In keeping with the tradition of Florida Society of Geographers past Presidents I would like to thank my predecessor, Dr. Jeff Martin, for arranging a great annual meeting at Jacksonville. Our next Annual Meeting will be in downtown Miami January 25-27, 2008. We hope all of you will be able to attend!!!

During our 43rd Annual meeting, February 9-11, 2007 more than 80 people attended our meeting. It was gratifying to watch the direction of current geographic research among our Florida geographers. Along with the faculty presentations there were graduate and undergraduate sessions. Topics ranged from techniques and physical geography to karst topography, as well as international and Human Geography. The six poster presentations were judged for the Student Honors Competition category for Best Poster.

From the President
By Dr. Mary Caravelis

Announcement: New FSG Website URL
http://www.geosciences.fau.edu/fsg/

The FSG’s website has a new host! Thank you to Dr. Russ Ivy and the Florida Atlantic University’s Department of Geosciences for assuming the maintenance and hosting of the website under the new webmaster, Dr. Tobin K. Hindle.

Thank you to the Geography Department at the University of South Florida - Tampa for hosting the FSG website for the first two years, which helped making the meetings a huge success. Dr. Paul Zandbergen, made the set up process a breeze. Thank you to Chris Anderson, a professional geographer, for the initial web site design and creation.

Thank you to Tara Morgan for spending countless hours working behind the scenes to make our website possible.

Our website is filled with valuable information and facts of our organization. You can access our past annual meetings and get a perspective of the current research that our members are involved in.
Continued From the President

A great thank you goes to our 2007 corporate sponsor Jeanne Fillman Richards and Storm Richards of Storm L. Richards & Associates, Inc. for supplementing the Student Honors Paper and Poster competition cash prizes. Suggestions and recommendations on how to increase corporate sponsorship for FSG events is always encouraged.

One of the goals this year is to increase and maintain our membership. Conference attendance has been increasing steadily in the past few years but there is room for greater expansion. It is critical to continue our efforts to reach all geographers in Florida and encourage them to join our society. The viability and strength of every organization depends on their members. I am optimistic that all Geography Department Heads will make an extra effort to invite everyone to join our society.

Our members enjoy the following benefits:

• Receive a copy of the annual issue of The Florida Geographer journal;
• Keep up-to-date on issues and developments in the field of Geography;
• An opportunity to present your scholarly research in a more intimate and friendlier setting;
• Meet and network with other Florida Geographers;
• Learn about new approaches, methods and techniques;
• Hear papers and discussion of work of others;
• Get access to information about job availability;
• It shows you are involved and dedicated to our field;
• Professional membership is an excellent addition to your resume!

Today it is an exciting time to be a geographer. Our discipline is re-discovered again because the need to generate new geographic knowledge, tools and methods through research is becoming fundamental. Geography provides a special way of looking at our surrounding place and space. Analyzing the world around us from a spatial perspective is the most important contribution we as geographers can make.

The Florida Society of Geographers since 1964 has established a tradition for providing a forum to showcase the current geographic research of our colleagues. I am eager to hear your ideas on how to continue growing FSG membership and scope. If we all work together and use our strengths we can continue the 44-year tradition. In closing, I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you as your President in the coming year.

Mary Caravelis
mcaravelis@mail.barry.edu

Continued from page 1
2007 Board of Directors

Dr. Mary Caravelis, President
TBA, Vice-President
Dr. Maria Fadiman, Secretary and Treasurer
Dr. Kevin Archer, Editor, The Florida Geographer
Kristine Bezdecny, Managing editor, The Florida Geographer

Dr. Barnnali Dixon, Executive Board Member
Dr. Ron Schultz, Executive Board Member
Tara Morgan, Executive Board Member
Kristine Bezdecny, Student Board Member

We would like to extend an invitation to all geographers to join FSG and receive the benefits of membership.

