

Geogramme



Geographers Find Earthly Happiness

“Happiness... is not a fish that you can catch,” according to Canadian rock band Our Lady Peace. But it is, apparently, something you can earn by studying Geography.

Graeme Wynn, *Department Head*

Earlier this year, *The Vancouver Sun* reported the results of research at Carleton University that demonstrated a symbiotic relationship between nature and human happiness. Evidence accumulated from hundreds of questionnaires showed that people connected to nature are happy. Moreover, happy people tread more lightly on the earth by living more ecologically-friendly lives. The researchers drew the conclusion that taking a course in Geography makes people happier. Indeed, a comparison between students enrolled in nature-related courses and others who were not revealed that the former group was happy, and grew happier during the term even as other students became increasingly disgruntled. This, of course, made them more agreeable individuals. (Should you know of any irked persons doubtful of the power and value of Geography, you can direct them to the story on pages D1 and D2 of *The Vancouver Sun*, May 3, 2008).

Given the now widely-recognized value of the discipline and the credential of our graduates, it is a pleasure to know that you

are all happier than you might otherwise have been. I relish the opportunity to make you already agreeable folks even happier by updating you on UBC Geography.

Happiness, energy and enthusiasm have certainly been evident in the Geography building this year, thanks to the work of the Geography Students' Association. Led by **Nick Gallant** and a cast of dozens (if not thousands), the GSA once again demonstrated the importance of student involvement, the opportunities for student leadership generated by such organizations, and the capacity of successive generations of students to bring new ideas and enthusiasm into the department and university. Among the several successes of the 2007-08 GSA, I have space only to note the impressive continuation of *Trail Six*, a journal that showcases some of the best essays produced by students in Geography classes; a return to Cecil Green Park House for the Graduating Class Gala; and the introduction of the Faculty Cup for competition between Human and Physical geographers. This year the cup was won by Physical Geography colleagues on the (somewhat suspect) basis of points given for participation in GSA events – from field trips to geopits. Those Carleton psychologists will be happy to know that the Human geographers remain happy despite their loss.

On the faculty front, we were joined in mid-year by **Dr. Simon Donner**, who came to us from the Science, Technology and Environment Program in the Woodrow



Graeme Wynn topping up his happiness

Wilson School for Public and International Affairs at Princeton University. Simon, a native of Toronto, graduated from the interdisciplinary Arts and Science Program at McMaster, took a master's degree in Environmental Management (specializing in air and water resources) from the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke University, and took his PhD in Atmospheric and Ocean Sciences at the Center for Sustainability and the Global Environment in the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Simon's research stretches across the traditional boundaries between disciplines to examine the causes and effects of climate and global change, with particular emphases on climate change impacts on nutrient

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We lament the passing of Geography's founding head Lew Robinson. Read about his life and invaluable contributions to the Geography profession, in particular to this department, on the newsletter insert. Please send your messages and memories to Sally Hermansen at sallyh@geog.ubc.ca

“Geographer’s Find...” Continued from Page 1

cycling, coral reefs and on the associated implications for public policy and human welfare. As this brief sketch makes clear, Simon’s appointment extends our collective expertise, and his vigorous embrace of science and sustainability issues has already been catalytic. Check out Simon’s lively homepage at www.simondonner.com/. We have also attracted the world-leading economic geographer **Jamie Peck** to the department through the Canada Research Chairs program. He will join us for the 2008-09 academic year, bringing new ideas, energy and momentum.

News of longer-serving faculty members includes the selection of **John Robinson** (a cross-appointee with Geography and the UBC Institute for Sustainability Resources and the Environment) as one of five 2008 Fellows of the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation. This prestigious recognition is granted for three years to individuals “who have set themselves apart through their research achievements, creativity and social commitment.”

