

Department newsletter:

Sep / Oct 2007, No. 171

Staff and Students

Felix Driver has been elected to Council as a representative of the academic staff on Academic Board, for a period of three years.

Abbas Akhondi has been appointed as a Honorary Research Associate in the Department of Geography.

Katie Willis was the external examiner for Daniel Nehring's PhD thesis in Sociology at The University of Essex. The thesis was entitled 'Intimacy, Culture and Modernity in Urban Mexico: Narrative Constructions of Couple Relationships among Young University Graduates from Mexico City' and the internal examiner was Professor Lydia Morris.

David Hilling continues to act as the External Examiner for the London Metropolitan University's MSc in International Trade and Transport. He has also advised on port topics for MSc and MBA students at Greenwich Maritime Institute

Outside Engagements

Tim Unwin was a panellist at the UNESCO Round Table on "ICT for Inclusion: Waste or Necessity" held during the UN Global Forum on Youth and ICT for Development in Geneva on 24-26 September 2007.

Tim Unwin was a Panellist in the session on "How to make the best use of more education finance" at the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development's International Forum on "Capacity Development for Education for All", held in Bonn, 8-10 October 2007 as part of the German Presidency of the G8 in 2007.

Tim Unwin was a panellist at Lifeline Network's Drivers for Change event held at Portcullis House, hosted by Meg Hillier MP, and chaired by Tim Marshall (Foreign Affairs Editor at Sky News) on 1st November

As UK Vice President of the European River Sea Transport Union, **David Hilling** attended the Board meeting in Hamburg and reported on development in UK waterborne freight, 12-15 September.

On September 5, **Tim Cresswell** gave a keynote address at the University of Copenhagen before the Postgraduate training course on the theme of mobility and place. His talk was titled 'Constellations of Mobility: Towards a Cultural Kinetics.'

Tim Cresswell gave a seminar on 'Place, Practice and Persistence in Maxwell Street, Chicago' at the Department of Geography, Oxford University. 16 October.

Fiona Coward and **Clive Gamble** presented a paper 'While my guitar gently weeps: emotion, material culture and the evolution of the mind' at the conference The Sapient

Mind: Archaeology meets Neuroscience held at the McDonald Institute Cambridge September 14-16 and sponsored by The British Academy and The Guarantors of Brain.

Clive Gamble was discussant at the RGS-IBG session 'Enchanting Geographies' organised by Tara Woodyer and Hilary Geoghegan.

Clive Gamble attended as Vice-President the opening of the Society of Antiquaries of London Tercentenary Exhibition 'Making History: Antiquaries in Britain 1707-2007' at the Royal Academy, 11 September.

David Simon contributed a paper on 'Forced migration, career choice and development: Holocaust ethnographies' to the session on Migration, Development and Class, RGS-IBG Annual Conference, London, on 30th August 2007.

Dorothea Kleine and **Maria Montero** from the EPSRC Fair Tracing Project attended the Chilean National Wine Tasting 2007, a trade event for the wine sector, where they met representatives of the Chilean project partners, the Los Robles wine cooperative, to discuss the project. London, Oct 16.

Dorothea Kleine presented a paper: "Found in Translation: Experiences from the interdisciplinary Fair Tracing Project" at the Annual Human Computer Interaction Conference 2007 in Lancaster, September 4 .

Alex Loftus presented a paper in a workshop at the Open University on 'Questioning neoliberal environmental governance' in September. He also presented a paper on 'Intervening in the environment of the everyday' at an AHRC-funded workshop at FACT in Liverpool.

Ed Derbyshire attended the meetings of the UK Learned Societies and the Scientific Unions Committee at the Royal Society, London, on 6th September.

Ed Derbyshire attended a meeting of the Natural Sciences Committee of the UK Commission for UNESCO in London on 10th September.

Ed Derbyshire attended the Bicentenary Conference of the Geological Society at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, Westminster, 10th – 12th September, and convened an informal meeting of the Society's External Relations Committee there on 10th September.

Ed Derbyshire, together with Dr. Ted Nield and Dr. Eduardo de Mulder, met editorial staff of the international serial 'Nature' at its headquarters in Islington on 23rd October to discuss publishing initiatives for the International Year of Planet Earth 2008.

Ed Derbyshire attended a meeting of the UK-UNESCO International Science Programme leaders in Whitehall on 29th October.

