



A Look Inside This Issue

Freeman Boda '26

From trivia nights to logo launches, and endowed chair lectures to field experiences, a lot has happened in the realm of geography at Macalester within the last semester. Keep reading for a rundown of all of these events and more, and have a phone or QR code scanner ready for some of the interactive elements enclosed herein.



*(Back) Professors Eric Carter, Bill Moseley, Holly Barcus, and Corgan Archuleta '24
(Middle) Laura Kigin, Professors Laura Smith, Xavier Haro-Carrión, I-Chun Catherine Chang,
and Joe Harrington '24 (Front) GIS Instructor Ashley Nepp, and Professor Dan Trudeau*



This Issue:

A Look Inside This Issue
PAGE 1

Projections from the Chair
PAGE 2

Geography Awareness Week
PAGES 3-6

Out and About
PAGE 7-9

Name This Ball!
PAGE 10

Alumni Spotlight
PAGES 11-12

Faculty Spotlight
PAGE 13

Winter Dinner
PAGE 13

The Wrapup
PAGE 14

The Geography Department has a new logo!

Dan Trudeau, Corgan Archuleta '24, & Joe Harrington '24

Created by Mac Geography alum Dio Cramer, '20, we are thrilled our new design connects people in the department, past, present, and future. We hope the logo helps make Geography at Mac more accessible and inviting. Read on to learn more about all of the ideas and information packed into the new logo!

The depiction of a specific location represents Geography's attention to place for engaging different themes and asking big questions. It also reflects our Twin Cities' roots and Macalester's first location near the Stone Arch Bridge.

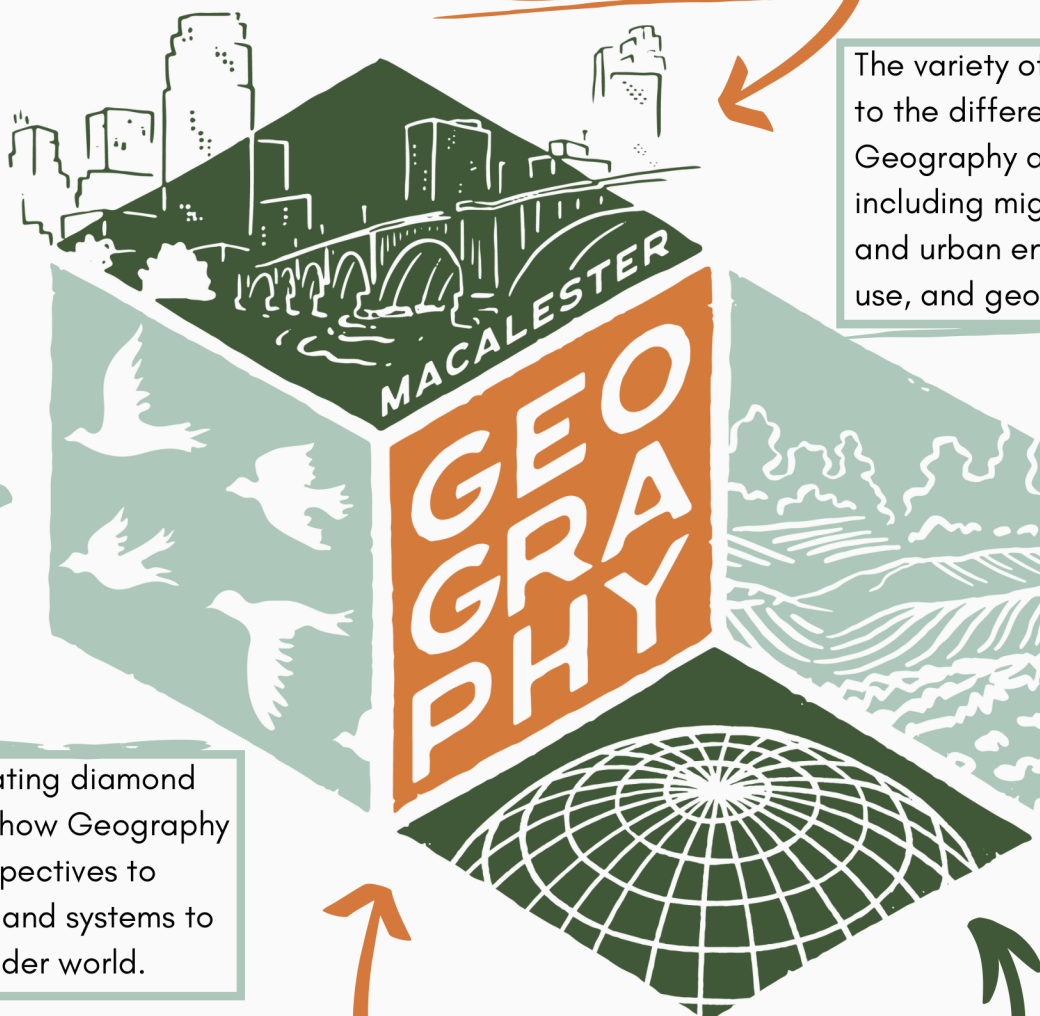
The emergence of the scene beyond the borders of the block reflects Geography's out-of-the-box thinking. The unfilled outline of the buildings invites us to think about what comes next and how we may be a part of that.

