



**NEWSLETTER OF THE CANADIAN
GEOMORPHOLOGY RESEARCH GROUP**

**BULLETIN DU GROUPE CANADIEN DE
RECHERCHE EN GEOMORPHOLOGIE**

Number 23

November 2007

PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - MOT DU EX-PRÉSIDENT

You have before you the 2007 summer issue of the CGRG Newsletter. As is usual this time of year, this is a busy time for the CGRG community with conference travel and fieldwork. In June I attended the CANQUA 2007 Conference at Carleton University in Ottawa. At the conference the CGRG sponsored a one-day special session on "Rivers and Fluvial Processes" organized by Greg Brooks of the Geological Survey of Canada in Ottawa. Thanks Greg, for a job well done. At the end of the special session on Rivers and Fluvial Processes I had the pleasure to announce the winners of the Olav Slaymaker Awards for the best student oral paper and best student poster presented at the CGRG Annual Meeting. The citations for these awards can be found in this newsletter, but I would like to take this opportunity to again congratulate G.A. Marquis and M.L. Roy, both of the Département de géographie, Université de Montréal, with their excellent work in terms of research and presentation.

The CANQUA conference was also the site for the 2007 AGM of the CGRG. A number of issues of great interest to CGRG members were discussed at the AGM. One of these issues was the size of the membership. At the AGM I reported that the CGRG had 155

members. The CAG (Canadian Association of Geographers) and GAC (Geological Association of Canada) continue to be our greatest sources of members, with 41 and 44 members, respectively. Much smaller groups of members register through AQQUA (Association Québécoise pour l'étude du Quaternaire, four members) or directly with CGRG (six members). Lastly, CGRG has 60 student members. From these numbers, two important membership issues become apparent. First of all, the number of student members points to a significant degree of participation of this group in the affairs of CGRG, which bodes well for the future of geomorphology in Canada. The other side of the coin, however, is that despite substantial growth in the number of student members, the overall membership of CGRG has been more or less constant. This suggests that we are losing regular members, which is of course a concern because as this happens the CGRG loses its broad base in the geomorphology community in Canada so it can no longer speak for all of geomorphology in Canada. In addition, there are of course financial implications. I therefore ask you to take stock within in your department or organization, and urge your colleagues who have never been members, or who have let their membership lapse, to sign up again so the CGRG can

have a broad base within the geomorphology community of Canada.

The AGM of course is also the occasion on which the composition of the Executive changes. I would like to thank outgoing Past-President Trevor Bell for his hard efforts on behalf of the CGRG, and I would like to extend my congratulations to Yves Michaud. Yves has served the CGRG in a variety of functions over the years and will be the CGRG President this coming year. I also would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Kevin Driscoll. Kevin has been the CGRG Secretary-Treasurer for five years and has been one of the driving forces behind CGRG over that period. Of course these resignations also mean that there are vacancies on the CGRG Executive, and I would like to invite nominations for the positions of Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer. Being on the CGRG Executive is an excellent, rewarding way to promote and support geomorphology in Canada, so if you would like to nominate a candidate or would like to volunteer, please contact any member of the Executive.

At the AGM I had the pleasure to announce that the recipient of the 2007 J. Ross Mackay Award is Ian Walker (Department of Geography, University of Victoria) for his research in sediment transport. Because Ian was in the field (this being the summer after all) I was not able to contact him prior to the AGM, and as a result he was not in Ottawa to give the 2007 J. Ross Mackay lecture. To make up for this, the current plan is to include Ian's 2007 J. Ross Mackay lecture in a special session on "Sediment Transport in Fluids" at the combined CGRG-CGU meeting in Banff in May 2008. As you may know, the CGRG is now officially affiliated with the CGU (Canadian Geophysical Union), and to kick off this

partnership both organizations will have a joint annual meeting at the Banff Centre on May 11 to 14, 2008. In the CGU, the fluvial geomorphology community has had a presence through the Committee of Erosion and Sedimentation led by Peter Ashmore, but this joint meeting will be an opportunity to strengthen existing ties and expanding the scope of the collaboration. We will keep you informed of the plans for the Banff meeting through the CGRG list serve, and I am looking forward to seeing you there next May. With that I would like to finish, thanking the members of the CGRG Executive for a successful year, and wishing all CGRG members a productive and exciting field season and academic year.

