This issue of GeoPlan has several stories about the wonderful work of the Planning Alumni Committee in supporting our planning students (pg. 7-8) and of UTAGA in co-sponsoring the Awards Night (p.3). The whole department greatly appreciates the work of these dedicated volunteers, especially during difficult economic times. Like academic institutions everywhere, the University of Toronto is experiencing some financial difficulties because of the economic downturn and those difficulties filter down to the departmental level. We have made, and will continue to make, significant cuts to our operating budget in order to reduce expenses, while still ensuring that we are able to offer the highest-quality undergraduate and graduate education experience. Among other measures, we have combined the job of receptionist and alumni affairs/events coordinator into one position. Please join me in welcoming Andrew Malcolm, now one of the co-editors of GeoPlan, to this new position.

Two very exciting developments are going to be taking place in the department over the next few months. First, we have been awarded funding for an innovative undergraduate student ‘collaboratory’ with 32 seats. The collaboratory will have 8 tables, each with a large-screen computer, access to the Internet and plug-ins for laptops. Students will be able to work together on group projects and then, if they like, share their results and ideas with others by sending them to the computer screens of other groups in the room. Our second bit of good news is that, after many years, the Department of Geography offices are expanding down the corridor on the fifth floor of Sidney Smith Hall. This expansion will allow us to bring about 30 of our 180 graduate students from the basement up to the fifth floor, create a larger urban design lab and open a new graduate and undergraduate seminar room for about 35 people. We are especially excited about having graduate students on the same floor as faculty. Finally, another good news story is one that is just beginning. We are starting to plan for the department’s 75th anniversary in 2010. The anniversary committee is looking into a wide range of possible events and you will be hearing more about them in the next issue of GeoPlan. If you have any ideas for the committee or would like to join the committee, please let us know by emailing the UTAGA office. We welcome your input!

The department’s undergraduate curriculum underwent a major review and revision this year. Among the important changes is the introduction of two new field courses in human and environmental geography, to complement the two existing field courses in physical geography. Feedback from students indicates that they appreciate field work in the curriculum more than almost any other type of activity. Funding for students to participate in field work will come in part from a new award established by Professor Emeritus Bill Dean, named the William G. Dean Scholarship in Geography for Field Research.
AWARDS

Congratulations to Professor Emeritus Larry Bourne FRSC, who has received the Lambda Alpha International President’s Award of Recognition for his contribution to land economics in Canada through research, writing, teaching and mentoring. Lambda Alpha International is an honorary land economics society; membership recognizes and honours men and women who have made outstanding contributions to the knowledge, understanding or practice of the field of land economics, and whose professional conduct contributes to the furtherance of the highest ideals of scholarship and integrity.

Congratulations to Dr. Matthew Farish for receiving the McGill Family Fellowship’s thesis award (2009) award. Farish will use the award to travel for research on the Canadian Arctic to document the experiences of local people who were affected in various ways by the construction and operation of the DEW (Defense Early Warning) Line. Congratulations to Matt and good luck in our country’s most tragically forgotten regions.

Congratulations to Dr. Lisa Zhang, a former PhD student from our department. Lisa is the recipient of the 2007 Best PhD Thesis Award of the Canadian Remote Sensing Society. Dr. Zhang was announced as the winner at the 29th Canadian Symposium on Remote Sensing in Whitehorse, Yukon in June 2008, and was invited to present the results of her thesis at the following Canadian Symposium on Remote Sensing.

Did you miss the last issue of GeoPlan from Fall 2008?

It was our first stand-alone electronic version of the newsletter and can be found in the Alumni & Friends section of the departmental website at www.geog.utoronto.ca. From this point forwards, every Fall issue of GeoPlan will be available only on the website, while the Spring issue will be available in both print and website versions. Would you like to be notified when the Fall issue is posted? If yes, just send your email address to UTAGA (utaga@geog.utoronto.ca) and we will let you know as soon as it comes out.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

By Virginia Maclaren

The Department of Geography and Planning is losing its Graduate Coordinator, Bill Gough, to a higher office. He has been appointed Vice-Dean, Graduate Education and Program Development at UTSC, effective April 1. Amrita Daniere is also moving up, having accepted an appointment as Vice-Dean, Graduate at UTM, to start, June 30, 2009. Congratulations to Bill and Amrita!

