

G E O M O R P H O R U M

Newsletter of the Geomorphology Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers

2010 / 2011, Issue No. 1

Mark Fonstad, Editor

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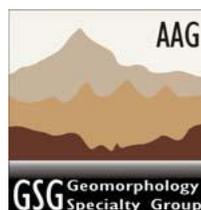
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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Secretary/Treasurer's note: *The specialty group chair is currently on leave. In place of the more usual "Message from the Chair", we thought it fitting to pay respects to "Reds" Wolman, a towering figure in our field of study, who died this past year. The following obituary was written by Doug Sherman and was first published by Peter Lewis at the AGS in the publication Ubique.*

**M. Gordon "Reds" Wolman,
August 16, 1924 – February 24, 2010**



"...sitting on a stool by the river bank in quiet contemplation smoking a cigar!" as he listened to his acolytes interpret geomorphic landscape, looking for explanations and insights. Bernard Bauer recalls this image of Reds Wolman on field trips teaching his students to see more than the eye can gather. According to Bauer "...this was simply part of Reds' teaching

strategy—for us to teach ourselves—he not only taught us the power of collaborative learning and the joy of mutual discovery, but also indoctrinated us all into the friendly circle of geomorphologists as part of the Wolman family."

Markley Gordon Wolman was born in Baltimore, Maryland on Aug. 16, 1924, the son of Abel and Anna Wolman. He died of myeloma in Baltimore on February 24, 2010. Reds Wolman spent most of the intervening 85 years at The Johns Hopkins University, where he established himself as both a familiar campus personality and as an icon in the earth science community.

He began his college studies at Haverford College, before WWII intervened. He served in the US Naval 1943-1946, and then moved to Johns Hopkins where he received his bachelor's degree in geology in 1949. He earned his master's degree (1951) and doctorate (1953) in geology from Harvard University, where he began his long-term friendship and collaboration with fellow student Luna Leopold. They worked together as hydrologists for the U.S. Geological Survey for most of the 1950s.

Wolman returned to Hopkins in 1958 as an associate professor hired to chair the Isaiah Bowman Department of Geography—a position he held until 1968. During that period he coauthored the seminal textbook, *Fluvial Processes in Geomorphology*, with Leopold and John Miller. He also rapidly engaged the geographical community, serving on the Office of Naval Research Committee on Geography, the National Academy of Sciences Ad Hoc Committee on Geography, and as a Councilor of the American Geographical Society. And by the end of that decade he had been successful in orchestrating a merging of the Department of Sanitary Engineering and Water Resources with the Department of Geography to form the new Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering in the Whiting School of Engineering. He chaired that unique department from 1970 to 1990. Wolman was named B. Howell Griswold, Jr., Professor of Geography and International Affairs in 1975, and held that title until his death.

Reds Wolman received many honors and accolades during his distinguished career. He was made a member of the National Academy of Science in 1988 and of the National Academy of Engineering in 2002. He was a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He was President of the Section on Hydrology of the American Geophysical Union (1970-1972) and President of the Geological Society of America (1989). He won the Meritorious Contribution Award from the Association of American Geographers (1972), was named a Distinguished Mentor by the National Council for Geographic Education (1989), won the John Wesley Powell Award from the U.S. Geological Survey (1989), the Cullum Geographical Medal from the American Geographical Society (1989), the Distinguished Career Award from the Geomorphology Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers (1993), the D.L. Linton Award from the British Geomorphological Research Group (1994), the Penrose Medal from the Geological Society of America (1999), and the Horton Medal from the American Geophysical Union (2000). In 2004 he received the Lifetime Achievement Award of the National Council for Science and the Environment, and in 2006 he and Luna Leopold received the Benjamin Franklin Medal in Earth and Environmental Science.

Reds Wolman was one of the first geomorphologists to put into practice what Strahler termed 'dynamic geomorphology' and in doing so helped lead generations

of geomorphologists to discipline established on a solid foundation of scientific principle. Many of his papers have become standard readings, and his publications have been cited more than 3,600 times. He left behind his wife of nearly sixty years, Elaine, his four children and two grandchildren, and many academic disciples.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

2011 AAG MEETING

The 2011 Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers (AAG) will be held in Seattle, Washington on April 12–16, 2011 at the Washington State Convention Center and the Seattle Sheraton Hotel.

Registration and abstract submission are underway for the 2011 Annual Meeting of AAG.

Graduate Student Paper Competition

The AAG-GSG has moved the student paper presentation competition to be part of the normal AAG session rather than as being part of student-only sessions. This is intended to allow students to be part of sessions based on their research rather than the fact that they are students. Students should submit abstracts as part of normal AAG submission, but ensure that they do so to a GSG sponsored session. Prior to the AAG meeting, the GSG will request extended abstracts from students interested in participating.

BINGHAMTON GEOMORPHOLOGY SYMPOSIA 2010-2013

2010 - Geospatial Technologies and Geomorphological Mapping

October, 15-17 - University of South Carolina - Columbia, SC

Hosted By: Dr. Allan James, Geography, University of South Carolina; Dr. Stephen Walsh, Geography, University of North Carolina; and Dr. Michael Bishop, Geography-Geology, University of Nebraska-Omaha. Supported in part by the NSF GSS program.

Details of the conference and a circular are available on the following web site:

<http://people.cas.sc.edu/ajames/bing41/>

2011 - Zoogeomorphology and Ecosystem Engineering

October 21-23 - University of South Alabama - Mobile, AL

Hosted By: Dr. David Butler, Geography, Texas State University-San Marcos, and Dr. Carol Sawyer, Earth Sciences, University of South Alabama.

For further information, contact David Butler at db25@txstate.edu

2012 - Isotopes in Geomorphology

October, to be determined- Binghamton University, Binghamton, NY

Hosted By: Dr. Paul Bierman, Geology and Natural Resources, University of Vermont; Dr. Arjun Heimsath, Earth Exploration, Arizona State University; Dr. Peter Knuepfer, Geology, Binghamton University (SUNY); and Dr. Kyle Nichols, Geology, Skidmore College.

For further information, contact Pete Knuepfer at knuepfr@binghamton.edu

2013 - Coastal Geomorphology and Restoration

October 18-20 - New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark, NJ

Hosted By: Dr. Karl Nordstrom, Institute of Marine and Coastal Science, Rutgers University; Russell Feagin, Department of Ecosystem Science and Management, Texas A&M University; Dr. William Smith Department of Biology, Wake Forest University; Dr. Nancy Jackson, Department of Chemistry and Environmental Science, New Jersey Institute of Technology.

CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR QUATERNARY RESEARCH (INQUA)

**BERNE, SWITZERLAND
JULY 20-27, 2011**

Session title:

Palaeofloods in Earth's history

Conveners:

Juergen Hergert (Department of Geography, University of Bonn, Germany)
and Neil Macdonald (School of Environmental Sciences, University of Liverpool, United Kingdom)

Keynote speakers:

Christian Pfister (on extraordinary historic flood events in Europe)
Samuel Toucanne (on the Pleistocene Fleuve Manche in the British Channel)

Session description:

Flood events during the Pleistocene and Holocene have significantly changed the Earth's surface, modified climates by changing ocean currents and brought disaster and suffering to settlements throughout history. An improved understanding of the origin, mechanisms and dynamics of past high magnitude floods will help in appreciating and predicting current events and estimating the potential for future flood magnitudes. This is critical in determining potential sources of unexpected events within globally changing environmental conditions, such as melting glaciers, decay of permafrost, or changes in atmospheric circulation patterns.

In this oral and poster session presentations on the interpretation of floods from the Pleistocene to historic times are welcome. The session will focus on studies of

principal importance to the topic, with interpretations and conclusions adaptable to other examples. Poster presentations are strongly encouraged, permitting extended and intensive discussions of particular details.

