

Ethnic Geography Specialty Group Newsletter, Fall 2017

**Editors: Paul N. McDaniel (Kennesaw State University)
and Richard N. Gioioso (Saint Joseph's University)**

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*Attendees at the Race, Ethnicity, and Place
Conference*

**Visit EGSG Online at:
ethnicgeography.com**

Greetings from the EGSG Chair

Greetings to all members of the Ethnic Geography Specialty Group and others who seek to become members of this young, energetic dynamic knowledge community!

The EGSG currently has about 215+ members and encourages new members to join in. The EGSG has continued to attract memberships through promoting EGSG activities at the REP conference as well as by increasing its visibility at the AAG meetings. The annual membership dues are \$10 for members and \$3 for student members. EGSG leadership continues to encourage specialty group members to organize sessions under the EGSG banner, and offers sponsorship to sessions with content that aligns with its mission. The EGSG maintains its close links with the Race, Ethnicity and Place (REP) Conference and is looking forward to the upcoming meeting at Austin, Texas in October 2018.

Student Paper and Dissertation Proposal Awards (Competition) Announcements

The Ethnic Geography Specialty Group has announced its call for student paper submissions and dissertation proposal submissions for the respective competitions for AAG at New Orleans 2018. Please refer to the ethnic geography website for all emailed announcements, and the persons of contact for respective competitions. The winner(s) receive a \$250 prize, a certificate, a ticket to the AAG Awards Luncheon, and formal recognition at the banquet and mention (with photographs) in the EGSG Newsletter. If there is a tie between two

papers/proposal, the prize is equally divided among the co-winners.

Annual Meeting of the AAG at New Orleans, April 10-14, 2018

The EGSG is once again looking forward to having a very productive annual meeting with numerous paper and panel sessions at the 2018 meeting of the American Association of Geographers (AAG) in New Orleans. There has been great enthusiasm toward connecting issues of race and ethnicity with the changing geopolitical environment in the country, and as such there are several sessions focusing on these issues that are being sponsored by EGSG. The EGSG is also proud to organize two special panel sessions to honor the co-winners of EGSG's Distinguished Scholars Award – Dr. Jim Forrest and Dr. Emily Skop. Madhuri Sharma (Co-organizer and Chair) and Carlos Teixeira (Co-organizer) have put together two special panels with a list of esteemed ethnic geographers. We hope that these sessions will be well attended. The EGSG will also have its business meeting on the evening of Thursday, April 12, 2018, during AAG and we hope all members of this group will attend the meeting to discuss important issues and general planned activities of the group.

Ethnic Geography Specialty Group Website

Now, the Ethnic Geography Specialty Group's activities and latest news, achievements, memberships, and more, are available on its new website (<https://ethnicgeography.com/>). Our new website is being managed by co-webmasters Matt Cook and Michael Webb. Feel free to connect with them if you need any assistance with posting jobs or other updates that need EGSG focus.

- *Madhuri Sharma*

**Like EGSG on Facebook at:
[facebook.com/EthnicSpecialtyGroup/](https://www.facebook.com/EthnicSpecialtyGroup/)**

EGSG Member News

Editor's Note: These are the only news items of note that were submitted to the EGSG Newsletter or that we are aware of. We rely on our readers to keep us informed about their exciting activities so we can list them here. We know there are many members engaged in a wide variety of ethnic geography activities. Please send your news items for the newsletter to Paul McDaniel (pmcdan11@kennesaw.edu) because such news reflects well on you and EGSG as an academic organization.

Derek Alderman (University of Tennessee) has been very active in his role as the 2017-2018 President of the American Association of Geographers (AAG), speaking at AAG regional division meetings, encouraging greater public engagement by geographers regarding the many current events with which our research and teaching intersect, and contributing to the broader public debate and discourse regarding current events related to his particular area of research. Amid recent current events related to confederate monuments, street- and place-naming practices, and protests in Charlottesville, Virginia, and elsewhere, he has offered commentary to national media audiences in a variety of venues. Follow him on Twitter at @MLKStreet.

