

AUGUST 19, 2022

The Graticule Weekly

UGA Geography Newsletter



WELCOME BACK TO CLASS!

Meet Our New Faculty Member, Dr. Gengchen Mai



Please join us in welcoming UGA Geography's newest faculty member, Dr. Gengchen Mai (买庚辰)! Dr. Mai is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Geography as well as a member of the UGA Environmental Artificial Intelligence Faculty Cluster. Before moving to Athens, Dr. Mai was a Postdoctoral Scholar at Stanford University, working within the Stanford Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (SAIL) and the Department of Computer Science. During his time at Stanford, Dr. Mai worked with Prof. Stefano Ermon on developing spatially-explicit machine learning models for different geospatial tasks.

Dr. Mai was an award recipient at the prestigious 2022 World Young Scientists Forum on Frontier Science and Technology for his Post-Doctoral Research in the Department of Computer Science at Stanford University.

Dr. Mai is actively looking for students to join his team. If you're interested in learning more, please reach out to him at gengchen.mai25@uga.edu.

General News and Announcements



New to campus and need help getting around? Download the UGA app to live track bus routes and find the best walking routes between buildings. Visit watchfordawgs.uga.edu for safety tips and other information about navigating campus. Be sure to follow UGA TPS on Twitter for the most up to date campus transportation news and information.

Starting the week of August 19th, The Graticule will resume weekly publication. If you have any news or events you'd like to share throughout the semester, please share them with Matt Colonius well in advance. The Graticule will be distributed each Friday afternoon.

Opportunities available to all students:



The 2023-2024 Fulbright competition is open! The campus deadline to enter is September 6, 2022.



If you are looking to obtain leadership skills and have opportunities to earn more volunteering hours, [apply for the executive board with the Red Cross!](#) Throughout the semester, they hold blood drives, fundraising events, and more.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Distinguished UGA Alumnus, Dr. Derek Alderman named to US Advisory Committee on Reconciliation in Place Names

Tuesday, August 9th, a day when much of the world was observing The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, United States Secretary of the Interior Deb Holland formally announced the members of the newly conceived Advisory Committee on Reconciliation in Place Names. Among those selected for the esteemed committee included one of UGA Geography's very own, alumnus Derek Alderman. Since receiving his Ph.D. from the University of Georgia Department of Geography in 1998, Dr. Alderman has become a prolific contributor towards the burgeoning research and literature surrounding "critical place name studies," and memory studies. The focal point of Dr. Alderman's work has been the critical analysis of place names and their relationship to the identity and heritage of marginalized groups, particularly African Americans in the American South.



Dr. Alderman's work has earned him several awards, including a Distinguished Professor of Teaching Award from East Carolina University as well as a UNC Board of Governors Excellence in Teaching Award. Currently, Dr. Alderman is the Head of the Department of Geography and Professor at the University of Tennessee.

Dr. Alderman's research and teaching background makes him an unsurprising pick for an advisory committee at one of the highest levels of federal government. Dr. Alderman will work in conjunction with 16 other members of the advisory committee comprised of Tribal leaders, Tribe members, and other academics whose research focuses on geography, anthropology, and civil rights. According to the US Department of the Interior press release, the stated goal of the committee "will include developing a process to solicit and assist with proposals to the Secretary to identify and change derogatory names and will engage with Tribes, the Native Hawaiian Community, state and local governments, and the public." For more information, read Dr. Alderman's full [University of Tennessee bio](#) as well as the [Department of the Interior press release](#).

Departmental events:



Staff Meet and Greet Fri. August 19th
2:00pm
Main Geography Office

Drop by and say hello at our first staff meet and greet of the semester!



Annual Slideshow September 9th
3:30pm
GEOG Room
200C

What did Geographers do this summer? Join us to find out! This event features a slide show displaying all that UGA geographers have been up to while school was out of session.



Final Friday Coffee Break Fri. August 19th
10:00am
Main Geography Office

Drop by and say hello at our first staff meet and greet of the semester!

Follow us on social media!



GREEN ROOF GARDEN

UGA Geography-Geology Green Roof is Now Accepting New Volunteers!



