



News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers
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Trent U Geographers New Book *Peterborough Successes* tells the Story of Four Highly-Effective Community Projects: Former MP and Trent University Professor Emeritus Peter Adams, together with Professor Al Brunger and Professor Colin Taylor of Geography and Bruce Stewart, has published a new book, *Peterborough Successes: community organization in Peterborough in the 1970s and 1980s*. This new publication is an account of four community projects: the highly successful “Save PCVS” campaign; ParticipAction Peterborough; the 1980 Ontario Summer Games; and, Energy Savers Peterborough. Proceeds from the book will go to a local home for developmentally challenged women, Casa De Angelae. [Trent University Daily News](#)

UWO’s Rachel Bezner Kerr Grows Relationships Among Malawian Farmers: Rachel Bezner-Kerr has spent a decade tearing down walls between neighbouring farmers in Malawi. Now she hopes to rebuild a few. The University of Western Ontario assistant professor in geography looks to build on a decade of research to construct a Farmer Research and Training Centre which would continue to foster collaborative learning and exchange among farmers, students and researchers in Northern Malawi. Bezner-Kerr collaborates with Ekwendeni Hospital, University of Malawi and Mzuzu University to build a sustainable future through agriculture in response to numerous social ills. [Western News](#)

University of Guelph’s Barry Smit co-authors New Book that Reveals Human Face of Climate Change in the Arctic: Revealing the human face of climate change is the focus of a new book co-authored by University of Guelph geography professor Barry Smit. *Community Adaptation and Vulnerability in Arctic Regions* paints a picture of the impact of rising temperatures on Arctic communities across the North and how these communities are struggling to adapt. “Essentially the message is that the world has to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and slow down climate change because it is having serious consequences for people living in the Arctic,” said Smit, who wrote the book with Grete Hovelsrud. “These people are bearing the brunt of a problem that was not brought on by them.” The book was released during the United Nations Climate Change Conference under way in Cancun, Mexico. [UG News Release](#)

UWO’s Gordon McBean Speaks Out on Why Canada Needs Climate Studies: This month, the Canadian Foundation for Climate and Atmospheric Sciences celebrated a birthday that could be among its last: after 10 years as Canada’s main funding agency for academic weather and climate science, the foundation will soon cease to exist. Established in 2000, CFCAS has funded two dozen Canadawide research networks and more than 170 major scientific projects involving 37 Canadian universities and Canada’s top climate scientists. Grants from the foundation have helped train 1,500 graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, and other young researchers across the country. Yet, despite this remarkable record, money for the foundation and its science has run out. [The London Free Press](#)

Concordia University's Department of Geography, Planning and Environment: The Department of Geography, Planning and Environment at Concordia University focuses attention on the environment – its physical limits and its human use – from questions of global climate change to those of stability of the urban environment in Montreal. The department offers an MSc degree in Geography, Urban and Environmental Studies, a Master program in Environmental Assessment (EA) and a Graduate Diploma in EA. Watch the department video at [About the Department](#)

Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Brett C. Eaton and M. Church. 2010. [A Rational Sediment Transport Scaling Relation Based On Dimensionless Stream Power](#). Earth Surface Processes and Landforms. DOI: 10.1002/esp.2120

Audrey Kobayashi, 2010. [People, Place, and Region: 100 Years of Human Geography in the Annals](#). Annals of the Association of American Geographers 100(5):1095-1106.

Eugene McCann. 2010. [Urban Policy Mobilities and Global Circuits of Knowledge: Toward a Research Agenda](#). Annals of the Association of American Geographers DOI: 1080/00045608.2010.520219

Randy W. Widdis. 2010. [Across the Boundary in a Hundred Torrents": The Changing Geography of Marine Trade Within the Great Lakes Borderland Region During the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries](#). Annals of the Association of American Geographers DOI: 10.1080/00045608.2010.532744

Recent Theses and Dissertations

Benjamin Robert Lewis Arril. 2010. [An investigation of underground corrosion through the use of hyperspectral remote sensing](#). Unpublished MSc thesis. University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia. Supervisor: Olaf Niemann

Hawley Elizabeth Ruth Beaugrand. 2010. Beach-dune morphodynamics and climate variability impacts of Wickaninnish Beach, Pacific Rim National Park Reserve, British Columbia, Canada. Unpublished MSc thesis. University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia. Supervisor: Ian Walker

Celeste Dempster. 2010, [Resilience of social-ecological systems \(SEs\): a case study of water management in the Iraqi Marshlands](#). Unpublished MA thesis. University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia. Supervisors: Steve Lonergan and Maureen Maloney

Andrew Dyk. 2010. [Forest attributes from multi-angle multi-date remotely sensed data](#). Unpublished MSc thesis. University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia. Supervisor: Olaf Niemann

Eric Bene Furnes Druyts. 2010. [Regional, temporal and age trends in avoidable hospitalization rates among older adults in British Columbia, Canada, 1991-2000](#). Unpublished MSc thesis. University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia. Supervisor: Denise Cloutier-Fisher

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

Nicholas John Gralewicz. 2010. [Spatial and temporal patterns of wildfire occurrence and susceptibility in Canada](#). Unpublished MSc thesis. University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia. Supervisor: Trisalyn Nelson

David J. Laporte. 2010. A surface roughness parameterization study near two proposed windfarm locations in Southern Ontario. Unpublished MSc thesis. University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia. Supervisor: Stanton Tuller

Angela Tamara Hunter. 2010. [Why volunteer for the environment?: an exploration of environmental volunteer motivation, satisfaction and retention](#). Unpublished MA thesis. University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia. Supervisors: Rick Rollins and Dan Smith

