# Seth T. Kannarr

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## ACADEMIC AREAS OF EXPERTISE

**Nature & Society, Place Naming Studies, Protected Areas Policy**
Critical Geography, Sense of Place, National Parks Tourism, Human-Environmental Interaction, Surveys

## EDUCATION

### Doctor of Philosophy in Geography
University of Tennessee, Expected Spring 2026

GPA: 4.00 /4.00, Summa Cum Laude

- Dissertation: *What's In a Name? A New Criteria System for U.S. Protected Area Naming Designations*
- Adviser: *Dr. Derek H. Alderman*

### Master of Arts in Geography
University of Missouri, Spring 2022

GPA: 4.00 /4.00, Summa Cum Laude

- Thesis: *Sense of Place and the Redesignation of the Gateway Arch National Park*
- Adviser: *Dr. Michael A. Urban*

### Bachelor of Science in Geography
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Spring 2020

GPA: 3.821/4.00, Magna Cum Laude

- Minors: *Biological Sciences, Environmental Sciences*
- Areas of Specialization: *Physical Geography, Sustainability, Meteorology & Climatology*
- Graduate of the University Honors Program

## WORK EXPERIENCE

**University of Tennessee, Department of Geography and Sustainability**

- **Graduate Teaching Associate** (2023-Present)
  - Solo taught and managed undergraduate students in GEOG 200: Environmental Issues in National Parks, created the syllabus, lessons, assessments, and all course activites.
- **Graduate Teaching Assistant** (2022-2023)
  - Taught and managed in-person laboratory sections of undergraduate students in GEOG 131 and 132. Assisted with setting up equipment and teaching demos, grading assignments, creating review questions, and in-class activities.

**University of Missouri, Department of Geography**

- **Teaching Assistant** (2020-2022)
  - Taught and managed in-person and online sections of undergraduate students in GEOG 1100 & 1200. Put together review sessions, wrote exam questions, created assignments, class activities, lesson presentations and more. Assisted with redesigned course evaluations & evaluated faculty Canvas sites.

**Canyon Camp, Blackhawk Area Council, Boy Scouts of America**

- **Camp Director** (2021-Present)
    - Performed the planning and administration of all resident camps and activities at Canyon Camp. Hired, trained, and supervised 40+ Staff members for each summer. Served as the spokesperson for camp and addressed any concerns or issues brought to the Office by unit leaders, Staff, or Scouts. Put together resources for NCAP accreditation and handled all background paperwork and certifications.
- **Program Director** (2019-2021)
    - Supervised and provided leadership for 40 Staff members, planned and executed the summer program for Scouts BSA and Cub Scouts youth, provided customer service for adult unit leaders and Scouts, utilized effective communication to large groups.
- **Ecology/Conservation Director** (2016-2018)
    - Supervised and trained assistants in helping provide effective teaching of nature-related merit badges to Scouts BSA youth like Environmental Science, Oceanography, Geology, Soil and Water Conservation, Weather, and more!
- **Various Positions** (2012-2015)
    - Handicraft CIT, Kitchen Aide, Nature Assistant, Pioneer Potpourri Director

**Southern Illinois University Edwardsville**

- **Student Assistant for the University Honors Program** (2017-2020)
    - Assisted with paperwork, virtual services, event planning, applications, presentations, and often tasked with special projects to assist with programming.
- **Desk Manager for University Housing at Evergreen Hall** (2019-2020)
    - Provided customer service and security at the front desk of a student residence hall.
- **Teaching Assistant for the Department of Biological Sciences** (2017-2018)
    - Taught foundational concepts of introductory biology to assigned class sections via the Peer Led Team Learning model. Tutored students requesting additional help.

**Culver's Restaurant**

- **Crew Member** and **Risk Management Team Member** (2014-2015, 2018-2019)
    - Safely prepared food from all kitchen positions, tasked with training new employees.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Graduate Teaching Associate (2023-Present)**

- Department of Geography and Sustainability, University of Tennessee
    - Courses: GEOG 200 Environmental Issues in National Parks
    - Modalities: In-Person Classroom
    - Estimate of Students: 40 each semester.
    - Duties: Solo instructor in charge of classroom management and course grades. Created syllabus, lessons, quizzes, exams, assignments, field trips, and all course material.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant (2022-2023)**

- Department of Geography and Sustainability, University of Tennessee
    - Courses: GEOG 131 Weather and Climate, GEOG 132 Landscapes and Environment
    - Modalities: In-Person Laboratory Sections
    - Estimate of Students: 100 over 2 semesters.
    - Duties: Managed laboratory environment, graded assignments, assisted with review questions and class activities in lecture.