According to the [Green Roof Garden Website](#), The Green Roof Garden is a solar-powered and student-managed vegetable garden, perched atop the roof of UGA's Geography/Geology building. In the 1960's, the green roof was constructed atop the UGA Geography-Geology building to serve as a temperature buffer for the Climatology Research Laboratory. Since 2007, a rotating cast of professors, students, and volunteers have planted and maintained a flourishing fruit and vegetable garden.



"The Green Roof Garden is now a main campus outpost of UGArden through an active collaboration between the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Horticulture Department, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences Geography Department, and the Office of Sustainability. UGArden staff, volunteers, and the Office of Sustainability's Urban Agriculture Intern work to ensure that this 3,000 square-foot growing space stays healthy and productive. The Green Roof Garden is currently seeking new volunteers for the Fall semester. Come join us as we grow some great food, get our hands dirty, and work to alleviate food insecurity in Athens. And what's more, the view is great too!"

For a full list of upcoming events and volunteer opportunities with the Green Roof Garden, visit the [Green Roof Garden Instagram page!](#)

Campus-wide and other events:



International Coffee Hour Fri., Aug 19
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Reed Quad

Join us in celebrating the 50th anniversary of UGA's cherished traditions: drinking coffee! The 50th Anniversary celebration will be held on the Reed Quad while all subsequent meetings will be in the Memorial Hall Ballroom each Friday.



UGA Part-Time Job and Internship Fair August 24th
11:00 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Tate Center

Find a part-time job or internship position offered by Athens area employers off-campus and on-campus. UGA Departments will be hiring. Having a part-time job or internship is crucial to gaining work experience and building your resume.



UGA Fall Career & Internship Fair September 29th
12:00 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Classic Center

Meet with recruiters seeking students to fill both internship and full-time opportunities. Please dress professionally and bring copies of your resume!

Follow us on social media!



NEW STAFF MEET & GREET



Leslie Geiser

Office Manager and Assistant to the Department Head

I come to GEOG from UGA Germanic & Slavic Studies as the sole staff person juggling many roles, which has been a useful thing in this vibrant department. Previous iterations of Leslie include stints as a content writer, editor, website designer, and distant, raucous times as a press aide on Capitol Hill and writer for two downtown development authorities. Fun fact: my husband runs the UGA Young Dawgs program, and for much of the past four years he and I and our two Dawg children (now alumni) were all on campus doing our respective thing. So glad to be here! Thanks for welcoming me.



Matt Calonius

Undergraduate Program Administrator and Communications Coordinator

I'm a recent Clemson University graduate where I studied Psychology and Sociology. Most recently, I worked in community outreach for an Atlanta based animal welfare non-profit. I'm brand new to UGA and can't wait to become more involved in such a vibrant community. When I'm not at work, I enjoy working in the garden and writing music. Please feel free to swing by my office at any time to say hello! -- My door is always open. And if I'm not in my office, you'll most likely be able to find me on the green roof! Great to meet you!



CERT	Every Thursday
Emergency	beginning
Preparedness	September 1st
Training	12:00 p.m.- 5 p.m.

The UGA CERT program educates the campus community (faculty, staff, and students) about disaster preparedness and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization and disaster medical operations. CERT members are better prepared to help themselves and those around them in an emergency.

The first class will begin on Thursday, September 1, 2022 at 2:30pm. We will meet every Thursday from 2:30 - 5:00pm for 8 weeks. If you know anyone who is interested, please ask them to fill out the form in the link below. Feel free to contact me with any questions. Our recent CERT classes have been outstanding and I am sure the Fall 2022 CERT class will be as well.

For more information or to apply for the Fall 2022 CERT class, please go to: CERT – Community Emergency Response Team – University of Georgia Office of Emergency Preparedness (uga.edu).

Follow us on social media!



UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Welcome. Undergrad Students!

News & Reminders

Don't Forget!

Drop/ Add for undergraduate and graduate level courses will run from Aug. 17th- Aug 23rd. Keep in mind that the purpose of the drop/add period is for general schedule adjustments and fine tuning. During this period, there is no penalty for dropping or changing courses. However, once the drop/add period is over, withdrawals from courses will be marked on your transcript. For more information, please see the University Policy on withdrawals and drop/add.

Opportunities to Consider

- [Environmental and Energy Studies Institute Internships](#)
Paid Internship opportunities are available!
- [National Park Service Geoscientists in the Park Internships](#)
Volunteer and Internship opportunities available!
- [Carter Center Internships](#)
Check out the career center site for everything you need to know about internships!

