

# Indiana University

## Department of Geography E-Newsletter

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 1

SPRING 2020

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Rebecca Lave 1

Ed Kanne 2

Babies 4

Sharif Wahab 5

Emma  
Freestone 6

Julio Postigo 7

Annie  
Shattuck 9



## Chair's Letter

Dear all,

I am sorry to be writing my first Chair's Letter under such circumstances.

Like much of the rest of the world, Bloomington has been under shelter-in-place conditions for several weeks now. K-12 schools and IU itself are no longer meeting in person, downtown is deserted, and even Kilroy's is closed. The businesses that are open (such as the farmers market, bookstores, and butcher shops), mostly no longer allow customers inside, but instead offer curbside pick-ups. Some undergraduates have returned, but far more have remained with their families; the main sounds in the neighborhoods around campus are bird songs. It's a far cry from the normal run-up to Little Five Hundred weekend.

I am pleased to report that Geography staff, faculty and students have responded to the pandemic with generosity and remarkable flexibility. With two weeks' notice, we reconfigured office work flows so our awesome front office staff, Susan and Kristi, could work from home; moved all teaching online (even environmental science labs and our foodways courses!); and set up structures to maintain community, such as weekly zoom coffee hours for our graduate students. I have heard many stories of kindness over the last few weeks, from the graduate student who loaned a laptop to one of their undergraduates, to the substantial financial donations flowing from faculty to local charities to assist the many Bloomington residents who are now out of work.

The transition to online learning has been difficult for many of our undergraduates. In my class this semester (Capitalism and Nature), a substantial proportion of the students do not have reliable internet access, and even some that do either do not have a computer at home or must share that computer with other members of their family. There has been extensive coverage nationally about the vastly different impacts of the corona virus by class; certainly, we are seeing it here at IU. If you are able to do so, this would be an excellent time to donate to IU's Student Emergency Fund (<https://iufoundation.iu.edu/video/emergency-fund/index.html>).

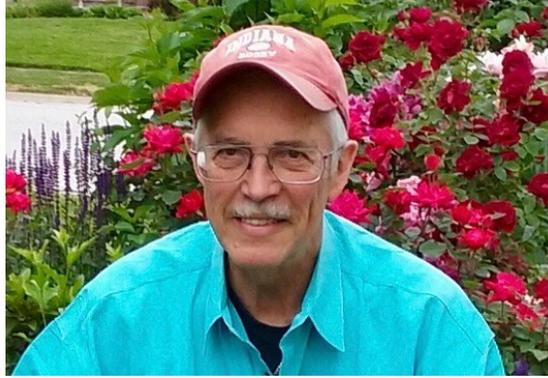
I hope that you and your loved ones are well.

Best wishes,

Rebecca Lave

Chair

## Alumni Spotlight: Ed Kanne



Dr. Ed Kanne received his BA and MA in the IU Department of Geography. For his Master's Degree he was advised by Professor McNulty and completed his MA in 1968 titled, Mossi Immigrant Locational Selectivity in Ghana. For his thesis he conducted library research from surrounding countries he had information on periodic migration moving across borders into

Ghana. He found out that people had relatives established in Ghana and the migrants from outside were sharing their abodes and moving back and forth. He chose Ghana because of the availability of data and his interest in migration. During his time at IU, Ed met his wife, Koula, in a microbiology class. They have now been married for 55 years.

After earning his Master's, Ed taught Geography courses. He taught Elements of Geography, World Regional Geography, and Physical Geography at Morton College in Cicero, Illinois, and at the Gregoriou School in Nicosia, Cyprus. Ed taught Physical and Biological Basis of Geography, Ordnance Survey Map Interpretation, Foundations of Geography of Europe, and Geography of the Middle East. Subsequently, he was accepted as a Doctoral Candidate at the University of Chicago and received his PhD in 1976 in Geography. His dissertation was on fresh food in Nicosia, Cyprus.

From 1977-1984, Ed was employed at Sears, Roebuck & Co. in the "Corporate Store Location Research Department," in Chicago in Sears Tower. He did field research and report writing on Geographic Market Analyses estimating sales potentials for opening new and relocating existing Sears stores in U.S. and Mexico markets. The reports included analysis of existing store sales, population size, and income levels by geographic zip code. Population growth and future sales estimates were weighed against existing store sales and retail competition in selected markets. Four-year sales estimates were made and written recommendations were given to top decision making management in Sears.

