



Endnotes

DEPARTMENT OF
GEOGRAPHY,
HISTORY, AND
POLITICAL &
INTERNATIONAL
STUDIES
NEWSLETTER

Issue 4

Summer 2008

From the Chair

We've had a busy year in the Department of Geography, History, Political and International Studies! In these pages you'll see highlights of our activities this past year and notice a few changes in our department. I became interim chair in the summer of 2007; David Jordan took over as co-ordinator of Geography for the year; and Paul Rowe became co-ordinator of Political Studies as well as International Studies. You'll notice that it took three people to replace Bruce Shelvey who was chair of the department for 7 years. Bruce's passion and vision made a huge difference in the strides this department has taken; we are incredibly grateful for his leadership. Thanks must also go to Jayne Cummins, our faculty assistant, who ensured that things continued to run smoothly.

This past year Geography underwent some major programmatic changes; the International Studies major has also been tweaked. History and Political Studies both added some new courses which will dovetail nicely with International Studies, one of the University's most popular majors. New to our offerings are: History 109 ~ World History Since 1945; History 321 ~ Tudor-Stuart Britain; History 392 ~ Sugar, Slaves, Silver: The Atlantic World 1450 – 1850; History 471 ~ Missions and Imperialism in a Global Context; and, Political Studies 425 ~ European Comparative Politics. History 310 also got a major overhaul by Ryan Blaak. Instead of Public History it is now called History in Practice and provides students with exposure to the practical application of historical skills and career opportunities in history. The Laurentian Leadership Centre (LLC) continues to do exceptionally well. This past year we had full classes in both the fall and spring semesters and LLC alumni speak glowingly of their experiences.

Students were busy too. An active group of students formed the new student group HPIUS, which stands for History, Political Science, International Studies Undergraduate Society. In January I accompanied a fantastic group of students to Kamloops for an undergraduate students' conference. You'll find more information on both of these activities in this newsletter. The Foreign Affairs Society also hosted a well-attended forum in March on the question "What Would Push our Globalised Society into the Next Worldwide Conflict?"

We remain thankful for the amazing students we have in our department and for the remarkable alumni that go forward and make such a difference in our world. Each time this newsletter is published, we hear more outstanding stories from alumni who are truly transforming the world. Please do keep us updated on your whereabouts and your work. Your stories are greatly encouraging to us.

Robynne Healey
Chair

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We are pleased to report that the **John Klassen Fellowship Fund** continues to grow and is fast approaching our minimum goal of \$40,000.

The **John Klassen Fellowship Recipient** for 2008-09 is Lydia Wytenbroek.

Lydia had the distinction of holding this position for the 2006-07 academic year as well.

Congratulations Lydia!

Faculty Congratulations!

Not only do we congratulate students who have graduated but we also would like to celebrate faculty accomplishments.

This year **John Dyck** was granted tenure at TWU.

Paul Rowe received a grant for \$1150 in September 2007 to present his paper "Crosses on the Nile: Building Civil Society in Mubarak's Egypt" at Middle East Studies Association ABM in Montreal, QC in November 2007. An updated version of this paper has been accepted for publication in Middle Eastern Studies (a journal).

Political & International Studies...

Political Studies and International Studies are seeing exciting growth here at Trinity Western University! This is thanks to a great innovative program, gifted faculty, and the awesome opportunities our students enjoy at the Laurentian Leadership Centre and in study abroad opportunities.

In 2007-08 the department was realigned in recognition of this growth. For this year, the two came under one coordinator who oversees them within the department. We have about 75 majors in international studies and 38 in political studies - 23 students graduated in the two programs this year. Some highlights of the year in political and international studies included the visit of three representatives of Canada's provincial reconstruction team in Kandahar, Afghanistan in November and the annual Mel Smith lecture featuring former Alberta premier Ralph Klein held in February. Both Professor Dyck and I have been grateful for the opportunity to host internationally-acclaimed speakers through our project in Religion, Culture, and Conflict and this year we're hosting a symposium of Canadian Christians in Political Science here at TWU. Our course offerings continue to grow and change. This year has seen the addition of a new course in European Comparative Government and Politics taught by Professor John Dyck, building on our existing offerings in East Asia, Africa, and the Middle East.

Keep up with developments in the department by visiting our continuously growing websites! They are up at:

www.twu.ca/academics/fhss/international and www.twu.ca/academics/fhss/politics.

And drop us a line and let us know what you are up to. We love to hear from alumni and friends.

