

## UBC — Department of Geography Colloquium Series

**All talks are held on Wednesday afternoons at 3:30 pm in room 212 Geography.**

January 10 — Hans Schreier, UBC, "Watershed Management in the Himalayas."

January 17 — Kim England, University of Washington, "Spaces of Care: Home Care Work in Ontario."

January 24 — Lawrence Berg, UBC Okanagan, "Spaces of Audit: Geography, (Neo)Liberalism, and Governmentality."

**January 31** — Trevor Jones, UBC, "If a Tree Falls in the Forest, Do its Neighbours Care? Tree Growth and Physiological Responses to Gap Creation in Tolerant Hardwood Forests."

**February 7** — Philip Kelly, York University, "Filipino Migration and the Multiple Spaces of Class Identity."

**February 14** — Elisa Campbell, UBC Architecture, "TBA"

**February 21** — Spring Break

**February 28** — Pam Moss, University of Victoria, "Contested Illness: Diagnosis, Text and Fatigue."

**March 7** — Dan Moore, UBC, "Stream Temperature Response to Environmental Change."

**March 14** — Thorsten Wagener, Penn State University, "Catchment Classification, Hydrologic Similarity and Predictions in Ungauged Basins."

**March 21** — Eric Sheppard, University of Minnesota, "Geography, Trade and Development?"

**March 28** — Jamie Peck, University of Wisconsin, Madison, "Remaking Laissez Faire."

**April 4** — AAG Graduate Forum

## Nature/History/Society: Green College Lecture Series

Green College 5pm

**January 18** — Bill Turkel, Department of History, University of Western Ontario, "Environment and the Contested Past of the Chilcotin Plateau".

Green College 5pm

**March 15** — Joanna Reid, Ph.D. Student, Department of Geography, University of British Columbia, Graduate Student Roundtable.

Geography Building Time and Room TBA

**March 29** — Edmund P. Russell, Department of Science, Technology and Society, University of Virginia, "The Fierce, the Fleet and the Fancy: How Gambling, Social Relations and Dogs Co-evolved in the Nineteenth Century Britain"

Green College 5 pm

**April 19** — Coll Thrush, Department of History, University of British Columbia, "Becoming Aboriginal: The Secret of the Potato on the Northwest Coast, 1770-1860"

### The University of British Columbia - Department of Geography

GEOG @ UBC would like to thank everyone who submitted pieces for the newsletter. Please continue to support GEOG @ UBC by submitting your stories and ideas to Jennifer Hamilton  
jhamilt@geog.ubc.ca

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# GEOG



# UBC



The University of British Columbia - The Department of Geography

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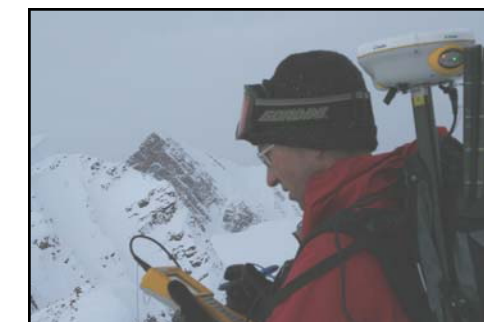
## Avalanche Group Hard at Work in the Kootenays

By: Paul Cordy

The avalanche research group is having an exciting season. Paul Cordy's statistical avalanche prediction software is being used by the avalanche forecast and control personnel at Kootenay Pass, near Nelson BC, and Bear Pass, near Stewart, BC. With lots of avalanche activity in both places over the last month, there is lots of new data with which to test the accuracy of the system. Paul is living in Kootenay Pass and working with the forecasters there to adjust the software so that it suits their operational needs. He has experienced many good adventures going up to the ridge tops in a helicopter to repair the supply lines to the giant fixed exploders.



After only two days in the Kootenays, Rob Burrows already has a jump on the season. On day one at Kicking Horse Mountain in Golden, he gathered photographs of cornices that he will use to digitally reconstruct their topography. The next day in Kootenay Pass he installed all of his data loggers, pyranometers, wiring, potentiometers, tiltmeters, thermistors and glide shoes into the cornice at his main research site. Now he just has to wait for a storm so that the cornice can build some more. Then he will put more measurement devices into the new layer of cornice. This will enable him to track development and changes in structure over time.



Note too the publicity surrounding the release of the Avaluator, an avalanche risk estimator tool developed in part by Pascal Hae-geli, a former member of the group.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Post Doc: Mark Johnson	2
UBC-O Geographer Lawrence Berg	2
Methods Seminar Schedule	3
Saying Goodbye to Nicky des Ormeaux	3
Colloquium Series	4
Nature/History/Society Green College Lectures	4

## Post-Doc: Mark Johnson

Mark Johnson is an ecohydrologist with interests in biogeochemistry and biogeography. He has research experience in forested and mixed land use environments in temperate, tropical and boreal regions. He obtained a PhD from Cornell University following extensive field work in the Brazilian Amazon investigating interactions between the carbon cycle and the water cycle. During this work he was the regional project coordinator of a multidisciplinary project in Brazil investigating landscape scale interactions between forest ecology, hydrology, carbon and nutrient dynamics and forest management. At UBC, Mark is working with Dr. Dan Moore on the Canada-wide Hydro-Ecological Landscapes and Processes (HELP) project with the goal of developing and assessing watershed criteria, indicators and models of hydroecologic responses to forest management.



