It is our pleasure to present the first A&S Jr. Faculty Newsletter. This idea was birthed during our 2011 Jr. Faculty reception by Jr. Faculty members who were present. We are excited about sharing the great work conducted by our very own.

Jr. Faculty who are interested in having their research/initiatives shared in future publications should send requests to Marian R. Vasser at mrvass01@louisville.edu by the last day of each month. Newsletters will be published periodically as submissions are received.

Please share any ideas or thoughts concerning how our office may serve you better in the future. Mentoring? More opportunities to come together to share challenges/successes? We welcome your ideas regarding ways we can help you be more successful at the University of Louisville. Please submit any ideas you may have to David S. Owen at (502) 852-0458 or dsowen04@louisville.edu.

We hope you enjoy the first edition.
Pearlie M. Johnson

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Pearlie Johnson has a Ph.D. in Art History and Sociology from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Johnson’s dissertation, African American Quilts: An Examination of Feminism, Identity, and Empowerment in the Fabric Arts of Kansas City Quilters, explores a complex system of symbols and encoded images that address theoretical issues related to African and African American studies.


Dr. Johnson is Assistant Professor in Pan-African Studies and Art History at the University of Louisville. Her teaching load includes “African Art and Perspective,” “Survey of African American Art,” “Contemporary Trends in African American Art,” and “Images of the Family in Art and Literature.” Courses in the process of development include “The Power of Black Feminism in African American Art Quilts” and “Arts of Africa and New World Cultures.”
**Tommy Parker**

Webpage: http://louisville.edu/biology/faculty-information/parker/test.html

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**Tommy Parker**’s research interests broadly revolve around themes essential for understanding the population dynamics and behavioral adaptations exhibited by urbanized vertebrate species. Parker’s research addresses the question, “What are the habitat and landscape attributes correlated with the synurbization (the process of becoming urbanized) of wildlife on an urban to rural gradient?” In his research, Tommy quantifies and models resources in urban systems at the habitat and landscape scales. At each scale, Parker focuses on the relationships among population-level dynamics, behavior, and resource availability.

Parker’s work has focused primarily on mammals; however, he does work with other taxa to address questions related to his research interest. Parker also works with a broad range of collaborators, including state, federal, and private industry biologists, and scientists from varying disciplines. Parker’s research on urban ecology and wildlife has been published in numerous journals and has led to speaking engagements around the globe. He has been an invited speaker at national venues such as Columbia University and Cornell University, internationally at University of Liverpool (England), Queen Mary University (Ireland), Universidad Autonoma De Nuevo Leon (Mexico), University College London (England), University of Exeter (UK), and University of Nagoya (Japan).

Since completing his Ph.D., Parker has been the Regional Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Species (TES) Biologist for the Eastern Region of the USDA Forest Service. He was responsible for management and conservation activities, policy, and litigation regarding TES located on 13 National Forest that were distributed over 20 states. In 2008, Dr. Parker joined the department of biology here at UofL and continues his research on urban wildlife and ecology as the founder and Primary Investigator of the UWRL. He currently teaches mammalogy, environmental biology, biodiversity of urban parks, and beginning this summer will teach intro to biology at the UofL campus in Panama City, Panama.

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**Margath Walker**


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**Margath Walker**’s research interests are border security and drug policy, urban geography, cultural production, social theory, and Latin America. Why are places the way they are? As a human geographer, this is the simple yet complex question Walker thinks about most of the time. This is perhaps in part because she was born in Malta and grew up in Nigeria, Brazil, and Mexico; circumstances that made Geography a natural choice for a field of study. As a researcher, the site of Walker’s analyses has most consistently been the Global South. Walker’s research interests focus on how regional identities and cultural practice work together to reconfigure place.

Walker’s doctoral research examined the transformations in the cultural sphere of Tijuana. Walker has also worked on a National Science Foundation-project where she traveled to Oaxaca to investigate land disputes among indigenous peoples in southern Mexico. In conjunction, Walker worked with community groups grappling with issues of local governance with the objective of analyzing whether development projects meet donor-formulated empowerment criteria.

Walker is currently finishing up work on a pilot project which assesses the impacts of narco-violence on non-profit organizations on the US-Mexico border—research that is funded in part by the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. More long-term, she is concerned with how current US-Mexico-Guatemala trilateral policies aimed at combating violence and fortifying national boundaries have in fact destabilized key Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) actors and allies. Locally, Walker has been involved in mapping projects using qualitative methods to assess resident experiences of displacement from HOPE IV housing.

Dr. Walker teaches courses on the history and philosophy of geography, qualitative methods, urbanism in the Global South and introduction to human geography.
Crespo, Fabian

Fernandez-Botran, R; Ahmed, Z; Crespo, F; Gatenbee, Ch; Gonzalez, J; Dickson, D; and Litvan, I. 2011. Cytokine expression and microglial activation in brains of progressive supranuclear palsy and Alzheimer’s disease patients. Parkinsonism & Related Disorders. In Press.


Parker, Tommy


Parker, T.S. A conceptual framework for the study of wildlife in urban areas. Landscape and Urban Planning (in prep).


Walker, Margath A.

Walker, Margath A. "Border Food or Food on the Border? Cultural Transformation through Gastronomic Practice". Under review Geoforum.


