

RSS eBulletin Issue 111, June 2019

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Important Due Dates

- Annual Meeting Early Bird Registration rate expires - **June 7, 2019**
- Last Day to receive a full refund of Annual Meeting Registration fees - **July 7, 2019**
- RSS Room Block at the Richmond Marriott expires - **July 15, 2019** (a limited number of rooms are available at this rate so reserve early!)



Just Added to the RSS Annual Meeting Program

SPATIAL REGRESSION MODELS FOR RURAL STUDIES WORKSHOP

Dr. Guangqing Chi, Associate Professor of Rural Sociology and Demography and Public Health Sciences

Wednesday, August 7, 2019 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Room TBA

The spatial aspect of many rural phenomena has been increasingly recognized and studied using spatial analysis and spatial regression models. While the methods are many, there is a learning curve to learn and apply them to empirical analyses. This workshop aims to introduce the concepts of spatial regression modeling and provides a relatively comprehensive coverage of the spatial regression models that can be useful for rural studies. A data example of rural growth and development in Wisconsin will be used to illustrate the methods and address their strengths and weaknesses. The methods that will be covered include: (1) exploratory spatial data analysis, (2) models dealing with spatial dependence (spatial lag model, spatial error model, spatial error model with spatially lagged responses, spatial cross-regressive model), (3) models dealing with spatial heterogeneity (spatial regime models, geographically weighted regression), (4) models dealing with both spatial dependence and heterogeneity, and (5) advanced spatial regression models (spatio-temporal regression, spatial regression forecasting, multilevel regression).

The goal of this workshop is NOT to teach the participants how to fit the models; rather, it is to help them understand the spatial aspect of their research and how that can be best addressed by what spatial regression models. This workshop is based on a forthcoming textbook titled "Spatial Regression Models for the Social Sciences" (Guangqing Chi and Jun Zhu, 2019, SAGE, ISBN 9781544302072). More information about this book can be found at <https://us.sagepub.com/hw/nam/spatial-regression-models-for-the-social-sciences/book258546>.

The workshop will run for three hours. There is no cost for this event but registration is required. Because seating for the workshop is limited we ask that you register for the workshop when you register for the annual meeting.

Participants are encouraged to bring their laptop with GeoDa installed (open source <https://geodacenter.github.io/>).

SAFRIG and Race and Ethnicity RIG Field Trip

Exploring Richmond's Racial Past and Moving Forward

During this field trip we will actively engage RSS members with this year's conference theme: 'Justice and Tyranny: Mobilizing Rural Sociological Imaginations'. First, through a guided walk of the Trail of Enslaved Africans in the morning, we will focus on Richmond's history of slavery. The Trail of Enslaved Africans is a detailed chronicle of historical events in the area and aims to engage participants in a rediscover, acknowledgement, reflection and healing in past-current conditions. After a lunch, trained facilitators from the Richmond-based organization Initiatives of Change will guide us into a debrief of the morning's walk. The goal of this debrief is to enable participants to process what can be an emotionally dense walk and to begin a discussion of the present conditions of race and racism and how to move forward.

This field trip is collaboratively organized by the Sociology of Agriculture and Food (SAFRIG) and Rural Race and Ethnicity (RRE) RIGs in partnership with Initiatives of Change. Through their initiative Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation (TRHT), Initiatives of Change focus on building bridges, through communication, empathy, awareness, and consciousness raising as methods of social transformation to address the historic and contemporary effects of racism. This field trip received financial support from the Rural Policy RIG and RSS Diversity funds.

Pre-Registration is required and participation is limited to 30 attendees.

Field trip schedule:

- 8:00 am: Meet in conference hotel lobby
- 8:30 am -12:00 pm: Walk of the Trail of Enslaved Africans in Richmond
- 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm: Croaker's Spot - Black owned restaurant
- 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm: Morning Debrief with trained facilitators
- 2:30 pm: Head back to conference hotel on bus

Cost:
Professional \$45.00
Student \$22.50

GOING ONCE, GOING TWICE, GONE!

2019 Silent and Not so Silent Auction in Richmond, VA

The Diversity Committee of Rural Sociological Society seeks donations of items for the Silent Auction and a LIVE Auction to be held during the 2019 Annual Meeting. Items that are easily transported are encouraged, as are those of unique value. If you have something you think might lend itself to the LIVE Auction, please indicate that. The LIVE Auction will take place during the Friday Night Reception at the Dominion Energy Center. Proceeds of the auction support the activities of the Diversity Committee.

