



## Health and Medical Geography Specialty Group

### 2019 Upcoming Events

Date	Event
April 3-7, 2019	AAG Annual Meeting, Washington, DC
June 30- July 5, 2019	International Medical Geography Symposium, Queenstown, NZ

### Board Members

Chair: Kirsten Beyer (2018-19)  
Vice-Chair: Chetan Tiwari (2018-19)  
At-Large Member: Jerry Shannon (2017-19)  
At-Large Member: Calvin Tribby (2018-20)  
At-Large Member: Louisa Holmes (2018-20)  
Graduate Student: Kristin Brooks (2017-19)  
Graduate Student: Amanda Weber (2018-20)  
Webmaster: Michael Desjardins (continuous)  
and David Lamb (continuous)

### Next Issue: Spring 2020

On the web:

<https://aag-hmgsg.org>

Facebook:

@HMGSG

Twitter:

@HealthGeography

## Letter from the Chair

I would like to begin my letter by thanking all those who have supported the HMGSG during the past year. First, I would like to thank Dr. Michael Widener, the previous chair of HMGSG (2017-2018), for his leadership and his guidance as I took the reins. Continuity is key, and Mike made a great effort to ensure a smooth transition and keep the group on stable financial footing. Thank you, Mike! I would also like to thank this year's board members and webmasters who have taken on many responsibilities that occur behind the scenes. Of particular note, a big thank you to Dr. Chetan Tiwari, who has been an exceptional Vice Chair. We will all be in very good hands during the coming year with his leadership!

This is a special year for our group. We have the privilege this year of being directly aligned with one of the overarching themes of this year's AAG Annual Meeting: *Geography, GIScience, and Health: Building the International Geospatial Health Research Network (IGHRN)*. Many thanks to Drs. Mei-Po Kwan, Yonette Thomas, and Doug Richardson for their leadership of this theme, and for the opportunity to collaborate. There are lots of great sessions associated with this theme, and I hope you will all check them out at the meeting. Because of our participation in this theme, our usual Geospatial Health Research Symposium is not taking place this year. Plans are to resume this tradition next year.

This year, we have introduced a new HMGSG poster session! Despite being new, it is very popular, with 55 abstracts expected to be presented in April. Benefits of presenting a poster include a later abstract submission date and reduced registration fee. Also, we are very fortunate this year to be able to offer poster awards! Dr. David Berrigan has worked with the International Journal of Environmental Research in Public Health (IJERPH) to secure funding for three poster awards for our HMGSG session: first place (\$500), second place (\$300), and third place (\$200). Thanks so much to Dr. Berrigan and IJERPH for the opportunity to offer these awards.

I would also like to call your attention to several sessions of particular interest. This year, we are honored to welcome Distinguished and Emerging Scholar awardees from past years to join us in presenting at special sessions. While Distinguished Scholar awardee Dr. Robin Kearns of Auckland is

unable to join us in person, he has crafted a wonderful video address and we have arranged a small panel of scholars to respond to his remarks. Emerging Scholars Amber Pearson (2018) and Margaret Carrel (2017) will also speak in a special session for emerging scholars; Christopher Uejio (2017) is unable to join us this year. We will also have a special session for the Peter Gould awards, and of course, our business meeting, which will take place on Friday, April 5 from 11:45am-1:00pm.

In response to HMGSG feedback during last year's business meeting, we have taken a few important steps. First, we have created a donation button to allow individuals to contribute amounts of their choosing directly to HMGSG. Thanks to those of you who pushed the button! Those funds will go directly to supporting HMGSG awards. Secondly, we have arranged an informal, self-pay social event for the evening of Friday, April 5th. Please join us at Fat Pete's BBQ (3407 Connecticut Ave. NW, <https://fatpetesbbq.com>) beginning at 7pm to reconnect and network. A self-pay gathering allows us a time and place to gather while conserving our funds for our bigger priorities – awards for outstanding work that help our junior members to join us at meetings like AAG and IMGS. Please tip generously, as they are giving us the room for free!

I would like to leave you with something to consider. This year has seen many announcements about climate change and its many impacts on human health. As geographers, we are well aware of relationships between the environment and health, and I hazard a guess that most of us have considered at one point or another the impact that academic travel can have on the planet and the health of its residents. Many of us are traveling to Washington D.C. from some distance, some will also travel quite a bit farther this year to attend the IMGS in New Zealand, and a good many of us do fieldwork in distant locations. I would like to raise two ideas for consideration by our membership. First, consider supporting the petition currently circulating, focused on reducing the CO2 Footprint of AAG Annual Meetings, including by offering opportunities for virtual participation; to sign, send an email here: [aagco2petition@gmail.com](mailto:aagco2petition@gmail.com). Secondly, while an imperfect solution, consider investing in climate health projects or purchasing carbon offsets. Projects worthy of investment may be found through sites like <https://www.goldstandard.org/>.