Paul Rowe,
Political & International Studies
Coordinator

Congratulations to the Graduates of 2007:

Major in Geography

Claire Lemiski Thadius Rosenau Kaysha Vander Gugten

Honours History

Jeffrey Hamel David McFarland

Major in History

Blaise Brossard Ryan Christison Jess Honcoop
Ward McLaughlin Lawrence Moore Ryan Sedore
Alexander Toews

Major in International Studies

Jennifer Bedford Melissa Carter Rhoda Dyck
Graeme Esau Megan Horban Paul Hurst
Alayna Johnson Julia Knight Danielle Koot
Yolanda Kornelsen Kerala Levitt Ryan Long
Tamara Reimer Jessica Stults

Major in Political Studies

Micaela Carlson Brittany Heinrichs Danielle Kooy
Jordan Stellingwerff Christopher Turner Norman Van Eden Petersman
Andrea Walker Casey Weeks

HPIUS begun!

In January 2008, a new student organization, the **History, Political Science and International Studies Undergraduate Society (HPIUS)**, was formed with the goal of providing opportunities for students in History, Political Science and International Studies to meet with other students in their departments and get to know departmental faculty. In an effort to encourage students to connect with one another, HPIUS sponsored several social events this past spring, including a desert night and a year-end BBQ. HPIUS also held a film night, in which the movie *Amazing Grace* was shown, followed by a discussion led by professors Steven Hicks and John Dyck. Interested in fostering discussion and debate regarding historical and political issues, HPIUS plans to host a panel discussion on genocide in the 20th century at TWU in September 2008; panellists thus far include *Vancouver Sun* journalist Don Cayo and history professor Dr. Robynne Healey. HPIUS has many exciting plans for the fall, including a proposed student-led book club, periodic film nights, and plans for students to attend the 2008 Massey Lecture at the Chan Center as a group. Next year's executive council will be composed of Lydia Wytenbroek (president), Katie Masse (vice president), Kristen McFarland (secretary) and Joy Rajan (treasurer).

Below from left to right: Jess Honcoop (Events Co-ordinator); Joy Rajan (Treasurer); Danielle Kooy (Vice President); Jasmin Skidmore (member at large); Lydia Wytenbroek (President); Kristen McFarland (Secretary).



The HPIUS Executive 2007-2008

Honours Theses from 2007-2008:

Jeffrey Hamel, "Forgotten Warriors from a Fractured Nation, Canadian Involvement in the Russian

Civil War: A Story of Mutiny, Heroism and Class Warfare in the Shaping of a National Identity," May 2008, Honours History Thesis, Supervisor: Robynne Healey, Second Reader: Steven Hicks.

Lauren Hosty, "The Language of the Telos in Plato's Political Philosophy," December 2007, Honours Political Studies Thesis, Supervisors: John Dyck and Calvin Townsend, Second Reader: Grant Havers.

David McFarland, "Growing Strangely Dim: The Role of Dispensational Theology in American Fundamentalism," June 2008, Honours History Thesis, Supervisor: Bob Burkinshaw, Second Reader: Bruce Guenther.

As part of an admissions recruiting initiative a number of faculty are sharing their summer activities in a website blog.

Check out the blog of our own Robynne Healey and see what is keeping her VERY busy over the summer months.

Simply go to the main TWU Website at www.twu.ca and click on **FACULTY BLOGS** at the bottom left.

Enjoy!

Canadian Christian Political Science Association Meeting at TWU - June 2008



Members of the Canadian Christian Political Scientists (CCPS) list-serve met at TWU on June 3 for a one-day conference. The theme of the conference was **Christians and the Public Good**. Papers were presented by John Redekop (TWU), John Hiemstra (King's UC), Christian Leuprecht (Queens), Paul Chamberlain (TWU), Janet Epp-Buckingham (LLC). The papers addressed themes which John Redekop has been interested in during his long academic career at Wilfrid Laurier and later at TWU. 16 political scientists from across the country attended, and participated in discussion on the papers and in the Round Table which took place in the afternoon. The event was capped with a dinner at the Bedford House in Fort Langley. Several members of the public attended, as did some graduate students. Papers given at the conference are available on the department website. John Dyck organized and chaired the conference. We are actively working on growing the John Redekop endowed scholarship fund at TWU.

John Dyck

Photo: Doris & John Redekop

Reflections of a History Major

I graduated from TWU in 1999 and went on to do a two-year diploma in journalism at Kwantlen College. Since then, I have been working for almost seven-and-a-half years as a reporter and photographer and have been working at the Campbell River Mirror newspaper for the past six years.

I find the skills I learned as a history major often come in handy. I know how to research. I know where to look. I know how to look at stories from a different angle and to consider the variety of perspectives and the motivations behind them. And in my community, which is rich with First Nations history, my historiographical training really comes in handy more than anything (Thanks, Dr. Burkinshaw!) The analysis of history-writing has proven to be one of the most invaluable courses of my entire BA.

Also thanks to Dr. Shelvey for sparking my interest in First Nations history – it is valuable to understand the earliest history of Campbell River in order to really comprehend present-day band politics, land claims and lawsuits.

