



News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers
No. 81, April 26, 2010
Compiled by Dan Smith [<cag@geog.uvic.ca>](mailto:cag@geog.uvic.ca)

McMaster U's K. Bruce Newbold on Impact of Downsizing Boomers: With the eldest of the boomer generation turning 65 next year, there is a massive migration at hand this decade as this group looks for housing options as they turn away from the traditional family home. "This is a big deal," says McMaster University geography professor K. Bruce Newbold. His research shows about 330,000 Ontarians 65 and over moved between 2001 and 2006. With a much larger and wider age cohort growing over the next five years, that movement is expected to have a substantial impact on Hamilton. Newbold said the city will likely be a magnet for downsizing boomers due to lower real estate prices and access to services. [Hamilton Spectator](#)

UVic's Ian O'Connell Wins 2010 Excellence in Teaching Award: Dr. [Ian O'Connell](#), a Senior Instructor in the Department of Geography at the University of Victoria, was awarded the Faculty of Social Sciences 2010 Teaching Award. Ian is presently the Senior Instructor for Geomatics in the department.

Mount Allison's Brad Walters Receives Funding for Large Scale Climate Change Study: Mount Allison University professor of geography and environment Dr. Brad Walters is joining forces with nine community groups and 23 researchers from universities across the country to address a major Canadian environmental challenge. The group will study what coastal communities in the Estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence will face because of a changing climate. The project has received \$1 M from SSHRC. The Communities – Universities Research Alliance will spend 5 years strengthening the resilience of communities, their ability to recover after an extreme event, and looking at the long-term sustainability of communities operating in a critical but vulnerable ecosystem. [MTA News](#)

Queen's Audrey Kobayashi on Intermarriage Prejudice: Statistics Canada finds number of mixed-union couples has grown by 33 per cent between 2001 and 2006. Audrey Kobayashi, a professor of geography at Queen's University, said the low rates of mixed unions are affected by prejudice. "There's a larger society that's still very strongly racialized, where intermarriage is looked upon negatively," she said. "Intermarried couples have a difficult time, socially. They don't necessarily all get crosses burned on their lawns, but they get stared at." Rates of intermarriage will also increase with second- and third-generation Canadians, she said, as they establish a more diverse range of social connections and overcome language barriers. [Globe and Mail](#)

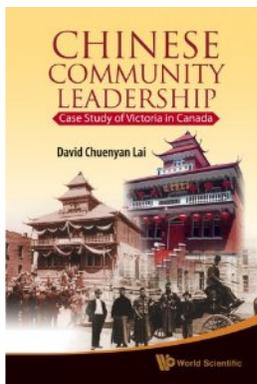
UVic Geography Installs Weather Station Recognizing Retiring Stan Tuller: The "Stan" weather station was installed in April of 2010 by the Department of Geography to honour retiring Dr. [Stan Tuller](#), a valued educator, colleague, mentor and friend to the faculty, students and staff within the department and the university community. The station was installed on the roof of the Social Sciences and Mathematics building and has been added to the [UVic School-Based Weather Station Network](#) operating on southern Vancouver Island. Data from the UVic SSM Bldg weather station can be accessed at: [UVic Geography Weather](#)

U Toronto's Kate Geddie Wins AAG Graduate Student Paper Competition: [Kate Geddie](#), a PhD candidate in the Department of Geography & Planning at the University of Toronto was chosen as the winner of the 2010 graduate student paper competition by the AAG's Economic Geography Specialty Group. Her paper was entitled [Knowledge bases and labour market strategies: considerations among postgraduate students in London, UK](#) was presented as part of the Metropolitan Cities In Processes Of Continentalised Innovation session at the 2010 Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

WLU to Award Honorary Degree to Peter Adeniyi: Waterloo graduate [Peter Adeniyi](#) is an international leader in the adoption of geographical information systems – better known as GIS locating – including its use to map natural resources in Nigeria. Peter will receive an environmental studies degree from Wilfrid Laurier University at the June 2010 convocation. [The Record](#)

