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APPLYING TO THE GRADUATE PROGRAM IN GEOGRAPHY AT CU-BOULDER

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THE GRADUATE PROGRAM IN GEOGRAPHY

The graduate program of the Department of Geography offers both M.A. and Ph.D. degrees. The program's basic purpose is to train scholars and professionals to produce and disseminate knowledge and to make outstanding contributions in the public and private sectors.

There are approximately 83 graduate students in the program, 46 of whom are at the Ph.D. level. The M.A. program was founded in 1930, and the Ph.D. program began in 1965; the first Ph.D. was awarded in 1968. The Department is ranked as one of the top programs among the nation's doctoral-granting departments of geography. The Department of Geography in Boulder also attracts some 3,500 undergraduates to its courses every year, and has approximately 190 undergraduate majors in Geography.

The Department maintains teaching and research relationships with the Institute of Behavioral Science (IBS), the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR), the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES), the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), the School of Law and the College of Architecture and Planning in Boulder, the Center of the American West, and the Centers for Urban Affairs and Urban Transportation Studies in Denver. A host of other federal, state, and metropolitan agencies and firms in Boulder, Colorado Springs, and Denver offer opportunities to the student.

Prospective students should have interests coincident with those of the faculty and strong preparation in the natural or social sciences, but not necessarily in geography. A list of titles of recent theses and dissertations can be found on the Geography Department website.

THE DEGREE PROGRAMS

The curriculum is highly flexible; students' programs are individualized as much as possible. Only three courses are required of all students: Geog. 5152, History and Theory of Geography; Geog. 5161, Research Design in Geography; and Geog. 5023, Introduction to Quantitative Methods in Geography (including Geog 5033-Quant Methods Lab) or Geog. 5183, Data Processing in the Earth Sciences. Students demonstrating that they have had an equivalent course elsewhere may be exempt from the Quantitative Methods requirement. All students must take Geog. 5152 and 5161, normally within the first 2 semesters of residency, even if they have taken similar courses at other institutions. Students must earn a B or better in all of these courses in order to pass the Preliminary Exam required by the Graduate School.

At the beginning of the Fall Semester, all entering graduate students are expected to attend the Department's Orientation and New Graduate Student Retreat. The Orientation is held on campus and includes a briefing on departmental organization, rules, and policies pertinent to graduate students. The New Graduate Student Retreat is normally held at the Mountain Research Station a few miles west of Boulder. The Retreat includes

presentations by faculty members on their current research and professional activities, one or more field tours, and the traditional hike to Niwot Ridge.

Prerequisites for All Entering Students

For admission without deficiency and to meet the Department's mandatory requirements for a knowledge of basic geography, all entering graduate students are required to have the kind of knowledge presented in the Department's introductory courses in physical geography (GEOG. 1001 Environmental Systems 1/Climate and Vegetation and GEOG. 1011 Environmental Systems 2/Landscapes and Water) and human geography (GEOG. 1982 World Regional Geography, GEOG. 1992 Human Geographies, GEOG. 2002 Geographies of Global Change and GEOG 2412, Environment and Culture). It is the responsibility of the student to obtain this knowledge prior to beginning their first graduate class. Students may gain the required knowledge by formally taking the introductory courses, by auditing the course(s), by reading the textbook on your own, or by any other means. This knowledge will enhance the student's ability to perform at the level expected in the Geography 5152-5161 core series. In addition to knowledge of basic geography, it is desirable that the student has coursework in at least two areas outside geography in cognate fields in the social and natural sciences. Students are encouraged to have some background in college math, statistics, and computer skills.

Graduate Courses

A complete list of graduate courses is available at: www.colorado.edu/sacs/catalog Click on the current online catalog and then on course descriptions.

If you would like to purchase a printed copy of the University Catalog, please see the website listed above and click on the "order link."

Only a small set of the total number of courses can be offered each semester. Course scheduling is done about six months in advance of each semester. Double-listed courses (e.g., 4061/5061) are available for both undergraduates (4061) and graduate students (5061). All numbers carry the departmental identifying prefix, "GEOG."; courses carry 3 credits unless otherwise indicated. The "Registration Handbook and Schedule of Courses" will show the list of courses being offered in the current semester. Please go to the following website: <http://registrar.colorado.edu>. Click on "students" and then on "how to register." Then follow the appropriate links to use the schedule planner and see the courses being offered.

THE M.A. PROGRAM

General Requirements

The minimum requirements for an MA in geography may be fulfilled by completing 30 semester hours of graduate work, including a thesis, which carries up to 6 credit hours (i.e., 24 hours of course work at the 5000 level or above, plus a minimum of 4 but not more than 6 hours of thesis). Masters students may, with the written approval of their

advisor, use a maximum of 6 hours of 3000 or 4000 level coursework to reach the required 30 hours.

Transfer of Credit

Under certain conditions, 9 semester hours may be transferred toward the M.A. degree, but may be transferred only after one semester of residency.

THE PH.D. PROGRAM

Prerequisites

The minimum requirements for admission to the Ph.D. program are normally a master's degree, significant published research or equivalent standing.

Requirements

The Ph.D. degree is not conferred merely upon the satisfactory completion of a course of study. The candidate must also demonstrate proficiency in some broad subject of learning, be able to critically evaluate work in the field, show the ability to work independently in his/her chosen field, and make an original contribution of significance to the advancement of knowledge.

The minimum requirements include 30 credit hours of coursework numbered 5000 or above and 30 credit hours of dissertation. Ordinarily the number of coursework hours and dissertation hours will be greater than 30 each. At least 20 hours of coursework must be taken at the University of Colorado; up to 10 credit hours from another institution may be transferred upon approval (after one semester of residency). A 3.00 (B) average or higher must be maintained in all course work.

Six semesters of residence are required beyond the bachelor's degree, of which four must be at the Univ. of Colorado; this may include 2 semesters for the Master's degree. Students with a University of Colorado Master Degree in Geography may, with Departmental approval, apply all credit hours from 5000 or above courses (except thesis credits) to the Ph.D. requirements.

Ph.D. Language Requirement

The Department's minimum language requirement is a demonstration of proficiency in one foreign language. Ways in which this requirement may be satisfied are determined by the student's Advisory Committee, and may include timed translation, publication in the language, and/or course work. If more than the minimum proficiency is needed for library and/or field research, the choice and number of languages, as well as the required level of skill and methods of testing these skills, are determined and approved by the student's Advisory Committee. The language requirement must be satisfied before the Comprehensive Exam is taken.

