2018 Newsletter

Looking Back, Moving Forward:
*The Continued Role of Geography in Learning and Discovery*
# WDCAG 2018 Newsletter

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WDCAG PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE (submitted by Leith Deacon, University of Alberta)

I have really enjoyed serving as President this past year. The annual WDCAG Meeting and Conference, co-hosted by King’s University and the University of Alberta was a highlight. The 60th WDCAG Annual Meeting was held in Edmonton March 9-10; see full report below.

I am excited to announce that the 61st WDCAG Annual Meeting and Conference will be hosted by the University of Victoria, in Victoria, BC March 8-9, 2019. Thanks to Dan Smith, Cam Owens and colleagues for volunteering to host and organize the meeting.

The 60th WDCAG Annual Meeting at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB

The 60th WDCAG Annual Meeting (WDCAG-2018) was held on March 9-10 at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, co-hosted with King’s University. The theme of the conference was Looking Back, Moving Forward: The Continued Role of Geography in Learning and Discovery. The conference had an attendance of over 250, of which 200 were comprised of undergraduate and graduate students. The meeting started on Friday with field trips and a keynote address by Dr. John England: Physical and Human Geography are Inseparable: Unexpected Lessons from a Half-Century of Arctic Research, followed by an ice-breaker. On Saturday, a diverse conference program was interwoven with the WDCAG-Executive and AGM meetings, lunch, and banquet. The evening concluded with a dance. Thanks to all at the University of Alberta and King’s University who made this event successful. In particular I would like to thank my co-organizers Harry Spaling and Joanne Moyer for all of their help, and all student volunteers and fieldtrip organizers.

Student participants from BC, AB, SK, MB, and ON contributed over 100 oral presentations and 40 poster presentations. Student presentations were judged by faculty, and the winners were announced during the banquet. I would like to thank head judge Theresa Garvin for her help in organizing the evaluations.

WDCAG2017 Oral presentation awards

Undergraduate: Travis Gingerich (UFV): Optical dating of the postglacial marine regression, Savary Island, British Columbia

Masters: Rebecca DeLorey (UNBC): “There’s no meaningful communication when it’s just on paper”: Problematizing Aboriginal consultation on Nadleh Whut’en First Nation Territory

PhD: Darcy Reynard (UofA): Beg buttons: Public participatory GIS and open data in community engagement

WDCAG2017 poster presentations awards

Undergraduate: Kendra Hutchison and Kailyn Wiebe (KU): Saving the swamp? An evaluation of the Alberta wetland policy

Masters: Darcen Esau, Eva-Lean Lang, Chea Elton (UBC-O): The landscape identity of the North Okanagan: Using physical geography, climate, and history to create a distinctive wine region

Ineke Dijks Award for best graduate student presentation: Bryan J. Mood (PhD, UVic): A dendrohydrological analysis of the Greater Vancouver Regional District’s water supply.
WDCAG-2018 AGM
The WDCAG-2018 AGM was held during the Annual Meeting and had an attendance of 30. A new executive was elected, with President: Leith Deacon (UofA), Vice-President: Claire Hay (UFV), Secretary-Treasurer: Hester Jiskoot (UofL), Members-at-Large: Sinead Early (UNBC), David Jordan (TWU), Gilles Viaud (TRU), Steven Marsh (UFV), Student Representatives: Holly Clayholt (UofL), Kyla Rushton (UofL), Brandon Turner (TRU), Travis Gingerich (UFV), Western Geography Human Editor: Tom Waldichuk (TRU), Western Geography Physical/GIS Editor: Craig Coburn (UofL), Archivist: Ben Moffat (Medicine Hat College & Athabasca University), Awards Officer: David Jordan (TWU), BC Education Chair: Pam Shaw (VIU), Tom Waldichuk (TRU), Newsletter Editor: Daniel Brendle-Moczuk (UVic), Webmaster: Dan Smith (UVic). Welcome to all newly elected and thanks for stepping up to serve the Division. I sincerely thank all of those who served over the past year.

The following meritorious award was presented at the AGM:
The J. Alistair McVey Award for Teaching Excellence to Glen Thielmann, DP Todd Secondary School, Prince George. (see photo of Glen on pg 52)

The WDCAG remains in good financial shape and the continuing CAG support grant for student travel to our meetings is much appreciated. Other matters that came up during the 2018 AGM include better promotion of our awards, encouragement to submit to the WDCAG Newsletter, and a discussion about the WDCAG Statement for Values and Ethics which will be brought forward at the 2019 AGM in Victoria.

2018 IGU Regional Conference and CAG Annual Meeting, Quebec City, QC
I had the pleasure of representing the WDCAG at the CAG Annual Meeting in Quebec City (August 6-10). The meeting was held in concert with the 2018 IGU Regional Conference. There were over 1200 oral presentations and 100 poster presentations.

The 2019 CAG Annual Meeting and Conference will be hosted by the University of Winnipeg in Winnipeg, MB, May 29 – 31, 2019. The theme of the conference is Geographies of Resistance.

For updates on our division, our constitution, and our annual newsletter, check our website: www.geog.uvic.ca/dept/wcag/, or twitter account: @WDGeog

WDCAG Newsletter Editor’s greeting
Hello! Hope you enjoy this 2018 issue. 14 institutional contacts responded with news this year, the highest number in recent years. Thanks to all contributors! Next August 2019 I will ask for submissions with a deadline of the middle of October 2019 so that there will be a long window to submit happenings and news.

daniel Brendle-Moczuk, MLIS, Geospatial & Social Sciences Data Librarian, UVic
Interview with Eva Kwoll, Assistant Professor, UVic

Eva is new addition to the UVic Geography Department as of 2017. She recently completed a DFG (German Research Foundation) Postdoctoral Fellowship at Simon Fraser University on flow and sediment dynamics in bedrock canyons. She completed her PhD in 2013 at the Center for Marine Environmental Sciences (MARUM) at the University of Bremen in the field of Coastal Dynamics.

More on Eva’s current roles and research at: https://www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/geography/people/faculty/kwolleva.php

1. Tell us about your childhood that may have influenced you to become a (geomorphologist) geographer.

I grew up in a rural area of Germany and spent much of my childhood outside with my dog and friends. I have always been an observer and that took the form of collecting things, mostly rocks, but sometimes plants or wood. My family always vacationed at the North Sea Coast in fall. The North Sea can be quite windy and rough around this time of year but also has extensive mud flats, which does not make it a dream beach vacation, but I loved it. I’d like to think that this influenced my interest in the coast.

2. What ultimately made you study geography at university?

My path to Geography was not straightforward. In high school, I was set to become a physicist and later on enrolled in a BSc. Physics program with the hope to specialize in astrophysics in Heidelberg. It didn't take long for me to realize that I could not get fascinated by the first year Experimental and Theoretical Physics lectures and that the path to my specialty in 3rd year would be long. I left the University after the first semester and went to Iceland for 6-months to plant trees in a reforestation project and reconsider my career choice.

There in Iceland, I rediscovered my interest for the processes that shape different landscapes - after all, Iceland is sitting on the mid-Atlantic ridge and home to volcanoes and glaciers - and found a Geoscience program at the University of Bremen with a major in Geophysics that struck my interest. I ended up completing my BSc in Geoscience majoring in Marine Geophysics and Geology. I enrolled in a joint MSc program with the University of Waikato and Bremen, where I specialized in Coastal Processes.

My PhD thesis grew from my MSc thesis and examined coastal sediment transport in European estuaries and tidal inlets. So I did not join Geography until I came to Canada in 2015 as a German Research Foundation Fellow to conduct a Postdoc at SFU. Since then, I have expanded my research interests in the sediment and flow cascade and into bedrock canyons.
Interview with Eva Kwoll (con’t)

3. How did you choose or end up as a geomorphologist?

I think it was a combination of my interests and skills to start with and opportunities that arose as I was pursuing my education. For example, I didn’t really get fascinated with coastal sedimentary processes until I was asked to join a graduate course in the last year of my undergraduate degree on Coastal Sediment Dynamics. They basically needed more students for this field trip to take place, so I joined my first field school on a research vessel and got to operate acoustical Doppler current profilers and other technology, that I still use today.

Similarly, my PhD thesis arose while I was helping out on a research vessel during my MSc and we observed distinct clouds of sediment on the water surface in one of the estuaries. I became fascinated by them and my supervisor eventually suggested to focus my PhD around them.

One thing I did know early on was that I wanted to become a researcher, ideally at a University. So I never questioned very much whether I should do a PhD or not, I just knew that was part of the plan. Similarly, I knew that if I wanted to land an academic job, I had to be mobile, gain experience in other countries, and be open to the possibility to live abroad. This is the reason I came to SFU in the first place and it eventually helped me get the Geomorphology position at UVic.

4. Tell us about some of your highlights in your career so far in regards to:

4.a. students/teaching

I am really enjoying the establishment of my working group at the moment. We meet regularly and discuss everything, including a logo for the lab, meeting structures, seating arrangements, upcoming visits. I am sure it is a great experience for the students to be part of these initial steps and to actually have an opportunity to give input, but I also thrive on the enthusiasm they project.

4.b. research

Field work is often fulfilling, but can also be strenuous and pressured, yet there are many instances that I remember when things went well, all instruments recorded good data, and the weather agreed. I would also list highlights as moments of recognition of my work: acceptance of articles, invitations to write a book chapter or give a keynote speech and, most recently, my hire at UVic.

5. Any advice, lessons learned, so far in your career for undergraduates, graduates and faculty?

Be systematic: have a plan and know the steps that need to be done, be realistic about it. Be flexible: allow adjustments to your plan and take opportunities as they present themselves.

Danke / Thank you Eva!

Selected Publications:


WDCAG INSTITUTIONS NEWS & REPORTS

Augustana Campus of the University of Alberta (submitted by Glen Hvenegaard)

The Augustana campus offers a minor in geography and interdisciplinary majors in Environmental Science (BSc) and Environmental Studies (2 BA streams: general and outdoor education).

Glynnis Hood taught Statistical Methods for the Natural Sciences and Introduction to Geographic Information Systems this Winter Term. Her MSc student, Melissa Dergoussoff is working on her thesis Trace metal concentrations in the tissue of beavers (Castor canadensis) from Alberta’s boreal forests. Melissa is co-supervised with Dr. William Shotyk from the Department of Renewable Resources (UofA).


