

Taylor A. Tappan

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Education

University of Kansas

- Master of Arts in Geography, anticipated graduation December 2015
 - Thesis: *The Geography of School Development in the Honduran Muskitia*
 - Adviser: Peter H. Herlihy
 - Other committee members: Jerome Dobson and Terry Slocum
- Bachelor of Arts (with distinction) in Geography, May 2010
- Bachelor of Arts (with distinction) in Spanish, May 2010
- 3.98 overall cumulative graduate GPA
- 3.87 overall cumulative undergraduate GPA

Research Interests

- Cultural Historical Geography of Mexico and Central America
- Indigenous Land Tenure Regimes and Territoriality
- GIS-based Participatory Research Mapping (PRM)
- Political Ecology

University and Professional Experience

University of Kansas and American Geographical Society Graduate Research Assistant (August 2013-present)

- Collaborate with fellow colleagues of the *Central America Indígena* team (see www.prmapping.res.ku.edu) to document and analyze geographic information related to indigenous territorial jurisdictions in Central America
- Collaborate with students and professors of the Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala, the Universidad Pedagógica Nacional Francisco Morazán de Honduras, the Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica, and the Universidad de Costa Rica to identify and analyze geographic data related to territorial and cultural stability in indigenous areas of Central America
- Assist in the training of local indigenous university students in data management and GIS
- Assist in the development of a GIS framework for archiving and displaying geographic information of various indigenous territorial jurisdictions

- Assist in the compilation, editing, presentation, and publication of geographic information of indigenous territorial jurisdictions
- Assist in organizing and teaching workshops in cartography and GIS to local university and non-university teachers, indigenous investigators, and government collaborators

University of Kansas Student (August 2006-present)

- University of Kansas Study Abroad to research and teach language and culture among Miskitu and Creole indigenous groups in Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua (summer 2013)
- Master's field research on primary education and territoriality among indigenous Miskitu communities in Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve, Honduras and historical research in Honduran National Archives, Tegucigalpa (summer 2012)
- University of Kansas Study Abroad to research language and culture among Miskitu and Creole indigenous groups in Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua (summer 2011)
- Field research on Miskitu political and economic autonomy in Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve, Honduras (summer 2010)
- University of Kansas Study Abroad to research language and culture among Miskitu and Creole indigenous groups in Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua (summer 2009)
- Undergraduate research on *México Indígena Project* in Oaxaca, Mexico, to study the effects of PROCEDE, a governmental land privatization program in Mexico (summer 2008)

University of Kansas Graduate Teaching Assistant (August 2010-July 2013)

- Provide lectures, design homework exercises, and write exams for introductory written and spoken Miskitu language classes on the University of Kansas Study Abroad program, *Language and Culture in Nicaragua* (summer 2013)
- Instruct introductory and intermediate remote sensing and GIS lab classes for undergraduate and graduate students (August 2012-May 2013)
- Provide lectures, design homework exercises, and write exams for introductory physical geography lab classes to undergraduate students (August 2010-May 2012)

Awards

University of Kansas and American Geographical Society Graduate Research Assistantship (August 2013-present)

- Travel regularly to all seven Central American countries with fellow colleagues of the *Central America Indígena* team to document and analyze geographic information related to indigenous territorial jurisdictions in Central America

Tinker Foundation Research Grant (winter 2015)

- Conduct research on indigenous territoriality and land tenure regimes in the Alto Chirripó region of Costa Rica

Kollmorgen Graduate Research Scholarship (summer 2012)

- Conduct master's research in Miskitu indigenous communities in the Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve, Honduras

Latin American Studies Field Research Grant (summer 2012)

- Conduct master's research in Miskitu indigenous communities in the Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve, Honduras

Pierre A.D. Stouse Field Research Grant (summer 2012)

- Conduct master's in Miskitu indigenous communities in the Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve, Honduras

Foreign Language Area Studies Scholarship (FLAS) (summer 2011)