I am very happy for both our colleagues, but sad for the department to be losing such excellent administrators. Amrita was the first Graduate Chair at the University of Toronto who was not also a St. George Chair. She essentially wrote the book on how to be this new type of Graduate Chair and now several other departments in the Faculty of Arts & Science are following Geography’s lead. Bill and Amrita have put an enormous amount of work into coping with graduate expansion over the past two years, adapting to new graduate funding models and generally making every effort possible to improve the quality of the research environment for our graduate students. They will be a hard act to follow.


TOURS TO PUBLIC SCULPTURE TOUR

Toronto’s geography and history can be read through its public sculptures and monuments. Many of the over 600 public sculptures in the city are located between Spadina Avenue and Bay Street, most on the grounds of the University of Toronto (including its associated colleges) and at Queen’s Park. Great cultural changes in Toronto are evident in these sculptures installed between 1870 (the city’s oldest public sculpture) and 2008.

On SATURDAY, MAY 23, 2009, John Warkentin will lead a field trip to look at and interpret these sculptures. Please let the Alumni Office know whether you intend to come. (Number - about 20 persons.)

Alumni Office: 416-978-3375, UTAGA@geog.utoronto.ca
TIME: 10 AM, MEETING PLACE: Northeast Corner, Spadina Avenue and College Street
FINISH: Between 12:00 and 1:00 at Queen’s Park
(Good weather is always a blessing, but rain or shine John will be there)

IN MEMORIAM:

PROFESSOR EMERITUS LESLIE CURRY

BY VIRGINIA MACLAAREN AND CARYL CURRY

Les Curry, Professor Emeritus of Geography at the University of Toronto and recipient of the Canadian Association of Geographers’ Award for Scholarly Distinction in 1977, died on January 12, 2009, at his home in Annapolis, MD. He was 86. He was pre-deceased by his first wife, Jean Blick Curry, who died in 1981. Les was born in Alberta and trained in geography and spatial analysis has challenged established lines of thinking and provided valuable new insights into the ways whereby human behavior shapes the world we live in. Professor Curry’s theoretical studies in economic geography and spatial analysis has challenged established lines of thinking and provided valuable new insights into the ways whereby human behavior shapes the world we live in. Professor Curry’s theoretical studies in economic geography and spatial analysis has challenged established lines of thinking and provided valuable new insights into the ways whereby human behavior shapes the world we live in. Professor Curry’s theoretical studies in economic geography and spatial analysis has challenged established lines of thinking and provided valuable new insights into the ways whereby human behavior shapes the world we live in. Professor Curry’s theoretical studies in economic geography and spatial analysis has challenged established lines of thinking and provided valuable new insights into the ways whereby human behavior shapes the world we live in. Professor Curry’s theoretical studies in economic geography and spatial analysis has challenged established lines of thinking and provided valuable new insights into the ways whereby human behavior shapes the world we live in. Professor Curry’s theoretical studies in economic geography and spatial analysis has challenged established lines of thinking and provided valuable new insights into the ways whereby human behavior shapes the world we live in. Professor Curry’s theoretical studies in economic geography and spatial analysis has challenged established lines of thinking and provided valuable new insights into the ways whereby human behavior shapes the world we live in. Professor Curry’s theoretical studies in economic geography and spatial analysis has challenged established lines of thinking and provided valuable new insights into the ways whereby human behavior shapes the world we live in.
AWARDS NIGHT 2008
BY FENTON CHIN

This great annual tradition of the Geography/Planning Department and UTAGA took place on Thursday, November 6, 2008, at our favourite spot, “Old Vic” (a.k.a. Victoria College, Alumni Hall). Awards Night, held near the end of the year, feels very much like a Nobel Prize ceremony— or even Thanksgiving party— for geographers and planners from all walks of life: scholars, professionals, and their family and friends, gather together to show their appreciation for each other’s contributions to the department, the university, and to the study of geography and planning.

