



**Vassar College**  
**Department of Geology & Geography**  
**Terra Firma**  
**2004**

**DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND GEOGRAPHY**  
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## VASSAR COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY & GEOGRAPHY, SPRING 2004

Dear Friends,

I'm delighted to write to you in the first issue of *Terra Firma*, the newly renamed alumnae/i newsletter of our department. As I mentioned in my mid-year correspondence, we've decided to change our name from *Terra Incognita* to *Terra Firma* in recognition of the firm ground on which our department now flourishes. Although one usually refers to 'resting' on firm ground, I think it is fair to choose instead the word 'flourish.' Students, faculty and staff in our department have been very active in the two years since you received a newsletter from us midway through 2002. Our department is the site of much collaborative research and teaching as well as exciting talks, field trips, and weekly gatherings.

These two years have been marked by substantial changes in the department. We have seen the retirements of our faithful secretary Sandy Ponte as well as long-term colleague Harvey Flad; the arrival and active involvement of a new tenure-track colleague, Joe Nevins; the successful tenure application of another dear colleague, Kirsten Menking; continued intradepartmental research and writing collaborations on grant-funded projects; and structural and curricular innovations in Ely Hall that have facilitated intellectual interactions among faculty and students in our department.

One of the great strengths of our department is that it consists of faculty from both the social and the natural sciences. Many thinkers agree that the future of education is multi- and interdisciplinary and we certainly have a 'leg up' on interdisciplinary thinking and collaboration in the department of



geology and geography at Vassar.

I was delighted to hear from many of you as a result of my entreaty to please send us your news. In order to encourage you to continue to stay in contact with us as the years progress, I'd like to relay a personal story for I believe it demonstrates the positive role the newsletter can play in the lives of Vassar students, past and present, as well as our faculty.

In the newsletter of June 2002, I wrote that I had received a Fulbright Fellowship to the University of the West Indies in Trinidad and Tobago and that my family and I planned to spend my sabbatical there

beginning in January 2003. When I wrote those words, little did I know that our department newsletter would critically facilitate my work in Trinidad and result in a close friendship with a department alum that I had never met!

In September 2002, I received a note from Sandy Ponte informing me that Bella Levorsen, class of 1943, wanted to speak with me. So began my great good fortune in getting to know one of our alums who herself had a profound connection with the place I would come to love during a stimulating, fascinating, and productive Fulbright fellowship. As I learned through letters and phone calls with Bella, she and her husband Bob had lived in Trinidad in the 1950s while doing petroleum geology. Despite the passage of more than fifty years, Bella and Bob maintained active involvement in the lives of numerous Trinidadians. In the months preceding my departure for Trinidad, Bella offered her knowledge of and connections with Trinis to smooth my way. As a result of Bella's efforts, my family and I ended up living at the home of one of her dearest Trinidadian friends who took us under his wings, taught me how to drive on the left side of the road, showed me how to get to the university, showed us where to shop, took us touring in the country and sailing on its waters and more! Bella very much enabled my productive sabbatical in Trinidad and offered me her friendship born out of our Vassar connection. Though we have never met face-to-face we have a deep and enduring connection.

I hope that this newsletter can serve such a purpose for other members of our extended family constituted by Vassar's geology and geography department. Alums of our department have gone on to interesting and rich careers and our current crop of talented

Vassar students would relish the opportunity to learn from you and make connections through you. So, over the next two years, won't you please drop us a note and let us know what you are up to? If you are inclined to serve as a resource for our current students, please say so and include your email address. Perhaps *Terra Firma* will not only renew old friendships and keep you posted about the learning that takes place in our department, but will foster new connections between students and alums of the department that can enrich the lives of both.

