

Geogramme



A Year to Remember

The best geography department in Canada celebrates its achievements but avoids complacency

By David Ley, Department Head



In the lives of institutions, there are some milestone years when accomplishments are out of the ordinary. This has been such a year in Geography at UBC and I hope the following news will be of encouragement to friends and alumni.

Notable statistics include the highest ever number of Department majors (398) and undergraduate enrolments (more than 5800 students). In fact, enrolment increased by more than 20 per cent over the previous year, meaning that courses and classrooms have been packed. A major impetus has been the new BA program in Environment and Sustainability (E & S) conceived by Graeme Wynn, Sally Hermansen and others. In only its second year, the program has already been chosen as a major by 150 students. Departmental capacity

has been severely strained, and in recognition of this the Dean authorized a new position with responsibility for teaching in the E & S program. We welcome Dr. Loch Brown, who joined the Department on July 1 as instructor.

While we welcome Loch, we also say goodbye to Rosemary Cann, curator of the Geographic Information Centre who has been with the Department since 1975. Rosemary achieved a minor miracle in transforming the Geography Library into the GIC, and along the way beginning a small business providing air photographs to private firms and public agencies that now pays for many GIC expenses and provides revenue for the Department. Kevin Gillard, Rosemary's long-time deputy, has taken over from her, so we can expect further imaginative development of the GIC. A new face on staff is Catherine Aldana, who is very capably filling in as my assistant. Lisa Dam and Suzanne Lawrence are new to the front office, ably mentored by Jeanne Yang and Karen Young. Staff members continue to prosper under the wise leadership of our administrator, Sandy Lapsky.

There is news, too, about our venerable building. After many years without success, we have agreement for a plan to tackle the problem of inadequate laboratory spaces; physical geography has been granted a floor for labs in the Ponderosa Hub, a redevelopment of the former Ponderosa Restaurant site on West Mall. This project is due to be completed by the end of 2013 and will make a huge difference to the working space of our

Although there is much to be proud of in the past year, we are not complacent...

outstanding science colleagues.

There is much to report in terms of faculty accomplishments in the past 12 months. In recognition of her high-ranking research in water resources, Karen Bakker has been awarded a Canada Research Chair. In addition, she has been named by *The Globe and Mail* as one of their top 40 Canadians under the age of 40. Historical geographer Matthew Evenden is the most recent colleague in Geography to win a Killam Teaching Prize. Trevor Barnes and Gerry Pratt have been elected Fellows of the Royal Society of Canada. Derek Gregory has been named as one of two Peter Wall Distinguished Professors at UBC in recognition of his research, most recently in Middle East geopolitics. Meanwhile, Graeme Wynn will hold the McLean Chair in Canadian Studies for the next two years and present the University McLean Lectures in 2012-13. Among younger colleagues, Simon Donner, a climate-change researcher, was the only Canadian selected as a Google Science Communications Fellow, and Michele Koppes, our most recent appointee,

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GEOGRAMME IS PRODUCED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY IN COLLABORATION WITH UBC ALUMNI AFFAIRS.
SEND SUBMISSIONS / COMMENTS TO LISA DAM AT LISA.DAM@GEOG.UBC.CA (MAILING ADDRESS ON REVERSE).

A YEAR TO REMEMBER CONTINUED:

won the prestigious J. Ross Mackay Award from the Canadian Geomorphological Research Group. Our professors emeriti continue to be intellectually agile, including Michael Church, who received the Mel Marcus Distinguished Career Award from the Association of American Geographers.

Unfortunately, there is not enough space here to identify all faculty achievements, including the publication of several books (all of which are on display for visitors in the glass case outside room 223). But our collective accomplishments have not gone unnoticed; an external team of assessors appointed by the Dean of Arts reviewed the past 10 years of departmental activities and completed its report, which begins by identifying Geography at UBC as the best department in Canada and among the five leading departments in the world.

Although there is much to be proud of in the past year, we are not complacent and hope that Geography's consistently high standards will attract more funding to support the work of its talented community. There is even some talk of a new building...

On a final note, during the teaching year we produce a monthly electronic newsletter covering departmental activities, events, personalities and achievements. If you would like to receive it in addition to the annual Geogramme, please contact the editor, Lisa Dam, at lisa.dam@geog.ubc.ca and ask to be added to the mailing list.

