Dr. Christi G. Townsend

Texas State University
Department of Geography and Environmental Studies
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Education

PHD, Texas State University, 2012
Major: Environmental Geography
Advisor: Dr. David R. Butler
Dissertation: An Evaluation of Natural Hazard Awareness Among Viticulturists in Texas

MAGeo, Texas State University, 2007
Major: Geographical Resource and Environmental Studies
Advisor: Dr. James Kimmel
Directed Research: A Geographic History of the Diversion of the Brazos River at Freeport, Texas.

BA, University of Texas at Austin, 2000
Double Major: Geology and Geography

Professional Positions

Professor of Instruction, Geography and Environmental Studies, Texas State University. (2024 – present)

Senior Lecturer, Geography and Environmental Studies, Texas State University. (2016 - 2024)

Lecturer, Geography, Texas State University. (2013 - 2016)

Geography and GIS Lecturer, Texas Lutheran University. (2012 - 2013)

Geography Lecturer, University of Texas at San Antonio. (2012 - 2013)

Doctoral Graduate Assistant and Instructor, Texas State University-San Marcos. (2008 - 2012)

NSF "Flowing Waters" GK-12 Fellow, Texas State University. (2010 - 2011)

Water Quality Intern, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. (2007)

Public Policy Research Assistant, Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce. (2005)

Program Specialist, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. (2000 - 2005)

"Earth Camp" Instructor, City of Austin Watershed Protection Department. (2000)

Undergraduate Research Assistant, University of Texas Bureau of Economic Geology. (1998 - 1999)

Professional and Academic Memberships

American Association of Geographers

Alpha Chi National College Honor Society

Gamma Theta Upsilon Honor Society

Student Scholar: James and Marilyn Lovell Center for Environmental Geography and Hazards Research at Texas State University-San Marcos. (2008 - 2012)

Awards, Honors, and Scholarships

Teaching Award of Honor, Texas State Alumni Association. (2020)

Alpha Chi Favorite Professor, The Alfred H. Nolle Chapter of the Alpha Chi National College Honor Society. (2018 and 2015)

2nd Place, Association of American Geographers Wine Specialty Group Student Paper Competition. (2012)

The Sally Ann Karnau Dissertation Research Scholarship. (2011)

National Science Foundation GK-12 "Project Flowing Waters". (2010 - 2011)

Texas State University Graduate College Scholarship. (2009 - 2011)

The Adriana Samantha Visser Memorial Scholarship. (2010)

The Irene Wahl Geography Scholarship. (2009)

Bloomer Fund Scholarship for Motivated Students. (2000)

John and Elizabeth M. Teagle Scholarship in Petroleum Geology. (1999)

Award Nominations

Liberal Arts Service and Teaching Awards – 2022 and 2023

Nominated by colleagues Dr. Jennifer Devine and Dr. Yongmei Lu

Consulting

Academic – Physical Geography Textbook Chapter and Online Instructional Materials Preparation, Cengage, United States. (February 2020 - October 2020).

Academic – Physical Geography Online Instructional Materials Preparation, Cengage, San Francisco, CA, United States. (September 2018 - December 2018).

Media Appearances and Interviews

The Texas Standard on National Public Radio (November 23, 2017)

Publications

Book Chapters

Myles**,** C**.**, K. Collins, & C. Townsend. (2022) “Wine, deep in the heart of Texas”; *Routledge Handbook of Wine and Culture* edited by S. Charters, M. Demossier, J. Dutton, G. Harding, D. Marks, J. Smith Maguire, and T. Unwin.

Tiefenbacher, J. P., & Townsend, C. G. (2020). The Semiofoodscape of Wine: The Changing Landscape of the Cultures of Making, Selling, and Drinking Wine. *Handbook of the Changing World Language Map*: 4103-4145.

Journal Articles

Myles, Colleen C., Christi G. Townsend, and Kourtney Collins (2022). Texas in Transition: Considering the Production of Grapes, Wine, and Place. Social Sciences 11, no. 10: 488.

Olson, Eric J., and Christi G. Townsend (2018). "An ArcGIS Model for Avalanche Risk Assessment in the North Cascades, Washington." *Papers in Applied Geography* 4, no. 2: 193-204.

Dixon, Richard W., James N. Hervey, Todd W. Moore, and Christi G. Townsend (2018). "Baseline Climatology of Sounding-Measured Variates Associated with Atlantic and Gulf Coast Tropical Cyclone Tornado Clusters." *Papers in Applied Geography* 4, no. 1: 113-121.

Dixon, R. W., Moore, T. W., & Townsend, C. G. (2016). Baseline Climatology of Sounding-Derived Parameters Associated with Atlantic and Gulf Coast Tropical Cyclone Tornado Clusters. *Papers in Applied Geography*, 1–8.