This June, Varghese Manaloor also published an article with colleague Dr. Dee Patriquin (adjunct Augustana Environmental Science) and their former co-supervised directed studies student Tye Dubrule (first author, BSc.2016) A question of inclusion: BC Hydro’s Site C Dam Indigenous consultation process. Journal of Environmental Assessment, Policy and Management. doi/abs/10.1142/S1464333218500059. Manaloor’s conference presentations range from Sweden to New Orleans, as well as more local ones in Alberta and Ontario. She continues to conduct research on wetland biodiversity, wildlife ecology, landscape connectivity, and methods to reduce human-beaver conflicts through adaptive management. During her current sabbatical, she is working on her new book entitled, The Ecology of Semi-aquatic mammals for The Johns Hopkins University Press.

Adjunct professor and sessional instructor, Dr. Dee Patriquin taught our introductory course and Statistical Methods for the Natural Sciences course (Fall 2017). As mentioned above, she co-authored a paper with Glynnis Hood and Tye Dubrule regarding indigenous inclusion during the Site C dam projects in British Columbia.

Geomorphology field trip to examine fluvial landforms of the Battle River in central Alberta
Augustana Campus of the University of Alberta (con’t)

Glen Hvenegaard taught geomorphology, environmental science, parks, and capstone courses last year. His students completed community service-learning assignments on many projects, including a waste sort, sustainability fair, climate change advocacy, sustainable cooking, Halloween costume repurposing, and green spaces for student residences. The SCORE! program was nominated for an award through the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education.

On the research front, Glen presented papers at parks, tourism, interpretation, and sustainability conferences in Edmonton, Canmore, Kananaskis, and Texas. He also published papers in Higher Education (direct studies courses), Journal of Rural Studies (sustainability plans), Journal of Experiential Education (reflection on wilderness educational expeditions), and Environmental Communications (last chance tourism at glaciers). Glen and colleagues are investigating interpretation outcomes in Alberta’s provincial parks, use of science in park decision-making, purple martin dispersal, and the history of Frank Farley.

Glen is also the manager of the Augustana Miquelon Lake Research Station at Miquelon Lake Provincial Park. The station hosts students, researchers, and communities for teaching, research, and local partnerships. Glynnis Hood will take over as manager, starting in 2019-20. Check the website for more information: http://www.augustana.ualberta.ca/research/centres/amlrs/.

Glynnis and Glen co-taught a Field Studies course over 13 days in September at the Station. Students developed and conducted research projects on many topics, such as ant mounds, park interpretation, beaver foraging of aspen, garter snakes, and shorebirds.

Dr. Greg King is a new assistant professor in the Geography and Environmental Science program and started in January 2018. Greg taught the first ever soils course at Augustana (Soil Science and Soil Resources) in the winter semester and was busy preparing for teaching upcoming courses on sustainability, biogeography and climatology. Greg presented at his first WDCAG conference in Edmonton. Over the summer, Greg was in the field for five weeks of canoe-based fieldwork investigating vegetation change in the Bathurst caribou herd in the Northwest Territories and looks forward to sharing results with the WDCAG community over the coming years.

For more information, contact Dr. Glen Hvenegaard at glen.hvenegaard@ualberta.ca, Dr. Glynnis Hood ghood@ualberta.ca, or Dr. Greg King gking@ualberta.ca. Check our program websites at https://www.ualberta.ca/augustana/programs/degree/geography and https://www.ualberta.ca/augustana/programs/degree/environmental

Capilano University (submitted by Jeanne Mikita)

Correctional Institution-University Education Initiative:

Since 2015 Capilano University instructors from the Geography department have been teaching non-credit classes at the Fraser Valley Institute (FVI) for federally sentenced women. Classes have ranged from pop-up Prison ChatLive classes covering current events to a six-week long course on poverty, inequality and social exclusion involving outside university students from both UBC and Capilano University; textbooks were donated by Fernwood Publishing. Subsequent courses will include a book-reading course with books donated by Random House Publishing.

Capilano University is working with UBC to form a partnership with FVI to implement for-credit university courses involving a mix of outside university students and inside prisoner students. Our goal is to team teach our first credit course in September 2019 with students from both universities.

Faculty News

Geography faculty member Kirsten McIlveen is completing her PhD at UBC; her dissertation is tentatively titled: Prison paradox and post-secondary education: Challenges to developing innovative curriculum in women’s prisons.
Camosun College (submitted by Emrys Prussin)

Faculty News
Chris Ayles has taken on the position of President with the Camosun College Faculty Association and subsequently stepped back from his teaching role. Francis Yee has retired but will be returning to teach in a post-retirement position. Two term instructors are filling in for them, Chloe Fox and Emrys Prussin. Chloe is teaching two sections of Geography 102 – Human Geography and Emrys is teaching two sections of Geography 219 – Field Surveying.

Department News
Emrys is also working on a Camosun funded project in collaboration with Nick Claxton and the Tsawout and WSÁNEĆ communities to create a video game to enable users to learn the SENĆOTEN language.

Douglas College (submitted by Sarah Paynter)

New Courses in the Department of Geography and the Environmental
- GEOG 2290 Selected Topics in Geography
- GEOG 2311 Urban Environmental Sustainability

New Geography Field School to Iceland in Summer 2019, with faculty members Kathy Runnalls, Susan Smythe, and Mike McPhee. The field school is open to post-secondary students enrolled at other institutions and will offer:
- Earth Environments: Land and Water (GEOG 1120 lab science)
- The Regional Geography of the North Atlantic (GEOG 1190)
- Urban Environmental Sustainability (GEOG 2311)

Please contact Karen Ng, Douglas College International, at ngk@douglascollege.ca for more information.

We also continue to co-host a free and public Urban Challenges Forum with our partners SFU Urban Studies and the City of New Westminster. Our next event Balancing Act: Revitalization without Gentrification takes place at Douglas College in New Westminster on October 17 (room 2201, 6:30-8:00pm) and hosts John Stark (Senior Social Planner, City of New Westminster) and Tiffany Muller Myrdahl (Senior Lecturer, Department of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies and the Urban Studies Program, SFU), and is moderated by Mike McPhee (Faculty, Department of Geography and the Environment, Douglas College). Future events will take place on November 21, January 23, and February 13. Please contact Sarah Paynter, Chair of Geography and the Environment, at paynters@douglascollege.ca for more information.
Kwantlen Polytechnic University (submitted by John Martin)

Faculty News
There have been many changes in Geography and the Environment at KPU this year. Two long-serving members of our department recently retired: Jan Thompson and Bill Burgess. Jan Thompson taught physical geography courses and served as chair of the department for the last three years and deftly guided us through some tumultuous times. Bill Burgess taught human geography courses and served the department on various committees. Both are now enjoying the island life: Jan on Vancouver Island and Bill on Savory Island. We will miss them both greatly, though rumour has it that Bill may pop back in to teach some sessional courses! In addition, Mungandi Nasitwitwi took an educational leave this year to complete his GIS studies at the University of Melbourne in Australia.

As a result of all the changes, the department has also added some new faces this year. Leonora King (PhD, UBC) was hired on a permanent basis to teach physical geography courses. While Geoff Reith (MSc, Queen's), Alan Shapiro (MSc, Columbia) and Kathy Fitzpatrick (MA, SFU) have been hired on a temporary basis. We welcome them to the KPU Geography family!

KPU Geography and the Environment faculty past and present
front: David Sadoway, Leah Skretkowicz (R), Dola Pradhan, Bill Burgess (R), Alan Sawchuk (R).
middle: Leonora King, Jan Thompson (R), John Rose
back Parthiphan Krishnan, John Martin

Dola Pradhan takes over as the new chair of the department. Thank you Dola for volunteering!
Kwantlen Polytechnic University (con’t)

Department news and events
Kwantlen once again hosted the Kwantlen Science Challenge (KSC) in November 2017. This is an all-day event in which 30 lower mainland BC high-school teams compete in scientific activities in fields such as Geography, Chemistry, Biology and Design. The Geography event for this year had teams determining the density of rocks and answering questions about their susceptibility to earthquakes.

Publications:
Returning from an educational leave this year, John Rose has been busy reporting the findings of his research into housing in Vancouver. A recent article in the Globe and Mail highlights some of his results:
https://www.theglobeandmail.com/real-estate/vancouver/academic-takes-on-vancouvers-housing-supply-myth/article37015584/

Joe Koch was one of the co-authors of a publication in the prestigious journal Science

For more information & news please see our website: http://www.kpu.ca/arts/geography
Langara College (submitted by Colin Mills)

Department News

European Field Studies 2018: From April to June, in their second offering of a European Field Studies program, Katrina Erdos (Geography department) and Joanne Horwood (English department) travelled with 17 students to Italy and London. The Geography department offered two three-credit courses: Field Techniques, with a focus on human geographic field techniques, and Special Topics I: Exploring Landscapes, Culture and Tourism. The English department also offered a three-credit Special Topics course, Travel Writing and Blogs. This transdisciplinary program provided a deep and experiential study of the diverse landscapes and cultures of northern and southern Europe, as well as the geography of tourism.

Geography 2275 - Applied Human Geography

In January 2018 Langara ran Applied Human Geography for the second time. Through the innovation hub CityStudio, the students partnered with a City Manager with the City of Vancouver to address the problem of public urination in the downtown.

Applied Human Geography was structured to simulate a working environment and was entirely project based. To effectively manage their project the student began by forming themselves into LeGS (Langaran's engaging Geographical Solutions) a network of geographers committed to urban social sustainability. LeGS met twice weekly to research, experiment, write, calculate, interview, discuss, design, construct, and observe. They considered economics, sociology, politics, health and sanitation, gender, biology, chemistry and of course, geography. They worked as individuals, collaborated as a network and formed working groups according to the needs of the project.

Initially the situation had been portrayed as a consequence of drunk night-clubbers and the homeless, but as the students quickly learned, when in public, any of us can be caught urgently needing to go when there is nowhere to go. Urinating is a human imperative and going in public is an undignified and risky last option resulting in an unhygienic and unpleasant streetscape. In understanding this LeGS reframed the problem as public places with nowhere to pee, not people peeing in public places. This fundamental geographical observation has had influence on how the city frames the problem and approaches solutions.

LeGS created and submitted a consultant’s report to the City of Vancouver which proposes a system which integrates attended public washrooms, a means of gaining access to private washrooms and an alternative for when and where there are no washrooms at all. The "Open Washroom Program" lays-out a pathway to convenient relief for everyone and promotes communication amongst all the relevant stakeholders.