This past year, UTAGA honored David Phillips, in absentia, with its Distinguished Alumni award, for his work at Environment Canada, particularly, in charting long-term changes to the country’s weather patterns. Loretta Ryan, a founding member of UTAGA’s Planning Alumni Committee, was named the Honorary President, for her many years of service to this committee. The Matthew W. F. Hanson Scholarship in Planning was awarded for the first time. Matthew Hanson (MScPl ’04) passed away in 2006 and a number of family members and friends created this scholarship in his memory, to recognize students in the Planning Program for their efforts and contribution to student life.

Your help is needed in searching for this year’s geography and planning “champions.” To nominate someone for a UTAGA award, just think of a deserving former classmate or graduate, and then submit his/her name, along with yours, and a written essay explaining why you think he/she deserves an award, to the UTAGA office, no later than April 30, 2009. It is really that easy!

UTAGA AWARD NOMINATIONS
NAMES OF AWARDS, AND HOW WINNERS ARE CHOSEN

Award Descriptions

UTAGA Distinguished Alumni Award: This award is given to alumni of the Department and its programs, who have led a career of exceptional distinction in any field, in any industry (not necessarily in geography) and brought honour to the department.

UTAGA Honorary President Award: This award is given to an individual who has made exceptional contributions to the development of the Department of Geography or its programs, and its alumni. He or she need not be a graduate of the Department or the University, and can hold, or have held, a career in any field, such as business, education, politics, research, and self-employment.

Outstanding Service Awards: This award is presented annually to up to five individuals who have made outstanding voluntary contributions to the life of the Department of Geography, its programs, its students or its alumni. Nominees could be alumni or friends, but NOT students currently enrolled with the department. There may be multiple recipients in one year.

Geography Toronto (GT) Awards (Graduate and Undergraduate): This award is presented to students who have made outstanding contributions to the life of the Department of Geography & Program in Planning. Note: only students who are able to graduate during the same year that these prizes are awarded are eligible. So, for 2009, nominees must receive their degrees during either the Spring (June) or Fall (November) Convocation ceremonies. Award winners are individuals who have been extensively involved in the undertaking of extra-curricular activities targeted at fellow geography/planning students, while at the same time achieving above-average academic success. Like the Outstanding Service Award, there can be more than one recipient per year.

Previous Winners


If you wish to nominate anyone for an award, please detach and complete the UTAGA Awards Nomination Form below, or provide the appropriate information for each candidate and return it to:

**UTAGA Recognition Committee**

c/o Department of Geography & Program in Planning  
Room 3047, 100 St. George Street, Toronto, ON M5S 3G3

In person, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday to Friday, at Sidney Smith Hall, 5th Floor,  
by fax to 416-978-6729

or send your nomination by email to

Andrew Malcolm, UTAGA Events Co-ordinator  
utaga@geog.utoronto.ca

Nominations will be accepted only from faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends

Awards will be presented at the department’s annual Awards Night scheduled for

**Thursday November 6, 2009**

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### UTAGA AWARDS 2009 - NOMINATION FORM

**DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS: APRIL 30, 2009**

Name of Nominee: ____________________________________________________________

Name(s) of Nominator(s): ____________________________________________________

Award Category: ____________________________________________________________

In the space below, please explain how the nominee meets the award criteria. You may use additional pages, if needed, and attach extra, supporting documents, if any, that you believe will help the selecting committee. Use only one form per candidate, per award.

