Carleton U’s DGES Supports Conference on Latin American and Caribbean Studies: Carleton will host the 2013 Conference of the Canadian Association for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, which meets this year under the theme Canada and the Americas: Travelling Knowledges-Peoples-Solidarities. Department of Geography and Environmental Studies (DGES) faculty and graduate students presenting include Derek Smith who will elaborate on practical tips to be successful in the academic job market at the roundtable “The Do’s and Don’ts of the Academic Job Search”; Adele Michon who will share methodological challenges and insights from her fieldwork at the roundtable “The poetics and politics of field research: methodologies and beyond”; and, Andrea Carrión who will introduce the concept of buen vivir embraced by the constitution of Ecuador at the roundtable “New forces of transformation in LAC: paradigms, social movements and practices”. CALACS 2013 | Carleton Newsroom

Nipissing U’s Adam Csank receives grant from the US National Science Foundation: Adam Csank, an Assistant Professor in Nipissing’s Geography Department, is the co-Principal Investigator on a team that has recently been awarded a grant from the US National Science Foundation for their research project, titled Detection of long-term variability in storm tracks using seasonally resolved tree-ring isotope records: Implications for hydroclimatic change in the U.S. Pacific Northwest. The project aims to obtain a more complete understanding of the physical processes influencing North American climate on long time scales, particularly past changes in storm-track trajectory in the Pacific Northwest. This will lead to a better understanding of water resources in the Columbia River basin, because the trajectory of incoming storms from the Pacific Ocean is a key influence on drought and wet periods in the western United States. Decadal shifts in the prevailing position of the jet stream has been identified as a key feature in hydroclimatic variability over the instrumental period and may have been responsible for past North American megadroughts. Nipissing U News

Carleton U’s Gita Ljubicic receives a Carleton University Research Achievement Award: Department of Geography and Environmental Studies faculty member, Gita Ljubicic, has won a Carleton University Research Achievement Award for 2013/14. For this research award Gita seeks to engage in a critical analysis of research ethics and experiences across all projects. She is aiming to analyze the challenges and opportunities relating to being non-Indigenous, but trying to work within an Indigenous research paradigm, and how (if) this can be feasibly and ethically undertaken. The proposed research has the potential to contribute to academic literature within and beyond Human Geography, to ethical research policy in Tri-Council and northern contexts, and to Carleton’s reputation for community-engaged research and Aboriginal relations. gLoeb Xpress
Carleton U’s DGES recognizes outstanding TAs with TA Award of Excellence: The Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at Carleton University has recognized Katherine Cullen and Aldous Sperl with a DGES TA Award of Excellence. TA Award

U Fraser Valley’s Ken Brealey shedding light on land claims: The issue of aboriginal rights, title and land claims might be contentious and often misunderstood, but there is one thing it is not, according to University of the Fraser Valley geography professor Ken Brealey. “It is not going to go away,” he said, “and the sooner we deal with it, the better.” With aboriginal people among the fastest growing demographics in Canada, the idea their claims to traditional territory will just disappear into the fog of history is not realistic or just, said Brealey. So he and three other instructors launched a UFV program four years ago to give people interested in land claims some essential background information about how First Nations lands and resources were taken away and the different methods aboriginal people have since used to get them back. The program, Indigenous Maps, Films, Rights and Land Claims, will run for the fourth time in Chilliwack from June 17 to July 12. “There’s a huge need for education in this area,” said Dave Schaepe, director and senior archeologist at the Sto:lo Research and Resource Management Centre and a fellow instructor with Brealey. Abbotsford Mission Times

Carleton U’s Patricia Ballamingie receives Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Research Achievement Award: Department of Geography and Environmental Studies faculty member Patricia Ballamingie receives award to assist Ballamingie in advancing two major pieces of research. Ballamingie is integrally involved in two SSHRC-funded collaborative research teams, one aimed at strengthening community-university engagement, and the other at building sustainable, local food systems. gLoeb Xpress

