/federal government and government-funded E&O programs, place-based science and environmental education groups, and community-based and non-profit groups.

The group identified some initial goals and encouraged networking among participants to leverage resources and identify potential areas of collaboration. The group also agreed to:

- develop a central on-line community calendar of regional E&O events and professional development opportunities;
- develop an e-mail listserv and/or an on-line blog to facilitate regular group communication;
- support the formation of a new hub in the Tampa Bay area of the Coalition on the Public Understanding of Science (COPUS <http://www.copusproject.org/>);
- re-convene in August 2008 at the headquarters of Tampa BayWatch, one of the many groups which participated in the Share-a-Thon, to report on progress and partnerships and identify future steps; and
- assemble a Transportation Task Force to address issues of transportation funding and availability for school field trips, E&O events, and summer camps.

For information on TBSELG, contact Ali Hudon, OMPL/ACT Education & Outreach Coordinator, at the USF College of Marine Science, (727) 553-1036 or ahudon@marine.usf.edu. – From Mark Hafen – University of South Florida

James Zoulas and Antony Orme of UCLA have recently published “Multidecadal-scale beach changes in the Zuma littoral cell, California” in *Physical Geography*, 28 (4), 2007, 277-300. The abstract and full text may be linked from <bellpub.com/phg> and reprints can be obtained from the authors (jzoulas@ucla.edu, orme@geog.ucla.edu). The paper, based mainly on remote sensing and GIS techniques, details beach changes from 1928 to 2002 in a small coastal cell which has suffered minimal human impact and whose sediment budget is constrained by flanking headlands and submarine canyons. The results suggest cyclic, decadal-scale responses to the Pacific Decadal Oscillation, with erosion occurring during warm phases and accretion during cool phases of the PDO. This work is part of a larger project on California coastal change involving scientists at the University of California, Los Angeles and Santa Cruz, and the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, with Gary Griggs and Antony Orme as principal investigators.

Nadine Schuurman is conducting a survey on the balance between work and life amongst academic geographers. This is an issue of interest to many of us as our lives are increasingly sped up - and our inboxes are permanently overflowing. Nadine is keen to discern what common threads link our experience of work and stress in our discipline. The survey is completely anonymous and has ethics approval. There are no personal identifiers and the results will be automatically collated. Nadine offers her thanks in advance for filling out the survey and requests that you do not hesitate to contact her with any questions.

<https://my.sfu.ca/cgi-bin/WebObjects/WebSurvey.woa/wa/survey?13373867>

To contact Dr. Schuurman:

**Nadine Schuurman, Associate Professor Geography, Simon Fraser University, www.sfu.ca/gis
nadine@sfu.ca ph: 778 782 3320**

Mark Monmonier has new book coming out in April. The title is *Coast Lines: How Mapmakers Frame the World and Chart Environmental Change*, and the publisher is the University of Chicago Press. The table of contents and some descriptive information are on their website, at:

<http://www.press.uchicago.edu/cgi-bin/hfs.cgi/00/270037.ctl>.

Dr. Monmonier looks at the emergence of four distinct cartographic coastlines: the visible high-water line, the low-water line used for hydrographic soundings, the storm surge line used for flood insurance and emergency planning, and the inherently uncertain sea level rise line. This book is written for a general audience and it combines relevant bits of maritime history with the history of technology, and integrates developments in mapping with issues in coastal hazards, coastal zone management, global warming, homeland security, the Law of the Sea, and marine navigation.

Please send announcements, updates, reports from the field, job listings, or anything else that might be of interest to the Editor (jueland@bemidjistate.edu). No need to wait, I'll file things for the August 2007 issue.