The department also has two Trudeau

Scholars among its graduate student complement. The quality of the 100 or so scholars, who make up the most productive graduate program in the Faculty of Arts and form part of the leading *PhD* granting program in Canadian Geography, continues to impress. Their success, this year, in the national and UBC fellowship competitions was unprecedented. It is a tribute to both the sheer quality of students in the program and the careful nurturing and mentoring of them by members of the graduate committee and their supervisors. In reflection of the latter, it was gratifying to see **Geraldine Pratt**, former chair of the Graduate Program, receive the UBC Killam Award for Excellence in Mentoring at the November 2007 Congregation. In addition to research, our graduate students have been consistent winners of UBC Graduate Teaching Assistant awards; recent winners are **Scott Krayenhoff** (2008), **Sara Koopman** (2007) and **Joshua Caulkins** (2006).

Internally, much time and effort has been spent rethinking the undergraduate

curriculum in Geography, especially by Sally Hermansen who chaired an ad hoc committee for this purpose. The final approval process is a long one and has still to run its course through various faculty- and university-level committees, but considerable strides have been made in reaching agreement within the department for a reconceived program in Biogeosciences (replacing the former more narrowly defined major in Physical Geography), a revamped and re-invigorated Human Geography program that will bring research squarely into every undergraduate student’s program, and the introduction of a new major in Environment and Sustainability. Integration and contemporary relevance have been the watchwords of this redesign and we are pleased with the outcomes, which we believe present important perspectives on the world and provide students who enroll in Geography at UBC with compelling and useful options. What more could they wish for – except the happiness that we are assured will follow their wise choice of program.

Geography 350 Field Trip

Trevor Barnes has been around the block a few times...and the block keeps changing.

By Trevor Barnes

I’ve been running a self-guided field trip to the Downtown Eastside and North Shore of False Creek in my Urban Geography 350 class for at least twenty years. There have been a few anxious moments – such as the time some students were caught in a pepper spraying hi-jinks at a bus stop on Pender Street, or another time when a couple of students gave a \$100 to a man who wrote them a bad cheque. However, everyone who has been on the field trip made it back. No one has ever gone missing. Obviously the students do the route only once, but as the instructor I do it every year. The transformations over twenty years have been enormous. And this year the changes were particularly pronounced.

On a very cold February afternoon I went with **Dawn Biehler**, who was teaching the other section of Urban Geography. The only

two blocks that were unaltered were the first two of the route, between Gore and Jackson on Powell Street. After that it was all change: White gentrifiers on every block in Strathcona; the redevelopment of the Wing Sang building on Pender; the hole in the ground that is rapidly filling on Hastings Street with the Woodward’s redevelopment; and yet more chi-chi shops selling conspicuous consumption bric-a-brac to the professional classes on Mainland.

Students choose a theme from a list and write about it as it pertains to the field trip route. I’ve had some wonderful essays. But what they can’t write about, even though it is the most compelling issue, is the change. For them as they walk the tour this is how the city is and might always have been. For once I am grateful to have been around the block a few times.



Hotel Empress on East Hastings Street

Faculty Research

Brett Eaton and Dan Moore

In August 2003, the McLure Fire burned through several watersheds north of Kamloops, including Fishtrap Creek. High fuel loads, dry initial conditions, and strong winds resulted in an extremely high intensity fire that was difficult to contain. The burn of Fishtrap Creek Watershed was extensive, affecting 70 per cent of the catchment and killing almost all of the trees in the riparian area. Since the fire, substantial salvage harvesting has occurred. Working with collaborators from the Ministry of Forests and Range,

Ministry of Environment, Thompson Rivers University and University of Northern British Columbia, **Brett Eaton** and **Dan Moore** have been monitoring post-fire changes in hydrology, geomorphology, water quality and aquatic ecology. The project has already yielded an MSc thesis by a UBC Geography graduate student (**Jeff Philips**), and two further MSc projects are underway (**Jason Leach** and **Christie Andrews**). For further information, consult the project web site: www.geog.ubc.ca/~beaton/Fishtrap/Overview.html



Brett Eaton in Fishtrap Creek

Simon Donner

Simon Donner joined the faculty earlier this year. As a climate scientist and an ecologist, he is motivated by a simple question: Why does climate matter? For his research, he uses numerical modeling and field observations to examine how changes in the climate over time affect biogeochemical cycling, aquatic ecosystems like coral reefs, and, in turn, human decisions.

