

From the Chair's Desk

Greetings Natural Resource RIG colleagues!

Happy fall folks, and welcome to the fall edition of the NRRG newsletter. In the following pages you will find scholarly updates and announcements, as well as professional opportunities. So set aside that R&R, close your office door, grab a hot cup of cider and...*open Facebook ("like" our new NRRG FB page...see below)??*

1. New Co-Chair! First order of business is welcoming our RIG's new co-chair Aby Sène-Harper! Aby took a strong hand in organizing this newsletter and below we've got a short bio where you can learn more about this up-and-coming scholar. Welcome Aby! We look forward to your contributions to the RIG.

2. New Graduate Student Representative. As a new first, our RIG now has its very first graduate student representative, Grace Wildermuth. Welcome Grace, you're breaking new ground! The new grad student position will be a **ONE-YEAR TERM**, and responsibilities are primarily social media related. We chose a one-year term in order to provide more opportunities for grad students to take advantage of this opportunity for networking and professional visibility. Interested in taking over for Grace in 2017? Nominate yourself during the 2017 RIG meeting in Columbus, Ohio.

3. NRRG is now on Facebook. As our RIG's new grad student rep., Grace's primary responsibility will be launching our RIG's new Facebook page, with the aim of increasing visibility and utility of our RIG as well as providing our members with updates and information during the RSS conference regarding social gatherings, NRRG related presentations, and other emergent NRRG related details. See Grace's post below on how we envision this all working, and on why you're going to want to "like" this page.

4. 2016 RSS recap. The 2016 RSS meetings were a great success for our RIG. The NRRG sponsored 10 paper/panel sessions! We also hosted a packed business meeting, hosted

Rural Sociological Society Natural Resources Research Group Newsletter

Fall 2016

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by our now chair emeritus Jessica Ulrich-Shad. Let's thank Jessica for her service to the RIG—and I want to thank her personally for welcoming me into the RIG and holding my hand as co-chair. I want to emulate this spirit in my tenure as chair, with the specific aim of introducing our RIG to graduate students, undergrads, and others who still ask, what exactly is a RIG?

5. What's a RIG? Why join a RIG you ask? Well, it's cheap—a mere ten dollars to be precise! Okay, for those of you that remain unconvinced by econometric arguments, let's turn to two NRRG “elders”, Richard Stedman and Douglas Jackson-Smith, both of who voiced their responses to this question at the 2016 NRRG business meeting in Toronto. Why join our RIG you ask? For Rich, RIGs *“Make the society smaller, more personal. Here you can share and learn, and being part of the RIG makes what seems like a large and impersonal professional meeting feel much more down to hearth.”* Doug pointed out that RIGs like NRRG organize sessions and generate momentum within the larger society, calling them the *“lifeblood of RSS!”* Let's keep this message going and continue to embolden our RIG by adding new members that may still be unaware.

6. Recognition of 2016 NEEG award winners. I also want to again spotlight (what we first announced in the Summer 2016 newsletter) the winners of our three prestigious NRRG awards. Dr. Courtney Flint of Utah State University was awarded the **2016 William R. Freudenberg NRRIG Award of Merit**; Patrick Trent Greiner at the University of Oregon was awarded the **NRRG's 2016 Graduate Student Paper Award**; and Annabel Ipsen of University of Wisconsin-Madison received the **2016 Travel Award**. See details on all of these award winners below.

Also, please note that it is now the policy of our NRRG that previous year's award winners will assist the chair and co-chair in reviewing awards submission materials for the following year. We are aiming to increase the number of RIG members, and, consequently, need help reviewing what we hope to be a larger number of applicants.

7. Looking ahead—RSS 2017 in Columbus, OH. Finally, I want to draw attention to the upcoming 2017 RSS Annual Meeting in Columbus, Ohio. In a meeting of all RIG chairs at the 2016 meeting, Jeff Sharp of The Ohio State University and member of the 2017 conference's “host committee” expressed his aim for a “high energy and ambitious meeting in order to increase attendance”. I like the sound of this, and wanted to get the ball rolling by turning attention to things we can start working on together, including *identifying popular and successful fieldtrips, social gatherings, and provocative and inspiring sessions.*

So, to get the 2017 conference “on the radar”, consider the following fieldtrips we briefly brainstormed at the RIG chairs meeting – fieldtrips that have traditionally been organized in conjunction with other RIGs:

1. *Amish country and natural resource tour angle. I.e., working with Amish for watershed issues, Natural Resource mgmt., Wooster and Holmes County?*
2. *Unconventional gas drilling is another possible tour. Coal country in Appalachia community impacts. Mining restoration can happen too?*

3. *Rural drug problems in Appalachia, have discussions around this, Ohio University, Athens can host this, explore drug epidemic?*
4. *Columbus neighborhoods, migrants, migration streams into Ohio. Urban food systems, local food system. North Market?*
5. *Canoeing is established in the areas? Go outside the city. River restoration is key for educational aspect.*

During this meeting we also discussed reaching out explicitly to Extension and sociologists with Extension appointments in order to better represent applied research and activities. There are many rural sociologists, for example, in Extension or with part-time Extension appointments. Increasing the role of Extension seems especially relevant considering our RIG's focus on natural resources. Let's start by brainstorming, how can our RIG reach out to bolster Extension representation and visibility?