Abstract deadline: November 30, 2010

For more details on the INQUA congress and instructions for abstract submission visit <http://www.inqua2011.ch>

GEOHYDRO 2011

**QUEBEC CITY
AUGUST 28-31, 2011**

We would like to draw your attention to the following CGRG sponsored session at Geohydro 2011 in Quebec City (August 28-31, 2011). Geohydro 2011 is a joint meeting of the Canadian Quaternary Association (CANQUA) and the Canadian Chapter of the International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH-CNC).

Glacier and Ice Sheet hydrology: past and present

Meltwater is an important part of the glacier system controlling both the flow dynamics and stability of glaciers and ice sheets. Yet the spatial and temporal variability of glacier plumbing systems and their necessary links to glacier behavior and dynamics are not fully understood. This session will bring together researchers of both contemporary and past glacial environments, who have focused efforts on describing and quantifying glacier and ice sheet hydrology at a range of scales. We hope this session will facilitate the integration of knowledge from paleo and contemporary glacier settings, and to this end welcome papers relating to any aspect of glacier hydrology. This may include, but is not restricted to: i) meltwater routing over, through and beneath glaciers; ii) meltwater storage and outburst floods; iii) numerical modeling of the hydrological system; and iv) glacioluvial geomorphology/sedimentology.

The deadline for abstract submission for oral or poster presentations is **December 15, 2010**. Authors will be informed of abstract acceptance by **March 1, 2011**. Upon acceptance, authors will be asked to submit a 4 to 8-page paper for the conference proceedings volume by **May 31, 2011**, along with registration of at least one of the authors. You can find further details at <http://geohydro2011.ca/>.

We particularly encourage students to submit papers to this session. As a CGRG sponsored session awards will be adjudicated for the best student talk (Jean-Claude Dionne award) and poster (Alan Trenhaile award). More information on CGRG student awards can be found at: <http://cgrg.geog.uvic.ca/award.html>.

Don't hesitate to contact us should you have any questions about this session.

Session conveners:

Tracy Brennand, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver
(tabrenna@sfu.ca)

Matthew J. Burke, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver
(mjburke@sfu.ca)

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE - ADAPTING TO
COASTAL CHANGE: LOCAL PERSPECTIVES**

**THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS
SEPTEMBER 13 –14, 2011**

The meeting aims to address the issues of adapting to coastal change with a focus on local level challenges and approaches and is aimed at both practitioners and researchers. The conference will be global in its geographical scope and will include a number of keynote speakers (names to be confirmed in second circular) with an international profile in coastal change adaptation.

The conference will be organised under the following themes:

1. Shoreline management (adapting to shoreline change)
2. Institutional and governance issues
3. Developing adaptation strategies at the local level (methods and scenarios)
4. Spatial planning as a tool for adaptation
5. Nature conservation
6. Local government experiences

Each theme will be addressed in a plenary session by a small number of speakers followed by a plenary discussion. Poster presentations will be centred around each of the themes.

Further details and registration at:

<http://imcore.eu/TheHagueConference2011/>

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call for Abstracts - *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 2013 Special Issue: Geography of Water

The *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* invites abstracts of papers to be considered for a special issue on the Geography of Water. This will be the fifth of a series of annual special issues that highlight the work of geographers around a significant global theme. Papers are sought from a broad spectrum of scholars who address social, cultural, political, environmental, economic, theoretical, and methodological issues focused on the geography of water. These include original research in such areas as water and conflict, spatial disparities in access to water-related services, water and global environmental change, water and

habitats, analysis and simulation of water systems, water and risk, policy and law applied to water environments, and other relevant areas. Abstracts of no more than 250 words should be submitted by February 1, 2011 to rmaier@aag.org. Final papers will be due (via Manuscript Central) by October 1, 2011 for publication in 2013. Papers will have a target maximum length of 5,000 words, with a smaller limit if a large number of tables and/or figures are included. All submitted papers will be subject to full peer review.

**Institute of British Geographers
Special Issue, August 2010**

In August 2010 the Institute of British Geographers published a Special Issue of the Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers containing the 10 best and most influential geomorphological papers published in TIBG over the last three decades.

It has been made freely available as part of a Virtual Issue on Geomorphology edited by Dr. Martin Evans. You can see the Virtual Issue via www.rgs.org/TIBGVirtual

This issue has been launched to coincide with the British Society for Geomorphology's 50th anniversary. We hope you will be pleased to be a part of this issue and encourage you to spread this information amongst interested colleagues.

The 10 papers published in this issue present an opportunity to freely access key papers in the field brought together in a new way.

**MINUTES OF THE 2010 GSG
BUSINESS MEETING
Washington, D.C.; April 15, 2010**

Dan Royall, Chair
Alice Turkington, Secretary-Treasurer

Dan Royall called the meeting to order at 8:00 pm.

General Announcements

From the Specialty Group Chairs Meeting

Attendance for the 2010 annual meeting was 8,200 (registered), a substantial leap over the previous year's 6200. There was commentary regarding the continuing difficulty of getting specialty group sponsored organized special sessions scheduled all in mid-week slots, as well as business meetings at requested times. A renewed appeal to chairs to be flexible with their requests to conference director Oscar Larson in these regards in the future.

Taylor-Francis / Routledge Distinguished Lecture on Geomorphology and Society

All were encouraged to attend this year's lecture, sponsored for the second year by Taylor-Francis / Routledge, and given by Stan Trimble of the University of California, Los Angeles on "The Severity of Historical Soil Erosion and Hydrologic Disruption in the Eastern US; Some Agronomic, Economic, Sociological, and Hydroclimatological Considerations"

Physical Geography Reception

All were encouraged to attend the annual Reception for Physical Geographers, co-sponsored by the Geomorphology Specialty Group.

Specialty Group Reports

Approval of the Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the 2009 meeting as published in *Geomorphorum* was made, seconded, and passed by acclamation.

Treasurer's Report

Since last year's meeting we have collected \$1,792 in income from dues, and received \$650 in miscellaneous contributions, for a total receipt of \$2,442. A total of \$640 more from advertisements in *Geomorphorum* and other sources were pending, which would bring the total receipts up to \$3,082. Expenditures were \$1,100 for student awards, \$110 for the AAG Annual Awards Luncheon, \$250 to support the physical geography reception, and \$895 to bring the GSG up-to-date with its portion of the U.S. dues to the IAG. No funds were allocated for support of the GSG web site. The total for disbursements was \$2,355. The resulting balance at the time of the meeting, including a carryover from the prior year of \$1,330 was \$1,418, not including receipts pending. Interest earnings from the Mel Marcus Fund were estimated by the AAG to be approximately \$800, a welcome increase from the \$0 accrued during the previous period. The addition of this interest would bring the total current balance up to \$2,218.

Web Site Report

Mike Urban reports continued improvements in the GSG web site, and states his intention to continue to add more in the way of creative work and possibly dynamic web offerings in the future. It was noted that an increase in funding would be helpful.

New Business

It was noted that participation in the student paper and Wolman Award competitions was down significantly this year, and a brief discussion ensued regarding causes

and possible fixes for this for the Awards Committee to manage.

Announcements

Publications

George Malanson remarked that *Progress in Physical Geography* was now considering new types of manuscript submissions, including some original research articles, in addition to commissioned articles more commonly published in the journal.

Mark Fonstad called for submissions to the *Annals of the AAG*.

Carol Harden mentioned that there is currently no backlog for publication in *Physical Geography*.

Don Friend highlighted the *Journal of Mountain Science* as an outlet for geomorphological publication.