LeGS’s efforts were recognized by CityStudio where the Open Washroom Project took 3rd Place in "Hubbub 10", a showcase of projects from colleges and universities around the Lower Mainland. Way to Go! (so to speak)

Recently the student network has been invited back to work with the city and a downtown business association to address the urination problem in a particular set of city blocks.
Mount Royal University (submitted by Dr. Barbara McNicol)
The Geography Program at Mount Royal University is part of the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences (EES) in the Faculty of Science and Technology. Our courses are taught as part of the Bachelor of Science Degree or contribute to a Geography Minor or fulfill General Education requirements. The Bachelor of General Science Major and the Geography Program have designed a pillar of concentration of geography courses that students can take as their emphasis for the degree.

Professor Lynn Moorman won two awards recently:
- Influencer of the Year for the Canadian Geospatial Industry (TECTERRA) and;
- President's Award for Outstanding Service to the Canadian Association of Geographers. This last award was to acknowledge work as the Co-Chair of the International Geography Olympiad, held in Québec City this summer 2018. The global event brought top geography students aged 16-19 from 43 countries to Canada to compete for top honors in the field of geography. Lynn was also the field exam convener, developing the exercises and assessments for the two days of field work exams in the competition.

Lynn Moorman also was an organizer and presenter for the International Geographical Union's Commission on Geographical Education in Québec City in August, leading up the IGU/CAG conference.

Barbara McNicol presented in August 2018 at the Association of International Scientific Experts in Tourism, Treviso, Italy targeting final results of a study about environmental supply in Banff and Jasper National Parks. Barbara is the Chair of the Parks and Protected Areas Research Group and Assistant Director for the Faculty of Science and Technology at the Institute for Environmental Sustainability at MRU.

Publications:


Okanagan College (submitted by Todd Redding)
The OC Department of Geography, Earth and Environmental Science is hosting the 2019 National Association of Geoscience Teachers – PNW Section Annual Conference and Field Tour in Penticton. The meeting is June 25-27, 2019 and will feature 1 day of conference presentations and discussions followed by 2 days of field trips in the south Okanagan.

Come join us for a fun and informative event that is sure to feature liquid highlights of the Okanagan Terroir! For information contact Todd Redding (tredding@okanagan.bc.ca) and watch for updates at http://www.nagtpnw.org

Publications:
**Simon Fraser University (SFU)** (submitted by Tracy Brennand)

**Undergraduate Program**

The undergraduate program, with over 550 majors, minors and certificates, continues to change in ways that will suit the needs of our current and future students. Our program offerings will soon include a BA in Human Geography, a BEnv in Global Environmental Systems, a BSc in Geographic Information Science, and a BSc in Physical Geography. Our BA (Environmental Specialty) will no longer be available because its area of focus is now encompassed by the BEnv. We have created Educational Goals for each of these programs, which will make their various benefits clear to students. Overall, our program is vibrant, exciting, and welcoming to a wide range of students who hope to engage the world in a variety of important ways.

**Student News: Undergraduate Kudos**

**Jerik Brown** is in his final year of undergraduate studies, completing a BA Geography Major with a History Minor. He won the Warren Gill Memorial Award that recognizes leadership and service within the community by a Human Geography student.

**Nicola Kroetsch**, who graduated in October 2018 with a BA Geography Major and Biological Sciences Minor, won the 2018 Canadian Association of Geographers Undergraduate Award. Each year, The Canadian Association of Geographers presents awards to the most outstanding students graduating in Geography honours/majors programmes at universities across Canada. Winners receive a complimentary membership in the CAG for the following year and, in addition, their names are announced at the Annual General Meeting and published here and in the CAG Newsletter. She is pursuing a Master’s degree in Resource Management at SFU.

**Henry Kosch**, who graduated in June 2018 with a BA Double Major in Geography (Honours) and Economics, won the Peter Schaub Memorial Book Prize Award. This prize was established to honour the memory of Peter Schaub, a former Dean's medal award winner and outstanding geography student who was an active participant in the Geography Student Union (GSU). We award this prize annually to a Geography major student from the graduating class who has made a significant contribution to the Department through the GSU.

**Rebecca Gunderson** graduated in June 2018 with a BA Geography Major and Spatial Information Systems Certificate. She won the Kim Fofonove Memorial Book Prize Award. This prize was established by members of the Department and by friends of former geography student **Kim Fofonove**. Each year this prize is awarded to an outstanding geography major or honours student from the graduating class. **Rebecca** is pursuing a Master’s degree in Urban Studies at SFU.

**Graduates:**

The Geography Department at Simon Fraser University (SFU) is a research intensive, mentorship based program with emphasis on original research and dissemination of results. Geography students finished their degrees in record numbers over the past academic year. We had six PhD completions and nine Masters degree defenses. We are proud of all of the students listed on the next page. As you can tell, their areas of expertise and interest varied widely.
**SFU (con’t)**

**Completed Dissertations/Theses  September 2017 – August 2018**

**Naraghi, Nazanin (PhD), October 2017, “Impossible places: The aesthetic unconscious and post-migrant Iranian subjectivity in Los Angeles” (Paul Kingsbury)**

**Whealdon Haught, Daniel (PhD), October 2017, “Acoustically derived suspended sediment concentrations and flux in the Fraser River, Canada” (Jeremy Venditti)**

**McMillan, Andrew (MSc), November 2017, “Regional classification using gradients of marine species assemblages: A data-driven approach to modelling marine ecosystems” (Nadine Schuurman)**

**Martin, Michael (PhD), December 2017, “A qualitative GIS for Social Media and Big Data” (Nadine Schuurman)**

**Shashank, Aateka (MSc), December 2017, “Walkability and connectivity: Unpacking measures of the built environment” (Nadine Schuurman)**

**Swanlund, David (MA), December 2017, “Geosurveillance, Biometrics, and Resistance” (Nadine Schuurman)**

**Salas, Rebeca (MA), January 2018, “Spatial narratives of property loss: Social memory and the dispossession of Japanese Canadian-owned property in British Columbia” (Nicholas Blomley)**

**Hoffman, Leon (PhD), February 2018, “The international health landscape of Cozumel Island, Mexico” (Valerie Crooks)**

**Kelly, B-Jae (MSc), March 2018, “The modern coarse-grained fan deltas of south-western British Columbia, Canada: A geomorphologic study” (Jeremy Venditti)**

**Cao, Zhi Hao (Eric) (MSc), April 2018, “Scour pool incision in bedrock canyons” (Jeremy Venditti)**

**Bradley, Ryan (PhD), July 2018, “Controls on Dune Dimensions in Rivers” (Jeremy Venditti)**

**Thompson, Samantha (MA), August 2018, “‘It’s yours’: Tenant experiences of home and care in women’s non-profit housing” (Eugene McCann)**

**Frei, Kurt (MSc), August 2018, “Bark beetles and wildfire: Influence of overlapping disturbances on wood and light in a sub-boreal headwater system” (Lance Lesack)**

**Huxter, Emily (MSc), August 2018, “Streamflow characteristics of intermittent streams in the Okanagan, British Columbia, Canada” (Lance Lesack)**

**Geography Graduate Scholarships and Awards September 2017 – August 2018**

Our graduate students were recognized by several awards over the past academic year.

TriCouncil Canada Graduate Scholarships-Masters (CGSM):

- SSHRC: Zach Cameron
- NSERC: Travis Gingerich
- NSERC: Max Hurson
- NSERC: Doctoral Ian Lochhead

- SFU KEY (Big Data) Graduate Scholarship: Claude-Michel Nzotungicimpaye
Greetings from Thompson Rivers University, Department of Geography & Environmental Studies.

Faculty Updates:

**Darryl Carlyle-Moses** taught GEOG 2050 - *Introduction to Hydrology* in the fall while chairing the department. Speaking of teaching, Darryl, along with **Crystal Huscroft**, led a third year physical geography field course in the last week of August to the Rockies and then continued hydrological exercises with the students after the Labour Day weekend at Jamieson Cr. near Kamloops.

Darryl was also on a 6 month sabbatical in the winter 2018 term and kept busy with his research activities. First, he and his colleagues began a literature review of stemflow (hydrology) research. Second, he signed a book contract with Springer press to co-edit a volume within their Ecological Studies series titled *Forest-Water Interactions* in which he will be coauthoring a chapter on the role of trees for storm water management purposes in urban areas. Third, he co-wrote an article on stemflow that was accepted in the journal *Advances in Water Resources*. Fourth, he also worked with his colleagues, including Dr. David Hill, on a technical paper which is currently under review with the *Journal of Hydrology* - this technical piece was born out of the same research that was presented as a co-authored poster presented at the WDCAG 2018 conference in Edmonton.

**Darryl** also travelled to the University of Delaware in March and April to collaborate with a close colleague – Dr. Delphis Levia. The two of them along with other ecohydrologists are meeting in a castle town – Ettersburg, Germany -- in early October (Darryl told me, Tom, that this has nothing to do with Oktoberfest). They’ll be discussing how ecohydrology can be applied to help mitigate the global water crisis, writing up their findings and publishing the results in *Nature or Nature – Sustainability*. Darryl didn’t mention whether the castle where they’ll be staying has wifi or whether the final draft will have to be written on mediaeval paper.

**David Hill** taught our core methods course on *Geographical Analysis* (2700) in the fall 2017 term. This past winter he also taught *Introductory GIS* (2750) and a third year course on remote sensing.

One of his graduate students, **Jackson Baron**, gave a talk co-authored with David at the WDCAG 2018 conference at the U. of Alberta. His other grad student **Jamie Shippit** and his undergrad student **Brandon Turner** both presented posters with David at the conference.

**Publications**


**Presentations**

- Shipit, J. and Hill, D.J. (2018). Reflecting on protein. Annual Meeting of the Western Division of the Canadian Associate of Geographers, Edmonton, AB.
- Baron, J. and Hill, D.J. (2018). Automated detection of yellow flag iris using learning algorithms and UAVs. Annual Meeting of the Western Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers, Edmonton, AB.

