

Department Newsletter

February 2002 Number 115

STAFF AND STUDENTS

Dipti Bhagat was successfully examined on her PhD thesis on *The Poetics of Belonging: Exhibitions and the Performance of White South African Identity, 1886-1936*, on 15 February. The examiners were John MacKenzie (Lancaster) and Bill Schwarz (Goldsmiths). The thesis was supervised by **Felix Driver**.

Rob Imrie gave his inaugural lecture on Tuesday 19th February 2002. The talk was entitled *Discourses of Disability and the vote of thanks* was given by Huw Thomas of Cardiff University.

Felix Driver has become an Associate Editor of *Nineteenth-Century Contexts*, an interdisciplinary journal published by Routledge.

Olav Lian has been appointed as "Adjunct Professor of Earth Sciences" in the Department of Earth Sciences, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada.

OUTSIDE ENGAGEMENTS

David Simon visited the Deputy High Commissioner for South Africa, George Johannes, in London on 31 January to discuss the High Commission's plans to establish a network of UK-based South African expertise able to contribute to development work in South Africa.

David Simon presented a seminar on 'Post-apartheid, post-colonial or postponed?: perspectives on development-environment discourses and policies in southern Africa' to a large audience at the Centre of African Studies, University of Cambridge, on 11 February.

Klaus Dodds visited Wellington College on 29th January and gave a talk on Antarctica. The Head of Geography reported that he had record numbers of students doing GCSE and AS/A2 Geography and that there was a growing interest in 'local' universities such as RHUL.

Peter French acted as external examiner at Norwich City College (APU) for a PhD thesis entitled 'An investigation into the operation and function of floated water meadows.'

Felix Driver was examiner of a PhD thesis by David Lambert, Cambridge University, entitled *The Master Subject: White Identities and the Slavery Controversy in Barbados, 1780-1834*.

Felix Driver presented a seminar paper (written with **Luciana Martins**) on 'John Septimus Roe and the art of navigation, c.1812-1830' at the Cabinet of Natural History in the History &

Philosophy of Science Department, Cambridge University, and at the Department of Geography, University of Sussex

Vandana Desai attended the Equal Opportunity Committee Meeting at the college on Thursday 21st February 2002.

Olav Lian attended a research seminar entitled "Reconstructing the Cordilleran Ice Sheet: information on thermal regime from subglacial sediments" Department of Geography, University of Reading, 26 February 2002.

John Lowe chaired the Town Meeting of the NERC's new £20M Thematic Research Programme on RAPID CLIMATE CHANGE, held in the DTI offices in London on 1st February, 2002. The meeting was attended by over 170 scientists from all over the UK.

PUBLICATIONS

K Dodds and L Manovil 'A common space? The Falklands/Malvinas and the new geopolitics of the South Atlantic' *Geopolitics* 6 (2001): 99-126.

Lian, O.B., Hicock, S.R., and Dreimanis, A. (2002). Glaciogeological evidence of Pleistocene ice streams and other fast moving glaciers – Laurentide and Cordilleran ice sheets. *Boreas*. In press.

Nichol, S.L., **Lian, O.B.**, and Carter, C. (2002). Sedimentary evidence for a late Holocene tsunami run-up on beach dunes, Great Barrier Island, New Zealand. *Sedimentary Geology*. In press.

Little, E.C., **Lian, O.B.**, Velichko, A.A, Morozova, T.D., Nechaev, V.P., Dlussky, K.G., and Rutter, N.W. (2002). Quaternary stratigraphy and optical dating of loess from the East European Plain (Russia). *Quaternary Science Reviews*. In press.

Shane, P.A., **Lian, O.B.**, and Augustinus, P., Chisari R., and Heijnis, H. (2002). Tephrostratigraphy and geochronology of a 100 kyr terrestrial record at Lake Poukawa, North Island, New Zealand. *Global and Planetary Change*. In press.

