

# Geography Department News

Monthly Newsletter  
Royal Holloway, University of London

March 2010  
Number 190

## STAFF AND STUDENTS

**Peter Gordon** successfully defended his PhD thesis on 24th March. His PhD, entitled 'Tongued with fire: The politics and poetics of displayed human remains in museums', was the outcome of an ESRC/CASE award with the Science Museum. His examiners were Professor Sharon Macdonald (Social Anthropology, Manchester) and Professor Chris Gosden (Archaeology, Oxford). His supervisor was **Katie Willis** and his advisors were **Clive Gamble** and **Robert Bud** (Science Museum). The PhD involved research in the Science Museum and Wellcome Collection, London, the Museum of High Altitude, Salta, Argentina and the Inka Museum, Cusco, Peru.

**Felix Driver** examined a PhD thesis by John Donaldson on the demarcation of the boundary between Zambia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, at Durham University, 19 March. The other examiner was James Sidaway (Amsterdam).

**David Lambert** has been elected a Visiting Fellow of Exeter College, University of Oxford, for the academic year starting October 2010, which is when he takes up his Philip Leverhulme Prize.

## OUTSIDE ENGAGEMENTS

**Katie Willis** gave a talk to the Guildford Branch of the Geographical Association entitled 'Urbanisation in LEDCs: Patterns, Processes and Challenges'.

**David Simon** was the only non-Namibian participant in a high profile public debate to mark 20 years of Namibian independence,

held in the Houses of Parliament on 18th March. He was a proponent of the motion that 'This House believes that Namibia is a shining example of post-colonial peace, democracy and development'. Organised by the Royal African Society and Friends of Namibia, the debate was chaired by Oona King, former MP and now Head of Diversity at Channel 4. The event was videoed and should appear on YouTube soon.

**Klaus Dodds** delivered a lecture entitled 'Propaganda, terrorism and global geopolitics' to Malborough College on 16th March 2010.

**Tim Cresswell** gave a keynote address to the conference "Early Modern Dislocations" at Northumbria University. His talk was titled "The Vagrant/Vagabond: The Curious Career of a Mobile Subject"

**Tim Cresswell** gave an Alexander Von Humboldt lecture at Radboud University Nijmegen, the Netherlands. His talk was titled "On Turbulence".

The RESET consortium group had their 2009/10 progress meeting in the Natural History Museum, London on March 2nd. This reviewed the recent efforts in the various working groups and outlined next steps for research in Europe and North Africa. The meeting was chaired by **John Lowe** and was attended by **Clive Gamble**, **Anna Bourne**, **Mark Hardiman**, **Rupert Housley**, **Alison MacLeod**, and **Chris Satow**, as well as colleagues from the various RESET partner institutions.

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## NOTICES

Start of Summer Term - 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010



Graduation Ceremony - 15<sup>th</sup> July at 6pm

PERG Seminar - Wendy Pullan, Cambridge - 'Conflicts in Cities' - 26.4.10 at 1pm, Room IN245, International Building



ICT4D

Seminar - Edmore Hute, Lifeline Network UK - 'Capacity development and child headed families in Zimbabwe' - 12.5.10 at 1pm, Room 136.



ICT4D

Seminar - Roberta Bernardi, School of Management, RHUL - Title TBC - 21.5.10 at 1pm, Room 136

**Vandana Desai** gave guest lectures on "Ageing in Asia" at the Institute of Gerontology, Kings College, London on 11th of March 2010.

**Vandana Desai** was an invited guest to attend Bangladesh Independence day celebration by the High Commission on 26th March 2010.

**Dr Dorothea Kleine**, Project Manager of the Fair Tracing project, attended the EPSRC Impact Exhibition Opening on 15th March at the Royal College of Art. The Fair Tracing Project was one of 16 projects chosen from the entire EPSRC project portfolio to work with RCA designers on showing potential impact of research through the exhibits. The Fair Tracing team collaborated three months with designer Nicholas Myers to create the exhibit "Does it smell like Fair Trade?" pushing the boundaries of what is currently possible in product design. There was great interest from the public and press, including from wired, walesonline, AFP, the Guardian and CNN.com. Tim Unwin attended the Opening as an Advisory Board member to the project. London, 15 March.

**Mustafa Dikeç's** keynote to the Urban Violence conference in Stockholm was broadcast on the Swedish Science Channel on 13 March 2010. The talk was about the politics of urban unrest in France.

