RESEARCH

Making historic data about segregation, redlining, and real estate more useful and accessible: Using HOLC maps

The Levanthal Map and Education Center at the Boston Public Library sat down with Ph.D. Geography student, Scott Markley, earlier this year to discuss their ongoing dissertation work on creating a user-friendly geospatial dataset from Homeowners Loan Corporation (HOLC) maps, more commonly known as "redlining" maps. HOLC was a federal agency established in 1933 to provide mortgage assistance to homeowners or would-be homeowners through loans or refinancing mortgages. To determine where to make loans, HOLC evaluated urban areas based on multiple factors. The term “redlining” comes from the fact that the agency marked areas that were risky for investment using red ink. These red areas were very often the places where nonwhite people lived, though HOLC field agents also recorded many other factors in area description sheets, including building age, household income, and immigrant population.

While researchers at Mapping Inequality have made HOLC neighborhood grade data publicly available, the field notes used to assign risk grades remain virtually unusable for statistical analysis. Markley, however, converted eight of the most consequential variables from 129 cities across the U.S. into an accessible and analyzable tabular format so that researchers and students in the classroom can better learn from the HOLC data. The variables include the Black population percentage, “foreign-born” population percentage and group, family income, occupation class, average building age, home repair status, and mortgage availability.

Markley noted that, as a geographer, his interests are about integrating GIS and spatial analysis with critiques of racial capitalism. What brought him to maps was teaching about the legacies of racism, how they shape geographies of segregation, and what that means for how we think about racial wealth inequality. For more information about Markley’s work, please follow the following links:

>> Scott Markley's interview with The Levanthal Map and Education Center
>> HOLC Mapping Project
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

News & Reminders

- **Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Direct Hire Authority-Resource Assistant Internship (DHA-RAI) Program**
  
  This program offers rigorous geoscience opportunities through GeoCorps America. The program provides career experiences for students who might seek employment with federal agencies in the Department of the Interior (DOI). Applicants should have a strong interest in a career with the DOI, which includes the BLM, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), National Park Service (NPS), and many other bureaus and offices.
  
  **Deadline to Apply:** March 8

  For more information on potential internship sites, please see this PDF.

GRADUATE STUDENTS

News & Reminders

- **Attention doctoral students graduating Spring 2022:** The final date to submit information for the Commencement Program is March 11.

- **Communication of Research and Scholarship Grant**
  
  The Graduate School is pleased to offer this grant to support graduate students who wish to communicate the results of their scholarship to non-academic audiences. If you’d like to submit an application, please contact Dr. Andy Grundstein or Sarah Baker to discuss the process.
  
  **Please follow this deadline:** March 7

- **Grad School Travel Funding**
  
  The Graduate School quarterly deadline for requesting travel funding to travel during the second quarter of this year (April 1-June 30, 2022) is March 7th. Requirements from the Graduate School can be found here. Here are the forms you need to make requests.

- **The Gender, the Body, and Fieldwork Across Disciplines Symposium**
  
  The GBF planning committee is seeking graduate student session organizers and volunteers for a virtual interdisciplinary symposium (to be held in April) for graduate students. This symposium is a platform for students to open dialogue on questions and experiences of gendered bodies and sexuality in undertaking fieldwork.
  
  **Deadline to Submit Proposals:** March 18

  Running list of assistant professorship opportunities and internships here!

FACULTY AND INSTRUCTORS

News & Reminders

- **NASA SCoPE Seed Grant Opportunity**
  
  NASA SCoPE is pleased to announce a funding opportunity through NASA’s Science Activation 2.0 Education and Community Outreach Program (SciAct). They are offering Seed Grants to scientists and engineers for projects who bring science to national audiences with the help of a NASA SciAct Team. For tips on preparing your application and to ask questions, register for their webinar on March 10!
Building Technical Literacy in the Department of Geography

UPCOMING:
LUNCH & LEARN

Maintaining Mental Health and Wellness

When: Thursday, March 17
12:00–12:30pm
For who: Faculty, Staff, and Students
Where: via Zoom
Led by: Kelly Truesdell (Fontaine Center) and Jennifer Hester (CAPS)

Register here for the Zoom link!
*Please register by Tues., Mar. 15

RESOURCES

Google Drive vs OneDrive:
Which cloud storage is best for which purpose?