With warmest wishes,  
—Jill S. Schneiderman, Chair

## **DEPARTMENT NEWS**

**Curricular Innovation.** During this year, colleagues in the department worked together closely to hone our curricula. One of the exciting developments is the department's new earth science and society major. The new major offers students the opportunity to engage in interdisciplinary inquiry with faculty in our department while learning the theories and methodologies of the two geosciences; it presents an integrated and rigorous focus on the earth as humanity's home. We hope that students inclined toward environmental studies but who want to focus on social and natural sciences will avail themselves of this new opportunity in our dynamic department. The new major also speaks to our 21<sup>st</sup> century inclination to integrate the geology and geography programs and collaborate within the department at the same time as we maintain the boundaries of our disciplines.

Curricular integration and intradepartmental collaboration critical to the earth science and society major is evident in our reconceived course Geog/Geol 260, Conservation of Natural Resources, to be offered during the 2004-2005 academic year. The course, redesigned this year by Professor Mary Ann Cunningham, will focus on forest biodiversity conservation and will provide students enhanced understanding of the relationships between geography and geology through hands-on experience in each of them. A one-week field exercise in the Adirondacks will teach students field techniques and help them to comprehend the importance of quantitative analysis in conservation problems. I mention this course because it is expensive to conduct and we hope that funding, provided for the upcoming year by our department, the environmental sciences and studies

programs, and the field work and dean of the faculty offices, will continue to be available for this exciting curricular endeavor in the future. End-of-year department retreats yielded exciting ideas for geology-geography team-taught courses such as "Coal, Oil, Diamonds, and Gold" and "Water in the Urban Environment" in which resource issues are examined in geopolitical context. We believe that such interdisciplinary teaching in our department is both relevant to our time and appealing to Vassar students who tend to thrive on the expansive intellectual view.

Other substantial changes in our curricula included the addition of compelling political geography courses. The new geography courses reflect the highly relevant and exciting expertise of Joe Nevins, our newest geography tenure-track colleague. Joe's expertise as a political geographer is highly relevant to our difficult historical moment. Teaching such courses as "The U.S.-Mexico Border" and "Geographies of Mass Violence" to name two, Joe has drawn numerous students to our department who seek to understand the spatial distribution of turmoil of all sorts perhaps as a means of being part of a solution to injustices across the globe.

**Guest Lectures.** Our curriculum was substantially enriched this year by a variety of guest lectures. In addition to giving college-wide talks, many visiting lecturers spoke in our classes. Our relatively small department benefited from a new college policy that rather than assigning a specific dollar amount to each department for guest lectures, allows departments to request funds for speakers. The availability of funds this year matched our energy and interest in

arranging such lectures. As a result we sponsored nine visiting lectures. Among them were Professor Alex Murphy from the University of Oregon and president of the Association of American Geographers, who spoke for Geography Awareness Week on “Claiming Space: How Geographic Context Shapes State Territoriality.” For Earth Science Week, Professor Jill Singer from SUNY College at Buffalo and president of the Council on Undergraduate Research spoke on “The Follies of Lotus Bay: An Earth Scientist’s Role in Environmental Policy.”

**Physical Changes.** This year we undertook substantial modifications to the structural arrangements in our department. The changes ranged in scope and size but we embarked on them all as part of our effort to spiff up our appearance and maximize our physical space for the benefit of students, faculty and staff. Among our many efforts were the following: 1) relocated office equipment to the map room in order to provide a central space to serve as a department lounge; 2) painted most common areas and installed new carpet in hallways; 3) reconfigured department display cases and bulletin boards to advertise scholarship of the faculty, department course offerings, programs of study, special events, opportunities for student research, and field work; 4) installed devices for prominently displaying large format posters of student and faculty research in department corridors. We also proposed and had approved the following modifications to take place over the summer 2004: 1) installation of ceiling projectors and audiovisual cabinets in the seminar room and a laboratory classroom; 2) purchase of table and chairs for our seminar room; and 3) air conditioning for laboratories on the second floor of Ely Hall.

