

A History of the Department of Geography & Environmental Sciences, University of Colorado Denver

JUNE 2021



Department of Geography
& Environmental Sciences

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

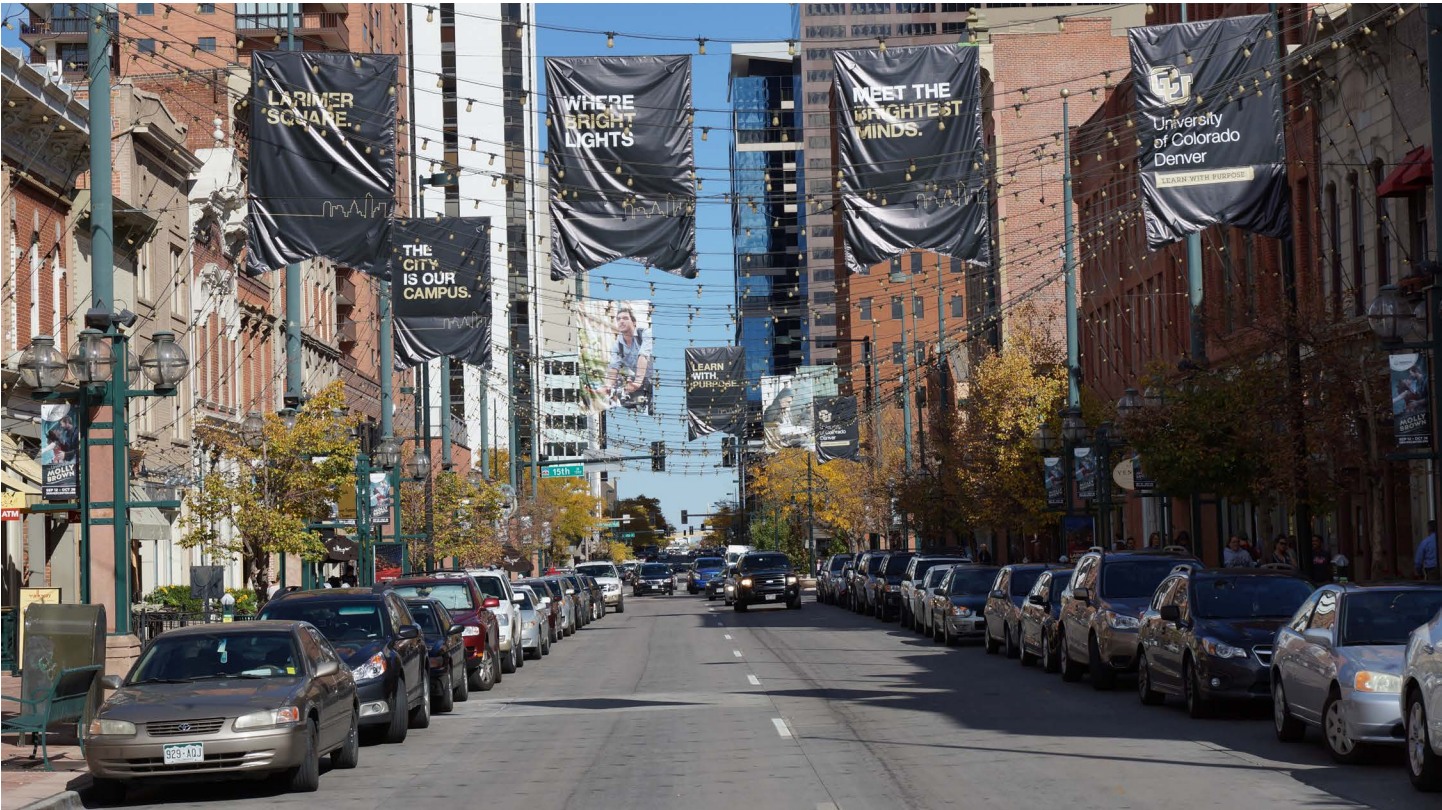
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **DENVER**

LEAD INVESTIGATOR

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University of Colorado Denver banners at Larimer Square: "The City is Our Campus: Learn with Purpose"



Runners and Milo the Lynx, CU Denver's mascot, stretch out before the fifth running of the Milo Mile at the Tivoli Quad



Milo in support of cultural diversity at CU Denver in 2017

TIMELINE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER FROM 1912 (DENVER CAMPUS ORIGINATES AS EXTENSION OF CU BOULDER) TO 1973 (DENVER CENTER BECOMES UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO AT DENVER)

- 1876 University of Colorado (CU) established in Boulder
- 1912 Denver campus originates as extension of CU Boulder
- 1956 Denver Extension Division moves into Tramway Building (14th and Arapahoe Streets)
- 1964 CU regents promote Denver Extension Center to University of Colorado - Denver Center
- 1968 Auraria site in Denver chosen for a three-college campus
- 1969 U.S. Dept of Housing and Urban Development designates Auraria an urban renewal area
- 1971 Regents authorize College of Undergraduate Studies at Denver Center
- 1973 Constitutional amendment establishing additional CU campuses becomes effective
- 1973 Regents rename the Denver Center the University of Colorado at Denver (commonly called UCD)
- 1974 Regents establish CU System, with four campuses
- 1975 College of Undergraduate Studies at Denver Center renamed College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS)
- 1977 CU Denver students join CCD and Metro State students at Auraria
- 1988 CU Denver moves into the North Classroom Building
- 1990 CU Denver acquires CU Denver Building (also called Dravo Building) at 14th/Larimer St.
- 2004 CU Denver and Health Sciences Center (later Anschutz) campuses consolidate
- Feb 2013 Milo, the Lynx, presented as the new CU-Denver mascot
- 2013 CU Denver celebrates its 40th Anniversary as an independent campus
- Sep 2013 "Learn with Purpose" brand established
- Aug 2014 Lynx Center in the new Student Commons Building, with annual Lynx Fests by 2017
- 2016 "CU in the City" message ("the City is our Campus") reclaimed and disseminated in ads
- 2018 Lolo & Rob Salazar Wellness Center for UC-Denver Students Opens
- 2020-21 The Pandemic Year

PANDEMIC YEAR 2020-2021

The spread of the coronavirus (COVID 19) affected the whole university community and each of us in dramatic ways. On Friday, March 13, 11:27 AM, 2020 CU Denver Chancellor Dorothy Horrell announced:

“Effective today at 5 p.m., CU Denver will suspend all events, gatherings, campus visits, regardless of size that are not critical to our academic programming until further notice. This includes on-campus and off-campus events sponsored by the university.”

It was a complete shutdown and the beginning of remote teaching and learning starting Monday, March 16, 2020. CU Denver and CLAS developed a multitude of strategies and policies which were implemented to maintain the business and practice of education and for keeping the university going. It took nearly fifteen months, till early June 2021 that “a soft return to home office” could be promoted. Chancellor Michelle Marks, who was hired in the middle of the pandemic crisis, took office in June 2020. In a recent memo to the university community (from Monday, May 17, 2021) she looks back at the experience:

“Dear Colleagues,

As I was moving across the country last summer in the middle of the pandemic, I wondered how on earth I'd work with this community without actually meeting you in person. Now, nearly 11 months into my time as chancellor, I'm amazed by how we've navigated this historic moment, together. Getting to know you over Zoom calls, email, and the occasional masked encounter on campus or Larimer Square, I've appreciated not only your warm welcome, but your ability and willingness to adapt and to put in many extra hours. Because of it, we have propelled this university through an incredibly challenging year.

