



**The Pan-American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH)**  
*United States National Section*

**2022 ANNUAL REPORT**

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# Highlights of the US National Section Activities for 2022

The United States of America National Section (USNS) of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) is pleased to submit this report of USNS activities for the period of October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2022. Included are reports from the Geography, Cartography, Geophysics, and History Commission Representatives from within the USNS, summaries of significant activities and meetings, and the USNS roster.

The USNS leadership team members are Deirdre Dalpiaz Bishop, USNS President and US Census Bureau Geography Division Chief; Lynda Liptrap, USNS Executive Secretary and Census Bureau International Geographic Programs Coordinator, and Julianna Aynes-Neville, Development Counselor, US Mission to the Organization of American States (OAS), Department of State.

The USNS welcomes Julianna Aynes-Neville who assumed the role of the Department of State Liaison for the USNS in May as Ben Barron moved on to new opportunities. The USNS thanks Ben for his outstanding support and important contributions since joining the USNS in March 2020. Ben was instrumental in guiding the USNS leaders through the vetting process for the USNS candidate for PAIGH President, Patricia Solís, leading up to the election of Authorities in October 2021. Ben was also key to ensuring the Department of State review of the modification of the Organic Statute in 2021.

Paul Cooper, a longstanding dedicated and active member of the USNS, stepped down as the Vice President of the USNS in March this year after serving in that role since 2014. Mr. Cooper has held leadership roles in the PAIGH organization and the USNS since 2008 when he became the Chair of the Cartography Commission's Institutional Strengthening and Technical Cooperation (ISTC), that focused on geospatial data infrastructure. In this role, he helped PAIGH sponsor and fund the Haiti Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting Workshop 2011, which was a capacity building event held in coordination with the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO). During this time, he was also instrumental in establishing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the IHO and PAIGH.

Mr. Cooper has also supported PAIGH and the USNS as the US representative to the Cartography Commission and as a member of the Cartography Commission's Nautical Charting and Hydrography Working Group. More recently, in 2021, Mr. Cooper initiated PAIGH involvement in the Seabed 2030 Project of the Nippon Foundation - General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO) organization. This led to the establishment of a memorandum of understanding between the two entities, marking their commitment to work together to advance the bathymetric mapping the entire ocean floor.

## USNS Leadership, Participation, and Promotion of PAIGH Activities

The USNS welcomed Secretary General Antonio Campuzano Rosales as he began his term in 2022, following his election to office at the 22nd General Assembly of PAIGH held virtually on October 27, 2021.



In addressing the USNS as part of USNS 2022 Annual Meeting, the Secretary General shared his objectives for PAIGH to “promote, coordinate, and disseminate studies pertaining to its areas of interest, which are cartography, geography, history, geophysics and related sciences for the benefit of the Americas.” The USNS supports his vision for PAIGH as we continue our collaboration with the organization through 2022 and the coming years. More information on the Secretary General’s goals and objectives is provided in the Annual Meeting section of this report.



USNS leaders had the privilege of meeting Secretary General Campuzano in Washington, DC on April 7, 2022, and joining him for his introductory meeting at the Department of State with Bradley Freden, U.S. Interim Permanent Representative to the Organization of American States and Deputy Chief of Mission for the U.S. Permanent Mission to the OAS. Shown in the photo from left to right, Secretary General Campuzano, Jean Wintemute, Patricia Solís, Deirdre Bishop, and Lynda Liptrap.

### USNS Leadership

As in past years, one or more USNS members are serving in leadership positions within PAIGH.

#### *PAIGH President*

At the 22nd General Assembly of PAIGH on October 27, 2021, USNS member Dr. Patricia Solís was elected as the President of PAIGH for the 2022 – 2025 term. She is the first woman to serve as President in the organization’s 94-year history.

As President, Patricia identified her three priorities for the organization:

- Further expand the relevance and reputation of the PAIGH in conjunction with peer, regional and global organizations such as the UN-GGIM, and sister institutes of the OAS;
- Highlight attention to climate resilience through the generation and voluntary transfer of specialized knowledge among all member countries through the development and design of multidisciplinary solutions of the four commissions of Cartography, Geography, History, and Geophysics;

- Celebrate the active participation of vibrant actors, including the next generation of young leaders, from all sectors of society and inclusive of all PAIGH member countries, and highlight the work of women scientists and professionals.

Patricia was also recognized in 2022 for her leadership of notable programs and activities in the region. YouthMappers, co-founded by Patricia, was recognized by the Department of State as an example of U.S. leadership in bridging the digital divide through its support for youth led innovation: “The United States will continue support for YouthMappers, a global community of students, researchers, and educators across 65 countries and 320 universities using public geospatial technologies to support development advances worldwide. YouthMappers prioritizes women’s economic empowerment, digital mapping literacy, and youth engagement, and it currently works on mapping solutions associated with climate, urban services, and electric power access.”

As the Executive Director of the Knowledge Exchange for Resilience at Arizona State University, Patricia and other sponsors hosted a conference titled “Advancing Women’s Prosperity in the Workplace.” Women in GIS from Brazil, Columbia, Ecuador, Guyana, and Peru came together to become more empowered to combat climate change. Patricia inspired the participants to use their skills and promote women’s engagement with technologies to address components of climate change.

The USNS commends Patricia on her accomplishments and supports her leadership in serving as the President of PAIGH for the 2022 – 2025 term.