Preliminary Exam

The Graduate School requires that all students in the doctoral program successfully pass a Preliminary Exam. In Geography, this requirement is met by obtaining a grade of B or better in each of the three required courses: Geog. 5152, History and Theory of Geography; Geog. 5161, Research Design in Geography; and Geog. 5023, Introduction to Quantitative Methods in Geography (including Geog 5033-Quant Methods Lab) or Geog. 5183, Data Processing in the Earth Sciences. Students may be given permission to waive the Quantitative Methods requirement. Following completion of the Preliminary Exam requirement, students undertake preparation for Comprehensive Exams.

Comprehensive Exams

Following successful completion of the Preliminary Exam, doctoral students must pass a Comprehensive Exam for advancement to candidacy for the doctoral degree. The Comprehensive Exam consists of two parts, including an exam on three subfields of geography with written and oral components, and completion of a written dissertation proposal and oral defense. Working together, the student and an Advisory Committee of 3-5 faculty set the subfield topics. The student creates a reading list for each subfield, and usually spends a semester reading and preparing for the subfields exam. The Advisory Committee sets the subfields exam questions, and evaluates the written and oral responses, as well as the proposal defense. Upon successful completion of the Comprehensive Exam, a student can turn full attention to dissertation research and writing.

Dissertation

In addition to the minimum of 30 hours of coursework required for the doctorate, a student must register for a total of at least 30 hours of dissertation credit, with a maximum of 10 hours in any one semester. Not more than 10 of these hours may be obtained before the student has been approved as a candidate for the doctorate. Coursework and work on the dissertation may proceed concurrently throughout the Ph.D. program, but at no time shall a doctoral student register for more than 15 hours of 5000 level and above courses.

Following successful completion of comprehensives and “admission to candidacy,” students must register continuously. Students admitted to “candidacy for degree” will register for and be charged for a minimum of 5 dissertation hours each semester. Students may also register for classes in addition to the 5 dissertation hours. After “admission to candidacy,” those not making use of campus facilities may register for 3 dissertation hours. Continuous registration during the academic year will be required until completion of the dissertation defense. It is expected that the student and advisor will consult each semester as to the number of hours for which the student will register, consistent with the classifications described above.

FACULTY RESEARCH INTERESTS

The faculty believes that both physical and human geography are essential to an outstanding program, that both are complementary and indispensable parts of the same subject. Despite individual specializations, all members of the faculty see their interests and research as ultimately related to spatial and environmental systems, human-environment relations, and the character of places. Given the faculty's research interests, which are listed below, the Department's special strengths for graduate training may be grouped as follows:

- 1) Physical Geography, including climatology, geomorphology, biogeography, arctic and alpine systems, and global change.
- 2) Human Geography, including population, political, urban, social, and cultural geography.
- 3) Environment-Society interactions, including human dimensions of environmental change; natural resources; conservation behavior.
- 4) Geographic Information, including GIS, cartography, and remote sensing.
- 5) Geography Education, which includes learning and teaching processes, curriculum and materials development, and change in educational systems.

The University of Colorado is one of the nation's leading research-oriented universities with excellent facilities for conducting research in geography and related fields. In the Geography building are the Ken Erickson Spatial Data Analysis Laboratory (KESDA), the Meridian Information Technology Lab, Biogeography Lab and Soils lab. Several Geography faculty are affiliated with interdisciplinary research institutes where additional facilities are available. These include the World Data Center-A for Glaciology and the Center for the Study of Earth from Space (CSES), both located in the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES); the Population Program and the Natural Hazards Center, both within the Institute of Behavioral Sciences (IBS), and the CU Mountain Research Station is a 45 minute drive from Boulder and offers excellent logistical support for research in biogeography, ecology, climatology, geomorphology, and snow hydrology. Information about campus computer systems and networks can be found at www.colorado.edu/its.

FACULTY

Waleed Abdalati, Ph.D., University of Colorado at Boulder, is an Associate Professor of Geography, Director of the Center for the Study of Earth from Space, and a Fellow of the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES). His research

interests are in the use of satellite and airborne remote sensing techniques, integrated with in situ observations and modeling, to understand how and why the Earth's ice cover is changing. In particular, his research focuses on the contributions of ice sheets and high-latitude glaciers to sea level rise and their relationship to the changing climate. Toward that end, he has been heavily involved in the development of NASA's Ice Cloud and land Elevation Satellite (ICESat) and its successor, ICESat-II, and has worked on cryospheric applications of various other satellites and aircraft instruments. Most of his research is supported by NASA, where he worked as a scientist for 12 years, before joining the Department of Geography at the University of Colorado.

Suzanne Anderson, Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, 1995, is Assistant Professor of Geography and Research Associate at the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research. Her research addresses chemical and physical processes that shape the Earth's surface, with particular emphasis on glacial processes and the interaction of chemical weathering and physical erosion. The research typically entails fieldwork to measure processes as they occur and to collect soil, water and rock samples for chemical analysis. Detailed field observations are used to constrain models of geomorphic systems.

Roger G. Barry, Ph.D., Southampton, 1965, is a Professor for the Department of Geography. He is also affiliated with the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES) where his major interests are in Arctic climate, snow and ice, mountain climate and climatic change. An internationally known climatologist, Barry's work is supported by NASA, NSF and NOAA. He is a Fellow of the American Geophysical Union and foreign member of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences. He is co-Vice Chair of the Scientific Steering Committee for the World Climate Research Programme Climate and Cryosphere (CliC) Project and serves on the editorial boards of *Physical Geography* and *Polar Geography*.

Susan W. Beatty, Ph.D., Cornell, 1981, is a Professor with interests in biogeography, soils and plant ecology. She is currently serving as Associate Dean of Natural Sciences for the College of Arts and Sciences. She has worked extensively on the effects of both natural and anthropogenic disturbances in temperate deciduous forests, and California chaparral and grasslands. Her research on species richness in deciduous forests of the northeastern U.S. has been supported by the National Science Foundation and her work on the effects of invasive plant species on Santa Cruz Island, CA, has been supported by the Nature Conservancy. Currently her interests are in integrating fine and coarse-scale vegetation processes and disturbance responses, and with support from the Center for Invasive Plant Management she is studying exotic plant species invasion of forested wilderness areas across North America (Appalachians, Rockies, Cascades) and what factors are important in facilitating this invasion (like trails, edge effects, and treefall disturbances).

