

EDUCATION

Texas State University-San Marcos

Ph.D. – Environmental Geography

Dissertation: *Growth and Change in a Paradigmatic Region: Is It Sustainable? Does Planning Make a Difference?*

Southwest Texas State University

Master of Applied Geography

Concentration: Land/Area Development and Management.

Thesis: *The Dynamics of Land Development in a Rapidly Urbanizing Area, A Case Study of Comal County, Texas.*

Stanford University

Bachelor of Arts

Major–Economics; Minor–Political Science

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses Taught as Senior Lecturer or Adjunct (1994 to present; chronological order, most recent first; * indicates courses I created or substantially revised; SLE indicates “Signature Learning Experience” in classes at UTSA)

- GES 3113 **Geography of US and Canada** - UTSA. An online asynchronous class taught during the summer.
- GES 3323 **Revealing Geography through Film and Popular Culture*** - UTSA
 - SLE activities (a.) *Group Assignments* in which students develop discussion seminars on aspects of popular culture (films, TV, graphic novels, music, magazines, commercials/advertisements) that illustrate geographic themes; (b.) *Semester Project* in which students may create a website, short video, song, or other popular culture media that illustrates their research into a geographic theme that interests them.
- GES(Grg.) 2613 **Physical Geography** – UTSA
 - SLE activities (a.) *Photo Essay* in which students interpret the physical landscape using their own photographs and accompanying descriptive text; (b.) *Reflective Essay* in which students reflect on the meaning and relevance of physical geography to their future lives (selected comments included as an Appendix on pages 9 and 10 of this document)
- GES 3723 **Physiography*** (cross-listed with Grg. 5423) – UTSA
 - SLE activities (a.) the *Journey Journal* in which students must “go into the field” and complete a diary or journal (either paper or website) of their experience, making connections between landscapes they see and the “big ideas” of Physiography. The format for the Journey Journal/Guide is based on the writings of John McPhee (*Annals of the Former Earth*) and Keith Meldahl (*Rough-Hewn Land*), both of whom illustrate the value of going out into landscapes. (b.) *Case Study* in which students focus on an example of a landscape issue created by human impact; usually involves field work. (c.) *Canyon Gorge Field Trip* – the entire class takes a three-hour guided tour of the Canyon Gorge which was created by the 2002 flood in central Texas.
- GES 3003 **Global Sustainability*** (cross-listed with Grg. 5563) – UTSA
 - SLE activity: *Sustainability Case Study* in which students explore how sustainability principles can be applied on a large scale to a developing country; completing this

assignment gets the student to think outside their own, sometimes insular, experiences and opens up a world-view.

- GES(Grg.) 3623 **The Geography of Natural Hazards** – UTSA
 - SLE activity: **Hazards Term Project** – Students are required to apply the concepts learned in class by researching a hazard and a place of their choosing; involves interviewing professionals in the field of hazards management.
- Grg. 4953 **Environmental Landscape Management (cross-listed with Grg. 5433)** - UTSA
 - SLE activities: (a.) **Site Inventory/Analysis** for which students collect and map essential contextual information about a potential development site, such as its physiographic, biological, socio-cultural, and regulatory characteristics; requires field work. (b.) **Case Study** – students to investigate an environmental management initiative, including process, outputs, and outcomes; usually involves field work; includes both a paper and a class presentation at the end of the semester.
- GES(Grg.) 3523 **Introduction to Urban Planning** (sometimes **cross-listed with POL 3413 Urban Development: Politics, Planning & Power***) – UTSA
 - SLE activities: (a.) **The Walking Tour** which involves field research with a check-list to critically observe the students’ built surroundings. (b.) **Planning Commission Meeting** – students must attend a commission meeting in San Antonio or a nearby town (or their home town) and write up and discuss their experience. (c.) **Site Analysis and Development Project** - a group project in which students select a site and develop a basic land use plan; requires field work.
- Grg. 3733 **Urban and Regional Analysis (cross-listed with POL 3413 Urban Development: Politics, Planning & Power*)** – UTSA
 - SLE activities: (a.) **History of a Block Field Trip and Presentation** requires students to visit a block in downtown San Antonio or a nearby community that was covered in the Sanborn insurance mapping program (which dates to the late 1800’s) and then interpret and comment on the changes that have taken place over time. (b.) **The Bus Tour** requires students ride a municipal bus from downtown San Antonio to the end of its route and observe the changes in the urban landscape considering urban theories discussed in class.
- **Urban Immersion: Seeing Cities through Cinema*** - Texas State University Honors College and Trinity University
- **The Urban Experience** (lower level undergraduate) Trinity University
- **Sustainable Cities: Reinventing Our Communities*** – Texas State University Honors College and Trinity University
- **Special Topics in Urban Studies: Toward Sustainable Cities*** - advanced undergraduate seminar at Trinity University
- **Community and Regional Planning** (upper level undergraduate) Texas State University
- **Land Use Planning** (graduate and upper level undergraduate levels) Texas State University
- **Urban Geography** (upper level undergraduate) Texas State University
- **Land Development and Management** (graduate level) Texas State University