Dr. Patricia Solís speaks at the Advancing Women’s Prosperity in the Workplace conference held at ASU in May 2022.

### ***PAIGH Liaison Officer to the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographic Names***

The USNS continues to support the PAIGH organization by having a USNS representative serve as the PAIGH Liaison Officer to the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographic Names (UNGEGN). The Liaison Officer reports the toponymy-related activities of PAIGH to UNGEGN while also reporting to PAIGH on the UNGEGN’s recommendations, decisions, and activities.

This year marked a transition of this responsibility from Roger Payne to Glenn Guempel. Glenn currently serves as the Executive Secretary, Domestic Names, for the U.S. Board on Geographic Names as part of his official duties for the U.S. Geological Survey. He is recognized as an expert on the subject matter.

The USNS and PAIGH thank Roger for his dedication and service as the PAIGH Liaison Officer



to the UNGEGN from 2014 to 2022. Roger continues to be an active member of the Geographic Names Working Groups of the PAIGH Cartography Commission and USNS.

## **USNS Participation in PAIGH Events and Programs**

### ***22<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of PAIGH and 2021 Statutory Meetings***

Deirdre Bishop and Lynda Liptrap attended the 22<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of PAIGH that was held virtually on October 27, 2021. As the head of the USNS and further accredited by the Department of State as the USNS voting representative for the 22<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly, Deirdre Bishop cast the U.S. votes for the election of the Authorities (President, Vice President, and Secretary General) of the PAIGH for the period of 2022- 2025. Votes were also cast on the following agenda items:

- 2022 Budget Program
- Annual Quotas of the Member States for the Year 2022
- Ratification of Memorandums of Understanding, Letters of Intention and Their Equivalents, Subscribed between Various Entities and the PAIGH
- Location and Host for the Annual Statutory Meeting of the PAIGH - 2022
- Honorary Award to the Geographer Jean Parcher Wintemute.

In addition, members of the USNS participated virtually in the Consultation Meetings of the four PAIGH Commissions, on October 18, 2021, for the election of the authorities of each Commission. Members also attended each of the four Commission Consultation meetings held October 19 – 22, 2021. As Geography Commission President, Patricia Solís participated in the 96<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Authorities, held virtually, in October 2021.

Members also observed, virtually, the installation ceremony of the Secretary General, that occurred on the 94th Anniversary of the Institute on February 7, 2022. As PAIGH President, Patricia Solís presided over the event.

Patricia Solís attended the 97th Meeting of Authorities at the PAIGH office in Mexico City on June 20, 2022.



PAIGH Secretary General Antonio Campuzano looks on as President Patricia Solís signs the "Distinguished Visitors Book" at the 97th Meeting of Authorities.

### ***23<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly of PAIGH***

The 23rd General Assembly of PAIGH is scheduled to occur in person in Quito, Ecuador, October 25 – 28, 2022. Deirdre Bishop, Lynda Liptrap, and several members of the USNS are planning to attend.

### ***2022 and 2023 Technical Assistance Program***

A member of the USNS and Geophysics Commission, Christopher Castro, was part of a team that submitted a proposal for the 2022 Technical Assistance Program that was selected to receive funding to conduct a workshop in 2022. More detail is provided in the Geophysics Commission section of this report.

Members of the USNS Geographic Names Working Group (WG), submitted a proposal for consideration for the 2023 Technical Assistance Program to update the content and materials for the PAIGH Jose Joaquin Morell Geographic Names Course and host the materials online for a web-based course. More detail is provided in the Cartography Commission section of this report.

### ***PAIGH USNS Annual Meeting and Monthly Teleconference Meetings***

The 2022 PAIGH USNS Annual Meeting was held virtually as two sessions of two hours on March 15 and 17. It was coordinated by the US Census Bureau. Deirdre Bishop and Paul Cooper provided opening remarks thanking members for their continual work and support of the PAIGH USNS. USNS members also honored Paul Cooper during the 2022 Annual Meeting as he stepped down from serving as the USNS Vice President.

The meeting had several invited presentations, including the opportunity to have PAIGH Secretary General Campuzano introduce himself to the USNS and share his objectives and goals for PAIGH. In addressing the USNS, Secretary General Campuzano shared his objectives for PAIGH to “promote, coordinate, and disseminate studies pertaining to its areas of interest, which are cartography, geography, history, geophysics and related sciences for the benefit of the Americas.” He pointed to a strategy consisting of six guiding axes as the means to meet the objectives:

- To promote scientific research in the fields of cartography, geography, history, geophysics, and related sciences, specifically in studies that are of interest to the Member States, with the aim of contributing to the peace of the American States;
- To disseminate scientific studies in cartography, geography, history, geophysics, and related sciences of interest to the American continent, in accordance with the scientific and technical programs approved by the Institute and in coordination with the General Secretariat and the Commissions;
- To keep finances healthy, the execution of the priority projects thus fulfilling the objectives for which the Institute was created. The review of the accounts and the statement of funds will also be carried out annually;

- To strengthen the global presence of the PAIGH, emphasizing its relationship with international organizations such as the Organization of American States (OAS) and the states of the continent;
- The PAIGH will strengthen its relations with the host country of the Institute and of the Chairmen of the Commissions. This will benefit the proper functioning and image of the Institute;
- To ensure the good state of conservation of all human, material, infrastructure, movable and immovable resources. And historical, archivist, artistic, bibliographical, hemerographic, and the PAIGH map library, as well as the updating of the regulations in accordance with the new Organic Statute.