Peter Blanken, Ph.D., University of British Columbia, 1997, is an Associate Professor interested in water, energy and carbon cycling near the Earth's surface. Topics of research include: vegetation controls on evaporation from a subarctic willow-birch forest,

evaporation within and above a boreal aspen forest, and measuring and modeling evaporation from a large, deep high-latitude lake. He has participated in large, interdisciplinary projects such as the Boreal Ecosystem-atmosphere Study (BOREAS) and the Global Energy and Water Cycle Experiment (GEWEX). Current interests include the use of remote sensing to aid in surface-based measurements and the development of algorithms to model mass and energy exchange.

Joe Bryan , Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, 2007, is an Assistant Professor of Geography. His work focuses on indigenous politics in the Americas, human rights, and critical cartography. His most recent work addresses the role of community-based mapping in a 2001 ruling by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. The case concerned a land claim brought by the indigenous Mayangna community of Awas Tingni against the Republic of Nicaragua, and set an important legal precedent for recognizing indigenous land rights. He has also worked on issues related to indigenous land rights in Honduras, Chile, Ecuador, and the western United States. He is currently developing a new project that examines the legacy of the Contra War in Nicaragua and Honduras as it relates to contemporary concerns with security, development, and resource claims.

Barbara P. Buttenfield, Ph.D., Washington, 1984, is Professor and Director of the Meridian Lab, a research facility focusing on visualization and modeling of geographic information and technology. She teaches courses in Geographic Information Science, Computer Cartography, and Information Design and Representation. Her research interests focus on generalization, representations of uncertainty, and design of visualization tools for environmental modeling. She is currently developing algorithms for progressive transmission of vector data across the Internet. Dr. Buttenfield is a Past President of the American Cartographic Association. In 2001, she was named GIS Educator of the Year by the University Consortium for Geographic Information Science.

Elizabeth C. Dunn, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University 1998, is an Assistant Professor interested in economic geography, political geography, and cultural anthropology. Her recent work focuses on multinational capital flows, economic transformations and the effects of Western management practices on blue-collar workers in Eastern Europe. Her latest paper looks at the way shop floor workers import ideas of kinship and families into the workplace to defend themselves against new managerial initiatives. She is also interested in transnational relations of productions, labor movements and labor organizing and “civil society.”

Kenneth E. Foote, Ph.D., Chicago, 1982, is a Professor and Director of the Center for Geographic Education. He is interested in GIScience and computer methods, particularly multimedia and interactive cartography; American and European landscape history; and geography education, particularly instructional technologies and issues of geography in higher education. His most recent NSF grant is the Geography Faculty Development Alliance a five-year project to provide professional development opportunities to early career geography faculty in US colleges and universities. His publications include the co-edited *Re-reading Cultural Geography* (1994) and *Shadowed Ground: America's Landscapes of Violence and Tragedy* (1997, 2003), winner of the 1998 J.B. Jackson prize

of the Association of American Geographers. He has served as a national councilor of the AAG, a member of the executive planning board of NCGE, a member of the Geography Education National Implementation Project, North American editor of the Journal of Geography in Higher Education and editor of special publications for the NCGE. Foote received the AAG's Gilbert Grosvenor Honors in geographic education in 2005 and will serve as NCGE president in 2006.

Mara Goldman, Ph.D. University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2006, is an Assistant Professor in geography with research interests in human-environment relations and critical geographies of conservation and development, with a regional focus in East/Southern Africa. Her research is focused specifically in Tanzania and Kenya, at the interface between scientific and local knowledge regarding wildlife and local ecological processes; the politics of wildlife conservation; changing pastoral livelihood practices; and the politics of knowledge and participation surrounding conservation and development projects. She is currently working on a research project (in association with the International Livestock Research Institute, Nairobi, Kenya), which looks at changing pastoral communication patterns and participatory processes in five different sites across the Tanzanian and Kenyan border.

Stefan Leyk – Ph.D. University of Zurich, Switzerland, 2005, is an Assistant Professor in geography with research interests in uncertainty analysis in GIScience, cartographic pattern recognition and spatial dynamic modeling. His research includes retrospective landscape assessments using historical cartographic documents as well as other spatial and non-spatial data sources. This implies the development of approaches based on fuzzy set theory in GIScience as well as methods for spatial data extraction in non-perfect data sources. He also conducts research at the intersection between spatial dynamics, activity patterns and public health issues in complex systems by developing personalized exposure models.

Nicholas N. Nagle, Ph.D., University of California, Santa Barbara, 2005, is an Assistant Professor with interests in geostatistics, spatial econometrics and urban geography. Currently his interests are in developing statistical methods for characterizing the relationship between data representing different spatial scales and also in developing methods for combining spatial and aspatial data sources. Other research interests include the pricing of neighborhood amenities and the spatial dimensions of residential location choice and mortgage markets.

Timothy S. Oakes, Ph.D., Washington, 1995, is an Associate Professor with interests in cultural and regional geography, tourism, and China area studies. He is the author of *Tourism and Modernity in China* (1998) and is currently working on a second book titled *Trading in Places: Regionalism and Identity in Post-Revolutionary China*. Recent research in China has focused on ethnic tourism development and place identity, petty commodity production of ethnic crafts, regionalism, and theme parks and tourist subjectivity. He also works on tourism issues more broadly, focusing on the relationship between tourism, modernity, and identity. He teaches courses on China, cultural geography, and qualitative methods in geography.

John V. O'Loughlin, Ph.D., Penn State, 1973, is a Professor and a political geographer with research interests in the geopolitics of international relations and transitions in post-Communist societies, especially Russia. He currently is conducting research on the nature of ethnic relations in post-conflict societies in Bosnia-Herzegovina and the North Caucasus of Russia. His newest project is examining the sustainability and national identities of Eurasian quasi-states (Kosovo, Transdniestria, Abkhazia and South Ossetia) in the wake of Kosovo's declaration of statehood and in the context of Russian-Western geopolitical relations. He is interested in the application of spatial models to international conflict and cooperation, including the disaggregated and geo-located event data of civil wars, and to the study of elections. His research has been supported by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the National Science Foundation, and the National Geographic Society. He is Editor of *Political Geography* since its founding in 1981.

