

SPRING 2014 NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The 56th WDCAG conference took place from Friday, March 7 to Saturday, March 8 at the University of Victoria. There were approximately 370 who attended the conference. In addition to our usual participants from BC, Alberta, and Western Washington University, there were people from Saskatchewan, Toronto, Seattle, Portland, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Japan. There were a total of 165 presentations, consisting of 119 paper and 46 posters. Approximately 38 faculty, instructors, or other researchers also presented.

The Friday field trips included a visit to PKOLS (Mt. Douglas), a tour of the physical landscapes of the Victoria region, an excursion to urban and suburban neighbourhoods, and an exploration of SNIDCEL (Tod Inlet). The field trips were popular, and two of them were fully booked. The weather was cool (tropical for people from the interior and Alberta), but the sun did come through on the afternoon urban field trip that I signed up for, and the cherry and other blossoms were starting to emerge.

There was a Friday afternoon reception before the keynote lecture. Notable this year at the reception and the conference in general was the use of porcelain coffee mugs. This was to reduce the amount of paper waste, as was the travel mug that was part of the registration package at the U. of Lethbridge conference in 2013. In a similar effort to be more environmentally friendly, one of the field trips made use of public transportation (although one of my colleagues missed the bus). Bus tickets were also given out at the registration, so people could get back and forth from downtown. Another change this year was the earlier scheduling of the reception and keynote address, so that people could head downtown for dinner afterwards. Reservations were made at restaurants for groups wanting to discuss a variety of topics -- related to geography of course. These

themed dinners were announced at the keynote address, so people just had to show up at the restaurant hosting the themed dinner of their choice.

The Friday keynote speaker was Dr. Jon Turk, an adventurer, among other things, who now calls the East Kootenay home. His presentation to a full house was titled "Crocodiles and Ice: Deep Ecology in this Commotion We Call Western Civilization." The presentation opened with Jon acting out on stage -- it definitely was not your typical academic presentation. As he described his adventures Jon covered many topics related to humans, their culture, and their relationships with nature in both hot and cold climates, and he really encouraged students in the audience to ask questions.

There were seven concurrent paper presentation sessions at the conference on Saturday and 46 posters. The posters were left up all day and were close to where people were mingling. As well, there were long coffee breaks, which gave people more time to look over the posters, which was especially helpful for the people who were evaluating the student posters.

Notable this year were two panels on Asia organized by Dr. David Edgington of UBC who is the Chair of CAG Geographies of Asia study group. This special session, also involved a \$200 award for the best poster or paper presentation. Jim Delaney, a PhD candidate from the University of Toronto was this year's winner.

I want to thank Cameron Owens and his team of faculty volunteers -- and especially all the student helpers wearing their green shirts -- for organizing the conference. I want to thank all the people who led field trips as well. Finally, I want to give special thanks to Dave Barrett and his team for coordinating and tabulating all the evaluations for student presenters, especially with so many participants this year. The recognition of a

presentation well done is so important for students entering the work force or continuing on in their studies.

Similar to two of the field trips, the banquet was sold out. It was conveniently located in the student union building, close to the pub where many of us at the AGM caught the tail end of the Geography Trivia contest. Similar to last year, the banquet was a delicious all you can eat buffet. The CAG President Dr. Jean Andrey gave a purposely short but passionate talk on the value of geography, arguing that geography is interdisciplinary (so do we need interdisciplinary studies?). She finished the night by visiting each table to encourage us to sign a pledge to support geographic education in Canada, which is part of the St. John's declaration (<http://spatialinformation.files.wordpress.com/2013/11/st-johns-declaration-nov-13-2013.pdf>).

The highlight of the night was at the end of the banquet handing out the student awards for best paper and poster presentations -- the top two presenters for each category are listed below. I would like to commend all the students for their informative and enlightening poster and paper presentations. Congratulations to the award winners!

The student awards for best posters and paper presentations were given out by Professor Jim Windsor from UNBC. I would like to first sincerely thank Professor Windsor for his dedicated work as the association's award officer, as this year he has decided to step down. Jim has been involved with the executive of the WDCAG conference for the past 23 years, and I have never been to one of our conferences without seeing him. On behalf of the Western Division, I would like to thank Jim for his dedicated service to the association – and his offer to continue helping the executive in spite of his planned retirement – that's real dedication! It will be hard to fill his boots.

Best PhD Paper Presentations:

- 1st. Jessica Fitterer, U. of Victoria, "Forecasting Break and Entries across Vancouver British Columbia Canada"

- 2nd. Ian Darke, U. of Victoria "Restoration and monitoring of coastal dune dynamics: Pacific Rim National Park Reserve, British Columbia, Canada"

Best PhD Poster Presentation:

- 1st. Manual Bringue, Vera Pospelova, and David B. Field, U. of Victoria "High resolution dinoflagellate cyst record of decadal variability and 20th century warming in the Santa Barbara Basin, California"

Best Masters Paper Presentations:

- 1st. Cherise Chrispen, UNBC, "Thinking closer to home: Considering the consumption--related beliefs and behaviours of North American sea turtle conservation practitioners"
- 2nd. Brandon Heung, SFU, "Regional--Scale Mapping of Soil Parent Materials using a Random Forest Approach"

Best Masters Poster Presentations:

- 1st. Nurmaiya Brady, U. of Alberta, "The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee: an in- depth exploration of local implementation of a national scheme"
- 2nd. Jonathan Cripps, and Tracy Brennand, SFU, "Quantification of the paleogeography of glacial lakes in southern BC"

Best Undergraduate Paper Presentations:

- 1st. Diamir de Scally, UBCO, "Ten Years Later: Mitigation of Interface Fire Risk in Kelowna, British Columbia following the 2003 Okanagan Mountain Park Fire"
- 2nd. Alison McIntosh, U. of Alberta, "Edmonton's Smoke-Free Playgrounds: Awareness and Attitudes"

Best Undergraduate Poster Presentations:

- 1st. Kara Letain and Kathryn Binnema, Kings University College, "What the Duck? A case study focusing on controversy surrounding current and past intentions of Ducks Unlimited Canada"

2nd. Karina Dracott, U. of Victoria” The Cowichan Estuary: Examining the Role of Environmental Stewardship Groups in Community-Based Conservation”

The 2014 executive of the WDCAG consists of:

Craig Coburn (Secretary-Treasurer); Henry Frew (Awards Officer); Pam Shaw (BC Education Chair); Claire Beaney (Newsletter Editor); Ben Moffat (Archivist) (considering options); Neil Hanlon (BC), , David Jordan (BC), Ben Moffat (AB), Leith Deacon (AB)(Members-at-Large); Sarah Lumley and Bryan Mood (BC Student Representative); Mackenzie Crawford (Alberta Student Representative); Hester Jiskoot (Vice President); Tom Waldichuk (President)

Western Geography (association journal): Craig Coburn (physical geography and GIS editor); Pam Shaw (human geography editor)

The WDCAG executive met again this year to discuss the future of our journal Western Geography. We agreed to launch a special issue for WDCAG conference participants, starting with the 2014 conference, which includes a \$250 award for the best graduate and undergrad student paper submission, and in addition to full length papers, calls for shorter research notes of a maximum 1000 words. These changes were later approved at the AGM. The format for articles is found at <http://www.geog.uvic.ca/dept/wcag/instructions.htm>. Pam Shaw agreed to become editor of human geography submissions, a post which was held by Dr. Damian Collins; Craig Coburn will continue to be editor of physical geography and GIS submissions.

At the AGM we also agreed to further collaboration with the Prairie division over joint publications. One of the editors of Western Geography may attend the next Prairie division conference to discuss this further.

Jim Windsor presented the J.Lewis Robinson Award for Meritorious Service to representatives of the Society of Geography Students (SOGS) at the U. of Victoria. The William C. Wonders Award for Scholarly Distinction was awarded to Dr. Phil Dearden of the U. of Victoria Geography Department. The J. Alistair McVey award for

Teaching Excellence was presented to Dr. Michael Tripp of the Vancouver Island University Geography Department. The Ineke Dijks Graduate Presentation Award for Best Graduate Paper presentation will be forwarded by Jim Windsor to Jessica Fitterer of the U. of Victoria in the PhD category and to Cherise Crispin, of UNBC, for the best Masters presentation.