**Teaching Assistant (2020-2022)**

- Department of Geography, University of Missouri
    - Courses: GEOG 1100 Regions and Nations I, GEOG 1200 Regions and Nations II
    - Modalities: Online, Hybrid, and In-Person "Discussion Sections"
    - Estimate of Students: 200 over 4 Semesters
    - Duties: Created the syllabus, lesson plans, presentations, activities, and worksheets to reinforce learning objectives. Hosted review sessions, wrote exam questions, managed the gradebook, hosted online discussion boards, and more.

**Undergraduate Teaching Assistant (2017-2018)**

- Department of Biological Sciences, SIUE
    - Courses: BIO 150: Introduction to Biological Sciences I
    - Modalities: In-Person "Peer-Led Team Learning Workshops"
    - Estimate of Students: 100 Students over 2 Semesters
    - Duties: Guided students with assigned worksheets, provided review questions, offered supplemental material and shared study techniques, submitted grades.

**Ecology/Conservation Director (2016-2018)**

- Canyon Camp, Boy Scouts of America
    - Merit Badges: Environmental Science, Soil & Water Conservation, Geology, Oceanography, Weather, Fish & Wildlife Management, Forestry, etc.
    - Modalities: In-Person, Fieldwork
    - Estimate of Students: 1,250 Scouts over 4 Summers
    - Duties: Trained and supervised two assistants in pedagogical techniques, managed the Nature Lodge facility and surrounding area. Created lesson plans and built a session schedule for Scouts. Taught multiple merit badges classes daily each week.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Dissertation Research with Dr. Derek Aldeman (2022-Present)**

- Department of Geography and Sustainability, University of Tennessee
    - Planning to create a new criteria set for protected area designations managed by the U.S. Department of Interior, and then apply it to identify potential redesignations to be studied further under the lenses of place and place renaming.

**Masters Thesis Research with Dr. Michael Urban (2021-2022)**

- Department of Geography, University of Missouri
    - Created and distributed a targeted mass survey to gather qualitative data on what users value about 'National Parks' and specific NPS sites. NVivo software was utilized to code the data to create narrative themes for the project's analysis.

**Term Project for Geography of Tourism with Dr. Douglas Hurt (2021)**

- Department of Geography, University of Missouri
    - Created and distributed a geosurvey to Canyon Camp Staff Alumni in advance of a reunion to create a map of alumni domestic distribution. Document analysis on writings related to 'the Spirit of Canyon Camp' was supplemented to analyze how the reunion demonstrates the power of sense of place and place attachment.

**Autumn & Spring Tree Phenology Collection with Dr. Grant Elliott (2020-2021)**

- Department of Geography, University of Missouri

- Collected phenological recordings of fifty select trees along the 'Deer Run Trail' in Rock Bridge Memorial State Park in Columbia, Missouri over Fall and Spring.

**Senior Assignment with Dr. Alan Black (2019-2020)**

- Department of Geography, SIUE
  - Created and distributed a mass survey via social media to gather perception data on natural hazards related to their U.S. State of Residence. Survey data was combined with actual hazard incidence data to create a vulnerability equation and a comprehensive map.

**URCA Assistant for Dr. Adriana Martinez (2018-2019)**

- Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Program, SIUE
  - Performed particle size analysis on thirty-eight sediment samples using a Ro-Tap machine to determine variation in sediment deposition across different plant stands.

## RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

**2024** **Kannarr, S.** "The Contentious Redesignation of the Gateway Arch National Park". Palgrave Press, *Planned Book on Protected Areas Research*. (Submission Pending)

**2023** **Kannarr, S.** "The Spirit of Canyon Camp: Sense of Place and Alumni Memory". The Geographical Bulletin. (Submission Pending)

**2023** **Kannarr, Black.** "States Rated: An Index of Natural Hazard Vulnerability". The Geographical Bulletin. (In Review)

**2023** **Kannarr, S.** "Canyon, Mountain, Cloud: Absence and Longing in American Parks". The AAG Review of Books, 11:2, 27-29. (*https://doi.org/10.1080/2325548X.2023.2179838*)

**2022** **Kannarr, S.** "Sense of Place and the Redesignation of the Gateway Arch National Park". Masters Thesis, MOspace Institutional Repository. (*https://hdl.handle.net/10355/91514*)

**2020** **Martinez, Walther, Kusler, Greenfield, Kannarr** "Landscape Change and Vegetation-Channel Interactions in an Estuarine System: Tijuana River Estuary, San Diego, CA". Journal of Coastal Conservation. (*https://doi.org/10.1007/s11852-019-00723-w*)

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

**2023** **A How-to Guide for Applying to Graduate School for Geography**

- Kannarr. "September 2023 Newsletter". Gamma Theta Upsilon Newsletter. (Submitted)

**2022** **Map of East and Southeast Asia in the 1860s**

- Fletcher, Hellyer. "Chronicling Westerners in Nineteenth-Century East Asia". Bloomsbury.