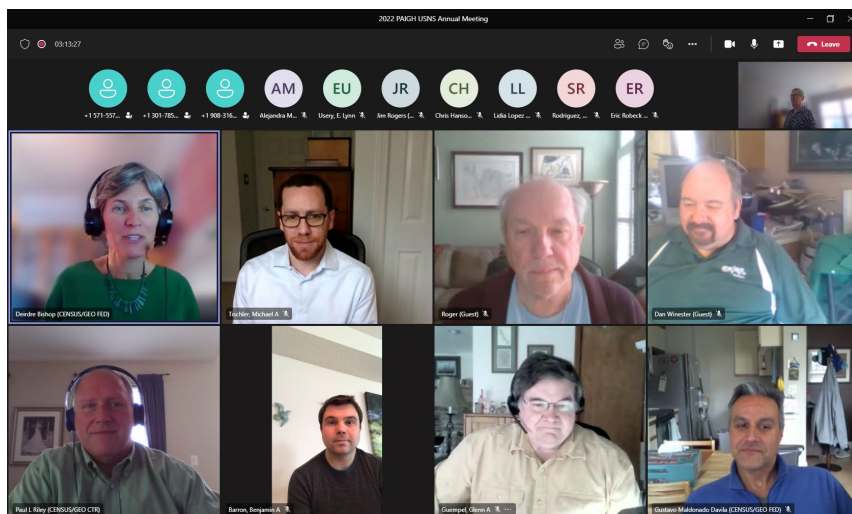
Patricia Solís also addressed the USNS and offered her thanks for the support over the past years and leading up to the 2021 election of Authorities. She underscored her belief in the institutions of civil society such as PAIGH and their value to the social scientific infrastructure. She shared her feelings of being honored and humbled by the significance of serving as the first woman president of the organization in the 94-year history. She also noted Secretary General Campuzano's commitment to PAIGH, his understanding of the responsibility, and as a historian, his appreciation of the long-standing history of the institute. She also acknowledged and expressed gratitude for the PAIGH Secretariat for their longstanding work behind the scenes and their skill in running the operations of the institution and providing guidance during the transition.

Ben Barron from the US Permanent Mission to the Organization of American States (OAS) provided an update on Western Hemisphere affairs. There were presentations on members' projects and items of interest. Reports from USNS Commission representatives were presented as well. For a full listing of presentations provided, see Appendix 1 for the 2022 USNS Annual Meeting agenda.

USNS members recognized and thanked Paul Cooper for his contributions to PAIGH and to the USNS during a portion of the Annual Meeting. In stepping down from the role of USNS Vice President, his commitment and work resulting in many of the USNS accomplishments, recruiting new members, and his role as a mentor were highlighted. Members also noted Paul for helping the USNS develop a relationship with the Secretariat through his understanding of the organization, its history, and the stakeholders across the Americas.

The USNS continues to hold teleconferences, almost every month, to discuss the ongoing business of the National Section. In addition to the Annual Meeting in March 2022, members met for eight monthly meetings from October 2021 – September 2022.





Attendees of the  
2022 USNS Annual  
Meeting.

### *United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management*

The United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) promotes international collaboration in global information management and reports to the UN Economic and Social Council Statistics Division. The USNS, PAIGH, and some of its member states have representation as observers, delegates, and contributors.

The 12th Session of the UN-GGIM Committee of Experts was convened in person at the UN Headquarters in New York, New York August 1 – 5, 2022. Side events were held August 1 – 2, and the formal meeting was conducted August 3 – 5.

The following topics were the focus of this formal gathering:

1. Strengthening of geospatial information management
2. Determining the future geospatial information ecosystem
3. Contribution of regional committees and thematic groups to the global geospatial information agenda
4. Integrated Geospatial Information Framework
5. Global geodetic reference frame
6. Geospatial information for sustainable development
7. Integration of geospatial, statistical, and other related information
8. Application of geospatial information related to land administration and management
9. Geospatial information and services for disasters
10. Marine geospatial information
11. Policy and legal frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data
12. Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community
13. Collaboration with the UN Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

Members of the UN-GGIM US Delegation are also active leaders and participants in the UN-GGIM: Americas Regional Committee. In 2022, John Nyberg was selected to serve on the Board

of Directors as the Vice President. The USNS recognizes the roles of the US representatives in helping to guide programs being conducted in the Americas region.

## Commission Reports

The USNS continues to benefit from the expertise of the USNS Commission Representatives who reliably serve as active members. The USNS is grateful that each Commission Representative faithfully maintains the positions they have held in previous years. Dr. Erick Langer, Georgetown University, is Principal US Representative to the Commission on History; Eric van Praag, Esri, serves in the role of Principal US Representative to the Commission on Cartography; Dr. David Salisbury, University of Richmond, is the Principal US Representative to the Commission on Geography; and Dr. Christopher Castro, Arizona State University, serves in the role as Principal US Representative to the Commission on Geophysics. Their reports follow.

### Cartography Commission

Prepared by Eric van Praag, USNS Representative to the Cartography Commission

The mission of the Cartography Commission is to promote the exchange of technical knowledge in Cartography, develop collaborative partnerships among member countries and between PAIGH and other multi-national institutions. During 2022, several members of the USNS Cartography Commission supported activities in the Americas aimed at increasing data sharing, improving data interoperability, strengthening spatial data infrastructure initiatives, and supporting the work of geospatial agencies in PAIGH member countries. We provide an overview below of these activities and their outcomes.