Dirk de Boer
CGRG Past-President

Vous avez devant vous l'édition été 2007 du bulletin du GCRG. Comme à l'habitude, les conférences et le travail de terrain font de cette période de l'année un moment bien rempli pour les membres du GCRG. En juin, j'ai assisté à l'édition 2007 de la conférence de la CANQUA à l'Université Carleton à Ottawa. Lors de cette conférence, le GCRG a commandité une session spéciale d'une journée portant sur les rivières et les processus fluviaux, session organisée par Greg Brooks de la Commission Géologique du Canada à Ottawa. Merci Greg pour un travail bien fait. À la fin de cette session spéciale, j'ai eu le plaisir d'annoncer les gagnants du prix Olav Slaymaker pour la meilleure présentation orale et la meilleure présentation par affiche faite par un(e) étudiant (e) dans le cadre de la rencontre annuelle du GCRG. Les informations concernant ces prix peuvent être trouvées dans ce bulletin de nouvelles, mais j'aimerais saisir l'opportunité qui m'est ici

offerte pour féliciter de nouveau G.A. Marquis et M.L. Roy, tous deux du département de géographie de l'Université de Montréal, pour leur excellent travail de recherche et la qualité de la présentation de leurs travaux.

C'est également dans le cadre de la CANQUA que l'AGA du GCRG a été tenue. Plusieurs questions d'intérêt pour les membres de notre groupe y ont été abordées, dont celle relative au nombre de membres que compte notre organisation. Lors de l'AGA, j'ai indiqué que le GCRG compte 155 membres. L'ACG (Association canadienne des géographes) et l'AGC (Association géologique du Canada) sont toujours les plus grands contributeurs à notre membership, avec 41 et 44 membres respectivement. Quatre membres de notre association en font partie par l'intermédiaire de l'AQQUA (Association québécoise pour l'étude du Quaternaire) alors que 6 membres sont membres du GCRG de façon directe. Enfin, 60 étudiants sont membres du GCRG. Deux questions importantes se dégagent de l'analyse de ces chiffres. Premièrement le nombre élevé de membres étudiants indique un degré élevé de participation de ces derniers dans les affaires du GCRG, ce qui augure bien pour le futur de la géomorphologie au Canada. D'un autre côté, il apparaît que malgré la croissance substantielle du nombre de membres étudiants, le nombre total de membres du GCRG est demeuré plus ou moins stable. Ceci semble indiquer que nous perdons des membres réguliers, ce qui est inquiétant, car dans ce contexte, le GCRG perd ses bases au sein de la communauté de recherche en géomorphologie et perd de ce fait même la possibilité de parler au nom de toute la recherche en géomorphologie qui se fait au Canada. De plus, cet état de fait a ses implications financières. Je vous demande

donc, au sein de votre département ou de votre organisation, d'encourager vos collègues qui n'ont jamais été membres ou qui n'ont pas renouvelé leur adhésion, de se joindre à nous afin d'établir des bases solides au sein de la communauté de recherche en géomorphologie du Canada.

L'assemblée générale annuelle est également l'événement au cours duquel la composition du comité exécutif est renouvelée. J'aimerais remercier, au nom du GCRG, l'ancien président partant Trevor Bell pour tout son travail et aimerais étendre mes félicitations à Yves Michaud. Yves a servi le GCRG dans le cadre de différentes fonctions au cours des années et siégera à titre de Président cette année. J'aimerais également remercier chaleureusement Kevin Driscoll. Kevin a été le secrétaire trésorier du GCRG durant les cinq dernières années et a constitué l'une des forces dirigeantes du GCRG au cours de cette période. Ces départs signifient également que des postes sont disponibles au sein du conseil exécutif du GCRG, je vous invite à nous faire parvenir des nominations pour les postes de Vice-Président de secrétaire-greffier. Siéger sur le comité exécutif du GCRG constitue une excellente opportunité de promouvoir et de soutenir la géomorphologie au Canada. Si vous désirez proposer un candidat ou si vous désirez vous porter volontaire, veuillez s'il vous plaît, contacter un membre du comité exécutif.

