

## ***FALL 2012 NEWSLETTER***

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### **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

The last weekend in September is a great time for a drive across the eastern Prairies. Summer's end, harvest, leaf peeping, Rider's football and all the smells of autumn make a cross-province trek more than merely enjoyable.



*Red River, Southern Manitoba (Moffat, September, 2012.)*

Our CAG "cousins" to the east have wisely chosen this weekend for their Annual General Meeting that always includes paper and poster sessions, a local field trip (or two), a locally-catered banquet and, of course, the annual slide competition -- held post-banquet -- when spirits run high.

This year I visited far-off Winkler, Manitoba, 1000+ kilometers from Medicine Hat. I have been attending PCAG conferences since the late 1980s -- and thereby visited many a place where I'd never been: North Battleford to Gimli; the shores of Lake

Diefenbaker to Devil's Lake, North Dakota....I've never regretted these long trips across the country. The PCAG is smaller than the WDCAG -- attendance is usually just under 100 yet the student's enthusiasm, the level of the presentations, the local banquet fare, not to mention the blood-letting that accompanies the slide show all make their conference a highlight of back-to-school September. .



*Mennonite house and attached barn, Gnadenthal, Manitoba (Moffat, September, 2012).*

As a member of the CAG, teacher of undergrad Canadian regional classes, member of a "super small" department and Western Canadian both the WDCAG and the PCAG are an important aspect that allows me to maintain my ties to other Geographers across The West and my enthusiasm for what I teach. So to me the value of the CAG's regional conferences is immediately and obviously apparent -- I hope it is also coming to mean as much to many of you. As a long-time faculty member, both the PCAG and WDCAG weekends

have become essential parts of my academic year. They help me focus my teaching, renew long-time friendships and acquaintances (and make new ones), catch up with those who taught me, focus my research interests and see the many and varied landscapes of Canada's West. I've always felt that conference attendance has given me a lot to reflect on. If you are a graduate student local conferences avail you of all the same experiences presenting your research at a AAG or CAG meeting, as an undergrad you can seize the opportunity to get-to-know what academic (and applied) geography is all about. All-in-all, regional conferences are exceptionally valuable.

So direct your department, your association or your Geography club to organize a trip to sunny southern Alberta..... It's really not such a long way to Lethbridge.....see you there, March 2013 and in St. John's, Newfoundland for the CAG in August, 2013 and last but not least.....how about in Esterhazy, Saskatchewan in September? You'll love the Prairies at that time of year.



*Plum Coulee, Manitoba (Moffat, September, 2012).*

Both the PCAG and the WDCAG have annual publications that potentially feature western

Canadian topical studies and Western Canadian geographers (*Prairie Perspectives* and *Western Geography*, respectively). While there are significant and important differences between the two, similarities are readily apparent. These similarities have fueled some (very) preliminary discussions that aim to improve the situation of Western Geography (and address any issues that may emerge from east of 110° West).

*Submitted by Ben Moffat  
(Acting WDCAG President)*

#### **AUGUSTANA CAMPUS, UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA**

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

Glynnis Hood completed a ½ sabbatical this winter and spring where she assisted with the Scottish Beaver Trial in the Knapdale Forest in Argyll Scotland. She continues to conduct research on wetland biodiversity, landscape modification by beavers and methods to reduce human-beaver conflicts through adaptive management. She continues to co-supervise a MSc student who is investigating the effects of the modification of wetlands by beavers on breeding and dispersal success of amphibian populations in east-central Alberta and has just taken on a PhD student who will examine small mammal populations in fragmented landscapes. She and her colleague Dr.

David Larson have a paper in review that is a result of 3 years of research on aquatic macroinvertebrates in beaver-modified wetlands. Glynnis is currently teaching a Biogeography course and a Resource and Environmental Management Course.

Glen Hvenegaard completed a semester of acting department chair in June. He now needs a holiday to recover from extensive meetings, memos, and other forms of 'administrivia'. He still managed to teach a capstone course in Environmental Studies and Geography. This semester, he's teaching courses in introductory environmental geography and climatology. The intro course requires community service-learning placements, involving, for example, environmental education, waste sorts, composting, eco-building, local food initiative, watershed policies, and water protection. He recently published articles on sub-arctic travel in *Nastawgan*, teaching independent studies courses in *The Teaching Professor*, and wildlife festivals in the *Purple Martin Update*. He started new projects on community sustainability plans and the historical role of Frank Farley. He also joined a project led by York University investigating the migration patterns of Purple Martins, using new geolocator technology. He continues with other research projects on wildlife festivals, community environmental stewardship, and park interpretation.

For more information, contact Dr. Glen Hvenegaard at [glen.hvenegaard@ualberta.ca](mailto:glen.hvenegaard@ualberta.ca) or Dr. Glynnis Hood [glynnis.hood@ualberta.ca](mailto:glynnis.hood@ualberta.ca). Check our

websites at:

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

<http://www.augustana.ab.ca/programs/science/envscience/>

*Submitted by Glen Hvenegaard*

## **DOUGLAS COLLEGE**

The Department of Geography has been exploring various study abroad options. The department successfully completed two study abroad programs to Scotland and Belize in May 2012. Wendy Hales and Don McPhee are currently on leave. Widyarini (Rini) Sumartojo and Rory Crowley have been hired for the 2012 – 2013 year. Mike McPhee is the Chair of the Department of Geography.

*Submitted by Earl Noah*

## **SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY**

### *Program news*

Our main item of business this year is the University-mandated external review of the Department. We are planning a retreat in early November to prepare for this.

Dr Faran Ali has joined the Department this Fall as Limited Term Lecturer, teaching mostly in Physical Geography. He holds a 2009 PhD from the University of Saskatchewan in hydrology and fluvial

geomorphology, is currently completing a two year post-doc at UBC, has published extensively in the area, and has a background as an instructor, teaching courses in hydrology, physical geography, environment and society.

The return of a big chunk of the department from study leaves this Fall, combined with John Irwin and Faran Ali's assistance mean that we have considerably fewer sessional appointments in the Fall.

SFU held a very successful Open House in early summer (apparently 20, 000 people came through the university, and the sun shone!). The Department put on a good showing.

#### *Grants and Awards*

Congratulations to Daniela Aiello and Victoria Hodson for their success in the SSHRC Joseph Armand Bombardier CGS Masters Competition. Kudos to Rory Johnstone and Melissa Giesbrecht who have independently secured CIHR support (a CIHR Planning Grant and a CIHR Dissemination Grant respectively). It is a considerable achievement for graduate students to get their own CIHR grants. Melissa Giesbrecht was also awarded the Health and Health Geography Specialty Group PhD Presentation Award (the third time she's received this award). I am also pleased to report that Jesse Proudfoot received the Dean of Graduate Studies Convocation Medal for his PhD. The Annual Warren Gill award, given to an outstanding 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Undergraduate, was given to Becky Till. Jon Cinnamon received the Ineke Dijks

Award for best Doctoral student paper at the WDCAG in Kelowna. Caroline Le Bouteiller won an EADS Foundation award for her Doctoral thesis. According to their website, 'The EADS Foundation's Best Thesis Prize reward top doctoral research work. These theses have contributed to significant progress by exploring options that are likely to lead to technological and conceptual breakthroughs, and by suggesting new paradigms or new bridges between disciplines.' Caroline is working with Jeremy Venditti.