### Regional Map of The Americas

The Regional Map of the Americas is a collaborative effort of the national mapping organizations of the Americas and several regional stakeholders such as PAIGH, the Spanish National Center for Geographic Information (CNIG), and the Latin American Bank (CAF). The Regional Map of the Americas is producing a digital geographic database at 1:250,000 scale that covers basic and fundamental topographic themes: Administrative Boundaries, Hydrography, Villages, Roads, Morphology, and others (Points of Interest) using official geographic information provided by PAIGH member countries.

The work was started in 2013 with seed funding provided by PAIGH and it is now nearing completion with the development of the North American component of the map being led by the U.S. Geological Survey, the Mexico National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI), and Environment Canada.

Following the recent work over the past few months to generalize USGS National Map data to 1:100,000, new and authoritative data at an appropriate scale is now available to replace several 15-year-old datasets in the current US data collection for the Regional Map. The data is generalized from the latest 1:24,000-scale topographic map data that is used in US Topo and OnDemand Topo and includes updated names and simplified geometry. The incorporation of this

new data will require an additional effort to integrate with Canada and Mexico but represents a significant improvement over existing data.

### **Geographic Names Working Group Activities**

In response to a request by the PAIGH Cartography Commission President, Roger Payne gave a presentation on geographic names at the joint meeting of PAIGH and the Republic of Korea National Geographic Information Institute (NGII) held virtually on November 10, 2021. The presentation was centered on the nature of standardizing geographic names and the status of national programs in PAIGH member States.

Members of the USNS Geographic Names Working Group (WG) collaborated to develop and apply for the PAIGH 2023 Technical Assistance Projects (PAT) program. As part of this process, the group members met over the course of several months to brainstorm and generate the concept for a PAT 2023 project. The concept for the PAT 2023 project is to update the content and materials for the PAIGH Jose Joaquin Morell Geographic Names Course and host the materials online for a web-based course. The course will result in improved names standardization, harnessing the capabilities of national spatial data infrastructure programs, and preserving the cultural heritage inherent in toponyms. Of note, the WG collaborated to garner interest and support from across various US and international organizations and stakeholders in support of the project application. Participating organizations included USGS, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), the Federal Geographic Data Committee, and fellow PAIGH member nations. If the WG's submission is selected, then the WG members anticipate beginning working in support of the effort as soon as November 2022 with a target completion date of December 2023.

### **Translation of USGS National Map Labels**

Patricia Solís led an exploratory project - leveraging YouthMappers and the PAIGH network - around providing Spanish language translation to parts of the US National Map leveraging volunteer geographic information (VGI) and other techniques. Esri was able to support this process by providing guidelines and best practices on map label translation.

### **Regional Geoportals**

To support the Aguascalientes Declaration, Esri offered to implement a geoportal for the Americas during the Joint Virtual Session of UN-GGIM Americas and AmeriGEO in 2020. The portal is modeled on the existing African and Caribbean Geoportals operated by Esri for the African and Caribbean communities.

The initial infrastructure is in place to support this new Portal. Some of the data and applications generated by the *Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information in Central America* Project lead by PAIGH and UN-GGIM Americas is currently hosted in the Portal, and Esri and other PAIGH members have been presenting the Portal to agencies in Latin America that might be interested in leveraging the new portal capabilities.

## PAIGH ArcGIS Online Regional Account

An ArcGIS Online (AGOL) organizational account was donated to PAIGH under the Esri – PAIGH Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) established in June 2019. During 2021 and 2022, Esri and PAIGH explored different avenues to promote the use of this ArcGIS online account for sharing spatial data, especially by agencies that lack the GIS skills or the resources to host data in the cloud. PAIGH members can request access to the PAIGH AGOL account and are able to host, analyze, process, and share data internally, with PAIGH members, or with the public using this mechanism.



AGOL organizational account webpage.

## CARIGEO

CARIGEO is a collaborative effort by the Regional Committee of UN-GGIM: Americas, Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA), Caribbean national mapping and statistical agencies, private sector organizations, academic institutions, and civil society, which seeks to empower the countries and territories of the Caribbean region to advance the greater use and sharing of geospatial, statistical and related information to support improved decision making for sustainable national and regional development. Esri has been actively supporting this initiative, and under its aegis stood up a Caribbean Geoportal for the regional community (<https://www.caribbeangeoportal.com/>) leveraging ArcGIS Online and ArcGIS Hub.

During 2022, CARIGEO organized a student competition entitled “Your Caribbean Story” to allow students from the region to tell their stories leveraging GIS tools, organized a series of webinars targeting GIS specialists and decision makers, and completed an internal workplan that establishes a roadmap for the initiative in the coming years.

“Your Caribbean Story” promotion on the Caribbean GeoPortal webpage.



## **Esri - PAIGH Memorandum of Understanding**

Esri and PAIGH completed and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and associated Annex in June of 2019 at Esri User Conference in San Diego, California.

The purpose of this MOU is to provide a framework for exchange of geographic, cartographic, and scientific expertise to strengthen and continue the development of regional and national Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDIs) and enterprise Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in the Americas.