Paul McDaniel (Kennesaw State University), as part of his 2017-2018 Race and Ethnicity Diversity Faculty Fellowship through the Office of Diversity and Inclusion's Center for Diversity Leadership and Engagement at Kennesaw State University, planned two public events at Kennesaw State University in Fall 2017. First, he co-organized a special public presentation by David Lubell, founder and executive director of Welcoming America. Welcoming America, established in 2009 and based in Decatur, Georgia, works in over 100 cities and towns across the U.S., supporting nonprofits and local governments to transform their communities into inclusive places where everyone thrives. At this event, Lubell spoke about the welcoming movement and what universities and students are doing to ensure that their communities are

building a stronger future together. McDaniel also organized and moderated a Geography Awareness Week theme discussion panel event on the Geography of Civil Rights Movements, which was the national theme for the 2017 Geography Awareness Week held the third week of November. Panelists included geographers and others from Kennesaw State University, Georgia State University, and the National Center for Civil and Human Rights in Atlanta. McDaniel also received a 2017 Faculty Summer Research Grant from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at Kennesaw State University for his project, "Local Processes of Immigrant and Refugee Receptivity and Integration in the United States, Europe, and Australia." Follow Paul on Twitter at @pnmcdaniel.

Madhuri Sharma (University of Tennessee) began her leadership role as Chair of the Ethnic Geography Specialty Group in April 2016, and her term rolls through April 2018. Starting in August 2017, she was tenured and promoted to Associate Professor of Geography. She currently has two Ph.D. students who are both working on various aspects of segregation, income inequality and health.

Who's Teaching Ethnic Geography?

Many members of the EGSG routinely offer courses focusing on aspects of ethnic geography. The following is information about courses specifically submitted for inclusion in the Fall 2017 newsletter. We rely on our readers to keep us informed about their ethnic geography activities so we can list them here and highlight the range of work with which our membership is involved. If you would like us to highlight information about an interesting teaching innovation or class you are teaching related to ethnic geography, please send this information to Paul McDaniel (pmcdan11@kennesaw.edu) for inclusion in the next newsletter.

John A. Cross (University of Wisconsin Oshkosh) has taught a course on Ethnic Landscapes of America. This course is an overview of the cultural landscapes that have shaped the United States. Particular emphasis is placed upon the contributions of Native Americans and a variety of ethnic minority populations, examining the spatial distributions of these groups and their unique traditions in shaping their landscapes and contrasting their landscapes with that of the Anglo-Saxon majority.

Sa'iliemanu Lilomaiva-Doktor (University of Hawai'i-West O'ahu) recently finished teaching a course on Hawaiian-Pacific Studies (HPST). HPST 450 is a course on Pacific Islanders Diaspora Experiences. This interdisciplinary course is an overview of today's Pacific from the perspective of its native peoples and explores the complexities of Pacific Islander American experiences. The course examines the historical relationships between the USA and Pacific Island nations, Pacific Islander migrations to the Pacific Rim countries mainly the United States including Australia and New Zealand, as other important nations in the diaspora experience of Pacific Islanders.

David Nemeth (University of Toledo) has been offering the course "Geography of Gypsies (Romanies) and Travelers" every semester (including summers) for the past decade, and will continue to do so in the future. This course offers insight into diverse aspects of Gypsy (Romany) and Traveler (GR&T) life and culture worldwide. It also focuses attention on cultural similarities and differences among GR&T peoples living in the USA. The course aims to improve student critical reading, thinking and writing skills related to GR&T topics as background for successful completion of a written term project.

Special Issue of *Papers in Applied Geography*

John Frazier and Norah Henry (Binghamton University) recently edited a special issue of *Papers in Applied Geography* in which several EGSG members contributed articles. Jay Lee (Kent State University) serves as the general editor for the journal. Contributors to the special issue had previously presented their article topics in special sessions at the 2016 Applied Geography Conference in Louisville, Kentucky.

