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CHRONIQUE DU PRÉSIDENT

La géographie à l'école – Une perspective du R.-U.

Salutations du R.-U. où les variations du climat ont cédé la place au mois de février le plus ensoleillé jamais enregistré alors que les fleurs printanières sont apparues un mois plutôt qu'à l'accoutumée. Cependant, il n'a y a pas que le beau temps; les inondations et les orages aussi sont des événements qui méritent d'être signalés dans les nouvelles. On parle beaucoup des changements climatiques!

Les journaux anglais constituent un des plaisirs de la vie au R.-U. À mon arrivée ici à la mi-janvier, une des manchettes alarmantes qui a attiré mon attention (sans oublier le très familier sujet de la crise mondiale) s'intitulait « Déclin de la discipline géographique ». C'est le constat fait par l'*England's schools' inspection agency* (Ofsted) à la suite des inspections et des enquêtes sur l'enseignement de la géographie à l'école menées entre 2004 et 2007. Selon l'inspecteur général de l'éducation la « géographie traverse une période critique de son histoire » et il « faut beaucoup d'efforts pour rendre la discipline pertinente et agréable aux yeux des étudiants ». (BBC News, 2008). La situation est perçue comme étant particulièrement critique chez les jeunes âgés de 11 à 14 ans qui sont trop souvent formés par des professeurs non spécialisés. En conséquence, on enregistre un taux de décrochage élevé après cet âge lorsque la discipline n'est plus obligatoire. Le rapport conclut que la géographie est la pire discipline enseignée à l'école et qu'elle est considérée comme « ennuyeuse » par les élèves.

On peut penser que cet article resterait caché obscurément dans le journal (en aurait-on fait une manchette au Canada?), néanmoins, il a fait la une des informations de la chaîne de télévision nationale BBC (BBC News, 2008) avec des commentaires improvisés de la présentatrice de nouvelles et la présentatrice météo qui ont déclaré : « C'est difficile à croire. J'ai étudié la géographie à l'université et j'ai adoré cela! » (ou d'autres mots ayant le même sens). [Étudiants, notez les parcours de carrière potentiels!]

Le rapport recommande d'associer davantage la géographie à du travail de terrain et de l'orienter vers des sujets touchant la planète comme les changements climatiques, le commerce et les concepts de la vie durable ainsi que les effets sur l'environnement.

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Geography in the Schools – A UK Perspective

Greetings from the UK where the vagaries of weather have resulted in the sunniest February on record and spring flowers having sprung a month earlier than usual – though all is not sunshine, with floods and severe storms also newsworthy events. Lots of talk of climate change!

One of the delights of being in the UK is British newspapers. Back in mid-January when I arrived here one of the alarming headlines to catch my eye (along with the now all too familiar global crises) was “Geography as a subject is in decline”. This was the finding of England’s schools’ inspection agency (Ofsted) based on inspections and surveys of geography teaching in schools between 2004-2007. The chief inspector of education observed that “geography is at a crucial period in its development” and that “more needs to be done to make the subject relevant and more engaging to students”. (BBC News, 2008) The situation is seen as especially critical for the 11-14 age group where too often non-specialists are teaching the subject resulting in a high drop out rate after this age when it is no longer a compulsory subject. The report concluded that geography was the worst taught subject in schools and that pupils said it was “boring”.

One might think that this news item would remain obscurely buried in the newspaper (might a similar news item in Canada have been?), however, it was widely reported and highlighted in the BBC national television news (BBC News, 2008) with unscripted commentary from both the news anchor and the weather reporter (both incidentally female) who proclaimed “Hard to believe. I took geography at university and loved it!” (or words to that effect). [Students note potential career paths!]

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CHRONIQUE DU PRÉSIDENT

En ce qui concerne le travail de terrain, le rapport a signalé que les écoles primaires et secondaires objets de l'enquête n'ont pas reconnu la valeur du travail de terrain et que souvent elles n'ont pas rempli les conditions pour le faire. Cette situation est attribuable aux inquiétudes suscitées par des règlements trop bureaucratiques en matière de santé et de sécurité (sans oublier les questions associées à la responsabilité) ainsi que par des problèmes de temps, d'expertise et de budgets.

Cependant, la situation actuelle n'est peut-être pas aussi désastreuse que le suggèrent les conclusions de Ofsted. En 2006, le gouvernement a engagé 2 millions £ (soit 4,3 millions \$CA) dans le plan d'action pour la géographie. L'année dernière, ce plan a apporté des réformes importantes aux programmes d'études afin de les rendre plus intéressants et pertinents en introduisant des sujets comme les changements environnementaux et le développement durable en plus des programmes de base traditionnels (voir www.geographyteachingtoday.org.uk). Il s'agissait d'un effort conjoint de la Geographical Association et la Royal Geographical Society (de même que l'Institute of British Geographers) en collaboration avec le célèbre Michael Palin qui représente le « culte des célébrités » dans lequel nous vivons. Selon Mme Rita Gardner, directrice de la Royal Geographical Society (RGS), il y a de très bons professeurs de géographie et la RGS fera tout son possible pour soutenir les non-spécialistes et les professeurs moins motivés et les encourager à se perfectionner.

Même si le vent est probablement en train de tourner, les données montrent que la solution à la pénurie des professeurs de géographie au R.-U. n'est pas pour demain, car le nombre de diplômés qui sont formés pour devenir professeurs a diminué d'année en année depuis 2000 (Morgan, 2008). En réponse à ces préoccupations, la revue *Geography*, récemment remaniée, cherche à rendre service à l'enseignement de la géographie et à transcender la frontière entre l'université et l'école. Elle a entamé une série d'articles qui traitent de la nature de la géographie contemporaine (voir *Geography* Vol. 93, partie 1, été 2008). Comme le souligne le rédacteur en chef, « nous pensons que l'enseignement de la géographie à l'école ne devrait pas suivre aveuglément le modèle de l'université, mais en même temps nous prétendons qu'il faudrait étudier et discuter les idées et les perspectives « d'avant-garde » pour avoir une richesse intellectuelle » (Morgan, 2008 :2). L'édition actuelle comprend des articles sur des sujets comme les changements climatiques, les données sur le niveau des mers, les politiques de l'industrie de la mode dans le monde, la géographie et la citoyenneté; sujets qui semblent répondre aux questions de pertinence de Ofsted. Dans un article précédent de *Geography* intitulé «Thinking geographically (Penser géographie)», Peter Jackson (2006) soutient l'idée

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The report recommends that geography needs to be made more relevant with more field work and a greater focus on global issues such as climate change, trade and the concepts of sustainable living and environmental footprints. On the issue of fieldwork, the report noted that primary and secondary schools surveyed did not recognise the value of fieldwork and often did not fulfill requirements to provide it. Barriers to this were related to concerns of overly bureaucratic health and safety regulations (and associated liability issues), time, expertise and budgets.

However, the current situation may not be as dire as the Ofsted findings suggest. In 2006 the government committed £2 million (then, Cdn \$4.3 million), to the Action Plan for Geography that last year introduced radical reforms to the curriculum to make it more engaging and relevant with the introduction of topics such as environmental change and sustainable development added to the more traditional base (see www.geographyteachingtoday.org.uk) This was a joint effort of the Geographical Association and the Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers) together with Michael Palin as the 'celebrity' figure. The latter is an acknowledgement of the 'celebrity culture' in which we live. Dr. Rita Gardner, Director of the Royal Geographical Society (RGS) commented that there are some very good geography teachers and that the RGS would do all they could to support and encourage non-specialist and less motivated teachers to "raise their game".