U Toronto's Michael Bunce Receives AAG Rural Geography Specialty Group Lifetime Achievement Award: [Michael Bunce](#), a faculty member in Geography and IDS at the University of Toronto Scarborough, received the [AAG's Rural Geography Specialty Group's](#) Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Rural and Agricultural Geography at the annual meeting in Washington. This award was established to recognize individuals whose accomplishments have distinguished them at a level above and beyond their peers. The award recognizes Professor Bunce's outstanding contribution to knowledge on rural and countryside issues through teaching, mentoring, research and publication.

Lethbridge MSc Student Katie Burles Poster Award Winner: Katie Burles, an MSc student in the Department of Geography at Lethbridge University was a student poster award winner at the [Canadian Water Resources Association Alberta Branch](#) conference in Edmonton. Her poster was entitled '*Snowmelt energy balance in a burned forest stand, Crowsnest Pass, Alberta, Canada*'.



David Chuenyan Lai. 2010. Chinese Community Leadership. Case Study of Victoria in Canada. World Scientific Books

This book presents an in-depth research into 125 years of the history of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association in City of Victoria as a case study of Chinese community leadership and operation of a Chinese government within a municipal government in Canada. It does not examine only one association in one city. Instead, it provides an overview of the socio-economic and political activities of the Chinese in Canada before the turn of the twentieth century, their relationship with Western communities, and the Association's inter-relationship with China and other parts of the world. The book also includes a history of the origins of 17 Chinese Benevolent Associations in other Chinese communities across Canada.

Vancouver Island University's Pam Shaw Receives Award for Teaching Excellence: At the recent Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Association of Geographers in Edmonton, Dr. [Pam Shaw](#) of the Department of Geography, Vancouver Island University, was awarded [The J. Alistair McVey Award for Teaching Excellence](#). The award recognizes her exceptional teaching and high quality of instruction. This award is named after Alistair McVey, a well known and highly-respected geography instructor in the BC college system for more than 35 years.

Queen's Betsy Donald Comments on Proposed National Food Policy: Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff proposed a national food policy at Holland Marsh that deserves a look. In a campaign-style announcement yesterday, he outlined five areas where a Liberal government would focus on food policy with the goal of encouraging Canadians to eat better, while boosting the agricultural sector. Betsy Donald, a Queen's University geography professor who researches local food systems, described it as a positive move, noting that the current system is "kind of broken." "Historically, we've had some of the best apples and the most indigenous diverse apple products but very few [Canadians] have ever tasted them," she said in an interview. "A lot of the apple orchards are dying and we're importing apples from thousands of miles away." [Globe and Mail](#)

Queen's Kirsten Greer Co-Curator of Upcoming Art Exhibition, "[Ambiguous Geographies: Unearthing the Work of Tony Urquhart](#)": The exhibit brings together key examples from the artists lengthy practice. Since 1970, Urquhart has been systematically visiting graveyards, primarily in France, intent on recording images that in fact become souvenirs of memory. His fascination with this genre of craftsmanship, the geographical landscape of culture and the identity of place has clearly informed his work in numerous ways. As such, cultural geographer and co-curator of the exhibition, Kirsten Greer provides a unique theoretical approach to the work of Tony Urquhart that centres on theories of place, landscape, and embodiment in the creation of the individuals life-geography. While feminist geographies have focused on the importance of the sensuous, feeling body in the experiences of place as shaped by gender, ethnicity, and class, Greer's approach draws from geography's recent engagements with post-humanism to acknowledge the relations between people, places, and things. [\(Exhibit Catalogue\)](#)

[Kirsten Greer](#) is a PhD candidate in the Department of Geography at Queen's University. She is interested in the ways in which migratory birds intersect with human lives from a critical historical geography perspective. My doctoral project, "Red coats and wild birds: military culture and ornithology across the nineteenth-century British Empire," will interrogate the intersections between military culture and the practices and ideas of ornithology in the Mediterranean region.