UBC Geographers Impress at Canadian Geophysical Union Meeting

Dan Moore's researchers present posters, win awards

By Dan Moore

UBC Geography was well represented by Dan Moore and his research group at the 2011 CGU Annual Meeting, held May 15-18 in Banff. Post-doctoral fellow (and recent PhD graduate) Joe Shea gave a presentation on snowcover depletion characteristics and streamflow in a glacierized basin. The other group members presented well-attended posters, listed below:

- **Natasha Cowie:** Effects of glacier retreat on proglacial streams and their riparian zones
- **Justin Knudson:** Proglacial stream temperature patterns: Lillooet River, BC
- **Jason Leach:** Effects of clearcut logging on headwater stream temperature and simulated bioenergetic consequences for cutthroat trout
- **Rich McCleary:** Landscape scale modelling of process domains using LiDAR digital elevation models with factors representing reach, hillslope, and basin scale groundwater flow systems
- **Joel Trubilowicz:** A comparison of sampling strategies for soil moisture

At the awards banquet, Jason Leach received the Don Gray Scholarship for Canadian Hydrology, awarded annually to a promising doctoral student, as well as the Campbell Scientific Award for Best Student Poster in Hydrology.

In addition to the stimulating research presentations, the conference also involved plenty of social interaction. The highlight was a barbecue featuring big slabs of Alberta beef, followed by line dancing.



Tasha and the "J-Boys," Banff National Park

A Part of Vancouver's Roots

Revisiting the creation of the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden

Summarized from an original article by Pete McMartin for The Vancouver Sun

May 6, 2011, marked the 25th anniversary of the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden located in Vancouver's Chinatown. At a founders reception held that afternoon, two old friends were reunited: Marwyn Samuels, a former UBC Geography professor who flew in from China, and Joe Wai, a local architect.

Back in the 1970s, the City of Vancouver wanted to build a park for the Chinese community on a piece of vacant land in Chinatown. However, there was a political divide between a pro-mainland Chinese group and a pro-Taiwanese group. Samuels specialized in Cultural Geography and China, and was introduced as mediator. He was filled with inspiration after visiting China in 1973 and 1975, just as the

country was opening up to North Americans, and wanted to create a replica of the Ming Dynasty-era gardens he had seen there. This idea brought in Wai, vice chairman of the Chinese Cultural Centre at the time, who became the park's architect and worked on adapting ancient building techniques to modern building codes. Samuels and Wai decided that the project should become a community-wide endeavour, involving both Chinese and non-Chinese communities.

They needed \$6.7 million, which was no easy task especially when the Depression of 1981 surfaced. They held a fundraiser drive – Wai working his local corporate

contacts and Samuels working his contacts in China. One of the individuals they approached was Anne Cherniavsky, wife of Peter Cherniavsky, head of BC Sugar. She became a donor after seeing the plans for the garden and brought some of her friends on board. After Wai gained the support of David Lam, former BC lieutenant-governor, more donors came forward and enough funding was secured. The garden was built by 53 master craftsmen from China using traditional techniques and tools (no screws, no power tools, not even glue).

Twenty-five years later, Samuels and Wai emphasize that the project worked because of its many supporters.

GIC Curator Retires After Almost 36 Years of Service

By Lisa Dam



Rosemary Cann has retired after 36 years at the Department

When alumni reminisce about their undergraduate years, most will recall Rosemary Cann, the friendly GIC curator they encountered when working on assignments and trying to find that one last research article the day before an essay was due. Rosemary's decision to retire this May caused shockwaves among former and current students because it's hard to imagine the GIC without her.

Rosemary grew up in Scarborough, England, and attended the University of Hull. She graduated with a BSc (hons) in geography, specializing in physical geography and biogeography with a geology minor. Her first position was as a research assistant at the University of London, where she intended to do PhD research on using biogeography as a tool for diamond exploration in Botswana. Instead she decided to travel the world. She was also employed as a research geologist in Sydney, Australia, for three years and in Vancouver for one year before returning to England and eventually re-emigrating to Vancouver. On July 7, 1975, she was hired by professors Robinson, Mackay, and Farley, who were initially concerned that she would not stay in the position for more than a year. Little did they know....

