

## FALL 2014 NEWSLETTER

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### President's Message:

It's the beginning of November already, and less than five months away from the 57<sup>th</sup> Western Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers (WDCAG) conference at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC), in Prince George, which is scheduled for March 12 to 14. I spoke to Conference Chair Dr. Neil Hanlon who gave me a preliminary rundown of the conference. On Friday, March 13, field trips will run during the day (don't break a leg), followed by the keynote speaker, and pub night. Then on Saturday, March 14, we will have the conference presentations, AGM, and banquet. A circular will be sent out in December to the CAG listserv with information about the conference and website. Information will also be posted on twitter and facebook. To find out more about the conference, please contact Neil ([Neil.Hanlon@unbc.ca](mailto:Neil.Hanlon@unbc.ca)). The last conference in 2003 was great fun and educational as well. Although there was snow, the days were warm, and Dr. Roger Wheate led some of us on a x-c ski adventure near the campus. I wonder what we will be in store for at the 2015 conference?

**Help!** If students want a transportation subsidy to the Prince George conference, **we need a list of students who plan to register at the conference, and we need the work address of a faculty or staff member who will receive the cheque on behalf of the students.** Please send this information to our secretary treasurer Dr. Craig Coburn ([craig.coburn@uleth.ca](mailto:craig.coburn@uleth.ca)). If Craig does not receive this information, no cheque will be sent out. Craig mentioned that student groups and chairs/heads of departments should be on the lookout for their travel funding (cheques) from the WDCAG.

At the end of May I attended the Canadian Association of Geographers (CAG) national conference at Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario. I tried to attend as many sessions as possible. One such session was the PechaKucha night, which involves talking about 20 slides for 20

seconds each (or 400 seconds, or 6 minutes and 40 seconds). The talks were fast-paced and interesting – snacks and drinks were provided too. The session was sponsored by the Environmental Studies Association of Canada and the Canadian Cartographic Association (CCA). I also partook in the orienteering event run by Roger Wheate of UNBC and others from the CAG. It was nice to get outside and walk/run around campus after being inside all day.

I saw several WDCAG members there, and many members on the CAG executive committee are from BC and Alberta. Of note, our former WDCAG president Dr. Theresa Garvin from the University of Alberta is now the CAG president – Congratulations Theresa! Bethany Coulthard from the University of Victoria (UVic) continues to sit as the student representative. Dr. Neil Hanlon from UNBC is the new secretary treasurer of the CAG. Dr. David Edgington from UBC finished his tenure as a councillor – well done David!

### Issues arising at the CAG conference at Brock University, May 26-30, 2014:

1. There is a new Québec division of the CAG. Martin Simard from l'Université du Québec à Chicoutimi will be the first councillor – welcome Martin!
2. An accreditation task force was set up for physical geographers wanting certification. Atlantic Division President Dr. Norm Catto from Memorial University is the Chair. If you are interested in assisting with this certification process, please contact Norm ([ncatto@mun.ca](mailto:ncatto@mun.ca)).
3. We also talked about raising the profile of the CAG among people who attend the annual meeting of the American Association of Geographers (AAG). Those CAG members attending the AAG meetings, who are interested in hosting a coffee break or other similar social

event, please contact the CAG secretary Valerie Shoffey ([valerie.shoffey@cag-acg.ca](mailto:valerie.shoffey@cag-acg.ca)).

4. Another issue was the difficulty in obtaining nominations for CAG awards. If you are a CAG member, please think seriously about nominating someone.
5. In the Western Division we also need people to nominate their fellow geographers. I just want to remind you that we have a new awards officer -- Henry Frew, who will follow the legacy of Jim Windsor. Please contact Henry ([hfrew@carrickhouse.net](mailto:hfrew@carrickhouse.net)) if you would like to nominate someone for a teaching, service, research, or the coveted WDCAG Coffee Mug of Distinction award. The details of the awards are on the WDCAG website (<http://www.geog.uvic.ca/dept/wcag/awards.html>).
6. Bethany Coulhard mentioned the importance of conference panels with an applied rather than academic focus, e.g., skills development, for geography students. She mentioned how successful this panel was at the UVic WDCAG conference "What to do after your geography degree" (<http://wdcag.geog.uvic.ca/section/session-3>). We also talked about the lack of academic jobs for Ph.D. students, and that we need to help Ph.D. graduates find meaningful employment outside of academia. I hope someone proposes such a panel for further discussion and action at the upcoming UNBC conference.
7. Another topic was the CAG's role in supporting the International Geographical Union (IGU) to come to Canada, possibly Québec City. The IGU Congress meets every four years in August.
8. We also discussed having joint CAG-Congress conferences as was the case at Brock University this past May. Whereas there are more possible talks to attend when the conferences are held jointly, the cost is higher. It was decided that we will continue to meet with Congress periodically. However, we will not be meeting with Congress when we meet at SFU in downtown Vancouver next June.
9. Finally, we talked about student travel support to the CAG conference. Student CAG members

can apply for travel support if they have been members for two years. Thus, if you are a member in 2014 and 2015, you are eligible for funding to travel to the upcoming CAG conference in downtown Vancouver. So students, please join the CAG! Not only can you receive travel support, but your conference fees will be less for both the WDCAG and CAG conference. I also ask geography instructors out there to encourage your colleagues to join the CAG. Your membership fees helps our students with block travel grants, which allows them to travel as a group to, and present at, the WDCAG conference, which is vital for the educational development of our students. Many graduate and most undergraduate students cannot afford to go to the big international conferences – our regional conferences like the WDCAG are the only venues where almost everyone can attend and make presentations.

#### **Other action items and news:**

Dr. Pam Shaw, our human geography editor for the WDCAG's *Western Geography*, mentioned that the journal has received several submissions and that the next issue is in progress. She also said that publishing the summaries of presentations from the UVic conference was a great idea and that it should be an incentive for students and faculty to present at the upcoming UNBC conference.

In September I talked to Dr. **Derrek** Eberts, the president from the Prairie Division (PCAG), about promoting each other's journal (the PCAG's journal is *Prairie Perspectives*). Also, Dr. Craig Coburn, our physical geography editor, has been communicating with the editor of the *Canadian Geographer*. These talks are continuing and their outcomes will be an agenda item at the UNBC conference.

Finally, we will be revising the WDCAG constitution in preparation for the upcoming AGM in Prince George. I have to thank our Past President Dr. Theresa Garvin for tackling these needed changes.

Next year's CAG conference will be held at the SFU downtown Vancouver campus from June 1 to 5. The key deadlines are January 16, 2015, if you want to

organize a special session, and March 13, 2015, for oral and poster presentations.

I hope the remainder of the fall 2014 term goes well for all of you.

See you next March in Prince George!

*Submitted by Tom Waldichuk,  
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 is teaching Biogeography and two labs during the Fall Term and is teaching Statistical Methods for the Natural Sciences, Resource and Environmental Management and Environmental Impact Assessment this Winter Term. She continues to conduct research on wetland biodiversity, landscape modification by beavers, and methods to reduce human-beaver conflicts through adaptive management. She will also be teaching a Directed Studies student in the Winter term. In the past year, she published two papers, one in *Wetlands* that investigates the distribution and abundance of aquatic invertebrates in beaver-modified wetlands, and the other in *Herpetological Review*, with her former graduate student, Nils Anderson, and co-supervisor Dr. Cindy Paszkowski. That paper assesses detection probability of amphibians during visual encounter surveys. Two other papers are now in press with *Freshwater Biology* and *Animal Conservation*. This summer, Glynnis and her summer research assistants continued her work on mitigating human-beaver conflict through adaptive management, and assessing post-release survival of bitumen-contaminated beavers.

Glen Hvenegaard is teaching three courses this fall: wildlife diversity of Alberta, a capstone environmental science, and a new course on environmental education and heritage interpretation. He is also teaching 2 more Directed Studies students, one on voluntourism for sea turtle conservation, and the other on creating web-based dialogue about the effects of fracking in Alberta. In November, he will present at the World Parks

Congress (held every 10 years) in Sydney, Australia. He and his co-editors are working hard to complete a revised Best Practice Guidelines for Sustainable Tourism for this Congress. Glen and two colleagues (Jeremy Mouat and Heather Marshall) made good progress this summer on an environmental history of Frank Farley, a Camrose-based ornithologist and conservationist from the early 1900s. He published new articles or chapters on primate tourism, flagship species, and bird migration. He and Lars Hallstrom are finishing a project analyzing the factors affecting the development of rural community sustainability plans across Canada. Glen and his colleagues outfitted about 27 Purple Martins with light-sensitive geolocators last summer; they recovered 2 geolocators from birds outfitted the year before. Glen and Glynnis will teach a new field studies course this August at Miquelon Lake Provincial Park.