The 2017 annual meeting also offers numerous possibilities for a "social night" for our RIG. So everyone, what interest is there in having our RIG's business meeting, for instance, "off campus"? Jeff Sharp has ideas for making this happen. Other RIGs (i.e., SAFRIG) have organized events such as this and solicited nominal fees in advance in order to make them a success.

In short, while these sorts of "extras" were challenging in Toronto due to overlap with IRSA, Columbus 2017 appears to offer a host of great opportunities. Aby, Grace and I will be reaching out to the group for additional ideas, feedback on these suggestions and more in early 2017.

Finally, be sure to scroll through the entire newsletter to take note of member's recent publications as well as employment, fellowship, and assistantship opportunities.

Cheers,
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Notes from the Co-Chair and Graduate Student Representative

This new section of our RIG's fall newsletter features introductions to both the incoming Co-Chair and Graduate Student Representative.

Introducing the 2016-2017 Co-Chair:

My name is Aby Sène-Harper and I am the co-chair of the RSS-NRRG for this academic year. I successfully defended my dissertation at Texas A&M University and will receive my Ph.D. in December 2016. My advisor is Dr. David Matarrita-Cascante who is also a member of this group.

I was born in Sénégal and was raised in 5 different countries (Sénégal, Niger, Mali, Burkina Faso and Ghana) in West Africa. I have visited and lived in many rural communities in African and Latin American countries. These experiences have profoundly shaped my perspectives on rural development and natural resource management in developing countries. Broadly speaking, my work seeks to understand the interactions between social and economic processes at various levels (i.e. household, community, regional), the natural environment and rural livelihoods systems in developing countries. I study these issues within their cultural and political-economic contexts. My dissertation focused on the social and environmental outcomes and prospects of the integrated management plan of a transboundary protected area in the countries of Sénégal and Mauritania.

I am very excited to be part of this group. I have been a member of RSS since 2012, when my advisor first introduced me to the organization. I have enjoyed attending the conferences and meeting this passionate and wonderful community of scholars. I look forward to being more involved with the various RSS committees and serving the NRRG.

All the best,
Aby Sène-Harper

Introducing the 2016-2017 Graduate Student Representative:

My name is Grace Wildermuth and I am a second year Masters student in the Rural Sociology program in the Department of Agricultural Economics, Sociology, and Education at the Pennsylvania State University. I am a dual-title student in the Human Dimensions of Natural Resources and the Environment program and am advised by Dr. Kathy Brasier. My research interests include community impacts of energy development and natural resource governance. I attended my first RSS annual meeting this past year in Toronto, and am excited to serve as NRRG's first graduate student representative. I'm looking forward to connecting with all of you and learning from my NRRG colleagues!

Best,
Grace Wildermuth
Link to my website: <http://aese.psu.edu/directory/gvw5117>

Announcing the new Natural Resource RIG Facebook Page!

Are you on Facebook? Search "RSS Natural Resource RIG" and "Like" our page or visit <https://www.facebook.com/NRRIG/> to stay up to date on RIG news and share relevant information with other members. We hope that a Facebook page will be a fast, easy, and accessible resource for information-sharing between NRRG members, quick dissemination of updates from the RIG leadership, and for reaching new audiences interested in joining our RIG. Feel free to post on the page with relevant job openings, new publications by RIG members, or other relevant information.

The new Facebook page will be managed and monitored by the NRRG Graduate Student Representative. The site is open to the public and anyone can “like” to follow and/or post. Please use this page to post information about: natural resource-related job openings and meetings or conferences, new publications by RIG members, and any information that other RIG members might find useful or interesting. As the grad student rep, I will be sure to share announcements about RSS, RIG meetings and field trips, newsletter information, and updates about RIG leadership positions, scholarships, and awards. If you have feedback or ideas on our new social media adventure, please feel free to email me at gvw5117@psu.edu.