- Study Miskitu language and culture in Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua, on University of Kansas Study Abroad

Tinker Foundation Research Grant (summer 2010)

- Study the language, culture, and economic autonomy of the Miskitu indigenous group in the Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve, Honduras

Language and Technical Skills

Spanish

- High fluency in written and verbal Spanish

Miskitu

- Moderate fluency in written and verbal Miskitu (an indigenous language of the Caribbean coasts of Honduras and Nicaragua)

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

- High proficiency with vector and raster-based spatial analysis using ESRI ArcGIS and QGIS software platforms

Remote Sensing

- Moderate proficiency with image processing and analysis using ERDAS Imagine and ESRI software platforms

Geo-statistics

- Moderate proficiency in methods of spatial statistics using SPSS, ArcGIS, and Microsoft Excel software platforms

Papers and Presentations

2015. Dobson, Jerome E., Peter H. Herlihy, Taylor A. Tappan (presenter), Matthew L. Fahrenbruch, and Aida Ramos Viera. *Land Rights and Stability in Indigenous Societies of Central America*. Minerva Meeting and Program Review Conference (September 9-10, 2015). Washington, D.C.

2015. Herlihy, Peter H., Taylor A. Tappan (presenter), Matthew L. Fahrenbruch, John H. Kelly, and Jerome E. Dobson. *Establishing a New Indigenous Territory for*

- the Miskitu in Honduras*. Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers (May 26-30, 2015). Fortaleza, Brazil.
2015. Herlihy, Peter H. and Taylor A. Tappan. *Proyecto Centroamérica Indígena: Derechos de Tenencia de la Tierra y Estabilidad de las Sociedades Indígenas de América Central*. Presented at the School of Social Sciences, Universidad de Costa Rica (March 26, 2015). San José, Costa Rica.
2015. Herlihy, Peter H. and Taylor A. Tappan. *Proyecto Centroamérica Indígena: Derechos de Tenencia de la Tierra y Estabilidad de las Sociedades Indígenas de América Central*. Presented at the Instituto Geográfico Nacional de Guatemala (March 23, 2015). Guatemala City, Guatemala.
2014. Herlihy, Peter H. and Taylor A. Tappan. *Proyecto Centroamérica Indígena: Los Derechos de la Tierra y la Estabilidad de las Sociedades Indígenas de América Central*. Presented at the Department of Geography, Universidad de Costa Rica (December 5, 2014). San José, Costa Rica.
2014. Herlihy, Peter H. and Taylor A. Tappan. *Proyecto Centroamérica Indígena: Los Derechos de la Tierra y la Estabilidad de las Sociedades Indígenas de América Central*. Presented at the Department of Geography, Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica (December 4, 2014). Heredia, Costa Rica.
2014. Herlihy, Peter H., Taylor A. Tappan (presenter), John H. Kelly, Andrew M. Hilburn and Jerome E. Dobson. *Concejos Territoriales: New functional indigenous territorial jurisdictions of the Honduran Mosquitia*. Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers (January 7, 2014). Panama City, Panama.
2013. Tappan, Taylor A. *The Role of Schools in Shaping Miskitu Settlement Landscapes and Territoriality in the Honduran Mosquitia*. Association of American Geographers annual conference (April 9, 2013). Los Angeles, California.
2013. Tappan, Taylor A. *The Role of Schools in Shaping Miskitu Settlement Landscapes and Territoriality in the Honduran Mosquitia*. Center for Latin American Studies Graduate Research Symposium (March 6, 2013). University of Kansas; Lawrence, Kansas.
2011. Tappan, Taylor A. *PROCEDE and Land Reform in Mexico*. Center for Latin American Studies Graduate Research Competition (April 20, 2011). University of Kansas; Lawrence, Kansas.

Professional Organizations

- Association of American Geographers (AAG)

- Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers (CLAG)
- KU Latin American Graduate Organization (LAGO)