

2019 Annual Report
Spatial Analysis and Modeling (SAM) Specialty Group

1. 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, remote sensing, spatial statistical, mathematical, and computational techniques for spatial analysis.

2. Membership Due

Regular: \$6, Student: \$1

3. Board

Chair	Yongwan Chun, The University of Texas at Dallas, 2019–2022
Vice chair/treasurer	Eric Delmelle, The University of North Carolina at Charlotte, 2017–2020
Board members	Wei Kang, The University of California, Riverside, 2019–2022 Hyun Kim, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2019–2022 Qunshan Zhao, The University of Glasgow, 2018–2021
Student representative	Jimmy Feng, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2019–2021

Board member responsibilities

Each SAM Board member takes the leadership of a particular aspect of SAM business. Among the current board members, Vice Chair and Treasurer Eric Delmelle coordinates the annual SAM Plenary Lecture. Board member Qunshan Zhao is responsible for coordinating student travel awards and is also the SAM Newsletter Editor. Board member Wei Kang is responsible for maintaining the SAM website and coordinating work related to the SAM Emerging Scholar Award. Board member Hyun Kim is in charge of organizing the student paper competition. Student representative Jimmy Feng is responsible for overseeing SAM elections and maintenance of SAM social media pages. SAM Chair Yongwan Chun is responsible for coordinating work related to the SAM Outstanding Service Award, reporting to the AAG Council, organizing SAM meetings, sponsoring sessions at AAG meetings, and other related issues.

4. Accomplished, Activities, Future Plans and Directions

Activities Scheduled

There were many SAM-related activities held at the 2019 AAG meeting in Washington, D.C. SAM was quite visible, (co-)sponsoring 64 sessions. In conjunction with *Geographical Analysis*, SAM sponsored a plenary session in which Alan Murray delivered the plenary lecture titled “Spatial Analysis and Modeling: Analytics and Spatial Data Science”. SAM also successfully organized two sessions of the SAM student paper competition and presented the John Odland Award to the winners.

Changes of the SAM Business

Carson Farmer stepped down as Chair in March 2019 and following the bylaws, Yongwan Chun succeeded Farmer as Chair. Yongwan will serve the remainder of the past-chair's term and his own term, which ends in 2022. Eric Delmelle was subsequently elected as Vice Chair following the vacancy of the position upon Yongwan's appointment as Chair. Wei Kang and Hyun Kim were elected as new board members (to replace Carson Farmer and outgoing board member Daoqin Tong), and Jimmy Feng was elected as student board member (to fill the position which was empty after the previous representative Alex Hohl's departure). SAM thanks Carson Farmer, Daoqin Tong, and Alex Hohl for their great service to the SAM community.

Student Paper Awards

We presented three awards and one honorable mention in 2019. They are as below:

- First prize: Meifang Li (SunYat-sen University & Dartmouth College), title: Modeling of Communicable Disease Transmissions with Real Human Mobility and Disease Data
- Second prize: James Gaboardi (Florida State University), title: A Polygon-Based Approach to Spatial Network Allocation
- Third prize: Nastaran Pourebrahim (University of North Carolina at Greensboro), title: Modeling Trip Distribution using Twitter data and Machine Learning
- Honorable mention: Jarnardan Mainali (Portland State University)

Plans for the 2020 Annual Meeting in Denver

SAM has sponsored numerous sessions at the 2020 AAG meeting and we expect to sponsor more sessions. In conjunction with *Geographical Analysis*, SAM will again sponsor a plenary session. SAM has devoted much effort to encourage students to submit their research 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. We plan to give an Emerging Scholar Award, an Outstanding Service Award, and multiple Student Travel Awards.

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 and travel awards. Additionally, SAM will continue to encourage our members to nominate emerging scholar and service awards. SAM will also seek collaboration with other AAG specialty groups in organizing annual meeting events that are of mutual interest.

5. Membership and Participation

As of October 24, 2019, there are 887 SAM members, making SAM the 4th largest AAG special group. Members are encouraged to participate in SAM activities including sessions at the AAG meetings, SAM board elections (which are done electronically), and SAM business meetings. They are also encouraged to share their research activities, achievements, and related information with other SAM members.

6. Financial Information

8/31/18	Balance forward		\$ 3,629.69
9/30/18	Dues collected for Sept 2018	441.00	4,070.69
10/31/18	Dues collected for Oct 2018	613.00	4,683.69
11/30/18	Dues collected for Nov 2018	148.00	4,831.69
12/31/18	Dues collected for Dec 2018	117.00	4,948.69
1/31/19	Dues collected for Jan 2019	209.00	5,157.69
2/28/19	Dues collected for Feb 2019	72.00	5,229.69
3/8/19	Farmer - reimbursement for the SAM website maintenance	(168.00)	5,061.69
3/31/19	Dues collected for March 2019	183.00	5,244.69
4/12/19	Chun - reimbursement for certificates, plaque, and AM19 breakfast	(206.66)	5,038.03
4/15/19	Shadrova - Travel Award	(250.00)	4,788.03
4/15/19	Gaboardi - 2nd Place John Odland Paper Award	(300.00)	4,488.03
4/15/19	Li - 1st Place John Odland Paper Award	(500.00)	3,988.03
4/15/19	Pourebrahim - 3rd Place John Odland Paper Award	(200.00)	3,788.03
4/15/19	Gaboardi - Travel Award	(250.00)	3,538.03
4/15/19	Pourebrahim - Travel Award	(250.00)	3,288.03
4/15/19	Jung - Travel Award	(250.00)	3,038.03
4/15/19	Liang - Travel Award	(250.00)	2,788.03
4/30/19	Dues collected for April 2019	90.00	2,878.03
5/31/19	Dues collected for May 2019	94.00	2,972.03
6/30/19	Dues collected for June 2019	68.00	3,040.03
7/31/19	Dues collected for July 2019	99.00	3,139.03
8/31/19	Dues collected for August 2019	90.00	3,229.03
8/31/19	Balance		<u><u>3,229.03</u></u>

Note:

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 2017 report. SAM board members and an AAG officer have provided relevant data. We thank all of them for the great help.

Respectfully submitted,
Yongwan Chun
Chair, SAM SG, AAG
October 28, 2019