Thank you for your membership and your many contributions to progress in health and medical geography – as reviewers, nominators, donation button-clickers, mentors and colleagues. I look forward to seeing you in Washington D.C.!

---

### **Book announcement: Home, Nature, and the Feminine Ideal**

In her new monograph, *Home, Nature, and the Feminine Ideal: Geographies of the Interior and of Empire*, Elaine Stratford “shows how women were conditioned to be dutiful wives and daughters whose domestic roles were to promote morality, hygiene, and a health, disciplined population. This volume joins the scholarly pantheon, led by Dolores Hayden and Christine Boyer, who centre women's bodies in geography and planning research” (Jean Hillier, RMIT University).

This major work is positioned in the borderlands of historical, health, and cultural geographies, its focus the Anglophone world—from the epicentres of the United Kingdom and the United States to Australia or Canada, New Zealand or India—and the whole of the long nineteenth century. Stratford takes three things: the home, nature, and the feminine ideal, and shows how they were specifically enrolled in diverse strategies and tactics intended to produce certain kinds of bodies and population in the service of governmental, colonial, and imperial ambitions.

Drawing on a large body of work from the periodical press, and centering her analysis on narratives, discourses, and practices that relate specifically to health and well-being, Stratford uses scale as an analytical tool by which to move out from the human body to the body politic. In the process she considers the spatial semiotics of the face and beauty; the pursuit of fitness; dress reform; population, eugenics, and race; scientific mothering; health, habit, and domestic economy; and the rise of public health and its relationship to changing domestic and imperial practices. In short, she demonstrates how words helped to shape flesh and bone, psychology and social conduct, and the spatial organization and relational dynamics of dwellings and streets, settlements and

regions, and states and empires. In a collaborative conversation with an extensive archive that profoundly shaped our engagements with home, nature, and the feminine ideal, and deeply influenced our collective capacity to flourish, and powerfully constituted diverse geographies of the interior and of empire that still affect us. Home, Nature, and the Feminine Ideal is published by Rowman & Littlefield International, and will be available at the publisher's stand at the Association of American Geographers Conference in Washington DC in April. See [https://www.rowmaninternational.com/book/home\\_nature\\_and\\_the\\_feminine\\_ideal/3-156-b30ae369-0003-4dfc-990e-01db45e02b73](https://www.rowmaninternational.com/book/home_nature_and_the_feminine_ideal/3-156-b30ae369-0003-4dfc-990e-01db45e02b73) for further details.

## **Honors**

- **Mei-Po Kwan**, Professor of Geography and Geographic Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, has been elected as a Fellow of the UK Academy of Social Sciences (the national academy of academics and practitioners in the social sciences in the UK). Academy Fellows are elected after a thorough process of peer review for the excellence and impact of their work in the social sciences. To be elected a Fellow, one must have contributed to social science more broadly than the normal demands of their job. This contribution can be in the areas of thought leadership, practical application or policy development.
- **Ivan J. Ramirez** was awarded a grant (CoPI) to investigate how social determinants of health spatially overlap with inequality in housing affordability and multiple health issues in Colorado. The project led by Dr. Jieun Lee at University of Northern Colorado is funded by the University of Denver's Colorado Evaluation and Action Lab as part of their 2018-19 Quick-Turnaround, Actionable Research Projects.
- **Michael Desjardins** received a 2019 AAG Dissertation Grant to support his dissertation titled: A mixed-methods approach for vector-borne disease surveillance in Colombia.

---

## **New GIScience Concentration at University of Chicago Graduate Program**

The Committee on Geographical Sciences at the University of Chicago will offer a Concentration in Geographic Information Science as part of the flagship Master of Arts Program in the Social Sciences ([MAPSS](#)), starting in Autumn 2019.

MAPSS is a one-year (three quarters) 9-course program with a thesis requirement. The GIScience Concentration consists of 5 courses to develop:

- the foundations of rigorous spatial thinking and its incorporation into the methodologies of Geographic Information Sciences, spatial analysis and spatial data science
- computational aspects of geographic information science or
- advanced spatial statistical analysis.

The sequencing of courses is designed such that students can complete all requirements in one year of study without impacting the required Perspectives course. The students are required to write their MAPSS thesis on a topic that applies spatial analysis and geographic information science to social science research, supervised by one of the faculty in the program ([Anselin](#), [Credit](#), [Kolak](#)). Learn more about the new MAPSS concentration [here](#).

