



**The American Association of Geographers
Spatial Analysis and Modeling Specialty Group Newsletter
2021**
<http://sam-aag.org/>

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FROM THE CHAIR

Dear SAM Members,

The 2021 AAG Annual Meeting is just around corner. The SAM SG sponsors 27 sessions that covers various theoretical and substantial topics, which will be held in virtual format. We look forward to SAM related events including the SAM Plenary Lecture in cooperation with *Geographical Analysis* and John Odland Award competition. Also, there will be a transition in SAM board.

First, the SAM Plenary Lecture will be at 9:35am (Pacific Standard Time) on Thursday (4/8/2021). Our Plenary speaker is Prof. Sergio Rey from University of California, Riverside this year. His 2020 Plenary Lecture was canceled; thus, the SAM board and the GA editor have requested him to give his lecture this year. The SAM board hopes that many SAM members can virtually join the lecture.

Second, there will be a transition on the SAM board as the 3-year term of Qunshan Zhao (University of Glasgow) ends this year. Also, the 2-year term of student member Jimmy Feng (University of Tennessee at Knoxville) expires this year. We sincerely appreciate their great service during their tenure. Qunshan was the SAM newsletter editor for the last 2 years and Jimmy was in charge of the SAM Facebook page among many other services. The elections for these two positions have been conducted and newly elected members will be announced in the SAM Business meeting, which will be at 11:10am (PST) on Thursday (4/8/2021).

Third, the session for John Odland Award competition (SAM student paper competition) will be at 1:30pm (PST) also on Thursday. I would like to thank Hyun Kim (University of Tennessee) for his dedication to organize the competition. I also thank reviewers who generously have agreed to serve for the competition.

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I will look forward to meeting you virtually at the sessions and events. If you have any suggestions and comments to better serve the SAM community, please let any SAM board members know.

Best wishes,



Yongwan Chun
Chair, Spatial Analysis and Modeling Specialty Group
Associate Professor, The University of Texas at Dallas

AWARDS



Dr. Li An, former chair of the AAG SAM Group, has been nominated and elected as a Fellow of The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in November 2020, a lifetime distinction awarded to leading scientists across the world. Dr. An was recognized for his "distinguished contributions to complex human-environmental systems theory and methodological breakthroughs in modeling human decisions, agent-based modeling, land survival & latent trajectory analysis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2021 Plenary Speaker

Dr. Sergio Rey
Plenary Presentation Title:
"Big Code"



Dr. Sergio Rey has been selected by the SAM Specialty Group and the Editor of Geographical Analysis as the 2021 Plenary Speaker.

Dr. Sergio Rey is Professor in the School of Public Policy and Founding Director of the Center for Geospatial Sciences at UCR. Rey's research interests focus on the development, implementation, and application of advanced methods of spatial and space-time data analysis.

His substantive foci include regional inequality, convergence and growth dynamics as well as neighborhood change, segregation dynamics, spatial criminology and industrial networks. Recent and current research projects include geodemographic approaches to neighborhoods in space-time contexts (NSF), new methods for spatial distribution dynamics (NSF), an analysis of the relationships between spatial linkages and urban economic dynamics (EDA), flexible geospatial visual analytics and simulation technologies to enhance criminal justice decision support systems (NIJ), spatial analytical framework for examining community sex offender residency issues over space and time (NSF), and cyberGIS software integration for sustained geospatial innovation (NSF). Rey is the creator and lead developer of the open-source package STARS: Space-Time Analysis of Regional Systems as well as co-founder and lead developer of PySAL: A Python Library for Spatial Analysis. He is an elected fellow of the Regional Science Association International, a fellow of the Spatial Econometrics Association, and has served as the Editor of the International Regional Science Review from 1999-2014, editor of Geographical Analysis 2014-2017, and the president of the Western Regional Science Association.