**Mustafa Dikeç** has been invited to the editorial board of the academic journal *Géographie, Economie et Société*.

## FIELDWORK- CONFERENCES- OVERSEAS

**David Simon** attended the 5th World Urban Forum in Rio de Janeiro from 22-26th March in his role as advisor to UN-HABITAT on cities and climate change. He moderated and participated in a day-long Dialogue, one of the centrepieces of the Forum, which

followed on from the e-Debate that he moderated online late last year. Separately, he presented a paper on 'National Urbanization and Urban Policies: Necessary but Absent Policy instruments in Africa' (written jointly with Sue Parnell, Univ of Cape Town) as part of a session focused on a trio of linked papers produced by the African Centre for Cities at the Univ of Cape Town.

**Madeleine Dobson** attended the Families in Global Transition Annual Conference in Houston, Texas, 4-6 March. Madeleine presented a paper and poster in the Researchers' Forum on 'Conceptualizing Families' Experiences of Repatriation: Return, Continuity and Change' and a 'Cracker Barrel' session on 'Optimizing Repatriation: Positive Experiences of Going Home'. Delegates included researchers, industry experts and migrants.

**Bradley L. Garrett, David Gilbert, Phil Crang, Jason Lim, Ashley Nye, Ellie Miles and Anyaa Anim-Addo** spent 7 days in New York with the GG2003/4 class. The trip was fantastic and all of the students came away with exciting and insightful research projects.

**Bradley L. Garrett** attended the conference Modern Ruins, Urban Archaeology, and the Post-Industrial Sublime at The Observatory in Brooklyn, New York on 25th March.

## PUBLICATIONS

**Felix Driver**, 'In search of the imperial map: Walter Crane and the image of empire', *History Workshop Journal* 69 (2010), 146-57.

**Umar Haira'u** (2010) "An Introduction to Landform Analysis: Landform analysis of Kujama District, Kaduna state Nigeria" VDM Verlag Germany, 56pp.

**Tim Cresswell** (2010) *Towards a Politics of Mobility Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 28/1: 17-31.

## REVIEW

**Felix Driver**, review of H. K. Beals et al, *Four Travel Journals: The Americas, Antarctica and Africa, 1775-1874* (Hakluyt Society, 2008), *Archives* 121 (2009), 78-80.

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

**Bradley L. Garrett** was awarded a £500 grant to attend the Creative Geographies workshop at the University of Edinburgh from May 3rd 7th.

## VISITORS-MEETINGS IN THE DEPARTMENT

Professor Takeshi Nakagawa, University of Newcastle presented the CQR Lecture on 10th March entitled "Lake Suigetsu, Japan, a 70,000 Year Varved Sediment Record: A History and a New Project".

**Dr Simon Armitage**, RHUL presented the QUISS Seminar on 18th March entitled "Panacea or Plaything? Single-grain OSL Dating of Dryland Archaeology".

Colleagues from Aptivate (<http://www.aptivate.org>) presented the Centre for ICT4D Seminar on 5th March to Profile their Work and Explore Ways in Which we Might be able to Work Collaboratively Together.

David Grimshaw, Senior Research Fellow, Emerging Technologies, Department for International Development; and Practical Action presented the Centre for ICT4D/CEDAR Seminar on 2nd March.

**Sara Fregonese**, RHUL presented the PERG Seminar on 15th March entitled 'Geopolitical Discourses in Western Diplomacy Towards Lebanon, Intra-state Conflict, and Non-state Actors During the Cold War'.

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Sha Jin Ming, Fujian Normal University presented the CEDAR Seminar on 8th March entitled 'Rural Development Challenges in China'.

Branwen Gruffydd Jones, Goldsmiths, University of London presented the CEDAR Seminar on 17th March entitled 'Tales of the African City in Neoliberal Times'.

Professor Jin Ming Sha, Fujian Normal University presented the Department of Geography

Seminar on 11th March entitled 'Monitoring Eco-environment Using Remote Sensing'.

The Department hosted its annual alumni careers event on 5th March. 5 alumni and Andrew Falconer of the Careers Service presented to an audience of about 40 current UGs. Geogsoc kindly organised a reception after the event. The next event will be held in March 2011.

## **ANY OTHER NEWS**

Congratulations to **Win Tun** and his partner Julia Dun on the arrival of their baby girl Nang San Li Tun on the 20th March. The baby weighed in at 3.7 kg.

Congratulations to **Mary** and Martin Dengler on the birth of their little boy Quentin on 12th March, Quentin weighed in at 10lb 6oz and both Mother and baby are doing fine.