The special issue's articles have been published online first in Fall 2017. The issue provides both applied and applicable geography within the context of racial-ethnic problems in North America and Asia. Authors of articles in this special issue include: John W. Frazier, Norah F. Henry, Wei Li, Lucia Lo, Carlos Teixeira, Paul N. McDaniel, Darlene Xiomara Rodriguez, Anna Joo Kim, Edris Montalvo, Lawrence Estaville, Wan Yu, Shaolu Yu, John Ponstingel, Elizabeth Chacko, Jordan Brasher, Derek Alderman, Joshua Inwood, Emily Skop, Joe T. Darden, Qingfang Wang, Kanika Verma, and Jay Newberry. Full article citation information is found in the EGSG Member Recent Publications section later in this newsletter.

The following is an excerpt from the introduction to the special issue by co-editors John Frazier and Norah Henry. The full introduction, "Applied Geography, Institutions, and Racial-Ethnic Experiences," is available here:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/23754931.2017.1369799>:

"The first two articles focus on Asian immigrants and foreign firms making direct investments in the United States, both influenced by institutional forces in their decision making. In the case of H1B visa holders, these forces influence their two-stage transition to potential permanent status in the United States and their migration decisions. The location decisions of foreign firms provide a case study in a southern U.S. city. The third article also deals with firms, in this case a study of minority depository

institutions (MDIs), with a focus on how financial dynamics are localized within an immigrant ethnic context.

Beyond North America, institutional policies are intended to guide outcomes. In this issue multiple authors discuss the highly skilled, highly educated Asian immigrants, largely Chinese and Indians, who have entered the United States and other nations. Such is the case of Singapore, where highly skilled Asian groups enter to fill a demand for labor. One article focuses on the effectiveness of the immigrant integration policy and practices of Singapore. Another focuses on the highly skilled, highly educated Asian immigrants in the United States, the attractiveness of California's highest rated schools for ethnic parents, and the educational choices in Santa Clara County, in terms of the pedagogic philosophies of alternative school enrollment patterns. The author cautions that the alternate school policy is unlikely transferable to schools and parents without resources in other locations.

The next two articles involve racial issues and policies in the United States. They examine the currently troubling issue of white supremacy and the institutions that contribute to its maintenance, as well as an examination of a new policy resulting from the court decision that found the execution of the stop-and-frisk policy in New York City unconstitutional. The first evaluates the policy decisions of educational institutions in commemorating white supremacy on university and college landscapes. It challenges the insensitivity of university place naming of buildings that are offensive to inhabitants and urge a more critical context for decision making. The authors also urge challenging distorted narratives and replacing them with a practice of fairness. The second article examines two periods, one before the court ruling and one after the new policy was implemented, to determine whether a difference in efficiency occurred. Results are reported by ethnic group.

The emphasis in the remaining articles shifts to migrants and their experiences. For example, the United States remains the world's largest

recipient of refugees, despite the current controversy over the constitutionality of current proposals. Refugees enter the United States much differently than legal immigrants, with policies from entry to integration that are very important to the life experiences of refugees. One article examines the challenges involved in connecting refugees in a nontraditional resettlement community and the interactions of different types of institutions in their long-term integration. The next article addresses western Canada, where many newly arriving people are lower income immigrants settling in the suburbs of Vancouver who need support from social institutions. This research finds serious challenges related to housing access to and affordability in these locations. The author suggests improved programs and policies to assist these immigrants.

The remaining five articles focus on institutions of various types in the United States. The first focuses on “Welcoming Cities,” offering ideas for communities considering attracting immigrants, based on experiences of other cities and suburbs. The next article examines the immigrant Chinese experience in a community that has considerably fewer Chinese than traditional gateways. This author explores the challenges, such as identity, that immigrant Chinese experience in a community with a modest number of Chinese and is focused on the role played by Chinese-American Christian churches in improving their life experiences. Institutions are shaped by ethnic groups based on locality, date of entry, socioeconomic characteristics, and other considerations. The research presented in the third of this set of

articles demonstrates such differences in a “Welcoming City” where, although two Asian ethnic groups share different sides of the same Main Street commercial enclave, they have very different supporting structures offered to their coethnics.