The variety of scenes speaks to the different interests in Geography and at Mac, including migration, natural and urban environments, land use, and geospatial analysis.

The angular repeating diamond shape represents how Geography uses multiple perspectives to examine patterns and systems to understand the wider world.

The multi-faceted block references Geography's interest in examining the interface of human and nonhuman worlds.

The globe reflects Geography's planetary perspective as well as geographers' expertise with geospatial techniques and analysis.



Geography Awareness Week

Freeman Boda '26

From Monday, November 13th to Friday, November 17th the department celebrated Geography Awareness Week. Established in 1987 by presidential proclamation and celebrated ever since, the theme of this year's Geography Awareness Week was "The Power of Place".

Geography-related festivities at Macalester during the week included a logo unveiling and trivia night, a map-a-thon in support of Doctors Without Borders, a community connections lunch, and a social hour at a local restaurant. Additionally, professor Eric Carter gave his inaugural lecture as the Edens Professor of Geography and Global Health.

Community Connections



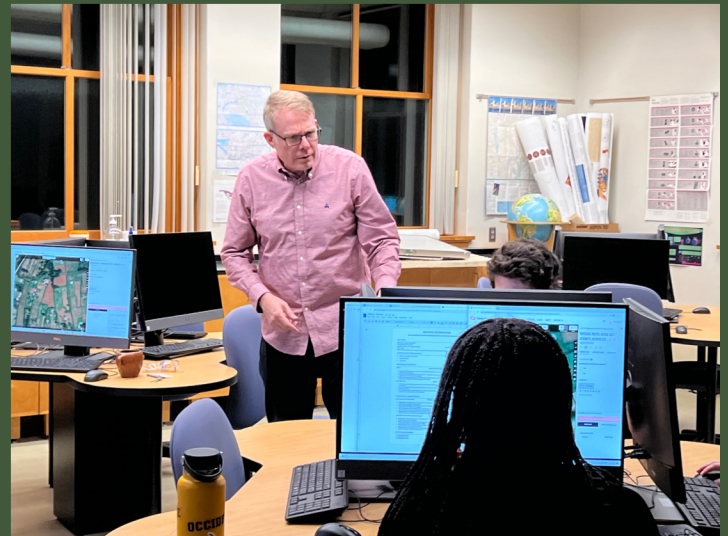
The week started off with a Geography Community Connections event. Geography majors, minors, and all those interested were invited to come and chat about their experiences in the department.

Kudos!:

Geography major Cecelia Kaufmann '24 has been named the Marble-Boyle Undergraduate Achievement Award winner by the American Association of Geographers (AAG). The award aims to recognize excellence in academic performance by undergraduate students who put forth a strong effort to bridge geographic science and computer science and encourage other students to embark upon similar programs.