Thanks to your massive efforts, we designed a model to keep our community safe, ensure our students' ongoing success, and innovate for the future. CU Denver was able to offer a mix of in-person and remote classes in both semesters this academic year, and to keep most research and creative activities continuing albeit with changes.

And it worked! We saw very few cases of COVID on campus, our enrollment remained relatively stable, and we figured out a way to serve students whatever their modality of access. The silver lining was that we discovered an agility that I don't think people realized we had.

Just keeping our university going required a lot from all of us. But I'm extremely proud that in addition to managing through this pandemic, we accomplished so much more to position ourselves for a stronger future.

- *Strong First Steps Toward Equity*
- *An Inclusive Process for Strategic Planning 2030*
- *Bringing Strength and Diversity to Our Leadership Team*
- *Firming Up Our Financial Footing”*

In conclusion, Chancellor Marks writes,

“And now, as vaccines improve the public health landscape, we are happily planning for a full return to campus in the fall. By then, our new City Heights Residence Hall and Learning Commons will not only provide housing for 550 first-year students, it will be a welcoming and defining presence on campus. I got to tour it last week. It's beautiful, and I'm especially impressed by the incredible space in the Learning Commons that will be a hub for all our faculty, including the first dedicated space for Thingstudio and UCDALI and landing areas for visitors, lecturers, and instructors.

These are just some of our many accomplishments from this historic year. There are many, many others, in areas that spanned how we support each other, teach, keep our students learning and our research

and creative activity going. In a year that was perhaps the most challenging of our professional (and personal) lives, I extend my profound thanks to every one of you who has gone the extra mile—more like the extra marathon—to get us through it. All of our collective, hard, good work positions us well for next year and the future.”

Michelle Marks
Chancellor

 Denver **6 STEPS FOR A SAFE CAMPUS**

-  Conduct a wellness check
-  Wear your CU Denver ID
-  Maintain a distance of at least six feet
-  Wear a face covering
-  Wash your hands
-  Practice area hygiene

The University encouraged use of these graphics in e-mail signatures while gradually transitioning to more in-person work in Fall 2020



Health Check-In Station workers at the North Classroom entrance



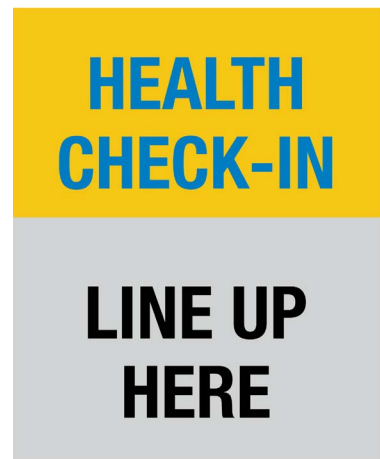
Wristbands for individuals authorized to enter campus buildings



 Denver



 Denver



 Denver

COVID-19 protocol posters were posted all throughout campus buildings

GES DURING THE PANDEMIC YEAR, 2020-2021

How did the faculty respond to the shutdown and an abrupt transition to remote teaching and learning as announced by Chancellor Horrell (Friday, March 13, 11:27 AM) and Richard Allen's 'Update on resources for remote teaching and learning' memo to the CLAS Faculty Listserv on Friday, March 13, 5:04 PM.?

Peter Anthamatten mentioned in his last e-mail regarding the Friday, March 13 faculty meeting agenda that "... *this might be our last in-person meeting for a while - I look forward to seeing you all there!*"; he then gave a zoom meeting link: "*Just below this message, I've included the Zoom invitation*".

On Saturday, March 14, it was recommended that "we share our mobile phone numbers" to provide faculty contact information, and most people did so.

Also on Saturday, Rafael Moreno-Sanchez shared issues that came up with his students regarding the online transition: "*I don't have a computer*"; "*I don't have internet service at home*". Rafael suggested that students can join in a Zoom meeting using their cell phone.

Several colleagues, most notably Kathy Kelsey and Kris Christensen, gave practical advice regarding links and resources for transitioning to remote teaching.

In the following months, virtual meetings and the exchange of Zoom meeting links became a routine.

VIRTUAL EVENTS

Faculty Meetings

2020: April 3rd, May 8th, September 4th, October 2nd, November 6th, December 4th

2021: February 5th, March 5th, April 2nd, May 7th

Colloquia (GES Guest Speaker Series)

2020: April 3rd, April 10th, May 8th, September 4th, October 2nd, October 16th, November 6th, December 4th

2021: February 5th, March 5th, May 7th

Social Events

2020: May 15th Spring Celebration, Sept 25th Virtual Game Night, Nov 27th Holiday Game Night, December 11th Winter Social

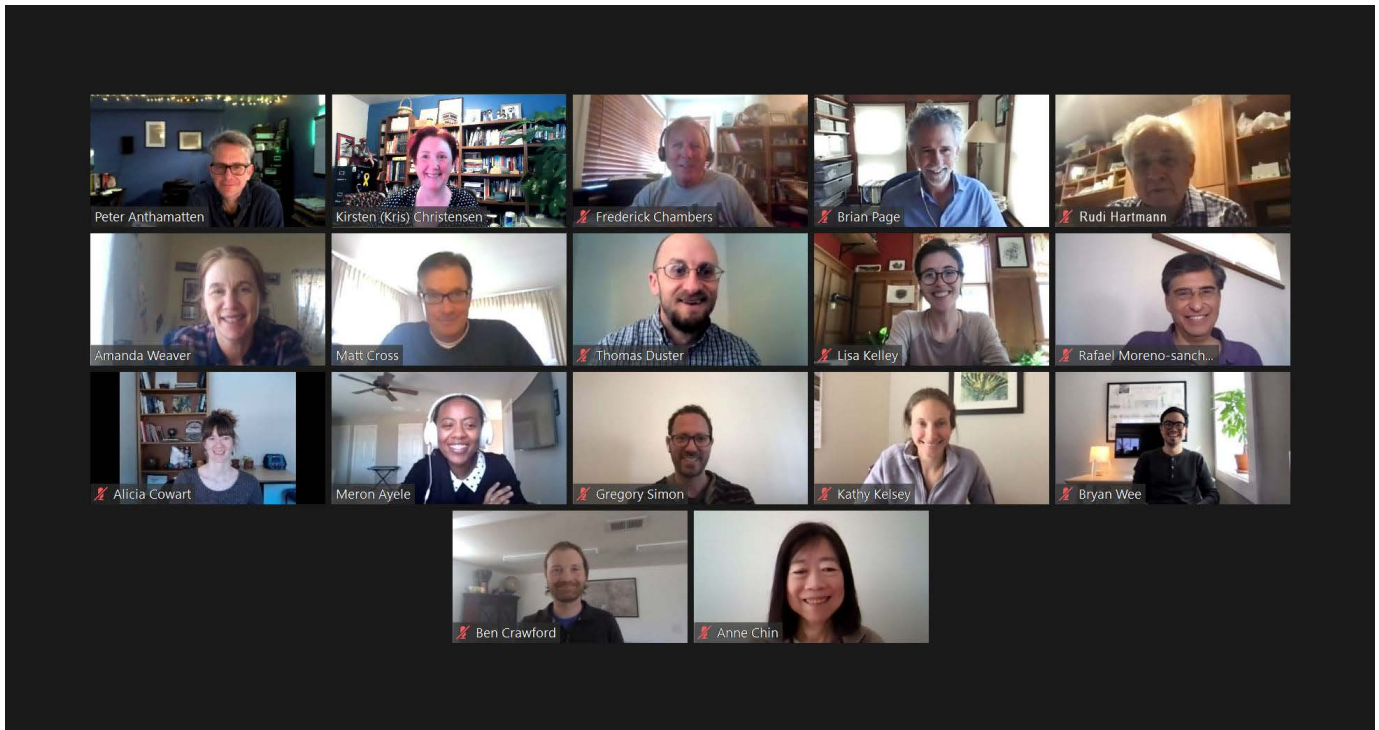
2021: Feb 19th Virtual Trivia, April 16th Virtual Trivia, May 14th Spring Celebration

