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Fall 2004

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# GREAT PLAINS RESEARCH

A JOURNAL OF  
NATURAL AND  
SOCIAL SCIENCES

Volume 14, Number 2

Fall 2004

**NEW IMMIGRANTS IN THE GREAT PLAINS:  
STRENGTHS AND CHALLENGES**



CENTER FOR GREAT PLAINS STUDIES  
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

## CENTER FOR GREAT PLAINS STUDIES

The Center for Great Plains Studies was established in 1976 by the University of Nebraska to promote a greater understanding of the people, culture, history, and environment of the Great Plains through a variety of research, teaching, and outreach programs. The Center encompasses six divisions: Administration and Programs, Great Plains Art Collection, *Great Plains Quarterly*, *Great Plains Research*, *Atlas of the Great Plains* mapping and editing project, and *Encyclopedia of the Great Plains* writing and editing project. Administered through the College of Arts & Sciences of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, the Center includes resident Fellows on four campuses and non-resident Associate Fellows around the world. **James Stubbendieck**, *Grassland Ecology*, is director of the Center.

**GREAT PLAINS RESEARCH**, a biannual multidisciplinary science journal, 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 and includes reviews of books. The journal is indexed and/or abstracted in *America: History and Life*, *BIOSIS Previews*, *Biological Abstracts*, *Cambridge Scientific Abstracts*, *C-CIARN*, *Environment Abstracts*, *Historical Abstracts*, *Geo Abstracts* and *GEOBASE*, *Journal of Planning Literature*, *Meteorological and Geostrophysical Abstracts*, and *Sociological Abstracts, Inc.*

The editorial policy encourages those submissions in particular that make 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 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 most successful paper in natural sciences for a journal year will be acknowledged with the Charles E. Bessey Award, and the best paper in social sciences will receive the Leslie Hewes Award.

The following types of articles are of particular interest:

- Original research findings**, such as have been published in *GPR* since 1991;
- Synopses** of the “state of the science” on topics with relevance 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;
- Syntheses and cross-disciplinary analyses** with relevance to the plains.

Scientists doing interesting work with important implications for this region are invited to synthesize their significant research results and present them and their relevance to this audience. 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.

**Editor:** Robert F. Diffendal, Jr., *Professor Emeritus, Conservation and Survey Division, School of Natural Resources, University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

**Guest Editors:** John DeFrain, *Family & Consumer Sciences, University of Nebraska-Lincoln*; Rochelle L. Dalla, *Family & Consumer Sciences, University of Nebraska-Lincoln*, and *Education & Human Sciences, University of Nebraska at Omaha*; Douglas A. Abbott, *Family & Consumer Sciences, University of Nebraska-Lincoln*; and Julie Johnson, *Family & Consumer Sciences, University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

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*Guest Editorial Assistants*

Sheran Cramer, Gloria Gonzalez-Kruger, and Yan Xia

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[Front Cover Photograph by John DeFrain]

## THE RIDA FAMILY

*We help each other solve problems. It's easy when we work together. We get along very well. We're not afraid of anything as long as we are together as a family.*

That's how the Rida family describes themselves. They have been in America five years and hope to become U.S. citizens in 2005. The family came to this country from Syria as refugees, seeking peace and security after extreme hardship and the loss of four sons in Iraq. They bring with them a great deal of life experience, skill, excellent educational credentials, and a positive spirit. Family members include (back row, left to right): Raghd Al-Khalili, formerly a banking administrator trained in Holland; Anwar Rida, trained as a lawyer in Syria; Mohammed Rida, a retired teacher; Sabiha Makki, full-time mom; Zahraa Rida, living in England, an M.S. in biochemistry; Boshra Rida, trained as a physician in Syria; (front row, left to right): Rafed Rida, trained as a veterinarian in Syria; Afak Rida trained in psychology in Syria; Zainab Rida, trained as a veterinarian in Syria and now working on her M.S. in nutrition at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; and Anawar Rida, living in England, an M.S. in biochemistry. The Rida family is grateful for the opportunities they are finding in the Great Plains and the chance for a peaceful life.

## INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

**Submissions.** All manuscripts should be concise: 5,000 words total including reference section. Tables and figures (including maps) should be carefully composed to achieve the author's goal of clarity of presentation. There is no fixed number set for either figures or tables accompanying manuscript. Authors should, however, be judicious in their uses of figures and tables. All submissions should be typed double-spaced, including abstract, text, quotations, and bibliography, on 8.5 by 11-inch white bond paper with 1-inch margins. Informational footnotes are not accepted. Authors should submit three copies of their manuscripts to: **Editor, Great Plains Research, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, P.O. Box 880246, Lincoln, NE 68588-0246.** 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 3.5-inch high density IBM-compatible computer diskette or CD-R in a word processing or text file.

**Review Process.** All manuscripts are given double-blind review. Authors should prepare a separate title page with their name/s and affiliation, and any acknowledgments, which will not be sent to reviewers. The title of the paper should be repeated directly above the abstract. Authors should avoid self-identification in the text. When 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.

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**Title.** Article titles should be in all caps, should not exceed 10 words (or 82 characters), and should not have subtitles.

**Main Headings** are centered: Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions, Acknowledgments, References. If you have subheadings that should be left justified, please indicate those.

**Abstract.** A short abstract of less than 150 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.

**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 each figure should be sent as a separate file and not included in the figure itself. All illustrations should be 4<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" wide (no more than 7" tall) and sent as separate files as "grayscale" tiff or eps graphic files at 350 dpi; "line" illustrations at 1200 dpi. DO NOT embed graphic files into your article. DO NOT send figures as PowerPoint graphics or Word docs.

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**Tables.** Tables should be presented on separate sheets apart from the text, printed as quality images. They should be formatted to fit the standard text area of the journal (4<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" wide by 7.0" tall), since they may be treated as camera-ready illustrations at the time of publication. Send as a separate file with text file on diskette.

**Reference Style.** *Great Plains Research* uses *The Chicago Manual of Style*, 15th edition, as its reference guide. The journal uses author-date citations in the text [for example, in chronological order: (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 a journal article:

Murkin, H.R. 1998. Freshwater functions and values of prairie wetlands. *Great Plains Research* 8: 3-15.

For a book:

Blouet, B.W., and F.C. Luebke, eds. 1979. *The Great Plains: Environment and Culture*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press.

For an article in a book or conference volume:

Wedel, W.R. 1994. Coronado and Quivira. In *Spain and the Plains*, ed. R.H. Vigil, F.W. Kaye, and J.R. Wunder, 45-66. Niwot: University Press of Colorado.

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