Happy posting!
Grace Wildermuth

Member Announcements

We have a number of professional announcements that members have shared with us that we would like to share with the RIG. If you have announcements you would like to share with the group (e.g., promotions, awards, etc.) please email Wes (wesdrm@gmail.com) or Aby (abysene1@tamu.edu)

Note from Conner Bailey, Professor Emeritus, Auburn University. cbailey@ag.auburn.edu

There have been dramatic changes in timberland ownership in the U.S. in the past twenty years as corporations in the forest products industry have divested themselves of approximately 50 million acres of land. The primary purchasers of these lands have been Timber Investment Management Organizations and Real Estate Investment Trusts. The change in ownership has important implications for how timber is managed but does not fundamentally change the corporate and consolidated nature of ownership. Andrew Gunnoe, currently at Maryville College in Tennessee, spent two years at Auburn as a post-doc working with Conner Bailey and assembled a database of all timberland owners in each of Alabama’s 67 counties. This took the better part of a year to accomplish. The data have been summarized and are presented on an Auburn University website (<http://aers.auburn.edu/conner-bailey/alabama-timberland/>) showing for each county the names of the top owners of timberland, what percent of total timberland in each county that individually and collectively they own, what percent of all timberland is absentee owned, and what percentage is in holdings of over 1,000 acres. Approximately 70 percent of Alabama is in timberland and the top 30 ownership entities control over 20 percent of that land. Absentee ownership accounts for 59 percent of the total. Alabama has the lowest property taxes in the nation and the motive behind making these data readily available to the public is to provide data to help inform ongoing debate about the state’s highly regressive tax system, which relies heavily on sales taxes which include sales taxes on food. In sociological terms, these data may support the view that Alabama, like

Appalachia, is an internal colony where wealth has been extracted to distant corporate and financial centers. This work in Alabama was inspired by the landmark 1983 study of the Appalachian Land Ownership Task Force (*Who Owns Appalachia? Landownership and its Impact*) and similar but as yet too few similar studies.

Note from Grace Wildermuth & Elisabeth Garner, Co-Chairs, 4th Annual Rural Studies Student Conference "Reconceptualizing Rural Contexts" at Penn State's University Park campus October 28th & 29th, 2016

On October 28th and 29th, 2016 Penn State's Rural Sociology Graduate Association hosted the 4th Annual Rural Studies Student Conference at Penn State's University Park campus. The conference provided workshops, keynote presentations, paper sessions, and networking opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students from Penn State and other institutions. We are excited to announce that this year's conference nearly doubled its previous attendance. We had over 75 people register, from 10 different schools and organizations, with representatives from more than 15 departments and programs across the Penn State campus.

Presentations featured work on theory, methods and data, and included both domestic and international research on rural topics from many disciplines. Dr. Jennifer Sherman from Washington State University presented a keynote talk on Friday titled "Tipping the Scales: Social Change and the Growth of Inequality in the Amenity-Rich West". Saturday's keynote was delivered by Dr. Kimberly Pfeifer from Oxfam America and was titled "Globally Mapping Food Systems: What it Reveals and Misses." Paper session topics included Innovations in International Agriculture, Understanding Rural Experiences Near & Far, Modernization & Growth in International Development, Labor & Livelihoods, Growing US Local Food Systems, and Space, Place, and Race. Natural resources were a central focus of this year's conference. In addition to Dr. Sherman's keynote address, we had several natural-resource focused student presentations on a range of topics from perceptions of risk in the Bakken Shale to indigenous peoples' access to forest resources in Peru. New to this year's conference schedule were workshops. The "Ethical Considerations in Research" workshop featured an expert panel that included our two keynote speakers, as well as Dr. Rob Chiles and Dr. Kathy Brasier from Penn State's Rural Sociology program, and broke out into group discussions where participants shared experiences and grappled with some of the many complex ethical considerations in social science research.

The success of this year's conference is due to the quality of the research presented by both graduate and undergraduate students, the expertise provided by keynote speakers and panel members, the feedback provided by those who attended the conference, and the support of many different individuals and departments across the Penn State campus. Our own Department of Agricultural Economics, Sociology, and Education was a top sponsor for the event and provided additional support from the faculty, staff, and students that was instrumental in planning and organizing this event. We are also thankful for critical sponsorships from Penn State's Schreyer Honors College, the Social Science Research Institute, the Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, the Rock Ethics Institute, and the Social Science Research Institute. Our keynote speakers were sponsored

by the University Park Allocation Committee and the Office of International Programs in the College of Agricultural Sciences. The generous support from these sponsors allowed us to make this year's event free to all attendees, aiding our goal to make this event a welcoming and accessible opportunity for all students to get feedback on their work, network with other students, and learn about the diversity of exciting research happening on rural topics.

It has been rewarding to be a part of the tremendous growth of this conference. We look forward to seeing this continue in the future and have been happy to be a part of the tradition.

NRRIG 2016 Award Winners!

These award announcements were initially reported in our 2016 summer BONUS newsletter – and we are posting them once again here in order to promote the awards and entice early submissions for 2017 awards.