Other

August 14th, 2020: Virtual New Graduate Student Orientation

Students and faculty also took part in various virtual conferences, thesis defenses, seminars, and more. During the 2020-21 Academic Year, all GES courses were taught remotely, with just 5 courses offered in the hybrid model:

- GEOG 1302: Introduction to Human Geography (Rudi Hartmann)
- GEOG 4251/5251: Fluvial Geomorphology (Anne Chin)
- GEOG/GEOL 4010/ ENVS 5010: Landscape Biogeochemistry (Kathy Kelsey)
- GEOG 4280/ENVS 5280: Environmental Hydrology (Anne Chin)
- ENVS 6800: Community-Based Research Practicum (Anne Chin)



April 2nd, 2021 Faculty Meeting

GES invites Graduate Students, Alumni, Faculty, and Staff to the annual

Winter Social

Friday, December 11th, 5:00PM-6:30PM
 Zoom ID: 925 7376 3680
 Password: 030410

We will be recognizing our Fall graduates, competing in virtual trivia games, and celebrating the end of the year together!

Click here to RSVP by Wednesday, Dec 9th

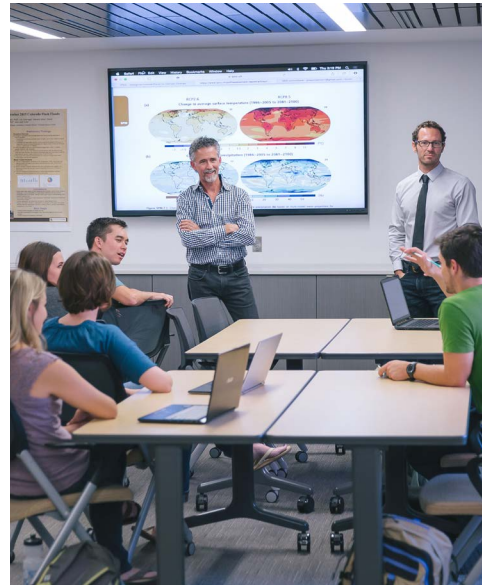
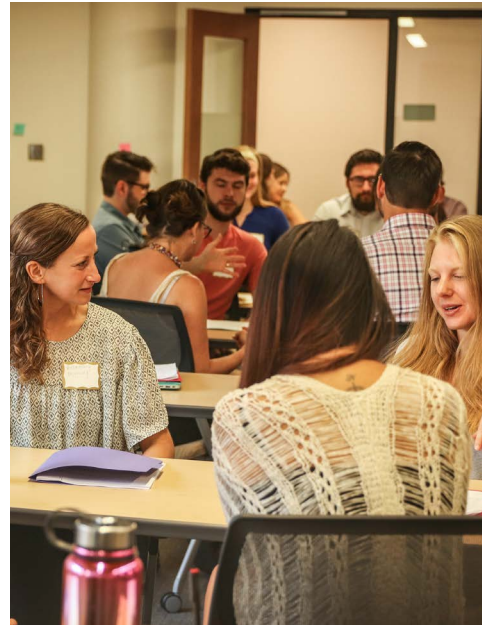
team trivia

All Spring 2021, we're competing against one another in monthly trivia games! Sign your team up by Thursday, Feb 18th through this link: <https://bit.ly/2OuwxkN> and prepare for a fun and competitive night!

ROUND 1:
 Friday, Feb 19th, 7:30PM

Meeting Link: <https://bit.ly/3qjy8ru>
 Password: TRIVIA101

E-mail invitations for two virtual events: December 2020 Winter Social and February 2021 Team Trivia



TIMELINE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

- 1963-1996 **Richard "Dick" Stevens** hired as Assistant Professor (Ph.D. University of Kansas) by University of Colorado, Boulder (Dept of Geography): **first geographer for the "Denver Extension Center"/"University of Colorado - Denver Center"** (at that point the entire campus of the university extension center - commonly called UCD and housed at the Historic Tramway Building on 14th and Arapahoe Streets - has 22 faculty members). He teaches physical & regional geography as well as agriculture and food production (while he is a member of the Boulder Farmers Market, with a food stand there).
- 1965 Stevens becomes Chair, Division of Natural and Physical Sciences (Geography is part of the Division of Natural & Physical Sciences, one of three divisions of the College of Undergraduate Studies, renamed College of Liberal Arts and Sciences CLAS in 1975)
- 1965-1998 Stevens hires **William "Bill" Rodgers, a former Brigadier General and a military adviser in Iran, with Master's Degree from Arizona State University, as Instructor in geography**. He teaches regional geography including the Middle East; eventually he becomes Assistant Professor.
- 1966/67 Stevens, as Chair of the Division, is told to expand the faculty of the Division of Natural & Physical Sciences with one hire in Physics, one in Chemistry and one in Geology (Biology, Mathematics, Psychology had already faculty members)
- 1967/68 While Stevens went on a Fulbright (in Africa) faculty search conducted by CU Boulder
- Fall 1968 **Wesley "Wes" LeMasurier, Geology (Ph.D. from Stanford) is hired as Associate Professor**, jointly with Clyde Zaidins, Physics (Ph.D. from Cal Tech) and Bob Damrauer, Chemistry (Ph.D. from MIT).
- 1968-1975 Stevens serves as Chair for the Division of Natural and Physical Sciences, with LeMasurier as Associate Chair of Geology (1970-1973)
- 1970 **Yuk Lee, Ph.D. Ohio State University, is hired as Assistant Professor** (he teaches urban and transportation geography; he moves to the College of Architecture and Planning, Dept. of Urban and Regional Planning, in 1986). He retires as Full Professor in 2013/14
- 1971-1985 **Melvin Albaum, Ph.D. Ohio State University, is hired as Associate Professor**
- 1972/73 **Faculty of Geography and Geology (within the Division of Natural & Physical Sciences) consists in 1973, the year the University of Colorado Denver becomes an independent institution, of four members:**
- Associate Professor Melvin Albaum, Associate Professor Richard Stevens, Assistant Professor Yuk Lee, Assistant Professor William Rodgers (all Geography) and Associate Professor Wesley LeMasurier (Geology)
- 1970s/1980 Secretary of the Division: Jane Frame (Division Office location on 9th Street)