#### **Graduate Theses**

Maureen Attard (August 2012): "Evaluation of aDcps For Suspended Sediment Transport Monitoring, Fraser River British Columbia" (MSc; Advisor: Jeremy Venditti)

Ryan Bradley (August 2012): "Coherent Flow Structures and Suspension Events over Low-angle Dunes: Fraser River, Canada" (MSc; Advisor: Jeremy Venditti)

Klaus Edenhoffer (March 2012) "Recession, Restructuring and Routine: The Case of BC's Forest Industries 1980-2008" (PhD; Advisor: Roger Hayter)

Khaled Hamdan (May 2012) "Spatial and Temporal Variation of Forest Floor, Throughfall, and Stemflow Properties Associated with Bigleaf Maple in a Mixed Conifer Forest of Coastal British Columbia" (PhD; Advisor: Margaret Schmidt)

Rory Johnston (July 2012) "Examining the Role of Family Physicians in the Decision-Making Processes of Canadian Medical Tourists" (MA; Advisor: Valorie Crooks)

Terence Lai (August 2012) "Modelling the Spatial Dynamics Of Landslides: Integration Of GIS-Based Cellular Automata And Multicriteria Evaluation Methods" (MSc; Advisor: Suzana Dragicevic)

Fiona Lawson (July 2012) "A geospatial analysis of severe injury, socio-economic status, and access to trauma centre care in Canada" (MSc ; Advisor: Nadine Schuurman)

Richard Minardi (August 2012) "Modeling land-use change with Logic Scoring of Preference Method, GIS and Cellular Automata" (MSc; Advisor: Suzana Dragicevic)

Cameron Owens (December 2011) "Contesting Sustainability in the Valley of the Grizzly Spirit: Models of Justice in Environmental Conflict and Assessment" (PhD; Advisor: Meg Holden)

Jared Peters (September 2012) "Late Pleistocene Evolution of Glacial Lake Purcell: A Potential Floodwater Source to the Channeled Scabland" (MSc; Advisor Tracy Brennand)

Jesse Proudfoot (October 2011) "The Anxious Enjoyment of Poverty: Drug Addiction, Panhandling, and the Spaces of Psychoanalysis" (PhD; Advisor: Paul Kingsbury)

Noah Schillo (August 2012) "Prospective Forests and Farmers' Perspectives: the Politics of Rubber Trees and Ecological Restoration in Southwest China" (MA; Advisor: Janet Sturgeon)

Widyarini Sumartojo (April 2012) "My Kind of Brown: Indo-Canadian Youth Identity and Belonging in Greater Vancouver" (PhD; Advisor: Eugene McCann)

*Submitted by Nicholas Blomley*

## **UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

### *Overview*

The large undergraduate enrollment surge last year has been maintained. Our new Environment and Sustainability program is doing very well and ever growing in popularity. In September, the Department welcomed 28 new graduate students in MA, MSc and PhD programs. In addition, the Department launched a Professional Leadership Network in September. This network will provide students with access to professionals in their fields and generate improved relations between the Department and its community.

### *Achievements*

Among the many accolades distributed to our stellar faculty, the Department congratulates Dr. Jamie Peck who was awarded the International Political Economy Group book prize and appointed as a Distinguished Scholar in Resident (PWIAS) for the year 2013-2014. This year Dr. Elvin Wylie won

the Environment and Planning A's Ashby Prize and Dr. Derek Gregory has been awarded the inaugural Internationalen Wissenschaftspreis der Deutschen Geographie (International Science Award of German Geography) by the Frithjof Voss Stiftung.

### *Facilities*

The Department is still waiting for the completion of its new Physical Geography labs. Meanwhile, the Dean's office is working diligently to secure significant funding from the current Capital Campaign to renovate or rebuild our building.

### *Graduates*

The following theses were accepted for graduate degrees in 2011-12:

Sophie Webber, MA: Adapting Kiribati, adapting projects: what happens when the World Bank does climate change adaptation?

Michelle Drenker, MA: European scientists in Canada: the transatlantic brain drain

John Dewey, MA: American uncovered: structures and patterns of immigrant health uninsurance

Emily Rosenman, MA: The road away from home: policy and power in post-Katrina New Orleans

Alyssa Stryker, MA: Seeing through NGOs: poverty, visibility and the first and third worlds

May Farrales, MA: Holding spaces: geographies of Filipino-Canadian students' educational experiences

Michael Thomason, MA: The politics of accounting for refugees

Sarah Panofsky, MA: Lessons from the canyon: Aboriginal engagement in the Enbridge Northern Gateway environmental assessment

Sarah Davidson, MSC: Modelling channel morphodynamics associated with large wood in an intermediate-sized stream

Gregory Greene, MSC: Historical fire regime of the Darkwoods: quantifying the past to plan for the future

Amy Nicoll, MSC: Downstream characteristics of in-stream wood in Wigwam Creek, Alberta

Junjia Ye, PHD: Reproducing class in the global labour force: the case of Singapore's division of labour

Kathleen Sherrell, PHD: Finding a home: the housing experiences of government assisted refugees and refugee claimants in Winnipeg and Vancouver

Russell Smith, PHD: Space-time dynamics of runoff generation in a snowmelt-dominated montane catchment

Emily Jane Davis, PHD: Resilient forests, resilient communities: facing change, challenge, and disturbance in British Columbia and Oregon

Iain Stewart, PHD: Redefining the urban heat island

Pamela O, PHD: Effects of simulated and actual caribou grazing on low-Arctic tundra vegetation

Mark Low Jian Neng, MA: Community policing in Singapore

Marc Edwards, MSC: Effects of long-term experimental warming on three High Arctic plant communities

Natasha Cowie, MSC: Effects of glacier retreat on proglacial streams and riparian zones in the Coast and North Cascade Mountains

Justin Knudson, MSC: The effect of discharge variability on the heat budget and tributary mixing dynamics of a proglacial river

Michael van der Laan, MSC: Scaling urban energy use and greenhouse gas emissions through LiDAR

Timothy Argast, MSC: Advancements in measuring bed load transport with a magnetic detection system

Jonathan Peyton, PHD: Unbuilt environments: unrealized geographies of energy and enterprise in the Stikine

Pablo Mendez, PHD: Ambiguity at home: unauthorized geographies of housing in Vancouver

Alexander Aylett, PHD: The urban governance of climate change: a comparative socio-institutional analysis of transformative urban responses to climate change in Durban (South Africa) and Portland (OR, USA)

Jessica Dempsey, PHD: The birth of the Great Bear Rainforest: conservation science and environmental politics on British Columbia's central and north coast

Ted Rutland, PHD: "We are damaged": planning and biopower in Halifax, Nova Scotia, 1880-2010

Carmen Wong, PHD: Understanding disturbance, facilitation, and competition for conservation of whitebark pine in the Canadian Rockies

Patrick Oabel, PHD: Workers of the mill: local labour market change and restructuring of the sugar industry in northern Negros Occidental, Philippines 1946-2008

Sara Koopman, PHD: Making space for peace : international protective accompaniment in Colombia (2007-2009)

Bjoern Surborg, PHD: The production of the world city: extractive industries in a global urban economy

Markus Moos, PHD: Housing and location of young adults, then and now: consequences of urban restructuring in Montreal and Vancouver

Luigi Sulmona, PHD: "Trade with security": how Canada and the Netherlands relocated state frontiers through civil aviation networks

#### *Contact*

Alumni or others who wish to keep in touch with departmental people and events can be added

to the monthly Geography newsletter list by contacting: [lisa.dam@geog.ubc.ca](mailto:lisa.dam@geog.ubc.ca)

*Submitted by Marwan Hassan*

## UNIVERSITY OF THE FRASER VALLEY

### *People news*

Two new faces joined the Department of Geography this Fall: **Denver Nixon** and **Christina Neudorf**. Both are UFV's first Post-Doctoral Fellows.

