

Curriculum Vitae
JENNIFER JILL HELZER
Department of Anthropology & Geography
California State University, Stanislaus
801 West Monte Vista
Turlock, CA 95382
Office: (209) 667-3010
FAX: (209) 667-3324
jhelzer@stan.csustan.edu

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

1998 *University of Texas, Austin*
Ph.D. in Geography
Dissertation: "Italian Migration and Settlement in Northern California: Cultural Transfer and Regional Identity."
1993 *California State University, Chico*
Master of Arts in Geography
Thesis: "Maintenance of Ethnic Identity: Hmong and Mien Settlement and Survival in Northern California."
1986 *University of California, Santa Barbara*
Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Arts

EMPLOYMENT

2005- present **Associate Professor**, California State University, Stanislaus, Turlock, CA
2001-2005 **Assistant Professor**, California State University, Stanislaus, Turlock, CA
1999-2001 **Lecturer**, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, CA
1998-1999 **Lecturer**, Butte Community College, Oroville, CA and Shasta Community College, Redding, CA
1995-1997 **Research Assistant**
Walter Prescott Webb Fellow, University of Texas, Austin, Department of Geography

UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE LEVEL COURSES TAUGHT

Upper-Division Courses:

Cultural Geography
California Cultures and Environments
Geography of North America
Urban Geography
Social Geography
Geography of Europe
Ethnic Geography
Computer Cartography
Planning Issues

Lower-Division:

Cultural Geography
World Regional Geography
California Geography

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Helzer, Jennifer. (forthcoming). *Italians in the West: Migration, Settlement and Ethnic Place in Northern California*.

Articles:

Helzer, Jennifer. 2002. "The Varieties of Ethnic Identity and Landscape among Italian Immigrants in Northern California." *California Geographer* 42:25-40.

Helzer, Jennifer. 2001. "Old Traditions, New Lifestyles: The Emergence of the Cal-Italia Landscape." *Association of Pacific Coast Geographers Yearbook* 63:49-62.

Helzer, Jennifer. 1995. "Continuity and Change: Hmong Settlement in California's Sacramento Valley." *Journal of Cultural Geography* 14(2):51-64.

Book Reviews:

Helzer, Jennifer. 2002. Review of *The Enigma of Ethnicity: Another American Dilemma* by Wilbur Zelinsky. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 2001 (in) *Historical Geography*.

Cartographic:

Maps prepared for Susan Hardwick and Don Holtgrieve, *Valley for Dreams: Life and Landscape in the Sacramento Valley*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 1996.

Maps prepared for Margaret Kaluzny, "Spanish Urban History from Roman Time to 1492: A New Perspective." Master's thesis, University of Texas, Austin, 1995.

Maps prepared for the California State Department of Education Curriculum Project: Integrating Geography into the Social Sciences. California Department of Education, 1992-95.

Maps prepared for Susan Hardwick, *Russian Refuge: Religion, Migration and Settlement on the North American Pacific Rim*. Chicago: University Press, 1993.

Other:

Educational Consultant – in conjunction with the University of the Pacific's, Jacoby Center for Community and Regional Studies with funding from the California Council for the Humanities. The project, *When We Were Young: The Experiences of Stocktonians Across Three Generations*, involves collecting coming of age stories from three generations of Stocktonians representing eleven ethnic communities. (2003)

Evaluator of "Interactive World Issues," a multimedia product including videos and interactive exercises based on case studies from around the world. Produced by McGraw-Hill Higher Education in collaboration with Cambridge Studios. (2002)

The California Geographer, Manuscript Reviewer. (2002 to present)

CSU, Stanislaus Journal of Research, Manuscript Reviewer (2002)

Editorial Assistant – assisted co-author Terry Jordan in preparing 7th edition of *Human Mosaic*, HarperCollins, 1996.

Editor - *Pioneer America Society Field Guide*, Annual Meeting, Austin, TX, 1996.