---

### AWARD WINNERS 2008

#### Undergraduate

**Alpar Undergraduate Scholarship**

Leo Mui

Ben Shindman Scholarship in Geography

Stephanie Silver

Canadian Association of Geographers Award

Talent Derbasriorzian

Edward Blake Scholarship in Science

Sarah Simpkin

Donald Putnam Scholarship

Kristine Janzen

F. Kenneth Harry Undergraduate Scholarship

Scholarship in the Environment

John-Paul Iamonaco

Outstanding Performance Award for GGR 2009

Rachael Korman

Outstanding Performance Award for GGR 2009

Samuel Schachar

Outstanding Performance Award for GGR 2009

Claire McGarrigle

Outstanding Performance Award for GGR 2009

Maciej Jamrozik

Outstanding Performance Award for GGR 2009

Talent Derbasiorzian

Outstanding Undergraduate Research Award

Kristine Janzen

The Sidney and Lucille Silver Scholarship

Donald F. Putnam Scholarship

Graduate

Kristine Janzen

Joss Skyler

Award

The Undergraduate Geography Toronto

Daniel Pierre

Outstanding Performance Award

David Photiadis

Undergraduate Computer Applications Award

Daniel Pierre

The Undergraduate Geography Toronto Award

Joan Sklyer

Undergraduate Griffith Taylor Memorial Award

Charlene Felix

### Graduate

**Donald F. Putnam Graduate Scholarship**

Carlos Avendano, Jennifer Forkes,  
Christopher Wollen  
F. Kenneth Harry Graduate Scholarship in the Environment

Aurel Cristian Chen

George Tatham Geography Alumni Graduate Scholarship

Tanzina Mohsin

Graduate Geography Toronto Award

Lisa Freeman

John D. Barnes Geodetic Sciences Fellowship

Murray Richardson

Joseph A. May Scholarship

Patrick Vitale, Katherine Wihry

J.E.R. Ross Scholarship

Claire Oswald

Oscar J. Marshall Graduate Scholarship

Patrick Hodgson, Jan Pisek, Anita Simic

Thomas Luther Panton Award

Antoio Yuen

### Ontario Graduate Scholarship Awards

**Donald F. Putnam/ George Tatham**

Ontario Graduate Scholarship in Geography

Claire Oswald

Government of Ontario/ William G. Dean  
Ontario Graduate Scholarship in Science and Technology  
Jennifer Sawyer

Government of Ontario/ ESRI Canada  
Ontario Graduate Scholarship in Science and Technology  
Evan Castle

J. Michael Tomczak/ Ontario Graduate Scholarship in Geography

Marya Ramji  
Edward Sorbara-Urban Development Institute of Toronto/Ontario Graduate Scholarship in the Environment

**Stephanie Steele, Sarah Simpkin, Daniel Pierre**

### EXTERNAL AWARD WINNERS

**Undergraduate**

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC)

Stefanie Steele, Sarah Simpkin, Daniel Pierre

**Graduate**

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

Kristian Larsen

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC)

Roger Phillips, Jennifer Weaver

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)

Martine August, Antomy Chum, Marcie Snyder, Benita Tam, Paul Jackson,  
Heather, Derries, Zoe Dalton

Trueiio Foundation Scholar

Lisa Freeman

Royal Bank Award

Carla Klassen

**Plannin**

Alan Tonks Planning Scholarship  
Dan Cohen, Brian Gregorul, Katrine Mazier  
Alpar Scholarship  
Heather Dorries

Benjamin Sunshine Urban Planning Scholarship

Emanuel Niculescu

Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP) Award for Academic Excellence

Michelle Dryie

Centre for Urban and Community Studies Urban Planning Research Awards

Michelle Dryie, David Wachsmuth

Edie Yolles Award in Urban Planning

Michelle Dryie

Ian D. Macpherson Award

Stephanie Gris

### CAROLINA CRESSON SCHOLARSHIP

**3rd Year Undergraduate**

**Graduate**

**3rd Year Graduate**

**PhD Graduate**
HELP IS ON ITS WAY...HIRE AN INTERN TODAY!  
BY AYESHA ALLI

Is your planning agency swamped with work? Hiring a planning student for a summer internship is a great solution bringing a fresh perspective and new energy to your company. Our students are bright, energetic, mature, responsible, and up for challenges. They come into the program from a variety of backgrounds, including policy making, planning practice, community development, social activism and a range of undergraduate disciplines.

The Program in Planning at the University of Toronto provides students with a fully accredited two-year Master’s degree. As part of the fulfillment of this degree, students are required to complete an 80-hour internship. Consider our internship requirement as an opportunity for your organization or firm to hire our students for specialized and unique help on short-term projects.

