Assistant Professor David Carr is the Co-PI for a proposal which was awarded a recent grant for research in the NSF’s new Dynamics of Coupled Natural and Human Systems (CNH) program. The program is in its first year; is designed to provide a better understanding of natural processes and cycles, human behavior and decisions, and how they interact; and is supported by NSF’s directorates for biological sciences; geosciences; and social, behavioral, and economic sciences. David’s proposal, “CNH: Collaborative Research: The Impact of Economic Globalization on Human Demography, Land Use, and Natural Systems in Latin American and the Caribbean,” was written in conjunction with T. Mitchell Aide of the University of Puerto Rico and resulted in a $564,421 grant.

David’s award was one of just 12 grants given by the NSF in 2007 to scientists, engineers, and educators across the country to study coupled natural and human systems. “Improved models for understanding how the geosphere, biosphere and atmosphere are interconnected will rely on research like that supported in CNH projects,” said James Collins, NSF assistant director for biological sciences. “The focus of these projects is on uncovering the strong and weak forces that link a wide range of ecosystems. In all these ecosystems, humans play an increasingly important role.”

According to the proposal’s Abstract, Dr. Carr’s study is designed to “reveal new concepts that will facilitate society’s understanding of the socioeconomic and biodiversity consequences of global change. The major contribution will be a detailed database that integrates demographic, economic, land-use, and ecosystem data at multiple spatial scales. This information will be used to create continental-scale models of land-use change, and these models will be used to facilitate local governments and non-governmental organizations in regional to local planning.” Dr. Carr sent the following letter to the Department last year regarding his field work for the study to date:

"...when most of this misery can be palliated overnight at pennies per capita, our place in the world is challenged."
Climate change is a major concern for all of us, and the Department of Geography at UCSB continues to play a major part in understanding and dealing with it. Dr. Chris Funk, an Associate Researcher in our Climate Hazards Group, recently coauthored an article on the subject in the journal *Science*. Professor Catherine Gautier co-edited a book on the subject (*Facing Climate Change Together*) which came out in French last August and which will be published in English this September; Professor David Carr received a major grant to evaluate the effectiveness of integrating population and health interventions with environmental conservation efforts in priority ecological “hot spots” in Africa and Asia; and Geography graduate students Reginald Archer, Robyn Clark, Frank Davenport, Michael Marshall, and Felipe Murtinho garnered 5 of the 20 UCSB Henry Luce Environmental Science Fellowships for 2008.

Change has also impacted personnel in the Department. A warm welcome to Dr. Bodo Bookhagen who recently joined us as an Assistant Professor. Bodo is a geologist and computer scientist with a particular interest in the application of remote sensing tools for characterizing and quantifying erosion processes. He received his PhD (summa cum laude) in Geology (late quaternary climate change and geomorphologic processes in the Himalaya) in 2005 from Potsdam University, Germany. We also welcome Dr. Ed Keller, a Professor in the Department of Earth Science and the Department of Environmental Studies, who has been appointed as an Affiliate of the Department of Geography. Ed received the Geological Society of America’s Don J. Easterbrook Distinguished Scientist Award in 2004. His research interests are earthquake hazard, active folding, and mountain building processes, as well as the study of river processes and fish habitat in the chaparral environment in southern California. Our staff has also undergone changes, and we welcome our new Graduate Student Affairs Manager, Karen Barteld, who joined us last October; our new apprentice Information Systems Administrator, Gwen Raubal, who joined us last November; and Christian Brown, our new Staff Purchasing and Travel Coordinator, who joined us this February.

But some things never change – our Departmental kudos continue to accumulate! Professor Hugo Loaiciga recently was elected a Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers for his “outstanding contributions to the planning, analysis, and operation of water resources engineering.” Professor Kostas Goulias recently teamed up with a colleague at the University of Illinois at Chicago to create a new journal in the field of Transportation Research, *Transportation Letters: The International Journal of Transportation Research*, and our Department recently was ranked #2 in the nation by *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. “What,” you say, only #2?