Most of the early history of Campbell River was written from a dubious perspective. Even the primary sources are suspect because a lot of them had things to hide. My training at TWU has proven invaluable when it comes to evaluating and using these sources. For example, the most authoritative history of the area has some serious problems with one of its main sources, who has been called a liar by his worst critics.

This has helped me be careful with my subject matter and be cautious with the wide variety of First Nations historical perspectives here.

Here's a real-world example: one of our Indian bands recently launched a lawsuit against our city, claiming ownership over a prime piece of downtown waterfront property which the city purchased in 1994. That's newsworthy enough, but the history of the property, of the band's claims and the machinations of timber companies and previous provincial governments to get the property out of the reserve and into private hands is an eye-opening history lesson I will soon share with my readers when my research is finished.

I am glad I completed my history degree at TWU because the quality of teaching equipped me with skills I use every day in the "real world."

Thanks to the faculty for helping me develop those skills and put them into practice.

Grant Warkentin (1999)

From the Booth Mansion...Laurentian Leadership Centre Updates

It has been a very exciting year at the Laurentian Leadership Centre in Ottawa. Both semesters were full. In fact, the Spring semester was the largest class ever (in 6 years of operation)! We also ran our first ever Business Travel Study, focused on Law in Ottawa.

Students in the **Fall semester** had a unique opportunity to attend the National Arts Centre Gala, a black tie event, and rub shoulders with the glitterati of Ottawa. Students in the **Spring semester** tolerated the worst winter in 50 years, over four metres of snow!

New internships included the Public Health Agency, Ottawa School of Speech and Drama, the Green Party, the Sierra Club and the Manning Centre for Building Democracy.

The **Business Travel Study**, May 4 to 18, had 22 students. They lunched in the Parliamentary Restaurant and heard from Diane Ablonczy, Secretary of State for Small Business; Don Bowman, Chief Justice of the Tax Court; and Rob Parker, Assistant Deputy Minister for Industry Canada. They sat in on a Supreme Court of Canada hearing and Question Period.

Challenges: The extraordinary winter resulted in some water damage in the tech room and the library. We have had workmen rebuilding a section of brick wall and doing some interior repairs.

100th anniversary of the Booth mansion: We are hoping to have some special events to mark this anniversary, but it is subject to funding. If you are in the Ottawa area, please drop by for a tour or a visit and watch for special events in 2009.



Janet Epp-Buckingham
Director

“What a fine bunch”
National Arts Centre Gala

Fall 2007

“The Worst Winter in 50 Years—
more snow than was required!”

Spring 2008



TWU students leave for Kamloops

Front row (l to r):
Christie Pederson,

Shawna Sanford

Back row (l to r):

David McFarland, Jeff
Hamel, Rhoda Dyck,
Lydia Wytenbroek and
Danielle Kooy



Undergrad Conference at Thompson Rivers University

This past January 18-20 a group of seven undergraduate students participated in the Thompson Rivers University Politics, History, and Philosophy Undergraduate Students Conference. We braved the snowy weather of the interior and emerged victorious! Attendance at the conference was very strong with representation from universities and colleges in Alberta and British Columbia. Trinity Western University was especially well-represented and everyone's papers were well received. Congratulations to the following students for presenting their work so professionally:

Rhoda Dyck, "Towards an Ethic of Concern"

Jeffrey Hamel, "Ideological Sabotage: Nazism's Approach to Scientific Research"

Danielle Kooy, "No Turning Back: The Permanence of Nuclear Psychology in American Policymakers and the Public"

David McFarland, "Forgotten Terrorism: The Lord's Resistance Army in a Global Context"

Christie Pederson, "Troubadours and Trobairitz: Gender Conventions in the Poetry of the Late Medieval Court"

Shawna Sanford, "After the Black Death"

Lydia Wytenbroek, "The Use of the Veil as an Expression of the Identity of Egyptian Women"

Robynne Healey

Leaving Kamloops after the conference

"the reception was
warm but the air was
frosty"

(l to r): Jeff Hamel,
Christie Pederson, Da-
vid McFarland, Lydia
Wytenbroek, Shawna
Sanford, Rhoda Dyck,
Danielle Kooy



Geography...

Geography is an exciting and dynamic discipline that involves the study of people, places and earth processes from a spatial perspective. In order to keep Geography at Trinity Western University at the forefront of Christian geographic education the program is undergoing a significant revision this year. Gone are the longtime lab-science courses Geography 101 and Geography 102 and in their place is **Geography 121: Earth and Atmospheric Science**. Another important and exciting change at the introductory level is a new non-lab science course called **Geography 131: Global Environmental Issues**. This course is meant to introduce students to key topics in Environmental science and the important role Christians have to play in Earth-keeping. Other notable new courses include the Geography of Africa and the Geography of the Pacific Rim. Complete course outlines, program description and requirements for Majors will appear in the new university calendar.