Research Interests

- Urban Development Policy and Growth Dynamics
- Planning for Urban Sustainability
- Comprehensive Planning
- The Austin-San Antonio Corridor Region
- Modern Place Names

- Geography and Popular Culture

OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Consultant – Government Partnerships Program, Texas State University

Demographic research related to the State Highway 45 Southwest proposed highway.
Grant/contract funded by the Texas Department of Transportation.

November 2013 – May 2014

Grant Coordinator/Specialist - Texas State University Department of Geography 1999 - 2013

Project Supervisor for Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) – Texas Pollution Discharge Elimination System, Storm Water Discharge Permitting Program (Grant/Contract)
January 2003 - 2013

Project Supervisor and Director of Research, Amendment to Regional Solid Waste Management Plans for the various Texas Councils of Government (Grant/Contracts).

March 2002 – October 2003

Supervisor - Closed Landfill Inventory GIS Lab, Department of Geography, Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas.

June 2000 - June 2002

Project Supervisor and Director of Research, Texas Closed Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Inventory (Phase II); Grants/Contracts with six state planning agencies totaling approximately \$300,000.

June 2000 – June 2002

Assisted Dr. Robert D. Larsen with completion of Phase I of the Texas Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Inventory.

October 1999 – December 1999

Teaching Assistant - Texas State University Department of Geography 1993-1995

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE/SKILLS

CONSULTING

Worked with the City of Bulverde, Texas to develop the Comprehensive Plan *Sunrise 2025* adopted in July, 2004.

In association with Robert Larsen, Ph.D., developed a Comprehensive Plan for the City of Victoria, Texas (2000-2002). This plan won the Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association 2002 Comprehensive Plan of the Year Award. Prepared a feasibility study and valuation report for a proposed landfill near the City of Whitesboro, Texas (2002). Prepared a valuation report for the Galveston County Landfill for the City of La Porte (1999).

In association with Rostam Kavoussi, Ph.D. Economic Consultant (1991–2004), managed annual analyses of the Texas State Comptroller’s Property Value Studies for numerous public school districts throughout the state; hire and direct research staff; develop databases and produce final reports; work closely with appraisal district staff and school district staff in various Texas

counties; produced *Truth-in-Taxation* software to assist taxing entities in Texas determine their effective and rollback tax rates.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