SAM-SPONSORED SESSIONS AT 2021 AAG MEETING

Spatial Analysis and Modeling (SAM) Flagship Sessions

[Spatial Analysis and Modeling \(SAM\) / Geographical Analysis Plenary](#)

[The John Odland Award SAM Student Paper Competition](#)

[Spatial Analysis and Modeling Specialty Group Business Meeting](#)

Symposium on Human Dynamics Research

[Symposium on Human Dynamics Research: Modeling Human Dynamics in Coupled Natural-Human Systems I](#)

[Symposium on Human Dynamics Research: Modeling Human Dynamics in Coupled Natural-Human Systems II](#)

[Symposium on Human Dynamics Research: Mining Human Dynamics with Big Data & Spatio-Temporal Analysis](#)

[Symposium on Human Dynamics Research: Mapping, Modeling and Prediction with VGI](#)

Urban Data Science

[Urban Data Science: Theories, Methods, Models, and Applications for Our Changing Cities I](#)

[Urban Data Science: Theories, Methods, Models, and Applications for Our Changing Cities II](#)

Geospatial Health Symposium

[Geospatial Health Symposium 8: Geography and Substance Use 1](#)

[Geospatial Health Symposium 9: Geography and Substance Use 2](#)

[Geospatial Health Symposium 12 and Symposium on Human Dynamics Research: Advances in Dynamic Environmental Exposure, Mobility Patterns, and Health Outcomes](#)

[Geospatial Health Symposium 13: Advances in Computational Approaches for Geospatial Health Applications - Environmental Health](#)

[Geospatial Health Symposium 14: Advances in Computational Approaches for Geospatial Health Applications - Methods](#)

[Geospatial Health Symposium 15: Advances in Computational Approaches for Geospatial Health Applications - Accessibility](#)

[Geospatial Health Symposium 16: Advances in Computational Approaches for Geospatial Health Applications - COVID-19](#)

[Geospatial Health Symposium 17 and Symposium on Human Dynamics Research: Advances in Dynamic Environmental Exposure, Mobility Patterns, and Health Outcomes](#)

Spatial Statistics

[Spatial statistics: spatial scale and heterogeneity](#)

[Spatial statistics: Uncertainties in georeferenced data](#)

Other Emerging Topics

[Towards Computational Praxis for Social Justice II](#)

[Innovations in Remote Sensing for Human-Environment Interactions](#)

[Spatial and spatial-temporal analysis for public health](#)

[Synthesizing quantitative and qualitative understandings of deforestation drivers and solutions in protected areas in the Amazon](#)

[Open Source Data for Assessing Vulnerabilities, Risk & Resilience](#)

[Transformative pedagogies: VR and AR for online, blended and experiential learning post-Covid](#)

[GIS methods to analyze land change](#)

INFORMATION

Spatial Analysis and Modeling (SAM) Specialty Group

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, GIS, remote sensing, spatial statistical, mathematical and computational techniques for spatial analysis. For more information, see the SAM-SG homepage (<http://sam-aag.org/>).

Membership Dues

Regular: \$6

Student: \$1

Submissions

This newsletter reaches a large number of readers and is therefore an excellent venue for getting the word out on community news, departmental happenings, research findings, media appearances, and the like. It is also a good place to post calls for proposals, awards, grants, fellowships, and jobs. We also invite you to submit commentaries or features of broad interest to specialty group members.

The newsletter relies on volunteers to submit articles, so please take a moment to send along relevant items when they are solicited.

Officers

Chair

Yongwan Chun

School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences
University of Texas at Dallas

Email: ywchun@utdallas.edu

Term expires: 2022

Vice Chair/Treasurer

Daoqin Tong

School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning

Arizona State University

Email: Daoqin.Tong@asu.edu

Term expires: 2024

Board Members

Qunshan Zhao

School of Social and Political Sciences
University of Glasgow
Email: Qunshan.Zhao@glasgow.ac.uk
Term expires: 2021

Hyun Kim

Department of Geography
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Email: hkim56@utk.edu
Term expires: 2022

Wei Kang

School of Public Policy
University of California, Riverside
Email: weikang@ucr.edu
Term expires: 2022

Student Representative

Jimmy Feng

Department of Geography
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Email: jfeng12@utk.edu
Term expires: 2021