Department Newsletter

November 2001 Number 113

STAFF AND STUDENTS

Felix Driver has been invited to join the Editorial Board of the Journal of Victorian Culture.

Rob Imrie has been appointed Visiting Professor to the Department of Geography at the University of Strathclyde for the period November 1st 2001 until 31st December 2002.

Andy Bradford has been awarded a distinction, in MSc Rural Resource Management (Overseas Rural Development) from University of Wales, Bangor.

Peter French has been invited to join a new UNESCO Ecohydrology working group focussing on estuarine and coastal wetland management.

Rick Mitcham successfully defended his PhD Thesis on 'Geographies of Global Humanitarianism: The Aborigines Protection Society and Anti-Slavery Society, 1884-1933', at the college's house in Gower Street, on 30 November. The external examiner was Dr Alan Lester (Sussex), and the internal examiner was Dr Alison Blunt (QMUL). Rick was funded by ESRC and supervised by Felix Driver.

Ed Maltby was appointed advisor by the Belgian Prime Minister’s office to the government’s environmental research programme with respect to freshwater aquatics and wetlands ecosystems. He attended the grant award meeting in Brussels 8th November.

Ed Maltby was appointed to the executive committee of the SEEDA Water Resources forum.

The first UCAS Open Day took place on 28th November. 25 prospective students and their parents attended.

Klaus Dodds organised a very successful careers evening on the 29th November 2001. Six former students came back to talk to current undergraduates about their careers and this was followed by a small reception with the opportunity for questions.

OUTSIDE ENGAGEMENTS

UCAS activities:
Felix Driver presented a talk to the sixth form at Eltham College October 12th 2001.
Mike Dolton represented the Department at the Geographical Society open day in London November 8th 2001.
Klaus Dodds visited Eton for a schools conference November 21st 2001.
Peter French visited Charterhouse and gave a talk on coastal management November 22nd 2001.
Rob Potter presented a lecture at the Student lecture programme, London November 27th 2001.

David Simon participated in a meeting of the Foreign & Commonwealth Office’s African Policy Advisory Group on 31 October to discuss how the government should respond to the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) being formulated by African leaders. David Simon presented a paper on behalf of the DFID-funded Kumasi project at the international conference on African Urban Economies, hosted by the African Studies Centre, University of Leiden, the Netherlands, 9-11 November. The paper, by David Simon, Kwasi Nsiah-Gyabaah, Hilary Warburton, Vest Adu-Gyamfi and Duncan McGregor, was entitled 'The changing urban-rural interface of African cities: conceptual issues and an application to Kumasi, Ghana'.

David Simon attended the annual Crieghton Lecture of the Institute of Historical Research, Univ. of London, on 12 November. Prof. Shula Marks spoke on 'Class, culture and consciousness: the experience of black South Africans, c.1870-1920'.

David Simon was an invited contributor to the Quick Online Discussion on Global Strategies for a Sustainable Urban Future, held by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) from 12-16 November. He contributed to the debate on national urban policy.

David Simon, along with the Director, Chair and Deputy Chair of the Trustees of the Canon Collins Educational Trust, paid a courtesy call on new South African High Commissioner, Ms. Lindiwe Mabuza, on 26 November.

Rob Imrie presented seminar papers to the Department of Architecture, Planning, and Landscape at the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and the Department of Geography University of Leeds, on October 25th and November 15th respectively. The paper was entitled 'Disability and discourses of mobility and movement'.

Rob Imrie carried out his external examining duties for the MPhil in Urban Policy at the University of Glasgow on the 26th October. Between November 2nd and 6th Rob Imrie carried out interviews with architects in Frankfurt, Cologne, and Munster (Germany) and visited new housing schemes purpose built to new German accessibility standards.

Felix Driver served as External Examiner for the MSc in Globalisation and Development, and the MSc in Geography, at Queen Mary, University of London, 2 November.

Catherine Nash gave a departmental seminar in the Department of Geography, University of Sheffield on 1 November and a guest seminar in the Centre for Cultural and Critical Theory, University of Cardiff on 12 November. She attended a conference entitled 'The Debatable Land: Ireland's Border Counties' in Monaghan, Ireland on 16 and 17 November.

