DEPARTMENT NEWS

- Today, March 23rd, at 3:30pm US Central Time, Barbara Keino will be defending her thesis, “Spatiotemporal Trends of Cardiovascular Disease Risk Factors, Overweight, Obesity, and Tobacco Use in East Africa”. If you are interested in joining to watch this thesis defense via Zoom, use this link: bit.ly/3JegY8t. Barbara Keino’s abstract can be found on the following page.

- Geography student Angelina Evans recently accepted a summer internship with Oak Ridge National Laboratory with their Summer Undergraduate Laboratory Internship (SULI) Program by the DOE and will expand on her research from the previous summer related to the issue of hospital closures in the United States. Congratulations, Angelina!

KOHN COLLOQUIUM

This Friday, March 25th, Kohn Colloquium will host Dr. Erin Wetherley, who will be presenting “Finding the Big Ones: Challenges and insights in the quest to detect and stop methane emissions”. The seminar will be offered in a hybrid format: in-person and via Zoom. The in-person Colloquium will be held in Pappajohn Business Building Room 107 (David W. and Shirley S. Sindt Day Classroom) at 3:30pm US Central Time. The Zoom link to this Colloquium is: https://uiowa.zoom.us/j/98478787319

Dr. Wetherley is the head of Research and Development for Kairos Aerospace. The Kairos mission is to provide energy industry customers with rapid, clear, and actionable information about where their methane emissions are located. Erin’s R&D team is responsible for all things data: from instrument calibrations, to signal processing, to cutting-edge data analytics that convert a spatially and temporally-rich national dataset into key insights about North American energy production emissions. Dr. Wetherley has a Ph.D. in Geography from the University of California, Santa Barbara. Abstract can found on the following page.
THEESIS DEFENSE: BARBARA KEINO

Abstract: All too often health and disease patterns in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) are studied at a regional, i.e., East Africa, or national level. Analysis at these levels mask place-specific information that is necessary to create targeted policy and public health interventions that meet community needs. Cardiovascular disease (CVD), such as stroke, and heart attacks, has rapidly increased in SSA since the early 2000s. Factors that contribute to the onset of CVD include overweight/obesity and tobacco use. This dissertation addresses a critical knowledge gap about the spatial and temporal patterns of factors associated with CVD in SSA. Data from five East African nations over a 10-year period is used to show that the rates of tobacco use and overweight/obesity varies across and within nations. Although overweight/obesity is increasing in all the countries, the rate of increase differs between and within countries. A closer look within national borders, using spatial analysis methods, reveals that although overweight/obesity rates are higher in urban areas, rural areas are experiencing a significant increase in overweight/obesity. The opposite is true for tobacco use, where rural populations are more likely to use tobacco compared to urban population, and use is declining in rural areas and increasing in and around urban centers. These findings show that to understand CVD in SSA, we must look beyond regional or national level analysis and use other methods, such as spatial analysis, to determine place-specific patterns which will better inform policy and health intervention strategies.

KOHN COLLOQUIUM: DR. ERIN WEATHERLEY

Finding the Big Ones: Challenges and insights in the quest to detect and stop methane emissions

Abstract: Methane emissions are a significant and fast-acting contributor to climate change, with a total emitted mass equal to only ~1% of the mass of anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions, but roughly equal short-term (~10 year) temperature effects (Kleinberg, 2020). This quick yet potent impact makes methane emissions abatement a major opportunity for near-term climate benefit. In recent years, the field of methane emission source detection has experienced rapid development, including new remote sensing technologies. The associated shift in the scale of our observations, to larger swaths across space (at the basin or multi-basin scale) and through time, has led to a parallel evolution in our understanding of the dynamics of these emissions. With this growth in understanding has come new challenges as government, industry, and researchers work to develop the most efficient and effective means to reduce emissions. In this talk, I'll discuss some of these challenges, as well as insights we have developed at Kairos as our remote sensing database of methane detections has grown.
Opportunities | Upcoming Events