Townsend, Christi G., Matthew H. Connolly, and Clayton J. Whitesides (2016). ""My Friend, The Fire Ant": A Preliminary Analysis of the Role of Fire Ants in Grapevine Health." *Papers in Applied Geography* 2, no. 1: 85-95.

Dixon, R. W., Peters, S. L., & Townsend, C. G. (2015). Burrowing Preferences of Atlantic Ghost Crab, Ocypode quadrata, In Relation to Sand Compaction in Padre Island National Seashore, Texas. *Physical Geography*, 1–14.

Hiner, C. C., Townsend, C. G., & Lavy, B. L. (2014). Harm J. de Blijs 1983 Wine: A Geographic Appreciation. *Progress in Physical Geography*, *38*(5), 674–684. https://doi.org/10.1177/0309133314540691

Townsend, C. G., & Hellman, E. W. (2014). Viticulture in Texas: The Challenge of Natural Hazards. *Journal of Wine Research*, *25*(4), 211–228.

Townsend, C. G. (2011). Viticulture and the Role of Geomorphology: General Principles and Case Studies. *Geography Compass*, *5*(10), 750–766. https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1749-8198.2011.00449.x

Townsend, C. G. (2010). *Natural hazard perception among Texas Hill Country viticulturists*. 203–212. Fort Worth, Texas: Papers of the Applied Geography Conference 33.

Townsend, C. G. (2004). Dry Cleaner Fund. In *The Advocate*. A publication for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Townsend, C. G. (2004). Rules Roundup: Confined Animal Feeding Operations, Criminal Enforcement, Dry Cleaners, Phase I PBR Study, Rock Crushers, and TERP. In *The Advocate*. A publication for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Townsend, C. G. (2004). What's New with TCEQ Rules. In *The Advocate*. A publication for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Townsend, C. G. (2003). Dry Cleaning Rules to Require Registration, Fees, and New Standars. In *The Advocate*. A publication for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Published Abstracts

Townsend, C. G. (2012). *A Historical Geography of Wine Production in Chile and Argentina*.

Townsend, C. G., & Tiefenbacher, J. (2011). *Spatial Change in South American Viticulture: Static Factors and Dynamic Processes in Past, Present and Future Chilean and Argentinean Land Use*.

Tiefenbacher, J., & Townsend, C. G. (2011). *Spatial Shifts of the Wine Industry from 1961 to 2008: An Empirical Framework for Understanding the Geography of Wine Production*.

Townsend, C. G. (2010). *How do Vineyard Operators and Winemakers Perceive Natural Hazards in The Texas Hill Country Appellation?*

Townsend, C. G. (2010). *Natural hazard perception among Texas Hill Country viticulturists*.

Townsend, C. G. (2009). *A Geographic History of the Diversion of the Brazos River at Freeport, Texas*.

Townsend, C. G. (2009). *Do Texas High School Graduates Know Geography? An Assessment of World Geography Knowledge Among College Freshman*.

Paper Presentations and Posters

Townsend, C. G., American Association of Geographers, "My Friend, The Fire Ant: A Preliminary Analysis of the Role of Fire Ants in Grapevine Health," Boston, MA, United States. (April 2017)

Townsend, C. G., Applied Geography Conference, "The Challenge of Growing Wine Grapes in the Hill Country: An Evaluation of Changing Grower Perceptions of Natural Hazards in Texas Vineyards," San Antonio, TX. (November 2016)

Townsend, C. G., American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, "The Impact and Legacy of Harm J. de Blij's 1983 Wine: A Geographic Appreciation," Chicago, IL. (April 2016)

Townsend, C. G., The Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, "The 2015 Central Texas Memorial Day Flood: Identifying Motivations for and Barriers to Volunteering," San Francisco, CA. (March 2016)

Townsend, C. G., Connolly, M. H., Joint Annual Meeting of the Applied Geography Conference and Southwest Association of American Geographers, "My Friend, the Fire ant: A Preliminary Analysis of the Role of Fire Ants in Grapevine Health," San Antonio, TX. (November 2015)

Townsend, C. G., Connolly, M. H., Joint Annual Meeting of the Applied Geography Conference and Southwest Association of American Geographers, "Texas Viticulture: Changing Grower Perceptions of Natural Hazards," San Antonio, TX. (November 2015)

Townsend, C. G., Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, "The Impact and Legacy of Harm J. de Blij's 1983 Wine: A Geographic Appreciation," Chicago, IL. (April 2015)

Townsend, C. G., Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, "Texas Viticulture: Changing Grower Perceptions of Natural Hazards," Tampa, FL. (April 2014)

