

STAFF AND STUDENTS

Welcome to **Dr. Svetlana Kuzmina** from the Russian Academy of Sciences who joins us for the next three years. Svetlana will be working as a post-doctoral research assistant for Scott Elias, collaborating on fossil insect studies from interglacial deposits in Alaska and the Yukon Territory, funded by a grant from the Leverhulme Trust.

Professor Clive Gamble, professor of Geography, who joins us from the University of Southampton.

Professor Ed Maltby, Chris Sollars, Fotis Sgouridis, Conor Linstead, Hongyan Chen and Catherine Wyatt who are based in the Geography Department and **David Hogan, Vicky Tainton** and **Martin Blackwell** who will remain at IGER in Devon.

David Gilbert ran a session on balancing teaching and research as part of the College's CAPITAL induction course for new lecturing staff on Tuesday 14th September 2004

Katie Willis was elected Chair of the Developing Areas Research Group of the RGS-IBG at the DARG AGM in August.

Mark Stephens successfully defended his PhD on 29th September 2004 on the topic of Late Quaternary palaeoenvironments at the Great Cave of Niah, Sarawak, Borneo. His examiners were Prof. Claudio Vita-Finzi and Prof. Donald Davidson, and his supervisors were Jim Rose and David Gilbertson (Plymouth).

Dr. Ian Candy has been appointed to a tenurable lectureship in the Department of Geography at the University of Loughborough as from 1st January 2005.

OUTSIDE ENGAGEMENTS

Ed Derbyshire met Dr. Claire Horwell (Earth Sciences, University of Bristol) at the Geological Society in London on 6 September to discuss strategies for advancing research into the human health effects of natural aerosolic dust, including comparative work on particulates from both dryland and volcanic sources.

Ed Derbyshire took part in a recorded interview with BBC World staff at Bush House on 6 September concerning dryland dust storms, desertification and implications for human health with special reference to North China.

David Hogan and **Vicky Tainton** of RHIER collaborated with IGER's North Wyke Research Station at the British Association's Festival of Science held this year 6-10 September at

Exeter University . They arranged a demonstration of wetlands and their role in mediating the effects of environmental pollution. An actual wetland comprising fen and wet grassland plants was set up to allow visiting groups of school children to test water quality entering and leaving the wetland. Groups also compared the infiltration rates of water passing through columns of differing materials, and examined the appearance of drainage waters entering 'the river'. There was much interest and discussion in the wider value of wetlands in environmental protection.

Richard Hodgkins attended the International Glaciological Society British Branch meeting in Sheffield , 8 September, and gave a paper entitled. "Topographic Controls on the Spatial Distribution of Winter Accumulation at a High-Arctic Glacier (Finsterwalderbreen, Svalbard)".

As a Management Committee member, **David Simon** has been busy at the Canon Collins Educational Trust for Southern Africa over recent months during the illness and subsequent death in July of the founder-director, Ethel de Keyser. Interim arrangements were put in place and David was a member of the selection committee for a successor, a process culminating in a highly successful interview day on 21 September.

Jay Mistry gave a talk entitled ' Journeys with fire: Amerindian burning in the savannas of Brazil ' to a public audience at the Eden Project, Cornwall on the 25th September as part of the Eden Live Series.

David Gilbert gave a paper entitled 'From Margo and Tom to Margaret and John: Suburbia and English political culture 1979-1997', at the 'Good Life' conference held at Kingston University's Centre for Suburban Studies, on Friday 24th September 2004.

David Gilbert appeared on Laurie Taylor's Thinking Allowed on BBC Radio 4 on Wednesday 22nd September, 2004, discussing the academic study of suburbia.

www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/factual/thinkingallowed_20040922.shtml

Duncan McGregor attended a one-day workshop on DFID Development Awareness Fund Major Grants, at the Development Education Association, London , on 28 September.