Jeff Lee similarly highlighted the journal *Aeolian Research*.

Dick Marston remarked that the journal *Geomorphology* was going strong and caught up on its previous backlog.

Dave Butler asked those in attendance to consider sending manuscripts to *Geography Compass*.

Conferences and Other Announcements

Dave Butler called attention to the 2010 Binghamton Geomorphology Symposium on Geospatial Technologies and Geomorphological Mapping in Columbia SC, and the 2011 Symposium which will focus on Zoogeomorphology and Ecosystem Engineering.

The upcoming Biennial Meeting of the American Quaternary Association in Laramie, Wyoming was also mentioned.

Will Graf reported for Anne Chin on the results of work by *The Committee on the Challenges and Opportunities in Earth Surface Processes* for the National Academy of Sciences and distributed a brief prepared by the National Research Council based on the Committee's report.

Appointments

Awards Committee. *Chris Renschler* of the University at Buffalo was appointed as the new member of the committee.

Secretary-Treasurer. *Mark Fonstad* of Texas State University was nominated as the next Secretary-Treasurer of the GSG. The nomination was seconded and approved unanimously.

Awards

Graduate Student Paper Award (Masters Level)

Patrick Dryer, Missouri State University. *Catastrophic valley entrenchment and debris fan formation in the Bluefields River, Westmoreland Jamaica.*

Shelby Zelonis, University of South Carolina. *Geomorphic analysis of a rural fluvial system during pre- and post-dam removal conditions: A case study in eastern Virginia.*

GROVE KARL GILBERT AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN GEOMORPHIC RESEARCH

The 2010 G.K. Gilbert Award is given to Sheryl Luzzadder-Beach (George Mason University) and Timothy Beach (Georgetown University), for:

Luzzadder-Beach, S., and Beach, T., 2009. Arising from the wetlands; mechanisms and chronology of landscape aggradation in the Northern Coastal Plain of Belize. *Annals of the Association of American geographers* 99(1): 1-26.

The nomination was made by Dr. Dick Marston with letters of support for nomination from Drs. Jim Knox (Wisconsin), Bill Johnson and Bill Woods (Kansas), Billie Turner (Arizona), Francisco Perez (Texas), and David Butler (Texas State). The supporting letters from Drs. Knox, Johnson, Perez and Butler spoke directly about the geomorphic dimensions of the above referenced paper. Dr. Marston's statement as to why this particular publication deserved the award is contained in the nomination citation below.

Citation by Dick Marston

Woods and Turner are acutely aware of the archaeological significance of the work. Make no mistake about it, the paper that is being nominated revolves around rich geomorphic data sets to explain environmental degradation facing Mayan civilization in the riparian wetlands on the coastal plains on northern Belize.

This work uses an exceedingly wide range of proxy evidence from soil and water chemistry, soil micromorphology, numerous radiocarbon dates, farmer interviews, archaeology, and soil stratigraphy from a wide range of excavations and cores. The 2009 *Annals* paper meticulously characterizes the soil sequences to identify pre-settlement buried paleosols across upland sinks, floodplains, and perennial wetlands. Surprisingly, however, different processes aggraded these two adjacent geomorphic regions, though they visually appear similar. In the uplands and alluvial fans, ancient human-induced erosion, perhaps with some input from

climate change, led to the aggradation of depressions mostly in the period of pioneer Maya agriculture 2500 years ago but declined during the Classic Period as soil conservation spread across the region 1200 years ago. But, in the perennial wetlands region of the adjacent coastal plain, these multiple lines of evidence point more to aggradation by natural factors: precipitation of gypsum from saturated groundwater driven up by rising sea levels. Moreover, this geomorphic research provides an ancient analog for modern global change because it shows significant human adaptations to both soil erosion and sea level rise. Thus, the article by Luzzadder-Beach and Beach provides an excellent example of separating environmental change due to human activities from change triggered by other factors. The article further demonstrates that "place matters" in geomorphology, specifically that one cannot assume that the links between cause-and-effect in one geomorphic setting can be assumed to persist in another setting, even when adjacent.

The article is also noteworthy because the authors study a landscape where human settlement and agriculture began about 5000 years ago...the northern Belize coastal lowlands and adjacent Karst uplands. More than ten years of field and lab research were required to piece together the story. Sheryl and Tim Beach have studied ancient land and water use to better understand the long term relationship between environmental change, geomorphology, and civilizations. This research revealed the complex, two-way connections between the environment and society regarding human impacts. Some of the fundamental questions of Ancient Mayan subsistence, success and collapse, environmental degradation and regeneration, and human perseverance have played out on the Maya lowlands, offering an ideal laboratory to study a classic geographic theme: the human-land relationship. Sheryl and Tim have made important discoveries in the spatial complexity of the water resources of the Mayan Lowlands and connected the ground water chemistry to the process of aggradation of sediments in the wetlands of northwestern Belize.

Clearly others were early to see the potential value of this research, since the work received funding support from the National Geographic Society Committee for Research and Exploration, National Science Foundation, George Mason University Center for Global Studies, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and Graduate School, University of Texas Programme for Belize Archaeological Project, and Texas Christian University Maya Research Program.. I urge you to read closely the strong supporting letters from nationally and internationally recognized experts in understanding the linkages between geomorphology and archaeology.

I am honored to have prepared this nomination.

Acceptance Remarks

by Sheryl Luzzadder-Beach and Tim Beach

Sheryl Luzzadder-Beach: To be nominated for and to receive an award named for Grove Karl Gilbert, who is known for fluvial geomorphology and hydraulics, is indeed humbling and a great honor. We thank those who wrote letters of nomination, including Richard Marston, David Butler, Jim Knox, Bill Turner, Bill Woods, Francisco Pérez, and Bill Johnson, and also thank the Geomorphology Specialty Group Selection committee of Alice Turkington and Martin Doyle.

Water is life, from the human and ecological perspective; water is also a powerful geomorphic agent, thus water weaves together the human/environment complex.

These truths apply to both ancient and modern societies. To study this interface recognizes that the earth's systems do not converge on a plane, but in 4 dimensions including the atmosphere and biosphere above the surface, and importantly the zone below the surface, including water. The *Annals* paper in particular allowed us to follow multiple lines of evidence to test multiple working hypotheses about, in this case, ancient Maya land and water use in a changing environment. The complementarity of studying soils and water chemistry allowed us a better understanding of sedimentation and geomorphic processes in the ideal laboratory of the Three Rivers region in Northwestern Belize, a biosphere reserve that is a post-Maya time capsule.

First I want to salute the pioneers in geomorphology, geoarchaeology, and hydraulic society who went before us: Karl Butzer, Bill Turner, Alfred Siemens, Bill Denevan, Bill Johnson, Bill Woods, Dave Butler, and so many others. To prepare for and do this kind of research requires support from many people to whom we owe our gratitude and appreciation: at the University of Minnesota, my advisor and committee members Dwight Brown, Dick Skaggs, Phil Gersmehl, Olaf Pfannkuch, and Steve Eisenreich; my geographical writing professor (and former *Annals* Editor) Dr. John Fraser Hart, who insisted that we read good geographical writing in addition to practicing it. We also owe thanks to our excellent *Annals* Editor Dr. Richard Aspinall and the invaluable input from the reviewers. The work would not be possible without our multi-disciplinary team of geo-eco and archaeological scientists, many of whom are gathered at this hour in a paper session at the Society of American Archaeology Meetings in St. Louis, and we share this honor with them and with our students. I especially thank my colleagues who first included me as a hydrologist on their projects in the Programme for Belize and the Maya Research Program 17 years ago: Vern Scarborough, Fred Valdez, John Lohse, and Tom Guderjan. Of those colleagues, I owe my greatest gratitude to Nicholas Dunning for inviting me to work in the Maya world. Most of all I thank Tim Beach, with whom I have been exploring watersheds for 3 decades, whose brilliant insights into landscape evolution drive us forward in our work, who is

an outstanding teacher in the field, and the best co-PI one could ever work with. I turn the floor over to Tim Beach for his remarks. Thank you.

