



GeogNews

News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers
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U Montréal's Claude Marois - Québec surestime la taille de la zone agricole: Dernier endroit où l'on penserait cultiver des pommes de terre, les autoroutes sont pourtant souvent incluses dans le calcul des surfaces agricoles. C'est pour corriger cet écart entre les chiffres officiels et la réalité qu'est intervenu le professeur de géographie Claude Marois, spécialiste des conséquences de l'étalement urbain. Pour obtenir la surface de terres agricoles réellement disponible pour les producteurs, il s'est lancé dans une analyse minutieuse à partir de cartes satellites, ce qui lui a permis de soustraire tous les usages de la zone agricole qui ne sont pas, justement, "agricoles": les autoroutes, les routes, les voies ferrées, les réseaux hydrographiques, les parcs, les infrastructures de transport de l'électricité... Résultat : 18 % de la zone agricole de la CMM est occupée par autre chose, soit 64 000 hectares. C'est plus d'une fois la superficie de l'île de Montréal. La Ville/MRC de Mirabel, qui met de l'avant ses 88 % de zone agricole, n'en dispose en réalité que de 61 %. À Longueuil, c'est même plus de la moitié du territoire agricole qui est en fait occupé par d'autres surfaces (on passe de 34 % à 14 %). "Ça montre encore plus l'urgence de protéger notre territoire agricole", conclut le professeur Marois. "Lorsqu'on fait des demandes de dézonage pour du développement urbain, et qu'on veut empiéter dans la zone agricole, il faudrait être conscient qu'elle n'est pas aussi abondante qu'on le prétend". [ICI Radio-Canada.ca](http://ici.radio-canada.ca)

Memorial U's Ratana Chuenpagdee's Too Big to Ignore focuses on small-scale fisheries: Ratana Chuenpagdee's Too Big to Ignore (TBTI) small-scale fisheries network had a strong presence at this year's World Seafood Congress in St. John's earlier this fall. Members of the network co-organized a special session with Ecology Action Centre, an NGO based in Halifax, Nova Scotia entitled "Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries: Implications and Implementation of the FAO Guidelines". This session, chaired by Dr. Chuenpagdee, discussed the implications of the International Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is developing, with a focus on local fishing communities, fishing industries and governments worldwide. Panel members Dr. Yvette Diei-Ouadi (FAO), Adam Soliman (The Fisheries Law Centre, Vancouver), Dr. Easkey Britton (TBTI Partnership and MARE Centre, Amsterdam), and Katie Schleit (Ecology Action Centre) also discussed how to implement the guidelines internationally. Dr. Chuenpagdee also participated in a radio interview on the [CBC Fisheries Broadcast](#) during the conference. She talked about the importance of context in understanding small- and large-scale fisheries, and noted that small-scale fisheries and their benefits are often neglected. [Memorial Geography News](#)

U Ottawa PhD graduate Louise Boucher new co-ordinator, office for UNESCO site: Louise Boucher is the new site management coordinator for the World UNESCO site in Grand Pré. Boucher, who has a Ph.D. in Human Geography from the University of Ottawa, is a native of Ste. Jerome, Quebec. Her interest in world heritage sites was piqued when she worked in Mexico for six months. That was where Boucher learned how important it is to preserve landscapes for future generations. "What you discover in books is important, but on site is amazing," she said. A landscape, Boucher added, is a kind of museum in the field where there is no roof to protect collections, only the open sky. Boucher worked for 18 years at the Museum of Civilization in Gatineau. Her doctorate work involved the old industrial buildings of the E.B. Eddy Match Company along the Ottawa River. At the same time, Boucher taught courses in geography and world heritage at the University of Ottawa. She says issues of climate change, mass tourism, war, negligence and the lack of resources all arose. [The Kings County Advertiser](#)

