



Terrace, B.C.

News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers
No. 308, June 9, 2014
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U Guelph's Ross McKitrick offers opinion on why engineering energy scarcity likely to hinder GDP growth: Geography Prof. Ross McKitrick co-authored an opinion piece in the National Post. The op-ed discussed the Ontario Power Authority's directive regarding the implementation of Ontario's long term energy plan. A faculty member at Guelph since 1996, McKitrick specializes in the economics of environmental policy and has been studying climate change and related policy issues for about 10 years. He has given presentations on climate and environmental policy to the Canadian and U.S. governments. McKitrick has served as an environmental policy consultant for the Fraser Institute since 2002. [Financial Post](#)

McGill U's Bernhard Lehner and Günther Grill contribute to global database of urban water resources: The first global database of urban water sources and stress estimates that cities move 504 billion litres of water a distance of 27,000 kilometers every day. Laid end to end, all those canals and pipes would stretch halfway around the world. While large cities occupy only 1% of the Earth's land surface, their source watersheds cover 41% of that surface, so the raw water quality of large cities depends on the land use in this much larger area. An international team of researchers from nine institutions, including McGill University in Montreal, surveyed and mapped the water sources of more than 500 cities, providing the first global look at the water infrastructure that serves the world's large cities. Prof. Bernhard Lehner and PhD student Günther Grill of McGill's Department of Geography contributed a detailed global map of rivers, lakes and watersheds to help map the water sources of each city. The research team used computer models to estimate the water use based on population and types of industry for each city, and defined water-stressed cities as those using at least 40% of the water they have available. [McGill News](#)

U Guelph geography graduate Valli Fraser-Celin Alastair Summerlee Scholarship: Valli Fraser-Celin has been awarded [The Alastair Summerlee Scholarship](#). This scholarship is awarded to a graduate student contributing to civil society through international field work that is part of a course of study and preference is given to students working in Africa. Vallie is studying human-wild dog relations in Botswana and Alice Hovorka is her advisor.

UBC Geography's Sandy Lapsky receives President's Staff Award: UBC Geography Department Administrator Sandy Lapsky awarded a 2014 UBC President's Staff Award. [UBC Geog News](#)

Western U's Jamie Baxter and Chad Walker probe beyond rhetoric to better understand community dynamics in regards to turbine placement: A new study from Western University researchers probes beyond pro- and anti-wind turbine rhetoric to better understand community dynamics in regards to turbine placement. "Though a majority of residents support the turbines, this study focuses on how that majority interacts with those perceiving negative impacts, particularly related to health," says Baxter. He says the findings, gleaned from 26 face-to-face interviews and 152 questionnaires, point to the need for greater attention to mitigating conflict by understanding how siting policies interact with social processes at the local level. "What distinguishes this study from our other published work on turbine communities is that we interviewed residents face-to-face and visited their homes to achieve a much more intimate understanding and feel for community dynamics," says Baxter. "Bringing these interviews together with the survey, allowed us to determine if certain themes were present across these communities to help them and other communities reduce conflict and have more productive outcomes." These themes include the need to eliminate rhetoric, better understand the effects of proximity and density of turbines around homes and to better share the financial benefits of turbines with those who live with them daily. [Western Media Relations](#)

Laval U's Nathalie Barrette se mérite le Prix Enseignement de la Faculté de foresterie, de géographie et de géomatique: Ce prix couronne sa haute contribution à l'enseignement à distance, de même qu'à la formation en développement durable (sous l'angle des changements climatiques) et en méthodologie de la recherche. Les réalisations de Nathalie Barrette à ces divers titres sont nombreuses. Elle a assuré avec brio la mise en ligne de plusieurs cours très fréquentés, de même qu'elle a inspiré plusieurs collègues d'ici et d'ailleurs à faire de même, tout en les guidant généreusement. Elle a de plus conçu et lancé, en collaboration avec une université partenaire, un microprogramme – complètement en ligne – portant sur les changements climatiques, programme tout récent, mais déjà très populaire. Et également digne de mention le précieux concours qu'elle a prêté à la réforme de l'enseignement de la méthodologie de la recherche en produisant des outils pédagogiques de grande qualité. [Laval géographie](#)

Inaugral Macpherson Awards are made to two Memorial Geography graduate students: Alan and Joyce Macpherson were long time members of the Geography Department and are currently professors emeriti in the Department. Alan is an historical geographer and has degrees from the University of Edinburgh and McGill. Joyce is a physical geographer and her work involved using pollen analysis of lake, bog and marine sediments to reconstruct past vegetation, climate, sea levels and human activity, mainly on the island of Newfoundland, but also in the province of Quebec and in highland Scotland. Alan and Joyce retired in 1993/4 and have continued to contribute to the academic programme of the Geography Department ever since. Last year Alan and Joyce decided to make a substantial endowment to the Department, which is now used to fund two scholarships for graduate students. The awards are named after Alan and Joyce, and they are for graduate students whose research interests aligns with their own. The Dr. Alan Macpherson Graduate Research Award in Historical and Cultural Geography was awarded to Nicholas Lymer, who is pursuing an MA degree on fisheries restructuring in coastal Newfoundland. Ariel Pollard-Belsheim won the Dr Joyce Macpherson Research Award in Physical Geography. Ariel's research aims to identify archaeological resources in Newfoundland and Labrador that are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and better inform the decision making process regarding the management of these sites. This will be done in association with the Coastal Archaeological Resource Risk Assessment (CARRA) project. [Memorial Geography News](#)