Last but not least, the aging process is another thing that never changes. To celebrate Professor Reginald Golledge’s 70th birthday, the Geography Department designated last December 6 as “Reg Day” and both roasted and toasted him. Reg is famous for pioneering the field of Behavioral Geography, and, more recently, the field of Disabilities Geography. While Reg was a bit embarrassed by some tributes, he was deeply touched by others. But what was most striking on “Reg Day” was how full a life Reg has led and continues to lead, both socially and academically. That would be amply true even if not for the inordinate amount of physical adversity that he has endured and overcome. Reg felt deeply touched by the tribute in his honor – as was everyone present.

“The universe is change; our life is what our thoughts make it” (Marcus Aurelius Antoninus). Sort of like the study of Geography…

Sincerely,

Oliver Chadwick

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*PS. The correct choice is MAULLIN BAY/CHILE*

NM23-720-597 Maullin River, Puerto Montt, Chile Winter/Spring 1997

The southern end of the Central Valley of Chile can be seen in this south-looking view. The southern portion of the large Lake Llanquihue is visible in the lower left of the image. The Maullin River flows generally southwestward, over a number of small waterfalls, emptying into the Gulf of Coranados at the center right of the image. Clouds cover the Chacao Channel that separates the southern end of Central Valley and the northern end of Chiloe Island, barely discernible through the clouds at the upper right of the image. The small city of Puerto Montt is visible 12 miles (18 km) south of Lake Llanquihue (lower left). Located at the northern end of the Gulf of Ancud, Puerto Montt is the terminus of the southern railroad and the starting point for navigation through the inland waterways and among the many islands to the south. The city is a popular tourist resort. Sheep farming and fishing are also important industries in the region. The Gulf of Ancud covers the left center and upper left.
Bodo Bookhagen Joins Geography Faculty

A warm welcome to Dr. Bodo Bookhagen who has formally accepted the Department of Geography’s offer of a faculty position as an Assistant Professor. Bodo is a geologist and computer scientist with a particular interest in the application of remote sensing tools for characterizing and quantifying erosion processes. He has a BSc in Computer Science and Geophysics, a MSc in Geology (structural and geomorphic mapping in combination with climate modeling in the Andes), and a PhD (summa cum laude) in Geology (late quaternary climate change and geomorphologic processes in the Himalaya), all from Potsdam University, Germany. During his thesis work, Bodo spent several years at the UC Berkeley and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories. After completing his PhD in 2004, he spent one year as an assistant researcher at the UCSB Geology Department where he continued to apply remote-sensing tools to erosion-related research questions.

From January 2006 to the present, Bodo worked as a postdoc at Stanford University where his research focused on Quaternary climate change and on surface and tectonic processes – he was a member of the Active Tectonics and Geomorphology group and was responsible for establishing and managing the cosmogenic nuclide laboratory. According to his web site at Stanford, “I apply a variety of methods to constrain recent changes in atmospheric circulation including remote sensing techniques (utilizing mainly SSM/I, TRMM, and MODIS onboard NASA satellites) and atmospheric modeling of topographic effects on rainfall distribution. In order to constrain surface and shallow tectonic process rates, I rely on Al/Be/Ne cosmogenic nuclide dating. This also involves landscape-evolution modeling on various spatial and temporal scales. I try to constrain deep-seated tectonic processes and long-term landscape evolution by a combination of detrital records and structural, thermal, and surface-erosion modeling. Currently, my research focuses on the Himalaya, the Tien Shan, and coastal regions of south-central Chile.”

Bodo received the 2004 Bernd-Rendel Award from the German Science Foundation and the 2005 Publication Award of the Leibniz College at the University of Potsdam. He began teaching Geography classes winter quarter, and, when he is not teaching, in a lab, or developing new algorithms for processing remote-sensing data, Bodo enjoys biking with his little son Tayo (above).

