



News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers
No. 301, April 21, 2014
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Award-winning geography professor André Roy joins Concordia: Concordia's Faculty of Arts and Science will welcome André Roy as its new dean on August 1, 2014. Roy returns to Montreal after serving as dean of the Faculty of Environment at the University of Waterloo since 2011. Previously, Roy was a professor at Université de Montréal from 1982 to 2011. He was chair of the Department of Geography from 1994 to 2000 and the interim chair from 2004 to 2005, as well as associate dean of research in the university's Faculty of Arts and Science from 2006 to 2008. He served as president of the Canadian Association of Geographers from 2002 to 2004. He is currently a Fellow of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society and served as a Governor of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society for three years. [Concordia News](#)

Carleton U DGES Undergrad Winter Field Camp: Eleven students in GEOG3010 spent a busy February reading week at Providence Point lodge near Lanark, ON studying snow and river ice conditions as part of the physical geography winter field camp. Each day, people arose at 8 am for a full breakfast, and started course activities at 9 am sharp with a weather briefing delivered by one of the project groups. Students then headed out into the field to measure various snow and ice characteristics such as depth, density, chemistry, and temperature, supervised by Professors Burn and Richardson. The evenings were highly work-oriented, often not ending before 11 pm, with students hovered over computers, analyzing data and writing up reports to meet strict deadlines. Amazingly, many participants still had enough energy afterwards to wrap up the day with more outdoor activities like tobogganing and snowshoeing. One of many highlights of the week was the chance to play the department's new [quadcopter UAV](#). It was amazing to see it zoom around, and then fly back unaided to its starting point when it was misdirected too far from the controller. The unit was used to collect aerial images of field sites, and collect photo and video documentation of the week. [gLoeb Xpress](#)

Memorial U's Chris Sharpe teaches final class after 39 year career in Geography: Chris will be retiring in December 2014, but he recently taught his final class at Memorial. Chris has had an outstanding teaching and research career including winning the President's Award for Outstanding Teaching in 2007. Fittingly, his final class was in the ever popular (but very challenging) Geography 3222 Research Design and Quantitative Methods in Geography course. During his outstanding teaching career Chris continued to teach first year courses in Geography and played a key role in revamping the first year course, which is now called 'Geographies of Global Change'. The invasion of his class by more than 40 faculty, staff and students reflects how highly the Department regards Chris' reputation as a teacher, educator and long time faculty member in Geography at Memorial. [Memorial Geography News](#)

Carleton U DGES faculty receive awards: Three Department of Geography & Environmental Studies have recently received awards from Carleton University. [Dan Patterson](#) received a Professional Achievement Award (Instructors) – The Professional Achievement Award for Instructors was established in 1989. Recipients are chosen on the basis of outstanding performance in meeting their responsibilities. Dan Patterson continues to innovate and create new opportunities for students, including offering new ideas for projects, new partners for students to engage with, and new technologies. He is admired and respected by his students for his clear and direct approach and the challenges he presents, as well as for helping students to achieve in ways they did not know were possible and for providing opportunities for students outside the classroom. [Elyn Humphreys](#) is the recipient of The Carleton University Research Achievement Award was established in 1989 to enhance the quality of research and to recognize research excellence. The Research Achievement Award is administered by the Office of the Vice-President (Research and International). Warming may drive the loss of Arctic soil carbon that had once been protected from decomposition by permafrost. With this award, Prof. Humphreys will develop expertise in a new research tool, a dual isotope partitioning technique that takes advantage of the different natural abundances of ¹⁴C and ¹³C isotopes. This will help identify when and where old soil carbon is a contributor to carbon dioxide emissions at our Arctic tundra research site. [Emilie Cameron](#) received a FASS Research Achievement award for 2014-2015. Prof. Cameron will be launching a project investigating the gendered dimensions of northern resource development, a pressing and poorly understood aspect of the rapidly-expanding Arctic resource frontier. She will also be coordinating the design and implementation of a socioeconomic baseline study and community mapping process in the community of Kugluktuk, Nunavut, and coordinating a meeting of researchers, policy-makers, and community leaders in Nunavut to share knowledge related to northern resource development. [gLoeb Xpress](#)

Vancouver Island U's Pam Shaw awarded VIU Provost's Award for Excellence in Teaching Design and Practice: Dr. Pam Shaw, Department of Geography, Faculty of Social Sciences at Vancouver Island University was recognized with the first ever VIU Provost's Award for Teaching Design and Practice that Employs Experiential Learning.

