

STAFF AND STUDENTS

After approximately 25 years of service to Bedford and now Royal Holloway Colleges, **Margaret Onwu** decided to take early-retirement and left on Friday,, 26th September. There was an informal lunch for her on the Thursday so that we could all wish Margaret a happy retirement.

The Department welcomes **Jose Valcarcel** who has joined us as the new technician responsible for the Munro Fox Laboratory Suite and the Geochronology Laboratory.

We are pleased to welcome **Dr Katie Willis**, Senior Lecturer, to the Department (formerly from Liverpool University)

We would also like to welcome **Graham Bishop** to the Department. Graham will be temping with us to provide cover whilst Melanie Price is on maternity leave. Graham will be working from 1-5pm every day.

Danielle Schreve was invited to serve on the new INQUA Commission for Human Evolution and Palaeoecology.

Phil Crang examined a PhD for the Institute of Education

OUTSIDE ENGAGEMENTS

David Simon has been involved in two asylum appeal cases by South Africans over recent months, providing expert evidence to the legal teams.

David Simon, along with the Director and Chair of the Canon Collins Educational Trust for Southern Africa, visited the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on 18th September for talks with the new Minister of State, Chris Mullin, on the current situation regarding education in southern Africa, and the level of Government support for higher education studentships in the region and in the UK.

Danielle Schreve gave an invited lecture at the Palaeontological Association's special session on 'Systematic Advances in the Study of Human Evolution' at the 4th Biennial Meeting of the Systematics Association, held at Trinity College Dublin on 20th August. The title of the paper was "New mammal-based chrologies of NW Europe: a framework for understanding human evolution and behaviour".

Felix Driver and **Luciana Martins** presented a paper on 'Imagining the tropics: British views of the tropical world, 1770-1850' at a symposium on Tropicality: British & French Postcolonial Perspectives, held at the University of St Andrews, 12-13 September.

PUBLICATIONS

Smith, J., Vance, D., **KEMP, R.A.**, Archer, C., Toms, P., King, M. & Zárata, M. (2003). Isotopic and geochemical constraints on the source of Argentinian loess - with implications for atmospheric circulation and the provenance of Antarctic dust during recent glacial maxima. *Earth and Planetary Science Letters* 212, 181-196.

Bridgland, D.R., **Schreve, D.C.**, Allen, P. & Keen, D.H. (2003). Key Middle Pleistocene localities of the Lower Thames: site conservation issues, recent research and report of a Geologists' Association excursion, 8th July, 2000. *Proceedings of the Geologists' Association*, 114, 211-225.

Two articles by **Sylvester Odion Akhaine** have been published. They are "United States, Obasanjo and Nigeria's Sovereignty" Daily Independent, Lagos, July 29, 2003 and "Building on Our Democracy," The Guardian, Lagos, August 17, 2003.

Imrie, R., (2003), The impact of Part M on the design of new housing, 'Findings', Joseph Rowntree Foundation, York, 4pp; also available at <http://www.jrf.org.uk>.

Imrie, R., (2003), The impact of Part M on the design of new housing, Access By Design, 96, 6-8.

Tim Unwin and Theo Spek (eds) (2003) European Landscapes: from mountain to sea, Tallinn, Huma, 238pp.

David Gilbert, David Matless and Brian Short *Geographies of British Modernity: Space and Society in the Twentieth Century* (editor with David Matless and Brian Short). (Blackwells RGS-IBG book series, Oxford **2003**). 268 pp.

Brian Short, **David Gilbert** and David Matless 'Geographies of British Modernity' in D. Gilbert, David Matless and Brian Short eds *Geographies of British Modernity: Space and Society in the Twentieth Century* (Blackwells, Oxford **2003**), pp. 1-28.

David Gilbert and Rebecca Preston 'Stop being so English. Suburbia and national identity' in D. Gilbert, David Matless and Brian Short eds *Geographies of British Modernity: Space and Society in the Twentieth Century* (Blackwells, Oxford **2003**) pp. 187-203.

David Matless, Brian Short and **David Gilbert** 'Afterword: Emblematic Landscapes of the British Modern' in D. Gilbert, David Matless and Brian Short eds *Geographies of British Modernity: Space and Society in the Twentieth Century* (Blackwells, Oxford **2003**), pp. 250-57.

Bronwen Edwards 'A Man's World? Masculinity and Metropolitan Modernity at Simpson Piccadilly' in **D. Gilbert**, David Matless and Brian Short eds *Geographies of British Modernity: Space and Society in the Twentieth Century* (Blackwells, Oxford **2003**), pp. 151-67.

David Gilbert 'On the Waterfront: The Museum in Docklands' *Museum Practice* Summer 2003, pp. 16-21.