J'ai eu, lors de l'AGA, le plaisir d'annoncer que le récipiendaire du prix J. Ross Mackay 2007 est Ian Walker (Département de géographie, Université de Victoria) pour ses recherches sur le transport sédimentaire. Puisque Ian était sur le terrain (ceci étant l'été après tout), je n'ai pu le contacter avant la tenue de l'AGA et il ne fut donc pas à Ottawa pour la présentation du séminaire

Ross Mackay. Il est donc prévu d'inclure le séminaire Ross Mackay donné par Ian dans une session spéciale sur le "transport sédimentaire dans un fluide" lors de la réunion conjointe du GCRG-UCG au mois de mai 2008 Banff. Comme vous le savez peut-être, le GCRG est maintenant officiellement affilié avec l'UCG (Union Géophysique Canadienne), et pour inaugurer ce partenariat, les deux organisations auront une réunion annuelle conjointe au Banff Centre, du 11 au 14 mai 2008. La communauté de recherche en géomorphologie fluviale a été présente au sein de l'UCG principalement dans le Comité sur l'érosion et la sédimentation dirigée par Peter Ashmore; cette rencontre

commune sera une opportunité de renforcer les liens existants et d'étendre la portée de la collaboration. Nous vous tiendrons informés des activités pour la rencontre de Banff via la liste de diffusion électronique. Nous vous attendons au mois de mai prochain. J'aimerais enfin remercier les membres du comité exécutif du GCRG pour une autre année couronnée de succès et souhaiter à tous les membres de notre groupe une saison de terrain et une année académique excitante et productive.

Dirk de Boer
Ex-Président du GCRG



J. ROSS MACKAY AWARD 2007

Citation for **Dr. Ian J. Walker**

Associate Professor
Department of Geography
University of Victoria

Dr. Ian Walker (PhD 2000, University of Guelph) is the recipient of the Canadian Geomorphology Research Group J. Ross Mackay Award for 2007. The award celebrates the research achievements of an early-career Canadian geomorphologist. Dr. Walker's nomination highlights his national and international contributions to the study of aeolian sediment transport and erosion processes in desert and coastal sand dune complexes. His research involves a suite of comprehensive and sophisticated modeling and empirical approaches that are embedded in a strong theoretical framework. He has published the results of his innovative field experiments (including his application of ultrasonic anemometry), scaled wind tunnel simulations, computational fluid dynamics modeling, and critique of airflow dynamics and aeolian sand transport models in leading journals of the discipline:

- Walker, I.J., Hesp, P.A., Davidson-Arnott, R.G. & Ollerhead, J. 2006. Topographic steering of alongshore airflow over a vegetated foredune: Greenwich Dunes, Prince Edward Island, Canada. *J. Coastal Research* 22: 1278-1291.
- Anderson, J.L. & Walker, I.J. 2006. Airflow and sand transport variations within a backshore-parabolic dune plain complex: NE Graham Island, British Columbia, Canada. *Geomorphology* 7: 17-34.
- Walker, I.J. & Roy, A.G. 2005. Fluid flow & sediment transport processes in geomorphology: innovations, insights & advances in measurement. *Geomorphology* 68: 1-2.
- Walker, I.J. 2005. Physical and logistical considerations of using ultrasonic anemometry in aeolian sediment transport research. *Geomorphology* 68: 57-76.

- Hesp, P., Davidson-Arnott, R.G., Walker, I.J., & Ollerhead, J. 2005. Flow dynamics over a vegetated foredune at Prince Edward Island, Canada. *Geomorphology* 65: 71-84.
- Pearce, K.I. & Walker, I.J. 2005. Frequency and magnitude biases in the "Fryberger" models with implications for characterizing geomorphically effective winds. *Geomorphology* 68: 39-55.
- Parsons, D.R., Walker, I.J. & Wiggs, G.F.S. 2004. Numerical modelling of flow structures over idealised transverse aeolian dunes of varying geometry. *Geomorphology* 59: 149-164.
- Parsons, D.R., Wiggs, G.F.S., Walker, I.J., Ferguson, R.I. & Garvey, B.G. 2004. Numerical modeling of airflow over an idealized transverse dune. *Environmental Modelling & Software* 19: 153-162.
- Walker, I.J. & Nickling, W.G. 2003. Simulation and measurement of surface shear stress over isolated and closely spaced transverse dunes. *Earth Surface Processes and Landforms* 28: 1111-1124.
- Walker, I.J. & Nickling, W.G. 2002. Dynamics of secondary airflow and sediment transport over and in the lee of transverse dunes. *Progress in Physical Geography* 26: 47-75.