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 program 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 is experiencing strong enrolments in the fall semester. **Rory Crowley** and **Widyarini (Rini) Sumartojo** have been hired in the department. **Don McPhee** left the department in the Winter 2014 semester. **Susan Smythe** has replaced **Mike McPhee** as the Chair of the Geography Department. The department conducted two successful field schools to Scotland and Belize in the summer 2014 semester. The department is currently seeking an instructor to teach a section of Geography 1110 (Weather and Climate) and a section of Geography 1120 (Introduction to Earth Sciences) in the Winter 2015 semester. Both sections will be taught at the David Lam campus.

*Submitted by Earl Noah*

## MOUNT ROYAL UNIVERSITY

The Geography Program, in the Department of Earth Sciences at Mount Royal University, is slowly expanding to include new courses into the Geography Minor which is found within the Bachelor of General Science at Mount Royal University. There is also a brand new affiliation for the Geography Program with **Dr. Barbara McNicol** assuming a role as Assistant Director for the Institute of Environmental Sustainability (IES) and heading a Protected Areas Research Group (PARG) within the Institute.

There have been some interesting developments from our faculty on the research front where **Lynn Moorman** has completed her PhD within the Interdisciplinary Program of Education and Geography at UBC-Okanagan. Her dissertation was titled *Reciprocity of Geospatial Literacy and Representation: Children's Learning with Google Earth*. Lynn also spoke at the UBC-Okanagan campus on September 25<sup>th</sup>, about imperatives and opportunities for spatial thinking infusion across campus. The content was aligned to the St. John's Declaration: Advancing Geographic Education for Canadians. Other research of Lynn's includes: Contributions to ecosystem health assessments in Calgary's urban natural areas through technology using citizen science. The research will develop the HabitAPP which is a customized application using ESri's Collector application. This is a joint project with the City of Calgary and with Dr. Dorothy Hill of the Biology Department at MRU and has been funded by IES. Lynn will be leading a geospatial education SIG at the provincial industry conference of GeoAlberta and joining, in October, the AAG geography education researchers at National Geographic in Washington, DC for a workshop on geospatial learning.

**Drs. Barbara McNicol and Troy Burnett** and have been active on the Editorial Board of ABC-Clio, Santa Barbara, California, editing and

compiling online essays for the *World Geography, Enduring Questions Series*. Barbara has also formed an alliance with Drs. Donna Senese of UBC-Okanagan and John Hull of Thompson Rivers University to begin research on transitioning Okanagan landscapes with specific application of amenity migration and second home use in the Okanagan region. This last summer Barb continued with a survey of commercial operators in Banff and Jasper National Parks to determine categories for indicators of environmental supply as defined by commercial tour operators. A new chapter titled *The Concept of Environmental Supply in National Parks* will be published soon in an upcoming book by Steve McCool and Keith Bosak titled *Reframing Sustainable Tourism*. This is being published by Springer as part of their *Environmental Challenges and Solutions Series*. Barb has also introduced a new course into the geography curriculum which was successfully taught for the first time in the Winter term of 2014; Geography 3447, Parks and Protected Areas.

**Susan Hunt** continues to offer successful Geography Field Schools through the International Office at MRU. This year she organized a Mediterranean Field School to France, Spain and Morocco as a cooperative venture with Dr. Antoine Sassine of the Department of Languages and Cultures. They took 18 students for 3 weeks and included an opportunity for our students to meet with students at the University Rabat, Morocco for interaction at the community level of geography. Susan will be conducting another Geography Field School this spring term of 2015.

*Submitted by Barbara McNicol*

## SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

### Obituary

John Brohman, Associate Professor of Geography at Simon Fraser University, passed away suddenly on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2014.

John was a longstanding member of the Department, appointed in 1987. Born in 1951 in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, he was an undergraduate student at the University of Western Ontario and Carleton University. John received a Chancellors Fellowship at Carleton to pursue graduate studies in geography at the University of California, Los Angeles and was awarded a Ph.D. in 1989. John's doctoral dissertation focused on rural development and agrarian reform in Nicaragua, and he spent two years there during the 1980s working and doing field work. John first developed an interest in Third World development largely through personal experience, and travelled to some seventy countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. At SFU, John was also active in the Latin American Studies Program, for which he served as Director in 2001-2004, the Centre for Community Sustainable Development, the School of International Studies, and the Development and Sustainability Program.

John's general research interests concerned theories, strategies, and practices of Third World development, including regional development and planning, tourism, rural development and agrarian reform, linkages between industry and agriculture, commercialization networks, institutional and organizational aspects of the Third World state, and neoliberal development strategy and alternative frameworks. He authored numerous articles and two books, notably Popular Development: rethinking the theory and practice of development (1996, Blackwell). He was wrapping up a major CIDA research project that he was involved in concerning community economic development in Bolivia, and was planning to work on a community economic development with First Nations in Seton Lake. A committed and engaged teacher, he supervised many graduate students.

Beyond his academic achievements, he is warmly remembered as a decent, kind and straightforward man, who enjoyed a good story. An old lefty, he distrusted power and orthodoxy. He cared deeply

for the Third World, particularly Latin America. While well versed in the literature, he also advocated for practical, community-based solutions. His friends, colleagues and students will miss him greatly.

### Graduate Theses - 2014

**Daniela Aiello** MA: *Vancouver's Downtown Eastside: An ethnography of restaurateurs and neighbourhood change*. Supervisor: Eugene McCann, August 6, 2014

**William Damon** MA: *Spatial Tactics in Vancouver's Judicial System*. Supervisor: Nick Blomley, April 24, 2014

**Laura Guzman Flores** MA: *Beyond the Carbon Tax: Personal Carbon Trading and British Columbia's Climate Policy*. Supervisor: Alex Clapp, August 11, 2014

**Kristofer Hatch** MSc: *Integrating Soft Computing, Complex Systems methods, and GIS for modeling urban land-use change*. Supervisor: Suzana Dragicevic, April 24, 2014

**Megan Hendershot** MSc: *Low Angle Dune Response to Variable Flow, Dune Translation and Crestline Dynamics in Fraser Estuary, British Columbia, Canada*. Supervisor: Jeremy Venditti, April 28, 2014

**Victoria Hodson** MA: *Place, Race and Capital: A Political Ecology of Oil and Gas Expansion in Kitimat, British Columbia*. Supervisor: Janet Sturgeon, April 15, 2014

**Kimberly House** MSc: *Bird and beetle assemblages in mountain pine beetle killed forests and those subsequently burned: evidence for an effect of compound natural disturbances in British Columbia*. Supervisor: Meg Krawchuk, September 5, 2014

**Sarah Hunt** PhD: *Witnessing the colonialscape: lighting the intimate fires of indigenous legal pluralism*. Supervisor: Nick Blomley, March 3, 2014

**Jessica Place** PhD : *"Law, Property and Power: A Critical Legal Geography of Matrimonial Real Property on Reserve"*. Supervisor: Nick Blomley, May 22, 2014



**Britta Ricker** PhD: *Mobile Computers for Injury Surveillance: A Multi-faceted Feasibility Assessment*. Supervisor: Nadine Schuurman, August 5, 2014

**Katarzyna Tokarska** MSc: *The Role of Negative Carbon Dioxide Emissions In Climate System Reversibility*. Supervisor: Kirsten Zickfeld, June 27, 2014

*Submitted by Tracy Brennand*

## THOMSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

Over the spring and summer of 2014, many of us in the TRU Department of Geography and Environmental Studies were advising students about which courses to take within our new major program, which includes an honours option. We have also been looking into course sharing with Sociology and Anthropology.

On June 13, three of our faculty took part in the spring convocation procession, and were able to congratulate in person the following Geography majors and minor who convocated: Lee Giddens (major), and Carly Lawrence (major), and Jessica Berg (minor). Lee was our Canadian Association of Geographers (CAG) award winner. In addition, other majors who convocated were Dan Mousseau, RenéTardif, Russell Thorsteinsson, and Jayden Riley, who also received a Global Competency certificate. In the fall convocation, Steven Lee and Sarah Neumann graduated with their BAs, and Julie Taylor Schooling graduated with a Masters degree in Environmental Sciences, under the supervision of Darryl Carlyle-Moses, who guided her through her thesis research on urban hydrology.

On September 30, our Chair, Darryl Carlyle-Moses attended a ceremony in Wells Gray Park to acknowledge the gift of a large parcel of land to TRU from the Neave family (<http://www.kamloopsthisweek.com/tru-receives-160-acre-donation-near-wells-gray/>). Roland Neave attended Cariboo College before graduating with a Geography degree from Simon Fraser University. Over the years his family has been a major supporter of the Geography and Environmental Studies Department, primarily through the establishment and continued support of several scholarships for students who are majoring in Geography.

## Geography Students' Report:

The Thompson Rivers University Geography Society (TRUGS) has been very active this year with club activities. Students have participated in recruitment events, gone on various hikes around Kamloops and Wells Gray Provincial Park, travelled to see the Adam's River Salmon Run, conducted an Adopt-a-Road clean-up, and attended an environmental seminar series. The club will be continuously fundraising throughout the year for the trip to the Western Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers (WDCAG) conference in March.