In the last ten years, the number of permanent faculty, staff and administrators working in our department has grown from seven to eleven. We have accommodated that growth by being flexible and collegial with regard to physical space. We are able to continue to be creative and generous about the way we utilize space in Ely Hall. This orientation allows us to evolve in innovative ways especially as technology has taken a more prominent role in both the geography and geology curricula. For example, over the next academic year, the geology faculty will rearrange equipment now occupying five laboratories and consolidate it into four. The reorganization will free up the current rock preparation laboratory so that it can be made into a laboratory for field-based geographic information systems research (GIS), a critical tool for any student of geology and geography today.

**Weekly Department Tea Hour.** Creation of the department lounge enabled our department’s weekly teas, which regularly attracted most of the faculty and so many students that we filled the new room to capacity nearly every week. On occasion we had a special guest or celebrated a special day such as someone’s birthday. At the last tea for the year we invited Buildings and Grounds employees—plumbers, masons, painters and carpenters—who had worked on the refurbishment of the building this past year. Also, Lois Horst, our spectacular administrative assistant, worked to outfit the lounge with a sofa and chairs, lamps, and a large table for doing coursework. She arranged periodicals and readings for classes on the bookshelves and made sure that students would have access to the lounge on weekends and evenings. Thus the new department lounge has become a central locale for intellectual and social interactions in the department.

**Grants.** This spring we received the delightful news that the department was awarded a Hewlett Packard Technology for Teaching Grant. It will provide mobile technology in the form of 20 HP Tablet PCs for student and faculty fieldwork.

**Field Trips.** Field trips continue to be a critical part of the education of all Vassar geography and geology majors and students enjoyed a multitude of field experiences. Students in Brian McAdoo's environmental science course which focused on the geology and ecology of the American Southwest traveled to northern Arizona in October 2003. They investigated an active burn on the north rim of the Grand Canyon as part of their study of fire ecology, toured the Grand Canyon Village waterworks and the Glen Canyon dam, and enjoyed two days of rafting on the Colorado River as a means of studying riparian ecology, geology, and the river's hydrology. Also Brian's oceanography course included its annual trek down to Fire Island to track the effect of development on sand dunes and students in his Oil course visited Schlumberger's research facility in Ridgefield Connecticut. Students in Kirsten Menking's structural geology course benefited from overnight fieldtrips to a Pennsylvania underground coal mine and to the stretched pebble Purgatory conglomerate in Rhode Island. Students in Jill Schneiderman's sedimentology course studied glacial deposits and beach processes as part of a four-day October field trip to the outer reaches of Cape Cod. Geography students also did a considerable bit of field tripping! Yu Zhou's students explored the nature of immigrant communities in New York's Chinatown. Students studying with Brian Godfrey also examined New York neighborhoods as part of their studies in Urban Geography. The field-based expertise of our faculty even reached beyond our

department! Vassar's annual international studies trip in spring 2003 to China was proposed and led by Yu Zhou and the College's spring 2004 international studies trip to Brazil was proposed and led by Brian Godfrey. Yu Zhou's trip also included Brian McAdoo and Kirsten Menking. Both trips were an enormous success and are a tribute to the able faculty who developed them and made them happen. Such field endeavors are expensive but critical to giving our students real world experience of the subjects they are studying. We thank our alums who have contributed to our field trip funds for you have made these rich educational experiences possible.

**Students.** During the 2003-2004 academic year, 236 students enrolled in geography courses and 113 students took geology courses. Because many geology courses are accompanied by laboratory sessions, we offer fewer geology courses than geography courses and hence enroll fewer students in geology courses compared to geography courses. Twenty-eight students majored in geology or geography as of the end of this academic year. Of these, 12 students equally distributed between geology and geography graduated in the class of 2004.

The department benefited this past academic year from the energetic efforts of our two department interns—Christina Apodaca and Craig Dalton. These two able students coordinated a fund-raising map sale, arranged department study breaks, and organized events for geography awareness and earth science weeks. Camaraderie among students overall was good; it was fostered by our newly instituted, lively, weekly department tea hours in our new department lounge, participation in course-related geography and geology field trips, and geography student attendance at the

middle states meeting of the Association of American Geographers (AAG).