While perhaps the tide is turning, data suggest that the shortage of trained geography teachers in the UK will not soon be resolved as the number of geography graduates who train to become teachers has fallen year by year since 2000 (Morgan, 2008). In response to concerns, the newly revamped journal *Geography* seeks to serve geographic education across the university-school divide. They have begun a series of articles that will address the nature of contemporary geography (see *Geography* Vol. 93, Part 1, Spring, 2008). As the editor observes, "[w]hile we do not think that school geography should slavishly follow the fashions of the university subject, we argue that it will be intellectually poorer if ideas and perspectives from the 'cutting edge' are not read about and discussed" (Morgan, 2008:2). The current volume includes articles on issues such as climate change, sea level data, the politics of the global fashion industry and, geography and citizenship, all of which seem to address the Ofsted concerns of relevance. A previous article in *Geography* by Peter Jackson (2006) entitled "Thinking Geographically" argues for shifting perception of the discipline from a *Trivial Pursuit* style factual view to a more conceptually based image that addresses such issues as globalization and sustainability around key geographic concepts.

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CONGRÈS ANNUEL de l'ACG 2008
*Organisé par le Département de géographie
de l'Université Laval*
à Québec
20 au 24 mai 2008

Le spectacle d'ouverture du 400e anniversaire de Québec a réuni 50000 personnes le 31 décembre dernier au pied des remparts de la ville. Le succès de l'événement annonce une année riche en activités et en célébrations. À l'occasion de ce mémorable anniversaire, le département de géographie de l'Université Laval est pour sa part enthousiaste à l'idée de vous accueillir dans la vieille capitale du 20 au 24 mai prochain lors du congrès annuel de l'Association des géographes canadiens. Notre intention est que ce congrès soit aussi agréable qu'intellectuellement stimulant. Le programme est en tous cas prometteur car plusieurs conférenciers de grande réputation ont déjà confirmé leur présence. Sans oublier que le congrès de l'ACG accueillera cette année le colloque Géographies de la violence de la Commission sur l'approche culturelle de l'Union géographique internationale, de même que le colloque annuel de l'Association canadienne de science régionale et celui du Groupe canadien de recherches en géomorphologie. Vous pouvez dès à présent soumettre une communication et vous inscrire par l'entremise de notre site Internet: www.cagquebec2008.org

Profitez de votre participation au congrès pour visiter la ville de Québec et sa région. Six différentes excursions vous sont offertes à cet effet. Grâce à ces excursions vous découvrirez: les lieux historiques de la ville de Québec; le quartier Saint-Roch, un ancien faubourg ouvrier en pleine revitalisation depuis plus d'une décennie; les chutes Montmorency, parmi les plus hautes du Canada; les campagnes riantes de Kamouraska; les beautés naturelles et culturelles de Charlevoix et du Saguenay. Enfin, soyez du somptueux banquet sur le Saint-Laurent à bord du Louis-Jolliet!

Vous pouvez vous inscrire à toutes ces activités par l'entremise du site Internet du congrès. Ce site contient aussi des informations concernant le transport et l'hébergement.

WWW.CAGQUEBEC2008.ORG

CAG ANNUAL MEETING 2008
*Organized by the Department of Geography,
Laval University*
Québec City
20 to 24 May 2008

The 400th anniversary activities of Quebec City officially began on January 1st with record crowds of over 50,000 people celebrating the city's birthday at an outdoor winter concert. The Geography Department of Laval University is excited to tell you about what we are doing to make the CAG 2008 Conference a stimulating gathering with keynote talks by several well-known geographers, and conjoint meetings with the International symposium of the Commission on the Cultural Approach in Geography of the IGU, the annual meeting of the Canadian Regional Science Association (CRSA), and the Canadian Geomorphology Research Group. You can now register online for the conference (20 to 24 May 2008) and book your housing through the conference website: www.cagquebec2008.org

The conference will also highlight a number of opportunities to see one of North America's most historic regions with a choice of six different field trips. Visit one of the oldest colonial settlement sites in the Americas at Cap-Rouge (1541-1543); explore the banks of the St. Lawrence River; experience the renaissance of the St. Roch working district; smell and taste the aromas of the Kamoursaka countryside; see the Montmorency waterfalls (among the highest in North America), and travel to the Charlevoix-Saguenay region where Nature and Culture constantly intermingle in panoramic displays. And, don't forget the sumptuous conference banquet aboard the Louis-Jolliet on the St. Lawrence River.

You can register for all these activities via our meeting website. This site also contains information concerning transport and lodging.

We look forward to receiving your registration www.cagquebec2008.org and welcoming you to Quebec City in May!

WWW.CAGQUEBEC2008.ORG

RÉDACTEUR DU JOURNAL *LE GÉOGRAPHE CANADIEN*

L'Association canadienne des géographes sollicite des candidatures pour le poste de rédacteur du journal *Le Géographe canadien* pour une période de trois ans débutant le 1^{er} janvier 2009. Le candidat retenu aura l'occasion de présenter les meilleurs éléments de la recherche géographique canadienne et étrangère contemporaine à un public national et international dans un journal respecté.

Les lettres de candidature doivent inclure un énoncé des valeurs et des objectifs que le candidat préconiserait à titre de rédacteur, ainsi que le type privilégié de structure éditoriale (voir le point 4 ci-dessous). Les candidats doivent également présenter un curriculum vitae et les noms et coordonnées de deux références.

Les lettres de candidature doivent être envoyées à cag@geog.mcgill.ca d'ici **le 7 mai, 2008**.

Vous pouvez également employer cette adresse si vous avez des questions.

Mandat du rédacteur du journal *Le Géographe canadien*

1. Le rédacteur sera un membre de l'ACG.
 2. La durée des fonctions sera de trois ans à partir de la date de nomination et pourra être prolongée par le Comité exécutif.
 3. Le rédacteur rend compte aux membres de l'Association par l'entremise du Comité exécutif.
 4. La direction de la rédaction peut se faire selon l'un ou l'autre des modèles suivants :
 - a) Rédacteur en chef assisté par un rédacteur adjoint en charge de la géographie humaine ou physique, selon les antécédents disciplinaires du rédacteur en chef
 - b) Deux corédacteurs, dont un responsable de la géographie humaine et l'autre, de la géographie physique
- Quel que soit le modèle préconisé, des rédacteurs adjoints seront normalement nommés pour assumer une partie ou la totalité des responsabilités liées aux manuscrits en français, aux paysages urbains canadiens, aux exemples de géomorphologie canadienne, aux textes sur la SGI et aux révisions.
5. Le rédacteur assume principalement les responsabilités suivantes :
 - i) solliciter, réviser et sélectionner des textes à publier en assurant un bon équilibre entre les éléments de géographie humaine et physique et entre les textes en français et en anglais;
 - ii) évaluer les propositions de numéros spéciaux ou de rubriques Focus, sélectionner les rédacteurs invités et superviser la préparation des numéros spéciaux;
 - iii) formuler des recommandations au Comité exécutif en ce qui a trait aux rédacteurs en chef adjoints compétents et à de nouvelles nominations au Bureau de rédaction;
 - iv) agir à titre de principal agent de liaison entre l'Association canadienne des géographes et Blackwell Publishing;
 - v) veiller à ce que l'information présentée sur le site Web du LGC soit exacte et actualisée;
 - v) présenter des rapports réguliers au Comité exécutif durant l'année et particulièrement lors des assemblées qui se tiennent à l'automne et au printemps;
 - vi) assister au Congrès annuel de l'association et y présenter un rapport annuel;
 - vi) collaborer avec le secrétaire-trésorier à la préparation de demandes de soutien financier;
 6. Le rédacteur aura droit à une allocation annuelle dont le montant sera établi par le Comité exécutif.