Tim Beach: This is a humbling honor to receive this award named for Grove Karl Gilbert here in Washington, DC, not far from Gilbert's beloved Cosmos Club. The Maya Lowlands provides a fascinating and confounding group of soil geomorphic, water chemistry, karstic, and human-environmental interactions. We began this paper in 2004 to distill multiple lines of evidence about geomorphic change into 3000 words, which we ultimately abandoned because these tropical wetlands were too complicated. It took soil stratigraphy, numerous chemical assays of water and sediment, paleoecology, radiocarbon dating, micromorphology, and archaeology to flesh out the five factors of landscape aggradation and formation over a large area.

Paradoxically, this complicated landscape produces visually identical stratigraphy within close proximity, but with highly different geneses. We thus invite more geomorphic work to these difficult, complicate beautiful tropical wetlands.

I thank the whole history of soil and fluvial geomorphologists and paleoecologists that have provided big shoulders on which to stand: especially my advisors Philip Gersmehl, Dwight Brown, Herb Wright, and John Borchert in Graduate School, the ever helpful and critical role model Jim Knox and his school of students at Wisconsin from whom I learned as much at scores of national meetings, to the great geographers and archaeologists who have worked in geoarchaeology, geomorphology, and cultural ecology from Karl Butzer, the founder and constant presence, Billie Lee Turner, Alfred Siemens, Bill Johnson, Dave Butler, and Don Johnson, and the persons I have learned the most from, and to whom I owe the most, Nicholas Dunning and Sheryl L. Beach.

MELVIN G MARCUS DISTINGUISHED CAREER AWARD

The 2010 Mel Marcus Award is given to Dr. John F. (Jack) Shroder, Jr. of the University of Nebraska-Omaha (UNO). Dr. Shroder was nominated by Dave Butler with letters of support for nomination from Dr. Dick Marson, Dr. Carol Harden, and Dr. John D. "Jack" Vitek.

Citation

by Dave Butler

I have known Jack Shroder for over 30 years, first as a teacher when I was an undergraduate at UNO, then as my Master's Thesis advisor from 1974-1976, and in the subsequent years as a professional colleague, friend, and occasional collaborator. We share a mutual interest in mountain environments and the geomorphological processes responsible for sculpting those landscapes, and in geomorphology in general.

Dr. Jack Shroder is a credit to the profession of geomorphology, and especially to mountain geomorphology. His career is an exemplar for us all. His early published works dealt with Landslides in Utah, as well as with bornhardts and tors in southern Africa, but by the early 1970s he was becoming engaged in the study of rock glaciers and methods for dating their movement. He essentially single-handedly created the field of Dendrogeomorphology, specifically developing Event-Response Methodology and its applications to mass movements. This work was published in two extraordinarily significant and influential papers, in *Quaternary Research* in 1978 and *Progress in Physical Geography* in 1980. These two papers are some of the most widely cited works on dendrogeomorphology in the world. This work influenced much of my subsequent work as well as the dendrogeomorphic work of Dr. Rick Giardino, who studied under Jack Shroder as a doctoral student at the University of Nebraska.

Rick Giardino's collaboration with Jack Shroder led to additional collaborative efforts between Jack, Rick, and Dr. Jack Vitek of Oklahoma State University. Collectively, the three brought their intellectual weapons to bear on the issue of rock glaciers, and this outstanding collaborative effort resulted in several refereed papers in journals such as *Arctic and Alpine Research* and *Journal of Quaternary Science*, and most notably in their co-edited volume *Rock Glaciers* (1987, Allen and Unwin). This volume represents "The Standard" for knowledge of rock glaciers around the world, and is consistently cited in international works on rock glaciers to this day.

During the 1970s, the University of Nebraska-Omaha had a collaborative program with the University of Kabul, in Afghanistan, and UNO's Department of Geography-Geology had a vigorous exchange program with Afghan scholars. Jack Shroder initiated research in the Hindu Kush region of the Afghan/Pakistan borderland during this time. When the Soviets invaded Afghanistan, Jack Shroder was placed under house arrest (he had a large collection of Afghan geologic and geomorphic maps in his possession!) and subsequently deported. His knowledge of the geology and geomorphology of the region is vast, and during the US-led war against the Taliban in Afghanistan in the post-9/11 months, Jack Shroder was the primary source of information to the international media (including outlets such as CNN and other global media sources) on the likely whereabouts of Osama bin Laden and the caves in which it was believed bin Laden was hiding (see, for example: <http://www.globalsecurity.org/org/news/2001/011101-attack01.htm>). Such applications of geomorphic and geological knowledge are indeed unique in our discipline, and speak volumes about Jack Shroder's knowledge and his patriotism in the wake of the attacks of 9/11. He continues to this day as an advisor to the Department of State on Afghan affairs.

In the 1990's to the present day, Jack Shroder has focused much of his research on surface processes and natural hazards in the western Himalaya and Hindu Kush. For this he has received extensive grant support from National Science Foundation, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, National Geographic Society, and Smithsonian Institution, and a number of private foundations. He has edited and published a major book on the Quaternary geology and geomorphology of the region (*Himalaya to the Sea*), written numerous papers on Quaternary geomorphology in the region (published in outlets ranging from *American Scientist* to the most-recent 2004 issue of *Geomorphology*), and edited an outstanding special issue of *Geomorphology* on Mass Movements in the Himalayas. His work in Afghanistan and the region continues at present; he is now Co-Director of the GLIMS (Global Land Ice Measurements from Space) Project at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, in which capacity he is responsible for the GLIMS Regional Center focus on Afghanistan and Pakistan, which is actively dealing with ice, snow, and melt-water resources in commonly drought-torn South Asia.

Jack Shroder has also been a leader in service to the discipline of Geomorphology. He serves on the editorial board of the world's leading geomorphology journal (based on Impact Factor), *Geomorphology*. Together with Michael Bishop, he co-organized, and subsequently co-edited the papers from, the 2000 Binghamton Geomorphology Symposium, with those papers published in 2003 as another special issue of *Geomorphology* and as a stand-alone volume published by Elsevier. He is a member and Fellow of the AAAS and has served as the leader of its section on Geology and Geography, acting as our AAG liaison from the Geomorphology Specialty Group to the AAAS. Jack is also Editor-in-Chief of the Development in Earth Surface Processes book series, published by Elsevier; and is currently Editor-in-Chief of the massive, fourteen-volume international effort the *Treatise of Geomorphology*.

The body of Dr. Shroder's work is extensive and clearly of the highest quality. Jack Shroder is class, he is enthusiasm, he is scientific rigor, and above all, he is an outstanding scientist and geographer whose career is truly deserving of being called "Distinguished". This distinguished career has already been recognized through receipt of the Distinguished Career Award from the Association of American Geographers' Mountain Geography Specialty Group in 2001, and it would be completely appropriate for the Geomorphology Specialty Group to do the same. Dr. Jack Shroder is one of our discipline's most prominent, outstanding scientific scholars whose influences have spread around the world. He has been the leader of a generation of mountain geomorphologists, and his work continues to serve as an outstanding example of the best of science. I most heartily and fervently recommend him to you for the Mel Marcus Distinguished Career Award. Please feel

free to contact me should you have any questions concerning this letter, or should you require any additional information.

