

Geography Department News

Monthly Newsletter
Royal Holloway, University of London

May 2010
Number 192

STAFF AND STUDENTS

Matt Grove PhD student 2004-8 (supervisor **Clive Gamble** and advisor **Danielle Schreve**) has been appointed to a lectureship in the School of Classics, Archaeology and Egyptology at the University of Liverpool.

Lowri Jones has been appointed as Teaching Associate in Cultural & Historical Geography at the University of Nottingham, for 18 months starting September 2010.

Adam Tickell, Vice-Principal, has been conferred with the title of Professor of Economic Geography by the University of London.

OUTSIDE ENGAGEMENTS

Dorothea Kleine participated in the workshop "The Politics of Consumption" at the Centre for Cultural Studies Research, University of East London. May 18th.

Dorothea Kleine gave a paper titled "None but ourselves can free our minds" - Development, technological change and escaping the tyranny of direct impact" at the International Federation for Information Processing, Working Group 9.4. Workshop on Theorising Development and Technological Change, London School of Economics, May 26th.

Ed Derbyshire attended a meeting of the Sciences Committee of the UK National Commission for UNESCO in Whitehall on 12 May.

Ed Derbyshire chaired a meeting of the External Relations Committee of the Geological Society of London at Burlington House, Piccadilly, on 24 May.

Felix Driver presented a lecture on 'Exhibiting geographical collections' at the LCACE/Tate Symposium, Beyond the Academy: Research as Exhibition, Clore Lecture Theatre, Tate Britain, 14 May. The keynote speaker was Bruno Latour.

Caroline Cornish and **Felix Driver** joined Mark Nesbitt (economic botany collections manager, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew) on 11 May for a tour of the former museums of economic botany at Kew, in connection with Caroline's PhD. For an account of the visit, see her blog at <http://www.kew.org/news/kew-blogs/Reliving-Kews-Museum-of-Economic-Botany.htm>.

Madeleine Hatfield presented to the title, 'Moving 'home'? Home and homemaking amongst transnational return migrant households', at the Histories of Home SSN Second Annual Conference on Multiple Belongings: Diaspora and Transnational Homes (21 May).

Bradley L. Garrett attended a weeklong workshop at the University of Edinburgh called "Experimenting with Geography" run by Michael Gallagher, Hayden Lorimer and Eric Laurier.

Luiza Bialasiewicz delivered a presentation in the Open University's 'Open Space' Seminar Series on May 19th entitled "Borders, border-work and the distinct aesthetics of European power". The event will shortly be available as a podcast on Open Space Research Centre's website:

<http://www8.open.ac.uk/researchcentres/osrc/events/openspace-seminar-series>

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NOTICES



Graduation Ceremony -
15th July at 6pm.

PERG Seminar - Fiona McConnell
Queen Mary - 'De Facto. Displaced,
Tacit: The Sovereign Articulations of
the Tibetan Government-in-Exile' -
14th June, Room MX034 - 1 - 2 pm.

Last day of Term - 11th June 2010



Science Faculty Summer
Party - 4.30pm - 6pm -
Tuesday 15th June 2010 - Senior
Common Room - **Staff Only**.

Start of 2010/11 Academic Year - 20th
September 2010.

Alex Loftus co-supervised and examined Stephanie Bishop's MA in African History at the University of Basel entitled "Damming the Olifants".

Tim Unwin was the Opponent for Annika Andersson's doctoral thesis "Learning to Learn in e-Learning" at the University of Örebro, Sweden on 17th May 2010. He also presented a seminar entitled "Information, knowledge and human rights in a digital world" at the Informatics Department, University of Örebro, on 18th May 2010.

PUBLICATIONS

Benito, G., Rico, M., Sánchez-Moya Y., Sopena A., Thorndycraft, V.R. and Barriados, M. (2010). Late Holocene climatic variability and land-use change impacts on flood hydrology (Guadalestín River, SE Spain). *Global and Planetary Change* 70, 53-63.

VISITORS-MEETINGS IN THE DEPARTMENT

Edmore Hute, LifeLine Network UK presented the Centre for ICT4D Seminar on 12th May. The title of the presentation was 'Capacity Development and Child Headed Families in Zimbabwe'.