Craig Coburn mentioned that all student groups travelling to the conference would receive a travel grant. We are grateful for the student travel grant from the CAG. Finally, the division has given posthumous recognition to Professors Ian Campbell from the U. of Alberta, Leonard Hills from the U. of Calgary, Frank Jankunis from the U. of Lethbridge, James Scott from Western Washington U., and Philip Wagner from Simon Fraser U.

This was my second AGM as president of the western division. I would like to thank Craig Coburn for overseeing the division’s finances and for continuing on as one of the editors of the journal. I would also like to thank Pam Shaw for agreeing to take over as human geography editor from Dr. Damian Collins, and I want to thank Damian for his hard work as editor. My gratitude also goes to Dr. Theresa Garvin for her help with the president’s report. As well, I want to congratulate Theresa for becoming the new vice president of the CAG. I would also like to thank the president of the CAG -- Dr. Jean Andrey -- for attending the conference, giving a keynote address at the banquet, and participating in the AGM. My thanks also go to Vice President Hester Jiskoot for her detailed editing of this letter, and to Craig Coburn, Dave Jordan and Mike Ferber for their input. Thank you Claire Beaney for your patience with my letter submission and for putting our division’s newsletter together. Finally, I want to thank Jim Windsor one more time for his years of assistance to the division and wish him well in his retirement (or more likely semi-retirement).

Next year’s conference will be at the University of Northern British Columbia from March 12 to 14, The keen UNBC geographers started to advertise at the U. of Victoria with an attractive picture postcard (Follow them on Facebook: UNBC Geography, Twitter: @UNBCGeography, and on the

internet: www.unbc.ca/geography). I am looking forward to the possibility of another cross-country ski field trip and perhaps another broom ball competition on the outdoor ice. I hope we can continue our bus-pooling efforts to the conference from the lower mainland/Washington and the southern interior. Have a great summer and see you next year 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 taught Resource and Environmental Management and Freshwater Ecology and Management during the Fall Term and is teaching Statistical Methods for the Natural Sciences and Introduction to Geographic Information Systems 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. Her MSc student, **Nils Anderson**, who is investigating how amphibians respond to beaver-modified wetlands in east-central Alberta, successfully defend his thesis in mid-April. One paper is currently *In Press* and another is *In Prep*. Glynnis and her colleague Dr. David Larson have just published the results of three years of research on aquatic invertebrates and wetland habitats in *Wetlands*. During the Fall Term, she and her Directed Study student, **Kolby Peterson**, conducted a field study that examined the survival of beavers exposed to bitumen following rehabilitation and release. The project is ongoing. This winter term she has a directed studies student, **Samantha Matters**, who is using Public Participation GIS and one-on-one interviews to determine Métis and First Nation use of the Cooking Lake Moraine prior to European settlement. Glynnis and Dr. Varghese Manaloor are also co-supervising another directed study student, **Brendan Dzioba**, who is developing a cost-benefit analysis on alternative methods to mitigate human-beaver conflict.

Glen Hvenegaard taught three courses in the fall: introductory environmental studies, capstone environmental science, and parks. This semester, he's teaching geomorphology and another introductory course. He has taught 2 more Directed Studies students, one on the benefits of citizen science regarding Purple Martins, and another on the role of Frank Farley, the Alberta naturalist and ornithologist in early environmental thought. He and his historian colleague, Jeremy Mouat, are expanding the project on Frank Farley to address ornithological contributions and mentorship. Glen has given several community talks about his research on birds. He published new articles on wildlife festivals in Australia (*Australasian Parks and Leisure*), learning on outdoor wilderness education expeditions (*Journal of Adventure Education and Outdoor Learning*), wildlife management (*Blue Jay*), and Purple Martins (*Purple Martin Update*). He and **Lars Hallstrom** continue to gather data about rural community sustainability plans across Canada. Glen and his colleagues outfitted another 2 dozen Purple Martins with light-sensitive geolocators last summer and await their return to gather data about migration timing and patterns. Glen and Glynnis will teach a new field studies course this May at Miquelon Lake Provincial Park.

For more information, contact Dr. Glen Hvenegaard at glen.hvenegaard@ualberta.ca or Dr. Glynnis Hood 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

CAMOSUN COLLEGE

A new Geography course (Globalization and World Regions) was offered in Winter as part of the Global Studies program, taught by **Bernard Henin** and **Francis Yee**. A field school to Uganda was jointly led by Francis Yee and a colleague from Sociology last May, visiting a number of non-

government organizations and participating in some of their projects. **Chris Ayles** also undertook a preliminary exploration for organizing a field school in Costa Rica in the future. **Trisha Jarret** is on leave this year and is replaced by **Kara Pitman**. We also have a new assistant, **Jess Craig**, providing support to our students.

Submitted by Francis Yee

OKANAGAN COLLEGE

The Department of Geography, Earth and Environmental Science at Okanagan College consists of 7 continuing faculty (Arthur Green, Stephanie Bunclark, Leif Burge, Terrence Day, Wei Zang, Andrew Perkins and Todd Redding) with additional support from 2-4 term faculty each year. The department members are spread across 4 campuses from Salmon Arm in the North to Penticton in the south. Recent activities have included:

- Students, Julia Thilemann and Arianna Lapham presented a paper at the WDCAG conference in Victoria on the relationship between magnetic susceptibility and coastal erosion along a 9 km long stretch of coastline in the UK. Their work in the Okanagan College Magnetic Research Lab was based on samples collected by Dr. **Terence Day** last summer. The students were recruited from a first year class to work in the student employment program as research assistants. The laboratory was developed through the purchase of equipment from Lakehead University. The work is ongoing and will next look at isothermal remnant magnetism properties of the sediment.
- An exhibition in the Kelowna Campus library on maps and war timed to coincide with Remembrance Day was reported on the front page of the Kelowna Courier. <http://www.kelownadailycourier.ca/front-page-news/military-maps-lead-viewers-down-road-of-wartime-secrets-11913.html>. The display was also featured in the newsletter of the BC Libraries association: <http://www.okanagan.bc.ca/Assets/Departme>

[nts+\(Administration\)/Public+Affairs/College+Matters/All+About+Us/Michelle+Ward+Article.pdf](#) The display was mostly based on maps from Terence Day's collection. Day teaches cartography, GIS and remote sensing at the college.

- **Todd Redding** has developed a website that provides an overview of the geology and geomorphology of the south Okanagan Valley (<http://okanaganlandscape.weebly.com>) and gave a public presentation on this topics as part of the Okanagan College Speakers Series at the Penticton Campus.
- Based out of the Watershed Science Research Lab (<http://ocwatershedscience.weebly.com>) on the Penticton Campus, **Todd Redding** has worked with students on projects measuring spatial and temporal variation in air temperature and lapse rates, monitoring the water balance of a green roof, and measuring irrigation efficiency at the Summerland Ornamental Gardens. The lab is starting a new project to monitor water temperatures of Penticton's urban streams in collaboration with the Penticton Creek Restoration Committee, the Okanagan Nation Alliance Fisheries Program and the Friends of the Oxbows.
- The department is hosting the BC Environmental Articulation Committee meeting at the Penticton campus in May 2014.



The EESC 101 (Environmental Science) class visiting the Penticton Oxbows (Photo: T. Redding)

For more information about the department and our activities, please visit the homepage at: http://www.okanagan.bc.ca/Programs/Areas_of_Study/arts/Departments/geogees.html

Submitted by Todd Redding

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

The Department lost two respected colleagues over the past few months.

Philip L. Wagner (1921-2014) passed away in March. A student of Carl Sauer at UC Berkeley, Phil was appointed to the then new SFU in 1967. Among his best-known and influential works were *The Human Use of the Earth* and *Readings in Cultural Geography* (with Marvin Mikesell), both of which helped to shape the development of Cultural Geography. The Association of American Geographers recognized Phil in 1988 for his distinguished scholarly work. His wife Margaret and son Tomas survive him.

