



Bill Moseley Elected First AAG President from a Liberal Arts College

Sasha Joseph '25

In 2023, our very own Professor Bill Moseley was elected to a three-year term in the government of the American Association of Geographers (AAG). I spoke with Bill to talk about his role and the recent trip to the organization's conference in Detroit, attended by both students and faculty.

Interview edited for length and clarity.



For those who might not know, what is AAG and what is your role?

Sure. AAG stands for American Association of Geographers. It's the largest professional association of Geographers in the United States, and is composed of faculty, students, and people who work professionally as geographers in government and private sectors. For the past year I served as vice president, and starting July 1 I'll serve a one-year term as president and then past-president the year after.

What priorities in particular are you looking forward to or looking to for the next year?

To run for AAG president, I prepared a statement of priorities highlighting the need for leadership that reflects institutional diversity. Historically, AAG presidents come from R1 institutions. I am the first elected from a liberal arts college.

I'm also interested in the future of geography and building up geography education at the high school and undergraduate level. I think that's the future of the discipline – thinking about K-12 education and bachelors degree education for geography, which is a bit of an Achilles heel for US geography.



This Issue:

Bill Moseley and the AAG
PAGES 1-2

Winter Dinner and Awards
PAGE 3

Geography Graduates
Cultural Atlas
PAGES 4-5

Projections from the Chair
PAGE 6

Goings-On
Farewell GTU Co-Presidents
PAGE 7

The Wrapup
PAGE 8



Class of 2025 Honors Students
at AAG Conference/ Detroit
in March

AAG President Bill Moseley cont.

I consider myself an international scholar, and it's important to engage with geographers around the world. It's also important to strengthen international ties, particularly in this political moment when the current administration is singling out international students with a number of anti-science positions and funding cut backs for academic research. It's important to emphasize how international geography is and that we do not reflect the policies and priorities of the current administration. We are scholars and we believe in interacting with that broader world. In my list of priorities, I also talked about specifically how geographers are contributing to policy at different levels.

I know your work both past and present is very international with NGOs in the UN. And I was wondering what changes you are seeing in the present moment in your field and Geography more broadly?

This meeting was significant because was the first meeting that a lot of geographers had attended in person because of COVID and accessibility. There were about 6,000 attendees because Detroit is easier to travel to and affordable. The vibe was very positive although what I saw happening with international scholars was troubling. AAG council members and professional staff were monitoring and supporting international scholars traveling to the meeting if they had any problems with immigration. Scientists travel around the world to attend meetings and they shouldn't have to go through unnecessary hoops.

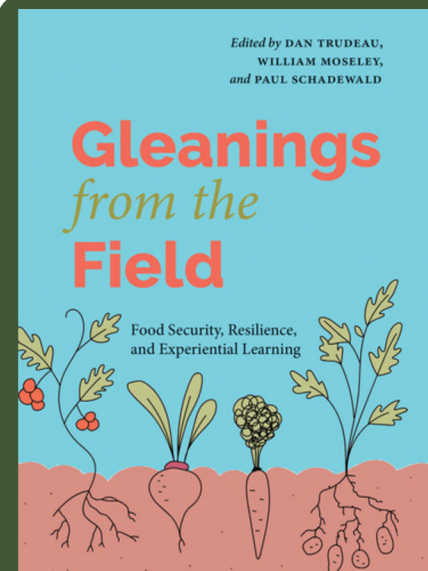
On the subject of Detroit, what was your experience like there with the honors students?

We encourage honor students to attend the AAG national meeting. I think it's important for Macalester students to showcase their projects, but also there's only seven tenure track faculty members in our department, you are exposed to seven different ways of doing geography. When a student attends the national meeting, what they realizes is how big geography is and how many topics there are. I think it's an incredible experience to see someone speak whose work they've read or who's an expert on a topic that doesn't exist in our department.

I participated in around a half dozen different sessions. I've published two books in the last six months, and there were author meet and greets related to those for my decolonizing African agriculture book and the other one with Dan Trudeau, "Gleanings from the Field". It was lovely to meet readers and we had some really good discussions. I was in a paper session and I got to introduce a couple of other sessions. I was in a panel on development policy, which with the demise of USAID, there's lots of questions about what what's going to happen with that. And on Friday there was a big education symposium with a lot of K-12 educators and I gave the opening address as well as a lunchtime address. This is one of the priorities that I mentioned earlier, supporting K-12 educators. It was really good to connect with that community, which is very much in the trenches creating the geographers of tomorrow.

