

Thomas M. Saladyga

Department of Social Sciences

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Education

Ph.D. Geography	West Virginia University (2011)
M.A. Geography	West Chester University of Pennsylvania (2006)
B.S. Geography	The Pennsylvania State University (2002)

Employment

2017 – Present	Associate Professor of Geography , Concord University, Athens, West Virginia
2011 – 2017	Assistant Professor of Geography , Concord University, Athens, West Virginia
2008 – 2011	Graduate Research Assistant , Montane Forest Dynamics Lab, Department of Geology & Geography, West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia
2008	Forestry Technician , Eastern Rivers and Mountains Network, Inventory and Monitoring Program, National Park Service
2007 – 2008	Teaching Assistant/Lab Instructor , Department of Geology & Geography, West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia
2007	GIS Specialist (contract) , Delaware Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Control, Division of Fish and Wildlife, Dover, Delaware
2006 – 2007	Wetland Technician , Delaware Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Control, Watershed Assessment Section, Dover, Delaware
2005	GIS Specialist (contract) , Delaware Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Control, Division of Fish and Wildlife, Dover, Delaware
2004 – 2005	Environmental Scientist , Environmental Alliance, Inc., Wilmington, Delaware
2004	Biological Science Technician – Fire-effects Monitor , Ozark National Scenic Riverways, National Park Service, Van Buren, Missouri
2003 – 2004	Environmental Scientist , Environmental Alliance, Inc., Wilmington, Delaware
2001	Research Technician , Vegetation Dynamics Lab, Department of Geography, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania

Teaching

Courses taught at Concord University:

GEOG 101: Human Geography (*Spring 2012*)
GEOG 200: Physical Geography (*Fall/Spring/Summer 2011 – present*)
GEOG 250: Mountain Geography (*Spring 2014/2016*)
GEOG 300: Sustainable Development (*Fall 2011; Spring 2013/2014/2015/2016*)
GEOG 311: GIS and Cartography (*Fall 2012 – 2018*)
GEOG 312: Geographic Data Analysis (*Fall 2013/Spring 2017/Spring 2018*)
GEOG 340: Geography of Soils (*Fall 2013/2015/2017*)
GEOG 360: Meteorology and Climatology (*Spring 2013/2015/2017*)
GEOG 380: Biogeography and Environmental Change (*Fall 2012/2014/2016/2018*)
GEOG 411: GIS Design and Application (*Fall 2011/Spring 2018*)
GEOG 412: Advanced Methods in Geospatial Analysis (*Spring 2012/Fall 2017*)
GEOG 460: Dendrochronology (*Summer 2014*)
GEOG 460: Environmental Field Geography (*Summer 2013/2015*)
GEOG 465: Geography Capstone (*Spring 2012/2013/2014*)

Courses taught at West Virginia University:

GEOG 106: Physical Geography Lab (*Spring 2008*)
GEOG 407: Environmental Field Geography (*Fall 2010*)

Peer-Reviewed Publications (see [Google Scholar](#))

- 2018** **Saladyga, T.** and A. Standlee. [Historical drivers and contemporary perceptions of wildfire in a post-industrial rural landscape](#). *Fire*. 1(2): 33.
- Harley, G.L., C.H. Baisan, P.M. Brown, H.D. Grissino-Mayer, D.A. Falk, W.T. Flatley, A. Hessel, E.K. Heyerdahl, M.W. Kaye, C.W. Lafon, E.Q. Margolis, R.S. Maxwell, A.T. Naito, W.J. Platt, M.T. Rother, **T. Saladyga**, R.L. Sherriff, L.A. Stachowiak, M.C. Stambaugh, E. Kennedy Sutherland, and A.H. Taylor. [Advancing dendrochronological studies of fire in the United States](#) (Perspective). *Fire*. 1(1): 11.
- 2017** Hessel, A.E., C. Leland, **T. Saladyga**, and O. Byambasuren. [Hydraulic Cities, Colonial Catastrophes, and Nomadic Empires: Human-Environment Interactions in Asia](#). In *Dendroecology* (pp. 345-363). Springer, Cham.
- Saladyga, T.** [Reconstructing a cultural fire regime in the Pennsylvania Anthracite Region](#). *Physical Geography*. 38(5): 404-422.
- Saladyga, T.** [Forest disturbance history from ‘legacy’ pitch pine \(*Pinus rigida*\) at the New River Gorge, West Virginia](#). *Natural Areas Journal*. 37(1): 49-57.