Denver Nixon joins UFV under the supervision of Lenore Newman, Canada Research Chair in Food Security and Environment. Denver's research has previously focussed on environmental issues, including transportation, and he will be involved in research related to the Agricultural Land Reserve and the agriculture-suburban interface. He comes to us by way of York University (MES) and Western University (PhD).



**Denver Nixon joined UFV Geography in September 2012**

Christy Neudorf, who recently completed a PhD at University of Wollongong (Australia) will be working with Olav Lian on research on Calvert Island on the central coast of British Columbia.



### **Christy Neudorf conducting OSL sampling in India**

Christy is a Hakai Scholar – a prestigious position funded through the Hakai Institute. Her research will involve the study of long-term environmental change on Calvert Island where her primary work will be developing optical dating protocols and applying them to dating coastal sand dunes related to past fluctuations in sea level; her research will involve collaboration with First Nations communities.

Congratulations to **Olav Lian**, who won the first ever UFV Research Excellence Award, in recognition of his extensive research into long-term environmental change using luminescence dating and other procedures. Dr. Lian oversees the UFV Luminescence Dating Laboratory and supervises undergraduate, graduate, and post-doctoral researchers.

**Claire Beaney** is currently on sabbatical leave from September 2012-September 2013. Claire is pursuing interests in the scholarship of teaching and learning. To this end, she is currently enrolled



in the Provincial Instructor Diploma program at Vancouver Community College and is undertaking an extensive course revision to integrate new and innovative delivery methods into her courses.

**Olav Lian** is completing his sabbatical leave this semester. This past year Olav visited several universities and institutes in Australia and the United States and gave research seminars at University of California (Santa Cruz) and NASA's Ames Research Center. This past October, Olav has been visiting the Geography Department at University of Durham (U.K.), his visit funded by their Distinguished International Visitor program, where he has been giving research seminars, and participating in workshops and a field trip. Olav will wind down his sabbatical by giving research seminars at UVic and UNBC and will return to the classroom in January 2013. Upcoming sabbaticals include Cherie Enns (January 2013-2014), Jonathan Hughes (September 2013-2014), Scott Shupe (September 2013-2014), and Steven Marsh (January 2014-2015).

**Dr. Ken Brealey** has been seconded to the College of Arts office where he is Acting Associate Dean of Faculty, College of Arts. This 1 year temporary appointment has Ken responsible for faculty-related matters in the College of Arts.

To cover the large number of sabbaticals, research options and secondments, the department is being ably supported by new and existing sessional faculty. Long-serving colleagues **Carolyn Atkins** and **Mariano Mapilli** are joined by **Cher King-**

**Scobie, Mike Smith** and **Jen Hetherington** in teaching a wide range of courses in physical and human geography.

#### *Student news*

Our 2012 student award winners are **Alanna Schuurmans** (BA, Honours Geography 2012), UFV Dean's Medal Winner for Arts and the Canadian Association of Geographers award winner. The Association of American Geographers award went to **Lee van Ardenne** (BSc, Honours Physical Geography 2012). **Dan Huesken** (BSc, Physical Geography 2012) was awarded our departmental Doug Nicol award which is presented to a graduating student with a high GPA, a strong interest in both human and physical geography and actively involved in student activities.



**2011-12 Geography award winners (from left) Lee van Ardenne, Alanna Schuurmans and Dan Huesken.**

#### *Program news*

Prepare to be reviewed. That is the focus of the department as we undergo a program review during this academic year. As part of UFV's new program review process, our various programs, certificates, faculty and facilities will be analyzed

and reviewed. The department was last reviewed in 1997 and is now a very different entity with multiple degree offerings, nearly 3 times the faculty, research laboratories, postdoctoral fellows, and significantly more students. Assisting with this process are department head, Michelle Rhodes, and faculty members Claire Beaney, John Belec and Olav Lian.

New to UFV and with strong ties to the Geography Department is the newly approved BA in Global Development Studies (GDS). Our own **Garry Fehr** is the program coordinator for this new program which requires many geography courses in its programming. Geography is looking forward to working with GDS to support new opportunities for students to engage in development-related course-based and applied study and research opportunities. In addition to the new GDS program, Geography continues to offer a BA concentration in International Studies for students who are interested in geographic training with an international focus.

The Geography Department now offers a number of new courses within its programming: GEOG 252 Explanations in Geography (previously GEOG 352); GEOG 314 Geography of Food; GEOG 335 Freshwater Ecology (cross-listed with Biology); GEOG 419 Paleoecology; and, GEOG 491 Honours Research Design and Data Collection. Due to personnel and enrolment changes the following courses are no longer in regular rotation: GEOG 443 Comparative Cultural Geography, and GEOG 445 Historical Geography II.

Back for another season is the Geography Discovery Series. This semester presentations include: Dr. Elaine Anderson (Corrections Canada) “Venezuela: Planting the seeds of social empowerment through agrarian reform”; Dr. Michele Koppes (UBC Geography) “Linking climate and landscapes through glaciers”; Dr. Maja Krzic, (UBC Land & Food Systems/Forestry) “Emerging approaches to soil science education”; and, Dr. Denver Nixon (UFV Geography) “Sensing commute spaces and automobilized places by foot, bike and car in Vancouver, BC”.

### Field schools

#### *Mexico Study Tour*

In May 2012, Geography Instructors **Garry Fehr** and **David Gibson** with Sociology Instructor Stephen Piper led 14 students on a 23 day study tour of south-central Mexico. This cultural geography study tour visited Mexico City, San Cristobal, Oaxaca and Tlaxcala.



**2012 Mexico Study Tour students and faculty posing with erupting Popocatepetl in the background.**

### *Adventures in Geography*

This year **John Belec**, **Carolyn Atkins** and **Steven Marsh** led a group of 15 students on our annual Adventures in Geography trek. We spent two days exploring the west side of Mt. St. Helens before heading towards Yakima, WA. In Yakima we visited the historic downtown and Naches Heights Vineyard. Our travels then took us through Grand Coulee stopping a number of sites associated with the Missoula floods. We visited Soap Lake, Grand Coulee Dam, Dry Falls, Moses Coulee among others. We ended our excursion at Leavenworth before heading home.



**AIG students at Naches Heights Vineyard, Yakima**

### *Upcoming field schools*

UFV Geography is also planning two additional field schools in the 2013 school year. In May 2013, Michelle Rhodes and Steven Marsh will pack bags with Pat Harrison from Biology and head south to the American Southwest. This trip will focus on Tucson and the surrounding Sonoran desert and the Grand Canyon/southern Colorado Plateau area.

