February Happenings

The OSU Research Symposium, held in conjunction with Research Week, will occur February 15-16 in the Student Union. Three Geography graduate students are scheduled:

- **Brian Gilson** – Tuesday, February 16, 9:00-9:20 AM, 417 Student Union. Paper: “Ethno-symbolism and government discourse in Azerbaijan.”

- **Emily Ellis** – Tuesday, February 16, 1:00-1:20 PM, 408 Student Union. Paper: “An evaluation of tornado siren coverage in Stillwater, Oklahoma: Optimal GIS methods for a spatially explicit interpretation.”

- **Matt Haffner** – Tuesday, February 16, 1:00-2:00 PM, 465 Student Union. Poster: “Conquering big spatial data: A new philosophy of geographic information science.”

Also, Dr. Brad Bays was invited to be part of a kick-off panel for the week titled “The Importance of Research Breadth at OSU.” This will occur Monday, February 15 at 10:00 AM in the Jones Conference Room at the ConocoPhillips Alumni Center.

MS student Jordan Brasher is participating in the OSU Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) competition. The A&S Competition is Friday, February 19 at 2:00 PM in the Helmerich Browsing Room of the Edmon Low Library.

Dr. Lee Johnson of California State University-Monterey Bay and NASA will give a colloquium on Monday, February 29 (a once-a-quadrennial event!) in 207 NRC at 3:30. His presentation title is “Satellite-based estimation of crop evapotranspiration in California.”
Faculty Research and Travel

Dr. Adam Mathews spent part of January in South Africa collaborating with researchers at Stellenbosch University near Cape Town. Specifically, he is working with Dr. Albert Strever (below left, middle) from the Department of Viticulture & Oenology and Dr. Jaco Kemp (right) from the Department of Geography & Environmental Studies. This collaborative work seeks to assess the canopy characteristics and overall performance of grapevines using unmanned aerial system-captured aerial photography. During his time abroad, Adam and his colleagues captured aerial photos and other datasets of a study vineyard managed by the university (below right). Up next, it’s time for analysis! As you can see from the panoramic (bottom), Stellenbosch is a stunning, scenic wine-producing area.
March Sadness Redux

On Saturday, February 13, the long-awaited basketball rematch occurred. Despite efforts to either derail his academic progress or adopt him as an honorary faculty member, Jordan “The Basher” Brasher again put the hurt on the faculty/staff team, the students prevailing 25-20 (regular baskets counting 1 point, beyond the arc counting 2 points). Below, Gustavo Ovando, Matt Haffner, Nick Rose, Adam McKay, Thomas Craig, Colton Flynn, and Jordan Brasher (kneeling) hoist the World Cup again.

Peter Kedron, Luis Montes, Dale Lightfoot, Jon Comer, Adam Mathews, Clay Barrett, and Nicky Wu fought to a valiant second-place finish.