Loaiciga Elected Fellow of ASCE

Professor Hugo Loaiciga was recently elected a Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers for his “outstanding contributions to…the planning, analysis, and operation of water resources engineering.” Founded in 1852, the ASCE is the oldest national engineering society in the United States and currently has over 150,000 members.

To quote its web site, “ASCE Fellows occupy the Society’s second-highest membership grade, exceeded only by Honorary Members. There is no direct admission to the grade of Fellow. Fellow status must be attained by professional accomplishments via application and election by the Membership Application Review Committee (MARC). It is a prestigious honor held by fewer than 6% of ASCE members. Fellows are practitioners, educators, mentors, and most of all leaders. They have distinguished careers that have contributed significantly to the Civil Engineering profession. The accomplishments of Fellows have left their marks on their communities, society, and future engineering professionals” (http://www.asce.org/membership/fellowgrade.cfm).

Hugo received a BS in Civil Engineering from the University of Costa Rica and an MS and PhD in Water Resources and Hydrology from the University of California, Davis. His research interests include planning, design, and analysis of water resources systems; and theory and computational aspects of surface and ground water hydrology. Hugo served as the Water Commissioner for the City of Santa Barbara for six years, and he joined the UCSB Department of Geography in 1988. For more, see http://www.geog.ucsb.edu/people/faculty/hugo-loaiciga.php.
Dear Geographers,

Since August I have been consulting with the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and World Wildlife Fund (WWF). My task was to evaluate the effectiveness of integrating population and health interventions with environmental conservation efforts in priority ecological “hot spots” in Africa and Asia. In this capacity, I’ve visited Philippines, Nepal, India, Madagascar, Kenya, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Mozambique, and Ethiopia. Phew!

WWF Community Conservation Directory, Judy Oglethorpe accompanied me on these travels. A typical week for us would be a stay at a chain hotel in a capital city, where we would meet with national GOs and NGO partners such as the USAID missions, WWF offices, and Ministries of Health. Somnambulant from jet lag, we would then be lurched from the creature comforts of a Hilton to the wilds of some of the poorest, most remote corners of the country—these are the places, of course, where wildlife remains to conserve. Although each of the sites is in early demographic and development stages, I was surprised at the diversity that existed among them. For example, the Philippines marine conservation sites were home to fishing families who were subsisting quite satisfactorily with at least some government presence in the form of basic municipal services and health care. Meanwhile, Pygmies recently settled into communities at the forest’s edge of the Congo Basin were suffering infant mortality rates exceeding 50%—higher than several years ago when they remained foragers in the rainforest. (The Kenyan Boni people we visited near the Somali border were suffering a similar plight.)

The work was intellectually, physically, and emotionally intense. Intellectually, it was challenging to shift from research mode (how do we best measure this?) to applied mode (how can we improve services to people now?). The latter is a management problem I am unequipped by training to resolve. Nevertheless, I have broadened my horizons during these travels and am excited to pursue several research ideas borne from recent collaborations.

Although I admit that I spent most days sitting on my duff interviewing people, there were some physically challenging moments. One memorable sojourn was our attempt to use a vehicle for transportation on an old logging road through the CAR forest on the border of Congo-Brazzaville. After successfully clearing brush around several fallen trees we were halted in our tracks by the mother of all mahoganies. I was forced to leave one of my luggage bags and continue on foot to the river border—one frequented by arms and diamond traders who take advantage of the absence of a customs station.

