

STAFF AND STUDENTS

Tim Unwin met on 1st November with Adrian Godfrey, Director for Corporate Responsibility, Cisco Systems, and the Department's new Honorary Research Associate, Dr. Michelle Selinger, also from Cisco Systems, to discuss collaborative research and particularly their possible support for postgraduate activities in the Department.

Alistair Pinkerton and **Pippa Biltcliffe**, co-chairs of the PGF, advised of a new RGS Postgraduate Forum website which was launched on the 1st of November, 2004 (<http://www.geog.ucl.ac.uk/RGS-PGF/index.html>).

Welcome to **Dr. Michelle Selinger** (Education Strategy Manager for the EMEA region in the Corporate Responsibility Department at Cisco) has been appointed as an Honorary Research Associate in the Department.

Felix Driver has joined the RGS-IBG sub-committee planning the Annual Conference 2005.

Felix Driver examined a PhD thesis by Anna Crozier (UCL) on 'The Colonial Medical Officer and Colonial Identity: Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania before World War Two', Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, 26 November.

Felix Driver acted as external examiner for the Shape of the World course, at the Open University, 24 November.

Clive Gamble has been appointed to English Heritage's Research Advisory Panel and is chairing a review of archaeological dating in the organisation. He has also been elected to the Peer Review Colleges of both NERC and AHRB.

Katie Willis & Vandana Desai participated in the first DARG Undergraduate Dissertation Day at Birkbeck on November 20th. This attracted over 50 students who are thinking of doing dissertations on 'development' topics, including 6 RHUL students.

OUTSIDE ENGAGEMENTS

Tim Unwin was a guest of Sir Alec Reed at the national conference on "Enterprise: our Hidden Potential" held at the Institute of Directors on 16th November. The conference was chaired by Fiona Bruce, and speakers included Digby Jones, Director-General of the CBI and Sir Alan Sugar, Chairman of Amstrad.

Tim Unwin participated in the Welcome Programme for New Award Holders of the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan held at Regent's College in London on 15th

November, during which he gave a keynote address on the development aspects of international education, and contributed as a panel member to the Commonwealth Question Time. He also participated in the reception at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office hosted by Chris Mullin, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Commonwealth and Foreign Affairs.

Tim Unwin was an invited guest at the launch of *The Rough Guide to a Better World* held at Portcullis House, House of Commons, and hosted by Hilary Benn MP and Gareth Thomas MP on 15th November. Tim's photographs were used for the front cover and publicity materials for this publication, 2 million copies of which are to be made freely available globally.

Tim Unwin has been invited to join the Program Committee of a conference being convened by UNESCO and The Club of Rome (CoR) in May 2005 on the use of ICT, in particular satellites, for capacity-building, and designed to provide inputs to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS).

Tim Unwin and members of the ICT4D collective jointly convened a seminar with the German capacity building organisation InWEnt from 4th to 5th November in Bonn on "E-Learning: from policy to practice" (see: <http://www.gc21.de/ibt/GC21/opengc21/ibt/public/e-learning-seminar/index.html>). Other members of the collective involved included Barbara Hatzimichail, Michelle Selinger, and Dorothea Kleine.

Tim Unwin was an invited guest at the lecture delivered by Ziauddin Sardar entitled "Beyond difference: cultural relations in the new century" delivered on 2nd November at the Business Design Centre as part of the British Council's 70th anniversary celebrations.

Tim Unwin presented a lecture entitled "100 anos de geografia britânica: o desafio da relevância" at the Silva Telles Colóquio held in Lisbon from 25th-27th November to celebrate 100 years of the teaching of geography in universities in Portugal.

David Simon attended a panel discussion on South Africa's Growing Role in Security and Peacekeeping in Africa, at Chatham House on 10th November. The speakers were Laurie Nathan (LSE and Univ. of Cape Town), Fumni Olonisakin (Royal College of Defence Studies) and Victor Ogah (Nigerian diplomatic service).

David Simon attended the Management Committee meeting of the Canon Collins Educational Trust for Southern Africa in London on 10th November.

Pippa Biltcliffe presented a paper entitled, 'Thomas Holloway, the Victorian Art Collector' at a study day at Leighton House Museum on 16th November. The study day was in conjunction with the loan of Edwin Long's 'Babylonian Marriage Market' from the College Collection which is on display at Leighton House until January.

Rob Imrie gave a lecture in the Department of Geography, King's College London on November 16th on the topic of 'disability, domesticity and the home environment'.

Rob Imrie was invited to the Department of Geography, University of Lund, Sweden, from November 20th to 22nd, and he chaired an MA class and presented various parts of his research on disability and the built environment'.

Duncan McGregor attended the meeting held at Kings College London on 12 November to initiate a Climate Change Research Group of the IBG-RGS. Duncan agreed to act as Treasurer until committee elections could be held in September 2005.

Sylvester Akhaine successfully defended his PhD thesis, entitled 'Human Rights Diplomacy and the Democratic Project in West Africa ', supervised jointly by Jonathan Seglow (POL and IR) and me. The examiners were Professors Tunde Zack-Williams (Central Lancashire) and Tim Shaw (Institute of Commonwealth Studies). Syl has only minor corrections to make.