U Victoria postdoc Heather Bryan finds declining salmon populations stressing grizzlies: The decline in the salmon population off the coast of B.C. in recent years is having negative consequences for the grizzly bears who rely on them for food. Grizzly bears were studied in a 5,000-square-kilometre area of the mainland coast, stretching from near northern Vancouver Island to around Prince Rupert. By analysing hair retrieved from grizzlies at snag stations in that area, Dr. [Heather Bryan](#), a post-doctoral researcher in the Applied Conservation Science Lab in the Department of Geography at the University of Victoria, was able to determine that levels of the stress hormone cortisol were elevated in the bears eating less salmon. It is believed that raised cortisol levels could negatively impact the grizzly's reproductive health, and result in a shorter lifespan. [CBC Quirks & Quarks](#)

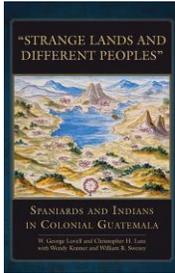
Mount Allison U's Leslie Kern looks at the role of yoga studios in gentrification: Discovering that the local diner or coffee shop has been replaced with a yoga studio may delight or dismay you, but for Dr. Leslie Kern, a gentrification researcher in Mount Allison's department of geography and environment, it signals a new trend in gentrification. Her interest in this area of research stems from her own experience practicing yoga in Toronto. "I started to wonder about the role yoga studios played in gentrification, but more generally the role that embodied practices play in gentrification," she said. Kern and her research assistant, international relations honours student, Bryan Downey, are looking at the ways in which different kinds of embodied consumption, leisure, and work practices shape gentrification. Kern received a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council grant to carry out her work. "The question for me would be 'are spaces like yoga studios pushing out less expensive places of social interaction, physical activity, or consumption?'" She points out that what may be a positive change for some may not be so for long-time residents of the area. "You can't blame yoga studios per se for driving that trend, but in the neighbourhoods I study, the kind of low cost spaces for social contact, everything from diners and donut shops are disappearing, while places like Starbucks and organic grocery stores are increasing." Kern hopes that it is possible for new businesses not to freeze out the long-time residents. [MTA News](#)

Recent Theses and Dissertations

John Paul Cervas Catungal. 2014. For us, by us: political geographies of race, sexuality and health in the work and organizing of ethno-specific AIDS service organizations in global-multicultural Toronto. Doctor of Philosophy, Department of Geography, University of Toronto. Toronto, Ontario. Supervisors: Matthew Farish and Deborah Leslie

New Book

George Lovell and Christopher H. Lutz. With Wendy Kramer and William R. Swezey. 2013. [Strange Lands and Different Peoples. Spaniards and Indians in Colonial Guatemala](#). University of Oklahoma Press.



Guatemala emerged from the clash between Spanish invaders and Maya cultures that began five centuries ago. The conquest of these “rich and strange lands,” as Hernán Cortés called them, and their “many different peoples” was brutal and prolonged. “*Strange Lands and Different Peoples*” examines the myriad ramifications of Spanish intrusion, especially Maya resistance to it and the changes that took place in native life because of it. The studies assembled here, focusing on the first century of colonial rule (1524–1624), discuss issues of conquest and resistance, settlement and colonization, labor and tribute, and Maya survival in the wake of Spanish invasion. The authors reappraise the complex relationship between Spaniards and Indians, which was marked from the outset by mutual feelings of resentment and mistrust. While acknowledging the pivotal role of native agency, the authors also document the excesses of Spanish exploitation and the devastating impact of epidemic disease. Drawing on research findings in Spanish and Guatemalan archives, they offer fresh insight into the Kaqchikel Maya uprising of 1524, showing that despite strategic resistance, colonization imposed a burden on the indigenous population more onerous than previously thought.

Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Paul Foley, Charles Mather and Barbara Neis. 2013. [Fisheries Allocation Policies and Regional Development: Successes from the Newfoundland and Labrador shrimp fishery](#). A report prepared for The Leslie Harris Centre of Regional Policy and Development. Memorial University of Newfoundland.

Richard Harris. 2013. [The rise of filtering down. The American housing market transformed, 1915-1929](#). *Social Science History* 37: 515-549.

