

# Western Division, Canadian Association of Geographers



# Newsletter

Fall 2005

## President's Message

In terms of highlights from the Annual General Meeting of the national association, total CAG membership was down slightly this year from 2004 levels (i.e., from 1,027 to 950), but is still higher than it has been for most of the past ten years. Chris Sharpe noted that the rate of membership amongst full time faculty across Canada remains low. The good news is that the number of student members, while down slightly from 2004, is still much higher than it has been since the early 1990s.

There were major developments concerning *The Canadian Geographer*. Lawrence Berg (UBC-O) presented the Editor's Report, noting considerable improvement in the journal's ISI ranking (21/35 in 2003, up from 27/35 in 2002) and 'impact factor' (0.795 in 2003, up from 0.405 in 2002). We were also informed that Lawrence would not be seeking a second term as Editor. At the meeting, the Executive endorsed the Selection Committee's recommendation that Roger Hayter (UBC) be appointed the new editor. Roger officially takes over in 2006.

Future locations of the CAG Annual Meetings are Lakehead University (2006), University of Saskatchewan (2007) and Laval University (2008).

One idea that came up during the course of the meeting was for our division to consider the creation of a manual to guide departments and programs who host divisional annual meetings. This is a practice of the national association that I feel we could copy and adapt to our particular needs. While not wanting to burden those who are set to host (Thompson Rivers) or

who have recently hosted (Medicine Hat, Lethbridge, UNBC), perhaps we should think about putting together an information kit to aid future planning of annual WD-CAG meetings (e.g., spreadsheet templates to assist with registration, bulk buying of receipts, etc.).

In terms of WD-CAG developments, I want to draw attention to a proposal being headed by Jim Windsor (CNC) to create and name two new awards: one for scholarly activity and the other for teaching excellence. I think this is a useful way to promote a sense of community and commitment to the division and, perhaps, to attract greater and more regular participation from those in the region whom we do not typically hear from at our annual meetings. The Executive will discuss this proposal (and vote on a motion to regularize the awards and their names) at our next AGM. In the meantime, we will be presenting an award for scholarship and, potentially, one for teaching at the meetings in Kamloops next March. This will be a "pilot project" with an interim nomination committee headed by Jim Windsor to look after the details and report back to the Executive. I encourage your thoughts or concerns about the pilot and the prospect of these awards being a regular feature of our annual conferences.

Finally, I wish to extend my appreciation and gratitude to those who contributed the updates included in this issue of the Newsletter, and to Ineke Dijks for yet again pulling everything together. The Newsletter serves a vital function to our association, providing a forum for members to keep abreast of what is happening in other

departments and programs, and a handy resource to communicate our activities and achievement to the rest of the CAG membership and beyond.

Very best wishes to everyone and I look forward to seeing you all in Kamloops!  
Neil Hanlon, President WDCAG

## **Augustana – University of Alberta**

Following the merger with the University of Alberta in 2004, Augustana was established as a distinct faculty. The faculty is undergoing a period of renewal and growth. This year, a new faculty member in geography/environmental studies will be hired; check our website for the advertisement which will go out shortly. Next year, construction will begin on a new library and administration building.

**Glen Hvenegaard** completed his term as Acting Department Chair exhausted but glad to have had that administrative experience. This past summer, he and Physical Education colleague, Morten Asfeldt, took ten students on a 3-week field course and canoe expedition to the Canadian Arctic. They paddled the Mara/Burnside Rivers in Nunavut, ending at Bathurst Inlet. Highlights included passing by the migration of the Bathurst caribou herd (10,000+ in one day), gyrfalcons, rapids, and wolves. This summer, he also completed a biogeography study on using birds as indicators of biodiversity on rural farmland in parkland and prairie Alberta. In November, he will present on this topic at the conference of the Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network meeting in Penticton. Earlier, he gave a paper at the Canadian Congress of Leisure Research in Nanaimo on the economic impact of wildlife festivals. Glen will complete his work with the Battle River Watershed Advisory Group this fall.

This fall, sessional instructor **Andre Legris**, is teaching introductory environmental science and statistics. For more information contact [glenhvenegaard@ualberta.ca](mailto:glenhvenegaard@ualberta.ca) or check our website.

<http://www.augustana.ca/programs/science/geography/>

Submitted by Glen Hvenegaard

## **Capilano College**

The term started off with a “crisis” in student numbers. The number of students registering at Capilano College is down substantially and is resulting in close inspection of all sections. No geography sections have been cut, but ones being taught at night or not in prime times are not fully registered. Plans for the spring term have already begun with a “starring” of sections that may not be offered. In Geography one of our Geomorphology sections (Geog 112) has been starred.

Our department continues with **Karen Ewing, Charles Greenberg, Jeanne Mikita, Cheryl Schreder, Sheila Ross, and Brett McGillivray**. We were fortunate to add **Bob Patrick** (nearly completed PhD from Guelph) to teach a section up in our Sechelt Campus this fall.

On the “inactive” list we have **Chris Gratham** who has been seconded as Manager of Educational Technology and **Scott McLeod**, who is on a paid educational leave and is about to have two books published – one on Economic Geography and the other a Geography of Asia.

The department offerings have remained stable with the exception of a new second year Weather and Climate course given by **Sheila Ross**. Our introductory Human Geography is being offered as a core course in the new Global Stewardship program at the college.

The department, mainly through the organization of **Jeanne Mikita**, has already run a successful one-day field trip that included the Fraser Valley to Hope and the Hope Slide. Maybe these are ways to attract more students to Geography?

Our fall enrollments have been full across the spectrum, but spring enrollments are down, which is the situation for all Social Science courses within the college. There is some question as to whether this will be a trend. As well, since the college is increasing our summer school offerings,

there is some question as to whether these trends are not related.