EDITOR OF *THE CANADIAN GEOGRAPHER*

The Canadian Association of Geographers invites applications for the position of Editor of the *The Canadian Geographer* for a three-year term commencing 1 January, 2009. The successful applicant will have the opportunity of presenting the best of contemporary Canadian and foreign geographical research to a national and international audience in a well respected journal.

Letters of application must include a statement of the values and objectives the applicant would promote as editor, and the preferred type of editorial structure (see item 4 below) . Applicants must also provide a *curriculum vitae* and the names and contact information of two referees.

Letters of application should be sent to cag@geog.mcgill.ca by **May 7th, 2008**.

You may also use this email address for any questions you may have.

Terms of Reference For Editors of *The Canadian Geographer*

1. The Editor will be a member of the CAG.
2. The term of office will be three years from the date of appointment, and may be renewed by the Executive.
3. The Editor reports to the members of the Association through the Executive Committee.
4. Editorial management of the journal may be carried out under one of two different models.
 - a) An Editor-in-Chief assisted by an Associate Editor responsible for either human or physical geography, depending on the disciplinary background of the Editor-in-Chief
 - b) Two co-Editors, one responsible for human, and one responsible for physical geography.
In either case, additional Associate Editors will normally be appointed to deal with some or all of the following responsibilities: French-language manuscripts, Canadian Human Landscape Examples, Canadian Landform Examples, G.I.S. manuscripts, and Reviews.
5. The Editor is primarily responsible for:
 - i) soliciting, reviewing and selecting papers for publication, ensuring an appropriate balance of human and physical geography material as well as material published in French and English.
 - ii) evaluating proposals for Feature Issues or Special Focus sections, selecting guest editors, and overseeing the development of such special issues.
 - iii) recommending to the Executive Committee the names of appropriate Associate Editors and new appointments for the Editorial Board.
 - iv) acting as the principal liaison between the Canadian Association of Geographers and Blackwell Publishing
 - v) ensuring that the information on the TCG website is accurate and up-to-date.
 - v) Reporting to the Executive Committee on a regular basis during the year, and in particular at the time of the fall and spring meeting of the Committee
 - vi) attending, and presenting an annual report to, the Annual General Meeting of the Association
 - vi) working with the Secretary-Treasurer on the preparation of applications for financial support
6. The Editor will receive an annual stipend, the amount of which will be determined by the Executive Committee.

student ZONE d étudiant

MESSAGE FROM THE STUDENT COUNCILLOR *Why should students geographers care about the CAG?*

It was no coincidence to me when Dan Smith recently posted a message on CAGlist to promote discussion on the purpose of the CAGlist as a medium for exchange among Canadian Geographers. His March 5th 2008 posting (subject: to infinity and beyond) came in as I was preparing a similar piece for the Student Zone about the cancellation of the student-oriented geog-grad-research list.

Some of you may be aware that the geog-grad-research list was discontinued, having played, much like CAGlist it seems, an “increasingly conservative role” (to use Dan’s words). The list was set-up in 2003 to promote the sharing of information and resources related to graduate geography studies in Canada. It was not exclusive to CAG student members with hopes that the lively exchange of information and resources would draw new members. Faculty were also welcome to join, and many did, as a way to access information for their students. Its cancellation appears related to two distinct but related issues: apathy and redundancy. I’ll discuss these issues below and raise some questions that emerge from the demise of the student listserv as a first step to what I hope will develop into a fruitful discussion in the coming weeks.

I first contacted the geog-grad-research list host, Shivanand Balram, late in the summer of 2007. Shivanand expressed concern that despite having over 130 members, the list mainly supported a one-way transfer of information regarding student scholarships, conferences and research opportunities, much of which he had posted himself. Since 2003, 320 messages were posted through the list, yet only 48 were posted from addresses not linked to managing the list. So basically Shivanand WAS the student listserv and he deserves credit for his efforts (thank you Shivanand).

An issue for immediate concern is the lack of response from over 130 members who, for one reason or another, thought it was beneficial to be on the list, but who did not find the list a useful medium for sharing their comments and resources, and who did not voice concern when the list was discontinued. Apparently six individuals (you know who you are) did reply to mention that they had benefited from scholarship postings. It is likely that others had benefited in some way. I should point out that I only posted one message on the geog-grad-research list since joining the CAG executive and signing on to the list in June 2007, so I am not excluded.

But this raises another question: why was I not a member of the geog-grad-research list since 2004 when

I first became a member? My answer: CAGlist was the only CAG email list of which I was aware. In 2007, there were 366 student members. How come more of them were not active members of geog-grad-research list and CAGlist for that matter? Is it possible many student members—who together represented 36% of the total CAG membership in 2007—were not aware of these services?

In my view this has as much to do with challenges to communication and awareness as with student indifference, and reinforces the need to fully engage student members to make sure they are aware of their opportunities as part of the CAG. This is not an easy task given that we all have multiple competing priorities and lives outside of academe and the CAG. It is also hard to engage someone during the course of a 1 or 2 year Master’s program. Many students move into the “real world” after following the dangling carrot (i.e. funding) to one obligatory AGM visit. Our membership composition shows that we have difficulty retaining the graduate student-turned practitioner and practitioners in general. Moreover, a quick and dirty survey of geography department enrolment figures for 2005-2006 (see The CAG Directory 2006: iii) shows that there were a total of 1618 students enrolled in Canadian geography departments at the graduate level, so we had roughly about one quarter of them as members of our association. What about the colleges and undergraduates? So I guess a difficult question is: why should geographers care while they are students and after they leave post-secondary? These are the questions I try to answer when recruiting new student members and, ironically, I usually mention the mailing lists (or mailing list) as a key benefit and forum for engaging fellow geographers.

Some CAG members may feel that by losing the geog-grad-research list we have lost a key resource. Others may not. I am afraid that many others would say: “I didn’t know about the geog-grad-research list”. Either way it’s gone, and CAGlist remains our main forum for on-line exchange. There was also some evidence of student material being posted exclusively on CAGlist, which undermined the effectiveness of geog-grad-research list. Maybe the attitude all along was “all the important stuff comes out on the CAGlist and so we don’t need a student list—it’s redundant”. Or maybe it was “all the important stuff comes out on CAGlist so we DO need a student list to funnel unimportant student stuff away from our inboxes”. Indeed this was one issue that came up when I was searching for reasons to help preserve the student list. Through discussions with some more experienced CAGers I learned that some faculty members had expressed frustration with the volume of student-oriented postings flooding their inboxes at one time. That was back in 2003-04 just before my time as a CAG member and so I unfortunately cannot draw on memory here. But what I get from this is that the student listserv

helped to partition CAG communications intended for two principle groups: faculty and students. Since we are trying to promote communication among our membership this alone does not, in my view, provide reasonable justification for preserving a separate student list.