NRRIG William R. Freudenburg Award of Merit

The 2016 NRRIG William R. Freudenburg Award of Merit has been awarded to Courtney G. Flint at Utah State University. In the words of Douglas Jackson-Smith who led the charge to nominate her:

“Dr. Flint has made exceptional contributions to the sociology of natural resources and has established herself as a preeminent scholar of community-natural resources relationships.

Dr. Flint's research has focused on social aspects of complex coupled human-natural systems. She has worked across a variety of natural resource domains (agriculture, forests, lakes/rivers/water, and wildlife), done research both in the US and abroad, and consistently brings strong social science theory and methods to interdisciplinary teams working on resource management puzzles.

Dr. Flint's level of research productivity is extremely impressive: at this midpoint of her career, she has already published over 40 peer reviewed articles (several of which have been cited more than 20 times) and 4 book chapters, has received grants worth over \$3 million, is a co-leader of a \$20 million project in Utah, and is a co-PI on a NSF NRT project (worth \$3 million) that is in the final review stage. Her reputation as a sociologist of natural resources is extremely strong and growing, as exemplified by her numerous invitations to give lectures at universities across the US and Internationally.

She has been an extremely effective teacher and mentor to both undergraduate and graduate students (first at the University of Illinois, and since 2012 at Utah State University). She is passionate about issues of social justice and inclusion in her own work and that of her students.

As a colleague who has had the opportunity to overlap with her for a few years (at USU), I have been impressed by the rigor and professionalism of her work, and her unique ability to inspire and motivate students to pursue meaningful research on social aspects of natural resource puzzles.

Finally, it is worth noting that she has for many years been a stalwart participant and supporter of the NRRIG and RSS – playing leadership roles as an elected council member, membership committee chair, and chair of the NRRIG.”

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Flint on joining this impressive list of scholars that we are proud to have as members of our RIG!

Past recipients:

1983 Walter I. Firey
1984 William R. Burch, Jr.
1985 William R. Catton, Jr. & Riley E. Dunlap
1986 Denton E. Morrison
1987 Donald R. Field
1988 Rabel J. Burdge
1989 Ted L. Napier
1990 Paul Myers
1992 William R. Freudenburg
1993 Wade H. Andrews
1994 Richard S. Krannich
1995 Nancy Lee Peluso
1996 Bonnie McKay
1997 Peter R. Sinclair
1998 Roy E. Rickson
1999 Frederick H. Buttell
2000 A. E. Luloff
2001 Thomas A. Heberlein
2002 Conner Bailey
2003 Louise Fortman
2004 Peter J. Nowak
2005 Bob Gramling
2007 Matthew S. Carroll
2008 Steve Brechin
2009 Tom Rudel
2010 Shirley Laska
2013 Douglas Jackson-Smith
2014 Richard Clark Stedman
2016 Courtney Flint

NRRG Graduate Student Paper Award

The 2016 NRRIG Graduate Student Paper Award has been awarded to Patrick Trent Greiner at the University of Oregon for his paper titled “Social Drivers of Water Utility Privatization in the United States: An Examination of the Presence of Variegated Neoliberal Strategies in the Water Utility Sector.” Patrick presented this paper in Toronto, 2016.

Paper Abstract: This study uses a logistic regression analysis to investigate the social drivers of water utility privatization in the United States at the local level. In order to do so I combine data gathered from the Environmental Protection Agency’s 2012 Safe Drinking Water Information System database and use it in conjunction with the U.S. census’s 2008–12 county-level demographic estimates. I use a logistic regression analysis in order to examine the relationship between theoretically relevant social factors and the probability of a privately owned or operated water system being located within a community. Key findings suggest that water utility privatization in the United States follows the logic of a variegated neoliberalism and constitutes a form of environmental injustice.

NRRIG Graduate Student Travel Award

The 2016 NRRIG travel grant has been awarded to Annabel Ipsen at the University of Wisconsin-Madison who will be presenting her paper titled “Dimensions of power in regulatory regime selection: shopping, shaping, and staying.” Annabel presented this paper in Toronto, 2016.

Paper Abstract: This paper investigates the process through which transnational firms select sites for their research and development operations. I build a framework to understand how firms’ localization strategies account for local regulatory regimes and respond to community resistance, questions that are central to debates on environmental governance. My account is based on a multi-sited ethnography of two research and development hubs for the U.S. corn seed market. The genetically modified (GM) corn seed industry is an important case because firms’ competitiveness hinges on staying in particular environments, rendering them somewhat place-bound—which may be used by communities and local governments as a negotiating tool for better environmental arrangements. I compare two extreme cases of firms’ localization strategies – one (Hawaii) in which firms are confronted by local actors who question the safety of GM crops; and another (Puerto Rico) in which firms are lauded as economic engines of development. My work shows that firms must balance a site’s natural resource endowments with its sociopolitical and regulatory context to be successful. In contrast to theoretical approaches that view firms’ localization as a single moment of decision-making, I conceptualize localization as a dynamic, multistep process of negotiating a regulatory regime with local actors and institutions – not just shopping for the right environment, but shaping it, and actively taking actions to stay there. In proposing a power-sensitive approach to location and regulation theory, my work takes socio-historical patterns of inequality into consideration, contributing to our understanding of how corporate localization strategies affect local environmental governance.