**Grants**

$608,200 – (Principal Investigator) Precision management of rangeland systems for a sustainable future – CFI, BC Knowledge Development Fund

$608,200 – (Co-Investigator) Evaluating the potential for increased forage productivity in mid-rotation forested rangeland sites through an integrated forage, cattle and timber management approach – Beef Cattle Research Council (BCRC)
Thompson Rivers University (TRU)

Crystal Huscroft in the spring of 2017 created detailed risk management forms that she kindly passed on to her colleagues as a template a year later in 2018. Crystal finished her first successful physical geography field school in the Rockies in September 2017 and completed another one this year, starting in the last week of August, with the help of Darryl Carlyle-Moses, who led the hydrology part of the course close to Kamloops. Ten students participated.

Crystal also taught Physical Geography 1000 in the fall 2017 term and winter 2018 term, and she taught third year Geomorphology (3080) in the winter 2018 term.

Terry Macdonald taught Geography 1010 (People, Places and Landscapes: Introducing Human Geography) in the summer 2017 term. In fall 2017 he taught both Geography 2230 (Regional Geography of BC and Yukon) and a land-use course in the Tourism Management program. In summer 2018 he again taught Geography 1010 and this fall is currently teaching the same land use course in the Tourism Management program.

Michael Mehta taught our third year Environment and Natural Resources (3100), and a third year special topics course on Renewable Energy (he also taught courses for Sociology) in the fall 2017 term.

Michael was on a six month sabbatical in the first half of 2018, during which time he focused on two distinct projects dealing with various aspects of air pollution. The first project dealt with the experiences of wood smoke activists and involved an online survey. One interesting correlation was that those activists who believed that their health was affected were also likely to assert a lower quality of life, express a feeling of helplessness, believe that their mental health is affected, and estimate that exposure will shorten their lifespan. The results are being written up with a journal article to be submitted this fall to Social Movement Studies.

His second project compared air quality monitoring approaches from the summer of 2017. Over the past two years Michael has been setting up more than 30 low-cost PurpleAir air quality monitors in Kamloops and 9 monitors on Gabriola Island. He compared data from a sample of 10 monitors in Kamloops to two provincial air quality stations focusing on PM2.5 emissions during the months of July and August 2017, and he is also comparing smoke levels from the summer of 2017 with the summer of 2018. His results suggest that that PurpleAir monitors can be used to help better understand air pollution from forest fires, and their use provides better real-time data, higher spatial resolution, and a backup for provincial air quality stations.
Thompson Rivers University (TRU)

Michael Mehta (con’t)

In the summer Michael worked on replacing the solar panels that are installed on the ground over pre-existing compass points in front of the Arts and Education building --- the Solar Compass. These panels were installed in the fall of 2017 and were subjected to rain, snow, ice, campus vehicles and thousands of pedestrians. Michael and his team are testing the durability of these panels.

Kim Naqvi taught first year Human Geography (1010), World Regional (1110), Regional Geography of Canada (2220), and Cultural Geography (3200) in the fall 2017 term. In the winter 2018 term, she also taught Geographic Thought (2400), Geographies of the Americas (3900), and Directed Studies. In 2017, she presented her research related to the Geographies of the Americas at the WDCAG conference, the CAG in Toronto, and in 2018 further research was presented at the WDCAG in Edmonton, the AAG in New Orleans, and the CAG/IGU in Quebec City. In the spring her travels took her to Cypress where she travelled through both the northern and southern sections. She has been working with some of the “Place Group” people across campus, and together they published a STLHE “Green Guide.”

Publication

Presentations
• Teaching the geography of the America’s using Carmen Aguirre’s Memoir, Something Fierce. Annual meeting of the American Association of Geographers, New Orleans, LA, April 2018.
• Regional geography from within: Comparing a political memoir to geographies of tourist guides and textbooks. Western Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers, annual meeting, Edmonton, AB, March 9-10, 2018.

Gilles Viaud taught Introductory Human Geography (1010) and Introductory Urban Geography (3500) in the Fall 2017 term, and in the winter 2018 term he also taught Social and Behavioural Geography (3570) and Advanced Urban Geography (4500). He adopted a problem-based approach to teaching his social and behavioural course and had his advanced urban geography students give presentations at the TRU undergraduate conference in March 2018.

Along with Tom Waldichuk, Gilles also successfully taught his first field course in the Quebec City area this summer. He spent the spring organizing assignments – research essays that students wrote before leaving for Quebec in early August. These essays formed part of a text that he created for the field course, along with other maps and itineraries. The course started at Laval University on the morning of August 3rd, and covered the urban and rural areas of the capital region over a three day period. Some of the highlights were guided tours of the Saint-Roch and Vieux-Québec neighbourhoods; old Wendake (Huron village); the Trait-Carré to talk about urban change, neighbourhood revitalization, and culture; and a drive along the Côte-de-Beaupré (route de-la-Nouvelle-France) with stops to visit Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré Cathedral and the small city of Baie-St-Paul (in the Charlevoix region) to study the seigneurial system, rural-urban fringe and small cities related issues.
(see photos next page)
Can you see something familiar from Kamloops in the log graffiti at Montmorency Falls?
Geog3700 Quebec summer field course (Tom Waldichuk photo)

Participants in the summer 2018 Quebec City field course, including a directed studies student in Sociology, outside the Quebec City conference centre where the CAG/IGU conference was held (Helen Markano photo).
**Thompson Rivers University (TRU)**

**Gilles Viaud (con’t)**

Gilles also attended and presented a poster at this year’s CAG/IGU conference in Quebec City.

**Presentations**

*Les petites villes et l’agenda urbain Canadien*. Poster presented at the joint International Geographic Union and Canadian Association of Geographers conference, Université Laval, Quebec City, August 9, 2018.

**Tom Waldichuk** taught a fourth year course—*Attitudes toward the environment* (4230) in fall 2017. He started to recruit student volunteers to help out at the international Geo Olympics, which were held in Quebec City this summer before the CAG/IGU conference. In addition, he recruited students for the third year field course that Gilles Viaud and he eventually led to Quebec.

In the winter 2018 term Tom taught *Introductory Environmental Geography* (1100) and a third year course on the *Rural-Urban Fringe* (3550). Tom also took on Chair duties from Darryl Carlyle-Moses – thank you Darryl for all your hard work while leading our department for six years!

This past spring Tom also went back to Japan to scope out locations for the 2019 field trip and to conduct some interviews on land-use and community change in Ushiku City.

**Presentations**

Tom’s more recent conference touring included attending the Japan Studies Association meeting at the U. of Toronto in October 2017, where he presented his paper on suburban green space. In the winter of 2018, at the TRU Teaching Practices Colloquium and at the WDCAG in Edmonton he presented on his Japan field course. At the WDCAG, in particular, he presented a poster on the tourist walking routes of Tokyo with the students who went on his 2017 Japan field school. He also participated in a panel on field-based teaching organized by Dr. Tom Johnston at the U. of Lethbridge.

**Publication**


**TRU Geography Students News**

**WDCAG 2018**

Graduate Student oral presentation

**Baron, Jackson** and Hill, David J. *Automated detection of yellow flag iris using learning algorithms and UAVs*.

Graduate Student poster presentation

**Shippit, Jamie**, Hill, David J., Fraser, Lauchlan, & Church, John. *Reflecting on protein*.

Undergraduate oral presentations

**Yu, Richmond Ho Shing.** *Wind, Water, and Harmony: Examining how feng shui influences feelings of comfort at Thompson Rivers University*.

**WDCAG 2018 Undergraduate poster presentations**

- **Japp, Kaitlin.** *Libby Dam and its effects on the Kootenay region*.
- **Schut, Selena.** *Mitigation of bird and bat fatalities due to onshore wind turbines*.
- **Turner, Brandon, Rahma, Musfiq,** Hill, David, and Carlyle-Moses, Darryl. *Internet of trees: Secure and affordable internet of things for environmental monitoring*. 
Richmond Yu, CAG/IGU 2018 presentation *Wind, Water, and Harmony: Examining how feng shui influences feelings of comfort at Thompson Rivers University.* (Tom Waldichuk photo)

CAG/IGU 2018 Student Poster Presentations


**Shippit, Jamie**, David Hill, Lauchlan Fraser, & John Church. *Reflecting on protein: assessing forage nutrition through spectral signatures* (photos by Tom Waldichuk)
2018 TRU Undergraduate Conference

**Geography 4500 Winter 2018 Student Oral Presentations**

- **Biggs, Samantha.** *The move back to the city and the ripple effect: gentrification, and social housing.*
- **Bymoen, Nathan.** *On the shoulders of giants: a qualitative analysis of the history of urban transportation geography.*
- **Carriere, Kristopher.** *City environment - crime prevention in outdoor urban spaces.*
- **Helgason, Ty.** *Simple models of a complex reality: the academic achievements and evolution of Chauncy Harris.*
- **Hughes, Allison.** *Chauncy Harris: the man who helped shape urban geography.*
- **Simak, Michael.** *The contribution of Marxist thought in urban geography.*
- **Sprickerhoff, Conlan.** *The future of our cities: the direction for sustainable growth.*
- **Tasker, Joseph.** *Food deserts in the city.*
- **Turner, Brandon.** *Capitalist city without class: Marxism in urban geography.*
- **Windhorst, Rachel Kohanna.** *Effective policies to ensure healthy urban sprawl.*

**Geography 3550 Rural-Urban Fringe and Geography 3990 Energy poster presentations**

- **Bymoen, Nathan, & Warner, Nicholas.** *Maximizing mobility: transportation efficiency and infrastructure development in the urban boundary rural area of Vancouver, Canada.*
- **Comazetto, Payton & Hryhirchuk, Kelsey.** *The diversity within Kamloops’ SD73: the demographics and experience of children attending schools within the rural-urban fringe.*
- **Ford, Nicole, & Nteogwuija, Inwon.** *A case study of Burn’s Bog: Issues with land reserves and urbanization.*
- **Hauser, Paige, and Valachy, Gabby.** *City vs Country, which is better for your mental health: An analysis of the stigma surrounding mental illness in Canada’s rural urban fringe.*
- **Hughes, Allison, and Simak, Mike.** *Fires in the rough: A close examination of fire hazards in the rural-urban fringe in Kelowna, BC.*
- **Rusnell, Breena.** *Geothermal energy: Analyzing the potential in Canada.*
- **Schut, Selena, Leis, Kyle, & McKenzie, Conner.** *The effects of climate change on rural-urban fringes across the globe.*
- **Sellitti, A., & Stone, R.** *Reducing disaster vulnerability in the rural-urban fringe.*
- **Spolia, Narain and Dinsdale, Brie.** *Analysing the three pillars of sustainable development in the rural-urban fringe in Canada.*
- **Yu, Richmond Ho Shing.** *The way the wind blows and water flows: Examining the perception of safety and comfort using Feng Shui at Thompson Rivers University.*
Thompson Rivers University (TRU) (con’t)

Student News (con’t)

Thompson Rivers University Geography Society (TRUGS) was involved in several activities this past year, such as a weekend trip to Wells Gray Park in November, hiking trips, and adopt-a-road. Students also spent much time raising funds to attend the WDCAG at U. of Alberta, such as multiple bake sales, a bottle drive, grant applications, and a fund-raising dinner at Nandi’s Flavours of India. This conference is important to the club because not only do the students love getting to participate in the learning, but they also get to support their fellow students who present. In particular, I want to thank Claire Irvine for her hard work as President of TRUGS and for getting our full bus to Edmonton on a very snowy day in March! The trip back to Kamloops was a beautiful sunny day and we all celebrated by playing in the snow in front of Mt. Robson. I, Tom, am looking forward to travelling to Victoria with the students for the 61th WDCAG next March!