The University of Georgia has subscriptions to both Microsoft Office Suites and Google Workspace, but what's the difference between the two, and what are the perks of each? Find out more on the Franklin College Knowledge Base!

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

MS Excel - Tips, Tricks and Techniques (available in PEP)
There are trainings in Excel available in the Professional Education Portal! After you login to PEP, search "MS Excel" in the "Search for learning" search bar, and see what there is to offer.

*For more trainings, check the Center for Continuing Education website, Training & Development website (for current employees), and the Professional Education Portal!
IN THE NEWS

White House science office held first event on countering climate change denial and delay

The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy held a first-of-its-kind roundtable with some of the nation’s leading scientists late last month to discuss the urgent need to combat the climate crisis and to counter arguments for delaying climate action. The event brought together a diverse group of 17 climate scientists, social scientists, engineers and economists from 11 states and the District of Columbia. Part of the group was Dr. Marshall Shepherd, a leading international expert in weather and climate and professor in the Department of Geography at UGA.

Established in 1976, OSTP is responsible for overseeing the U.S. Global Change Research Program, which coordinates climate research across 13 federal agencies. Every four years, this program produces the federal government’s most definitive and comprehensive report on climate science, known as the National Climate Assessment. The fifth such report is expected next year.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

News & Reminders

- **Program Associate Intern- Concrete Jungle Athens**

  This position supports the organization's fruit and on-farm picking programs, food distribution, and volunteer engagement. They’re looking for someone with strong communication and leadership skills, a deep commitment to equity, and a passion for local food. This position pays $15/hr!

  *Deadline to **Apply:** March 18*

- **Land Stewardship Technician and Land Stewardship Field Coordinator**

  The Appalachian Trail Conservancy is looking for a technician to monitor the condition of the Trail and to maintain the trail corridor. They’re looking for someone with experience in conservation, land management, and/or outdoor recreation. This position pays $15/hr!

  *Deadline to **Apply:** March 18*

General News and Announcements

**GEORGIAFUNDER**

[Link to GeorgiaFunder]

[Link to Sustainable Connections Internship Program]

Do you want to engage in meaningful work with communities and are interested in a sustainability-related career? The Atlanta Regional Commission is now seeking applications for their Sustainable Connections Internship Program. Upper-level undergraduates, graduate students, and Ph.D. candidates are encouraged to apply!

*Deadline to **Apply:** April 8*

**Departmental Events**

- **Lunch & Learn:** Thurs., Mar. 17
  - **Maintaining Mental Health and Wellness**
  - Time: 12pm
  - Via Zoom

*Register [here]*
GRADUATE STUDENTS

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- Attention doctoral students graduating Spring 2022: The final date to submit information for the Commencement Program is today.

- The Gender, the Body, and Fieldwork Across Disciplines Symposium
  The GBF planning committee is seeking graduate student session organizers and volunteers for a virtual interdisciplinary symposium for graduate students. This symposium is a platform for students to open dialogue on questions and experiences of gendered bodies and sexuality in undertaking fieldwork.
  Deadline to Submit Proposals: March 18

- UCGIS 2022 Student Awards for Excellence in Research
  The University Consortium for GIS (UCGIS) is pleased to announce student awards for excellence in research during its 2022 Symposium to take place in person June 7-9, 2022 in Syracuse, NY. They are inviting short abstracts written by students of member institutions for presentation at the UCGIS Symposium. Abstracts selected for presentation will receive waivers for the symposium registration fee as well as dorm housing for the duration of the event. (Please note: travel costs will not be waived, and the deadline to submit travel funding requests for the UGA Grad School for the April 1-June 30 quarter has already passed.)
  Deadline for Abstract Submissions: March 31

- Saeeda Peermahomed Award
  The annual award is given to an international student in recognition of outstanding scholarship, leadership, and service in the field of international education. Recipients should have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5. The international student recipient will receive an award plaque and an check for $1,000.
  Deadline to Apply: April 1

Running list of assistant professorship opportunities and internships here!

