

# 2012 Annual Report

## Spatial Analysis and Modeling (SAM) Specialty Group

### The Association of American Geographers

#### I. Mission Statement

Our mission is to foster and maintain interaction, cooperation and community among individuals interested in the analysis of geo-referenced data, modeling of spatio-temporal processes and the use of analytical and computational techniques in solving geographic problems. The specialty group promotes the scientific study of physical, environmental and socioeconomic geography and the development, use and teaching of analytical cartography, geographic information systems (GIS), remote sensing, spatial statistical, mathematical and computational techniques for spatial analysis.

#### II. Membership Dues

Regular: \$6 (effective August 2011)

Student: \$1

#### III. Board

<i>Chair</i>	Li An, San Diego State University, 2012-2015
<i>Vice-chair/treasurer</i>	Fang Qiu, University of Texas at Dallas, 2010-2013
<i>Board members</i>	Yongwan Chun, University of Texas at Dallas, 2012-2015
	Changjoo Kim, University of Cincinnati, 2010-2013
	Joni Downs, University of South Florida, 2011-2014
<i>Student representative</i>	Dan Runfola, Clark University, 2011-2014

#### Board member responsibilities

Each SAM Board member will take the leadership of a particular aspect of SAM business. Among the current board members, Vice Chair and Treasurer Fang Qiu and Board member Dan Runfola are mainly responsible for overseeing elections, Board member Yongwan Chun edits SAM Newsletter, and Board member Joni Downs is in charge of organizing student paper competition, and Board member Changjoo Kim is responsible for organizing SAM meeting and SAM-sponsored sessions based on submitted abstracts to each AAG annual meeting. SAM Chair Li An is responsible for maintaining SAM website, reporting to AAG Council, facilitating nomination of SAM plenary speaker, and other issues.

#### IV. Accomplishments, Activities, Future Plans and Directions

##### *Activities Scheduled*

There were several SAM-related activities held at the recent 2012 AAG meeting in New York. SAM was quite visible, sponsoring or co-sponsoring 70 sessions. In conjunction with the journal of *Geographical Analysis*, SAM sponsored a plenary session and Robert Haining delivered the plenary talk on “Space-time modelling to support local policing.” SAM has also successfully organized three student paper sessions.

### *Changes of SAM Business*

SAM has elected two board members: Li An as SAM Chair (to replace outgoing Chair Ningchuan Xiao) and Yongwan Chun as board member (to replace outgoing board member Eric Delmelle). SAM thanks Ningchuan Xiao and Eric Delmelle for their great service in the past three years.

According to an earlier decision made by the SAM business meeting at Seattle (2011), a two issue model (Pre- and Post-AAG issues) was adopted. The SAM Specialty Group has published two issues of newsletter in 2012, which can be found at <http://sam-aag.sdsu.edu/newsletters.html> (including all past issues).

A third potential change is the initiation of SAM Specialty Group Outstanding Service Award. Li An (SAM Chair) initiated the discussion within SAM Board in 2012 to set up SAM Specialty Group Outstanding Service Award, which is used to recognize SAM members who have substantially contributed to SAM service. With positive feedback, the SAM Board suggested that this issue be discussed and approved in 2013 business meeting at Los Angeles.

### *Student Paper Awards*

The first prize of SAM student paper competition was given to Elizabeth Delmelle from University of North Carolina at Charlotte (title: The Reciprocal Relationships of Neighborhood Quality of Life Dynamics: A Structural Equation Modeling Approach). The second prize was shared by two students: Ran Wei from Arizona State University (title: Spatial Uncertainty in Forest Management Planning) and Kangping Si from Clark University (title: A new method for multiple-threshold map comparison and accuracy assessment). The third prize was awarded to Xingjian Liu from University of Cambridge (title: Modeling the Interlocking World City Network with Exponential Random Graph (p\*) Models).

### *Plans for the 2013 Annual Meeting in Los Angeles*

We have received requests for SAM sponsorship on many paper sessions for the 2013 Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, California. In conjunction with the journal of *Geographical Analysis*, SAM will again sponsor a plenary session to be delivered by Morton O’Kelly from The Ohio State University.

SAM has devoted much effort in encouraging students to submit their work to SAM student paper competitions. We will keep our momentum and continue our effort to recruit both graduate and undergraduate students to participate in the competition.

### *Future Plans and Directions*

SAM will continue to foster the development and application of spatial analytic methods per its mission statement, and reach out to other AAG specialty groups to develop cross-group thematic paper sessions. SAM will continue to encourage both graduate and undergraduate students to participate in AAG meetings, through various forms including student paper competitions. SAM will also seek collaboration with other AAG specialty groups in organizing annual meeting events.