Two areas of ongoing research include the environmental consequences of growing biofuels and the effects of climate change on coral reefs across the Pacific Ocean. This work provides insight into the causes and effects of climate change, the efficacy of policy and mitigation options, and the consequences for human welfare.

Simon brings perspective from this research to courses like Geog 312: Global Climate System and his new course on Global Biogeochemistry. He also works to educate the public and policymakers on the science of climate change and related issues through seminars and popular writing.



Simon Donner asks: Why does climate matter?

Renewal of the Metropolis Project

In October 2007, SSHRC announced that the Vancouver Metropolis centre, which brings together researchers from UBC, SFU and UVic, has been renewed with a base grant of \$1.5 million for the five-year term. The provincial Ministry of the Attorney General will provide an additional \$100,000 per year to the centre, which has been renamed Metropolis British Columbia (MBC) in recognition of this new relationship. MBC’s task is to provide databases, analyses, and findings from a multidisciplinary academic team that address a wide range of issues in the fields of immigration, integration, and cultural diversity. The main objective is to generate research that will aid rational discussion on Canada’s emerging immigration policy issues. **Dan Hiebert** is currently co-director of MBC. For more information, please consult: mbc.metropolis.net; Canada.metropolis.net; and international.metropolis.net.

Tom Koch

Last fall, adjunct professor **Tom Koch** presented a series of lectures on Medical Geography and Cartography at Texas A&M University as the 2008 Distinguished Lecturer in Medicine and as the plenary speaker at a CDC-sponsored seminar on GIS and public health. He has also lectured on Medical Ethics and early maps of cholera, and is involved with UBC Geography emeritus professor **Ken Denike** on Medical Statistics and Cartography.

Faculty Honoured

Timothy R. Oke was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada by Governor-General Michaëlle Jean for his contributions to meteorology and urban climatology, as well as for his mentoring of generations of geographers. The Order of Canada is the highest honour within the Canadian system of honours, with membership awarded to those who exemplify the order’s motto, *desiderantes meliorem patriam* (they desire a better country).

Graeme Wynn has been elected to Fellowship in the Royal Society of Canada in recognition of his status “among the leading Historical Geographers and Environmental Historians in the English-speaking world.” He joins men and women selected by their peers on account of their outstanding contributions to the arts and sciences. Fellowship in the Society is the highest academic accolade available to scientists and scholars in Canada.

Geogramme



Geogramme is produced by UBC Alumni Affairs for the Department of Geography
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Graduate Student Report

Grad students continue to support each other's learning and provide social avenues for fun and camaraderie

By Tyler Pearce et al

Although grads spend varying amounts of time in the Geography building – taking off to far flung field sites or experiencing bouts of Geog High Avoidance Syndrome – they continue to support each other's learning and provide social avenues for fun and camaraderie. The Graduate Student Forum, in particular, has dedicated itself to these ends.

The forum's social committee, perhaps attuned to the rising anxiety of thesis-writers, inaugurated bi-weekly happy hours, first at Koerner's and later off-campus at the Copper Tank and other pubs. They also organized an end-of-year BBQ, which included some outstanding veggie shish kebabs. Attuned to a need for wakefulness and liquid of a different nature, the Coffee Committee kept track of monies and harassed, as needed, the deep-in-the-red guzzlers among us.

Our grad reps aimed to improve the lines of communication among grads, between grads and faculty, and between grads and undergrads (the last effort largely initiated by the Geography Students' Association). Forum discussions often touched on grad-led initiatives. Members of the Diversity and Ombudsperson/Equity committees, for example, asked how graduate students might encourage the department to support diversity at the institutional level. Other

discussions considered how grads might provide more sustained evaluative feedback on the current graduate curriculum and how they might do more than 'cookie duty' on departmental committees such as the Colloquium Committee.

