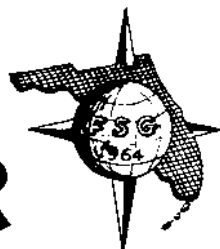


THE FLORIDA

GEOGRAPHER



VOL. 8, NO. 2

FEBRUARY 1972

THE GEOGRAPHER'S ROLE IN STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The 1972 Annual Meeting of The Florida Society of Geographers will be held Friday and Saturday, February 18 and 19 at the Flagler Inn and the Department of Geography, University of Florida, Gainesville. The theme of the meeting will be "The Role of the Geographer in State and Local Government," and is intended to give geography majors an opportunity to look at the possibilities of employment in governmental agencies.

Registration will begin at 1:00 p.m. in the Flagler Inn. The formal program will start at 3:30 p.m. in Room 120, Department of Geography (Old Law School Auditorium), across the street from the Flagler Inn. Mr. Bruce Johnson, Chairman of the Coastal Coordinating Council will lead a discussion in "The Role of Geographers in Government and An Overview of the Coastal Coordinating Council." From 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. a social hour will be held in the Flagler Inn followed by an informal dinner (requires reservation) from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

The evening session will begin at 7:45 p.m. in Room 120 with Mr. Ney Landrum, Director of Division of Outdoor Recreation and Parks followed by a panel of young geographers led by Mr. John Davis, Bureau of Planning. Their topic will be "Working Geographers in State Government."

Saturday's program will open at 8:30 a.m. with the business meeting and installation of new officers, followed by a break from 9:30-9:45 a.m. Beginning at 9:45 a.m., Mr. Ney Landrum will discuss the State's role in Payne's Prairie. Private cars will be used for transportation to the park. The meeting will close with a bar-b-que prepared by the Park Superintendent and his men. The registration fee of \$2.50 includes the bar-b-que. University of Florida's chapter of Gamma Theta Upsilon will provide beer and soft drinks for the bar-b-que.

Ney Landrum, our principle speaker is the director of the Division of Recreation and Parks of the Department of Natural Resources.

The Recreation and Parks Division is charged with the administration of a total public recreation program including the development, operation and maintenance of Florida's state parks, the conservation of natural resources and the preservation of historic sites.

The Division has four bureaus: Planning and Grants, Land Acquisition and Development, Park Operations, and Recreational Services.

The Bureau of Planning and Grants conducts extensive research into the important outdoor recreational needs of Florida, and, from this research, prepares and maintains a long-range comprehensive plan that assures an adequate portion of the State's outdoor recreational resources will be acquired and set aside for public use.

The Bureau of Land Acquisition and Development evaluates and selects sites for outdoor recreation development in accordance with the comprehensive plan. It handles all functions connected with the ac-

quisition of needed lands. The Bureau prepares site plans and designs facilities and improvements and constructs needed facilities and improvements, both directly and by contract work.

The Bureau of Park Operations runs, improves and maintains all parks, recreation areas, memorials and other physical units of the outdoor recreation system.

The Bureau of Recreational Services coordinates and provides consultation and technical services for other state agencies and local governments to insure maximum benefit from all public outdoor recreational efforts.

It establishes and maintains close liaison with private landowners and private outdoor recreation interests to encourage and guide efforts in that sector.

The park system is divided into six geographical districts, each headed by a district supervisor. The district offices are located at Panama City Beach, Fort White, Sarasota, Hobe Sound, Ormond Beach and Tallahassee.

GEOGRAPHERS IN STATE GOVERNMENT

by Edward H. Cederholm
Geographer, Department of Natural Resources

The State of Florida is a very rapidly growing state with population already exceeding the previous projections. It is growing in industry, agriculture, and influx of tourists, which constantly increases the demand on water resources of the state. At present time there are only occasional seasonal and geographic shortages of water. However, planning is vital to prevent such shortages from increasing and becoming more critical.

This planning requires evaluation and projection of water availability and requirements by hydrologic areas of the state in order to identify the areas of deficiency and surplus to permit long range effective planning for storage, distribution and regulation.

Special emphasis must be given to ground water sources and storage because of the lack of reservoir sites in Florida. The exploration of means of storage in ground water aquifers will contribute to the ability of all areas to develop similar techniques.

The State of Florida has realized the importance of federal-state planning and for this reason has undertaken an active part in work on the Southeast River Basins Interagency Committee.

To help in this planning effort the Division of Interior Resources, Department of Natural Resources has added to its staff two geographers. These geographers are assigned directly to the river basin planning party. However, before describing their functions, a few comments on just what constitutes river basin planning is in order.

