

Rutherford (Rud) Vance Platt

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EDUCATION

University of Colorado at Boulder, Department of Geography, Boulder, Colorado (1999-2004).
Ph.D., August 2004. Dissertation: *Modeling Wildfire Mitigation and Ecological Restoration in the Wildland-Urban Interface*.

- M.A., May 2001. Thesis: *Modeling Land Use Change: A Comparison of Cellular Automata and Spatial Regression*.

Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine.

A.B., Economics and Environmental Studies, 1996.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Visiting Scholar, Harvard Center for Geographic Analysis. Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts. 2015-2016.

Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Studies. Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. 2010-present. (Chair of department, 2012-present)

Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental Studies. Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. 2004-2010.

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Platt, R.V., M.V. Ogra, R. Badola, S.A. Hussain. 2016. Conservation-induced resettlement as a driver of land use change in India: An object-based trend analysis. *Applied Geography*. 69:75-86.

Platt, R.V. 2014. Wildfire hazard in the home ignition zone: An object-oriented analysis integrating LiDAR and VHR Satellite Imagery. *Applied Geography*. 51: 108-117.

Sherriff, R.L., R. Platt, T.T. Veblen, T.L. Schoennagel, M.H. Gartner. 2014. Historical, Observed, and Modeled Wildfire Severity in Montane Forests of the Colorado Front Range. *PLOS ONE*. 9(9): e106971.

Commito, J.A., A.E. Commito, R.V. Platt, B.M. Grupe, W.E. Dow, N.J. Gownaris, K.A. Reeves, and A.M. Vissichelli. 2014. Recruitment facilitation and spatial pattern formation in soft-bottom mussel beds. *Ecosphere*. 5(12): 1-26.

Walter, J.A. and R.V. Platt. 2013. Multi-temporal analysis reveals that predictors of mountain pine beetle infestation change during outbreak cycles. *Forest Ecology and Management*. 302: 308-318.

Platt, R.V. 2012. Mapping settlements in the wildland urban interface: a decision tree approach. *Professional Geographer*. 64(2): 262-275.

- Platt, R.V., T. Schoennagel, T.T. Veblen, R.L. Sherriff. 2011. Modeling wildfire potential in residential parcels: a case study of the north-central Colorado Front Range. *Landscape and Urban Planning*. 102: 117-126.
- Platt, R.V. 2010. The wildland-urban interface: evaluating the definition effect. *Journal of Forestry*. 108(1): 9-15.
- Platt, R.V. and T. Schoennagel. 2009. An object-oriented approach to assessing changes in tree cover in the Colorado Front Range 1938-1999. *Forest Ecology and Management*. 258: 1342-1349.
- Platt, R.V., T.T. Veblen, R.L. Sherriff. 2008. A spatial model of mechanical thinning location and forest management outcomes in the wildland-urban interface. *Natural Hazards Review*. 9(4): 199-208.
- Platt, R.V. and L.M. Rapoza. 2008. An evaluation of an object-oriented paradigm for land use/land cover classification. *Professional Geographer*. 60(1): 87-100.
- Platt, R.V., T.T. Veblen, R.L. Sherriff. 2006. Are wildfire mitigation and restoration of historic forest structure compatible? A Spatial Modeling Assessment. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*. 93(3): 455-470.
- Platt, R.V. 2006. A model of land use change and wildfire mitigation. *Environment and Planning B: Planning and Design*. 33: 749-765.
- Platt, R.V. and F.H. Goetz. 2004. A Comparison of AVIRIS and landsat for land use classification at the urban fringe. *Photogrammetric Engineering and Remote Sensing*. 70(7): 813-819.
- Platt, R.V. 2004. Local and global analysis of fragmentation in a Colorado mountain region. *Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment*. 101: 207-218.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- Platt, R.V., D. Manthos, Y. Franklin, and J. Amos. 2016. Detecting the creation and removal of fracking Impoundments using trend analysis of Landsat imagery. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. March 2016, San Francisco.
- Platt, R.V., J. Bloomquist, and C. Martinez. 2015. Mellon Crazy: Three Paths to Robust Research Experiences for Students. Gettysburg College Friday Faculty Lunch. November 13, 2015.
- Platt, R.V. 2015. Remote Sensing of Land Use and Land Cover: from Pixels to Objects and Back Again. Gettysburg College Friday Faculty Lunch. September 25th, 2015.
- Platt, R.V. and M.V. Ogra. 2015. Object-based trend analysis of land use change within a wildlife corridor in India. EARSel Workshop: Temporal Analysis of Satellite Images. Stockholm, Sweden. June, 2015.
- Platt, R.V. 2015. Geographic object-based image analysis: promise and pitfalls. ABCD GIS Seminar Series. Harvard Center for Geographic Analysis. Cambridge, MA. March 26th, 2015.
- Platt, R.V., and M.V. Ogra. 2014. Conservation-induced resettlement as a driver of land use change in India: an object-oriented image analysis. Global Land Project 2nd Open Science Meeting. Berlin, Germany. March, 2014.

