15th Annual Geography Alumni Association Conference
University of North Alabama
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Welcome to the 2019 UNA Geography Alumni Association Conference! This year’s conference marks the 15th anniversary of this event, and we are excited to welcome home all our Geography Department Alumni and friends. Whether you are an alumni, current student, or this is your first time visiting Wesleyan Hall on the campus of the University of North Alabama, we hope that this event allows an opportunity for all attendees and participants to network and take something away that is worthwhile. On behalf of the UNAGAA, thank you for taking time away from the classroom or office to join us and share in this experience.

Dan Sasser,
UNAGAA President-Elect

Gold Level Sponsors

Bronze Level Sponsors
Current students participating in the UNAGAA Research Poster Competition will be available to answer questions and present their research to their colleagues and peers on Thursday, September 26th from 8:30 – 9:30 AM and Friday, September 27th from 8:00 – 9:00 AM in the Wesleyan Hall Atrium. Conference attendees should evaluate the work based on its overall quality, originality, and relevance to the Geography community. Awards will be given to the top three posters at the end of the conference. First place will receive $500, second place will receive $250, and third place will receive $100 supported by the UNA Geography Alumni Association. If there is more than one author, prizes will be split amongst them. Alumni, Students, and Faculty may vote by dropping votes at the Registration table.

The UNAGAA Committee is a volunteer-based organization that plans the conference each year. This year, the Vice President position will be open and available to new members. All positions require a yearlong commitment to the organization with semi-regular meetings throughout the year. The Vice President serves with the President-Elect to coordinate and plan the conference. This is a great opportunity to volunteer (and gain potential GISP points) and get involved with the UNAGAA! If you are interested in any of these positions, please see Dan Sasser, Cameron Martin, Ethan Broadfoot, or Andrew Walker for more information.
# 15th Annual UNAGAA Conference

**Thursday, September 26, 2019 - Wesleyan Hall Auditorium**

<table>
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| 8:30 – 9:30 AM| Registration, Check-In, Student Poster Presentations, and Exhibitor Exhibition  
*Coffee and light refreshments provided* |
| 9:35 – 9:45 AM| **Welcome and Introductions**  
Dan Sasser, UNAGAA President-Elect |
| 9:50 – 10:15 AM| **Community Outreach: Trail Mapping in the Shoals**  
Jessie Baker, GIS Specialist, Canopy Spatial, LLC |
| 10:20 – 10:50 AM| **Emerging Technologies in GIS – Panel Discussion**  
David Wright – Navigation Electronics, Inc  
Will Walker – Optimal Geo  
Jonathan Byham - Atlantic |
| 10:50 – 11:05 AM| **Break** |
| 11:05 – 11:30 AM| **Automating Natural Resource Monitoring with ArcPy & AWS**  
Jacob Cude, Sr. GIS Analyst, Georgia Pacific |
| 11:35 – 12:00 PM| **The Role of GIS in Business**  
Dennis Jarrard, Solution Engineer, ESRI |
| 12:00 – 1:30 PM| **Lunch on Your Own** |
| 1:35 – 2:00 PM| **3-GIS Network Solutions – A Company and Product Overview**  
Josh Chris, Director of Engineering Services, 3-GIS  
Brad Greene, Production Manager, 3-GIS |
| 2:05 – 2:30 PM| **Atlantic and UNA: Mapping the Road to Success**  
Jonathan Byham, Associate Vice President, Atlantic  
Kelli Axley, Marketing Content Manager, Atlantic |
| 2:35 – 3:00 PM| **Trimble Mapping and GIS Portfolio**  
David Wright, Mapping & GIS Consultant, Navigation Electronics |
| 3:00 – 3:10 PM| **Break** |
| 3:10 – 4:00 PM| **Advanced Editing Techniques in ArcMap - Technical Session**  
Will Walker, Project Manager, Optimal Geo  
Matt Worthy, Project Manager, Optimal Geo  
Jimmy Hilley, Project Manager, Optimal Geo  
Andrew Walker, Technical Lead, Optimal Geo |
| 3:10 – 4:00 PM| **Utilizing Drones for Mapping and Real Estate - Technical Session**  
Seth Thompson, GIS Administrator, City of Florence |
| 5:00 – 10:00 PM| **UNAGAA Social**  
Stricklin Hotel  
317 N Court St, Florence, AL 35630 |
15th Annual UNAGAA Conference

Friday, September 27, 2019 - Wesleyan Hall Auditorium

8:00 – 9:00 AM  Registration, Check-In, Student Poster Presentations and Exhibitor Exhibition

Coffee and Light Refreshments Provided

9:00 – 9:55 AM  Welcome Remarks and State of the Department Address

Dr. Wayne Bergeron, Chair, Department of Geography
Dr. Jeffrey Bibbee, Interim Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Dr. Michael Pretes, Professor, Department of Geography
Dr. Ross Alexander, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, UNA

10:00 – 11:15 AM  Apollo 8, “Earthrise”, and a Lunar Crater Controversy

Keynote - Dr. Dydia DeLyser
California State University, Fullerton

11:15 – 11:25 AM  Break

11:25 – 12:00 PM  Student Presentations

Adam Benefield  Wilderness GIS Internship with Minnesota Dept of Natural Resources
Breonna Roden  Spatial Models and Electoral Redistricting Research Experience, University of Puget Sound & University of Washington-Tacoma
Andrew Weis  Scientific Programmer Internship, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland
Priscilla Lema  Conservation GIS Internship with Audobon Alaska
Stephen Osero  Participant at Geographic Perspectives on Infectious Diseases in Humans, Animals, and the Environment at Center of Geographic Analysis, Harvard University
Charles Holloman  Field Research at Great Basin National Park, Nevada

12:05 – 1:30 PM  UNGAA Lunch on the Lawn, Geographer of the Year, and Research Poster Competition Awards

1:30 – 3:00 PM  Business Meeting- Alumni Discussions and Officer Elections

Keep up with the UNAGAA!

unagaa.org  university of north alabama geography alumni association (UNAGAA)  @unagaaorg
Dr. Dydia DeLyser is Associate Professor of Geography at California State University, Fullerton. Her undergraduate degree in geography is from UCLA, and her M.A. and Ph.D., both in geography, are from Syracuse University. Her research in cultural-historical geography follows her passions in life. She has explored the influence of myth fiction in shaping the landscapes of today, whether in ghost towns like Bodie, California, or in southern California more broadly. She has written about the restoration of antique cars and motorcycles, and has connected that to her own collecting practices. She is also a filmmaker and holds a pilot's license. Her current research is about how neon signs transformed the American landscape. She has also served, for the past two decades, as archivist and communications director for Major General Bill Anders (Lunar Module Pilot aboard Apollo 8); it is in connection with that work that she will present at UNA.

Please join us Friday for the UNAGAA Luncheon on the Lawn where we will present the Geographer of the Year award and the Research Poster Competition Awards. Grill-master Paul Michael has graciously volunteered to prepare this year’s luncheon again and will be grilling on the lawn Friday. Thanks Paul!

The honor of Geographer of the Year is awarded to a member of the alumni association that has exemplified the utmost qualities of a geography professional and has positively influenced the geography community through service, education, and research. The recipient of this award will join a long line of noble geographers that have continued to cultivate their discipline and foster comradery amongst their fellow alumni.
2019
UNAGAA Conference