Between 1985-2005, Ed was appointed as a Warranted Contracting Officer in the Public Buildings Service, Great Lakes Region, U.S. General Services Administration in Chicago. His warrant included the acquisition of leasehold interest in property, the acquisition of buildings and sites, and the outleasing of space in buildings under GSA control. His work involved the negotiation,



**On Social  
Media?**

**Follow us!**

**Twitter:**

**@IUGeography**

**Facebook page:**

**IU Geography**

## Ed Kanne (cont.)

Ed is still involved in research on Cyprus. Most recently, on January 24, 2020, he participated in a team presentation to the University of Chicago Hellenic Student Association. The audience consisted of about 40 faculty and students at UChicago. The topic of the lecture was "The 1974 Turkish Invasion of Cyprus." They focused on eyewitness accounts of the invasion and the aftermath. The invasion killed 3000 people, created 1000 wounded refugees, and 200,000 were forced out of their homes and had to flee to the south of the island. Additionally, the Turkish invaders took another 2000 Greek cypriots as prisoners to Turkey and there are still 1600 people unaccounted for. From this moment to today, Turkey continues to occupy 37% of the northern part of the island. Ed's wife, Koula, his two daughters, and himself, related their firsthand experiences during the onset of the massive, brutal Turkish military invasion of the Island of Cyprus beginning July 20, 1974. They discussed the geography of devastation to the indigenous population, and to the religious and cultural heritage of the native Greek Cypriots. Current fact sheets were also distributed to the audience. By way of background, in 1973, Ed was a Doctoral Candidate in the University of Chicago Department of Geography. Having completed all course requirements for the Ph.D. Degree, his advisor suggested he do on-site original research in Cyprus for his dissertation. He took this advice, and moved with his family to Aglantzia, Cyprus. With the help of the Cyprus Ministry of Finance, he was given access to Nicosia wholesale produce market receipts that provided insight into the spatial structure of the horticultural hinterland. They hired 15 students to codify the receipts data on origin, produce type, weight, and price. Near completion of the research, the Turks invaded Cyprus, and Ed and his family were evacuated by the U.S. Marines and the USS Coronado to Beirut, Lebanon. His sister-in-law and her husband loaded 6 trunks of codified IBM cards into their car while Turkish tanks were advancing on their town; thereby rescuing the research data that was then sent to Ed so that he was then able to complete his statistical analyses for his Ph.D. dissertation.

One of Ed's favorite memories from IU's Geography department is befriending a fellow graduate student from Nigeria, Sidon Angaya. Sidon was not only a good friend to Ed, but also provided timely assistance in formulating the statistical analysis of the migration data for his Master's thesis.

## Department Babies!

Over the past year the department has seen multiple faculty and staff and their partners have babies!

Abigail Ficklin  
Parents: Darren Ficklin & Leslie Fasone  
Date of Birth: June 12, 2018



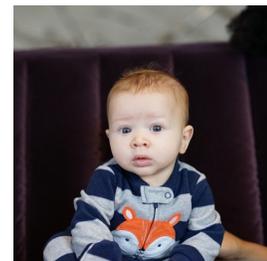
Aadhil Daya Ashutosh  
Name of parents: Ishan & Nishanie Ashutosh  
Date of birth: January 7, 2019

Wren Elena Villalobos Baeten  
Parents: John Baeten & Tesa Villalobos  
Date of Birth: May 9, 2019



Gillian Darby Vaughn  
Parents: Rebecca Butorac & Zachary Vaughn  
Date of Birth: April 9, 2019

Maxwell Waldman  
Parents: Kurt & Jessica Waldman  
Date of Birth: August 23, 2019



*Find your  
home in  
Geography*

## Graduate Student Spotlight: Sharif Wahab



Sharif Wahab is a second year doctoral student in the Department of Geography at Indiana University, Bloomington. He started the program in fall 2018 with Dr. Ishan Ashutosh and is working on his minor in Anthropology with Dr. Sara Friedman. His focus in the department is on Cities, Development, and Justice, but more specifically on forced displacement and migration in South Asia. His research follows refugees across imagined regional borders from Southeast Asia to South Asia.

Sharif completed a dual Masters in International Development and Environmental Studies at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio on a Fulbright. His MA work on low-income urban residents in Dhaka is what forwarded Sharif's interests in forced and voluntary migration as he realized that the urban stories of this population were connected to their stories of migration.