Submitted by Brett McGillivray

## Mount Royal College

Things continue to change on the campus of Mount Royal College. Still in transition, we are waiting for confirmation of degree-granting and, possibly, university status. At the moment, in Earth Sciences, we are working on creating a Bachelor of Science degree with an option of a minor in geography. Our classes continue with full enrollment and we are working on introducing more sections or new courses as they become both necessary and feasible. We are currently preparing itineraries for new International Travel Study courses with the first trip leaving to Eastern Europe in the spring of 2006.

We are down to one full-time geographer while **Pam MacQuarrie** (formerly Van Bakel) is on sabbatical for the 2005-2006 academic year. She is enrolled in the GIS program at COGS in Nova Scotia and is enjoying both the program and the region.

**Barb McNicol** has been dividing her time between the Academic Development Center at MRC working both as Curriculum Development Consultant for the College and in the Earth Sciences Department as Geography Program Coordinator and instructor. She is continuing her research on commercial operators and environmental assessment in Banff National Park and is finishing a project for publication titled 'National Parks as Outdoor Classrooms' which focuses on creating curriculum for environmental and tourism studies around park management-defined environmental and human use related themes.

Teaching demands keep our many dedicated part-time instructors busy. **Shawn Mueller** is teaching the Mapping and GIS (Geography 3313) course while Pam is away. Shawn is also a doctoral student in the Department of Geography at the University of Calgary and is completing research on geo-visualization and has a wide

interest in cartography, GIS, remote sensing and spatial data handling.

**Susan Hunt** continues to teach World Regional Geography (Geography 2213) and is coordinating the numerous sections of Physical Geography 2201. Susan has been actively involved with the Alberta Great Canadian Geography Challenge sponsored by the Royal Canadian Geographical Society for the past four years. This event involves Junior High School Students from both the Public and Catholic School systems from all over Alberta.

**Dana Naldrett**, instructor of geomorphology as well as soil science for the Geography Program, has recently formed the Applied Environmental Research Group of Canada in order to facilitate interaction among instructors and students at the undergraduate and master's levels in all environmental fields. The group is particularly aimed at giving students practical experience in current environmental issues.

**Cameron Owens** (Human Geography 2203 and Political Geography 2251) is continuing with his research in an effort to understand the 'big picture' facing the interconnected crises of environmental degradation, resource depletion and social decline. He is focusing on major barriers inhibiting the transformation of more sustainable consumption in North American urban settings and developing an integral framework of strategies for overcoming these barriers. Cam has been working closely with Calgary Waste Services and has recently addressed the Canadian Institute of Planners.

Submitted by Barbara McNicol

## Trinity Western University

Enrolment in geography courses has remained steady over the past year, although we have seen a decline in the number of geography majors. We graduated a larger-than-normal group in spring and we have not replaced them with new majors. As well, the Environmental Studies program attracts some students who might otherwise choose geography as a major. Two of its streams have a large component of

geography courses along with the regular core of geography, biology, and chemistry courses.

We are happy to welcome Dr. **Geraldine Jordan** back to the department from her maternity leave. David and Geraldine's daughter, Johanna, was born June 28, 2004 and makes occasional appearances in the department.

We also welcome **Maxwell Ofosuhene**, a newly-minted Ph.D. from the University of Saskatchewan. Maxwell is responsible for a large component of our human geography courses. His dissertation explores the phenomenon of home-based businesses in the rural sector.

**Dr. Paul Kariya**, CEO of the Pacific Salmon Foundation, continued his association with Trinity Western by taking a section of our Geography of Canada course.

We are also grateful for the able assistance of **Dean Hintz** who stepped in to teach the cartography and GIS courses in Geraldine's absence.

**Carl Tracie** has been sliding into retirement with a reduced course load last year, and will drop off the edge at the end of this year.

The department has been able to expand the field and lab experience in several physical courses with the addition of a wet lab with computers, a Meiji microscope with stand and high intensity illuminator, additional GPS units, and assorted smaller pieces of equipment.

Submitted by Carl Tracie

## University of British Columbia

This has been another outstanding year, in which many of our faculty members have won major awards and prizes for their scholastic work. Most notable is Professor **Tim Oke**, who has added to his already impressive list of awards by being elected recipient of an honorary degree (Doctor Honoris Causa) by the University of Łódź, Poland (pronounced: Wudj). Tim received his degree in October. He was also elected first recipient of the Luke Howard Award of

the International Association of Urban Climate, and to cap an incredible year, was selected as this year's recipient of the prestigious Massey Medal of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society. The Medal is awarded to an outstanding individual who has made exemplary contributions to advancing our understanding of the Geography of Canada, and it was Tim's work on urban and near-surface climates which was given special recognition. The citation for Tim may be found at: [www.rcgs.org/rcgs/awards/awards\\_massey05.asp](http://www.rcgs.org/rcgs/awards/awards_massey05.asp). Previous recipients of the Medal from our Department are Cole Harris, Ross Mackay, and J. Lewis Robinson. The medal will be presented to Tim at a ceremony in Ottawa. Congratulations Tim on all of your outstanding achievements!

**Brett Eaton** is a recipient of a CFI New Opportunities Fund Award for his project titled "Advanced Spatial Data Collection and Analysis Systems". Funds from this award are targeted for infrastructure building, and are awarded to projects in areas that are essential to UBC's research objectives. Congratulations to Brett.

We also congratulate **John Chapman** for his honorary degree received last fall from UNBC, in recognition of his role in helping establish this new university campus.

Further accolades were accorded to others of our faculty:

**Sally Hermansen** was awarded academic tenure and promoted to Senior Instructor in 2005.

**Karen Bakker** – recipient - and **Juanita Sundberg** – honourable mention - of the Glenda Laws Award of the AAG for their research on issues related to social justice and social policy.