Our rep on the Departmental Safety Committee worked with faculty to draft a safety protocol for grads prepping to go into the field, and helped arrange the inaugural half-day safety seminar. These recommendations were taken to the departmental faculty meetings, where the importance of the spirit of the new safety policy was emphasized. These discussions were an instance of the kind of expanded communication with faculty grads hope to foster and see encouraged on all department-level committees.

Our Graduate Student Society reps fielded grad forum questions about the new and mysterious graduate funding program, the Graduate Support Initiative, but had little more than rumour to go on. And so they asked grads to submit questions about this top-secret initiative, to be put to a university rep at the GSS-sponsored Q&A.

We also organized a Human Geography methods seminar, which opened with a panel of grad students reflecting on the formulation of their research methodology. Attendees welcomed eleven human geography faculty, including new contributions this year from Juanita Sundberg (participants experimented with and debated the logistics of "amplifying sensory, bodily and affective registers") and

from Sally Hermansen (concerning critical engagements with maps, stats and GIS). Two sessions on the comprehensive exams were organized, allowing those who had taken the exams and those who had not to exchange study strategies and confess the highs and lows of the exam process. The Physical and Human home seminar committees experienced uneven success: The Physicals continued to have lively exchanges, while the Humans at times required gentle arm-twisting to convince them to present their work to peers.

Our newest Grad Forum committee, the Sustainability Committee, initiated departmental energy and material reductions. Members penned a letter to Gordon Campbell, and other relevant federal and provincial politicians, in opposition to the Gateway highway expansion proposal and presented the City of Vancouver with a variety of geographers' perspectives on the EcoDensity proposal.

Beyond forum committee work, of course, grad students have enjoyed reading groups and editing groups, house-parties, listserv banter, and other initiatives. Whether one is the buddy coordinator or just a buddy to incoming graduate students – work that often goes without accolade – I would not be the first Geography grad to realize that our efforts enrich the social and intellectual environs. Bravo, dear grads.

Geography Student Association

The GSA has doubled membership, improved communications, and bridged the gap between Arts and Science geographers

By Nick Gallant

This year's GSA fielded a strong team of exec and non-exec enthusiasts who helped the club build on initiatives from years previous. Now that it's game over for the 07/08 team, we have the opportunity to take stock of its accomplishments and look forward to an

even stronger showing next year.

As usual, department support (through the undergrad chair, the head and numerous other individuals) was effective in getting us up and running fast. This group provided perspective, resources, and they even nudged several wayward students down the GSA path. As a result we more than doubled member sign-ups from last year, ending up with nearly one hundred. A good proportion of these members were heavily involved, evidenced by some boisterous exec meetings

where about twenty people showed up.

Besides maintaining the high standard of social activities (read beer gardens and GeoGala) that the GSA is famous for, this year we focused efforts on a few key areas: better GSA/Geog stakeholder communication; greater faculty engagement with students; more extracurricular academic engagement initiatives; and better links between Arts and Science geographers. To better communicate with our stakeholders we coupled virtual communication efforts

Continued on next page

"Geography Student Association" continued from pg 4 with some more personal touches.

On the virtual front, our website was professionalized and regularly updated (check it out at www.ams.ubc.ca/clubs/GSA), we sent out a monthly newsletter, *Field Notes*, and Facebook also played a big role. On a more personal front, we gave status reports at all departmental meetings and worked with the department to hold monthly lunches with the GSA, the department head and another faculty member. At these lunches, students oscillated between heaping approval and venting about the undergrad experience.

The usual grad school info sessions and trivia games were this year complemented by the undergraduate journal efforts, community service learning initiatives and a trip to the Western Division of the CAG conference in Bellingham. We even offered some competitive enticement for faculty engagement by running the year-long Faculty Cup contest, which pitted Arts profs against Science profs to see who would come out to the most GSA events. And finally, this year's GSA made concerted efforts to better integrate Science and Arts by ensuring that the exec team contained Science students (last year it was all Arts students) and having us reconstituted as a member of the Science Undergrad Society. (Last year we were booted off for not sending a rep.)