TRUGS visit Wells Gray Park (Helmcken Falls), and Mount Robson, November 2017 (T.Waldichuk photos)

- Geography Thank You’s:
  Tom would like to thank Brandon Turner for being a student rep – for a second year -- representing BC, on the executive of the WDCAG.
  Tom is grateful for Jamie Shippit helping the students this summer fill out their travel funding application.
  Thank you again Darryl for all your hard work as Chair!

Winners of the PowerPoint Improve at the TRU Undergrad Conference: Brandon Turner & Tom Waldichuk (T.Waldichuk photo)
Student Success

UFV Geography and the Environment (GATE) is always happy to celebrate its student award winners and this year is no exception. All of our award winners have graduated from UFV and have started graduate programs at universities across the country.

The Canadian Association of Geographers annual award was presented to Travis Gingerich. Travis completed a BSc honours in Physical Geography with a thesis entitled “Optical dating of the postglacial marine transgression, Savary Island, British Columbia”. In addition to receiving the CAG award, Travis was the recipient of the Department’s Undergraduate Research Excellence Award for his honours work completed under the supervision of Olav Lian. In addition, Travis received the Dean’s Medal for Science at our June Convocation.

Travis has recently started an MSc at Simon Fraser University.

The American Association of Geographers annual award winner was Sarah Speight. Sarah graduated with a BA honours in Geography. Her thesis was “Examining trans healthcare access in BC and Yukon”. Lenore Newman supervised Sarah. Sarah is currently enrolled in a PhD program at University of Ottawa.

The Doug Nicol Memorial Award is dedicated to one of the founding members of our department who passed away in 2003. This award celebrates a student who succeeds academically but also contributes to the department and student activities. This year’s winner was Madelaine Bourdages. Madelaine completed a BA honours in Geography with a thesis titled “Presence of Microplastics in the Fraser River” completed under the supervision of Steven Marsh. As part of her honours research, Madelaine completed a practicum at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution under the supervision of Bernhard Peucker-Ehrenbrink. Madelaine was also responsible for relaunching our student association and contributed many volunteer hours for the department. Madelaine has started her MSc at Carleton University.

Miranda Monosky completed a BA honours in Geography and was the Undergraduate Indigenous Research Excellence Award winner for her thesis entitled “Waste Management and Environmental Control: Exploring the Changing Landscapes of Bailey Road and the Bailey Sanitary Landfill in Chilliwack, British Columbia”. Terah Sportel supervised Miranda’s research project. Miranda has moved from coast to coast and has started an MA at Memorial University. She is the recipient of a SSHRC CGS-M graduate scholarship.
UFV (con’t)

WDCAG Conference participation

UFV GATE was well represented at the most recent WDCAG annual meeting in Edmonton with 6 students and 2 faculty making the trek across the mountains. Our students presented 3 posters (Madelaine Bourdages, Travis Gingerich and Melissa Koyanagi) and 2 oral presentations (Madelaine Bourdages and Travis Gingerich). All were well received with Travis bringing home the best undergraduate presentation award. Most important, UFV brought home the Scavenger Hunt trophy.

UFV on their way to Edmonton

Travis Gingerich presented his honours research *Optical dating of the postglacial marine transgression, Savary Island, BC* for which he won the WDCAG2017 Best Undergraduate Oral Presentation award.

Melissa Koyanagi’s poster on *Public perception of proposed adaptation strategies for sea-level rise in Crescent Beach, BC.*

Madelaine Bourdages’s presentation at WDCAG2017.

UFV GATE was well represented at the biannual conference of the Canadian Quaternary Association (CANQAU) in Ottawa in August, which this time also involved our American counterparts, AMQUA. Olav Lian and members his research group, Travis Gingerich, Libby Biln, and Research Associate Christina Neudorf (now at the Desert Research Institute, Nevada) authored or co-authored 4 oral presentations and 1 poster.
Adventures in Geography to Interior BC

In early spring 2018 Olav Lian and Garry Fehr took several students on one of our Adventures in Geography study tours which combined aspects of the physical and human environments in southern BC, including stops in spectacular Wells Grey Provincial Park.

Over the five-day trip students learnt through illustrative examples how the current physical landscape of the province evolved from that which existed immediately following glaciation, and how people have used and adapted to that landscape through changing economies and livelihoods.

Spotlight on Learning

UFV students completing four Geography courses in Winter 2018 actively participated in the pilot CityStudio collaboration between the Abbotsford and UFV while demonstrating the possibilities of community engagement and action research. Courses involved were GEOG 252 Quantitative Methods, GEOG 253 Introduction to GIS, GEOG 257 Science Communications and GEOG 300N Forensic GIS all under the supervision on Mariano Mapili.

The students’ CityStudio project on reducing litter in parks was in line with the Abbotsford’s cornerstone strategy of Complete Community. Guided by the principles that value community’s connection with the environment and facilitation of action to mitigate social issues that impact Abbotsford communities, the students were able not only to deliver UFV’s commitment to Abbotsford a research paper and promotional/education collateral for the public, but also demonstrated the currency and usefulness of their research project. Students participating in this project won first place in the first Abbotsford HUBBUB CityStudio project and were awarded the 2018 UFV Community Service award.
UFV (con’t)
GEOG 304 Coasts and Climate Change under the supervision of Claire Hay partnered with the City of Surrey’s Coastal Flooding Adaptation Strategy team to investigate perceptions and preferences for sea level adaptation in Crescent Beach. As part of this collaboration, students in GEOG 304 with help from students in GEOG 308 Climate Change and Variability surveyed residents and visitors on sea level adaptation strategies during a pop-up event in February 2018 in the community. In addition to this survey, students produced short information videos on each of these options for the City of Surrey. Videos at: https://video.ufv.ca/category/Academics%3EGeography/48979

Faculty News

Claire Hay replaced Steven Marsh as Department Head this past summer. We are also happy to introduce Leah Sperling as our new permanent department assistant.

Olav Lian was awarded a significant NSERC Research Tools and Instrument Grant to upgrade the principal instruments in the Department’s Luminescence Dating Laboratory. Steven Marsh continues to investigate water quality and climate of the Fraser River and tributaries adjacent to the Abbotsford region. With student researchers, Steve is sampling Stoney Creek, Wilband Creek and Clayburn Creek for various water quality indicators as well as sampling for microplastics in the Fraser River at Fort Langley.

Lenore Newman is the Director of the new Food and Agriculture Institute that aims to develop food security by studying sustainable agricultural land use practices. Agri-tech innovation, farmland utilization, the future of food, new and emerging crops, global food security, agri-tourism, and value-added activities in the supply chain from farm to table form focus areas of the FAI.

John Belec has completed a research project on the topic of postwar suburbanization in Canadian and American cities. The work included collaborators from the School of Geography and Earth Sciences at McMaster University, Richard Harris and Geoff Rose. An article ‘The Federal Impact on Early Postwar Suburbanization’ based on their research findings was published in Housing Policy Debate.

UFV was awarded further funding from Universities Canada for Queen Elizabeth scholarships for internships related to urban policy and food systems in Kenya, Tanzania, and India. This project is managed by Cherie Enns and for further details on internship and international events please see https://ufveastafricainternships.com

In addition, Cherie Enns offered two successful urban and regional planning studio courses working with community partners related to the development and launch of the Rail District Food Market in Abbotsford and revitalization of a rural agricultural community. The Rail District course met in the Field House brewery this spring. Finally, Cherie Enns was awarded the Teaching Excellence award for UFV for 2018.

Social Media
To stay in touch with happenings in GATE, visit our website at www.ufv.ca/geography, follow us on Twitter @UFVGeography or on Facebook by searching UFV-Geography and the Environment.
Faculty News

**Rene Barendregt** (Professor) research is focused on paleo-environments and climate change, in particular the glacial/interglacial sedimentary records in the western Hemisphere which provide an archive of climate change as well as proxies of permafrost, snow, ice, and paleoecological conditions. The latter inform important global feedback mechanisms that influence climate. Paleomagnetism, magnetostratigraphy, and rock magnetic properties serve as useful geophysical tools in correlation and dating of deposits, and provide a measure of sediment provenance and weathering histories.

Field Geology course (Geog. 3792) delivered to a class of 22 students in the summer of 2017 (for credit in Fall 2017). The course took students through the front range of the Rocky Mountains from Crowsnest Pass to Glacier Park and included sites along the foothills. It provided an overview of the Geology of the Rocky Mountains in Alberta-Montana, the sedimentary foreland fold and thrust belt and western edge of the Western Sedimentary Basin, including bedrock and surficial geology, tectonics, sedimentary basins, and economic resources, with a secondary focus on the late Cenozoic landform and climate history of the region (i.e. tectonics, volcanism, uplift, erosion, pediments, glacial/interglacial cycles, and paleosols).
University of Lethbridge (con’t)
Rene Barendregt (con’t)
Ph.D. Graduates:
Nick Roberts (2017) (co-supervised) at SFU (Earth Sciences) “Magnetostratigraphy of the La Paz area Glacial Deposits and Interbedded Tuffs, Bolivia”.
Corinne Griffing (2018) (co-supervised) at SFU (Earth Sciences) “Late Cenozoic glaciations and Environments in Southernmost Patagonia”.