**Matthew Evenden** won a Clio Award from the Canadian Historical Association for his 2004 book: *Fish vs. Power: An Environmental History of the Fraser River* (Cambridge UP).

**Michael Church** and **Brett Eaton** received a 'best paper of the year' award

from the British Geomorphological Research Group.

**Lori Daniels** is recipient of the Henry C. Cowles Award from the AAG Biogeography Specialty Group.

**David Ley** received a Distinguished Scholar of Ethnic Geography Award from the AAG.

**Trevor Barnes** is Distinguished Visiting Professor, National University of Singapore.

**Mike Church** is elected Visiting Professor, 2004-07, at the University of Durham.

**Gerry Pratt** delivered this year's Antipode Lecture, at the AAG meeting in Denver.

**Jim Glassman** and **Philippe Le Billon** were recipients of Early Scholar awards from the UBC Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies (PWIAS).

**Olav Slaymaker** is appointed Distinguished Scholar in Residence at PWIAS, where he is working on a book entitled "The Cryosphere and Global Environmental Change".

**Mike Church** and **Elvin Wylly** were voted Professors of the Year by our undergraduates at this year's GeoGala.

**Mike Bovis** and **Sally Hermansen** were both, for the second year in succession, listed in the 'Popular Profs' section of *Maclean's Guide to Canadian Universities*.

Congratulations to our students, who won several awards at this year's AAG Annual Meeting in Denver: **Joanna Long** and **Charlotte Humphries** (an undergraduate) - both recipients - and **Jayne Walenta** - honorable mention - of the Glenda Laws student paper awards; to **Kathy Furlong**, for a student paper award from the AAG European Specialty Group; and **Pablo Mendez**, for a student paper award from the AAG Latin American Specialty Group. Graduate student **Aliette Frank** is the recipient of a Trudeau Fellowship.

This year saw the retirement of **Dr. Ken Denike** on December 31, 2004 after more than 30 years of service. Ken's many contributions to UBC, the City, and the

Province were honoured during a joint Bovis-Denike retirement bash on June 17. Ken, we wish you well in your retirement!

**Dr. Michael Bovis** has gravitated to the happy state of sabbaticant (technically he is on administrative leave) after three hectic years at the helm of the Department. Thank you Michael for all of your efforts on behalf of colleagues and of Geography. Of note also is Michael's receipt of the Distinguished Service Award from APEGBC (the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia) for which organization he has toiled effectively for years.

**Trevor Barnes** and **David Edgington** have returned from sabbatical leave and physical geographers **Ian McKendry** and **Dan Moore** embarked on their well-earned study leaves.

**Geraldine Pratt** will be replacing Ian as our new Graduate Chair.

**Karen Bakker** will be spending some time in 2005-06 developing a new program on Water Governance in the Institute for Resources, Environment, and Sustainability.

**Juanita Sundberg** will be Scholar in Residence at the Centre for Women's Studies and Gender Relations.

We are also pleased to report that a substantial number of changes to both our BA and B.Sc. curricula were voted through successfully this past year. Another important curricular event this past year was the merger of UBC Vancouver with UBC Okanagan. We successfully 'aligned' 21 Geography courses between the two campuses this past year as part of this academic merger.

**Graeme Wynn** returns as Head for a four year term.

A good portion of our building was substantially renovated (not before time) this summer. Most of the work was on classrooms, and we have also been able to undertake a major upgrade to our computer labs. This is very positive news and a boon to the present group of undergraduates, although some long-lived types lament the seemingly

permanent disappearance of the stuffed moose and wapiti heads from Room 100.

### Graduate and Undergraduate Programs

We have again admitted an exceptional group of graduate students. In the end, 25 newcomers joined our program, barely 20 percent of the applicant pool. We now have 110 graduate students in program, despite the graduation of almost a dozen PhDs since the last newsletter. Well over 40 percent of our graduate students hold Teaching Assistantships and most of the others receive fellowship or scholarship

funding from UBC or external agencies. As ever we have a lively group of Post-Doctoral students in the Department, and we are expecting a steady parade of scholarly visitors from various parts of the world, for stays of between one week and twelve months. Undergraduate enrolments in Major and Honours programs in Geography remain strong. In 2004-05 there were some 320 in the BA stream (years 3 and 4) and approximately 40 in the B.Sc. We once again offered an enormous range of courses (almost 90) to students in our undergraduate programs.

Name	Supervisor	Degree	Conferred	Thesis Title
Anderson, Geoff	D. McClung	M.Sc.	Nov 2005	<i>Snow avalanche penetration into mature forest</i> (July 2005)
D'Addario, Silvia	D. Hiebert	M.A.	Nov 2005	<i>Sleeping on the margins: The role of social capital in the housing patterns of refugee claimants in the Greater Vancouver Regional District</i> (August 2005)
Ham, Darren	M. Church	Ph.D.	Nov 2005	<i>Morphodynamics and sediment transport in a wandering gravel-bed channel: Fraser River, British Columbia</i> (July 2005)
Long, Joanna	G. Pratt	M.A.	Nov 2005	<i>(En)Planting Israel: Jewish National Fund Forestry and the naturalization of Zionism</i> (August 2005)
Oswin, Natalie	D. Gregory	Ph.D.	Nov 2005	<i>The normal homosexual in post-apartheid South Africa: New queer geographies</i> (August 2005)
Rempel, Jason	M. Hassan	M.Sc.	Nov 2005	<i>Calibrating and measuring bedload transport with a magnetic detection system</i> (June 2005)
Smith, Adrienne	D. Gregory	M.A.	Nov 2005	<i>Manchester: A modern morality play in three acts</i> (August 2005)
Subedar, Mary	C. Harris G. Pratt	Ph.D.	Nov 2005	<i>When states design: Making space on native reserves</i> (July 2005)
Webber, Graham	D. Ley	M.A.	Nov 2005	<i>Embodied humanitarianism: Refugee sponsorship and support from Vietnam to Vancouver</i> (August 2005)