## UBC-O Geographer at -V: Lawrence Berg Investigates Spaces of Audit in Colloquium



Lawrence D. Berg received his D.Phil. in 1996 from the University of Waikato, Aotearoa/New Zealand, where he studied feminist cultural and historical geography as a Commonwealth Scholar. Since completing his doctorate, Lawrence has held tenured posts in the School of Global Studies at Massey University (N.Z.) and the Department of Geography at Okanagan University College. More recently, he has held visiting fellowships at the University of Waikato and the National University of Ireland, as well as an adjunct post at the University of Victoria. Lawrence is currently Canada Research Chair and Associate Professor in the Community, Culture and Global Studies Unit at UBC's Okanagan campus.

Lawrence has published widely in two areas of Human Geography: 'Cultural Politics and Place' and 'Geographies of Knowledge Production'. His most-cited works fall in two specific areas: the postcolonial geographies of naming places, and the gendered geographies of knowledge. In addition to his theoretical works, Lawrence has seven research projects in progress in places as diverse as Ireland, the Netherlands, the Okanagan, and Aotearoa/New Zealand. These works examine issues such as urban aboriginality and social exclusion, immigration politics, disabling politics, neoliberalism and abilities, and cultural safety in health care.

Lawrence also has an extensive record of service to the discipline. He has been a member of the Council of the Canadian Association of Geographers, and he currently holds elected posts on the Boards of the *Socialist and Critical Geography Specialty Group*, the *Qualitative Research Specialty Group* (of the AAG), and the Steering Committee of the *International Critical Geography Group*. Lawrence is managing editor of *ACME: An International E-Journal for Critical Geographies*, having previously served as Editor-in-Chief of *The Canadian Geographer* and Co-Editor of *SITES: A Journal for South Pacific Cultural Studies*. He serves on the editorial boards of *The Canadian Geographer* and *Polimetrika Publishing*, and has just completed a term on the editorial board of *Gender, Place and Culture*. Lawrence is co-leader of the BC Disabilities Health Research Network, an area of keen personal interest because of his own experiences with learning disabilities.

## 2007 Seminar Series on Research Methods in Human Geography

The success of last year's seminar series on Research Methods in Human Geography prompted grad students to organize a new round of methods seminars for 2007. Pablo Mendez and Tyler Pearce volunteered to coordinate this year's series. Their first step was to canvas grad students to determine their interests. Based on the very positive response to an email survey, a list of themes was developed, and a number of faculty members were invited to lead a seminar. We thank everyone for the enthusiasm shown for the project, and are particularly grateful to all faculty members (and the visiting scholar!) who agreed to participate. Here's what the 2007 program looks like:

**January 26** — Graeme Wynn: Introduction to the series: Articulating your research methodology

**February 2** — Gerry Pratt: Interviews and focus groups

**February 9** — David Ley: Landscape interpretation

**February 16** — Matthew Evenden: Approaching the archives

**February 23** — **Reading Break — No Seminar**

**March 2** — Merje Kuus: Discursive approaches to the study of policy

**Thursday March 8** — Dan Hiebert: Tables, charts and maps: Accessing datasets for descriptive analysis

**March 9** — Elvin Wyly: Mapping the multivariate imagination

**Wednesday March 14 (1:30pm to 3:30pm)** — Derek Gregory: The practice of writing

**March 16** — Jim Glassman: Developing a long-term engagement with your "site"

**March 23** — Trevor Barnes and Jamie Peck: Narrating economic geographies

**March 30 (To be confirmed)** — Philippe Le Billon: Dirty boots: Challenges and ambivalences in field research

Meetings will be held in Room 223 every Friday from 2:30 to 4:30 pm, unless otherwise noted. Suggested readings will be placed on reserve in the GIC at least two weeks prior to each meeting. The series is open to all graduate students in the Department. Please contact Pablo or Tyler if you have any suggestions for next year. Faculty members: please let us know if you are interested in leading a seminar in 2008.

## Saying Goodbye to Nicky des Ormeaux

Nicky des Ormeaux has recently left the Metropolis Project office in the Geography building to join the Media Group at UBC. She had been working on a part-time basis as an Administrative Secretary since July 2005, helping Dan Hiebert, the Co-Director of the Vancouver Metropolis centre (RIIM). Nicky was responsible for many of the administrative tasks of RIIM, especially related to the national conference hosted by the Centre in 2006.

Nicky has accepted a full time, permanent position, as Administrative Secretary in the Accounts Payable division of Media Services. She will continue her courses in German and Spanish, but is taking a break from her other activities, in choir and drawing, until September, as she settles into her new job.