John Pitlick, Ph.D., Colorado State, 1988, is an Associate Professor with research interests in fluvial geomorphology and hydrology. Pitlick's approach to understanding surficial processes is through field observations and experiments. He has 25 years of experience in problems related to accelerated erosion in mountainous watersheds, with a particular research emphasis on sediment transport and storage in gravel-bed rivers.

Fernando Riosmena, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania, 2005 is an Assistant Professor and Faculty Fellow at the Population Program, Institute of Behavioral Science. His research interests intersect the fields of formal and social demography with an emphasis on how demographic processes are associated with the social mobility, well-being, and development in Latin American societies and immigrant communities from said region in the United States. He has done work on the formal demography of labor migration; the role of social ties and their legal status in explaining inter-country differences in US migration dynamics in Latin America; and the association between migration and other life course events. Besides these issues, Riosmena is currently doing research on the health selectivity of U.S.-bound and return migration of Mexicans while looking at differences between self-reported measures and clinical reports, and the potential role of ecological conditions (i.e. health and socioeconomic characteristics) in origins.

Konrad Steffen, Dr. sc. nat. ETH, Zurich, Switzerland, 1983, is Professor and Director of Cooperative Institute of Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES). His general interest is the study of processes related to climate and cryosphere interaction in polar and alpine regions based on in-situ and satellite measurements, and using climate system modeling to study their sensitivity. He is also actively involved in the assessment of global sea level change and sensitivity studies of large ice sheets using in situ and modeling results. For the past eight years he devoted much time in organizing a NASA/NSF initiative called PARCA: Program in Regional Arctic Climate Assessment. Currently, his research funding is supported by NASA Cryospheric Sciences, NASA/GSFC, and NSF/Arctic System Science for climate system modeling, remote sensing application related to ocean-climate-sea ice interactions, and LIDAR applications in the Arctic.

William (Riebsame) Travis, Ph.D., Clark University, 1981, is an Associate Professor with research and teaching in nature and society, principally impacts of climate change, land use, and human interactions with ecosystems. He is director of the Center for Science and Technology Policy Research in CIRES. Some of his on-going research includes an NSF project on the mountain pine beetle outbreak in the Rockies, and analysis of rural land ownership and use change. He has a long interest in social adaptation to climate change and natural hazards, and is now focusing on whether adaptation to the latter makes for more or less adaptive capacity vis-à-vis the former.

Thomas T. Veblen, Ph.D., UC Berkeley, 1975, is a Professor and is interested in biogeography and plant ecology, particularly vegetation dynamics in relation to natural and anthropogenic disturbances. He has worked extensively in the temperate rain forests of southern Chile and New Zealand. Currently, in the southern Andes of Argentina, with support from the National Geographic Society and the National Science Foundation, he is investigating forest dynamics in relation to climatic variation and human-caused disturbances. In Colorado, Veblen is working on the roles of fire, wind storms, and insect epidemics in vegetation dynamics. He is particularly interested in the integration of forest dynamics knowledge with forest resource planning and management through the concept of “historic range of variability”. He serves on the editorial boards of *Physical Geography*, *Mountain Research and Development*, *Journal of Vegetation Science*, *Journal of Biogeography*, *Global Ecology and Biogeography Letters*.

Mark Williams, Ph.D. in Biological Sciences, UC Santa Barbara, 1991, is a Professor, a Research Fellow at the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research, and Co-Associate Director of the Undergraduate Academy. His research interests are the processes that determine the hydrochemistry and biogeochemistry of high-elevation basins, including the storage and release of solutes from the snowpack, biogeochemical modifications of snowpack runoff, nutrient cycling, and hydrologic pathways and residence time. The majority of his research has been conducted in the Rocky Mountains, Sierra Nevada of California, and the Tien Shan, China. Mark is on the faculty of the Hydrology Program in Geography and his classes can be used to satisfy the Hydrology Certification Program in Geography. Mark is the editor of *Arctic, Antarctic, and Alpine Research*, Chair of the Cryosphere Focus Group of the American Geophysical Union, and Co-Chair of the Hydrologic Observatories working group of the Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Sciences (CUAHSI).

Emily Yeh, Ph.D., UC Berkeley 2003, is an Assistant Professor interested in political ecology, particularly the politics and environmental consequences of struggles over access to and control over resources. She has conducted ethnographic and historical research on the political economy and cultural politics of land use change in Tibetan regions of China. Research and teaching interests include critical development studies, geographies of energy and material consumption, environmental justice, environmental history, interdisciplinary studies of global change, and social theory. Her regional expertise is in China, Tibet, and the Himalayas.

Emeritus Faculty

T. Nelson Caine
Kenneth Erickson
Nicholas Helburn
A. David Hill
Andrei Rogers
Richard E. Stevens
Gilbert F. White

Adjunct Faculty

Henry Diaz
Jani Little
Mark Serreze
Bruce P. Van Haveren
Willem van Vliet

ADMISSIONS

The Application Deadline is January 15 each year. If accepted, the student would start their graduate program in the fall of the same year.

International Students are requested to send all application materials by December 1. This is to allow for the extra processing time required for international applications.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

Recent years have seen a substantial increase in the number of applications the department has received for admission. Typically we are able to admit only approximately one in five applicants. This has allowed us to maintain and improve our standards of admission.

Given the competitive nature of the admissions process, note can be made here of how decisions are made. A Graduate Committee (consisting of three Geography Faculty members) carefully reads all information submitted and makes admission decisions based on the seven criteria described below.

All criteria are considered in judging applications. The first five criteria carry roughly equal weight. The first criterion (matching interest with faculty expertise) is an important factor for determining whether a faculty member agrees to serve as advisor. The department requires that at least one faculty member agrees to advise a student prior to admission. Therefore, it is **strongly** recommended that you contact and correspond with potential faculty advisors (write, call, or visit) before the application deadline.

- 1. A match of the applicant's stated interest with faculty expertise.** While we do not expect students to propose research exactly in line with a faculty member's research interests, we do expect the proposed research interests to be close enough that the faculty can advise students competently. If an applicant expresses

interests that are judged to be too far afield from our existing faculty competence, they are eliminated from further consideration.