2007 Members

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I. Meeting Called to Order  8:15 p.m.  Jeff Martin, President

II. Minutes from February 2006 Meeting  Tara Morgan, Secretary
St. Petersburg, FL

III. Treasurer’s Report  Tara Morgan, Treasurer
Major Expenses:
- Postage for *The Florida Geographer*: $165.36
- Publishing for *The Florida Geographer* (Kinkos): $1,281.45
- Deposit to Windham Jacksonville Hotel for 2007 Mtg. $500.00

Major Forthcoming Expenses:
- Additional Meeting expenses to cover luncheon and equipment rental.
- Student Honors Competition:
  - Graduate Student Award: $100.00
  - *(Supplemented by Storm L. Richards & Associates, Inc. $100.00)*
  - Undergraduate Student Award: $100.00
  - *(Supplemented by Storm L. Richards & Associates, Inc. $100.00)*
  - Poster Student Award: $50.00
  - *(Supplemented by Storm L. Richards & Associates, Inc. $50.00)*

* Corporate Sponsor

Major Revenue Sources:
The balance going into the meeting reflects that only 5 of the 82 registrations were received before the start of the meeting.

Beginning Balance Feb. 19, 2006: $5,477.95
Ending Balance Feb. 8, 2007: $3,531.14

At the 2006 FSG Business Meeting it was agreed that the collection of Membership Dues would be changed from the school year (Fall to Fall) to the calendar year (Jan. to Sept.) to save costs by enabling the Editor of *The Florida Geographer* to publish a more accurate quantity of the journal. It was found that most members pay membership dues at the same time as their registration fee. In order for the alignment to happen, FSG absorbed some of the publishing costs of the Fall 2006 edition, which was voted on and accepted at the 2006 Feb. Business Meeting.

Total Membership Dues and Registration Fees Amount collected at the start of the Feb. 2007 Annual Meeting: $3458.50
Total 2007 Meeting expense (Luncheon & Equipment Rental): $2266.62

IV. Old Business  Jeff Martin, President
A) Still need volunteers to judge the Student Honors Competition this weekend.
B) The Latvian Geographical Society is interested in cultivating a relationship as a sister organization with FSG. Many of their members are interested in research collaboration, joint projects, possible student and/or faculty exchanges, cross-pollination in terms of attending conferences, etc. It is understood that Dr. Barry Mowell is working with Dr. Bob Brinkman on this project.

Minutes Continued on Page 5
V. New Business

A. FSG Future Focus

1) FSG Website
   A) Thank you to the Geography Department at the University of South Florida – Tampa for hosting the FSG website for the first two years, which helped making the meetings a huge success. Paul Zandbergen, Ph.D., made the set up process a breeze. Thank you to Chris Anderson for the initial web site design and creation.
   B) Chris Anderson has been assisting FSG as the webmaster on a volunteer basis and a more permanent webmaster should be found.
   C) Dr. Russ Ivy, FAU Department of Geosciences, volunteered Dr. Tobin Hindle to be the new webmaster. All were in agreement that FAU Department of Geosciences should host the website as well to make things easier. The current FSG website host, Dr. Bob Brinkman, USF Department of Geography, was in agreement.

2) FSG Newsletter
   • Discussion of frequency and format FSG Newsletter will be delivered. Confirmed and all in agreement that it will be digital and disbursed through e-mail attachment and downloadable from the FSG Website.

3) The Florida Geographer
   Editor, Dr. Kevin Archer, University of South Florida
   Managing Editor, Kris Bezdecny, University of South Florida
   • The term for the Editor and Managing Editor is going to expire after the Fall 2007 edition. FSG must seek a new Editor and Managing Editor. The Board will approach each of the other schools for volunteers to continue the outstanding service that Kevin and Kris have exemplified these past few years.

B. Judging & Judge Checklist
   • Standards for the Student Honors Competition will be reevaluated for future judges to follow.
   • The Executive Board should assist by securing volunteers to judge before the start of the meeting to avoid last minute issues.

C. Nominations and Elections

   1) President
      • Dr. Mary Caravelis, Barry University, is the president-elect.
   2) Vice President
      • No nominations were submitted and therefore no one was elected. The Board is still soliciting nominations.
   3) Secretary/Treasurer
      • Dr. Maria Fadiman, FAU, was nominated and elected.
   4) One of the three Executive Board Members (staggered 3-year term)
      • Tara Morgan, TSS International, Inc., was nominated and elected.