Lian, O.B., Mathewes, R.W., and Hicock, S.R. (2001). Palaeoecology of the Port Moody Interstade, a nonglacial interval in southwestern British Columbia at about 18 000 ¹⁴C yr BP. *Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences*, **38**: 943–952 .

Lian, O.B., and Hicock, S.R. (2001). Lithostratigraphy and limiting optical ages of the Pleistocene fill, Fraser valley, near Clinton, south-central British Columbia. *Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences*, **38**: 839–850.

Lian, O.B., and Huntley, D.J. (2001). Luminescence dating. *In* Tracking Environmental Change Using Lake Sediments. Volume 1: Basin Analysis, Coring, and Chronological Techniques. *Edited by* William M. Last and John P. Smol. Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht, The Netherlands. pp. 261–282.

Almond, P.C., Moar, N.T. and **Lian O.B.** (2001). Reinterpretation of the glacial chronology of south Westland, New Zealand. *New Zealand Journal of Geology and Geophysics*, **44**: 1–15.

Shulmeister, J., Shane, P., **Lian, O.B.**, Okuda, M., Carter, J.A., Harper, M., Dickinson, W., Augustinus, P., and Heijnis, H. (2001). A ca. 60 ka record from Lake Poukawa, Hawkes Bay, New Zealand. Implications for a significant interstadial at the beginning of isotope stage 3. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, **176**: 81–107.

Lowe, J.J. 2001. Abrupt climatic changes in Europe during the last glacial-interglacial transition: the potential for testing hypotheses on the synchronicity of climatic events using tephrochronology. *Global and Planetary Change*, **603**, 73-84.

Renssen, H., Isarin, R.F.B., Vandenberghe, J. & Workshop participants (includes **J. Lowe**). Rapid climatic warming at the end of the last glacial: new perspectives. *Global and Planetary Change*, **603**, 155-165.

Walker, M.J.C., Björck, S. & **Lowe, J.J.** 2001. Integration of ice core, marine and terrestrial records (INTIMATE) from around the North Atlantic region: an introduction. *Quaternary Science Reviews*, **20**, 1169-1174.

Asioli, A., Trincardi, F., **Lowe, J.J.**, Ariztegui, D., Langone, L. & Oldfield, F. 2001. Sub-millennial climatic oscillations in the Central Adriatic during the Weichselian Late-glacial: paleoceanographic implications. *Quaternary Science Reviews*, **20**, 1201-1221.

Lowe J.J., W. Hoek and INTIMATE Group. 2001. Inter-regional correlation of palaeoclimatic records for the Last Glacial-Interglacial Transition: a protocol for improved precision recommended by the INTIMATE project group. *Quaternary Science Reviews*, **20**, 1175-1187.

Lowe, J.J. 2001. Quaternary Geochronological Frameworks. [invited keynote lead chapter] In Brothwell, D.R. & Pollard, A.M. (eds.) *Handbook of Archaeological Sciences*, Wiley, Chichester, pp. 9-21.

Turney, C.S.M., **Lowe, J.J.**, Wastegård, S., Cooper, R. & Roberts, S.J. 2001. The development of a tephrochronological framework for the last glacial-Holocene transition in NW Europe. In Juvigné, E. & Raynal, J.-P. (eds), *Tephros: Chronology, Archaeology*, Dossiers de l'Archéo-Logis no. 1, Haute-Loire, pp. 101-109.

Maslin, M., Seidov, D. & **Lowe, J.J.** 2001. Synthesis of the nature and causes of rapid climate transitions during the Quaternary. In Seidov, D., Maslin, M. & Haupt, B.J. (eds.), *The Oceans and Rapid Climatic Change: Past, Present and Future*, American Geophysical Union, Geophysical Monograph 126, 9-52.

Walker, M.J.C., Bryant, C., Coope, G.R., Harkness, D.D., **Lowe, J.J.** & Scott, E.M. 2001. Towards a radiocarbon chronology for the Late-glacial in Britain. *Radiocarbon*, **43**, 1007-1020.