Nine seniors completed theses. Presentations of senior research were followed by the annual department picnic--a very pleasant culminating departmental event of the year. Geography major Craig Dalton earned the department's Ellen Churchill Semple prize

for excellence in geography and received a highly competitive one-year internship at the National Geographic Society for next year. Geology major Justin Minder earned the department's Erminnie Smith prize for excellence in geology and will enter the PhD program in Atmospheric Science at the University of Washington with a full fellowship in September.

## FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

**Candice Cunningham.** Candice has worked for our department as technician for two years and her involvement has been critical to our success. Candice organizes classroom specimens as well as laboratory and field equipment, orders, lends, and inventories the materials and equipment we use, and arranges transportation for field trips for all our classes among other duties. She has cleaned out and reorganized storage rooms to make critical space for our enlarged department. That we have her to assist us makes possible a variety of improvements that we have planned for next year including consolidation of research labs and putting into digital format our collections of images for teaching. We are delighted that she is a member of our crew here in Ely Hall.

**Mary Ann Cunningham.** Mary Ann taught three courses in the fall semester including a freshman course, cartography with lab, and a new half-unit course on remote sensing which will become a useful contribution to the department's curriculum in research techniques. Mary Ann published *Exploring Environmental Science with GIS* with departmental co-authors Meg Stewart, Jill Schneiderman and student Liv Gold (VC 2005). She also has a paper in press in the *Professional Geographer* and has submitted two other papers—one on cartographic instruction and one on remotely sensed landcover data—for publication. Despite being on sabbatical during the spring semester, Mary Ann gave her time generously in departmental matters. For example, she co-wrote the successful Hewlett Packard grant proposal for mobile technology and redesigned and assessed field needs for Geog/Geol 260 Conservation of Natural Resources, which she will teach next year. Mary Ann spent part of her sabbatical learning statistical methods with

U.S. Geological Survey biostatistician, Doug Johnson, with whom she is currently writing two papers. She is conducting a third field season of bird surveys in the Sheyenne National Grassland in North Dakota, an amalgam of savanna and mixed-grass prairie environments that is one of the largest contiguous expanses of this mixed landscape in the northern Great Plains. Finally, Mary Ann visited Denmark and the Netherlands to learn about approaches to environmental design and planning there.

**Harvey Flad.** During this academic year, Harvey was on sabbatical and taught one course for the department during the spring semester before retiring after 32 years at Vassar. In commemoration of Harvey's retirement and to honor his long involvement on behalf of homeless people in Poughkeepsie, department alumnae, faculty and staff made a substantial donation to Hudson River Housing. We were happy to have the opportunity to acknowledge Harvey's contributions to our department over his many years on the faculty at a departmental reception at Pratt House in May.

**Brian Godfrey.** Brian Godfrey taught five courses this year, including International Studies 110b, which took a group of 40 students to Brazil during spring break. Brian had several articles and book chapters either published or accepted for publication on topics including "New Urban Ethnic Landscapes," "Latino Sense of Place in San Francisco," "Spanish and Portuguese Colonial Cities in the Americas," and "Waterfronts of New York State." Works in progress include a co-authored article on the redevelopment of the World Trade Center and a long-term project on historical preservation in Latin American cities. Also

Brian lectured on two educational travel programs one sponsored by AAVC to Costa Rica and another through the American Geographical Society to Portugal. Brian was elected to the board of directors of the Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers and the Brazilian Studies Association. We are grateful that he continued to serve ably and very collegially as associate chair of the department.

