



**News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers
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1. McMaster PhD Candidate Jessica Pilarczyk Wins Denis Shaw Memorial Award
<http://www.science.mcmaster.ca/geo/graduate/students/pilarczyk.html>

Jessica Pilarczyk, a PhD candidate at McMaster University was awarded the Denis Shaw Memorial Award. Established in 2004 by friends, colleagues and former students in memory of Dr. Denis Shaw, the award is presented to a graduate student in the School of Geography and Earth Sciences to attend the annual meeting of the Geochemical Society or a similar organization.

2. Green Mapping at UT Mississauga with Geographer Tenley Conway
[http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/361.0.html?&tx_mininews_pi1\[showUid\]=2700&tx_mininews_pi1\[ba](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/361.0.html?&tx_mininews_pi1[showUid]=2700&tx_mininews_pi1[ba)

Working with Professor Tenley Conway in the Department of Geography and environmental affairs officer Aubrey Iwaniw, three students used the Google Maps interface to identify places on campus of ecological importance, such as naturalized areas, environmental monitoring sites and worm composters. Conway and Iwaniw developed the idea during the summer of 2008, and students

Anum Maqsood, Chahnaz Hussein and Tooba Shakeel created the maps as part of a work-study program starting in the fall.

3. Memorial U Geography Grad Dawn Mercer Works for Fisheries

http://www.mun.ca/geog/about/geography_graduates.php

Dawn Mercer completed an advanced diploma in Fisheries Management at the Marine Institute and a Bachelor of Science at Memorial majoring in geography. When Dawn completed her diploma at the Marine Institute her contacts at Memorial got her interested in ocean and coastal management. Dawn found that her geography degree was helpful as she was drawing on her economic and cultural knowledge along with her physical geography background.

4. WLU Research Team Receives SSHRC RDI

http://www.wlu.ca/homepage.php?grp_id=841&ct_id=708&f_id=149

Brenda Murphy (Geography and Contemporary Studies), along with collaborator **Laura Brown** (University of Guelph) and Post-doctoral fellow, **Annette Chretien** (WLU) have received a SSHRC Research Development Initiative grant for a project entitled: "Interdisciplinary Research of Canadian Maple Syrup Production: A Development Initiative to Understand the Impacts of Climate Change and Opportunities for Adaptation and Resiliency". Since this is a development grant, the team is interested in talking to other researchers who may have an interest in this topic. The team also has funding for two geography Master's students, one in resource management and one in physical geography. Please contact bmurphy@wlu.ca for further information.

5. U Saskatchewan's Dirk de Boer on Great Canadian Geography Challenge

<http://www.thestarphoenix.com/Students+tackle+geography+questions/1513781/story.html>

Students from across Saskatchewan tackled those questions and others like them on Saturday as part of the Great Canadian Geography Challenge provincial championships in Saskatoon. "It's like a spelling bee, but with geographic questions," said **Dirk de Boer**, a geography professor at the University of Saskatchewan and the challenge's provincial co-ordinator.

6. Arctic Research Infrastructure Fund Boosts Memorial's Research in Labrador

http://today.mun.ca/rss/readmore.php?news_id=4579

Memorial is establishing a new research facility in North West River, thanks to roughly \$1.8 million in federal funding announced by Ottawa under its Arctic Research Infrastructure Fund. The money will allow the university's Labrador Institute, which is located in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, to renovate the nearby North West River Learning Centre, which serves a diverse aboriginal and northern population in central Labrador. Director Dr. Keith Chaulk notes we see research being done in the areas of ecology, archaeology, anthropology, **geography**, linguistics and health.

7. Queen's University's Betsy Donald on Closing of S&R Department Store

<http://www.thewhig.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=1529700>

Dr. **Betsy Donald**, of the Department of Geography at Queen's University, comments in an editorial published in the Kingston WhigStandard on the impact of big box stores. She notes that providing more retail options does not increase the size of the pie. It makes for smaller slices for all, or

perhaps only crumbs for some. If you continually add more big box stores on the fringes, it is just a matter of time before Canada's downtowns disappear.

8. University of Saskatchewan Geographers Awarded SSHRC Grants

http://announcements.usask.ca/news/archive/2009/04/u_of_s_research_41.html

Bram Noble (Geography) will research northern communities' strategic environmental assessment roles and stakes in Arctic oil and gas exploration and development. In a separate project, he will attempt to advance the assessment of effects that development has on watersheds beyond the individual project to the watershed scale, and identify the arrangements necessary to support watershed-based cumulative effects assessment and management.