Like many students I signed up for CAGlist (not knowing about the student list) and waited to see what the more experienced members had to say about Canadian geography so that I could understand the “lay of the land” and “how things work around here”. Reading the CAGlist postings, together with the newsletter and annual directory, did help me to feel that I was getting to know a little more about geography in Canada. But I did soon notice that, aside from job postings and the odd graduate research opportunity, there was little, if any, truly student-oriented material posted on CAGlist. Considering that only a fraction of upper year graduate students are really eligible or “ready” for full-time teaching appointments, many of the CAGlist postings seem intended for PhD candidates ready to defend their dissertations and/or faculty. So here is another question: why should geography students care about email lists that they do not know about and others that are visible but do not appear relevant to them? The short answer is: “I don’t know at present”.

What I do know is that over the past five years our student members represented between 29% and 38% of our membership each year, with a mean average of 34% (just over one third) of the annual membership. In light of these facts I think we need to reconsider the old cliché that “young people are our future” and also consider that students are, evidently, a big part of our present. Let’s not ever be guilty of saying “students were our past”—it’s just not a great slogan to build an association around.

It is often difficult to persuade students to be active CAG members and I have some concern for their opportunities to communicate with the general membership via CAGlist. Student Zone is intended to create a space for student discussion. So I urge any students, faculty, and practitioners who read this column to weigh-in on these, or any other issues, in order to promote a productive discussion regarding the role of CAGlist and how we can create forums for exchange that include geographers from all levels and backgrounds. Please also ask yourselves: “what kind of professional association do you want to be a part of?” My vision for the future of the CAG would combine the wisdom and experience of senior members with the energy and enthusiasm of junior members.

Please absolutely feel free to reply to my comments in the form of a column for an upcoming issue, or better still, post your comments on the CAGlist!

Ryan Bullock, CAG Student Councillor 2007-09

CAG Profile – Melanie Bedore, Ph.D. candidate, Department of Geography, Queen’s University, Kingston, Ontario



Melanie Bedore was very recently interviewed for a Trudeau Foundation Doctoral Scholarship. She is pictured here standing in front of one of north

Kingston’s newest retail outlets, which replaced *the* neighborhood grocery store effectively creating a “food desert” for many seniors and low-income families who no longer have healthy food choices nearby. She elaborates on these issues and answers the CAG student profile questions below.

What attracted you to the discipline of Geography?

My background post-secondary education is in public administration and social policy from Carleton University and Queen’s University. I appreciated these disciplines for their interdisciplinary nature, and their commitment to finding practical solutions to pressing social problems. After completing one year of paid employment as a health policy researcher, I realized that I wanted to return to school so that (a) I could continue to address social problems and learn about fundamental questions of justice in society, and (b) earn the Ph.D. credential so that I could receive full credit for directing my own research projects in the future, rather than working as someone else’s assistant.

I was attracted to geography at Queen’s because the discipline seemed so much more than my grade eleven high school geography! No more memorizing capital cities—the geography that I began to research was attractive for its activism, its willingness to engage with profound questions of inequality and injustice at many scales, its contributions of spatial thinking to these debates, and its interdisciplinary nature, drawing on fields such as urban planning, policy studies, environmental studies, politics and history.

What are your research interests?

My research interests focus on social problems and marginalized populations. As a master’s student, my final research project looked at youth drop-in programs and their potential for reducing risk behaviour in at-risk young people. My health policy research examined promising programs and approaches to delivering health care services to homeless people in Canada.

As a doctoral student, I am incorporating my love of food and my fascination with the politics of the food system into my dissertation on social justice and retail food access in cities. In late 2007 and early 2008, I helped to coordinate two student-led studies of Kingston’s

newest 'food desert'—a disadvantaged, low-income community whose only full-service grocery store was closing, with no known replacement store to follow. This project was also a collaboration between our department of geography and the Kingston John Howard Society. I was fascinated with our survey respondents' expressions of helplessness and abandonment by local government and store owners; basically, they felt like they had been left 'high and dry' by both the public and private sector and, moreover, did not feel like either sector had a responsibility to provide them—as citizens—with adequate retail food access.

I have turned these results into a dissertation that probes these issues of social injustice in the city, and whether a more just urban food system can be conceived of, and realized, in cities like Kingston, Ontario. How have international-level economic changes affected retail food access in cities? How has this access changed in Kingston over space and time? What would a just urban food system look like, and what would it mean for urban citizenship?

What research are you currently involved in?

I am currently working hard to complete my dissertation proposal in order to begin my fieldwork in late spring/early summer. I have just accepted a volunteer position as associate editor for a new student-run academic journal on hunger and poverty, called *Esurio*. It has been initiated by the Ontario Association of Food Banks, and I'm really pleased to be involved. Also, I have upcoming conference presentations with the Association of American Geographers in Boston, the Canadian Association for Food Studies in Vancouver, and the Joint Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of Food and Society and the Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society in New Orleans.

What are your career aspirations?

I definitely hope to achieve a full-time, tenure-track assistant professor position in Canada upon the completion of my Ph.D. If this did not work out, I hope to work for one of Canada's leading think tanks, such as the Canadian Policy Research Networks or the Canadian Council on Social Development. As a professor, I hope to build my publication and presentation record over time, work toward a rewarding career as one of Canada's foremost interdisciplinary social scientists and geographers, and continue to maintain a positive work-life balance by spending time with my family and pursuing my recreational interests.

What are your most memorable experiences as a geographer?

Coordinating and volunteering on the North Kingston food desert studies was a fascinating experiencing, looking at the spatialization of poverty, stereotypes, and deprivation of essential services in a medium-sized city. I find this kind of work intrinsically interesting to everyone, but we all know places where the

retail landscape is changing as stores get bigger and more difficult to access without a personal vehicle. Also, since starting this Ph.D. I find that simple activities like visiting a farmer's market, gardening, or visiting a new town take on a whole new significance, since these places and practices are imbued with meanings and contradictions that only become apparent with an understanding of the complexities of the politics of place.

Many thanks to Melanie for agreeing to be profiled. If you know a CAG student member who you feel should be profiled, or if you have any comments or suggestions for the Student Zone, please contact me!

Ryan Bullock, CAG Student Councillor (2007-09)
rclbullo@fes.uwaterloo.ca

STUDY GROUP NEWS

Economic and Social Change Study Group
- Student Paper Prize

The CAG Economic and Social Change Study Group invites submissions for its annual student paper prize. Papers addressing any aspect of the broad theme of the study group are welcome. The paper must be presented at the CAG Annual Meeting in Quebec City, though the prize will be awarded on the basis of the paper itself rather than the presentation. Papers should therefore be substantially as they are presented at the conference.

All students registered at Canadian Universities who are current members of the CAG at the time of the annual conference are eligible to submit; there is no restriction on the session in which the paper is given. The award will be \$100. Applicants should submit their complete paper to Derrek Eberts at <ebertsd@brandonu.ca>, as an e-mail attachment in either Word, WordPerfect, or Rich Text format. The deadline for submissions is May 1, 2008.