Members of the award selection committee also noted Dr. Walker's increasingly integrative research. For example, his recent collaborations with social scientists has led to the identification of geomorphic hazards in Haida Gwaii and a consideration of the capacity of local communities to address these challenges. This published research has important implications far beyond the geomorphology community and represents a critical new direction for geomorphology in Canada and globally.

- Dolan, A.H. & Walker, I.J. 2006. Understanding vulnerability of coastal communities to climate change related risks. *Journal of Coastal Research*, SI 39: 1317-1324.

Trevor Bell, Chair, Selection Committee

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2008 J. ROSS MACKAY AWARD

The J. Ross Mackay award is to be presented annually by the CGRG in recognition of significant achievement in research by young geomorphologists within Canada. The purpose of this award is to encourage and foster the development of geomorphology in Canada and to provide public recognition of young scientists in this field.

Criteria

The award is to be given for a significant contribution to geomorphology. It may constitute either a single publication appearing within a five-year period previous to the nomination, or a body of work. The candidate's contribution(s) may include a synthesis or regional study, a new concept, a significant advance in a subfield of geomorphology, or the development of a technique. In the case of contributions with multiple authors, the candidate must have assumed a lead role in the development of the work, and this role must be clearly explained in the nomination letter.

The recipient normally will be: (1) a CGRG member or a member of one of the supporting societies; (2) either a Canadian citizen or resident and working in Canada; (3) within 10 years of graduation from a PhD or Masters or undergraduate program, exclusive of periods relating to parental or medical leaves. The award can be made to

an individual or research team, providing that the principal investigators fulfill these criteria. Full details are provided on the CGRG website:

<http://cgrg.geog.uvic.ca/jrml.htm>

Nominations for the Award

Nominations shall be made in writing to the Chair of the J. Ross Mackay Award Committee by February 28, 2008 and sent to:

Dr. Dirk deBoer
Chair, J.R. Mackay Award Committee
c/o Dept of Geography
University of Saskatchewan
9 Campus Drive
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7N 5A5
deboer@duke.usask.ca

Nominations should be made by two CGRG members and must be accompanied by an up-to-date CV for the nominee. Letters of support by the Proposer and Secunder should outline the basis for the nomination (see criteria above). The Proposer and Secunder may not have acted as supervisors (or directors) of the nominee's research; however, additional supporting letters may be included with the nomination.

OLAV SLAYMAKER AWARDS

The Olav Slaymaker Awards were presented at the 2007 CANQUA meeting held June 4-8 at Carleton University in Ottawa.

The award for best paper was given to Geneviève Marquis, Université de Montréal (with co-author André Roy) for:

“The role of mean flow velocity on turbulent structures in gravel-bed rivers at temporal scales from 1 second to 10 minutes”

The citation for the award by judges Joe Desloges, Ted Hickin and Rod McGinn was:

“The committee was very impressed with the range and depth of study undertaken by the student presenters today. The committee looked at the questions being posed, the quality of the data to support well formulated conclusions and the presentation. Because of the uniform high quality it was a very tough decision but we could only pick one. Congratulations to all students and all the great projects. CGRG is pleased to present the best paper award to G.A. Marquis for her presentation with André Roy on “the role of mean flow velocity on turbulent structures in gravel-bed rivers.”



Dirk de Boer (left) and Greg Brooks (right) present the Slaymaker paper award to Geneviève Marquis.

The Slaymaker award for best student poster was presented to Mathieu Roy, Université de Montréal (along with co-author André Roy) for:

“Characterization of turbulent flow in shallow gravel-bed rivers: sampling guidelines, interpolation and spatial structure”

Thanks to poster judges Scott St. George and Rich Pyrcce.



Dirk de Boer (left) and Greg Brooks (right) present the Slaymaker poster award to Mathieu Roy.

Congratulations Geneviève and Mathieu!