Emotionally, it was difficult to experience places where astonishing natural beauty and abject human suffering coexist. When more than half of newborns die, when endemic malaria, schistosomiasis, and gastrointestinal illnesses are punctuated by occasional Ebola outbreaks, and when most of this misery can be palliated overnight at pennies per capita, our place in the world is challenged. It was this sort of metaphysical disquiet, not the pseudo-threat (although the US State Department took this quite seriously following a threat to kidnap US citizens) presented by the rag-tag Al Qaeda crew who had stumbled across the Somali border searching for food, that reminded me of my own mortality. Moving on now, I am quite pleased to report that, aside from catching a gnarly flu in Nepal, I have successfully navigated some of the planet’s most disease-rich areas with health intact. See you all in January.
To celebrate Professor Reginald Golledge’s 70th birthday, the Geography Department designated December 6 as “Reg Day” and both roasted and toasted him. Scores of people had been contacted and invited to send in birthday greetings, reminiscences, stories, and the like. To quote Professor Dan Montello’s invitation, “we will read several of these at his roast, which will not be attended by children or censors, so you may use your own judgment and taste in devising your anecdote.” Over 30 greetings and stories were sent from around the world.

Dan was masterful as the master of ceremonies during the hour-plus session, both in terms of orchestrating participants’ contributions and in terms of his outrageous and hilariously “Rabelaisian” version of Reg’s background and history which kicked off the event (it turns out that hotwiring tractors can get you into a heap of trouble down under). Reg grimaced when he heard Dan describe the event as a roast, but he was soon guffawing at Dan’s “introduction” and then laughing (sometimes in embarrassment) as some of his early escapades were described. Professor Keith Clarke commented that he’d had to “seriously censor” some of the anecdotes sent in by Reg’s friends and colleagues, but he managed to leave enough in to cause Reg and the audience to laugh and applaud continually.

Professor Helen Couclelis provided a picture which was projected onto the meeting room screen. The photo, taken about 20 years ago, shows (counter-clockwise from the top) Reg Golledge, Allen Pred, Allen Scott, Derek Gregory, Eric Wallin, Dietrich Bartels, Peter Sanford, Anne Osterrieth, Peter Gould, Helen Couclelis, Gunnar Olsson, Kathleen Christensen, Bernard Marchand, and Anne Buttimer. Helen reminisced about first meeting Reg at the meeting in this photograph, which took place at a breathtakingly beautiful spot on Lake Como in Northern Italy. She also read an intriguing story from Vicky Rivizzigno about the legendary “Reggie punch”; Vicky confessed that she quickly learned “to moderate my intake of Reggie punch when my face started to become numb.”

Professors Waldo Tobler and Rick Church both commented on Reg’s prowess as a squash player, noting that he was known as “twinkle toes” on the squash court, had a “rugby mentality,” and tended to pin them to the walls. Reg retorted, “that’s why they call it squash!” Ed Keller (Geology) and Rick Johnson (Instructional Consultation) had several “fish stories” about Reg, including stories about some that got away and some that did not. Rick Church read a note from Ron Briggs, Reg’s first Ph.D. student, who recounted a fascinating story about a wedding reception in Texas, the kind of reception they just don’t hold anymore (picture from early in the evening – Reg on the left, below).

If Reg was a bit embarrassed by some tributes, he was deeply touched by others. In particular, he responded to testimonials by Professor Ed Keller and Professor Jack Loomis (Psychology). He pointed out that Ed had pulled him out of his house and out of depression shortly after he lost his sight in 1984 and had literally saved him in a social sense. Reg also thanked Jack (and continued on page 8
THANK YOU, DONORS!
The Department of Geography would like to thank the following people and institutions for their generous support during the period November 2007 - March 2008

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Alumni News and Change-of-Address Form
Mail to: Newsletter Editor, Geography Department, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-4060

We would love to hear news of your life and appreciate your taking the time to update us with addresses and phone numbers. If you prefer, submit the information on-line at: www.geog.ucsb.edu/people/alumnus_update_form.htm

NAME: First__________________________________Middle initial___Last name ___________________

Last name when graduated, if different from above: _____________________________________________

DEGREE(S): Please circle the degree(s) you earned in Geography at UCSB and year received.
BA  Year ________BS  Year _______MA  Year _______PhD  Year _______