Health, a global issue, is experienced differentially by ethnicity and location. The next article examines the challenges faced by Hispanics relocating to the Texas Panhandle. The authors review the types of Hispanic health issues and the need for improved institutional health care policy to reduce health risks of Hispanics.

Finally, a topic of substantial interest to educators at all levels includes how and why cultural groups differ in spatial thinking skills. Beyond ethnicity, socioeconomic factors, quality of schools, and other factors help to explain a very complex issue. One message for policymakers is that geography should be included in the regular curriculum at all levels of education to improve the spatial thinking of all children, and especially for the children of the disadvantaged minorities whose skills are less than those of white children.”

We encourage EGSG members to support the journal *Papers in Applied Geography*. All EGSG members will get a complimentary copy of this special double issue. This can be a future outlet for our research. Purchasing a subscription for 2018 will be a good investment by all members.

- John Frazier and Norah Henry

EGSG Member Recent Publications

Members of the EGSG have been busy throughout 2017 publishing a variety of books, edited volumes, peer-reviewed articles, reports, and other pieces for dissemination. We highlight a few of these works here. **Editor's Note:** These are the only publications that were submitted to the EGSG Newsletter. We rely on our readers to keep us informed about their publications, so we can list them here. We know there are far more publications from the EGSG membership than shown in this list. If you would like for us to include your recent publications in the EGSG newsletter, please send your publication citations to Paul

McDaniel (pmcdan11@kennesaw.edu) as soon as they are published as this reflects well on you as a scholar and EGSG as an academic organization.

Alberts, Heike C. and Bruce D. Niendorf. 2017. "Reaching Learning Goals Through Learning On-Site in Germany." *The Geography Teacher* 14, 4: 141-154.

Brasher, Jordan P., Derek H. Alderman, and Joshua F. Inwood. 2017. "Applying Critical Race and Memory Studies to University Place Naming Controversies: Toward a Responsible Landscape Policy." *Papers in Applied Geography*.

Chacko, Elizabeth. and Peter Gebre. 2017. "Engaging the Ethiopian diaspora: Policies, practices and performance." Chapter 10 in *Africa and its Global Diaspora: The Policy and Politics of Emigration*. Edited by J. Mangala. Palgrave Macmillan. 219 – 249.

Chacko, Elizabeth. 2017. "Policies and practices of integration: High-skilled migrants from India in Singapore." *Papers in Applied Geography*, Published online, October 5, 2017. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/23754931.2017.1349686>

Cross, John A. 2017. *Ethnic Landscapes of America*. New York: Springer Nature.

Cross, John A. 2016. "Dairying Landscapes of the Amish in Wisconsin," *Material Culture* 48, 2: 16-31.

Estaville, Lawrence E. and Edris J. Montalvo. 2017. "Latino Health in the Texas Panhandle: Policy Implications." *Papers in Applied Geography*.

Henry, Norah F. and John W. Frazier. 2017. "Introduction: Applied Geography, Institutions, and Racial-Ethnic Experiences." *Papers in Applied Geography*.

Li, Wei, Claudia Sadowski-Smith, and Wan Yu. (in press). "Return migration and transnationalism: evidence from highly-skilled migration." *Papers in Applied Geography*.

Li, Wei, Emily Skop, and Adriana Morken. "Migration." *Oxford Bibliographies in Geography*. Barney Warf ed. New York: Oxford University Press, DOI: 10.1093/obo/9780199874002-0038 <http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780199874002/obo-9780199874002-0038.xml?rskey=9eOtpq&result=81>.

Li, Wei and Lucia Lo, with Eva Zhang. 2017. "Minority Depository Institutions at the Dawn of the 21st Century." Federal Reserve System.

Li, Wei, Lucia Lo, and Jinwen Xu. 2017. "Minority Depository Institutions at the Dawn of the 21st Century." *Papers in Applied Geography*, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/23754931.2017.1347809>.

