

Department Newsletter
November 2005, Number 155

STAFF AND STUDENTS

Congratulations to **Mike Dolton** who is being recommended for the award of his doctorate. Mike's examiners were Professor Mark Twdwr-Jones (Bartlett, UCL) and Dr Stuart Wilks-Heeg (Department of Sociology, University of Liverpool). Mike's thesis is a study of democratic renewal and participative politics in London , through the context of 'best value'.

Congratulations to **Fernando Garcia** who is being recommended for the award of his doctorate. Fernando's examiners were James Kneale (Geography, UCL) and David Bell (Sociology, MMU). Fernando's thesis is entitled 'Café culture and urban conviviality: cosmopolitanism, public culture and contemplation in Madrid'. Fernando will be taking up a twelve-month ESRC Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the Department in the new year, on the theme 'Café culture: creating convivial cities'.

Helen Scalway has donated a bound copy of her artist's book, *A Patois of Pattern*, to the Rare Books Collection in Founder's Library. Accepting the book on behalf of Royal Holloway, the Librarian Sarah Gerrard described the work as both fascinating and beautiful. The book is one of five bound copies (and a further 20 boxed sets) produced in connection with an AHRC-funded project based in the Department of Geography, entitled 'New Babel? Pattern, Memory and the Cosmopolitan City'. Further details may be found on the project website, at www.patternpatois.co.uk.

Katie Willis acted as external examiner for a PhD at Newcastle University . The thesis was by Katy Jenkins and was entitled 'Professional Health promoters? Re-Conceptualising Urban Women's Organising in Peru.'

Felix Driver served as external examiner for The Shape of the World course at the Open University, 22 November. The course has been running 11 years, and this was its final presentation. A new course, to which David Lambert and Klaus Dodds are contributing, will run from 2006.

Duncan McGregor attended the Annual Review Meeting for the London External BA/BSc/Diploma Degrees in Geography, held at Senate House, 28 November.

OUTSIDE ENGAGEMENTS

David Simon spoke on 'Separated by Common Ground? Bringing (Post)Development and (Post)Colonialism Together' at the Development and Refugee Studies seminar, Faculty of Arts and Human Sciences, London South Bank University, 2 November 2005.

In his role as a Commonwealth Scholarships Commissioner, **Tim Unwin** participated in the Commission's welcome day for new award holders held at Methodist Central Halls and the

Foreign and Commonwealth Office on 14th November, for which he presented a thought piece and led a workshop on the theme of 'Leadership and influence'.

Tim Unwin gave a lecture and wine tasting entitled 'An exploration of Australia ' to the Bedfordshire Geographical Association (and others) at Bedford School , 8 November.

Katie Willis gave a talk on China 's one-child policy to about 700 A Level students at a Geography A Level day held at The Institute of Education, 16 November.

Jim Rose, Danielle Schreve and **Mark Stevens** attended an AHOB business meeting at the British Museum, 2 November.

Clive Gamble gave a lecture to the University of East London on 'What our ancestors really thought about', 15 November.

Karen Till has given lectures related to her new book, *The New Berlin: Place, Politics, Memory* (University of Minnesota Press, 2005) in Geography Departments at Hull University , University of Bristol and University of Wales, Aberystwyth, and at Goldsmith's College's Centre for Urban and Community Research.

VISITORS-MEETINGS IN THE DEPARTMENT

Vanessa Lawrence, Director General & Chief Executive of the Ordnance Survey presented the Gordon Manley Lecture on 7th November. The title of her presentation was 'Geography inside: the role of location in the information age'.

Professor Martin Sharp of the Department of Earth Sciences at the University of Alberta visited the Department on Wednesday 19th October to give a QUISS on the subject of Canadian arctic glaciers. He also discussed possibilities for collaboration in teaching between Royal Holloway physical geography and Alberta earth sciences.

Francis Wenban-Smith presented the QUISS Seminar on 23rd November. The title of his presentation was 'Palaeolithic research in the commercial world: recent work in the Thames Gateway (with particular attention to a certain elephant!)'.

Professor Rob Kemp presented the QUISS Seminar on 30th November. The title of his presentation was 'Palaeosols, stratigraphy and soil landscape evolution in the loess region of Argentina '.

Mark Pelling from King's College, London presented the CEDAR Seminar 'Natural Disasters and social conflict in Africa, Asia and Latin America : Exploring the linkages' on 7th November 2005.

Steve Bell , Geography Department, Royal Holloway presented the CEDAR Seminar 'Developing NGO strategies for empowering young people in relation to their sexual and reproductive health' on 21st November.

Barbara Silva and **Adrian Palmer** from Royal Holloway presented the Departmental Seminar on 24th November. The title of their presentation was 'Environmental change in the Machu Picchu Sanctuary'.

Danielle Schreve presented the New Lyell Society Lecture on 3rd November entitled 'Licensed to Kill: Neanderthal hunters in Norfolk'.

PUBLICATIONS

Adam-Bradford, A , McGregor D & Simon D (2006) 'Community-based waste management strategies: peri-urban interface Kumasi , Ghana ', 231-245 in McGregor, D, D Simon & D Thompson (eds) *The Peri-Urban Interface: Approaches to sustainable natural and human resource use* . Earthscan/ James & James., London and Sterling , VA.