In her almost 36 years at UBC, Rosemary has seen the department undergo many

changes. One major turning point was the merging of Geography's Reading Room and Map and Air Photo Library in 1988 to create the Geographic Information Center. Another was Expo '86, which escalated the need for historical and environmental information in BC and, consequently, the demand for air photos. By 1992, the GIC began charging for such services, providing new revenue and contact with companies outside of the university.

Having seen so many changes in the world and in the Department of Geography, Rosemary is now ready to return to her passion of travel. She's been to about 65 different countries so far. She also has an interest in genealogy and photography and will continue to research her and her daughter's family histories. Rosemary will also be found riding around Lynn Valley on her horse, as well as jogging, hiking, gardening, going to the gym, going out with friends, camping, and spending time with her daughter. She is in no short supply of things to do.

On April 29, staff, faculty, graduate students and friends gathered in the GIC to mingle, eat cake and congratulate Rosemary. The following month, a dinner in her honour was well attended by those who wanted to celebrate her many accomplishments and new chapter in life.

Tree Ring Lab Moves to Forestry, Students Follow

You can take the student out of Geography, but you can't take Geography out of the student...

By Tom Maertens

Dr. Lori Daniels and her students in the Tree Ring Lab have spent the last eight years studying processes controlling the distribution of forests. The lab will move across campus to the Department of Forest Sciences, or, as it is affectionately (but inaccurately) referred to, Forestry.

Lori earned her MSc at UBC Forestry more than a decade ago, so it's not unfamiliar territory. As part of her research back then, she established permanent plots in North Vancouver that were later included in her recent manuscript published in the journal *Science*.

Excited about the move, Lori has already begun to develop strategic collaborations with forest scientists. The modern lab space in Forestry includes sinks, ovens, fume hoods, and the like, which will allow for the exploration of new methods. Maybe most importantly, Lori is reducing her undergraduate teaching commitments to expand and intensify the Tree Ring Lab's research program and her students will be accompanying her to help. Everyone is excited about the move but a bit sorry to leave Geography:

- **Tom Maertens** would "follow Lori to Antarctica if there were trees there," so he will finish his PhD in Forestry. A tree-ring enthusiast, he is thrilled to be working alongside the scientists who developed the climate and tree-growth models he is using for his research. Besides, after years of trying to decide whether latitude or longitude is better, he thinks two degrees in geography are probably enough.

- **Greg Greene** will finish his MSc thesis this summer in Geography before moving to Forestry. He plans to "show those foresters something." As their new colleagues likely already know how to use a chainsaw, Greg is probably referring to teaching them the importance of spatial analysis at interacting scales.

- Long-time lab technician **Raphael Chavardes** will also move, joining Forestry for his MSc. He could not be reached for comment, but seems to be excited about the state-of-the-art wood-processing room. The team hopes he is equally excited about his courses in multivariate statistics.

Bringing the Real World into the Classroom

Students work with Mexican cooperative to help support its goals



Songs, Stitches and Slams: GEOG 495 with community partners at Rhizome Café.

Geography 495 is an innovative fourth-year seminar taught by Dr. Juanita Sundberg. The course explores the politics of North-South solidarity in theory and practice using Community Service Learning models that link theory with experience, and thought with action. On a practical level, GEOG 495 invites community partners directly into the classroom to share in

the elaboration of collaborative political analysis and action-oriented activities.

This year, the class worked in collaboration with Jolom Mayaetik, an independent, autonomous, and indigenous women-run weaving cooperative from Mexico, as well as *la mano*, a Vancouver-based social enterprise founded by Jennifer Boundy, a UBC graduate.

Two leaders with the cooperative accompanied the class for part of the semester, thereby transforming the classroom into a space of international engagement, reflection, and action. Students collaborated with Jolom Mayaetik on concrete and viable initiatives that support the cooperative's goals. In so doing, students had the opportunity to work across cultural and linguistic borders in socially responsible ways while learning about the ethics of solidarity from multiple perspectives.

Activities included *Women Weaving Worlds: Living Resistance*, an exhibition featuring weavings by the women of Jolom Mayaetik and *Songs, Stitches and Slams*, a fundraiser featuring student talent and a weaving demonstration. The final event was *Weave got the Right to Party*, which took place at the Wise Hall in Vancouver – Coast Salish Territory.