Queen's U's Melanie Bedore joins Quest University: Melanie Bedore who has accepted a faculty position at Quest University in Squamish, British Columbia and will take up her position on August 1st. Mel says that she expects to teach courses on food studies, democracy and justice, urban affairs, and political economy, as well as researching and mentoring students. [Queen's Geography Newsletter](#)

UBC's Juanita Sundberg presented with 2014 Glenda Laws Award: The Glenda Laws Award recognizes early to mid-career scholars and their outstanding contributions to geographic research on social issues. It is named in memory of Glenda Laws—a geographer who brought energy and enthusiasm to her work on issues of social justice and social policy. The award is administered by the AAG and endorsed by the Institute of Australian Geographers, the Canadian Association of Geographers, and the Institute of British Geographers. Juanita Sundberg, University of British Columbia, is recognized for her commitment to social justice, which is deeply embedded in both her teaching and scholarship. Her work at the intersection of political ecology, feminist geopolitics and critical theories of race pushes and challenges other scholars committed to social justice imperatives to be cognizant of their own potential complicity in reproducing various inequities, including North-South differences. Her teaching in upper division courses has been evaluated as 'life-changing' by students and is reflected in the teaching awards she has received. Dr. Sundberg develops curriculum inviting community-based organizations to partner with her in providing courses that investigate social justice issues in a participatory framework. Nominators said, "she is constantly putting community realities at the forefront of her pedagogical approach," and that her work has powerful ripple effects. Like the late Laws, Dr. Sundberg is dedicated to understanding feminist perspectives. Despite her noteworthy accomplishments, she is deeply humble, doing much of her activist work behind the scenes without seeking credit or attention. [AAG Awards](#)

Planning on a small scale pays off big for UVic geography grad Richard T. Buchan: Many people associate municipal planning with large urbanized communities. For geography and environmental studies grad Richard T. Buchan, however, some of Vancouver Island's smaller communities offered much larger opportunities. Living, studying and completing co-op work terms in Port Hardy, Campbell River, and North Cowichan gave Buchan great opportunities for hands-on learning in community planning. "I think every student should take the co-op option and apply for work in small towns," says Buchan, "you gain work experience and often have more responsibilities in a smaller community." Those big projects in small towns gave Buchan a range of experiences during his co-op work terms that are directly relevant to his future career goals as a community planner. It was Buchan's upper-level Environmental Studies and Geography courses, combined with his coop terms that led him in the direction of community planning. "The fieldwork opportunities were fantastic, and classes like Climate, Energy and Politics (ES 405) and Urban Social Geography and Planning (GEOG 448) really bridged the real world with the classroom." [The Ring at UVic](#)

News from the University of Northern British Columbia

Dr. Greg Halseth and the Community Development Institute (CDI) at UNBC will host the Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation's annual conference September 25-27, 2014 in Prince George, BC. The Registration page will go live on June 8th and the deadline for the [Call for Presentations](#) is June 15, 2014.

Joanna Paterson (MSc Community Health Sciences) served as Valedictorian for [May Convocation at UNBC](#). Joanna was supervised by Geography's Dr. Neil Hanlon. (2nd photo in cycle)

Drs. Neil Hanlon (Chair of Geography) and Dr. Brian Menounos (Canada Research Chair in Glacial Change) both received promotions to Full Professor.

Dr. Gail Fondahl served as President of the International Arctic Social Sciences Association and hosted the [8th International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences](#) (ICASS VIII) at UNBC, May 22-26, 2014.

Recent Theses and Dissertations

Maureen Campbell. 2014. The Auto Pact and the 'New' Trade Theory: Applying economic geography to international trade agreements. Unpublished MA thesis. University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario. Supervisor: William Anderson

Alexandra Meeker. 2014. Volunteer tourism for marine conservation: A force of positive change in Northern Belize. Unpublished MA thesis. University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario. Supervisor: Noella Gray.

Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Noémie Boulanger-Lapointe, Esther Lévesque, Stéphane Boudreau, Gregory H. R. Henry and Niels Martin Schmidt. 2014. [Population structure and dynamics of Arctic willow \(*Salix arctica*\) in the High Arctic](#). Journal of Biogeography. DOI: 10.1111/jbi.12350

Kim Burnett. 2014. [Trouble in the fields: Fair trade and food sovereignty responses to governance opportunities after the food crisis](#). Geopolitics 19:351-376.

Jamey Essex. 2014. [From the global food crisis to the age of austerity: The anxious geopolitics of global food security](#). Geopolitics 19:266-290.

