The Return of the APCG annual meeting to Reno after nearly 20 years offered the Department of Geography at the University of Nevada the opportunity to showcase northern Nevada as a unique and sometimes provocative setting for geographical studies both human and physical, not to mention its role as a venue for having a good time. Northern Nevada welcomed 198 attendees to this year’s meeting. Following in the footsteps of last year’s Flagstaff meeting, student participation remained high at 90, or just over 45 percent. Geographically, California provided 105 attendees, followed by Arizona with 23, Nevada with 22, Oregon with 13, Washington with 12, Idaho with 11, and Alaska with 2. We also were joined by geographers from as far away as Ohio, New Hampshire, Kentucky, Louisiana, and the winner for distance is—Hong Kong. Special note should be made of several schools whose students came en masse, including San Francisco State, Sonoma State, Arizona State, Western Washington, the University of Oregon, and the 11-person contingent from the University of Idaho. Congratulations to faculty advisers, home institutions, and the students themselves for such outstanding representation.

The Poolside Terrace at John Ascuagua’s Nugget, host hotel for the meeting, provided the venue for Wednesday evening’s opening plenary session, where it was not lost on a group of geographers that the Mayor of Reno was welcoming us while actually located in Sparks, once again reminding us that “Reno is so close to hell you can see Sparks.” The 115 people who attended the opening plenary session heard artist Peter Goin, geographer Scott Mensing, and State Water Planner Naomi Duerr give three different approaches to understanding of the Truckee River, one of northern Nevada’s natural treasures. A post-plenary session reception established the Great Basin Brewing Company, located within walking distance of the Nugget, as a favorite watering hole for the remainder of the meeting.
Thursday was filled with 12 paper sessions and the presidential plenary session, where James Allen, Peter Groth, and Phillip Pryde offered insights into the importance of locality in an era of globalization. Thursday’s activities ended with a reception and poster session in the Poolside Terrace. On Friday, meeting participants chose one of three all-day fieldtrips with John James to the Tahoe Basis, Bill Kersten and State Historic Preservation Officer Ron James to Virginia City, or Scott Mensing and Kate Berry to Pyramid Lake. Despite low visibility as a result of the intrusion of smoke from California fires into the clean high desert air (surely a kind of symbolic statement on the relationship between the two states), participants returned tired but enthusiastically complimentary about their experiences in the field. The demands of an all-day fieldtrip did not diminish enthusiastic APCG students from competing in this year’s GeoBowl later that afternoon. Saturday’s paper sessions brought the total number of papers presented to 86 over the course of the meeting, of which 33 were student papers! The Women’s Network luncheon was filled to capacity, and after the final paper session, AAG President Reginald Golledge spoke at the Business Meeting about current AAG issues of interest to the APCG.

It has been contended that if John Ascuagua’s can’t do Basque, nobody can. Saturday’s closing banquet proved this true. Ninety-nine people enjoyed this northern Nevada dining experience. Incoming APCG President Tina Kennedy served as MC for the evening’s program. As a special treat, University of Nevada President Joe Crowley entertained the crowd with stories and anecdotes about geography and life as explained to him by his kid brother, Bill. As always, Bill Crowley was a good sport after being spitted in the mini-roast. The evening concluded with outgoing APCG President Robin Datel’s Presidential Address, in which she offered insights into past APCG and AAG presidential addresses.

Now that the attendees have departed and the skies have cleared of California smoke, it is possible to stand back and appreciate what we believe was a challenging, yet worthwhile, endeavor. We now look upon conference organizers with greatly more appreciative eyes. What is most rewarding, however, was the dedication and hard work of all the faculty and many of the graduate students from the De-
partment of Geography at UNR. Scott Mensing and John James organized the fieldtrips; Chris Exline served as co-chair for local arrangements. Graduate students worked the registration tables and helped with logistics. Of special note, Barbara Friedsam served as program assistant and also was responsible for design and production of handbooks, fieldguides, and other graphics, and Conrad Wong maintained the Web site. Terry Simmons from our local community volunteered to co-chair the program committee. And again, thanks to Reno Mayor Jeff Griffen, State Water Planner Naomi Duerr, and University of Nevada President Joe Crowley for giving of their time to help make all attendees feel welcome.

To help us put on a uniquely Nevada meeting, with hosted events and fieldtrips included, we sought financial support from the greater Reno-Sparks community, and we found it. Once again our sincerest gratitude to our donors who proved that many in this community take pride in the University and its Department of Geography—Wells Fargo Bank, Aztech Cyberspace, Nichols Consulting Engineers, the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs at UNR, the Office of the Vice President for Research at UNR, the University of Nevada, Reno Foundation, the Department of Geography at UNR, the American Geographical Society and the Geographical Review, the Geographic Alliance in Nevada, John and Lois James, and Gary and Marilyn Hausladen.

Most of all, thanks to the many geographers who came to Reno for stimulating discussion and debate, fellowship and good cheer. It was fun while it lasted—now, on to Arcata!

Gary Hausladen and Kate Berry

University of Nevada
APCG DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

The Association’s Distinguished Service Awards were initiated in 1983. Selection for the Award is based on an accumulation of contributions to the organization, including service in elective office, responsibility for the *Yearbook* or newsletter, participation in annual meetings, service on committees, and general support for the Association.

