

MOUNTAIN GEOGRAPHY SPECIALTY GROUP NEWSLETTER – 2000

CONTENTS:

- 1) NOTE FROM THE CHAIR
- 2) PITTSBURGH EVENTS
 - a) Paper Sessions & Plenary Session sponsored by the MGSG
 - b) Other presentations of interest
 - c) Business Meeting (Preliminary Agenda) – Meeting to be held, Friday, April 7, 6:00-7:15 PM
- 3) NEWS FROM DEPARTMENTS, MEMBERS, COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS (Presented in order received)

1) NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

The Mountain Geography Specialty Group (MGSG) inaugural year has been busy! I have been and am involved in several mountain related projects, some are now completed and some are ongoing. Below I briefly discuss our activities and ask for your support.

Founding of the group kept me busy for the year preceding our first meeting in Hawaii and during the year since. Nearly 100 individuals joined in Hawaii and e-mail responses from around the globe put us well over 100. Indeed, the listserve has over 100 subscribers, all of whom asked to be members of the specialty group. Indeed, all are welcome, however, the AAG shows only 42 regular dues paying members, with an additional 42 students. Please, if you are an AAG member, be sure to join the MGSG by checking the box on your renewal; your official membership brings us more funding from the AAG and assures our continued status as a recognized specialty group.

As part of founding the group we began a listserve in partnership with The Mountain Institute. I wish to publicly thank Baker Perry for serving as administrator, and Jason Espie and Elizabeth Byers at TMI for making this possible. I hope all of you subscribe to both mf-geography, our listserve, and to mf-mtnforum because much of interest to us is distributed on the mtnforum. And, thanks to TMI and The Mountain Forum for hosting us!

Alton Byers at TMI, in partnership with the AAG and the MGSG, submitted a proposal to NSF to form a consortium of scholars to write an advanced undergraduate textbook on Mountain Geography. The proposal was not funded, but the reviews were encouraging, we are considering revision and re-submission. If you are interested in this project, please contact Alton directly (abyers@mountain.org) as it is still something very worthwhile.

2002 – The International Year of the Mountains is just around the corner! I encourage you all to participate fully. I have contacted the National Geographic Society and suggested the theme for Geography Awareness Week in November 2001 be Mountains, and that the January 2002 issue of the magazine be devoted to, or at least have an article on, Mountains. So far the NGS has been cordial but non-committal. I have had informal discussions with a few of our members about other 2002 activities: special journal issues; special sessions at various conferences; collaborative writing projects; and Mountain field trips and many sessions at the 2002 AAG meeting in Los Angeles, California. All of these seem promising. What ideas do you have? I'd like to hear from you.

I'm going to the International Geographical Congress in Seoul this coming August where I will attend the pre-Congress Mountain Workshop as well as the main Congress. Part of the workshop is devoted to 2002 activities. The time is ripe for the MGSG to participate in a meaningful way in this international arena. Please, let me know what you would like to see happen in 2002 and hopefully we can make it happen!!

Without too much effort, we managed six paper sessions at the AAG this year, and there are many papers and posters with the word "mountain" in the title throughout the meeting. This is great! Let's work to include all those doing mountain work in the MGSG.

Our membership is predominantly physical geographers. Encourage your human and cultural colleagues to join us! I will make an effort to attend some of the "human" business meetings in Pittsburgh to drum up support by making a short announcement. If you would do so as well, that would help!

This first year has been exciting and challenging. With your support we can meet those challenges. I wish you all the best and hope you are able to spend some quality time in the mountains very soon.

