DEPARTMENT NEWS

Departmental PhD student Falak Jalali is a recipient of the 2022 Stanley Award for International Research with her research project, "Impact of Education on the Imagined Future of Agriculture" - congratulations, Falak!

EARTH MONTH

April is Earth Month. In addition to Earth Day celebrations on the 22nd and Arbor Day celebrations on the 29th, the Office of Sustainability and the Environment has many events happening all month long. Find out more about opportunities you can take to participate in Earth Month at sustainability.uiowa.edu/campus-initiatives/earth-month-2022

KOHN COLLOQUIUM

This Friday, April 22nd, Dr. Silvia Secchi will be presenting "Redefining the steward of the land myth: the extractive nature of early settler agriculture in Iowa". This seminar will be offered in a hybrid format; in-person and via Zoom. The in-person location will be room S107 of the Pappajohn Business Building (David W. and Shirley S. Sindt Day Classroom). Join via Zoom at uiowa.zoom.us/j/96155442627

Abstract: The state of Iowa is one of the planet's landscapes most modified by humans. We document the speed and extractive nature of the initial phases of this process, and how the creation of the state's infrastructure as we know it was based on land expropriation, a massive redistribution of wealth that used the land itself to jumpstart extractive development activities. This infrastructure is still at the core of the environmental and socio-economic issues that the state faces. Settlement occurred through land sales to individuals and via a variety of land grants - exploiting the land so that more land could be exploited - and the extractive nature of settler agriculture was apparent from the beginning, refuting common narratives that center and glorify white farmers and their management of natural resources. We illustrate three interrelated ways in which the transformation of Iowa's landscape was extractive: How the land was taken from Native Americans, through a process that started in 1832 and was completed with the Sioux Cessions of 1851; How the land was developed, via multiple land grants, which provided the revenue to finance the changes in the landscape directly, from the railroads to the draining of the swamps, and indirectly, via an educational system that promoted extractive agriculture and associated technologies; Finally, how the land was managed, which was directly linked to the development process. Early settlers' agricultural practices in the state caused greenhouse emissions, soil erosion and habitat destruction, and were recognized early on by scientists for their aggressiveness in devastating local ecosystems.
**UPCOMING EVENTS & SEMINARS**

**Decarb 2040 Decarbonation Summit** | Hawkeye Decarbonization Summit will be held on April 21st and April 22, 2022. This will be hybrid, with in-person attendance and networking opportunities, and a full remote option. Decarb 2040 is a two-day workshop bringing together Decarb2040 partners, the University of Iowa community of researchers, staff and students interested in decarbonization, practitioners, and funding agency representatives to explore the path forward. Read the schedule at [ppc.uiowa.edu/events/2022/04/21/hawkeye-decarbonization-summit-2022#schedule](ppc.uiowa.edu/events/2022/04/21/hawkeye-decarbonization-summit-2022#schedule)

**Earth Day** | On April 22nd, there will be an Earth Day Celebration at Chauncey Swan Park (405 E Washington Street here in Iowa City), hosted by the environmental clubs at Liberty, West, and City High Schools between 11am and 2pm. Bring an old t-shirt to participate in a screen-printing booth—all ages are welcome!

**Tree Tours: Nature Walks and Talks** | Join the Pentacrest Museums on April 22nd at 2pm at Macbride Hall for guided strolls on campus featuring the ecological diversity, symbolism, history, and lore of our trees. We'll use the lunch hour once a month on these nature walk & talks for discovery, restoration, mindfulness & movement in this program—designed for you—with resilience and curiosity in mind.

**Earth Day Fashion Show** | Come enjoy the fashion show at the IMU River Amphitheater (outside, behind the IMU, on the river) and learn about sustainability! Bring plastic bags to donate.

**Earth Week Plogging** | Join Campus Wellness Leaders for a plogging adventure at 1pm, at the CRWC. What’s plogging? It’s a combination of jogging and plocka upp, Swedish for “to pick up.” Plogging entails jogging and stopping to pick up trash while you go. It’s a great way to get some movement and clean up the environment. We’ll gather at the entrance to the CRWC and go for a nice jog or walk. All abilities welcomed. After collecting trash, we’ll have some light refreshments available for all participants. Learn more on the Events Calendar page.

**Trivia Night at the Museum** | Wednesday, April 27th, at 6pm, Get out of your routine and indulge your competitive spirit for big winnings during Trivia Night at the Museum, this time inside the historic Senate Chamber of the Old Capitol Museum. Trivia categories may include movies, nature, science, history, geography, sports, food, museums, the State of Iowa, and the University of Iowa. No registration is required for self-made teams (groups or individuals, you choose!) for this free event.

**City Nature Challenge** | For the first time ever, the University of Iowa is joining 400+ cities around the world to document nature as part of the City Nature Challenge! You can contribute to citizen science during this global biodiversity challenge no matter where you are in Iowa City! Observations collected during this period are used for monitoring biodiversity and ecological research.
JOBS, INTERNSHIPS, AND OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for jobs that utilize your degree-specific knowledge and skills as a geographer? Contact adrian-sandersfeld@uiowa.edu if you’re interested in signing up for EcoJobs, a job-posting site that is geared toward helping you start a career in your scientific field of choice.

The Conservation Corps of Minnesota & Iowa are currently looking for 3 people to work on their Linn County Conservation crew, which works from May to December. Conservation Corps does natural resource work including prescribed burns, invasive species management, trail maintenance and more. Working with them is a great opportunity to gain certifications, training, and experience working with county conservation officials. To learn more, visit conservationcorps.org

The Northwest Mosquito Abatement District in Wheeling, Illinois (NW suburbs of Chicago) is offering a GIS Internship to all summer seasonal employees. The opportunity is open to Field Technicians and Field Technicians with a research focus. Both positions require 2, 8-hour days a week dedicated to field operations. For participants that can work 3-5, 8-hour days per week, there is the opportunity to have days dedicated to applied research and GIS during work hours. Contact Dan Bartlett, dbartlett@nwmadil.com, for any additional information you may need without obligation of applying for the positions.

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.

JCG Land Services is looking to hire a full-time Geographic Information System (GIS) Technician to join their growing team. JCG is an Iowa-based Real Estate and Right of Way firm where their primary role is to bridge the gap between engineering and private property owners by acquiring property rights for the buildout of infrastructure projects. See the JCG job listing for more information and apply before April 29th.
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