

CWAG NEWSLETTER - SUMMER 1998

LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Letter from the Editors

HI AGAIN,

This is your newsletter - **please** send us your news, information and notices. The deadline for the Fall 1998 edition is October 16.

Feel free to email any of us if you have suggestions or submissions. Thank you.

Kathi Wilson (6kjlw@qsilver.queensu.ca)
Susan Fitzgibbon (3shf@qsilver.queensu.ca)
Michele Dupuis (4md14@qlink.queensu.ca)



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL CWAG BUSINESS MEETING,

OTTAWA, JUNE 4th, 1998

Present: Marie Truelove, Tania Dolphin, Amanda James, Michelle Driedger, Diane McIntyre, Madeleine Wong, Heather Smith (recorder), Janine Wiles, Catherine Nolin Hanlon, Iain Wallace, Valerie Preston, Fran Klodawsky, Jennifer Hyndman (recorder).

Chair's Report:

Fran thanked the newsletter team, including Susan Fitzgibbon, Michele Dupuis, Kathi Wilson, Evelyn Peters, all at Queen's, and the U of Ottawa Women's Studies Dept. as well as the Carleton Geography Dept. for their various activities and support.

Fran reviewed the yearly report to the CAG. She discussed publicizing the availability of CWAG resources, especially the syllabi related to courses in gender and geography and the electronic newsgroup. Madeleine at York (mwong@yorku.ca) continues to coordinate the distribution of hard copies of the syllabi; it was suggested that perhaps these could be scanned and posted on the internet. Tania agreed to scan and Jennifer to post them on through her homepage which is free server space for the project. Jennifer will post the location to the CWAG listserv once it's up.

Note: To subscribe to the CWAG newsgroup, send a message to cwag-request@geog.ubc.ca and in the subject field, type 'subscribe'; nothing else is required. To unsubscribe use the same address and process except type 'unsubscribe' in the subject field. If you have any questions, contact Nadine Schuurman at: nadine@geog.ubc.ca

The controversial timing of the CWAG reception was discussed. It was agreed that for 1999, the reception should be held but not in conflict with the CAG dinner; this year such a conflict was unavoidable.

Newsletter:

Fran proposed the ideas of regional or even campus-based reps to report to the newsletter team. Volunteers were solicited: Amanda (or substitute) for BC; Miriam Grant should be asked if she could contribute from the Prairies; Michelle will cover McMaster; Diane will represent Carleton; Madeleine will cover York; Catherine and Janine will represent Queen's; Ann Giberg will be asked to cover U of O.; Debbie Leslie will be asked to contribute from Brock; Damaris Rose has agreed to cover Quebec, and Jennifer Tilk will cover Newfoundland (contact Valerie who will be meeting with her in Toronto this summer).

For contributions to the newsletter, contact
 Susan Fitzgibbon at:
 3shf@qsilver.queensu.ca

To ensure that you get the newsletter, make sure you join CWAG study group when signing up for CAG membership.

Jennifer agreed to send the GEOGFEM list-serve instructions to the CWAG list; the list is a much bigger (400+) group and posts a lot of information out of Kentucky care of Susan Mains.

Financial Report:

Without recording all numbers provided from back to 1996, CWAG is in a good financial position with \$1418 at the end of 1997 (excludes 1998 fees). Expenditures for student travel in 1998 were \$100 and the reception was to cost \$200-\$300.

For 1998-99, the travel fund will remain at \$500 max., with \$100 per student available. This may cover travel-related expenses because "CWAG recognizes that support for conference attendance includes costs broader than simply travel."

The Glenda Laws Memorial Fund was discussed. With a current total of \$545 in the account, it has been suggested that it be used to award an annual book prize in Glenda's honour. However, the mission of the fund has never been made explicit, and it was pointed out that few people will donate to an undefined cause. Diane also noted that it should be invested in whatever way possible and not sit in the CWAG account. It was suggested that Linda Peake and Kim England be asked to define the focus of the fund.

Moved (Diane) and seconded (Michelle) that 25% of the annual surplus for this year be transferred to the Glenda Laws Memorial fund and that each successive year the surplus be revisited to see what proportion of funds might be available for the fund. (all in favour)

Reports:

Marie reported on the Awards Committee processes and winners, and noted that a student member will be elected to the CAG executive this year.

In the CAG directory, first names and home phone numbers will be included, so if you don't want yours in, take action.

Damaris had been asked to write a summary of the Equity session held at the CAG in Newfoundland in 1997; she requested clarification as to whether she should still go ahead. Everyone agreed that she should.