Interim Planning Director City of Bulverde, Texas

May 2006 – July 2006

Planning Director City of New Braunfels, Texas

August 2001 – July 2002

- Managed the Department of Planning and Environmental Development (included Planning, Code Enforcement, Building Permits/Inspections, and Health Inspection).
- Worked closely with various groups and Commissions, including Planning Commission, City Council, Historic Landmark Commission, Heritage Commission, Main Street, Zoning Board of Adjustment, and Tree and Landscape Board.
- Developed a Request for Proposals and Qualifications for a Unified Development Code and a scoring system designed to help select the best proposal according to the goals and objectives developed by the Subdivision Ordinance Committee and the Planning Commission.
- In cooperation with the Planning Commission developed a 2002-2006 Annexation Plan adopted by City Council in January, 2002.
- Took over the redistricting process and worked within a very tight time frame and with consultants to help develop and finalize a redistricting plan based on the 2000 Census and my estimates of the voting age population within newly annexed areas. The plan was adopted by City Council in January, 2002.
- Worked on the interlocal agreements with Comal and Guadalupe Counties necessitated by HB1445; attended and hosted meetings with area planning directors, engineers, and government officials.

OTHER

Real Estate Broker and Consultant

May 1987 - present

- Buy, sell, and broker real estate as an independent Realtor from 1989 to present.
- Various consulting projects such as a location analysis of hotel/motel employees in Bexar County prepared for the Greater San Antonio Hotel/Motel Association.
- Worked with Century 21 Norris in New Braunfels as Realtor in 1987-88.

Construction Estimator, Salesman, Beldon Roofing and Remodeling March 1980 – July 1987

Estimated residential and commercial remodeling, reconstruction and roofing projects; also responsible for sales of retail projects which averaged over \$1,000,000 in value per year.

Residential Renovation

January 1980 – April 1987

Purchased residential real estate, estimated and completed remodeling and renovation, leased and/or sold updated properties.

PUBLICATIONS

Earl, Richard, and James Vaughan. 2015. Asymmetrical Response to Flood Hazards in South-Central Texas. *Papers in Applied Geography*, 1:4, 404-412, DOI: 10.1080/23754931.2015.1095792.

Day, Frederick A., and James W. Vaughan. 2010. The Evolving Landscape of the Austin-San Antonio Corridor - Personal Reflections and Research Directions. *Landscapes, Identities and Development in Europe and Beyond*, Eds. Zoran Roca, Paul Claval, and John Agnew; Territory, Culture and Development Research Centre, Lisbon.

Vaughan, James W. 2008. Imperiled Sustainability: A Tale of Planning and Growth in Two Texas Cities. *The Southwestern Geographer*. Vol. 11:153-169.

Vaughan, James W. 2007. Modern Communities: Challenging Traditional Concept of Place. *Papers of the Applied Geography Conferences*. Vol. 30: 226-235.

Vaughan, James W. and Chance Sparks. 2004. *Sunrise 2025, The Comprehensive Plan for the City of Bulverde, Texas*. Planning Department – City of Bulverde, Texas.

Larsen, Robert D., Ronald J. Stephenson, and James W. Vaughan. 2004. “The Geography of Closed Municipal Landfills in Texas: Using GIS to Study their Health, Safety, and Environmental Risks and Impacts.” *EarthWorks: Geographical Solutions to 100 Problems*, Ed. Association of American Geographers Centennial Book. Kluwer.

Vaughan, James W., Robert D. Larsen and John Kaminski. 2002. *City of Victoria, Texas, Comprehensive Plan 2000-2020*. Department of Planning – City of Victoria, Texas.

Submission for Journal Article (Submitted November 30, 2000), with Ronald J. Stephenson and Robert D. Larsen. “A Statewide Inventory of Closed Municipal Solid Waste Landfills for the State of Texas: The Process of Building the Geographic Information System,” *Journal of Solid Waste Technology and Management*, Philadelphia, PA.

“Location Analysis of Hotel/Motel Employees in Bexar County,” prepared for the Greater San Antonio Hotel/Motel Association, 1999.

PRESENTATIONS

“Racism and Urban Planning in the USA” Paper/Presentation for the 2018 Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, April 10, 2018, New Orleans, Louisiana.

“Special Purpose Districts: Good Planning Practice, or Political Predation” Paper/Presentation for the 2017 Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, April 9, 2017, Boston, Mass.