### Upcoming Events

There will be a symposium to mark the career and 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of **Dr. J Ross Mackay** in February 2006, hosted by the

Department and organized by Dr. Chris Burn of Carleton University, and an invitational workshop to celebrate the contributions of **R. Cole Harris** to Canadian

historical geography in June 2006 (organized by Graeme Wynn). For more current information on the Department check the website and the monthly newsletter Geog@UBC at [www.geog.ubc.ca](http://www.geog.ubc.ca)  
Submitted by Graeme Wynn

## University of Northern British Columbia

We are pleased to welcome Dr. **Sarah Boon** (PhD, University of Alberta), who took up an 18-month appointment in August and will be teaching courses in Physical Geography. **Chunhua Zhang** (PhD candidate, University of Saskatchewan) is teaching GIS courses this fall before returning to Saskatoon to complete his doctorate.

### Faculty Frequent Fliers:

**Gail Fondahl** conducted fieldwork in eastern Siberia this July carrying out an ethnographic assessment of local/aboriginal views regarding the impending construction of an oil pipeline across their territory. Most of this work was in a native village where Gail worked previously from 1992-1994. In addition, Gail's role as Principal Investigator on the Partnering for Sustainable Resource Management CURA initiative (a partnership between the Tl'azt'en Nation and UNBC) has kept her very busy. Updates of the CURA's objectives and activities are available on the web <http://cura.unbc.ca/>.

**Kevin Hall** was invited to be part of a team to undertake an environmental impact assessment in regard to permafrost in the high Andes of Argentina/Chile. Kevin was also recently interviewed by the award-winning *Outpost Magazine* for an article on his work on San rock art in southern Africa. Never one to sit still for very long, he will be returning to the Antarctic from October to December 2005 to continue his research on weathering processes in cold regions.

No stranger to airports himself, **Greg Halseth** was the keynote speaker at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Rural Communities Summit held from June 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> in Merritt, BC. <http://www.bcruralsummit.ca/>

**Brian Menounos** was invited to present a talk at the Canadian Quaternary Association's 2005 Conference at the University of Manitoba in June. The title of the presentation, co-authored with J. Clague (SFU) was "The last days of the Cordilleran Ice Sheet. Water, ice, land and life: The Quaternary interface."

**Deb Thien** was also busy jet-setting this summer. In early June, she traveled to Rocky Harbour, NF to participate in the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR) Summer Institute. The goal was to bring together researchers, decision makers and community groups from across Canada around the theme of "Rural and Remote Health Research: Rhetoric and Reality." Later the same month, she was in Scotland to receive her doctorate from the University of Edinburgh. More recently, she traveled to London (UK) to present two papers at the annual conference on the Royal Geographical Society and the Institute of British Geographers (31<sup>st</sup> August-2<sup>nd</sup> September).

**Neil Hanlon** decided to escape the deep freeze of a northern BC summer and spent a week in Fort Worth, TX, in early July to present a paper at the 11<sup>th</sup> International Medical Geography Symposium. His presentation, "From third sector to shadow state? Recent experiences of voluntary service provision in one community in the interior of British Columbia, Canada" was co-authored by Dr Mark Rosenberg (Queen's University) and Rachael Clasby (UNBC graduate student).

**Roger Wheate** is on sabbatical leave until the end of December 2005, and was in Perth, Scotland in early October to present a paper on "Glacier retreat in the Northern Rockies of British Columbia, 1850-2005" at a conference on global change in mountain regions.

**Catherine Nolin** spent a rare summer avoiding airports in anticipation of the arrival of her second child. She will be on maternity/parental leave from late October 2005 to August 2006.

**Welcome to the following incoming Graduate Students:**

**Anne Hogan** (MA NRES candidate) is looking at issues of affordable and appropriate housing for seniors in Prince George. She is carrying out her studies under the direction of Greg Halseth.

**Courtney Jermyn** (MSc NRES candidate) arrived in September from the Geological Survey of Canada to work with supervisor Brian Menounos on the history and causes of landslides in Nahanni National Park.

**Jessica McGregor** (MA NRES candidate) is looking at perceptions of risk amongst members of a First Nations community associated with mining development on their traditional territory. Neil Hanlon is her thesis supervisor.

**Don Morgan** (MSc NRES candidate) is working under the direction of Debra Straussfogel on methods for describing and analyzing social-ecological systems with an emphasis on wildlife habitat supply.

**Pamela Prior** (MA Interdisciplinary Studies candidate) is looking at issues around food security and its potential health implications in a remote First Nations community in northern BC (supervisor: Neil Hanlon).

**Domenico Santomauro** (MA NRES candidate) is working under the supervision of Gail Fondahl to look at issues of First Nations Traditional Ecological Knowledge and its potential role in sustainable resource management.

**Congratulations to the following on their successful thesis defences:**

**David Arkinstall** (MSc NRES) "Influence of Dissolved Organic Carbon on Aggregation and Aggregate Characteristics". (Supervisor: Ellen Petticrew)

**Melissa Baxter** (MA NRES) "Devolution and Post Secondary Education: Challenging First Nations' Geo-Legal Spatiality". (Supervisor: Gail Fondahl)

**Michael Mitchell** (MSc NRES) "Montane Landscape Heterogeneity and Vegetation Change in Jasper National Park,

Alberta, 1949-1997". (Supervisor: Roger Wheate)

**Jennifer Reade** (MA Interdisciplinary Studies) "Mujeres Auto-riizadas: Women's Empowerment Programs as a Form of Community Development in Guatemala". (Supervisor: Catherine Nolin).

