



**News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers
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1. UT's Dr. Matt Farish Receives AGS McColl Family Fellowship

<http://www.geog.utoronto.ca/people/faculty/farish/home>

Professor Matt Farish, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography and Program in Planning at the University of Toronto, received the American Geographical Society McColl Family Fellowship. He will use the award for travel to the Canadian Arctic to document the experiences of local people who were affected in various ways by the construction and operation of the DEW (Defense Early Warning).

2. 'Last Chance Tourism' Researcher Emma Stewart at University of Calgary

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/news/utoday/jan28-09/lastchance>

The idea that polar bears may one day be extinct because of melting ice has spurred a new phenomenon in the travel industry—last chance tourism. Emma Stewart, a PhD student in geography, says industry coined the new term to describe the influx of travelers who want to see the North before climate change alters a way of life forever.

3. U Alberta's Arturo Sanchez Use GOSAT to Monitor Greenhouse Gases

<http://www.expressnews.ualberta.ca/article.cfm?id=9914>

GOSAT is the first satellite designed to monitor greenhouse gases. Data recorded in space will be downloaded in Japan and the information from northern Alberta will be fed to the U of A. Musilek, a computer engineer, will crunch data and Sanchez, of earth and atmospheric sciences, will assess the impact of greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide and methane.

4. UBC Geographer Lori Daniels on CBC's Quirks and Quarks

http://www.cbc.ca/quirks/media/2008-2009/mp3/qq-2009-01-24_04.mp3

Listen to Dr. Loris Daniels, Department of Geography at the University of British Columbia discuss the possible relationship between regional warming and the doubling of tree death rates in North America.

5. University of Calgary Considers Merging Faculties

<http://www.calgaryherald.com/News/looking+merge+faculties+tape/1234938/story.html>

The University of Calgary is considering merging four arts-related faculties into a super faculty, with a decision expected this spring. Opinions vary widely, even within departments, but there's a general optimism about change in the larger Social Sciences faculty where the Department of Geography is housed. A new arts "mega-faculty" may help give the liberal arts more clout on a campus that normally favours fields like business and engineering.

6. UT Planning Program Professional Development Workshops

<http://www.geog.utoronto.ca/programs/planning/pdp>

The Planning Program at the University of Toronto in partnership with the Ontario Professional Planners Institute is holding a series of workshops around the theme of 'healthy community, sustainable community'. The program is geared to practicing planners seeking to upgrade or develop skills in specialized fields of planning, while also developing the skills in leadership and management necessary to make change happen.

7. University of Regina Geographer Kyle Hodder Featured in CGRG Newsletter

http://cgrg.geog.uvic.ca/news26_khodder.pdf

Dr. Kyle Hodder joined the Department of Geography at the University of Regina in 2007. In 2008, he led the creation of the Prairie Environmental Process Laboratory, that is designed to integrate the study of present hydrologic processes, the pattern and process of landscape change; and the intensity, frequency and duration of past precipitation and stream flow.

8. U of Manitoba Department of Environment and Geography Logo Contest

http://www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/environment/departments/geography/media/logo_contest.pdf

The Department of Environment and Geography at the University of Manitoba has invited submissions for the creation of an "official" logo. The deadline for the competition is February 28, 2009.

9. York U's Valerie Preston Finds Immigrants Spend 50% of Income on Housing

<http://www.yorku.ca/yfile/archive/index.asp?Article=11919>

New research has found that in 2001 almost 30% of immigrant homeowners in York Region forked out over 50% of their income on housing, while 38% of immigrant renters did the same, a statistic that surprised the lead author of the study, York University, Geography Professor Valerie Preston.

10. Geographer of the Week: Jon Corbett, UBC Okanagan

<http://web.ubc.ca/okanagan/ccgs/faculty/jcorbett.html>

Dr. Jon Corbett is an Assistant Professor of Geography in the Irving K. Barber School of Arts and Sciences.

Jon's community-based research investigates processes and tools that can be used by local and Indigenous communities to help express their relationship to and knowledge of traditional territories and on issues relating to resources and their sustainable management.

11. Recent Theses and Dissertations:

Christopher Harker. 2009. "Placing Palestine: Homes, Families and Mobilities in Birzeit". Unpublished PhD dissertation. Department of Geography, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia.

12. \$5-million deficit at Laurentian University

<http://www.nugget.ca/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=1412817>

Laurentian University has confirmed it faces a \$5.3-million deficit in the current school year and that its annual budget shortfall could reach \$14 million in three years if drastic steps are not taken. The prospect of job losses and cuts to certain academic programs was all but confirmed.

13. CFHSS Bulletin on the Federal Budget

<http://fedcan.ca/english/pdf/publications/BudgetBulletinJan2009.pdf>

\$2 billion has been allocated for repairs and building projects at universities and colleges. The money will be allocated by Industry Canada to projects that are considered meritorious and that meet the government's strategic priorities. The trend in recent years to target programs and spending has continued with this budget. In addition, the recent strategic review of all federal departments and agencies is expected to result in a reduction of about 5% in the base budget of SSHRC.

GeogNews Archives: <http://www.geog.uvic.ca/dept/cag/geognews/geognews.html>