



# GeogNews

News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers

No. 296, March 26, 2014

Compiled by Dan Smith [<cag@geog.uvic.ca>](mailto:cag@geog.uvic.ca)

---

## **Geography Team from University of Guelph researching how to feed a hungry planet:**

Transforming the world's food systems will be necessary if a much larger world population is to have enough to eat in the near future. A group of University of Guelph researchers are focused on solving food challenges and averting a future food crisis. They are using a new series of online videos, comment threads and articles to encourage discussion about what the future holds for a world populated by nine or more billion people. "That nine billion is the peak of the trajectory of exponential population growth," said Cayla Albrecht, a graduate student in U of G's geography department. She studies local food systems and spent last summer looking at the practice of meat producers selling directly to consumers. Along with fellow geography graduate students Lauren Sneyd and Tom Armitage, are part of the research team of Evan Fraser, Canada research chair in Global Human Security and professor of geography. They are contributors to [feedingninebillion.com](http://feedingninebillion.com), a website dedicated to understanding future food challenges. If three of the researchers are confident the University of Guelph is working hard to find solutions to future food challenges, and that the innovations and insights its food-focused scientists arrive at will play a part in solving current and future problems. [Orangeville.com](http://Orangeville.com)

**Memorial U graduate student Vincent Lecours wins best research paper award:** The Aldric Interdisciplinary Conference is held every year at Memorial University and is supported by the Graduate Students' Union and the School of Graduate Studies. Vincent Lecours' presentation won the award for the best research paper. Vincent's research involves the use of geospatial technologies to study deep-sea habitats. While oceans are estimated to constitute about 90% of the inhabitable area for life on Earth, knowledge on the habitats they shelter is still scarce. Since the seafloor is increasingly impacted by human activities, such as fishing and hydrocarbon drilling, research on near-bottom environments and their associated fauna is essential. Vincent uses acoustic remote sensing approaches to map deep-sea habitats. Based on that, Vincent is studying the influence of three categories of variables on the distribution of cold-water coral and sponge species in Canada: terrain morphology, oceanography, and surficial geology. The knowledge gained from Vincent's research will allow the prediction of cold-water coral and sponge distribution in unsampled areas of Canadian waters. His research is conducted in the Marine Geomatics Research Lab (<http://www.marinegis.com/>) with the Marine Habitat Mapping Research Group (<http://www.mun.ca/geog/research/mhmrg.php>), in the Department of Geography. [Memorial Geography](#)

**McGill Geography student Melody Lynch a 2014 PFF Community Leadership Fellow:** McGill University Geography Honours student Melody Lynch who just became a 2014 PFF Community Leadership Fellow. Melody was awarded \$20,000 to develop a women's craft co-operative in Sama Bahari, southern Sulawesi, Indonesia, for 8 months in 2014-15. [McGill Geography](#)

**Nipissing U Geography faculty retain Pangea Cup:** Nipissing University recently marked the 2nd annual Pangea Cup soccer match between Geography students and faculty. In a spectacularly fought match, the brave faculty members prevailed 12-6 over the upstart students. After taking several minutes to shake off the rust of a long winter and some spectacular saves by student keeper Christian Peart the students struck first to open the scoring. It wouldn't last thanks to a cheeky goal by Martin "Handyman" Holmes for the faculty. The remaining faculty goals came from Jason "Sniper" Kovacs and Sean "Third Star" O'Hagan; two goals for Dan "Mess(i)y" Walters, "Handyman" Holmes, and Kirsten "Elbows" Greer; and four goals for rookie Alex "Silver Bullet" Gnuchiy. The defensive wall that took the brunt of the physical play included Krys "Muskox" Chutko, Jamie "Limp-along" Graham, and John "Butcher" Kovacs. As per tradition, the golden-like trophy is now touring undergraduate classrooms for all to see. Please note that some faculty members may be late for class this week as they limp through the halls – in the immortal words of "Elbows" Greer: "we keep getting older and they stay the same age." [Nipissing U Recent News](#)

**Western U's Desmond Moser receives Faculty Scholar Award:** [Desmond Moser](#), cross appointed between the Departments of Earth Science and Geography, has received a Faculty Scholar Award from Western University. The Faculty Scholar Award is designed to honor and celebrate outstanding scholarly achievements at a critical point in the career of a Faculty Member at Western. Desmond's research pertains to tectonics and geochronology. Desmond conducts solid Earth and planetary science research using Western's nationally unique Zircon and Accessory Phase Laboratory (ZAPLab). Micromineral crystal growth and deformation analysis (e.g. CL, EBSD) is integrated with field mapping, microchemical (EDS, WDS), petrologic and mass spectrometry measurements (radiogenic and stable isotopes) at Western and partner institutes. His active projects investigate meteorites, crustal cross-sections, kimberlite xenoliths, sedimentary basins and impact structures in the Americas, Africa and Europe. His ZAPLab team is advancing our knowledge of the timing and nature of processes that form and modify planetary crusts and ore deposits while advancing the growing sub-discipline of accessory mineral science. [Western Earth Science](#)