Donald Friend
30 March 2000
friend@mankato.msus.edu

2) PITTSBURGH EVENTS

a) Paper Sessions & Plenary Session sponsored by the MGSG

We are sponsoring five (5) paper sessions and one (1) panel discussion. Four of the five paper sessions occur on Friday, April 7. The remaining paper session and one panel are on Saturday morning, April 8. Our student paper competition will occur throughout Friday, all attending students in our sponsored sessions are entrants. There are also a number of other presentations related to mountains. Details are below:

417. Mountains I: Hazards, Friday, April 7

-Organizer: Donald A. Friend, Minnesota State University

-Chair: Donald A. Friend, Minnesota State University

-8:00 Jack D. Ives, Carleton University, Mountain Hazards Assessment: The Case of Lake Sarez. Pamir Mountains, Tajikistan

-8:20 Alton C. Byers, The Mountain Institute, Experiences in the Development of Mountain Curricula: From the Classroom to the International Expedition

-8:40 Winifred L. Mitchell, Minnesota State University, Paul F. Brown. Minnesota State University, The Integration of Ritual and Traditional Agriculture Practice in the Andes

-9:00 Caralyn Kelly, University of Waterloo, Narrating the Mountain Experience: Explorers and Climbers in the Canadian Rockies, 1890-1925

-9:20 Alyssa A. Nelson, Minnesota State University, The Great Divide: Snowmobiling Controversy in Silverton, Colorado

457. Mountains II: Wind, Friday, April 7

-Organizer: Donald A. Friend, Minnesota State University

-Chair: Leland R. Dexter, Northern Arizona University

-10:00 Michael P. Bishop, University of Nebraska-Omaha, John F. Shroder, Jr., University of Nebraska-Omaha, Global Change in Mountain Environments: The GLIMS Project

-10:20 John F. Shroder, Jr., University of Nebraska-Omaha, Michael P. Bishop, University of Nebraska-Omaha, The Nanga Parbat, GRAND, and GLIMS Projects: Mountains, Ice, and Water

-10:40 Cary Mock, University of South Carolina, Karl W. Birkeland, Montana State University, Jacqueline J. Shinker, University of Oregon, Gerald J. Gress, University of Oregon, Snow Avalanche Hazard and Climate of the Western United States

-11:00 Andreas Pflitsch, Ruhr University, Ken Rancourt, Mount Washington Observatory, Jill Schoof, University of Maine, Bernd Flick, Ruhr University, Investigations of Wind at Mount Washington
-11:20 Paul A. Roberts II, Minnesota State University, Phosphorous Content in Snow Pack, Snowmelt, and Urban Drainage Around Silverton, Colorado

494. Mountains III: Pattern and Composition at the Alpine Treeline Ecotone, Friday, April 7

-Organizer: Stephen J. Walsh, Univ of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
-Chair: Stephen J. Walsh, Univ of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
-2:00 Stephen J. Walsh, Univ of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Evan S. Hammer, Univ of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Sean McKnight, Univ of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Kelley A. Crews-Meyer, Univ of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Field Instrumentation and Measurement at Alpine Treeline: Integration of Spatial and Temporal Digital Technologies
-2:20 Daniel G. Brown, University of Michigan, A Methodology for Comparing Spatial Vegetation Patterns at Alpine Treeline Using Remotely Sensed Observations and Vegetation Model Output
-2:40 David R. Butler, Southwest Texas State University, Soil Formation, Animal Disturbance, and the Alpine Treeline Ecotone, Glacier National Park, Montana
-3:00 David M. Cairns, Texas A&M University, Vertical Gradients of Light and Temperature at Treeline and Their Relevance to Net Primary Productivity
-3:20 George P. Malanson, University of Iowa, Simulations of the Resource Averaging Hypothesis for Alpine Treeline

533. Mountains IV: Glacier National Park, Friday, April 7

-Organizer: Kathryn Alftine, University of Iowa
-Chair: Kathryn Alftine, University of Iowa
-4:00 Daniel B. Fagre, Glacier Field Station, Frederick L. Klasner, Glacier Field Station, Spring Opening of the Going-to-the-Sun Road in Glacier National Park: Application of Spatial-Temporal Snow Models
-4:20 Forrest D. Wilkerson, Southwest Texas State University, Ginger L. Schmid, Southwest Texas State University, David R. Butler, Southwest Texas State University, Slope Stratigraphy Revealed by Debris Flow Incision, Glacier National Park, Montana
-4:40 Matthew F. Bekker, University of Iowa, Spatio-Temporal Patterns of Tree Invasion into Tundra. Glacier National Park, Montana
-5:00 Kathryn Alftine, University of Iowa, Tree Seedling Establishment Pattern at Alpine Treeline. Glacier National Park, Montana