- 1973 Melvin Albaum publishes a volume, "Geography and Contemporary Issues", with pioneering contributions to Population Geography and Social Geography
- 1973/74 **Charles "Gil" Schmidt, an urban/transportation geographer**, is hired as Assistant Professor and faculty associate of the Center for Urban Transportation Studies. He eventually becomes Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
- 1973/74 William "Bill" Rodgers retires as Assistant Professor
- 1974 When William "Bill" Rodgers retires, James "Jim" Huckabay is hired
- 1974 Master Plan of the University of Colorado at Denver lists the potential development and availability of master degrees programs for geography and for environmental sciences
- 1976-1978 Rick Page, a geographer and graduate from the U.S. Air Force Academy, is hired (left the Division after two years)
- 1976/78 **Jeanne Mayne** (a former student of UCD since 1970 who eventually earned a master's degree from CU-Boulder) **becomes Instructor in geography**
- 1975-1980** Geography faculty members (except Yuk Lee and Jeanne Mayne) teach a semester at sea (responsibility for teaching at sea was eventually restructured, with CU Boulder); Stevens serves as Administrative Dean on the ship (his wife Betty is one of the nurses on the ship)
- 70s/early 80s **Boom years of the extractive industries in Colorado, with a high demand for geologists, leads to further hiring: William "Bill" Biladeau, Ph.D. Stanford University, Geology (did not make tenure and leaves Dept) and Jeff Kurtz (worked for the Dept for three years) teach courses in geology, joined eventually by instructors John Roulston, Karen Houck, and Hassan Amini**
- 1980/81 James "Jim" Huckabay leaves UCD
- 1980/1981 Transition from the division structure of CLAS to a departmental structure of CLAS
- 1980-1986 **Richard "Dick" Stevens becomes the first Chair of the Dept of Geography, Geology, and Physics**
- 1980s/1990s Secretary/Program Assistant of the Dept.: Patricia "Pat" Baldwin, followed by Nancy Coca after Baldwin passes away
- 1980 **Martin Lockley, a geologist/paleontologist from Wales, with Ph.D. from Birmingham University, is hired**; he establishes the Dinosaur Trackers Group at UCD and the Dinosaur Tracks Museum where he serves as curator of the museum (1996 till 2012 when the museum is moved to Boulder)
- 1980s Geology Student Club, with a multitude of activities, is established
- 1980 Melvin Albaum leaves academia for a business venture in San Francisco

- 1982 **John "Jack" Weihaupt, a geophysicist and geologist, is hired** as Associate Dean of the Graduate School and eventually promoted to Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs
- 1982 **Thomas "Tom" Clark, a geographer with Ph.D. from the University of Iowa,** is hired by the College of Architecture and Planning, Dept. of Urban and Regional Planning (he becomes eventually acting Dean of the Graduate School and acting Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; he was never part of the Dept but collaborates with members of the Dept. of Geography and Environmental Sciences)
- 1982-84 Collapse of the extractive industries in Colorado (with the consequence of a substantially reduced 'output' of geology majors in the following years/decade)
- 1985 Melvin Albaum passes away. A Melvin Albaum Scholarship Fund for CLAS Undergraduates is established.
- 1986 John "Jack" Weihaupt completes his administrative service and joins the Dept where he becomes Professor of Geology
- 1986 Yuk Lee moves to the College of Architecture and Planning, Department of Urban and Regional Planning
- 1986-1992 **Martin Maltempo, from Physics, becomes Chair of the Dept of Geography, Geology and Physics**
- 1986-88 While the faculty teaching geology, paleontology and oceanography courses consists of Wes LeMasurier, Martin Lockley, Bill Biladeau, Jeff Kurtz and Jack Weihaupt as well as several instructors, the faculty for teaching geography courses is down to two (Stevens and Mayne) resulting in considerations within CLAS (Dean Loflin) to discontinue Geography as a major, an idea that was abandoned
- 1988 Dept. of Geography and Geology moves 1988/1989 from the Tramway Building (today the buildings on Arapahoe Street/13th and 14th Streets are occupied by the Hotel Teatro, a boutique hotel, and the Robert and Judi Newman Center for Theatre Education, the Denver Center Theatre Academy) to the new North Classroom Building on Auraria Campus, Third Floor
- 1991 Charles "Gil" Schmidt leaves UCD for the University of Northern Colorado
- 1991 **Frederick "Fred" Chambers, Ph.D. Arizona State University, is hired** to teach physical geography
- 1992 **Brian Page, Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley, is hired** to teach human geography
- 1992 **Split of Dept of Geography, Geology and Physics into a Dept. of Physics and a Dept. of Geography and Geology**
- 1992-1994 **While Maltempo remains Chair of the Dept. of Physics, Stevens becomes again Chair of the Dept. of Geography and Geology**

- 1992/94 **Ed Nuhfer, Ph.D. Stanford University, is hired** as Director of Teaching Effectiveness, and is part of the Dept. of Geography and Geology as a tenured geology professor
- 1993 **Rudi Hartmann, Ph.D. Technical University of Munich, is hired** as an Instructor to teach regional geography classes, first Eastern Europe, Africa and eventually World Regional Geography
- 1994 **John Wyckoff, Ph. D. University of Utah, becomes Chair of the Dept. of Geography and Geology**
- Mid/late1990s Wyckoff collaborates with Lynn Johnson (Civil Engineering) and Maryanne McDonald (Urban and Regional Planning) to create the FAST Lab (Facility for Advanced Spatial Technology), a state-of-the-art Geographic Information System science lab for teaching and research on campus, with first location in the Dravo Building on 14th Street and later relocation to the North Classroom Building, Fifth Floor
- Late 1990s John Wyckoff leads an effort to incorporate the Master of Environmental Sciences Program into the Dept. as well as to rename the Dept. to a Department of Geography, Geology and Environmental Sciences
- 1996 Richard "Dick" Stevens retires as Full Professor
- 1996/98 **Herman "Herm" Sievering, Ph.D. University of Illinois, is hired**, initially for the Environmental Sciences section of the Dept of Physics in 1985, and becomes eventually part of the Dept of Geography, Geology and Environmental Sciences (joined by William "Bill" Chappell) but leaves the Dept as Full Professor in 2008
- 1998 William "Bill" Rodgers passes away. His wife, Wendell Rodgers, establishes the "William Rogers Memorial Fund", with scholarships for undergraduate students majoring in geography
- Late 1990s Krisna Suryanata, Ph.D., with a research emphasis in political ecology, from the University of California Berkeley, is hired. She leaves Dept. within one year, and returns to the University of Hawaii
- 1998/99 **Joanna Wright, Ph.D. University of Bristol, is hired** as Senior Instructor and Assistant Curator of the Dinosaur Tracks Museum (she becomes eventually Assistant Professor and Associate Professor but leaves Dept. in 2007)
- 2000 Rudi Hartmann becomes Senior Instructor
- 2000 **Jon Barbour, Ph.D. University of California, Davis, is hired** as Instructor to teach courses in environmental sciences and physical geography
- 2000 **Deborah "Deb" Thomas, Ph.D. University of South Carolina, with specializations in GIS/Geography of Public Health, is hired** to strengthen the Geospatial Science faculty
- Fall 2000 **Chambers becomes Chair of the Dept of Geography, Geology and Environmental Sciences**
- 2002/03 **Sue Eddleman** becomes Program Assistant