“Asymmetrical Response to Flood Hazards in South Central Texas”: with Richard Earl, Paper/Presentation for the 2015 Southwestern Association of Geographers – Applied Geography Conference Joint Meeting, November 4, 2015, San Antonio, Texas.

“Reflections on Urban Planning and Racism in the USA”; Paper/Presentation for the 2014 Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference, October 24, 2014, Fort Worth, Texas.

“Urban Immersion, Using Cinema to Teach Urban Social Geography”; Paper/Presentation for the 2014 Applied Geography Conference, October 16, 2014, Atlanta, Georgia.

“Planning, or Predation? The Story of a Special Purpose District in Texas”; Paper/Presentation for the 2013 Applied Geography Conference, November 1, 2013, Annapolis, Maryland.

“Applying Geographic Skills: Going beyond Conventional Internships”; Paper/Presentation for the 2012 Applied Geography Conference, October 2012, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

“Lessons from the Land Bank: Strategies for Community Growth and Development”; Paper/Presentation for the 2012 Urban Affairs Association Annual Meeting, April 18, 2012, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

“Heading East: Redefining Growth Forces in the I-35 Corridor”; Paper/Presentation for the 2011 Urban Affairs Association Annual Meeting, March 19, 2011, New Orleans, La.

“The Name Game: The Co-option of Place Names”; Paper/Presentation for the 2010 Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, April 16, 2010, Washington, D.C.

“Policy, Planning, or Pulchritude?”; Paper/Presentation for the 2010 Urban Affairs Association Annual Meeting, March 12 2010, Honolulu, Hawaii.

“Life and Death of a Hill Country Dream? Connecting Land Development and Nature”; Paper/Presentation for the 2009 Applied Geography Conference, October 29 2009, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

“Regional Growth and Landscape Change: The Austin-San Antonio Corridor”; Paper/Presentation for the 2009 Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, March 26 2009, Las Vegas, Nevada.

“Planning Sustainable Growth: An Examination of Two Texas Cities”; Paper/Presentation for the 2009 Urban Affairs Association Annual Meeting, March 5 2009, Chicago, Illinois.

“Imperiled Sustainability: A Tale of Growth and Planning in Two Texas Cities”; Paper/Presentation for the 2008 Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, April 20 2008, Boston, Massachusetts.

“Modern Communities: Challenging Traditional Concepts of Place”; Presentation for the 2007 Applied Geography Conference, October 18 2007, Indianapolis, Indiana.

“Growth and Change in a Paradigmatic Region: Is It Sustainable? Does Planning Make a Difference?”; Paper/Presentation for the 2007 Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, April 20 2007, San Francisco, California.

“Linking Planning and NEPA”; Presentation for the Texas Transportation Institute, Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, and Bexar County Metropolitan Planning Organization, July 27 2006, San Marcos, Texas.

“Size Matters: Super-sizing the American Dream”; Paper/Presentation for the 2006 Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, March 9 2006, Chicago, Illinois.

“Growth and Change in A Paradigmatic Region: Measuring Sprawl in the Austin/San Antonio Corridor”; Paper/Presentation for the 2005 Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, March 6 2005, Denver, Colorado.

“Where do we locate landfills? LULUS and residential sprawl: The conflicts,” and “Are minorities and the poor carrying a disproportionate share of the burdens caused by living close to closed landfills? An environmental equity issue in Texas.” Accepted for oral presentation at 18th International Conference on

Solid Waste Technology and Management, Widener University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. March 23 - 26, 2003. Robert D. Larsen, James W. Vaughan, and Ronald J. Stephenson.

Proposal and PowerPoint presentation given to Permian Basin Council of Governments to develop their Comprehensive Regional Solid Waste Management Plan, August 28, 2002. Midland, TX.

