



News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers
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 Compiled by Dan Smith caq@geog.uvic.ca

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1. McMaster U's Kate M. Mulligan Receives Prestigious Vanier Scholarship
<http://www.science.mcmaster.ca/geo/graduate/students/mulligan.html>

Kate M. Mulligan a PhD candidate in the Department of Geography & Earth Sciences at McMaster University received a prestigious Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship. The Vanier Canada program was introduced by the federal government to attract and retain world-class doctoral students and make this country a global leader in higher education research.

2. UVic Geography Students Examine Cellphone Talk and Car Crashes
<http://www.timescolonist.com/Cellphone+talk+peaks+crash+prone+corner/1558470/story.html>

Two University of Victoria students studying drivers' cellphone use in Victoria found the highest rate was at one of the three most accident-prone intersections in the city. Theresa Fingler and Thomas Edghill, who just completed their undergraduate degrees in geography, found that 7.5 per cent of drivers they observed in that area were using cellphones. The pair was surprised to find that far more men than women were seen gabbing on their phones; 67 per cent men to 33 per cent women. Most people on phones were alone in their cars — 85 per cent of men and 94 per cent of women.

3. U Toronto Planning Students on a Stelco-free Steeltown

<http://www.thespec.com/article/553997>

University of Toronto Geography and Planning students Matt Armstrong, Edward Birnbaum and Monica Castro are featured in an article in the Hamilton Specator about their Urban Design Project (for PLA 1653, Advanced Urban Design Studio). The project is on the proposed high speed rail and its effect on Hamilton in relation to the decline of the steel industry.

4. Peter Haggett - Charting the Future of Geography – at UVic

http://www.geoq.uvic.ca/spar/Haggett_x264.mp4

Peter Haggett was invited by the Department of Geography at the University of Victoria to present a lecture entitled "Charting the Future of Geography. Unable to travel to the university, arrangements were made for Dr. Haggett to present a teleconference to an audience of viewers on March 13, 2008. The contents of that lecture are now available for download.

5. University of Calgary's Rick Erickson on Growth of Regina's Airport

<http://www.leaderpost.com/Life/Regina+airport+continues+grow/1562706/story.html>

Directly and indirectly, the economic benefits from having an airport in Regina are a hefty \$472 million a year — or six per cent of the region's gross domestic product. "The airport, as a whole, is a pretty large-scale type of enterprise," said consultant Rick Erickson. Turning to the airport's "social value", the former University of Calgary geography professor noted 191 air ambulance flights, school visits, flight training, search and rescue volunteers, flight training, corporate flying for local businesses and the Regina Flying Club.

6. McMaster U's Susan Vajoczki Appointed Acting Director of Centre for Leadership in Learning

<http://dailynews.mcmaster.ca/worthmentioning.cfm?ID=5058>

Susan Vajoczki has been appointed acting director of the Centre for Leadership in Learning (CLL), effective May 1, 2009. Vajoczki received her Ph.D. in Geography from Wilfrid Laurier University where she examined best teaching practices and teaching evaluation processes in Canadian university geography departments. She is currently an associate professor in the School of Geography and Earth Sciences and is the director for experiential education in the Faculty of Social Sciences.

7. Queen's Geography Alumni Drew Hyatt Receives Distinguished Professor Award

<http://nutmeg.easternct.edu/~hyatti/>

Queen's PhD graduate Drew Hyatt, has been selected as the 2009 Distinguished Professor at Eastern Connecticut State University. This is the highest award granted by that university to one of its faculty each year.

8. Mapping Cinematographic Territories / Cartographie de Territoires Cinématographiques

<http://www.atlascine.org/iWeb/Site/atlasen.html>

Geographers from the Université de Montréal and Carleton University are collaborating on the mapping of cinematographic territories. This collaboration (supported by SSHRC) has led to the recent publication of a special issue of The Cartographic Journal on Cinematic Cartography (Guest editors : S. Caquard and D.R.F. Taylor) <http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/maney/caj/latest> , and the development of a Cybercartographic Atlas of Canadian Cinema (<http://www.atlascine.org/iWeb/Site/atlasen.html>).

Des géographes de l'université de Montréal et de Carleton University collaborent à la cartographie de

territoires cinématographiques. Cette collaboration (financée par le CRSH) s'est récemment matérialisée par la publication d'un numéro spécial de la revue The Cartographie Journal dédié à la cartographie cinématique (éditeurs invités: S. Caquard et D.R.F. Taylor)
<http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/maney/caj/latest> et le création d'un atlas cybercartographique du cinéma canadien (<http://www.atlascine.org/iWeb/Site/atlas.html>).

9. Trent's Miles Ecclestone Receives Staff Award of Excellence

<http://www.trentu.ca/newsDetails.aspx?Channel=%2fChannels%2fAdmissions+Content&WorkflowId>

Trent University announced that Miles Ecclestone, senior technician and demonstrator with the Geography Department and Trent alumnus, is the inaugural recipient of the Nancy E. Simmons Smith Staff Award of Excellence. Nominators were effusive in their praise of Mr. Ecclestone's personal qualities that have enriched the learning experience of countless Trent students over his 30 years of service.