589. Mountains V: Biogeography, Saturday, April 8

(Sponsored by Mountain Geography Specialty Group)

-Organizer: Donald A. Friend, Minnesota State University
-Chair: Trevor A. Burwell, Kea Environmental Inc
-8:00 Katherine J. Hansen, Montana State University, Geographic Impacts of Recreation in Mountain Environments
-8:20 Franco Biondi, University of California-San Diego, Dendroclimatic Records from Treeline Ecosystems of the North American Tropics
-8:40 WITHDRAWN Trevor A. Burwell, Kea Environmental Inc, Grazing and Pinyon Tree Establishment at the Lower Montane Treeline Ecotone (LMTE), Eastern California

626. Mountains VI: Issues in Mountain Conservation: Problems and Priorities, Saturday, April 8

(Sponsored by Mountain Geography and Cultural Ecology Specialty Groups)

-Organizers: Thomas Perreault, University of Colorado-Boulder, Sarah J. Halvorson, University of Colorado-Boulder
-Chairs: Thomas Perreault, University of Colorado-Boulder, Sarah J. Halvorson, University of Colorado-Boulder

-Panelists: Karl Zimmerer, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Christian A. Kull, Univ of California-Berkeley, Barbara Brewer, Portland State University, Thomas Perreault, University of Colorado-Boulder, Sarah J. Halvorson, University of Colorado-Boulder, Piers Blaikie, 'University of Wisconsin-Madison

b) Other presentations of interest (i.e., those with "mountain" in the title)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5:

-8:25 Sven Lukas, Ruhr University, Andreas Pflitsch, Ruhr University, Ralf Marr, Ruhr University, Mount Washington: A Unique Location-Comparison of Wind Conditions of Four Different Mountain Tops (ILLUSTRATED PAPER)

-8:20 Richard L. Ford, Weber State University, Marek Matyjasik, Weber State University, Nancy Keate, Utah Office of Planning and Budget, Geomorphology and Hydrology of a Montane Patterned Fen, Uinta Mountains, Utah (ILLUSTRATED PAPER)

-8:00 Wil Gesler, Univ of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Thomas A. Arcury, Univ of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Stephen J. Walsh, Univ of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, John Preisser, Univ of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Utilization of Health Care in the Mountain Area of North Carolina (PAPER)

-Jason Estock, Shippensburg University, Joy Haydt, Shippensburg University, William Blewett, Shippensburg University, The Importance of Slope Aspect on 'Relict' Versus 'Active' Periglacial Landforms, South Mountain, Pennsylvania (POSTER)

-Mark A. Fonstad, Arizona State University, Fragmentation of Stream Power Distributions in a High Mountain Setting (POSTER)

-Kevin Hyde, University of Montana, Abandoned Mine Reclamation in the Mountain West Case Study: Linton Mine and Millsite, Montana (POSTER)

-Kevin McMaster, University of Western Ontario, Mountain Stream Channel Prediction (POSTER)

-Michael A. Zoldak, Arizona State University, Mark A. Fonstad. Arizona State University, Regional Flood Hydrology: Characterization and Prediction in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains

-2:20 Gayla Smutny, Florida State University, Locales of Growth and Change: Exploring Economic Restructuring in the Western Mountain States (PAPER)

-2:40 Lawrence E. Wood, Pennsylvania State University, Appalachian Regional Commission Allocations to Growth Centers in Appalachia (PAPER)

THURSDAY, APRIL 6

-8:00 David L. McGinnis, University of Iowa, Trends in Western United States Snowfall (PAPER)