Katie Willis gave a seminar entitled 'I'm a Citizen of the World': Gender, Identity and the Politics of Scale among British Expatriates in China ' at the Geography Department, University of Southampton as part of their departmental seminar series.

Katie Willis was invited to give the opening paper at the 15th Annual Workshop of the Women's Committee of the Economic History Society on 13 November at the Institute of Historical Research . The paper was entitled 'Themes in Contemporary Gender and Migration Research.'

PUBLICATIONS

David Simon (2004) Editorial, *Journal of Southern African Studies* 30(3), pp.429-432.

David Simon (2004) 'Supranational good governance in Africa : part of the 'end of history' or a new beginning?', *The Constitution; a journal of constitutional development* 4(3): 1-5. (Lagos).

Imrie,R ., 2004 "The Corporealisation of Codes, Rules, and the Conduct of Architects", in Elijah Hume (Ed.), *Perspecta 35 - Building Codes*, Cambridge , Massachusetts , MIT Press).

Raschid-Sally, L. **Bradford, A .** and Endamana, D. (2004) 'Productive use of wastewater by poor urban and peri-urban farmers: Asian and African case studies in the context of the Hyderabad Declaration on Wastewater Use'. In Butterworth, J. and Moriarty, P. and van Koppen, B. (eds.) *Beyond Domestic: Case studies on poverty and productive uses of water at the household level*. International Water and Sanitation Centre (IRC), Delft , The Netherlands , pp. 94-116.

Bradford, A.M. (2004) '3.4 Household composting and village "bola" management'. In Drechsel, P. (ed.) *Closing the rural-urban nutrient cycle. Options for municipal waste composting in Ghana . Final Scientific Report on IDRC project 100376*. International Water Management Institute (IWMI), West Africa Office, pp 28-33.

Jill Fenton , 'Re-enchanting the city: the utopian practices of the Paris group of the surrealist movement,' in Mical, Thomas, 2004, *Surrealism and Architecture*, London and New York : Routledge, pp209-219.

Jill Fenton , "A world where action is the sister of dream": Surrealism and anti-capitalism in contemporary Paris , *Antipode*, 2004, vol 36, issue 5, pp 942-962.

Reviews

Bradford, A.M. (2004) Review of Mukherjee, N. (2001) Alternative Perspectives on Livelihoods, Agriculture and Air Pollution: Agriculture in urban and peri-urban areas in a developing country. Ashgate, Aldershot. Land Degradation and Development, 15: 97-98.

VISITORS/MEETINGS IN THE DEPARTMENT

Daniel Kakinda, CEO of SchoolNet Uganda gave a CEDAR seminar entitled "Lessons learnt by SchoolNet Uganda in implementing ICT for education initiatives" on 8th November. He also gave a lecture on 9th November to the third year students doing the course on ICT4D.

Dr. Marcus Power from Bristol University presented the Departmental Seminar on 11th November. His presentation was entitled 'Frames of reference on the geopolitical stage: Hollywood film and the World War II/Gulf War II intertext'.

Dr Richard Hodgkins, RHUL presented the Departmental Seminar on Thursday, 25th November. His talk was entitled 'In the Bleak Mid-Winter: Snow accumulation research in Svalbard and Iceland, 1999 -2004'.

Dr David Gilbert presented the Lectures in Geography series on 22nd November to AS and A Level students. His lecture was entitled 'Global Geographies: A Shrinking World'.

Steve Booth from the British Geological Survey presented the QUISS Seminar on the 3rd of November. His lecture was entitled 'Representing Quaternary Information'.

CONFERENCES-FIELDWORK-OVERSEAS

David Simon was in New York from 3-7th November as part of an international working group finalising the Science Plan for the new research programme on Urbanisation and Global Environmental Change for IHDP, the International Human Dimensions Programme of Global Environmental Change. The venue was Hunter College, City University of New York. He also managed to watch a bit of the New York Marathon!

OTHER NEWS

Kick start your Christmas with the Postgraduate Forum Christmas Party for London Geographers.

*Thursday 9th December * 7pm til late * Henry's Bar, 5/6 Henrietta St. Covent Garden*

Friends, partners, staff, old fogies all welcome so please come and join us for the festivities.

Tickets are £12 which includes buffet, a couple of glasses of wine, and a thoroughly marvellous evening. There will also be a raffle with some great prizes.

Tickets must be brought in advance please contact Al: A.D.Pinkerton@rhul.ac.uk or Pippa: P.M.Biltcliffe@rhul.ac.uk

On 19th November an intrepid bunch of about 20 staff, postgrads and post-docs plus partners and children headed off to Wimbledon Stadium for a night at the greyhound racing. Despite strong backing from the Canadian contingent (Olav Lian) 'Vancouver Sparky' failed to win, but others had more success. The 'Gilbert Method' of picking winners showed promise, but faded once the Gilbert children had gone home, while Elaine Turton and Rob Batchelor were among the more gifted individuals when it came to backing winners.