GRADUATE STUDENTS

Welcome. Grad Students!

Don't Forget!

Drop/ Add for undergraduate and graduate level courses will run from Aug. 17th- Aug 23rd. For more information, see the note above.



New graduate students were welcomed to the Geography department at last week's Departmental Orientation.

Students were gifted nametags and giftbags organized by Graduate Administrator, Sarah Baker.



Faculty, staff, and graduate students made short work of cleaning out the soon-to-be renovated basement study carrels on a summer work day.

(From Left to Right): Dr. David Porinchu, Estefania Palacios, Leslie Geiser, Sarah Baker, Alana Cordak, and Dr. Hilda Kurtz

Opportunities to Consider

- [Graduate Assistantship with UGA Campus Kitchen - no due date](#)
- [Visiting Professor at the George Washington University - no due date](#)

Health and Wellness:



"Let's Talk" (Virtual)
August 24th,
11am-12pm
Zoom

(In-Person)
August 25th
4-5pm
Science and
Learning Center,
Room 136

Let's Talk is a free service hosted by Counseling and Psychiatric Services (CAPS) clinicians that offers informal, one-on-one, confidential consultation for UGA students. During a Let's Talk session, you can speak with a clinician about concerns, get help problem-solving, and learn more about CAPS services and other resources available to you at UGA and in the Athens area.

Follow us on social media!



*Building Technical Literacy in the
Department of Geography*

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!](#)

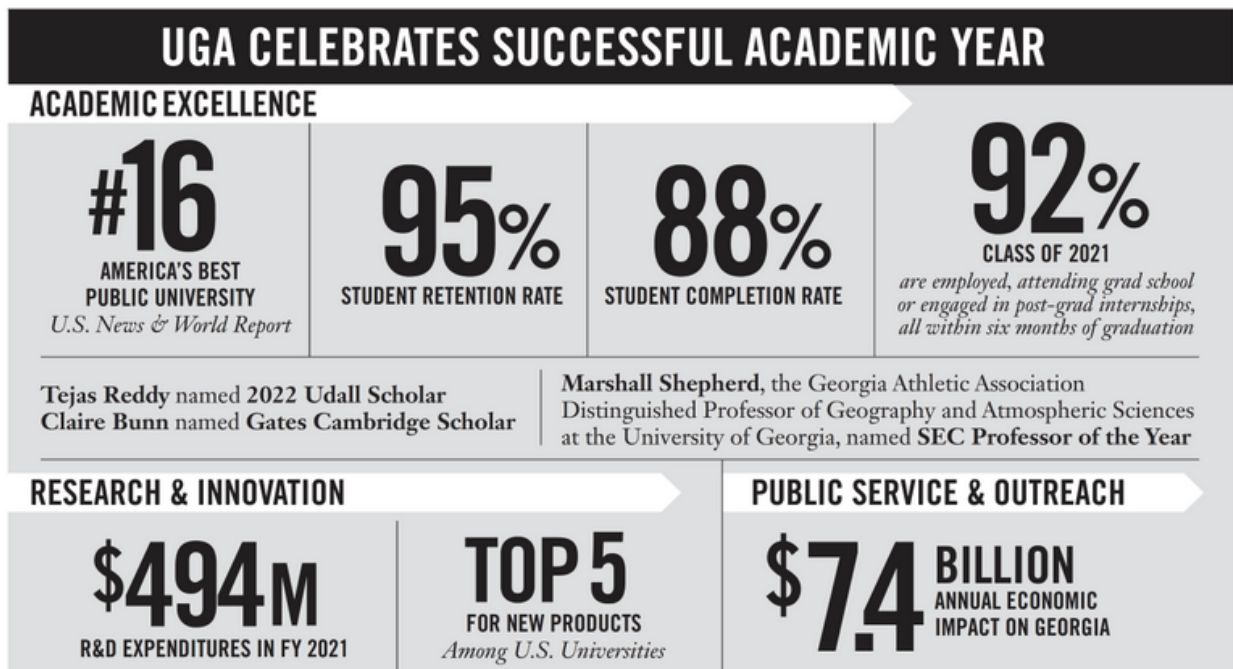
TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

[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!](#)

For Your Information



UGA Professor of Geography and Atmospheric Science, Marshall Shepard was featured in this infographic published by UGA Columns