**Lois Horst.** Lois began work in our department in January 2003 and has transformed our department in ways we didn't know were possible! As a result of her efforts, we gained a new student lounge and a reorganized office copy and supply room. Creation of the department lounge enabled our department's weekly teas. In the department office, Lois continued to clean out and reorganize files that had accumulated over more than 20 years. As a result of her work with the special collections librarian, much of the material formerly stored in the office has found a home in Special Collections. Also, Lois worked with two students throughout the year on the map room, now combined with the office copy and supply room, to label drawers and sort and rearrange maps. Last but not least, Lois finished her Vassar degree. Days after her 50<sup>th</sup> birthday and after 10 years of part-study and full-time employment, Lois graduated Phi Beta Kappa with honors in her major (Environmental Studies) based on her high GPA and an honors thesis focused on the history of Vassar's natural history museum! We whole-heartedly congratulate her and celebrate her magnificent accomplishment.

**Brian McAdoo.** Brian McAdoo taught four classes this year: Digital Underground; Field Geophysics; Fire, Water and People: Geology and Ecology of the American Southwest; Oceanography; and Oil.

Characteristic of Brian's innovative approach to science teaching that is often context-based and interdisciplinary, students in Digital Underground completed a survey of a nineteenth to twentieth century potter's field (cemetery) at the Dutchess County Poorhouse. The Associated Press ran a story on the project and students also presented their findings to the public. Oil was, yet again, a timely course. With the continued war in Iraq, gas prices at near record highs, and oil companies reaching the limits of extraction technology, students were deeply engaged in the course material. The aforementioned field trip to Schlumberger's research facility in Ridgefield, Connecticut coincided with a talk on the need to face the imminently approaching reality of limited oil production. As part of the course, students used GIS to map the relationship between oil and global conflict. In terms of scholarship, Brian submitted a paper on the geomorphology of the Nankai (Japan) Continental Slope to *Tectonics*. For his upcoming sabbatical during 2004-2005 Brian will be a visiting professor at Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule (ETH-Zurich) in Switzerland. While there he plans to advance ongoing research on topics including: the landscape of convergent continental margins; potential tsunami hazards from landslides; the stable isotope geochemistry of authigenic carbonates; and the erosive regime near the Eel River basin.

**Kirsten Menking.** This year, Kirsten taught Structural Geology and Tectonics; Earth, Environment and Humanity; and Paleoclimatology: Earth's History of Climatic Change. In Paleoclimatology, students conducted a local dendroclimatology study and assisted Kirsten with her exciting local research concerning the history of climate change in the Shawangunk Mountains as recorded by

sediments in Lake Mohonk. With the magnificent Mohonk Mountain house in the background, Kirsten and her students extracted a core from the lake during the coldest days of winter when the ice on the lake provided a firm platform for the field work! *The Poughkeepsie Journal* featured this endeavor with a story accompanied by a lovely photograph of her and her students at work. In the preceding year, Kirsten taught her innovative course on computer modeling in the geosciences that she developed with the benefit of an NSF grant awarded to her for that purpose. With regard to research, Kirsten published two papers in *Hydrological Sciences Journal* and *Geology* concerning her research on climate change as reflected by sediments in the Estancia basin New Mexico and submitted two others for publication in *Quaternary Research* and *Palaeontographica Americana*. In the summer 2003, Kirsten presented a talk and a poster at the XVI International Quaternary Association Congress. In December, she convened two education sessions at the annual meeting of the American Geophysical Union, presented a poster in one of the sessions, and brought with her to the meeting a Vassar geology undergraduate who collaborated with her on the work presented (Joel Dashnaw). In March 2004, Kirsten co-convened a session at the joint Northeastern-Southeastern section meeting of the Geological Society of America and gave a talk as part of that session that was co-authored with Vassar student Justin Minder. At the beginning of the academic year, Kirsten conducted a half-day workshop for Vassar faculty from chemistry, biology, physics and psychology on teaching computer modeling skills to undergraduates and in October, she organized and presented at a one-day conference on groundwater pollution problems in Dutchess County. We were delighted to report that Kirsten earned

tenure and will be promoted to associate professor as of July 1, 2004.