Dr. Kolak leads the Health Informatics and Policy (HiP) lab at the Center for Spatial Data Science, and has multiple projects that prospective students are encouraged to consider, including spatial-social investigations of urban/rural/suburban opioid risk environments; city-level air quality informatics for public health; and, modeling the social determinants of health at neighborhood scales.

Application deadline: April 30, 2019 at <https://mapss.uchicago.edu/apply>  
Questions? Contact Professor Luc Anselin ([anselin@uchicago.edu](mailto:anselin@uchicago.edu))

## **Recent scholarly and public publications with HMGSG members**

- Chakraborty J, Collins T W, and Grineski S E, 2019. Hurricane Harvey and People with Disabilities: Disproportionate Exposure to Flooding in Houston, Texas. *Social Science & Medicine*, 226, 176-181.
- Chakraborty J, Collins T W, and Grineski S E, 2019. Exploring the Environmental Justice Implications of Hurricane Harvey Flooding in Greater Houston, Texas. *American Journal of Public Health*, 109(2), 244-250.
- Chakraborty J, 2019. Proximity to Extremely Hazardous Substances for People with Disabilities: A Case Study in Houston, Texas. *Disability and Health Journal*, 12(1), 121-125.
- Das, Suparna, Jenevieve Opoku, Michael Kharfen, and Adam Allston (2018). Geographic Patterns of poor HIV Care Continuum in District of Columbia (2010 - 2015), *AIDS Research and Therapy* 15(2).
- Das, Suparna, Jenevieve Opoku, Adam Allston and Michael Kharfen. (2018) Detecting spatial clusters of HIV and Hepatitis Co-infections, *Plos One*, September.
- Das, Suparna, Jessica Li, Adam Allston and Michael Kharfen. (2019) Planning area specific prevention and intervention programs for HIV using spatial regression. *Public Health*. Vol.169.
- Desjardins, M.R., Hohl, A., Delmelle, E., & Casas, I. (2019). Identifying and visualizing space-time clusters of vector-borne diseases. In: Faruque, F. (ed) *Geospatial Technology for Human Well-Being and Health*. Springer. Forthcoming.
- Desjardins, M. R., Whiteman, A., Casas, I., & Delmelle, E. (2018). Space-time clusters and co-occurrence of chikungunya and dengue fever in Colombia from 2015 to 2016. *Acta tropica*, 185, 77-85.
- Desjardins, M. R., Hohl, A., Griffith, A., & Delmelle, E. (2018). A space-time parallel framework for fine-scale visualization of pollen levels across the Eastern United States. *Cartography and Geographic Information Science*, 1-13.
- Nelson, S. & Wilson, K. (2018). Understanding barriers to health care access through cultural safety and ethical space: Indigenous people's experiences in Prince George, Canada. *Social Science & Medicine*, 218, pp. 21-27.
- Ramírez, I.J. 2019. Exploring Tropical Variability and Extremes Impacts on Population Vulnerability in Piura, Peru: The Case of the 1997-98 El Niño. In *Tropical Extremes: Natural Variability and Trends (Observations, Modelling and Theoretical Expectations)*, V. Vuruputur, J. Sukhatme, R. Murtugudde, and R. Roca (Eds.). New York: Elsevier.
- Ramírez, I.J., A. Baptista, J. Lee, A. Traverso-Krejcarek, and A. Santos. 2019 (in press). Fighting for Urban Environmental Health Justice in Southside (Los Sures) Williamsburg, Brooklyn: A Community-Engaged Pilot Study. In *Handbook of Global Urban Health*, I. Vojnovic, A. Pearson, A. Gershim, A. Allen, and G. DeVerteuil. New York: Routledge.
- Ramírez, I.J., J. Lee, and S. Grady. Mapping multi-disease risk during El Niño: an ecosyndemic approach. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 15:2639. <https://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/15/12/2639>
- Ramirez, I.J. Podcast for Mapping multi-disease risk during El Niño article. <https://soundcloud.com/unco-news-service/tackling-el-ninos-influence-on-diseases-through-gis-mapping>
- Shannon, J., Bagwell-Adams, G., Shannon, S., Lee, J. S., & Wei, Y. (2018). The mobility of food retailers: How proximity to SNAP authorized food retailers changed in Atlanta during the Great Recession. *Social Science & Medicine*, 209, 125–135. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2018.05.046>
- Summers-Trio, P., Hayes-Conroy, A., Singer, B., & Horwitz, R. I. (2019). Biology, biography, and the translational gap. *Science translational medicine*, 11(479). <http://stm.sciencemag.org/content/11/479/eaat7027/tab-pdf>

- Tribby, C.P. and D.S. Tharp. (In Press). Examining urban and rural bicycling in the United States: Early findings from the 2017 National Household Travel Survey. *Journal of Transport & Health*

