



**News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers**  
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### **1. UWO Geography Professor Partners with Aboriginal Health Access Centre**

[http://communications.uwo.ca/com/western\\_news/stories/geography\\_professor\\_partners\\_with\\_local\\_a](http://communications.uwo.ca/com/western_news/stories/geography_professor_partners_with_local_a)

Dr. Chantelle Richmond began teaching in Western's Geography Department in January. She has already started a community-based project in London with the Southwest Ontario Aboriginal Health Access Centre. The two-year project will study dietary patterns and determinants of food choice among aboriginal people in London and at the Chippewa's of the Thames First Nation.

### **2. UNBC's Cristian Silva Participates in Course Offered by Physicians for Human Rights**

[http://www.unbc.ca/geography/whats\\_new/graduate\\_and\\_undergraduate\\_student\\_news.html](http://www.unbc.ca/geography/whats_new/graduate_and_undergraduate_student_news.html)

Graduate student Cristian Silva (MA Interdisciplinary Studies, supervisor: Dr. Catherine Nolin) was recently invited to participate in a 2-week course offered by Physicians for Human Rights. Cristian received a Certificate of Training for 80 hours of "Forensic Laboratory and Medical Examiners Office Operations" provided by Physicians for Human Rights' International Forensic Program & the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office in Fort Worth, Texas USA . See: <http://physiciansforhumanrights.org/forensic/>

### **3. UT Mississauga Geographer Pierre Desrochers Questions 'Buying locally'**

<http://www.geog.utoronto.ca/about/digest/2009-02-02/Bulletin-Page07-01-27-09.pdf>

Professor Pierre Desrochers in the Geography Department at University of Toronto Mississauga, argues "long distance food transportation by highly efficient diesel container ships represents only a tiny percentage of total energy expenditure in agricultural production". "Cold storage or greenhouses have much more

significant expenditures.”

#### **4. McMaster University's Paulin Coulibaly Receives John C. Holland Award**

<http://www.thespec.com/article/509954>

Dr. Paulin Coulibaly is an Associate Professor at McMaster University in Geography and Earth Sciences, as well as in Civil Engineering. He leads the McMaster Water Resources and Hydrologic Modeling Lab Main whose research and engineering projects range from advanced hydrologic modeling to global climate change and water resources. Dr. Coulibaly received the John C. Holland Award in recognition of his Professional Achievements.

#### **5. WLU Geography PhD Candidate Kevin Turner Heads to Antarctica**

[http://www.wlu.ca/news\\_listing.php?grp\\_id=149](http://www.wlu.ca/news_listing.php?grp_id=149)

Kevin Turner, a PhD candidate in Geography and Environmental studies departs for Antarctica on February 13 for a two-week research and educational excursion by boat. Turner's research is focused on hydrology, the movement of water in relation to land and atmosphere. He works with Laurier Geographer Dr. Brent Wolfe.

#### **6. UFV Geography Grads a Good Fit for Environmental/Landscape Company**

<http://www.ufv.ca/MarCom/newsroom/Denbow.htm>

If you'd told Jason Stower (BA '06) or Jared Taylor (BA '00) during their student days that they'd be putting their University of Fraser Valley geography degrees to use developing and marketing cutting-edge environmental and landscape products, they would have probably been surprised. Jason and Jared were hired by Denbow specifically because of their education and background in environmental geography.

#### **7. Carleton U Research Shows Inuit Trails Represent Social Network**

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/02/090204112237.htm>

Dr. Claudio Aporta from the Geomatics and Cartographic Research Centre in the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at Carleton University describes how the Inuit have made use of the Arctic environment and how their trails represent significant channels of communication and exchange across the territory. Dr. Aporta has shown that complex and intricate knowledge can be precisely and accurately transmitted from generation to generation orally for centuries.

#### **8. UM Student Receives Award to Examine Impact of Genetically Modified Crops on Rural Livelihoods**

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/press/top/2008/12/2008-12-19-120600-4979.html>

Alexis Knispel, a University of Manitoba doctoral student in geography, received a Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development Scholarships to examine the impacts of genetically modified crops on the spread of herbicide tolerant traits in escaped canola populations and the impacts on rural livelihoods in Manitoba.

#### **9. UBC Okanagan Researchers Track Urban Pine Beetle Attacks in Kelowna**

<http://www.publicaffairs.ubc.ca/ubcreports/2008/08nov06/beetles.html>

Working in one of B.C.'s latest beetle battlegrounds -- the city of Kelowna -- UBC Okanagan Associate Professor of Biology and Physical Geography Bob Lalonde and mathematician Rebecca Tyson are combining their expertise to track how the mountain pine beetle spreads through an urban landscape during a mass infestation. Although extensive research has been done on the mountain pine beetle in a forest setting, there is very little information on how they work their way through a city.

**10. Geographer of the Week: Miles Ecclestone, Trent University**

<http://www.trentu.ca/academic/geography/MEcclestone.html>

Working with faculty members and students, Miles Ecclestone is responsible for writing and demonstrating labs and grading in several courses including Methods in Physical Geography, Geomorphology, Hydrometeorology Snow & Ice, and the Field Course in Geography. He is also responsible for the Geography teaching labs, the Trent Climate Station, departmental vehicles, departmental and scientific budgets, as well as the timetabling of courses.

**11. Recent Theses and Dissertations:**

Kyle Kusch. 2009. "*Historical Migration Patterns in the Upper Fraser Region, British Columbia*". Unpublished MA thesis in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Geography), University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George, British Columbia. Supervisor: Dr. Greg Halseth.

**12. International and Interdisciplinary IPY Polar Field School 2009**

<http://arcticportal.org/apecs/svalbard2009>

The "International and Interdisciplinary IPY Polar Field School 2009" will take place in Svalbard, June 15 to July 3, 2009. The Field School is arranged as a cooperative effort between: IPY NORWAY, UArctic, UNIS and APECS. The application deadline, March 27.

**13. "Gradshare" offers peer mentoring to graduate students**

<http://www.gradshare.com/landing.html>

Billed as "a question-and-answer site for research-oriented graduate students," "Gradshare," is designed to offer peer mentoring to graduate students looking for answers to questions they are uncomfortable asking, or unable to ask, their advisors. The site's membership is restricted to those with college e-mail accounts.

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