

STAFF AND STUDENTS

David Simon was intercollegiate examiner for the PhD thesis of Kim Segel (DESTIN, LSE; supervisor Jo Beall), State-corporate social development in South Africa : the role of the state in advancing corporate social engagement. The external examiner was George Larbi (IDD, University of Birmingham). The viva was held on 7 October.

Welcome to **Dr William Davies** , Research Assistant working with Clive Gamble.

Welcome to **Tricia Eldridge** , Departmental Secretary and Postgraduate Administrator. Tricia will be working part-time on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Welcome to **Professor Pilar Lopez** , Visiting Scientist from the University of Madrid , who will be collaborating with John Lowe.

David Simon attended the inaugural lecture by Prof. Richard Crook, Institute of Commonwealth Studies , in Senate House on 27 October. It was entitled 'The state of the state in Africa : what is to be done?'

Hilary Geoghegan presented an introduction to her research project - The Geography of Enthusiasm - at the AGM and conference of the Telecommunications Heritage Group at the Science Museum (South Kensington, London) on Saturday 25th September 2004. Hilary also has an article about her research on the cultural geographies of subject enthusiasts and museum collections entitled 'Calling all Enthusiasts' appearing in the forthcoming edition of the Telecommunications Heritage Journal.

On October 18th, **Professor Tim Unwin** gave the first lecture in the programme designed for schools, the 'Royal Holloway Lectures in Geography'. The lecture was entitled 'Environment and Sustainability' and it attracted 40 (AS) school pupils from 7 different schools in the local area.

On October 19th, a half day conference was convened by **Rob Imrie** on behalf of 42 AS students from Brentwood school, Essex. After an opening address by Rob Imrie, **Richard Hodgkins** gave a lecture on 'Glaciation and global warming'. This was followed by a short talk by **Ade Palmer** and **Elaine Turton** , and follow-up workshops based in the laboratories. The session was concluded by Rob Imrie giving a lecture on global geographies, followed by a tour of the campus (conducted with the generous help of **Wen-I-Lin**) and lunch.

OUTSIDE ENGAGEMENTS

Vandana Desai presented research papers on findings from her recent fieldwork in Mumbai on NGOs at IGU-UK 2004 conference in Glasgow on 16th August 2004, on 5th October

2004 at the Department of Geography, University of Reading and on 20th October 2004 at the School of Geographical Sciences of the University of Bristol. This research received funding from the British Academy.

On October 25th, **Rob Imrie** gave a seminar presentation in the Bartlett School of Architecture and Planning, University College London on the theme of 'disability, embodiment, and the meaning of the home'.

Felix Driver has been appointed to the editorial board of the Nineteenth-Century Periodicals Online project managed by Thomson Gale, which will result in text searchable online editions of around 5,000 periodicals. The inaugural meeting of the board was held at the British Library Conference Centre on 22 October.

PUBLICATIONS

Owen-Jones, G., (2004), 'children's Geographies in Botanic Gardens' in R. Bowles(ed) Place and Space : Register of Research in Primary Geography, Occasional Paper No. 4, 41-4.

F. Driver , 'Henry Morton Stanley, 1841-1904', in Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (Oxford University Press, 2004), vol. 52, 214-220.

F. Driver , 'Thomas Edward Bowdich (1791-1824)', revised entry in Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (Oxford University Press, 2004), vol. 6, 886-7.

F. Driver , 'James Silk Buckingham (1786-1855)', revised entry in Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (Oxford University Press, 2004), vol. 8, 510-11.

F. Driver , 'Arthur Jermy Mounteney Jephson (1858-1908)', in Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (Oxford University Press, 2004), vol. 30, 31.

F. Driver , 'Alexander Maconochie (1787-1860)', revised entry in Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (Oxford University Press, 2004), vol. 35, 974-5.

F. Driver , 'William Winwood Reade (1838-1875)', in Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (Oxford University Press, 2004), vol. 46, 233-4.

F. Driver , 'William Grant Stairs (1863-1892)', revised entry in Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (Oxford University Press, 2004), vol. 52, 75-6.

F. Driver , 'Henry Yule (1820-1889)', in Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (Oxford University Press, 2004), vol. 60, 976-8.

David Simon , Duncan McGregor and Kwasi Nsiah-Gyabaah (2004) 'The changing urban-rural interface of African cities: definitional issues and an application to Kumasi , Ghana ', Environment and Urbanization 16(2): 235-247.

Imrie, R ., 2004, Can the planning system meet the needs of disabled people?, Town and Country Planning, 73, 9, 252-254.

Tim Unwin and **Jim Rose** (2004) Regions, area studies and the meaning of place, in: Matthews, J.A. and Herbert, D.T. (eds) Unifying Geography: Common heritage, shared future, London : Routledge, 171-188.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Danielle Schreve has been awarded a grant of £134,739 from English Heritage via the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund to set up the 'National Ice Age Network', which will employ a PDRA at Royal Holloway until April 2007. The project is in collaboration with the Department of Archaeology at the University of Birmingham and it is hoped to add Leicester and Southampton Universities to the Network from 2005 onwards with the help of joint funding from English Nature.

VISITORS/MEETINGS IN THE DEPARTMENT

Ed Holcroft, Chief Executive of NetDay Association South Africa, one of the leading small organisations responsible for implementing Open Source Thin Client solutions in African schools, visited **Tim Unwin** on 4th October to discuss areas of research collaboration.

Laurie Nathan from the Crisis States Programme, DESTIN, LSE presented the CEDAR Seminar on Monday 11th October on 'the Absence of Common Values and the Failure of Co-operative Security in Southern Africa , 1992-2003.

[Professor Derek Gregory](#) from the University of British Columbia presented the Gordon Manley Lecture on Thursday, 28th October on 'Orientalism and Occupation: spaces of political violence in Cairo and Baghdad '. He also held a departmental discussion meeting with graduate students, post-docs and staff to discuss his work and in particular his new book, The Colonial Present: Afghanistan , Palestine , Iraq .

RHIER Staff presented the Departmental Seminar on Thursday, 14th October giving short presentations on their current research.

Bill Austin from the University of St. Andrews presented the QUISS Seminar on Wednesday, 27th October entitled 'Radiocarbon in the Oceans: Not all Chronology!'

CONFERENCES-FIELDWORK-OVERSEAS

David Simon participated in Southern Africa festival, organised by Twiga, a Swedish student NGO that focuses on African development, at the Folk High School , Tomelilla, Skåne, southern Sweden , on 22-23 October. He presented a session on Relations between ' South Africa and Southern Africa '.

Tim Unwin gave an Invited keynote address entitled "Theories in Transition", at the European Science Foundation workshop on understanding transition in central and eastern Europe, 7th-10th September 2004, Groningen , The Netherlands.