CANQUA W.A. JOHNSON MEDAL

The Canadian Quaternary Association is delighted to announce that the 2007 W.A. Johnston Medalist for outstanding professional contributions to Quaternary Studies is Henry P. Schwarcz. Henry has been a pioneer in the use of isotope data from speleothems for paleotemperature and other paleoenvironmental reconstructions, as well as their use in dating. He has published over 280 papers, supervised more than 40 graduate students, including 28 PhDs, has

served on many national and international committees, and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. We invite Henry's friends, colleagues and admirers to join us at the up-coming CANQUA meeting in Ottawa (4-8 June; please go to <http://www.canquaottawa2007.ca> for further conference details) to celebrate Henry and his accomplishments.

CANQUA

ROBERTA BONDAR FELLOWSHIP

Trent University is seeking applications for the newly created post-doctoral Roberta Bondar Fellowship in Northern & Polar Studies. The position is for a 1-year term at a salary of \$42,500, plus research allowance. This position is aimed at recently graduated Ph.D.'s (within 5 years of graduation) with research specialties in any area of northern and polar studies, focusing on, but not strictly limited to, Canada's North. The candidate is expected to reside at the university and participate in the general milieu of Trent and especially its Northern

Studies activities. Specific duties consist of teaching one course equivalent in the area of the candidate's specialty and two public lectures.

Requests for more information and applications (including statement of interest in Northern Studies and curriculum vitae) should be directed to Dr. Jim Struthers, Director, Frost Centre for Canadian and Native Studies (jstruthers@trentu.ca) no later than November 16, 2007.

Dr. Cheryl McKenna Neuman

CGRG SESSIONS AT CAG, QUEBEC CITY 2008

CGRG sessions are also being planned to be held in connection with the 2008 Meeting of the Canadian Association of Geographers (CAG) in Quebec City, May 20 to 24, 2008. One session already in the works is a joint session with the Canadian Dendrochronology Research Group (CDRG)

focused on dendrogeomorphological applications of tree ring studies.

For more information on the special sessions, please contact Yves Michaud YMichaud@nrca.gc.ca

CGRG AGM AND SESSIONS AT CGU ANNUAL MEETING 2008

For 2008, the CGRG Annual General Meeting will be held as part of a joint meeting of CGRG and the CGU. The CGRG will be running a number of interesting sessions at the meeting in Banff, May 11-14. Sessions (and Chairs) include:

- Permafrost and Periglacial Studies (Stephen Wolfe)
- Sediment Transport in Fluids (Cheryl McKenna-Neumann)
- Landslide and Rock Avalanches (Andrée Blais-Stevens and Dan Shugar)

- Multiscale Landscape Evolution (John Gosse)
- Geophysical Applications in Geomorphology (Brian Moorman)

Abstracts are due February 15, 2008. More information can be found at www.ucalgary.ca/~cguconf

For more information on the special sessions, please contact Yves Michaud YMichaud@nrcan.gc.ca

CWRA GEOMORPHOLOGY SUBCOMMITTEE

The BC Branch of the CWRA is organized a two day workshop late summer. The workshop was held at Carnation Creek on the west coast of Vancouver Island on Monday Sept 24th – Wednesday Sept 26th, 2007. The theme of the two day workshop included geomorphology and biology based presentations of historic and on-going research. The group's mission statement:

Our mission is to advance the science and standards of practice of geomorphology through an interdisciplinary approach.

The group will:

- promote geomorphology as a discipline and encourage the use of

geomorphology in scientific and engineering projects;

- facilitate discussion and exchange of ideas between geomorphology professionals in the CWRA including scientists, engineers, and academia;
- provide a forum within the CWRA to present geomorphology applications, solutions, and lessons learned; and,
- create opportunities for professional development and technical information sharing through conferences and workshops.

Rowland Atkinson, Chair-Coordinator

From May 20th - 24th 2008, we will host, at Laval University, the 4th Canadian Conference on Geohazards (Geohazards IV: from causes to management) which is sponsored by the Canadian Geotechnical Society, the Quebec Ministry for Public Safety, the Quebec Ministry of Transport, and Laval University. You can visit our web site at: www.geohazardsquebec.com to read the 45 (as of August 15th) abstracts already accepted for the Conference.