Section 373.131, Florida Statutes, requires the Division of Water Resources and Conservation (now the Bureau of Water Resources) to conduct a continuous study to determine the most advantageous and best methods for obtaining maximum beneficial utilization, development and conservation of the water resources of Florida and to make the legislature and the public aware of water resource needs, problems and solutions.

In compliance with the statutes and along with the guidelines of the Federal Water Resources Council, the Florida Department of Natural Resources, previously the Florida Board of Conservation, began its first river basin study in 1963. The State of Florida was divided into five river basins: Northwest, Suwannee-St. Marys, St. Johns, Southwest, and Kissimmee-Everglades.

The Southwest Florida study was completed in 1966 and the second of five studies — the St. Johns River Basin — has been completed and is in review prior to printing. The Kissimmee-Everglades, Suwannee-St. Marys, and Northwest Florida Basins have been begun and it is hoped that these will be completed by the end of FY 73.

Major steps in river basin planning include the following: Development of the work plan and technical outline, analysis of data, projection of requirements for the three-time frames 1980, 2000, 2020, and finally the preparation of the report.

Upon the completion of the five area studies the overall water planning for the State of Florida will be prepared using the five study reports which are really water budgets for the areas as a basis for the state plan. The state overall plan should be ready within two years following completion of the final area study.

One geographer has been assigned the Kissimmee-Everglades Basin, the other the Northwest Florida and Suwannee-St. Marys Basins. Primary responsibility is to basin planning; however, since the Bureau of Water Resources is a small unit, there are no "specialists."

With respect to the planning reports, each geographer's area of interest consists of the basin's socio-economic resources, both present and future, with somewhat detailed discussion on agriculture, forestry, manufacturing, transportation, etc.; land resources, which include physiography and use; recreation, in conjunction with the department of Recreation and Parks; and the programs of both Federal and state agencies that may affect the basin. In one basin, the geographer is additionally responsible for wastewater, municipal, and industrial water use.

Some of the non-planning responsibilities mentioned above include coordination by the Corps of Engineers on Flood Plain Information Reports, writing the "Water and Weather" reports for the Department of Natural Resources *Conservation News*, and keeping informed on the progress of the topographic mapping program in the state being carried out by the U.S. Geological Survey in a matching fund program with the state.

With the increasingly important role that water will be playing in the future, the importance of the positions held by each geographer can be seen. And, upon completion of these reports, a sense of accomplishment is felt, for what they have done will have benefited the state and all its people.

A SALUTE TO OUR GEOGRAPHERS ALREADY AT WORK FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

From Florida State University at Tallahassee:

Lawrence D. Bobo, Coastal Coordinating Council

Louis C. Burney, Coastal Coordinating Council

John F. Davis, Office of State Planning Director

William L. Durrant, Jr., Office of State Planning Director

Jon R. Fahs, Office of State Planning Director

John H. Haslam, Dept. of Community Affairs

Preston O. Howard, Department of Transportation

Ney C. Landrum, Director, Division of Parks and Recreation

Terry E. Lewis, Coastal Coordinating Council

Peter H. McPhee, Division of Parks and Recreation

Daniel Schlobohm, Department of Transportation

Harry Schmermann, Department of Commerce

Leon T. Simpkins, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Thomas D. Walker, Coastal Coordinating Council

Dr. Burke Vanderhill informs us that 8 or 10 more are employed in state or local agencies in various other states.

From the **University of South Florida** at Tampa:
William Tait, S.W. Florida Water Management District
John Thompson, S.W. Florida Water Management District
Alan Hill, State Industrial Commission
Robert Usherson, Dade County Planning Commission
Robert Speidel, Leon County Planning Commission
Lee Richie, Polk County Planning Commission
Garry Briese, City of Orlando
Al Crews, USF, Assistant Registrar
Mike Turner, USF, Assistant Director, Career Planning & Placement
James Smith, State Department of Transportation

As with the list above, Dr. Bob Fuson does not include graduates who are working out of state.

From **Florida Atlantic University** at Boca Raton:
Gerald Mucci, City of Boca Raton
Frederick Peterson, Pompano Beach
Louis Isern, Palm Beach County
Peter Pimentel, Palm Beach County
Mike Monto, Dade County
Julian Harper, Collier County
Victoria Cooner, Coral Springs

From the **University of Florida** at Gainesville:
Ed Cedarholm, Dept. of Natural Resources (Interior Division)
Mike Durak, Department of Transportation
Winn Lindeman, Department of Transportation
Walter Ramsey, Bureau of Planning

Dr. Shannon McCune says the many names of those working for the federal government are not included here.

