



GeogNews

News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers
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Memorial U's Kelly Vodden Wins Award for Regional Engagement: Memorial geography professor Dr. Kelly Vodden's research and work both on and off-campus was recognized with the 2010 Newfoundland and Labrador Regional Economic Development Association -Leslie Harris Award for Excellence at the Newfoundland and Labrador Community Economic Development Awards in Gander. Dr. Vodden has partnered with the Harris Centre on a number of projects, including her role as co-investigator with Dr. Alvin Simms and Dr. David Freshwater on the Understanding and Managing Functional Regions Project, carried out in partnership with the Harris Centre, Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador, and the Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation. [MUN Today](#)

Why Geography Matters - Roadkill, Canada and Practical Uses of Geomatics at Carleton U: Kudos to geographers Scott Mitchell, Steve Prashker and Fraser Taylor at Carleton University who made themselves available to speak about Geography Awareness Week. [Scott Mitchell](#) uses GIS to analyze spatial data to assist environmental decision-making, especially in the context of agricultural and forested landscapes. [Steve Prashker](#) is an instructor in the Department of Geography & Environmental Studies whose expertise focuses on the art, science and tech of managing geographic information, how Canadians are knowingly or unknowingly using geographic information, and Canada's role in developing and providing geomatics. [Fraser Taylor](#) is Distinguished Research Professor in the department and Director, Geomatics and Cartographic Research Centre. Fraser's offered insights into the importance of place in modern society, as well as issues related to maps and mapping, the management and use of geospatial information. [Carleton Newsroom](#)

U Guelph's Barry Smith to Help Celebrate Research Chairs Program: Geography professor Barry Smit has invited to take part in a 10th-anniversary celebration of the Canada Research Chair (CRC) program. "This is well-deserved recognition for Barry and ...reflects the quality and importance of the work (he has) done," said Kevin Hall, vice-president (research). As a Tier 1 CRC in global environmental change, Smit examines social and economic implications of climate change and how to manage associated risks and opportunities. Tier 1 chairs recognize researchers considered world leaders in their field and are worth \$200,000 annually for seven years. Smit's chair was renewed this past spring. [U Guelph News](#)

Carleton U Geography Announces Jessie & Wreford Watson Winners: The Department of Geography & Environmental Studies at Carleton University recently announced that Louise Lyman, Katherine Cullen and Joelle Pereault were the 2011-2012 Jessie & Wreford Watson Award winners. The Watson award is presented annually to the most outstanding students entering final year of Honours Geography. [Carleton Geog News](#)

Queen's U's Audrey Kobayashi Wins Award for Excellence in Graduate Supervision: Audrey Kobayashi expects a lot from the graduate students she supervises and gives a lot in return. Audrey received a 2010 Award for Excellence in Graduate Student Supervision. She is fairly demanding when it comes to time management. Dr. Kobayashi enjoys watching graduate students develop into outstanding scholars. "I love it when people get excited and enthusiastic about their work. Graduate students just come up with great ideas," she says. Dr. Kobayashi received her award at fall convocation. [Queen's News Centre](#)

U Saskatchewan Geography Offers Geography in Prague: A seminar/field class in architecture, urban design and planning in Central Europe. The field class involves an historical review and actual observation of architectural styles preserved at Prague, with critical assessment of their incorporation within contemporary urban form. The class includes also side trips to southern Czech Republic, to Vienna and to Lower Austria. The field class emphasizes comparative observation of the Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque styles, and their integration within the streetscape and architecture of the 20th century. [Prague 2011](#)

UBC Geography Newsletter, October 2010: The monthly departmental newsletter from UBC profiles Marwan Hassan as the feature geographer; Dan Hiebert chronicles his sabbatical time in Sweden, and a creative tale by Katie Kinsley that describes how two months spent travelling down the coast of BC, combined with a specialized reading list will constitute a Directed Studies course in Geography. [UBC Geography Newsletter 6\(3\)](#)

Concordia U's Student Work Gallery: Featured on the Department of Geography, Planning & Environment at Concordia University is a '[Student Work Gallery](#)' presenting projects completed in Urban Studies 433: 'Advanced Urban Laboratory (AUL) is a one-year studio in urban planning and design'. The Advanced Urban Laboratory (AUL) is a one-year studio in urban planning and design. The AUL is a required course for the students enrolled in the B.A specialization in urban planning. Presented is a sample of their work over the past five years. [Advanced Urban Laboratory](#)