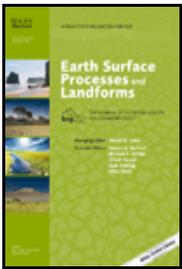
Jerome-Etienne Lesemann, Tracy A. Brennand, Olav B. Lian and Paul Sanborn. 2013. [A refined understanding of the paleoenvironmental history recorded at the Okanagan Centre section, an MIS 4 stratotype, south-central British Columbia, Canada](#). *Journal of Quaternary Science* 28:729–747.

Stephanie Rattelade, Susan Farrell, Tim Aubry and Fran Klodawsky. 2013. [The relationship between victimization and mental health functioning in homeless youth and adults](#). Journal of Interpersonal Violence. doi: 10.1177/0886260513511529

Simon van Bellen, Michelle Garneau, Adam A. Ali, Alexandre Lamarre, Élisabeth C. Robert, Gabriel Magnan, Hans Asnong and Steve Pratte. 2013. [Poor fen succession over ombrotrophic peat related to late Holocene increased surface wetness in subarctic Quebec, Canada](#). Journal of Quaternary Science 28:748–760.

Dandan Xu, Xulin Guo, Zhaoqin Li, Xiaohui Yang and Han Yin. 2014. [Measuring the dead component of mixed grassland with Landsat imagery](#). Remote Sensing of Environment 142:33–43.

Earth Surface Processes and Landforms Coastal Geomorphology - [Special Issue, November 2013](#)



ESEX Commentary - [A tribute to the influence of Dr Robin Davidson-Arnott in coastal and aeolian geomorphology](#), by Chris Houser and Jean Ellis.

This virtual special issue recognizes the contributions of Dr Robin Davidson-Arnott, Department of Geography at the University of Guelph, to coastal and aeolian geomorphology as a scientist and a mentor. [Twenty-four invited students and colleagues](#) of Robin presented their research at the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers in Seattle, Washington in sessions focused on aeolian transport, coastal dunes, coastal systems, and beach–dune interaction.

Other “Geographical” News

Academic blogging – 10 top tips: Academic blogging is a valuable part of the wider ecology of scholarship, with the potential for engagement, outreach and reinforcing academic impact. Although our background is in science, we hope this list of tips will be useful to all blogging academics. [The Guardian](#)

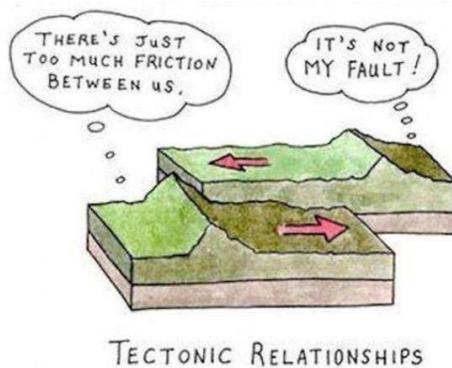
A turning point for teaching: Increasingly, students are listening to their course lectures on their laptops, far from campus. The emergence of MOOCs (massive open online courses) looks to be a game-changer. What does this all mean for the future of university teaching? [McGill News](#)

Policies to promote work of women academics aren’t wholly successful: A new study has found that in the majority of disciplines, women produce fewer scientific articles than do their male counterparts. Moreover, fewer female academics are involved in international research projects, and their articles are cited less often, even when they are the lead author. [University Affairs](#)

Cartographic proof that North Korea is bluffing: The paper map visible in that photo shows the Pacific on the left and the continental US on the right, with missile trajectories drawn from North Korea to a number of locations in the US, including Hawaii. The only problem: Missile trajectories from North Korea to the continental US fly over Kamchatka and Alaska... because the Earth is not flat. [Ogleearth](#)

Submarine cable map: TeleGeography's Submarine Cable Map has been updated for 2013. The latest edition depicts 244 cable systems that are currently active or due to enter service by 2014. [Telegeography](#)

Some not so "Geographical" News



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