Iain reported on equity from a CAG executive position, noting that he has been more reactive

that proactive. Nonetheless, he proposed that CWAG promotion of the issue of standardizing credentials across provinces in the geo-sciences would create new bases of CWAG involvement. This would be, said Iain, a way to contribute to women in geography on the physical side, to make CWAG 'user friendly.'

Echoing this sentiment, Michelle suggested a women in science session. Others thought that broadening CWAG support to women, regardless of a gender focus, would be desirable. There was, however, some disagreement on this point.

Planning:

Fran moved that Marie take the following motion to the next executive meeting: CWAG moves that Equity be a permanent responsibility of the CAG executive, and that a pro-active stance be taken in relation to the 1996 Equity Report. Valerie seconded the motion. (all in favour).

Fran asked for nominations for the following CWAG positions:

1999 Chair Elect - it was agreed that Kim England and Vera Chouinard be asked if either is interested.

Special Session Organizer 1999 (Lethbridge CAG) - given the Prairie location, it was agreed that Miriam Grant, Lisa Cormode, and Maureen Reed would be interested in organizing the sessions. Jennifer offered to co-organize with someone situated in Canada.

Finally, the question was raised as to whether an archive of all CWAG documents exists. The answer appears to be no, and that one

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

Queen's University

Judy Bates is a postdoctoral fellow in the department. Her research examines developments in the labour market that have led to the increase in self-employment in Canada since the early 1980s. She is also looking at the diverging trends in self-employment between those who have employees and those who work on their own. Judy will begin a one year teaching contract at Mount Allison University this fall.

Erin Carruthers is in the first year of her Master's. Her area of interest is in landscape ecology.

Asa Chong is a first year Master's student. Her thesis is part of a multi-disciplinary study investigating the detailed Holocene climate history of the Antarctic Peninsula. Her research looks at the modern transport and deposition of siliclastic sediment, in the vicinity of an ice-shelf in a polar climate, with the intention of using the results in the down-core interpretation of changing ice-shelf conditions.

Natsuko Chubachi is also a first year Master's student. Her thesis will explore health and the elderly in Japan.

Sue Delisle is beginning the second year of her Master's which focuses on identity, dispossession and the politics of discourses surrounding the construction of identities and spaces for non-status Aboriginal Canadians.

Recently a paper she wrote, entitled *White by Definition: 'Indian' Status, Aboriginal Identity and Dispossession*, was used by the Ardoch Algonquin First Nation in negotiations with other parties.

Michele Dupuis is a 3rd year Ph.D. student. Her dissertation is an examination of how Inuit

Society and culture are represented in museum and gallery Inuit art collections. She is also interested in Inuit representations in film and museum theory.

Susan Fitzgibbon is entering the third year of the doctoral program. Her research, on the importance of place to palliative care for older women, is funded by both SSHRC and a Helen Simpson Lynett Scholarship from the Queen's Alumnae Association. She has an article with Eric Moore and Mark Rosenberg forthcoming in *Disability and Rehabilitation*.

Emily Gilbert is currently a SSHRC postdoctoral fellow conducting comparative research on the formation of national currencies in England, Canada, South Africa and Australia and will spend the upcoming academic year conducting archival research in these countries. This research builds upon her doctoral research on the iconography of nineteenth-century Canadian paper money, completed at the University of Bristol, April 1998. A paper arising from this research entitled "'Ornamenting the façade of hell': iconographies of nineteenth-century Canadian paper money" was recently published in *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* (1998, v. 16: 57-80). Emily's current research deals especially with issues relating to the relationship between the rise of national currencies, burgeoning senses of nationalism and the consolidation of nation-states. Some

of these ideas are developed in a volume that she is co-editing with Dr. Eric Helleiner of Trent University, entitled *Nation-States and Money: The Past, Present and Future of National Currencies* (Routledge, forthcoming). A secondary interest is in literary representations of landscape, especially women's views on urban areas, and she has published in a number of books and journals in this area, including *Canadian Geographer*, *Journal of Historical Geography*, *GeoJournal* and *The London Journal of Canadian Studies*.

Krista House and Finola Shankar are both starting the second year of the Master's program. Currently they are both in the midst of their field research in Guatemala. Krista is interested in the role of remittances in the migrant and refugee sending communities of the north west. Finola is researching organic coffee farming as an alternative to large-scale farms. Both are also working with W. George Lovell and Guatemalan anthropologists on a collaborative project funding by RAND.