Esri, the PAIGH Secretariat, and the PAIGH USNS could explore different mechanisms to leverage this collaboration framework to benefit PAIGH members and other stakeholders in the region.

## **Geography Commission**

Prepared by Dr. David Salisbury, USNS Representative to the Geography Commission

The role of the USNS Geography Commission is to help foster collaboration among geographers of the Americas through its member activities and its participation in PAIGH programs.

The USNS Geography Commission is strengthened by the PAIGH President, Patricia Solís. Her leadership ensures an active representation of the USNS Geography Commission at the highest level.

## **Conferences and Meetings**

### ***The American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting***

The American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting was held on April 7-11, 2021, virtually, as result of the COVID-19 pandemic. A total of 2,952 papers and posters (2,648 papers; 304 posters) were scheduled to be presented at the AAG virtual annual meeting. The 2023 AAG annual meeting is scheduled for March 23-27, 2023, in Denver, CO. [More information here.](#)

### ***Conference of Latin American Geography (CLAG)***

The 2022 Conference of Latin American Geography was cancelled due to COVID. The 2023 Conference of Latin American Geography (CLAG) will occur January 3-7, 2023, in Tucson, Arizona. [More information here.](#)



## ***2022 AmeriGEO Week***

The Earth Observations for the Americas (AmeriGEO) meeting was on August 15-18, 2022, in Asunción, Paraguay. For more info see the [AmeriGEO website](#) and [2022 AmeriGEO Week Online](#).



David Salisbury of University of Richmond, José Jesús Pasapera González of CONIDA, Alejandra Gutiérrez of NOAA, María Elena Paredes Márquez of Sawawo-Hito 40, General Mayor García Morgan of CONIDA, and Presidente Alfonso Rengifo Pérez of ACONADIYSH pose for a picture at AmeriGEO, Universidad de las Americas, Asunción, Paraguay. August 16, 2022.

## ***UN-GGIM: Americas 2021***

The Regional Committee of the United Nations on Global Geospatial Information Management in the Americas, UN-GGIM: Americas 8<sup>th</sup> Session was held virtually on November 16-19, 2021. [More information here.](#)

## **PAIGH Projects with Significant USNS Geography Commission Participation**

USNS Geography Commission members did not participate in a PAIGH technical project during this reporting period.

## **Collaborative Projects in Latin America with significant contributions from PAIGH Geography Commission Members**

### **1) Volunteered Mapping and Data Governance in the Americas Compendium Publication**

The culmination of the National Science Foundation contract SES 1753768, to explore the barriers and conditions of the acceptance of volunteer geographic information

(crowdsourcing) in terms of where and when they may be incorporated into the official data sources of countries in the Americas, resulted in a final publication that is available in both Spanish and English. The research project lead by Principal Investigator Dra. Patricia Solís and co-lead by Dra. Nancy Aguirre (Colombia) and Ms. Jean Parcher Wintemute encompassed hands on university student internships actively collaborating with the National Geography Institutes in Mexico, Belize, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Dominican Republic, and Jamaica during the years of 2020 and 2021. Professional connections associated with PAIGH and YouthMappers greatly facilitated collaboration with the National Geography Institutes and the Open Street Map community in each country. Lessons learned from the research are being applied in the 2022 PAIGH Technical Assistance Project, led by Mexico and Colombia, for demonstrating the incorporation of crowdsourced geographic names into official geographies (Volunteer Geographic Information) as a seed project.

The Volunteered Mapping and Data Governance in the Americas Compendium report can be downloaded from the following links:

English [bit.ly/VGIamericasReport](https://bit.ly/VGIamericasReport)

Spanish: [bit.ly/VGIamericasInforme](https://bit.ly/VGIamericasInforme)

## **Research Contributions and Accomplishments of PAIGH USNS Geography Commission Members**

### **1) Dr. Andrew Sluyter, Ph.D.**

Professor, Department of Geography and Anthropology  
Louisiana State University

#### **Carnegie Fellowship, 2022-2024**

His project, “Slavery and Higher Education: New Narratives on the Plantation Past, New Places for Racial Equity,” will help colleges built on former slave plantations to understand that aspect of campus place identity in relation to higher education’s racial inequities.

#### **Twitter:**

[@CLAGeogs](https://twitter.com/CLAGeogs)

#### **Website:**

<https://sites.google.com/site/andrewsluyter/home>

2) **Dr. Osvaldo Muñiz Solari, Ph.D.**

Professor, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies  
Associate Director, Grosvenor Ct. for Geographic Education  
Honorary Professor of International Studies  
Texas State University

- **Academic Publications**

- Sepúlveda S., Ulises, Maturana Miranda, Francisco, **Muñiz Solari, Osvaldo**, Palomino Schalscha, Marcela (eds.) 2022. *Geografía Contemporánea. Pensar y Hacer desde los Territorios* (Tomo I). uah/Ediciones Universidad Alberto Hurtado, Santiago, Chile.
- Sepúlveda S., Ulises, Maturana Miranda, Francisco, **Muñiz Solari, Osvaldo**, Palomino Schalscha, Marcela (eds.) 2022. *Geografía en la Universidad y en la Escuela. Aprendizajes y Pensamiento Crítico* (Tomo II). uah/Ediciones Universidad Alberto Hurtado, Santiago, Chile. \



3) **Dr. Ivan J. Ramírez, Ph.D.** (he/him/his)

Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Health & Behavioral Sciences, CU Denver  
Faculty Fellow, Center for Faculty Development & Advancement, CU Denver  
Editorial Board, Spatial and Spatio-temporal Epidemiology  
Climate-Society Expert, U.S. Geography Commission, PAIGH  
Social Media: ResearchGate; LinkedIn; @climateaffairs2

- Building a collaboration with Universidad del Pacifico (Lima, Peru), Instituto Geofísico del Peru (Lima, Peru) for climate, El Niño-Southern Oscillation, health, and disaster research coordination on publications:
  - Ramírez, I.J., & Lee, J. Deconstructing the spatial effects of El Niño and vulnerability on cholera rates in Peru: Wavelet and GIS Analyses. *Spatial and Spatio-temporal Epidemiology*, 40. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sste.2021.100474>
  - Ramírez, I.J., & Lee, J. COVID-19 and ecosyndemic vulnerability: implications for El Niño-sensitive countries in Latin America. *International Journal of Disaster Risk Science*, 12, 147-156. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13753-020-00318-2>

4) **Tim Trainor**

President of International Cartographic Association (ICA)  
Advisory Committee Member for the 2<sup>nd</sup> UN World Geospatial Information Congress



## 5) Dr. David Seward Salisbury, Ph.D.

### NASA SERVIR Amazonia USAID funded **Amazon Borderlands Spatial Analysis Team Project**

- Website (([www.absatrichmond.com](http://www.absatrichmond.com))
  - Includes 40+ maps and posters
- Workshops:
  - **Primary Organizer and facilitator of Taller “Servicios Ecosistémicos y Dinámicas Socio-Ambientales en los Paisajes Indígenas del Ucayali-Yurúa-Juruá”:** 120 Indigenous participants from 13 Indigenous ethnicities and 34 communities from the Brazilian and Peruvian Amazon. Puerto Breu, Yurúa, Ucayali, Peruvian Amazon, 6/9-10/2022.
  - **Primary Organizer and facilitator of “Workshop on Southwestern Amazon Transboundary Corridors and Ecosystem Services (NASA SERVIR Amazonía and GTASO)”:** 40+ participants from 19 organizations and 3 countries. Pucallpa, Ucayali, Peruvian Amazon. 6/13-18/2022.
- Four-minute video on two workshops in English, Spanish, & Portugues: <https://www.absatrichmond.com/videos>



Group photo of the Workshop on Ecosystem Services and Socio-Environmental Dynamics in the Ucayali-Yurúa-Juruá Indigenous Landscapes, Reynaldo Vela-USAID.



Participants of the “Workshop on Southwestern Amazon Transboundary Corridors and Ecosystem Services (NASA SERVIR Amazonía and GTASO)” Pucallpa, Ucayali, Peru.

Photo, Miguel Alva Huayaney, UNMSM.

### • Academic Publications

- Koga, D.M., Brown, I.F., Fearnside, P.M., Salisbury, D.S., & da Silva, S.S. 2022. Serra do Divisor National Park: A protected area under threat in the southwestern Brazilian Amazon. *Environmental Conservation* 49: 74-82. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0376892922000091> [open access]
- Reygadas Langerica, Y., Spera, S., Galati, V., Salisbury, D. S., da Silva, S. S., & Novoa, S. 2021. Mapping forest disturbances across the Southwestern Amazon: tradeoffs between open-source, Landsat-based algorithms. *Environmental Research Communications* 3(9): 091001
- Flores de Melo, A. W., da Silva, S. Souza, Oliveira, I., Salisbury, D. S., Spera, S., Bordignon, L., Brown, F. (2022). “Impactos da Rodovia Proposta Cruzeiro do Sul-Pucallpa na Amazônia Sul-Occidental.” Em: Liesenfeld, M. V. de Athaydes et al. (Eds.), *Ciências Ambientais na Amazônia* , pp. 173-194. Stricto Sensu: <https://sseditora.com.br/ebooks/ciencias-ambientais-na-amazonia/>
- Salisbury, D. S., Córdova Aguilar, H., Comeca Chuquipul, M. A., Tipula Tipula, P., Alvarado Córdova, D. E., Alva Huayaney, M. 2021. Necrología de la geógrafa y profesora Bertha Olga Balbín Ordaya. *Revista Geográfica* 162, 7-10.

### • Media Coverage

- Article, NASA Earth Observatory, Notes from the Field: Indigenous Experience Shaping NASA Services in the Amazon
- Podcast Interview, Brazilian Portuguese, Esta é a \*Hora da Floresta\*!, #6 – Obras para quem?
- Article on Amazon Conservation website: Comunidades transfronterizas de Perú y Brasil se reunieron para conocer cómo la ciencia geoespacial puede ayudarlos a enfrentar el cambio climático
- Article in University of Richmond Admissions Viewbook: Meet Dr. Salisbury (pg. 10)



Twelve members of the University of Richmond's Amazon Borderlands Spatial Analysis Team (ABSAT), and two members of the Universidade Federal do Acre's LabGAMA participated in the ceremony at the Instituto Geográfico Nacional (IGN) in Lima, Peru that revealed the commemorative photograph of Professor Bertha Balbín Ordaya, former Principal Member of the Geography Commission of Perú's National Section of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH). Also present were members of Professor Balbín Ordaya's family, Peru's School of Geographers, the National Major University of San Marcos (UNMSM), and Lima's Geographic Society.