<http://homepage.usask.ca/~bf571/>

Maureen Reed (School of Environment and Sustainability; Geography and Planning) will assess the effectiveness of governance arrangements in Canadian model forests and biosphere reserves in order to advance sustainability, resilience, and social innovation at the landscape scale. With the School, she will host a public and academic workshop related to accelerated resource development in northwestern Saskatchewan.

<http://www.usask.ca/geography/faculty/mreed/index.htm>

9. UBC Geographer Juanita Sundberg Awarded 2009 Killam Teaching Prize

<http://www.geog.ubc.ca/people/index.php?action=2&cat=faculty&memberID=200016>

Juanita Sundberg, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography at the University of British Columbia has been selected as one of the Faculty of Arts Killam Teaching Prize winners for 2009. This is a special honour which Juanita has earned by her innovative and engaging teaching and through her dedication to undergraduate instruction.

10. Université du Québec à Montréal Geographer on Montreal's Lost Rivers

<http://www.montrealgazette.com/Technology/Montreal+lost+rivers/1508250/story.html>

Once, rivers crisscrossed the island of Montreal, sparkling in the daylight. "They were all over the place, these rivers," says **David Hanna**, a professor of urban geography at the Université du Québec à Montréal. As in cities everywhere, most of Montreal's rivers and streams were diverted into the sewage system.

11. Danforth's Bangla Town Built on Immigrants' Shared Values, Identities

<http://www.thestar.com/News/GTA/article/617473>

Outside Crescent Town, there are major pockets of Bangladeshis in Regent Park, the Eglinton Ave. and Markham Rd. area, says **Sutama Ghosh**, assistant professor of geography at Ryerson University. The spurt in numbers has been accompanied by changing profiles. Ghosh, who has researched the community extensively, says, "New immigrants are much younger and are more educated." Bangladeshis likely cluster in Bangla Town because of its services, including Qur'an classes in Bengali, she says. "There is a feeling of community."

12. UBC Geography's Sally Hermansen Appointed Assistant Dean of Arts

<http://www.geog.ubc.ca/people/index.php?action=2&cat=faculty&memberID=200026>

Sally Hermansen, a Senior Instructor in the Department of Geography at the University of British Columbia, has been appointed as UBC's Assistant Dean of Arts with responsibility for Student Services. Sally has made enormous contributions to the department since her appointment in 2000.

13. SSHRC Successes in Geography at Queen's University

<http://geog.queensu.ca/index.asp>

Emilie Cameron was awarded a SSHRC Post-doctoral Fellowship to be held at the University of British Columbia.

<http://geog.queensu.ca/grads/cameron.asp>

Scott Lamoureux was awarded a SSHRC grant entitled "*Integrated Assessment of Population and Critical Resource Vulnerabilities to Climate Risks, in Support of Community and Regional Adaptation Policy-making and Planning*". Along with researchers from the Universities of Ottawa and Guelph, Scott will work with community groups in the Mazinaw Lake/North Addington region.

<http://geog.queensu.ca/faculty/lamoureux.asp>

14. Geographer of the Week: Steffanie Scott, University of Waterloo

<http://www.fes.uwaterloo.ca/geography/faculty/steffaniescott/index.htm>

Dr. **Steffanie Scott** is an Assistant Professor at the University of Waterloo. After completing her PhD at the University of British Columbia, she spent two years at the University of Western Australia before moving to Waterloo in 2003. She is currently cross-listed in the University of Waterloo's Department of Geography and Environmental Management and Environment and Resource Studies. Steffanie has a longstanding interest in global and local agrofood systems, and rural and international development in Asia and Latin America.

15. Recently Completed Theses/Dissertations

Natsuko Chubachi. 2009. *Gender and Construction of the Life Course of Japanese Immigrant Women in Canada*. Unpublished PhD dissertation. Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario.

Aquila Flower. 2009. *A Dendroclimatic Investigation in the Northern Canadian Rocky Mountains, British Columbia*. Unpublished MSc thesis. University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia.

<http://cgrg.geog.uvic.ca/cdabstracts/FlowerASubalpine.html>

Neville Li. 2009.

Transnationalism, Citizenship and Sense of Belonging Among Elderly Hong Kong Immigrants in Canada. Unpublished MA thesis. Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario.

16. Other "Geographical" News

Cyclones Spurt Water Into Stratosphere, Feeding Global Warming

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/04/090420121421.htm>

Researchers have found that tropical cyclones readily inject ice far into the stratosphere, possibly feeding global warming. The finding provides more evidence of the intertwining of severe weather and global warming by demonstrating a mechanism by which storms could drive climate change. Many scientists now believe that global warming, in turn, is likely to increase the severity of tropical cyclones.

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