Stephanie King. 2010. [Fine-scale temporal and spatial variability in the coastal waters of Clayoquot Sound](#). Unpublished MSc thesis. University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia. Supervisor: Olaf Niemann

Brandy J. Patterson. 2010. [A good investment: women and property ownership in a mid-twentieth century Canadian suburb, Oak Bay, British Columbia, 1940-1960](#). Unpublished MA thesis. University of Victoria, British Columbia. Supervisor: Larry McCann

Geographer of the Week: Dr. Taly Drezner, York University

Dr. [Taly Drezner](#) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography at York University. Taly received her B.A. in Geography at California State University, her M.A. in Geography at Arizona State University, and her Ph.D. in Geography at Arizona State University. Her research focuses on how climate limits desert organisms, such as cacti, and shapes their populations over their range, over both space and time. She developed a universal model to estimate a cactus's age which is now being applied to study how cactus population cycles can be linked to global, regional, and local climate, to El Nino conditions and global volcanism. Taly is also interested in the recolonization and succession that occurs following disturbance; as well as the role of invasive species in urban environments and in tropical rainforests in the South Pacific.

Drezner T.D. 2010. [Nurse tree canopy shape, the subcanopy distribution of cacti, and facilitation in the Sonoran Desert](#). Journal of the Torrey Botanical Society 137(2-3):277-286.

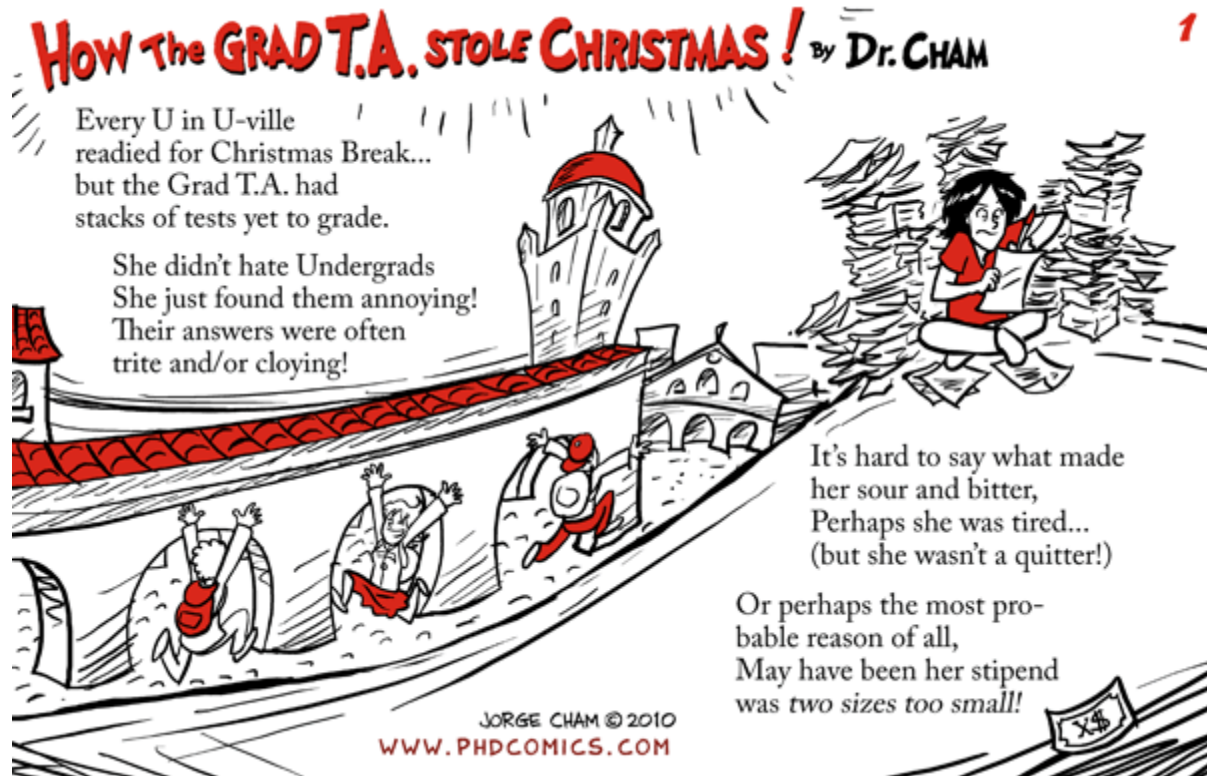
Danzer, S.; and Drezner T.D. 2010. [Demographics of more than 12,000 individuals of a keystone species in the Northern Sonoran Desert since the mid-1800s](#). International Journal of Plant Sciences 171(5):538-546.

Other "Geographical" News

Ancient Mummified Forest Emerges on Ellesmere Island: The northernmost mummified forest ever found in Canada is revealing how plants struggled to endure a long-ago global cooling. Over the summer of 2010, researchers retrieved samples from broken tree trunks, branches, roots, and even leaves -- all buried by a landslide 2 to 8 million years ago in Ellesmere Island National Park. For now, the researchers have identified the species of the most common trees at the site -- spruce and birch. [ScienceDaily](#) | [EuerkAlert](#) | [Ohio State Research](#)

Voyager Near Solar System's Edge: Voyager 1, the most distant spacecraft from Earth, has reached a new milestone in its quest to leave the Solar System. Now 17.4bn km (10.8bn miles) from home, the veteran probe has detected a distinct change in the flow of particles that surround it. These particles, which emanate from the Sun, are no longer travelling outwards but are moving sideways. It means Voyager must be very close to making the jump to interstellar space - the space between the stars.
[BBC News](#)

Some not so “Geographical” News



CAG 11 CAG Annual Conference - University of Calgary, May 31 - June 4, 2011

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