Lilomaiava-Doktor, Sa'iliemanu. 2016. "Changing Morphology of Graves and Burials in Samoa." *Journal of the Polynesia Society* 125, 2: 171-186.

Lo, Lucia, Shaolu Yu, and Wei Li. "Economic Mobilities of Highly-Skilled China-Born Migrants in Canada and the United States." In Lloyd Wong ed. *Trans-Pacific Mobilities: The Chinese and Canada*. Vancouver: UBC Press. pp.138-166.

Lo, Lucia, Wei Li, and Wan Yu. "Highly-skilled Migration from China and India to Canada and the United States." *International Migration* DOI: 10.1111/imig.12388.

McDaniel, Paul N., Darlene Xiomara Rodriguez, and Anna Joo Kim. 2017. "Receptivity and the Welcoming Cities Movement: Advancing a Regional Immigrant Integration Policy Framework in Metropolitan Atlanta, Georgia." *Papers in Applied Geography*.

McDaniel, Paul N. and Heather A. Smith. 2017. "Receptivity's Construction in Public Schools: A Component of Immigrant Integration in an Emerging Gateway." *Journal of International Migration and Integration* 18, 4: 1061-1081.

Morken, Adriana and Emily Skop. 2017. "Connecting Refugees in a Nontraditional Resettlement Destination: The Role of Social Institutions." *Papers in Applied Geography*.

Newberry, Jay. 2017. "A Data Envelopment Analysis of the New York City Stop-and-Frisk Policy, Pre- and Postconstitutionality Ruling." *Papers in Applied Geography*.

Ponstingel, John. 2017. "Place Matters: Filipinos and Asian Indians in Jersey City, New Jersey." *Papers in Applied Geography*.

Sharma, Madhuri. 2017. Change and Continuity of Income Divide in the American Southeast: A Metropolitan Scale Analyses, 2000-2014. *Applied Geography*, 88:186-198; [DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apgeog.2017.08.015>]

Sharma, Madhuri. 2017. Race, Place and Persisting Income Divide in the U.S. Southeast, 2000-2014, *Growth and Change*, 48(4):570–589. DOI: 10.1111/grow.12214

Sharma, Madhuri. 2018. Economic Growth Potentials and Race/Ethnicity in Tennessee. *International Journal of Applied Geospatial Research*, 9(2):PA.

Skop, Emily and Wei Li. "Ethnicity." In Douglas Richardson Ed. *The International Encyclopedia of Geography*, Wiley-Blackwell and the Association of American Geographers.

Teixeira, Carlos. 2017. "New Canadians' Settlement Experiences in Vancouver's Suburbs, with Suggestions for Policy Directions Regarding Rental Housing and Community Services." *Papers in Applied Geography*.

Verma, Kanika. 2017. "Cultural Group Variances in Geospatial Thinking of Undergraduates in the United States: Educational Policy Implications." *Papers in Applied Geography*.

Wang, Hao, Wei Li, and Yu Deng. "Precarity among Highly-Educated Migrants: College Graduates in Beijing, China." *Urban Geography* 38, 10: 1497-1516.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02723638.2017.1314170>.

Wang, Qingfang and Erin Casullo. 2017. "Location Analyses of Foreign Firms in an Emergent Immigration Gateway in the U.S. South." *Papers in Applied Geography*.

Yu, Wan. 2017. "Mapping the Highly Skilled: Employment Situation and Geographical Distribution of Temporary Skilled Migrants in the United States." *Papers in Applied Geography*.

Race, Ethnicity, and Place 2018 Conference in Austin

The REP Planning Committee is happy to announce that the next Race, Ethnicity, and Place (REP) Conference, co-sponsored by both Texas State University and the University of Texas at Austin Geography Departments, will be held from October 17-20, 2018, at the beautiful Mexican American Cultural Center (MACC) in Austin, Texas. The MACC is located adjacent to Town Lake and the Rainey Street Historic District in downtown Austin and the nearby hotels are within walking distance of many opportunities to enjoy the lake and live music. The theme of the conference is "Engaged Scholarship: Fostering Civil and Human Rights," with paper and poster sessions on Wednesday afternoon, Thursday and Friday, and field trips on Saturday morning and great food, music, keynote speakers and local artist & activist participation. Please mark your calendars and we hope that you will be able to participate. We will have our website with online registration by February 2018; in the meantime, please save the date!