-8:20 Allan Frei, University of Colorado-Boulder, Richard Armstrong, University of Colorado-Boulder, Martyn P. Clark, University of Colorado-Boulder, Mark C. Serreze, University of Colorado-Boulder, Sensitivity of the Catskill Mountains Water Balance to Climate Change (PAPER)

-8:20 Charles W. Lafon, University of Tennessee, Ice Storm Damage and Forest Dynamics in the Appalachian Mountains: Field Sampling and Computer Simulation (PAPER)

-11:00 Alice K. Wondrak, University of Colorado-Boulder, The Rocky Mountain Wildlife Interpretive Center: Community Conflict and Struggles for the Soul of Estes Park, Colorado (PAPER)

-2:20 James P. Doerner, University of Northern Colorado, A 5700-Year Long Pollen Assemblage from the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of Colorado (PAPER)

-4:00 Graham A. Horner, University of British Columbia, The Power to Move Mountains: The Nature of Changing / Changing the Nature of Whistler Resort (PAPER)

FRIDAY, APRIL 7

-8:40 Hayden Lorimer, University of Aberdeen, De-bagging the Munros: The Promotion and Commodification of Scotland's Mountains (PAPER)

-10:00 Kevin S. Blake, University of Wyoming, Land Use and Environmental Meaning at Navajo Sacred Mountains (PAPER)

-3:00 Sally P. Horn, University of Tennessee, Lisa M. Kennedy, University of Tennessee, Kenneth H. Orvis, University of Tennessee, Vegetation Recovery After Fire in the Mountains of the Dominican Republic (PAPER)

-3:20 Alan H. Taylor, Pennsylvania State University, Coexistence of Spruce and Fir in Subalpine Forests in the Min Mountains of Southwestern China (PAPER)

-3:00 Jeffrey D. Colby, East Carolina University, Michael P. Bishop, University of Nebraska-Omaha, Evaluation of Automated Anisotropic Reflectance Correction of Satellite Imagery in Mountain Environments (PAPER)

-3:00 Tom Schmiedeler, Washburn University, Gambling, Tourism, and the Place of the Past in Two Central Colorado Mining Towns (PAPER)

-3:20 Paul Marr, Shippensburg University, The Development and Abandonment of Mining Towns in the Colorado Rocky Mountains (PAPER)

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

-9:00 Joy J. Wolf, University of Colorado-Boulder, Susan W. Beatty, University of Colorado-Boulder, Timothy R. Seastedt, University of Colorado-Boulder, Soil Impacts from Exotic Invasion in the Montane Zone of Rocky Mountain National Park (PAPER)

-8:55 Philip A. Townsend, University of Maryland, Clayton Kingdon, University of Maryland, Robert A. Chastain, Jr., University of Maryland, Remote Sensing of Forest Biophysical Properties Using Satellite SAR Data: Results from the Mountains and the Swamps (PAPER)

-2:40 Sarah J. Halvorson, University of Colorado-Boulder, Gender and the Politics of Resource Access: Implications for Social Capital Formation in Northern Pakistan (PAPER)

- c) Business Meeting (Preliminary Agenda) – Meeting to be held, Friday, April 7, 6:00-7:15 PM
 - i) Welcome (Friend)
 - ii) Chair’s Report (Friend)
 - (1) Officer Update (Friend)
 - (2) Membership
 - (3) Budget
 - (4) Pittsburgh Activities
 - iii) Approval of 1999 Minutes (Friend)
 - iv) Amend/Approve By-Laws (Friend)
 - v) Election of Officers (Friend)
 - vi) IGC Seoul 2000
 - vii) 2002 International Year of the Mountains (Friend & Others)
 - viii) Other Business
 - ix) Awards (Harden)
 - x) Closing (Friend)

3) NEWS FROM DEPARTMENTS, MEMBERS, COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS (Presented in order of date received)

APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY, SUBMITTED BY BAKER PERRY:

The Department of Geography and Planning of Appalachian State University, Boone, NC, offered a summer study abroad field course to Andean Bolivia during July 2000. Baker Perry, Dr. Mike Mayfield, and Joe Quinn from Appalachian State University, and Dr. Andrew Klein from Texas A&M and Fred Bahnsen from Duke University co-lead a group of 13 geography undergraduate and graduate geography students. Prior to the trip, students completed readings on mountain geography and the Central Andes, focusing on the themes of glacier retreat, rural development and primary health care, and the applications of GIS, GPS, and remote sensing technology.