Adam-Bradford, A . (2005) Module co-author for 'Solid Waste Management and Urban Agriculture'. In *Feeding cities in Anglophone Africa with urban agriculture: Concepts, tools and case studies for practitioners, planners and policy makers* . CD-Rom. International Potato centre - Urban Harvest, Lima, Peru.

McGregor, D , D Simon & D Thompson (eds) (2006) *The Peri-Urban Interface: Approaches to sustainable natural and human resource use* . Earthscan/ James & James, xxiv + 336pp

McGregor, D, D Thompson , D Simon, J Quashie-Sam, S Edusah and K Nsiah-Gyabaah (2006) 'A co-management approach to sustainable watershed utilization: peri-urban Kumasi, Ghana', 287-309 in McGregor, D, D Simon & D Thompson (eds) *The Peri-Urban Interface: Approaches to sustainable natural and human resource use*. Earthscan/ James & James, London and Sterling , VA.

McGregor, D , D Thompson & D Simon (2006) 'Towards peri-urban sustainability: reflections on the Research Agenda', 314-325 in McGregor, D, D Simon & D Thompson (eds) *The Peri-Urban Interface: Approaches to sustainable natural and human resource use*. Earthscan/ James & James., London and Sterling , VA.

Simon, D (ed) (2006) *Fifty Key Thinkers on Development*. London & New York : Routledge (Routledge key guides series), xiv + 301pp.

Simon, D (2006) 'Introduction', pp. vii-xii, and ' James Tobin', pp. 258-264 in D. Simon (ed) *Fifty Key Thinkers on Development*. London & New York : Routledge (Routledge key guides series)

Simon, D, D McGregor & D Thompson (2006) 'Contemporary perspectives on the peri-urban zones of cities in developing areas', 1-17 in McGregor, D, D Simon & D Thompson (eds) (2006) *The Peri-Urban Interface: Approaches to sustainable natural and human resource use* . Earthscan/ James & James, London and Sterling , VA.

Unwin, T. (2005) Reflections on ability: the use of ICTs to support people with disabilities in poor countries, in: Milward-Oliver, G. (ed.), *Maitland+20 - Fixing the Missing Link* , Bradford on Avon : Anima, 165-180

Unwin, T. (2005) Partnerships in Development Practice: Evidence from Multi-Stakeholder ICT4D Partnership Practice in Africa, Paris : *UNESCO for the World Summit on the Information Society*, 84 pp.

Unwin, T. and Day, B. (2005) 'Dos and don'ts in monitoring and evaluation,' Chapter 7 in: Wagner, D.A., Day, B., James, T., Kozma, R.B., Miller, J., and Unwin, T., *The Impact of ICTs in Education for Development: a Monitoring and Evaluation Handbook* , Washington DC : infoDev, 111-122

Unwin, T. (2005) 'Capacity building and management', Chapter 5 in: Wagner, D.A., Day, B., James, T., Kozma, R.B., Miller, J., and Unwin, T., *The Impact of ICTs in Education for Development: a Monitoring and Evaluation Handbook* , Washington DC : infoDev, 77-91

Reviews

Geldof, M. (2005) Becoming an information society: the role of new information technologies in development, Wilton Park conference report

Tim Unwin (2005), review of Bunkse, E. (2004) *Geography and the Art of Life*, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, in: *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 95(3), 700-702

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Duncan McGregor has obtained the following funding to support the 5th British-Caribbean Geography Seminar, Jamaica, July 2006: RGS-IBG Research Group Grants £400, Climate Change Research Group £200, Developing Areas Research Group £200. The funds will be used in part to defray expenses for attending postgraduates.

CONFERENCES-FIELDWORK-OVERSEAS

Members of the ICT4D Collective contributed to the following activities at the World Summit on the Information Society held in Tunis , November 15th-18th:

. **Michelle Selinger** (moderator) and **Tim Unwin** (rapporteur) contributed to the Cisco session on 'e-education and e-government'

. **Tim Unwin** was a speaker at the International Literacy Institute, infoDev and EARTF session on 'pro-poor issues on ICT for education'

. **Salma Abbasi** was a speaker at the IDRC/SIDA/SDC session on 'ICT in the hands of women'

. **Tim Unwin's** publications on partnerships in ICT4D initiatives in Africa (UNESCO), monitoring and evaluation of ICT for education initiatives (infoDev), and ICTs and disability (Matiland +20 report) were launched (see below for more details)"

Karen Till has participated in two symposia this year exploring the possibility of establishing a new memorial museum centre dedicated to researching the history of forced labor under National Socialism at Berlin-Schoeneweide. Dr. Till was appointed as a member of an international advisory board by the Berlin Senate of Cultural Affairs. The next meeting takes place in January, 2006.

The Social and Cultural Geography group enjoyed a 'day of culture' on November 1st, taking in the exhibition 'Universal experience: art, life and the tourist's eye' at the Hayward Gallery on London's South Bank before heading on to an evening reception at RHUL's house at 2 Gower St to celebrate the production of **Helen Scalway's** art book '*A Patois of Pattern*'.

ANY OTHER NEWS

Toby Butler 's memoryscape walks have made it to the top of a list of best Christmas presents for under £5! See 'historical walks around London ' at the top.

<http://www.moneysavingexpert.com/cgi-bin/viewnews.cgi?newsid1132666777,4572>