This Conference, which is held every four to five years (the last one was held in Edmonton in 2003) provides a unique opportunity to look at what we have done and what remains for the future in a context where all of those interested in various types of geohazards can meet and discuss. The geohazards considered here include earthquakes, tsunamis, mass movements, inundations, coastal and river erosion, volcanism, etc. Even climatic events which may impact erosion or mass movements are very much part of the geohazards to be considered. An important point is also that we want to make sure that all aspects are considered, i.e. from causes and case histories to risk assessment and managements issues. In addition, proceedings will be printed on glossy paper with a CD-ROM attached and contributions can also be submitted for publication at the Canadian Geotechnical Journal.

Having an interest in geomorphology, you should see this Conference as a unique opportunity to network with scientists and engineers who are working on geohazards that are often linked with landscape or seascape evolution. Various issues, e.g.

process, survey techniques (LIDAR), hazard mapping using GIS protocols, and slope stabilization methods may also gain by comparing approaches from the different groups.

Therefore, we would like you to also consider contributing and participating to the Geohazards IV either by presenting a paper, organizing a special session related to geohazards issues, or just coming to Québec City and enjoying the Conference, the City (400th anniversary) and the proposed two day field trip around the Charlevoix and Saguenay areas. We also have the two days prior to the Conference which can be used for short courses or workshops.

Important dates are provided on the web site but the key ones are:

September 17th: deadline for submitting an abstract

January 15th: deadline for submitting the final paper.

February 15th: deadline for reduce registration fees.

You must use the web site either for submitting or registering and also to keep updated on all aspects of the Geohazards IV. If you can, we would also appreciate if you could distribute this information to your colleagues who may be interested.

I look forward to your participation to Geohazards IV.

Jacques Locat
Chairperson

RESEARCHER PROFILE

Dr. Shirley McCuaig

Shirley McCuaig is from Victoria, BC, but she began her career at Concordia University in Montreal, obtaining a B.Sc. in geology in 1992. Her summer jobs were at the GSC in Ottawa, and included office work at the Radiocarbon Dating Lab with Roger McNeely and mapping/till geochemistry field work with Bill Shilts. She'd always enjoyed both geography and geology,

and working in the field on Quaternary geology projects showed her that she really could do both.



She took Bill up on an offer to do an MSc at Carleton University on a glacial history problem on Bylot Island, at the northwestern tip of Baffin Island. She delved into cosmogenic dating and got her feet wet mapping surficial geology. The opportunity to see active glaciers in their native habitat at the start of her career has been immeasurably helpful to her over the years. NSERC scholarships helped her finish the master's quickly (by 1994) and launch her into the upcoming PhD.

After finishing her master's degree, she worked at the GSC for several months and then went off to the Arctic again, this time to map surficial geology and ice flow patterns for private sector diamond exploration.



She then landed at SFU in Vancouver and decided to broaden her horizons a little. She worked with Mike Roberts, picking up new skills in seismic reflection, ground penetrating radar and overburden drilling. She also honed her mapping skills, producing two 1:100 000 surficial geology maps for the GSC, and finished her PhD on the Glacial History of the Nass River area, BC, in 2000. After working in consulting for several months as a terrain mapper, she made the big move to Newfoundland (her mother, on Vancouver Island, was not very impressed with this decision).





From 2001-2006, she was a Project Geologist at the Geological Survey of Newfoundland and Labrador, where she focussed on 1:50 000 scale surficial geology mapping, glacial history description, ice flow determination, till geochemistry and geohazard mapping. She was also an adjunct professor in the Department of Geography at Memorial University, co-supervising a masters student and doing collaborative research with Trevor Bell and others.

She is currently working in the private sector as a Senior Terrain Scientist and Team Lead at Jacques Whitford-AXYS in Edmonton, helping build a surficial geology and geohazard mapping group that will

serve clients across Canada. In the last year and a half, the Terrain group has grown from 1 to 4 people, and there are plans to add another this fall. The main focus of the group is environmental assessments, but other projects include geohazard and constraints mapping, and mapping out ideal locations for roads. Current work includes wind energy and pipeline projects in northern BC, oil sands projects in northern Alberta, a road corridor plan for a large area north of Yellowknife, a transmission line project in northern Ontario, a hydroelectric project in central Labrador, and small projects in the Edmonton area. Drawing on her years of experience at the GSNL and GSC, Shirley is also offering a new service line in till geochemistry for mineral exploration.