The current paper that Sharif is working on focuses on the intersection of governmentality and uneven mobility in the urban space and the refugee camps in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. Next summer Sharif will be continuing his fieldwork in Bangladesh on a grant from the Tobias Center for Innovation in International Development. During his fieldwork he will be examining how humanitarian crises can transform into development crises over a period of protracted displacement.

Aside from coursework and research, Sharif enjoys watching movies, cooking curries, and hanging out with friends. He is currently serving as the international ambassador for graduate students as well as a member of the graduate student diversity committee. As part of a collaborative team, he is working to develop educational materials for international graduate students for the Test of English Proficiency for Associate Instructor Candidates (TEPAIC), a mandatory test for international Associate Instructors to qualify for teaching in the class.

## Undergraduate Student Spotlight: Emma Freestone



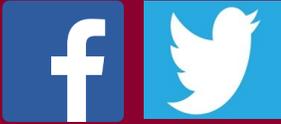
Emma Freestone is a senior at Indiana University doing a double major in Geography and Environmental and Sustainability Studies and a minor in Spanish. Her concentration in Geography is GIS and Remote Sensing while her concentration in Environmental and Sustainability Studies is Sustainable Food Systems. Together her interests and degrees are leading up to her thesis this semester with Olga Kalentzidou. She decided on her thesis topic during her second semester of her

junior year while she was taking Olga's Food and Poverty class. In the class they worked with Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM) as a direct service learning project. There Emma and the class learned about social benefits and the eligibility requirements for them which acted as a point of interest and departure for her thesis.

Emma is from Danville, Indiana, but born in Chester, England, and came to IU to follow her interests after she took a gap year after high school. During her gap year she traveled Spain and England and worked on an organic farm in Cornwall. Her host mother was an agricultural engineer and through this time farming she realized the importance of sustainability. Through her experience on the farm she decided that she wanted to study geography and the environment, and then applied to IU's Geography program.

As a freshman Emma received a scholarship through the IU Office of Sustainability as a sustainability scholar with Brian Forist. Last year Emma was awarded the Paul W. and Marie K. Bauman Endowed Scholarship through the IU Department of Geography. She has taken classes with Rebecca Lave (Environment and Society) where she learned about mixed methods and the way that society and the environment are interlaced, Taehee Hwang (GIS), Olga Kalentzidou (Food and Poverty), Darren Ficklin (Water in the Midwest), and Ishan Ashutosh (Urban Geography).

Emma is expected to graduate in Spring 2020 and has applied to the Peace Corps in Paraguay to join after graduation. In the future she wants to use GIS as a tool to educate people about the complexities of food systems. She imagines finding a career in a non-profit, city, or anyplace that is working to solve the issues that she is passionate about. In her spare time, Emma enjoys ballroom dancing, Latin dancing (Bachata, Salsa, Rumba), swing dancing, playing the ukulele and mandolin.



On Social

Media?

Follow us!

Twitter:

@IUGeography

Facebook page:

IU Geography

## New Faculty Spotlight: Julio Postigo



Photograph of focus group with Cambodian women farmers

Dr. Julio Postigo joined the IU Department of Geography in Fall 2019. His work focuses on nature-society relations. His three projects that he is working on are keeping him busy during his time in geography. His first project researches indigenous and local knowledge in the southern Andes of Bolivia and Peru. For this project he searches for answers on how indigenous knowledge is produced and generated, particularly knowledge used for making decisions to manage risks. Observations of biological and astronomical indicators provide inputs. After identifying the input, Julio examines the ways that knowledge (outputs) is then created and how this knowledge has the form of weather forecast. These predictions can be both long and short-term (farming season or extreme weather events). In examining the way that the outputs are produced, Julio notices that there are both individual and collective components in creating an output. Through these outputs that make forecasts, the indigenous Aymara knowledge of the Bolivian Altiplano has been very successful and recognized by other communities and even national authorities.

The second project that Julio is working on is his oldest project. For this he asks how herders in the high Andean region have been responding to climatic, political, and social changes. Through this question, Julio looks at how the vegetation at high altitude (above 4200masl or 13780ft) is responding to glacial retreat as the largest Tropical glacial ice cap in the world is retreating. Over spring break, Julio will be returning to the region to collect data and see how the vegetation is responding over a ten-year period of data collection. Julio is also interested in social and human components of this pastoral social-ecological system, specifically, how the Peruvian herders have been coping and responding to these changes (climatic, political, and economic). In this project, Julio believes that all types of the changes are important though climate change usually dominates the agenda whereas the others are often left aside or forgotten. But in reality, they are all quite interlinked.