CoMa Guide to the Boston AAG Meeting

CoMa Sponsored or Co-sponsored Sessions

Tuesday

1608 Climate Change and Coastal Cities

is scheduled on Tuesday, 4/15/08, from 4:20 PM - 6:00 PM

Organizer(s): [Philip E. Steinberg](#) - Florida State University, [Beate M.W. Ratter](#) - University of Hamburg

Chair(s): [Philip E. Steinberg](#) - Florida State University

Wednesday

2147 Marine Geomorphology as a Determinant for Essential Life Habitat I: An Ecosystem Management Approach to Planning for Marine Reserve Networks

is scheduled on Wednesday, 4/16/08, from 8:00 AM - 9:40 AM

Organizer(s): [Dawn J. Wright](#) - Oregon State University, [William Heyman](#) - Texas A&M University

Chair(s): [William Heyman](#) - Texas A&M University

2247 Marine Geomorphology as a Determinant for Essential Life Habitat II: An Ecosystem Management Approach to Planning for Marine Reserve Networks

is scheduled on Wednesday, 4/16/08, from 10:10 AM - 11:50 AM

Organizer(s): [Dawn J. Wright](#) - Oregon State University, [William Heyman](#) - Texas A&M University

Chair(s): [Dawn J. Wright](#) - Oregon State University

2447 Marine Geomorphology as a Determinant for Essential Life Habitat III: An Ecosystem Management Approach to Planning for Marine Reserve Networks

is scheduled on Wednesday, 4/16/08, from 1:00 PM - 2:40 PM

Organizer(s): [Dawn J. Wright](#) - Oregon State University, [William Heyman](#) - Texas A&M University

Chair(s): [Dawn J. Wright](#) - Oregon State University

2547 Marine Geomorphology as a Determinant for Essential Life Habitat Panel

is scheduled on Wednesday, 4/16/08, from 3:10 PM - 4:50 PM

Organizer(s): [Dawn J. Wright](#) - Oregon State University, [William Heyman](#) - Texas A&M University

Chair(s): [William Heyman](#) - Texas A&M University

Thursday

3148 Coastal Environments I

is scheduled on Thursday, 4/17/08, from 8:00 AM - 9:40 AM

Organizer(s): [Steve Namikas](#) - Louisiana State University, [Jean Taylor Ellis](#) - NASA

Chair(s): [Jean Taylor Ellis](#) - NASA

3248 Coastal Environments II

is scheduled on Thursday, 4/17/08, from 10:10 AM - 11:50 AM

Organizer(s): [Steve Namikas](#) - Louisiana State University, [Jean Taylor Ellis](#) - NASA

Chair(s): [Paul A. Gares](#)

3448 Coastal Environments III

is scheduled on Thursday, 4/17/08, from 1:00 PM - 2:40 PM

Organizer(s): [Steve Namikas](#) - Louisiana State University, [Jean Taylor Ellis](#) - NASA

Chair(s): [Harry M. Jol](#) - University Of Wisconsin, Eau Claire

3548 Coastal Environments IV

is scheduled on Thursday, 4/17/08, from 3:10 PM - 4:50 PM

Organizer(s): [Steve Namikas](#) - Louisiana State University, [Jean Taylor Ellis](#) - NASA

Chair(s): [Mike Benedetti](#) - UNC Wilmington

3548 Coastal Environments IV

is scheduled on Thursday, 4/17/08, from 3:10 PM - 4:50 PM

Organizer(s): [Steve Namikas](#) - Louisiana State University, [Jean Taylor Ellis](#) - NASA

Chair(s): [Mike Benedetti](#) - UNC Wilmington

3648 Coastal Environments V

is scheduled on Thursday, 4/17/08, from 5:20 PM - 7:00 PM

Organizer(s): [Steve Namikas](#) - Louisiana State University, [Jean Taylor Ellis](#) - NASA

Chair(s): [Patrick A. Hesp](#) - Louisiana State University

3502 Hurricanes IV: Paleotempestology and Emerging Proxy Records

is scheduled on Thursday, 4/17/08, from 3:10 PM - 4:50 PM

Organizer(s): [Kam-Biu Liu](#) - Louisiana State University, [Harry Williams](#) - University of North Texas