CONTACT NUMBERS: Do we have your current contact information? If we need to update our records or if you’re not sure whether we have your latest numbers, please fill in the information.
Street address or P.O. Box _______________________________________________________________
City _________________________State or Province ______________Zip code (or postal code) ______
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NEWS: Please share brief news of a personal or professional nature – marriage, births, jobs, further education, career changes, publications, awards, etc. If possible, limit submissions to 100 words or less.
___________________________________________________________________________________
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continued on page 8
Eli Kersh-Oliva received his BA in Geography last June and currently works for the Santa Barbara County Fire Department. Here's what he has to say about fighting fire with GIS:

“I was offered the job in May because of my work in conjunction with the fire department during my senior project in Dr. Goodchild’s GIS class 176 C. The project’s goal was to show houses in the Mission Canyon area that were in risk of fire danger. Not many of the Chiefs knew what GIS was or how it could be used. Captain Dave Neels (whom I worked with on the project) and I recognized that the current reference maps used by the Fire Department were way out of date (1968-74) and had been updated regularly since then with penciled in roads and addresses. I set out to create a new pilot reference book using Arcview for one of the stations and a presentation showing some of the other uses of GIS in hopes of creating a GIS position for me.

The presentation was given in late May to six of the top chiefs and some county officers. It was received with a lot of enthusiasm, and I began to work for the department the following week as a GIS Tech. My primary goal was to remap the entire county down to the last driveway! I used aerial photography and the old maps to locate and include all the information the department needed, such as gates, various types of hydrants, special fire department locks, and an assortment of other points of interest.

I have almost completed the entire county in the last 8 months with the help of an intern (John Manus) and my supervisor whom I taught some basic editing functions in ARC GIS 9.2.

Throughout the project I was given the opportunity to work with multiple county agencies like the assessors office to get files I needed and to receive advice and suggestions. I was also given a car which I used to travel around the state to meet with other fire departments and GIS professionals to discuss the architecture of the new map books.

One exciting aspect of the new map book is its use of new federal standards such as the USNG (US National Grid) which uses Universal Transverse Mercator zones. Santa Barbara County is the first fire department in California to use this grid system! It has been used by the coast guard, National Guard, and army for many years. Recent events have shown the necessity for such a system to be used by the nations paramilitary as well. Hurricane Katrina is a good example, because all landmarks such as streets and buildings were covered by water or destroyed. Hence, the only way emergency responders from multiple agencies were able to navigate and locate people needing rescue was by using this standardized system.

I will be completing my work for the department in 3 weeks, after which I plan to relocate to San Diego where I have already begun to correspond with other fire departments to begin the remapping of their response areas using the same techniques. I am in the process of creating a company to do this work which is called 'Map Information Technology’ and which can be found at www.MapIT.biz.

Roberta Klatzky, a psychologist now at Carnegie-Mellon) for doing in a professional sense what Ed had done socially, noting that they asked him why he didn’t put all of his knowledge of spatial cognition to use – “back then, I didn’t realize it had a use,” Reg commented wryly.

Today, of course, Reg is famous for pioneering the field of Behavioral Geography, and, more recently, the field of Disabilities Geography. But what was most striking on “Reg Day” was how full a life Reg has led and continues to lead, both socially and academically. That would be amply true even if not for the inordinate amount of physical adversity that he has endured and overcome. Reg felt deeply touched by the tribute in his honor – as was everyone present.
Would You Like To Donate?
Gift Options

Gifts of support for the Department of Geography at UCSB are deeply appreciated. All gifts, large and small, help us in our mission of teaching and research, and promote the study and understanding of planet Earth and its inhabitants.

For the following accounts, please make checks payable to: UC Regents

☐ Geography Department Support: Unrestricted support.

☐ 30th Anniversary Scholarship: An endowment designed where interest only will be used to fund an annual scholarship.

☐ Landon Romano Textbook Scholarship: Landon Romano, 1999 alumnus, established textbook fund to give back to the department that made a positive difference in his career.