Acceptance Remarks
by Jack Shroder

I cannot tell you what an extraordinary privilege it is to be a geomorphologist, doing what I love second best in the world after my wife, Susie and my grandson John Ficenec sitting here, getting to travel and study the incredible landforms of the world – and all on someone else's dime, as I am fond of saying in this competitive grantsmanship world.

Now as I prepare for another summer of field work – first to Pakistan for an army helicopter ride straight into the Karakoram to work on the huge Hunza rockslide and impounded lake just prior to the coming breakout flood –

next to the Tetons to see how Dick Marston and Brandon Weihs are setting up for Brandon's doctoral work there –

and then back to Asia and off to Kathmandu to give a paper on our ongoing glacier work in the Himalaya –

Well, it's going to be another active summer.

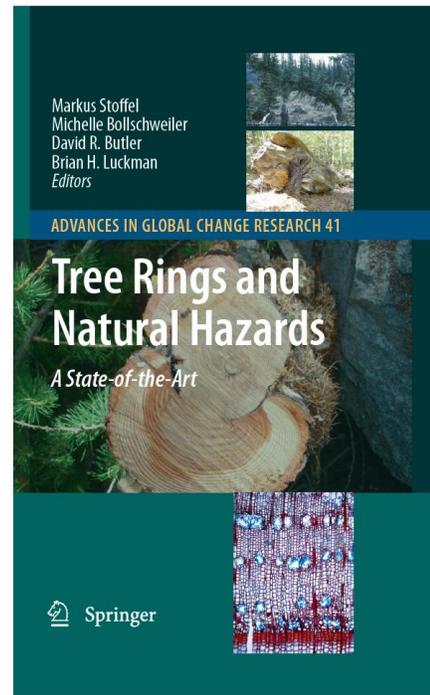
Meanwhile somewhere in there I have to try to edit into submission the 14 volumes of our new Treatise on Geomorphology.

Thank you Dave for nominating me for this prestigious award, and my thanks to the committee for wanting to give it to an old field geomorphologist.

Editor's Note: As Jack was submitting these remarks, he added this addendum – "I should note parenthetically to the acceptance speech that one's planned field work in the dicier parts of the world can sometimes go somewhat awry, because 3 days before leaving for Nepal on my National Academy of Sciences grant, the US Department of State pulled the plug on American students going into the area of Maoist insurgency so that stopped our travel to the Langtang. Big disappointment! So instead I went to Colorado with my wife to prepare for going into the Tetons. Then my wife tripped and broke her leg in three places - one plate and 8 screws later, I was her gopher-slave for the remainder of the summer. But I still managed to get to Nepal early in the fall when the Chinese Academy of Sciences paid for me to continue to advise them on the MAIRS (Monsoon Asia Integrated Research Studies) Project . They were also trying to damp down the Nepalese Maoists as very bad for tourism and science in the Himalaya.

So it goes in the high country."

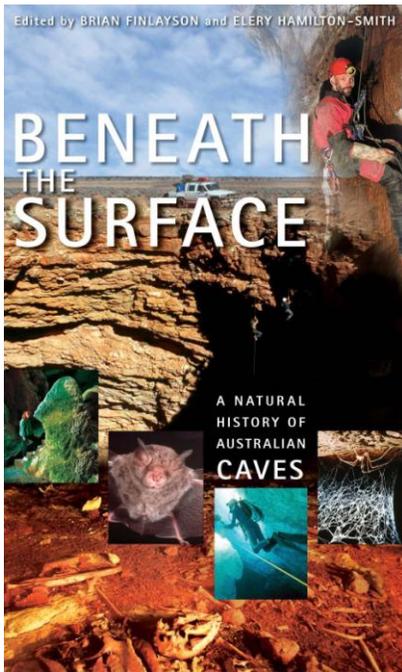
NEW BOOKS



Tree Rings and Natural Hazards – A State of the Art

Stoffel, Markus, Michelle Bollschweiler, David R. Butler, and Brian H. Luckman, 2010. *Tree Rings and Natural Hazards – A State of the Art*. Springer, Heidelberg and New York, xv and 503 pp.

The initial employment of tree rings in natural hazard studies was simply as a dating tool and rarely exploited other environmental information and records of damage contained within the tree. However, these unique, annually resolved, tree-ring records preserve valuable archives of past earth-surface processes on timescales of decades to centuries. As many of these processes are significant natural hazards, understanding their distribution, timing and controls provides valuable information that can assist in the prediction, mitigation and defence against these hazards and their effects on society. *Tree Rings and Natural Hazards* provides many illustrations of these themes, demonstrating the application of tree rings to studies of snow avalanches, rockfalls, landslides, floods, earthquakes, wildfires and several other processes. Several of the chapters are "classic studies", others represent recent applications using previously unpublished material. They illustrate the breadth and diverse applications of contemporary dendrogeomorphology and underline the growing potential to expand such studies, possibly leading to the establishment of a range of techniques and approaches that may become standard practice in the analysis of natural hazards in the future.



Beneath the Surface: A Natural History of Australian Caves

Elery Hamilton-Smith (ed.), Brian Finlayson (ed.),
9780868405957, UNSW Press, August
2003, 216pp, PB , 275x162mm

It has come to our attention that second hand copies of this book are being sold on the internet at very high prices. It has been out of print for some time, but the publishers have now made it available on a Print-on-Demand (POD) basis.

You can buy direct from the Publishers for \$49.95.

Simply log in on
<http://www.unswpress.com.au/isbn/0868405957.htm>

Do pass the word around to others!

OTHER NEWS FROM MEMBERS

From Texas State University-San Marcos

Dave Butler was recently chosen as one of five inaugural University Distinguished Professors at Texas State University-San Marcos. Dave will retain the title of University Distinguished Professor of Geography throughout the duration of his career at Texas State. The title also carries with it a nomination as a Texas State University System Regents Professor, this nomination is currently pending.

Dave Butler has been appointed as the "Classics Revisited" editor for the international journal *Progress in Physical Geography*. Contact Dave (db25@txstate.edu)

if you're interested in writing a Classics Revisited piece for the journal.

Dave Butler was invited to participate in a field workshop on landscape development in Kruger National Park, South Africa, from March 1-5, 2010. He was invited because of his previous work and publications on the role of animals in sculpting landscapes through processes such as trampling, wallowing, and burrowing. His trip was sponsored by the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg at the invitation of Professor Kevin Rogers of the Center for Water in the Environment at the University of the Witwatersrand. While in Kruger National Park, Dave had the opportunity to photograph many of the charismatic animals for which Kruger National Park is world famous.

Dave Butler has co-edited a book (see previous section) released this spring as part of the Advances in Global Change Research series published by Springer. *Tree Rings and Natural Hazards - A State-of-the-Art* was conceived by Dr. Markus Stoffel of the University of Bern, Switzerland. Dave was invited to participate in the book after he served on dissertation committees for two of Dr. Stoffel's doctoral students whose dissertations were on tree-ring analysis of natural hazards in Switzerland. The book is comprised of over 500 pages, with a dozen sections on different hazards including landslides, snow avalanches, rockfall, fire, hurricanes, and many others. Dave co-authored two chapters with the other three volume editors, a chapter with former doctoral student Carol Sawyer, and current doctoral student Jacob Maas on the use of traumatic resin ducts in tree rings for dating hazardous snow avalanches in Glacier National Park, Montana, and a sole-authored chapter on dating high-magnitude rockfall avalanches in Glacier Park. The citations for the book and chapters include:

- Stoffel, Markus, Michelle Bollschweiler, David R. Butler, and Brian H. Luckman, 2010. *Tree Rings and Natural Hazards – A State of the Art*. Springer, Heidelberg and New York, xv and 503 pp.
- Butler, David R., 2010. Tree-ring analysis and rockfall avalanches – the use of weighted samples. In: *Tree Rings and Natural Hazards – A State of the Art*, (Markus Stoffel, Michelle Bollschweiler, David R. Butler, and Brian H. Luckman, eds.), Springer, Heidelberg and New York, 101-103.
- Butler, David R., Carol F. Sawyer, and Jacob A. Maas, 2010. Tree-ring dating of snow avalanches in Glacier National Park, Montana, USA In: *Tree Rings and Natural Hazards – A State of the Art*, (Markus Stoffel, Michelle Bollschweiler, David R. Butler, and Brian H. Luckman, eds.), Springer, Heidelberg and New York, 33-44.
- Stoffel, Markus, Michelle Bollschweiler, David R. Butler, and Brian H. Luckman, 2010. Tree rings and

natural hazards: an introduction. In: *Tree Rings and Natural Hazards – A State of the Art* (Markus Stoffel, Michelle Bollschweiler, David R. Butler, and Brian H. Luckman, eds.), Springer, Heidelberg and New York, 3-22.