Doctors Without Borders Map-A-Thon



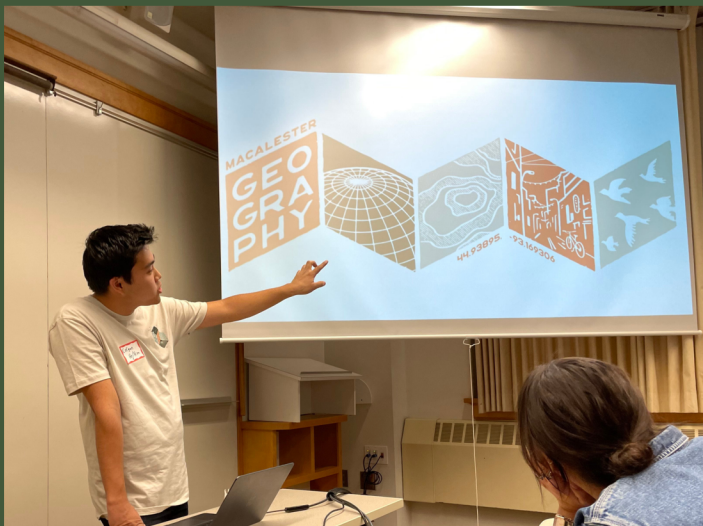
Professor Eric Carter visited students in a two hour map-a-thon exercise organized by Chloe Vasquez '24 in support of Doctors Without Borders. Students mapped villages in parts of Africa South of the Sahara using GIS tools, demarcating the locations and extent of individual structures for use by Doctors Without Borders in those regions.

Groveland Tap Social Hour



Students and Faculty connected and celebrated Geography Awareness Week by eating and socializing at the nearby Groveland Tap.

Logo Launch Party



(Above) The logo launch party featured a deep-dive from GTU co-presidents Corgan Archuleta '24 and Joe Harrington '24 into the meaning behind the department's new logo and its many variations. Professor Dan Trudeau followed-up on a promise and received a "tattoo" of the new logo, administered by a cheerful Joe Harrington '24.

(Below) After the logo unveiling students took part in a Geoguessr and departmental trivia night. The trivia portion included questions such as "What is the tallest building in Minnesota?," "What professor used to be a glassblower?," and "Which professor is currently an ordained minister? ". Feel free to follow along at home if you think you know the answers!



Inaugural Lecture of Dr. Eric D. Carter as Edens Professor of Geography and Global Health



Professor Eric D. Carter gave his inaugural lecture as Edens Professor of Geography and Global Health on Thursday, November 16th, in Kagin Ballroom. Titled “In Pursuit of Health Equity: A History of Latin American Social Medicine”, Professor Carter spoke about the history of social medicine, the challenges faced by its proponents in Latin American countries, and their roles in government.

Professor Carter’s recently released book, also titled “In Pursuit of Health Equity”, expands on the subject of his talk. We congratulate Professor Carter on his endowed professorship, the release of his new book, and on a fantastic endowed chair lecture which can be viewed by accessing the QR code below.



Talk



Book

Bdote Field Experiences

Moyartu Manley '27

On October 8th, 2023, Geography FYCs bundled up and embarked on a profound multi-stop journey with the exceptional guides and speakers, Ramona Kitto Stately, Marlena Myles, Tanagidan To Win (Tara Perron). At each location, the profound significance of Place in Dakota medicine, language, and history was unmistakably clear. The tour further showcased the devastating impact of forced expulsion on the Dakota people and the appalling tragedies inflicted upon them by white settlers.

Nestled along the banks of the Mississippi River lies Indian Mounds Regional Park, our first stop. As we connected our walkie-talkies within the park gazebo, one could see the phrase *Wąŋkátaŋhaŋ, khútaŋhaŋ*, or “As above is below”, inscribed on the ceiling, walls, and floor. The phrase itself, emphasizes the area’s significance by illustrating the interconnectedness of sky, earth, and water and echoing the belief that the celestial and terrestrial realms mirror each other.