**2021** **Editor for a Student-Organized Gamma Theta Upsilon Newsletter Issue**

- Kannarr, Wilson. "December 2021 Newsletter". Gamma Theta Upsilon Newsletter.

## RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

**2023** **American Association of Geographers, SEDAAG Meeting, Norfolk, VA**

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**2023** **International Society of Landscape, Place, and Material Culture, Annual Meeting, Columbia, MO**

- "Kuwohi and the Repatriation of Clingmans Dome in the GSMNP"

**2023** **American Association of Geographers, Annual Meeting, Denver, CO**

- "Kuwohi and the Repatriation of Clingmans Dome in the GSMNP"

**2023** **University of Tennessee, 4th Biennial GeoSymposium, Knoxville, TN**
- "Sense of Place in the World of Trench by Twenty One Pilots"

**2022** **American Association of Geographers, SEDAAG Meeting, Atlanta, GA**
- "Sense of Place and the Redesignation of the Gateway Arch National Park"

**2022** **American Association of Geographers, West Lakes Division Meeting, Edwardsville, IL**
- "Sense of Place and the Redesignation of the Gateway Arch National Park"

**2022** **University of Missouri, Department of Geography, Thesis Defense, Columbia, MO**
- "Sense of Place and the Redesignation of the Gateway Arch National Park"

**2022** **American Association of Geographers, Annual Meeting, Online**
- "Perceptions of National Parks and the Gateway Arch"

**2021** **International Society of Landscape, Place, and Material Culture, Annual Meeting, Tulsa, OK**
- "The Spirit of Canyon Camp BSA: A Look Into Sense of Place and Alumni Memory"

**2021** **American Association of Geographers, Annual Meeting, Online**
- "National Park Deserts: A Look Into Metropolitan Accessibility"

**2020** **American Association of Geographers, West Lakes Division Meeting, Online**
- "States Rated: An Index of Natural Hazard Vulnerability"

**2020** **American Association of Geographers, Annual Meeting, Online**
- "States Rated: An Index of Natural Hazard Vulnerability"

**2019** **American Association of Geographers, West Lakes Division Meeting, Cedar Falls, IA**
- "Geography of Color Preference in the United States"

**2019** **American Association of Geographers, Annual Meeting, Washington D.C.**
- "Particle Size Analysis on Sediment Samples from the Tijuana River Estuary"

**2018** **Horner Shifrin GIS Day Student Showcase, St. Louis, MO**
- "SIUE Nature Preserve Trail Map"

## RESEARCH GRANTS & AWARDS

**2023** **Graduate Student Senate Travel Award, University of Tennessee**
- "Kuwohi and the Repatriation of Clingmans Dome in the GSMNP," Funded ($1,000).

**2022** **Carlos C. Campbell Memorial Fellowship, Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association**
- "Kuwohi and the Repatriation of Clingmans Dome in the GSMNP," Unfunded.

**2022** **Stewart K. McCroskey Memorial Fund, Department of Geography, University of Tennessee**
- "Kuwohi and the Repatriation of Clingmans Dome in the GSMNP," Funded ($1,500).

**2022** **Field Research Award, Department of Geography, University of Missouri**
- "Sense of Place and the Redesignation of the Gateway Arch National Park," Funded ($100).

**2021** **National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (NSF-GRFP)**
- "The Impact of Spruce Beetle Outbreaks on the Treeline in the San Juan Mountains," Unfunded.