## Faculty News:

**Darryl Carlyle-Moses** is currently working with Crystal Huscroft, David Hill, and other faculty from across campus to develop a new major program in Hydrology & Earth Science, and Monitoring. The program will meet the educational requirements for the Environmental Geoscientist designation of the Association of Professional Engineers, and Geoscientists. The program will be unique in that it will focus on hydrology, groundwater hydrology, watershed management, geoinformatics, and spatiotemporal analysis, in addition to a solid grounding in geology, geomorphology, and meteorology. Darryl and David Hill are also working on developing a Geoinformatics certificate. One of Darryl's graduate students, Julie Taylor Schooling, successfully defended her thesis on the influence of tree traits and storm meteorology on stemflow generation in an urban park. The results of her study have been submitted to the journals *Hydrological Processes* and *Urban Ecosystems*. Two other graduate students -- Chad Lishman, and Claudette Martin -- are respectively working on studies related to the impact of mountain pine beetle on hydrologic processes, and examining depth duration frequency patterns associated with precipitation in the BC interior. Both students are expected to defend in late fall 2014 or early winter 2015. Darryl had a paper published by the *Journal of Forestry Research* on throughfall sampling methodologies in the spring of 2014. He will be attending the American Geophysical Union conference in December and presenting a paper dealing with urban hydrology. In his spare time Darryl is also the interim Chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology.

**Claudette Martin** is back teaching our introductory weather and climate course while Darryl continues his Chairing duties.

**David Hill** received an NSERC Discovery grant this past spring. He also published an invited paper on the emerging challenge of smart water management in the *Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management*. In April he presented a paper on participatory environmental sensing at the annual meetings of the Association of American Geographers (AAG), and over the summer, he also presented at the Environmental and Water Resources Institute Conference in Portland, Oregon. David has been named to the editorial board of the *Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management*. He is currently working with Dr. John Church from the TRU School of Natural Resource Sciences who is conducting research on sustainable ranching. Together they have purchased six drones and are studying their effectiveness in surveying, mapping, and multi-spectral and thermal imaging. Such applications help to reduce ranching labour costs, and potentially give ranchers greater awareness of the location and condition of cattle on range lands.

**Crystal Huscroft** recently attended, edited a field guide, and co-led a field trip to Wells Gray Park for the Annual General Meeting of the Geological Society of America. She has also coauthored a paper published in the *Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences*. In terms of scholarly teaching, she has been developing instructional videos about air photo interpretation for her classes and on-line courses offered by TRU-OL, and doing curriculum development for new courses on sustainability and hazards. Crystal attended Geography articulation in early May, which was vital to our program as we had missed the previous year's meeting, and presented the reconfiguration of our majors program.

**Terry Macdonald** has been busy teaching since the summer term (after teaching in the winter term!). He taught Introduction to Human Geography: Geographical Change in the Modernizing World (GEOG 1190) in the Summer 2014 session, and this fall he is currently teaching a course in the Tourism Management Department called Land Use Management and Tourism (TMGT 3040). This course introduces students to how British

Columbia's land and natural resources are managed by various levels of government. It also provides some tools for both accessing critical information about the status of lands that managers may wish to use for tourism developments and for identifying steps required to pursue applications for those lands. Terry is also teaching two sections of People, Places and Landscapes (GEOG 1010) -- our new re-branded introductory human geography course.

After many years of administration at TRU and elsewhere, **Michael Mehta** has joined the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies as a Professor. Michael is a social scientist who specializes in science, technology and society with a focus on environmental and health risk issues. His recent work focuses on community resistance, resiliency and social innovation with a particular emphasis on citizen science, and he leads the Help the Kelp Project (see [helpthekelp.blogspot.ca](http://helpthekelp.blogspot.ca)) and founded a renewable energy non-profit society on Gabriola Island, British Columbia, called GabEnergy (see [www.gabenergy.com](http://www.gabenergy.com)).

**Kim Naqvi** presented a paper on place at this year's CAG conference at Brock University. She also presented a poster on Paul Klee and Albert Anker, which she later updated for the Baha'i Studies conference in Toronto, and intends to explore further at the AAG conference in Chicago. She is currently teaching a new course on consumption, in which she is trying to balance cultural, economic, and resource management perspectives. She is also teaching first year world regional geography, which replaces one of our two first year half courses on human geography – this also is a new course for her. Kim is also teaching the geography of Canada and the introduction to cultural geography.

**Gilles Viaud** spent much of the summer preparing a new version of introductory human geography that incorporates Google Earth exercises. He was also revising his fourth year geography of small cities course, which focuses on quality of life and place. He has been working with the United Way on a quality of place reporting system, and student Kary Fell has also been working on the project to receive service learning credit. He has also been working on a project with the consulting firm Urban Systems at Sun Peaks ski resort to examine aging in place, and

student Heather James has received a scholarship from TRU to conduct research on the project. Gilles is looking forward to the next WDCAG in Prince George.

In early May, **Tom Waldichuk** took fourteen students on a two week field trip in Japan. This was the largest group Tom has taken, but he was lucky to be accompanied by two other faculty members. They used Bunkyo Gakuin University in Tokyo as a base and did day trips around Tokyo and to Tsukuba and Ushiku Cities. They also spent a few days in the Kansai area, experiencing three nights of homestay in Uji – our sister city – and visiting a tea factory and field in Uji, an outdoor earthquake museum and the disaster reduction museum in Kobe, and the Nishijin textile centre in Kyoto. Tom also spent a day and a half in Ushiku, recording landscape changes in his case study area and reconnecting with city hall employees to talk about land-use change.

Tom also presented a paper at the CAG conference on field schools while attending the CAG executives meetings. He spent much of the summer marking field note books and essays from the Japan course; however, this was broken up by a visit from the sister city group in Uji at the beginning of July. During the first few days of September he assisted five geographers from Japan who are studying the “Commodification of rural landscapes” in Canada.

Tom is just teaching two courses right now, one of which is the Geog3700 field studies course, which has fourteen students. The focus of this course is the rural-urban fringe of Kamloops, in which he and his students have been travelling around using the city bus. He also just came back from the annual meeting of the Japan Studies Association of Canada, where he presented a paper on the history of a bypass proposal in a commuter city called Ushiku.



*Geography 3700 students at a bus stop on Old Highway 5 near Heffley Creek on September 27, 2014 (T. Waldichuk photo).*

See you in Prince George!

*Submitted by Tom Waldichuk*

## UNIVERSITY OF THE FRASER VALLEY

### Department News:

The department has expanded its presence on social media. In addition to its Facebook page (under “UFV Geography and the Environment”), it is also Tweeting @UFVGeography and on LinkedIn under “UFV Geography”.

Due to the ongoing sabbatical leave tsunami (that started a few years ago and is still going), GATE has a full complement of temporary teaching faculty: **Mariano Mapili**, **Khaled Hamdan** and **Terah Sportel** have been hired as limited term appointments for this academic year; and **Simon Chilvers**, **Victoria Hodson**, and **Jen Hetherington** are teaching courses as sessional instructors. **Claire Beaney** (now Claire Hay) is back in the department following her sabbatical and maternity leaves. She will be back in the classroom in January.

**Michelle Rhodes** ended her term as department head in May with **Lynn Kirkland-Harvey** acting as interim head until December. **Steven Marsh** will take the reins in January 2015 for a 3-year term as department head.



**Jen Hetherington's** GEOG 362 Tourism and Recreation class is collaborating with the Fraser Valley Regional District. The students will develop a component of the *Experience the Fraser* Concept Plan, focusing on dyke management and the tourism/recreation interface. This research will help guide the planning and implementation the *Experience the Fraser* trail, with the FVRD and Metro Vancouver

**Cherie Enns'** GEOG 360 Planning class is working on Rural Strategy projects related to agriculture, community safety and land use, recreation, and economic development. Students will receive a reference letter from the FVRD in addition to a mark. Cherie's GDS 100 has 36 students engaged in the development of community base homelessness funding campaigns for local organizations.

This current semester marks the inaugural offerings of our new introductory physical geography course GEOG 103 The Physical Environment. It is being offered in multiple sections by **Carolyn Atkins, Kathy Peet, Mariano Mapili** and **Khaled Hamdan**. This course will replace GEOG 101 Weather and Climate and GEOG 102 Evolution of the Earth Surface in the coming year. The goal of this course is to provide students with a holistic overview of physical geography which ladders into our second year offerings in geomorphology, climatology and biogeography.

GEOG 111 Environmental Issues and Strategies is a new course this semester being taught by **Lenore Newman** and **Mariano Mapili**. This course serves as an introduction to the study of many contemporary regional, national, and global environmental problems from a geographic perspective. **Terah Sportel** will be teaching this course in the winter semester.