Rob Kemp participated in the Society of Chemical Industry Meeting on 'Soil Fertility in Organic Farming' held in London on November 13th.

Felicity Callard was invited to give a paper at the University of Oxford for the English Department's 'Effects of Reading' seminar series. She delivered a paper on 23 November titled 'Freud and Anxiety: Notes towards a Reading of Agoraphobia'.

Ed Maltby attended the World Modified Mega Delta workshop in The Hague 24th – 26th September and presented a paper on the ‘Status and trends in the Tigris-Euphrates Delta’ (co-authored by Ursula Digby). This participation was funded by the Netherlands Government.
Ed Maltby attended the annual workshop of the EC EVALUWET project, of which he is co-ordinator, in Utrecht 26th-30th September. Dr Richard Thorne, Dr Martin Blackwell, Matteo Mode and Ursula Digby also attended.

Ed Maltby attended a lecture by Michael Meacher on environmental policy at the London Guildhall 23rd October.

Ed Maltby and Shivanthi Kandiah-Evans attended a meeting on 6th November at DEFRA involving also JNCC and FCO to discuss new initiatives to capitalise on the development work on the Ecosystem Approach at Royal Holloway.

Ed Derbyshire spent 11-12 September in the Division of Earth Sciences, UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, for discussions with the Director of the Division concerning the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP). He also held a wide-ranging policy discussion on 11 September with the Assistant Director General for Science of UNESCO and professor Uri Shamir, Director of the Water Research Institute, Haifa, Israel.

Ed Derbyshire held a meeting at the Royal Geographical Society on 24 September with Professor David Thomas and Mr. Matt Telfer, Co-Manager and Postgraduate Research Assistant, respectively, of the ‘CHANGES’ Programme.

Ed Derbyshire chaired the Steering Group of the Chairpersons of the Five Intergovernmental Programmes (IGCP, IHP, IOC, MAB and MOST) at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris 17 and 18 October. He presented the recommendations of the Steering group to the Deputy Director General of UNESCO on 18 October.

Ed Derbyshire served, by invitation, as a member of the United Kingdom Delegation to the 31st. General Conference of UNESCO, in Paris 22-25 October. He was one of a panel of speakers at an Open Round-Table meeting on Sustainability, and also attended the Round-Table of Ministers of Science on ‘Rebuilding Scientific Co-operation in South-East Europe’

Ed Derbyshire attended, by invitation, the UK-UNESCO Science Committee at the Institute of Materials in London on 14 November.

Ed Derbyshire spent 27-29 November at UNESCO Headquarters for policy and agenda discussions with the Director of UNESCO’s Earth Sciences Division and Dr. Ian Dalziel (University of Texas, Austin) who succeeds Ed as Chair of the IGCP Scientific Board on 1 January 2002. The opportunity was also taken to engage in consultations with Christine Atkinson, UK Deputy Permanent Delegate to UNESCO, and the Secretary of UNESCO’s Man and the Biosphere Intergovernmental Programme.

Martin Blackwell attended a NERC GANE (Global Nitrogen Emissions) meeting at Bangor, Wales, 10th-12th September.

Richard Thorne attended South East Water Resources Forum 8 Nov, organised by SEEDA

PUBLICATIONS


J.B. Murton, A. Baker, D.Q. Bowen, C.J. Caseldine, G.R. Coope, A.P. Currant, J.G. Evans,

Reviews


CONFERENCES-FIELDWORK-OVERSEAS

Duncan McGregor, Donald Thompson and Andy Bradford attended an international conference on Rural-Urban Encounters: Managing the Environment of the Peri-Urban Interface at the Development Planning Unit, UCL, on 9-10 November 2001. A paper and two posters were presented (see this Newsletter):
Guillaume Iyenda attended a seminar in Switzerland on Spiritual Healing and urban life between 24 and 28 September 2001

GRANTS

Ed Derbyshire have been awarded a grant of $15,000 by the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) in his capacity as Chairman of the Managerial Group of ‘CHANGES’ (Carbon, Hydrology AAnd Global Environmental Systems), bringing the total of support received to more than $45,000.

OTHER NEWS

Congratulations to Jay Mistry and Andrea Beradi who had a baby boy, Manu, on 9th November 2001.
Congratulations to Phil Crang and Katherine who had a baby boy on 30th November 2001.