“New Thinking about Valuing Landfills,” 2001 American Planning Association (APA) National Conference, March 10-14, 2001, New Orleans, Louisiana. Part of special session “Land Use and Landfill Issues: Planning for their Relationships,” Topic: Planning for land use, the environment, and economic issues; and how they interrelate to the provision of solid waste services; in association with Robert D. Larsen, Ph.D. and Ronald J. Stephenson.

One-hour presentations to Bulverde Planning Commission on their role in The Comprehensive Planning Process - November 12 and 20, 2002.

One-hour presentation to more than 100 citizens on “What is a Comprehensive Plan and How do You Do One – Planning 101” – City of Bulverde, Texas, August 22, 2002.

One-hour presentation to Bulverde City Council and citizens on “The Comprehensive Planning Process” - September, 9, 2002.

Presentations to the various Texas Councils of Government related to Closed Landfill Inventory results and Comprehensive Regional Solid Waste management Plans. October 30, 2002 Uvalde; July 22-23 2002 Beaumont, 2002; July 30-31 2002 Victoria; August 28, 2002. Midland.

Presentation - “The Process of Conducting the Closed Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Inventory for the State of Texas”. Written with Ronald J. Stephenson and Robert D. Larsen. 16TH International Conference on Solid Waste Technology and Management. Philadelphia, PA. December 2000.

AWARDS, HONORS, AND SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

The Victoria 2020 Comprehensive Plan was recognized by the Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association (TxAPA) with the 2002 Comprehensive Plan of the Year Award, presented in October 22, 2002, in El Paso, TX. This plan was also nominated for a national award from the American Planning Association.

Proclamation from City of New Braunfels for Service to the City, June 2002.

The Elizabeth Sterry Graduate Award for Excellence in Geography, 1995.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Planning Association (Alamo Area Chapter)
- American Institute of Certified Planners
- Association of American Geographers
- Urban Affairs Association
- Licensed Texas Real Estate Broker

SERVICE

- Continuous participation in Geography Program
- In conjunction with Dr. Nazgol Bagheri numerous geography recruiting presentations, 2015 to present
- Search Committee Member for Tenure Track Geography Professor, 2017
- Search Committee Member for Tenure Track Environmental Sciences Professor, 2016

- UTSA Provost's Teaching Initiative: Focus Group on Adjunct Teaching, 2015
- Member, Envision Central Texas Best Practices Committee
- Board of Directors, Comal County Water Recreation District #1, 1999-2001 term; Chairman of the Board, 2001- 2003
- Member, City of New Braunfels Planning Commission, 2000 - 2003.
- Member, City of New Braunfels Unified Development Code Steering Committee, 2002 – 2004
- Member, City of new Braunfels Subdivision Ordinance Review Committee, 2000 – 2003

REFERENCES

Dr. Richard Jones
Department of Political Science and Geography - UTSA
One UTSA Circle
San Antonio, Texas 78249
(210) 458-5612; Richard.jones@utsa.edu

Dr. Richard Earl
Department of Geography – Texas State University/San Marcos
601 University Drive
San Marcos, Texas 78666
(512) 245-3204; re02@txstate.edu

Dr. David Stea
Calle del Angel No. 1
Villa de los Frailes
San Miguel de Allende, Gto. CP 37700, Mexico
0115 241 515-45635; david.stea@gmail.com

Dr. Nazgol Bagheri
Department of Political Science and Geography – UTSA
One UTSA Circle
San Antonio, Texas 78249
(210) 458-8256; Nazgol.bagheri@utsa.edu