ACADEMIC AWARDS & GRANTS

2006 Association of American Geographers Research Grant (pending).

2006 California Council for the Humanities California Stories Project (pending).

2006 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend (pending).

- 2005 **RSCA/AAFD Grant** – *New Migrants in the Marketplace: Ethnic Economies in the San Joaquin Valley*. Funding to continue pilot study of small ethnic firms and businesses in Stanislaus County
- 2005 Scholarship - HILT (High Intensity Language Training) in Spanish.
- 2005 **Dean’s Teaching Initiative** – developing classroom materials for the GeoImages Project.
- 2005 **Instructional Support Mini-Grant** – software training workshop for Computer Cartography (ESRI).
- 2004 **RSCA/AAFD Grant** –funding to begin new research project, *Pilot Study of Small Ethnic Businesses in Stanislaus County*.
- 2004 **Dean’s Teaching Initiative** – to participate in Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) training course.
- 2004 **Instructional Support Mini-Grant** – seed money to develop a Geo-Learning Project.
- 2003 **RSCA/AAFD Grant** – release time and funding to begin revision for publication of book manuscript, *Italians in the West: Migration, Settlement and Ethnic Place in Northern California*.
- 2003 **CSU, Academic Council on International Programs** – funding to participate in an international seminar, *Imagined Spaces, Real Places: France and California*.
- 2003 **Dean’s Teaching Initiative** –for travel to Paris, France to participate in the International Faculty Partnership Seminar.
- 2003 **Instructional Support Mini-Grant** – for travel to Paris, France to participate in the International Faculty Partnership Seminar.
- 2003 **Professional Development Award** - funding for travel to the Association of Pacific Coast Geographers annual meeting in Portland, Oregon.
- 2002 **Affirmative Action Grant** – funding for new course development, *Ethnic Geography*.
- 2001 **Professional Development Award** - funding for travel to the Association of America Geographers annual meeting in New York City.
- 1999 **Professional Development Award** - funding for travel to the Association of Pacific Coast Geographers annual meeting in Flagstaff, Arizona
- 1997 **International Education Fee Scholarship** - awarded through the International Office at the University of Texas, Austin for field research in Northern Italy.
- 1997 **Association of American Geographers Dissertation Research Grant.**

- 1997 **Professional Development Award** - awarded through the Graduate School for travel to the Association of American Geographers annual meeting in Fort Worth.
- 1996 **Robert E. Veselka Endowed Fellowship for Graduate Research.**
- 1996 **Professional Development Award** - awarded through the Webb Fellowship for travel to the Association of American Geographers annual meeting in Charlotte.
- 1995 **Professional Development Award** - awarded through the Graduate School for travel to the Association of American Geographers annual meeting in Chicago.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Association of American Geographers. Chicago, 2006. Connections, Crossings, Collaborations: Recent Research Efforts in Immigrant and Community Studies -- Chair, Organizer, Panelist.

Association of American Geographers. Chicago, 2006. "Immigrants in the Marketplace: Ethnic Entrepreneurship in California's Central Valley." (with co-presenter Ashour Badal)

California State University, Stanislaus. *The Gulf Coast and Beyond Seminar Series*, November 2005. "New Orleans: Time, Place and Cultural Landscape Change."

Association of Pacific Coast Geographers. Phoenix, 2005. "Assyrian Ethnic Spaces in California's Central Valley."

Regional Symposium on University Teaching. Cal Poly Pomona, 2004. "*Doing Cultural Geography: Active Learning and Collaborative Research Using Ethnic Business Inventories.*"

Association of American Geographers. Philadelphia 2004. *A Tribute to Terry G. Jordan.* Paper and Slide Presentation.

Association of Pacific Coast Geographers. Portland, 2003. "Imagined Spaces, Real Places: France and California."

Association of American Geographers. New Orleans, 2003. "Future research Directions in Ethnic Geography." Invited panel discussant.