**U Lethbridge's is new Chair in Terrestrial Ecosystem Remote Sensing:** In the world of academic research, acronyms are pervasive, condensing the titles of everything from funding agencies to prestigious fellowships. But in the case of University of Lethbridge geography researcher Dr. [Christopher Hopkinson](#), the acronym for his latest project is not only an easy-to-remember abbreviation, but also a symbol of the initiative's ambitions. "I'm interested in enhancing our understanding of the environment and natural resources," says Hopkinson. With such an ecologically minded focus, it's perhaps not surprising Hopkinson is using his research to pay homage to a Greek goddess best known for protecting the wilderness and natural world. The advanced-resolution terradynamic monitoring system (ARTEMIS for short) is a suite of hardware and software technologies that Hopkinson is integrating to improve simultaneous imaging of the Earth's surface and what's happening just beneath it. A national leader in remote sensing technology and its applications, Hopkinson was named a Chair in Terrestrial Ecosystem Remote Sensing in 2013. Previously an adjunct professor at Acadia, Dalhousie and Wilfrid Laurier Universities, Hopkinson came to the U of L from his most recent post in Canberra, Australia. [Lethbridge Campus Life](#)

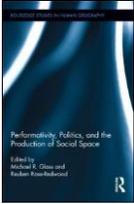
---

**[CAG 2014: March 31, 2014 \(Early-bird Registration\):](#)** If you are interested in participating in CAG 2014, you must register for both Congress and CAG. Instructions on how to register are available online at: [registration](#). If you would like to avoid late fees, please register before **March 31, 2014**. Once you have registered online, you can sign up for the banquet and/or a field trip by completing the CAG 2014 field trip and banquet participation form (also found online at: [registration](#)).

---

## New Book

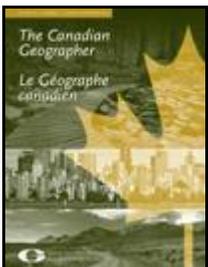
Michael R. Glass and Reuben Rose-Redwood (Eds). 2014. [Performativity, Politics, and the Production of Social Space](#). Routledge Studies in Human Geography. Routledge. 278 p.



Theories of performativity have garnered considerable attention within the social sciences and humanities over the past two decades. At the same time, there has also been a growing recognition that the social production of space is fundamental to assertions of political authority and the practices of everyday life. However, comparatively little scholarship has explored the full implications that arise from the confluence of these two streams of social and political thought. This is the first book-length, edited collection devoted explicitly to showcasing geographical scholarship on the spatial politics of performativity. It offers a timely intervention within the field of critical human geography by exploring the performativity of political spaces and the spatiality of performative politics. Through a series of geographical case studies, the contributors to this volume consider the ways in which a performative conception of the "political" might reshape our understanding of sovereignty, political subjectification, and the production of social space. Marking the 20th anniversary of the publication of Judith Butler's classic, *Bodies That Matter* (1993), this edited volume brings together a range of contemporary geographical works that draw exciting new connections between performativity, space, and politics.

---

## New in [The Canadian Geographer](#)



Bethany Haalboom. 2014. [Confronting risk: A case study of Aboriginal peoples' participation in environmental governance of uranium mining, Saskatchewan](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien. DOI: 10.1111/cag.12086

Mark W. Skinner, Alun E. Joseph, Neil Hanlon, Greg Halseth and Laura Ryser. 2014. [Growing old in resource communities: Exploring the links among voluntarism, aging, and community development](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien. DOI: 10.1111/cag.12087

---

## Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Trevor J. Barnes. 2014. [What's old is new, and new is old: History and geography's quantitative revolutions](#). Dialogues in Human Geography 4:50-53.

Harald Bauder. 2014. Re-imagining the nation. [Lessons from the debates of immigration in a settler society and an ethnic nation](#). Comparative Migration Studies 2:9-27.

Lea Berrang-Ford, James D. Ford, Alexandra Lesnikowski, Carolyn Poutiainen, Magda Barrera and S. Jody Heymann. 2014. [What drives national adaptation? A global assessment](#). Climatic Change.

James D. Ford, Clara Champalle, Pamela Tudge, Rudy Riedlsperger, Trevor Bell and Erik Sparling. 2014. [Evaluating climate change vulnerability assessments: a case study of research focusing on the built environment in northern Canada](#). Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies for Global Change. DOI:10.1007/s11027-014-9543-x

James Freeman. 2014. [Raising the flag over Rio de Janeiro's Favelas: Citizenship and social control in the Olympic City](#). Journal of Latin American Geography 13:7-38.