- 2. Quality of academic record.** The applicant's complete academic record is inspected. Emphasis is placed on more recent academic accomplishments. Of particular interests are the student's grade point average (especially in upper division and graduate classes), selection of courses in light of proposed career, preparation in geography and cognate fields, and quality of institutions attended.
- 3. Performance on standardized exams (GRE/TOEFL).**
Domestic applicants (US Citizens and permanent residents) are required to submit GRE scores for verbal, quantitative and analytical GRE exams. These scores are used as one indicator of an applicant's abilities and limitations.

International applicants are encouraged to take the GRE exams if available, but they are not required. International applicants **are required** to submit their scores from the TOEFL exam. This is a University requirement and cannot be waived. Additional information regarding the TOEFL exam is located in the "Application Procedures for International Applicants" section.
- 4. Letters of recommendation.** Three (3) letters of recommendation are required. These letters are used to provide an assessment of an applicant's accomplishment and potential. The letters should be from persons able to assess your potential for graduate research.
- 5. Statement of intent.** (This is Question #6 on Part II of the Application). Each applicant is asked to write a statement of intent. This document is read carefully in order to ascertain the applicant's sense of purpose, career intent, and research focus. Preference is given to student's whose career intent includes earning a Ph.D. in geography.
- 6. Other relevant experience.** Increasingly, applicants have other experience which is related to their educational and career goals. The nature and extent of this experience is considered in making admissions and funding decisions.
- 7. Affirmative action/protected class considerations.** The Department of Geography at the University of Colorado leads all other universities in the nation in the percentage of its Ph.D.s who are women. We have also made concerted efforts to include other protected class applicants in our program.

Both quantitative and qualitative criteria are considered in the decision process. A summary of the quantitative criteria is provided below. From this summary it can be seen that students accepted into our graduate program performed very well on these criteria. It can also be seen that the quantitative criteria alone are not the determining factors for admission.

GPA

	Low	High	Avg
All Applicants (N=123)			
BA degree	2.02	4.0	3.45
MA degree	2.47	4.0	3.64
Accepted (N=39)			
BA degree	2.62	3.94	3.54
MA degree	2.47	3.96	3.61

Figures taken from 2008 applicant pool.

GRE Scores

	Verbal			Quantitative			Analytical		
	Low	High	Avg	Low	High	Avg	Low	High	Avg
All Applicants (N=119)	410	750	557	390	800	658	3.0	6.0	4.5
Accepted (N=38)	280	750	579	520	790	658	2.5	6.0	4.6

Figures taken from 2008 applicant pool.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR DOMESTIC APPLICANTS **(US Citizens and Permanent Residents)**

PLEASE NOTE: The On-Line Application is preferred.

You may receive your application form in one of two (2) ways:

1. Link to the on-line application:
<http://www.colorado.edu/prospective/graduate/apply/process.html>
This is the preferred method to apply to the University of Colorado-Boulder.
2. If you cannot access the on-line application you may send an email here, requesting that I print it for you and mail the blank forms to you. Please include your name & mailing address. Please be aware that this email address is only checked once a week.
geoggrad@spot.colorado.edu

If you would like to purchase a printed copy of the University Catalog, please see this web site for instructions:

http://www.colorado.edu/catalog/cat_order.html

The approximate cost to have a copy mailed within the US is \$11.50. Outside the US the price varies according to the required postage.

THE APPLICATION DEADLINE IS JANUARY 15.

Please submit your on-line application by this date each year. Also be sure that any application pieces that are mailed to us arrive by this date.

If you are using a paper application:

All completed application materials should be sent via postal mail directly to:

Graduate Secretary
Department of Geography
260 UCB
University of Colorado
Boulder, CO 80309-0260

If you need to send overnight or express mail envelopes, Please use this address:

Graduate Secretary
Department of Geography
110 Guggenheim Building
University of Colorado
Boulder CO 80309

phone 303.492.8311

It is the applicant's responsibility to update your on-line application with any address or email address changes. If you are using a paper application, you must notify the Geography Office of any address changes. It is important that we have your most current mailing address. It is **VITAL** for the Geography department to have your current email address. Please keep us informed of any changes. We use email whenever possible to communicate with applicants.

Completed applications contain the following (all of these application materials are part of the on-line application).

- **Application fee: \$50, nonrefundable.**
***You can pay on-line when using the on-line application (preferred method)**
You can also mail a check to us. If you are using the on-line application and you choose to mail a paper check to us, please include the receipt form located on the ApplyYourself application website.
Please make checks payable to "University of Colorado." Make sure you have a note on the check saying "App Fee for ____" and include your name.

- **Part I: Application for Graduate Admission.**

The criminal history question on Part 1 of the application **MUST** be answered. Failure to answer this question will **STOP ALL PROCESSING** of your application. If you answer yes or if you leave it blank, you must complete and return a supplemental form that will be sent to you.

- **Part II: Application for Graduate Admission.** Pay special attention to No. 6 in Part II. **This is your Statement of Intent.** It is important to write a careful one- to two-page statement on what your research interests are, why you have chosen this particular program, and what you hope to do afterwards.

If you would like to request to be included in the funding pool for departmental financial aid, please include a separate, short paragraph at the beginning or the end of your Statement of Intent, since there is not a separate form for this. Please include the title for your paragraph as shown below so it is easy to find.

EXAMPLE:

Request for Departmental Funding:

Please include me in the pool for all departmental funding.

- **Recommendations.** Three (3) recommendations are required. Request professors and/or other professionals familiar with your research potential to send recommendation forms and letters directly to the Department or use the on-line procedures (preferred method) that are part of the on-line application process.

You may see instructions on other parts of the CU website (such as the Graduate School page) directing you to send in four recommendations. These are general instructions that apply to all departments on campus since some departments do require four recommendation letters.

REMEMBER - THE GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT ONLY REQUIRES THREE (3) RECOMMENDATION LETTERS

- **Two official transcripts from all schools attended and showing all degrees awarded, courses taken, grades, and grade point averages.** A minimum of 2.75 GPA on a 4.0 system is required by the Graduate School for regular admission. The Department minimum GPA is 3.0.

DO NOT INCLUDE TRANSCRIPTS OF ANY KIND IN YOUR APPLICATION PACKET FOR ANY REASON IF YOU ARE USING A PAPER APPLICATION.

IF YOU ARE USING THE ON-LINE APPLICATION, WE MUST STILL RECEIVE 2 PAPER COPIES OF YOUR TRANSCRIPTS FROM THE OTHER SCHOOLS YOU HAVE ATTENDED.