Roberta Bernardi, School of Management - RHUL, presented the Centre for ICT4D Seminar on 21st May. The title of her presentation was 'The Impact of Aid Policy onto HIV/AIDS Monitoring & Evaluation Systems in Africa'.

FIELDWORK- CONFERENCES- OVERSEAS

Varyl Thorndycraft attended the European Geosciences Union 2010, Vienna 2nd-7th May 2010:

Session convener

Brauer, A., Thorndycraft, V.R., Violente, C., & Nava, E.: Reconstructing terrestrial and coastal hazards from geological archives: mechanisms, processes and predictability.

Thorndycraft, V.R., Armitage, S., Candy, I, Erkens, G., Govers, G., Hoffmann, T & Slaymaker, O.: Geomorphology and Environmental Change.

Tarquis, A., Thorndycraft, V.R., Chiverrell, R., Erkens, G., Falconer, R.E., Perrier, E., Lang, A. & Messerotti, M. Contemporary education in engineering and the geosciences.

Poster presentations

Chiverrell, R., Thorndycraft, V.R. & Hoffmann, T. Cumulative probability functions and their role in evaluating the chronology of geomorphological events during the Holocene

Thorndycraft, V.R., Matthews, I.P., Stevens, T., French, P. & Turton, E. Integrating the teaching and learning of geomorphic processes, environmental change and landscape evolution: A case study from the Wicklow Mountains, Ireland.

Ed Derbyshire undertook consultancy work for BP at its refinery and storage site at Sangachal, Baku (Azerbaijan) 25-31 May.

Mustafa Dikeç was invited to the City Debates 2010 conference organised by the Department of Architecture and Design, American University of Beirut, Lebanon, 12-14 May. He gave a paper entitled 'Aesthetics of security', and participated in the closing panel of the conference. The theme of City Debates this year was 'Security of/in the City'.

Luiza Bialasiewicz co-organised and participated in an international workshop on 'Mediterraneanisms' together with colleagues at New York University's Remarque Institute. The event was held on May 24th-25th at NYU's Florence campus, Villa La Pietra.

Alex Loftus co-organised a conference at Syracuse University in March on 'The Right to Water'. The two day conference was packed with animated debate from a range of international participants. He is now preparing an edited book on the theme.

ANY OTHER NEWS

Congratulations to **Hayley Leck** who, in addition to her PhD fieldwork in Durban, has been training hard for the annual Comrades' Marathon between Durban and Pietermaritzburg. This is the world's oldest and still one of the toughest ultramarathons, run in each direction in alternate years. This year, the race, last Sunday, 30th May, was downhill (Pmb to Dbn). Hayley completed the distance of 89 km in exactly 11.5 hours and won a named medal for her age group, the Vic Clapham Medal.

David Hilling attended the RHUL induction ceremony and dinner for new Honorary Fellows (20/5/10) and on 24/5/10 the reunion of former Bedford College students hosted at the House of Commons by the Rt Hon Philip Hammond, Runnymede's MP. At this function there were nearly 30 former geographers, several from the 1950s and a group celebrating 50 years since their graduation in 1960.

Bradley L. Garrett, Terri Moreau, Michael Anton, Alison Hess, Ellie Miles and Amy Cutler will be exhibiting a piece entitled London's Olympic Waterscape at the Creative Campus Initiative garden party at the Windsor Building on 6th June. All are warmly welcome to attend. Please RSVP with Sarah Hogarth (CCI Cultural Coordinator) at sarah.hogarth@rhul.ac.uk

Bradley L. Garrett will hold an exhibit at the London Festival of Architecture entitled Urban Exploration: Behind the Scene at the Alan Baxter Gallery 21st June - 2nd July. Please come along on

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opening night, Monday the 21st June for drinks and a screening of Bradley L. Garrett's film *Urban Explorers: Quests for Myth, Mystery and Meaning*. More details about this event will be circulated closer to the date.

Congratulations to Alasdair and Philippa Pinkerton on the arrival of their baby son Jamie Douglas Charles, who was born at 9.30 on the 9th of June. Jamie weighed in at 7lbs 1oz.. Both are doing very well.