Above: Commemorative photograph of Mag. Bertha Balbín Ordaya with the students of the University of Richmond, members of the University of Richmond's ABSAT research team including Dr. David Salisbury, Principal Geography Commission, USNS, PAIGH and the Director of the IGN, General Cabrejos. Source: Oficina de Relaciones Públicas del IGN 20JUN2022.



Above: University of Richmond students learn about photogrammetry at the IGN. Source: Oficina de Relaciones Públicas del IGN 20JUN2022.



Formal photograph at the front of the IGN with all of the participants of the Commemorative Photography Revealing Ceremony for Mag. Bertha Balbín Ordaya: Director and specialists of the IGN, ABSAT Research team, members of GTASO, students of the University of Richmond, representatives of School of Geographers, and family members of Mag. Balbín. Source: Oficina de Relaciones Públicas del IGN 20JUN2022.

## History Commission

Prepared by Dr. Erick D. Langer, USNS Representative to the History Commission

This year has been a difficult one for the History Commission. This has been especially the case because all the History Commission members, with one exception, work in universities. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has greatly impacted the ability of Commission members to work on different projects, since the swing between virtual and face-to-face learning has left both professors and students exhausted. In addition, the Commission's Chair, Erick Langer, had been unable to attend most meetings because they fell at a time when he was unable to participate because of teaching duties. This has meant that the voice of the History Commission has not been heard of as much as in the past in the monthly virtual meetings.

The project of the *History of the Americas* continues, although it is on temporary hiatus. Dr. André Figueiredo Rodrigues, who is one of the co-editors of the book, has had to focus on his promotion to Full Professor at his university. We will reconvene early in 2023 to bring this project to fruition.

Otherwise, our members have been active. Dr. Juana Moriel received a tenure-track position at Mount Saint Mary's University-Los Angeles. She is presently the Director of Latin American and Latinx Creative Studies Certificate (LALCS). Her poetry about Borderland women's experiences appears in *Critical Storytelling from the Borderlands*, ed. Julio Enriquez-Ornelas & Carmella Braniger (Brill Sense Publishers, 2022).

Dr. Timothy Schultz remains at the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Historical Office. His major accomplishment has been to welcome a baby daughter to his family. Dr. Schultz also presented a talk to the Conference of Defense Ministers in the Americas (CDMA) in February of 2022. The presentation provided a broad overview of Inter-American defense cooperation from pre-World War II, through the Cold War era, to the creation of the CDMA. He discussed both the major challenges and accomplishments in this historical evolution, with an emphasis on the gradual development of greater cooperation and mutual understanding among partner nations in the Americas.

Dr. James Siekmeier, University of West Virginia, published his essay "Evolution of Nationalism in Latin America in the Context of Globalization" in *Problems and Alternatives in the Modern Americas*, ed. Pablo A. Baisotti (Routledge, 2022). Siekmeier also presented a paper on March 4, 2022 titled "US-Andean relations and the 'Drug War': The late 1970s roots," to the Society of Historians of the Federal Government (SHFG) Annual Conference, held virtually.

Dr. Thomas Field (Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University) is on sabbatical leave and is doing research for a year in Bolivia on the US-Bolivian relations during the Che Guevara era (1965-1971).

Dr. Erick Langer, Georgetown University, continued to be a frequent contributor as news analyst to the *Club de Prensa* program at the NTN24 TV channel. He also gave various workshops at the Foreign Service Institute as well as various research presentations at the Universitat de Barcelona



(Spain), Universidad Juan Misael Saracho (Bolivia), the Diplomatic Institute of the Dominican Republic (INESDYC), and the Red de Estudios sobre Fronteras, all virtually.

Finally, Dr. Langer published several essays this past year. They include “Structure and Management of Traditional Agroforestry Vineyards in the High Valleys of Southern Bolivia,” *Agroforestry Systems*, 96 (February 2022) with Pablo Oliva, Christian Gary, and Martín Notaro; “Desarrollo económico y contrabando de plata en el siglo XIX (Andes centromeridionales),” *Diálogo Andino*, no. 66 (2021); and “Bolivia en el contexto latinoamericano 1825-1830” in *Un amor desenfrenado por la libertad: Antología de la historia política de Bolivia (1825-2020)*, eds. Guadalupe Cajías and Iván Velasco-Castellanos, Vol. 1 (La Paz: Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, 2021).

## Geophysics Commission

Prepared by Dr. Christopher L. Castro, USNS Representative to the Geophysics Commission

During the year 2022, the Geophysics Commission was a supporting participant of the awarded Technical Assistance Project to PAIGH entitled “Organization of the Sixth Convective-Permitting Climate Modeling Workshop.” The U.S. is designated a participant country on this proposal. This proposal was submitted with Argentina as the lead participant country, by Dr. Lluís Fita Borrell from the *Centro de Investigaciones del Mar y la Atmósfera* (CIMA), Buenos Aires Argentina. Other participant countries in this proposal include Colombia and Chile. This workshop will take place September 7 – 9, 2022 so the Commission is presently able to report on all pre-workshop planning.

The website for the workshop is: <http://www.cima.fcen.uba.ar/cpcmw2022/index.php>.