AM Bradford, DFM McGregor and D Simon 2003 'Container Composting in Periurban Kumasi, Ghana'. *Urban Agriculture Magazine*, 10, 30-31

P. Crang, C. Dwyer and P. Jackson (2003) Transnationalism and the spaces of commodity culture, *Progress in Human Geography* 27(4), 438-

BOOK REVIEWS

Tim Unwin (2003), review of Leonard, P. and Kaneff, D. (eds) (2002) Post Socialist Peasant? Basingstoke: Palgrave, in: *Slavonic and East European Review*, 81(3), 593-595.

CONFERENCES-FIELDWORK-OVERSEAS

Rob Kemp attended the INQUA Congress in Reno, Nevada from July 23rd until July 30th, presenting a paper with other colleagues on 'Late Quaternary paleosols, landscape evolution and climate change in the Northern Pampa, Argentina'.

Richard Hodgkins was in Iceland on fieldwork from 18-24 August. It was at a glacier called Vestari-Hagafellsjökull, part of the Langjökull ice cap, and is part of a two-year NERC-funded project. It was carnage.

Danielle Schreve attended the XVIth Congress of the International Union for Quaternary Research (INQUA) in Reno, Nevada from 23rd to 31st July. She presented a paper on "The environment and climate of the MIS 11 interglacial in Europe: evidence from the vertebrate record" and a poster (with Dr A.J. Howard, University of Newcastle and A.P. Currant, Natural History Museum) entitled "A mid-Devensian woolly rhinoceros skeleton from terrace gravels at the Trent-Tame confluence, Whitemoor Haye, Staffordshire". Both abstracts are published in the INQUA Abstracts volume.

RGS/IBG 3-5 September 2003:

Duncan McGregor, David Simon and Donald Thompson convened and chaired 3 modules for the Developing Areas Research Group on the topic of 'The Peri-Urban Interface in Developing Areas: approaches to sustainable natural and human resource use'.

Papers presented were:

DFM McGregor, DA Thompson and D Simon 'A co-management approach to sustainable watershed utilization: peri-urban Kumasi, Ghana' (presented by DFMM)

AM Bradford, DFM McGregor and D Simon 'Community-based waste management strategies: peri-urban interface, Kumasi, Ghana' (presented by AMB)

David Gilbert delivered a paper at the RGS-IBG conference 3-5 Sept 2003 in the Cultures of Consumption session titled 'Shopping Routes: Understanding metropolitan fashion culture in London's West End 1945-79'

David Simon also participated in the RGS/IBG Conference Session on Postcolonial Geographies on Friday 5th September, and presented a paper entitled *Decolonising development or developing postcolonial geographies? Debating the politics of labelling and practice*.

On 6th September, **David Simon** attended the biennial conference of the Review of African Political Economy, held at the University of Birmingham, and chaired the session on Resistance, which comprised papers on various dimensions of the oil extraction and human and environmental crisis in the Niger Delta.

David Simon was a member of a 20-strong international expert panel invited to the headquarters of the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) in Colombo, Sri Lanka, from 21-26 September, to assess the first round of full grant applications in the new CGIAR Challenge Programme on Water and Food. In May, David participated in the longlisting of Concept Notes to proceed to full application preparation.

Aya Sakai delivered a paper at the RGS-IBG conference 3-5 Sept 2003 in the Postgraduate Research in Historical Geography session titled 'Translating the 'park': the introduction of the urban park in Japan, 1860-1878'

Felix Driver gave a lecture on 'Tropical views and visions' at the RGS-IBG Annual Conference, 2 September.

Klaus Dodds convened a session with James Sidaway (Singapore) on 'Halford Mackinder at 100'.

Rebecca Edwards gave a paper on 'The erosion and withering away of public space: a symptom of the broader decline of the public realm?'

Jill Fenton gave a paper on 'Space, chance, time: walking backwards through the hours on the left and right banks of Paris'.

Rebekah Fox gave a paper on 'Everyday negotiations of the animal-human divide: ethical dilemmas in pet-keeping'.

David Lambert convened two sessions with Luciana Martins (Birkbeck) and Miles Ogborn (QMUL) on 'Historical geographies of the sea'.

Ed Maltby gave a paper on 'Wetlands and the WFD: policy shortfall or implementation challenge?'

Catherine Nash convened two sessions with Noel Castree (Manchester) on 'Post human/post natural geographies'.

Tim Unwin was a discussant in a session on 'Children and youth in developing areas'.

Katie Walsh gave a paper on 'Belongings: geographies of home-making among British expatriates in Dubai',

Kathryn Yusoff gave a paper on 'Imaginative geographies of Antarctica'.

Jay Mistry convened the Human Ecology and Development theme at the Tropical Savannas and Dry Woodlands Conference which took place in Edinburgh from the 14th to 20th September. There were 24 speakers from South America, Africa, Europe and the USA, and papers were presented on topics such as environmental history, fire management, pastoral systems, biodiversity conservation and sustainable development.

OTHER NEWS

Congratulations to Sue Adair and Tom on the arrival of their son Andrew Ian, who arrived 6 weeks early on 5th August 2003 Weighing 4 lb 11 1/2 oz .