

Department newsletter: Sep. 2006

Staff and Students

A warm welcome to four new members of the academic staff who joined the Department in September: **Simon Armitage**, **Ian Candy** and **Varyl Thorndycraft**, as Lecturers in Physical Geography; and **Mustafa Dikeç**, as Lecturer in Human Geography.

Welcome also to **Yutaka Sato**, who is visiting the Department for one year to work with Vandana Desai, funded by a Canon Foundation Postdoctoral Research Fellowship; and also **Mark Lewis**, from the Natural History Museum, who will be based in the Department working on the Leverhulme-funded AHOB project with Jim Rose.

Stella Blockley joins the Department as a Research Fellow, working with Clive Gamble on the EFCHEd project until May 2008.

Jenny Lunn joins the Department as a part-time Research Assistant working with David Simon on his British Academy project.

Rob Batchelor has started work for Archaeoscape as an Environmental Archaeologist. **Gemma Swindle**, who will continue working for Archaeoscape as projects manager, has moved to Greece.

Congratulations to **Simon Armitage** who has been appointed as a Member of the Council of the Society for Libyan Studies, for four years.

Katie Walsh has been appointed to a Lectureship in Geography and Migration Studies at the University of Sussex.

Matt Benwell has been appointed as a temporary lecturer at the University of Reading, teaching courses in children's geographies and in social geography.

Outside Engagements

Luiza Bialasiewicz delivered the closing plenary lecture at the Sixth European Urban and Regional Studies Conference in Roskilde, Denmark (September 21st-24th), entitled 'The Uncertain State of Europe'.

Tim Unwin gave a plenary paper on 'Sustainability and Strategic Partnerships in ICT4D²' and a conference paper on "ICTs and Teacher Training: Case Studies from across the world" at the 2nd National ICTs in Basic Education Congress, Cebu, The Philippines, 7th September 2006.

Tim Cresswell gave a Keynote address entitled 'Hurricane Katrina and the Politics of Mobility'. ESRC RDGS Advanced Research Training in Human Geography Annual Meeting, Kindrogan, Perthshire, Scotland.

Duncan McGregor acted on the Evaluation Committee for a PhD thesis at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Department of Urban and Rural Development: Anna

Hofny-Collins: The Potential for Using Composted Municipal Waste in Agriculture: The case of Accra, Ghana, in Uppsala, 21 September.

Scott Elias served as internal examiner for the PhD dissertation of Patrick Austin (UCL) entitled 'Palaeoconductivity, lake level fluctuations and trace element history of the Aral Sea since 400 AD: assessing the impact of natural climatic variability and anthropogenic activity.'

Peter French gave a presentation to the High Weald Branch of the Geographical Association entitled 'Managing Coastal Erosion: Protection or interference'.

Felix Driver attended a consultative meeting organised by the Hefce/AHRC panel on metrics in the arts and humanities, Warwick, 25 September.

Ed Derbyshire met Edmund Nickless, Executive Director of the Geological Society, on 4 September at Burlington House, London, for discussion of overseas and other earth science matters of mutual interest.

Ed Derbyshire was invited to the London offices of Ove Arup on 11 September to provide engineering-geological advice on the sedimentological and soil mechanical properties of the loess of Jersey.

Publications

Cresswell T, 2006, The Right to Mobility: The Production of Mobility in the *Courtroom*, *Antipode*, 38/4: 735-754

Hoskins G and **Cresswell T**, 2006, Making up Chinese-Americans: Moral Geographies of Immigration in The Chinese Exclusion Act (1882) and the Peopling of America Theme Study Act (2001) in M Margaroni and E Yiannopoulou (eds) *Metaphoricity and the Politics of Mobility* (Rodopi, Amsterdam)

Cresswell T (2006) 'Place' in B Wharf (ed) *The Encyclopedia of Human Geography* (Sage), 356-358

Cresswell T (2006) 'Sense of Place' in B Wharf (ed) *The Encyclopedia of Human Geography* (Sage), 424-425.

Evans, D.J.A., S. B. Wilson & **D.F.M.McGregor** (2006) 'Scottish landform example 37: 'The Kaims' of Bedshiel, *Scottish Geographical Journal*, 122 (1), 76-83

Simon, D. (2006) 'Editorial', *Journal of Southern African Studies* 32(2), pp. 199-201.

Stevens, T., **Armitage, S.J.**, Lu, H. and Thomas, D. (2006) Sedimentation and diagenesis of Chinese loess: Implications for the preservation of continuous, high-resolution climate records. *Geology*. 34, 849-852.

Thorndycraft V.R., Barriendos M., Benito G., Rico M. and Casas A. (2006). The catastrophic floods of A.D.1617 in Catalonia (NE Spain) and their climatic context. *Hydrological Sciences Journal*, 51, 899-912.

Unwin, T. (2006) 100 years of British Geography: the challenge of relevance, *Inforgeo* (Portugal) 18/19, 103-126 (Special issue for 2003/4 Silva Telles: 100 Anos de Geografia).

Walsh, K. (2006) 'Dad says I'm tied to a shooting star': grounding research on British expatriate belonging, *Area*, 38, 268-78.

Grants and Awards

Barnaby Crocker was awarded a prize (sponsored by John Wiley & Sons) for the best presentation at the QRA Postgraduate Conference, Edinburgh, 29 Aug-1 Sept, for his work on the 'Dietary Preferences and Masticatory Processes in the Palaeartic woolly rhinoceros'.

Fieldwork-Conferences-Overseas

Ed Derbyshire attended a meeting at the European Commission in Brussels on 14 September, involving the EC INFSO ICT for Environment and representatives of the Electronic Geophysical Year, in order to explore the potential for mutual cooperation in the framework of the International Year of Planet Earth 2007-2009

Ed Derbyshire travelled to Beijing on 19-20 September for a month-long programme of work in China.

Sorayya Khan was in Mali from 2nd August-18th September to carry out preliminary fieldwork for her PhD in Community Participation in Health Service Provision in Rural Mali. Her travel to the rural regions of Kidal, Gao and Mopti was enabled by the Paul Broome Development Research Prize.

Any Other News

The Annual Departmental Postgraduate Symposium took place on 27th September, with a record number of participants. Particular thanks go to **Tara Woodyer, Tim Unwin, Karen Oliver** and **Liz Hamilton** for making it such a success.

Staff and postgraduates of the ICT4D Collective organised a lively international postgraduate symposium in the Department on 14th and 15th September which was attended by 35 participants from 13 countries.

Queens triumph

Over the summer period an intrepid team from Geography and Geology have been participating in the Staff Rounders competition organised by the Sports Centre. Known as the Queens Team, four group games were played and the relative inexperience of the squad led to us scraping through this stage on points difference, having won two and lost two games. In the semi-final, Queens (the firm underdogs) played the Facilities Management team, who had won all of the previous rounders tournaments and things clicked into place for us. Inspired by some miraculous work by Ian Matthews at bat stop (techniques that have never been observed in rounders before) and some hard hitting by Kevin D'Souza and Mike Dolton, Queens clobbered the opponents to set up a meeting with some good friends in External Relations. Queens trailed External Relations by three points after the first innings, but some good scoring saw us set a reasonable target for the opposition to achieve. Tight pitching by

Jacqui Duffet and some oppressive fielding from Elaine Turton, Simon Suggate and Jonny Woo restricted External Relations to only four points in their second innings, which saw Queens to the trophy by seven points. Well done to everyone who took part and we will attempt to defend the trophy next year.