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NEWS AND NOTES

2014 GREAT PLAINS SYMPOSIUM

The Center for Great Plains Studies announces that its 2014 annual symposium will address the issue of *Drought in the Great Plains*. The symposium will be a collaboration with the National Drought Mitigation Center and the Robert B. Daugherty Water for Food Institute, both at the University of Nebraska; it is scheduled for Spring, 2014. 2011 and 2012 witnessed two of the worst Great Plains droughts in recent memory, a tragic counterpoint to the damaging floods of 2011 and a return to the stressful times of 1998–2006. Drought is a recurring pattern in this semi-arid region, with severe droughts in the 1890s, 1930s, 1950s, and 1980s. Indeed, using tree ring, lake sediment, and dune records, scientists have documented the periodic return of severe droughts; for example, during a period labeled the “16th century megadrought,” severe drought persisted for up to 20 years. Based on such evidence, some scientists have observed that *drought was the dominant feature of climate rather than the exception*. Drought has been and will continue to be a normal part of the climate of the Great Plains. Drought or the ever-present threat of it has had a pervasive effect on the region and its people. It has molded the region’s settlement patterns, agriculture, and commerce; stimulated innovation and new technologies; aroused conflict between agriculturalists and environmentalists; and fueled litigation between states in the region. Drought has shaped how the people of the Great Plains think of themselves and their region and influenced the culture, literature, and art they have created. So, too, there is increasing concern as to whether the region will have sufficient water for its future, both for planned development and for sustaining the ecological services the region provides. Scholars from across the full spectrum of disciplines will be invited to share their expertise and perspectives as the symposium explores all aspects, causes, impacts, projections, social and cultural consequences, and ramifications of drought.

CONFERENCES

August 4–9, 2013
The *98th Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America* will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota. This meeting’s theme is “Sustainable Pathways: Learning from the Past and Shaping the Future.” Web site: www.esa.org/meetings/.

August 12–14, 2013
“America’s Grasslands: The Future of Grasslands in a Changing Landscape” will bring together researchers, natural resources professionals, farmers and ranchers, policy experts, and conservationists to discuss the conservation of North America’s grasslands and the opportunities and outlook for these vital ecosystems in a changing landscape. The conference is sponsored by Kansas State University and the National Wildlife Federation. For more information, contact John Briggs at jbriggs1@ksu.edu.

November 10–13, 2013
The *61st Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America* will be held in Austin, Texas. The theme of the meeting is “Science Impacting a Connected World.” Web site: www.entso.org/entomology2013.
INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

SUBMISSIONS

• All manuscripts must be concise: no more than 5,000 words excluding abstract and reference sections.
• Tables and figures (including maps) must be carefully composed to achieve the author’s goal of clarity of presentation.
• There is no limit for either figures or tables accompanying the manuscript. Authors must, however, be judicious in their use of figures and tables.
• All submissions must be double-spaced, and include abstract, key words, text, and references, and printed on 8.5 by 11-inch white paper with 1-inch margins. Use Times New Roman font.
• Informational footnotes are not accepted.
• Authors must prepare a separate title page with their name(s) and affiliation(s), and any acknowledgments, which will not be sent to reviewers. The title of the paper must be repeated directly above the abstract.
• Authors must submit three copies of their manuscripts and a CD-R of all figures and tables.
• If the manuscript is accepted for publication, author(s) will be asked to send the final document as an e-mail attachment or on a CD-R in Word or Rich Text Format/rtf file.

REVIEW PROCESS. ALL MANUSCRIPTS ARE GIVEN DOUBLE-BLIND REVIEW. Authors must prepare a separate title page with their name(s) and affiliation(s), and any acknowledgments, which will not be sent to reviewers. The title of the paper must be repeated directly above the abstract. Authors should avoid self-identification in the text. When at least two external reviewers with expertise in the topic have submitted their evaluations, the manuscript is reviewed by the Editor who makes the final decision to publish.

Send your submissions to
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Article Style. Authors should write simply and in the first person, communicate with a broad interdisciplinary audience in jargon-free language, and avoid sexist, racist, or otherwise biased language or intent.

Title. Article titles should not exceed 10 words (or 82 characters) and should not have subtitles.

(1) Text Headings are left-justified, all caps, and bold: INTRODUCTION, METHODS, RESULTS, DISCUSSION, CONCLUSIONS, ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, REFERENCES. (2) Text Subheadings are left-justified, title caps, and bold.
(3) Text Lower Subheadings are left-justified, title caps, bold, no tab, and lead into the paragraph.

Abstract. A short abstract of fewer than 200 words should precede the main text. The abstract should identify the problem addressed in the paper, indicate the methodology, and summarize the results. Authors should prepare an abstract that will be interesting to and understood by nonspecialists in the field. Five to eight key words should accompany the abstract.

