

Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Rebecca Lave



Professor Rebecca Lave received her B.A. from Reed College in Portland, OR. Because Reed had no Geography Department, she created her own interdisciplinary major (Political Theory and Art History) so that she could base her senior thesis in social and cultural geography. She spent several years enjoying Portland, and then decided to return to school to pursue her interest in urban design and the politics of public space.

In the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at MIT, Lave focused on the inter-relations between landscape ecology and design, and wrote her MA thesis on landscape art. While at MIT she began work in the planning and urban design group at Goody, Clancy Associates, a consulting firm in Boston, MA. There she worked on a variety of projects, including an ASLA award-winning master plan for the Charles River Basin. Her specialty was public involvement, and she honed her presentation skills in front of sometimes ferocious audiences of Boston residents.

In 1998, she moved to the San Francisco Bay Area, where she worked first for a planning firm in San Francisco and then for five years in the urban and environmental planning group at Design, Community, & Environment in Berkeley. As an Associate and then Senior Associate, she supervised urban, bicycle, and stream restoration planning projects, and continued to specialize in public participation.

In 2001, in need of more big-picture thinking, Lave began a Ph.D. in Geography at UC Berkeley. To prepare to study the political economy of stream and river restoration, she took course work in fluvial geomorphology and hydrology in addition to theory and social science seminars in Geography, Science and Technology Studies (STS), and Sociology. Her dissertation combined fluvial geomorphology, political ecology, and STS to focus on "The Rosgen Wars," a conflict that has convulsed the U.S. stream restoration field since the mid-1990s. Rosgen, a consultant with relatively little formal scientific training, is the most influential person in the stream restoration field. Rosgen's channel classification system and Natural Channel Design approach are the most commonly used stream restoration technique in most regions of the US, and continue to be promoted by most of the state and federal environmental agencies in the US. Lave's dissertation sought to explain how, despite the vehement protests of university- and research agency-based scientists, Rosgen became the most broadly credible producer of scientific knowledge claims about stream restoration policy and practice. This project sparked her continuing interest in the politics of expertise and scientific authority.

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Faculty Spotlight, continued:

Since joining the faculty at IU Geography in 2008, Lave's research has focused primarily on market-based environmental management, particularly markets for ecosystem services. This neoliberal policy regime is a response to the perceived failures of regulatory "command and control" approaches to environmental protection, and is now one of the most common international environmental policy frameworks. Collaborating with scientists at Duke and University of Wisconsin-Madison, Lave first studied the U.S. market for stream mitigation banking. She is now beginning another collaborative project (with colleagues at University of Wisconsin-Madison and the Autonomous University of Barcelona) to study the rollout of market-based environmental management in the EU. Both of these projects were funded by the National Science Foundation.

Alumni Spotlight: Dr. Adrian Bailey



Alumnus **Adrian Bailey** (Ph.D. 1989) is editor of *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, and Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences at Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU), China. HKBU is a small urban liberal arts University located in the heart of Kowloon, and home to Hong Kong's leading Geography Department. Adrian applied to IU in 1983 to study transportation geography with Stewart Fotheringham. However, within a few months of arriving, Stewart left the Department, and Adrian joined the group studying population and migration, and worked with John Odland, Dennis Conway, and Kingsley Haynes (SPEA). Although he never intended to stay for more than two years, the charms of Bloomington, and the people, kept delaying this. Eventually, after many late night coffees at the Runcible Spoon and Daily Grind, he submitted a PhD, and took up a position at Dartmouth College. During ten years at Dartmouth he became involved with the Advanced Placement Human Geography course and, for his sins, wrote hundreds of test questions and became the first Chief Reader. In 1999 he again moved, this time to Yorkshire, and worked at the University of Leeds until 2010, when he moved even further east to Hong Kong. As a Dean Adrian is responsible for getting diverse departments to work together, and one major development has been to plan and launch a new Masters program on Global Society. This gives students the chance to combine analytical and ethical skills and become well rounded professionals able to rise to the challenges and opportunities of our global society.

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Undergraduate Student Spotlight: Lane Kimmel

Lane Kimmel is a senior at Indiana University pursuing a double major in Geography and History. He transferred to Indiana University with an Associate's degree in computer programming to complete his undergraduate degree. Even as a child he always loved maps and computers. Until arriving at Bloomington, and discovering what Geography had to offer, he never encountered a way to pursue those inherent personal interests academically. Always interested in social studies and geography, the department opened his eyes to the various fields and professional disciplines in the world that require geographic skills. Through various courses in the Geography Department, he learned the value and power behind representing data or information spatially. The career fields and opportunities in GIS are growing and almost limitless. By combining personal interests in cartography and computers, with the Geography concentration in GIS, his goal is to enter a field utilizing digital cartography. After graduation he plans to seek employment opportunities within the US Forestry Service, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, or the National Park Service. Seeing how Geography touches so many other fields led him to pursue his second major, history. Thus, not only has Geography encompassed my career goals, but also fostered further ambitions for another degree entirely.

