

ALEC L. FOSTER, Ph.D.

School of Natural Resources and Environment
University of Michigan
2544 Dana Building (440 Church Street) Ann Arbor, MI 48109
alecfo@umich.edu (813)731-6917

Education

- August 2016 **Doctor of Philosophy, Geography and Urban Studies**
Temple University—Philadelphia, PA
Committee: Dr. Hamil Pearsall, Dr. Melissa Gilbert, Dr. Allison Hayes-Conroy
- August 2016 **Graduate Certificate in Geographic Information Systems**
Temple University—Philadelphia, PA
- Dec 2010 **Master of Arts, Geography**
University of South Florida—Tampa, FL
Committee: Dr. Graham A. Tobin, Dr. Kevin Archer, Dr. Steven Reader
- May 2002 **Bachelor of Arts, Environmental Studies and Economics**
New College of Florida—Sarasota, FL

Professional Appointments

- 2016- **Postdoctoral Research Fellow**
University of Michigan, School of Natural Resources and Environment

Research Interests Urban Political Ecology, Environmental Justice, Environmental Identities, Urban Forests, Social Movements, Volunteered Geographic Information, Urban Agriculture, Green Infrastructure, the Food-Energy-Water Nexus

Fellowships and Awards

- 2015 **Temple University**
College of Liberal Arts Graduate Travel Award (\$200)
- 2014 **Temple University**
College of Liberal Arts Graduate Travel Award (\$300)
- 2010-2012 **Temple University**
University Fellowship (Tuition remission and stipend)
- 2008-2009 **University of South Florida**
University Fellowship (Tuition remission and stipend)

Publications

Refereed Journal Articles

Foster, Alec, Dunham, Ian M. (2015). Urban Forests, Volunteered Geographic Information, and Environmental Justice. *Computers, Environment, and Urban Systems*, 53, 65-75.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.compenvurbsys.2014.08.001>

Dunham, Ian M., Foster, Alec (2015). Proximal Landscapes of Economic Inclusion in Southeastern Pennsylvania. *The Professional Geographer*, 67(1), 132-144.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00330124.2014.907697>

Papers under Review

Foster, Alec. (Under Review). Volunteer Environmental Stewardship and Affective Labor in Philadelphia. Special Issue of *Conservation and Society* on Affective Ecologies.

Foster, Alec, Dunham, Ian M., and Charles Kaylor. (Under Review). The Volunteered Production of Urban Forests. *Journal of Urban Technology*.

Foster, Alec (Under Review). Inside the Green Panopticon: Creating Environmental Subjects Through Urban Forest Science and Education. *The Middle States Geographer*.

Refereed Conference Proceedings

Foster, Alec, Tobin, Graham A. (2013). A Contingent Valuation of Tampa's Urban Forest. *Papers in Applied Geography*, 36, 137-145.

Other Publications

Foster, Alec, Dunham, Ian M. (2013). Book Review of *Seeking the Greatest Good*. *The Pennsylvania Geographer*, 51(2), 112-115.

Foster, Alec (2012). Book Review of *Nature's Entrepot*. *The Pennsylvania Geographer*, 50(1&2), 179-184.

Teaching

Temple University

Environmental Policy Issues (Instructor: Spring 2016, 19; Fall 2015, 15; Spring 2015, 15; Fall 2014, 20 students)

This course exposes advanced undergraduate students to environmental policy issues from a global and critical perspective. The course is divided into four themes: defining policy and defining nature, major actors in environmental policy, paradigms in environmental policy, and evaluating specific environmental policies. Class sessions are run seminar style and the emphasis is on students participating in and leading discussions.

Fundamentals of Cartography (Instructor: Spring 2016, 19; Fall 2015, 19 students)

Students learn critical visual skills for and humanistic approaches to mapmaking and map analysis, expanding their visual design skills and critical conceptual framework for thinking about cartography and geovisualization.