**INTERNSHIPS & JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

- Get your start in conservation as an Anna Beal summer intern! Undergraduates, you are invited to apply for a summer internship with The Nature Conservancy in Waterloo completing 11 weeks of stewardship work between May 23rd and August 5th (2022) throughout the state of Iowa on Conservancy preserves and public agency properties for a $5000 educational scholarship. Those interested in applying should visit nature.org/careers. Email applyhelp@tnc.org if you are experiencing technical difficulty with the application, or ccarter@tnc.org for any questions related specifically to the internship itself. See the full internship description and requirements at: clas.uiowa.edu/geography/anna-beal-summer-internship-waterloo-ia

- Project Engage: become a Latham Fellow in science engagement: Are you interested in joining the Latham Science Engagement Initiative Fellowship Program? Freshmen, Sophomore, and Junior University of Iowa students with a 3.0 GPA or higher and at least one semester of undergraduate research experience are encouraged to apply. Apply online by May 15th, 2022. Read more at latham.uiowa.edu/program/application.

- Iowa Disaster Human Resource Council member Natalie F. Schoen is looking to fill a position for the AmeriCorps VISTA with the Iowa Disaster Human Resource Council. The start date is flexible and is a fantastic opportunity for seniors or recent graduates who are looking to build their résumé and network with organizations across the state of Iowa. Fill out the form and become a member today at iavoad.org/become-a-member

- Are you looking for a hands-on experience in agriculture? Abbe Hills Farm is currently hiring for the summer of 2022. Located in Mt. Vernon, Iowa. Email laura@abbehills.com for details.

**EVENTS AND INFO SESSIONS**

**Exploring Careers in Environment and Sustainability | Virtual Event**

On March 29th, the Pomerantz Career Center is organizing a career-exploring event in collaboration with academic units (including the Department of Geographical and Sustainably Sciences) and the Office of Sustainability and the Environment. Panelists will include: Jason Schatz, Science Team Lead Sustainability at Descartes Labs, Justin Streit, Senior Project Manager, Avian Ecologist, Golden Eagle Science Team, at SWCA Environmental Consultants, Tamara Marcus, Linn County Sustainability Manager, and Cate Holston, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, US EPA Criminal Investigation Division, Kansas City Investigations Section. Register online via Handshake at bit.ly/pccceces. If you are a person with a disability who requires a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this event, please contact Joanna Halsch in advance at (319) 353-2816 or joanna-halsch@uiowa.edu.
Career Advising via Pomerantz Career Center

- The Pomerantz Career Center at C310 PC is open for drop-in peer advising Monday—Thursday between the hours of 10am and 2pm only, with Zoom appointments available via MyUI.
- Employers post open positions on Handshake for internships and full-time job opportunities for students of all degree levels.

Writing Assistance Available via the Writing Center

- The Writing Center is fully online and available to all students, faculty, and staff. They can provide feedback on any kind of writing—from reading responses, course papers, capstone projects, and theses to cover letters, emails, scholarship applications, and creative projects.
- Use the Online Feedback button to upload a piece of writing and get written comments and suggestions on it, allowing at least two business days for a response.

UI Service Center

- The UI Service Center is open and available to help students with a multitude of tasks including: changing registration, checking on the progress of scholarship submissions, graduation services, transcripts and verifications, ID card programs, billing, and loan collections.
- The Service Center strongly encourages you to schedule an appointment through MyUI using the “Advising Appointment” feature and selecting the Service Center before your in-person visit.

University Virtual Counseling Service Programs

- The University Counseling Service is still offering several programs to help students virtually.
- Let’s Talk Hawks! consultations are a weekly drop-in service that provides students the opportunity to have informal, confidential, and anonymous conversations with a UCS therapist. No appointment is needed; these services are offered on a first come, first serve basis.
- The Solidarity Support Group is a safe space for students of color to talk about concerns, share experiences, and stay connected with one another and the other UI communities. They meet between 12:30pm-1:20pm on Friday afternoons.
- Other UCS programming can be found here.

Other Campus Resources

- Office of Teaching, Learning & Technology Resources
- ITS Student Resources & Services
- GIS Library Research Guide
- UIowa COVID Spring 2022 Guidelines