- Stoffel, Markus, Michelle Bollschweiler, David R. Butler, and Brian H. Luckman, 2010. Whither dendrogeomorphology? In: *Tree Rings and Natural Hazards – A State of the Art* (Markus Stoffel, Michelle Bollschweiler, David R. Butler, and Brian H. Luckman, eds.), Springer, Heidelberg and New York, 493-500.

Other Recent Publications by Dave Butler

- Butler, David R., and William D. Butler, 2009. The geomorphic effects of gophers on soil characteristics and sediment compaction: a case study from alpine treeline, Sangre de Cristo Mountains, Colorado, U.S.A. *The Open Geology Journal* 3, 82-89.
- Butler, David R., Jacob A. Maas, and Carol F. Sawyer, 2009. Traumatic resin ducts in tree rings: advancing tree-ring dating of snow avalanches in Glacier National Park, Montana. *Papers of the Applied Geography Conferences* 32, Baton Rouge, LA, 181-188.
- Butler, W. D. and D. R. Butler. 2010. Repeat Photography Documents Short-term Landscape Changes in Geothermal Features in Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming. *Papers of the Applied Geography Conferences* 33, Ft. Worth, TX, 165-172.

David R. Butler, Ph.D.
University Distinguished Professor of Geography, and
Graduate Program Coordinator
Department of Geography
Texas State University-San Marcos
San Marcos, TX

From Arizona State University

Meet Arizona State University's (ASU) Cross-disciplinary Geomorphology Group
Interview Conducted
by Abeer Hamdan

Dr. Kelin Whipple

Dr. Whipple is a professor in the School of Earth and Space Exploration. He enjoys hiking to places with deep river gorges to marvel at some of Earth's most beautiful features. Dr. Whipple lived his childhood years in several different places including Ethiopia. His frequent exposure to different landscapes across the world is partly what led him to become a geologist. Professor Whipple is intrigued by the many new scientific advances in understanding chemical weathering processes and how it relates to physical erosion rates, and the ongoing research of understanding relationships

between tectonics and climate as well as those between tectonics and erosion. Dr. Whipple and his graduate students are currently working on how climate influences incision by rivers and the relationship between relief and erosion rates. One of his newest research projects is examining how climate will influence the relationship between relief and erosion rates. Professor Whipple believes future research direction will be in what he calls "green geomorphology," which is quantifying surface processes in an interdisciplinary framework that includes fields such as geomorphology, hydrology, ecology and geology. He states that more practical and less theoretical research may be necessary for the future needs of a changing Earth and a dynamic population. Dr. Whipple's view of ASU's surface processes group of professors is that they are "built to be one of the strongest in the nation."

Dr. Ronald Dorn

Dr. Dorn is a professor in the School of Geographical Sciences & Urban Planning. He grew up in southern California, in the land where he states that it took hours to drive to someplace nice. He is an adventurous professor that is completely addicted to mountain biking in and around desert geomorphology. He is especially interested in paradigm shifts within geomorphology, that is, research that "flies in the face" of current ways of thinking. He believes that scientists are human beings and that humans can become convinced that they are immovably right in their thinking. As such, he is interested in publications where the rare geomorphologist finds her or his prior views are in error. He concludes that "such scientific objectivity should be an ideal, not a rarity".

He is currently working on three main topics in geomorphology: assessing debris flow hazards in the Phoenix metropolitan area; understanding a new type of physical weathering that resurfaces desert landforms over a period of a hundred thousand years; and weathering at the nanoscale level. Dr. Dorn's research is separate from his graduate students' research; he feels that a "Ph.D. student needs to strike out on their own and claim their own intellectual territory". Thus, the list of graduate research topics may seem scattered, but this is because the interests of students do vary quite a bit. For example: John Douglass worked on developing a new framework to understand the evolution of transverse drainages; Case Allen worked on rock weathering and the processes of student learning; Phil Larson is currently investigating how drainages evolve in central Arizona. Dr. Dorn thinks future research is often driven by funding, which he suspects will be increasingly linked to issues of how our changing climate affects Earth surface processes.

He ends our interview by stating that ASU is a great place to get your Ph.D. in geomorphology for several reasons. First, ASU is a university that has set itself up to "tear down" barriers and has committees that can be

constructed across disciplines. Secondly, if you are an out-of-the-box thinker this place is where you can innovate. Lastly, geomorphologists need time outside “even if they are modelers for funding reasons and that we all need to have boots-on-the-ground time. Unlike many metropolitan areas, you can be in ‘heaven’ after a seven minute car drive or a fifteen minute bike ride, to hike on bare rock or to have a great view of spheroidal weathering.”

Dr. Rachata Muneeppeerakul (Chot)

Dr. Muneeppeerakul is an assistant professor in the School of Sustainability who grew up in Thailand where he completed his Bachelors’ degree in Civil Engineering. After working several years as a structural engineer, Dr. Muneeppeerakul pursued a Master’s degree in Environmental Engineering at University of California, Berkley and a PhD at Princeton University. His postdoctoral research, published in *Nature*, pertained to modeling biodiversity patterns in river networks using what he calls a “theoretical species” as a primary indicator for modeling biodiversity. He will be using this bio-model in his current research to understand changes in biodiversity patterns for channelizing water from flood prone regions to drought struck areas in India. Dr. Muneeppeerakul is also interested in modeling changes in fish migration patterns in the presence of dams along the Mekong River. His future research interests lay in the riparianization of deserts in examining the interactions between riparian zones and hydrology. He is a new professor at ASU who does not have any graduate students yet, but strongly encourages any students seeking a graduate degree in related topics to contact him. Outside of the office, Professor Muneeppeerakul enjoys playing soccer in his spare time.

Dr. Mark Schmeeckle

Dr. Schmeeckle is a fluvial geomorphologist in the School of Geographical Sciences & Urban Planning. Raised in Washington State, he has traveled to many parts of Southeast Asia to conduct river research. He is interested in advancements in technology such as remote sensing and LiDAR, which is changing the way scientists model surfaces. He is currently working on examining deposition and erosion of sandbars in the Grand Canyon along the Colorado River. His research also includes working on understanding interactions of turbulence, sediment transport at detailed levels and stochastic models of sediment transport. One of Dr. Schmeeckle’s graduate students is working on understanding the role of the CAP canal on the hydro-biogeomorphology over time, while another one of his students is researching slope stability of sandbars in the Grand Canyon. Dr. Schmeeckle believes the direction of future sediment modeling research is in integrating multi-beam topography with physical models while creatively incorporating bio-models, especially vegetation models.