Townsend, C. G., Texas Wine and Grape growers' Association, "Natural Hazards and Texas Viticulture: Findings from a doctoral dissertation research study," San Marcos, TX. (February 16, 2013)

Townsend, C. G., Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, "A Historical Geography of Wine Production in Chile and Argentina," New York, NY. (February 2012)

Townsend, C. G., Regional Geographic Conference of the International Geographic Union, "Spatial Change in South American Viticulture: Static Factors and Dynamic Processes in Past, Present and Future Chilean and Argentinean Land Use," Santiago, Chile. (November 2011)

Townsend, C. G., The Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, "Mountain Viticulture and the Role of Anthropogeomorphology: General Principles and Case Studies," Seattle, WA. (April 2011)

Townsend, C. G., The 33rd Applied Geography Conference, "Natural Hazard Perception Among Texas Hill Country Viticulturists," Fort Worth, TX. (October 2010)

Townsend, C. G., Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, "How do Vineyard Operators and Winemakers Perceive Natural Hazards in the Texas Hill Country Appellation?" Washington, DC. (April 2010)

Townsend, C. G., Southwest Association of American Geographers Conference, "Do Texas High School Graduates Know Geography? An Assessment of World Geography Knowledge among College Freshman," Little Rock, AK. (October 2009)

Townsend, C. G., The Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, "A Geographic History of the Brazos River Diversion at Freeport, Texas," Las Vegas, NE. (March 2009)

Townsend, C. G., Invited Guest Lecture for Life Cycle Nutrition students at the University of Texas, "The Geography of Nutrition and the Elderly," Austin, TX. (November 12, 2007)

Townsend, C. G., Invited Guest Lecture for International Nutrition Students at the University of Texas, "The Geography of Nutrition and Breastfeeding," Austin, TX. (April 17, 2007)

Townsend, C. G., "Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Fleet Operations Workshop: Petroleum Storage Tank Environmental Compliance," Waco, TX. (April 23, 2003)

Directed Graduate Student Learning

Master's Directed Research, "Assessing the Use of NAIP Imagery for Remote Sensing Classification of Urban Trees in San Marcos, Texas" (2025)
Advised: Allison Barrett
Committee Member

Master's Thesis, "Risk and Development Along the California Coast: A Study of Projected Sea-Level Rise and Land Use" (2024)
Advised: Julie Rueckheim
Committee Member

Master's Thesis, "Cooperation and Competition are Affected by Personal Values but not by Not by Mortality Salience or Extinction due to Environmental Pollution" (2022)
Advised: Derek Sirvent
Committee Member

Master's Thesis, "Food Insecurity in Urban and Rural Texas Counties During the 2008 Great Recession and COVID-19 Pandemic of 2020" (2022)
Advised: Proy Chalitruangkul
Committee Member

Master's Directed Research, "The Impacts of the United States-China Trade War on the Texas Cotton Sector" (2021)
Advised: Tristan Rawlings
Committee Member

Master's Thesis, "A Place for Bourbon? A Geographical Analysis of Bourbon Production in the United States." (2020)
Advised: Colin Copler
Committee Member

Master's Thesis, "Sustainability and the Emergence of the Texas Wine Industry: An Exploration of the Transitional Moments with a Focus on the Hill Country and High Plains Regions." (2020)
Advised: Kourtney Collins
Committee Member

Directed Undergraduate Student Learning

Honors College Thesis, "Bottled Up: Coca-Cola and the Political Economy of Water Access in Chiapas, Mexico" (2026)
Advised: Patricia Carolina Cambron

Honors College Thesis, "Engineering the Disaster: Discussing Trends in Natural Hazard Management Using Case Studies of New Orleans, LA and Galveston Island, TX." (2018)
Advised: Rachel Wolfe

Teaching Experience

Texas State University – San Marcos, Texas
GEO 4326 Parks and Protected Places (Undergraduate)
GEO 2301 Our Dynamic Earth (Physical Geography) Accelerated Online Program for Texas State Global
GEO 5310 Multivariate Quantitative Methods in Geography (Graduate)
GEO 2410 Introduction to Physical Geography – Online and face-to-face (Undergraduate)
GEO 3301 Research Methods in Geography – Online and face-to-face (Undergraduate)
GEO 4310 and GEO 5308 Regional Field Studies – Study in America Distance Learning in the Big Bend, Texas (Undergraduate and Graduate)
GEO 4339 Environmental Hazards (Undergraduate)
GEO 1310 World and Regional Geography (Undergraduate)
GEO 4190 Independent Study (Undergraduate)
GEOL 1410 Physical Geology Laboratory

Texas Lutheran University – Seguin, Texas
Geographic Information Science (Undergraduate)
Introduction to Global Geography (Undergraduate)