Owen Hertzman passed away in September after a long battle with cancer. Owen taught as a Senior Lecturer at Simon Fraser University for many years. He received a PhD in Atmospheric Science at the University of Washington. He then taught at Dalhousie for a number of years and founded an Environmental Studies program. In 2001, he moved west again to teach classes at the University of British Columbia and later at Simon Fraser University. Owen was generous, kind, and immensely knowledgeable about climate and weather. Owen was always sharing information about microclimates. All inquiries on such issues were taken very seriously and he would frequently come back days later to fill in gaps in his initial explanation. Owen was also sincerely and extraordinarily committed to undergraduate teaching. His hallmark gesture was to take the extra time in faculty meetings to query whether such and such a development or policy would help or hinder his beloved undergraduates. Owen cared so deeply about the welfare of students that he made personal sacrifices to help individual students or his classes. He was seen in his office talking to students at the earliest hours - and long after most

faculty had left. Even after he was diagnosed with cancer, he persevered in coming into the Department and teaching as many courses as he possibly could. He was also immensely proud of his brother Clyde Hertzman who won the Order of Canada in 2013. Indeed, Owen cared for others and applauded their achievements. Here's to a genuine, larger than life member of SFU's Geography Department. A scholarship for physical geography students has been established in his name.

Submitted by Nick Blomley

THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

Since last spring the geography department has gone through several changes. The first change is our name: We are now known as the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies. In part this is to address the fact that incoming students do not know what geography entails, but also it reflects a change in the programming that we are now offering in the department. We now have three major options: a Geography and Environmental Studies Major, a Geography and Environmental Studies Honours Major, and a Geography and Environmental Studies - Physical Geography Major. Along with these program changes, we have created many new courses – “dream courses” as our Chair Darryl Carlyle-Moses refers to them. These courses are closely related to faculty research areas. We are hoping that these new changes will attract more majors in hydrology, remote sensing and GIS, and environmental, urban, and rural geography. These program and course changes will take effect in September.

Students and the WDCAG conference in Victoria:

The Thompson Rivers University Geography Students (TRUGS) have had an active year so far with fund-raising activities in preparation to go to the WDCAG in Victoria. They also spent a weekend with our Chair Darryl Carlyle-Moses hiking around Wells Gray Park while staying in our new TRU research centre. Approximately 20 students attended the conference this year. As in years past the students organized a bus for the trip to the conference. Special thanks are due to Sarah Cooke and Jordan Ellis for their leadership in preparing to go to Victoria. Congratulations are also due to the

club for a third place finish in the WDCAG scavenger hunt – well done! I know that next year TRUGS will be out to take back the top spot.

The following students presented papers at the WDCAG conference at the University of Victoria.

Jordan Ellis “Influences of aspect, gradient, and slope position on vegetation cover, Mocatan Badlands, Almera, Spain”

Sarah Cooke “Using remote sensing and aerial archaeology to detect pit house features in satellite imagery”

Three students also presented posters:

Michelle Gunnlaugson “Landscapes of fear and associated feminine perceptions: Thompson Rivers University Campus”

Carly Steward “Going in circles: the effects of Anthony Henday Drive on the spatial distribution of the population, Edmonton, 1996-2006”

Environmental Sciences graduate student **Heather Richardson**, presented a poster titled “A mapping project to solidify the framework of a carbon-offset program for ranching in BC.”

Well done students!

The following faculty also made presentations at the conference: **Robin Reid** from the TRU Tourism Management Department together with **Kim Naqvi** and **Tom Waldichuk**, and **Ted Fuller** from our Open Learning Division.

Faculty News:

We welcome our newest faculty member **Dr. Michael Mehta** who comes originally from Toronto and most recently from Winnipeg and specializes in environmental sociology. He will be teaching a new green energy course for us.

Last summer **Dr. Brian Goehring** retired from the department after teaching full-time since 2001. Brian was an extremely popular instructor who always had time for students. In addition to taking students to the WDCAG conferences Brian regularly took groups of students on weekend trips to Wells Gray Park. The students hosted a farewell for Brian

at the end of the winter term, which was well attended by students and faculty. Brian moved back to his home in Vancouver where he plans to spend more time flying small planes.

Darryl Carlyle-Moses:

Darryl has been the main driver to change our major, organizing frequent departmental meetings to go over the changes while filing all the necessary paperwork. Since 2012 Darryl has changed his research focus from the Bonaparte plateau where he examined the impact of mountain pine beetle on the canopy water dynamics of lodgepole pine to examining the role of trees in the urban hydrologic cycle. He has also been working closer to home examining the hydrology of trees in Kamloops. He has been collaborating closely with graduate student Julie Schooling, who received an NSERC industrial scholarship in 2012 and 2013. He has three grad students (Julie Schooling, Chad Lishman, and Claudet Martin) who are working on various aspects of hydrology, ranging from the role of trees in urban hydrology, the impact of mountain pine beetle on hydrologic processes and examining depth duration frequency patterns associated with precipitation in the BC interior. Darryl had a paper accepted by the Journal of Forestry Research on throughfall sampling methodologies.

He attended the American Geophysical Union conference last December and presented his paper dealing with urban hydrology. Darryl will be attending the AAG in Tampa this April to present further finding from the joint research with Julie on the urban hydrology of MacArthur Island in Kamloops. He will also be attending the Canadian Geophysical Union meeting in May, presenting a paper on the temporal stability of throughfall spatial patterns in juvenile lodgepole pine stands.

David Hill:

David attended the AAG last April and presented his paper on participatory sensing of urban environments, and then at the end of May he attended another conference called the Environmental and Water Resources Institute (EWRI) World Congress in Cincinnati, in which he is a member of the organizing committee. He had an industry piece published in the EWRI Currents

newsletter, a full paper published in *GI Science and Remote Sensing*, and another paper published in the *International Journal of Remote Sensing*, both on mapping urban air temperatures. He just had another paper accepted by the *Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management* on participatory environmental sensing. Last year he developed three new courses in geomatics, and since this past September he has developed two more, one on time series analysis and one on remote sensing. He is going to the AAG and EWRI conferences again this year and presenting on work he is doing on mobile applications for engaging participants in urban environmental monitoring. David has two undergraduate students working with him; one is working on developing mobile applications for environmental monitoring, and the other one is working on a collaboration with David and Sun Peaks Ski Resort on real time management of trail grooming operations, directly taking grooming data from their snow cats and posting it on the web, so that skiers know which runs have been groomed.

Crystal Huscroft:

Crystal returned from maternity leave last summer and taught both the labs and lectures for third year geomorphology in the fall of 2013 in addition to teaching an introductory lands and water course. She was also recently promoted to senior lecturer – congratulations Crystal! She continues to be involved in environmental sustainability initiatives on campus and is co-ordinating an upcoming course on sustainability. She also co-authored a paper in the *Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences* about the stratigraphy of an old glaciation in the Kelowna area. This summer she plans to work on a manual for air photo interpretation for teaching terrain mapping.

Terry Macdonald:

Terry Macdonald who has taught for 12 years as a sessional instructor is currently teaching the geography of First Nations issues in BC (GEOG 4850) for the first time, focusing on the evolution of the land question, landmark court cases, the evolution of intergovernmental relations, and community development initiatives. Terry is also teaching the geography of BC and Yukon. Last Fall

Terry, a land use planner, taught our introductory urban planning course, in which students researched planning initiatives in select local communities.

Kim Naqvi:

Kim is involved in the pedagogy of place group at TRU when she is not teaching her full slate of courses. She presented some of the work of the place group last August at the CAG in St. John's. She developed a new regional course on the Americas last fall, and she will be teaching world regional geography and the geography of consumption starting in September. In the summer Kim plans to present at the CAG on her place-related research as well as her exploratory work on landscapes and modernity as seen through the eyes of Paul Klee and Albert Anker.

Gilles Viaud:

Gilles returned back to work in May last year, and he is already involved in two new research projects. One with the United Way to study quality of life in Kamloops and one in association with Urban Systems, a planning consulting firm, on aging in place in the resort community of Sun Peaks – both projects involve student researchers. Both projects are also a continuation of his work with the Small Cities CURA on quality of life. The United Way project, in particular, looks at quality of life indicators.

Tom Waldichuk:

Tom Waldichuk attended the CAG in St. John's last August where he presented on landscape change and preservation in the rural-urban fringe of Tokyo. He has also been writing about the commodification of rural space in Japan. This May he will lead a group of about 14 students on a third year field course (Geog3700) to Japan for two weeks. The students will be evaluating the walkability of tourist walking routes in Tokyo, and they will also learn about city planning and tea production in our sister city Uji, next to Kyoto. Tom is also a member of the curriculum of place group.

See you all in Prince George next March!