Association of American Geographers. Los Angeles, 2002. "Exploitative and Elusive Ethnicities: Northern Italians and the Making of Northern California's Regional Identity"

Association of Pacific Coast Geographers. Santa Barbara, 2001. "Networking for the Future: A Panel Discussion Focused on the Needs, Goals, and Challenges of Women Geographers." Organizer and panel discussant.

Association of American Geographers. New York, 2001. "Ethnic Geographies in a Globalizing Economy: Cal-Ital Fusion Landscapes in Northern California"

Association of American Geographers. New York, 2001. "Mentoring Non-Tenured Faculty." Panel Discussion Participant.

Association of Pacific Coast Geographer. Arcata, 2000. "Old Traditions, New Lifestyles: The Emergence of the Cal-Italia Landscape."

Guest Speaker. California State University, Los Angeles, Department of Geography, "From Ethnic Space to California Places: Northern Italian Contributions to Community Identity." (Spring 2000)

Association of Pacific Coast Geographers. Flagstaff, 1998. "Northern California: A Cultural Region?"

Association of American Geographers. Fort Worth, 1997. "Italians in the West: *Campanilismo* and Landscape in a Northern California Context."

Association of American Geographers. Chicago, 1995. "Hmong Ethnic Landscapes: Continuity and Change."

Association of American Geographers. Atlanta, 1993. "Agrarian Lifestyle Continuity Among Recent Southeast Asian Migrants."

Association of American Geographers. San Diego, 1992. "Hmong and Mien Settlement Patterns in Northern California: Two Communities, Two Cultures."

PUBLIC SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Professional Memberships and Contributions:

Association of American Geographers (1992 to present).

Specialty Group Memberships: American Ethnic Geography, Cultural Geography, Qualitative Research Methods, Historical Geography, Cartography

Coordinator – Association of Pacific Coast Geographers Women’s Network. (2000-2003)

Map Competition Judge – California Geographical Society Annual Meeting, Sacramento 2003.

National Council for Geographic Education (2000 to 2002)

California Geographical Society, Vice President (2005-2007), Board Member since 2000.

Map Competition Judge – Association of Pacific Coast Geographers Annual Meeting, Arcata 2000.

Organizer and Chair – Special Session, Annual Meeting of the APCG: "Ethnic Places and Ethnic Spaces in the American West." (2000)

Regional and State Service:

Field Researcher - Department of Fish and Game, **Sacramento River Wildlife Inventory Project**, following Cantara Loop toxic spill. (1992)

Administrative Assistant - National Council for Geographic Education, "**Finding a Way: Encouraging Underrepresented Groups in Geography.**" Project explored gender and multicultural issues that affect geographic education. (1991-92)

Consultant - Northern California Planning and Research, **Tahoe Basin Environmental Impact Report.** On site field work, including land use evaluation and drainage analysis to aid environmental restoration. (1991)

Research assistant - **University Center for Economic Development and Planning.** Focused on the long-term needs of local area economies in a twelve county region of Northern California. (1991)

University Committee Work:

At California State University, Stanislaus:

- Global Affairs Advisory Board (2005-2006)
- Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Policy Committee (2005-present)
- Facility/Event Scheduling Committee (2004-2005)
- Presidential Commission on the Status of Women, Chair (2003)
- Anthropology/Geography Representative to Academic Senate (2002-present)
- Women's & Gender Studies Advisory Committee (2001 to present)

Community Service:

- Volunteer, Osborn Elementary School Spanish-English Immersion Program.
- Sustainable Community Project with Southeast Asian Women, *The BRIDGE*.
- Development of service learning activities in collaboration with *The BRIDGE*.
- California Council for the Humanities/Jacoby Center: Interview and cultural etiquette training associated with StocktonSpeaks! Project.
- State wide recognition through participation in California Geographical Society annual meetings.

Master's Theses :

David Glovier. (Forthcoming). *Analysis of Land Use Management Tools and Cultural Data for use in Urban River Floodplain Hazard Mitigation Processes.*

Bill Borelli. Proposal conditionally approved.

Margaret Tosti. Proposal under review.