But more important than any of the achievements listed above are the facts that we had a blast doing all of this stuff and we carried forward a great UBC Geography tradition. Regardless of whether or not you were directly involved in the GSA during your time at UBC, it's almost certain that GSA activities, initiatives, or at the very least its members, impacted you in a meaningful way. At around this time next year, I will look forward to reading about what the 08/09 crew has done to further the tradition of meaningful student involvement and engagement in the UBC Geography Department.

Website



Visit the UBC Geography website at www.geog.ubc.ca/

Undergraduate Community Service Learning

Community Service Learning (CSL) is a UBC model of experiential learning that combines voluntary community service with classroom learning. The university's goal is to engage 10 per cent of students in CSL each year. Four such projects took place in three Geography courses this year.

Advanced Cartography

For their final course project, four students signed up to create a set of maps for a women's transition house. They worked with the community group in the mapping process, from needs analysis to finished product. In another CSL project, a student worked with a grade seven class at Grandview Elementary School to create a map of the community gardens, thereby teaching the students spatial mapping skills.

Co-ordinated Arts Program

Graeme Wynn and Post Doctoral Teaching Fellow Dawn Biehler combined with other instructors from English and Interdisciplinary studies to offer a new Co-ordinated Arts Program CAP section on the theme of Civil and Sustainable Societies. Students in the course extend their studies off campus by meeting at least twice in very small groups with volunteer seniors from the community to discuss themes of relevance to their learning. These themes ranged from producing and consuming food to communication and work and leisure, and were intended to reveal the ways in which the world of today differs from that of approximately half a century ago. At the end of the year the students summarized the insights they gained in posters that were displayed in the Ike Barber Learning Centre at an event to which participating seniors were invited. Students and seniors ate lunch together and it was evident how much both groups had enjoyed and learned from the initiative.

Biogeography

Students from two Biogeography classes joined together to participate in a reading week volunteer project in North Vancouver, working with a non-profit organization called Evergreen to map invasive species in Mahon Park. The mapping was achieved by marking grid corners in the forest then drawing what we saw on transparencies overlying aerial photographs of the park. To complete the mapping, we needed to climb steep slopes, jump over creeks and avoid sketchy people in the park. On site we were able to meet one of the park stewards, who has not missed a volunteering day since the project began. The steward's devotion to the park really gave meaning to the time we spent there. *(Submitted by Chelsea Dupuis, undergraduate)*



Students mapped invasive species in Mahon Park

Donations

Endowment Fund: \$625

Scholarship fund: \$17405

Newsletter Operating Account: \$585

The last issue of Geogramme cost \$3886

Jared Stanley Scholarship: \$1778

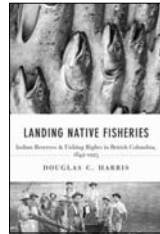
Thanks so very much to all who contributed.

Books

Cole Harris, professor emeritus of Geography, and son Doug Harris, who is in the faculty of Law, have both released books.

Landing Native Fisheries

by Doug Harris
UBC Press, 2008



This book reveals the contradictions and consequences of an Indian land policy premised on access to fish, on one hand, and a program of fisheries management intended to open the resource to newcomers, on the other. Beginning with the first treaties signed on Vancouver Island between 1850 and 1854, Harris maps the connections between the colonial land policy and the law governing the fisheries. In so doing, he rewrites the history of colonial dispossession in British Columbia, offering a new and nuanced examination of the role of law in the consolidation of power within the colonial state.