**Terah Sportel**, with assistance from Olav Lian and Simon Chilvers, successfully led a two-day field trip for Geog 312 (Political Ecology: Nature, Society & Space) (October 4-5). The primary focus of the fieldtrip was the transition of resource control via the state, individuals (corporate or persons) and collectives from pre-colonial times to the present day. The secondary focus was the changing historical context and multiple uses of resources. The field trip comprised eight stops with talks

between 20-40 minutes. Day one set the theoretical foundations, spanning an historical timeline from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> c. to present with particular emphasis on power relations and marginality, and resource access, control and management: Alexandra Bridge (Modes of Production), Skihist (Influence of Railways on Modes of Production), Lytton Reaction Ferry (Pre-emption & the Fraser River Gold Rush), Ashcroft Manor (Pre-emption and First Nations Seasonal Livelihoods; Ranching, Conservation). Day two focused primarily on the 21<sup>st</sup> c., concentrating on larger-scale human-environmental interactions: Cache Creek (Landfill, Sacrifice Zones), Highland Valley Copper Mine (Tailings Pond, Environmental Reclamation Site), and Highland Valley Forestry (Pine Beetle Infestation, BC Forestry in Transition). Students will produce an analytical report discussing: (1) how environmental attitudes, modes of production and knowledge systems have influenced resource use, and (2) explain how power relations have shaped and governed access to resources. The trip provided an invaluable experience, whereby the students were able to apply and visualise many of the issues discussed in-class.



*The GEOG 312 class at Alexandra Bridge*

In October, students in **Mariano Mapili's** GEOG/BIO 319 (Swamps and Bogs), participated in the wetland restoration initiatives of several stakeholders including the Fraser Valley Watershed Coalition, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, The District of Mission, Ducks Unlimited, and the Stave Valley Salmonid Enhancement Society. The students carried out bioengineering techniques and solutions to combat invasive species in the Stave Wetland and the Silverdale Creek Wetland (see photo below). The

participation of the class on these two field trips exposed them to practical community conservation work that complimented their traditional classroom instruction.



### Student news

Two students will be heading to WHOI to complete practicums related to the Global Rivers Observatory project. They will be supervised by Bernhard Peucker-Ehrenbrink at WHOI and **Steven Marsh** at UFV.

The annual awards for academic achievement and service to Geography were handed out in June 2014. Each of the recipients were nominated by faculty members and voted on by the department. The recipients were:

- CAG Award: **Rosalie Luymes**. This award is given to the graduating student with the highest GPA in Geography. Rosalie not only finished with the highest GPA (4.15) in any Geography program, but also the highest for any graduating Arts student.
- AAG Award: **Alison Thorpe**. This award is given to a graduating student with both a high GPA and a record of service to the department
- Doug Nicol Award: **Jen Nickel**. This annual award is given in honour of the late Doug Nicol, one of founding members of UFV Geography. It's awarded to a graduating student who has demonstrated excellence

in both human and physical geography, and has contributed to student life.

In addition to being awarded the CAG Award, **Rosalie Luymes** was awarded the Deans Medal for the Faculty of Social Sciences at UFV's June Graduation ceremony. Rosalie also presented her research associated with the Global Rivers Observatory Project (in collaboration with Steven Marsh) at the AGU meeting in San Francisco last December. Rosalie also won the t-shirt design contest which raises money to support student travel (see photo below).



*Rosalie Luymes with her winning t-shirt design at the AGU.*

Also presenting results of their research at the AGU Fall Meeting were **Audrey Epp** and **Michelle Bennett** (all our research students, Michelle is a biologist).

**Libby Griffin**, a two-time NSERC USRA awardee associated with the UFV Luminescence Dating Laboratory, was this year's UFV Undergraduate Research Excellence Award winner for Geography. Libby was also awarded a Hakai Fellowship worth \$46,000 over two years to continue her research in the Luminescence Dating Laboratory as an MSc student in Earth Sciences (SFU), co-supervised by Dr. Brent Ward (SFU). Libby's research will focus on postglacial landscape change on Savary Island, BC.

**Joelle Bausenhaus**, final-year BA major in geography (minor in Kinesiology) student, won an award in the annual Writing Centre Competition, University of the Fraser Valley for her paper 'Conflict Over Water

Quantity on the Rio Grande: A Political versus Apolitical Approach', in the category of Upper Division research. Joelle's paper was written in Fall 2014 as a course requirement for Terah Sportel's Geog 312 (Political Ecology: Nature, Society & Space).

Geography grad **Dan Huesken** (BSc, Physical Geography, 2013) was featured in a two page spread in the *Maclean's 2015 Guide to Jobs in Canada*. Dan works as a GIS technician for West Fraser Timber, out of Williams Lake. He was profiled as an example of interesting jobs in the natural resources sector.

To celebrate UFV's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, **Michelle Rhodes** is building a list of alumni through faculty contacts and through a social media campaign. Based on this list, indications are that there is a high degree of employment success in geography-related fields and education. Of the 54 students on the list so far (most of whom graduated from 2007-2014), alumni are working in the following fields:

- GIS and remote sensing (5+ alumni)
- Natural Resource Management (Forestry, environmental consulting/ technicians, geology, and land management) (10+alumni)
- Planning (urban, tourism, recreation) (10+ alumni)
- K-12 education (10+ alumni)
- LEED project management
- Community Activism/ Social Work
- Sales and Management (varied positions)
- Architecture
- Currently in or recently finished graduate programs in Canada, the US, the UK, and Australia (10+)

Finally, this year GATE is home to *two* very successful student groups. The first is GUS, the Geography Undergraduate Society, which has been around for 15 years or so, and which has a full slate of activities planned. The second is the UFV Urbanists, an organization focused on planning and urban studies. They've arranged two speaker events thus far, both on transit planning, and they are planning a brown bag series on planning-related skills development.

### Discovery Series Seminars and Other Events

We kicked off the fall semester with **Cherie Enns** organizing and hosting the Discovery Series: *Pipelines, Rights and Boundaries*. Several classes of students attended as did members from the UFV and Abbotsford communities. Distinguished panel members included Hugh Brody, Charis Enns, Dr. Ken Brealey, Dr. David Schaepe, Patricia Ross, and Barclay Pitkethly. It was a thought-provoking evening of discussions from several points of view.

**Dr. Lenore Newman** gave a stimulating forum on *Life in Agriburbia* on October 1<sup>st</sup> which was followed with a reception showcasing local food and an exhibit in the UFV Gallery. This event presented research in an innovative way – maps and a series of photos that highlight changes to the ALR were mounted, and dots on the photos related to dots on the map. A variety of experts on the ALR each gave 10 minutes of lightning talks. It was a great success, and feedback has been very positive. The larger project is funded by the Abbotsford Community Foundation, and SSHRC.

GATE also hosted **Mr. Vis Naidoo** for a Discovery Series seminar entitled 'Technology Developments – Driving Change in Higher Education'. The presentation focused on key technology developments globally and implications to both the institution and student. Developments in open education resources, massive open online courses, increased access to devices, data analytics and other technology applications and identify emerging trends for institutions and students were also discussed. Mr. Naidoo has spent much of the past 20 years involved in the development of educational technology policy options – both in South Africa and internationally, including at Commonwealth Of Learning. Most recently, he was Citizenship Lead at Microsoft South Africa.

This month, GATE is hosting **Lisa Powell**, Postdoctoral Fellow, Agriburban Centre at UBC/UFV on November 13th. Her talk is entitled "Going Through the Camp: Farms and World War II in Western Kentucky.

The UFV Urbanists group hosted **Darren Davis**, a planning consultant from New Zealand, will be talking about transportation planning in Auckland



on October. His talk was entitled “Auckland Innovations – Shared Spaces, a New Network for public transport and urban regeneration”.

### Study Tours

Geographers **David Gibson** and **Garry Fehr** took 12 students with them on the 2014 edition of the Mexico Study Tour in May. They visited the cities of San Cristobal, Oaxaca, Tlaxcala, and Mexico City and studied the themes of urban structure, religious pilgrimages, regional migration patterns and ongoing rural transitions. Fehr and Gibson thoroughly enjoyed using this mode of experiential learning to teach regional content as well as research methods. They also maintained their perfect record of returning to Canada with the same students they started the tour with.

GATE's Adventures in Geography to San Francisco this past September was a six-day, field-intensive study of the Bay Area that focused on three themes: the geologic evolution of the San Andreas fault, urban development, and transportation and planning. This trip was led by **Jonathan Hughes**, **Cherie Enns** and **Mike Smith**. Critical to our analysis was the application of both a sustainability and disaster mitigation lens, including issues related to climate change and globalization.



*AIG students and faculty in San Francisco*

GATE department members **Steven Marsh**, **Terah Sportel** and **Mariano Mapili** are planning a two week study tour to New York City in April/May 2015. This tour will look at coastal ecology, urban climatology, sustainability in large metropolitan areas and geography of food together with natural

preparedness and restoration following Hurricane Sandy. This will be GATE's first trip to the Atlantic Seaboard region of the US.