Chair(s): [Lisa M. Kennedy](#) - Virginia Tech

3602 Hurricanes V: Paleotempestology and Climate Change

is scheduled on Thursday, 4/17/08, from 5:20 PM - 7:00 PM

Organizer(s): [Kam-Biu Liu](#) - Louisiana State University

Chair(s): [Harry Williams](#) - University of North Texas

Friday

4148 CoMa - Norbert Psuty Student Paper Competition I

is scheduled on Friday, 4/18/08, from 8:00 AM - 9:40 AM

Organizer(s): [Steve Namikas](#) - Louisiana State University

Chair(s): [Steve Namikas](#) - Louisiana State University

4248 CoMa - Norbert Psuty Student Paper Competition II

is scheduled on Friday, 4/18/08, from 10:10 AM - 11:50 AM

Organizer(s): [Steve Namikas](#) - Louisiana State University

Chair(s): [Steve Namikas](#) - Louisiana State University

4446 From GIS to Sustainable Development: GIS Challenges and Applications on Small Island Developing States

is scheduled on Friday, 4/18/08, from 2:30 PM - 4:10 PM

Organizer(s): [Reed Perkins](#)

Chair(s): [Reed Perkins](#)

4326 Remote Sensing and GIS for Coastal and Watershed Research

is scheduled on Friday, 4/18/08, from 12:20 PM - 2:00 PM

Organizer(s): [Xiaojun Yang](#) - Florida State University, [Luoheng Han](#) - Univ of Alabama

Chair(s): [Xiaojun Yang](#) - Florida State University

4546 Understanding coastal vulnerability to sea level rise and other hazards

is scheduled on Friday, 4/18/08, from 4:40 PM - 6:20 PM

Organizer(s): [Dean Gesch](#) - U.S. Geological Survey, [Benjamin Thomas Gutierrez](#) - United States Geological Survey

Chair(s): [Dean Gesch](#) - U.S. Geological Survey

CoMa Specialty Group Meeting

4738 Coastal and Marine Specialty Group Business Meeting

Friday, 4/18/08, from 8:15 PM - 9:15 PM

Norbert Psuty Student Paper Competition Details

Session 1

8:00 AM Author(s): *Laura Merner

Abstract Title: [Assessing Drivers of Bald-Cypress Mortality in Forested Wetlands of Louisiana](#)

8:20 AM Author(s): *Christopher Brehme - University at Buffalo

Abstract Title: [Biology, Boats, and Boundaries: predicting potential overlap of whales, lobster fishing gear and regulatory lines](#)

8:40 AM Author(s): *Dawn Gedenberg - Clark University

Abstract Title: [Demonstrating a Risk-Based Approach to Rapid Vulnerability Assessment in New England Fishing Communities](#)

9:00 AM Author(s): *Katherine Anne Renken - East Carolina University

Abstract Title: [Volumetric changes in the morphologic zones adjacent to inlets in microtidal barrier islands, Outer Banks, North Carolina](#)

9:20 AM Author(s): *James G Zoulas - University of California, Los Angeles

Abstract Title: [Management of Eroding Beaches: A Sisyphean Effort?](#)

Session 2

10:10 AM Author(s): *Rosana Grafals, Ph.D. student - Rutgers University

Abstract Title: [*The effect of location of remnant fences on vegetation and morphology of developed foredunes*](#)

10:30 AM Author(s): *Wansang Ryu - Texas A&M University, Douglas Sherman, Dr. - Texas A&M University

Abstract Title: [*Landscape ecology of coastal dune systems*](#)

10:50 AM Author(s): *Bailiang Li - Texas A&M University, Jean T Ellis - Texas A&M University, NASA

Eugene J Farrell - Texas A&M University, Douglas J Sherman - Texas A&M University

Abstract Title: [*Assessing the Vertical Distribution of Aeolian Saltation*](#)

11:10 AM Author(s): *Michael Potts - Texas A&M University-College Station

Abstract Title: [*Coasting to Destruction: LIDAR Assessment of American Seacliffs*](#)

Physical Geography Reception

There will be a physical geography reception again this year and CoMa contributed to this again this year. Below is some information about this year's event from Fritz Nelson.