The group collaborated with the Puerto Acosta municipal government during the first phase of the experience to map the primary and secondary roads, cantón boundaries, and communities with GPS and satellite imagery. Students also ground-truthed the Landsat TM imagery, performed supervised and unsupervised image classifications, interacted with the local Aymara population, and were treated to some spectacular scenery.

The second phase of the field course involved an arduous hike to Laguna Glaciar, located at 5000 meters on the flanks of Ancohuma in the Cordillera Real. Group members participated in GPS mapping of glacier extents and moraines, which we hope will mark the first year of an annual research program in the Laguna Glaciar area. Plans are underway for a similar field course and high altitude research expedition for this summer.

For more information, please contact Baker Perry at <perrylb@appstate.edu>.

MOUNTAIN NEWS FROM GEOGRAPHERS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

As this newsletter is being assembled University of Tennessee Geographers Sally Horn and Ken Orvis, with grad students Charles Lafon and Brandon League, are doing field work for on ongoing project on glacial, climatic and vegetation history of the high mountain Chirripó region of the Talamanca Mountains in Costa Rica. Orvis has written EstELA (Fortran, Macintosh), a program for estimatng equilibrium line altitudes for unstudied glaciers and reconstructed glaciers of the past, which allows extraction of paleotemperature from geomorphic tracer of glaciers and yields proxy information on precipitation at the time the glacier was active. Other faculty members with mountain-related research include Dr. Lydia Pulsipher, whose cultural research on the Caribbean Island of Montserrat has provided fascinating insights into the lives of people living with an active volcano; Dr. John Rehder, who is currently researching and writing about the folk culture of the Southern Appalachian region in the U.S.; and Dr. Carol Harden, who, with several graduate students, is studying mountain watersheds in the Southern Appalachians. Harden also has ongoing research in the Andean region of southern Ecuador, and with student Del Scruggs is completing a study of the spatial variability of infiltration rates in the Luquillo Mountains of Puerto Rico. Horn and Orvis and a set of graduate students have been studying Holocene paleoecology and landscape climatology of the high mountains of the Dominican Republic. Lisa Kennedy, doctoral candidate working with Sally Horn, is completing a dissertation on the fire-vegetation dynamics of pines in the highland forests of the Dominican Republic.

Most of these themes will be presented at the Pittsburgh meeting. Look for:

Kennedy, L.M. and Horn, SP. Fire-Vegetation dynamics following the 1997 Bermudez-Ramirez Fire, Cordillera Central, Dominican Republic.

Orvis, KH and Horn, SP, Reconstructing Glaciers and climates of Cerro Chirripo, Costa Rica.

Horn, SP, Kennedy, LM, and Orvis, KH, Vegetation Recovery after fire in the mountains of the Cominican Republic.

Pulsipher, LP, Can Volcano-based tourism save Montserrat?

Hart, E. Sediment storagealong headwater streams as influenced by woody debris and debris avalanching.

Harden, C. Pine reforestation versus geomorphic recovery in the Copper Basin, Tennessee.

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THE DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AT SOUTH CAROLINA has ongoing mountain geography research as it relates to physical geography. Allan James is conducting research on the mapping of

glacial features related to Late Quaternary glacial advances of the northern Sierra Nevada, California. In the past, he has also conducted research on sediment production, storage, and transport by hydraulic mining in the northern Sierra Nevada and resulting channel responses. Allan also is involved with research projects on soil erosion and sedimentation in the southern Piedmont. Cary Mock continues his research on snow avalanche climatology (with Karl Birkeland of Montana State University). This project analyzes the relationships between synoptic climatic patterns and different snow avalanche climate regimes of the Western United States mountain ranges. He also continues his research on spatial variations of mountain climates of the West, most recently focusing on the Colorado Plateau region, which relates with his interests in Quaternary paleoclimatology.

