

Hi Y'all:

Here are more major achievements by our faculty and students. Please join me in congratulating the following for their successes:

1) Congratulations are in order for Xiaobai (Angela) Yao who has received a grant of \$12k from the National Geographic Society for her project "Investigating urban spatial transformation in post-reform Beijing, China". This is great news as it will allow Xiaobai to begin her exciting project this summer and hopefully come up with results that will allow her to obtain additional funding for a longer-term study. Well done Xiaobai!!!!

2) Scott Markwith (major prof. K. C. Parker) received funding for further dissertation data collection/analysis from the Biogeography Specialty Group of the AAG. He is working on genetic variability and patterns of gene flow in shoals spider lily, a threatened plant species that inhabits shoals habitats in several Piedmont drainages in the Southeast. Congratulations Scott!!

3) Kathy C. Parker received an REU (research experience for undergraduate) NSF award to supplement her NSF funded project on genetic variability in a columnar cactus species cultivated by traditional agriculturalists in Mexico. It will support one undergraduate student to assist with the project this summer. Well done Kathy again!!

4) Christian Allen has been invited to attend the 2006 Summer Institute in Economic Geography (SIEG) at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. This is a real honor for Chris and he deserves our congratulations on being recognized for his work in the field of economic geography. High fives!

5) Last but by no means least, our own Al J. Parker, Associate Head, will receive the prestigious "Lothar Tresp Outstanding Honors Professor Award". This award recognizes Al's superior performance and dedication as a teacher in the Honors Program. He will receive the award at this year's Honors Program Banquet; it comes with a check for \$750. Well done Al, this recognition is much deserved.

6) Heather Bartley is a winner of the Graduate School Dean's Award Program, given to graduate students in the Social Sciences. She will receive \$1000 to help defray the cost of doing research.

Your humble servant,  
George A. Brook  
Interim Head