Alasdair Pinkerton spoke at a symposium held on 5 November at Stewart's Melville College in Edinburgh. Speaking to an audience of 5th & 6th form students, Alasdair covered issues related to 'geography at university' and 'geographical careers'. This was followed by an excellent Q&A session.

Duncan McGregor attended the Annual Review Meeting of the University's External Geography Degrees, at Stewart House on 30 October.

Publications

Clive Gamble 2007 *Archaeology the basics*: 2nd edition London, Routledge.

Dikeç, Mustafa, 2007, *Badlands of the Republic: Space, Politics and Urban Policy* (Blackwell).

Stephen Bell (2007) 'The child drums and the elder dances?' Girlfriends and boyfriends negotiating power relations in rural Uganda', Chapter 14 in Ruth Panelli, Samantha Punch & Elsbeth Robson (eds) *Global Perspectives on Rural Childhood and Youth: Young Rural Lives*. London and New York: Routledge, pp. 180-191

Felix Driver, 'Global times and spaces: on historicizing the global', *History Workshop Journal* 64 (2007), 321-2.

Cresswell T, 2007, Hospitality and Migrant Memory in Maxwell Street, Chicago in J, Germann Molz and S. Gibson (eds) *Mobilizing Hospitality: The Ethics of Social Relations in a Mobile World*. Pp47-64, Ashgate.

Hilling, D., 2007 'Potential and problems of freight on the Severn'. *Seventh Annual Report of the House of Commons Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee, HC 345-11, EV.360*.

Grants and Awards

Mustafa Dikeç has been awarded the 2007-08 HARC Fellowship from Royal Holloway's Humanities and Arts Research Centre for a project entitled 'Space, Politics and the Political'.

Fieldwork-Conferences-Overseas

Hannah Macpherson is currently visiting Elspeth Probyn in the gender and cultural studies department at the University of Sydney.

Dorothea Kleine (Geography, RHUL), Ann Light (Computer Science, QMUL/Sheffield Hallam) and Macarena Vivent (Sociology, UFRO, Chile) of the EPSRC Fair Tracing Project conducted intensive, 10-day fieldwork with grape producers and their wine co-operative in Curicó, Chile. The work included interviews, focus groups, participatory photo and video content development, and two participatory design workshops for the Fair Tracing technology. Chile, Oct 22-31

Ugo Vallauri gave a presentation on Energy Issues in access to ICT. At the Equitable Access – a one day event on equitable access to ICT infrastructure, organised by APC. http://access.apc.org/index.php/Main_Page

Visitors/meetings in the department

Prof. David Livingstone, School of Geography, Queens University Belfast, presented the Gordon Manley Lecture on 29th October. The title of his lecture was 'Darwinian Landscapes'.

Barnaby Crocker, PhD Student, RHUL presented the QUISS Seminar on 24th October. The title of his presentation was 'The Evolution and Palaeoecology of the Pleistocene Woolly Rhinoceros, *Coelotonda Antiquitatis* (Blumenbach, 1799)'.

Dr. Ian Barnes, School of Biological Sciences, RHUL, presented the CQR Lecture on 7th November. The title of his lecture was 'Ancient DNA and the Last Ice Age'.

Dr. Ali Saeidi, who completed his PhD in 1999 at Royal Holloway, and is now Assistant Professor of Sociology & Head Department of Social Planning, The Faculty of Social Science, University of Tehran, visited Tim Unwin on 4 September to discuss future collaborative research and teaching

Christopher Butler, Head of Student Services and Head of Student Counselling, gave a seminar in the Department on 18th October entitled 'Students with mental health issues'

Fiona Coward, RHUL, presented the Departmental Seminar on 11th October. The title of her presentation was 'From Lucy to Language: The archaeology of the social brain'.

Charad Shari, LSE presented the Departmental Seminar on 25th October. The title of the presentation was 'Apartheid Remains'.

The Department's annual Postgraduate Symposium took place on 26th September, and was an outstanding success. Thanks are due to all the staff and students who supported it, and to Charles Howie who coordinated the event including an enjoyably social occasion afterwards!

Any Other News

UNESCO's web-site at <http://www.unesco.org/education/en/partnerships> provides a summary of some of the things that the Department are doing in Partnerships for Education. **Tim Unwin** is happy to provide further information to anyone who wants further information.

Congratulations to **Win** and his wife, Julia, on the birth of their little baby boy (8lbs).

Congratulations to **Vicki Elefanti** and **Gilbert Marshall** on the birth of their baby girl, Ismini.