- Platt, R.V., 2013. Assessing wildfire hazard to structures in the wildland-urban interface: a data fusion approach. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Los Angeles, CA. April, 2013.
- Platt, R.V., 2011. Does defensible space help structure survival? A case study of the Fourmile Fire. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Seattle, WA. April 14th, 2011.
- Platt, R.V., 2010. The wildfire risk trajectory of exurban development in the Colorado Front Range. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Washington DC. April 14th-18th, 2010.
- Platt, R.V. and T. Schoennagel 2008. Have forests really become denser? An object-oriented assessment of a key premise in wildfire policy. GEOBIA 2008 – Pixels, Objects, Intelligence: Geographic Object Based Image Analysis for the 21st Century. Calgary, Canada. August 6-7, 2008.
- Platt, R.V. and T. Schoennagel 2008. Have forests really become denser? An object-oriented assessment of a key premise in wildfire policy. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Boston, MA. April 19th, 2008.
- Platt, R.V. 2007. Wildfire policy in the Rocky Mountains, USA: One Case Study, Two GIS Analyses. Mudumali Field Station, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. October 16th, 2007.
- Platt, R.V. 2007. A GIS model of structure location for wildfire hazard assessment. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. San Francisco, CA. April 17th, 2007.
- Platt, R.V., T.T. Veblen, and R. Sherriff. 2006. Uncertainty in the wildland-urban interface: scenarios of exurban development, climate, and historic fire regimes. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Chicago, IL. March 7th, 2006.
- Platt, R.V., T.T. Veblen, and R. Sherriff. 2005. Modeling the compatibility of wildfire mitigation and ecological restoration in the wildland-urban interface. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Denver, CO, April 7th, 2005.
- Platt, R.V., 2003. Global and local analysis of fragmentation in a mountain region of Colorado. Poster Session, Framing Land Use Dynamics International Conference. Utrecht, the Netherlands, April 2003.
- Platt, R.V., 2002. A Comparison of hyperspectral and multispectral imagery for land use mapping. International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis. Laxenburg, Austria, July 2002.
- Platt, R.V., 2001. Models of land use change in Colorado and lessons for MERMAID. MERMAID (Mauritius Environmental Resource Management and Industrial Development) Workshop. Flic-en-Flac, Mauritius, June 2001.

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

- Conservation-Induced Displacement and Deforestation Outside of Rajaji National Park, India.* An Object-Oriented Remote Sensing Analysis. Gettysburg College Research & Professional Development Grant, May 2012.
- Does Defensible Space Help Structure Survival? A Case Study of the Fourmile Fire in Colorado.* Gettysburg College Research & Professional Development Grant, May 2011.

Johnson Teaching Grant. Funds to support course development for first year seminar ‘Sustainability or Collapse?’ August 2010

Collaborative Research: Fire Risk and Ecological Integrity in the Wildland Urban Interface of the Colorado Front Range. National Science Foundation, Proposal number 0540928. 2006-2009.

Hewlett Foundation Grant for Student Portfolio Development. 2007.

A Temporal-Spatial Assessment of Residential Development in the Wildland-Urban Interface. Gettysburg College Research & Professional Development Grant, May 2006.

EPA STAR Fellowship. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. 2001-2004.

International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA). 2002. Young Scientist Summer Program, Laxenburg, Austria. 2002.

Workshops and Session Organizing

“*Hazards and GIScience*” Session organizer and chair at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers most years from 2005-2016.

Workshop on Google Earth and GPS for Inuit Research Assistants. Clyde River, Nunavut (Arctic Canada). August 17th, 2010.