- 2016** Hessler, A.E., P. Brown, O. Byambasuren, S. Cockrell, C. Leland, Cook, E., B. Nachin, N. Pederson, **T. Saladyga**, and B. Suran. [Fire and climate in Mongolia \(1532-2010 CE\)](#). *Geophysical Research Letters*. 43(12): 6519-6527.
- 2015** **Saladyga, T.** and R.S. Maxwell. [Temporal variability in climate response of eastern hemlock in the Central Appalachian Region](#). *Southeastern Geographer*. 55(2): 143-163.
- 2013** **Saladyga, T.**, A.E. Hessler, N. Pederson, and B. Nachin. [Privatization, drought, and fire exclusion in the Tuul River watershed, Mongolia](#). *Ecosystems*. 16: 1139-1151.
- Pederson, N., C. Leland, B. Nachin, A.E. Hessler, A.R. Bell, D. Martin-Benito, **T. Saladyga**, B. Suran, P.M. Brown, and N.K. Davi. [Three centuries of shifting hydroclimatic regimes across the Mongolian breadbasket](#). *Agriculture and Forest Meteorology*. 178-179: 10-20.
- 2012** Hessler, A.E., P. Brown, U. Ariya, O. Byambasuren, T. Green, G. Jacoby, E. Kennedy-Sutherland, B. Nachin, R. Maxwell, N. Pederson, L. De Grandpré, **T. Saladyga**, and J. C. Tardif. [Reconstructing fire history in central Mongolia from tree-rings](#). *International Journal of Wildland Fire*. 21: 86-92.
- 2011** Hessler, A.E., **T. Saladyga**, T. Schuler, P. Clark, and J. Wixom. [Fire history from three species on a Central Appalachian ridgetop](#). *Canadian Journal of Forestry*. 41: 2031-2039.

Other Publications

Saladyga, T. 2011. [Land use and climate impacts on fire regimes and forest regeneration in the upper Tuul River watershed, Mongolia](#). Doctoral Dissertation, West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia. Dr. Amy Hessler, advisor.

Nanticoke Restoration Work Group (**T. Saladyga** – GIS support). 2009. Nanticoke River Watershed Restoration Plan. Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control and US Environmental Protection Agency Wetland Program.

Allen, O., B. Barkus, and K. Bennett (**T. Saladyga** – GIS support). 2006. Delaware Wildlife Action Plan: 2007-2017. Delaware Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program, Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control.

Saladyga, T. 2006. Native understory and invasive plant response to fire in a mixed-hardwood forest, Chester County, Pennsylvania. Master's thesis, West Chester University, West Chester, Pennsylvania. Dr. Joan M. Welch, advisor.

Paper Presentations

Saladyga, T., A. Standlee, and N. Lawrence. Humans, Wildfire, and the (Un)management of Ridgetop Forests in the Pennsylvania Anthracite Region, 1900-2016. Annual Meeting, American Association of Geographers, 10-14 April 2018, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Saladyga, T. Reconstructing a Cultural Fire Regime: Implications for Ridgetop Barrens Management in the Pennsylvania Anthracite Region. Annual Meeting, Natural Areas Association, 17-21 October 2016, Davis, California.

Saladyga, T. Fire History of a Globally Rare Ridgetop Acidic Barrens Complex. Annual Meeting, American Association of Geographers, 2 April-29 March 2016, San Francisco, California.

Saladyga, T. Tree Rings Record Industrial Decline at the New River Gorge, West Virginia. Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, 22-24 November 2015, Pensacola, Florida.

Saladyga, T. Dead Tree Walking: The Past, Present, and Future of Hemlock Forests in Central Appalachia. 37th Annual Appalachian Studies Association Conference, 28-30 March 28 2014, Huntington, West Virginia.

Saladyga, T. and R.S. Maxwell. Growth Response of Eastern Hemlock to Rapid Climate Warming in Central Appalachia. Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, 24-26 November 2013, Roanoke, Virginia.

Saladyga, T. Using Tree Rings to Reconstruct Forest Histories at Pipestem Resort State Park, West Virginia. 16th Biennial Conference on Appalachian Geography and Geography Education, 15-16 March 2013, Pipestem Resort, West Virginia.