Faculty members are asked to encourage students who may not be on CAGList, but who are presenting relevant papers, to consider submitting them to the competition.

We look forward to receiving your submissions!
Dr. Derrek Eberts, Chair,
e-mail: ebertsd@brandonu.ca

CAGLIST server is an electronic mail distribution list intended for members of the Canadian Association of Geographers.

You are NOT automatically entered on the CAGList server when you become a CAG member.

Subscribing to CAGLIST - If you would like to join go to <http://lists.uvic.ca/mailman/listinfo/caglist> and complete the form.

CAG Directory 2008

The CAG Directory for 2007 has finally been published and mailed and we are now working on the CAG Directory for 2008. We would like to enlist your help in making sure that it contains as complete a listing of all Canadian geographers as possible.

If yours is a multi campus university and you are not listed under the departmental listings please contact your closest geography dept and ask if you could be either incorporated into their main listing, or in a separate departmental listing.

If you are an active retiree, whatever your formal designation might be, you may want to consider having your department include you as well.

If you know of geographers in departments or faculties at other locations please encourage them to do the same.

Each department is responsible for the content of the list they submit. The material is published as submitted and the department is charged accordingly. If you are a member of one of the listed departments and your publications and research activities are not included in your department listing or your listing is incorrect please see the person in your department who is responsible for submitting the material.

All members, regardless of their affiliation or lack of one, are automatically included in the "Membership List" section at the back of the directory. This list contains the information submitted by each member on their membership application form, online or paper copy and on file at the time of publication. It is now possible for members to keep personal information updated by going to www.cag-acg.ca and clicking on the "My Profile" section at the top of the main web page.

Only in the case where your publications and research activities do not appear because your institution chose not to be listed in the directory are you eligible to include them under "Geographers in the Public/Private Sector" section of the CAG Directory and then you should follow the instructions below.

"Geographers in the Public/Private Sector"

The primary listing in the CAG directory identifies people who are in a department of geography as submitted by their department. Recognizing that some members of the association are thus excluded, the executive decided in 1999 that the directory should include an entry under the heading "other geographers" (now called "Geographers in the Public/Private Sector") to identify, and show the recent research activities of members who aren't in a department of geography. If this applies to you, as a CAG 2008 Member, you are invited to submit your personal entry to Kim Falcigno, the Copy Editor of the CAG Directory.

Your document must be formatted according to the style of the CAG Directory and you may list the following:

1. Name and address (preferably official affiliation)
2. Your email address (see Directory for format)
3. List of your current research (see Directory for format). To conserve space, please list up to only three leading projects.
4. Your recent publications (see Directory for format). To conserve space and save cost, please list publications of current year only (2008). However, you may list the publications of the previous year (2007) if you did not have any item to report for the current year.

Deadline for submission: July 21, 2008. Please email your entry directly to: kimfalcigno@shaw.ca

CAG ELECTION 2008 RESULTS/ RÉSULTATS-ÉLECTIONS DE L'ACG 2008

Nominating Committee: Dan Smith, Chair,
Chris Sharpe & Maureen Reed (CAG Councillors)
DonnaWilliams and Graham Wynn (Members at Large)

*CAG Councillor (two positions)/
Poste de Conseiller de l'ACG (deux postes)*

**Caroline Desbiens - Université Laval
Virginia Maclaren - University of Toronto**

The votes for our two new National Executive Councilor members have been counted, and recounted, and then recounted again. All that counting was necessary due the unprecedented number of CAG members (over 50%) who returned ballots and the closeness of the voting. It was an incredibly tight race for the two positions, with the top four individuals separated by five notes in total.

Congratulations to Caroline Desbiens and Virginia Maclaren who have graciously accepted the positions of National Executive Councilor. Both are sure to increase the diversity of membership representation on our national executive.

Much thanks to the four other individuals who allowed their names to stand for these positions. Their endorsement and support for the CAG has not gone unnoticed.

Dan Smith, Chair, Nominating Committee

OBITUARY

PLEVA, Dr. Edward G., founder and Professor of Geography Emeritus at the University of Western Ontario died on February 7, in his 96th year.

In 1938, at the age of 26, Ed Pleva was hired to teach geography at Western, and in due course, establish a geography program. After the war, he was responsible for establishing the Geography Department as a separate entity in 1948. He served as Head of the Department until 1968 and continued to serve as a Professor there until his retirement in 1977.

His contributions were significant. Ed was first editor of the Ontario Geography Monographs and in 1960, he served as President of the Canadian Association of Geographers. In 1969, the City of London honoured him as "one of Canada's distinguished geographers" and awarded him the Distinguished Community Service Award.

As a university educator, Ed served as a mentor and role model to many students who would later influence university geography. In tribute to Ed's commitment and excellence in teaching, the University of Western Ontario established, in 1987, The Edward G. Pleva Award for Excellence in Teaching - awarded each year to full-time members of Western's faculty and affiliated colleges.

DIVISION NEWS

**CAGONT / ELDAAG 2008
OCTOBER 17-19, 2008
First Call for Papers**

The Department of Geography, Brock University invites you to the 2008 Annual Meetings of the Canadian Association of Geographers, Ontario Division and the American Association of Geographers, East Lakes Division in St. Catharines, Ontario.

Abstracts of no more than 250 words should be submitted to: cagont@brocku.ca. Only electronic copies of abstracts will be accepted. Please enter ABSTRACT and whether presenting a paper or a poster on the subject line of the email. All presenters must be registered.

All abstracts must be submitted as a plain text email (no attachments please). Faxed or paper abstracts will not be accepted. The title should come first in UPPER and lowercase. This should be followed by the author list (with affiliations in parentheses). Leave one blank line between the title, author list, and the body of the abstract. For special sessions, all abstracts should be submitted by the organizer.

Note: all abstracts must be received by August 15, 2008.

Papers and Posters: Each presenter will be allotted 20 minutes. This includes time for questions. Poster displays will be made available for setup Friday afternoon.

Graduate and Undergraduate Students are encouraged to participate at CAGONT / ELDAAG

For more information please contact Dr. Marilyne Jollineau (905-688-5550 x. 4556 or mjollineau@brocku.ca)

VIA RAIL TO QUÉBEC CITY

We are pleased to announce that VIA Rail Canada is the major ground transportation company for the 2008 CAG annual conference in Québec City. The following are the details pertinent to the CAG special fare: VIA Rail Conference #11317

VALID: May 18 - 26, 2008

TERRITORY: VIA Rail Canada System Wide to/from Quebec City, Quebec

DISCOUNT: 10% off the best available fare in either Comfort Class; Via-1 or Sleeper, One Way or Round Trip. Minimum \$15.00 fare.

RESTRICTIONS: This discount is applicable to one delegate plus one additional travel companion and the discount is subject to the conditions and restrictions of the fare plan to which the additional 10% discount is applied. IDENTIFICATION: Promotion Number #11317

Booking ONLINE: This convention fare can be booked online at viarail.ca. To book online, login to your profile (if you do not have a profile, you can create one) and proceed with your booking. On the "Passengers Information" screen, select "Convention Fare" as the Discount Type and enter 11317 as the Discount Code. The fare will be recalculated to include the 10% discount, if you meet the conditions of this offer."