**Recent Publications**

**Fondahl, G.** (2005) "Everything is as if beyond a boundary": Reflections on apprehensions regarding aboriginal re-territorialization in Northern Russia. In *Rebuilding Identities: Pathways to Reform in Post-Soviet Siberia*, ed. Kasten, E. pp. 89-107. Berlin: Dietrich Reimer Verlag.

**Thien, D.** (2005) "Recasting the pattern: Critical relations in gender and rurality". In *Critical Studies in Rural Gender Issues*, Little, J. and Morris, C. (eds.) Aldershot: Ashgate, pp. 75-89.

**Thien, D.** (2005) "Intimate distances, or how to answer the question of 'us'". In *Emotional Geographies*, Davidson, J., Bondi, L. and Smith, M. (eds.) Aldershot: Ashgate, pp. 191-204.

McGregor, J., **Hanlon, N.**, Emmons, S., Voaklander, D. and Kelly, K. (2005) "If all ambulances could fly: putting provincial standards of emergency service accessibility to the test in northern British Columbia". *The Canadian Journal of Rural Medicine* 10(3): 163-168.

Compiled by Catherine Nolin and Neil Hanlon

**Malaspina University-College**

The Geography Department at Malaspina University College continues to experience change on a number of fronts: introduction of new programs and courses, hiring of new faculty, and planning for additional geography programs.

In September 2004 the B.A. Major in Geography was introduced. In June 2005, twelve students graduated from this program. Thirteen students graduated from the B.A. Minor program – a program that had been offered since Malaspina University-College became a degree-granting institution in the early 1990s. In the major's program, students have the



opportunity to specialize in the fields of natural resource management or urban growth management. Students may also opt to pursue a more general geographic education by taking a mix of physical and human geography courses, along with a set of techniques courses.

Since the introduction of the B.A. Major program, student enrolment in geography courses has nearly doubled, with the addition of twelve new contact sections. In the 2004-05 academic term 51 students were enrolled in the B.A. Major program and 114 in the B.A. Minor program. Faculty has increased from 5 to 7.5 full-time equivalents. **Pam Shaw**, a former part-time faculty member, was appointed to a half-time regular position in the department this fall. **Doug Corrin, Larry Wolfe, David Bean** and **Tim Stokes** are all part-time instructors in the department.

In terms of new program initiatives, a B.Sc. Minor in Geography has been submitted to Education Council for review. It is expected that this program will be offered for the first time in September 2006. A B.Sc. Major in Geography is also being considered.

During the past year faculty have been active within and outside MU-C. **Dr. Don Alexander** presented a paper entitled: "Delamont: Portrait of a Neighbourhood, Its Evolution and the Relationship Between Urban Form and Quality of Life" at the International Association for People-Environment Studies, Culture and Space in the Built Environment Network session that was part of the World Architecture Congress sponsored by the International Union of Architects, 6 July 2005 in Istanbul, Turkey. Don also presented a workshop on "Urban Design: More Than Just Aesthetics" with Gloria Venczel and Debra Bodner at the Annual Union of BC Municipalities Conference in Vancouver, last September. Don and Shawn Natrasony's paper, "The Rise of Modernism and the Decline of Place: The Case of Surrey City Centre, Canada", has been published in *Planning Perspectives*, Vol. 20, No. 4, October 2005.

**Dr. Hannah Wilson** presented her

Ph.D. dissertation results at the annual meeting of the Canadian Association of Geographers in London, Ontario. The title of her paper was "Measuring Spatial Association of Pixels for Mapping Spectral Feature Patch Size".

**Martin Andresen** has published one article in the past year: "The unspecified temporal criminal event: what is unknown is known with aoristic analysis and multinomial logistic regression" with Greg W. Jenion in *Western Criminology Review* Vol. 5 No. 3. Another of Martin's papers is to appear in a forthcoming edition of the *British Journal of Criminology*. It is entitled: "Crime measures and the spatial analysis of criminal activity".

**Dr. Larry Wolfe** led a resource management team in Belize that was charged with developing a methodology for assessing the effectiveness of management of that country's marine and terrestrial resource base. This is part of a broader process for developing strategies for this nation's protected areas, covering almost 40% of land and 13% in marine environments.

In September 2005, Malaspina University-College introduced a new post-graduate program in geographic information systems. The *Advanced Diploma in GIS Applications* is an eight-month program (4 months of classroom instruction, followed by a 4-month GIS applications project). This program is structured to provide students with intensive skills training, followed by an opportunity to apply those skills towards planning and executing a small-scale GIS applications project for a sponsor. This work may be either paid or unpaid.

Three full-time faculty members have been hired to deliver the *Advanced Diploma in GIS Applications*: **Dr. Michael Govorov, Dave Cake** and **Brad Maguire**. Michael holds a PhD in Technical Science from the Siberian State Academy of Geodesy, as well as a Post-doctoral Research Certificate in Cartography and Geographic Information Systems from Wuhan Technical University of Surveying and Mapping. He has extensive inter-

national teaching, research and consulting experience in GIS, digital cartography and remote sensing. Michael was a Senior Lecturer and Director of the GIS Unit at the University of the South Pacific, Fiji Islands, from 2001 to 2004. Prior to arriving at Malaspina, Michael provided GIS instruction and technical support to faculty and staff at the University of Guelph. He has worked in the fields of geomatics (surveying, cartography, GIS, remote sensing), spatial statistics and computing science for over twenty years as an educator, engineer and consultant.