U Waterloo Faculty of Environment Celebrates 40 Years: A project associated with the recent 40 year celebration was creation of photo flipbook and video. Geographers associated with the department over the last four decades will want to see how the department history is captured in this broader enterprise. [Photo Flipbook](#) | [Video](#)

Trent U's Peter Lafleur Honoured for Climate Change Research: Trent University alumnus and geography professor Peter Lafleur was named a fellow of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society this month for his climate change research, particularly in the North. In receiving the honour, Lafleur will now be working with those who represent the steering body for the organization, formulating responses to and comments on national issues and making decisions on award recipients. [The Peterborough Examiner](#)

UVic's Larry McCann on the Oak Bay Tweed Curtain: The Tweed Curtain runs along Foul Bay Road, a dividing line of myth and imagination separating ordinary Victoria from the enclave of Oak Bay. Behind the Tweed Curtain can be found a last bastion of the British empire, where high tea is enjoyed on a High Street. What does geography professor Larry McCann, born 65 years ago in Oak Bay and now a resident of the riding's Cordova Bay neighborhood, think of the Tweed Curtain designation? "Inappropriate," he said. "Long gone. Just doesn't apply because of relatively strong immigration. The ethnic mix has changed." Prof. McCann notes an influx of young families has made the riding more diverse, while a transient student population creates a group of voters perhaps more concerned with issues of social justice. [The Globe and Mail](#)

Geographer of the Week: Dr. Ryan Walker, University of Saskatchewan

Dr. [Ryan Walker](#) is an Assistant Professor in the [Department of Geography and Planning](#), University of Saskatchewan. Ryan completed his BA at the University of Lethbridge, an MA at the University of Waterloo; and his PhD at Queen's University. His research interests focus on the areas of city planning and urban design, Indigeneity and urban geography, community planning with First Nations and Métis communities, multi-level urban governance, and international housing studies. Most of my work is driven by the rewards of linking scholarship with public debate, decision-making and implementation.

As the director for the Indigenous Planning Exchange program at the University of Saskatchewan he works with students and faculty members from six universities across Canada, USA and Mexico to improve the quality of planning education, research and practice pertaining to Indigenous communities. Partner universities are at Manitoba, New Mexico, Arizona State, Chiapas and Puebla. The exchange program is funded by the governments of Canada, USA and Mexico and will continue through 2011.

Townshend, I. and Walker, R.C. 2010. Life course and lifestyle changes: Urban change through the lens of demography, in T. Bunting, P. Filion, and R.C. Walker (eds). [Canadian Cities in Transition: New Directions in the Twenty-first Century](#). Toronto, Oxford University Press.

Walker, R.C. and Carter, T. 2010. At home in the city: Housing and neighbourhood transformation, in T. Bunting, P. Filion, and R.C. Walker (eds). [Canadian Cities in Transition: New Directions in the Twenty-first Century](#). Toronto, Oxford University Press.

Walker, R.C, and Barcham, M. 2010. [Indigenous-inclusive citizenship, the city & social housing in Canada, New Zealand & Australia](#). Environment and Planning A 42(2) 314-331

Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Gail Hopkins. 2010. '[A changing sense of Somaliness: Somali women in London and Toronto](#)'. Gender, Place and Culture 17(4):519-538.

Irene Delgado-Fernandez and Robin, Davidson-Arnott. 2010. [Meso-scale aeolian sediment input to coastal dunes: The nature of aeolian transport events](#). Geomorphology.
doi:10.1016/j.geomorph.2010.11.005

Recent Theses and Dissertations

Dale Armstrong. 2010. 'The Strategic Logic of Space Weapons: U.S. geopolitics, science fiction, and reality.' Unpublished PhD dissertation. Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario. Supervisor: Simon Dalby.

Melanie Bedore. 2010. 'The Just Urban Food System: Exploring the Geographies of Social Justice and Retail Food Access in Kingston, Ontario.' Unpublished PhD dissertation. Department of Geography, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. Supervisor: Dr. Betsy Donald.

Brendan Sweeney. 2010. 'Comparing Employment Relations in a Cross-Border Region: The Case of Cascadia's Forest Products Industry.' Unpublished PhD dissertation. Department of Geography, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. Supervisor: Dr. John Holmes.