This trip will introduce students to advanced studies in environmental change, biological adaptation and humans in this arid and semi-arid region. The 2013 Adventures in Geography tour, led by Garry Fehr and Olav Lian will study the human and physical geographies of Wells Gray and Kamloops regions. This trip will be held in late summer, early fall 2013.

### Internships

#### *Sustainable Settlements in India*

This September, Instructor **Garry Fehr**, took three AUCC funded UFV Geography undergraduates to intern on a two year urban agriculture and a socio-economic mapping project in a slum of Chandigarh, India, in partnership with Panjab University, Sikhya School and NGO, Developing Indigenous Resources. This semester, the students Adam Rieu, Stacy Thoreson and Kathryn Shiratti are establishing a demonstration garden at DIR headquarters and household gardens in 80 homes within the slum.

The students also spend one day a week teaching nutrition and basic agricultural science to Class 8 and 10 students at Sikhya School which intentionally serves low income families. While the plants are growing, the interns work with Panjab University students to map the socio-economic characteristics and environmental hazards of the slum so as to facilitate an evaluation of DIR's women and child health training program.



**Interns Stacy Thoreson, Kathryn Shiratti and Adam Rieu building a demonstration garden in Chandigarh.**

### Sustainable Human Settlements

The University of the Fraser Valley, in conjunction with Ardhi University's Institute of Human Settlements Studies, has an AUCC funded internship program "Sustainable Human Settlements" under the Students for Development programme with more interns to follow until 2013.



**UFV students Cassandra Tracy and Paul Stephany mapping in Tanzania**

Four students of the University of the Fraser Valley went to Dar Es Salaam to study, develop and implement interventions that promote sustainable human settlements within informal settlements in areas surrounding Dar Es Salaam in conjunction

with Ardhi University. While there, they investigated the impact of climate change, child and youth rights and child friendly cities development within an informal settlement.

Other non-funded students were also placed with several NGOs and involved in a Sustainable Schools field study project. Working with ICT portal for girls, an affiliate of the UN, students hosted a seminar aimed at teaching young women how to work with technological tools used for urban development. Titled *Planning for the Future of a City, Generation, and Workforce*, the workshop was for women between the ages of 18-25, to help improve gender equality in the field of urban planning. The women were taught by UFV students how to use a GPS unit, and how to incorporate it with basic mapping. In addition students partnered with several organizations to offer training related to GIS and a mapping as part of a symposium on climate change, technology and planning organized by Cherie Enns. Part of the AUCC funding for this program has also permitted for four Tanzania students to come to UFV on internships.

The Geography department is also host to 2 visiting PhD students from Ardhi University in Dar Es Salaam. Deusdedit Kibassa and Clara Kweka Msale will be at UFV this semester where they are working on where they are working on research related to sustainable settlements, climate change and urban planning.

## Research News

**Cherie Enns** presented a Canadian/African perspective on Intergenerational Interactivity at the Child in the City conference in Zagreb, Croatia in September where she stated that intergenerational, while not yet a “hot” topic in Canada, is an approach for integration of Age-friendly and Child friendly community principles into sustainable development and planning. She also presented the findings of work that was done by UFV students during their internship in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, relating to Climate Change, Flooding, Informal Settlements and Right to Play. This is the fourth time Ms. Enns has promoted a Canadian and African perspective of child friendly cities at the Child in the City conference and the second time that she has had the opportunity to share students’ research in a global forum of discussion and policy review.

**Lenore Newman**, the Canada Research Chair in Food Security and Environment, continues her exploration of Canadian cuisine this fall and is collaborating on a major food security initiative being led by Kent Mullinex and Arthur Fallick of Kwantlen University, and on a SSHRC funded initiative led by Blake Polland of U of T on transition towns in Canada. Her latest publication presents highlights from a three year study of Marche Atwater in Montreal, and is available in the open access journal *Cuizine*. The 2013 field season will find her in Alberta documenting the influence of oil-sand worker migration on regional cuisine.

**Olav Lian** continues his NSERC- and Hakai-funded research on long-term environmental change in British Columbia and, to a lesser extent, in Patagonia: In February Olav and two recent graduates of the UFV Geography honours program, Justine Cullen and Rachel Chapman, together with Dr. John Clague (SFU and UFV), his students, and colleagues from Argentina, spent nearly three weeks in southern-most Chile and Argentina (Patagonia) studying evidence of the advance and retreat of glaciers from the southern Andes, and the timing of periods of permafrost; the latter forms the MSc research of Justine Cullen and is being done in the UFV Luminescence Dating Laboratory.



**Justine Cullen (bottom) and Rachel Chapman (top) sample an ancient permafrost feature (sand wedge) on the plains of Patagonia**

Research continues on understanding the timing of early post-glacial landscape change in central B.C., and much of this is being completed by MSc student Winter Moon. In the spring Olav and two UFV undergraduate research students, NSERC USRA awardees Dan Huesken (Geography) and Brie Mackovic (Physics), joined Dr. Ian Walker (UVic) and his team (Dr. Dan Shugar and PhD student

Jordan Eamer) on Calvert Island to begin field work on understanding the long-term evolution of the B.C. central coast. In the summer Olav and several current and former UFV research students joined Dr. Brian Menounos (UNBC), his MSc student, and Dr. Darlene Lim (NASA's Ames Research Center) on a coring project to better understand long-term environmental change in and around Kelly Lake in south-central British Columbia. This research is in collaboration with NASA's Pavilion Lake Research Project which is intended to shed light on the origin of fresh water microbialites that resemble some of the oldest fossil life forms found on earth.

*Submitted by Claire Beaney*

## UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

### Faculty News

The best big news comes in small packages – congratulations to **Zoë Meletis** and her partner Chad McDowell on the birth of their daughter Calysta Jane Meletis-McDowell who arrived in the morning of Sept 26<sup>th</sup>. Welcome to the world, Calysta!

UNBC Geography Adjunct Faculty member **Don Manson** spoke on CBC radio's "BC Almanac" program about the issues facing smaller municipalities in B.C. today: [http://podcast.cbc.ca/mp3/podcasts/bcalmanac\\_20120924\\_56621.mp3](http://podcast.cbc.ca/mp3/podcasts/bcalmanac_20120924_56621.mp3)

Congratulations to Geography Program Adjunct Faculty member **José Pablo Baraybar\*** (Executive Director of the Peruvian Forensic Anthropology

Team) on the publication of his new book "*La Muerte a Diario*" which "masterfully addresses genocides, ethnic cleansings, confrontations, and other absurd machinations of governments and armed groups" based on his work in Peru, Rwanda, the Balkans, among other conflict zones.