FACULTY AND INSTRUCTORS

News & Reminders

- Early Career Faculty Innovator Program - applications open!
  Applications are now being accepted from faculty with social, behavioral, or policy sciences doctorates to collaborate on projects with NCAR scientists at the intersection of social science and STEM research. Faculty with doctorates in interdisciplinary fields will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Contingent upon Funding from NSF, The Innovator Program will award two-year grants for selected faculty up to $400K, starting in the Fall 2023.
  Deadline to Apply: May 1

More information about this Lunch & Learn can be found below. This event is available to all faculty, staff, and students in the department!

Oral Comps - Fri., Mar. 18
Jessica Martinez 1pm

Doctoral student Jessica Martinez will be conducting their oral comps exam on their dissertation, titled “Building Intersectional Housing Justice in Athens, Georgia”. We sincerely hope you will join us in supporting Jessica during this next big step in her degree pursuit!

Geography Anti-Racism Reading Group Fri., Mar. 25
11am
“Register here!”

You’re invited to join the Geography department’s Anti-Racism Reading Group to read and discuss Ibram X. Kendi’s 2020 book, “How to Be An Antiracist”, over the rest of the spring semester. Copies of the book will be provided gratis to the first 10 people to sign up!

Campus-wide and Other Events

Washington Semester Series: Careers in Diplomacy and National Security Mon., Mar. 14 6-7pm Virtual
*Register here!

Understanding Ukraine - Virtual Panel Discussion Thurs., Mar. 17 12pm Via Zoom
*Register here!

TEDxUGA 2022: Wonder Fri., Apr. 1 7pm Morton Theatre AND livestream
*Register here!

More information on this year’s TEDxUGA presenters can be found here!

Follow us on social media!
The Graticule Weekly
UGA Geography Newsletter

IN THE NEWS

Research meteorologist and first African American male to receive Ph.D. from the Geography department, Dr. Marcus Williams

The Fort Stewart Fire Research Campaign was an integrative research effort that collected data on Fire Behavior, Fuels, and Smoke during a series of prescribed burns at Fort Stewart. Dr. Marcus Williams, a Research Meteorologist at the USFS Athens Fire Lab, was the discipline lead for Micrometeorology and a member of the Smoke measurement discipline. He is seen here observing PM2.5 concentration levels on a small handheld measurement device. PM2.5 concentrations were also measured using an Environmental Beta-Attenuation Mass Monitor (EBAMS) and the height of the smoke plume was measured using a CL31 ceilometer. The data collected during the fire research campaign will be vital in improving smoke plume modeling for prescribed burns.

Dr. Williams was the first African American male to receive a Ph.D. from the Department of Geography at the University of Georgia in 2016.

RESOURCES

Before we head into crunch time this semester, please remember the mental health and wellness resources that are available to you on and off campus!

Students:
- Wellness Coaching
- CAPS “Let’s Talk” Drop-In Hours
- Group Counseling Sessions

Faculty & Staff:
- Counseling Center Referral System (RINTS)
- Employee Assistance Program (KEPRO)
- Therapy Assistance Online (TAO) (also for students!)

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

News & Reminders

- Land Stewardship Technician and Land Stewardship Field Coordinator
  The Appalachian Trail Conservancy is looking for a technician to monitor the Appalachian Trail Corridor, maintain its surveyed boundaries, and work to mitigate any encroachments they find. This person will also serve as Coordinator to direct, support, and work alongside the team of 4 Land Stewardship Technicians.  
  Deadline to Apply: March 18

- CURO Opportunity with the Community Mapping Lab

Awards & Accomplishments

Congratulations, Caroline Narron, for being selected as a finalist for UGA's Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition! Caroline will be professionally filmed next week on her talk on “Coastline Redefined? Tidal marsh flooding, climate change, and their impact on the Georgia Coast.” If you see Caroline in the halls, give her a big pat on the back for us!

Earlier this year, Dr. Marshall Shepherd had been officially appointed to term on the Space Studies Board of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. This board is the highest level advisory board on issues related to space. It is often called upon to advise the White House, Congress, and others.