According to Lane, "The faculty and staff at Geography have been nothing but encouraging and helpful throughout my entire degree progress. I truly cannot think of a single bad experience. This has been especially appreciated due to some of my atypical traits for an undergrad. I also am married and happily welcomed a new daughter into the world earlier this year. My wife provided the initial inspiration to complete my undergraduate education, and my new daughter provides more than enough motivation to ensure I complete that goal." Lane currently works two jobs while finishing his final year of school. He works in logistics with the local federal naval facility at Crane, Indiana and also works part time with the Indiana University Evaluation Services and Testing division during certain parts of the semester. This semester, he is also working an internship with the reclamation firm Mid-West Reclamation Inc. Lane helped establish the Undergraduate Geography Club last semester. He is also the Robert Johnson Fellowship awardee for the 2015-2016 Academic Year.

Graduate Student Spotlight: Ryan Wyeth



Ryan Wyeth received his undergraduate education at Michigan State University, graduating in spring 2010 with a BA in professional writing, a specialization in writing in communities and cultures, and an additional major in Russian language and culture.

After his undergraduate work, he decided to take a short break from academia which transformed itself into a several-year-long extended break, during which time he spent a year working in Moscow, Russia as a translator, a year in Anji County, Zhejiang Province, China, working as an English teacher, and several months living in Tbilisi, Georgia; all this was interspersed with periods living in the United States, working as a freelance translator.

So how does all this translate into an interest in studying water resources and their management? “During my time living abroad, and as a direct result of the places in which I chose to live and travel, I was particularly struck by the lack of clean drinking water: in Moscow, a city where the tap water is laden with heavy metals; in St. Petersburg, where the water contains giardia; in eastern China, where all drinking water came in the form of large, 10-gallon jugs (like in an office water-cooler). Having grown up in a Midwestern American town with quality groundwater, where it was possible to drink directly from the tap, I was interested to know how such conditions had come into being: I had finally found a direction for my graduate studies”.

Ryan is currently in the second year of the MA program here at Indiana University. He is investigating water resources management in the Republic of Georgia, one of the three South Caucasus republics (along with Armenia and Azerbaijan). His research focus is the effects of institutional and infrastructural legacies on modern day management, as well as the ways in which the scalar structuring of management institutions affects management practices. He spent this past summer in Tbilisi, Georgia gathering research materials in the National Archives, Parliamentary Library, and National Science Library as well as interviewing individuals involved in various aspects of the country’s water resources management.



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Visiting Lecturer: Sara Minard



Sara Minard is a visiting lecturer in the department this academic year. She is currently writing her dissertation in Anthropology, focusing on how local food systems might better serve low-income populations. She collaborates on research and publication with other members of the department: graduate students Angela Babb and Megan Betz, and adjunct professor James Farmer. This year she is teaching three courses for the department: Environmental Change, Geography of Food and Global Change, Food and Farming Systems.

Prior to returning to university for her doctorate, Sara Minard worked as a production manager for an artisanal chocolate producer, as part of the James Beard award-winning service staff at Tru Restaurant in Chicago, as forager for the Four Seasons – Chicago, and as a personal chef. She has also consulted for a start-up food company located in Bloomington. These experiences have led her to think about waste in food systems and to consider the environmental implications of wasted food from farm to landfill. Much of her work links food waste issues to anthropogenic climate change. She brings these insights to her classrooms, where the study of food is a powerful tool in activating students' interest in the study of global environmental change.



Chair's Letter

Welcome to the Fall 2015 newsletter! After what was, for Bloomington, a relatively mild summer, campus is humming again with activity. The department has been active as well and there is good news to report—enrollments are up yet again, our graduate students and faculty are doing great things and, re-invigorated by our recent faculty hires, there is a renewed sense of activity and purpose within the department. Evidence of that renewed vigor is ample in the numerous grants and publications of the faculty and graduate students, in the awards received by our faculty, graduate students, and students, and in the excellent teaching evaluations our faculty and graduate students receive from their students. That said the summer and fall have not been without their challenges—Rinku Roy Chowdhury moved to Clark University, James King to Montreal and Cody Kirkpatrick moved across campus to join Geology full time. We were fortunate hire Sara Minard on very short notice to cover classes previously taught by King and Roy Chowdhury. Additionally, the College of Arts and Sciences is facing budget shortfalls which does not bode well for future years. Fortunately, I am surrounded by those both near and far who are working hard to make this department an even better place than it is now. Thank you for your continued support!

Best wishes,
Dan