Within Dakota culture, “all” encompasses both the seen and unseen, viewing all of creation as relatives, an outlook contrasting with the Western perspective of perceiving nature as property. One of the speakers, Tanigidan, felt traces of her ancestors within all aspects of nature, such as from medicinal herbs in the gentle breeze signifying her ancestors' acknowledgment of her presence. Another speaker, Mylena, added to this stating that nature has provided her ancestors with crucial knowledge, noting the shape of the leaf and how it provided inspiration on how to construct a teepee. Tanigidan stressed the importance of respecting one’s elders, as providers of knowledge, highlighting nature as the ultimate elder.

Indian Mounds Park itself stands as a burial ground with a history spanning over a thousand years. Prior to Euro-American settlement, the area contained a range of 50–200 mounds. During the 19th century, the construction of homes and streets, coupled with incredibly irresponsible archaeological surveys led to many of those mounds being destroyed. This erased the physical structures and destroyed ancestral remains and artifacts that held deep historical significance to indigenous communities.



The Dakota found sustenance and profound spiritual connection in the confluence of the Minnesota and Mississippi rivers, known as Bdote or “where two waters come together”. This site is sacred to the Dakota as the location is considered the place of creation.

Our second stop at Fort Snelling State Park shed light on a tragic chapter in Minnesota history. Through the forced expulsion of the Dakota from their ancestral lands, this vital connection was brutally severed. Dakota women and children were cruelly separated from their husbands, fathers, brothers, and friends and forced to march long distances through villages filled with angry white settlers. Many fell victim to violence, harsh elements, and sickness. A painful legacy intertwined with the concentration camps along the riverbanks was left behind.

Significant efforts have been made to honor the memory of both those who perished during the expulsion and those who endured. Within the park’s visitors center, a dedicated section details the forced expulsion and the concentration camps that used to be along the rivers’ banks. Furthermore, within the visitors center, there is a tribute with the names of those who passed away. Ramona Kitto Stately, along with other Dakota tribe members make annual treks that follow the path of their ancestors who were expelled. The walk serves as an earnest attempt to engage with community members and foster constructive conversations about their history and relation to native expulsion.

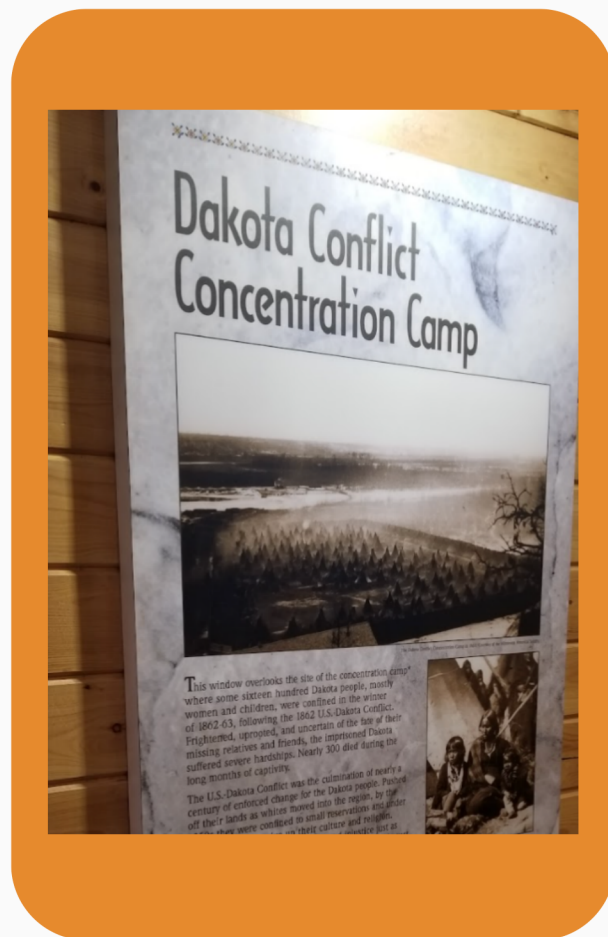
Our final stop was at Oheyawahi, or Pilot Knob, where the contrast between the expansive prairie land and the encroaching urban sprawl was evident...