Cary J. Mock, mockcj@sc.edu

PROF. DR. HERMANN KREUTZMANN, UNIVERSITY OF ERLANGEN-NUREMBERG

Two Points of Interest:

1. High Mountain Pastoralism in Northern Pakistan edited by Eckart Ehlers & Hermann Kreutzmann

Contents

High mountain ecology and economy: potential and constraints: Eckart Ehlers & Hermann Kreutzmann

Animal husbandry in domestic economies: organization, legal aspects and present changes of mixed mountain agriculture in Yasin (Northern Areas, Pakistan) by Georg Stöber & Hiltrud Herbers

Coming down from the mountain pastures. decline of high pasturing and changing patterns of pastoralism in Punial by Rinhard Fischer

Pastoralism in the Bagrot: Spatial organization and economic diversity by Eckart Ehlers

Livestock economy in Hunza: societal transformation and pastoral practices by Hermann Kreutzmann

Pastoral system in Shigar/Baltistan: communal herding management and pasturage rights by Matthias Schmidt

Pastoral management strategies in transition: indicators from the Nanga Parbat region (NW-Himalaya) by Jürgen Clemens & Marcus Nüsser

Why are mountain farmers vegetarians? Nutritional and non-nutritional dimensions of animal husbandry in High Asia by Hiltrud Herbers

Franz Steiner Verlag Stuttgart 2000: Erdkundliches Wissen Vol. 132

ISBN 3-515-07662-X

2. BALTIT FORT DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

With the inauguration of Baltit Fort (Hunza, Northern Areas, Pakistan) in September 1996, a separate section of the restored building – sponsored among others by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture and the Getty Foundation - has been reserved for a documentation and research centre to become a meeting

place for academics. Scholars and other donors are invited to support the establishment of an international exchange of knowledge about the concerned mountain region in the Karakoram. The collection of research material, maps, articles, books, music recording, photographs, videos and films is coordinated by Prof. Dr. Hermann Kreutzmann. For the initial phase it is attempted to collect the major publications in the fields of forestry, geology, ecology, physical and cultural geography, social anthropology, ethnography, language studies, folklore and folklife, popular literature and travelogues as originals or if not available in form of photocopies. All donations are included in a database which is regularly updated and forms part of the catalogue on the Baltit Fort documentation centre (<http://www.uni-erlangen.de/geographie/hindukush/baltdon.html>). All researchers and authors who have worked in the wider area of the Karakoram, Hindukush and Western Himalayas are asked to contribute with copies of their publications. The documentation centre is aiming at providing research results in the area of research. The present stock of contributions which have been collected among German scientists working in the Karakoram forms an important data base for students of the region. It has been quite successful to provide those students who are studying in different colleges and universities of Pakistan with scientific material. A growing number of local and regional future academics consult the library and documentation centre for their theses work and research papers. The presented books and articles are not available anywhere else in the country. Local scholars who are writing on the regional history are among other users of this documentation centre. Third in line are foreign scientists who – while staying in Karimabad - can use a library with a dense collection reflecting the research work of more than a century. To continue the build up of this documentation centre and to let it grow further contributions are welcome and needed. For easy communication please send the material to the following address from where all contributions are forwarded to the Baltit Fort Documentation Centre

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KEVIN BLAKE, PRESENTLY AT THE UNIV. OF WYOMING

I had an article published last week by Journal of the Southwest, Vol. 41, No. 4, Winter 1999, pp.487-509. The article is titled "Secular and Sacred Landscape Symbolism at Mount Taylor, New Mexico." This well-illustrated essay examines the meaning of the mountain in Hispanic, Anglo, and American Indian cultures and communities.