The Awards Committee, under the leadership of Mark Wilson, presented the Distinguished Service Award to one member of the Association at the 62nd Annual Meeting held at Reno, Nevada in September-October 1999.

**LAY JAMES GIBSON**, Professor of Geography in the Department of Geography and Regional Development at the University of Arizona, Tucson, has been an active and much-valued member of APCG. Professor Gibson has served the organization in many capacities. He has regularly contributed papers on urban and economic geography and on the geography of Arizona at various annual meetings. From 1980 to 1983 he served as AAG regional councilor for the Pacific Coast Region. In 1985 he was elected vice-president of APCG, and the following year he succeeded Margaret Trussell as president. Five years later, in 1991, he was the principal organizer of a very successful APCG annual meeting in Tuscon. When not serving in official capacities he is usually seen working the hall or room giving a warm welcome to new students, faculty, and professional members or meeting with colleagues.
APCG STUDENT PAPER AWARD WINNERS

The Awards Committee, under the leadership of Mark Wilson, presented the following Student Paper Awards at the 62nd Annual Meeting held in Reno, Nevada in September-October 1999.

The Tom McKnight and Joan Clemons Award for Outstanding Student Paper went to Mike Applegarth, Arizona State University, for “Use of Debris Morphology and Soil Development to Assess Surface Stability on Bedrock Hillslopes in South Phoenix, AZ.”

The Harry and Shirley Bailey Award for Outstanding Paper by a Ph.D. Student went to William F. Manger, Arizona State University, for “The Idealized Mexican American Housescape.”

The President’s Award for Outstanding Paper by a Ph.D. Student went to Jacqueline J. Shinker, University of Oregon, for “Global Climate Animations: A New Tool for Visualization of the Climate System.”

The President’s Award for Outstanding Paper by an MA or MS Student went to Peter V. Killoran, University of Oregon, for “Circulation Controls of Warm Season Precipitation for the Asian Continent: Implications for Paleoclimatic Reconstructions.”

The President’s Award for an Outstanding Paper by a BA or BS Student was presented to two individuals: Benjamin Stabler, Western Washington University, for “The Path to the Three Gorges Dam: China’s Historical Dealings with Involuntary Resettlement”; and Ross Fenton, Western Washington University, for “China’s Three Gorges Dam Project: Future Resettlement Prospects and Problems.”

The President’s Award for Outstanding Student Poster went to Alan Lloyd, Western Washington University, for “A Comparative Analysis of State Brownfields Redevelopment Programs.”

The Association congratulates all these recipients and applauds their fine efforts.
RESOLUTIONS OF THE 1999 ANNUAL MEETING  
RENO, NEVADA

Before I do the resolutions, let me just say, “Pay attention! There’ll be a quiz afterwards, and you’ll have a chance to win some calendars!”

Whereas we are impressed with our host’s ability to coordinate the meeting with the fires in California, once again proving California’s evil shadow over Nevada; and

Whereas the Mayor of Reno, by asking in the Opening Plenary: “Where would geographers rather be than in Reno?” managed to confuse all of us who thought we were in Sparks; and

Whereas this was the first meeting where you could either listen to crap or go downstairs and play it; and

Whereas Gary Hausladen and Chris Exline, as local arrangements co-chairs, must be congratulated for ensuring excellent attendance by locating paper sessions in a building with few exits; and

Whereas those on the Pyramid Lake tour were treated to a deeper understanding of why cutthroat trout will swim up a concrete channel only to have their eggs and sperm extracted by humans. As Scott Mensing explained, “It’s the best sex of their lives!”; and

Whereas the Program Chair deserves special merit for giving us a live demonstration of Nevada mining heritage by recreating the lighting conditions of a mine shaft during the poster session; and

Whereas Robert Phillips should be congratulated for his daring in giving a talk on land mines and unexploded ordnance in Laos while at the same time soliciting participants for an upcoming field trip to the Ho Chi Minh Trail. And on top of that, to deliver the talk in a place called Sparks!; and

Whereas it was most fitting that in the session on pedagogy, the slide projector light bulb should burn out; right before Barbara Fredrich’s talk on how to teach with slides; and

Whereas we appreciate Bill Bowen’s enthusiasm for geography at Northridge, which compelled him to shamelessly attempt to recruit a community college student in the middle of a paper session; and
Whereas Dennis Dingemans, as session chair, managed to squeeze 40 minutes out of his allotted 20, to convince us, with only 139 slides, why go to heaven when you can live in the model city of Davis; and

Whereas the Women’s Network lunch was held in the “Donner Room” (we appreciate that no finger food was served); and

Whereas we thank Robin Datel for showing us in the Presidential Plenary that LA still rocks—at least when she controls the overhead; and

Whereas one month after the Feds closed Mustang Ranch for being deep in arrears, APCG Treasurer Bob Richardson announces (in Reno) that we are “flush with cash”; and

Whereas we recommend an emergency supply of GPS units for all the geographers lost in the bowels of the casino...condemned to wander the labyrinth of slots, smoke, and mirrors for the rest of their days.

Therefore be it resolved that we are very appreciative of Gary Hausladen and other faculty and students of the University of Nevada, Reno, for their time, efforts, and superb job of organizing and hosting such an enjoyable meeting.

We offer our sincere thanks.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Cunha, Humboldt State University
Tina Kennedy, Northern Arizona University
William Preston, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
Judy Walton, Humboldt State University