The Reluctant Land

by Cole Harris
UBC Press, 2008



This book describes the evolving pattern of settlement and the changing relationships of people and land in Canada from the end of the fifteenth century to the Confederation years of the late 1860s and early 1870s. It shows how a deeply indigenous land was reconstituted in European terms, and, at the same time, how European ways were recalibrated in this non-European space. It also shows how an archipelago of scattered settlement emerged out of an encounter with a parsimonious land, and suggests how deeply this encounter differed from an American relationship with abundance. The book begins with a description of land and life in northern North America in 1500, and ends by considering the relationship between the pattern of early Canada and the country as we know it today.

Student Journal Released

By Rory Babin



This year marked the release of the second edition of *Trail Six: An Undergraduate Journal of Geography*. Editors-in-chief Rory Babin and Eva Lillquist assembled a team of undergraduate and graduate students to select and edit paper submissions. The articles drew from all levels of Geography – from human to environmental to physical – touching on topics such as the 2010 Olympics, the Japanese concept of nature, the Peruvian anchoveta industry, and uncertainties in the Gibsons' aquifer. On March 27, the journal was released to a fanfare of students and faculty at the Journal Release Party, which preceded GeoGala. The Journal has also been purchased by Simon Fraser University and University of Alberta libraries, and the Geographic Information Centre at UBC. If you're interested in more information about the journal, or would like to purchase a copy, please contact us at geog_journal@hotmail.com.

Where Are They Now?

1960's

Ann McAfee (Pickard), BA'62, MA'67, PhD (Planning & Urban Land)'75, FCIP, retired as co-director of Planning for Vancouver City in 2006. Since "retiring," she has been advising cities in China, the Philippines, Sweden, Ukraine, Australia, and New Zealand and has been involved in projects for the Canadian International Development Agency and World Bank. Between work, travel, and golf, Ann found time to return to UBC to serve on Senate and as an adjunct professor teaching a course in Strategic Planning ... **Jimmy Carl Whitehead**, BA'62, MA'68, MSc(PI)'71 (U of T), PhD'87, is now in his third year of retirement. After a career in the corporate world of urban planning and development, Jimmy spent 13 years as a urban planning and development consultant, as well as a sessional lecturer (Geography), adjunct professor (Planning), and finally as a tutor (Real Estate Division Executive Education) – all at UBC. He has had a lifelong relationship with UBC and the Geography Department, and he appreciates the benefits that Geography offers in gaining a holistic view of the earth and humankind's activity on it.

1970's

Ian Thomson, BA'75, retired after 22 years teaching Social Studies, Earth Science and Geology at Elphinstone Secondary in Gibsons. Immediate plans include a trek to Everest Base Camp next October ... **Joe Rogers**, BA'79, owns and operates a commercial real estate company, Strategic Real Estate Ltd., specializing in market development planning and site acquisition for multi-unit tenants across Western Canada, where understanding of urban growth patterns, spatial distribution, traffic infrastructure, population and demographic analysis, aerial photography and land use patterns, etc. is fundamental to the real estate business ... **David Rothwell**, MA'70, PhD'74, is based in Ottawa and recently retired as VP of Global Operations for March Networks, a publicly-traded Canadian manufacturer of video security products. As for the connection to Geography, March Networks sells and supports products in more than 50 countries. Over the last two years, David has set up manufacturing facilities in Canada, the US, Mexico, Brazil, Australia and Italy.

1980's

Margaret Miller (Dallyn), BA'80, is the Environmental CAD Services Lead for WorleyParsons in the Burnaby office. WorleyParsons is a leading provider of professional services to the energy, resource and complex process industries ... **Randy Milner**, BA'81, is a senior VP, general counsel and secretary of Methanex Corp. Randy's work takes him around the world allowing him to indulge in a bit of Urban and Human Geography ... **Susan Lindell Radke**, MA'82, recently published a book, *GIS for Homeland Security*, which provides a tutorial on how to gather and process spatial data for use in national and natural disasters. Susan is the founder and principal of Berkeley Geo Research Group and has been developing GIS training tools and material since 1994 ... **Graham Heal**, BA'83, is the co-founder and managing director of Pan Asia Biofuels Corp., an early-stage development company engaged in the upstream growing of oil-bearing crops and downstream refining of biodiesel in SE Asia. Graham splits his time between Vancouver, Bellingham and Phnom Penh, Cambodia ... **Denise Mills-Nadler (Mills)**, MSc'84,