All applicants must submit two “official” copies of transcripts for each school attended. Transcripts are only considered “official” if they are sent directly from one university to another. Please be sure each transcript is “issued to” the Department of Geography, University of Colorado. Please have transcripts sent to the postal address given at the beginning of this section.

Anything else will be returned to you and you will be asked to request new copies of your transcripts.

- **Graduate Record Examination (GRE).**

GRE Institution Code: 4841
GRE Department Code: 2203

US citizens and permanent residents (and foreign students studying in North American universities at the time of application) are required to submit GRE scores for the Analytical, Verbal, and Quantitative sections of the test. If you have not done so, arrange to take the GREs as soon as possible. When applying to take the GREs, request that scores be sent to the Department of Geography at the University of Colorado at Boulder. When you have received your scores, you can also mail or fax a photocopy to the Department to avoid delays. It is important that GREs be taken early enough for scores to reach the Department prior to the January 15 deadline for application.

No application will be considered complete without all of the above-listed materials. **January 15 is the deadline for receipt of all application materials for Fall admissions.** We do not have a regular Spring admission. You can begin the admissions process on August 1 of the year prior to the fall semester that you want to start your graduate program. Allow at least 3 months after the application deadline to receive notification about your application status.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS

PLEASE NOTE: The On-Line Application is preferred.

You may receive your application form in one of two (2) ways:

1. Link to the on-line application:
<http://www.colorado.edu/prospective/international/apply.html>
2. If you cannot access the on-line application and you may send an email here, requesting that I print it for you and mail the blank forms to you. Please include your name & mailing address. Please be aware that this email address is only checked once a week.
geoggrad@spot.colorado.edu

If you would like to purchase a printed copy of the University Catalog, please see this web site for instructions:

http://www.colorado.edu/catalog/cat_order.html

The approximate cost to have a copy mailed within the US is \$11.50. Outside the US the price varies according to the required postage.

THE APPLICATION DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 1.

If you are using a paper application:
All completed application materials should be sent via postal mail directly to:

Graduate Secretary
Department of Geography
260 UCB

University of Colorado
Boulder, CO 80309-0260

*If you need to send overnight or express mail envelopes,
Please use this address:*

Graduate Secretary
Department of Geography
110 Guggenheim Building
University of Colorado
Boulder CO 80309

phone 303.492.8311

It is the applicant's responsibility to update your on-line application with any address or email changes. If you are using a paper application, you must notify the Geography Office of any address changes. It is important that we have your most current mailing address. It is **VITAL** for the Geography Department to have your current email address. Please keep us informed of any changes. We use email whenever possible to communicate with applicants.

Requirements for International Graduate Student Applications

1. Certification of first-class standing or the equivalent of at least a "B" average in all examinations.
2. Certification of adequate command of spoken and written English to insure that the student can satisfactorily pursue his studies at a U.S. university. A score of at least 500 (paper based), 173 (computer based), or 61 (internet based) on the TOEFL examination will be required.
3. The GRE tests are not required of foreign students because these are not always available. However, if you have the opportunity to take these tests, you are strongly encouraged to do so.

GRE Institution Code: 4841
GRE Department Code: 2203

4. ***Certification from a financial institution or sponsor that adequate funds are available to meet all your expenses for the entire period of your residence at the University of Colorado at Boulder.*** The estimated expenses for a non-resident student to attend the University of Colorado at Boulder are listed on the required

“Financial Statement” form for each academic year. The figure includes room and board, tuition and fees. Summer tuition, transportation and incidental costs should be added to this.

5. We follow the policy of the Office of Admission in not waiving the application fee for international applicants. Applications should be sent directly to the Department of Geography. The Office of Admission will only begin processing applications when it has received the application fee. It will not allow students to temporarily waive the fee until the student is enrolled. If you send an application without the fee, no action will be taken on the application and the department will not be able to make a final decision.

Completed applications contain the following:

- 1. Application fee: \$70 US, nonrefundable.**

You can pay on-line when using the on-line application (preferred method). You can also mail a check to us. If you are using the on-line application and you choose to mail a paper check to us, please include the receipt form located on the ApplyYourself application website.

Please make checks payable to “University of Colorado.” Make sure you have a note on the check saying “App Fee for _____” and include your name.

- 2. Part I: International Student Application for Admission**

The criminal history questions on Part 1 of the application **MUST** be answered. Failure to answer these questions will **STOP ALL PROCESSING** of your application. If you answer yes or if you leave it blank, you must complete and return a supplemental form that will be sent to you.

- 3. Part II: Application for Graduate Admission.**

Pay special attention to Question No. 6 in Part II. **This is your Statement of Intent.** It is important to write a careful one- to two-page statement on what your research interests are, why you have chosen this particular program, and what you hope to do afterwards.

If you would like to request to be included in the funding pool for departmental financial aid, please include a separate, short paragraph at the beginning or the end of your Statement of Intent, since there is not a separate form for this. Please include the title for your paragraph as shown below so it is easy to find.

EXAMPLE:

Request for Departmental Funding:

Please include me in the pool for all departmental funding.

Also, please note that our departmental funding is very limited. It is not enough to meet the University financial requirement that you prove you already have adequate funding to study in the US.

4. ***Financial Statement for International Applicants.*** Please Note: The Department of Geography will review your application and make a decision about admitting you to our program even if you do not submit this form. However, the University of Colorado International Admissions office will not consider your application complete and will not process your application unless this form is filled out and shows proof that you have the financial resources to study in the United States. You will not be admitted to this University without this form being properly and completely filled out.
5. **Recommendations.** Three (3) recommendations are required. Request professors and/or other professionals familiar with your research potential to send recommendation forms and letters directly to the Department or use the on-line procedures that are part of the on-line application process.

You may see instructions on other parts of the CU website (such as the Graduate School page) directing you to send in four recommendations. These are general instructions that apply to all departments on campus since some departments do require four recommendation letters.

REMEMBER THE GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT ONLY REQUIRES THREE (3) RECOMMENDATION LETTERS

6. **Two official transcripts from all schools attended and showing all degrees awarded, courses taken, grades, and grade point averages.** A minimum of 2.75 GPA on a 4.0 system is required by the Graduate School for regular admission. Equivalent standing, e.g., an upper second-class degree in the British system, is required of foreign students. The Department minimum GPA is 3.0.