- 2001-04 Options in B.A. Geography are established; more courses in GIS applications, with the offering of a GIS certificate and the regular uses of the FAST Lab; a rapid increase of geography majors in the 2000s
- 2002 **The Dept. starts housing the Masters of Environmental Sciences Program in 2002** (John Wyckoff becomes Director of the Program 2002 - 2011)
- 2002 Ed Nuhfer leaves UCD
- 2002 Wesley "Wes" LeMasurier retires as Full Professor
- 2002 Jon Barbour becomes Senior Instructor and Associate Director of the Masters of Environmental Sciences Program
- 2003 **Rafael Moreno, Ph.D. Colorado State University, is hired** to teach land use planning and natural resource management
- 2002-04 As the output of geology majors drops off significantly in the 1990s/2000s, CLAS Dean Smith decides to terminate the Geology major (coinciding with Wes LeMasurier's retirement) and **the department is eventually renamed Dept. of Geography and Environmental Sciences (GES)**
- 2004 University of Colorado Denver and University of Colorado Health Sciences Center campuses (Health Sciences Center after relocation from 9th Avenue/Colorado Boulevard becomes the Anschutz Medical Campus in the former Fitzsimmons Hospital location) consolidate, with eventually more collaboration between faculty members of the Dept. (Deborah Thomas, Peter Anthamatten) and Anschutz Campus faculty members in the public health field
- Jan 2005 **Brian Page becomes Chair of the Dept. of Geography and Environmental Sciences (GES)**
- 2005-08 EDGE (Every Day Geographical Experiences) GES/GIS student club is established
- 2005/06 **Amanda Weaver, Ph.D. University of Denver, is hired** as Instructor to teach GIS Applications and Urban Studies (eventually Urban Agriculture at the Five Fridges Farm in Wheat Ridge, a new research station of the Dept.)
- 2007 **Bryan Shao-Chang Wee, Ph.D. Purdue University, is hired** by the School of Education & Human Development (SEHD) in the STEM Education program (75%), with a joint appointment in GES. In 2009, these roles are flipped (25% SEHD/75% GES)
- 2007 Joanna Wright leaves the department
- 2007 John "Jack" Weihaupt retires
- 2008 Herman "Herm" Sievering leaves the department as Full Professor
- 2008 **Casey Allen, Ph.D., Arizona State University, is hired**
- 2008 **Peter Anthamatten, Ph.D. University of Minnesota, is hired** to teach medical geography and geospatial science courses
- 2009 **Gregory Simon, Ph.D. University of Washington, is hired** to teach environmental policy & planning and political ecology

- 2010 **Anne Chin, Ph.D. Arizona State University, is hired** as Professor to teach physical geography, fluvial geomorphology and human-landscape interaction.
- 2010/11 **Ryan Sincavage is hired as Instructor** to teach geology and earth sciences courses. He leaves GES in September 2015
- 2011 Rudi Hartmann becomes Associate Professor Clinical Teaching Track C/T
- 2011 Martin Lockley retires as Full Professor
- 2011 Fred Chambers serves as Director of Graduate Studies, for the Master's Program in Environmental Sciences, 2011 to 2015
- 2011 Thomas "Tom" Clark retires
- 2011 Peter Anthamatten serves as faculty advisor and coordinator for GIS certificates until Summer 2015
- 2011/12 Branding campaign for the four campuses of the CU System: University of Colorado Denver becomes CU Denver and the common abbreviation UCD is abandoned
- 2012 Casey Allen begins serving as Undergraduate Advisor
- 2013 **Christy Briles, Ph.D. University of Oregon, is hired** to teach physical geography and biography (she becomes Associate Director of the Masters of Environmental Sciences Program in 2014, and Associate Professor in 2020)
- 2013 **Yi-Chia Chen. Ph.D. Louisiana State University, is hired as Instructor** to teach human geography and urban studies at the International College Beijing (ICB). In Spring Semester and Summer Semester 2018, he taught at the University of Colorado, Denver.
- 2013 **Valerie Kraucunas** becomes Administrative Assistant
- 2014 Christy Briles serves as Associate Director of the Master of Science in Environmental Science program
- 2014 Jon Barbour leaves the department
- 2014 John "Jack" Weihaupt passes away
- 2013/14 Yuk Lee retires as Full Professor
- 2013-15 GES develops Master's Program in Geography, "Master of Arts (M.A.) Applied Geography and Geospatial Science", (approved by Dean, Provost and the Board of Regents; beginning of the two-year graduate program: Fall 2015)
- 2015 Valerie Kraucunas leaves GES
- 2015 Bryan Wee is full-time in GES but retains an affiliate faculty position in SEHD.
- 2015 Bryan Wee serves as GES Undergraduate Advisor for 3 years.
- 2015 Anne Chin serves as Director of Graduate studies until 2018

- Jan 2015 **Deborah Thomas becomes Chair, Rafael Moreno becomes Associate Chair;** Thomas remains Chair through the academic years 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18
- Spring 2015 Department of Geography and Environmental Program Self-Study 2015
- Fall 2015 Master's Program "Master of Arts (M.A.) Applied Geography and Geospatial Science" is launched
- Fall 2015 **Matthew 'Matt' Cross, Ph.D. University of Colorado Denver, is hired as Instructor** to teach Remote Sensing and GIS Applications Courses. He serves as faculty advisor and coordinator for the GIS Certificate
- Fall 2015 **Samantha 'Sam' Maslak** becomes Administrative Assistant.
- Fall 2016 **Daniel 'Dan' Liptzin, Ph.D. University of Colorado Boulder, is hired** as Senior Instructor to teach physical geography classes
- 2017 Rudi Hartmann becomes Professor C/T
- Summer 2017 Casey Allen leaves the department
- Summer 2017 Sam Maslak leaves the department
- Fall 2017 **Thomas 'Tom' Duster, Ph.D. University of Notre Dame , is hired** as Senior Instructor to teach courses in Environmental Sciences and Geology. He becomes Assistant Professor C/T in 2020
- Sept 2017 **Meron Ayele** becomes Administrative Assistant
- Summer 2018 **John Wyckoff** becomes Professor Emeritus
- 2018 Matt Cross becomes Assistant Professor C/T
- May 2018 Dan Liptzin leaves GES
- August 2018 Deborah Thomas leaves the Department
- August 2018 Brian Page becomes Interim Chair of GES for the Academic Year 2018/2019
- August 2018 Fred Chambers begins 3-year term as director of Undergraduate Studies
- August 2018 Gregory Simon begins 3-year term as director of Graduate Studies
- Sept 2018 Richard "Dick" Stevens passes away
- Fall 2018 The GES Graduate Program creates the Graduate Student Executive Committee, consisting of four graduate students representing the student body: Hannah Gnoza (MS, 2019), Vance Harris (MS, 2020), Mandy Rees (MA, 2020), David Smith (MA, 2019)