Kevin M. Gorey, Sundus Haji-Jama, Emma Bartfay, Isaac N. Luginaah, Frances C. Wright and Sindu M. Kanjeekal. 2014. [Lack of access to chemotherapy for colon cancer: multiplicative disadvantage of being extremely poor, inadequately insured and African American](#). BMC Health Services Research 14:133 doi:10.1186/1472-6963-14-133

William A. Gough, Benita Y. Tama, Tanzina Mohsina and Shannon M.J. Allen. 2014. [Extreme cold weather alerts in Toronto, Ontario, Canada and the impact of a changing climate](#). Urban Climate. doi.org/10.1016/j.uclim.2014.02.006

Dawn Hoogeveen. 2014. [Sub-surface property, free-entry mineral staking and settler colonialism in Canada](#). Antipode. DOI: 10.1111/anti.12095

N. Kettridge, R.E. Humphrey, J.E. Smith, M.C. Lukenbach, K.J. Devito, R.M. Petrone and J.M. Waddington. 2014. [Burned and unburned peat water repellency: implications for peatland evaporation following wildfire](#). Journal of Hydrology. doi.org/10.1016/j.jhydrol.2014.03.019

David J. Lieske, Tracey Wade and Lori Ann Roness. 2014. [Climate change awareness and strategies for communicating the risk of coastal flooding: A Canadian Maritime case example](#). Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science 140:83–94.

Jef Vandenberghe, Hugh M. French, Aldar Gorbunov, Sergei Marchenko, Andrey A. Velichko, Huijun Jin, Zhijiu Cui, Tingjun Zhang and Xudong Wan. 2014. [The Last Permafrost Maximum \(LPM\) map of the Northern Hemisphere: permafrost extent and mean annual air temperatures, 25–17 ka BP](#). Boreas. DOI:10.1111/bor.12070

Chaoyang Wu, Alemu Gonsamo, Christopher M. Gough, Jing M. Chen and Shiguang Xu. 2014. [Modeling growing season phenology in North American forests using seasonal mean vegetation indices from MODIS](#). Remote Sensing of Environment 147:79–88.

## @CanGeographers Weekly

CAGList subscribers may have noticed the publication and receipt in their mailboxes of a message pointing them toward the [@CanGeographers Weekly](#) newsletter. The contents of the newsletter are compiled from Tweets sent out on the Canadian Association of Geographers twitter feed [@CanGeographers](#). For Twitter aficionados the weekly compilation provides a handy summary of postings over the past week. For anyone not Twitter-friendly, the weekly newsletter provides access to items and links related to Canadian geography, as well as other 'geographical' tweets. Note that CAGList subscribers will automatically receive *@CanGeographers Weekly* – so no need to subscribe. Non-CAGList subscribers are invited to subscribe directly where indicated on the newsletter. Check out the most recent issue of [@CanGeographers Weekly](#)

---

### Other “Geographical” News

**Studying a PhD: don't suffer in silence:** Doing a PhD has always been seen as a long and lonely business since the early 19th century when the idea of the postgraduate research doctorate was first formally recognised at Humboldt University, Germany. It is probably the toughest test anyone can face in academic life. In the past, there was a very low completion rate of PhDs throughout the world. Since 2000 there has been an increase in skills training, support and stricter guidelines of good practice to support PhD students through their research. There are patterns, such as that science students mostly complete quicker and in higher numbers than social science, arts and humanities research students. Factors helping to contribute to this include less isolation, greater levels of team work (although that brings its own problems), more involvement with supervisors and more of a regulated work ethos, with a requirement to attend daily laboratory sessions. It is important not to deny that there are many and varied difficulties and problems in doing a PhD, however, the risk is to make over-simplified explanations or causes. [The Guardian](#)

**Students shouldn't get refunds for faculty strikes, or why university doesn't come with a money-back guarantee:** In the wake of two faculty strikes at universities in New Brunswick, students have been making a simple demand: we want our money back. Universities, as you might imagine, are not always eager to oblige. In fact, shortly after Mount Allison University students went on record demanding that they be refunded part of their tuition to compensate for the time lost to a faculty strike, the university announced that they weren't repaying anyone. Certainly a long strike can cause students anxiety and an extended term can be inconvenient. And universities should take steps to show their students that they regret the extra difficulties created. Still, university education is not a commodity to be traded. And paying tuition is not like buying cleaning products. There's no money-back guarantee. [Maclean's.ca](#)

**A new way of looking at time zones:** Turns out, there's more than one way to map time. In the 1800s, each town had its own time zone, based on where the sun was in their individual patch of sky. This didn't matter when the fastest transportation available was horse and buggy. But as people got better at moving quickly from one town to the next, things started getting complicated. Specifically, we built railroads. Departure times were tricky to coordinate when the time could change by seven minutes as you moved down the road. It was while working on railway timetables that Canadian engineer and surveyor Sir Sandford Fleming thought of universal standard time. This led to the eventual division of 24 time zones, with Greenwich, England serving as exact noon. Usually, you see the time zones depicted like this. But comic artist Randall Munroe created this unconventional map of the world's time zones. It may not be quite as exact as some other maps, but it does seem a lot more user-friendly if you were trying to get a sense of when to call a friend on the other side of the world. [CG Blog](#)

---

Some not so “Geographical” News



The CAG now works for geographers on [Twitter](#). Keep up-to-date by following [@CanGeographers](#)

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

---