DO NOT INCLUDE TRANSCRIPTS OF ANY KIND IN YOUR APPLICATION PACKET FOR ANY REASON IF YOU ARE USING A PAPER APPLICATION

IF YOU ARE USING THE ON-LINE APPLICATION, WE MUST STILL RECEIVE 2 PAPER COPIES OF YOUR TRANSCRIPTS FROM THE OTHER SCHOOLS YOU HAVE ATTENDED.

All applicants must submit two “official” copies of transcripts for each school attended. Transcripts are only considered “official” if they are sent directly from one university to another. Please be sure each transcript is “issued to” the Department of Geography,

University of Colorado. Please have transcripts sent to the postal address given at the beginning of this section.

Anything else will be returned to you and you will be asked to request new copies of your transcripts.

**If this requirement presents a problem for you, please contact the International Admissions Office for instructions on what to do. You may send an email to one of the following addresses: sarah.stubbs@colorado.edu or jeannine.bell@colorado.edu

7. **TOEFL and GRE Tests.** The TOEFL test is required by the University for all international applicants unless you have completed a degree at an English speaking university in certain countries. The minimum required TOEFL scores are: Paper based test – 500, Computer based test – 173, Internet based test- 61. The GRE test is not required, but you are strongly encouraged to take it if possible. A photocopy of your official test results is acceptable. Have all test scores sent to the Department of Geography at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

No application will be considered complete without all of the above-listed materials.

December 1 is the deadline for receipt of all applications materials from international applicants for Fall admissions. We do not have a regular Spring admission. Applications will be reviewed by the Department of Geography after January 15. Allow at least 3 months after January 15 to receive notification about your application status.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO ALL STUDENTS

Departmental financial aid may be available in the form of Teaching and Research Assistantships and University Fellowships. The application deadline for Fellowships and for Teaching and Research Assistantships is January 15 each year. If you would like to request to be included in the funding pool for departmental financial aid, please include a separate, short paragraph at the beginning or the end of your Statement of Intent if you are using the on-line application (preferred method), since there is no other place to include this information. Please label your paragraph as below so it is easy to find:

EXAMPLE:

Request for Departmental Funding:

Please include me in the pool for all departmental funding.

If you are using a paper application, you may put this request on a separate piece of paper.

Be sure to include a current phone number and current email address with your request for financial assistance.

Some students, given adequate Department funding and good performance, may be supported as TAs, GPTIs, RAs, or with Fellowships, or some combination of these awards for two years for the M.A. and 3 years for the Ph.D. However, acceptance to graduate study does not imply a promise of financial aid in any form. Those earning an M.A. in the Department and who are allowed to continue in the Department for a PhD may normally be given a maximum of 5 years of support for both degrees.

Teaching Assistantships (TAs and GPTIs). These are awarded on a competitive basis by the Department. TAs are typically responsible for labs or recitations in large lecture courses; either full or partial awards may be given. The 2007-08 compensation for a full TAship (approx. 20 hours of work per week) is \$7223.05 per semester, plus up to 18 semester hours of tuition (a TA must be enrolled for at least 5 credit hours each semester). Graduate Part-Time Instructors (GPTIs) are Ph.D. students who have full course responsibility. The 2007-08 compensation is \$8716.57 per semester (approx. 20 hours of work per week), plus up to 18 semester hours of tuition (a GPTI must be enrolled for at least 5 credit hours each semester). A Ph.D. student may be either a TA or a GPTI. M.A. students are not normally considered eligible by the Graduate School for a GPTI.

Research Assistantships (RAs). These are available on a competitive basis, depending on grants to faculty members; either full or partial awards may be given. You may speak directly with faculty to find out if they have any RA positions available. The 2007-08 compensation for a full RAship (approx. 20 hours of work per week- usually for 9 months-Sept to May) is approximately \$1605.12 per month, plus up to 18 semester hours of tuition (an RA must be enrolled for at least 5 credit hours each semester).

Fellowships & Scholarships. The Geography Department receives an allocation of funds for Fellowships from the Graduate School. The Department distributes this fellowship money following guidelines from the Graduate School. The department has two graduate scholarship available. The Mabel Duncan Memorial Scholarship is for graduate students who qualify for financial aid. Those wishing to apply must fill out a short form in the Geography office and file a FAFSA for with the Financial Aid office. Graduate Students are not allowed to apply until they have completed one semester of residency. The James A. and Jeanne B. DeSana Graduate Research Scholarship was started by an endowment from an anonymous donor to help graduate students (MA's and PhD's) with summer research costs. Students should contact the Department office (after one semester of residency) for application procedures.

If you are interested in federal financial aid, please see the following website:

<http://www.colorado.edu/finaid>

Please note that there are registration requirements in order to receive federal financial aid.

International students are eligible for the departmental financial aid listed above, but it is usually not enough to cover all of a student's expenses. International students are not eligible for federal financial aid.

This website might be useful for international students seeking additional financial aid opportunities – <http://www.Edupass.org>

Residency for Tuition Purposes

Students who receive funding from the Department *MUST* establish Colorado residency to avoid incurring non-resident tuition which is significantly more expensive than in-state tuition. Tuition rates vary across campus and over time, but for example a graduate student in the Department registering full-time in Fall 2003 paid ~\$2100 per semester in-state tuition. A non-resident paid ~\$9,754, not including fees. When the Department offers a one-year or multi-year funding commitment to a graduate student their commitment includes a tuition waiver that is paid in real dollars to the university. Thus it costs the Department 4 to 6 times as much to fund a non-resident graduate TA, and this is why we *insist* that incoming graduate students establish state residency as quickly as possible.

Effective Aug 1, 2006, all graduate students (in-state and out-of-state domestic and international) on qualifying appointments (monthly salaried GRA, GPTI, TA and GA positions) will be eligible to receive tuition remission as an employee, which is currently at the resident tuition rate (subject to change). This policy has no impact on a student's residency status. All domestic non-resident graduate students will need to apply for residency status within the first 12 months of their curriculum. Students who have applied but have not received residency status will be allowed an additional term to achieve residency status. Please note that establishing Colorado residency is also a Graduate School requirement and they will not allow the student to continue with an appointment if residency has not been established within the allowable timeframe.