Geography Program Adjunct Faculty member **Grahame Russell\*** (Co-Director of Rights Action) published a piece with Rabble.ca written after the latest UNBC Geography Field School to Guatemala. See: <http://rabble.ca/news/2012/08/mining-repression-and-rhetoric-democracy-and-rule-law-guatemala#.UFkCF3IOR8F>

In July, **Brian Menounos** became President of the Canadian Geomorphology Research Group (2013-2014). In June, he also received the Canadian Geophysical Union's Young Scientist Achievement

**Brian Menounos** and graduate student Theo Mlynowski worked in collaboration with colleagues at University of the Fraser Valley and NASA at Kelly Lake, near Clinton, BC in late July 2012 to collect data about the lake's history. UFV produced a 5 min. video of the field work: <http://youtu.be/GaR62rpcdNw>

**Ellen Petticrew** and Phil Owens hosted three MSc students from the Geography Department, University of Utrecht. In collaboration with U. Utrecht faculty member Marcel van der Perk, Arno Slager, Deirdre Clark, Marjolein Vogels completed their graduate field work at the Quesnel River Research Centre.

Ben Millington Anderson, a third year work-placement student from the School of Geography, Plymouth University came to UNBC in June 2012 to work with **Ellen Petticrew** and Phil Owens for a year. This past summer Ben assisted graduate students in their field work and developed methodologies for his U Plymouth undergraduate dissertation.

Recent publications:

- Albers, S.J. and **Petticrew, E.L.** 2012. Ecosystem response to a salmon disturbance regime: Implications for downstream nutrient fluxes in aquatic systems. *Limnology and Oceanography*, 57, 113–123.
- Arocena, J.M., **Hall, K.**, and Zhu, L.P. 2012. Soil formation in high elevation and permafrost areas in the Qinghai Plateau, China. *Spanish Journal of Soil Science*, 2, 34-49.
- de Leeuw, S.\***, Maurice, S., Holyk, T., Greenwood, M. & Adam, W. 2012. With Reserves: Colonial geographies and First Nations health. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*. DOI:10.1080/00045608.2012.674897
- Dery, S.J., Hernandez, M., Owens, P.N., Parkes, M. and **Petticrew, E.L.** 2012. A century of hydrological variability and trends in the Fraser River Basin. *Environmental Research Letters*, 7, 024019, doi: 10.1088/1748-9326/7/2/024019.
- Hall, K.** 2012. The shape of glacial valleys and implications for southern African glaciation: A reply. *The South African Geographical Journal*, 94, 4-8.
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\* Adjunct faculty member

#### Field Courses:

*Guatemala:* Catherine Nolin & Grahame Russell of Rights Action partnered for their sixth field school to Guatemala in May 2012 including undergraduate, Masters and PhD students. Documentary photographer James Rodriguez and the Rev. Emilie Smith joined in as well for solidarity-grounded research to communities affected by the presence of Canadian and Russian mining companies.



The delegation also partnered with the Guatemalan Forensic Anthropology Foundation (FAFG) to witness their significant exhumation work at La Verbena cemetery in Guatemala City and at Coban's former military garrison (now modern day headquarters for the Regional Training Command for Peacekeeping Operations ([CREOMPAZ](#))). The next field school is planned for May 2014.

**Peru:** A small interdisciplinary team from UNBC that included **Catherine Nolin** partnered with the Peruvian Forensic Anthropology Team (EPAF) for the first UNBC-EPAF Interdisciplinary Field School to Ayacucho, Peru in June 2012. The EPAF team developed a 12 min. video of the field school (in Spanish) at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=UUil66na8h2ACyDyP6puDxgQ&v=NHEKxksIU0s&feature=player\\_embedded](https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=UUil66na8h2ACyDyP6puDxgQ&v=NHEKxksIU0s&feature=player_embedded)



We plan to run the field school again in June 2013 and it is open to students beyond UNBC. Interested senior undergraduates and/or graduate students should contact Catherine Nolin before the New Year at [nolin@unbc.ca](mailto:nolin@unbc.ca)



**South Africa:** In April and May 2012, the Geography Field School to South Africa was developed and run by **Kevin Hall** with assistance from **Greg Halseth** and **Neil Hanlon**. The course was run in partnership with the Geography



*Department at Rhodes University and involved undergraduate and graduate students from South Africa.*

For recent UNBC field schools, please see:

[http://www.unbc.ca/geography/southafrica\\_2012.html](http://www.unbc.ca/geography/southafrica_2012.html)

[http://www.unbc.ca/geography/guatemala\\_2012/](http://www.unbc.ca/geography/guatemala_2012/)

and

[http://www.gis.unbc.ca/peru\\_web/](http://www.gis.unbc.ca/peru_web/)

#### Graduate Students:

Following the Guatemala Field School, Master's student **Erica Henderson** (supervisor **Catherine Nolin**) conducted research on impunity in Guatemala in collaboration with the Guatemalan Forensic Anthropology Foundation (FAFG) and the National Police Historical Archive (AHPN), May – July 2012.

UNBC graduate student **Lyssa Maurer** (supervisor **Brian Menounos**) was on CBC Radio's "Daybreak" program to talk about her research that shows the

arctic ice cap is melting faster than originally thought. This was in addition to research that she reported in regional news outlets about how the growth of BC's glaciers abruptly ended in the early 20th century after slowly expanding for nearly 10,000 years.

**Sam Albers** (supervisor **Ellen Petticrew**) who graduated with an MSc in 2011 has been appointed Manager of the Quesnel River Research Centre, a UNBC field station located in Likely, BC. He comes to the position with a background in physical and biological systems and invites researchers and interested field course leaders to contact him about opportunities at the QRRC (<http://www.unbc.ca/qrrc/>).

#### *Thesis Defences*

**Alex Martin** (supervisor **Greg Halseth**) defended his PhD dissertation in Natural Resources & Environmental Studies (Geography) on June 20, 2012. The title of Alex's dissertation is: "Community-Company Relationships in Forest-Dependent Communities in Northern BC: Assessing the Local, Sectoral, and Theoretical Implications"

**Christina Tennant** (supervisor **Brian Menounos**) defended her thesis on April 13th, 2012 in the MSc Natural Resources & Environmental Studies (Geography) graduate program. Christina's thesis is titled: "Nine Decades of Glacier Change in the Canadian Rocky Mountains"

**Lorenz Bruchert** (co-supervised by **Brian Menounos**) defended his interdisciplinary MA

thesis. Lorenz' thesis is entitled: 'Provenance of tool stones from the Punchaw Lake Village Site (FiRs-1), Nechako Plateau, British Columbia, Canada'.

#### Undergraduate Students:

Following the field school to Peru, Geography student **Shane Doddridge** and graduate student **Leana Garraway** remained in Lima as part of a 4-month CIDA-AUCC 'Students for Development' internships with the Peruvian Forensic Anthropology Team (EPAF).

*Submitted by Greg Halseth*

### **UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA**

Here is a small glimpse into world of geography at UVIC in the fall of 2012.

#### Faculty News

**Anita Simic** received her Ph.D. degree in remote sensing from the University of Toronto. Anita worked at the Canada Centre for Remote Sensing (CCRS) for several years.



She was a sessional lecturer at the University of Toronto, Ryerson University in Toronto, and at Wuhan University in China. Her research is in the field

of remote sensing applications in vegetation science and hydrology with an expertise in

applications of multi-angle hyperspectral imagery. In particular, the research she has conducted is related to vegetation stress, land use change and the impact of vegetation distribution and biophysical parameters on water balance components such as snow cover, evapotranspiration and groundwater recharge (exclude this sentence if needed). Anita is joining the Department for a year to cover several of our remote sensing and stats courses.