For schedule / fare information, etc: please call: 1-888-842-7245.

The CAG Annual Directory
Now available ONLINE in PDF format.

The CAG Annual Directory lists academic staff, research activities and current publications of geography departments in Canadian universities and certain government agencies. The listing of all CAG members with their names and coordinates is included in the hard copy but not in the online PDF version.

All CAG members receive a copy of the directory as part of their membership.

**REPORT FROM
Spatial Knowledge and Information (“SKI”) Canada**

In partnership with the Canadian Association of Geographers and the GEOIDE Network Center of Excellence, Spatial Knowledge and Information (“SKI”) Canada held its first conference from February 14th through 18th 2008. With a focus on bringing Canada’s Geomatics and Geographic Information community together over 70 researchers, university faculty, and students from across Canada registered and attended. While the focus of the organization and conference is to bring together the Canadian Geographic Information community we also had a small number of international attendees. The conference was composed of 50 scientific papers, 1 keynote address, as well as a program committee meeting on the final day. Organized by CAG members Nadine Schuurman (co-founder GIS-SIG study group), Renee Sieber (past-chair GIS-SIG study group, co-founder GIS-SIG study group), and Scott Bell (chair GIS-SIG study group) the conference brought together geographers and people from cognate field together under the banner of GIS and Geomatics.

The intent of Spatial Knowledge and Information Canada is to bring together Geographic Information researchers and their students from across Canada. We were excited to have had over 30 presentations by undergraduate, Master’s, and PhD students. We were fortunate to be able to support all students with travel funds (covering their registration fees and some additional costs) and offer seven outstanding students substantial awards for their research and presentation quality (monetary awards included one award for \$2000 and four awards of \$750 as well as awards of computer hardware). Funding for student awards was provided by a generous grant from GEOIDE. We are confident that all students benefited from the opportunity to present their work in front of an audience of fellow researchers (faculty and students). The vast majority of students awards were won by current student members of CAG. Questions, comments, feedback, and other interactions were such that it was clear everyone was engaged with one another during the conference.

The conference format played an important role in achieving our goals of developing a Canadian GIScience community as well as fostering research excellence amongst emerging scholars. Early on in the planning process we committed to a non-parallel set of sessions. This resulted in all attendees being present for all presentations and provided high quality feedback and interaction. Furthermore, when the conference was not in session all attendees “were on the same page” and in most cases were able to discuss each others research knowledgably; we found this produced a high level of interaction among attendees. By keeping talks short more presentations could be included in the program, audience

attention was maintained, and presenters were forced to focus on the most important aspects of their work. In addition, we conducted all sessions in the afternoon and evening. This allowed participants to engage each other in non-conference settings, as well as allowing us to provide a group dinner during which additional conversations occurred. One of the most positive aspects of the Spatial Knowledge and Information conference was the host location. Fernie, BC provided a remote setting that allowed participants to focus on the topic at hand as well as allowing time to enjoy the ample recreation opportunities offered in the Fernie area.

SKI Canada hopes to develop activities throughout the year to provide outreach to the Geomatics and GIS academic community. This will include a brochure exchange in which researchers share graduate program offerings in Geomatics and GIS, a mentoring program for new faculty in Geomatics and GIS, as well as details on cool and interesting websites and articles on the GIScience and practice. For more information on SKI Canada, its activities and future conferences, visit our website, <http://rose.geog.mcgill.ca/ski>.

GEOGRAPHERS IN THE NEWS

TRACEY LAURIAULT, FRASER TAYLOR

- Planning your next vacation, with dollars and scents by Anne McIlroy, *Globe and Mail*, February 27, 2008 Page A4

BARRY WELLAR

- Council aims to save bucks by getting rid of meeting minutes. By Randall Denley, *The Ottawa Citizen*. Thursday, April 03, 2008. Page A1 and page A2.

- Rural is the new urban: When the city comes to town. By Mohammed Adam, *The Ottawa Citizen*. Saturday, April 5, 2008. Page D3.

- What will it take to get more people to use public transit? *Capital Commutes*, by Natalie Pierosa, CTV News, Ottawa, March 18, 2008

- Commuting to work from rural Ottawa. *Capital Commutes*, by Natalie Pierosa, CTV News, Ottawa, March 19, 2008

- Rideau at the crossroads, by Bruce Ward. *Ottawa Citizen*, Saturday, March 15, 2008. Pages E1 and E8.

-Contested parking proposal leaves city in a stew-Councillors, business owners clash as spat turns nasty. by Tim Shufelt, *Ottawa Citizen*, February 9, 2008, page E3.

L'Annuaire annuel de L'ACG
Maintenant disponible en ligne en version PDF.

suite de la page 2... **CHRONIQUE DU PRÉSIDENT**

de changement de perception de la discipline : remplacer le point de vue factuel, style *Trivial Pursuit*, par une image plus conceptuelle qui aborde des sujets comme la mondialisation et la durabilité s'articulant sur des concepts géographiques clés.

À cet égard, que pourrait-on retenir de l'exemple du R.-U.? Il est évident que le Conseil de l'enseignement de la géographie s'efforce d'aborder des sujets similaires concernant les insuffisances de l'enseignement de la géographie à l'école secondaire au Canada. L'absence de géographes enseignants ainsi que les défis pédagogiques constituent des inquiétudes générales étant donné que la discipline est diluée dans le large contexte des études sociales et que les sorties éducatives sont réduites. Je ne sais pas s'il y a des données sur les tendances relatives au nombre de professeurs que nous formons en géographie. (Je suis actuellement loin de la « large bande », aux confins de la région rurale de Shropshire et il m'est difficile de chercher ce genre d'information). Si quelqu'un le sait mieux que moi, qu'il n'hésite pas à transmettre l'information. Selon Mme Rita Gardner (RGS), « le bon enseignement de la géographie est fondamentalement tributaire des professeurs eux-mêmes » (BBC News, 17 janvier 2008).

À mon avis, l'inconvénient au Canada, contrairement au R.-U., est le manque de volonté politique pour soutenir la géographie et les changements dans les programmes d'études, la formation ou la perception du public, tous ces facteurs étant nécessaires à la promotion de l'avenir de la discipline. L'enseignement de la géographie au R.-U. a une culture et des traditions très solides. En effet, lorsque je suis venue au Canada vers la fin des années 1960, une forte proportion des étudiants diplômés et du corps professoral était constituée de géographes formés au Royaume-Uni. Au Canada, les responsabilités provinciales en matière d'éducation sont à l'origine des différences régionales et diluent les efforts de lobbying. Je pense que nous serions heureux d'entendre nos ministres de l'Éducation provinciaux déclarer, à l'instar du ministre de l'Éducation britannique, que « la géographie est une discipline importante... nous devons susciter l'engouement des jeunes pour la géographie » (et, bien entendu, trouver quelques millions de dollars pour soutenir cet effort).

Si vous souhaitez examiner à fond les changements récents dans les programmes d'études au R.-U., consultez le site Web de RGS www.rgs.org.