Pablo Mendez joins DGES at Carleton U as Assistant Professor: [Pablo Mendez](#) obtained his Master's and PhD degrees in the Department of Geography at the University of British Columbia. Before coming to Carleton, he was a Postdoctoral Fellow with the Global Suburbanisms project, a SSHRC-funded Major Collaborative Research Initiative run out of The City institute at York University (CITY). Pablo's work centers on questions of housing and includes studies of household dwelling practices, real estate markets, mortgage finance, and the role of globalization in the transformation of metropolitan North America's residential built environment. His research has also examined the relationship between housing markets and transnational migrant settlement in Canada. Pablo is currently working on research projects that investigate the fusion of developmentalism and mortgage finance through a study of a recently launched rent-to-own pilot program for low-income households in Nicaragua, and a project exploring what the concept of dwelling might teach us about the encampment as a global form of organized protest. [gLoeb Xpress](#)

Vancouver Island University (VIU) geographers receive CFI support to create new research and technology facilities: VIU geography professor Dr. Pam Shaw and co-investigator Dr. Grant Murray, VIU's Canada Research Chair in Coastal Resource Management, will receive funding for field gear and research lab equipment to conduct research to help rejuvenate coastal estuaries. The team will take an interdisciplinary approach – including biology, geography, anthropology, history, fisheries and astronomy and First Nations perspectives – to assess the current health of coastal estuaries along the Salish Sea, identify major drivers of social-ecological change, and seek new ways to rejuvenate estuaries.

New Book

Li Yang and Geoffrey Wall. 2014. [Planning for Ethnic Tourism](#). Ashgate, Bristol, UK.



Ethnic tourism has emerged as a means that is employed by many countries to facilitate economic and cultural development and to assist in the preservation of ethnic heritage. The book develops the case of a well-known ethnic tourist destination in China -Xishuangbanna, Yunnan. It analyzes how ethnic tourism has been planned and developed at the study site and examines associated socio-cultural and planning issues. The authors evaluate the perspectives of four key stakeholder groups (the government, tourism entrepreneurs, ethnic minorities and tourists) on ethnic tourism through on-site observation, interviews with government officials, planners and tourism entrepreneurs, surveys of tourists and ethnic minority people, and evaluation of government policies, plans and statistics.

Li Yang is Associate Professor, Western Michigan University, USA and Geoffrey Wall is Professor, University of Waterloo, Canada.

Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Jessica L. Blythe, Grant Murray and Mark Flaherty. 2014. [Strengthening threatened communities through adaptation: insights from coastal Mozambique](#). Ecology and Society 19:6.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.5751/ES-06408-190206>

Ryan K. Brook and Floris M. van Beest. 2014. [Feral wild boar distribution and perceptions of risk on the central Canadian prairies](#). Wildlife Society Bulletin. DOI: 10.1002/wsb.424

Leila M. Harris. 2014. Imaginative geographies of green: [Difference, postcoloniality, and affect in environmental narratives in contemporary Turkey](#). Annals of the Association of American Geographers. DOI:10.1080/00045608.2014.892356

Hida Manns, Aaron Berg, Paul Bullock and Heather McNairn. 2014. [Impact of soil surface characteristics on soil water content variability in agricultural fields](#). Hydrological Processes. DOI:10.1002/hyp.10216

Janet Siltanen, Fran Klodawsky and Caroline Andrew. 2014. ["This is how I want to live my life": An experiment in prefigurative feminist organizing for a more equitable and inclusive city](#). Antipode. DOI:10.1111/anti.12092

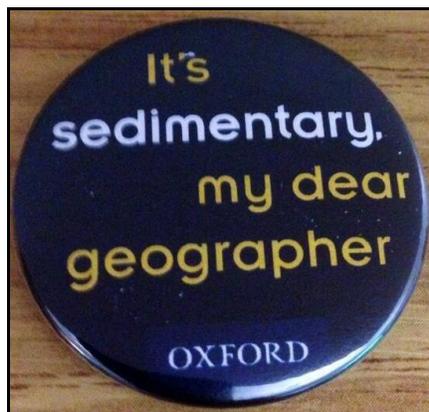
Andrew J. Trant and Luise Hermanutz. 2014. [Advancing towards novel treelines: a multispecies approach to treeline dynamics in subarctic alpine Labrador](#). Journal of Biogeography. DOI: 10.1111/jbi.12287

Y. Zhang, I. Olthof, R. Fraser, and S.A. Wolfe. 2014. [A new approach to mapping permafrost and change incorporating uncertainties in ground conditions and climate projections](#). The Cryosphere Discussion 8:1895–1935.

Other “Geographical” News

Sorry students, I lied to you. University is about desperation, not aspiration: I have an apology to make. Some years ago I worked as a mentor and teacher to encourage gifted pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds to apply to university. The most important part of the job was persuading them that higher education was worth it. It was talking them through their worries about debt, and telling them that it would be OK. It was telling them to go ahead and study what they loved, because university was a route to employment, and they could get a great education without having to worry that they'd end up poor and sick because of it. I want to apologise to those young people, because I lied to them. I didn't mean to lie. At the time I entirely believed what I was telling them: that taking on education debt would always be worth their while; that they should go to university for the love of learning, because they were talented and brilliant and longed to study – and not just with one eye on the well-paid jobs that they would surely get after graduating. It turned out, however, that it's actually just about making yourself more "employable". It's about fashioning yourself into a walking CV to compete for a stagnant pool of graduate jobs that are paid less in real terms every year, and taking on a rotten amount of debt in the process. This week news quietly broke that the extra money a degree is supposed to earn you over the course of a lifetime – the "graduate premium" – is going down year on year, even as tuition fees are going up. [The Guardian](#)

Some not so “Geographical” News



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