On the course blog (<http://blogs.ubc.ca/geog495>), students offer detailed analyses of their experience working across borders and the challenges of building cross-cultural understanding and mutual respect. We invite you to peruse the blog and enter the world of North-South solidarity.

Graduate Student Symposium

On April 28, more than 50 guests gathered at the Department for a day's symposium featuring the results of two years' hard work by master's students.

By Suzanne Lawrence / Photograph by Wesley Attewell

The Graduate Symposium is an annual forum, at which second year master's students can present and discuss their research findings prior to submitting their theses. This year Geography hosted 15 presentations, each 15 minutes in length with five minutes available for the audience to ask questions.

Presentation topics were staggered between human and physical geography fields of study. The effect was to emphasize the large breadth and scope of research being done by our graduates. Human geography topics included: EU research policy and brain drain; immigrants and US health insurance; post-Katrina New Orleans; Filipino-Canadian youths' educational experiences; the Kiribati adaptation program; Aboriginal perspectives and Enbridge's proposed Northern Gateway pipeline; and representations of poverty. Physical geographers presented equally stimulating research results on the effects of glacier retreat; river temperature patterns; large wood; volunteered geographic information for species conservation; forest fire history and planning; climate change



Sophie Webber presents her findings to colleagues and faculty

impact on tundra vegetation; methods for neighborhood-scale carbon emissions estimates; and arctic plant heterogeneity.

Overall, feedback from the eight-hour symposium was positive. This year's symposium presenters have set a high standard for future master's graduates.

Sounds of the City

A PhD student's work on acoustic cartography led to a Vancouver sound-mapping project for undergraduates

When thinking about human geography and going out into the real world to capture research, many of us may think about capturing visuals through photographs and videos, and capturing words through interviews and writings. Human geography PhD student Max Ritts, on the other hand, thinks about the significance of capturing sound and its part in defining geography.

Max co-founded the website urbansoundecology.org in 2009, with Greg J. Smith, a web designer based out of Toronto. Their interest in mapping out sounds emerged from an interest in the politics of listening. The USE (Urban Sound Ecology) map content is indexical to the acoustic geography that defines Vancouver. For Max and Greg, this geography is not accidental, but relates to the patterns and processes which distribute noises and signals in specific and uneven ways. "How we listen to the city, how the city reverberates back at us,

how our behaviors and forms of conduct follow from understandings of acoustic space – all these things are linked", says Max.

It was because of Dr. Gerry Pratt that Max came to do sound-mapping work with the students of Geography 371 (Research Strategies in Human Geography). Aware of Gerry's play, Nanay, as well as her general interest in cultivating art practices through cultural and feminist geographies, Max approached her in December of 2010 with the idea of running a sound-mapping project through the Department. Gerry was characteristically receptive and suggested Max speak with Liz Lee, who was teaching Geography 371. Max explains, "Geography 371 is really about doing methods rather than just talking about them. Liz quickly found a way to integrate the project into the course framework; through her, a sound-mapping experiment morphed into the domain of methodology experiment too."

Under the guidance of Max and Liz, undergraduate students experimented with embodied ways of experimenting with technology, doing geography in the field, and discovering new aspects of Vancouver. Collaboration was an important theme as well: "We were interested in how the students would react to the challenges of integrating all the component parts of the assignment: executing the walks, analyzing their content, negotiating the map interface, writing a report, presenting it." Commenting on the high turnout and positive reception at the Western Front, where the students' work was presented in April, Max adds, "I'd say it was all a success. The students came up with great work under heavy time-constraints, and Liz and I learned a lot as well."

On May 31, 2011, Max was featured in The Georgia Straight. "Urban Sound Ecology Explores Vancouver Soundscapes" can be found at www.straight.com.

Teaching Excels in the Department of Geography

Killam Teaching Prizes were instituted in 1990 at UBC and are awarded to faculty nominated by students, colleagues and alumni. Matthew Evenden was one of this year's recipients.

What courses do you teach?

My bread and butter courses are Geog 121, which deals with geography, modernity and globalization, and Geog 328, on the historical geography of Canada after Confederation. I also teach a rotation of courses at the fourth year and grad level. For the past two years I've taught Geog 429, a historical geography research seminar for which students develop original papers on some aspect of water in Vancouver using the resources of local archives.

What do you do to prepare?