10. SFU's Jennifer Hyndman on the State and Fate of the Tamil Tigers

<http://www.montrealgazette.com/news/tragedy+Lanka/1556702/story.html>

The Montreal Gazette looked at the state and fate of the Tamil Tigers and their insurgency in Sri Lanka. It quoted Jennifer Hyndman, an associate professor of geography at Simon Fraser University, as saying violent excesses on both sides have overshadowed the suffering of Sri Lanka's Tamil minority and its legitimate grievances. "There's blood on both pairs of hands."

11. Waterloo's Michael Stone Organizes Conference to Examine Road Salt Impact

<http://envblogs.uwaterloo.ca/blogs/?p=214>

Geography and Environmental Management professor Micheal Stone is organizing the first International Conference on Urban Drainage and Road Salt Management in Cold Climates along with colleagues at Environment Canada, the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, and Luleå University of Technology, Sweden. Environment Canada has identified road salt as a toxic substance and concerns regarding its impact on the environment have prompted a growing interest in innovative strategies that keep roadways safe while reducing environmental effects.

12. U Alberta's Arturo Sanchez-Azofeifa Featured Scientist

<http://sciencewatch.com/inter/aut/2009/09-may/09maySCIAzof/>

Dr. Sanchez-Azofeifa is Director of the Center for Earth Observation Sciences (CEOS), a Professor at the Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Department, and a Principal Investigator of the TROPIC-DRY Collaborative Research Network funded by the Inter American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI) at the University of Alberta. Late last year, the work of Dr. Sanchez-Azofeifa entered the top 1% in the field of Environment & Ecology in Essential Science Indicators from Thomson Reuters. His current record in the overall database includes 38 papers cited 633 times between January 1, 1998 and December 31, 2008.

13. U Toronto's James Nugent Awarded a Vanier scholarship

<http://www.geog.utoronto.ca/people/grads/list/nugent>

University of Toronto MA student James Nugent on has won a Vanier scholarship. Currently supervised by Ken MacDonald, James's research proposal is "Changing the climate: neoliberalism, global warming and Canadian labour-environmental alliance-building," and his PhD supervisor will be Scott Prudham. This is the inaugural year for award of these highly prestigious scholarships, where leading doctoral students from Canada and abroad are awarded \$50,000 annually for up to three years.

14. Geographer of the Week: Rosaline Canessa, University of Victoria

<http://www.geog.uvic.ca/dept2/faculty/canessa/canessa.html>

Dr. Rosaline Canessa is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography at the University of Victoria. She is interested in marine protected areas and integrated coastal management, including developing approaches and techniques for sound management and assessing the effectiveness of MPAs and coastal plans in meeting established objectives. Her research interests extend to assessing and monitoring impacts of activities including mariculture, tourism, offshore hydrocarbon exploration and alternative ocean energy sources.

15. Other “Geographical” News

Mount Allison University adopts Carbon Emission Reduction Policy

<http://www.mta.ca/>

Mount Allison has recently adopted a campus-wide Carbon Emission Reduction Policy. University President, Dr. Robert Campbell, says, “The Mount Allison University community is collectively making a significant step forward in our commitment to the environment with the adoption of this Emission Reduction Policy. While we have been dedicated to reducing our environmental footprint for quite some time, this new policy, with specific strategies and targets, gives us new heights to reach and will no doubt be a critical element in our work towards becoming an even greener, sustainable campus.”

Excessive Bycatch of Cod Undermines Moratorium

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/05/090502102740.htm>

Cod bycatch was at least 70 per cent higher than target levels on the southern Grand Banks near Canada, holding back recovery of one of the world’s best known fisheries following its spectacular collapse and closure in the early 1990s. European Union boats were responsible for the largest proportion of the overrun in bycatch.

Supercourse: Epidemiology, the Internet and Global Health

<http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/index.htm>

The Supercourse website contains thousands of lectures on global health and prevention "designed to improve the teaching of prevention." Their network includes 174 countries, and is available in no less than 30 languages. The site is located at the University of Pittsburgh and first-time visitors may wish to start by clicking through the "What is the Supercourse?" introduction section.

Local farmer donates biggest known meteorite from Nov. 20 impact near Lloydminster to U of C

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/news/may2009/meteorite-record>

The spectacular asteroid fireball that lit up the skies of northern Alberta and Saskatchewan on Nov. 20, 2008 has now broken the Canadian record for meteorites recovered from a single fall, according to the University of Calgary scientist leading the search for the remains of the asteroid fragment. The largest fragment recovered to date is a 13-kilogram piece belonging to Alex and Jan Mitchell. The piece that is about the size of a human head was found by amateur meteorite hunter Les Johnson on Nov. 28. It was returned to the Mitchells, who own the land where it was found (in Canada, meteorites are generally the property of the landowner where they fall).

16. Some not so “Geographical” News

UVic Geography Alum Chosen to be on Wheel of Fortune

http://www.bclocalnews.com/vancouver_island_south/goldstreamgazette/community/39233079.html

One-time UVic geography student Ryan Hinton earned a chance to seek his fortune the way Hollywood does it best – on the Wheel of Fortune. He is one of the few Canadians ever selected to appear on the program in its 25 year history.

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