**Joe Nevins.** Joining our department on the vacated tenure-track line, political geographer Joe Nevins completed a prestigious postdoctoral fellowship at Berkeley and became assistant professor of geography in the fall. Joe taught the following courses this year: US-Mexico Border: Region, Place and Process; Political Geography: The Nation-State System and the Rise of American Nationalism and Patriotism; Terrorism and Imperialism and the Making of the Modern World; and two sections of Global Geography: Cultural, Political, and Economic Systems. He had academic articles published in *Political Geography* (on coffee, environmental violence, and restitution), *Economic Geography* (on the East Timor-Australia conflict over the oil and gas resources in their common seabed), and *Migraciones Internacionales* (a critique of human rights and academic writings on migrant deaths). He also revised and resubmitted a co-authored piece to *Political Geography* and finished a submission for the *Journal of Human Rights*. In addition, *Antipode* published a piece he wrote as part of a forum on his book, *Operation Gatekeeper: The Rise of the "Illegal Alien" and the Making of the U.S.-Mexico Boundary*. *Geopolitics* published a review essay he wrote on the relationship between political violence and natural resources. Joe also had numerous journalistic publications published in *Z Magazine*, the *International Herald Tribune*, the *National Catholic Reporter*, and *Counterpunch.org*, among others. In the fall, he signed a book contract with Cornell University Press to publish his completed manuscript in early 2005 under the title *A Not-So-Distant Horror: Making and Accounting for Mass Violence in East Timor*. Joe gave invited lectures this year at

the University of Southern Maine, Colgate University, and the University of Kansas. We are delighted to have a scholar of such high caliber among us who also turns out to be a talented teacher and a wonderfully friendly person (with a great Boston accent!)

**Jill Schneiderman.** During this academic year, Jill served the first year of a three-year term as chair of the department. In the fall semester she taught Feminism and Environmentalism and in the spring semester she taught Earth Materials with lab. The preceding year she taught sedimentology and was on sabbatical. She published a paper on heavy minerals in the Yangtze delta in *Journal of Coastal Research* and published *Exploring Environmental Science with GIS* co-authored with colleagues Meg Stewart and Mary Ann Cunningham as well as student Liv Gold (VC 2005). She also co-wrote the successful Hewlett Packard grant proposal for mobile technology. Jill had accepted for publication in *Natural Resources Forum* a paper on gender and water resources in Trinidad and Tobago and has submitted a review manuscript on heavy minerals for the book *Heavy Minerals in Use*. In the fall, Jill gave a talk at the annual meeting of the Geological Society of America on her collaborative research with Meg Stewart and Yu Zhou on the environmental inventory of the mid-Hudson valley. She also gave an invited plenary address at the biennial meeting of the Council on Undergraduate Research entitled “Justice as a Motivation for Multidisciplinary Research.” Highlights of Jill’s year were collaborations with department alums including a guest lecture in her Feminism and Environmentalism class by department alum Liz Titus Putnam and a paper she gave with Barbara O’Grady on arsenic contaminated soils. What great fun it is to interact with our department alums of the past!

**Meg Stewart.** Though Meg’s part-time administrative position is in Computing and Information Services, she is very much an integral part of our department. Meg continues to supervise and maintain the GIS lab and coordinates teaching and research efforts within and outside the department that involve geographic information systems and the GIS lab. She is also our main means of communication and coordination with CIS—a large job in a technology-heavy department. This year Meg published *Exploring Environmental Science with GIS* co-authored with Mary Ann Cunningham and Jill Schneiderman as well as student Liv Gold (VC 2005). She also co-wrote and was a main force behind our successful Hewlett Packard grant proposal for mobile technology. As a result of the proposal, she will add to her dossier of responsibilities, oversight of the twenty-one new tablet PCs and associated hardware and software. Meg gave two poster presentations this year at the annual meetings of the Geological Society of America and the Association of American Geographers. She also gave an invited talk at SUNY Binghamton on her EPA-funded research with Yu Zhou and Jill Schneiderman on an environmental inventory of the mid-Hudson valley.