Western U’s Micha Pazner to speak on ‘Geographic Search for Gold and Golden Rules for Geographic Search’ in Calgary, May 10, 2013: Can geographic expertise make us better “finders” of hidden or lost objects? Micha’s talk presents two partially interwoven threads. The first is the more general; that of the “missing-in-action” sub-area of Geographic Search itself. While search problems are dealt with in several disciplines, they are paradoxically far less prevalent and explicit in the geographic literature. This subject of study does not seem to appear on the "geography radar." The second thread chronicles the evolution of a specific area of geographic search: the search for deposited gold. A set of image-based lab and field search techniques is presented. The presentation concludes with a discussion of possible linkages between search notions in geographic gold search, and more general geographic search rules or heuristics. Dr. Micha Pazner is an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography at Western University, London, Ontario, Canada. U Calgary Geography

Carleton U DGES PhD candidate receives university-wide award in Latin American Studies: Andrea Carrión, third year PhD candidate, is this year’s recipient of the Norman Pollock Memorial Award for Latin American Studies. The Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs presents this award annually to an outstanding student in the area of Canada-Latin America relations or Latin America Development. gLoeb Xpress

U Calgary Department of Geography students Brianna Burley and Victoria Lukasik awarded ACA Grants in Biodiversity: The ACA Grants in Biodiversity program is pleased to announce that Department of Geography students, Brianna Burley (supervisor D. Draper and R. Cartar) and Victoria Lukasik (supervisor S. Alexander) are amongst this year’s grant winners. Brianna’s project " Bears and trains: Examining bear behavior and the railway using LocoCams" and Victoria’s project “Understanding Canadian carnivore management: Perceptions, values, priorities, and limitations,” exemplify the grant program’s goal to enable research that will ultimately conserve, protect, and enhance Alberta's fish, wildlife and natural habitats. U Calgary Geography News
Field Notes, Journal of the McGill Undergraduate Geography Society: Field Notes solicits and publishes original undergraduate research in geography, representing a diverse range of sub-disciplines within the humanities and physical sciences, and now has two volumes (November 2012 and February 2013). Entirely student-run, FN encourages dialogue between aspiring geographers, their professors and mentors, and the university community.” Field Notes

New in The Canadian Geographer

Kate Cairns. 2013. The subject of neoliberal affects: Rural youth envision their futures. The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien. DOI: 10.1111/cag.12012


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**Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers**


Other “Geographical” News

Canadian Women and Geography Study Group website: CWAG aims to provide a forum for people interested in issues of access, equity, and the well-being of women in geography and for those whose research is linked to questions of gender as they relate to relations of class, race/ethnicity, sexuality, nationality, and ability. CWAG particularly encourages student membership and participation in CWAG activities, including conference sessions, social events, newsletter contributions, and other opportunities. CWAG is proud to present its annual lecture series: The Suzanne Mackenzie Memorial Lecture. CWAG website

Canada's distinctive tuya volcanoes reveal glacial, palaeo-climate Secrets: Deposits left by the eruption of a subglacial volcano, or tuya, 1.8 million years ago could hold the secret to more accurate palaeo-glacial and climate models. The detailed mapping and sampling of the partially eroded Kima'Kho tuya in northern British Columbia, Canada shows that the ancient regional ice sheet through which the volcano erupted was twice as thick as previously estimated. Kima’Kho tuya forms a high relief structure covering 28 square kilometres rising 1,946 metres above sea level on the Kawdy Plateau near Dease Lake. The plateau hosts six other tuyas. ScienceDaily

University managers are not malicious, we are misunderstood: Many academics feel that academic values, dedication to the development of discipline and the education of students – all are under threat from managers who are drowning them in a cascade of initiatives, processes and performance indicators. The belief is that managers out academics under pressure do things that are manifestly stupid. We want to turn first-rate universities into second-rate businesses. We are incompetent and stupid. This accusation is wrong. Managers are not malicious. We are not stupid. We are misunderstood. The Guardian

The Geography of Unwed Mothers: We've heard these stats before: lower education levels, income, and age are all correlated to higher rates of single mothers. A U.S. Census report released today suggests geography may play a role as well. The report analyzes 2011 data and charts the percentage of women who had babies and who were also unmarried. The Atlantic Cities

Some not so “Geographical” News

The CAG now works for geographers on Twitter. Keep up-to-date by following CanGeographers
GeogNews Archives: http://www.geoq.uvic.ca/dept/cag/geognews/geognews.html