33RD INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS (IGC) 2008

The Second Circular for the 33rd International Geological Congress, Oslo, 6-14 August 2008 can be downloaded at <http://www.33igc.org>.

A number of sessions with geomorphology themes as well as congress excursions will be offered.

Scott Lamoureux

ALLUVIAL FANS 2007 MEETING REPORT

June 18-22 Banff, Alberta, Canada

Website:

<http://husky1.stmarys.ca/~pgiles/AF2007/AlluvialFans2007.htm>

A meeting of diverse scientists interested studying the same topic – alluvial fans – from a variety of perspectives was held in Banff, Alberta, Canada, from June 18-22, 2007. The meeting brought together 55 people from around the world, with 22 countries and five continents represented. Oral and poster presentation sessions were held at Banff Park Lodge, and two day-long local field trips were conducted. The principal organizer of the meeting was Philip Giles (Saint Mary's University) with assistance from co-organizers Gary Nichols (Royal Holloway, University of London) and David Wilford (B.C. Forest Service).

ALLUVIAL FANS 2007 continued an informal tradition of specialized gatherings of alluvial fan researchers that began in 1995 with an SEPM-sponsored meeting in Death Valley, California, U.S.A. This was followed by ALLUVIAL FANS 2003 held in Sorbas, Spain. The Death Valley and Sorbas meetings showcased alluvial fans in arid or semi-arid climates, so holding the 2007 meeting in Banff allowed fans in a much different environment (humid temperate, and post-glacial) to be examined.

There were three keynote oral presentations, by Adrian Harvey, University of Liverpool (a review of controls on fan morphology), Gary Weissmann, University of New Mexico (a summary of issues about hydrogeology of fans), and Tammy Rittenour, Utah State University (an update on new methods of dating fan sediments and events). There were 35 other oral presentations, and 19 poster presentations

were displayed. In addition to the formal presentations, lively and fruitful discussions about alluvial fans took place throughout the week.

A publication of papers, edited by Wilford, Nichols, and Giles, is being planned. A tentative agreement has been reached with the journal *Geomorphology* (with Harvey acting as a liaison) for a special issue expected to appear in 2008.

The Olav Slaymaker Award, sponsored by the Canadian Geomorphology Research Group (CGRG), was awarded for the Best Student Presentation. In fact, the judges requested that the best oral and best poster presentations be recognized. Therefore, the Best Student Oral Presentation and the Best Student Poster Presentation were awarded to Lucy Clarke (University of Exeter) and Robert MacDonald (University of East Anglia), respectively.

While three days of the meeting were devoted to presentations, two days were spent on local field trips. All those who attended the meeting participated on these local trips. The first trip went to sites in the Lower Bow Valley and Canmore areas, and the second trip visited sites in the Upper Bow Valley and Yoho National Park. On these trips, a variety of fluvial-dominated and debris-flow dominated fans were seen and active streamflow processes were observed. An important theme on these trips was hazards on fans, and what humans have done to mitigate the hazards, as human infrastructure (roads, railway tracks, housing development) is frequently located on fans in the Banff-Yoho region.

Longer field trips were also held, involving about half of the meeting's participants. Before the meeting, Field Trip A (seven

participants) followed a route from Vancouver to Banff over four days, while Field Trip B (three days, 15 participants) began in Calgary and also ended in Banff, via Kananaskis Country and the Columbia River valley. After the meeting, Field Trip C (nine days, six participants) from Banff to Kluane National Park in Yukon Territory and then returned to Calgary.

Financial sponsorship was provided by three organizations. The International Association of Sedimentologists (IAS) provided travel grants for seven international students, some of whom would not have been able to attend without this support. Funding for the Society of Sedimentary Geology (SEPM) permitted reduced registration fees to be offered to student participants, with additional awards given to students in selected cases to help with travel costs. Finally, the Canadian

Geomorphology Research Group (CGRG) provided funding for a coffee break. Sincere gratitude is given to each of these organizations for their assistance in contributing to the success of ALLUVIAL FANS 2007.