Presentations:
- Public Professor Talk (Sept. 23, 2017--University of Lethbridge): “Global Climate Archives in Mud and Rock: The magnetic recorder is always on [somewhere]!”
- Geography Club Field Trip Leader (University of Lethbridge): Dinosaur Provincial Park (Oct. 21, 2017).

Selected Publications:


University of Lethbridge (con’t)

Philip Bonnventure (Assistant Professor): lab examines the spatial distribution of permafrost systems in high-latitude mountains and their evaluation in a warming climate.

Courses taught:
- *Introduction to Physical Geography* (Geog1000): Fundamental processes and interrelationships between the atmosphere, lithosphere, biosphere, and hydrosphere using a systems science approach. Topics include landforms and landscapes, geodesy, Earth surface materials, soils, biogeography, weather and climate, hydrology, water resources, and glacial processes.
- *Introduction to Environmental Science* (ENVS 2000)
- *Biogeography* (Geog 2090): Geographic and spatial relationships of individuals, species, ecosystems, and biomes. Topics include biodiversity, dispersal, evolution and environmental change.
- *Micro-climatology* (Geog 3300): Climatology of the planetary boundary layer. An examination of the dynamic exchanges of radiation, energy, water, and carbon at the Earth-atmosphere interface. Topics include: surface radiation balance; latent and sensible heat flux; air pollution in the boundary layer; carbon dynamics in agricultural and natural ecosystems; and implications of atmospheric change on land-atmosphere interactions and tropospheric climate.

Graduate students

Presentations:

Publications:
University of Lethbridge (con’t)

Jim Byrne (Professor): examines climate change impacts modelling on water, watersheds, land covers; modeling GHGs from agriculture and ecosystems; and developing climate change solutions; communicating climate change.

Courses taught:
- **Natural Hazards and Global Environmental Change** (Geog3070): The relationships of natural extremes, global environmental change and human systems. A key emphasis is identification of natural and human-induced global environmental change.
- **Integrated Watershed Management** (Geog4415): Management of watersheds considering natural supply and demands; and natural and human-induced change. Modelling watershed processes using GIS and basic programming is a key objective of the course. Holistic management considers upstream and downstream interactions, and the interactive role of hydrology, hydraulics, ice processes, temperature, sediment, biota and land cover.
- **Climate Change: Science, Impacts, Solutions** (Geog4030/Envs4000). The role of humanity in warming the global climate is well defined. The research community has documented many of the early impacts of climate change. The research literature has extensive assessments of future impacts on human health, infrastructure, social and political changes, and the risks of military conflict. Topics include an introduction to the science, politics, health and well-being challenges of climate change; likely changes to personal and community lifestyles; and consumption of energy and other resources.

Graduate students
Mirmasoudi, S., 2014-18. Integrated watershed management; PhD Candidate.

Mansouri Kouhestani, F. 2014-18. Mitigation and adaptation of climate change enhanced urban flooding, PhD Candidate.

Rieger, C., 2015-17. Multidisciplinary assessment of hazards preparation and post event response, MSc.

Presentations:
- **Our Energy Transition**. Keynote to Canadian Water Resources Association Fiftieth Anniversary National Conference, Banquet Speaker, June 6, 2017. (Invited)

Publications:


Laura Chasmer (Assistant Professor) researches impacts of climate change and related hazards on northern ecosystem change using hydro-meteorological, ecological and remote sensing methods.

Courses taught
- *Weather and Climate* (Geog 2300): Introduction to the atmosphere, global circulation and the role of energy exchange. The structure and behaviour of regional weather systems are also examined as well as synoptic meteorology, bioclimatology, climate variations and cycles.
- *Environment and Resources Management* (Geog 3075): Theory and methods of environmental assessment with a focus on adaptive resources management.
- *Wetlands* (Envs 3000): New course that examines the characterisation and classification of wetland ecosystems with a focus on wetlands of Canada. Wetland hydrology, biogeochemistry, and ecology as well as policy and reclamation strategies.

Graduate Students
- **Linda Flade**, PhD student; *Peatland ecosystem change due to climate change, permafrost thaw and wildfire* (2017-2021)
- **Thais Abib**, MSc Emerging Leaders of the Americas Program (ELAP) internship student from University of São Paulo.
Selected Presentations:


Selected publications:


Craig Coburn (Associate Professor) is new Chair of the Department of Geography. He was on study leave in the past year and instructed no courses. He did, however, get a few things done. He also did some fieldwork where the Sun always shines, and is reasonably sure that his diffuse white beard didn’t cause any measurement issues.

Publications:


University of Lethbridge (con’t)
Jolene Debert (PhD, Instructor) research has its roots in a commercial community excavation project in 2008. Our excavation revealed the first early Neolithic timber structure in Wales, adjacent work found a second. Working with Gwynedd Archaeological Trust she completed a full microwear analysis of the stone tools found. Early Neolithic timber structures are a bit of an enigma as they were not simply houses, or storehouses but also pivotal in the social and ideological changes that took place with the arrival of the Neolithic (4000BC) and all the material culture that that includes. With very few of them having been found it is important to extract as much information as possible from these short live unique buildings.

Courses taught:
- **Geomorphology** (Geog 2030): The scientific study of landforms comprising a spectrum of approaches from both historical and functional conceptual bases. Basic concepts covered in landform description and analysis are uniformity, evolution, complexity, and systems.
- **Introduction to geographical information systems** (Geog 2735): An introductory course in the geographical information sciences with an emphasis on concepts in geographical information systems (GIS) and remote sensing. Data structures and fundamental GIS functions. Introduction to remote sensing of the Earth’s surface, aerial photography, photogrammetry, and visual image interpretation.

Marcus Dostie (Instructor, Ph.D. abd)

Field methods in Geog 3780 with Drs. Craig Coburn and Tom Johnson

**Field Courses:**
Field Research in Geography (Geog 3780): Described under Tom Johnston’s profile.

**Presentations:**
Maura Hanrahan (Associate Professor) current research focuses on the historical geography of the Arctic and on the political geographies of the Inuit and the Newfoundland Mi’Kmaq.

Courses taught:

- **Intro to Native American Studies** (1000): Native culture and heritage from traditional through contemporary times. A general survey of disciplinary areas such as art, politics, language and history.
- **The Inuit of the Arctic & subarctic** (LibEd 3850): History and culture of the Inuit; emphasizes the post-European contact period and the political and related issues facing contemporary Inuit.
- **Mi’kmaq** (NAS 3850): Focuses on the philosophy, land-use, culture, history, and governance of the Mi’Kmaq of what is now Quebec, the Maritimes, and Newfoundland and Labrador; cover pre-European times to the present.

Graduate students:

Tsai Allen, October 2017 (MA) Responding to stakeholder concerns regarding hydraulic fracturing in Western Newfoundland. Memorial University of Newfoundland. (Dr. Hanrahan is adjunct at MUN)

Presentations:

- **Re-imagining Canada’s Indigenous Landscape: Erasing the Ktaqmkuk Mi’kmaq**. Association for Canadian Studies in Ireland, Waterford, Ireland.
- **Constructing a legend: Captain Robert Abram Bartlett in the Arctic**. Sea Literature. Culture and History Section, Popular Culture Association, Indianapolis, Indiana, US.
- Inuit and Explorers in Arctic expedition narratives. Western Division-Canadian Association of Geographers, Edmonton, AB.
- **Mi’kmaq and meat in the modern era: Crafting right relationships with all our relations**. Earth Day, University of Lethbridge.
- **Water governance in Canada in rural and Indigenous communities**. Brown Bag Series, Prentice Institute, University of Lethbridge.

Publications:


University of Lethbridge (con’t)

Chris Hopkinson (Professor) is the Campus Alberta Innovates Program (CAIP) Research Chair in Terrestrial Ecosystems Remote Sensing. Research is focused on integration of in situ, high-resolution remote sensing, spatial and temporal data sources to better understand such processes as glacial and periglacial dynamics in alpine environments to novel carbon balance assessment routines in forest environments.

Courses taught:
- *Hydrology I* (Geog3400): Components of the hydrological cycle, processes of water movement and storage, introduction to drainage basin form and process.
- *Advanced Hydrology II* (Geog 4400): Interactions of the atmosphere, surface and subsurface water systems. Hydrological modelling using geographical information systems.
Graduate students:
Linda Flade, PhD, 2017 - Remote sensing for wetland monitoring and reclamation in boreal environments. (Co-advisor Laura Chasmer)
Dennis Quick, MSc, 2017 - Determining cirque contribution to late summer stream flows in the West Castle watershed. (Co-advisor Jim Byrne)
Celeste Barnes, PhD, 2016 - Rocky Mountain snowpack and runoff event model optimization and visualization. (Co-advisor Jim Byrne)
Kelsey Cartwright, MSc, 2016 - 2018 Spatio-temporal variations in snow depth & driving mechanisms in a temperate mesoscale mountainous watershed.
Maxim Okhrimenko, MSc, 2016 – 2018 Applications of multi-spectral lidar: River channel bathymetry and canopy vegetation indices.

Selected Invited Presentations:
- Using/producing images as data: Using lidar to study ecosystem dynamics. University of Lethbridge ‘Take Two’ Public Speaker Series, Lethbridge February 1, 2018.

Selected Publications:


University of Lethbridge (con’t)
Dan Johnson (Professor) studies the biogeography and ecology of insect-plant-pathogen interactions, invasive species, biometeorology, bioclimatology, and ecological agriculture.

Courses taught:
- Biogeography (GEOG2090 + Lab): Geographic and spatial relationships of individuals, species, ecosystems, and biomes.
- Insect Biogeography and Ecology (GEOG4030): Ecological relationships and biogeographic study of insects and their allies.
- Current Events in Environmental Science (ENVS4000): This course looks into current events in environmental science. These can include sustainability concepts, drought (causes, history, impacts management, futures); threatened and endangered species, climate policy, law, agreements, opportunities, and denial; climate sensitivity, change and damage control; invasive species; oceans, pollution, fisheries, global change, ecosystems; etc.
- Insect sampling and taxonomy. Field course in Grimshaw and Grande Prairie, Alberta, funded by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry.

Graduate Students:
Qing Xia, 2018. Analysis of historical and current distribution of Potato Psyllid (Bactericera cockerelli) and the induced plant disease Psyllid Yellows, in relation to standard climate indices. MSc

Stephnie Watson, 2018. Analysis of operational data from the Lethbridge Transit System with respect to the environment, population, and spatial context. MSc

Martha Lucia Astorquiza Enriquez, in progress. Environmental impact and management of food packaging at the University Of Lethbridge with respect to sustainability and student’s choices.