- Fall 2018 **Ivan Ramirez, Ph.D Michigan State University, is hired as Senior Instructor** to teach environmental sciences classes
- Fall 2019 Ivan Ramirez leaves GES to work in the department of Health and Behavioral Sciences as a Visiting Assistant Professor
- August 2019 **Peter Anthamatten becomes Chair of the Department of Geography and Environmental Sciences (GES)**
- Fall 2019 **Benjamin 'Ben' Crawford, Ph. D. University of British Columbia, is hired as an Assistant Professor** to teach physical geography, weather and climate
- Fall 2019 **Katherine 'Kathy' Kelsey, Ph. D. University of Colorado Boulder, is hired as an Assistant Professor** to teach environmental studies and climate change
- Fall 2019 **Sarah McCall, Ph.D University of Denver, is hired** as Instructor to teach environmental science courses
- 2020 Matt Cross becomes Associate Professor C/T
- 2020 Tom Duster becomes Assistant Professor C/T
- 2020 Christy Briles becomes Associate Professor
- March 2020 The COVID-19 Pandemic forces campus operations to move to completely remote instruction and learning
- June 2020 Jeanne Mayne passes away
- Summer 2020 **Alicia Cowart, Ph.D University of California Berkeley, is hired** as Director of the Geospatial Analysis and Mapping Laboratory (GAM Lab)
- Fall 2020 **Lisa Kelley, Ph.D University of California Berkeley, is hired** as Assistant Professor to teach courses in Physical Geography, Agrarian Studies, and Political Ecology
- Fall 2020 Thomas Duster begins appointment as Associate Director of Graduate Studies
- Fall 2020 The **Geospatial Analysis and Mapping Laboratory (GAM Lab)** opens to facilitate research among GES faculty and students, as well as to connect members of the academic, governmental, private, and community sectors working with GIS and geospatial technologies
- Fall 2020 **Ph.D Program in Geography, Planning, and Design** is established in collaboration with the College of Architecture and Planning

Rostered Faculty, June 2021

Peter Anthamatten
Associate Professor &
Department Chair

Benjamin Crawford
Assistant Professor

Rafael Moreno
Associate Professor

Christy Briles
Associate Professor

Matthew Cross
Associate Professor C/T

Brian Page
Associate Professor

Frederick Chambers
Associate Professor

Thomas Duster
Assistant Professor C/T

Gregory Simon
Associate Professor

Yi-Chia Chen
Instructor

Pamela Jansma
CLAS Dean, Professor

Amanda Weaver
Senior Instructor

Anne Chin
Professor

Katharine Kelsey
Assistant Professor

Bryan Wee
Associate Professor

Kirsten Christensen
Instructor

Lisa Kelley
Assistant Professor

Professors Emeriti, June 2021

Wes Lemasurier

Martin Lockley

John Wyckoff

Rudi Hartmann

Lecturers, June 2021

Richard Ashmore
(Since 2013)

Jim Fleming
(Since 1996)

Chuck Patterson
(2014-2016)

Anna Bierbrauer

Karen Houck

Cody Peterson
(2018-2019)

Tim Connors
(Since 2008)

Sojin Jang
(2015-2018)

Mandy Rees
(Since 2020)

Hope Dalton

Sarah McCall
(Since 2020)

Eric Ross
(2009-2015)

Richard DeGrandchamp
(Since 2006)

David Murray

Peter Timm
(1993-2015)

Amy DePierre

Ricardo Oliveira

Staff, June 2021

Meron Ayele
Administrative Assistant

Alicia Cowart
Director, Geospatial Analysis
and Mapping Lab (GAMLab)

Sue Eddleman
Program Assistant

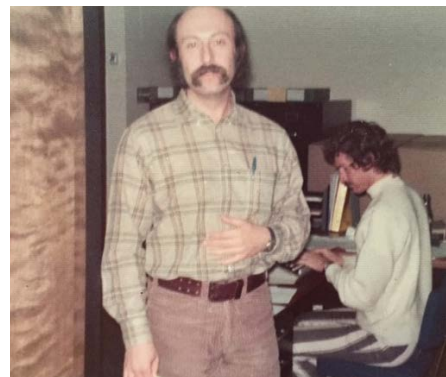
EARLY GES FACULTY



Richard 'Dick' Stevens and Betty Stevens at their Longmont Home, 2013



William 'Bill' Rodgers and Wendell Rodgers



Melvin 'Mel' Albaum and David Cole



Mel Albaum, Ila Warner, and students of the Population Dynamics Program



Yuk Lee at the 2014 Commencement event



Wesley 'Wes' LeMasurier

RICHARD 'DICK' STEVENS

Richard 'Dick' Stevens was the first geographer, with Ph.D. from the University of Kansas, who was hired to teach at the "Denver Extension Center"/"University of Colorado - Denver Center" in 1963. Two years later, he became Chair of the Division of Natural and Physical Sciences, one of three divisions of the College of Undergraduate Studies (eventually to be renamed CLAS). He was appointed the first Chair of the Department of Geography, Geology and Physics 1980 - 1986. After years of teaching at UCD as well as within the 'Semester at Sea' Program and at the International College Beijing (ICB) in the 1990s, Dick Stevens retired as Full Professor in 1996. He passed away in 2018.

He taught many courses in physical and regional geography. Probably, his favorite course was Agriculture and Food Production where he was able to offer information on the theory and practice of growing and distributing food. Dick was a co-founder of the Boulder Farmers Market in 1987 which became known as the largest and most recognized farmers market in the State. He and his wife Betty had a farm in Longmont; the vegetables they harvested there would represent a main source of fresh produce offered at the Boulder Farmers Market. Many of their long-time customers which they attracted with their naturally grown crops became 'family'.

WILLIAM 'BILL' RODGERS

William 'Bill' Rodgers was one of the early geographers who taught at the University of Colorado - Denver Extension/University of Colorado at Denver in the late 1960s and early 1970s. He was hired as an Instructor in Fall 1965. During his nine academic years at UCD (1965/66 - 1973/74) he provided a multitude of courses in geography for undergraduate studies. In the last year before his retirement he was promoted to Assistant Professor. Bill Rodgers passed away in 1998.

Most of William Rodgers' professional career played out in the military. He was decommissioned in January 1963 after more than thirty years of service. He fought in World War II in Europe, was part of the troops that stayed in Germany and served as a military adviser to the Shah Government in Iran. He was promoted to Brigadier General and was an assistant commander in the 2nd Armored Division.

After he left the military in 1963 he decided to go back to school at age 55, with a chosen emphasis on studies in geography. He became a graduate student at the University of Arizona where he received his Master's Degree in 1965. He specialized in cultural and historical geography and studied the interface of cultures and the uses of the land they occupied, in particular in the context of the arid landscapes of Southern Arizona.

After completion of his studies in Southern Arizona he was hired by Richard 'Dick' Stevens, then chair of the Division of Natural Sciences. Bill Rodgers offered regional geography courses, with Iran and the Middle East (where he had extensive travel experiences) as his favorite topics. He also taught 'Weather and Climate' and courses in human geography including political and military geography. He liked to talk and teach, and became a popular instructor among many students who followed him as 'Rodgers' Rangers'. He invited his students regularly after class to coffee and to social get-togethers. Bill Rodgers shared the office with Dick Stevens. When arriving at the office, then at the historic Tramway Building (now the Hotel Teatro), Bill and Dick tended to greet each other - more amusingly - with 'Dr. Stevens' and 'Brigadier General'. Occasionally, at the end of the day, Bill and Wendell Rodgers and Dick and Betty Stevens enjoyed jointly a cocktail in a nearby restaurant/bar, then in a smaller Denver Downtown without high rise buildings.

After Bill Rodgers passed away Wendell Rodgers established the William M. Rodgers Fund and Scholarship in the honor of her husband. Since then, each year outstanding and deserving students majoring in geography have received awards. Created with an initial cash gift, the fund supports scholarships for undergraduates studying geography, a subject for which Mrs. Rodgers shares her husband's enthusiasm.