Updated Award Guidelines

Thanks again to Rich Stedman and Becky Schewe for updating our award guidelines! Please see below for the newly updated calls that will go into effect in 2017. Also note previous year's award winners are now being asked to serve, along side our RIG's chairs, as reviewers for the following year's submissions. Note also, award winners are expected to attend the annual meeting as well as the NRRIG business meeting. Paper award winners are also expected to present their winning paper at the annual meeting.

NRRIG William R. Freudenburg Award of Merit

The William R. Freudenburg Award of Merit is presented to recognize exceptional contributions to the sociology of natural resources and the environment. The award is given to recognize an outstanding legacy / collective body of work that has demonstrably impacted natural resources and environmental sociology.

Recipients will have the following qualifications: outstanding research and scholarship as evidenced not solely by numbers of publications, but their impact: simply put, we are looking for recipients who *have substantively affected the trajectory of thinking within natural resources and environmental sociology*. Such impact may also be evidenced via application of work beyond the academy, such as work with a natural resources agency, organization, or other partnerships. Other contributions to the NRRIG or sociology of natural resources and environment, such as an outstanding legacy of outreach, graduate student mentorship, and/or instruction are also envisioned as important criteria for consideration.

Nominees are not required to be present or past members of the NRRIG.

To nominate someone please submit 1) up to three letters of nomination that clearly explain the reasons for considering the nomination and the nominee's contribution to the sociology of natural resources and environment, as well as 2) a current copy of the nominee's CV. Additional supporting materials may be sent, but are not required. Nomination materials must be submitted to the NRRIG chair by June 1 of the year of application.

NRRIG Graduate Student Travel Scholarship

The NRRIG Graduate Student Travel Scholarship is intended to support graduate student participation at the RSS annual meetings.

The recipient will be reimbursed for the student (member) registration cost for the RSS annual meeting (\$125).

There is a two-step process for submission: 1) Submit an abstract to present an oral presentation in the area of environmental or natural resources sociology at the annual

meeting; 2) submit a cover letter to the NRRG chair by June 1 of the year of application. Cover letters will be reviewed based on need (i.e., does the student have alternative funding sources via his/her department or advisor), and importance of the meeting to the student's career trajectory. Abstracts will be evaluated based on relevance, innovation, and/or potential contribution to the NRRIG.

NRRIG Graduate Student Paper Award

The Natural Resources Research Interest Group (NRRIG) of the Rural Sociological Society is soliciting submissions for a graduate student paper award in the area environmental or natural resources sociology. The paper should be related to the broad interests of the NRRIG. Current graduate students and recent graduates (who receive their degrees no earlier than May of the year of award) may apply.

Coauthored papers are acceptable, including those co-authored with faculty. If co-authored, the applicant (a) must be the lead author of the manuscript, and (b) provide a statement detailing the relative contributions of each co-author.

The recipient will receive a monetary prize of at least \$100 (final amount TBD based on NRRIG budget) to defray the cost of attending the Annual Meetings of RSS. The recipient will also be recognized at the NRRIG business meeting.

There is a two-step process for submission: 1) Submit an abstract to present the paper at the 2016 meeting; 2) Send an electronic copy of the full paper with contact information to the NRRIG chair by June 1 of the year of application; and (3) if co-authored, provide a statement detailing the relative contributions of each co-author.

The paper submission should not exceed 35 double-spaced pages (including all tables, graphs, and references) in a standard font (12 point). The winner will be selected by a committee of NRRIG members and notified by July 1 of the year of application.

Papers will be evaluated using the following criteria:

1. Advancement of knowledge in the area environmental or natural resources sociology.
2. Significance of the topic for the NRRG of the Rural Sociological Society.
3. Quality and implementation of the research, theory, and argument.
4. Analysis and interpretation of the findings.
5. Clarity and organization of the writing.

