



News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers
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1. Mount Allison's Brad Walters Wins Faculty Excellence Award

Mount Allison University Geography & Environment Professor, Brad Walters, was one of five recipients of this year's Paul Pare Award for Faculty Excellence. The award acknowledges outstanding research and scholarly performance amongst faculty. [News Release](#)

2. Lakehead U's Robert Stewart Prepares Lake Superior Remediation Plans

Dr. Robert Stewart of Lakehead University's Department of Geography has received research grants totalling \$170,600 from Environment Canada and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment through the Canada-Ontario Agreement Respecting the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem to review and implement Remedial Action Plans (RAPs). These RAPs will focus on three Areas of Concern along the North Shore of Lake Superior. [Lakehead University](#)

3. Grand River Conservation Authority Papers in University of Waterloo Library

Researchers and the public can access the entire water management history of the [Grand River Conservation Authority](#) with the donation of the GRCA papers to the UW library. The GRCA, which manages the Grand River's water and natural resources on behalf of 38 municipalities and 925,000 residents, has donated its corporate archives for the last 75 years to the university library. The Grand River flows 300 kilometres through southwestern Ontario from the highlands of Dufferin County to Port Maitland on Lake Erie. [University of Waterloo - The Daily Bulletin](#) (Tuesday, September 22, 2009)

4. Vancouver Island University Geographers Plant Food for Sustainable Future

A group of Vancouver Island University students has planted the seeds for a more sustainable future in an on-campus community garden. Christine LoScerbo walks around the garden bed, where students have been planting for more than two years. LoScerbo and her fellow green thumbs want to educate others on how easy it is to grow food in any backyard. LoScerbo recently published her first article, Food Security in Canada, in *Plan Canada*, the official publication of the Canadian Institute of Planners. Along with co-author and VIU geography professor Pamela Shaw, LoScerbo examined the issue of food security and highlighted the work of Solutions Network. [Canada.com](#) | [VIU Inside Full Story](#)

5. Geographer Roger Tomlinson Helped Put Canada on the Map

It seems perfectly normal now to access maps through our computers. Yet had it not been for a soft-spoken young geographer doing work for the Canadian Department of External Affairs more than forty years ago, we might still be fighting fan-folds whenever we wanted to figure out how to get from A to B. It was all a matter of survival, says Roger Tomlinson as he shared memories of the birth of the geographic information system (GIS). "The early days of GIS were very lonely," Dr. Tomlinson mused. "No-one knew what it meant. My work has certainly been missionary work of the hardest kind." [Globe and Mail](#)

6. U Toronto's Deborah Leslie's CRC in Cultural Economy Renewed

The University of Toronto has announced that Dr. [Deborah Leslie](#), Associate Professor of Geography in the Department of the Geography and Planning has received news that her Canada Research Chair in the Cultural Economy was renewed. Deborah focus attention: the location and dynamics of cultural industries and their production systems; urban cultural policies and new forms and scales of urban governance; the spatial and temporal logic of commodity chains and networks, and ethical issues surrounding consumption; and the body and the workplace. [News@UofT](#) (Sept 25, 2009)

7. Geography Grad Students at Memorial University Win Prestigious Awards

[Nicole Renaud](#), a geography master's student at Memorial, has received a prestigious internship that will take her to Peru for three months this fall. The internship ([Students for Development](#)) is managed by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada and is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency. Nicole will be working with the climate change division of CARE, an international NGO, to help identify strategies and mechanism to secure water access for marginalized populations as an adaptation tool to climate change. Ms. Renaud is supervised by Dr Kelly Vodden.

[Sarah Breen](#), who recently completed an MA under the supervision of Dr Keith Storey, was awarded a [Plan Canada Recognition Award](#) for 2009 for an article entitled "Renewable Energy: Exploring Options for Farmers, Rural Landowners, and Rural Communities". The award is presented by the Canadian Institute of Planners. In making the decision, the adjudicators commented on the fine writing style, clarity, depth of reporting, insight, imagination and analysis illustrated by Ms Breen's article.

8. Société de géographie de Québec Prix Décerne en Géographie à Mme Valérie Labrecque

La Société de géographie de Québec est fière de décerner le prix de la meilleure moyenne au Bac en géographie à Mme Valérie Labrecque. L'annonce de ce prix sera faite en public lors de la cérémonie de remise des prix et bourses de la Faculté de foresterie, de géographie et de géomatique à l'hiver 2010. [Prix de la Meilleure Moyenne](#)

9. Geographer of the Week: Dr. Ian O'Connell, University of Victoria

[Dr. Ian O'Connell](#) is a Senior Instructor in Geomatics in the Department of Geography at the University of Victoria. Ian completed his BA and MA degrees at University College, Cork and his PhD at the University of Victoria. His doctoral research focused on the application of GIS and geomatic technologies to land valuation. It explored the development of a Web-based Collaborative Spatial Decision Support System to enable local stakeholders to participate in planning initiatives.

10. Recent Theses and Dissertations

Suzanne de la Barre. 2009. Place identity, guides and sustainable tourism development in Canada's Yukon Territory. Unpublished PhD dissertation. University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta. Supervisor: Dr. Tom Hinch. <http://hdl.handle.net/10048/599>

11. Other “Geographical” News

Northern Grizzly Bears Feeding on Mackenzie Delta Whitefish Runs

The discovery of brown (grizzly) bears feeding on migrating broad whitefish in a stream in Mackenzie Delta region of the Northwest Territories has researchers advising increased care in petroleum extraction and infrastructure development within the area. While it is well known that brown bears feed on salmon, trout and charr, this is the first scientific reporting of brown bears feeding on whitefish and supports what is recorded from local traditional knowledge. [EurekAlert!](#) | [Arctic](#)

Images of Mallory’s 1922 Everest Expedition Unearthed

Vivid images of George Mallory’s first serious attempt to climb Everest in 1922 are to go on display for the first time in more than 80 years. Photographs and documentary footage of the expedition, which ended 2,000ft from the summit when an avalanche killed seven support staff, have been unearthed in the archive of the Royal Geographic Society. [TimesOnLine](#)

World’s River Deltas Sinking due to Human Activity

A new study indicates most of the world’s low-lying river deltas are sinking from human activity, making them increasingly vulnerable to flooding from rivers and ocean storms and putting tens of millions of people at risk. The researchers concluded the sinking of deltas from Asia and India to the Americas is exacerbated by the upstream trapping of sediments by reservoirs and dams, man-made channels and levees that whisk sediment into the oceans beyond coastal floodplains, and the accelerated compacting of floodplain sediment caused by the extraction of groundwater and natural gas. [EurekAlert](#) | [Nature Geoscience](#)

Geographer Working to Clarify What Sustainability Really Means to Rural Decision-makers

From book titles to real estate developments, it’s easier to find things claiming to be sustainable than it is to define it. That’s why a Kansas State University geographer is trying to pin down exactly what sustainability means to those who might be trying to work toward it. Her goal is to better understand what is important to people who have to make decisions about what to sustain with the hope that this will later help civic and business leaders in rural communities make more informed decisions about sustainability. [Science News](#)

12. Some not so “Geographical” News



GeogNews Archives:

<http://www.geog.uvic.ca/dept/caq/geognews/geognews.html>