Quian Gong and Philippe Le Billon. 2014. [Feeding \(on\) geopolitical anxieties: Asian appetites, news media framing and the 2007–2008 food crisis](#). Geopolitics 19:291-321.

Suraj Gunawardana, Dulari Thilakarathne, Indra S. Abegunawardana, Preeni Abeynayake, Colin Robertson and Craig Stephen. 2014. [Risk factors for bovine mastitis in the Central Province of Sri Lanka](#). Tropical Animal Health and Production. DOI10.1007/s11250-014-0602-9

Greg Halseth, Laura Ryser, Sean Markey and Alex Martin. 2014. [Emergence, transition, and continuity: Resource commodity production pathways in northeastern British Columbia, Canada](#). Journal of Rural Studies. doi.org/10.1016/j.jrurstud.2014.03.010

Erica Henderson, Catherine Nolin and Fredy Peccerelli. 2014. [Dignifying a bare life and making place through exhumation: Cobán CREOMPAZ former military garrison, Guatemala](#). Journal of Latin American Geography 13:97-116. DOI: 10.1353/lag.2014.0027

Audrey Kobayashi, M. Brooks, Sarah de Leeuw, N. Lewis, Catherine Nolin and C. Sutherland. 2014. Chapter: 'Advocacy.' [Sage Handbook of Human Geography](#), pp. 404 – 419. Eds. R. Lee, N. Castree, R. Kitchin, V. Lawson, A. Paasi, C. Philo, S. Radcliffe, S.M. Roberts, C. Withers. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Philippe Le Billon, Melanie Sommerville, and Jamey Essex. 2014. [Introduction: Global food crisis](#). Geopolitics 19:235-238.

Matias E. Margulis 2014. [Trading out of the global food crisis? The World Trade Organization and the geopolitics of food security](#). Geopolitics 19:322-350.

Robert I. McDonald, Katherine Weber, Julie Padowski, Martina Flörke, Christof Schneider, Pamela A. Green, Thomas Gleeson, Stephanie Eckman, Bernhard Lehner, Deborah Balk, Timothy Boucher, Günther Grill and Mark Montgomery. 2014. [Water on an urban planet: Urbanization and the reach of urban water infrastructure](#). *Global Environmental Change* 27:96–105.

Laura Ryser, Sean Markey, Don Manson and Greg Halseth. 2014. [From boom and bust to regional waves: Development patterns in the Peace River region, British Columbia](#). *Journal of Rural and Community Development* 9(1).

Melanie Sommerville, Jamey Essex, and Philippe Le Billon. 2014. [The 'global food crisis' and the geopolitics of global food security](#). *Geopolitics* 19:239-265.

Other “Geographical” News

Dealing with anxiety as a professor: I have been feeling bit down lately. Maybe this is to be expected. It's been a brutal winter and a stressful school year, my first as an assistant professor. I'm adapting to a new city, new job and new expectations. But I'm not unique in feeling this way or facing these kinds of obstacles. All around me are students, colleagues, and staff who are dealing with the hurdles of work, life and mental health. And, if a recent series of articles and surveys are to be believed, then psychological distress is becoming a crisis on university campuses, and many students and academics are keeping their mental health problems hidden from colleagues. I'd like to tell my students that once they make it through the next essay, next exam, next thesis defense, next obstacle, it gets easier. That is rarely the case. But even though things don't necessarily get easier, we can develop better strategies for coping with competitive and demanding work and classroom environments, and for detecting mental illness within the academic workplace and beyond. A few of the most important things I learned this year are that listening to other people's problems puts your own in perspective, and helping those people with their problems can be the best medicine for treating your own. Knowing how and when to say “no” is crucial for maintaining a manageable workload combined with a healthy lifestyle to avoid unnecessary stress. [University Affairs](#)

Hidden volcanoes melt Antarctic glaciers from below: Antarctica is a land of ice. But dive below the West Antarctic Ice Sheet, and you'll find fire as well, in the form of subglacial volcanoes. Now, a new study finds that these subglacial volcanoes and other geothermal "hotspots" are contributing to the melting of Thwaites Glacier, a major river of ice that flows into Antarctica's Pine Island Bay. Areas of the glacier that sit near geologic features thought to be volcanic are melting faster than regions farther away from hotspots. [DNews](#)

Archaeological Survey of Alberta Publications: The Archaeological Survey of Alberta Publications feature articles and series published by the Archaeological Survey of Alberta. In these publications, professional archaeologists, avocational archaeologists and general enthusiasts will find a wealth of detailed information about Alberta's archaeological record. [Occasional Paper Series:](#) The Archaeological Survey of Alberta Occasional Paper Series helps disseminate information to archaeological specialists in Alberta by featuring articles that examine the many aspects of archaeology in Alberta. [Manuscript Series:](#) The Archaeological Survey of Alberta Manuscript Series helps disseminate information to archaeological specialists in Alberta by featuring monograph-length reports about large scale archaeological projects undertaken in Alberta. [Archaeological Survey of Alberta](#)

Some not so “Geographical” News



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