Upcoming Meetings

DOPE 2017 - Seventh Annual Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference

February 24 – 25, 2017

University of Kentucky (Lexington, Kentucky, USA)

The University of Kentucky Political Ecology Working Group invites you to participate in the seventh annual Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference (DOPE), taking place February 24-25, 2017, in Lexington, Kentucky, USA. DOPE has become a key international forum for graduate students and faculty at all stages in their careers, fostering critical interdisciplinary discussion of urgent topics including: rural social movements; food systems; complexity in ecological and social systems; decolonization, knowledge, and difference; science and technology studies; neoliberal natures and climate justice; and feminist political ecologies, among many more. Over 300 scholars, activists, and environmental professionals attended DOPE 2016, representing dozens of disciplines and more than 100 institutions spread over four continents.

Call for Organized Sessions

The DOPE Organizers ***strongly encourage*** participants to organize their own sessions, or to join sessions organized by other participants, rather than submit individual 'orphan' papers.

Draft a Call for Papers (CFP). For guidance, reference the wide variety of CFPs from previous DOPE conferences, available via our [website](#).

1. Email your CFP to the DOPE Organizers at ukpewg@gmail.com. You should distribute it among your colleagues and to relevant listservs.
2. Conference registration will open in October 2016. All participants in your session must have registered and paid by the final registration deadline (**December 1, 2016**). As such, we suggest that you establish a session deadline of **November 24** or earlier.

Individual Abstracts

We strongly encourage participants to submit abstracts in response to CFPs being circulated (follow listservs and check our [website](#) for new CFPs); however, we will accept individual abstracts. Abstracts submitted to the conference individually rather than in response to specific CFPs will be sorted thematically, and **cannot be guaranteed placement** in the conference schedule.

Abstracts or proposals should be no more than 300 words in length and include titles and three to five keywords. Please submit only one abstract to ukpewg@gmail.com. The deadline for abstract submissions is the conference registration deadline (**December 1, 2016**).

Registration

Registration will be linked from our [website](#) **starting in October 2016, and ending December 1, 2016, with no extensions**. The conference registration fee is \$45 for graduate students, and \$90 for faculty and non-academics. There is no fee for undergraduate participants. All University of Kentucky students register for free. Follow us on Twitter at @ukpewg or on Facebook as the University of Kentucky Political Ecology Working Group. Visit our website www.politicecology.org. Please send any questions to the DOPE Organizers at ukpewg@gmail.com.

National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center – Graduate Student Workshop

Applications are now being accepted for the fourth Graduate Student Workshop on Socio-Environmental Synthesis, hosted by the [National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center \(SESYNC\)](#) in Annapolis, Maryland from **March 7-10, 2017**. As part of this highly interactive workshop, graduate students from across disciplines and from around the world will participate in sessions and activities designed to encourage interdisciplinary collaboration, team formation, and scientific proposal development while also building a variety of other skills crucial to the success of socio-environmental synthesis, including team leadership, effective communication, and incorporating diverse data types.

First and second-year doctoral students from social, natural, and computational sciences with strong interests in and potential for synthesis-based research are encouraged to apply by **January 13, 2017**. Please visit the Workshop's [opportunity page](#) for more information.

ISSRM (International Symposium on Society and Resource Management) June 19-22, 2017 in Umeå, Sweden <http://www.iasnr.org>

AESS 2017 (Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences) June 21-24, Tuscon, AZ <https://aessonline.org/2017-conference/>

Energy Impacts, Ohio State University. July 26-27, 2017. Columbus OH <http://www.energyimpacts.org/symposium>

RSS (Rural Sociological Society) August 2017. Columbus OH <http://www.ruralsociology.us/>

Member's Recent Publications

Journal articles

McIver, Chelsea P.; Metcalf, Alexander, Dodson, Elizabeth. 2016. Making Every Dollar Count: Leveraging federal investments in land management to benefit local communities. *Rural Connections*, Fall 2016: 21-24.

Kantamneni, Abhilash, Richelle L. Winkler, Luchia Gauchia, and Joshua M. Pearce. 2016. Emerging Economic Viability of Grid Defection in a Northern Climate Using Solar Hybrid Systems. *Energy Policy* 95: 378-389.

Wilke, A.K. & Morton, L.W. 2016. Analog years: Connecting climate science and agricultural tradition to better manage landscapes of the future. *Climate Risk Management*. Doi: 10.1016/j.crm.2016.10.001 <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2212096316300808>