Submitted by Tom Waldichuk

UNIVERSITY OF THE FRASER VALLEY

Goodbye UFV *Geography*; hello UFV *Geography and the Environment (GATE)*. The Department went through a formal name change earlier this year. The change is more than cosmetic as it reflects a growing collection of courses and faculty and student interest in environmental topics, broadly defined. In addition, an environmental studies programme proposal, led by Geography's Head, Michelle Rhodes, is nearing completion. The Department is also responding to findings presented in the recently completed departmental review. This major undertaking occurred coincidentally as Geography marks the 40th anniversary of its existence in fall 2014. These various initiatives and events provide much of the current context in the department.

An indicator of the vibrant student-faculty research scene at UFV GATE was evident at the recent Western Division of the Canadian Association Geographers conference in Victoria the weekend of March 8. Eleven students and six faculty participated in poster and paper presentations. Closer to home, a new Geography student group has formed around issues related to cities. The *UFV Urbanists* club is interested in planning, urban social issues, and design. Their inaugural event was quite successful: a screening on March 4 of the locally-produced documentary "The Chicken Manure Incident", about the treatment of homelessness in Abbotsford. The film was followed by a lively and at times controversial panel discussion among Mayor Bruce Banman, Chief Constable Bob Rich, Jim Burkinshaw, and UFV Geography alumni and social activist Jesse Wegenast of 5-and-2 Ministries.

Faculty Notes

Cherie Enns continues her work to foster education through unique and exciting methods. She completed the Sustainable Settlements AUCC SFD project in Tanzania (<http://www.aucc.ca/uniworld/students-strive-for-sustainable-settlements-in-tanzania>) and initiated an E-learning program on Social Enterprise and Sustainable development with UN Habitat and Eliade. In addition she is working as a consultant on

Child Rights in five countries in Africa including South Sudan. More locally, Cherie with her Geography 360 class and in partnership with the Fraser Valley Regional District, is creating a vision for redevelopment of the Minter Garden site and working on social issues and responses to homelessness including a new planning studio course.

Jonathan Hughes is currently on a research sabbatical to investigate Fraser River floods and continue his work in Cascadia paleoseismology and Central Coast BC paleoecology. Jonathan continues to direct the UFV Paleocology Laboratory.

Steven Marsh is currently on a research sabbatical continuing research into the geochemistry of the Fraser River and local tributaries as part of the Global Rivers Observatory Project. A cornerstone of this research in co-operation with Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution is the supervision and mentoring of a number of Geography and Biology students that are involved in the Global Rivers Observatory research. Three of these students, Rosalie Luymes, Audrey Epp and Michelle Bennett completed practicums at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in the fall of 2013. They presented their results at the Fall Meeting of the American Geophysical Union at San Francisco in December 2013. Rosalie also won the t-shirt contest design at this year's AGU conference. T-shirts sold with this design raised funds to support students traveling to AGU conferences.

Steven Marsh and Sharon Gillies, Biology, are co-sponsoring Dr. Kyo Wook Song a visiting scholar from Busan Development Institute, South Korea. He is studying wetland conservation and wise usage in the Fraser Lowlands with an intent to utilize this knowledge in South Korea.



This photo shows students that were involved in water sampling last year at Fort Langley). Pictured left to right are: Rosalie Luymes, Jillian Hansen-Carlson, Michelle Bennett, Audrey Epp, Britta Voss (PHD student from Woods Hole), Sharon Gillies, and Steven Marsh.

Steven Marsh, Michelle Rhodes, and Pat Harrison (Biology) co-led a group of Geography and Biology students on a study tour of Arizona in May 2013 (see photo taken at Sedona, below). Themes related to sustainability were investigated in the Tucson and Flagstaff regions.



Olav Lian, with UFV postdoctoral fellow Christina Neudorf, and several UFV undergraduate research students, continue their focus on understanding the nature and timing of postglacial landscape adjustment on the BC central coast. This research is being done in close collaboration with Ian Walker (UVic Geography) and his research team, and is being supported generously by the Tula Foundation and Hakai Program.



Fourth-year Geography BSc student, Libby Griffin, exiting a helicopter on three-mile-beach, on Calvert Island, BC central coast, during Olav Lian's 2013 field work campaign.

Lenore Newman is busy presenting on the Agricultural Land Reserve everywhere! Lenore presented a keynote on the ALR at the British Columbia Association of Farmers' Markets Annual meeting, and then was a guest speaker at a Farmwatch benefit dinner in late February, and spoke on the same topic. Lenore also has several forthcoming publications, is finishing a book project, and has a piece on the history of the Nanaimo Bar in Canadian Food Studies—due out any day now.

The third baby born this year to a faculty member in GATE arrived in mid-February. Little “Mo” was born to **Khaled** and Mawra **Hamden**, and is the couple’s first child. Dr. Hamden is a sessional faculty member in the department, and has been teaching in the program since 2012. Mo joins baby Allegra (born to sessional instructor **Jennifer Hetherington** in October) and Struan (born to Associate Professor **Claire Beaney** in October) to form the new Geographers-in-(Potty) Training club.



Claire Beaney and baby Struan born in October 2013

The department is looking forward to the arrival of Dr. Lingling Ma, a visiting scholar who will be joining us in August. Dr. Ma is a faculty member at Yunnan Normal University in China, and her current research is in the area of agricultural logistics. She is pursuing a project titled: "Structure Performance and Path Dependence of Agriculture Leading Enterprises".

On a sad note, one of UFV's former sessional instructors, **Dr. Rod Fowler**, passed away in early March. Dr. Fowler taught in the department between 2007 and 2009, delivering courses in human, social, and regional geography. A native of northern England, Rod completed his doctorate at Simon Fraser, and was a long-time resident of the Hope area.

Upcoming Events

Geography is planning a number of events to mark UFV's 40th anniversary. The first Geography course at the then Fraser Valley College was delivered not by a regular faculty member but by the University Bursar. Its first full-time faculty member, **Don Tunstall**, was hired a year later. The department plans on celebrating its anniversary with a themed Discoveries Speakers Series, an occasional papers series, a t-shirt design contest, and a fundraising drive to fund student bursaries for field study.

September 14-20, **Mike Smith**, **Cherie Enns**, and **Jonathan Hughes** are leading an *Adventures in Geography* field trip to San Francisco to investigate urban planning and transportation in this earthquake prone city.

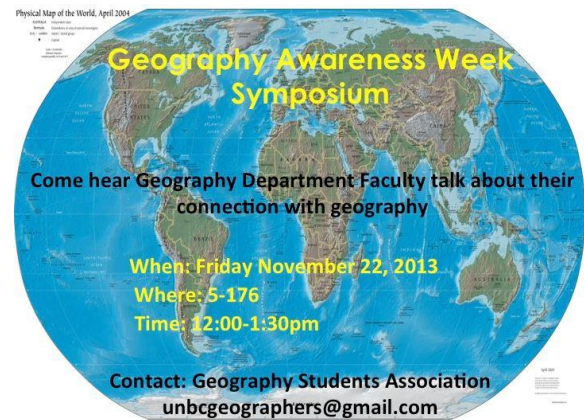
In October, **Jonathan Hughes** will be chairing a topical session titled "Lowland lakes, ponds, and wetlands as recorders of past watershed dynamics," at the Geological Society of America's annual meeting to be held in Vancouver, October 19-22, 2014. Jonathan will lead a two-day post-conference field trip on the flood History of the Fraser River.

Steven Marsh and **Mike Smith** will be teaming up with Sharon Gillies and Vicki Marlett from Biology to co-lead a study tour to the New York area in May 2015.

Submitted by John Belec

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Geography Program & the Geography Students' Association promoted Geography Awareness Week in November with various events including this mini-symposium.



Faculty News:

A recent article in the Globe and Mail highlighted the work of UNBC geographers **Gail Fondahl** and **Brian Menounos**. See: *UNBC researchers look to the North for climate insight*.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/the-north/unbc-researchers-look-to-the-north-for-climate-insight/article16398088/>

Gail Fondahl is organizing the International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences, to be held at UNBC 22-26 May 2014. The theme of the

conference is *Northern Sustainabilities*; over 500 abstracts have been received. For more information see: <http://resweb.res.unbc.ca/icass2014/index.htm>.

Gail is also completing the Arctic Human Development Report II, with colleagues from Iceland and Greenland, to be launched later this year. See <http://www.arcticinfo.eu/en/the-project/features> for a short piece describing this and related efforts, entitled "Tracking, understanding and addressing rapid change in Arctic human development."