Audrey Kobayashi is working with Abby Bakan (Political Studies, Queen's University) on a study of employment equity in federal and provincial governments. She is also collaborating with Eric Moore and Mark Rosenberg on immigrant children using the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth.

Karen Landman is starting her third year in the doctoral program. She was recently awarded the Royal Canadian Geographical Society's "The Human Dimensions of Global Change Studentship". The title of Karen's research is "Social Constructions of Nature in the Mattawa Landscape".

Catherine Nolin Hanlon is also starting her third year in the Ph.D. program. She successfully completed her qualifying examination in April. Her proposal, "Transnational Passages: The Maya Diaspora and the Struggle of an Emergent Guatemalan Community in Toronto, Canada", is funded through a SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship and an International Development Research Centre (IDRC) Doctoral Research Award. The most recent issue of the journal *Mesoamerica* published an article co-authored with W. George Lovell entitled "Huida, exilio, repatriacion y retorno: Escenarios de los refugiados Guatemaltecos, 1981-1997".

Evelyn Peters received funding for a collaborative SSHRC grant on "Sustainable Development in the Arctic: Conditions for Food Security". Evelyn's sub-project focuses on the role of self-government arrangements in Alaska, Nunavik, Greenland, and Norway in protecting the subsistence economies of Native peoples.

Joan Schwartz successfully defended her doctoral thesis, entitled "Agents of Sight, Site of Agency: The Photograph in the Geographical Imagination", in April of this year.

Tara Vinodrai is currently completing her Master's thesis in economic geography, entitled "All the World is Not a Stage: Production and Work in the Toronto Theatre Industry". She also works as a GIS research analyst in the Queen's Geographic Information Systems Laboratory.

Janine Wiles is beginning the second year of the doctoral program. Her research will focus on caregiving, communities, gender and policy. She recently presented two papers at the CAG in Ottawa and at the Eighth International Medical Geography Symposium in Baltimore. These papers were based on her Master's thesis from Otago University, Dunedin, NZ. Her Masters sought to explore if policy makers had addressed the varied health care needs and issues of women, and also how women at the local level perceived their access to health services in an era of reform.

Kathleen Wilson is entering the third year of her Ph.D. Her SSHRC-funded research explores Aboriginal relationships with the land and their role for health and healing. She is also interested in health policy and women's health.

Nicole Yantzi is currently in the last term of her Masters. Her research involves exploring childhood chronic conditions and the impacts of geographical barriers such as, distance and transportation on the family. She recently presented a portion of this research at the Eighth International Medical Geography Symposium, Baltimore MA. A copy of the paper can be found in the conference proceedings. Nicole plans on entering the doctoral program to further develop research in this area.

Andrea Smith is a first year doctoral student. Her research is in the field of landscape ecology.

News from SFU

Alison Gill is the new Chair in the Department of Geography.

Amanda James and Susan Wurtele (Trent University) received \$9450 from the Hannah Institute of Medicine to examine the role maternity homes played in the institutionalization of childbirth in rural Saskatchewan, 1900 to 1950.

Congratulations to SFU's recent Masters graduates (title in parentheses).

Alison Louise Hill (Women Of The Boot: Gender, Poverty And Place).

Alfreda Lynne Wilson (Bringing Home The Bread And Roses: A Case Study Of Women And Co-Operative Housing In Vancouver, British Columbia).

Lauren Donnelly (Comparison of Rainfall-Runoff Modelling Techniques In Small Forested Catchments).

Michelle Jo Ann Rhodes (The Manufactured West: House Form And Region).

Michele K. Johnson (Remote Sensing And The South: A Critical Evaluation Of Common Approaches).

Mariette Theresia Prent (Seasonal Regime Of Bedform And Hydraulic Geometry, Lillooet River, Pemberton, B.C.).

Good luck to Carolyn Teare (Spatial and Temporal Patterns of Chemical Solute Signals In Sixteen Small Tundra Streams of the Trail Valley Creek Watershed in the Western Canadian Arctic) whose Master's defence is scheduled for August 17, 1998.

York University

Madeleine Wong is working on her Ph.D. at York. In September she will be going to Ghana on the Rockefeller Foundation African Dissertation Internship Award. Her research will focus on the networks Ghanaian immigrant women maintain with families/households in Ghana, and the impact of remittances on local households and (within development context) household strategies for remittance investments.

Madeleine will be leaving in mid-September for one year to do her fieldwork and therefore must give up responsibility of the Course Syllabi on Gender issues in Geography. If anyone would be willing to take on the responsibility for the Course Syllabi, starting September 1, please contact Madeleine mwong@yorku.ca.