**Dave Cake** has nearly twenty years of applied GIS experience in the public and private spheres in Canada and abroad. He holds a B.Sc. in Computer Science and a M.Sc. in Geography from the University of Victoria. For the past ten years, David has been employed as a GIS Specialist with AXYS Environmental Consulting Ltd. in Victoria. He has been responsible for providing senior technical leadership on complex and challenging GIS applications projects in planning and environmental management. As a former instructor in the Computer Technology Program at Northwest Community College, David brings to our new Advanced Diploma in GIS Applications (ADGISA) a unique combination of educational and applied experience in the field of GIS.

**Brad Maguire** provides technical and instructional support in the ADGISA program. He holds a B.Sc. in Geography (Honours) from the University of Victoria and a M.Sc. in Geography from the University of British Columbia, as well as a Postgraduate Diploma in Geographic Information Systems from the Nova Scotia College of Geographic Sciences. Besides his GIS background, Brad has a background in spatial statistics, database management, modeling and remote sensing.

For further information on the Geography program at Malaspina University-College, please visit our website at: <http://www.mala.ca/geography/>

Information on the new Advanced Diploma in GIS Applications program

website may be found at:

<http://www.mala.ca/ccs/certificates/gis.htm>

Submitted by Don Stone

## **Kwantlen University College**

Fall enrolments were lower in the Department than usual, especially in the Human and Regional courses. This matched a trend of lower first year enrolments across the College in the U.T. Arts programs. A number of reasons could account for this, but we don't think it is anything specific to Geography *per se*.

**Jim Urquhart** retired at the end of the Spring 2005 semester and has moved to a golf-course in Vernon, near the O'Keefe Ranch. I'm sure he would welcome a visit from any of his old colleagues, especially those from the early Douglas and Kwantlen days.

Two new permanent faculty members joined the Department over the summer, **John Rose** (Human) and **Jan Thompson** (Physical & Cartography). Both John and Jan have worked with the Department in the past as sessional instructors and we are very pleased to welcome them as permanent members of the Department.

**Rod Fowler** has returned to work on a half-time re-hab basis and has moved his base office to Langley to represent Geography on this campus following Jim's retirement.

The Department has been asked to embark on developing third year Human Geography courses to add breadth to the College's degree program offerings. This process will begin this semester in deciding which courses these will be.

Submitted by Rod Fowler

## **Camosun College**

The term has gotten off to a good start at Camosun College. One of our full-time faculty, **Chris Ayles**, has opted to take Paternity Leave this term and we are enjoying having **Neil Goeller** (SFU, MSc. 2005) as his replacement. Neil is undergoing trial-by-fire as he takes on new

courses in both Geography and Environmental Technology – we are really appreciating his can-do attitude. Two Geography courses in a distributed education (on-line) format have been approved and funded through BC Campus. **Francis Yee and Catherine Griffith** are now actively involved in developing the curriculum to support that initiative.

Our first Geography Faculty Award of \$500 was awarded to **Gina Martin**, a second year Geography student with outstanding grades and motivation. Gina was selected for the strength of her academic record and her outstanding accompanying essay; department members were on hand at the presentation ceremony in September to congratulate Gina. And, speaking of awards, our own **Barry Weaver** was nominated and won Camosun College's Teaching Excellence Award. Barry's nomination now moves on to the National level and we wish him luck with that; Barry is truly deserving of these honours.

**Chris Ayles and Hilary Sandford** have been shopping for Physical Geography equipment with the \$10,000 funding they received in the spring. We now have many new gadgets in our supply room and new sets of air photos (in colour! with no pen marks, coffee stains or tears in them!). There is now talk of establishing permanent Geo-cache sites on the campus and encouraging students to book out a GPS for fun.

**Catherine Griffiths**, our capable Quantitative Methods instructor, is on sick leave this term. Catherine appeared at our last Geography Chat looking incredibly healthy and chipper for a woman undergoing chemotherapy but, in true spirit, she is doing a lot of research into her options and partnering with her oncologist to ensure the best treatment. We wish her well in her recovery.

**Hilary Sandford** and **Michelle Bennett** continue to teach part-time while also caring for their young daughters and all department members are feeling the pinch of the teachers' strike as they balance childcare demands with work responsibilities.

Submitted by Hilary Sandford

## The University of Lethbridge

Things move apace. The WDCAG Annual Meeting of last March is now a distant memory and we are looking forward to going to Thompson Rivers University next year. The faculty and students have been busy with research over the summer and have dived into teaching this Fall with such gusto that few have had time to send in a report for the newsletter. However, thanks to the efforts of Hester Jiskoot, Faye Nelson and Dez Tessler, we have launched our own monthly Newsletter 'The Till', with brief items of information about the department. The newsletter can be found on our departmental website

<http://www.uleth.ca/fas/geo/>

**Craig Coburn**, who is now a tenure-track faculty member, continued his Bidirectional Reflectance work with the University of Lethbridge Field Goniometer with Derek Peddle and Adjunct Prof. Anne Smith. Last year he and A. Will Smith in the Faculty of Fine Arts produced a CD sampler of data sonification from Canadian Cities entitled "Musical Landscapes". He is also currently completing calibration of the University of Lethbridge Airborne Imaging System.

