

FALL 2019 NEWSLETTER

GRADUATE STUDENT AFFINITY GROUP

American Association of Geographers



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings Everyone!

Being a graduate student is an often-lonely endeavor, and GSAG exists to provide a network of people undergoing similar experiences. With over 1300 members GSAG can organize in useful ways that help members navigate the process of post-bachelor's work. Our goal is to provide resources and address graduate-related issues, whether they be about research, funding, mental and physical wellbeing, or mentoring. GSAG is a system of support and community, and as such we want to hear from you.

Picking up where the previous GSAG crew left off, our team has continued to build a stable media presence and began more significant outreach to other specialty groups. To the latter end we're currently coordinating with the AAG Anti-Harassment Task Force to put together a fantastic AAG workshop for current graduate students. More details will be on our social media and website (www.gsagaag.org) closer to the date.

I'd like to thank all GSAG members for making your perspectives heard, and for showing up to organize and brainstorm at the AAG. Additionally, I'd like to thank the amazing GSAG officer team that keeps things on track, despite their busy schedules and field research.

In solidarity,
Rachael Cofield, GSAG Chair

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GSAGAAG.ORG

E-MAIL:
GSAG.CHAIR@GMAIL.COM

DENVER 2020 AAG ANNUAL MEETING PREP

As solicitation for abstracts and sessions continue to take place in preparation for the 2020 AAG Annual Meeting in Denver, CO., we encourage you to stay informed about sessions to attend through the Session Gallery on the AAG Annual Meeting website. We would like to congratulate GSAG Chair Rachael Cofield for being apart of the initiative to include **pronouns on name-tags** this upcoming meeting. Thank you for your leadership in these efforts on fostering an inclusive community!

Applications for the **GSAG Travel Award** for the Denver 2020 Meeting are now open! The GSAG Awards Committee will award five \$250 GSAG Professional Development Awards. We encourage all graduate students, masters and Ph.D, to apply. Preference will be given to first time attendants of the AAG annual meeting. Applications can be found on gsagaag.org under the "GSAG Travel Award" tab. Please fill out all sections of the application and submit by Sunday, January 12, 2020. E-mail the application and all materials to GSAG Chair Rachael Cofield at gsag.chair@gmail.com. Recipients should be notified on the second week of March. Awardees must pick-up award checks at the GSAG Business Meeting at the AAG annual conference.

2019-2020 GSAG BOARD

CHAIR:

Rachael Cofield
(she/her/they/them)
Ph.D Candidate
Florida State University

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SECRETARY:

Josh Merced
(he/his)
Ph.D Student
University of North Carolina-Greensboro

AWARDS AND HONORS

Shiloh L. Deitz (Ph.D Student, University of Oregon) had their work featured in an August 2019 CityLab article entitled "Where Americans Lack Running Water, Mapped."

Deyanira Nevarez Martinez (Ph.D Candidate, UC Irvine) recently had a paper accepted into Progress in Planning with their co-authors entitled "Los Olvidados/The Forgotten: Reconceptualizing Colonias as Viable Communities (forthcoming).

Natallia Leuchanka Diessner (formerly Natallia Leuchanka) (Ph.D Candidate, University of New Hampshire) recently had a public policy brief published with co-authors entitled "What to Do With Dams: An Assessment of Public Opinion to Inform the Debate in New Hampshire." The brief can be accessed either via the [UNH Scholars Repository](#) or [Research Gate](#)

Tell us what awards, grants, or honors you've earned!

Send a description and photo of yourself to gsag.chair@gmail.com to be featured in a future newsletter and website!

WEBSITE RESOURCES

AAG Dissertation Research Grant

The AAG provides support for doctoral dissertation research with an annual grant opportunity up to \$1000 to Ph.D candidates of any geographic specialty. Deadline to submit the application is yearly on December 31st.

Please see the website for more information about eligibility and the application process

<http://www.aag.org/cs/grants/dissertation>

Job Board

Explore the AAG Job Board for opportunities in academic and professional positions in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors posted by individual institutions and agencies. Even if you're not on the job market yet, review job qualifications and application requirements to prepare yourself!

jobs.aag.org



Image courtesy of AAG



Image courtesy of AAG

WASHINGTON DC 2019 AAG ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

The Graduate Student Affinity Group had exceptional presence at the AAG Annual Meeting in Washington DC from April 3-7, 2019. GSAG sponsored a variety of sessions, which included "Navigating the Field: Supporting Women in Geography across Sub-disciplines, 7th Annual Panel", "Learning Geography at/from/with HBCUs", and "Mentoring the Next Generation of Indigenous Geographers", just to highlight a few. We were honored to have the opportunity to hear from **Dr. Aretina Hamilton** (then Doctoral Candidate at the University of Kentucky) as the **keynote speaker at the Graduate Student Affinity Group Plenary session**. Dr. Hamilton provided useful and practical knowledge and insight on addressing mental health for graduate students in the academy. GSAG was also pleased to provide several travel awards to graduate students in support of their continued engagement with the geographic discipline and the AAG.