### Faculty News:

**Dr. Lenore Newman** has the honour of being selected as an inaugural member of the College of New Scholars, Artists, and Scientists of the Royal Society of Canada.

**Cherie Enns** chaired the task force and authored the final *Homelessness Action Plan* which was approved by Abbotsford City Council. One of our students did the infographics for the report. <http://www.abbotsford.ca/Assets/2014+Abbotsford/Planning+and+Development/Homelessness/Homelessness+Action+Plan.pdf>

**Garry Fehr** and **Cherie Enns** are attending the Aga Khan East Africa Food Security Mapping and Policy Round Table this month as invited/sponsored participants. Considering that African cities are expanding from 36% of the population in 2010 to 50% by 2030, there will be considerable challenges for governments to provide sufficient infrastructure for the supply of transportation, shelter, food, water, and the elimination of pollution and waste. However, this transition period is also an opportune time to influence the planning process for the development and support of urban food systems that contribute to food security and the creation of sustainable cities. This project aims to provide evidence-based research to the policy makers, NGOs and agricultural stakeholders in Nairobi and the adjoining peri-urban areas. The project will determine best practices in urban agriculture; collate examples of innovative technologies; map the flows of food, resources and wastes of the existing food system; develop a library of potential land and its suitability for agriculture; create educational curriculum for school children; develop urban agriculture manuals for new farmers; and create advocacy and awareness tools for the purpose of motivating the political process and informing the general public of the need for sustainable urban food systems. This project is funded by Aka Khan University and conducted in partnership with Aga Khan East Africa Institute in Nairobi. It will include collaborative peer review journal articles, policy briefs and exchanges of

faculty and students. In addition there will be funding for multiple student research assistantships and internships, and make a significant contribution to UFV's expertise in agriculture.

**Olav Lian's** research group (Postdoctoral Fellow **Dr. Christina Neudorf**, MSc student Libby Griffin, and UFV undergraduates Jordan Bryce and Maureen Eysers) have been extremely busy working on several research projects, the principal ones being:

(1) *Long-term change to the BC landscape along the central coast.* Their research specifically seeks to understand how BC's central coast responded to changes in global sea level and changes in climate over the last 12,000 years. The vast majority of this research is being conducted in the vicinity of the Hakai Institute on Calvert Island. This work is in close collaboration with co-PI Dr. Ian Walker's Uvic Geography group (postdoctoral fellow Dr. Dan Shugar and PhD student Jordan Eamer), **Jonathan Hughes**, and also with Uvic archaeologists Drs. Duncan McLaren and Daryl Fedje who are interested in understanding how sea-level and climate driven change has affected the peopling of BC's coast since the end of the last ice age. Some of our findings were presented at the GSA annual conference in Vancouver in mid-October. Two peer-reviewed papers on this were published in a major international journal a few months ago (Shugar et al. 2014; McLaren et al., 2014) and a third (Neudorf et al.) has been submitted. This research is being funded by the Tula Foundation and the Hakai Program;

(2) *The long-term (last ~13,000 years) climate-driven landscape change on the Canadian prairies.* This research is in collaboration with PI Dr. Steven Wolfe of Natural Resources Canada (NRCan), a collaboration that began more than 20 years ago, and also with Dr. Chris Hugenholtz at University of Calgary, and former UFV Geography student (now SFU MSc student) Justine Cullen. Some of our latest findings were published last year, and a new paper, presented at the GSA conference in Vancouver, will be submitted in the coming months. This research is funded by NRCan and NSERC:

(3) *The timing of construction of clam gardens on BC's central coast.* Clam gardens are coastal structures built by First Nations people 100s or

1000s of years ago to help induce the growth of clams, which was one of their principal food sources. **Dr. Christiana Neudorf** is working on this with SFU archaeologist, and project PI, Dr. Dana Lepofsky and others. The research is funded by the Hakai Program and by NSERC.



*Jonathan Hughes (far left) directing members of our Calvert Island research group on aspects of raft-based lake coring*

An article co-authored by **John Belec** appears in the current issue of the *Journal of Borderlands Studies* (September 2014): *Democracy and the space of energy flows: the practice of bordered transnationalism in the Pacific Northwest.* The article examines the legacy of the SE2 energy conflict in the local cross-border region and is the outcome of a long-term research collaboration between Geography Professors Belec at UFV and Pat Buckley at Western Washington University.

In June and September, **Scott Shupe** co-hosted with Earthwatch Institute, a two day-long Citizen Science Leader training event in Burnaby. Training involved environmental education, with a focus on water issues, and stream observation and sampling protocols. HSBC's H2O program a, 3-day corporate leadership retreat for bank personnel, were involved as citizen scientists. Scott was also awarded a small grant of \$800.00 from the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation (TD FEF) to support his research comparing urban impact and loss of riparian forest cover between the Salmon River and Kanaka Creek Watersheds.



**Jonathan Hughes** recently presented at the 2014 Geological Society of America meeting held in Vancouver. The presentation was invited by the Canadian Association of Palynologists and is titled, "Interpretation of palynological data from sediment cores collected in potentially "noisy" environments." At the meeting, Jonathan also co-lead a topical session with Dr. Lisa Ely from Central Washington University on "Records of Past Watershed Dynamics Archived in Lowland Wetlands and Lakes." Jonathan continues to direct the UFV Paleocology Laboratory with students working on earthquake history of northwest North America, flood history of the Fraser Lowland, and lowland records of past watershed dynamics along the Central Coast of British Columbia.

**Michelle Rhodes** is on sabbatical through August 2015. She is spending much of her time working on curriculum (re-)development (in Environmental Studies and in overseeing major revisions in the Bachelor of General Studies program). In addition, she is conducting research on two projects: 1) morphological trends and filtering patterns associated with the BC Box house form, and 2) the influence of online retailing on border landscapes.

During his sabbatical (which wraps up in December) **Steven Marsh** continued his ongoing research with the Global Rivers Observatory Project in collaboration with Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI). Steven is presenting results from this project at the upcoming Fall meeting of the AGU in San Francisco in December. The two poster presentations are titled, "Authentic Research Experience for University of the Fraser Valley Undergraduate Students through the Global Rivers Observatory", and "Variation of Fraser Valley, British Columbia, Tributary Stream Water Chemistry 2010 to 2014."

**Terah Sportel** published a book review in *The Canadian Geographer* in 2014. Sportel, T. 2014. [Review of the book *Revisiting Rural Places: Pathways to Poverty and Prosperity in Southeast Asia*, by J. Rigg and P. Vandergeest (Eds.)]. *The Canadian Geographer* 58 (3). doi: 10.1111/cag.12106.

In recent months, **Simon Chilvers** guest-edited with Margaret Walton-Roberts the journal *Diaspora*, for a special issue on the South Asian diaspora. He also had an article published with Margaret Walton-Roberts in the said issue, entitled 'Deconstructing the (Re)Construction of South Asian Identities in Canada'. Simon also has a chapter appearing this November in the *Encyclopedia of Imperialism and Anti-Imperialism* (Palgrave Macmillan), entitled 'Hobson, John Atkinson (1858-1940)'.

*Submitted by Claire Hay*

## UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

### Faculty News:

Congratulations to Geography's **Neil Hanlon** (Chair of Geography) and **Brian Menounos** (Canada Research Chair in Glacial Change) for their recent promotions to Full Professor. Congratulations on your accomplishments!

**Sarah de Leeuw** won two Western Magazine Awards for her essay *Soft Shouldered* published in *Prism International*. It took top prize in the BC/Yukon and Human Experiences categories.

**Gail Fondahl** gave two invited presentations, on "Human Development in the Arctic: The Past Ten Years," at the Arctic Centre of Umeå University (ARCUM) in Sweden, on 17 March 2014 (co-hosted by the Embassy of Canada to Sweden), and on "Monitoring and Tracking Human Development in the Arctic," at the Arctic Dialogue 2014 conference, in Bodø, Norway, on 19 March 2014. Gail hosted the International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences at UNBC on May 22-26. The theme was *Northern Sustainabilities*; and over 500 presentations filled the program. For more information see: <http://resweb.res.unbc.ca/icass2014/index.htm>.