(1) The 2008 reception will be held on Wednesday, 16 April 2008 in the Sheraton's Back Bay Ballroom A/B. The event is scheduled to run from 8pm until 11 pm. It's possible for us to extend until midnight if the libations hold out and people stay on. Beer (both domestic and imported) will be available in copious amounts, and soft drinks, juice and water will also be available.

(2) As has been the case since the first physical geography reception was held in 2004, there will be a slide show running throughout the event. This will be enhanced if all of the SGs contribute a few slides to the show. In the past, we've run slides about the groups, individual members, and previous or current winners of SG awards. All are welcome, please send to me no later than 10 April. If I don't get any slides from a SG, I will construct one to acknowledge support.

New Books, Chapters and Articles

Baker, G.S., and Jol, H.M., editors, 2007. Stratigraphic analyses using GPR. Geological Society of American Special Publication 432, 181 p.

Fisher, T.G., Loope, W.L., Pierce, W., and Jol, H.M, 2007. Big lake records in a little lake's sediment: an example from Silver Lake, Michigan, USA. *Journal of Paleolimnology*, 37:365-382. DOI 10.1007/s10933-0053-2

Peterson, C.C., Jol, H.M., and Percy, D., and Nielsen, E.L., 2007. Groudwater surface trends from ground penetrating radar (GPR) profiles taken across Late Holocene barriers and beach plains of the Columbia River littoral system, Pacific Northwest Coast, USA. *Geological Society of America Special Publication 432*: 59 - 76.

Raabe, E.A. and Bialkowska-Jelinska, E., 2007, Temperature Anomalies in the Lower Suwannee River and Tidal Creeks, Florida, 2005, U.S. Geologica Survey Open-File Report 2007-1311, available online at

<http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2007/1311/>

Raabe, E.A., Edwards, R.E., McIvor, C.C., Grubbs, J.W., and Dennis, G.D., 2007, Habitat and Hydrology: Assessing Biological Resources of the Suwannee River Estuarine System, U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 2007-1382, available online at <http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2007/1382/>

Slater, L., Comas, X., Reeves, A., and Jol, H., 2007. Surveying hydrology, ecology, and climate effects of Northern Peatlands - Peatlands geophysics workshop. EOS, Transactions of the American Geophysical Union, 88(42): 428.

Call for Award Nominations: The R. J. Russell Award

Nominations for the R.J. Russell Award should be directed to the Vice-Chair (Harry Jol, e-mail: jolhm@uwec.edu). Nominations for the award should be made at least 2 weeks prior to the annual AAG meeting (Monday March 31 this year). Beginning in 2004, the individual selected will receive the award at the next years annual meeting (e.g., the nominee selected in 2004 will receive the award in 2005).

This specialty group award is presented in recognition of an individual's major contributions to the field of coastal or marine geography. These contributions may be in research, teaching, public service, and/or to the specialty group.

Nominations are accepted from CoMa members, but nominees do not have to be members of either the specialty group or the AAG. Two nominations are required for consideration for the Award. At least one of the nominations must include a complete letter of nomination which will include a one paragraph letter describing the nominees contributions to the field of coastal or marine geography and/or to the special interest group and a list of the nominees relevant publications.

Further Award Information: http://aag_coma.homestead.com/files/russell_nom.html

Past R.J. Russell Awardees - see http://aag_coma.homestead.com/files/pastruss1.html

Background R.J. Russell - see http://aag_coma.homestead.com/files/russell.html

Deadline for nominations: Friday, April 11th