At Oheyawahi tall grasses framed glimpses of the St. Paul skyline and structures marked the horizon. At this site, we discussed the ongoing fight to restore the 99% of prairies lost. The restoration efforts take on a deep significance, representing a collective commitment to not only return the land to what it was prior to settlement, but also to address the historical injustices suffered by the indigenous communities.

To learn more, please consider downloading Revelo, an augmented reality app, and searching up Marlena's Dakota Spirit Walk, checking out indigenous stores like Tanagidan's Blue Hummingbird Woman, or diving into the pages of 'Fort Snelling At Bdote', which details the events that occurred at Bdote.

My heartfelt gratitude to the Minnesota Humanities Center for organizing this unforgettable tour, and to Ramona Kitto Stately, Marlena Myles, and Tanagidan To Win for providing us with such an insightful and enlightening experience!



December Grads

Credit Where Credit is Due

Kudos!:

Congratulations to Geography major December graduates Carter Stacey '23 and Kingsley Hollon-Coleman '23!



Name This Ball!

Freeman Boda '26 & Sasha Joseph '25

If you haven't found yourself moseying around the Geography Department's office while it was on display recently, you may not have had the pleasure of seeing the Department's very own geography-themed bowling ball!

As seen on the left this majestic ball, modeled by our very own Professor Dan Trudeau (who is also wearing the new departmental t-shirt) has the likeness of a globe.



While the bowling ball is clearly a masterpiece in and of itself, we need your help on making it even better by helping to chose a name for it!

To do so, please scan the QR code on the left or type in the link below and fill out the google form with your bowling ball names for consideration. The results of this naming contest will be announced in the next issue of *The Graticule*.



Scan Me!



? Holly Ballcus? Ball Punyan? Glo-

ll' **Name This Ball!** in F

o <https://forms.gle/k39k7hFHARKbo8pj9> in

Ball Moseley? Saint Anthony Balls?

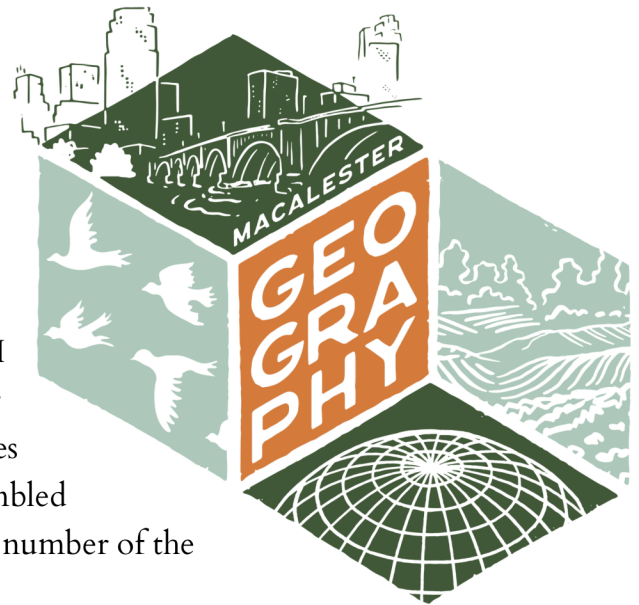
Behind the Logo: An Interview with Alumnus Dio Cramer

Freeman Boda '26

We reached out to the artist behind the Geography Department’s new logo, Dio Cramer, '20, to highlight some of their work, ask them about their thought process in creating the logo, and check-in on where they currently find themselves only three years after graduating. The following are their answers to some of our questions in a Q&A format, and some images of their graphic design work:

Q: In general terms, can you tell us about the process you undertook in designing and creating the new departmental logo?