From the **University of Miami** at Miami, Harm de Blij submits a long list:

Dorothy Albury, Dade County	Elmer Harris, State
Thomas P. Anerine, Dade County	Joseph Kaufmann, Local
Hermine Kay Arnold, Dade County	Patricia Kingsbury, Local
Stephen Blane, Local	Edward Marsden, Local
Julian Bourrier, Local	Charles Moffett III, Local
Joseph G. Brusco, Local	Joseph Pestcoe, Local
Jack Burkhardt, State	Carl Rietman, Local
David S. Derrick, State	Richard Schneider, State
Rudolph Descoteau, State	Charles Schouf, Jr., Local
Robert Dunlap, Jr., Local	Sam Shannon, Local
Stanley Duttonhofer, Jr., State	Albert Tyler Smith, State
George Falls, State	Neno Spagua, Local
Dale Leon Fidel, State	John Stewart, State
Maria Harrison, Local	William Weir, Local
John Galbraith, Jr., Local	Lynn Don Wright, State

LET'S GET PRACTICAL

L. Michael Durak
Environmental Coordinator
State of Florida Department of Transportation

To remain viable, each academic discipline must provide its students:

1. the knowledge to effectively advance man's understanding of himself and his environment.
 2. methods to apply this knowledge in solving man's practical problems; and
-

3. a livelihood.

If a discipline is *impotent* in any one of the (3) areas, it is destined to atrophy.

Geography has provided us a *livelihood* principally in the area of teaching, for educators have recognized its relevance in providing the student spatial understanding.

The academic world is competitive, however, with limited resources of capital and time. If geography is to retain a *nitch* in this area, it must compete aggressively not only at the University level but at the Jr. College and secondary school levels. When English teachers and coaches teach geography, the subject's relevance is at a low ebb.

Certainly the subject has advanced man's knowledge of his world. But in solving man's practical problems, geography is sorely lacking.

Everyone knows the value of the engineer, doctor and lawyer — these people solve practical problems. These professions are founded on this very premise. Few understand geography's value in this regard—including geographers.

Of prime importance in explaining this situation is the fact that geography is a general field of study encompassing many specialized disciplines to explain the spatial relationship of man to his environment. The broad general subject had no place in a world solving its problems subject field by subject field. Today this can be geography's strength. The specialist is no longer secure when confronted with the multi-spectral impact of man's actions on the environment.

What better subject than geography to assist the specialist in the area of environmental problems.

Geography has been described by Barrows as the "ecology of man." Yet, if we are not aggressive in seeking this identity, the biologist, landscape architect, planner and the retrained engineer will fill this area.

The methods to achieve our goals are within our grasp. We must:

1. accept geography for what it is — a general field of study without that all elusive central generic theme;
2. get involved as educators in the practical world in order that our instructional programs reflect experience as well as theory;
3. develop theory to more effectively solve practical problems;
4. go forth and demonstrate to society what geography can contribute to human progress — sell yourself and the subject to the practical world.

The approach listed above is a positive program requiring positive action. The time is now, let's quit making an educational exercise out of geography and turn our expertise and energy to the outside world. Look around you — the world certainly can use our help.

COTTON MATHER VISITS FLORIDA

Cotton Mather, eminent scholar from the University of Minnesota, who honored us at the University of Florida and Florida State University a few winters ago by conducting seminars in cultural geography for faculty and students, will return for a short visit to these parts around March 9th. He will, no doubt, be looking forward to an educational field trip with the Leon County Geographical and Anthropological Society in its annual trek to the seminar rooms of the Oyster Research Laboratories at St. Marks, Florida.

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FLORIDA: IT'S PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS

by

Edward A. Fernald

Department of Geography
Florida State University
Tallahassee, Florida

FLORIDA: IT'S PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS is a Florida Social Studies textbook for the secondary school. The author is a geographer with an understanding of Florida and the needs of its students and teachers. He has taught social studies and geography and has had experience both at the secondary level and the college level.

The book follows modern social studies strategies and hypothesis testing and utilizes a scientific approach to learning. A teaching-learning model is included which will aid both the student and the teacher.

OUTLINE OF BOOK

- Unit One - Ways to Study Florida
- Unit Two - Florida's Population
- Unit Three - Florida's Location and Physical Characteristics
- Unit Four - Selected Case Studies From Florida's History
- Unit Five - Florida's Economic Activity
- Unit Six - Selected Problems and Prospects

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Bob Marcus wishes to indicate a correction in the room prices at the Flagler Inn - \$17.00 for two rather than \$16.00.