

## 2024 - 2025 TGSG Annual Report

### 1. What is the name of the Specialty or Affinity Group that you (co-)chair?

\*

scottkelley@unr.edu

Make a Selection

### 2. What date did you start your term as (co-)chair of your Specialty or Affinity Group? \*

07/01/2023

### 3. In the past year, how did your group use dues collected?

(check all that apply) \* (responses in **bold** were entered as applicable)

We did not host activities that use collected dues

#### **Awards and/or Grants**

Speaker stipends (e.g., keynotes, plenaries, etc.)

#### **Hosting an event (please specify) - Reception following keynote speaker event**

Other (please specify)

### 4. Please list your current board position titles, and the names, affiliations and emails for each officer. If you have board positions that are currently open/vacant, please also include those positions with the name listed as "vacant." \*

**Chair, Paul Jung, Inha University (Paul.Jung@inha.ac.kr)**

**Vice-Chair, Lea Ravensburgen, McMaster University**

**(ravensbl@mcmaster.ca)**

**Board Member, Sichen Wang, University of South Carolina**

**(sichengw@mailbox.sc.edu)**

**Board Member, Bradley Lane, University of Kansas (bwlane@ku.edu)**

**Board Member, Sylvia He, The Chinese University of Hong Kong**

**(sylviahe@cuhk.edu.hk)**

**Board Member, Michelle Zuniga, University of North Carolina, Charlotte**

**(mzuniga@charlotte.edu)**

**Student Board Member, Aila Bandagi, University of Nevada, Reno**

**(akandlakunta@unr.edu)**

**Student Board Member, Gregorio Luz, University of California, Berkeley**

**(gregorio\_luz@berkeley.edu)**

### 5. Which activities did your group organize during the most recent AAG Annual Meeting?

(check all that apply) \* (responses in **bold** were entered as applicable)

Our group did not organize activities during the most recent AAG Annual Meeting

**Our group organized one or more paper, poster, and/or panel sessions**

Our group invited one or more guest speakers (e.g., for a keynote address, plenary, etc.)

**Our group organized a social breakfast, lunch, and/or dinner**

**Our group organized one or more networking sessions**

Our group organized one or more workshops and/or field trips

6. Which activities has your group discussed and plans to organize at the upcoming AAG Annual Meeting?

(check all that apply) \* (responses in **bold** were entered as applicable)

We have not discussed any annual meeting activities and do not have any plans yet

**Organizing one or more paper, poster, and/or panel sessions**

Inviting one or more guest speakers (e.g., for a keynote address, plenary, etc.)

**Organizing a social breakfast, lunch, and/or dinner**

**Organizing one or more networking sessions**

**Organizing one or more workshops and/or field trips**

Other (please specify)

7. Does your Specialty Group or Affinity Group have a Journal? If so, what is the name of your Journal? \*

**Journal of Transport Geography**

8. What types of communications-related activities has your group organized or participated in over the past year that were not related to the Annual Meeting?

(check all that apply) \*

Our group did not organize or participate in any types of communications-related activities that were not related to the Annual Meeting.

Creating a Specialty/Affinity Group Newsletter

**Maintaining a website (not through the AAG)**

**Posting through your AAG Knowledge Community**

(<https://community.aag.org/home>)

Posting through an independently run list serv

**Maintaining social media accounts**

Other (please specify)

9. Over the past year, has your group undertaken any activities or efforts specifically related to JEDI (justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion) initiatives? \*

**In recent years, we have prioritized broader representation on our group board and will strive to continue to do so. We now have several international board members, including a mix of early career faculty and students. Over the past year, we also:**

- 1) Updated our criteria for our two student travel awards to include consideration of economic need**
- 2) Moving our elections online to ensure more broad and accessible opportunities for all of our membership. In the past, attendees needed to be physically present at the business meeting at the annual meeting to be nominated and then elected, with everyone in attendance voting. This year, we had a greater number of nominees for elections from different locations around the world compared to the in-person previous process.**

Make a Selection

10. Have you collaborated with other AAG Specialty or Affinity Groups over the past year? \*

**Yes – coordinated with SAM to have our keynote/plenary lectures run back-to-back, with a joint reception that followed. Coordinated with Medical/Health on scheduling business meeting as well**

No

11. Would your group be interested in organizing an online program (e.g., webinar series, workshops, networking, etc.) outside of the AAG Annual Meeting? \*

**Yes - Our incoming chair discussed having a webinar series in the intervening months between annual meetings, including having our student award winners present in this setting**

12. Are there any other activities that your group has participated in over the past year that have not yet been covered in this form? If there are, please specify those activities.

13. Do you have any specific accomplishments of your group during the past year that you would like to acknowledge?

**Moving our elections process online involved a fair amount of work, but overall this ran smoothly and we were able to successfully run these elections in advance of the annual meeting. That allowed us to introduce the new board members in front of the TGSG community at our business meeting, allowing more time for discussion for priorities for the next year and other business.**

14. What future plans or directions, if any, are in the works for your group?

**After adding the additional criteria to our student travel awards and implementing online elections last year, our attention will now turn toward two more goals for the next year. First, our incoming chair has indicated his desire to host a web-based speaker series featuring our previous year's student award winners to raise the profile of their work and ensure TGSG engagement outside of the annual meeting. Second, we will work on adding clear criteria to our career recognition award: the Ullman Award.**

**This one currently lacks any clear criteria for future boards to use when making the decision of who to select, so implementing those will be a priority next year as well.**

**We will explore also explore adding more poster sessions and workshops to our sponsored activities for the 2026 San Francisco meeting.**

15. What are the biggest challenges facing your group?

**Overall, our group is in a stable and healthy place for the time being. We have an engaged and enthusiastic board that will guide the group for the next 2-4 years, and attendance at the business meeting in Detroit was the highest I have seen in some time. That said, we continue to see a decline in non-student members, having our non-student membership decline by about 30 in each of the previous two years. Meanwhile, our student membership remains relatively steady. To be sure, maintaining membership is not a unique challenge to our specialty group, but if these trends in declining membership were to continue, there would be some long-term risks to our group's stability.**

**We have not reached out to those who have not renewed membership over the past couple of years, and this might be worth doing to more systematically understand why this is the case. Anecdotally, some of our previous members have been prioritizing other conferences and meetings in recent years that are more specific to transportation, planning, and regional science. Declining support in travel costs from universities is not helping either, as these conferences are expensive to attend out of pocket. In talking to other SG chairs, I do not think this is unique to our group either, but I do recommend SGs continue to seek ways to monitor and analyze these trends.**

16. Do you have any suggestions for AAG Council related to Specialty and Affinity Groups (e.g., anything AAG could do better, to support your activities or your leaders, suggestions for related programs, etc.)?