**Dan Johnson** organized a group hike to the Burgess Shale, near Field, B.C. during the summer. (The hike followed the 9th International Conference of the Orthopterists' Society, which he organized and chaired, in Canmore, AB, Aug 14-19). Twenty-five hikers from 10 nations hiked from the Takakkaw Falls viewpoint (Yoho National Park) to the Walcott Quarry, where they had a great time observing Cambrian fossils, as well as interesting extant species on the way to and from the fossil site. The Burgess Shale is a protected UNESCO World Heritage Site, and the access was guided and interpreted by the Burgess Shale Geoscience Foundation. For photos of the hike and fossils see page 15 and website <http://www.flickr.com/photos/dan-j/sets/816232/>

**Shawn Bubel** capped a spring-time of expectation and excitement for us and her

husband Wim when she gave birth to a daughter, Mia Chalmet on June 1st 2005. Shawn is on maternity leave and taking her place in the department is **Kevin McGeough**, a former U of L student who has just been awarded his PhD in Near Eastern Languages and Civilisations from the University of Pennsylvania.

For the second year **Hester Jiskoot** took her research students up to the remote Shackleton Glacier, Clemenceau Icefield, BC, where she conducts her ice dynamics field research into the interaction between glacier tributaries and trunks. She was also active in the Global Land Ice Measurements from Space (GLIMS) consortium and had her East Greenland glacier inventory data published on the GLIMS Web Mapping Service <http://glims.colorado.edu/cgi-bin/mapserv> Hester is also glad to have finally officially landed in Canada, as she is now a permanent resident.

**Matthew Letts** is studying the effect of microclimatic variation on spatial patterns of ecophysiological stress in the temperate grassland environment of southern Alberta. Early results from his research, which involves leaf-level gas exchange measurements, remote sensing of vegetation indices and analysis of stable carbon isotopes, were presented in September at the Gordon Photosynthesis Conference at Aussois, France. Matthew has established micro-climate monitoring stations both in the coulees of Lethbridge and at an alpine site in Waterton Lakes National Park.

**Ian MacLachlan** and Diane Clark led the University of Lethbridge's biennial summer student exchange to Hokkaido and Hokkai-Gakuen University in Kitami and Sapporo, Japan. Ian continues his research on various aspects of the cattle and beef industry in Southern Alberta and on nineteenth century slaughterhouses in Britain. In winter 2006 he will be teaching a new senior level seminar course charting the restructuring of cattle production and processing which will be geared to both geography and agricultural studies students.

**Derek Peddle** has been appointed Associate Editor of the Canadian Journal of Remote Sensing and National Vice-Chair of the Canadian Remote Sensing Society.

The "Water under Fire" (WUF) TV production led by **Jim Byrne** in cooperation with Gallant Productions, and Co-Produced by Science Education Professor Richard Mrazek, is currently airing on five Canadian TV networks. WUF and a second series produced by the same team, Global Change, have both been adopted as curriculum components in high schools by Alberta Education. Background on the two series is available at <http://waterunderfire.com>

Both series are available for use in courses focused on water resource and environmental change issues through Film-West Distributors <http://www.filmwest.com/Catalogue/itemdetail/2870>

Last Spring our undergraduates and graduate students collected signatures to a petition expressing their dismay at the difficulty in finding time to work on projects in our GIS lab, specifically in using Arc/Info. It was a key piece in the argument we made to the Dean which has resulted in our acquiring a university-wide site license for Arc/Info, a tremendous boon to us all.

Graduate students who completed their degrees in the Department of Geography this year are:

**Paulette Fox** "Using GIS to link ecological databases with Blackfoot Traditional Environmental Knowledge". MSc 2005 (supervisor Jim Byrne)

**Megan McCluskie** "Environmentally sustainable pest control in an ecologically protected habitat" (Ducks Unlimited Conservation Pasture). MSc 2005 (supervisor Dan Johnson)

**Nicole McKechnie** "Predicting Climate Change Impacts on Precipitation for Western North America". MSc 2005 (supervisor Jim Byrne)

**Eric Van Gaalen** "Seasonal vegetative photochemical reflectance and ecosystem carbon dioxide exchange in Canadian peatlands". MSc 2005 (supervisor Derek Peddle)

Submitted by Robert Rogerson

## Langara College

The Langara Geography department continues to offer a wide range of first and second year courses in both physical and human geography, as well as in geology. Second year offerings currently include courses in spatial information systems and technology, resource management, urban geography, cultural geography and geomorphology. Mark Smith and Jim Bowers are currently in the process of developing a Natural Hazards course, which we hope to offer for the first time in the spring semester of 2007.

At the present time, our Department consists of 7 full-time instructors, and 2 sessional instructors. Over the summer and fall semesters, the Geography Department has experienced slightly lower enrollments, which is typical of the College as a whole. Overall, the estimate is that the Department is operating at about 95% capacity at the present time. Fortunately, Geography suffered no reductions in sections, as was the case in some other Social Science Departments, and we are optimistic that the spring offerings will go ahead as scheduled.  
Submitted by Katrina Erdos

## Douglas College

The Department of Geography at Douglas College has been experiencing stable enrolment patterns over the last few semesters. **Kathy Runnalls** and **Wendy Hales** are on maternity leaves until 2006 and 2007 respectively. **Michael McPhee** and **Mungandi Nasitwitwi** have been teaching sections in their absence.

The department is currently reviewing its course offerings in light of the recent challenges emerging in the post secondary system.

Submitted By Earl Noah

## University of Victoria

**UVic Geographer Leads \$1 million Brazilian Recycling Project.**

**Dr. Jutta Gutberlet** is the Canadian leader of a \$1 million international development project to help build

community-based, sustainable recycling programs in Brazil.

The project is one of 11 international aid projects recently funded by the Canadian International Development Agency through its University Partnerships in Cooperation and Development (UPCD) program. The program promotes knowledge partnerships between Canadian universities and higher education organizations in developing countries.

In the six-year project, UVic social geographer Dr. Jutta Gutberlet will work with the Centro Universitário Fundação Santo André and other Brazilian partners to organize and train informal recycling collectors and cooperatives in four municipalities, including São Paulo, one of the world's largest cities.