Any other news that you'd want to share or any other message for Mac Geography?

I think it's significant to mention the role and position of Macalester's Geography Department on the national scene. You have Holly Barcus who's the vice president of the IGU as well as myself. It speaks to the prominence of this department. We're not a PhD granting institution but nearly every geography in the US knows about Macalester.



Professors Dan Trudeau and Bill Moseley have collaborated a new book titled: "Gleanings From the Field: Food Security, Resilience, and Experiential Learning," which is available both as a hard copy and can be accessed online at [this link!](#)

Spring Dinner

Spring Dinner

Sasha Joseph '25



The Geography Spring Dinner was a lively celebration with delicious food, reflections of the year, professor stand-up, the very official transfer of Department Chair power, creative song sing-a-longs, and awards recognizing student achievements. Thank you to everyone involved in making it happen!



Erin Daly-Davenport '14 received this year's Crystal Globe Award, given for distinguished service to the Geography Department

Celebrating Geography Departmental Award Recipients

Ben Arnold, Rhishka Kundu, Tim Delventhal, Julia Castellano, *Hildegard Binder Johnson Prize in Geography* for academically outstanding junior majors.

Aidan Reynolds, Felicia Winfrey, and Zippa Curiskis, *David A. Lanegran Award* for significant contributions to the community life of the department.

Reece McKee, *Macalester Geography Award for Excellence of Scholarship*



This year's student awardees left to right: Felicia Winfrey, Aidan Reynolds, Reece McKee, Zippa Curiskis, Ben Arnold, Rishika Kundu

Congratulations Geography Seniors!



ELLA
KRUMM



LUNA
JOHNSTON



CHARLIE
CHINANDER-
MCAUL



ABDIRAHMAN
BILLE



RILEY
HODIN



JOEL
SADOFSKY



SERENA
STEIN



ELLIE
SABLAK



REECE
MCKEE



SASHA
JOSEPH



LILY
EGGERS



STELLA
GARDNER



GEORGIA
GAYLE-KRETZ



SAMUEL
POSNER



RYAN
PRZESPOLEWSKI



PARKER
SUMMERS



MAX
CARLIN



CONNERY
RITTER



EVELYN
KENT



AIDAN
REYNOLDS



**ELSE
GERBER**



**ZIPPA
CURISKIS**



**ZEINEB
ABDU**



**GWEN
REOCH**



**SETH
LORENZEN**



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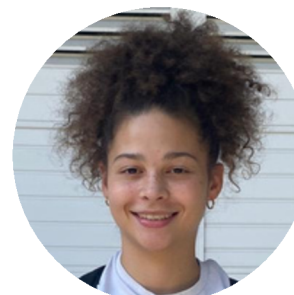
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**CATHERINE
DRIVER**

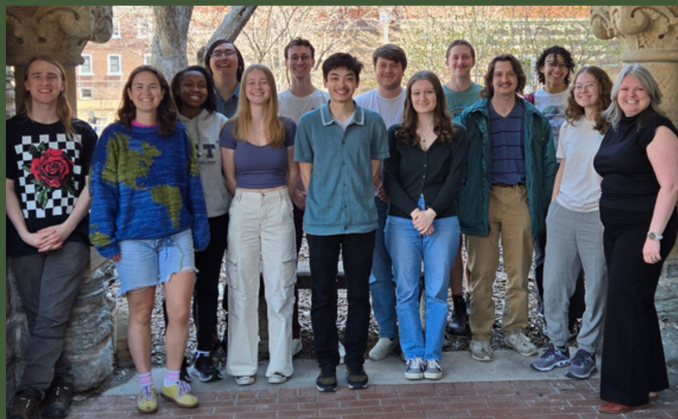


**EMMETT
CLANCY**

Cultural Atlas

Get ready for the third installment of Macalester Geography's iconic cultural atlases: Minnesota in Mosaic. This new atlas showcases a semester's worth of student work blending cartography, data visualization, and storytelling to explore Minnesota through themes as wide-ranging as stars, smallpox, and canoe culture!

Join us for the launch party on May 9th from 3:30–5:00 p.m. on the Great Lawn in front of Carnegie (JWall Commons if it rains)! You can purchase a copy at [this link](#) or by scanning the QR Code!



