

From the Editors: Revamping *The California Geographer*

WE ARE PLEASED TO PRESENT the 2018 edition of *The California Geographer*. In this volume, representing the second year of our co-editorship, we have moved forward in revamping the journal. An important, foundational step has been revitalizing the editorial board, infusing it with fresh blood—four of the seven board members are new this year—in the process of articulating a set of concrete duties and expectations. We thank Robert Voeks, Gregory Bohr, and James Keese for graciously agreeing to continue their valuable service on the board, ensuring continuity and institutional memory; and we welcome new members Robin Datel, Kathleen Farley, Ian Dunham, and Lilly House-Peters.

This issue of *The California Geographer* also reflects our dedication to expanding the scope of the journal, illustrated in the range of submissions featured in these pages. From Sacramento State, Robin Datel kicks off the volume with an expansive piece of scholarship examining eleven events that have shaped her home city's human landscape; this article, appearing as it does on the heels of the annual meeting of the California Geographical Society (CGS) in Sacramento, initiates what we hope will become an annual tradition of featuring a lead research article that highlights geographical aspects of that year's conference host city. Last year we missed the mark in San Diego, but we make it up in 2018 with a contribution from San Diego State's Kathleen Farley, who examines manager perceptions of goals and outcomes of public rangeland management in San Diego County.

This issue also features award-winning student research, its quality doubly tested, first by CGS conference judges and then by anonymous reviewers for the journal. Included this year are essays submitted by both the graduate and undergraduate first-place winners of the 2017 Tom McKnight Paper Award. Etem Bairam, who completed his master's degree at Long Beach State this past year, examines the origins and spatial diffusion of female professional soccer players in the United States over the past quarter century. And recent Humboldt State graduate Nathaniel Douglass, in an article co-authored with Nicholas Perdue, maps out and examines perceptions of neighborhoods in Arcata.

In the realm of economic geography, a team of authors led by Ian Dunham of San Francisco State investigates the controversial topic of availability of retail financial services in low- to moderate-income neighborhoods, comparing the cases of Los Angeles, Las Vegas, and Miami. In a piece of historical environmental landscape analysis, Peggy Hauselt of Stanislaus performs a nuanced qualitative examination of nineteenth-century texts to characterize Santa Rosa Island's native plant coverage in the latter decades of the 1800s. From Humboldt State, Eric Fowler and Matthew Derrick show how “reel” representations in the comedy TV series *Portlandia* serve to cover over a “real” urban geography of gentrification. And in the process of developing a case for the continuing utility of direct experience in geographic education, Nick Perdue earns a second byline in this issue with his critical reflection of a recent class field exploration of Oregon's Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

The 2018 *California Geographer* moves forward in expanding on the traditional research article format. This issue features a pair of Field Notes contributions, which we envision as less formal, first-person updates on the field-based research activities of California geographers. First is a posting from Bridget Martin, a doctoral candidate at Berkeley, who compellingly reflects on her continuing research activities in South Korea. And second is an update from Derrick on some of his activities during his sabbatical year in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Also included are book reviews from Heather Benson, Janelle Adsit, and Jessie Clark on topics related to California geography.

Moving forward, we envision an increasingly expanded format that, evolving year to year, will grow to include not only geographic scholarship, geographic education, and book reviews, but also non-scholarly essays, photo essays, and geo-visualizations. We also welcome geographic chronicles that may include reflective essays, general geographical interest stories, notes from the field, and notices relevant to California geographers.

We are accepting submissions for the next volume (2019) of *The California Geographer* until February 1, 2019. We also welcome questions on your interests for submissions. Please send your submissions (MS Word) and figures (JPEG or TIFF) via an email attachment to either of the co-editors: Matthew Derrick (mad632@humboldt.edu) and Rosemary Sherriff (sherriff@humboldt.edu).

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