Julio's third project at this time is on understanding how changes in the flood regime of the Mekong River are impacting Cambodian farmers and how cascading impacts are both affecting their farming systems and changing household dynamics through rural to urban migration to generate income and pay off debts farmers have acquired from purchasing chemical fertilizers. These anthropogenic changes are not only disturbing and changing the flood regime of the Mekong, but they are also establishing new patterns of remittances.

## New Faculty Spotlight: Julio Postigo (cont.)

Finally, Julio's last project is a slow-moving project that questions how rural organizations in Colombia are participating in the post-peace agreement process and how that participation influences the outcomes and the implementation of the agreement. Through this Julio hopes to analyze the organizations' dynamics over a transect of institutional heterogeneity marked by FARC's type of presence.

Before arriving to IU, Julio received his BA in Anthropology from the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú. As an undergrad he participated in a multidisciplinary team studying micro watersheds in the Peruvian Andes as a research assistant. This led to his interest in interdisciplinary work. He also worked for eight years with NGOs doing research and working with peasants and herders in the Peruvian Andes and with peasant organizations. For this work he conducted development project to improve local development. He also provided support and suggestions Agrarian unions for their political and policy organizations. In the context of the US-Peru Free Trade Agreement, this work included mechanisms to protect Peruvian farmers of unfair competition against subsidized American farmers. He then came to the United States to complete his MA in Latin American Studies at the University of Texas, Austin, and PhD in Geography from the University of Texas, Austin. After completing a postdoc, Julio returned to Peru and directed two projects with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. The first was on evaluating the impacts of climate change on crop yield and food security, and the second was on how government actions and policies strengthen or weaken the resilience of farming systems after El Nino and the coffee rust.

During his time at IU, Julio teaches Environment and Society (G208) and Human Dimensions of Global and Environmental Change (G461/G561) and directs the PhD minor on Human Dimensions of Global and Environmental Change. In his spare time, Julio enjoys relaxing with jigsaw puzzles and watching movies as well as following his curiosity and researching to understand how inequality and access to land and labor force are changing in rural areas. Julio loves how the department is growing and how sub disciplines and strands of geography here overlap with each other which creates an open space for collaboration and interdisciplinary work. Julio's favorite part about Bloomington so far is how anything is reachable within a ten-minute drive. After coming from Lima, Peru and Chicago, enjoys not spending lots of time in traffic and travelling to and from work.

**Find your  
home in  
Geography**

## New Faculty Spotlight: Annie Shattuck

Dr. Annie Shattuck joined the IU Department of Geography in Fall 2019. As a recent graduate from the University of California, Berkeley, her work focuses on food politics, agrarian change and rural health both in the US and internationally.

Her current project tracks the changes to environments and health as small scale farmers converted to commercial agriculture in Northern Laos. Fifteen years ago, Laos was among the world's lowest per capita pesticide users – and in some areas use came up to 2-3x recommended application rates in a single decade. Her work tracks the agrarian changes that emerged in Northern Laos as diverse upland rice production shifted to monoculture maize destined for feedlots in China and Vietnam. She looks at the interaction of social marginalization, economic change and exposure of pesticide applicators. Using biomonitoring data from small scale farming communities, her work also illustrates the politics of knowledge around the effects of pesticides and the relative invisibility of exposed workers and environments in the Global South.

Her US based work on food systems examines how ideals like food sovereignty and food justice are grounded and institutionalized, and how environmentally friendly farming practices are supported politically. She recently co-edited a book, *Food Sovereignty: Concept, Practice and Social Movements* that assembles experiences from social movement, racial justice and indigenous groups from the US and globally to tackle major theoretical and practical issues for both scholars and organizers. Her past work in this theme includes both research and practice with food policy councils and food justice organizing.

Annie received her BA in Environmental Studies from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and her PhD in Geography from the University of California Berkeley. Over the last ten years, Annie has kept a foot in the non-profit world, as a fellow for Food First/Institute for Food and Development Policy in Oakland, California, and through work with sustainable agriculture extension in Southeast Asia.

Annie currently teaches Food and Poverty in America, a service-learning class, and the senior capstone seminar in the Department of Geography. Both classes are project-oriented classes that allow students to pursue practical work in the world and to reflect on it critically and conceptually.

Outside of work, Annie is an obsessive gardener. She is excited about planting Indiana native fruit and nut trees with the Bloomington Neighborhood Planting Project. From her time so far in Bloomington, she enjoys the sense of community and the small-town feel.