Illustrations. All illustrations including maps should be referenced parenthetically by arabic numbers in the text. For example, "Rainfall increases with elevation (Fig. 1)." Captions for figures should be sent as a separate file and not included or embedded into the figure itself. All illustrations should be sized for 1-column width (3.25") or 2-column width (6.625"), be no more than 9.0" in height, and be sent as separate files as "grayscale" tiff or eps graphic files at 300 dpi, and "line" illustrations should be 1200 dpi. High quality pdf files are acceptable.

DO NOT send figures embedded into your article, as Word figures, or as PowerPoint® graphics. Send illustrations/figures as separate files on a CD-R. Use a sans serif font such as Arial.

Maps. A bar scale in kilometers and a north arrow must be included on all maps. Enlarged details of maps should be to scale. All geographic places mentioned in the text should be shown on a map. Use a sans serif font such as Arial.

Measurements. All measurements should be given in SI units (expanded metric system).

Tables. Tables should be presented on separate sheets apart from the text and printed as quality images. They should be formatted to fit the standard text area of the journal [1-column width (3.25") or 2-column width (6.625") and no more than 9.0" in height], since they may be treated as camera-ready illustrations at the time of publication. Send tables separately as Word files with article file on CD-R. Use Times New Roman font.

Reference Style. Great Plains Research uses The Chicago Manual of Style, 16th edition, as its reference guide. The journal uses author-date citations in chronological order in the text [for example: (Smith et al. 1990; Templer 1992; Jones in press)] and a complete reference section that gives author, year, title, source, and page references for journal or newspaper articles. Include page numbers for quotations [for example: (Templer 1992, 45)].


For complete guidelines, please see our web site: http://www.unl.edu/plain/publications/GPR/gprinst.shtml
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NEWS AND NOTES
Center for Great Plains Studies

Director: Richard Edwards  
Professor, Economics  
University of Nebraska–Lincoln  
Administrative Assistant: Gretchen Walker

The Center for Great Plains Studies is a regional research and teaching program established in 1976 at the University of Nebraska. The mission of the Center is to foster the study of the people and the environment of the Great Plains.

- A sparsely-populated region with highly variable weather set against grassy, rolling land, the Great Plains stretches westward from the Missouri River at Omaha and Kansas City to the Rocky Mountains, and northward from the Texas Panhandle into the Canadian Prairie Provinces.
- The region invites inquiry into the relationships between its natural environment and the cultures brought to it by its various inhabitants, as scholars and residents work both to preserve healthy eco-systems and build thriving human communities.

Great Plains Research

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Gary D. Willson  
Adjunct Associate Professor, School of Natural Resources, University of Nebraska–Lincoln  
Ecologist, National Park Service, Retired  
Book Review Editor: George E. Wolf  
Associate Professor Emeritus, English, University of Nebraska–Lincoln  
Editorial Assistant: David Ruigh

Great Plains Research (ISSN 1052-5165) is a peer-reviewed, biannual, multidisciplinary science journal, which publishes original research and scholarly reviews of important advances in the natural and social sciences with relevance to the Great Plains region and with special emphases on environmental, economic, and social issues. It includes reviews of books.

Articles include:
- original research findings, such as have been published in GPR since 1991;
- synopses of the “state of the science” on topics relevant to the Great Plains;
- overviews of critical environmental, economic, and social issues for the plains;
- reviews of knowledge on important questions and their regional application; and
- syntheses and cross-disciplinary analyses relevant to the Great Plains.

Great Plains Research is indexed or abstracted in America: History and Life, BIOSIS Previews, Biological Abstracts, Environment Abstracts, Historical Abstracts, Geographical Abstracts and GEOBASE, Meteorological and Geoastrophysical Abstracts, and CSA Sociological Abstracts, Inc.

The editor encourages those submissions in particular that report general findings in the sciences relevant to this vast region. Articles should include thoughtful reviews of critical scientific findings and issues relevant to the Great Plains, whether the research was done in the Great Plains or not. The key to acceptance will be how well the findings are related to the region, and how well the science is communicated to other scientists outside the specific discipline, in the style of Scientific American, for example. The Board of Governors’ Publication Committee will select annually the best paper in natural sciences and the best paper in social sciences. The author/s of the winning papers will be presented cash prizes for the Charles E. Bessey Award (natural sciences) or the Leslie Hewes Award (social sciences).

Scientists doing interesting work with important implications for this region are invited to synthesize their significant research results and present them to our readers. The overall goals are to develop Great Plains Research as a centralized outlet for science of regional importance, to communicate important scientific findings to as wide an educated audience as possible, and to help keep scientists, interested citizens, and leaders of this region up-to-date on scientific progress relevant to the Great Plains.
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The Center for Great Plains Studies

congratulates

Robert Diffendal

on his completion of nine successful years as

Editor of Great Plains Research

and

welcomes

Gary Willson

on his appointment as the new

Editor of Great Plains Research