University of Texas at San Antonio – San Antonio, Texas
Physiography/Geomorphology (Undergraduate)
Introduction to Physical Geography (Undergraduate)

Teaching Innovation and Curriculum Development

Online Course Development for Texas State Global: Our Dynamic Earth (2025)

First Time Course Preparation. Research Methods in Geography. (2015)

University and Department Service

Faculty Advisor, Gamma Theta Upsilon Honor Society (2025 – Present)

Chair, PANGEA Student Conference Committee. (2025 – Present)

Member, PANGEA Student Conference Committee. (2024 – 2025)

Member, Department Search Committees for Assistant Professor of Instruction. (2024 – 2025)

Reviewer, Texas State University Undergraduate Research Journal. (2022 and 2025)

Member, Christmas Mountains Advisory Committee, Texas State System. (December 2022 – Present)

Member, Department Evaluation Committee. (September 2020 - Present)

Member, Department Diversity Committee. (2017 - 2021)

Member, University Non-tenure Line Committee of the Faculty Senate: Representative for the Department of Geography. (2015 - Present).

Member, University Environmental Service Fee Committee. (2021 – Present)

Volunteer, Department of Geography Alumni Reunion and Student Celebration. (April 2019)

Adjudicator (Poster Judge), Geography Student Research Symposium. (March 2019 and March 2022)

University Mentor, Bobcat Bond. (September 2014 - May 2018).

Member, Department Undergraduate Committee. (September 2016 - May 2017 and September 2022 - 2024).

Field Trip Leader, Southwest Division of the American Association of Geographers/Applied Geography Conference Meeting. (November 1, 2015).

Department Booth Faculty Volunteer, American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting. (April 1, 2015).

International Flash Flood Laboratory Inaugural Conference: Volunteer and Student Coordinator. (2009)

International Flash Flood Laboratory Inaugural Conference: Volunteer and Student Coordinator. Grosvenor Center for Geographic Education: National Geography Awareness Week Volunteer. (2009)

Other Professional Service

Adjudicator (Poster Judge), Southwest Division of the American Association of Geographers (November 8, 2024)

External Reviewer, Promotion Review, School of Natural Resources and the Environment, University of Arizona (August 2024)

Reviewer / Referee, Journal of Agricultural Science. (August 2018)

Adjudicator, Texas Water ESRI Middle School and High School GIS Map Competition. (May 14, 2018)

President, Wine Specialty Group Board of Directors, American Association of Geographers. (2016 - 2018)

Reviewer / Referee, International Journal of Applied Geospatial Research. (September 2017)

Reviewer / Referee, Geomorphology. (June 2017)

Secretary, American Association of Geographers Wine Geography Specialty Group. (April 2014 - 2016)

Manuscript Reviewer, Applied Geography. (2015)

Manuscript Reviewer, IGI Global. (2014)

Student Director, Wine Specialty Group Board of Directors. (2011 - 2013)

Manuscript Reviewer, Applied Geography Conference. (2011)

AAG Conference Volunteer, Session Area Monitor. (2010)

Licensures, Certifications, and Continuing Education

Integrating Coursera into Your Curriculum for Fall 2026 Webinar (April 2026)

TopHat – Getting Started. Online training workshop via Zoom. (February 2024)

Introduction to Yuja – Texas State's Video Management System. Online training workshop via Zoom. (May 2022)

Instructional Design Consultation - Study in America Program, Geography in Big Bend National Park. Instructional Designer Patrick Smith, Office of Distance and Extended Learning. (January 2022)

Teaching Online at Texas State – 8-hour Professional Development Course administered by the Office of Distance and Extended Learning. (May 2020)

National Weather Service SkyWarn Storm-Spotter Training (March 2020)

GIS: Introduction to ArcGIS Pro. (October 2019)

Introduction to Simple Linear Regression and Multiple Regression with SPSS. Co-sponsored by the Office of Academic Development and Assessment (ADA); the Testing, Research-Support, and Evaluation Center (TREC); and the Institute for Interdisciplinary Research Design and Analysis (IIRDA). (March 2014)

Adult, Child, and Infant CPR and First Aid, American Heart Association. (June 23, 2018 - June 23, 2020).

Public Service

Volunteer, Johnson High School Athletic Boosters, Buda, TX. (2021 – 2023)

Board Member, Johnson High School Band Boosters, Buda, TX. (February 2019 - 2020)

Volunteer, Vincare Services of Austin: An organization that provides apartment homes for homeless single mothers. (2015)

Volunteer, United Way: Flood Clean-up volunteer. (May 1, 2015)

Volunteer, San Marcos High School. (2006)