I've accepted a position as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography at Kansas State University starting in fall 2000. I'm excited to be part of their well-regarded, growing, active, PhD-granting department, plus this will be a return to my Kansas roots. At Kansas State I'll certainly be able to continue my studies on the human dimensions of mountain environments.

MARTIN PRICE, UNIV. OF OXFORD:

MOUNTAIN RESEARCH GROUP - ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

The Mountain Research Group (MRG) of the Royal Geographical Society (RGS) was founded in 1998, and already over 200 people have joined, about half from the UK and half from other countries from all parts of the world. Membership in the MRG is open to scientists, practitioners, and all those interested or working in mountain regions. We very much hope that it will be possible to develop collaborative activities with the AAG Specialty Group, and that AAG members will join the MRG.

The MRG maintains an Internet-searchable database of scientists actively working in mountain regions, in order to maximize opportunities for awareness of ongoing research, and possibilities for collaboration. Entries to the database can be made, and it can be searched, via the MRG website: <http://www.sci.port.ac.uk/geology/rgsmrg/rgsmrg.htm>. The database contains contact information for researchers, subject, and location of research, as well as details of funding and a 200-word abstract. All members of the AAG Specialty Group, and their colleagues working in mountain areas, are encouraged to list themselves on the database, which is recognised as contributing to the International Year of Mountains 2002.

The MRG organises sessions at the RGS Annual Conferences, which take place in early January each year. The sessions at the Annual Conference at the University of Sussex in January 2000 had the general theme "Mountain Research: Retrospect and Prospect", with two half-day themes (please see the MRG website for more details): Mountain research and natural disaster reduction 1990-1999; Research directions towards the International Year of Mountains 2002. The full-day session at the 2001 conference, in Plymouth, is being organized jointly with the RGS Developing Areas Research Group, with the theme "Coping with catastrophe: integration and innovation". It would be great to have someone from the AAG Specialty Group there.

In addition to sessions at the RGS Annual Conferences, the MRG plans to organize separate meetings, preferably in or near mountain areas and in conjunction with other organisations with complementary interests.

For more information, or to join the Mountain Research Group, please contact:

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BOOK REVIEWERS WANTED

The quarterly journal, Mountain Research and Development, is going through a process of renewal, and the editorial offices have shifted to the Institute of Geography in Bern, Switzerland, e-mail <mrjournal@giub.unibe.ch> As 'MountainMedia editor', I am always looking for new mountain books, CDs, etc. to review - please let me know if you are publishing something on paper or in digital form. I also need people to review books. If you would like to review books (you get to keep them!), please let me know what themes/regions you specialise in.

Martin Price <mprice@nts1.tsu.ox.ac.uk>

SHAMELESS PLUGS

Price, M.F. and E-G. Kim (1999) Priorities for sustainable mountain development in Europe. International Journal of Sustainable Development and World Ecology 6: 203-219.

Price, M.F. and N. Butt (eds) (2000) Forests in sustainable mountain development: A state-of-knowledge report for 2000 CAB International, Wallingford: to be published this summer: 90 contributions from around the world.

Godde P., M.F. Price and F. Zimmermann (2000) Tourism and development in mountain regions. CAB International, Wallingford: xiii + 357 pp.

Price M.F., T.H. Mather and E.C. Robertson (eds.) (1999) Global change in the mountains. Parthenon, London/New York. xxxi+217 pp.

Price, M.F. (1999) Cooperation in the European mountains 1: The Alps. IUCN European Programme Environmental Research Series, Gland and Cambridge.

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TED WACHS, MANAGING EDITOR MOUNTAIN RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

The first issue of Mountain Research and Development (MRD) in its new format, Vol 20 No 1, will be mailed at the end of March. Many individuals and institutions will be receiving complimentary promotional copies, and numerous Mountain Forum member organizations will receive multiple copies for further complimentary distribution. The editors are extremely eager for reader reactions! Please send all comments to: mrd-journal@giub.unibe.ch.