I usually design a course in the summertime, setting the readings and mulling over the assignments and exercises as the term approaches. In my early years I used to write out a fairly detailed outline for lectures and speak from notes. These days, I find that too many notes distract me. I do much better when I immerse myself in the material in advance and then lecture to a bare bones outline. This allows me to sense the mood of the class more readily and pose critical questions. I also don't get bogged down in small details.

What is the most enjoyable aspect for you?

There is a range of enjoyable sides to teaching, such as the sense of satisfaction you gain from a lively and critical seminar discussion or the vicarious pleasure of seeing your students excel. I think I most enjoy getting to know my students and hearing about what interests them. This happens partly in class, but mostly in small group discussions, office visits or fieldtrips.

What do you find to be most challenging?

Teaching in a large first year environment, there is always a risk of plagiarism in essay assignments. When I identify problems, I interview students and we generally arrive at a strategy to resolve the problem. Sometimes this is a good learning moment for students who are genuinely confused about what is expected in university; the other occasions are the challenges. I didn't follow this career path to be a disciplinarian but one is forced into that role in these cases.

What is a lesson you learned about teaching that you still remember to this day?

During my first outing in a big lecture course, Cole Harris advised me that you could only

really say three things in an hour-long lecture. I thought that was a little lacking in ambition but over time I've come to see the essential wisdom of the point.

Do you have any strategies for keeping students engaged?

I try to ask students questions, even in large lectures, and then build their answers into the body of the lecture. I also try to learn students' names. I find that if students are genuinely involved in a discussion and recognized as individuals, then they will do their part. It doesn't always work, but it helps to overcome the alienating effects of large classes.

What tips would you like to share with other teachers?

I don't think I have any. I strongly believe that every effective teacher develops his or her own charisma and techniques. These can't be taught but they can be developed over time. Some of my best teachers as an undergraduate could not have been more different from one another – from a gruff lecturer who wowed me simply by his command of the material to a professor who turned seminars about late medieval thought and culture into intense debates that seemed very pressing and important.

The Water Governance Team

UBC researchers consult communities and brief international decision-makers on safeguarding the quality and future of our water

Professor Karen Bakker holds a Canada Research Chair in Political Ecology, and is an associate of the Institute of Resources, Environment and Sustainability as well as founding director of UBC's Program on Water Governance (PoWG).

Her primary research interests span political economy, political ecology, environmental studies, development studies, and resource and environmental management. She conducts research in both the 'developing' and 'developed' world, and consequently has an interest in debates over postcolonialism and development. As a researcher committed to interdisciplinarity, Karen collaborates with natural, social and medical scientists across a range of disciplines. She also advises governments, NGOs, and international organizations, including the United Nations, and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The PoWG team conducts cutting-edge research and fosters dialogue on water policy

with communities and decision-makers. In addition to its journal publications, PoWG engages in extensive public outreach activities, through briefing notes, policy papers, and a renewed web presence that makes extensive water-related information freely available. The team also advises national and international agencies, including (recently) the National Round Table on Environment and Economy, the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Environment Canada, and the BC Ministry of the Environment. This is an essential part of fulfilling PoWG's mandate to support informed public debate over water resources in Canada and around the world.

The PoWG researchers come from a diverse range of backgrounds including geography, environmental science, law and political science. Their research includes a four-year project funded by the Canadian Water Network on water security (www.watersecurity.ca), as well as a new research initiative on water governance in Latin America, funded by the



The Program on Water Governance Team

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

Leila Harris was recently appointed associate director of PoWG. This will expand research areas to include water politics and governance, gender and access, and will extend the geographic focus to the Middle East and Africa.

For further information, please visit www.watgovernance.ca or contact Gemma Dunn in IRES (gemma.dunn@ubc.ca / 604.822.6474).

Faculty News

Michael Church received the Mel Marcus Distinguished Career Award from the Association of American Geographers-Geomorphology Specialty Group for his important scientific contributions to the fields of earth surface processes and geomorphology. Michael has published more than 150 peer-reviewed journal articles and has helped pioneer the direction of fluvial geomorphology. Few physical geographers have achieved his level of scholarship and respect across several disciplines and sub-disciplines in the earth sciences. Though retired, his generosity and focus on understanding rivers and their management have facilitated, and continue to facilitate, a great deal of research.