Saladyga, T., A. Hessel, B. Nachin, and N. Pederson. Will Rising Temperatures, Prolonged Drought and Land Use Intensification Inhibit Wildfire? A Case Study from the Forest-Steppe Ecotone, Mongolia. Mongolian Ecological Research Symposium, 25 February 2012, Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve, Tuckerton, New Jersey.

Saladyga, T. and N. Pederson. Tree-Ring Based Drought Reconstruction for the Central Khan Khentii Mountains, Mongolia (1675-2000). Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, 20-22 November 2011, Savannah, Georgia.

Saladyga, T. and A. Hessel. Fire History at Pike Knob, West Virginia (and Other Unique Locales). Annual Meeting, Central Appalachians Fire Learning Network, 28-30 June 2011, The Mountain Institute at Spruce Knob, West Virginia.

Hessel, A., P. Brown, N. Pederson, B. Nachin, **T. Saladyga***, and B. Suran. Fire History in Mongolia: Placing Current Change in the Context of the Last 400+ years. Annual Meeting, Association of American Geographers, 14-18 April 2010, Washington, D.C. *Presenter

Leland, C., N. Pederson, A. Hessler, P. Brown, B. Nachin, **T. Saladyga**, and B. Suran. Fire and Climate Interactions in Northeastern Mongolia. Annual Meeting, Association of Southeastern Biologists, 7-10 April 2010, Asheville, North Carolina.

Hessler, A., P. Brown, S. Maxwell, B. Nachin, N. Pederson, and **T. Saladyga**. Fire, Climate, and Land Use in Mongolia: 400+ Years of Change. Annual Meeting, Association of American Geographers, 22-27 March 2009, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Welch, J. and **T. Saladyga**. Fire in the Woods: Native and Invasive Plant Response. 2008. Annual Meeting, Association of American Geographers, 15-19 April 2008, Boston, Massachusetts.

LaForest, L., P. Brown, N. Benzing, R. DeSantis, G. Dillon, W. Flatley, H.D. Grissino-Mayer, C. Lafon, **T. Saladyga**, J. Slayton, L. Svenson, K. Tackett, and N. Toth. Fire History in Old-Growth Pine-Oak Forest Stands Along Gold Mine Trail in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee. Annual Meeting, Association of American Geographers, 15-19 April 2008, Boston, Massachusetts.

Jacobs, A., E. Rehm, and D. Fillis (**T. Saladyga** – GIS support). Delaware's wetland monitoring program: using science to inform protection and restoration efforts. Delaware Estuary Science Conference, 22-24 January 2007, Cape May, New Jersey.

Saladyga, T. Native and Invasive Plant Response to Fire: Hardwood Forest of Chester County, Pennsylvania. Annual Meeting, Middle States Division of the Association of American Geographers, 13-14 October 2006, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Saladyga, T. Invasive Plant Dynamics as Related to Forest Structure and Composition at Hibernia County Park, Chester County, PA. Annual Meeting, Association of American Geographers, 7-11 March 2006, Chicago, Illinois.

Saladyga, T. Forests Lost: Invasive Vegetation and Implications for Native Habitat Restoration Through Oak Regeneration. Annual Meeting, Middle States Division of the Association of American Geographers, 14-15 October 2005, Chautauqua, New York.

Poster Presentations

Saladyga, T. Humans, Climate, and Wildfire: An Integrated, Quantitative Approach to Describing the 'Fire Regime'. Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, 20-22 November 2016, Columbia, South Carolina.

Raso, C. and **T. Saladyga**. Climate Response of Two Central Appalachian Rimrock Yellow Pine Species using a Composite Growth Chronology. Annual Meeting, American Association of Geographers, 2 April-29 March 2016, San Francisco, California.

Saladyga, T. Differential Growth Response of Two Conifer Species to Early Spring Temperature. Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, 23-25 November 2014, Athens, Georgia.

Saladyga, T. Students Monitoring the Decline of Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis* L.) in the Bluestone River Gorge, West Virginia. Second American Dendrochronology Conference, 13-17 May 2013, Tucson, Arizona.

Saladyga, T. Using Literature to Teach Post-Secondary Introductory Physical Geography. Annual Meeting, National Council for Geographic Education, 4-7 October 2012, San Marcos, Texas.

Saladyga, T. and A. Hessel. Fire History along a Human Impact Gradient in the Upper Tuul River Watershed, Mongolia. Annual meeting, American Association for the Advancement of Science, 17-21 February 2011, Washington, D.C.