- Evensen, D., and R.C. Stedman. 2016. Scale matters: Variation in perceptions of shale gas development across national, state, and local levels. *Energy Research and Social Science* 20:14-21.
- Stedman, R.C., D. Evensen, S. O'Hara, and M. Humphrey. 2016. Comparing the Relationship between Knowledge and Support for Hydraulic Fracturing between Residents of the United States and the United Kingdom. *Energy Research and Social Science* 20:142-148.
- Stedman, R.C. Subjectivity and social-ecological systems: A rigidity trap (and sense of place as a way out). 2016. *Sustainability Science* 11(6):891-901.
- Clarke, C., D. Budgen, P.S. Hart, R.C. Stedman, J. Jacquet, D. Evensen, and H. Boudet. 2016. How geographic distance and political ideology interact to influence public perception of unconventional oil/natural gas development. *Energy Policy* 97:301-309.
- Dayer, A., R.C. Stedman, S. Allred, K. Rosenberg, and A. Fuller. 2016. Understanding landowner intentions to create early successional forest habitat in the northeastern United States. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 40(1):59-68.
- Heck, N., T.B. Lauber, and R.C. Stedman. 2016. Management responses to the spread of aquatic invasive species and pathogens by bait dealers and anglers: An application of the Driver-Pressure-Response model. *Ocean and Coastal Management* 132:38-45.
- Dayer, A.A., A. D. Rodewald, R.C. Stedman, and E.A. Cosbar. 2016. The discrepancy between mission statement content analysis and perceived wildlife conservation impacts of land trusts. *Environmental Management* 58(2): 359-364.
- Heck, N., R. C. Stedman, and M. Gaden. 2016. Human dimensions information needs of fishery managers in the Laurentian Great Lakes. *Journal of Great Lakes Research*.42(2):319-327.
- Connelly, N., T.B. Lauber, R.C. Stedman, and B.A. Knuth. 2016. The role of anglers in preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species in the Great Lakes region. *Journal of Great Lakes Research*. 42(3): 703-707.
- Heck, N., R.C. Stedman, and M. Gaden. 2016. Indicators to evaluate the social dimensions of the recreational fishery in the Great Lakes. *North American Journal of Fisheries Management* 36(3): 477-484
- Sherren, K., T.M Beckley, J.R Parkins, R.C Stedman, K. Keilty, and I. Morin. 2016. Learning (or living) to love the landscapes of hydroelectricity in Canada: Eliciting local perspectives on the Mactaquac Dam via headpond boat tours. *Energy Research and Social Science* 14:102-110
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Employment Opportunities

Environmental Science - Tenure-Track Positions
Rowan University

The School of Earth & Environment at Rowan University is seeking candidates to fill two tenure-track positions in the forming Department of Environmental Science. We seek

outstanding candidates who hold a Ph.D. in Environmental Science or a closely related discipline. Successful candidates are expected to develop and maintain an active, highly visible, extramurally funded research program with outstanding scholarship and to demonstrate excellence in teaching and mentoring both graduate and undergraduate students. We seek candidates who have a big picture, global focus -- established international collaborations are a plus. The areas of expertise are open, however, we have particular interests in applicants engaged in the following research: Climate Change, Atmospheric Chemistry and Air Quality, Biogeochemical Cycles, Ecosystem/Human System Interactions, Environmental Technology, Natural Disaster Reduction, Water and Watersheds Research, Risk Assessment, and Environmental Sustainability in its many aspects. Scholars hired in the School of Earth & Environment will have superior communication skills and will have demonstrated a deep commitment to sharing their science with the public. We are seeking agents of change, and a willingness to work with governments, NGOs, and industry to solve real-world problems is desired.

Associate/Full Professor, Environmental Science (Tenured) – The successful candidate will have an established record of external funding, a strong publication history, must be a recognized authority in his or her field, and must possess a demonstrated commitment to public outreach. The successful candidate will assume the role of Chair of the Department, pending faculty vote in accordance with university and union policy. Administrative experience in various forms will be considered.

Assistant Professor, Environmental Science (Tenure-Track) – The successful candidate will hold a Ph.D. by Sept. 1, 2017 and will have demonstrated early success at research and publication. Postdoctoral experience is a plus. A commitment to excellence in teaching and to communicating science to the public is a necessity.

Rowan University is a comprehensive state-designated research institution with approximately 16,000 students. Its main campus is located in Glassboro, N.J., 20-miles southeast of Philadelphia. Philadelphia International Airport is 30 minutes away, and New York and Washington, DC are easily accessible by train from 30th Street Station. The Rowan Fossil Quarry (www.rowan.edu/fossils), located only 4 miles from campus, is closely associated with the School of Earth & Environment and provides unique research opportunities and teaching resources to faculty members and students. Rowan's main campus is located on the Atlantic Coastal Plain, which contains many coastal and terrestrial ecosystems, as well as considerable urban development. The Piedmont and Appalachian provinces are 20 minutes and 1 hour away, respectively. The Atlantic coast and the Delaware Bay estuary are within an hour's drive.

Applications for must be submitted through our online applicant tracking system.