The editors wish to take this opportunity in particular to make an appeal to the entire Mountain Forum community for participation in the production of MRD. Most of all, we are looking for stimulating articles for the new development section (for examples, see Vol 20 No 1). Each development section also contains a special "interview" feature - a close-up personal interview with a mountain personality. Suggestions for interview subjects are needed, and will be welcomed! We are also particularly eager to have contributions to the "MountainNotes" section: please send us reports of workshops, conferences and other mountain-related events that you would like to have summarized in MRD.

We are pleased that FAO has recently joined us as an institutional member of the IMS Board. Other mountain-related institutions are welcome to become members. For details, please contact the MRD editorial office at mrd-journal@giub.unibe.ch. We are confident about the future of MRD, and we need your support to make it all it can be. Please contact us soon to let us know how you want to participate in MRD's future, to help make it a strong communication vehicle for Mountain Forum. We look forward to hearing from you!

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**MICHAEL RICHTER, HIGH MOUNTAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY
FAU, KOCHSTR. 4/4, 91054 ERLANGEN, GERMANY:**

The Department is considered to be the most creative Institute in Germany in the field of high mountain geocological research. Giving an introduction of our activities and interests, our recent research areas are:

- Periglacial processes in the Cordilleras of Northern Chile and of Tian Shan (Hilmar Schroeder).
- Climatological phytoindication by similarity analyses in the mountains of SW-USA (Michael Richter).
- Climatological phytoindication by epiphytes in Southern Ecuador (Michael Richter).
- Agroecological damages in the Sierra Madre de Chiapas (Michael Richter).
- Sustainability in the Alps (Werner Baetzing).
- Processes of transformation in the Pamir Mountains and in Karakoram (Hermann Kreutzmann, Hiltrud Herbers).
- Paleogeographic and biospheric conditions of landscape development in the Uvs Nuur-Basin / NW-Altai in Mongolia (Uwe Treter).
- Plant invasion by exotics in mountain forests on Hawaii (Juergen Boehmer).

For further informations consult our website <http://www.fau.de/geographie/>

Michael Richter (MGSg member and speaker of the german working group on High Mountain Geocology)

ROGER BARRY, UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO:

MEETING:

The third of a series of meetings on Research for Mountain Area Development, organized by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, was held at the Abisko Research Station, northern Sweden, 30 August- 2 September, 1999. This session focussed on the Americas. Professor Roger Barry, NSIDC/CIRES and Dept. of Geography at the University of Colorado, Boulder, was an Invited speaker on "Climatic Fluctuations in the Mountains of the Americas and their Significance". A related paper by Barry and A. Seimon has been accepted by Ambio and will be published along with other presentations at the meeting in November 2000.
(rbarry@kryos.colorado.edu)

Recent publications:

Pulwarty, R.S., Barry, R.G., Hurst, C.M., Sellinger, K. and Mogollon, L.F. 1998. Precipitation in the Venezuelan Andes in the context of regional climate. Met. Atmos. Physics 67: 217-238.

Barry, R.G. 1999. Review of "Views from the Alps: Regional Perspectives on Climate Change" by P. Cebon et al. MIT Press 1998, 515pp. Annals Assoc. Amer. Geogr., 89:779-800.

Zhang, T., Barry, R.G., Knowles, K., Brown, J. and Heginbottom, J.A. 1999. Statistics and characteristics of permafrost and ground ice distribution in the Northern Hemisphere. Polar Geography 23(2), in press.

SUSAN TOCH, PH.D., M.P.H., "WATER TO DRINK", PO BOX 501, METALINE FALLS, WA 99153, USA:

I thought you might be interested in my upcoming book on sustainable watersheds. You can access this info. excerpts and related publications as well as info. on our "unified in our diversity" community-based consortium on our "in-process" web site: www.concepia.com/watertodrink

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Planned for release in February, 2000, this unified approach integral to the maintenance and protection of viable watersheds connects land use, water quality and human health, and provides comprehensive assessment and management strategies that link our ecological systems with our human health and well-being.