Martins, L. (2001) *CEFriedrich Ratzell Geographia* 3 (5) pp.115-117.

Martins, L. (2001) Portuguese translation of *Freunde, im Raum wohnt das Erhabene nicht!* by Friedrich Ratzel *Geographia* 3 (5) pp.119-122.

Reviews

Vandana Desai did a book review of Dasgupta, Partha and Ismail Serageldin, *Social Capital: A Multifaceted Perspective*, Washington DC: The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/World Bank, 2000 (with Ian Preston) in *Contemporary South Asia*, 10 (3) 2001, pp 418-419.

Vandana Desai did a critical review of the book by Tim Allen and Alan Thomas (2000) "*Poverty and Development into the 21st Century*", Open University and Oxford University Press for Study Guide (I) prepared for the course on *International Development: Challenges for a World in Transition* (2002), Open University Press pp.105-107.

CONFERENCES-FIELDWORK-OVERSEAS

Abbas Akhouni gave a lecture at the Economic Globalization conference run by The Iranian Trade Research Centre on 29th January 2002. The title of his lecture was "Rethinking Globalization: An Analytical Framework".

Andy Bradford participated in the Resource Centre for Urban Agriculture and Forestry (RUAF) E-Conference: *Appropriative Methods for Urban Agriculture, Research, Policy Development, Planning, Implementation and Evaluation*, 4th-16th February 2002. He contributed to the discussion on methodologies for situation analysis in urban agriculture.

Tim Unwin participated in the Green College Oxford seminar on the role of methane in global warming held on 7th February, during which he contributed to the panel discussion on policy directions for the future.

David Simon was in Bangkok from 17-23 February to run the Users' Dissemination Meeting and hold a final team meeting on the EU-funded FISHSTRAT project on sustainable reservoir and lake fisheries development in tropical Asia.

Olav Lian presented a paper entitled: "Pleistocene ice streams in Canada: evidence from subglacial till." At Palaeo-Ice Stream International Symposium (INQUA Commission on Glaciation). 17–20 October 2001, University of Aarhus, Aarhus, Denmark.

Olav Lian organised the session "Glaciogeological and geomorphological evidence of ancient ice streams and outlet glaciers" for 2003 INQUA conference in Reno, Nevada, USA.

John Lowe attended the inaugural workshop of the EU-funded 'EURODELTA' project in Bologna, Italy, from 19-23 January, 2002. EURODELTA is a Concerted Action within Framework V. Co-ordinated by scientists based in the CNR Bologna, it involves research teams from 10 European countries, and is linked to American-funded Mediterranean research programs as well. The aim of the project is to establish which prodeltas in the Mediterranean

Sea will be subject to instability, and over what timescales. The Royal Holloway team will be responsible for establishing a precise timescale for the records which are to be studied and synthesised within the project.

VISITORS TO THE DEPARTMENT

Korsi Ashong, of the Centre for the Development of People (CEDEP), a leading Ghanaian NGO, met **David Simon** in London on 15th February to discuss the final report of the DFID-funded project R7995 on sustainable natural resource-based livelihood planning, held by CEDEP and on which David has been working.

GRANTS

Richard Hodgkins has been awarded a NERC small research grant of £30,580.68 for a project entitled "Modelling the spatial and temporal evolution of winter glacier mass balance" taking place between 01/08/02 and 31/07/04. The location is Langjökull, which is Iceland's second-largest ice cap at 960 sq km in area.

Richard Hodgkins has received a grant of £280 from the British Geomorphological Research Group for "Digital Elevation Modelling of Outlet Glaciers: Langjökull, Iceland".

Kathy Prendergast has been awarded a Small Grant in the Creative and Performing Arts from the AHRB (£4725). The award entitled 'From abandon to worry: an emotional map of America' is for costs of equipment, software and consumables associated with her digital mapping project.