Dr. Arjun Heimsath

Growing up in Washington DC, India and Texas, Dr. Heimsath experienced a unique and interesting childhood. He became interested in landscapes and the beauty of Earth while attending boarding school at the foothills of the Himalayas. As a child, he was exposed to several eye-opening journeys as his parents drove across continents from Europe to Asia. He attended Yale University where he completed his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and his Master’s in Forestry and Environmental Studies. He received his PhD in geology from University of California, Berkley. Dr. Heimsath raised money to conduct research in Nepal to examine the impacts of humans in the Himalayas. During his PhD research, he developed new methodologies in quantifying rates of erosion. He is interested in the concept of applying “energy transfer to ways we have been thinking about geomorphology.” Dr. Heimsath believes in unifying scientific communication of Earth surface processes between physicists, chemists, engineers and geologists through the use of energy as a primary variable in which all can understand; for example, quantifying rates of soil production from energy perspectives. He is also interested in connecting both the physical and chemical processes of erosion. Dr. Heimsath is attempting to establish the chronology of magnitude and timing of erosional processes related to climate change. He is also working with Dr. Whipple on climate and erosion in Chile using this research as an analog for processes on Mars. Dr. Heimsath has ongoing projects in Bhutan, Nepal, Australia and South Africa. His graduate students have worked on relationships and developing new methodologies between chemical and physical erosion. Dr. Heimsath thinks future research will focus on the following areas: understanding the role(s) of humans in transforming our Earth’s surface; better understanding CO₂ emissions; and integrating landscape evolution models to encompass different quantifiable processes across disciplines in geology, ecology, microbiology and sedimentology. Dr. Heimsath ends by stating that “I cannot think of a better place to come to or to be...just truly fantastic... [and] the quality of our students is the best we have ever worked with.”

Dr. Ramon Arrowsmith

Dr. Arrowsmith is a professor in the School of Earth and Space Exploration who has served on several graduate student committees. He was raised in New Mexico and went to college in California where he personally experienced several earthquake events. This experience sparked his interests in earthquakes and helped him choose his career path. Dr. Arrowsmith has been working on several projects associated with analyzing records of repeating earthquakes in the landscape of Asia and California. He is also interested in the paleoenvironments of human evolution in Ethiopia. Professor Arrowsmith has been deeply immersed in using high-resolution topography as measured by GPS-located and inertial-navigation oriented laser scanners

mounted on aircrafts. These data are very intense in terms of their information density, but the quantitative depiction of the Earth's surface—which may take days surveying manually with friends and colleagues—can be measured in seconds and is now quite accessible and amazingly detailed. The technique characterizes features at the scale at which they form and the causative processes that tend to operate. Organizations like the National Center of Airborne Laser Mapping and OpenTopography (where Dr. Arrowsmith is a co-investigator) provide access to these kinds of data. Professor Arrowsmith envisions future research in “continued refinement of our ability to measure surface and tectonic processes and to interpret them using physics with enhanced application to education and societal needs”.

A note from the interviewer: As a graduate student in geography at ASU and after conducting these interviews, I believe that ASU has a highly diverse and outstanding group of geomorphology professors. It has been a pleasure and a delight interviewing ASU's geomorphology faculty members. Thank you for your time and participation.

From Louisiana State University

Patrick Hesp, the Chair of Geography and Anthropology at LSU, and a coastal geomorphologist, has been awarded a collaborative grant totaling \$440,000 from the National Science Foundation for a new 3 year long research project, entitled "Blowout Dynamics at Cape Cod". \$321,346 of the grant will go to LSU.

Hesp is PI on the grant and an expert on coastal dune dynamics and geomorphology. His co-PI's are Dr Ian Walker, in the Department of Geography at the University of Victoria in BC, Canada, and Dr Paul Gares in the Department of Geography at East Carolina University.

Blowouts are as the name implies - small to very large, saucer-, bowl- and trough-shaped landforms naturally eroded or 'blown out' by the wind, often because there is a local reduction in the vegetation cover. Human activity, especially overgrazing in desert and semiarid regions, and increasing tourism on coastal dunes, also commonly leads to blowout development.

"Extremely little research has been carried out on blowouts anywhere in the world", Hesp said, "yet they are present in all sandy landscapes, from deserts to coasts, and are the most common landform that develops when the climate gets drier, hotter and /or more windy. Since many climate change models predict that the climate will change towards more drier and windier conditions in some countries, the research will have important implications for how the landscape may

change. It will also help us explain features on Mars and other planets and moons".

Dr Patrick Hesp
RJ Russell Professor
Chair
Department of Geography and Anthropology
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge LA, USA

From Montclair State University

Greg Pope and his students at Montclair State University, NJ, have been engaged in ongoing geomorphic survey of the Upper Big Flat Brook valley in the northwest New Jersey Appalachians. NJ School of Conservation, the field campus of Montclair State, occupies the area and provides an ideal site to study glacial, proglacial, and periglacial processes; anyone interested in the doing the same is welcome to us NJSOC for a base of operations. Pope and students observed a discontinuous, surface-armoring boulder bed deposit on an upper terrace of Big Flat Brook. The beds show fabric orientations dependent on location, with a primary or at least secondary orientation approximately northeast:southwest, parallel to the valley. The fabric orientation is probably the result of postglacial permafrost action, or subglacial winnowing, or proglacial flood, or all the above. A paper was recently published in *The Middle State Geographer* (Pope et al., 2009, v. 42, pp. 33-43; free access here <http://geographyplanning.buffalostate.edu/2009MSG.html>). Continuing work this Fall and next Spring aims to map small scale sorted features (nets?) among the boulder beds, and to investigate a possible permafrost collapse terrace on Big Flat Brook. Another team of colleagues from Montclair State is working on a core of Lake Wapalanne, a small artificial lake (and its boggy predecessor), to ascertain environmental change over recent and possibly more ancient time. Preliminary work was presented at the Washington AAG meeting, and more detailed analysis awaits ongoing palynology and dating.

Contact Greg at popeg@mail.montclair.edu for more information or discussion.

From Northern Illinois University

Recent publications by Dr. Wei Luo, Associate Professor at the Northern Illinois University Department of Geography, include:

Luo, W., B. Grudzinski, and D. Pederson, 2010, "Estimating hydraulic conductivity from drainage patterns derived from a DEM - A case study in the Oregon Cascades," *Geology*, v. 38, n. 4, p. 335–338, doi: 10.1130/G30816.1

Luo, W., B. Grudzinski, and D. Pederson, 2010, "Estimating hydraulic conductivity for the Martian subsurface based on drainage patterns — A case study in the Mare Tyrrhenum Quadrangle," *Geomorphology*, doi:10.1016/j.geomorph.2010.10.018, in press.

From European Geosciences Union

The European Geosciences Union welcomes short news of general interest, among others about vacancies, meetings and resources.

The new website for the European Geosciences Union is www.egu.eu

A novel section of the site aims to present short (<= 300 words) reviews and commentaries of recently published papers (not by their authors). For this section, the European Geosciences Union is looking for contributions from early-career researchers. Those interested can send their review of a recent paper to the webmaster at geomorphology@egu.eu. The same address can be used for all other contributions.

Arnaud Temme, Webmaster,
Niels Hovius, Division President

REPORT FOR THE JOURNAL GEOMORPHOLOGY

The impact factor for *Geomorphology* was 2.119 for the two-year window 2007-09. In 2009...