Projections From the Chair

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Dan Trudeau, Geography Department Chair

As my term as chair of Mac Geography ends, I want to highlight key moments from the past three years. The department rotates chair duties regularly, and I became chair in 2022, succeeding Professor Laura Smith. We were still recovering from the pandemic, but excited to resume activities that bring our community together—a central part of Mac Geography.

Field trips made a strong comeback in 2023. If there was a competition to have the most field trips at Mac, Geography would win the top prize!

Geography was reclassified as a STEM field, allowing international graduates to work in the US for up to 36 months after graduation.

We updated our curriculum by standardizing introductory courses and requiring a 300-level elective, ensuring a stronger academic foundation. We also launched a Geospatial Science minor in 2024, which has been quite popular.

We revamped “The Graticule”, newsletter, thanks to work-study students who now serve as editors and content creators.

The department commissioned a new logo...and it catalyzed a new generation of Mac Geography SWAG.

The department launched a new approach to David A. Lanegan Days that invites alumni and students to connect, network, and build community while also learning about developments in geography and related fields. We’re excited to share that the next Lanegan Day is scheduled for February 20, 2026 and you’re invited!

There are more accomplishments beyond these highlights, yet these stand out as important developments in the fabric of departmental life.

As I prepare for Professor Eric Carter to take over as chair, I appreciate the work we’ve done together as a department, the dedication of faculty and staff, and the energy and care of our students. I’m so grateful for the community we have in Mac Geography! It is something special.



Dan Trudeau hands over the powers of the office to our next department chair Eric Carter in a very formal ceremony



Our next Geography Department Chair, Professor Eric Carter!

Goings-On in Mac Geography

Sasha Joseph '25



The 2nd Annual Twin Cities Geography Mixer went off without a hitch!

Macalester GTU and UMN Geography students bonded over good eats and their shared love for geography in what's sure to be a tradition for the ages!



Geography participated in the first annual Geo-Ball Kickball game with Geology! Unfortunately, geography was defeated but fun was had and next year we'll run it back 🏆

Farewell GTU Presidents!

Geographers,

As we prepare to graduate, we wanted to reflect on the past year in Macalester Geography and GTU. This year brought plenty of highlights: free cake, free maps, free laughs, and the birth of GeoBall—the most intense kickball rivalry the world never saw coming. These happy moments were made possible not just by our efforts, but by the shared vision of the department and the tireless support of Laura Kigin, Connie DeLage, Dan Trudeau, and all the Geography faculty.

We're especially grateful to all of our fellow geographers for making this year such a success and for continuing to shape the department's vibrant culture. Whether procrastinating in the lounge, pulling late nights in the GIS lab, or singing poorly written geography-themed song parodies, you always bring passion and spirit to everything you do.

We'll miss seeing you around the department, swapping map critiques, and sharing inside jokes about the professors. To all the graduating seniors: we wish you the best and are so grateful we shared this time together. Here's to a drink at a future Lanegran Days! Or a Pauly's Wing Wednesday?!

Aidan Reynolds and Felicia Winfrey, 2024-2025 GTU Co-Presidents

NEXT ISSUE

- **Meet the New Department Chair**
- **Meet the New GTU Presidents**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Geography Academic Reception

5/16 3-4:45pm

Commencement

5/17 - Macalester LC Fieldhouse

Alumni, What's Up?

We've heard from several of you in response to our past calls to action and hope to include a special alumni updates section in a future edition.

If you've been out and about, tell us what you've been up to! Where in the world are you? What have you been doing since you left Macalester? Have you traveled to far off places? Written a book? Started a new business?

[Submit an update here](#)

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

Newsletter Contributors

Sasha Joseph '25

Dan Trudeau

Departmental Support

Connie DeLage



This is my last Graticule so I wanted to say thank you to everyone I've worked with for the past two years! I've loved this job and it's meant a lot to me. - Sasha

Give to Macalester Day Gratitude

Thanks to so many who contributed to Mac Geography during the recent Give to Macalester Days event. Your generosity helps the department support student participation in conferences like the American Association of Geographers and the Midwestern Undergraduate Geography Symposium. It also strengthens the department's efforts in community engagement by paying for complimentary copies of the forthcoming cultural atlas, Minnesota in Mosaic: Stories from the North Star State, that students give to their community partners. Your gifts make a difference! - Dan Trudeau

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macalester.edu/geography