**Simon Springer** joined the Department of Geography at the University of Victoria as an Assistant Professor in July 2012. Prior to this, he taught geography at the University of Otago, New Zealand and the National University of Singapore. Simon's research agenda explores the social, political and spatial exclusions that neoliberalization engenders, emphasizing the geographies of violence and power. He cultivates a cutting edge approach to human geography through a theoretical edifice that foregrounds emerging thematic concerns within the discipline by incorporating both poststructuralist critique and a radical revival of anarchist philosophy in



advancing a 'postanarchist' positionality. In particular, Simon's research has explored the relationships between neoliberalism, violence, governmentality, and biopolitics; the productions of space and discourse that underlie processes of othering and the creation of regimes of truth; a critical de-centering of capitalism through attention to the dialectic between contemporary regimes of accumulation and ongoing primitive accumulation; and a radical approach to democracy that seeks to open geographical imaginations to the possibility of remaking space in ways that might enable an emancipatory politics.

In a relatively short period of time since being awarded his PhD from the University of British Columbia in 2009, Simon has published extensively in a number of top-ranking human geography journals including, *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*, *Political Geography*, *Area*, *Environment and Planning A*, *Geoforum*, *Antipode*, *Space and Polity*, *Geopolitics*, and *Geography Compass*, as well as in leading journals peripherally related to geography, including *Critical Discourse Studies*, *Asia Pacific Viewpoint*, *Journal of Agrarian Change*, and *South East Asia Research*. He is also the author of *Cambodia's Neoliberal Order: Violence, Authoritarianism, and the Contestation of Public Space*, published by Routledge.

Simon maintains a very strong online presence, and currently ranks second out of over 1 million individual users on the world's leading academic

social networking website, Academia.edu (see <http://academia.edu/people>), with over 38,000 unique page views, over 20,000 unique document views, and over 3,400 followers. Most importantly, Simon is graced with a loving spouse, Marni, and is the very proud father of daughter Solina, and sons Odin and Tyr.

**Dr. Cindy Rose-Redwood** is a Senior Instructor in the Department of Geography. She teaches a range of courses at UVic, including World Political Geography, World Regional Geography, and the Geography of the Caribbean, as well as the History and Philosophy of Education.



Her research explores the social geographies of ethnic segregation among immigrant communities in urban settings, the geopolitics of transnational identities, and the social experiences of international students on university campuses in North America. The aim of both her research and teaching is to bring together theory and practical solutions to real world social problems, encouraging students to think beyond the classroom setting by providing policy recommendations to change the world for the

better. Although Dr. Rose-Redwood does not currently supervise graduate students, she can serve as a graduate committee member and undergraduate honours thesis supervisor. A recent publication that combines her interests of geography and international Education is Rose-Redwood, CindyAnn and Rose-Redwood, Reuben. (accepted, 2013), "Self-Segregation or Global Mixing? Social Interactions and the International Student Experience," *Journal of College Student Development*.

**Chris Darimont** is an interdisciplinary conservation scientist who applies natural and social science tools to confront conservation problems that are both conceptually interesting and acutely applied.



Although Chris and his fledgling lab group have broad scholarly interests, they maintain three primary research domains: i) landscape ecology at the marine-terrestrial interface, ii) conservation biology of harvest management, and iii) conservation ethics. The wildlife and people of the central coast of British Columbia – an area popularly known as the Great Bear Rainforest – comprise a study system of particular interest. He and his students work in close partnership with indigenous communities and their leadership on the coast.

While this geographic focus invokes a strong sense of place, the research is designed to have a global reach. Work conducted by Dr. Darimont and his students is made possible by the foresight and generosity of the Tula Foundation & the Raincoast Conservation Foundation.

### Field schools

UVIC Geography offers field school experiences that are considered invaluable amongst our undergraduates. Four of the schools offered this past year have been:

- A physical geography field school experience in the mountains of British Columbia led by Dan Smith:
- A coastal field school comprising 3 courses on the West coast of Vancouver Island led by Dave Duffus;
- A very popular field school to India focusing on conservation in a crowded world led by Phil Dearden. This year, southern India was included in the places explored. Please enjoy the blog that was posted by students involved <http://mapping.uvic.ca/india2012>;
- In May 2012, UVic Geography launched the first Cascadia Sustainability Field School. Led by Dr. Cameron Owens and Crystal Tremblay, twenty-eight students traversed the region from Victoria to San Francisco engaging with community leaders, planners and academics around efforts to promote more socio-ecologically just cities. Highlights included: visiting the T'souke Nation Solar Community,

the Insite Safe Injection Site in Vancouver, an urban permaculture workshop in Portland, beachcombing on the Oregon Coast and learning about sacred commerce in San Francisco. Our video which highlights student learning about the contested construction - sustainability – can be found at: <http://mapping.uvic.ca/node/1617>

#### Research: faculty, graduate and honours

The Applied Conservation Science (ACS) lab is a new research group in the Department of Geography at the University of Victoria. The lab, led by Chris Darimont, couples natural and social science tools to address problems that are conceptually interesting and acutely applied. Among core interests are: 1) landscape ecology at the marine-terrestrial interface; 2) conservation biology of harvest management and; 3) conservation ethics. Lab members are fortunate enough to conduct field research on the central coast of British Columbia, an area popularly known as the Great Bear Rainforest. Based in the traditional territories of several First Nations, close working partnerships with leadership and community members are central to this work. Graduate and honours students are currently investigating grizzly bear range shifts, habitat connectivity of coastal grizzly bears, competitive interactions among salmon-eating predators (including fisheries), and social research into the motivation of trophy hunters. While the socio-ecological questions and geographic focus invoke a

strong sense of place, the research is designed to have a global reach and provide insight into the role of humans within ecological communities.



Last fall, **Chris Darimont** – new faculty at UVic Geography – set sail with the Raincoast Conservation Foundation and a world-famous line up of US and Canadian surfers. A collaboration with accomplished filmmaker and Patagonia surf ambassador Chris Malloy of Woodshed Films has produced a remarkable 25-minute documentary titled *GROUNDSWELL*. It chronicles not only a world-class surfing adventure, but also provides a

cerebral and compelling examination of an issue – the proposed Enbridge Northern Gateway Project – that embodies many aspects of today’s environmental challenges that interdisciplinary Geographers confront: resource management, geopolitics, energy, aboriginal rights and title, and more. UVic will host three consecutive showings on 02 November. For more information about the journey, film, and even a link to a new scholarly paper from UVic Geography about the Enbridge proposal, see

<http://www.raincoast.org/groundswell/>



#### *W-CIRC in the Mackenzie River basin*

University of Victoria MSc students Hayley Linton, Roxanne Ahmed and Brandi Newton of the Water and Climate Impacts Research Centre (W-CIRC) had the opportunity to travel to the Northwest Territories in late September to see hydrological features of the Mackenzie River basin and gain practical experience relevant to their hydro-climatic research. They were able to visit hydrometric stations along the Mackenzie River, including Fort Providence, Fort Simpson, and

Tsiigehtchic. By air, they were able to see fluvial geomorphology in action at the confluence of the Liard and South Nahanni rivers (tributaries of the Mackenzie River) and the numerous delta lakes and channels of the vast Mackenzie River delta near Inuvik. On land and by water, they saw stream channel dynamics such as channel erosion and the accumulation of layers of sediment deposition that occur annually with the spring flood, as well as the progression of plant growth that is associated with this deposition. Another interesting sight was the erosion of steep banks that resulted in exposed permafrost. Along with site visits, the students also had a chance to present their work to students and affiliates at the Aurora College and Aurora Research Institute. It was a great chance to hear reactions from the local community about the research. They hope to be back in the spring time to view the break-up and spring flood of the Mackenzie River!