Yang Cheng. 2010. 'Residential Care for Elderly People in Beijing, China: A Study of the Relationship between Health and Place.' Unpublished PhD dissertation. Department of Geography, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. Supervisor: Dr. Mark Rosenberg.

Emil Laurin. 2010. 2010. 'The Impacts of Experimental Snow Augmentation on Soil Thermal Regimes and Nutrient Fluxes from High Arctic Headwater Catchments.' Unpublished MSc thesis. Department of Geography, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. Supervisor: Dr. Melissa Lafrenière.

Grace Baey. 2010. 'Borders and the Exclusion of Migrant Bodies in Singapore's Global City State.' Unpublished MA thesis. Department of Geography, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. Supervisor: Dr. Beverley Mullings.

Hilary Dugan. 2010. Long Term Evolution and Recent Dynamics of High Arctic Coastal Basins. Unpublished MSc thesis. Department of Geography, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. Supervisor: Dr. Scott Lamoureux.



The University of Calgary Geography Department is hosting the CAG's 2011 annual conference and meeting, May 31 - June 4, 2011. UofC Geography is also celebrating 50 years of research, teaching and service, and the Geography Department at Mount Royal University is celebrating 100 years of the school's existence as well as its new University status. It's a great time to look at what Geographers have accomplished, look at the big and small changes, and celebrate the New Geographies emerging today. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the Canadian Cartographic Association and with the first Canadian meeting of the Association of Canadian University Planning Programs. [CAG11 Webpage](#)

Other "Geographical" News

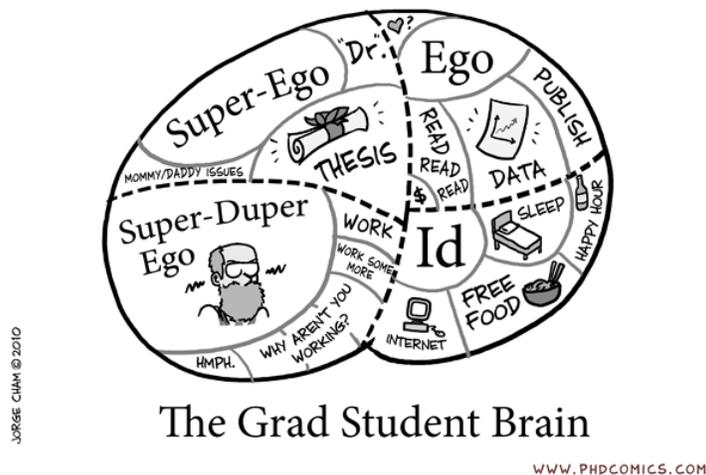
Harvard Map Collection: Digital Maps: Harvard University has one of the largest map collections in the United States, with over 500,000 items. While not all of these items have been digitized for this site, visitors can take advantage of hundreds of the items here. First-time visitors should read the "Introduction" area and then browse through some of the map indexes. The site also includes technical information on the collection, and a selection of "Search Strategies". The detailed search engine allows users to search by collection, keyword, and those records that have digital objects. The site also includes links to the Harvard Geospatial Library and the Harvard College Library. [Harvard Map Collection](#)

NSERC Summit Focused on Increasing Women's Participation in Science, Engineering: NSERC hosted a summit to identify best practices and develop innovative solutions for attracting and retaining women to careers in science and engineering. A report presented at the summit summarizes reasons for the under-representation of women. Possible measures identified to increase the number of women include mentoring programs and positive role models. [NSERC Events](#) | [Read the report](#)

In Ontario, 'Differentiation' Report Stirs Debate: Leaders of Ontario's universities generally support the central notion set out in a position paper made public late in October, that calls for "differentiation" across the province — a system in which individual universities would "set measurable goals based on their strengths", and the government would base its funding on whether those goals are met. The proposal comes from the Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario, which noted in a news release that "While several of Ontario's 20 universities are internationally ranked, pressures on the postsecondary system are palpable. Increased enrolment is jeopardizing the range and quality of programs while a changing labour market demands postsecondary credentials. [U Waterloo Bulletin](#)

Some not so "Geographical" News

The Shadow Scholar: The Man Who Writes Your Students' Papers Tells His Story: Ed Dante is a pseudonym for a writer who lives on the East Coast. Through a literary agent, he tells the story of how he makes a living writing papers for a custom-essay company and describes the extent of student cheating he has observed. [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#)



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