For the following accounts, please make checks payable to: UCSB Foundation

☐ <Your Name Here> Scholarship Fund:
See: http://www.geog.ucsb.edu/about/giving.php

☐ The Akella Family Scholarship: The Scholarship will be used to support undergraduate student(s) based on the criteria of compelling family/personal circumstances and academic achievement.

☐ The Nicholas Bourdakis Memorial Fund: The Bourdakis Fund was established after the tragic death of Nicholas, who died in February 2001 when struck by a car in Isla Vista. He had just declared Geography his major.

☐ Jack and Laura Dangermond Fund: Jack Dangermond is the founder of ESRI (1969), a GIS and mapping software company. He is considered one of the most influential people in GIS worldwide.

☐ The Jack Estes Memorial Fund: Jack Estes was a Geography faculty member for over thirty years. He built a thriving remote sensing research unit and mentored many students.

☐ The Reginald G. and Allison L. Golledge Distinguished Lecture Fund: Twenty years ago, the Golledge Distinguished Lecture was instituted to bring highly respected speakers to campus to share their research.

☐ The David Simonett Memorial Fund: David Simonett was the first Chair of the Geography Department. He built what has become one of the nation’s finest Geography Departments.

☐ Leal Anne Kerry Mertes Memorial Scholarship Fund: The Scholarship will support undergraduate and graduate UCSB students who are planning or are engaged in scientific field research.

attached is my donation of $________________________
KUDOS: UCSB Geography in the News

• Geography graduate students Reginald Archer, Robyn Clark, Frank Davenport, Michael Marshall, and Felipe Murtinho garnered a whopping 5 of the 20 UCSB Henry Luce Environmental Science Fellowships for 2008. H. Christopher Luce of the Henry Luce Foundation is quoted as saying: “As part of our nationwide endeavor to enhance environmental education, the Henry Luce Foundation is pleased to support UC Santa Barbara’s novel, interdisciplinary and hands-on approach to training our nation’s future leaders to tackle some of our world’s pressing environmental challenges.” Kudos to our five such future leaders - the Department of Geography is proud to have accounted for such a lion’s share of the Luce Fellowships.

• Grad students Kate Deutsch and Jarad Beckman were instrumental in organizing the fourteenth annual University of California Transportation Center student conference at UCSB, January 31 through February 1, which attracted more than 150 participants devoted to the themes of Transportation Policy and Systems Analysis. Dr. Mei-Po Kwan, an illustrious alumna of UCSB Geography, was this year’s Mel Webber memorial guest lecturer.

• Dr. Chris Funk, an Associate Researcher in our Climate Hazards Group, recently coauthored an article on climate change in the prestigious journal Science which indicates that food insecurity will increase with climate change unless early warning systems and aid programs are used more effectively. (Brown, M. E., & Funk, C. C. (2008). Climate: Food security under climate change. Science, 319(5863), 580-581).

• Professor Catherine Gautier co-edited a book on the subject of climate change (Facing Climate Change Together) which came out in French last August and which will be published in English this September. Reviewers comment that it provides a “coherent review of climate change in parallel to the IPCC AR4 report, giving a scientifically accurate picture of climate change,” that it is a “clear presentation of the full range of major issues, with distinctions made between sound knowledge and speculative statements,” and that it “demonstrates the agreement that exists among scientists from countries whose governments are not yet in agreement over how to proceed.”

• Professor Kostas Goulias has teamed up with Professor Kouros Mohammadian of the Department of Civil and Materials Engineering at the University of Illinois at Chicago to create a new quarterly journal in the field of Transportation Research, Transportation Letters: The International Journal of Transportation Research. Kostas hopes that this collaboration of Engineering Science and Geography and Transportation Research will encourage, enrich, and further enable all those involved in the associated fields.

• Welcome to Dr. Ed Keller, a Professor in the Department of Earth Science and the Department of Environmental Studies, who has been appointed as an Affiliate of the Department of Geography. Ed received the Geological Society of America’s Don J. Easterbrook Distinguished Scientist Award in 2004. His research interests are earthquake hazard, active folding, and mountain building processes, as well as the study of river processes and fish habitat in the chaparral environment in southern California.

