This quarter’s newsletter features our wonderful interns and some of the projects in which they have taken part either as interns at the APL or in their academic programs. We will take a look at Collin Payne and his work on the Wisconsin High School Graduates project created with the APL; Heidi Banfi and her 100-Mile Diet Map created within the UW GIS-Certificate Program; and Dan Haueter and his involvement with the APL’s Northern Wisconsin Higher Education Initiative Demographic Profile. We hope you enjoy this feature that displays some of the talent that comes through our office as well as the projects that we conduct.

Collin Payne: Wisconsin High School Graduates Project

Collin has been one of the longest serving interns at the APL, and has worked in our office for nearly two and a half years. He recently graduated with a BA degree in Sociology and a concentration in Quantitative Analysis and Research, and will soon move to New York City to work in the K-12 education unit of the Mdrc, a poverty-policy research organization. In addition to his work at the APL, Collin was a varsity athlete and letter-winner with the University of Wisconsin Rowing team. During his lengthy time as an intern with the APL, Collin has been involved in many tasks on a wide variety of topics. Most recently, he worked on a major project for the University of Wisconsin System Office of Policy Analysis and Research, projecting the size and composition of the state’s high school graduate population until 2019. Working under the guidance of Richelle Winkler, Collin compiled the necessary data and generated output for the tables and charts, as well as assisting in the writing and editing of the final report.

The APL’s high school graduate projections suggest that numbers of graduates will peak in 2008, decline until 2015, and then begin to slowly rise. Factors influencing these changes in numbers of graduates include declining K-12 enrollment, likely driven by the aging of the baby boom generation. The upturn in projected graduates after 2015 is a result of the increased number of births in Wisconsin after 1997. These trends vary widely by race and ethnicity, however—63% of the upturn in births from 1997-2006 is attributable to the Hispanics population alone. Similarly,
the racial and ethnic makeup of the state’s high school graduate population is expected to change significantly over the next decade. We predict that 22% of the graduates in 2019 will be students of color, versus only 15% in 2006.

These changes in the number of graduates are not distributed uniformly across the state, however. Areas of slight decline (or growth) include counties bordering the Minneapolis/St. Paul area, portions of the Fox Valley, and the Southeast area of the state. The Northern and Western parts of Wisconsin are expected to see the greatest declines. Post-graduate plans also differ by geographic region, and graduates from the Southeast and South Central regions were more likely to plan to enroll in college than graduates from the Northern and Northwestern areas.

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**Heidi Banfi: 100-Mile Diet Map**

Heidi Banfi has been a student at the UW-Madison for the past 5 years. As a geography undergraduate, she became intrigued by human relationships with their surrounding communities. This interest led her to the Geographic Information Systems Capstone Certificate Program at the UW-Madison. The program teaches students how to show spatial relationships, target a specific audience, and make their map product available to many audiences. She just completed the one year, post-bachelors’ program.

Heidi says, “As I think about our society with a global perspective, I realize our lives impact places much far from our homes. I consume products from around the world, from clothing to coffee to cars. Our dinner plate is an example of this global lifestyle. I eat spinach from California, strawberries from Mexico, and oranges from Florida. However, with the current economic climate, I am concerned with skyrocketing fuel prices and outsourcing of jobs. Global climate change has Americans concerned with their personal carbon footprint. Food is shipped thousands of miles before it reaches my hands, increasing my personal impact on the environment. This project aims to regain control of the food market by connecting Madison consumers to local businesses, local farmers, and local people."

Madison’s 100-Mile Diet Map began in Mark Harrower’s Web Based Mapping course, where students were to complete an interactive mapping website. Four students formed a group that shared a similar interest: sustainability. The group, later named the Chick Mappers, quickly became interested in mapping food sources within 100 miles of Madison. The idea is based on the 100-Mile Diet—a concept conceived a few years ago by a Canadian couple—in which people commit to only eating food which was grown, raised, and processed within 100 miles of one’s home.

The Chick Mappers began with the intention to show Madisonians how to access locally grown food through a variety of venues including restaurants, markets, co-ops, community gardens, and farms. The map, which can be found at [www.chickmappers.com](http://www.chickmappers.com), is an Adobe Flash-based fully interactive site, with the base map loading dynamically from an open source site: [www.openstreetmap.org](http://www.openstreetmap.org). Their database has been compiled in cooperation with the REAP Food Group, Dane Buy Local, and through online research.

As global consumers, we may have become
Dan Haueter: Northern Wisconsin Higher Education Initiative Demographic Profile

Dan Haueter is another intern that has been with us this year and is now leaving. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin–Madison with a Bachelor’s degree in Sociology. Along with Heidi, Dan completed the GIS Capstone Certificate Program at the UW-Madison this year.

Post-Graduation Plans to Pursue a 4-Year College Degree by School District

While at the APL, Dan’s major project was the Northern Wisconsin Higher Education Initiative Demographic Profile. This report, created in conjunction with the Northern Wisconsin Higher Education (NOW) Initiative, profiled population characteristics for the northern tier of Wisconsin counties with the goal of locating space for a satellite center for the University of Wisconsin.

Being aware of how food is grown, traded, and processed is an important part of being a responsible consumer. This project is limitless and the Chick Mappers are planning to expand the database and the geographic reach of the map to serve more communities. Use the map to help you enjoy all that Wisconsin has to offer this summer, from fresh produce to fresh cheese.

A separate report evaluated 24 different communities within the northern tier of Wisconsin that might serve as a UW satellite center. This GIS-intensive work focused on estimating population counts for people living within a one-hour drive.
time of each community. The characteristics of interest were estimated total population, population without higher education, and projected population without higher education. Populations within a one-hour drive of the selected communities are found by taking Census blocks and laying information about roads and speed limits over them. This method of determining population around a community is more effective than taking a simple radius of distance in miles because roads may not be particularly direct in rural areas. The image on page 3, while not found in the final reports, illustrates what it looks like for a population to fall within a one-hour drive time of Park Falls, WI. The influence of main highways is readily apparent.

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FROM THE DIRECTOR’S DESK

For many people, May and June are months of celebration and transitions. Graduations, weddings, and finally being convinced (after a long, snowy winter) that summer may actually happen are all reasons to celebrate.

And, here at the APL, we have several such reasons to celebrate. Towards the end of June, APL staffer Jenn Huck will get “hitched” to Adam Slez and we wish them both a lifetime of happiness. We also celebrate the graduation and transitions of three outstanding students who have been interning with the APL. Heidi Banfi, Dan Haueter, and Collin Payne have been part of APL internship programs over the last year or so and this issue of Population Notes features profiles of them and their signature projects while working with us. Since 1984, the APL has carried out a direct training and education mission by having interns from two campus programs – the Concentration in Analysis and Research (CAR) program in collaboration with the Sociology department and the Geographic Information Systems Certificate program in collaboration with the Geography department. Along with training and experience, interns in the APL make significant contributions to ongoing projects and research. As you’ll read, this latest trio of interns has done some extraordinary work and is among the best that we’ve ever had here at the APL. We want to say thanks to each of them for all of their hard work and while we’re sad to see them leave, we’re happy knowing that they are heading on to wonderful adventures and have very bright futures. We offer best wishes and congratulations to Heidi, Dan, and Collin.

Regards, Dan

Trivia Question

Heidi’s map makes me wonder: How much produce does Wisconsin grow?

Wisconsin grew a total value of $341,615,000 in vegetables, melons, and potatoes, ranking it the 8th highest in the US. There are 2,850 vegetable and melon farms in Wisconsin that harvest a total of 252,693 acres.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2002 Census of Agriculture