A: This was one of the more complicated logo projects I’ve worked on! Geography as a discipline is hard to illustrate without falling into imagery that has been overused (like globes and compasses). I started by collecting imagery that related to specific concepts in the field of geography without worrying about trying to capture the breadth of the field. As I collected these images, I realized that seeing them all together was a much more cohesive vision of the vastly different themes of geography, and began designing a modular logo that resembled building blocks that could be formed in many ways with any number of the different images of geography.



Q: As a recent alumnus, what have you gotten up to since you left Macalester?



A: I fought a pipeline for a couple of years [and] do a lot of community arts organizing and political artwork and troublemaking. I helped make a book about stories from the line 3 movement over the last decade. (<https://www.line3anthology.org/>)

I do graphic design at France 44 (parent company of the Cheese Shop/ Meat Shop). I also continue my printmaking practice.



Scan Me for more links to Dio’s work!

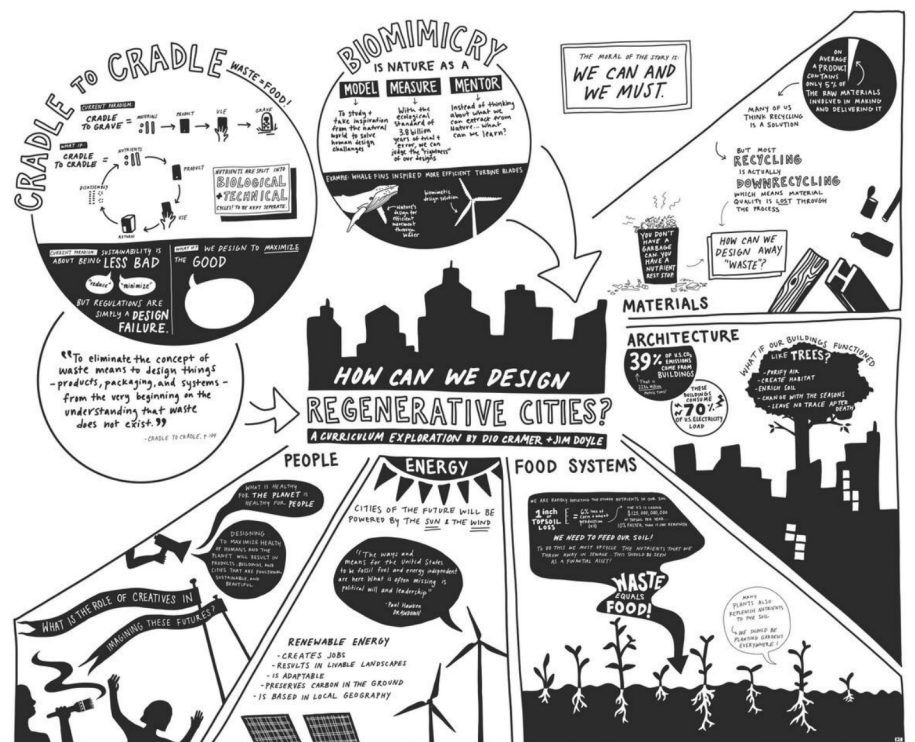
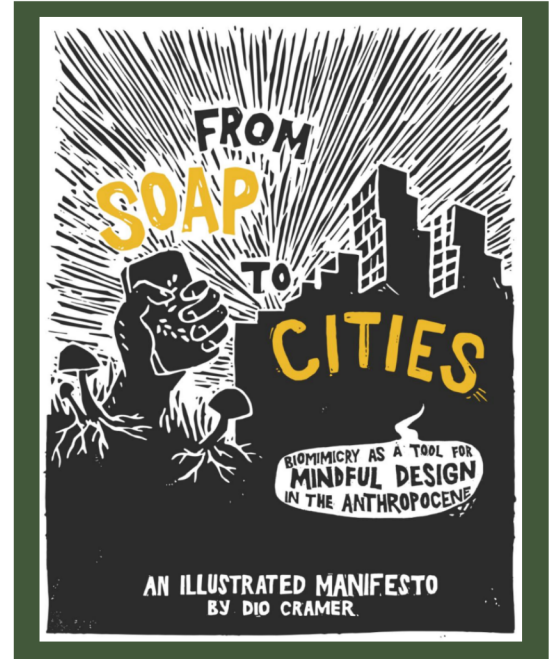


Q: Is there a favorite geography-related class or moment you had at Macalester that you look back on especially fondly?