General News and Announcements

AthensGaWeather and North Georgia Weather Authority have provided timely weather information for tens of thousands of followers across the state of Georgia for over a decade. The Atmospheric Sciences program is at a point where students need access to the state-of-the-art graphics systems used by television.
GRADUATE STUDENTS

News & Reminders

- **Attention students graduating Spring 2022:** The final date for electronically submitting one complete copy of a thesis or dissertation for a format check for graduation is **Monday, March 28th.**

- **UCGIS 2022 Student Awards for Excellence in Research**
The University Consortium for GIS (UCGIS) is pleased to announce student awards for excellence in research during its **2022 Symposium** to take place in person June 7-9, 2022 in Syracuse, NY. They are inviting short abstracts written by students of member institutions for presentation at the UCGIS Symposium.

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  **Deadline to Apply:** **April 1**

Running list of assistant professorship opportunities and internships **here!**

Events

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<tr>
<th>Events</th>
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<td>Setting Short-term &amp; Long-term Career Goals</td>
<td>Tues., Mar. 22</td>
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<td>Building Your Professional Identity</td>
<td>Thurs., Mar. 24</td>
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<td>Presented by Justin Burnley from the Career Center</td>
<td>Led by the Graduate Peer Support Network</td>
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Campus-wide and Other Events

- **Fair for whom?** Fri., Mar. 25
- **Attitudes Towards the Rights of Transgender Girls in School Sports** Fri., Mar. 25
  - Contact **Terri Hatfield** for link
  - A talk led by Dr. Richard Blissett, College of Education

TEDxUGA 2022: Fri., Apr. 1
- **Wonder** 7pm
  - Morton Theatre AND livestream

More information on this year’s TEDxUGA presenters can be found **here!**

Follow us on social media!
One year following the killer EF-4 Newnan tornado

Today marks one year after the killer EF-4 tornado tore through Newnan, GA. The AthensGaWeather broadcasting team, composed of Atmospheric Sciences undergraduates in the Geography department, was one of the many broadcasting studios to livestream coverage of the tornado, saving the lives of at least two people in the Newnan area, according to the people themselves. "My husband was already asleep when the sirens went off, and I heard them but wasn’t really concerned," said Ashley K., a Newnan resident. "We don't have TV channels, so I was looking on YouTube for some local weather. I couldn’t find anything local until I came across Will O'Neil." O'Neil (pictured above during the livestream) was one of the students on the AthensGaWeather broadcasting team who was working on the livestream during the Newnan tornado in the broadcasting studio located in the Geography-Geology Building's basement in Athens, GA. "I listened to him for only a couple minutes as he reiterated that the tornado was very serious.... I was able to get my husband out of bed just in time for our walls to completely bust in, and a huge tree fell right on our bed where were just laying a moment before. [Will] really saved our lives." Amazing work, AthensGaWeather and North Georgia Weather Authority! We hope nothing seriously bad happens this season as we head into "spring showers", but we know we can rely on you in case anything does happen. Follow @AthensGaWeather on Facebook for live updates and forecasts!
GRADUATE STUDENTS

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  **Deadline for Abstract Submissions:** March 31

- **American Meteorological Society Summer Policy Colloquium**
  AMS is pleased to announce the 2022 competition for support to attend the AMS Summer Policy Colloquium from June 5-10 in Washington, DC.
  
  Register as a paying attendee: **April 15**
  Apply to the competition with support from the NSF: **March 31**
  Apply for the William Hooke Fellowship: **March 31**

- **Saeeda Peermahomed Award**
  The annual award is given to an international student in recognition of outstanding scholarship, leadership, and service in the field of international education. Recipients should have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5.
  
  **Deadline to Apply:** April 1

- **UFS-METplus Hackathon**
  Graduate students pursuing a degree in weather and climate sciences are invited to form hackathon teams with the purpose of using the Model Evaluation Tools (METplus) verification system for mining the Unified Forecast System (UFS) subseasonal-to-seasonal (S2S) experimental products.
  
  **Deadline to Register:** April 15

- Running list of assistant professorship opportunities and internships [here](#)

FACULTY AND INSTRUCTORS

News & Reminders

- **Student Technology Fee (STF) Base Allocation Funding Application**
  Franklin College receives a base allocation annually to address software, hardware, and student support needs in our instructional computer labs and technology-enhanced classrooms. The college priorities for STF funds can be found using the link above. If you have a request, please send it to Dr. Angela Yao. The tech committee will compile all requests for the Department Head to submit.
  
  **Deadline to make requests:** next Monday, March 28