APPENDIX – REFLECTIVE ESSAY COMMENTS

- Transitioning from high school into college, undergoing 16 hours, was something I feared until I walked into Physical Geography that first day. Not often you meet a professor that is so passionate on what he is teaching. I was immediately intrigued for that whole hour and 15 minutes. From that day on, I knew there was no longer any reason I should feel fear, but instead feel inspired throughout the rest of the semester. From the start to the duration of the course, I studied countless of information about the world I had not known before, that I now manage to relate to when I walk outside... Not only has this class educated me, but it has inspired me in many ways. I am currently undeclared when it comes to my major but chose my classes to gear towards environmental science. That is something I plan to pursue outside of college. This class taught me the reality of the world and how I can apply knowledge to it.
- Finally, I can apply what I have learned from this class to my real world by educating my friends and family on important factors and steps we can take to help our earth be cleaner. I can use it way later in the future when I have my own family and take them on their own trips and explain to them how certain things were formed. I can explain why some places are hotter than others and also explain why rain is more frequent in the Southeast vs the Midwest. The different climates around the world are a factor of the equator and its location to it. I can also finally explain why there is seasons and the tilt is the reason for this...
- When my advisor signed me up for this course as one of my elective courses, I was not very excited because I did not have a clear idea of what the course was going to contain. I really thought that I was going to learn about the world's capitals again, the names of the rivers, seas, oceans, mountains, and continents. I also thought maybe I was going to learn about the geography of the different states in the country; something like what makes one state different from other states. I never thought that I was going to learn so much in this class. It was truly a moment of discovery and adventures for me since the very first chapter. Many of my classmates said that they re-learned the names of the different clouds, and they found that it was interesting. As for me, it was a complete discovery. I have never heard of them before this class. I came to United States as an adult from Madagascar. I completed all my education over there, and this was not what it is taught in Geography class. So, once again, it was complete discovery for me...
- This class has really opened my eyes to the real issues that are happening in our environment. Also my previous knowledge over this situation has made me want to put more of a effort in myself to make better choices concerning nature. Hopefully by me making the right steps I can hopefully encourage other college students to care and want to go green. Making these changes can and will change the environment for the better, while also setting a standard for how we want our future to be.
- ...To conclude, this **online** [my emphasis] course was very informative and entertaining. It was my first online class I have taken and I truly did enjoy the material and how it was all put together. I tried to stay on top of things but since it's summer and I have two jobs

it was a little difficult but nothing impossible. The blogs were a bit difficult for me since I'm not a good writer but the rest seemed very well. If I had the opportunity to take another course like this I would, it wasn't a disappointment at all. Learning about mother Earth is always exciting!

- ...Something that happened just yesterday that allowed me to share a piece of knowledge that I acquired during this class. I work at a summer camp that hires a fair few international staff. Many of them like to go to Enchanted Rock on their time off. We were talking about their experience and someone mentioned that it was, "just like a big rock". I was able to inform them that the landform is called a batholith. That a batholith forms under the ground but that erosion will eventually uncover the landform; which is what happened at Enchanted Rock...
- Though I have taken physical geography before during my elementary and middle school years, retaking it with an adult perspective has been one of the highlights of my summer as this class has broadened my point of view in regards to many issues that our nation faces currently—issues which are all equally important to all of us and the future of the Earth. Given that this class does not fall under my major, I did not start taking it seriously until I realized how much impact the material actually has on my everyday life, which made me realize that even though physical geography will never be my "expertise" so to speak; however, being well-educated on the issues this class covers—especially regarding global warming—is rather important in today's world as there are many misleading articles and sources out there about basically everything we have covered in this class. The class in general covered many interesting topics; however, my favorite ones were those that I could relate to global warming as it is something I care about a lot given my love for our environment and the beautiful nature that surrounds us—especially here, in Texas!
- There were many topics in this course that struck me as meaningful and relevant to my life.
- Taking this class has helped me appreciate the world around me and everything it has to offer. I hope continue to learn more about geography, and to be more involved in outdoor activities within my community. Since this is my last semester before I graduate I hope to use this information that I have learned and teach my students lessons relating to these topics. Even when I have a classroom of my own I hope that I can create fun and engaging lesson plans that will help students remember this material because geography is not appreciated as much as it should.
- What I found most meaningful to me throughout this course is the world we live in. Before I took this course I never appreciated nature and the outdoors, which is something that I appreciate now. Sometimes we just need to take a step back and just embrace the environment we live in and to be happy that we live in a place that is filled with opportunity.