## **Session and Panel Preview, 2019 AAG Meeting**

### **Wednesday, April 3**

- Geographies of wellbeing: researching what it takes to make a 'life worth living'.  
*Organizer(s):* Katharine Mckinnon, Jane Farmer. 8:00-9:40. Empire Room, Omni, West

### **Thursday, April 4**

- HMGSG Peter Gould Student Paper Competition. *Organizer(s):* Jerry Shannon (*jshannon@uga.edu*), Amanda Weber. 3:05-4:45. Madison A, Marriott, Mezzanine Level
- Melinda S. Meade Distinguished Scholar Lecture in Health and Medical Geography. *Organizer(s):* Kirsten Beyer, Chetan Tiwari. 5:00-6:40. Marshall West, Marriott, Mezzanine Level
- Bodily Ecologies, DIY Medicine, and the Construction of New Health Knowledges. *Organizer(s):* Skye Naslund, Chelsea Leiper. 1:10-2:50. Madison A, Marriott, Mezzanine Level
- Geography, Substance Use, and Addiction. *Organizer(s):* Jeremy Mennis, Kathleen Stewart. 3:05-4:45. Tyler, Marriott, Mezzanine Level
- Geospatial Health Research Poster Session. *Organizer(s):* Kirsten Beyer, Chetan Tiwari. 3:05-4:45. Lincoln 2, Marriott, Exhibition Level
- Urban Neighborhoods and Health Disparities. *Organizer(s):* Louisa Holmes. 5:00-6:40. Madison B, Marriott, Mezzanine Level

### **Friday, April 5**

- Advances in Computational Approaches for Geospatial Health Applications I. *Organizer(s):* Alexander Hohl, Michael Desjardins, Claudio Owusu. 8:00-9:40 Marshall South, Marriott, Mezzanine Level
- Advances in Computational Approaches for Geospatial Health Applications II. *Organizer(s):* Michael Desjardins, Claudio Owusu, Alexander Hohl. 9:55-11:35. Marshall South, Marriott, Mezzanine Level
- Advances in Computational Approaches for Geospatial Health Applications III. *Organizer(s):* Marco Helbich, Claudio Owusu, Alexander Hohl. 3:05-4:45. Marshall South, Marriott, Mezzanine Level
- Advances in Computational Approaches for Geospatial Health Applications IV. *Organizer(s):* Claudio Owusu, Michael Desjardins, Marco Helbich. 5:00-6:40. Marshall South, Marriott, Mezzanine Level
- Emerging Scholars in Health and Medical Geography. *Organizer(s):* Kirsten Beyer, Chetan Tiwari. 5:00-6:40. Virginia C, Marriott, Lobby Level
- **Health and Medical Geography Specialty Group Business Meeting.** *Organizer(s):* The American Association of Geographers. 11:45-1:00. Balcony B, Marriott, Mezzanine Level

### **Saturday, April 6**

- Addressing Inequalities in the Sustainable Development Agenda: Case Studies from Africa. *Organizer(s):* Andrea Rishworth. 3:05-4:45. Directors Room, Omni, West
- Disruptive Technologies and African Development. *Organizer(s):* Joseph Oppong. 9:55-11:35. Stones Throw 3 - Mica, Marriott, Mezzanine Level
- Geographies of Global Aging. *Organizer(s):* Andrea Rishworth. 8:00-9:40. Stones Throw 3 - Mica, Marriott, Mezzanine Level
- Geographies of Health and Healthcare. *Organizer(s):* Prince Michael Amegbor, Jessica Finlay, Kyle Plumb. 9:55-11:35. Marshall South, Marriott, Mezzanine Level
- Geographies of Health and Healthcare II. *Organizer(s):* Prince Michael Amegbor, Jessica Finlay 3:05-4:45. Marshall South, Marriott, Mezzanine Level
- Geographies of Health and Healthcare III. *Organizer(s):* Prince Michael Amegbor, Mark Rosenberg. 5:00-6:40. Marshall South, Marriott, Mezzanine Level
- New perspectives on the complexity of natural resources, local livelihoods, and public health nexus in sub-Saharan Africa. *Organizer(s):* Cyril Wilson, Sigismond Wilson, Imelda

Moise, PhD., MPH. 1:10-2:50. Stones Throw 2 - Slate, Marriott, Mezzanine Level

- Towards a Geospatial Neurourbanism. *Organizer(s)*: Marco Helbich, Agnieszka Olszewska-Guizzo. 3:05-4:45. Madison A, Marriott, Mezzanine Level

**Sunday, April 7**

- Community Geography I: Thinking, Doing, and Teaching Community Geography. *Organizer(s)*: Jerry Shannon, Amber Bosse. 8:00-9:40. Maryland A, Marriott, Lobby Level