David W. Edgington will be spending his sabbatical year conducting research for a book on Japanese cities. This will be based on his site visits to all the major metropolitan regions in Japan (Tokyo, Osaka, Nagoya) and many of the medium-sized regional centers, such as Sendai, Hiroshima and Fukuoka.

"In the past many years," he says, "I have enjoyed riding the Japanese bullet train (Shinkansen) up and down the country visiting different places, taking lots of photographs and collecting maps and reports from municipal planners that I interview, as well as from Japanese academics." David hopes to document the many social and economic challenges faced by Japanese local governments, including a shrinking national population; a marked slowdown in urbanization, economic growth and local tax base; and a sharp growth in ageing populations and foreign workers.

"Recent calls for the 'reconstruction of Japan' since the March 2011

earthquake and tsunami in the Tohoku region have argued that Japan's strengths lie outside its major ministries," he says. "Local cities, rather than the national government, are on the front line of all of Japan's most pressing problems - be they economic decline, aging, debt, or depopulation. National leaders in Tokyo avoid tackling Japan's huge fiscal problems, but municipal authorities have first-hand experience of the effects of shrinking budgets." David's work will involve detailed analysis of the country's 2010 population census as well as writing up case studies from his field work in Japan.

Jamie Peck managed to avoid just about all of the Vancouver winter, relocating to Singapore from January through May 2011, where he temporarily assumed the identity of the Lim Chong Yah visiting professor at the National University of Singapore. This enabled Jamie to do some of the empirical groundwork for his new research project on "outsourced" forms of capitalism in Asia. With longtime collaborator Nik Theodore of the University of Illinois at Chicago, he also pushed an established project slightly nearer to closure with a spell of fieldwork in Jakarta, where they investigated anti-poverty programming and the globalization of expertise in social-welfare policymaking. At NUS, Jamie did some co-teaching with Karen Lai, a former UBC postdoc who has just taken up a faculty position there; ate and hung out as often as he could in Little India; presented a public lecture on the topic of Creative City Limits; and stayed in the country just long enough to witness the flowering of Singaporean democracy at a series of Workers' Party rallies.

Graduate Student News

Oliver Belcher has received the 2011-2012 Antipode Graduate Student Scholarship for his dissertation research: *The Best-Laid Schemes: Postcolonialism, Military Social Science, and the Making of US Counterinsurgency Doctrine, 1940-2009*. Successful applicants are current doctoral students working in any field of radical geographical scholarship. Funds are intended to provide resources to attend an international conference and/or cover additional research expenses. The Antipode Editorial Board stresses that the quality of applications is always extremely high and deciding on a final winner is a very difficult task.

Jessica Dempsey has received an assistant professor position at the University of Victoria's School of Environmental Studies. She will begin in July 2012. In the meantime, she will take up a post-doctoral fellowship at UC Berkeley under the Ciriacy Wantrup fellowship.

Tom Maertens, a PhD student in Lori Daniels' Tree Ring Lab, studies forest dynamics in the mountains along the Pacific coast. His project is investigating how changes in snowpack and late-winter freeze events are driving the widespread mortality of yellow-cedar, now one of the most severe forest declines in North America. As part of his research, he has compiled daily temperatures from 1900 to the present along the Central Coast of British Columbia through southeast Alaska; he is comparing extreme weather events to multi-decadal changes in climate such as El Niño Southern Oscillation and the Pacific Decadal Oscillation.



Tom Maertens' latest mode of transport

To sample these remote forests, Tom and his undergraduate research assistants were dropped off in bogs by helicopter, where they camped for three to five days at a time. In these old-growth stands, they extracted tree-ring increment cores from surviving trees, standing snags, and downed logs, some of which were more than 1000 years old. By measuring the trees' annual rings, Tom is testing to what extent the growth of yellow-cedar and its response to climate have changed over the last 100 years, identifying factors contributing to its decline.

For this project, Lori Daniels and Tom Maertens were recently awarded a Pacific Institute of Climate Solutions' research grant.

Andrew Nelson has recently completed his MSc thesis, which examines the geomorphic impact of 19th century placer mining along Fraser River. The project involved interdisciplinary work in fluvial geomorphology and historical geography. More than 700 historical mine locations were located along the river according to documentary records of gold mining

activity. Field investigation then identified more than 450 individual mine excavations. Andrew determined that a total of 58 million cubic meters of mine tailings were dumped directly into Fraser River. This sediment has likely moved downstream to a reach of Lower Fraser River that is currently aggrading.