## V. Membership and Participation

Membership numbers:

Year	Number of members		Access date	Source
	Total	Non-students		
2012	619*		Nov. 20	SAM Knowledge Community
2011	987**	459	Nov. 3	AAG SG Website
2010	869	381	Apr. 13	AAG SG Website
2009	804	350	Oct. 15	AAG SG Website
2008	722	327	Apr. 8	AAG SG Website
2007	708	327	Mar. 1	AAG SG Website
2006	750	413	Feb. 1	AAG SG Website
2005	716			AAG SG Website
2004	200			
2003	427			
2002	366			
2001	261			
2000	204			
1999	219			
1998	244			
1997	285			
1996	339			
1995	309			

\*Many reasons could account for this decrease in number of members, e.g., different data source, SAM due increase;

\*\*721 at the end of 2011 according to Greg Osburn, AAG IT Coordinator

## VI. Financial Information

Spatial Analysis and Modeling Specialty Group

Date	Description	Receipts	Disbursements	Balance
<i>8/31/10</i>	<i>Balance forward</i>			<i>\$ 3,314.44</i>
9/30/10	Dues collected for September 2010	100.00		3,414.44
10/31/10	Jaquez - AM 2011 Registration		(265.00)	3,149.44
10/31/10	Dues collected for October 2010	329.00		3,478.44
11/30/10	Dues collected for November 2010	164.00		3,642.44
12/31/10	Dues collected for December 2010	83.00		3,725.44
1/31/11	Dues collected for January 2011	155.00		3,880.44
2/11/11	Void Ck#12570 Liu - reissue	150.00		4,030.44
2/11/11	Liu - reissue student paper award check		(150.00)	3,880.44
2/9/11	Transfer to support Space-Time Symposium		(500.00)	3,380.44
2/28/11	Dues collected for February 2011	54.00		3,434.44
3/31/11	Dues collected for March 2011	97.00		3,531.44
4/15/11	Zhang - Student paper competition		(300.00)	3,231.44
4/15/11	Zhou - Student Paper Competition		(500.00)	2,731.44
4/16/11	Widener - 3rd Pl. Student paper Award		(200.00)	2,531.44
4/16/11	AM 2011 Awards Luncheon Tickets		(110.00)	2,421.44
4/30/11	Dues collected for April 2011	119.00		2,540.44
5/31/11	Dues collected for May 2011	52.00		2,592.44
6/30/11	Dues collected for June 2011	63.00		2,655.44
7/31/11	Dues collected for July 2011	93.00		2,748.44
8/31/11	Dues collected for August 2011	164.00		2,912.44
8/31/11	Balance			<u>\$ 2,912.44</u>
<i>8/31/11</i>	<i>Balance forward</i>			<i>\$ 2,912.44</i>
9/30/11	Haining - AM 2012 Conf. Reg.		(420.00)	2,492.44
9/30/11	Dues collected for Sept. 2011	347.00		2,839.44
10/31/11	Dues collected for Oct. 2011	233.00		3,072.44
11/30/11	Dues collected for Nov. 2011	162.00		3,234.44
12/31/11	Dues collected for Dec. 2011	175.00		3,409.44
1/31/12	Dues collected for Jan 2012	224.00		3,633.44
2/6/12	SAMSG sponsorship for Goodchild reception		(500.00)	3,133.44
2/27/12	AM 2012 luncheon		(220.00)	2,913.44
2/27/12	Liu - Student Paper Competition		(150.00)	2,763.44
2/27/12	Wei - Student Paper Competition		(250.00)	2,513.44
2/27/12	Si - Student Paper Competition		(250.00)	2,263.44
2/27/12	Delmelle - Student Paper Competition		(350.00)	1,913.44
2/29/12	Dues collected for Feb 2012	203.00		2,116.44
3/31/12	Dues collected for Mar 2012	120.00		2,236.44
4/30/12	Dues collected for Apr 2012	149.00		2,385.44
5/31/12	Dues collected for May 2012	132.00		2,517.44
6/30/12	Dues collected for June 2012	127.00		2,644.44
7/31/12	Dues collected for July 2012	76.00		2,720.44
8/31/12	Dues collected for Aug 2012	154.00		2,874.44
<b>8/31/12</b>	<b>Balance</b>			<u><b>2,874.44</b></u>
<i>8/31/12</i>	<i>Balance forward</i>			<i>\$ 2,874.44</i>
9/21/12	O'Kelly - AM 2013 reg for speaker		(295.00)	2,579.44
9/30/12	Dues collected for Sept 2012	114.00		2,693.44
10/31/12	Dues collected for Oct 2012	556.00		3,249.44

We believe SAM has maintained a healthy balance sheet and undertaken various tasks effectively under its mission. We thank all SAM members and AAG leadership for their support in the past years, and look forward to serving the SAM community joyfully in the years to come.

This report has been compiled using a template that was modified from the 2011 report (by previous SAM Chair Dr. Ningchuan Xiao); SAM board members and AAG officers/staff Patricia Solis, Greg Osbur, and Michelle Ledoux have provided relevant data. We thank all of them for the great help.

Respectfully submitted,

Li An  
Chair, SAMSG, AAG  
November 20, 2012