Dr. Geraldine Jordan will be returning to the lab and classroom after a well deserved year of maternity leave. **Andrew Perkins** (BA '05) enjoyed a successful year teaching Geog 280: Cartography and Geog 390: Geographic Information Systems while Geraldine was on leave. Andrew is entering his second year of a Ph.D. program at SFU and will continue to teach some labs and courses for the department. **Dr. Maxwell Ofosuhen** will assume the reigns as Geography Program Coordinator for the upcoming academic year. Maxwell takes over from **David Jordan** who will be returning to teaching and research after a busy year of administrative duties for both Geography and Environmental Studies.

Student Accomplishments...

Congratulations to our three graduates this year, **Mary-Claire Lemiski**, **Kaysha VanderGugten** and **Thad Rosenau**. **Claire Lemiski** was the recipient of the **Canadian Association of Geographers Award** for most outstanding student graduating in Geography at TWU. Claire receives a complimentary membership in the CAG for one year. Claire also distinguished herself with a second-place showing at the annual **NSERC-sponsored (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council)** student poster competition. Claire's poster was entitled: Establishing Climate Growth Relationships for Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) on Sumas Mountain, British Columbia. **Kaysha VanderGugten** continues to excel in her role as research assistant. Last summer Kaysha was the recipient of a NSERC undergraduate student research award to study growth dynamics and meadow boundaries of Garry Oak (*Quercus garryana*) on Saltspring Island, BC. This year Kaysha is conducting research work along with ENVS graduate **Diana BudiAyu** as part of the Langley Bog Project

Faculty Accomplishments...

Dr. Geraldine Jordan and **David Jordan**, together with collaborators in Chemistry and Biology, received a grant for \$40,000 from the Pacific Parklands Foundation to begin a study of the Langley Bog located in Derby Reach/Brae Island Regional Park.



David Jordan,
Geography
Coordinator

Kaysha VanderGugten

On site at the
Crow's Nest Property on
Saltspring Island

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AND POLITICAL &
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Contact us at:

7600 Glover Road
Langley, BC
V2Y 1Y1

Phone: (604) 888—7511

Fax: (604) 513—2143

E-mail: jayne.cummins@twu.ca

Donations to the John Klassen Fellowship can be made via mail or on-line at www.twu.ca. Tax receipts will be issued for amounts over \$10.

Please feel free to send your email address for further contact.



Alumni News—Where are they now?

Debra Parkes (1993) is Associate Professor in the Faculty of Law at the University of Manitoba. As an undergraduate, Debra spent a term at Oxford's Keble College on a scholarship studying medieval and renaissance history. Since her days in law school at UBC she has been concerned with issues such as the advocacy of women's equality and prisoner' rights.

Jen Durben (2002) is working for ADRA (Adventist Development and Relief Agency Canada) in Sri Lanka planning, monitoring and evaluating projects, writing proposals and dealing with donors in their head office. Check out the agency's website: www.adra.ca

Leanne Smythe (Neufeldt) (2003) married Daniel Smythe on June 3, 2007 and is currently in her first year of a PhD in Political Science at UBC.

Zach Arney (2003) has been accepted at Columbia University for an MA in International Affairs.

Chris Rea (2003) has been accepted at Tufts University in a program with the Feinstein Hunger Center along with a \$20,000 scholarship.

Margaret Pace (2005) successfully defended her MA thesis this month at University of Alberta: "The Money Machine: Drugs and the Colombian Economy 1980-2007."

Courtney Anderson (2006) began an NGO "The Wanted Children Foundation" in Nigeria. The foundation is currently running an orphanage and planning for a school and medical facility. Check out the foundation's website: <http://www.thewantedchildren.com/>

Jenna Magee (2006) is working with a US-based agency doing leadership development work among Palestinians. Check out the organization's website: <http://arabamericare.org/index.html>

Romalie Murphy (2007) is beginning her second year as Community Life Coordinator at the LLC in Ottawa. Romalie brings a vast array of gifts to the position and the students love her.

Matt Triemstra (2007) is Special Assistant to Colin Carrie, MP for Oshawa in his Ottawa office.

Norman Van Eeden Petersman (2008) is working with the City of Surrey as Communications Assistant to Mayor Watts.

Mark Pernosky (2007) is a Research Climatologist in Nuuk, Greenland. Mark has a Danish background and speaks the language which helped him earn his position in Nuuk, the capital of Greenland. Nuuk is located almost on the Arctic Circle. Enjoy those long summer days!

Brian Tyhuis (2007) is a GIS Analyst, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Brian is working on floodplain mapping for FEMA in the United States. He and his wife have a one year old baby girl. Brian says, "we have had an unusually hot summer here with three or more weeks above 100 degrees. That can get old real quick."