

**Minutes of the Western Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers
(WDCAG) 51st AGM, Vancouver Island University, BC
7 March 2009**

1. Adoption of Agenda (Hanlon/Wilson)

CARRIED

2. Approval of minutes from WDCAG AGM 8 March 2009 – Approved with friendly amendments (detailed below) (Hanlon/McVey)

7. Spelling correction - Western Geography

11. Spelling correction – Elections: Theresa Garvin, Ineke Dijks

CARRIED

3. Awards (David Rossiter, chair awards committee)

a. J.L. Robinson Award for Meritorious Service to the WDCAG -

- J. Lewis Robinson passed away on 19 July 2008. Lou Goehring presented an obituary (written account will be in WDCAG archives), which was followed by a minute silence.

- The Award was presented to Ineke Dijks (nominated by Bob Rogerson/Neil Hanlon)

b. W.C. Wonders Award for Scholarly Distinction - not awarded (no nominations)

c. J.A. McVey Award for Teaching Excellence award presented to Dr. Catherine Nolan by Alistair McVey (nominated by Windsor/Fondahl) (Nolan not present: award received by Hanlon)

4. CAG Travel Money allocation was not decided upon during the AGM, as the student numbers in attendance were unknown. The WDCAG Executive voted retroactively per email on 13 March 2009 to accept the following distribution (carried). This distribution was based on a multiplier of number of students times distance travelled, and proportionally dividing up the official travel money allocation of \$2500. A sum of \$335 from the WDCAG operating funds was added to account for the large number of shorter distance travellers.

<i>Institute</i>	<i>Students at WDCAG</i>	<i>Travel money allocated</i>
UVic	35	\$150
SFU	8	\$80
UBC	15	\$150
UBCOK	7	\$150
TRU	43	\$750
FVU	15	\$200
UNBC	27	\$950
UofL	3	\$150
UofA	4	\$200
Camosun	2	\$10
WWU	3	\$30
TWU	1	\$15
		Total: \$2835

5. Reports

a. Secretary/Treasurer (Coburn/Jiskoot)

Written report and statement provided by Coburn (presented by Jiskoot). Short discussion on where we should allocate some of the surplus funds. Publication of Western Geographer (not been published since 2006) will use some of those funds, as well as the 2008 increase in remuneration for student poster/presentation awards. Motion to accept report as submitted (Smith/McVey)

CARRIED

b. Western Geography (Hanlon)

Neil Hanlon urged members to encourage students to submit papers, as the journal is not sustainable at present. Only 2 manuscripts were submitted in the past years, while minimum of 3 are needed to warrant publication of the journal. Other ideas for inclusion include the Robinson eulogy (Goehring) and a report of one of the members. Possibilities of a Special Issue and joined publication with "Prairie Prospectives" (Moffat) were discussed. The renewed and expanded editorial board will discuss further.

c. Newsletter (Dijks)

Written report was submitted by Ineke Dijks, and accepted. Some discussion followed on whether the newsletter was redundant (e.g. overlapping information) and whether we are required to have one. Ineke Dijks is stepping down as Newsletter editor and was thanked for her hard work.

d. BC Education Chair (McVey)

Alistair McVey reported that he had provided a collegial offer to advice the BC ministry of Education on K-12 Geography matters, but that his offer was declined. The following motion was proposed "The WDCAG endorses A. McVey as our representative of professional geographers of BC to the government of BC Ministries of Education and Advanced Education in matters of curriculum development" (Goehring/Wilson)

CARRIED

e. Archivist (Brealey)

Ken Brealey reported that the archives are in good state and up-to-date in his office. Next submission to SFU library will be in 2011.

f. Awards (Rossiter)

David Rossiter would like a list of all previous award recipients to be posted on our website. Brealey will look through archives, as Moffat mentioned this was done at the Medicine Hat meeting (02/03). Rossiter mentions that the J.L. Robinson Award should be changed on the website. He further encouraged the membership to think about next year's nominations.

g. Other Reports - none

h. President's Report (Rogerson)

Written report submitted by Bob Rogerson.

6. Next Meeting

The 52nd AGM of the WDCAG will be hosted by the Department of Earth & Atmospheric at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, AB. Dates TBA. Theresa Garvin conveyed an official welcome on behalf of Martin Sharp, UofA Department Chair.

7. 2011 Meeting

SFU and UBC will be contacted for potential willingness to host meeting.

8. Nominating Committee Report (Hanlon)

Past President	Robert Rogerson	UCW	robert.rogerson@universitycanadawest.ca
President	Gilles Viaud	TRU	gviaud@tru.ca
Vice President	Vacant		
Secretary Treasurer	Hester Jiskoot	UofL	hester.jiskoot@uleth.ca
Councilor	Michael Wilson	DC	wilsonmi@douglas.bc.ca
Councilor	Barb McNichol	MRC	bmnicol@mtroyal.ab.ca
Councilor	Theresa Garvin	UofA	Theresa.Garvin@ualberta.ca
BC Student Rep	Craig Hawein	VIU	hawtin.craig@gmail.com
Alberta Student Rep	Serena Hamilton	UofA	
Education Chair	Alistair McVey		lamcvey@shaw.ca
Publications Editor (Ex-Officio)	Neil Hanlon	UNBC	hanlon@unbc.ca
Newsletter Editor (Ex-Officio)	Claire Beaney	UFV	claire.beaney@ufv.ca
Archivist	Ken Brealey	UFV	Ken.Brealey@ufv.ca
Awards officer	Dave Rossiter	WWU	David.Rossiter@wwu.edu

9. Other business

a) **Student award winners** - The following students are congratulated with their awards for best student presentation:

Presentations:

Undergraduate

Julian Bakker - Placelessness, Public Space, and Authentic Human Experiences (Vancouver Island University)

Graduate:

Timothy Johnsen (Stockholm University): "Re-dating the Pilgrimstad interstadial with OSL: a warmer climate and a much smaller ice sheet during the Swedish Middle Weichselian (MIS3)?"

Posters:

Undergraduate

Jake Hughson and Kyle Nadler - The Friction of Distance and Creative Growth in BC's Small Cities (Thompson River University)

Graduate: TBA

b) **Financial crisis threat** - Dan Smith remarked that the present financial crisis will affect Canadian universities, and mentioned that geography programs/departments could be threatened by future cuts. He urged the membership to join letter writing campaigns to university presidents, and to include cautionary notes of threats to our discipline.

c) **Thanks and congratulations** - This year's WDCAG had an attendance of over 270 geographers. Motion to "Congratulate the organisers (Michael Tripp/Pam Shaw) at Vancouver Island University for an extremely well-run conference" (***)Phil D/Windsor)
CARRIED

10. Adjournment – 17:37 motion to adjourn (Hanlon/Smith)

CARRIED