Fall travels took **Gail** to the Arctic Council's Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG) meeting in Whitehorse, where a 'Social, Economic and Cultural Expert Group' under the SDWG was launched: Gail and Grant Sullivan, Gwich'in Council International are co-chairing the group. Gail organized a session at the World Social Science Forum on 'Social Transformation and the Digital Age in the Arctic', and gave the keynote talk at the Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies (ACUNS). She presented on "'Stake-Holders", "Rights-Holders", Legal Requirements and Ethical Norms" at the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (Potsdam, Germany) at an Arctic Horizon 2030 workshop.

An event co-organized by UNBC geographer **Greg Halseth** aimed to improve understanding of the cumulative effects of natural resource development northern BC. As Greg Halseth and Marleen Morris of the Community Development Institute at UNBC point out, the scale of the changes are comparable to the industrial transformation that happened after the Second World War in British Columbia where, like today, natural resource mega-projects and initiatives played a key role. Recently academics, health care professionals, community leaders and First Nations delegates attended a two-day forum to discuss the cumulative impacts of natural resource development in the North. The goal of the forum was to bring people with different specialties and experience together to discuss the impact of resource development in multiple sectors on the environment, public health and local communities. See: <http://www.unbc.ca/releases/11042/unbc->

[events-aim-improve-understanding-cumulative-effects-northern-bc-natural-resource-developments](#)

Greg Halseth, Neil Hanlon and Laura Ryser are members of the organizing committee for the upcoming International Symposium on Aging Resource Communities: Population Dynamics, Community Development & the Voluntary Sector (August 24-28 2014). Hosted by the UNBC Community Development Institute, the symposium will take place in Tumbler Ridge (an aging resource town in northeastern BC) and will feature 20 invited papers from international experts interested in various aspects of rural aging, community development and voluntarism in resource hinterland regions. A legacy from the symposium will be an edited book. The symposium is 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).

Congratulations to **Neil Hanlon** (Chair of Geography Program) who was acclaimed to serve on the CAG Executive Committee as Secretary-Treasurer following the recent 2014 CAG elections.

Neil also traveled to Michigan State University to attend the XVth International Symposium in Medical/Health Geography. Dr. Hanlon presented a paper entitled: "Partnering for Primary Health Care Innovation and Sustainability in Traditionally Underserved Areas: The Role of Bricolage," co-authored with Martha MacLeod and Trish Reay.

UNBC recently announced its most recent research chair appointment: **Brian Menounos** now holds the Canada Research Chair of Glacier Change. See more at: <http://www.unbc.ca/releases/10703/two-new-unbc-canada-research-chairs-appointed#sthash.JrNZRNo4.dpuf>. UNBC's Department of Physics hosted a presentation by UNBC Geography's **Brian Menounos** on "Glacier Change in Western Canada." Friday, February 7th, 2014.

Catherine Nolin has been honoured with the 2013 Excellence in Teaching Award by the Canadian Association of Geographers. Dr. Nolin was cited for her highly experiential Guatemalan (and now Peruvian) field courses. Full citation at: http://www.cag-acg.ca/en/catherine_nolin.html

In July, **Catherine** organized a ½ day workshop on Human Rights & Mining at the *Guatemala Scholars Network Conference* in Antigua, Guatemala. She is also now a full research member of the Centre for Indigenous Conservation and Development Alternatives (CICADA) at McGill University.

In October 2013, **Catherine** hosted a free community screening of [DEFENSORA](#), a film which features the cases that Catherine and **Grahame Russell** (Exec. Director of Rights Action & UNBC adjunct faculty member) have documented related to abuses of Canadian mining companies in Guatemala. Filmmaker Rachel Schmidt was also in attendance.

Ellen Petticrew delivered a two week Limnology course to 11 students at the Quesnel River Research Centre in May 2013. With the success of this course a second two week Geography 333 field course is planned to be delivered from the QRRC by **Phil Owens** in August 2014. The emphasis of the course is on watershed processes and students from other universities are welcome.

Ellen was on a half year sabbatical and spent four months at the University of California – Santa Barbara’s Bren School of Environmental Science and Management. During the sabbatical invited talks were presented to the hydrologic modelling research group at Bren and to the ecological isotopic modelling group at Scripps Institute of Oceanography (UC-San Diego).

The Landscape Ecology Research Group (**Petticrew** and **Owens**) hosted a one year work-placement student from University of Plymouth School of Geography (Ben Anderson-Millington), the second of such collaborations with U Plymouth. A third student arrives in March of 2014 for six months.

Roger Wheate is the local organiser for an international workshop on Mountain Cartography,

This biennial workshop is being held for the first time in Canada, and will take place in Banff, April 22-26, 2014. Further details are at: <http://gis.unbc.ca/banff2014>. He also 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.

GEOG 111 Field Trip to the Quesnel River Research Centre on Saturday, September 21st with **Roger Wheate** and **Brian Menounos**. Photo by B. Menounos



Recent publications:

Cameron, E., **de Leeuw, S.**** and Desbiens, C. 2014. Indigeneity and ontology. *Cultural Geographies*, 21:19-26.

de Leeuw, S.** (2014) State of care: The ontologies of child welfare in British Columbia. *Cultural Geographies*, January, 21(1): 59-78.

de Leeuw, S.**, **Parkes, M.**** and Thien, D. 2013. Questioning medicine’s discipline: the arts of emotions in undergraduate medical education. *Emotion, Space and Society*, doi.org/10.1016/j.emospa.2013.11.006

Ronald I. Dorn, Steven J. Gordon, Casey D. Allen, Niccole Cerveney, John C. Dixon, Kaelin M. Groom, **Kevin Hall**, Emma Harrison, Lisa Mol, Thomas R. Paradise, Paul Sumner, Tyler Thompson, Alice V. Turkington., 2013^t. The role of fieldwork in rock decay research: case studies from the fringe. *Geomorphology*, 200: 59-74. (^t = [invited publication](#))

Fondahl, G. (2013) Where is indigenous? Legal productions of indigenous space in the Russian North, in *Nomadic and Indigenous Spaces*.

Productions and Cognitions, eds. J. Miggelbrink, J. Otto Habeck, N. Mazzullo and P Koch, pp. 77-89. (Farhham:Ashgate)

Fondahl, G. (2013) Mezhdunarodnaya assotsiatsiya arkticheskikh obshchestvennykh nauk/ The International Arctic Social Sciences Association, *Arkticheskie vedomosti/ The Arctic Herald* 3(7): 66-71 (bi-lingual journal of the Russian Geographical Society) (non-refereed)

Hall, K., 2013[†]. Periglacial processes and landforms of the Antarctic: a review of recent studies and directions. *Geological Society, London, Special Publications*, 381: 429-453. ([†]= [invited publication](#))

Hall, K., Thorn, C. 2014. Thermal fatigue and thermal shock in bedrock: An attempt to unravel the geomorphic processes and products. *Geomorphology*, 206: 1-13.

Koiter, A.J., Lobb, D.A., **Owens****, P.N., **Petticrew**, E.L, Tiessen, K.H.D., Li, S. (2013). Investigating the role of connectivity and scale in assessing the sources of sediment in an agricultural watershed in the Canadian prairies using sediment source fingerprinting. Special issue on watershed sediment Source identification. *J. Soils and Sediments*, 13:1676-1691.

Koiter, A.J., **Owens****, P.N., **Petticrew**, E.L., Lobb, D.A. (2013). The behavioural characteristics of sediment properties and their implications for sediment fingerprinting as an approach for identifying sediment sources in river basins. *Earth-Science Review*, 125: 24-42.

Kunkel*, T. I., **Halseth, G.**, **Petticrew, E.**, Mills, A., Ghomshei, M. and R. Ellis (2013). First Nations expectations from the Mining Industry: Lessons from the Tsilhqot'in People. Poster presentation and Proceedings publication, *World Mining Congress*, Montreal, Canada.

LaPlante, JP* and **Nolin, C.** 2014-Early Online. Consultas and socially responsible investing in Guatemala: A case study examining Maya perspectives on the Indigenous right to free, prior and informed consent. *Society and Natural Resources: An International Journal*, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/08941920.2013.861554>

Ryser, L. and **Halseth, G.** (2013) "So you're thinking about a retirement industry? Economic and community development lessons from resource towns in northern British Columbia". *Community Development: Journal of the Community Development Society*, 44(1): 83-96.