This is the sixth in a series of workshops in convection-permitting climate modeling. This refers to the resolution where there is no need to parameterize convection and it resolved by the dynamics of the atmosphere (at a spatial scale below 5 km). The workshop covers global and regional climate modeling from model development to state-of-the-art climatological studies performed at this resolution. The use of a horizontal resolution fine enough to explicitly resolve convection is expected to provide a better representation of multiple aspects of the climate such as extreme precipitation phenomena, land-atmosphere interaction, and topographic effects.

The workshop is an open forum to discuss newest trends in model development, such as the use of new high performance computing paradigms using GPU/ARM processors, new coding methodologies and languages, and model construction strategies and hardware requirements. It also encompasses discussions about the benefits and added value of using convective-permitting modeling for purpose of climate services, constructing scenario story lines, and case studies.

This activity aims to strengthen the presence of members of the scientific community of impact studies, policy makers, and decision makers in aspects related the projected changes in climate. It is also a unique opportunity to discuss the latest advances and newest techniques being using worldwide, with a special focus on South American research activities.

The conference will be conducted in a hybrid model, with in-person and virtual attendance over three days. The directorate of the *Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales* (FCEyN) of the *Universidad de Buenos Aires* officially declared it is a workshop of interest for the faculty (res. RESCD-2022-1240). There will be 70 in-person and 49 remote attendees, the majority of which are from North and South America. There are 38 oral presentations and 36 poster presentations, with 8 invited talks. The eight thematic sessions are: 1) the added value of convective-permitting climate simulations, 2) mechanisms of extreme events, 3) event-based storyline approaches to climate change, 4) South American high resolution modeling research activities, 5) toward global convection-permitting modeling, 6) co-production of climate impact information based on convective-permitting models and observations, 7) the relation between climate modeling, impact studies, and community policy makers, and 8) benefits of convection-permitting climate model data for impacts assessment. There is also one breakout group activity on co-production, needs, requirements, and feasibility between communities. Awarded PAIGH funding in the amount of \$6,000 will be provisionally used to support travel for South American attendees, in a manner consistent with the PAIGH Technical Assistance proposal.



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#### **Principal Member – Rigoberto Magana Chavarria – El Salvador**

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### **Cartography Journal Editor Committee**

#### **Principal Member – Maria Ester Gonzalez - Chile**

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### **Network and Academic Cooperation Committee**

#### **Principal Member – Carlos Lopez - Uruguay**

No US Representation

## Technical Committees and Working Groups

### Geographic Information Rules and Standards

#### Principal Member – Freddy Gutierrez - Colombia

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### Topical Cartography Committee

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## Appendix 1

### 2022 Annual Meeting of the U.S. National Section – Meeting Agenda



#### UNITED STATES NATIONAL SECTION

##### Virtual Meeting



Session 1 - Tuesday, March 15, from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

Session 2 - Thursday, March 17, from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm EDT

#### **Session 1** - Tuesday, March 15, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm EDT

**1:00 – 1:05**

##### **Welcoming Remarks**

- ☐ Deirdre Bishop, U.S. National Section President

**1:05 – 1:25**

##### **Introduction of Secretary General Antonio Campuzano Rosales**

- ☐ Deirdre Bishop
- ☐ Remarks, Secretary General Campuzano Rosales

**1:25 – 1:45**

##### **Introduction of President Patricia Solís**

- ☐ Deirdre Bishop
- ☐ Remarks, President Solís

**1:45 – 2:05**

##### **U.S. Permanent Mission to the Organization of American States**

##### **Update**

- ☐ Benjamin Barron, Department of State Liaison

**2:05– 2:35**

##### **Recognition of U.S. National Section Member Paul Cooper**

- ☐ Deirdre Bishop
- ☐ Remarks, Paul Cooper

**2:35 – 2:45**

##### **Overview of the Joint Action Plan (2021 - 2024) of the Aguascalientes Declaration**

- ☐ Nadxely Andrews, PAIGH Projects Coordinator

**2:45 – 3:00**

##### **The 2023 Technical Assistance Program**

- ☐ Nadxely Andrews, PAIGH Projects Coordinator

## **Session 2** - Thursday, March 17, 1:00 - 4:00 pm EDT

- 1:00– 2:20            USNS Commission Leads’ Activities of Interest**
- ☐ Francis Burdett O'Connor: Geographic References in his 19th Century Diary - Erick Langer
  - ☐ Inter-American Geoportal - Eric van Praag, Linda Peters, Sean McGinnis
  - ☐ Infrastructure Expansion and Ecosystem Services in the Amazon Borderlands: A NASA SERVIR collaborative project - David Salisbury, Stephanie Spera, Y. Reygadas, S. LaRocca
  - ☐ The Sixth Convective-Permitting Climate Modeling Workshop – Chris Castro
- 2:20 – 2:35            Break**
- 2:35 – 3:35            Member Activities of Interest**
- ☐ Integrated Map of North America - Mike Tischler
  - ☐ Introduction to the Foundation GEOINT (FG) groups at NGA – Lidia Lopez
  - ☐ Introduction to GRiD: NGA’s Elevation Sources and Services Platform – Alejandra Magallanes, Eric Robeck
  - ☐ NGA’s Office of Maritime Safety Office Support to the Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI), Global Maritime Traffic Density Service (GMTDS) and World Port Index (WPI) – James Rogers
- 3:35 – 3:55            Potential 2023 USNS Technical Assistance Projects Discussion**
- 3:55 – 4:00            Action Items and Wrap up**
- 4:00                    Adjourn Session 2 and the 2022 PAIGH USNS Annual Meeting**