- Submit application for Associate/Full Professor at <http://rowanuniversity.hodesiq.com/job-details.aspx?jobid=5352641>.
- Submit application for Assistant Professor at <http://rowanuniversity.hodesiq.com/job-details.aspx?jobid=5352629>

Please submit a single PDF that includes the following items in the order listed: letter of interest, curriculum vitae, a description of research agenda including potential funding mechanisms, and graduate transcripts (copies acceptable). Three letters of recommendation should be sent via email directly to earth@rowan.edu<mailto:earth@rowan.edu>. To ensure full consideration, please submit your application by Friday, December 9th, 2016.

Rowan University values diversity and is committed to equal opportunity in employment.

All positions are contingent upon budget appropriations.

Opportunities for Grad Students

New NSF Funded Interdisciplinary Graduate Training Program on Climate Adaptation Science at Utah State University

Applications are welcome for the new graduate training program in climate adaptation science at Utah State University. This NSF funded National Research Traineeship program will train masters and PhD students in interdisciplinary science, management, and policy related to climate adaptation in threatened landscapes in the Intermountain West. NRRG member Dr. Courtney Flint is a Co-PI on this grant and will co-lead the studio course for the program. Home departments for trainees can include biology, wildland resources, climatology, sociology, environment and society, watershed science, mathematics and beyond. Novel components of this program include a two-summer internship sequence and short courses in informatics, climate modeling, risk assessment, science communication, and more. For more information, see a related news article at

<http://www.usu.edu/today/index.cfm?id=56199&nl=487> and the program website at <https://climateadaptation.usu.edu>. Contact Courtney Flint for more information (courtney.flint@usu.edu).

Graduate student research assistantship environmental sociology South Dakota State University, Brookings

Prospective PhD students interested in research on sociology of the environment and natural resources are invited to apply to the department of Sociology and Rural Studies at South Dakota State University for the academic year starting in August 2017. If accepted to the PhD program, applicants will be eligible for a graduate student research assistantship for work on a United State Department of Agriculture Coordinated Agricultural Project (USDA-CAP) grant on enhancing food security and farm production with integrated crop-livestock production systems. As part of the social science team for this project, research assistants will help with collection of survey and focus group data, analysis of data, and writing and dissemination of results. The position includes up to three years of monthly stipends and graduate tuition as well as paid travel to present related work at academic conferences.

The ideal candidate for the assistantship has a well-developed interest in environmental research questions, and an interest in agriculture and conservation in particular, a master's degree in sociology or a similar field, and experience with survey methods and statistical analysis. Experience with qualitative individual and focus group interviewing is also desirable. Excellent verbal and written communication skills and strong interpersonal skills are required.

The PhD program in Sociology prepares students for careers in teaching, research, and applied Sociology. Our program provides a solid grounding in the core areas of sociological theory and both qualitative and quantitative methods as well as advanced coursework in the areas of population, community and environment, and diversity and social justice studies. In addition to coursework, students participate in an intensive practice experience either in teaching sociology, applied research, or in a field setting. Students choosing a research-focused practice experience work with faculty to design and implement studies, collect and analyze data, and develop and present on results.

After application and acceptance into the SDSU Sociology and Rural Studies PhD program, please submit the following in a single PDF file to Dr. Jessica Schad at jessica.schad@sdstate.edu before March 15th, 2017 to express your interest in the research assistantship:

- Cover letter describing your relevant experience and scholarly interests.
- Curriculum vitae.
- One or two relevant publications or a writing sample.

For more information on our PhD program and application instructions, please visit our website (<https://www.sdstate.edu/sociology-rural-studies/sociology-phd>) or contact our graduate program coordinator, Dr. Meredith Redlin Meredith.redlin@sdstate.edu.

Graduate fellowships available at Ohio State University

Please consider or forward this announcement to prospective graduate students as appropriate regarding an opportunity for Master's or Ph.D. level studies in Rural Sociology and associated fields of sociological inquiry, including Environmental/Natural Resource Sociology, Sociology of Agriculture/Food Systems, Community Development and Development Sociology. The Rural Sociology specialization in the School of Environment and Natural Resources at Ohio State University is seeking high quality applicants for several academic fellowship opportunities. Qualified students may also be considered for teaching and research associateships depending on school and faculty needs.

Fellowship awards are for one and possibly multiple years include stipend, tuition and fees. Additional opportunities for support exist as teaching or research associateships. Fellowship awards are available beginning in Fall 2017. To be considered for a fellowship, applications for graduate study and all required materials must be received no later than January 1st, 2017. Contact our graduate program staff at ENRGrad@osu.edu for guidance

regarding submission of an application and contact either Kristi Lekies (Lekies.1@osu.edu) or Doug Jackson-Smith (Jackson-Smith.1@osu.edu) for further detail about graduate studies in Rural Sociology. See <http://senr.osu.edu/> for more information about the School of Environment and Natural Resources at Ohio State and <http://go.osu.edu/RuralSociology> for information specific to the rural sociology specialization; for course requirements see MS and Ph.D. requirements.