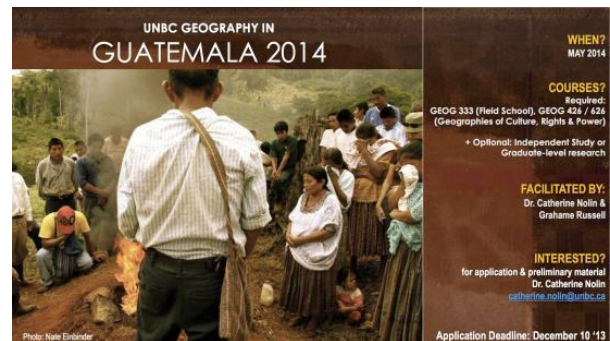
Walker, K.* (Director & Producer) and **Nolin, C.** (Executive Producer) (2013) Documentary Film: *Ayacucho: Studying Human Rights in Peru*. 16 min. UNBC, Prince George, BC. <http://vimeo.com/57858245>

* Graduate student

** Affiliate geographer

Field Courses:

Guatemala 2014



For recent UNBC field schools, please see:

http://www.unbc.ca/geography/southafrica_2012.html

http://www.unbc.ca/geography/guatemala_2012/ and

http://www.gis.unbc.ca/peru_web/

Graduate Students:

Joanna Paterson (MSc Community Health Sciences, UNBC '14, supervisor: **Neil Hanlon**) received one of two student presentations awards from the Canadian Association of Geographers (CAG) Geographies of Health and Health Care Specialty Group (GHHCSG). Joanna's presented her paper at Memorial University in St. John's, Newfoundland in August. "Experiences of Northern Medical Program Graduates and Strategies for Their Retention in Rural Communities." (co-authored with Neil

Hanlon). The committee indicates that "the presentation was rewarded for its technical precision and complete treatment of a timely topic in Canadian geography." See:

<https://sites.google.com/site/ghhcsq/student-awards>

Alex Koiter and **Nick Reiffarth** (both PhD students with **Petticrew** and **Owens****) presented talks at the Canadian Geophysical Union meeting held in Saskatoon in May of 2014.

Thesis Defences:

Matthew Beedle. 2013. Glacier Change in the Cariboo Mountains of British Columbia, Canada (1946-2011). Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Geography), University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George, BC. Co-Supervisor: Brian Menounos & Roger Wheate. Thesis Defence: December 4, 2013

Leana Garraway (Supervisor: Neil Hanlon) defended her MA in Interdisciplinary Studies in April 2013. The thesis title is: "Knowledge to action: First Nations engagement with research for community benefit."

Courtney LeBourdais. 2013. Narratives of Negotiation: Marriage Migration in Northern British Columbia. MA Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Geography). Supervisor: Catherine Nolin. Thesis Defence: September 11, 2013

Theodore Mlynowski. 2013. The Influence of Glacier Change on Sediment Yield, Peyto Basin, Alberta, Canada. MSc in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Geography), University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George, BC. Supervisor: Brian Menounos. Thesis Defence: September 6, 2013

Joanna Paterson. 2014. Students who stay: Stories of Northern Medical program graduates and place integration." MSc in Community Health Science. University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George, BC. Supervisor: Neil Hanlon. Thesis Defence: January 14, 2014

Ysler Giulliana Tamblyn. 2014. Is resource extraction a curse or a bonanza for local communities? Mining case study: Quiruvilca, Peru. MA in International Studies (International Development stream), University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George, BC. Supervisor: Catherine Nolin. Thesis Defence: January 16, 2014

Alum News

Jennifer Herkes, MA Geography 2010, was recently awarded the UNBC Alumni Award for Community Service in recognition for outstanding support of the roller derby community in Prince George.

Undergraduate Students:

Alum News

Catherine Fraser (BA Geography, UNBC '07 & MA Geography, Queen's University '10) is now the Director of Development and Programming with Healing Hands of Joy, a medical NGO which works to monitor and eliminate obstetric fistula in northern Ethiopia. Catherine maintains a blog (Dust, Dreams & Data) at:

<http://catherinefraser.wordpress.com/>. See also:

<https://www.facebook.com/healinghandsofjoy>

Eric Gallant (BA Geography, UNBC '07 & MES, York University '10) is a planner with rePlan (Toronto, ON) and Acting Manager of their Senegal projects with Teranga Gold Corporation.

<http://www.replan.ca/news/replan-negotiates-successful-land-acquisition-senegal> &

<http://www.replan.ca/team/eric-gallant>

UNBC BA Geography '07 alum **Jennifer Adomeit** created an amazing piece of artwork during her time at UNBC. Now you can order it for yourself!

<https://www.facebook.com/OurHomeAndNativeLand>



The flags were lowered in memory of UNBC student **Michelle Bardossy** who passed away on October 28. Michelle was a BSc Geography student who sincerely cared about her education and connecting her learning to the local community. Her passing is a great loss to her fellow students, faculty members, the university and local community. The university community sends condolences to her family.

Western Division of CAG Conference:

The Geography Program once again traveled with a delegation of faculty members, undergrads and graduate students to this year's Western Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers (WDCAG) conference hosted by the University of Victoria (March 7-8). **Jim Windsor**, once again, organized the delegation.

Paper presentations:

Ysler Giulliana Tamblin, Catherine Nolin: Is Resource Extraction a Curse or Bonanza for Local Communities? A Case Study: Quiruvilca, Peru.

Talaat Bakri: Synoptic---scale Analysis for Number of Gap Winds in the Coast of British Columbia.

Md Abdur Rashid: A Study of the impacts of Conditional Cash Transfer Programs on Women's Development and Empowerment in Bangladesh.

Tajinder (Tony) Dhaliwal: Thinking outside of the blue box: considering Sikh perceptions of and participation in recycling, in Abbotsford, BC.

Blake Hawkins: Our Little Piece of Heaven: Understanding Conflict over a Woman's Recovery Centre.

Cherise Chrispen: Thinking closer to home: Considering the consumption---related beliefs and behaviours of North American sea turtle conservation practitioners.

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

WDCAG Conference

March 7-8 the UVic Geography Department hosted the Western Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers Conference. The conference was a resounding success with over 370 registrants, dozens of posters and seven concurrent paper sessions, it was the most well attended WDCAG meeting ever held.

The conference began last Friday with a selection of well-led field trips to both distant and nearby sites; followed by an energetic and inspiring keynote presentation by Jon Turk. Saturday paper sessions dawned early for a few visitors to Victoria, but what followed was an extravagant overview of the scholarly wealth of the discipline of Geography. All the presentations were well-attended and the posters drew the attention of all. The conference ended with a lively dinner, a delightful and thoughtful dinner speech from CAG President Jean Andrey, and concluded with the awarding of presentation trophies to students, and to trivia and scavenger hunt aficionados.

Of special note are the WDCAG awards presented to two departmental members:

Phil Dearden was awarded the *William C. Wonders Award for Scholarly Distinction* in recognition of his work in the environmental and resource geography of Canada and for his efforts to communicate this to undergraduate students across Canada through publication of his widely-used textbooks. Congratulations Phil, wherever today finds you.

The **Society of Geography Students** ("The SOGS") received *the J. Lewis Robinson Award for Meritorious Service* in recognition of their enduring commitment to the Geography in Schools program. Their outstanding service in encouraging interest in the discipline of geography among high school students on southern Vancouver Island is exemplary. Congratulations SOGS, a well-deserved recognition.

The success of WDCAG 2014 is due entirely to the tireless efforts of Team Geography. Particular thanks are due to **Cam Owens** for his commitment to building and sustaining a team of geography community members that extended from undergraduate to graduate students, to staff and faculty. With over 40 volunteers always eager to help, the conference organization was amazing and nearly flawless. Thanks so much Team Geography.

Faculty Members

Dr. Phil Dearden

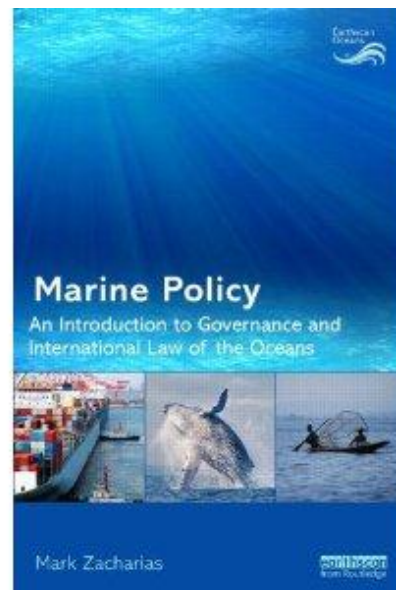
Marine Protected Areas: Anchors for Ocean Sustainability, Platforms for Community Development? Opening Keynote Address, 5th World Ecotourism Conference?, Cebu, Philippines, Feb 19-22.