Publications:

Hester Jiskoot (Associate Professor) research wants to increase process understanding of the controls on ice flow and mass balance of Arctic and Alpine glaciers through the quantification of often ignored edge effects, such as fog, tributary-trunk interactions and valley shape. Hester was also Secretary-Treasurer and Past-President WDCAG and is currently Associate Chief Editor of the *Journal of Glaciology*.

**Courses taught:**

- *Field Techniques in the Earth Sciences* (GEOG3710): Mapping, recording and analysis of physical and cultural features in the southern Alberta landscape. Field research methodologies.
- *Glaciology & Glacial Geomorphology* (GEOG3060): Perennial snow and ice and the effects of glaciers in the development of landforms. Weekly labs (photo on left).

**Graduate students:**

Gaëlle Gilson, PhD, *Macrophysical properties and a climatology of Arctic coastal fog in East Greenland* (2014-18)


**NSERC-USRA student:**

Tyrell Nielsen: *Deriving macrophysical properties of Arctic fog over glacierized coasts from satellite imagery* (2017)

**Selected Presentations:**

- Arctic coastal fog over glaciers from ground, upper-air and remote sensing observations. Spring Speaker Series. UMaine Climate Change Institute. 22 Feb 2018 & SFU, Vancouver. 5 Apr 2018. -invited.
**University of Lethbridge** (con’t)
**Hester Jiskoot** (con’t)

**Publications:**


**Workshops:**
Courses taught:
Field Research in Geography (Geog 3780): Designed to introduce students to the research process in a field setting and is very well received by students who have taken the course. Students complete two common exercises and then working in groups of three – it is bear country we are working in – students design and undertake a self-directed field-based research project. Regarding the two common exercises, one is structured along the lines of a scientific paper, while the other is written up in the form of a consulting report. This introduces students to two different styles of writing.

Along with stewarding students through the process of problem identification, research design, execution and the write up, the underlying aim of the course is to break down perceived and artificial barriers between human and physical geography. Students are also encouraged (and expected) to let the question drive the methodology and techniques used, rather than tailor questions to particular methods and techniques. Finally, in the past students have used approaches running the gamut from quantitative approaches to qualitative and mixed-method approaches.

Geog 3780 at the University of Lethbridge West Castle Field.

Publications:
https://doi.org/10.1111/cag.12464
University of Lethbridge (con’t)
Stefan Kienzle (Professor; Dept. Chair 2017-2018) researches hydrological modelling, and is interested in mapping climate change and impacts, and wildlife reserve GIS implementation.

Dr. Kienzle received the Water’s Next Award, Academic category, at the Canadian Water Summit, July 2018
Congratulations Stefan!

Courses taught:
- **Introduction to GIS** (GEOG 3740): Geographical data analysis, modelling, and functions; Spatial database management systems; variety of computer applications.

- **Advanced GIS** (GEOG 4740): Examines advanced and applied topics in geographical information science with a focus on spatial analysis, data visualization, geographical problem solving, and new directions.

Graduate Students:
**Trevor Deering** (MSc): Mapping and spatial modelling of soils in the Castle River watershed

**Marcus Dostie** (PhD): Spatiotemporal landscapes: How environmental factors influence primate behaviour
Selected Presentations:

- Mapping changes of 43 climate indices at high spatial resolution for Alberta, Canada, for the period 1950 to 2010. At Climate Data Homogenization and Analysis of Climate Variability, Trends and Extremes, Poster Presentation, European Geosciences Union General Assembly, 7–12 April 2018, Vienna, Austria.
- The Last Lecture. Public lecture series organized by the Student Union of the University of Lethbridge. April 10, 2018 (Invited).
- An inconvenient sequel: Truth to power, by Al Gore. Lethbridge International Film Festival. Film moderator and public panel discussion, Lethbridge, March 09, 2018. (Invited)
- Alberta Water under conditions of climate change. What should we do? Public lecture and panel discussion at Pat Carlson speaker series: Climate change and the future of energy. Medicine Hat, Jan. 25, 2018. (Invited)

Publications:


Matthew Letts (Professor, Associate Dean) is a plant ecologist and microclimatologist in the Department of Geography, whose research centres upon plant ecophysiological and photosynthetic acclimation to environmental stress. His current focus is on senior administrative duties as Associate Dean in the Faculty of Arts and Science, and as Academic Program Director for the Destination Project during the construction of the Science and Academic Building. (http://www.destinationproject.ca)

Matt is delighted to have the opportunity to introduce incoming students to the wonders of geography, by teaching Introduction to Physical Geography (GEOG 1000) again this year.
University of Lethbridge (con’t)

Derek Peddle (Professor) is Professor of Geography and Director of the Alberta Terrestrial Imaging Centre (ATIC) at the University of Lethbridge. His remote sensing and geospatial research involves software development and applications in environmental change in forestry, agriculture, mountain/northern terrain analysis, watersheds and oceans, with field experience spanning from the high Arctic to the tropical south Pacific.

He is Past-President of the Canadian Remote Sensing Society (CRSS-SCT), an Associate Editor of the Canadian Journal of Remote Sensing (CJRS-JCT), and has been General Conference Chair of the Canadian Symposium on Remote Sensing.

Field Courses:
Remote Sensing Field Techniques (Geography 4710/5710): Building on previous offerings in the Rocky Mountains, coulees, riparian, agricultural and grassland environments, this course develops major field concepts involving measurement and observation in support of satellite, airborne and UAV remote sensing, including validation. A host of laboratory, field and low-altitude sensors and equipment are deployed (e.g. spectroradiometers, goniometers, UAV, terrestrial LiDAR, LAI devices, sun photometers, etc) involving land, aquatic, and atmospheric applications in agricultural, wetland and urban parkland settings with external government and private sector partners.

Graduate students:
Adam Stanford, 2018. Msc. Spectrodirectional investigation of a geometric-optical canopy reflectance model by laboratory simulation. (Co-supervised with Craig Coburn)

Presentations:
- Stanford, A., Coburn, C.A., & Peddle, D.R. Geometric optical canopy reflectance model validation from laboratory goniometer BRDF measurements over forest object targets. 39th Canadian Symposium on Remote Sensing, 19-21 June 2018, Saskatoon, SK.
- Excellence in Canadian earth observation science for Arctic and northern monitoring and applications. Invited Presentation at EUMETSAT, April 2018, Germany
- [Also co-organised/chaired 4 Special Sessions on Arctic Earth Observation at EUMETSAT Satellite Conference, September 2018, Estonia]

Publications:

Upcoming Lead Guest Editor:
University of Lethbridge (con’t)
Ivan Townshend (Professor) is an urban and social geographer with interests in social structure, community, disasters, health, and well-being in both urban and rural contexts.

Graduates students:

Presentations:
- The changing social ecology of Calgary within a ‘Three Cities’ context. IGU Urban Commission, Salvador, Brazil, August 2017.

Publications


University of Lethbridge (con’t)

Julie Young (Assistant Professor) is Canada Research Chair (Tier 2) in Critical Border Studies. In addition to her PhD she holds Graduate Diploma in Refugee and Migration Studies from York University.

Her research program aims to better understand North America’s borders in the context of broader global processes as well as what local practices tell us about where, how, and for whom borders work. Her research interests are broadly in the areas of political geography, critical border studies, refugee and migration policies and practices, and North and Central America.


Courses taught:
Political Geography: Borders and Displacements (GEOG 3850 B)

Graduate students:

Presentations:
- Contested border crossings: Locating refugee deterrence around the Canada-US border. Annual Meeting of the Western Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers (WDCAG), Edmonton, AB, 10 March, 2018.

Publications


Upcoming Conference:
The Line Crossed Us: New Directions in Critical Border Studies
From June 14-15, 2019, University of Lethbridge will host a conference that aims to highlight the work of emerging scholars and community-based researchers in border studies. The conference brings indigenous and migration politics into conversation while also historicizing contemporary border issues and “crises.”
University of Lethbridge (con’t)
Wei Xu (Professor) is a geographer interested in how humans interact with nature and how we organize ourselves in place and space.

Graduate students
Lingling Xu, M.A. 2017. *Integrated Assessment of Sustainable Agricultural Food Production System in Shaanxi, China.*

Presentations
- *Theorizing social-spatial (in)justice in Shanghai’s urban redevelopment, Making cities work for inclusive development in China.* The Education University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, Dec. 5-6, 2017.

Publications


Li, Jihong, Rongxu Qiu, Kaiming Li, & Wei Xu (2018) Informal land development on the urban fringe. *Sustainability* 10 (1) 128 -145; doi:10.3390/su10010128


University of Northern BC (UNBC) (submitted by Gail Fondahl)

Updates: new faculty, new PhD & new Post-Docs
UNBC is delighted to welcome Dr. Joseph Shea to the program – as an Environmental Geomatics specialist. Joe held a post-doctoral fellowship at UNBC in 2010-2012, after receiving his PhD in Physical Geography from UBC. Since then he worked as Senior Glacier Hydrologist at the International Center for Integrated Mountain Development in Kathmandu, Nepal (2012-2016), and then as Research Scientist (2016-2017) at the Coldwater Lab in Canmore, Alberta (which is part of the Centre for Hydrology at the University of Saskatchewan).

Dr. Sinead Earley, instructor at UNBC for the past three years, successfully defended her PhD thesis this spring, *Forests, beetles, and climates in British Columbia’s Central Interior: historical geographies of paradigm change in forest science and management, 1945 – present*, at the Department of Geography and Planning, Queen’s University. Sinead covered off for a whole slew of courses, while various colleagues took sabbaticals, and she took a very active role in mentoring UNBC’s Geography Club while here. She will be missed by students and colleagues alike!

UNBC also welcomed several post-doctoral fellows this year:

Dr. May Farrales (Supervisors Drs. Sarah de Leeuw & Margot Parkes) has joined UNBC’s Health Arts Research Centre and the ECHO Network, to examine arts-based and narrative inquiry approaches to understanding ways of addressing the impacts of resource extractive industries on rural and remote communities.

Connected with both Geography and Health Sciences, Dr. Dawn Hoogeveen (Drs. Henry Harder & Margot Parkes), focuses on the cumulative impacts of resource extraction, including an analysis of the epistemological underpinnings of resource extraction research on health and how health can be better integrated into Environmental Assessment Policy.