Students who fail to achieve residency status within 18 months will not be eligible to hold a monthly salaried GRA, GPTI, TA or GA position. So even if the Geography Department has offered you a multi-year TAship, you will not be able to continue in the job if you have not achieved residency status.

All non-resident students will still be charged non-resident rates on their tuition bill. Employers will be billed tuition remission expenses at the employee rate.

Tuition remission will be calculated based on the percent time of the appointment. Non-resident students who are enrolled in credits exceeding the amount covered by their

appointment will be charged tuition at the non-resident rate for those additional credits. Example: a student holds a 25% appointment which covers 5 credit hours but is enrolled in 9 hours. The employer will cover 5 credit hours (at the employee rate) and the student is responsible for the remaining 4 credit hours at the non-resident rate.

Colorado residency is defined by state statute and verified by the University Residency Classification Office. The statute requires that a person be domiciled in Colorado for twelve consecutive months immediately preceding registration for the semester for which in-state status is requested. To be eligible, a person must establish to the University that they are 21 years of age or emancipated from parents and completely self-supporting. The process of establishing domicile to the University requires written documentation including rent or mortgage payments, Colorado income tax returns, a Colorado driver's license and Colorado voter registration.

It is important to understand that simply claiming to be a state resident is not sufficient, for tuition purposes. The University determination is both obligatory, and binding, in any given year. First year students must begin the process of establishing residency well in advance of the beginning of classes (i.e. closer to the beginning of August) in order to qualify for resident tuition at the beginning of their second year. Incoming students are encouraged to consult with the Department Director of Graduate Studies or the Graduate Secretary *prior* to contacting the University Residency Classification Office.

International students are not eligible to establish Colorado residency.

This website supplements basic information on the Graduate School given in the current *University of Colorado Catalog*, which you are urged to consult. For further details or advice, please write or call the Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Geography, 260 UCB, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309. Phone (303) 492-8311.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1) How do I apply?

See the "Applications Procedures" section above:

Domestic Students (US Citizens and permanent residents): Complete application part 1 and part 2, three reference letters, 2 "official" copies of transcripts from each previous school attended, GRE scores and application fee. Complete your application on-line

(preferred method) or send everything to the Department of Geography by the January 15 deadline.

Link to the on-line application:

<http://www.colorado.edu/prospective/graduate/apply/process.html>

Foreign students: Complete application part 1 and part 2, financial statement form, three reference letters, 2 “official” copies of transcripts from each previous school attended, TOEFL score and application fee. Complete your application on-line (preferred method) or send everything to the Geography Department by the December 1 deadline.

Link to the on-line application:

<http://www.colorado.edu/prospective/international/apply.html>

2) What scores do I need?

GRE – generally 500 or above in each category

TOEFL (test required by University). Paper based test – 500, Computer based test – 173, Internet based test – 61.

GPA – No specific score – this is one of the components that is reviewed

3) What is the application deadline?

Domestic applications (US Citizens and permanent residents) – Application Deadline is January 15 each year. If accepted, the student would start classes in the fall of the same year.

International applications – Application Deadline is December 1 of the year before the student wants to start. The early date allows for extra processing time needed for international applications.

All applications are reviewed after January 15. If accepted, the student would start classes in the fall of the same year.

4) Do I need a degree or background in Geography?

No – many students do not have a formal undergraduate degree in Geography or a background in Geography. You can still apply. You **DO** need to have the kind of knowledge presented in freshman level physical geography and freshman level human geography in your brain when you start your graduate classes. This knowledge will allow you to fully participate in the required classes, Geog 5152, History and Theory of Geography and Geog 5161, Research Design in Geography. You can get this knowledge

any way you choose: Take a class, audit a class, read a textbook on your own, whatever. It is required that this preparation be done prior to starting your graduate classes.

5) How are applications rated?

No one part of the application is more important than the others. The admissions committee (3 faculty members) reads each application and rates the application as a whole. This is why it is important to have all the parts here by the deadline.

6) Should I get in touch with a faculty member?

Absolutely! This is an essential part of the application process. Please feel free to contact faculty by phone, email, letter or visit. It is usually easiest to reach faculty by email. If you decide on a visit to the campus, call or email the faculty member first and set up an appointment to be sure they will be here when you are. Tell them you are interested in applying to the Geography Department and what area you would like to work in. This kind of contact greatly helps the faculty member to decide which student fits best with which faculty member.

7) What should I include in my application essay? (This is your ‘Statement of Intent’ which is question #6 on Part 2 of the application).

Your application essay is a very important part of your application, particularly if you are coming from a different discipline or have been away from the academic world for a number of years. The essay allows you to: 1) articulate your reasons for pursuing graduate training in terms of your career plans; 2) highlight how your professional experience or academic background provide a foundation for your decision to pursue graduate training; 3) demonstrate that you have considered carefully the CU geography program and are aware of how your interests match faculty expertise and interests; and 4) provide a sense of the areas or topics in which you are interested in pursuing training and research. If you are applying for the MA degree, it is expected that you can articulate the subfield(s) of geography in which you would like to work, perhaps also mentioning one or more topics within this subfield that you plan to make the focus of your work. If you are applying for the Ph.D., it is expected that you will articulate in broad terms one or more research topics that could serve as the focus of your program.

Please remember that graduate admissions essays are usually considerably different from their undergraduate counterparts. Graduate training is preparation for a career in academics, scientific research, business, or government service. Your essay needs to articulate how graduate study fits into your plans and that your previous education and experience provide evidence that you will succeed in your plans.

8) Does the department have a good record of placing its Ph.D. graduates?

CU Geography now has one of the best national records for placing its doctoral students in academic positions. According to a 1997 article in the *Professional Geographer* by Richard Groop and Randall Schaetzl, “Productivity Profiles of PhD-Granting Geography Departments in the United States: 1980-1994,” Colorado ranked fourth in the nation in

placements after UC-Berkeley, Washington, and UW-Madison. The departmental placement rates have improved since this survey was completed.

9) What careers do our graduates pursue?

Apart from academic employment, our MA and Ph.D. graduates pursue careers in business, government, and pure and applied research. For information about careers and jobs in geography see selected websites:

<http://www.colorado.edu/geography/virtdept/resources/jobs/jobs.htm>

<http://www.geog.okstate.edu/careers.htm>

There are many more websites with this type of information. We suggest you do a web search for topics such as ‘careers in geography’ or ‘geography jobs.’