The 5th World Ecotourism Conference under the theme - "Marine and Coastal Ecotourism: Oceans of Uncertainties, Waves of Opportunities" provides a strategic podium for high level ecotourism experts, proponents, practitioners, stakeholders, legislators, educators and consultants to network and share among their peers their knowledge and experiences with coastal communities in developing nations.

Experts addressed the challenges of developmental sustainability and natural vulnerabilities in coastal regions and marketing consultants examined the critical factors in sustaining ecotourism as a viable income generating enterprise. Professor Dearden Leader of the Marine Protected Areas Research Group at the University of Victoria , Canada, in his Keynote Address reviewed the declining health of global marine ecosystems and the ecosystem services that support coastal livelihoods. One of the main tools to address these declines is marine protected areas (MPAs) if they are planned and implemented in an effective manner. MPAs can also serve to diversify and enhance coastal community livelihoods. Development of appropriate coastal ecotourism can be an important component within these improvements if planned and implemented effectively. Professor Dearden drew on his global experience in this area to illustrate some of the potential for MPAs to contribute to marine conservation and assist in enhancing coastal community livelihoods

Mark Zacharias

Adjunct and a member of the Marine Protected Areas research group. Congratulations on your newly published book.



Field school

The Cascadia Sustainability Field School is gearing up for its third trip down the coast affording UVic geographers the chance to meet with activists,

government officials, business people and others grappling with sustainability issues in our region. Check out the Cascadia Sustainability Experience (at <http://mapping.uvic.ca/cascadia2013>) which evolved out of the students' and instructors' desire to share experiences and insights from the field. On past trips we have shot hundreds of hours of video trying to capture the stories, insights and hands-on efforts of the amazing, creative people in our region making a difference. The videos on the site are offered in a spirit of giving back to the community; to inspire - to teach - to cultivate new ways of living in this region

Graduate student successes

Completed graduate students: January to December 2013

Acquah, Emmanuel, PhD (September, 2013)
Nature-Based Tourism and Protected Areas Management: The Case of Mole National Park and the Adjacent Communities in Ghana

Agyare, Andrew, PhD (September, 2013)
Polycentric Governance and Social-Ecological Performance of Community Resource Management Areas in Ghana

Augustine, Skye, MSc (July, 2013) The Past, Present, and Future of Incentive-Based Coral Conservation: Sustainability of Diving on the Andaman Coast of Thailand

Bakker, Julian, MA (August, 2013) Aesthetics, New Urbanism & The Diana Krall Plaza: A Case Study in Nanaimo, BC

Bennett, Nathan, PhD (July, 2013) The Capacity to Adapt, Conserve, & Thrive?: Marine Protected Area Communities & Social-Ecological Change in Coastal Thailand

Blythe, Jessica, PhD (August, 2013) Dynamics of Fisher's Response to Social-Ecological Change in Coastal Mozambique: A Resilience Perspective

Bourbonnais, Mathieu, MSc (August, 2013) Spatial Analysis of Factors Influencing Long-Term Stress & Health of Grizzly Bears (*ursus arctos*) in Alberta, Canada

Brandon, Cathryn, MSc (September, 2013)
Evaluating Measures of Collaborative TIS: Applications for Marine Spatial Planning on Multi-User Touch Tables

Deschenes, Steeve, MSc (April, 2013) Modeling Heavy Metals in Soil Using Spatial Regression Analysis

Dyck, Brian, PhD (June, 2013) Developing a New Mixed-Mode Methodology for a Provincial Park Camper Survey in BC

Evans, Teresa, MSc (June, 2013) Habitat Mapping of the Brazilian Pantanal Using Synthetic Aperture Radar Imagery and Object Based Image Analysis

Heathfield, Derek, MSc (August, 2013) Erosive Water Levels and Beach-Dune Morphodynamics, Wickaninnish Bay, Pacific Rim National Park Reserve, British Columbia, Canada

Kisingo, Alex, PhD (September, 2013) Governance of Protected Areas in the Serengeti Ecosystem, Tanzania

Koulas, Christos, MSc (August, 2013) Assessing Surface Fuel Hazard in Coastal Conifer Forests Through the Use of LiDAR Remote Sensing

Long, Jed, PhD (July, 2013) Developing Quantitative Methods for Movement Data

Makupa, Enock, PhD (December, 2013)
Conservation Efforts and Livelihoods in Western Serengeti, Tanzania: Experiences from Ikona Community Wildlife Management Area

Newton, Brandi, MSc (December, 2013) Evaluating the Distribution of Water Resources in Western Canada Using a Synoptic Climatological Approach

Reshitnyk, Luba, MSc (September, 2013) Acoustic & Satellite Remote Sensing of Shallow Nearshore Marine Habitats in the GwaiiHaanas National Marine Conservation Area

Sanderson, Bruce, MA (April 2013) Damaging Earthquakes and Their Implications for the Transfusion Medicine Function of the Health Care System on Vancouver Island, BC

Sherrington, Nicholas, MSc (August 2013)
Ulvalactuca L. as an Inorganic Extractive for
Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture in British
Columbia: An Analysis of Potentialities and Pitfalls

Sotoudehnia, Maral, MA (August, 2013) “Turn Your
Brand into a Destination”: City Branding, Naming
Rights, and the Neoliberalization of Dubai, UAE

Suarez, Cesar, MSc (August 2013) COSINE: A Tool
for Constraining Spatial Neighbourhoods in Marine
Environments

Tremblay, Crystal, PhD (September, 2013)
Empowerment and Communication in Sao=Paulo,
Brazil: Participatory Video with Recycling
Cooperatives

Tucker, Brian, MA (April 2013) Inventing the Salish
Sea: Exploring the Performative Act of Place
Naming off the Pacific Coast of North America

Willott, Lisa, MSc (August, 2013) Food Sovereignty
in Cuba: A Case Study of the Social Support for
Agroecological Farming with a Focus on Gender
Through Participatory Photography

Specialized Online Geospatial Courses in Population Health

The Professional Specialization Certificate in
Population Health Data Analysis program provides
a unique opportunity for researchers, graduate
students and health professionals to learn a diverse
set of skills from multiple disciplines. The flexible
entry program allows you to start in any term and
to take up to two courses without applying to the
full program.

Courses include:

- [PHDA 02 Epidemiological Statistics](#)– May 2014
- [PHDA 06 Health Services Program Monitoring and Evaluation](#) – May 2014
- [PHDA 01 Working with Administrative Data](#) – Sept 2014
- [PHDA 05 Longitudinal Analysis and Multilevel Modeling of Population Health Data](#) – Sept 2014

- [PHDA 04 Spatial Epidemiology and Outbreak Detection](#) – Jan 2015
- [PHDA 03 Population Health and Geographic Information Systems \(GIS\)](#) – May 2015

Program Details can be found at:

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

This Certificate program has been developed by
Population Data BC in partnership with the Division
of Continuing Studies and the Department of
Geography, University of Victoria. Students who
apply for and successfully complete four courses
will receive a Professional Specialization Certificate
conferred by the University of Victoria.

Applicants to this program may be eligible for CIHR
funding.

For related details see:

<https://www.popdata.bc.ca/etu/funding>

For more program information or to register
contact:

Maxine Reitsma, Program Coordinator, UVic
Division of Continuing Studies, Phone: 250-721-
6477, Email: maxiner@uvic.ca

Looking for short in-person workshops? Register
now for April sessions:

- [Spatial perspectives in population health](#)
- [Longitudinal data analysis: latent growth curve modelling with Mplus](#)

Population Data BC also offers Free Online Courses:

For Details Visit:

<https://www.popdata.bc.ca/etu/onlinecourses>

Student successes

Congratulations to Mathieu Bourbonnais for
winning a student presentation award at Spatial
Knowledge and Information Canada for his
presentation entitled “Quantifying and Predicting
Wildlife Movement - A State of the Knowledge
Review.”