To learn more about the Internship Program, please see the Information Flyer and Internship Opportunity Form at www.geog.utoronto.ca/programs/planning/internships or contact Ayesha Alli, Program Administrator at 416-946-0269 or alli@geog.utoronto.ca for more details.

IS TORONTO OURTOPIA?  
BY MICHAEL NOBLE AND CORWIN CAMBRAY

On April 16, 2009, Bruce Kuwabora will share his thoughts with Spring Social attendees in his keynote address – Is Toronto Ourtopia? “Ourtopia” represents an evolving thesis that Toronto has the potential to become a viable and sustainable urban model that is directly a reflection of that uniquely Canadian condition: openness. Kuwabora will discuss how simultaneous urban developments are shaping the city: the cultural renaissance, the waterfront revitalization, major urban precincts such as the University of Toronto, Ryerson University and CAMH, among others. Against this framework he will identify the specific conditions that must be cultivated in order achieve a sustainable and civil urbanism.

Bruce Kuwabora, Partner, KPMB Architects, will be the featured speaker at University of Toronto’s 13th Annual Friends of Planning Spring Social on April 16 at Hart House.

Bruce Kuwabora is a founding partner of the Toronto-based firm of Kuwabora Payne McKenna Blumberg Architects and the 2006 Royal Architectural School of Canada Gold Medalist. Kuwabora’s work in Toronto includes Canada’s National Film Festival. His projects have been recognized in Canada with eight Governor General’s Awards for Architecture, and internationally by the American Institute of Architects, the Chicago Athenaeum, and the Royal Institute of British Architects. He helped establish the Frank Gehry International Design Chair at the University of Toronto’s Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design.

In November, 2008, the Planning Alumni Committee (PAC) held its annual Planning Opportunities Workshop, named in honour of Matthew Hanson, a graduate of the Program in Planning in 2004 who passed away in 2006. The workshop brought out many anxieties regarding the upcoming summer internship. Students took this opportunity to voice collective anxieties regarding the upcoming summer internships, career paths, and finding jobs in the present economic situation.

The workshop was moderated by PAC’s Chair, Corwin CambraBy. Also on hand to help ease the students’ worries and answer questions was a panel of Planning Program alumni including Jordan Erasmus of Ontario Realty Corporation, Corinne Fox from the Town of Whitch, Antony Loris from Hemson Consulting Ltd., Nupur Malaviya from Davies Howe Partners, and Angela Stoa from the City of Toronto. The workshop began with introductions from all panel members who took the time to share their own experiences in transitioning from the Program to the workforce. They discussed current projects in that they are, or have been, involved with, providing an inside look into what students have to look forward to upon graduation. Panelists also shared their internship experiences and tips for finding planning opportunities. The floor was then opened to the students who took this opportunity to ask specific questions of the panel members.

Panelists also shared their internship experiences and their own expectations for the planning profession. The floor was then opened to students who took this opportunity to ask specific questions of the panel members. Students found the workshop to be extremely useful and refreshing, reminding them during a time of the semester when there was much stress and worry, that so many alumni have made it through the program and are now successfully working in their desired fields. Attending a workshop with such a diverse group of planning experts also opened students’ eyes to the numerous career opportunities that the planning profession has to offer.

On behalf of the first and second year planning classes, thank you to rsc for continuing to be so dedicated to enriching the students’ educational experience and for taking the time to offer this much appreciated workshop.

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INTERNSHIPS AND INSPIRATION: THE ANNUAL MATTHEW HANSON PLANNING OPPORTUNITIES WORKSHOP WAS A SUCCESS!  
BY MARYANN ALISCH

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!  
Bruce Kuwabora to Speak at University of Toronto’s 13th Annual Friends of Planning Spring Social on April 16

The University of Toronto’s 13th Annual Friends of Planning Spring Social will be held from 6-9pm on Thursday, April 16, 2009 in the Great Hall, Hart House; 7 Hart House Circle. Kuwabora’s keynote address will be at 6:15 p.m. with reception to follow. This is a major networking event and more than 300 professionals from the public, private and not-for-profit sectors are expected to attend.