returned to Honolulu, Hawaii, as a hydrologist with the State Commission on Water Resource Management. She is working to complete a Masters in Urban & Regional Planning within eight months, and a PhD in either Urban & Regional Planning or Geography researching groundwater allocation and regulation in the Hawaiian islands, with the goal of developing a decision-support model and related theory focused on water resource management and land use planning ... **Nancy Chilton**, BA'87, is an independent Sales and Marketing consultant working from home, specializing in cooperative tourism attraction ... after many years of working at Campus Planning and Development UBC as an Information Officer, **Kathleen Laird**, BA'89, has moved to Victoria, BC, and realized her passion is for horticulture.

1990's

Hans Knapp, BA'91, LLB'94, is general counsel for Yaletown Venture Partners, an institutional venture capital fund that invests in emerging energy and clean technology companies in the Pacific Northwest ... **Monica Stekl (Klassen)**, BA'91, has worked as a planning assistant in both the private and public sectors and is currently working as a project coordinator for custom home builder, Nexus Construction Ltd., in Vancouver ... **Jeanne McNamara**, BA'92, works for the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency in California as a principal planner working on implementing the Environmental Improvement Program ... **Chris Needham**, BA'94, is a novelist ... **Solomon Wong**, BA'96, is senior VP of Borders, Security & Planning with InterVISTAS, a transportation and tourism consulting firm, and is a volunteer on the National Cross-Cultural Roundtable on Security ... **Julia Hogeling**, BA'96, works as a Montessori preschool and kindergarten teacher at Science World in Vancouver ... **Geoff Rempel**, BA'96, MA'01, is working for the federal department of Citizenship and Immigration in Vancouver ... **Van Le Crockett**, BA'97, MSES'03 (Alaska Pacific University), is married with a two year old son named Jack and works as a New Urbanist Associate Planner in Anchorage ... **Jessie Barkley**, BA'97, MA'00 (UC Irvine), is currently working for PBS&J, a large planning and engineering firm in Los Angeles. Projects include affordable housing development (Santa Monica) and large-scale mixed-use planning projects (Newport Beach and Beverly Hills) ... **Maureen Munroe (Gill)**, BA'97, is taking a year off from her role as a technical writer with Kodak to be home with her two daughters, Samantha (three) and Elizabeth (five months) ... **Mark Schmidiger**, BA'97, tutors and teaches at Oxford Learning Centre, invests in real-estate and manages a rental unit ... **Margaret Walton-Roberts (Walton)**, MA'97, PhD'01, teaches at Wilfrid Laurier University and is starting a research sabbatical. She will travel with her family of five (three sons) to India and Australia to explore various aspects of Indian immigration ... **Matthew Farish**, BA'98, PhD'03, is now an assistant professor of Geography at the University of Toronto ... **Darren Enns**, BA'99, MA'05(Planning), works in land use policy development with the Cayman Islands Government. When not vigorously inspecting the beachside bars for planning violations, he is cursed with maintaining GIS datasets and toiling away on cartography tasks ... **Joyce Uyesugi**, BA'99, is a regional planner with the City of Vancouver.

Geographers Map Out Health-Related Careers

Our Grads are Advancing Population Health Research at UBC

Several organizations at UBC use mapping as an important tool for population health research, and these organizations are full of Geography graduates. **Ellen Larcombe**, BA'06, cartographer at the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP), took courses in GIS, Cartography, and Human Geography during her undergraduate years and found the combination good preparation for her first mapping job at the School of Environmental Health and later for a co-op work term at the Centre for Health Services and Policy Research (CHSPR).