“*Exploring Geographic Information Systems in Research and Teaching*”. Full day training workshop for Gettysburg College Faculty. Center for Creative Teaching. May 11th 2005.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

R Workshops -- Basic R Programming for Data Analysis, Introduction to R Graphics with ggplot2, R Regression Models. Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University. February-March 2015.

Geo for Higher Education Summit: Google Headquarters, Mountain View, CA. July 22-24, 2013.

Data Visualization with R (run by Michael Lavine): National Institute for Technology in Liberal Education. February, 2011.

Geospatial Statistics Workshop (run by William Huber): National Institute for Technology in Liberal Education. February, 2010.

Multilevel Modeling: An Introduction. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Boston, MA. April 17th, 2008.

Analyzing Spatial Data with R. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. San Francisco, CA. April 17th-21st, 2007.

Teaching GIS in Liberal Arts Colleges. National Institute for Technology and Liberal Education. Saratoga Springs, NY. June 20-21st, 2005.

Professional Development Workshop for Early Career Faculty. Geography Faculty Development Alliance. Boulder, CO. June 4-11th, 2005.

Building Geodatabases I. ESRI Training Course. Washington D.C. May 16th-18th, 2005.

Advanced Segmentation and Classification with eCognition. eCognition Training Workshop. Baltimore, MD. March 6th, 2005.

Introduction to Geoprocessing Scripts using Python. ESRI Training Course. Washington D.C. October 28th-29th 2004.

Young Scientist Summer Program. International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) Laxenburg, Austria. June-August 2002.

Introduction to Programming ArcObjects with VBA. Kuhns and Associates. GIS in the Rockies, Denver, CO. October 9th 2002.

Studying Skillful Teaching. Research for Better Teaching. Wellesley College, MA. July 5-11th 1998.

SELECTED SERVICE ACTIVITIES

- Chair of the Environmental Studies Department, 2012-present
- Chairs Technology subcommittee 2013-present
- Director of GIS lab, 2004-present
- Web liaison for Environmental Studies Department, 2006-2013
- Chair of the Gettysburg College Sustainability Committee, 2011-2013
- Johnson Center for Creative Teaching and Learning Advisory Committee, 2010-2012.
- Faculty Finance Committee, 2008
- Faculty Council, 2008
- Student Enrollment and Retention Committee (SERC), 2005-2008

COURSES TAUGHT

- FYS105 Sustainability or Collapse? Environmental Change and the Past, Present, and Future of Society
- ES121 Environmental Issues
- ES230 Introduction to GIS
- ES263 Remote Sensing of the Environment
- ES312 Environmental Applications of GIS
- ES400 The Sustainable Campus
- ES400 The Automobile and its Effects on American Culture and Environment

STUDENT RESEARCH

- Kelly Collins '16, honors thesis project "Effects of Hydraulic Fracturing Infrastructure on Viewshed, Soundshed, and Land Cover in Pennsylvania"
- Katherine Cavanaugh '16, honors thesis project "Forest Treatments, Wildfire, Pine Beetles, and Development: Trend analysis of Forest Disturbance on the Colorado Front Range"
- Micaela Edelson '17, Sam Donnelly '17, Caitlin Rasche '17 – research assistants for Platt *et al.* in prep.
- Nick Ferreri '14, independent study project on the use of GIS in Adams County planning.
- Ethan Dively '14, independent study project on object oriented analysis of forest use in India.
- Matthew Toich '12 and Julie Ivers '12, research assistants for Platt 2014

- Jon Walter '10, honors thesis project: "Mountain Pine Beetle in the Pacific Northwest: the effects of Fire, Climate, and Topography" and lead author for Walter and Platt 2013.
- Danielle Bates '10, research assistant for Platt and Schoennagel 2009.
- Matthew Heiser '09, research assistant for Platt 2010
- Andy Padilla '08, independent study project: "Remote Sensing of Mongolian Archeological Structures"
- Matthew Shank '08 research assistant for Platt 2010.
- Andrew Rohrbaugh '07, honors thesis: "An Analysis of Land Use Change in the Mid-Atlantic states from 1992-2002".
- Lauren Rapoza '06, research assistant and co-author for Platt and Rapoza 2008.
- Jennie Fiorito '06, honors thesis: "Conservation Potential and Land Use Fragmentation in Maryland".
- Sarah Lilley '06, honors thesis "A Comparison of Road Data Sources for Assessing Fragmentation in an Agricultural Landscape".

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Association of American Geographers
- Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences
- American Society for Photogrammetry & Remote Sensing