Références

- BBC News (2008) <http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/1/hi/education/7192330.stm>, 17 janvier 2008
Jackson, P. (2006). Thinking geographically. *Geography*, 91(3), pp.199-204.
Morgan J. (2008). Editorial. *Geography*, 93(1), pp.1-2.

Alison M Gill, agill@sfu.ca

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN continued from page 2...

So are there lessons to be learned from the UK? Certainly the Council for Geographic Education (CGE) strives to address similar issues concerning the shortcomings of secondary school geography education in Canada. The lack of geographers teaching geography, curricular challenges as geography is merged into the broader context of social studies and cutbacks in field trips are widespread concerns. I'm not sure if there are data on the trends regarding how many geography-trained teachers we are producing. (I am currently "beyond broadband" in the depths of rural Shropshire so have no easy way to search for such information.) If any one knows, please pass along this information. As Dr. Rita Gardner, (RGS) observed "Fundamentally, the provision of good geography teaching lies with the teachers themselves," (BBC News, January 17, 2008).

As I see it, the disadvantage we have in Canada is, that unlike the UK, there is no political will to support geography and the kind of curriculum changes, training, or changes in public perception of the discipline that are necessary to promote the future health of the discipline. There is a strong culture and tradition of geographic education in the UK. Indeed when I came to Canada in the late 1960s a high proportion of graduate students and faculty were British trained geographers. In Canada the provincial responsibilities for education result in regional differences and dilute lobbying efforts. I think we would be very happy to hear our provincial Ministers of Education proclaim, as the English Schools minister did, that "Geography is an important subject ... we need to enthuse young people about geography" (and then, of course, come up with a few million dollars to support that claim).

If you wish to delve more deeply into the recent curriculum changes in the UK check out the RGS website www.rgs.org.

References

- BBC News (2008) <http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/1/hi/education/7192330.stm>, January 17, 2008
Jackson, P. (2006) Thinking geographically, *Geography* 91(3): 199-204.
Morgan J. (2008) Editorial, *Geography* 93(1): 1-2.

Alison M Gill
agill@sfu.ca

The 14th International meeting of
Historical Geographers (ICHG)
August 2009
Kyoto University
JAPAN

For details go to <http://www.bun.kyoto-u.ac.jp/ichg/>

JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN GEOGRAPHY

CAGLIST Job Postings Webpage can be found at <http://office.geog.uvic.ca/dept/cag/jobs.htm>

***NEW**

ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY

Centre for Global and Social Analysis

The Assistant Professor Human Geography will be expected to co-develop the program in Geography, with responsibility for the BA in Geography at Athabasca University. The successful candidate will have or be near completion of a PhD in Geography, or a closely related discipline. The incumbent should demonstrate an ability to teach a range of undergraduate courses in the field of Human Geography, as well as to supervise course development outside their area of specialization. Experience in distance or adult education is an asset. Each candidate is required to provide evidence of a record of effective undergraduate teaching. All educational credentials must be recognized in Canada.

In addition to teaching and program development, duties include supervising tutors, course development and management (including web based resources), student advising, assisting students in research projects, and general participation in the work of the Centre and the University. The candidate will be expected to show evidence of an ability to establish a research program in an area of Human Geography. All fields of research specialization are open.

Candidates should also indicate in their letter how they might contribute to one or more of the following initiatives at Athabasca University – Global Studies, Environmental Studies, the proposed Athabasca River Basin Research Centre, International Programs, and/or graduate teaching. Click here <http://www1.athabascau.ca/hr/careers/jobprofiles/academic.doc> for the full job profile.

This is an AUFA tenure-track position. Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience, supplemented by a generous benefits package.

Further information about this position may be obtained from Dr. Tony Simmons: via email, tonys@athabascau.ca.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and Permanent Residents will be given priority.

Applicants should forward a letter of application, a curriculum vitae, samples of student evaluations; courses taught and/or written; and the names, addresses and contact information of three referees, quoting Competition #A00341. This competition will remain open until a suitable candidate is found; however, the selection committee will begin reviewing applications on April 30,

2008. Applications should be e-mailed to the Human Resources Advisor, Human Resources, Athabasca University at resume@athabascau.ca.

***KWANTLEN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**

The Geography Department at Kwantlen University College is inviting applications for a part-time non-regular type two position in Human Geography for September 1, 2008. This is a one-year term position with an annualized workload of 50% or greater. Successful applicants will have the expertise and ability to teach courses in Economic Geography and one or more of the following areas: Geography of Resources, the Geography of Cultures, or Social and Cultural Geography. The ability to teach regional geography courses for East and South Asia will be an asset. Candidates should have an outstanding teaching record, a good record of research and scholarly accomplishment, and a commitment to the development of the department. Preference will be given to candidates with a PhD.

Please submit your curriculum vitae, research and teaching statements, teaching evaluations, sample course outline, copies of transcripts of all degrees, and the names of two referees, quoting competition number to: Human Resource Services, Kwantlen University College 13468 77 Avenue, Surrey, B.C. V3W 6Y3 Fax (604) 599-2111 or email to employ@kwantlen.ca.

Incomplete applications will not be considered. The committee will begin reviewing applications in mid-April. The competition will remain open until the position is filled. No telephone enquiries please.

We thank all applicants for their interest in Kwantlen University College. However, only those applicants selected for further consideration will be contacted.

***UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN**

The Department of Geography, University of Saskatchewan invites applications for a 5-year term position at the Assistant Professor level in Hydrology and Geomatics commencing July 1, 2008. Applicants should have a Ph.D. in geography or a related environmental science by the time of appointment, and show clear promise of effectiveness in teaching and interest in research. The successful candidate will be expected to deliver undergraduate courses in hydrology and geomatics. Expertise in spatial statistics would be considered an asset.

In addition to academic excellence, the department is looking for applicants whose research

interests complement those of faculty currently in the Department. Current research strengths in the Department include surface and groundwater hydrology, cold regions hydrology, hydrochemistry, erosion and sediment transport, and remote sensing. The successful applicant will have the opportunity to affiliate with the University's Centre for Hydrology (www.usask.ca/hydrology), which has about 32 affiliated faculty from the Colleges of Arts and Science, Agriculture and Bioresources, and Engineering and strong graduate training and research capabilities.

The University of Saskatchewan is a major research intensive institution of about 19,000 students with a wide range of training available and superb lab facilities on what is considered the most pleasant university campus in Canada. Canadian hydrology developed from early efforts at the University. The federal National Hydrology Research Centre and provincial Saskatchewan Research Council are located in the University's research park, Innovation Place, a few minutes walk from the university. Information about the University of Saskatchewan and the Department of Geography can be found at: <http://artsandsandscience.usask.ca/geography/>.

Candidates should send a cover letter and full curriculum vitae, a teaching dossier, statement of research interests, samples of recent publications, and arrange to have three letters of reference forwarded by April 15, 2008 to: Professor Dirk de Boer, Head Department of Geography, University of Saskatchewan Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7N 5A5, Canada

Questions regarding this position may be directed to Professor de Boer at dirk.deboer@usask.ca or (306) 966-5671.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian and permanent residents will be given priority. The University is strongly committed to employment equity and especially welcomes applications from Aboriginal persons, members from visible minorities, women, and persons with disabilities. Members of these designated groups are encouraged to self-identify in their application.

***THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY**

The Department of Geography at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops, British Columbia, invites applications for a one year, Limited Term Lecturer position in physical geography and geographical techniques.

This position requires teaching the following courses:

- GEOG 112 Earth's Lands and Waters
- GEOG 270 Introduction to Geographical Analysis (including laboratories)
- GEOG 375 Advanced GIS (including laboratories)

- One of GEOG 307 Biogeography, GEOG 405 Fluvial Geomorphology; or GEOG 399 Special Topics in Geography

The successful candidate will also share in the delivery of the department's field course in early fall (GEOG 370 Field Course in Geography). Preference will be given to the candidate that can best demonstrate a commitment to excellence in teaching and service, and who possesses strong communication, interpersonal and collegial skills. The position requires a strong commitment to the discipline of geography, regional geographic organizations and participation in departmental initiatives.

NOTE: This position is subject to budgetary approval.

QUALIFICATIONS: Ph.D. (or completion of degree by the date of appointment) in Geography or closely related discipline

TERM OF EMPLOYMENT: 01 July 2008 to 01 July 2009.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: Applications will be reviewed commencing 03 April 2008, and will continue until the successful applicant is found.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. Thompson Rivers University is committed to the principle of employment equity. Please forward current curriculum vitae, as well as copies of teaching evaluations, quoting the Competition #08-029 with names, addresses and telephone numbers of three (3) referees, along with a copy of graduate transcripts.

Please submit your application by mail to: Career Opportunities, Human Resources Division Thompson Rivers University, P.O. Box 3010 Kamloops, British Columbia, V2C 5N3 Canada or by fax to: Fax 1-250-828-5338 or by email to: jobops@tru.ca

Please submit a separate application for each competition, quoting the competition number 08-029. Thompson Rivers University is committed to the principle of employment equity. We wish to thank all applicants; however, only those under consideration will be contacted.

***TRENT UNIVERSITY**

The International Development Studies Department at Trent University (www.trentu.ca/ids) invites applications for two nine month limited term positions at the assistant professor level commencing September 1, 2008. IDS is an interdisciplinary undergraduate department at Trent University.

For the first position we are seeking a candidate with expertise in international political economy and development. Candidates must have teaching experience and a Ph.D. in hand or near completion in political studies, geography or a related discipline.

For the second position we are seeking a candidate with expertise in social and cultural aspects of development. Candidates must have teaching experience and a Ph.D. in hand or near completion. Applications will be welcome from individuals with a background in anthropology, sociology, geography, political studies or a related discipline.

Candidates should send (in hard or electronic copy) a covering letter, curriculum vitae, and letters from three referees to: Winnie Lem, Chair, International Development Studies Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario, K9J 7B8 Email: wlem@trentu.ca.

Applications must be received by April 25th 2008.

Trent University is an employment equity employer, and especially invites applications from women, Aboriginal peoples, visible minorities and persons with disabilities. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. Positions are subject to final budgetary approval.

TRENT UNIVERSITY

Applications are invited by the Department of Geography for a nine month limited-term appointment at the Lecturer/Assistant Professor level, to teach the following courses commencing September 1, 2008. The appointment is subject to budgetary approval.

GEOG 271H (fall term) Cities: An Introduction to Urban Geography; GEOG 296H (winter term) Wealth, Power and Space: An Introduction to Economic Geography; GEOG 371H (winter term) Urban Planning; GEOG 373H (fall term) Urban Social Geography. The position also involves some supervision of Honours Theses.

In general, the successful applicant will be able to demonstrate a willingness to develop challenging and innovative approaches to teaching, as well as an ability to work closely with colleagues and students. Applicants should have a Ph.D. or be near completion and have undergraduate teaching experience.

The undergraduate curriculum of the Department of Geography emphasizes small group teaching and fieldwork. Additional information on the Department and the University can be obtained at <http://www.trentu.ca/geography>.

Trent University is an employment equity employer and especially invites applications from women, aboriginal peoples, visible minorities and persons with disabilities. In accordance with Canadian Immigration requirements, this advertisement is directed to Canadian citizens and permanent residents.

Applicants must include with the letter of application: a curriculum vitae and the names (with contact information) of three possible referees.

Deadline for receipt of complete applications is April 30, 2008.

Applications should be sent to:
Professor Cheryl McKenna Neuman, Chair
Department of Geography, Trent University
1600 West Bank Drive, Peterborough, ON K9J 7B8.
Voice: 705 748-1011 ext 7307; Fax: 705 748-1205
Email: cmckneuman@trentu.ca

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

Applications are invited by the University of Waterloo for a three-year term appointment, with the possibility of renewal, as a lecturer in Geomatics. Applicants must demonstrate excellence, or the clear promise of excellence, in teaching introductory undergraduate courses in geographic information systems (GIS) and a course in photogrammetry. This is a teaching (non-research) position with a start date of 1 July 2008 or soon thereafter.

The position is in the Department of Geography, Faculty of Environmental Studies. For additional information see: <http://www.fes.uwaterloo.ca/>. The Department recently launched a specialized undergraduate program in Geomatics to complement its research strengths in the field.

Applications must include a statement of the applicant's approach to teaching and learning, a curriculum vitae and the names (with contact information) of three referees. The first stage in the review of applicants will be based on the letter of application and the C.V. Referees will be contacted for those being considered in the second stage of the review. The review of applications will commence on April 2 and continue until the position is filled. Applications should be sent to: Chair, Faculty Search Committee, Department of Geography, Faculty of Environmental Studies University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON N2L 3G1.

The University of Waterloo encourages applications from all qualified individuals, including women, members of visible minorities, native persons, and individuals with disabilities. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. This appointment is subject to the availability of funds.

“Job Opportunities in Geography” must be submitted to the editor at cag@geog.mcgill.ca (No formatting) by the deadlines listed on the back page of this newsletter. Inclusion is subject to availability of space. There is no charge to universities for this service.

CAGLIST Job Postings Webpage - To list your job on the webpage of the “CAGLIST Job Postings” send your copy directly to Dan Smith at smith@uvic.ca.

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<i>Number/ Numéro</i>	<i>Date of Publication/ Date de publication</i>	<i>Submission Deadline/ Date de soumission</i>
issue 1	10 February/février	15 January/janvier
issue 2	10 April/avril	15 March/mars
issue 3	10 June/juin	15 May/mai
issue 4	10 August/août	15 July/juillet
issue 5	10 October/octobre	15 September/septembre
issue 6	10 December/décembre	15 November/novembre

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CAG COMMENTARY SERIES Submissions

Submissions to the CAG Commentary Series (800 words max.) which address an issue of public interest from a geographical perspective are invited, in English or French, and should be sent to the editor at: cag@geog.mcgill.ca. Where material that has already appeared in the press is submitted, the author must ensure that permission has been obtained from the original publishers for the CAG to reprint their commentary. Submission does not guarantee publication.

“JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN GEOGRAPHY”

To list job opportunities in the newsletter your copy must be submitted electronically and according to the deadlines listed above (***NO formatting***) to the editor at cag@geog.mcgill.ca. There is no charge to universities for this service, however inclusion is subject to availability of space. To list your job on the “CAGLIST Job Postings” webpage send your copy directly to Dan Smith at smith@uvic.ca.

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Le bulletin de l'association canadienne des géographes