Items need to be placed into the auction not later than 10:00 am, Thursday, August 8. The auction will close at 9:00 pm on Friday, August 9. Items can be picked up immediately following the live auction on Friday or Saturday morning until noon.

Questions and other inquiries can be directed to Aimee Vieira at avieira@norwich.edu.

New publication by RSS Member Guangqing Chi

Spatial Regression Models for the Social Sciences by Guangqing Chi and Jun Zhu (SAGE, 2019).

This is a primer type of textbook for social scientists who would like a quick start to learning spatial regression methods. The past few decades have seen rapid development in spatial regression methods, which have been introduced in a great number of books and journal articles. However, when teaching spatial regression models and methods, the authors had difficulty recommending a suitable textbook for students in the social sciences to read. Many of the existing textbooks are either too technical for social scientists or are limited in scope, partly due to the rapid development in the methods. A textbook that provides relatively comprehensive coverage of spatial regression methods for social scientists and introduces the methods in an easy-to-follow approach is much needed. This book fills the gap and focuses on the methods that are commonly used by social scientists and tend to be useful to them. These methods include exploratory spatial data analysis, methods dealing with spatial dependence and/or spatial heterogeneity, and spatio-temporal regression models. The distinguishing features of the book include: comprehensive coverage of spatial regression models—from simple concepts and methods to advanced models—makes this book useful for a diverse audience including instructors, researchers, and students in a wide range of disciplines; the book's pedagogy includes study objectives, sidebars highlighting important points, figures/illustrations, and study questions for easy mastery of the material; supplemental materials including figures in color, data, and codes are available on [github.com/ssmss](#), which also hosts online discussions and new materials. This book could be particularly useful for social scientists who are familiar with standard regression methods and desire to learn spatial regression models and methods.

[Click here for more information.](#)

The Difference Your Donations to RSS Make

You may not know how your gifts to the RSS Endowment, Student Travel Award, and Diversity Travel Awards make. Here is a recap for 2018-2019.

- The Society is awarding \$25,000.00 dollars for Master's, Ph.D., and Early Career awards. Information about one of last's award winners, Laura Bray follows.
- Our Membership Committee provided 18 students with travel support totaling \$2,625.00.
- And the Diversity Committee provided travel support to 17 persons. Awards totaled \$4,295.00 dollars. These awards help international scholars, RSS members, invited guests, and students attend our conference.

Donations to any of these funds and the Buttel Award can be made anytime. Contact the Business Office rssira@wu.edu.

Laura Bray (North Carolina State University) 2018 Dissertation Award Recipient

Laura's dissertation research examines the formation of water inequality in the southwestern US. Despite legal and historical claims to a large portion of water resources in the West, indigenous communities face significant challenges related to water quality and infrastructure. These conditions stand in stark contrast to the history of Euro-American development in the region, where complex water projects have supported economic development and urbanization. Water conflicts between urban and rural places frequently lead to claims of injustice from rural communities, yet few environmental justice scholars have explored the rural dimension of environmental inequality. This study seeks to gain a deeper understanding of how race and rurality intersect in the production of environmental injustice through a historical case study of two closely related water projects—one for rural development on indigenous lands and the other supporting urban growth. Congress authorized the Navajo Indian Irrigation project and San Juan-Chama project together in 1962 to divide the waters of the San Juan River between the Navajo Nation and the state of New Mexico. Although approved together, the two projects diverged sharply in their construction progress and funding. New Mexico's project was finished ahead of schedule in 1973, and the San Juan River now provides up to 90% of Albuquerque's drinking water. The Navajo project, by contrast, remains unfinished today and suffers from perpetual underfunding and deteriorating infrastructure. Examining the practices, discourses, and logics used to divide the river can provide a deeper understanding of the relationship between race, space, and environment within rural contexts.



Lawrence Busch Award for Graduate Student Research on Food and Agriculture

The **Lawrence Busch Award for Graduate Student Research on Food and Agriculture** was established by the RSS Executive Committee on March 22, 2019. The **Busch Award** will formally be announced at the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society in Richmond, Virginia. Full details regarding the award, and the application process will be available in August.



The Rural Sociological Society would like to thank Professor Busch for this generous contribution to the society in support of graduate student research. Additional gifts to the **Lawrence Busch Award for Graduate Student Research on Food and Agriculture** can be accepted now. Make checks payable to the Rural Sociological Society, please write **Busch Award** on the memo line, and send to the RSS Business Office, PO Box 791061, New Orleans, LA 70179-1061.

