

THOMAS J. SIGLER

Department of Geography • Gustavus Adolphus College
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Geography, Pennsylvania State University, May 2011, 4.0 GPA

Dissertation Title: Global Connections: Panama as a Relational City
Committee: Holdsworth (adviser), Downs, Erickson, Staub (Architecture)

M.S. Geography, Pennsylvania State University, May 2007, 4.0 GPA

Thesis Title: Metropolitan Regionalism: The Case of San Diego
Committee: Benner (adviser), Holdsworth, McCarthy

B.A. Geography & International Relations, University of Southern California, May 2003, *cum laude*

POSITIONS

Visiting Assistant Professor of Geography, Gustavus Adolphus College, August 2011 – May 2012

Program Adviser & Coordinator, Global Business Brigades, Panama, January 2010 – March 2011

Visiting Scholar, Instituto de Estudios Nacionales, Universidad de Panamá, January 2010 – December 2010

Instructor, Pennsylvania State University, Department of Geography, August 2008 – December 2009

Field Intern, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Democratic Republic of the Congo, Summer 2009

Program Director, Global Brigades, Tegucigalpa (Honduras) and Panama City (Panama), Aug. 2007 -June 2008

Teaching Assistant, Pennsylvania State University, Department of Geography, August 2005 – December 2007

Instructor, The Princeton Review, SAT/GRE Preparatory Courses, June 2004 – March 2005

PUBLICATIONS

Sigler, Thomas (2009). Mixed-Use Megaprojects in the Global Context: Lessons from Las Vegas. *Human Geography* 2(2): 77-82.

Sigler, Thomas (2009). A Rapid Rural Assessment of the Charcoal Briquette industry in the Northeastern DR Congo. Published online by USAID at <http://carpe-infotool.umd.edu/IMT/Landscape.php?Landscape=11>

Sigler, Thomas (2006). Facing El Chorrillo. *Panama 9°80'*, No. 5, p. 36.

PUBLICATIONS FORTHCOMING AND UNDER REVIEW

Sigler, Thomas and Murali Balaji (Forthcoming). Regional Place Representation in Hip-Hop Music (Forthcoming in *Communication, Culture, and Critique*)

Sigler, Thomas. Bridging the Great Wall of Panama: A Critical Assessment of the Successes and Failures of the Colón Free Zone in Achieving Urban Development Goals (revise-and-resubmit stage for *Geoforum*)

Sigler, Thomas. The Relational City: A New Global Model for Urbanization? (Under Review for *Urban Geography*)

BOOK REVIEWS AND EDITORIALS

Sigler, Thomas (2011). "Metro Planning: A Snapshot of GIS Applications in Panama". *Planning and Technology Today (An American Planning Association Publication)*, August 11, 2011 issue. Available online at <http://planningtechtoday.org/2011/113>.

Sigler, Thomas (2011). Book Review of: Democracy as Problem Solving by Xavier de Sousa Briggs, *Urban Affairs Review*, 46 (3), January 2011, Available online at <http://uar.sagepub.com/content/47/1/147.extract>.

Sigler, Thomas (2010). Panama Pacifico Invests in the Future. *El Visitante*, 16 (30), Available online at http://www.focuspublicationsint.com/New_Site/Visitor16-30/third.html

Sigler, Thomas (Forthcoming). Book Review of: Transforming Markets in the Built Environment: Adapting to Climate Change by Sue Roaf (ed.), *Canadian Journal of Urban Research*.

Sigler, Thomas (Forthcoming). Book Review of: Triumph of the City: How Our Greatest Invention Makes Us Richer, Smarter, Greener, Healthier, and Happier by Edward L. Glaeser, *Urban Affairs Review*.

PUBLICATIONS IN PREPARATION

Sigler, Thomas and James E. Thatcher. A View from the Inside: Urban Space in Panama City's 'Calle Ocho' (In Preparation for *Landscape*)

Sigler, Thomas and Patricia Solis. Beyond the North South Divide: A Discursive Analysis of Development Studies within Geography. (In preparation for *The Geographical Review*)

CURRENT TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS (2011-12 ACADEMIC YEAR)

GEOG 101 Human Geography, Fa11 and Sp12 (30 students)

GEOG 240 Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Fa11 and Sp12 (15 students)

GEOG 336 Urban and Regional Analysis, Fa11 (8 students)

GEOG 201 Cities in Film, Jan12 (25 students)

GEOG 222 Sustainable Cities, Sp12 (10 students)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AS INSTRUCTOR