**2019** **URCA Associate Fellowship Program, SIUE**
- "States Rated: A Physical Geography Perspective," Unfunded.

## HONORS & RECOGNITIONS

**2023** **Student Publication Honor**, UTK Department of Geography and Sustainability

**2022** **World Geography Bowl All-Star MVP Competition Champion**, SEDAAG Annual Meeting 2022

**2022** **1st Place in Doctoral Oral Presentation Award**, AAG West Lakes Meeting 2022

**2022** **Robert G. Buzzard Graduate Scholarship**, Gamma Theta Upsilon (*National Award*)

**2022** **Richard G. Boehm Outstanding Graduate Student in Geography Award**, University of Missouri

**2022** **Herbert G. Horton Service to Youth Award**, Alpha Phi Omega (*National Award*)

**2021** **Dennis W. Pratt Memorial Scholarship**, Canyon Camp BSA

**2020** **1st Place in Doctoral/Masters Poster Award**, AAG West Lakes Meeting 2020

**2020** **Noble R. Thompson III Student in Geography Award**, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

**2020** **Robert G. Buzzard Undergraduate Scholarship**, Gamma Theta Upsilon (*National Award*)

**2020** **Chapter Distinguished Service Key**, Epsilon Pi Chapter, Alpha Phi Omega

**2019** **Benjamin F. Richason Scholarship**, Gamma Theta Upsilon (*National Award*)

**2019** **Troy E. Larson Memorial Scholarship**, Canyon Camp BSA

**2018** **Michael E. Beeth Scholarship**, Canyon Camp BSA

**2017** **Founder's Award**, Order of the Arrow BSA

**2016** **Meridian Scholarship**, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (*Full Ride*)

**2016** **Vigil Honor**, Order of the Arrow BSA

**2013** **Eagle Scout Rank**, Boy Scouts of America

## PROFESSIONAL SKILL SETS

- **Geographic Information Systems** (ArcMap, ArcPro, Python Scripting)
- **Remote Sensing** (ERDAS Imagine)
- **Survey Design & Creation** (Qualtrics, Google Forms)
- **Qualitative Coding** (NVivo Software)
- **Microsoft Excel** (Pivot Tables, Mail Merges, Data Management)
- **Online Course Design** (Canvas, Google)
- **Comptia A+ Training** (IT Essentials)
- **FAA Remote Pilot Training** (Drones/UAVs)

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND WORKSHOPS

**2023** **CIRTL Associate Certification** (Facilitating Undergraduate Evidence-Based Learning Course)

**2023** **National Park Classroom: Park-Based Learning Ranger Program** (2023/2024 Cohort)

**2023** **Transitioning To and Between Graduate Schools** (SEDAAG Panel Session)

**2022** **Imposter Syndrome: Let's Break the Stigma** (SEDAAG Panel Session)

**2022** **BSA National Camping School** (Camp Administration Certification)

**2019** **APO LEADS Leadership Development Program** (Launch, Achieve, and Discover Courses)

2017 **OA BSA National Leadership Seminar** (Weekend Conference)

## SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

**University of Tennessee, Graduate Association of Research Geographers (GeoGrads)**
- Graduate Faculty Awards Chair (2022-Present)
- Merchandise and Apparel Chair (2022-Present)

**I-NAME (Interventions in Naming America and Mobilizing Equality) Initiative**
- Co-Coordinator and Member (2023-Present)

**National Park Service, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Volunteers In Parks Program**
- Education Branch Volunteer (2023-Present)

**University of Missouri, Department of Geography**
- Graduate Student Faculty Representative (2020-2022)

**American Association of Geographers, Protected Areas Specialty Group**
- Communications Director (2021-Present)

**Alpha Phi Omega, National Service Fraternity**
- Scouting Advisor for Beta Eta (2020-2022)
- Chapter President for Epsilon Pi (2019-2020)
    - SIUE Kimmel Small Organization of the Year (2020)
- Vice President of Service for Epsilon Pi (2017-2019)

**Gamma Theta Upsilon, International Geography Honor Society**
- Student Outreach Assistant (West Lakes 2021-2022, Southeast 2022 - Present)
- Secretary for Beta Xi (2021-2022)
- Chapter President for Gamma Lambda (2019-2020)
- Vice President for Gamma Lambda (2019)

**Honors Student Association at SIUE**
- Peer Mentoring Chair (2019-2020)
- Past President (2019-2020)
- President (2018-2019)
    - SIUE Kimmel Large Organization of the Year (2019)
- Founding Vice President (2017-2018)

**Boy Scouts of America**
- Camp Director at Canyon Camp (2021-Present)
- Blackhawk Area Council Advisory Board Member (2020-Present)
- Assistant Scoutmaster for Scouts BSA Troop 206 (2015-Present)
- BSA Merit Badge Counselor (2015-Present)

## LETTERS OF REFERENCE

Riley Cox
Connor Kloss
Worth Novinski
Joshua Salamon
Rachel Huwe
Grant Rasmussen
Zeke Loveland
Lydiah Russell
Logan Watson
Parker Johnson

## CONTACT REFERENCES

**Alan Black,** *Assistant Professor of Geography at SIUE*

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**Soren Larsen,** *Professor of Geography, University of Missouri*

- **Phone:** (573) 882-9613, **Email:** larsens@missouri.edu

**Derek Alderman,** *Professor of Geography, University of Tennessee*

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