• Grad student Ben Turner completed his MA last fall (“Attitudes and Knowledge about Climate Change” under the tutelage of Dan Montello, Catherine Gautier, and Eric Smith), and he is now a Fellow in the California State Assembly Fellowship Program. The program is sponsored by the Center for California Studies at California State University, Sacramento, and it provides “an experiential learning opportunity in California state government. Fellows work full-time in high levels of the Executive branch and meet weekly for graduate seminars”... “The mission of the
Center for California Studies is to strengthen democratic governance in California through preparing people for public service and leadership, helping to solve problems of public policy and multidisciplinary education.”

- Alumna Dawn Wright (Ph.D. in Physical Geography and Marine Geology, 1994) has become one of just 40 faculty members in the entire US to be named “Professor of the Year.” Dr. Wright, an Oregon State University professor of geography and oceanography, was given the award by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. An OSU faculty member since 1995, Dawn is a marine and coastal geography expert.

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**Geography Ranked #2 by Chronicle of Higher Education**

The *Chronicle of Higher Education* just published its “Top Research Universities Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index” for 2007, and UCSB’s Department of Geography wound up as #2 in the nation - after not being ranked at all in 2006! UCSB also ranked #1 in Oceanography, #2 in Biomedical Engineering, #3 in Marine Sciences, #3 in Theater Literature, #4 in Materials Science and Engineering, and in the top 10 in Ecology, Computer Engineering, Media Studies, Italian, and Physics (complete details at http://chronicle.com/stats/productivity/page.php?byinst=true&institution=551&year=2007). While UCLA’s Department of Geography was ranked #1 (2.02 on the Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index, compared to our 1.54), we outscored UCLA in 4 of the 11 statistical categories – and some feel that the inclusion of 10 affiliated faculty to the total number of the active Geography faculty may have adversely affected the percentages of our performance statistics.

People seem to love rankings in all fields of human endeavor, and university and college rankings are no exception. Indeed, the annual “America’s Best Colleges” issue of *U.S. News & World Report* sells nearly twice as many copies as other issues of the magazine. However, ranking methodologies are as varied as the statistical weights of the criteria used – the National Opinion Research Center’s methodology review stated that the weights used by *U.S. News* “lack any defensible empirical or theoretical basis,” and some critics have charged that *U.S. News* intentionally changes its methodology every year so that the rankings change and they can sell more magazines (see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/College_and_university_rankings for more about this thorny subject). The Chronicle of Higher Education’s Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index is also controversial, but it has been generally welcomed for its objectivity. Either way, kudos to UCSB and, in particular, to its Department of Geography!

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**Graduate Student Fellowship Funds to be Matched by the University**

The department is pleased to announce the creation of a new donation program to support graduate student education in Geography. Graduate students are critical to the health of education. Very likely the most important instructor you had at UCSB was the graduate student who lead your lab sections, graded your papers, and answered those tough questions left over after lectures and reading. Graduate students are also crucial to the future of science and education in this country - they are the researchers, teachers, and leaders of tomorrow.

Now is your chance to give something back, indirectly, to the students who helped you so much. For every dollar you give to established, designated graduate gift funds in Geography, the University will now match it. Thus, 25 dollars will provide 50 dollars of support. This funding will be used to build a fund that will help those graduate students with high academic standing and financial need. The Geography department has always been blessed with excellent Teaching Assistants, Instructors, and Researchers. With a simple donation to this program, you can double your support and help us preserve and improve graduate student education in the Geography Department. For more information, contact our Graduate Student Affairs Officer, Karen Barteld at (805) 893-8789 or barteld@geog.ucsb.edu.
See inside

1. SACRAMENTO RESERVOIR / USA-CALIFORNIA
2. MAULIN RIVER / CHILE
3. RIVER, AGRICULTURE, ROADS / USA-KANSAS
4. MAULIN BAY / CHILE

Where in the World?