Employment Opportunities

Indiana University Assistant or Associate Professor, Sustainable Food Systems

The O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University seeks applicants from public policy and affairs, governance, or other social sciences with a demonstrated expertise in food systems dynamics for an Assistant Professor or Tenured Associate Professor. The applicant's research should address the coupled nature of food systems and sustainability. We are particularly interested in candidates studying food systems within a U.S. context. We are also interested in candidates who work across disciplines with a record of interdisciplinary collaboration. The successful candidate will be expected to develop an extramurally-supported research program. Candidates may be appointed at the rank of assistant or associate professor.

This position is partially funded by Indiana University Bloomington's Emerging Areas of Research initiative (<http://ovpr.indiana.edu/ear1/ear1/>), which underwrites the Sustainable Food Systems Science (SFS) program. The SFS team seeks to understand sustainable food system development by studying the leverage points used to build more resilient and sustainable food systems. The candidate will contribute to the O'Neill School's developing food systems research/curriculum and engage with the SFS program scholars to bolster IU's capacity and contribution the field.

The successful applicant is expected to start August 1, 2020, and to have completed the Ph.D. by that date.

Review of applications will begin September 1, 2019.

you can visit <http://indiana.peopleadmin.com/postings/7876> to learn more.

Assistant Professor Rural Sociology - Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College

Description: The successful candidate will be able to contribute and help shape the BS in Rural Community Development. The successful candidate will also have the opportunity to collaborate with the newly founded Center for Rural Prosperity and Innovation (Georgia's Rural Center) by working with rural communities and/or mentoring students in internships/research.

Applicants must have a strong commitment to undergraduate education and an interest in ABAC's undergraduate research initiative. The successful candidate will be a strongly motivated and enthusiastic individual with a firm commitment to excellence in teaching, a well articulated pedagogy, and the ability to foster a collaborative atmosphere among students and faculty. Evidence of successful teaching at a primarily undergraduate institution and scholarly activity is desired.

This is a 10-month, tenure-track position. Typical faculty load is 12 hours per semester.

Position Summary: The newly formed Department of Rural Studies at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College seeks to hire an Assistant Professor of Rural Sociology, with appointment beginning on or after August 1, 2019. Teaching responsibilities will include courses in Rural Sociology and may include other upper level sociology courses and core courses, such as Introduction to Sociology.

For more information, [click here](#).

Department Head of Rural Studies - Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College

Description: The successful candidate will teach upper division courses in their disciplinary subject area, provide leadership for faculty to develop new upper division courses that support the program, and recruit students into the Rural Community Development program.

Candidates will have demonstrated administrative experience in program development, working with interdisciplinary programs and faculties, communities, and fund raising to support the program. Evidence of successful teaching and scholarly activity is essential. Other responsibilities include seeking and designing opportunities for student internships and creating job placement opportunities. Other duties as assigned. Ph. D. required.

Finally, the successful candidate will have an opportunity to collaborate with Georgia's Rural Center (Center for Rural Prosperity and Innovation) which is housed on ABAC's campus.

Position Summary:

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (ABAC) announces a nationwide search for a new Department Head and Associate/Professor for the School of Arts & Sciences. Department of Rural Studies. Anticipated start date is August 1st, 2019.

The newly formed Department of Rural Studies seeks to hire a Department Head with an open rank (Associate/Professor) and a specialty in Rural Sociology, Rural Psychology, or a related Behavioral Sciences expertise. Preference will be given to a faculty member who can teach in an area of need such as: Consumer Economics, Community Health, Community Development, Public Administration, or Rural Sociology. The successful candidate is expected to help build and guide the department that currently houses a BS in Rural Community Development, which has tracks in Social and Community Development and Community Health.

The Department includes faculty in the disciplines of Sociology, Psychology, and Criminal Justice, and has the potential to expand.

For more information, [click here](#).

For other current announcements, additional call for papers, employment opportunities, and meetings of interest see the **RSS website**, www.ruralsociology.org

Follow our new LinkedIn account!
[linkedin.com/company/ruralsociologicalsociety](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ruralsociologicalsociety)

The Rural Sociological Society Business Office has moved!
You can now contact us using the following information:
Mailing Address: PO Box 791061, New Orleans, LA 70179-1061
Email Address: rssira@wu.edu
Office Phone: 504.218.8460

For information on posting in future RSS ebulletins or on our website, please contact the RSS Business Office at rssira@wu.edu.

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