VI. Other Business
   • Recommendation was received for the 2008 FSG Annual Meeting that the Executive Board meet first on Friday evening and then hold the Business Meeting during a more prominent time on either Saturday or Sunday to encourage increased attendance at the Business Meeting.

VII. Meeting Adjourned 9:05 p.m.
The Florida Society of Geographer’s annual dues payments cover the cost of publishing *The Florida Geographer* (FSG’s publication), mailings, and part of the cost of the annual meeting. Dues are based on the calendar year. Dues are collected from January to September each year. September 15th is the cutoff-date for an accurate count when the journal is printed and mailed to members around October. Dues are $15 for regular members and organizations, and $7.50 for students. Active members of the Florida Geographic Alliance have their dues paid by the Alliance. If any of your address information has changed in the last year, please return the form below even if you do not need to make a dues payment so that the mailing list can be kept up-to-date.

Please duplicate this form and give it to friends, colleagues, and students who might be interested in joining. The future of the Society depends on continually adding new members. If you have any questions, please contact Mary at the following e-mail mcaravelis@mail.barry.edu or check out the FSG website at [http://www.geosciences.fau.edu/fsg/](http://www.geosciences.fau.edu/fsg/) for more information.

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**FLORIDA SOCIETY OF GEOGRAPHERS**

**Membership Form**

Florida Society of Geographers                         Return to: Dr. Maria Fadiman, Secretary/Treasurer
Dues Payment                                             Florida Atlantic University
                                                      Department of Geosciences
                                                      777 Glades Road
                                                      Boca Raton, FL 33431

Name__________________________________________________________
Regular Member  $15____________

Address________________________________________________________
Student $7.50 ____________

City_________________ State___ ZIP______
Geog. Alliance $0 ____________

Contribution ____________
Total Paid ____________

Telephone__________________________
Make check payable to:
FAX______________________________
Florida Society of Geographers

e-mail____________________________
Graduate Student Presentation Winner

Congratulations to April Raulerson who is a graduate student in the Department of Geography at the University of South Florida presented her research on Hurricane Forecasting, Warning, and Response Systems: A Lake Wales Public Perception Study.

Undergraduate Student Presentation Winner

Congratulations to Joshua Robinson who is an undergraduate student in the Department of Geography at the University of Florida presented his research: A GIS Investigation of the Kissimmee River Restoration Project.

Poster Presentation Winner

Congratulations to Daniel Godwin who is an undergraduate student in the Department of Geography at the University of Florida. His poster presented his research: Poverty and Protected Areas in Florida.
This year the field trip was a boat tour of the St. John’s River. Our guide was the St. John’s River Keeper, Neil Armingeon. Neil guided us along the spectacular St. Johns River and with his enthusiastic delivery he did convinced us that the St. Johns is “one of most unique rivers on this planet”. Thank you Neil!!!
About our Organization

The Florida Society of Geographers was chartered in 1964 as a non-profit organization for the purpose of furthering professionalism in geography through application of geographic techniques in all areas of education, government, and business. The Society supports these objectives by promoting acquaintance and discussion among its members and with scholars and practitioners in related fields by stimulating research and field investigation, by encouraging publication of scholarly studies, and by performing services to aid the advancement of its members and the field of geography in Florida.

Announcement: The Florida Geographer
Deadline for Submitting Papers is June 30, 2007

“The Florida Geographer is the official publication of the FSG and is distributed free to members of the society.”

Kevin Archer, Ph.D., Editor,
The Florida Geographer
Department of Geography
University of South Florida
4202 E. Fowler Ave., NES 107 Tampa. FL 33620
Phone: (813) 974-4843
karcher2@cas.usf.edu

Kris Bezdecny,
Managing Editor, bezdecny@cutr.usf.edu

Florida Society of Geographers
Dr. Maria Fadiman, Secretary/Treasurer
Florida Atlantic University
Department of Geosciences
777 Glades Road
Boca Raton, FL 33431
Phone: 561-297-3250
E-mail: mfadiman@fau.edu