EGSG Mission Statement

To promote the common interests of persons working in ethnic geography, to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas within the AAG, and to encourage members in their research and teaching of ethnic experiences from comparative, national/transnational and global perspectives.

EGSG Officers and Standing Committees

Past Chair:

Heike Alberts, University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh, 2016-2018

Current Chair:

Madhuri Sharma, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2016-2018

Vice Chair:

Edris Montalvo, Cameron University, 2016-2018

Secretary-Treasurer:

Elizabeth Chacko, George Washington University, 2016-2018

Board of Directors:

Carlos Teixeira, University of British Columbia-Okanagan, 2016-2018

Wan Yu, Binghamton University, 2016-2018

Dave Kaplan, Kent State University, 2016-2018

Michael Webb, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2016-2018

Holly Barcus, Macalester College, 2016-2018

Jay Newberry, Binghamton University, 2017-2019

Paul McDaniel, Kennesaw State University, 2017-2019

EGSG Awards Committee

(Responsible for Distinguished Ethnic Geography Scholar, Outstanding Ethnic Geography Service, and Outstanding Ethnic Geography Career Awards)

Sean Crotty, Texas Christian University, 2016-2018

Carlos Teixeira, University of British Columbia, Okanagan, 2017-2019

Stavros Constantinou, Ohio State University, 2017-2019

Emily Skop, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, 2017-2019

Outstanding Ethnic Geography Dissertation Proposal Committee

Susan Hume, Southern Illinois University, 2016-2018

Carlos Teixeira, University of British Columbia, Okanagan, 2016-2018

Selima Sultana, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, 2017-2019

Outstanding Ethnic Geography Student Paper Committee

David Kaplan, Kent State University, 2016-2018

Kanika Verma, Independent Scholar, 2017-2019

Jay Newberry, Binghamton University, 2017-2019

AAG Program Committee

Madhuri Sharma, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2016-2018

Heather Smith, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, 2016-2018

Wan Yu, Binghamton University, 2017-2019

Website Committee

Michael Webb, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2017-2019

Matt Cook, Eastern Michigan University, 2016-2018

Newsletter Committee

Paul McDaniel, Kennesaw State University, 2016-2018 (Newsletter Editor)

Richard Gioioso, St. Joseph's University, 2016-2018 (Newsletter Co-Editor)

Student Committee

Ana Sanchez, University of Binghamton, 2016-2018

Scott Markley, University of Georgia, 2016-2018

Donghee Koh, University of Tennessee, 2016-2018

John Ponstingel, Binghamton University, 2016-2018

EGSG Website

EGSG activities and latest news, achievements, memberships, etc. are available on its website: <https://ethnicgeography.com/>. In the 2016 business meeting of the EGSG at AAG in San Francisco, the members and committees approved the development of a new and improved website that is hosted by an independent link. Our website is being managed by co-webmasters Matt Cook (Eastern Michigan University) and Michael Webb (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill). Feel free to

connect with them if you need any assistance with posting jobs or other updates that need EGSG focus. Also visit EGSG on Facebook at @EthnicSpecialtyGroup (<http://www.facebook.com/EthnicSpecialtyGroup/>).

Submissions to the EGSG Newsletter

If you would like to submit an item for the next EGSG Newsletter, please email your story to Paul McDaniel at pmcdan11@kennesaw.edu. Examples of contributions for inclusion in the newsletter can include:

- Professional updates
- News from the field
- New jobs, tenure and promotion announcements
- Appointments to notable committees
- Recent publications
- Research grants
- Highlights/photos from EGSG events this year (such as AAG and REP)
- Information about upcoming EGSG events
- "Who's teaching ethnic geography?"
- Op-ed or book review
- Other relevant updates

**See you in New Orleans at
the 2018 AAG Meeting!**