**Allison Tumarkin-Deratzian.** We also welcomed to the department this year Allison Tumarkin-Deratzian, visiting assistant professor of geology. Allison taught Earth, Environment and Humanity, Evolution of Earth and Its Life, and Dinosauria, a new senior-level seminar focusing on dinosaur evolution and paleobiology. In October, Allison presented a paper at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, as one of 15 finalists for the Alfred Sherwood Romer Prize—the Society’s highest award for graduate student research. Portions of her

research on bone growth in birds, crocodylians and dinosaurs appeared in the *Proceedings of the 16th Working Meeting of the Crocodile Specialist Group*. She submitted a new manuscript this spring to the *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society* that is currently in review. During spring break, Allison continued her research on the American alligator by examining skeletal collections in the Department of Geosciences at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne, where she also gave an invited lecture on How to Age a Fossil Bone: Lessons from Dinosaurs and Their Modern Relatives. Allison has done a terrific job as a professor in our department. She is a delightful colleague and an invaluable resource for those of us in the department who have young children fascinated with dinosaurs!

**Jeff Walker.** Jeff Walker was on sabbatical this past academic year. During that time he completed a manuscript for a reissue of John Burroughs's *Signs and Seasons*, submitted a paper to *Farming Magazine*, and prepared an article for *The Land Report*. He presented three different papers at each of the following meetings: the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment; the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Environment and Community; and a conference entitled "Sharp Eyes III: John Burroughs and his contemporaries, Near and Far." Jeff continues to experiment with methods of sustainable agriculture on his family's farm in Hyde Park and advises many students doing field work or independent research on the topic of sustainable living.

## SENIOR THESES

### 2002-2003 Academic Year

- **Jeffrey Brooks, Geography**, “An Image Problem: Guides, Lumberjacks, and the Construction of ‘Adirondack Identity’”
- **Steven Hagymasi, Geography**, “Urban Redevelopment of the Gold Coast’s Slums”
- **Millie Johnson, Geography**, “Health Crises and Alternative Visions”
- **Jayant Kairam, Geography**, “The Spatialized Subject: Making Place for Subjectivity in Postmodern Geography”
- **Ryan Lamb, Geography**, “Feeling the Pinch: Portland’s Urban Growth Boundary and the Loss of the Poor”
- **Stefan Stawnychy, Geography**, “The Role of Heritage in the Debate Over Taras Shevchenko Place”
- **Krystal Tribbett, Geology**, “Reevaluation of Mass Movements Within the Valles Marineris Region of Mars Using New MOLA and MOC Data”



**Geography Majors**

### 2003-2004 Academic Year

- **Craig M. Dalton, Geography**, “The American Imperial Cartography” Advisor: Harvey Flad
- **Nate Fuller, Geology**, “A reconstruction of late Holocene climate in the Teton area from layers of sediment contained in ice from the Fossil Mountain Ice Cave in Teton County, Wyoming” Advisor: Kirsten Menking
- **Justin Minder, Geology**, “SWATing the Casperkill; A Physically Based Model of a Small Watershed in Poughkeepsie, NY” Advisor: Kirsten Menking
- **Darcy Nelson, Geography-Anthropology**, “Rugby and National Identity in New Zealand” Advisor: Yu Zhou
- **Laura Reilly, Geography**, “Towards a Global Synthesis: Educational Travel and the Future of Geography” Advisor: Brian Godfrey
- **Krysia Skorko, Geology**, “The Effects of Geomorphology on Beach Sand Composition and Grain Size Distribution in Trinidad, Tobago and Grenada” Advisor: Jill Schneiderman
- **Shannon Stagner, Geography**, “Knowing No Boundaries: International Environmental Governance Within the Nation-State System” Advisor: Yu Zhou
- **Tiffany J. Waters, Geography-Anthropology**, “Blood quantum: The Decimation of American Indian Identity” Advisor: Joe Nevins



**Geology Majors**