Tickets are only $85, with event proceeds supporting the University of Toronto’s Friends of Planning Fund. Tax receipts will be provided. All are welcome, but please reserve your place by April 1. See the Spring Social flyer and RSVP form on the following page and at www.geog.utoronto.ca/alumni/pac/news-events. The Planning Alumni Committee welcomes the Spring Social’s 2009 Premier Sponsors: Aird & Berlis LLP, Cassels Brock Lawyers, Davies Howe Partners, Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP, Lea Consulting Ltd., and Stikeman Elliott LLP. Interested in participating in the Spring Social’s corporate sponsor program? Contact Carly Bowman at cbowman@goodmans.ca or 416-849-6001 for a 2009 sponsorship package.
Is Toronto Ourtopia? Presented by Bruce Kuwabara, Partner, KPMB Architects

Kuwabara's commitment to making architecture that ensures the vitality of cultural, educational and social institutions has also contributed to raising the international profile of Canadian architecture. As a practitioner and a critic, Kuwabara has contributed to the national discourse on city building in the 21st century. "Ourtopia" represents an evolving thesis that Toronto has the potential to become a viable, and sustainable urban model that is directly a reflection of that uniquely Canadian condition: openness. Kuwabara will discuss how simultaneous urban developments are shaping the city: the cultural renaissance, the waterfront revitalization, major urban precincts such as the University of Toronto, Ryerson University, CAMH, among others. Against this framework he will identify the specific conditions that must be cultivated in order achieve a sustainable and civil urbanism.

Interested in becoming a 2009 Spring Social sponsor?

Please contact Carly Bowman at cbowman@goodmans.ca or 416-849-6001 for 2009 sponsorship package.
BALINESE AGRICULTURE: A PERFECT ORDER?

By Joe Whitney

I

In late October of last year, my wife and I, through the generosity of a former student in Hong Kong, visited Bali for eleven days. Our visit had two main purposes: to enjoy and experience the exotic beauty of the island and to examine the role of water temples in the management of a complex rice production ecosystem. Functioning successfully for over a thousand years, this system was described by Stephen Lansing as a “Perfect Order” of human and natural collaboration. But the tale of this perfect order is also cautionary about the “blindness” of Western policy analysts working in a traditional society.

The sustainability and productivity of a rice growing system depends on the effective coordination of three essential components: 1) the equitable and timely distribution of irrigation water to all rice fields; 2) the maintenance of soil fertility through additions of natural and artificial fertilizers; and 3) the control of plant disease and crop pests. In Bali, where religion permeates every aspect of life to a degree difficult to comprehend in our own secularized society, religion combines with ecological management to produce a highly efficient and sustainable rice growing system. This blend of the religious and the secular functioned so seamlessly that periods of one to ten days rather than the linear time of Western calendars. These cycles could be related to the water control scheduling activities at the local level and were understood by all farmers. Through his fieldwork and research, Lansing persuaded both western and Indonesian agronomists to reincorporate the traditional management system into the Indonesian Green Revolution organization with resulting improved crop yields!

Without Lansing’s research, the evidence of this complex Perfect Order would have been completely invisible to us, as indeed it had been to generations of administrators, agronomists and even locals. As William C. Clark of Harvard states in his introduction to Lansing’s book: “he illustrates that well-meaning policy analysts – raised in the modern science tradition – were unable to see in religious leaders’ generally accurate diagnoses of the crisis conditions of the 1980s anything more than superstition. The cumulative force of this case of selective blindness provides one of the most powerful teaching moments I have experienced, letting me ask my students (and myself), ‘What potentially relevant sources of knowledge are you overlooking in your present work on sustainable development?’"

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INTRODUCTION TO FIELD METHODS IN PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY VISIT-MOUNT ROUNDTOP

BY JORDON DONICH

On September 1st 2008, fifteen adventurous students travelled to the town of Sutton, Quebec to attend GGR390: “Introduction to Field Methods in Physical Geography.” Instructed by Professors Sarah Finkelstein and Joe Denloges, students learned methods of data collection and analysis in several areas of physical geography.

