

STAFF AND STUDENTS

David Simon gave the introductory talk for Fairtrade Fortnight on campus to a meeting convened by RHUL People and Planet (formerly Third World First) on Monday evening, 26 January.

David Simon attended the annual meeting of the Management Committee of the Univ. of London Centre of African Studies, at SOAS on 21 January. He represents RHUL on the Committee.

Duncan McGregor attended Annual Review meetings for the London External BA/BSc in Geography at Senate House on 7 November and 20 January, in his capacity as Examinations Officer for the Degree.

Welcome to **Dr David Lambert**, new Lecturer in Human Geography, who has joined us from Cambridge University.

Dr Harriot Beazley sadly left the Department to take up a position at the Faculty of Social & Behavioural Sciences, University of Queensland.

Welcome to **Bronwen Edwards** who will be working with D. Gilbert for 2 years on the West end shopping research. Bronwen will be based at Bedford Square.

David Gilbert will be on sabbatical until May 2004. He is currently a visiting lecturer in Australia at the University of Queensland.

OUTSIDE ENGAGEMENTS

Duncan McGregor delivered a staff/postgraduate seminar on 26 January in the Geography Department, University of Sussex, entitled: 'A co-management approach to natural resource management: peri-urban Kumasi, Ghana'

Dr Kwasi Nsiah-Gyabaah (Principal, Suynani Polytechnic, Ghana) presented a paper at the Commonwealth Heads of Government CHEC/BEPIC/SCOPE Meetings, Abuja, Nigeria, 1-3 December 2003, on behalf of the DFID Kumasi project: *A co-management approach to sustainable watershed utilization: peri-urban Kumasi, Ghana*. Dr Nsiah-Gyabaah was a principal collaborator in the project.

Ed Derbyshire accepted an invitation to discuss means of characterizing primary and post-testing fabrics of fine-grained engineering soils with UCL and City university staff at UCL on 22 January, with a view to formulation of a 3-year grant proposal.

David Simon attended the quarterly editorial board meeting of the Journal of Southern African Studies, and also a meeting at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies to plan activities to mark the 10th anniversary later this year of South Africa's transition to non-racial government, both in London on 9th January.

David Simon was at the University of California, Riverside from 28-31 January as a member of the international panel drafting the Science Plan for a new research programme on Global Environmental Change and Urbanisation for the Bonn-based IHDP (International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change). At the weekend, he also managed to explore adjacent parts of southern California and northern Baja California (Mexico), one of the most rapidly developing conurbations on the planet.

Members of the CQR (**Simon Blockley, Nick Branch and John Lowe**) have been invited by partners from the University of Sheffield to take part in new excavations at the Upper Palaeolithic site of Creswell Crags, where the only British example of Palaeolithic cave art has recently been found. The CQR group will analyse material from the site to place the site in its environmental context, and also plan to sample for micro-tephra.