PUBLICATIONS

David Simon (2002) 'The World City Hypothesis: reflections from the periphery' in Roland Robertson and Kathleen White (eds) *Globalization: Critical Concepts in Sociology* (Routledge: London and New York), Vol 5, Section 4. Reprinted from P. Knox and P. Taylor (eds) (1995) *World Cities in a World-System* (Cambridge UP)

Edwards, R., 2004, 'Let's get the issues out into the open', *Estates Gazette*, July, pp. 2-4.

Hodgkins, R., Tranter, M. and Dowdeswell, J.A. 2004. The characteristics and formation of a high-Arctic proglacial icing. *Geografiska Annaler*, 86A (3), 127-137.

Kemp, R.A., King, M., Toms, P., Derbyshire, E., Sayago, J.M. & Collantes, M.M. (2004). Pedosedimentary development of part of a Late Quaternary loess-palaeosol sequence in Northwest Argentina . *Journal of Quaternary Science* 19, 567-576.

THIRD WORLD QUARTERLY, VOL.25(7)2004, Special Issue
Going Global: The Promises And Pitfalls Of Hosting Global Games
GUEST EDITORS: David R. Black and Janis van der Westhuizen

Notes on Contributors

- David R. Black and Janis van der Westhuizen, Editorial: The neglected allure of Global Games?
- David R. Black and Janis van der Westhuizen; The Allure of Global Games for 'Semi-peripheral' Polities and Spaces. A Research Agenda
- David Whitson; Bringing the World to Canada : 'The periphery of the Centre'
- John Home ; The Global Game of Football, the 2002 World Cup and Regional Development in Japan .
- David R. Black and Shona Bezanson; The Olympic Games, Human Rights and Democratisation: Lessons from Seoul and Implications for Beijing .
- Paul Dimeo and Joyce Kay; Major Sports Events, Image Projections and the problems of 'Semi-Periphery': A Case Study of the South Asia Cricket World Cup of 1996.
- Janis van der Westhuizen; Marketing Malaysia as a Model, Modern Moslem State : The significance of the XVI Commonwealth Games.
- Scarlett Cornelissen ; It's Africa 's Turn! The narratives and legitimisations surrounding the Moroccan and South African bids for the 2006 Football World Cup and 2010 FIFA finals.
- Kamilla Swart and Urmilla Bob, The seductive Discourse of Development: The 2004 Cape Town and Olympic bid.
- John Nauright, Global Games: Culture, Political Economy and Sport in the Globalized World of the Twenty-First Century.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Jay Mistry has been awarded a small grant of £3470 from the LTSN-GEES Subject Centre on 'Skills at Masters level in Geography Higher Education: teaching, learning and applying'. The project will run over one year, and will be looking at skills development in the CEDAR masters and a masters programme at the Open University.

VISITORS/MEETINGS IN THE DEPARTMENT

Marton Markovits, PhD student in Political Science, University of Pennsylvania, visited David Simon and Sylvester Akhaine on 15 September to discuss his research on civil society and democratisation in Ghana and Senegal.

CONFERENCES-FIELDWORK-OVERSEAS

Ed Derbyshire attended, by invitation, the first international meeting of the Organisation Mondiale de Minéralogie in Monaco, 15-18 September, presenting a talk on 'Natural Mineral Dust and Human Health' in Section 2 ("Health Impacts of Minerals - a Global perspective"). The meeting was sponsored by Prince Rainier III of Monaco .

David Simon was a co-organiser of the international conference, Looking at South Africa Ten Years On, held at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies and School of Oriental and African Studies, 10-12 September. He was responsible for the stream of sessions on 'Looking Out', dealing with South Africa's international interactions and relations, and chaired the plenary session in this theme, 'South Africa in Africa'.

David Simon attended the biennial conference of the African Studies Association of the UK on 14th September, held at Goldsmith's College. Ruth Payne (1st year PhD) also attended the conference and presented a paper on 'Child-headed households in Zambia' in a panel on children convened by Patrick Shanahan of Street Child Africa, one of our Honorary Research Associates.