Upon arrival, students were informed of the geologic and geomorphic processes that shaped the landscape and its most captivating feature — Mount Roundtop. Travelling from the base of Sutton Creek to the summit of Mount Roundtop (960m asl), students literally got a run for their money. Despite my youth and what I thought of as a relatively strong physique, I and my fellow students were continuously outpaced by professors and the TA, Jane Devlin. After a long bumpy arrival to the summit, students quickly opened their pre-packed lunches, anxious to discover its contents; however, many of us, myself included, were unable to recognize anything amongst the scattered bits (although we were impressed by the large array of natural vegetation and biodiversity).

Over the course of the week, we undertook two major assignments. The first assignment required students to develop a greater understanding of the physical environment and its many aspects; we observed trends in meteorological, climatic and hydrologic conditions; recorded fluvial characteristics of the Sutton Creek such as stream discharge, pH and conductivity; and impressed all with our dedication and cooperation by taking these measurements twice daily — 7am and 7pm. The hard work and long hours were rewarded, though, with a peaceful hotel, good meals and staff, and, of course, a hot tub.

The second assignment began mid-way through the week when students were required to form groups and decide on research projects to be conducted over the remaining days of field camp and the remaining weeks in the academic term. We drew on many aspects of the Physical Geography program, developing skills in field data collection, observation and statistical analysis. Projects covered many aspects of Mount Roundtop and the surrounding environment including the changing characteristics and composition of vegetation on Mount Roundtop, fluvial patterns and trends in several sections of the Sutton Creek and the study of soil characteristics on an elevation gradient.

The interactive, practical and hands-on approach of GGR390 provided a learning experience that no textbook or classroom could teach. Students not only benefited from the academic element of the course, they also learned the importance of leadership and teamwork. GGR390 has inspired students to undertake other ambitions and pursue greater challenges in the Department of Geography.
A NEW BIOGRAPHY OF GRIFFITH TAYLOR
By Carolyn Strange and Alison Bashford
REVIEW BY MARIE SANDERSON

A book entitled ‘Griffith Taylor: visionary environmentalist explorer’ has been published by the National Library of Australia (2008) and the University of Toronto Press (2008). Carolyn Strange, senior fellow in the Research School of Humanities, The Australian National University in Canberra, and Alison Bashford, an historian at the Australian National University in Canberra, have produced an excellent and profusely-illustrated account of the life of our founding father. The cover shows a photo of Taylor taken by Herbert Ponting in the Antarctic in 1911. A similar photo (shown on this page) hangs in the Geography department at U of T.

In its 285 pages, the book contains an introduction, six chapters, an epilogue, chapter notes and an index. The authors were able to consult the major sources of Taylor material in the National Library in Canberra, the Fisher Rare Book Library at the University of Toronto; and the Scott Polar Research Institute in Cambridge. They were also given access to voluminous family material, carefully preserved 45 years after his death by Taylor’s grandson and niece in Sydney.

In ‘Favourite Son,’ the first chapter, they describe Taylor’s early years in England, the family move to Australia, his undergraduate studies in geology at the University of Sydney, and his graduate years at the University of Cambridge. There is much detail of Griffith’s family relationships with his revered geologist father, his adored ‘Mater’ and beloved sister Dorothy. Throughout his long life (1880–1960) and travels on every continent, he sent a steady stream of letters and post cards to his family. Photos of many of these (often in colour) enhance the appeal of the book. ‘The Favourite Son’ contains a wealth of information about Taylor’s experiences in the Antarctic with Scott’s famous British Antarctic Expedition of 1910–12. It was the experience of a lifetime for Grif. He was well-liked by Scott and the other scientists, and made a considerable contribution to the geology of Antarctica as leader of the four-month Western Expedition. His opinion on Antarctic affairs was sought throughout his lifetime. In ‘From Rocks to Race’ the authors describe Taylor’s life in Australia after the Antarctic. He worked for the Bureau of Meteorology and wrote the first articles describing the climate of Australia, showing the ‘empty heart’ of the continent.