- A total of 703,351 full-text PDFs of articles from the journal were downloaded worldwide, a 24.7% increase over the record set in 2008;
- 39% of downloads were from outside North America and Europe;
- 471 manuscripts were received, a 21.4% increase over 2008;
- The rejection rate was 43%;
- The average editorial time, from initial submission until final decision (i.e., after revisions) was 24 weeks (reduced from 25.6 weeks in 2008);
- The average production time, from receipt of the accepted manuscript until a corrected proof was posted online was 4.9 weeks (reduced from 6.3 weeks in 2008);
- 92.4% of authors agreed they were "very satisfied" with the journal, based on author surveys of refereeing speed and standards, production speed and services, physical quality, impact factor, and reputation;
- 3646 pages were published, including 12 regular issues and 12 special issues:

"Dating, Triggering, Modeling, and Hazard Assessment of Large Landslides" ed. by G.B. Crosta and J.J. Clague

"Mountain Glaciation and Landscape Evolution" ed. by L.A. Owen, G.D. Thackray, and C. Yi

"Coastal Geomorphology" ed. by C. Zazo and N. Psuty

"Contemporary Research in Aeolian Geomorphology--6th International Conference on Aeolian Research" ed. by B.O. Bauer and N. Lancaster

"Recent Developments in Surface and Subsurface Karst Geomorphology" ed. by J. De waele, P. Audra, and L. Plan

"Coastal Vulnerability Related to Sea-Level Rise" ed. by C. Corbau and U. Simeoni

"Climate and Long-Term Human Impact on Sediment Fluxes in Watershed Systems" ed. by P. Heuben, J. Wunderlich, and L. Schrott

"Luminescence Dating in Geomorphology" ed. by S. Sukamoto, A. Murray, and J-H. Choi

"Theories and Methods in Geomorphology" ed. by A. Gonzalez-Diez, L. Schrott, and D. Brunsden

"GIS and SDA Applications in Geomorphology" ed. by J. Remondo and T. Oguchi

"Understanding Earth Surface Processes from Remotely Sensed Digital Terrain Models" ed. by P. Tarolli, J.R. Arrowsmith and E. Vivoni

"Short and Long Term Processes, Landforms and Responses in Large Rivers" ed. by E. Latrubesse, Z. Chen and J. Stevaux

The "10 Most Cited Articles" and 10 Most Downloaded Articles" continue to be listed on the journal's website and updated quarterly.

The editors very much appreciate the contributions from our Editorial Board. Here is a list of time-of-service on the Board (note that Vic Baker and Nel Caine have been members of the Board since the journal's inception in 1987):

Frank Ahnert, Heidelberg, Germany (1992)

David Alexander, Firenze, Italy (2002)

Andreas Baas, London, UK (2007)

Vic Baker, Tucson, Arizona, USA (1987)

Bernie Bauer, Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada (1999)

Michael Bishop, Omaha, Nebraska, USA (2004)

Geraldo Bocco, Mexico (2008)

G.A. Bothia, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa (2007)

Jean-Paul Bravard, Lyon, France (1998)

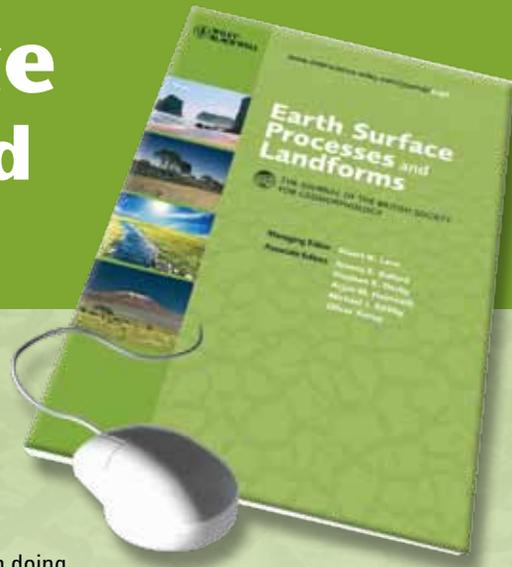
Joanna Bullard, Leicestershire, UK (2004)
David Butler (Book Review Editor), San Marcos, Texas, USA (1996)
Nel Caine, Boulder, Colorado, USA (1987)
Kang-tsung Chang, Taoyuan, Taiwan (2009)
Zhongyuan Chen, Shanghai, China (2001)
Pedro Cunha, Coimbra, Portugal (2009)
Melinda Daniels, Manhattan, Kansas (2007)
Michael Daniels, Denver, Colorado, USA (2005)
Zhibao Dong, Lanzhou, China (2008)
Carolyn Eyles, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada (1996)
Michael Fullen, Wolverhampton, UK (2001)
Rick Giardino, College Station, Texas (1995)
Dirk Goossens, Leuven, Belgium (2002)
Avi Gupta, Leeds, UK (1995)
Francisco Gutierrez, Zaragoza, Spain (2003)
Fausto Guzzetti, Perugia, Italy (2007)
Janet Hooke, Liverpool, UK (2003)
Kazuaki Hori, Nagoya, Japan (2003)
Allen James, Columbia, South Carolina, USA (2004)
Vishwas Kale, Poona-Pune, India (1992)
Jan Kalvoda, Prague, Czech Republic (2003)
Ed Keller, Santa Barbara, California, USA (1992)
Oliver Korup, Davos Dorf, Switzerland (2006)
Nick Lancaster, Reno, Nevada, USA (1992)
Edgardo Lautrubesse, Austin, Texas (2007)
Frank Lehmkuhl, Aachen, Germany (2007)
Mark Macklin, Aberystwyth, UK (1999)
Andrew Marcus, Eugene, Oregon, USA (2000)
Anne Mather, Plymouth, UK (1995)
Futoshi Nakamura, Sapporo, Japan (1999)

Gerald Nanson, Wollongong, New South Wales, Australia (2001)
Julian Orford, Belfast, Ireland (2003)
Greg Pasternack, Davis, California, USA (2009)
Jon Pelletier, Tucson, Arizona, USA (2006)
Jonathan Phillips, Lexington, Kentucky, USA (2002)
Herve Piegay, Lyon, France (2001)
Dorothy Sack, Athens, Ohio, USA (2003)
Lothar Schrott, Salzburg, Austria (2001)
Jack Shroder, Omaha, Nebraska, USA (1995)
Pablo Silva, Avila, Spain (1998)
Mauro Soldati, Moderna, Italy (1999)
Markus Stoffel, Geneva, Switzerland (2010)
Martin Stokes, Plymouth, UK (2004)
Martin Thoms, Belconnen, ACT, Australia (2004)
Colin Thorne, Nottingham, UK (1992)
Martin Thorp, Dublin, Ireland (2001)
Jef Vandenberghe, Amsterdam, The Netherlands (2007)
Brian Whalley, Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK (1995)
Rich Whittecar, Norfolk, Virginia, USA (2002)
Ellen Wohl, Fort Collins, Colorado, USA (1996)
Xiaoping Yang, Beijing, China (2009)

Editors-in-Chief for *Geomorphology*:

Marie Morisawa, 1987-1994
Jack Vitek, 1994-1998
Adrian Harvey, 1994-2005
Dick Marston, 1999-present
Takashi Oguchi, 2003 to present
Andy Plater, 2006 to present

Earth Surface Processes and Landforms



VIRTUAL SPECIAL ISSUES

Collections of Papers compiled into an online special issue

Virtual Themed Issues group together recent papers published in a number of different issues of *Earth Surface Processes and Landforms* into a single online resource. In doing so, we aim to create a resource that demonstrates new directions in a particular thematic area, by juxtaposing articles that might otherwise be read in isolation.

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- Depositional and erosional aeolian landform development
- Wind erosion and dust deposition

● REAPPRAISING THE GEOMORPHOLOGY-ECOLOGY LINK

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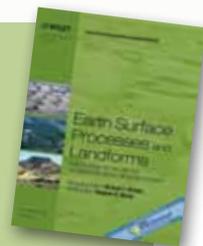
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