Lawrence Santiago was mentioned in *The Vancouver Sun* on July 4, 2011, in the article "Temporary Filipino workers on front line of growing debate." He is a PhD human geography student and Trudeau scholar working on his dissertation on state and international policies influencing the ethical and sustainable recruitment of healthcare workers from the developing world. It will be based on 18 months of extensive global ethnographic fieldwork in Canada, the United States, the Philippines and Geneva from July 2009 to December 2010. The project responds to a basic ethical question: how do we justly distribute human health resources across state borders through ethically sound policies?

Julian Yates, a human geography PhD student, has not only received the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship, but was also presented with two awards at the American Association of Geographers (AAG) Conference in Seattle: the Outstanding Paper Award, administered by the Cultural and Political Ecology (CAPE) specialty group, for the paper *Institutional Complexity in Governing the Scalar Politics of Livelihood Adaptation in Rural Nepal*; and the Gary Gaile Travel Award, administered by the Development Geographies Specialty Group (DGSG), for reconnaissance research undertaken this summer under the title *Diverse livelihoods and institutional assemblages in the Peruvian Andes (Cusco region)*.

In Julian's application for the Vanier CGS, he proposed a study entitled *Adapting to climate change policy implementation: The transformation of livelihoods and institutions in the Peruvian Andes*. The research will contribute to a rapidly growing field that focuses on the relationship between institutions and the adaptation of livelihoods to climate change. He focuses on adaptation by exploring the ways in which livelihoods in the Peruvian Andes are shaped, not by climate change per se, but by the neoliberal implementation of climate change mitigation and adaptation policies. The research will build our understanding of adaptation, institutions, and the governance of resource-based livelihoods. The findings will have implications for both international and Canadian policy-making on climate change, as they will reveal the impact of changing modes of governance on remote communities. The research will also identify mechanisms that actively incorporate these communities into decision-making on climate change, mechanisms that can be applied to the Canadian context.

Junjia Ye completed her PhD in May under the supervision of Jim Glassman. She has relocated to Germany for a postdoctoral fellowship with Max Planck Institute in Gottingen for the next three years. This job will take her back to Singapore, where she is originally from, to continue working with Bangladeshi male migrants. She is interested in understanding how social class is reproduced in Singapore's cosmopolitan labour force, and would like to find out how certain groups of workers are led towards particular jobs, while being systematically kept out of others. Through the analysis of labour market segmentation, she investigates the experiences of workers – both migrant and local, and comprised of different genders, races, sexualities and languages – in different positions in the division of labour.

Where Are They Now?

1960s

For more than 25 years, **Richard Lundeen** BA'69 has held senior positions in the Ontario Government. He is now the president of SEG Management Consultants.

1970s

Martin Taylor MA'72, PhD'74 is founding president and CEO of Ocean Networks Canada, the not-for-profit agency created by UVic to manage and develop the NEPTUNE Canada and VENUS cabled ocean observatories. Prior to this, he was UVic's first VP Research (1998-2007) after completing 24 years (1974-1998) on faculty at McMaster, where he served as chair of Geography and founding director of the Institute of Environment and Health.

1980s

Ian Abercrombie BA'80 works for the North Vancouver School District as director of Facilities and Planning in the Department of Corporate Services. His areas of responsibility include capital plans and capital projects ... **Stephen Hornsby** PhD'86 is director of the Canadian-American Center and professor of geography and Canadian studies at the University of Maine. He has just published a new book, *Surveyors of Empire: Samuel Holland, J.F.W. Des Barres, and the Making of The Atlantic Neptune*, which looks at the British mapping of northeastern

North America in the late eighteenth century ... **Michael Bradshaw** PhD'87 is a professor of human geography at the University of Leicester. His current research is organized around two major themes: the territorial cohesion of the Russian Federation (this relates to the wider themes on postcolonial worlds and governance, power and space); and global energy dilemmas (this relates to the nature, environment and society theme). In one way or another, these two themes involve the inter-relationships between energy security, globalization, economic transformation, regional change, resource-based development, sustainable development and climate change ... **Gordon Clarke** BA'87 is currently a substitute teacher and concurrently enjoying his retirement. He is married to **Mel Clarke** BA'88, MA'93, who is employed in schools working with children with special needs. Mel and Gordon have been married since 1991 and have three kids together (one attending the University of Saskatchewan and two in high school) and three dogs. They reside in Vanguard, SK.