Saladyga, T., Hessel, A., P. Brown, N. Pederson, B. Nachin, and B. Suran. Fire, and Land Use Interactions in the Upper Tuul River Watershed, Mongolia. Annual Meeting, Association of American Geographers, 14-18 April 2010, Washington, D.C.

Saladyga, T., P. Clark, A. Hessel, and J. Wixom. Anthropogenic Fire and Regeneration of an Isolated Red Pine (*Pinus resinosa*) Stand, Pike Knob, West Virginia. Annual Meeting, Association of American Geographers, 14-18 April 2010, Washington, D.C.

Lectures and Workshops

Learning Activity – “Forests!” (ages 6-12), Camp Drift-a-Bit, New River Gorge Learning Cooperative, Fayetteville, West Virginia (July 13, 2018)

“Athens-PikeView Connector - Proposed Trail Route,” Athens Comprehensive Plan Open House Workshop, Athens, West Virginia (May 2, 2018)

Invited Webinar Presentation – “Residual Fire Regimes and Their Value in a Post-suppression Management Era,” Natural Areas Association (March 29, 2017)

<https://naturalareas.org/webinars/>

Learning Activity – “Dendrochronology” (4th grade students), New River Gorge National River, West Virginia (September 16, 2016)

Inventory Leader – National Geographic BioBlitz, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, West Virginia (May 20-21, 2016)

Invited Speaker – “Coalfields Pyrogeography: Current and Future Research in Pennsylvania and West Virginia,” Department of Geography Colloquium Series, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia (April 15, 2016)

Lecturer – Teaching Environmental Processes through Literature Workshop, Concord University, Athens, West Virginia (July 8-12, 2013)

West Virginia Geographic Alliance Workshop – “Forest Geography,” Concord University, Athens, West Virginia (March 10, 2013)

Invited Speaker – “Land Use Impacts on Wildfire Potential: Evidence from Mongolia and Appalachia,” Department of Geography Colloquium Series, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia (October 19, 2012)

Learning activity – “What Can Trees Tell Us About the Past?,” Elk Center Elementary School, Charleston, West Virginia (October 12, 2012)

Guest Lecturer – “Humans and the Forest Environment,” International Summer Camp, Kangwon National University, Chuncheon, Gangwon-do, Republic of Korea (July 31, 2012)

Career Day – PikeView Middle School, Princeton, West Virginia (May 25, 2012)
National Geographic Chesapeake Bay Watershed Education Meeting – Annapolis, Maryland (May 21-22, 2012)

West Virginia Geographic Alliance Workshop – “Geography of Agriculture,” Mount View High School, Welch, West Virginia (April 28, 2012)

West Virginia Geographic Alliance Workshop – “Physical Geography,” Wheeling Park High School, Wheeling, West Virginia (Nov. 5, 2011)

Appalachian Fire Learning Network Workshop – The Mountain Institute at Spruce Knob, West Virginia (June 28-30, 2011)

North American Dendroecology Fieldweek – Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont, Tennessee (2007)

Awards and Grants

Allie Irene Strasko Research Grant, 2017-2018 (\$4,439), “Ecology and Hydrology of a Rare Bottomland Oak Swamp,” Concord University

Joseph Friedl Award, 2014, presented by the Student Government Association (SGA), Concord University

Chesapeake Bay Science and Geography Initiative, 2012-2014 (\$200,000), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/National Geographic Society

Faculty Summer Research Fellowship, 2013 (\$3,651), Concord University

Exploration and Field Research Grant, 2010 (\$3,000), Explorer’s Club Washington Group, Inc.

Vehse Travel Award, 2009 (\$500), Eberly College of Arts and Sciences, West Virginia University

Affiliations and Certifications

American Association of Geographers (AAG)

Southeastern Division of the American Association of Geographers (SEDAAG)

Tree-Ring Society

Council for West Virginia Archaeology

Firefighter Type 2 (Courses: I-100, S-130, S-190, and L-180)

Professional Service

Core Planning Team Member – Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania Hazard Mitigation Plan 2019 Update (2017 – present)

West Virginia State Representative, Southeastern Division of the American Association of Geographers (2013 – present)

New River Conservancy, Technical Advisory Committee (2015 – present)

West Virginia Green Infrastructure Working Group (2011 – 2015)

Manuscript Referee:

Arctic

Arctic, Antarctic, and Alpine Research

Castanae [Journal of the Southern Appalachian Botanical Society]

Dendrochronologia

Forestry: An International Journal of Forest Research

Geographical Bulletin

Physical Geography

Tree-Ring Research

Virginia Journal of Science

Service to Concord University

Chair, Faculty Development Committee (2017 – present)

College of Fine Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Personnel Committee (2018 – present)

Faculty Committee on Research (2014 – present)

Chair, Appalachian Studies Committee (2016 – 2018)

Faculty Search Committee – Sociology (2018)

Faculty Development Committee (2014 – 2017)

ADA Sidewalk Committee (2013 – 2014)

Faculty Evaluation Committee – Division of Social Sciences (2012 – 2017)

Website Designer – West Virginia Geographic Alliance (2012 – present)

Website Designer – Department of Geography (2011 – present)

McNair Scholar Advisor:

Alysan Miller, *class of 2019*

John Cline, *class of 2019*

Mary Beth Ryan, *class of 2015*

Reader – West Virginia State National Geographic Bee (2012, 2013, 2014)

Reader – West Virginia High School Geography Bowl (2012, 2013, 2016)

Graduate Committee Member (*co-advisor)

*Nathan Lawrence, M.S. Geography, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (expected graduation, 2018)

Thesis title: TBD

Ruth Stetler, M.A. Geography, West Virginia University (2017)

Thesis title: *Radial Growth Patterns in Trees Surviving Canopy Gap Disturbances*

Undergraduate Research Advisees

Alysan Miller, Geography, McNair Scholar, Concord University (class of 2019)

Fire history of a dry oak forest on the Appalachia Plateau (in progress)

Disturbance, Topography, and the Distribution of Black Locust (*Robinia psuedoacacia* L.). Undergraduate Research Day, Concord University, 17 April 2017, Athens, West Virginia.

John Cline, Geography, McNair Scholar, Concord University (class of 2019)

Hydroclimatic Controls on the Growth of Bottomland Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*). Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, 10-14 April 2018, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Brahim Laahar, Geography, Concord University (class of 2018)

Interacting Drivers of Tree Mortality in a Rare Bottomland Oak Swamp. Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, 10-14 April 2018, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Brad Gibson, Geography, Concord University (class of 2017)

The Spatial Distribution of Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides* L.) at Concord University. Undergraduate Research Day, Concord University, 17 April 2017, Athens, West Virginia.

Samantha Richards, Geography, Concord University (class of 2016)

Qualitative Assessment of Palustrine Wetlands in Mercer County, West Virginia. Undergraduate Research Day, Concord University, 14 April 2016, Athens, West Virginia.

Caitlin Testerman, Geography, Concord University (class of 2016)

Bird Species Composition in a Ridgetop Dwarf-Tree Forest. Undergraduate poster competition (1st Place), Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, 22-24 November 2015, Pensacola, Florida.

Chance Raso and Terry Hatfield, Geography, Concord University (class of 2015)

Growth Chronology Development for Pitch Pine at Babcock State Park, West Virginia. Undergraduate Research Day, Concord University, 16 April 2015, Athens, West Virginia.

Mary Beth Ryan, Geography, McNair Scholar, Concord University (class of 2015)

Hemlock Establishment and Vigor in Twin Falls Resort State Park, West Virginia. Undergraduate poster competition, Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, 24-26 November 2013, Roanoke, Virginia.

Nathan Lawrence, Geography, Concord University (class of 2014)

Climate-Growth Analysis of Northern Red Oak on a Southern West Virginia Ridgeline. Undergraduate poster competition (1st Place), Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, 23-25 November 2014, Athens, Georgia.

Disturbance and Growth Dynamics in a Hemlock-Hardwood Forest on the Central Appalachian Plateau. Undergraduate poster competition, Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, 24-26 November 2013, Roanoke, Virginia.

Joshua Gelinas, Geography, Concord University (class of 2014)

Climate Effects on the Growth of Eastern Hemlock in Cabwaylingo State Forest, West Virginia. Undergraduate poster competition, Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, 24-26 November 2013, Roanoke, Virginia.

Wendy Pace, Craig Pritt, and Meredith Smith (Class of 2013, 2013, and 2014, respectively)

Age Structure Analysis of Eastern Hemlock at Pipestem State Park, West Virginia. Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol, 28 February 2013, Charleston, West Virginia.