Dr. Michael Lait (supervised by Dr. Greg Halseth & Marleen Morris) is working with UNBC’s Community Development Institute, from its Fort St. John office, on a community indicators program as well as an age-friendly assessment and action plan for BC’s largest oil and gas community.

Dr. Kriti Mukherjee (with Dr. Brian Menounos) is focusing her research on glaciology, as part of a project to secure future water for the mountain west, focusing on the cryospheric changes.
Dr. Marieka Sax (with Dr. Catherine Nolin) is with the Cumulative Impacts Research Consortium, studying how women and men of different backgrounds experience the benefits and burdens of resource development in British Columbia.

A Banting Postdoctoral Fellow with UNBC's Health Arts Research Centre, Dr. Vanessa Sloan Morgan (with Dr. Margot Parkes) is exploring youth-led decision-making at the intersections of environment, health, and communities in northern BC.

We are excited to have this group of highly accomplished and dynamic young scholars at UNBC!

**Field Schools and New Branding**
This past year Geography offered two field courses. Catherine Nolin once again offered (for the 8th time) her popular UNBC Geography + Rights Action Field School to Guatemala (undergraduate & graduate level), taking 10 students south in May to examine issues of human rights and (in)justice.
UNBC (con’t)
Brian Menounos and Joe Shea led a Geography field school in the Death Valley area of California, also in May. It focused on the geological and geomorphological formations of the region. Temperatures hit 46°C in the valley, while in the nearby mountains the group ‘enjoyed’ snow.

Geography has rebranded and relaunched its two introductory courses this year: Planet Earth (GEOG 101, formerly Introduction to Human Geography) and Earth from Above (GEOG 100, formerly Natural Hazards). Fall enrollments suggest that the students like the new titles!

Completed Graduate Students (2018)
The following students graduated this year:

Cherise Chrispen, MA Natural Resource and Environmental Studies (Geography), Conservation and Consumption: Conflicted Bedfellows in Sea Turtle Conservation (Zoë Meletis)

R.G. Christopher Turner, PhD Natural Resource and Environmental Studies, A Geography of Reconciliation: An Effective, Just and Lawful Strategy for Managing First Nation Overlap Disputes in British Columbia (Gail Fondahl & Michael Murphy)

Kirk Walker, MA Interdisciplinary Studies (Geography + Anthropology), Landscape and Collective Memory in Post-Conflict Ayacucho, Peru: Narratives and Photography of Survivors (Catherine Nolin)
UNBC (con’t)

WDCAG 2018 Annual Conference attendee Rebecca DeLorey (MA NRES Planning) brought home the award for top Masters presentation. Several faculty members, graduate students, and undergraduate students gave presentations, and a great time was had by all.

Glen Thielmann received the J. Alistair McVey Award for Teaching Excellence for his work at D.P. Todd Secondary School, Prince George.

Awards and Acclamations

Dr. Brian Menounos received the Distinguished Scholar Award from UNBC’s Natural Resources and Environment Studies Institute (NRESi). This award is bestowed on an NRESi member who has demonstrated a profound influence on inter-disciplinary and/or applied research or service relating to natural resources and/or environment in British Columbia.
UNBC (con’t)

Dr. Chris Turner was awarded the Governor General’s Gold Medal at UNBC’s 2018 Commencement, in recognition of outstanding academic achievement at the graduate level.

Exchange student Lisa Schroeder won the undergraduate paper award from the Canadian Women and Geography study group at this year’s Canadian Association of Geographers conference in Quebec City. Lisa, a Geography student at the Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn, spent two semesters at UNBC. Her paper, titled "Unconventional Movements: Feminist Activist Use of Creative Spatialities to Increase Access to Safe Abortions," began as a class project with Dr. Zoë Meletis.

UNBC Geography alumnus Warren Grafton was recognized by Prince George Chamber of Commerce, as one of Prince George’s #Top40Under40 for his professional accomplishments and his volunteer work in the community.

2018 Publications (so far!)


UNBC (con’t)


Grants Received

Ellen Petticrew, with a group of colleagues (P. Owens, S. Dery and M. Parkes) received a $500,000 grant (2018-2022) from the Nechako Environmental Enhancement Fund to pursue integrated watershed research.

Marieka Sax, in collaboration with Dr. Daniel Tubb at the University of New Brunswick and the support of a group of colleagues (C. Nolin, G. Halseth, M. Gislason, T. Beckley, S. O’Donnell) received a $55,000 Insight Development Grant (2018-2020) from SSHRC for their research project “Buzz, Boom, and Bust: A comparative case study of the gendered impacts of the speculative phase of resource development in New Brunswick and British Columbia.”
Other News

Zoë Meletis once again played a key role in helping to organize this year’s *Inspiring Women Among Us* series of events in November 2017. [https://www.unbc.ca/inspiring-women](https://www.unbc.ca/inspiring-women). Zoë presented on research conducted during IWAU with two UNBC undergraduate students (Laura Pyke and Ashley Riceman) at the Feminist Geography Conference that preceded the CAG and IGU: *Feminist Geographies 2018: in/during Troubled Times: Dialogues, Interventions and Praxis.*

Catherine Nolin traveled to Bangladesh with the Guatemala Forensic Anthropology Foundation in May, to provide forensic expertise on the Rohingya refugee situation.

Gail Fondahl carried out fieldwork in eastern Siberia (Zabaykalsiy Kray) in early March, on her SSRHC project, “Indigenous Territorial Rights in the Russian Federation: A Quarter Century Onward). With colleagues from Russia and Lithuania, she visited indigenous Evenki villages where she had worked in 1994, to interview people on recent developments in land issues. The group also presented their research project at the Zabaykal Regional Museum in the city of Chita.
Faculty News:

**Crystal Tremblay:** The project 'Mapping Waste Governance' created participatory videos (PV) which are part of a series filmed in Obunga, Kenya as a partnership development which seeks to identify, examine and document grassroots social innovations and challenges in waste governance in different geographic regions. In April 2018, members of the Kisumu Waste Network (KIWAN) and the Obunga Residents Association participated in a 5-day PV workshop to explore and document challenges and social innovations in waste governance in their community. This project is part of an international action research initiative to map waste governance and social innovations through multiple case studies on waste picker initiatives in Buenos Aires (Argentina), Dar es Salaam (Tanzania), Kisumu (Kenya), Managua (Nicaragua), São Paulo (Brazil), Vancouver & Montreal (Canada). Mapping Waste Governance seeks to map successful waste management initiatives, arrangements and policies in some cities in the global South and global North. For more information please visit: [https://www.cbrl.uvic.ca/mapping-waste](https://www.cbrl.uvic.ca/mapping-waste)

- Kambuta: [https://youtu.be/WTaoMVQkVX8](https://youtu.be/WTaoMVQkVX8)
- Obunga waste innovation: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FTD87lB2k5s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FTD87lB2k5s)
- USAFI BORA: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uoqZb4vU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uoqZb4vU)

Publications:

The University of Victoria Geography department recently launched 'Mapping our Common Ground' a resource and practical guide for community mapping. It is available at: [http://mapping.uvic.ca/sites(mapping.uvic.ca/files/Mapping%20Our%20Common%20Ground%202018%20low%20res.pdf](http://mapping.uvic.ca/sites(mapping.uvic.ca/files/Mapping%20Our%20Common%20Ground%202018%20low%20res.pdf)


Webinars:

A recent webinar series focused on Community Based Research and positive social change: [http://communityresearchcanada.ca/webinars/](http://communityresearchcanada.ca/webinars/)


**Sophia Carodenuto** has been working in collaboration with the Government of Vanuatu to design and implement workable solutions to the challenge of climate change. Vanuatu is a small island developing country in the South Pacific whose population is spread over 65 inhabited islands where the majority of people’s income are based on smallholder agriculture. In the face of increasing tropical storms and sea level rise, integrating tree planting and sustainable forest management into the landscape has the potential to significantly increase the resilience of communities in Vanuatu.
Dr. Carodenuto has been collaborating with Vanuatu’s Department of Forestry and local NGOs to develop a nationwide tree planting and agroforestry program.

Four Maasai from Tanzania will be visiting the Department of Geography at UVic in late October as part of a Connections grant headed by Phil Dearden and including Departmental members Crystal Tremblay, and Sophia Cardenuto. The visit builds on previous connections working with the Kesho Trust, a Tanzanian NGO working on grass-roots community engagement that was founded by Departmental Adjunct, Bruce Downie, who is currently based in Tanzania. The Maasai are interested to gain exposure to approaches to improved land planning and management and will undertake extended field visits to both Clayoquot Sound and the Yukon to meet with, and learn from, First Nation initiatives in these areas.

(Cam Owens)

This May Victoria students were offered a unique learning opportunity through a course called Food and the City co-lead by entrepreneur Chris Hildreth (of Topsoil Innovative Urban Agriculture) and Cam Owens. This course was aimed at students concerned with urban sustainability, social justice, and good food, who were also wanting to learn how to make a living in a way that aligned with their values. While many courses focus on the socio-ecological issues we face, this course was directed at taking action. In an intensive two-week period, students explored the ecological, economic, and social rationale for local, organic agriculture and learned about the business of growing food in the city in a hands-on way. Check out this entertaining video overview produced by student Levi Hildebrand:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5aQ3Jk3vY3M&t=9s
UVic (con’t)

Food in the City
UVic (con’t)

CindyAnn Rose-Redwood (Assistant Teaching Professor) and Reuben Rose-Redwood (Associate Research Professor) are currently working on an upcoming edited book entitled *International Encounters: Higher Education and the International Student Experience*. This edited volume examines the diversity of international student experiences in the top four destination countries in the English-speaking world (United States, United Kingdom, Australia, and Canada) and explores the challenges and opportunities of “international encounters” on college and university campuses.

Graduate and Alumni student news:
Lisa Wood (PhD 2012) accepted an Assistant professor position at UNBC in Prince George
Bethany Coulthard (PhD 2016) accepted an Assistant professor position at University of Nevada in Las Vegas

UVic Libraries hired their 2nd UVic Geography graduate student to conduct introductory geospatial workshops for anyone on campus. Alex Goudine, with a combined undergraduate degree from UVic in Geomatics & Computer Science is this year’s graduate student (in his Masters Program supervised by Chris Bone).

Department Publications (selected)


Other recent UVic Geography news at: http://www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/geography/home/news/index.php