In 1920, with Taylor as the first professor, there are details of his move in 1929 to the University of Chicago, and in 1935 to the University of Toronto to found the first department of geography in Canada. The description of Grif’s inauguration at Convocation Hall, with the Lieutenant-Governor in the chair, and 1000 people present will be interesting reading for U of T alumni! The authors analyse many of the amazing number of publications Taylor produced during his years in Toronto, including ‘Environment, Race and Migration’, ‘Our Evolving Civilization’, ‘Geography in the 20th Century’ and especially ‘Environment and Nation’, which they consider his best book.

There is also an account of a party given for Grif in 1948 on the occasion of his departure on a trip to Australia (page 155). The music of ‘The Whiffenpoof Song’ (with the title ‘The Geographers’ Lament’) is reproduced, with the signatures of the students attending: Janet Harbison, Marion Hening, Keith Fraser, Dick Hodges, Alec LaRoque, Bill Wonders, Doug Jackson, Ben Shindman, Jerry Waite, Murray Dobson, C.H. Lockhead, Marjorie Owen, H. Patterson, Murray McCutcheon, Angus Hills, Chuck Langman, Doug Nesbit, Earl Porter, Kay Game, Isabelle George, Roger Truemner, Herb Smith, Kate Moore, Anne Hodges, Sid Kling, Alan Helmley, John Walker, Howard Richards, Jim Smythe, Barbara McLeod, Stuart Westland, Flavia Elliott, Arlegh Layrock (the signatures have been identified by Dick Baine, who was a graduate student that year). Geoplan would love to hear from any of these geographers about their memories of that occasion.

In ‘War and Peace,’ Strange and Bashford write of Taylor’s interest in geopolitics during World War II, although he changed the word to ‘geopacitics,’ stating that geographers could do much to promote world peace. In the last chapter, ‘Founding Father,’ they describe the histories of the two departments of geography he founded in Sydney and Toronto, and their considerable achievements. They also write of Taylor’s retirement years in Australia after 1951, and the many honours and awards he received.

Strange and Bashford have produced an exhaustive and well-written book on the life and writings of Thomas Griffith Taylor. For the younger readers of Geoplan the book is a fascinating account of the man who contributed so much to Canadian geography. For those of us who remember Grif in his black gown in the lecture hall in the old McMaster building, it will bring back many nostalgic memories.

CHICAGO MADE: FACTORY NETWORKS IN THE INDUSTRIAL METROPOLIS
(Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2008)
By Robert Lewis
REVIEW BY ANDREW MALCOLM

Central to Chicago-Made’s story is the industrial inspection tours led between 1911 and 1914. A kind of mock-Geotrip, each tour was led by an influential elite who promoted industrial expansion outside Chicago’s downtown (the Loop) and into what was then seen as the prairie wastelands. Attended by business leaders in transportation, utilities, real estate and an endless variety of manufacturing firms, the tours capitalized on their massively intricate manufacturing network to alter the industrial, social and physical landscape with more control and purpose than ever used before, and on a scale second only to New York.

“The actions and beliefs of the capitalists taking the industrial inspection tours defined what the metropolis was and where it ended…The prairie for Chicago’s ‘bourgeoisie was the urban frontier,’” explains author Robert Lewis. Chicago-Made is a project Lewis began more than a decade ago, “burrowed in the belly of the archival beast in Chicago and elsewhere.”
This book explores how and why civic spaces are used by different communities in Asia and what role urban governance and public participation play in the support or demise of communities. Using case studies of contemporary city life throughout, the contributors provide insights into the importance and value of civic space, arguing that civic spaces provide not only the physical sites for civil society to function autonomously; but also provide a sense of place in the form of identity, meaning, memory, history and linkages with the wider world.

Each chapter focuses on the production of and access to civic spaces in a particular Asian city, as well as examples of successes and failures that can inform urban policy regarding inclusive, tolerant and socially vibrant city life through focused attention on the provision and continuity of civic space.

This book is designed to provide information to policymakers, researchers and students of the developing world regarding the importance and value of civic space in terms of creating and supporting urban communities. As such, The Politics of Civic Space in Asia will be an invaluable resource for those interested in urban planning, urban design, public policy and political science, as well as Asian studies more generally.