GEOG 128 Geography of International Affairs, Pennsylvania State University, Fa09 (130 students)
GEOG 120 Urban Geography, Pennsylvania State University, Fa09 (120 students)
GEOG 020 Introduction to Human Geography, Pennsylvania State University, Fa09 (180 students)
GEOG 040 World Regional Geography, Pennsylvania State University, Sp09 (60 students) & Fa08 (40 students)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AS ASSISTANT

GEOG 010 Introduction to Physical Geography, Pennsylvania State University, Sp07
GEOG 020 Introduction to Human Geography, Pennsylvania State University, Fa05 and Fa06
GEOG 160 Mapping Our Changing World, Pennsylvania State University, Sp06

GRANT PROPOSALS UNDER REVIEW

Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, Co-PI on Submitted Grant (\$53,700), Titled “Social Housing Policies in Panama: A Critical Assessment”, June 2011

National Secretariat for Science and Technology (Panama), Co-PI on Submitted Grant (\$52,500), Titled “Development Patterns in the Panama Metro Region: Environmental & Social Challenges”, Mar. 2011

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

Centennial Award, College of Earth & Mineral Sciences, Pennsylvania State University, March 2010
Peter Gould Student Travel Award, Pennsylvania State University, August 2010
Doctoral Research Fellowship Application Incentive Award, Pennsylvania State University, January 2009
Rod Erickson Academic Enrichment Award, Pennsylvania State University, September 2006
Anne C. Wilson Graduate Research Award, Pennsylvania State University, September 2005
Gamma Sigma Alpha, University of Southern California, April 2002
Order of Omega, University of Southern California, April 2002
Trustee Scholarship, University of Southern California, 1999-2003

PRESENTATIONS

“A 21st Century Shock City? Explaining Rapid Growth in Panama City, Panama”, UNC Dept. of Geography, Invited Colloquium Lecture, Scheduled for October 2011
“Neoliberal development in a neocolonial context: An overview of Special Economic Zones in Panama”, Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Seattle, April 2011
“Urban Transportation in the International Context”, University of Panama, March 2011
“Urbanization in Panama: Explaining Rapid Growth”, University of Panama, November 2010
“Comparative Urban Form in the Americas”, Ministry of Housing (Panama), October 2010
“Urban Development in Panama: What’s going on here?”, Technological University of Panama, June 2010
“Urban Land Use and Development in the US”, Chinese Planning Delegation, SUNY Farmingdale, Oct. 2009
“A Livelihoods-based approach to Conservation”, USAID, Kinshasa DRC, August 2009
“Regionalism, Spatial Segregation, and Sprawl: The Case of San Diego”, Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, March 2009
“Public Transit Accessibility in Malibu”, Center for Law in the Public Interest, Los Angeles, CA, April 2003
“Railroading Public Transportation in Los Angeles”, California Geographical Society Meeting, Sacramento, CA, April 2003

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OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Consultant on CDC-funded Public Health Project, Cicatelli Int'l Associates, June 2011
Consultant on Latin American Public Health Project, Cicatelli Int'l Associates, April 2011
Consultant for Panama Investment Fund, Tribley Asset Management, July 2010
Program Consultant, Panama Field Session, Department of Architecture and Planning, MIT, Spring 2009
Academic Adviser, Global Medical Brigades, Penn State Chapter, September 2009 – December 2009
Committee Co-Chair, Professional Development Seminar Series, PSU Geography, Fa08 and Sp09
Committee Co-Chair, Graduate Student Activities Association, PSU Geography, Fa08 and Sp09

STUDENT GROUPS LED

In Honduras: Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Sloan MBA), George Washington University (MBA), Pennsylvania State University, University of Southern California, University of California (Los Angeles), University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill), DePaul, University of California (Berkeley)

In Panama: University of Pennsylvania, University of Virginia, University of Arizona, University of California (Irvine), University of Texas (Austin), Howard University, University of Western Ontario (Richard Ivey School of Business), University of Indiana (Bloomington), Calvin College

In Costa Rica: Seattle University, University of Washington

EDUCATION ABROAD

Oficina del Casco Antiguo and Penn State, Panama City, Panama, Research Course, June 2006
International Education & Sustainability, Sofia, Bulgaria, Sustainability Seminar, March 2006
Center for International Studies, Madrid, Spain, Summer Language Program, Summer 2002
Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK, Summer Economics Program, Summer 2000

NEWSLETTER COVERAGE

PSU Geography Newsletter: <http://www.geog.psu.edu/news/profile-phd-candidate-thomas-sigler>
PSU Geography Newsletter: <http://www.geog.psu.edu/news/doctoral-student-leads-undergrads-honduras>
US Embassy Newsletter: http://kinshasa.usembassy.gov/high_82109.html

PERSONAL

Languages: English (native), Hungarian (fluent), Spanish (fluent), French (conversant), German (basic)
Nationalities: United States of America, Hungary