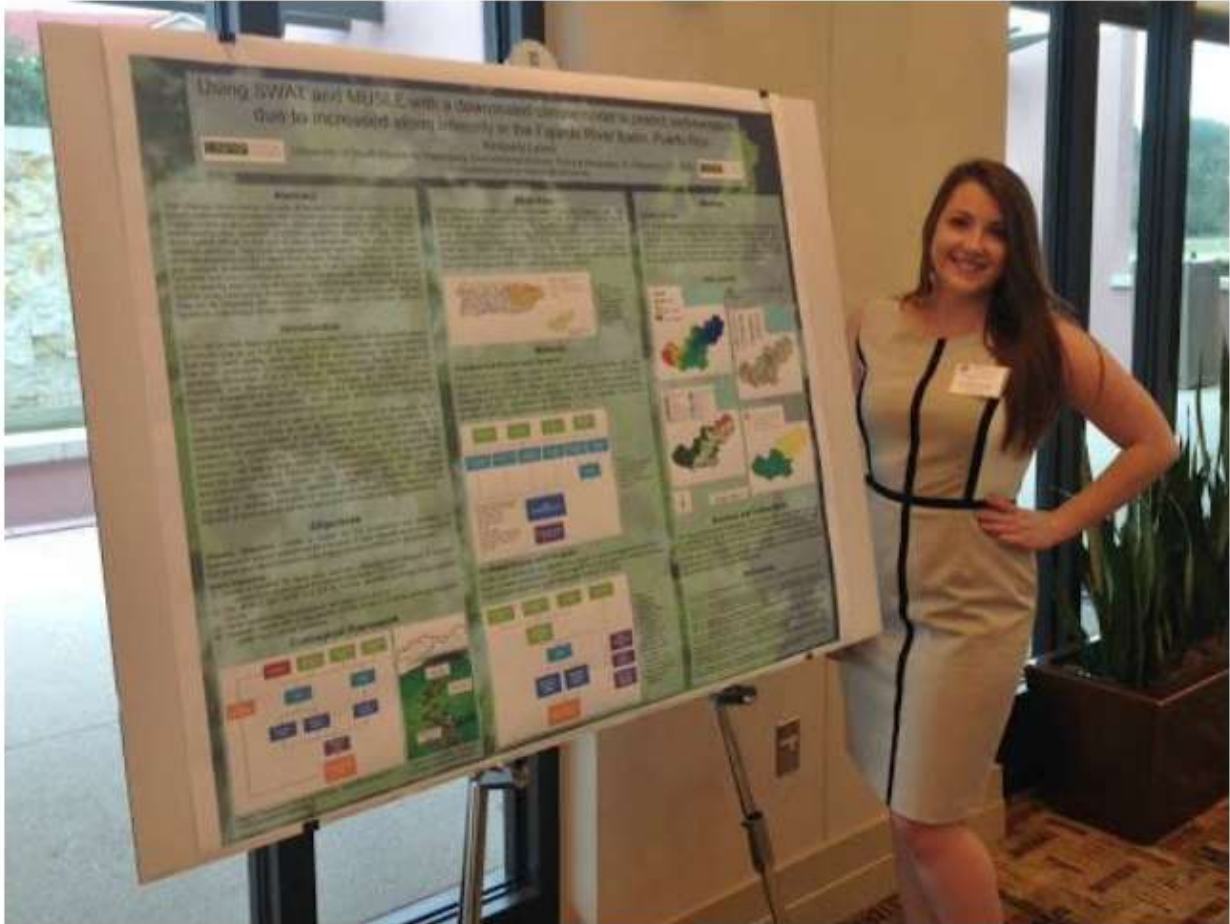


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USFSP Wins Florida Society of Geographers Awards

Posted February 19, 2014 at 9:04 am by [Jessica Blais](#)



ESPG Masters student Kimberly Lyons took home top honors for her poster depicting "Using SWAT and MUSLE with a downsized climate model to predict sedimentation due to increased storm intensity in the Fajardo River basin, Puerto Rico."

Three USFSP graduate students from the Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Geography (ESPG) were awarded prizes at the annual conference of the Florida Society of Geographers (FSG): Steven Douglas, Kimberly Lyons and Elizabeth Merton were recognized for their presentations. Douglas received an Honorable Mention in the Best Graduate Award category for his presentation on "Modeling of Groundwater Contamination Potential from Septic Tanks and Golf Courses: An Integrated Geospatial Approach." Lyons and Merton won Best Poster awards.

“Of the 22 graduate students who presented at the conference—and where 80 percent of the grad students were Ph.D. students—three awards came to USFSP,” said Barnali Dixon, Ph.D., Associate Professor of GIS and Remote Sensing and Chair, Dept. of ESPG. “Other awards went to Ph.D. candidates from Florida Atlantic University and a University of Florida undergrad. I am really proud of our group.”

Dr. Dixon is faculty adviser to the three USFSP winners. Judges for the competition were from Florida State University and Jacksonville University.

“I am very proud of our students,” said Frank Biafora, Ph.D., dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. “And I am equally proud of the faculty who helped them prepare professional presentations for this important regional conference.”

The FSG marks its 50th anniversary this month; its first meeting was hosted by USF in Orlando in 1964. USF faculty Bob Fusion was the first president. Dr. Dixon currently serves as President of the Society.

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