She completed her term as president of IASSA, and handed the torch on. Gail's continued work as co-lead on the *Arctic Human Development Report II* (forthcoming 2014) spawned several invitations to talk: in February at a diplomatic lunch hosted by the Canadian Ambassador to Iceland; in March at Umeå University's new Arctic Centre (ARCUM); at the 2014 *Arctic Dialogue* conference in Bodø, Norway; and in September at the University of Alaska – Anchorage. She addressed the 11<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Arctic

Parliamentarians in Whitehorse, on environmental issues in the North. Returning to earlier work on indigenous land-claims in Siberia, Gail enjoyed participating in a summer workshop in Chilliwack (UFV and Stó:lo Nation co-hosting) on *Images and Land Claims*. In August, Gail co-chaired a session on Sustainability in the Arctic the 54<sup>th</sup> Congress of the European Regional Science Association, and while in St. Petersburg ran an ICARP-III (International Conference of Arctic Research Planning) townhall with colleagues from Austria and the USA, to solicit social science input. She continues to serve as Canada's representative and vice-chair to the International Arctic Science Committee's Social and Human Working Group, and to chair the Social, Economic and Cultural Expert Group of the Arctic Council's Sustainable Development Working Group. Gail was recently appointed to the Canadian High Arctic Research Station's (CHARS) Management Committee and to the Scientific Council of the French Polar Institute Paul-Emile Victor (IPEV).

**Greg Halseth** and the UNBC Community Development Institute hosted the Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation's annual national conference on the future of rural Canada at UNBC September 25-27.

**Greg Halseth, Neil Hanlon** and Laura Ryser organized the International Symposium on Aging Resource Communities: Population Dynamics, Community Development & the Voluntary Sector on August 24-28 in Tumbler Ridge, BC. It included 20 invited papers from international experts on rural aging, community development, and voluntarism. A legacy edited book is being completed. The symposium was the culminating event of an SSHRC funded project, *The Transformative Role of Voluntarism in Aging Resource Communities: Integrating People, Place and Community*, led by Mark Skinner (Trent University), Neil Hanlon (UNBC), Greg Halseth (UNBC) and Alun Joseph (University of Guelph). See: <http://tumbleridgenews.com/?p=13725>

**Alex Koiter** (a PhD student working with **Ellen Petticrew** and **Phil Owens**) led the annual GEOG 111 Field Trip to the Quesnel River Research Centre near Likely, BC on Saturday, September 21, 2014.

**Catherine Nolin** led the seventh Geography and Rights Action Field School in Guatemala. Six UNBC

undergraduate students, four undergrads from four different universities (York, TRU, McGill, Memorial), two graduate students from UBC and Kent State University participated along with UNBC grad (PhD Candidate at Queen's University) Alexandra Pedersen who served as the TA. See: <http://blogs.unbc.ca/nolin/> for Dispatches from the Road. Canadian documentary photographer **Roger Lemoyne** travelled with **Catherine Nolin** and the UNBC Geography Rights Action field school in May to meet with community members involved in lawsuits against Canadian mining company HudBay Minerals for *Maclean's magazine*. See: "Mining for the Truth in Guatemala" <http://www.macleans.ca/news/world/mining-for-the-truth-in-guatemala/>.

Catherine is collaborating on a SSHRC Insight Grant (2014 – 2016), *Indigenous Engagements with Mining in Canada and Guatemala: Developing Refined Understandings through Collaboration and Comparison* (PI: Karine Vanthuyne, University of Ottawa). She is also part of a team which received \$200,000 from Quebec FRQSC (Fonds de recherche Société et culture) for the *Centre for Indigenous Conservation and Development Alternatives (CICADA)*, (PI: Colin Scott, McGill University). In addition, Catherine recently completed a two-year term as Vice-Chair of the UNBC Senate and a two-year term as Chair of the Interdisciplinary Studies graduate program. In September, **Catherine Nolin** and Alexandra Pedersen were selected as the new Co-Editors of the Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers (CLAG) Newsletter and Social Media. [www.clagscholar.org](http://www.clagscholar.org).

**Ellen Petticrew** and **Phil Owens** were two of four UNBC professors who received \$500,000 in funding from the Nechako Environmental Enhancement Fund and another \$500,000 in matching funds to conduct integrated water research in the Nechako River basin. Ellen and Phil, along with Sam Albers the Manager of the Quesnel River Research Centre (past UNBC Geography MSc), hosted an Open House in early October to present the initial results of data collected following the Mount Polley tailings pond breach of August 4, 2014. The community, mine employees, and press were in attendance for the presentation which emphasized how the physical limnology has been regulating the release of materials from the deeper water column into the

Quesnel River. They are working in conjunction with researchers from DFO and UBC who have been collaborating on Quesnel Lake research over the past decade.

**Roger Wheate** was one of only three Canadians who attended the Google Geo for Higher Education Summit 2014 workshop August 11-13, at Google campus, Mountain View, California. Roger organised a recent international workshop on Mountain Cartography. This biennial workshop was being held for the first time in Canada, in Banff, April 22-26, 2014. Further details are at: <http://gis.unbc.ca/banff2014>. He has assumed the position of Canadian technical councillor for cartography and chair of the Canadian National Committee after the International Cartographic Association congress in Dresden, Germany, August 2013.

Long-time WDCAG stalwart, College of New Caledonia and UNBC instructor **Jim Windsor** has also retired. Jim has relocated to southern Vancouver Island.

#### In the News:

**Greg Halseth** talks to @ckpgnews about how the Northern BC economy is impacting the City of Prince George's: <http://ckpg.com/rcmp-notice-new-trend-in-the-downtown-video>

**Greg Halseth** was a keynote speaker at the June 2014 B.C. Non-Profit Housing Association conference in Prince George which aimed at educating and training non-profit housing societies and to encourage them to work closer together. See: <http://www.princegeorgecitizen.com/news/local/conference-looks-to-educate-housing-non-profits-1.1134456#sthash.4KgiGsvF.gbpl>

**Brian Menounos** on melting B.C. glaciers: cited as a major issue in American state-of-the-union report on climate change, *National Post*: <http://news.nationalpost.com/2014/05/18/unprecedented-melt-of-b-c-glaciers-cited-as-a-major-issue-in-american-state-of-the-union-report-on-climate-change/>

**Brian Menounos** was interviewed on CBC Radio's national program "As it Happens" on August 29th about Decker glacier and glacier retreat throughout

BC. Listen in to the interview by clicking on the link in Part Two & start at the 12:55 min. point. See: <http://www.cbc.ca/asithappens/episode/2014/08/29/friday-ebola-sequencing-decker-glacier-wales-sheep-trekking-and-more/>

**Brian Menounos** talks with CBC News (BC) about changes to glaciers in BC, Decker Glacier <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/decker-glacier-lake-at-whistler-a-sign-of-melt-to-come-1.2745216>

**Phil Owens** was quoted in the Prince George Citizen newspaper, "There's a cascading effect of concern": <http://www.princegeorgecitizen.com/news/local/time-needed-to-gauge-breach-effects-of-broken-tailings-pond-says-prof-1.1299164>

**Ellen Petticrew** "who specializes in aquatic ecology, agreed that it's too soon to say for sure how the [Mount Polley] spill will affect salmon and other aquatic life. Those answers, she said, are likely years away": [http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2014/08/11/mount-polley-mine-spill-first-nations-salmon-testing\\_n\\_5669430.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2014/08/11/mount-polley-mine-spill-first-nations-salmon-testing_n_5669430.html)

**Ellen Petticrew** and **Phil Owens**, plus their grad students and researchers are on the Quesnel Lake and other waters to monitor the environmental impact of all of this. See this #UNBC video. [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e3CHwroGeCo&list=UUfub-7jF\\_nCsPr3fhYuuHmw&feature=share](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e3CHwroGeCo&list=UUfub-7jF_nCsPr3fhYuuHmw&feature=share)

**Ellen Petticrew** and **Phil Owens** speak about the potential environmental impact of #MtPolley breach - heading to region on Tuesday. CKPG News: <http://ckpg.com/unbc-experts-weigh-in-on-potential-environmental-effects-of-tailings-pond-breach-video>

#### Recent publications:

**Beedle, M.\*, Menounos, B., and Wheate, R.** (2014). An evaluation of mass balance methods applied to Castle Creek Glacier, British Columbia, Canada. *Journal of Glaciology* 60, 262-276

**de Leeuw, S.\*\*** (2014) Telling Stories About Stories. *The Canadian Family Physician Journal*. 60(1): 5-7.

**de Leeuw, S.\*\*** and M. Greenwood. (2014). "History Lessons: What *Empire, Education and Indigenous*

Childhoods Teaches Us.” Forward to *Empire, Education and Indigenous Childhoods: 19<sup>th</sup> Century Infant Schools in Canada, New Zealand and India*. Eds. L. Prochner, H. May, and B. Kaur. Sage Publishing. xv-xxvi.

**de Leeuw, S.\*\***, S. Maurice, T. Holyk, M. Greenwood and W. Adam. (2014). Reprinted from the *Annals of the American Association of Geographers*. With Reserves: The Geographies of Colonialism and First Nations Health in Northern-Interior British Columbia. *Geographies of Health, Disease and Well-being: Recent Advances in Theory and Method*. Ed. Kwan, Mei-Po. London/New York: Routledge. 18-25

Graham, C. Rollings, C, **de Leeuw, S.\*\***, Anderson, L., Griffiths, B., and Long, N. (2014) A Qualitative Study Exploring Facilitators for Improved Health Behaviors and Health Behavior Programs: Mental Health Service Users’ Perspectives. *The Scientific World Journal*. 2014: 1-7.