**The Mackenzie Delta**



**In Tuktoyaktuk, in front of Canada's largest Pingo  
(From L to R: Brandi, Roxy, Hayley)**

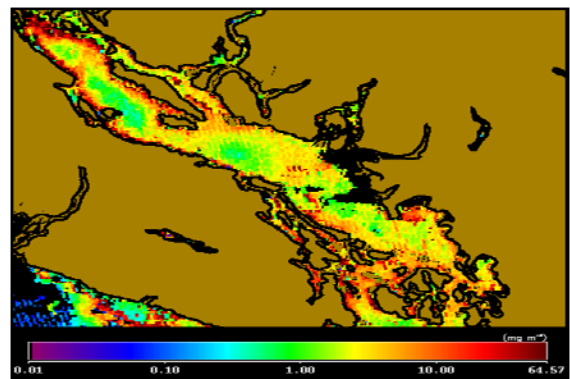


**The South Nahanni River, near Nahanni Butte**

### *Plankton in the Strait of Georgia*

Survival of juvenile salmon year-classes depend on prey availability during the critical period of early development. Prey (zooplankton) availability in the water column depends on phytoplankton abundance; which in the Strait of Georgia (SoG located on west coast of Canada), exhibits a maximal spring peak. The relationship between the timing of bloom and juvenile salmon marine entry may be significant in matching primary production to salmon, affecting year-class survival. Chlorophyll (Chl) maps derived from satellite imagery provide access to synoptic data as a proxy for

phytoplankton biomass. The objective of the research conducted by **Tyson Carswell**, under the supervision of Dr. **Maycira Costa**, is to use a 10 years temporal series of MODIS-Aqua imagery to derive biomass metrics of initiation, duration, amplitude, and distribution of Chl. Ultimately, these data will be correlated with juvenile salmon indices over a 10 year dataset. Further, vessels of opportunity (Ferry-VENUS) provide frequent and accessible *chl* data. When averaged to appropriate spatio-temporal scales, these data can be directly compared with remotely sensed MODIS imagery to broadly validate timing of bloom events. Derived bloom metrics can further be investigated in relation to optical, physical, and biological forcing of surrounding waters. Presently, we are applying this defined method to a 10 year time series of MODIS imagery. This will allow us to better understand the dynamics of the match-mismatch theory for sockeye stocks in the SoG, and aid in the development of management tools for BC fisheries. This is part of a large projected with DFO, IOS, and UBC, and funded by NRAS/BCFRST.



**Chlorophyll in the Strait of Georgia derived from MODIS satellite imagery.**

Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture (IMTA) systems work to reduce the wastes produced by finfish farms through the strategic placement of extractive species such as bivalves and macrophytes. Yet, in order for these systems to be maximized for efficient waste uptake, more knowledge is needed on the properties and dispersion of the particulate wastes from the fish portion of the system. The research objectives of **Justin Del Bel Belluz**, under the supervision of **Dr. Maycira Costa** and **Dr. Stephen Cross**, is to characterize these particulate wastes using oceanographic optical instrumentation. While optical oceanographic methods are commonly used to characterize particulates in the coastal environment, they are rarely used within the aquaculture industry. As such, these methods may constitute a valuable new approach for measuring and characterizing the particulate wastes and their dispersion at IMTA systems. Thus, the purpose of this study is to attempt to use optical oceanographic methods to improve the understanding of finfish aquaculture particulate wastes so that more efficient IMTA systems can be developed in the future. More specifically, this study uses optical data to: characterize the waters surrounding an IMTA system to assess if there are any in-cage vs. outer-cage differences, and; to identify and characterize the particulate wastes (timing, concentrations, compositions) being released by the finfish at an active IMTA operation. This is part of a large NSERC network, CIMTAN.



**Justin in the field**

### *Impact of Gold Mining in Brazilian Amazon*

Geography professor Dr. **Maycira Costa** and PhD student, **Felipe Lobo** are studying the impact of small gold mining activities in the Tapajos Water basin in the Brazilian Amazon. The project is a collaboration between Costa, Lobo (UVic, geography) and Dr. Evlyn Novo (Brazilian Institute of Space Science)(INPE).

The Tapajos area has been mined for more than 100 years, usually by manual techniques, causing the water to become very muddy during the gold extraction process. There are many environmental and social impacts to mining, especially to aquatic ecosystems. The researchers are using optical equipment to measure the water turbidity and compare it to pristine rivers.





Small gold mining activities are quite important to the region and with the price of gold rising daily, the mining operation will likely continue for some time. It is important, therefore, that the researchers provide precise information to the Brazilian institutes so that gold mining practices can be improved. Funding for the project comes from NSERC and INPE/FAPESP/CNPq.

*Uncovering Post Glacial Sea Levels and Coastal Landscape Evolution with the Sands of Time*



**CEDD team landing on 3 mile beach on remote west coast of Calvert Island (D. Shugar photo)**

Dr. Ian J. Walker, director of the Coastal Erosion & Dune Dynamics (CEDD) Laboratory, has begun a new collaborative project to reconstruct sea-level change and coastal landscape evolution over the past 12,000 years on the central coast of BC's Great Bear Rainforest. Early in this time period, known as the Holocene, peopling of the west coast of North

America occurred following the last ice age. The central coast region poses many unknowns (compared to the N and S coasts of BC) on how sea levels behaved following the retreat of the glaciers and, subsequently, how the landscape was configured to be favourable for human occupation.

The study involves mapping old, elevated shorelines identified by GIS analysis of high resolution, aerial laser mapping (LiDAR) and the dating of recent and prehistoric beaches and sand dunes using a method called Optically Stimulated Luminescence (OSL) dating. The project involves collaboration with Dr. Olav Lian (U. Fraser Valley), one of Canada's leading geochronologists and OSL experts, and the Hakai Beach Institute on Calvert Island.

*Unexploded Bomb Halts Dune Restoration Research in Pacific Rim National Park*

Since 2009, Dr. Ian J. Walker and his students have been working with Parks Canada Agency (PCA) in Pacific Rim National Park, near Ucluelet, BC, on one of Canada's largest coastal dune restoration projects. The project, designed to remove an invasive beach grass (*Ammophila breviligulata*) and promote more dynamic habitat for endangered

species, ground to a halt this spring when PCA and DND closed the entire Wickaninnish Dunes site after a retired PCA staff member discovered an unexploded mortar left over from WWII military activities. In their years of land surveys at the site, Dr. Walker and his team often discover military artifacts unearthed by shifting sands in the dunes, but have (fortunately) never come across an unexploded ordnance (or UXO). The closure has significant impacts for visitor safety and Dr. Walker's broader research program on beach-dune dynamics and restoration.