At the end of the meeting, the question “Where will the next meeting be held?” was answered with a presentation by Asma Al-Farraj. She has proposed to hold ALLUVIAL FANS 2011, in early January, in Ra’s al Khaymah, United Arab Emirates, with field trips extending into adjacent Oman. The 2007 meeting website will be kept online and updated with information about 2011 when it becomes available.

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2nd SEDIBUD WORKSHOP

The second Sediment Budgets of Cold Regions (SEDIBUD) workshop was held September 15-19, 2007 at Abisko, Sweden. SEDIBUD is a working group of the International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG) and is actively developing common research protocols to investigate sediment delivery processes from source to sink in polar and alpine regions. Over thirty key study sites are included, and additional sites, particularly in North America are welcomed.

Details of group research questions, key study sites, recent activities and the newly-published SEDIBUD manual can be found at <http://www.geomorph.org/wg/wgsb>

The third SEDIBUD workshop is planned for September 9-14, 2008 at the Niwot Ridge Mountain Station near Boulder, Colorado. New participants are welcome. Please contact Scott Lamoureux (scott.lamoureux@queensu.ca) or Achim Beylich (achim.beylich@NGU.NO) for more information.

Scott Lamoureux

CALENDAR

CGU Annual Scientific Meeting, Banff, May 11-14, 2008 <http://www.cgu-ugc.ca/meetings>

LINKS TO WEBSITES

AQQUA

<http://cgcq.mcan.gc.ca/aqqua/>

Association of American Geographers

<http://www.aag.org>

British Geomorphological Research Group

<http://boris.qub.ac.uk/bgrg>

CANQUA

<http://www.mun.ca/canqua/>

Canadian Geophysical Union

<http://www.cgu-ugc.ca>

European Union of Geosciences

<http://eost.u-strasbg.fr/EUG>

Geological Society of America

<http://www.geosociety.org>

Geomorphology Speciality Group Homepage

<http://www.cla.sc.edu/geog/gsgdocs>

International Association of Geomorphologists

<http://www.geomorph.org>

International Union for Quaternary Research

<http://inqua.nlh.no>

NSF – Geography and Regional Science

<http://www.nsf.gov/sbe/bcs/geograph/start.htm>

Ouranos – Consortium en Changements
climatiques au Québec

www.ouranos.ca

Quaternary Geology and Geomorphology
Division – Geological Society of America

<http://www.ocean.odu.edu>

CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUTURE CGRG NEWSLETTERS

The CGRG newsletter is published twice annually. As with all such newsletters, its success is directly dependent on the contributions that we receive. CGRG welcomes contributions to future newsletters from any of our members. These should be of interest to the Canadian geomorphology community and could include discussions, commentaries, photographs, reviews of regional or national meetings and field trips, summaries of issues pertinent to geomorphology, and announcements of future meetings and workshops. We will also be profiling research groups, students and members of our group in future issues. Suggestions for future profiles are most welcome. Please forward your contributions to: scott.lamoureux@queensu.ca.

CGRG EXECUTIVE 2007-2008

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CANADIAN GEOMORPHOLOGY RESEARCH GROUP
Registration Form
2007-2008

CGRG was established in 1993 at the International Association of Geomorphology Congress in Hamilton, Ontario. It provides a strong voice for geomorphology in Canada. Its objectives are to advance the science of geomorphology in Canada by 1) organizing and sponsoring technical sessions, workshops, and field trips, 2) publishing newsletters twice a year, 3) operating a listserver (CANGEORG) which maintains a comprehensive bibliography of Canadian geomorphological, Quaternary, and environmental geoscience publications, 4) supporting publication of technical reports and field guides, 5) presenting the J. Ross Mackay Award in recognition of a significant achievement by a young geomorphologist in Canada, and 6) cooperating with related earth science associations within Canada (GAC, AQQUA, CAG, CANQUA). We encourage all earth scientists with an interest in geomorphology to join CGRG.

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e-mail address: _____

Institution: _____

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New member _____; membership renewal _____ *Please check one*

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Student supervisor or Department head signature _____

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Send completed form and cheque to: Kevin Driscoll, Secretary-Treasurer, 71 Equestrian Drive,
Kanata, ON, K2M 1H7

(Photocopy application form as necessary)