A: I had a really good time (and hard time!) working on my thesis! It was really cool (and again soooo difficult) to try and connect so many of the things I discovered through geography over the years and turn it into a semi-cohesive project. Eric, my advisor, was super patient with me, and [through] many many hours in his office, a dedicated “crazy ideas” notebook, and the support of my thesis cohort (Ben and Sophia) I’m super proud of the final project. (https://issuu.com/dio.seaturtle/docs/for_online)

Q: Do you have any advice for current Macalester geography students?

A: Get creative! Geography is such a cool and important field because it can encompass so much, and often has really radical applications. Explore those! Combine art with academia, its a really important way to make academic thoughts accessible to a broader audience. I think we shouldn’t limit ourselves to traditional ways of knowledge production and sharing and push ourselves to get more creative and adapt to the world we live in.



An Intro to the IGU with Professor Holly Barcus

Sasha Joseph '25

This fall, Professor Holly Barcus went to the **International Geographical Union's** Executive Committee meeting in Delhi and gave a keynote speech at the annual conference in Beijing as the organization's Vice President and Treasurer. 850 Faculty, Students, and other Geographers from around the world representing 35 countries attended and connected over the study of Geography from different perspectives and its future.

The IGU is broken up into commissions that anyone can join. Professor Barcus is a member of the "Sustainability of Rural Systems" commission, and as treasurer helps fund geographers to travel to IGU conferences around the world. More info can be found at igu-online.org

"TALKING ABOUT GEOGRAPHY IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD MEANS UNDERSTANDING OTHER PERSPECTIVES, THEIR OPPORTUNITIES, AND THE CHALLENGES THEY FACE; FORMING BONDS BEYOND JUST STRUCTURED MEETINGS." - HOLLY BARCUS



Winter Dinner

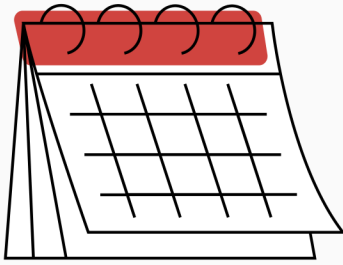
Ending the Year off Right

The Geography Winter Dinner & The End of a Semester

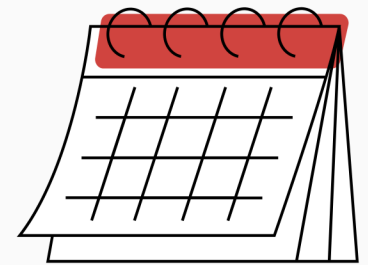
Freeman Boda '26

As the semester winds down to an end and the winter solstice marches ever closer, the Geography Department celebrates those who have graduated, those who will graduate, and the brilliant professors who make it all possible. We here at *The Graticule* can't wait to see you next year.





UPCOMING EVENTS



Dec. 16th
End of Fall Semester Classes

Jan. 18th
Start of Spring Semester Classes

Feb. 16th
Lanegran Days Lecture & Dinner

Speaker Matthew Jackson '92 (Executive Managing Director, Jones Lang LaSalle Business Consulting Group)

Want More?

Keep up with the wider Macalester Geography community by joining our LinkedIn Group (Macalester College Geography Network), Facebook Group (Macalester College Geographers), or follow us on Instagram (@macgeography).



THE GRATICULE

Macalester Geography Department Newsletter



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Support Geography

When giving to Macalester, consider making a gift to the Geography Department. To direct your gift to our program, please select "other" in the "designate gift to" option and write "Geography" in the comments. Your gift will support high-impact activities, including field trips and professional development opportunities for students that are a signature part of the Macalester Geography experience.

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