Geographer of the Week: Dr. Greg McDermid, University of Calgary

Dr. [Greg McDermid](#) is a remote sensing scientist who joined the Department of Geography at the University of Calgary in January, 2005. He has studied at the University of Calgary (B.Sc., M.Sc.) and the University of Waterloo (Ph.D., 2005) in areas of physical geography, GIS, and environmental remote sensing. He also founded and managed an Internet publishing and consulting company out of Fort Collins, Colorado from 1994 to 2001. Greg's research activities revolve around environmental modelling and monitoring using remote sensing and geographic information systems. He is a principal investigator in the [Foothills Model Forest Grizzly Bear Research Program](#). He is interested in a broad range of remote sensing and other GIScience pursuits, including image processing, visualization, and data fusion/integration - particularly in forested and high-relief environments. [Geography@Calgary](#)

UVic Geography's Ole Heggen Wins Two Awards for Editorial Cartoons: Ole Heggen, a staff member in the Department of Geography at the University of Victoria, won a silver medal for his editorial cartoon at the [BC Yukon Community Bell Ma Murray Community Newspaper Awards ceremony](#). The [Canadian Community Newspapers Association](#) earlier presented Ole with a second place award in the category of Best Local Cartoon.



Recent Theses and Dissertations

Khawaja Faran Ali. 2009. [Construction of sediment budgets in large scale drainage basins: the case of the upper Indus River](#). PhD dissertation. Department of Geography & Planning, University of Saskatchewan.

Benjamin Robert Lewis Arril. 2010. [An investigation of underground corrosion through the use of hyperspectral remote sensing](#). MSc thesis. Department of Geography, University of Victoria.

Celeste Dempster. 2010. [Resilience of social-ecological systems \(SEs\): a case study of water management in the Iraqi Marshlands](#). MA thesis. Department of Geography, University of Victoria.

Laura Joan Feyrer. 2010. [The foraging ecology of gray whales in Clayoquot Sound: interactions between predator and prey across a continuum of scales](#). MSc thesis. Department of Geography, University of Victoria.

Warren Douglas Helgason. 2009. [Energy fluxes at the air-snow interface](#). MSc thesis. Department of Geography & Planning, University of Saskatchewan.

Chelsey Jersak. 2009. [Reading the metro: socialist realism and Sverdlov Square station, 1938](#). MA thesis. Department of Geography & Planning, University of Saskatchewan.

Adam George Nicholas Minke. 2009. [Estimating water storage of prairie pothole wetlands](#). MSc thesis. Department of Geography & Planning, University of Saskatchewan.

Jesse Lee Nielsen. 2010. [A cumulative effects approach to wetland mitigation](#). MSc thesis. Department of Geography & Planning, University of Saskatchewan.

Dean Allan Shaw. 2010. [The influence of contributing area on the hydrology of the prairie pothole region of North America](#). PhD dissertation. Department of Geography & Planning, University of Saskatchewan.

Other “Geographical” News

Scientists Study 'Glaciovolcanoes,' Mountains of Fire and Ice, in Iceland, British Columbia, US: Glaciovolcanoes, they're called, these rumbling mountains where the orange-red fire of magma meets the frozen blue of glaciers. When an ice-covered volcano erupts, the interplay among molten magma, ice and meltwater can have catastrophic results," says Sonia Esperanca, program director in the National Science Foundation (NSF)'s Division of Earth Sciences, which funds research on glaciovolcanoes. They're working at Mt. Edziza in British Columbia, Canada, and in Iceland to find out how glaciovolcanic deposits--rock fragments strewn for miles after an ice-covered volcano erupts--are formed. Volcano-ice interaction presents unique types of hazards, say the geologists, but what's left behind after an eruption can also serve as a window into our geologic past. [EurekAlert!](#)

Some not so “Geographical” News



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