The four municipalities involved in the project are home to about 12 million people and have varying degrees of recycling activity and support from local governments. Up to 90 per cent of waste still ends up in landfills.

The project will also address unhealthy working conditions and gender issues. "Women are involved in collecting and separating waste but there is no attention being given to their specific needs in terms of health, jobs and child care," says Gutberlet. "By empowering all recyclers we hope to increase incomes, generate more jobs, and improve the environment and quality of life for everyone."

A specific goal of the project is to build partnerships and exchange knowledge with other municipalities in Brazil, South America and, even Canada.

The UPCD program is administered by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada. Since 1994, the program has funded 129 international partnerships valued at \$295 million.

## CARMS Planning For Future Development

Significant financial support has allowed the Centre for Applied Remote Sensing, Modeling and Simulation <http://carms.geog.uvic.ca/> to develop a

business plan and marketing strategy and purchase remote sensing equipment. Two hyperspectral field scanners have been purchased to assist in the completion of several research initiatives. Additional funding was provided through the B.C. Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management. A major funding source has enabled the university to purchase an Airborne Hyperspectral Imager. The imager can be used to expand remote researching capabilities in environmental and resource management, study coastal and marine water characteristics, and study the severity of pine beetle infestation in remote areas. It can also be used for other applications such as oil and gas exploration, erosion studies and agriculture management.

#### **Sustainable Livelihoods and Communities In Developing Countries.**

In May, **Dr. Jutta Gutberlet** received a grant from the Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI) and BC Knowledge Development Fund (BCKDF) for the infrastructure requirement for the research facility on sustainable livelihoods and communities in developing countries.

This facility for local/global community-based research initiatives will act as a research unit on sustainable community development issues and will enable networking with other higher education and research units in Canada and abroad. This infrastructure supports the research on sustainable community development, an interdisciplinary theoretical and empirical scope within Social Sciences and Environmental Studies. Through the conduct of applied research projects, this facility has the potential to serve as a centre for innovation and learning about participatory research and survey approaches in poverty reduction and livelihood assessments towards sustainable community development.

#### **Cartography Winner and New CCA Executive.**

UVic Geography student **Sara Clayards** won the 2005 CCA President's

Prize in the Canadian Issues category. This prize recognizes excellence in student map design and production. It is judged on the basis of creativity and overall effectiveness in communication as well as excellence in compilation, design, and layout. Clayards' Map (200K jpg):

[http://www.geog.uvic.ca/dept2/news/SC\\_Map.jpg](http://www.geog.uvic.ca/dept2/news/SC_Map.jpg)

Geomatics Senior Instructor **Dr. Ian O'Connell** is now the Canadian Cartography Association Interest Group Chair of Cartographic Education and Senior Lab Instructor **John Fowler**, MSc, is the new Treasurer for the CCA.

#### **Thompson Rivers University**

TRU Geography is hosting the Annual Meeting of the Western Division of Canadian Association of Geographers March 10-11, 2006. This will bring on Campus about 150 faculty, graduate and undergraduate students from all over BC, Alberta and beyond. We have superb landscapes, a new university, interesting field trips, and a live band (!) to complement academic sessions. Keep checking our website, where a conference link will soon appear [www.tru.ca/ae/geography](http://www.tru.ca/ae/geography)



Dramatic landscape over Kamloops. Photo Gilles Viaud

TRU Geography has a new exchange program with the Geomatics Department at the University of Gävle in Sweden. First students from Kamloops will be heading over to Sweden in January.

TRU hosted the Small Cities Forum in May with presenters from Canada, the

United States, and even Australia. During the conference the new book on small cities was launched, *The Small Cities Book: On the Cultural Future of Small Cities*, New Star Books. It features a wide range of essays fitting of the disciplines and community groups. **Ross Nelson** is a solo or collaborative author of three chapters.

**Darryl Carlyle-Moses** completed his long-term research project on the hydrology of orange orchards in Northern Mexico and is now setting up similar research in the semi-deserts of Kamloops, as well as starting work on the changing hydrology in pine stands damaged by the mountain pine beetle.

**Nick Cradock-Henry** has been awarded a prestigious New Zealand International Doctoral Research Scholarship. The award, funded by the New Zealand government, provides up to \$50,000 NZ per year for three years and includes international tuition fees, living expenses, health insurance, and a relocation and travel allowance. We wish Nick well in his future endeavours starting next fall in New Zealand!

**Maija Heimo** completed her PhD (UBC) in May and thereafter participated in mounting a collaborative traditional resource use mapping with Indigenous Sami in Northern Finland. In British Columbia she is initiating a study on GIS practitioners' perceptions on Indigenous knowledge.

**Crystal Huscroft** joined the Nunavut Geoscience Office and Natural Resources Canada in surficial geology mapping on north-eastern Baffin Island for two months this summer.

**Ross Nelson** recently gave a keynote address to the Atlantic Cultural Space conference in St. John, New Brunswick. His paper focuses on creative city examples and how they inform opportunities for communities in Atlantic Canada.

This summer, **Gilles Viaud** submitted a research proposal to the new TRU CURA project titled Mapping quality of life and the culture of small cities. The project is currently being evaluated by SSHRC. With

co-researcher Shane Rolland from the Mathematics and Statistics Department, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) as community partner, the research proposes to evaluate the stability and relevance of the FCM's Quality of Life Reporting System across geographical scale, i.e., in small and large cities.

**Tom Waldichuk** has done research in Japan again and is heading there for his sabbatical in February. Tom's research focuses on agriculture in the country's rural-urban fringes.

Submitted by Maija Heimo



Picture of Burgess Shale trilobite by Dan Johnson, 24 August 2005 see page 11, copied from website: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/dan-j/sets/816232>

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this issue of the newsletter!

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