**Fondahl, G.** (2014) Education in the North for the North: University’s Role in Development of Northern Region, *Science and Education in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: University’s Role for Innovative Development of the Region*, E. I. Mikhailova & D. Kang (eds), 18-23, Seoul: Buma

**Halseth, G.**, Ryser, L., Markey, S. and Martin, A, (2014) “Emergence, transition, and continuity: Resource Commodity Production Pathways in Northeastern British Columbia, Canada”. *Journal of Rural Studies*. doi.org/10.1016/j.jrurstud.2014.03.010

**Hanlon, N.** (2014) Commentary: Doing health geography with feeling. *Social Science & Medicine*. 115(2014): 144-146. <http://ow.ly/BjDy5>

**Hanlon, N.**, Skinner, M., Joseph, A., Ryser, L. and **Halseth, G.** (2014) Place integration through efforts to support healthy aging in resource frontier communities: The role of voluntary sector leadership”. *Health and Place*. 29(2): 132-139.

Henderson, E., **Nolin, C.** and **Peccerelli, F.** (2014) Dignifying a Bare Life and Making Place through Exhumation: Cobán CREOMPAZ Former Military Garrison, Guatemala. *Journal of Latin American Geography* 13(2), 97-116.

Kobayashi, A., M. Brooks, **S. de Leeuw\*\***, N. Lewis, **C. Nolin**, and C. Sutherland (2014) Chapter:

‘Advocacy.’ *Sage Handbook of Human Geography*, pp. 404 – 419. Eds. R. Lee, N. Castree, R. Kitchin, V. Lawson, A. Paasi, C. Philo, S. Radcliffe, S.M. Roberts, C. Withers. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Pitkänen, K., Adamiak, C. and **Halseth, G.** (2014) “Leisure activities and rural community change: Valuation and use of rural space among permanent residents and second home owners”. *Sociologia Ruralis*. 54(2): 143-166.

Raup, B., Khalsa, S. J. S., Armstrong, R., Sneed, W. A., Hamilton, G. S., Paul, F., Cawkwell, F., Beedle, M.J.\*, **Menounos, B.**, **Wheate, R.**, Rott, H., Liu, S., and Li, X. (2014). ‘Quality in the GLIMS Glacier Database’, in *Global Land Ice Measurements from Space*, edited by Kargel, J. S., Leonard, G. J., Bishop, M. P., Kääh, A., and Raup, B. H., pp. 333-352, Springer-Praxis, London.

**Rex, J.F.**, **Petticrew, E.L.**, Albers, S.J. and Williams, N.D. (2014). The influence of Pacific salmon decay products on near-field stream bed sediment and organic matter dynamics: A flume simulation. *Earth Surface Process and Landforms*. 39:1378-1385.

Ryser, L. and **Halseth, G.** (2014) “On the Edge in Rural Canada: The Changing Capacity and Role of the Voluntary Sector”. *Canadian Journal of Nonprofit and Social Economy Research*, 5 (1): 41-56.

Ryser, L., Markey, S., Manson, D., Schwamborn, J. and **Halseth, G.** (2014) “From Boom and Bust to Regional Waves: Development Patterns in the Peace River Region, British Columbia”. *Journal of Rural and Community Development*. 9(1): 87-111.

Schiefer, E., **Petticrew, E.L.**, Immell, R., Hassan, M.A. and Sonderegger, D.L. (2014) Land use and climate change impacts on lake sedimentation rates in western Canada. *Anthropocene*. doi.org/10.1016/j.ancene.2014.02.006

Sittler, K.L., Parker, K.L., Gillingham, M.P., **Wheate, R.D.** and Heard, D.C. (2014) Burning for northern mountain ungulates: Effects of prescribed fire. *Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Institute. Research Extension Note No. 9*, University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George, B.C., Canada.

Skinner, M. W., Joseph, A. E., **Hanlon, N.**, **Halseth, G.** and Ryser, L. (2014) Growing old in resource communities: Exploring the links among



voluntarism, aging, and community development. *The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien*. doi: 10.1111/cag.12087

**Wheate, R.**, Berthier, E., Bolch, T., **Menounos, B.**, Leonard, B., Kargel, J., Shea, J., Clague, J., Edwards, B., Schiefer, E. (2014). 'Western Canada', in *Global Land Ice Measurements from Space*, edited by Kargel, J. S., Leonard, G. J., Bishop, M. P., Käab, A., and Raup, B. H., pp. 163-182, Springer-Praxis, London.

\* Graduate student

\*\* Affiliate geographer

#### Field Courses:

For recent UNBC field schools, please see:

<http://www.unbc.ca/geography/guatemala-2014>  
and <http://blogs.unbc.ca/nolin/>

#### Graduate Students:

**Joanna Paterson** (MSc Community Health Sciences '14) served as Valedictorian at UNBC's May 2014 Convocation Ceremony. Joanna was supervised by Geography's **Neil Hanlon**.

#### Thesis Defences:

**John-Paul (JP) Laplante**. 2014 *La Voz del Pueblo*: Maya Consultas and the Challenge of Self-Determination for Socially Responsible Investment in the Mining Sector. MA Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Geography). Supervisor: **Catherine Nolin**. August 8, 2014.

**Talaat Bakri**. 2014. Strong Along-Channel Winds on the Coast of British Columbia. MSc NRES (Geography) Supervisor: Peter Jackson. August 19, 2014.

**Titi Kunkel**. 2014. Aboriginal values, sacred landscapes, and resource development within the Cariboo Chilcotin region of BC. PhD NRES (Geography). Co-Supervisors: Bob Ellis and **Ellen Petticrew**. April 22, 2014

#### Undergraduate Students:

##### **Alum News**

UNBC International Studies graduate Giulliana Tamblyn (MA INTS '14) is the President of the newly formed United Nations Association in Canada - PG Branch.

#### *Stay in touch with UNBC Geography:*

We're now on Twitter:  
<https://twitter.com/UNBCGeography>

Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/UNBC-Geography/428896160643>

Homepage: <http://www.unbc.ca/geography>

New Geography Club Facebook Page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/UNBC-Geography-Club/127227914114452>

*Submitted by Greg Halseth*

## **UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA**

### **Dr. Jutta Gutberlet**

#### **CATADORAS AND CATADORES: The work in recycling cooperatives**

**ABSTRACT:** Today one of the biggest challenges in our cities is the large generation of solid waste. Landfilling or incinerating these materials means wasting resources besides causing environmental degradation and exhausting natural resources, ultimately also causing climate change. The documentary shows how recycling cooperatives operate in the metropolitan region of São Paulo; with collecting, separating and selling recyclable waste. Interviews with some women recyclers illuminate livelihood aspects and facets of the work of these people, humanizing the activity and identifying some of the difficulties encountered by the recyclers. Continuous training and specific skill building under the *Participatory Sustainable Waste Management* project has contributed to strengthening these organized groups and to improve their recognition by the local government. This video is an excellent tool for raising the



awareness towards selective waste collection, solidarity economy, responsible consumption, and the concept of not wasting resources.

[www.juttgutberlet.com/videos/](http://www.juttgutberlet.com/videos/)

(for English subtitles open the link, press play and click on "cc" at the bottom right corner of You Tube screen).

### **Dr. Cam Owens**

#### *Decolonizing & Indigenizing Geography at the University of Victoria*

We are exploring how to make geography more relevant to, valuable for and welcoming of Indigenous peoples, knowledges and ways of being. Secwepemc student Ashley-Anne Churchill, cartographer Ken Josephson, and faculty members Chris Darimont and Cam Owens are spearheading the process engaging with a wide range of teachers, learners and communities. On October 1<sup>st</sup> we hosted a lively Mix'n'Mingle event at the First People's House on campus where many folks gathered to share food and perspectives. Among many other things participants talked about the importance of decolonizing maps and having maps reflect their legends (pun intended); learning about local indigenous history and place naming; arranging field excursions and evening how-to sessions (e.g. carving, jewellery making); working with elders; incorporating indigenous knowledges into existing courses as well as having dedicated courses on indigenous themes; and obviously drawing on indigenous faculty and students voices' in thinking about what decolonizing and indigenizing geography even means. Building on these foundations we will now continue the engagement process, establish our social media presence (for now just Google search us) and move towards actionable items this Fall. If you are interested in learning more or sharing your ideas please don't hesitate to email Cam Owens ([camo@uvic.ca](mailto:camo@uvic.ca)).

### **Dr. Trisalyn Nelson**

BikeMaps.org is an exciting new project launched this fall out of the Spatial Pattern Analysis and Research (SPAR) Lab in the Department of Geography at UVic. The web-map makes use of Volunteered Geographic Information (VGI) to gain a

better understanding of cycling risk. Cyclists have been invited to map collisions, near misses, hazards, and thefts on BikeMaps.org. Using geographical information system (GIS) and statistical analysis, SPAR Lab researchers will analyze the volunteered data to find hot spots of cycling safety and risk. The web-map also contains official data from the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) along with rider data from Strava. Users can register to receive regular safety reports in their riding area by email.