YUK LEE

Yuk Lee, with Ph.D. from Ohio State University and specialization in urban and transportation geography, was hired in 1970. Originally from South China, he included the study of urbanization processes in China in his research agenda. Among his many publications, some developed with fellow UCD Professor 'Gil' Schmidt, were articles in renowned journals like Environment and Planning, Urban Geography and Asian Geographer. He moved from the Department of Geography to the College of Architecture and Planning in 1986 where he taught among others transportation planning and retail geography. Yuk Lee, as Professor of Urban and Regional Planning, served as Associate Dean and Acting Dean of the URP Program. He also worked as a consultant and international adviser to several Chinese organizations including the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Hong Kong Government Research Grant Council. Yuk Lee initiated an exchange program between Tongji University and the University of Colorado Denver. He retired as Full Professor in 2014. Yuk Lee lives with his wife Judy in the Denver Metro Area, as does his son Tommy Lee, owner and operator of 'Uncle' and 'Hop Alley', two Chinese-American Restaurants in the Denver Highlands and RINO neighborhoods.

MELVIN 'MEL' ALBAUM

Melvin 'Mel' Albaum, with Ph.D. from Ohio State University, joined the UCD faculty in 1971. He was born and grew up in the Lower Eastside of Manhattan. During his graduate years in Madison and Columbus as well as faculty member of the University of Kentucky, Graduate School of Geography, he developed his interest and proficiency in social, ethnic-urban and population studies.

His main legacy was a pioneering book publication "Geography and Contemporary Issues: Studies of Relevant Problems" (Wiley 1973), where he served as lead editor. In 1973 he was awarded a four-year grant in the amount of \$489,000 by the National Institute of Mental Health. The grant title was "Population Dynamics for Disadvantaged Undergraduates: Experimental Training Programs". Its purpose was to take economically disadvantaged students through an entire college curriculum by providing them academic support built on the foundation of an interdisciplinary demography major called "population dynamics". Virtually all the high risk students he and his collaborator Ila Warner recruited at the beginning of the project graduated from the University. About half of them eventually earned a master's degree. He was a very influential teacher at UCD.

Among the people he mentored were David Cole, a later Professor of Geography at the University of Northern Colorado, and his daughter Jennifer Albaum who completed her Master's Degree at Louisiana State University (LSU). Mel Albaum decided to leave his tenured position after the 1981/82 academic year to pursue a small business venture (two restaurants) in San Francisco. Mel Albaum passed away in 1985, as an early victim of the HIV epidemics. An Albaum Scholarship Fund on the CLAS level was established to support his wish of helping students get an education. Mel was one of the first openly gay faculty members within the University of Colorado system. Long before diversity became a University of Colorado Denver acclaimed objective and goal Mel Albaum excelled in his service to the wider University Community.

WESLEY 'WES' LEMASURIER

Wesley 'West' LeMasurier was hired in 1968 by the University of Colorado Boulder Geology Department to start a geology program on the Denver campus, known at that time as the Denver Extension Center. He came with a Ph.D. from Stanford and four years as an Assistant Professor at Cornell University. He was offered the choice of either Asst. Prof. or Assoc. Prof rank, at the same pay, and chose Assoc. Prof. because it included \$250 moving expenses! Wes was tenured and promoted to Full Professor in the UCB and remained on the UCB roster until the mid-1970s, when UCD took the first steps toward independence.

At the University of Colorado Denver he taught two, laboratory courses per semester and continued a research program on volcanoes of Marie Byrd Land, Antarctica (MBL) that was started at Cornell. He brought with him an NSF research grant.

Wes took a year-long sabbatical in New Zealand to study the geologic relationship between NZ and MBL. This was followed by another sabbatical in NZ in 1982 then one in Cambridge, England, in 1990, and another in Siena, Italy and Aberdeen, Scotland, in 1998, all involving the study of Antarctic volcanoes. His research was recognized with a Chancellors' Lectureship in 1995.

The promise of a five-person department was made when he was hired in 1968, but was not realized until Dan Fallon became Dean of Arts and Sciences in the late 1970's. A structural geologist was added to the faculty in 1980, then a paleontologist (Martin Lockley) the next year, and two others in the next five years.

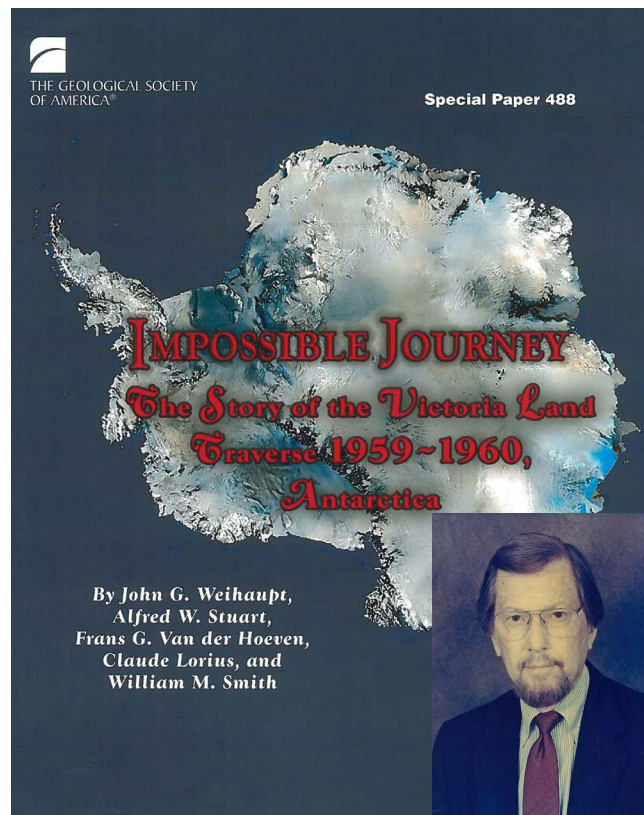
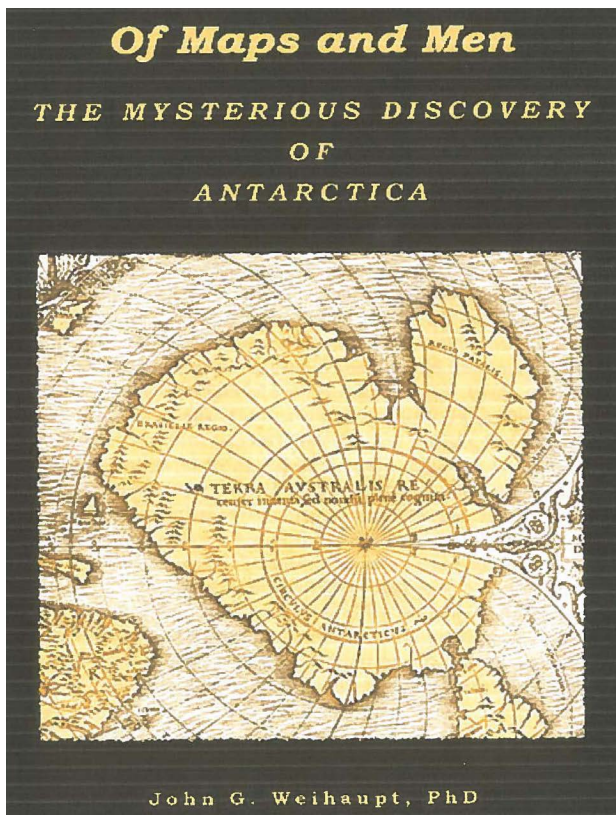
In 1984, Wes was invited to China for a lecture tour and geological field trips around Changsha, Guilin, and Beijing. With financial help from the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (Jack Weihaupt), this resulted in the establishment of the UCD - Guilin College Scholarly Exchange Program. It was the first such program at UCD. Each year for the next 10 years one or two of our students would spend an all expense paid year at Guilin College learning geology and Mandarin Chinese from faculty at the college, and we would host an equal number of Chinese scholars.