**Spent shell casings exhumed by wind erosion in the Wickaninnish Dunes, with glove for scale (I. Walker photo)**

This hazard poses an interesting application of the science of geomorphology and Dr. Walker is working with PCA and a team from the Department of National Defence, UXO & Legacy Sites Program, to understand site hazards and explore options for

UXO discovery and removal. Former Uvic graduate student Colin Laroque student solves a Titanic mystery

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/story/2012/07/30/nb-mountallison-titanic.html>

#### Student News:

#### **Rosie Childs**

Under the direction of Chris Darimont, I am undertaking a research project in which I propose assess the behavioural and emotional projection of hunters posing with dead animals. I hope to provide insight into the values and motivations of hunters in general as well as between different types of hunting (ie. Trophy vs. Meat). The human dimensions of hunting in general is not well researched, and knowledge gleaned from this research can help inform conservation management in hunting systems. Using both qualitative and quantitative methods, I will analyse ~5 000 photographs of hunters posing with killed animals of a variety of species that are widely available on the internet. Among others, I will explore the following hypotheses:

- That trophy hunters are less likely to smile (a dominant behaviour) than those that pose with meat animals.
- That meat hunters are more likely to put their right cheek forward (the rational side), whereas those that pose with trophy animals would be more likely to put their left cheek forward (the emotional side).

## **Ansley Charbonneau**

For my honours research project, I am examining the role of Web-based mapping systems within volunteer-based environmental monitoring groups. Citizen scientists rely on mapping systems to organize and display their collected data, however they also use these visual platforms to promote awareness about conservation issues. The Seagrass Conservation Working Group (SCWG) is a British Columbia-based network of stewards that map the location and health of eelgrass marine habitat to promote public education and influence policy. Through a user-needs assessment, I will be designing a Web-based system that integrates traditional GIS functionality with elements of community maps to support both the scientific and social components of the organization's activities.

The project involves an extensive literature review of public participatory mapping, geospatial media, and citizen science as well as available technologies. Community-based research methods will be employed to capture the specific needs of the SCWG and to develop a mapping system that complements public engagement in marine conservation.

**Uvic Tree Ring Lab** field work photo essay

<http://www.geog.uvic.ca/uvtrl/2012/uvtrl2012/index.html>

### Awards:

Congratulations to Roxanne Ahmed (MSc. candidate), whose has won the American

Geophysical Union (AGU) - David S. Miller Young Scientist Scholarship for study in the geo-environmental sciences and geo-environmental engineering. As per the AGU: the scholarship is intended to encourage students who exhibit inherent interest and academic potential in fields related to Earth Sciences. Recipients of this award are students who seek to build their own life's philosophy around their science education, growing toward the ultimate goal of contributing to the betterment of the world! She will also be presenting her work along with a number of my other graduate students at the AGU meeting in San Francisco in early December but we hope to have a poster of her work on our walls sooner than that.

Congratulations to Brandi Newton (Geography MSc. candidate) who has been awarded a substantial travel grant by the Cooperative Institute for Research in the Atmosphere (CIRA) at Colorado State University so that she can attend a NOAA Climate Diagnostics and Prediction Workshop - the award being indicative of how valuable they consider her research to the workshop goals! She will also be presenting at the December AGU meeting in San Francisco but will have a poster of her latest work up on the wall soon.

Program news:

**Specialized online courses to expand your geography studies – Plan now for 2013**

**Population Health and GIS – May to August 2013**

This course addresses the geographic nature of population health research; key considerations and limitations in spatial analysis and the application of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in health research. Participants will learn about linking administrative data to spatial data in order to explore questions about health services access and spatial variation in health outcome rates and social equity.

For course details visit:

<http://www.popdata.bc.ca/etu/PHDA/courses/03>

**Spatial Epidemiology and Outbreak Detection – Sept to December 2013**

This course provides an introduction to methods in spatial epidemiology and disease outbreak detection. The spatial epidemiology portion focuses on assessing exposures in a geographical information system (GIS) for use in epidemiological studies. Participants will learn about spatial health data and area socio-economic data, spatial exposure assessment methods, analytical approaches, and limitations of spatial epidemiology. Outbreak detection will cover different methods of space-time disease surveillance.

For course details visit:

<http://www.popdata.bc.ca/etu/PHDA/courses/04>

These courses are part of a Professional Specialization Certificate in Population Health Data Analysis developed by Population Data BC in partnership with the Division of Continuing Studies and Department of Geography, University of Victoria.

*Program Details can be found at:*

<http://www.popdata.bc.ca/etu/PHDA>

*Interested? Ask about our special course rates for graduate students*

For more information or to register contact:

[Maxine Reitsma](#), Program Coordinator, UVic Division of Continuing Studies, Phone: 250 721 6477

**Completed Graduate theses:**

Bills, Kathryn, MA (May 2012): Just a Walk in the Park, Or Is It? A Case Study Analysis of a Seniors Community Park in Oak Bay, British Columbia

Binion, Eric, MA (March 2012): Informal Recycling and the Perception of Health in Buenos Aires, Argentina

Blasco, Nathan, MSc (May 2012): Kelp Culture in Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture: Expanding the Temporal Limitations

Brooks, Rheannon, MSc (2012): Quantifying Peak Freshwater Ice Across the Northern Hemisphere

Using a Regionally Defined Degree-day Ice-growth Model

Chafey, Adam, MA (April 2012): Impacts of Protected Areas on Adjacent Communities: An Examination of Attitudes and Perceptions Towards Pacific Rim National Park Reserve

Eamer, Jordan B.R., MSc (April 2012): Utilizing Geo- and Spatial-Statistical Thresholds for Detecting Geomorphic and Sediment Volume Responses of a Coastal Dune Complex to Invasive Vegetation Removal: Wickaninnish Dunes, Pacific Rim National Park Reserve, British Columbia

Fitterer, Jessica, MSc (June 2012): Modelling British Columbia's Ecosystems and Avian Richness Using Landscape-Scale Indirect Indicators of Biodiversity

Jaswal, Harpreet K., MSc (May 2012): Seismic Preparedness of Hospitals in Victoria BC, Canada

King, Megan, MA (March, 2012): Evaluating the Contribution of Cooperative Sector Recycling to the Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Prussin, Emrys, MSc (May 2012): Spatial Distribution of the Nutrient Plume Emanating From an Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture (IMTA) Farm in British Columbia: Use of an 'in-situ' Kelp Bioassay

Wood, Lisa June, PhD (February 2012): Wood fibre Properties and Their Application to Tree-Ring Studies in British Columbia

*Submitted by Kinga Menu*

## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Thanks to all WDCAG Geographers and associated departments who submitted news items for this edition of the WDCAG newsletter. The WDCAG newsletter is published in the Spring and Fall of each year and aims to provide WDCAG members and the broader geographical community with updates from Geography departments within the region. For an archive of previous newsletters, please visit <http://www.geog.uvic.ca/dept/wcag/publications.htm>. The newsletter serves you, the members, so if you have any suggestions, ideas or news items, please contact **Claire Beaney**, WDCAG Newsletter Editor ([claire.beaney@ufv.ca](mailto:claire.beaney@ufv.ca)).



**Angel Glacier, Jasper National Park**