According to the project's director, Dr. Trisalyn Nelson, "only 30 to 40 per cent of cycling crash data is captured by traditional data sources. BikeMaps.org represents an important effort to fill data and information gaps."

With the data points starting to roll in and as a way to give back to the volunteer mappers, BikeMaps.org will begin to post new maps highlighting safe and risky areas at different times of the day and week. Plans are also in the works for a mobile App that will allow cyclists to receive real-time safety alerts and plan optimal routes that account for safety at the time they are travelling.

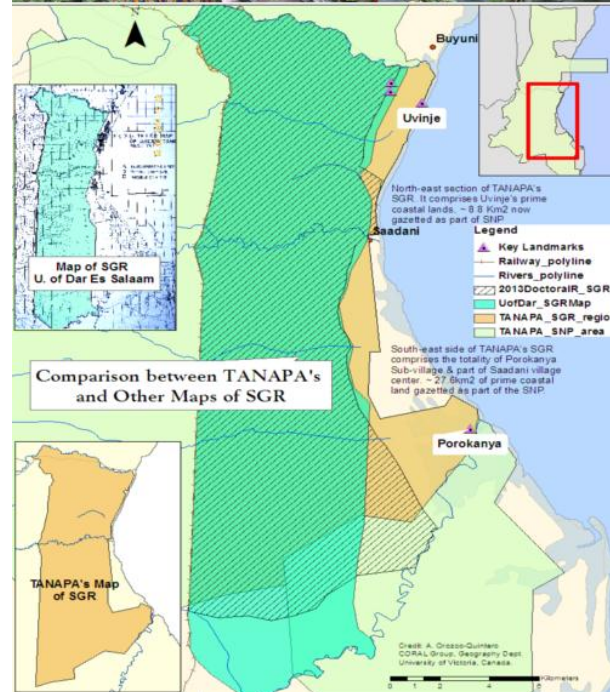


Supported by an NSERC Engage grant in partnership with the Canadian Automobile Association (CAA), BikeMaps.org was conceived as a pilot project for the Capital Regional District (Victoria, BC). However, interest has come from around the world and BikeMaps.org has begun to partner with other researchers and cycling advocacy groups.

## Alejandra Oroco

### *Social-Spatial Research Informing Legal Action and Advocacy to Address Collective Rights*

Alejandra Orozco is a PhD student at the Geography Department, University of Victoria [supervisors: Dr. Rosaline Canessa and Dr. Leslie King]. Aleja's recently finished comparative research focuses on the connections between institutional interplay and adaptive capacity in and around the Pacific Rim National Park Reserve (Canada) and the Saadani National Park (Tanzania). Through her empirical work Aleja has uncovered the actions of the Tanzania National Parks Authority (TANAPA) to rescind the communal land rights of villages which played a critical role in the establishment of the Saadani National Park. Her detailed cartographic and institutional analyses are being presented by Protimos [Organization of lawyers providing legal assistance and capacity building to marginalised communities] at the first international Land-Grabs conference taking place in Johannesburg at the end of October, and by Dr. Leslie King at various community land-rights and conservation panels organized for the upcoming World Parks Congress. The empirical data moreover, has been re-blogged and widely used by international human rights and conservation organizations, such as Minority Rights Group International (MRG) and the Indigenous Community Conserved Territories and Areas Consortium (ICCA), to denounce the actions of TANAPA before the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Peoples, and to appeal to the Tanzanian President and members of Parliament to end evictions of people enabling wildlife conservation. You can see articles and a brief on her research at <http://researchimpacts.wordpress.com/> and her 'activism' at <https://twitter.com/ResearchImpacts>



[Specialized online geospatial courses available Spring/Summer 2015](#)

### **Spatial Epidemiology and Outbreak Detection – January to April 2015**

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. Students 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.

**Prerequisite: Epidemiological Statistics (PHDA 02) and Population Health and Geographic Information Systems (PHDA 03) or proven proficiency**

Topics include:

- Introduction to spatial epidemiology and outbreak detection
- Visualizing space-time data
- Fundamentals of spatial data and statistics for epidemiology and outbreak detection
- Disease clusters and point pattern analysis
- Space-time cluster analysis
- Spatial exposure assessment
- Disease mapping
- Small area health studies
- Individual-level spatial health studies
- Final class project

For course details visit:

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

### **Population Health and GIS – May - August 2015**

Learn about the geographic nature of population and public health; how geographic data are incorporated into health research; key considerations in spatial analysis; and the applications of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to health research and population and public health. Throughout the course, students will gain hands-on experience working with a wide range of spatial data and analysis methods using ArcGIS.

Topics include:

- Spatial thinking in Population Health
- Introduction to Spatial Data
- Key Concepts in Spatial Data Analysis
- Mapping health data and health determinants
- Use of spatial data in health policy
- Siting health facilities and estimating geographic access
- Incorporating spatial data and methods into surveillance and disease control

- Modeling environmental pollutants and conducting spatial exposure assessments
- Examining the built and social environments and health using GIS
- Exploring future advances in the use of GIS for population and public health
- Conducting a final project that applies GIS to a health question of your choosing

For course details visit:

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

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. Individuals may take up to two courses without applying to the full program.

**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](mailto:Maxine.Reitsma@uvic.ca), Program Coordinator, UVic  
Division of Continuing Studies

Email: [maxiner@uvic.ca](mailto:maxiner@uvic.ca)

Phone: 250 721 6477

*Submitted by Kinga Menu*

### **VANCOUVER ISLAND UNIVERSITY**

The Province of BC recently approved a new Master's of Community Planning (MCP) degree for Vancouver Island University. We will be the only MCP on Vancouver Island and join UBC and SFU as the three schools offering graduate programs in BC, along with UNBC's undergraduate program. While VIU still needs to complete the Canadian Institute of Planners Professional Standard Board's accreditation process, VIU can now move this program forward!

The MCP will focus on small communities, community and urban design, rural/urban interface issues, First Nations planning with an emphasis on



the islands and settlements surrounding the Salish Sea, and sustainability issues from economic, social, and environmental perspectives. The program will also have a strong GIS component (VIU has an excellent diploma program in GIS and is working on a graduate-level GIS degree program).

Information can be found on-line at <http://www2.viu.ca/mcp/>, but do not hesitate to also contact **Pam Shaw** PhD MCIP RPP at [Pam.Shaw@viu.ca](mailto:Pam.Shaw@viu.ca) for additional information. In addition, the Master's of GIS program is likely to be approved by the province soon.

**Pam Shaw** recently received one of four Provost's awards for excellence in teaching, and she also – along with co-researchers Grant Murray and Jennifer Mullet – was successful in receiving a \$247,000 Canadian Foundation for Innovation Grant to support socio-ecological research in estuarine environments.

In addition to our regular faculty, long-time sessionals **Matt Bowes** and **Brian Roberts** remain with the department, and have been joined by **Paul Zandbergen**, **Jim Windsor**, and **Zoe Dalton**. Indigenous scholar, **Sarah Hunt**, and **Brad Maguire** – former full-time professor in the Advanced Diploma in Geographic Information Systems Applications (ADGISA) – have been joined **Larry Wolfe** (co-leader of this year's Belize field course), **Michele Patterson**, and **Bill Floyd** as adjunct professors.

#### Student News:

On June 3rd, seven students graduated with a B.A. Major in Geography, four with a B.A. Minor and one with a B.Sc. Minor in Geography. On June 4th, three students graduated with the new B.Sc. Major in Geoscience.

**Becky Edwards** received this year's Canadian Association of Geographers' award for outstanding graduating student in Geography at VIU. Becky was also the winner of this year's Dr. Andy Spencer Legacy Scholarship. The recipient of this award must best exemplify Dr. Spencer's standards for excellence and his curiosity and enthusiasm for science. The award is given annually in recognition of a VIU graduate who goes on to pursue graduate studies. Becky has been accepted into Queens University, where she will continue with a post-graduate program studying coastal erosion processes in the Canadian High Arctic.

**Kyle Wardstrom** received the Lady Rose prize this year for receiving the highest GPA standing of all B.A. Majors in Geography at VIU, and will have enjoyed a scenic cruise down the Alberni Inlet to Barkley Sound.

**Kate Mana** was this year's winner of the Outstanding Student Service Award in Geography. Kate is active in the Geography Student Union and helps organize student events and raise funds for the Geography Student Scholarship fund.

*Submitted by Don Alexander*

## 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 Hay**, WDCAG Newsletter Editor ([claire.hay@ufv.ca](mailto:claire.hay@ufv.ca)).



*The Columbia River at Astoria, Oregon*