At CHSPR Ellen created maps visualizing geographic variation in health status and health care across BC with CHSPR Geographer **Dawn Mooney**, BA'03. Dawn, a CHSPR

employee since 2003, contributes to a research program exploring determinants of population health and provision of health care services in BC. She is working on atlases exploring geographic variation in cost and use of prescription drugs and the relationship between chronic disease prevalence, healthy behaviour patterns, and availability of health services.

Ellen now works with a five-person mapping team at HELP, and she and Dawn keep in close professional touch. Both are working with several students and recent hires from UBC Geography. **Jay Douillard**, BA'04, **Anthony Smith**, BA'09, and **Jeremy Alexander**, BA'08 are based at HELP, and **Daniel Martin**, BA'09 works at CHSPR on the atlas projects. HELP projects focus on

mapping social determinants of population health with an emphasis on early child development.

Anthony and Daniel return to school this fall for more courses in GIS and cartography. Ellen is returning to study urban planning, but her interest in population health will remain central to her studies. Dawn has also taken on the challenge of teaching *Geography 372: Intro to Cartography*, a rewarding experience for both her and the students.

Geography degrees will remain assets for all of them, regardless where their careers take them. There is significant demand for mapping skills and for employees who have a combination of cartography and social sciences research.

Where Are They Now? continued from page 7

2000's

Matt Ward, BA'00, MEd'06 (UWA), is now teaching geography in a senior high school in Perth, Australia ... **Megan Koch (Stubbs)**, BA'00, is a graphic design apprentice in the marketing department at Glunz & Jensen in Ringsted, Denmark ... **Paul Mitchison**, BA'01, is an investment advisor ... **Sarah MacKenzie**, BA'01, BEd'07, is an elementary school teacher in two West Vancouver schools ... **Barbara Odenwald**, BA'93, BEd'01, is the manager of the Education Outreach Program at the Library of Parliament in Ottawa ... **Roman Kaminsky**, BSc'02, works for NAVTEQ as a team lead for the Pacific North Coast. NAVTEQ is the leading digital map provider in the world ... **Katherine Muncaster**, BA'02, is completing a Masters of Resource Management at SFU and starting a job in the Alternative Energy Division at the BC Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Petroleum Resources as a senior policy advisor, (Buildings, Communities and Demand Side Management) ... **Julie Robinson**, BA'02, works in mining/exploration for Frontier Development Group as a GIS administrator and concentrates mainly on database management and cartographic requests from geologists travelling to Argentina, Reno and the Yukon Territory ... **Katherine Phillips**, BA'02, is living in the UK while completing a Master's degree in Local and Regional Economic Development ... **Ian Ponsford**, BA'03, is a specialist in Environmental Management for the Vancouver 2010

Olympics ... **Lilina Lysenko**, BA'03, is practicing natural resource law in the Kootenays ... **Colleen Nystedt**, BA'03, is founder and CEO of MovieSet, selected by AlwaysOn as one of the OnHollywood 100 Top Private Companies ... **Caroline Desbiens**, PhD'02, works at Laval University as a CRC ... **Michael Wang**, BA'03, is doing cartographic work with Adobe Illustrator for Backroad Mapbooks, using ArcGIS for the initial processing of the base data ... **Tracy Yik**, BA'04, is currently on maternity leave from Terasen Gas, where she works as a planning technician coordinating and planning gas line and meter installation for residential and commercial buildings ... **Sara Sandwith**, BA'04, worked for Parks Canada for two years before heading to medical school at McMaster University, where she is one of two geographers – both of whom think that Geography is the ideal undergraduate preparation for a career in medicine ... **Sandy Chan**, BA'05, is completing a Master's in Urban Planning at the University of Hong Kong, working as the research assistant on China's urban villages and urban renewal in Hong Kong ... **Benjamin Zimmerman**, BA'05, is working for Camoin Associates (NY), a consulting firm providing economic development strategic planning and consulting services for communities ... **Ken Leung**, BA'07, will be starting his first year at Harvard Law School in September.

A NEWSLETTER FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF UBC GEOGRAPHY

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