STAFF AND STUDENTS

Rebecca Edwards organised the Postgraduate Symposium on Thursday, 25th September, which proved to be an excellent event and gave everyone an opportunity to find out about all the top-quality research going on throughout the Department and across the research groups.

David Simon spoke to about 100 Sixth form students and staff at the Guildford Branch of the GA, held at the Royal Grammar School, on 2 October. His subject was 'Living in Third World Cities'.

Peter French presented a talk to an audience 150 lower sixth students at the Cambridge Branch of the GA entitled Managing coastal erosion: management or interference?

Peter French was the UoL examiner for a thesis by Louise Myatt (Imperial College) entitled Public perceptions and attitudes towards UK coastal managed realignment schemes.

Felix Driver met with Steve Brace (Head of Information Services and Resources) and Rinku Mitra (Heritage Resources Officer) at the RGS-IBG, to discuss potential collaborations on RGS-IBG collections, access and education, 24 October.

David Mandiyanike is in Zimbabwe for his fieldwork. He will be coming back in March 2004. Your prayers and thoughts are most appreciated.

OUTSIDE ENGAGEMENTS

Felix Driver gave a lecture on the cultural geographies of imperial London to students on the Principles of Human Geography course in the University of California Study Abroad Program, Museum of London, 8 October.


David Gilbert gave a public lecture 'Searching for the Heart of Empire - A Guided tour of Imperial London' to the Islington Archaeological and Historical Society at the Town Hall, Islington, 15th October 2003.

David Gilbert attended a one day ESRC training workshop on media presentation and media strategies on 1st October 2003 at the Centre for Economic Policy Research Clerkenwell, followed by a round-table seminar on social science and the media.

Ed Derbyshire attended a meeting of the External Relations Committee of the Geological Society at Burlington House, London, on 8 October.
David Simon attended the quarterly editorial board meeting of the Journal of Southern African Studies, of which he is now the development/social science editor, in London on 10 October.

David Simon and Emeritus Prof. Lionel Cliffe (Leeds), met the South African Director-General of Land Affairs in London on 10 October, at the latter's request, to discuss progress with the post-apartheid land reform and restitution programmes and the possibilities for future evaluative research.

Mark Stephens attended the QRA 2nd International Postgraduate Symposium at Queen Mary, University of London (10-12 September 2003). He presented a paper on The potential for Quaternary palaeoenvironmental reconstruction from Niah Cave shell material using δ18O, δ2H, δ13C of modern analogue shell and waters, Niah, Sarawak, Borneo. He also won a prize of 35 pounds for Best Poster Presentation at the symposium, entitled: The potential of tropical cave sediment micromorphology: The Great Cave of Niah, Sarawak, Borneo.

On Saturday 1 November, Jude Hill presented a paper at 'Bodies of Evidence', a British Museum study day. The one day conference was held in association with Medicine Man, an exhibition which continues until 16 November 2003. Her paper was entitled 'Medicine Chests and Amulets: investigating the Wellcome Collection through Object Stories'. Other speakers included A.S. Byatt, Marius Kwint, Ruth Richardson, John Pickstone and curators from the British Museum.


Xingmin Meng attended the Transdisciplinary Research Seminar Series on "New Technology and GIS: GI Portal" at UCL on 18th and 19th September, organised by ESRI, ESRC and UCL.

PUBLICATIONS


BOOK REVIEWS


VISITORS/MEETINGS IN THE DEPARTMENT

Lorraine Young (Brunel University), and one of our MA Geography of Third World Development alumni (1996-7) visited CEDAR on 13 October and presented the lunchtime seminar on 'Moving in the wake of AIDS: children's experiences of migration in southern Africa'. Afterwards, she held discussions with a group of postgraduate students.

Fr. Patrick Shanahan, Director of Street Child Africa, an NGO based in Thames Ditton and working in several African countries, visited the Department on 27 October, and presented a provocative CEDAR lunchtime seminar on 'Africa's street children: good interventions or good riddance?' This was followed by discussions with staff and students, and also preparations for the CASE ESRC studentship application that we will be making with Street Child Africa to enable Ruth Payne to undertake doctoral studies.

Dr. James Halfpenny of Gardener, Montana presented the lunch time seminar series on Thursday, 16th October entitled ‘The reintroduction of wolves to Yellowstone National Park: Ecological Answers.

Mona Domosh (Dartmouth College) visited the Social & Cultural Geography Group in September 2003, and convened a session in the PhD seminar, Landscape Surgery. She also attended a party to mark the departure from the Department of postdocs Tariq Jazeel and Luciana Martins, and AHRB Fellow Kathy Prendergast.

CONFERENCES-FIELDWORK-OVERSEAS

Sylvester Odion Akhaine presented *State Actors and Democratisation in West Africa,* at a conference organised by Review of African Political Economy, University of Birmingham, on September 6.

David Simon participated in the biennial Open Meeting of the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change, hosted by McGill University in Montreal, 16-18 October. He acted as discussant for the panel on The Interaction between Global Environmental Change and Urban Environments on 17th. The scoping committee currently formulating a science plan for a new research programme on Cities and the Environment, of which David is a member, also met several times during the conference.
**Ed Derbyshire** attended the XVI INQUA Congress (Reno, Nevada, USA, 23-30 July). He co-convened a symposium on 'Neglected environmental proxy archives: continental shelves, karst and drylands' on behalf of the IUGS-UNESCO 'CHANGES' programme, and contributed a keynote paper on 'Fluctuating desert margins and hydrological change during the late Quaternary' to the symposium on 'The late Quaternary glaciation of Tibet and the bordering mountains'. He also undertook fieldwork in the Sierra Nevada, together with Lewis Owen, **John Lowe** and others, and visited Dr. Robert Finkel at the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory and Dr. Aaakanksha Singhvi on the Berkeley campus of the University of California.


**Ed Derbyshire** attended the 6th International Symposium on Environmental Geochemistry in Edinburgh, 6 - 10 September, during which he contributed a paper on 'Minerogenic aerosols and human health' as part of a 2-day Short Course (6, 7 September) on 'Metals, Health and the Environment' arranged by IGCP 454 (Medical Geology) and the International Association for Medical Geology.

**Ed Derbyshire** represented the Chairman of the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) at the annual meeting of the Steering Committee of the Chairpersons of the Five Intergovernmental Scientific Programmes at UNESCO headquarters in Paris on 30 September and 1 October. He also visited the Deputy Permanent Delegate of the UK to UNESCO and attended a luncheon meeting of the European Space Agency delegation.

**Ed Derbyshire** attended a meeting as a member of the Management Team of the IUGS-UNESCO initiative on the International Year for Planet Earth (2006-2007), and received a two-person observer-delegation from the People's Republic of China, at Mogán on the island of Gran Canaria on 21 and 22 October.

**Bradford, A. Brook, R. and Hunshal, C.S.** (2003) Wastewater irrigation in Hubli-Dharwad, India: implications for health and livelihoods. Paper presented at the World Health Organization (WHO) 'The Power of Local Action. 2003 International Healthy Cities Conference: 15 years of experience', Belfast, 19-22 October 2003. Andy was invited by the Resource Centre for Urban Agriculture and Forestry (RUAF) to participate on the plenary session entitled 'Urban Agriculture and Food'. To enable Andy to attend, financial support was provided by the WHO, which included a waiver of the £340 conference fee and a £130 accommodation payment.