The geology program at UCD was always sensitive to the boom and bust cycles of the oil and gas industry in Denver. During a boom we could barely accommodate all the geology majors, and during a bust we would find ourselves on the CCHE hit list. Wes retired in 2003 during a big downturn, and rather than replace him, the Dean decided to terminate the geology degree program. Wes was appointed a Fellow and member of the Directorate at the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR) at UCB where he now continues his research on the geochemistry and tectonic relationships of Marie Byrd Land volcanoes. Wes and his wife Heather live in Boulder, Colorado. Wes comes regularly to his office at the CU-Denver Downtown Campus.

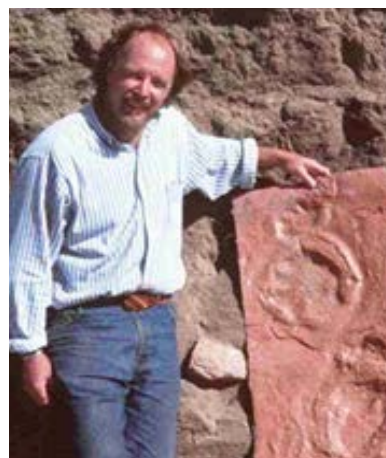
JOHN 'JACK' WEIHAUPT RETIREMENT PARTY, 2007



Front Row: Jack Weihaupt, Audrey Weihaupt | Second Row: Rudi Hartmann, Deb Chambers, Fred Chambers, Martin Lockley, Sue Eddleman, Jim Fleming, Jim Hageman | Back Row: Amanda Weaver, John Wyckoff



MARTIN LOCKLEY RETIREMENT PARTY, 2011



GES PICNIC AT FIVE FRIDGES FARM, 2015



**JOIN US FOR
THE GES DEPARTMENT
POTLUCK PICNIC!**

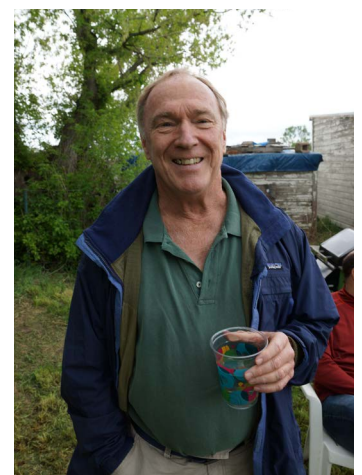
**MAY 3, 2015
1-3PM
5 FRIDGES FARM**

All GES faculty, staff, students, alums and their guests are invited to this event!

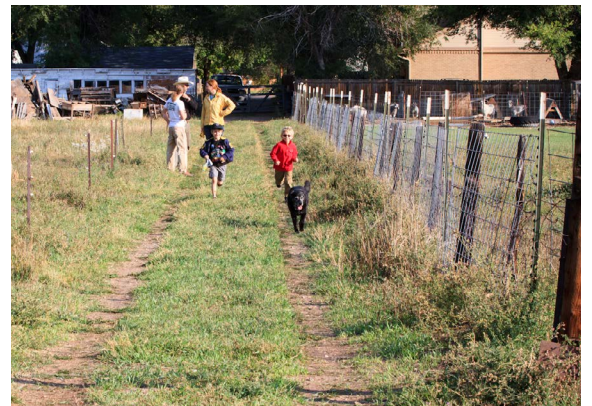
Please bring a dish (main, side, or dessert) to share.*

Please RSVP with # of guests to GES@ucdenver.edu for this event. You will receive event address with your confirmation.

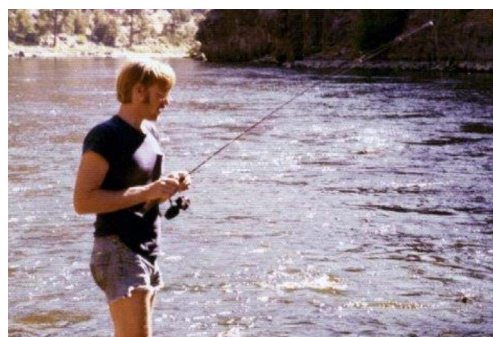
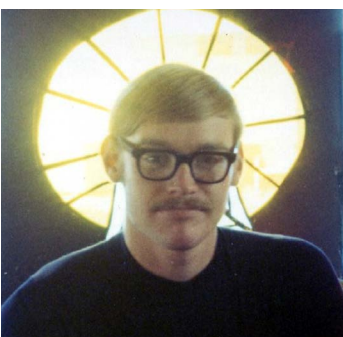
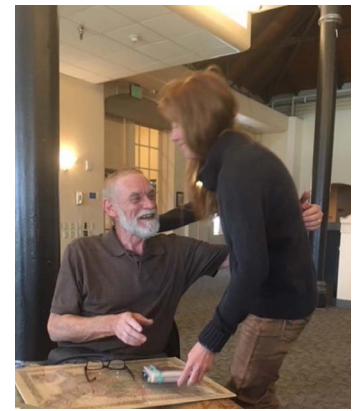
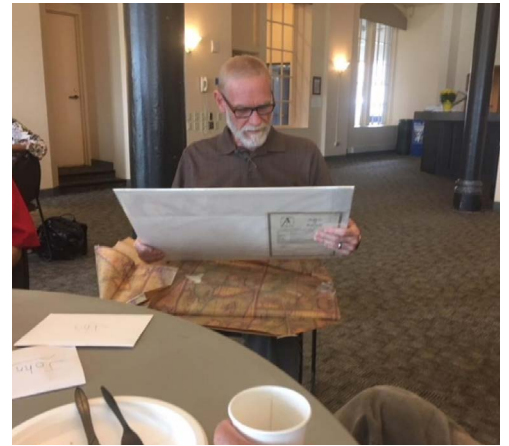
*This will be an alcohol-free event. Soda, tea and water will be provided.



FIVE FRIDGES FARM: GES URBAN FARM FIELD RESEARCH STATION



JOHN WYCKOFF RETIREMENT PARTY, 2018



ROSTERED FACULTY, JUNE 2021



Peter Anthamatten
*Associate Professor
& Dept. Chair*



Benjamin Crawford
Assistant Professor



Rafael Moreno
Associate Professor



Christy Briles
Associate Professor



Matthew Cross
*Associate Professor
C/T*



Brian Page
Associate Professor



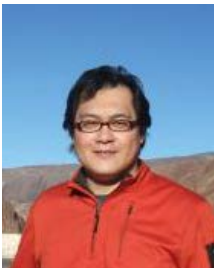
Frederick Chambers
Associate Professor



Thomas Duster
*Assistant Professor
C/T*



Gregory Simon
Associate Professor



Yi-Chia Chen
Instructor



Pamela Jansma
CLAS Dean, Professor



Amanda Weaver
Senior Instructor



Anne Chin
Professor



Katharine Kelsey
Assistant Professor



Bryan Wee
Associate Professor



Kirsten Christensen
Instructor



Lisa Kelley
Assistant Professor