Digital Mapping (Teaching Assistant: Spring 2014, 60; Fall 2013, 60 students)

University of South Florida

Multivariate Statistical Analysis (Teaching Assistant: Spring 2010, 20 graduate students)

Geographic Research Methods (Teaching Assistant: Fall 2009, 20 students)

Professional and Work Experience

Summer 2016 **Temple University**

Internship Program Coordinator: bITS (Building Information technology Skills)
Coordinate 5 faculty leads and 13 graduate and undergraduate mentors in delivering a Work-Ready Program for 53 Philadelphia high school students

Summer 2014 **Temple University**

Faculty Lead: bITS (Building Information technology Skills)
Coordinate 2 undergraduates in mentoring 7 youth in applying digital technologies to researching urban environmental issues

Summer 2012 **Temple University**

Summer 2013 Research team Coordinator: bITS (Building Information technology Skills)

Lead & Coordinate 3 undergraduates mentoring 12 youth in applying digital technologies to researching urban environmental issues.

Summer 2009 **University of South Florida**

Summer 2010 Graduate Research Assistant: Center for Urban Transportation Research

Research national, state, and local planning processes and regulations with a goal of implementing carbon footprint as criteria in said processes. Document Florida planning processes for transportation and the best practices of other states to implement carbon footprint reduction in Florida's transportation planning.

Conference Presentations

2016 *Blank Spaces in Tree Maps: Digital Inclusion, Poverty, and Urban Forest Volunteered Geographic Information.* Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, San Francisco. March 30th.

2016 Panelist: *Critique, praxis, and power in urban social-ecological systems.* Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, San Francisco. March 29th.

2015 *Emotional Ecologies and Economies of Care in Philadelphia.* Affect Theory Conference, Lancaster, PA. October 17th.

2015 *Socialism and Ecology.* US Social Forum, Philadelphia. June 27th.

2015 *Urban Environmental Volunteers and Emotional Economies of Care in Philadelphia.* Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Chicago. April 25th.

2014 *Dialogues in Urban Political Ecology.* Critical Geography Conference, Philadelphia, PA. November 9th.

2014 *Doing Identity in Urban Political Ecology.* Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Tampa. April 8th.

2014 *Doing Identity in Urban Political Ecology.* Dimensions of Political

- Ecology (DOPE) Conference, Lexington, Ky. February 28th.
- 2013 *A Contingent Valuation of Tampa's Urban Forest*. 36th Annual Applied Geography Conference, Annapolis, Md. October 30th.
- 2013 *Proximal Landscapes of Economic Inclusion in Southeastern Pennsylvania*. Ian M. Dunham and **Alec Foster**. Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, Community Development Graduate Research Forum, Philadelphia. October 22nd.
- 2013 *Urban Forests, Volunteered Geographic Information, and Equity*. Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Los Angeles. April 12th.
- 2013 *Tree People? Exploring Environmental Identifications in Philadelphia*. Fifth Annual Krueckeberg Doctoral Conference in Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University. February 28th.
- 2012 *Inside the Green Panopticon: Creating Environmental Subjects Through Urban Forest Science and Education*. Mid-Atlantic Regional Group of the Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Salisbury, MD. November 2nd.
- 2012 *A Contingent Valuation of Tampa's Urban Forest*. Temple University Graduate Fellows Research Symposium, Philadelphia. September 15th.

Service and Membership

Service

- 2016 Manuscript Reviewer: *Action Research Journal*
- 2016 Manuscript Reviewer: *The Professional Geographer*
- 2015 Manuscript Reviewer: *Papers of the Applied Geography Conference*
- 2015 Manuscript Reviewer: *International Journal of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities*
- 2014 Session Organizer (With Rich Kruger): Dialogues in Urban Political Ecology, 21st Annual Critical Geography Conference
- 2014 Manuscript Reviewer: *Papers of the Applied Geography Conference*
- 2014 Member: Intellectual Steering Committee, 21st Annual Critical Geography Conference
- 2014-2016 Departmental Steward, Geography and Urban Studies, Temple University Graduate Students' Association
- 2014-2016 Activities Chair: Temple Geography and Urban Studies Graduate Association
- 2013-2016 Member: Student Advisory Committee: Tyler Contemporary, Temple University.
- 2013-2016 Community Steward, South Kensington Community Partners

Membership

- 2012- Member: Mid-Atlantic Regional Group of the Association of American Geographers
- 2008- Member: Association of American Geographers