Plus of course our student winners from WDCAG:

[UVic Community Mapping: Collaboratory Update \(December 2013\)](#)



It has been a productive and exciting Fall! We've made great progress setting up the Community Mapping lab in UVic's Geography Department and production of the [CRD Community Green Map](#). The next few months will see more focused attention on the impacts of community mapping under the leadership of Geography professors Jon Corbett (UBC) and Rosaline Canessa (UVic), and development of the national and global networks with other universities and the [Green Map System](#).

The UVIC CMC is focused on connecting and engaging existing faculty and courses through community mapping. The academic team includes Brenda Beckwith (ES), Brian Thom (Anthro), John Lutz (History); Peter Keller, Cameron Owens, Ian O'Connell and Rosaline Canessa (Geog). A community mapping course will be offered for credit in May-June 2014.

This Fall, Cameron Owens, full time lecturer in the department of Geography had students in his Geog219: Geography of BC class prepare place-based videos and digital stories as their final projects to be posted on the new [CRD Community Green Map](#).

Submitted by Kinga Menu

VANCOUVER ISLAND UNIVERSITY

Program News

In addition to a new BSc Geoscience Major, the Department offers a BA Major and Minor in Geography, which continue to have strong enrollments. The BA Major has three streams: General, Natural Resource Management and Urban and Regional Management.

The Department is working on two applied Master's program proposals, a Master's of GIS Applications and a Master's in Community Planning. Both are at Stage 3 in the process, and the Master's in Planning has gone to the provincial Degree Quality Assessment Board (DQAB) for review. The MGISA will be thesis based and given over one year, with entrance requirements of a Bachelor's degree and an Advanced Diploma in GIS Applications (or equivalent). The MCP will be a two year program, with course work in the first year and a thesis or major project and additional courses in the second year with a targeted start date of September 2016. The MGISA will be taught online and the MCP will be given in a traditional face-to-face delivery format.

The Advanced Diploma in GIS Applications offered by the Department has strong enrollments, and many students are interested in the upcoming MGIS. Employment in the GIS sector is very strong at the moment and most graduates get employment within a short period of graduating.

Faculty News

Don Alexander has taken over as department chair, with Pam Shaw assisting when Don is unavailable. Don presented a paper in Nantes, France in September at EcoCity World Summit, and helped organize a highly successful Avenues for Action conference on social and ecological sustainability which featured University of Victoria professor, Michael M'Gonigle, as keynote speaker. He also continues to organize, with Pam Shaw and off-campus partners, the annual Urban Issues Film Festival.

Dave Cake, who teaches in the Advanced Diploma in GIS Applications, is working on GIS projects in northern Canada, Ukraine, and Peru.

Alan Gilchrist is currently on research leave.

Michael Govorov, Dave Cake, and Brad Maguire are involved with a project funded by the Partners for Development Program of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada (DFATD). Vancouver Island University (VIU) and its partners, the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv (NUK), and the National Technical University of Ukraine "Kyiv Polytechnic Institute" (KPI), proposed developing and delivering an educational program to the Ukrainian civil service to support that country's development of a National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI). In November of 2012, the project "Laying the Foundation for a Spatial Data Infrastructure: Building Capacity within the Ukrainian Government to Support Sustainable Economic Growth" began. Several Geography department faculty are involved in this project.

Six critically important SDI courses will be adapted to the Ukrainian context, translated into Ukrainian and delivered both to Ukrainian trainers in Canada (using a train-the-trainer model), and later in Ukraine, to Ukrainian civil servants who are responsible for the implementation of the NSDI. The project will continue through March 2018. See more at <http://www.viu.ca/sdi/UKROVR.asp>.

Jeff Lewis continues as a faculty Advisor for ACER, "Awareness of Climate Change through Education and Research", which is funded by SSHRC.

Michele Patterson is now Adjunct Faculty in the department. She works full-time as an academic researcher and also Program Manager in VIU's Institute for Coastal Research (www.viu.ca/icr). Michele is an economic-cultural geographer with interests in aquaculture, scale, governance, values, material culture, commodities and commodity chains. She is also a PhD candidate in Geography at UVic currently developing her proposal entitled: "*What is a farmed salmon? Understanding the life of a seafood commodity from ocean to table.*" Michele will also be teaching a special topics course in the VIU geography department in the upcoming

academic year entitled: "The Geography of Seafood."

Pam Shaw is involved in a number of initiatives:

1. *Campbellton Action Plan* – Work is wrapping up on the Campbellton Action Plan. Two Geography classes (322 and 446) have been working with the City of Campbell River and the Campbellton Neighbourhood Association to develop no cost, low, medium, and high cost options for positive neighbourhood change. The students are presenting a range of scenarios in late March 2014 and the project will be finalized over the summer.
2. *Community Mapping Project* – Geog 322, along with two classes of ESL students from International Education pooled their resources to develop the first draft of VIU's View of the World. This community mapping project allowed the students to choose the mapped elements, create the layers, write a script for the presentation, and present two times during International Education Week. Two students also presented the project at the recent WDCAG Conference in Victoria. The project was well-received by the university community and plans are in place to continue this project with a new group of students in Fall 2014.
3. *Coastal Estuaries Research*– Research continues on bettering the understanding of social-ecological interactions in coastal estuaries on Vancouver Island. In summer 2013, two students (both at VIU through the Science Without Borders Program) worked on an intensive eelgrass mapping project that required GPS-ing first along the edges of the estuary, then into the estuary with hip waders, and then the project was completed with the cooperation of the Nanaimo Port Authority and its sonar-equipped vessel. The results of this research are being prepared for publication.

Conferences, Meetings, & Publications

ALEXANDER, D., KRUMREY, C. 2014. Governing Sustainable Communities: The British Columbia Experience, *Ecocity World Summit*, Nantes, France, 27 September 2013.

GOVOROV, M., PUTRENKO V., A. and *GIENKO, A. 2013 Exploring Spatial Patterns of Uranium Distribution in Ukraine. *Proceedings of 16th AGILE International Conference on Geographic Information Science*, AGILE 2013 – Leuven, May 14-17, ISBN: 978-989-20-1953-6. GOVOROV, M., GIENKO, A. 2013 GIS Learning Objects: An Approach to Content Aggregation. *International Research in Geographical and Environmental Education*, Taylor & Francis Group, Vol. 22, Issue 2, pp. 155-171

The fifth annual symposium on Climate Change: Science, Politics and Society is being co-organized by **Jeff Lewis** and will occur in April 2014.

Student Accomplishments and Activities

Warrick Baijous received the Canadian Association of Geographers' award for outstanding graduating Geography student at VIU in 2013. He also won a prestigious Michael L. Warsh award from VIU last spring for his research on assessing regional sustainability. Warrick was accepted into a Masters program in environmental geography at the University of Saskatchewan, where he is studying water resource issues with the financial assistance of a full Dean's scholarship. **Katelyn McDougall**, who graduated from VIU in June 2012, is currently enrolled in a Masters program in urban geography at Simon Fraser University. **Tamera Rogers** received the Lady Rose prize for receiving the highest GPA standing of all Geography graduates from VIU in

2012/2013. Tamera is currently working for the City of Nanaimo as a Planning Assistant and plans to continue her education in a Masters of Planning program next year. The **Carto Cup** was awarded to **Shaunda Devenport** who graduated with an ADGISA diploma last April. Shaunda currently works as a GIS Technician for the City of Nanaimo. The Carto Cup prize is awarded annually to a VIU student who produces a cartographically excellent representation of spatial data. Applicants are evaluated on the basis of effective communication of the intended information, cartographic quality, innovative design, and overall attractiveness of the finished product. In addition, a contingent of 21 students and several faculty attended the WDCAG conference this year in Victoria, and faculty member Michael Tripp won an award for teaching.

Field Schools

Geog 465: Field School Portland and Seattle in February 2014 was a great success. Nine VIU students attended, with activities focusing on urban design and architecture, cultural geography, and street systems. An international field course in Belize is planned for May-June, led by Pam Shaw and adjunct professor Larry Wolfe, and will focus on research pertaining to the community of Ladyville.

For further information on the Geography and GIS programs at Vancouver Island University visit our websites at: <http://www.viu.ca/geography/> and <http://www.viu.ca/adgisa/>

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 Beaney**, WDCAG Newsletter Editor (claire.beaney@ufv.ca).



Skeena River as seen from Highway 16 on route from Terrace to Prince Rupert, BC