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A NEWSLETTER FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF UBC GEOGRAPHY

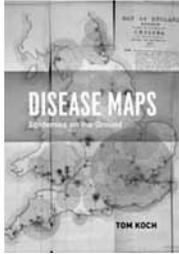
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New Publications

Tom Koch



Adjunct professor Tom Koch's newest book, a sequent to the 2005 *Cartographies of Disease*, premiered at the annual meeting of the American Association of Geographers last month. *Disease maps: Epidemics on the*

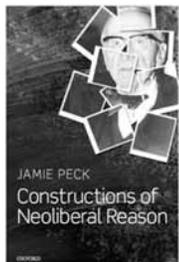
Ground, adds a new dimension to the history of disease mapping earlier presented.

It begins in the 16th century with two seemingly unrelated events: the publishing of the vast real anatomy text and the first atlas. Both, Tom argues, created the preconditions for the transformation of disease into a public thing, whose investigation was, from the start, spatial and social.

Maps are the workbench on which the individual experiences of patients and doctors are joined into a single event that can be investigated spatially and socially. The book traces the history of this transformation across the urbanization of the 17th century into today, from plague, to yellow fever, yellow fever to cholera, cholera to cancer and epidemic disease today.

Disease Maps: Epidemics on the Ground was mentioned in both the *The Boston Globe* and *The Washington Post* this summer, and is available from the University of Chicago Press and other booksellers.

Jamie Peck



Constructions of Neoliberal Reason was published in December 2010. It presents a radical critique of the free-market project, from its origins in the first half of the 20th century through to the recent global economic crisis, from

the Utopian dreams of Friedrich von Hayek through the dogmatic theories of the Chicago School to the hope and hubris of Obamanomics. The book traces how neoliberalism went from crank science to common sense in the period between the Great Depression and the age of Obama.

This publication will be the focus of a book forum on progress in human geography later this year, and has also been one of four shortlisted for the British International Studies Association/International Political Economy Group book prize.

A Passion for Rivers

Peter Scott, BA'89, BEd'92, believes that caring for the Earth's rivers and water resources is essential to our existence.

By Michelle Keong, Writer, Development and Alumni Engagement, Faculty of Arts



Peter Scott and his wife, Karen Kruse, visit the Khumib River on a trip to Namibia

When Peter Scott lost his job as a pharmaceutical sales representative in the mid 1980s, he made a life-changing decision to enroll in a UBC Geography course as a mature student. He never looked back.

"Geography introduced me to the gloriously intricate patterns of the dynamic changes going on around us. The world and how it worked was a wonder," says Scott, a retired high school geography teacher and river enthusiast. "Geography made sense. I was hooked!"

Scott credits both his teaching career and interest in the world's waterways to professor emeritus Michael Church, whose studies have focused on sediment transport and stability in the Fraser, Peace and Mackenzie rivers.

"Rivers became my passion," says Scott, who established an endowment to support graduate students studying the erosion, deposition and movement of rivers.

"Rivers bring life to an arid land. They irrigate our crops and provide us with fresh water to

drink. They serve as transportation routes and the focal points of many of our cities. In return, we have not been kind to them," he says.

As a seasoned traveler who taught geography for 15 years, Scott believes that caring for the Earth's rivers and water resources is essential to our existence.

"We need to understand more about river systems, how they function and how we have changed that," says Scott, who considers the work in the Department of Geography to be invaluable. "We must ensure that rivers are allowed to play their part in the processes of the planet in order for them to continue supporting us."

For further information on supporting the Geography Department please contact Lisa Fratpietro, associate director, Development and Alumni Engagement, Faculty of Arts, at 604.822.9213 or by e-mail at Lisa.Fratpietro@ubc.ca

Renovations in the Geography Building

Formerly a physical geography lab, room 130 has undergone major renovations this summer becoming the new Sustainability and Climate Change Resource Centre. It will house a 25-seat seminar room, a new research lab for Michelle Koppes, a new office for Loch Brown, and a new project space for Karen Bakker.

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Jared Stanley Award

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