



Susan Ringrose

Chris Storie

Bill Buhay
John Selwood

SIXTY

Gina Sylvestre

Alan Hosey

Geoff Scott
Bob Stock
Geri Sweet

Bill Carlyle
Jeff Simpson

Weldon Hiebert
Matt Dyce

Jino Distasio
Marcia Faurer

YEARS

Bill Bell

Nancy Latocki
Jock Lehr

Evelyn Peters
Dave Welch

Andy Lockery

Jim Richthik

Danny Blair

Tim Ball

Bill Rannie
Steve LaDochy

Tania Guevera
Amber Caslake

OF

Fred Cook
Jacqueline Binyamin

GEOGRAPHY

Dave Bell

Fred Hung

Trish Fitzpatrick
Ed Cloutis

Betty Harder

Mark Krawetz
Joni Storie

Salah Hathout

Brian McGregor

John Ryan
John Warkentin

Don Stone
Bill Dean

Tony Kuz

Marc Vachon

1953

2013

Next year marks the 60th anniversary of the Geography Department and **GeoMatters** will dedicate the next couple of issues celebrating this event.

In this issue the focus is on the history of the Department and the people who have made it successful. Special thanks to Dr. Bill Rannie for providing us with a history of the Department. We also welcome to new faculty members and say goodbye to two others.

Please feel free to pass this newsletter to anyone with an interest in geography. Individuals can also see **GeoMatters** at the Geography website, or keep up with us on Facebook (Department of Geography, University of Winnipeg) or on Twitter (@UWGeography).

If you have any suggestions for future newsletter articles, please feel free to contact us at:
geography@uwinnipeg.ca

Editors: Joni Storie & Weldon Hiebert

Table of Contents

History of Geography.....	2
People of Geography	4
Welcome New Faculty	5
Two More Retirements.....	5



History of the Geography Department

by Bill Rannie

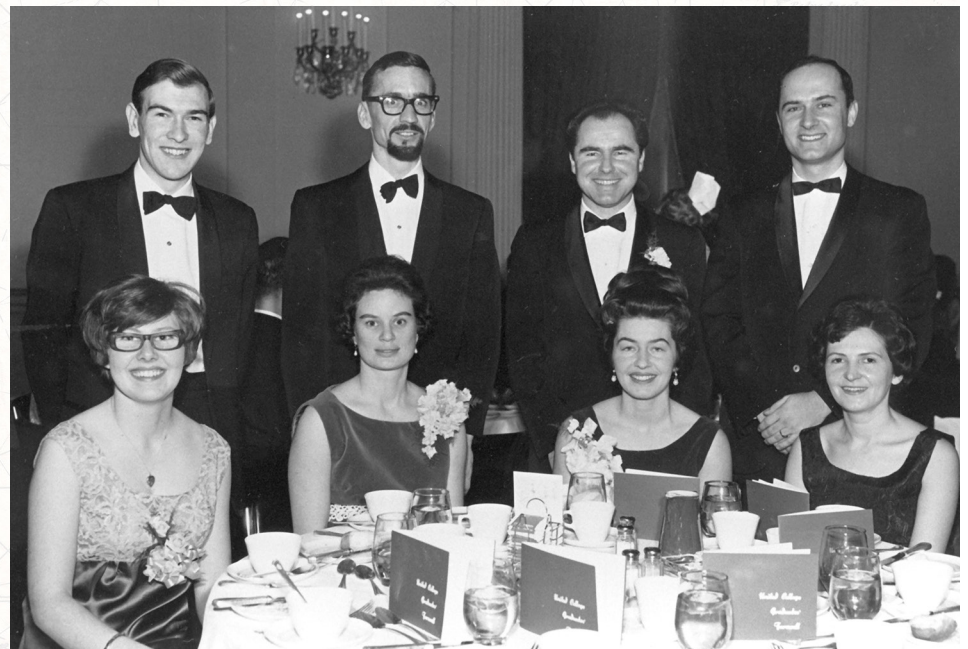
As Geography approaches its 60th Anniversary at United College/University of Winnipeg, it's useful to look back at how we got here. Geography arrived at United College (the precursor to The University of Winnipeg) in 1953 with the appointment of Bill Dean as the first Professor of Geography. Geography remained a one-man operation for a decade; when Dean left for the University of Toronto in 1956, he was replaced successively by Fred Cook, John Warkentin, and Fred Hung. In 1963, Hung was joined by Brian Evans, beginning a period of steady growth, adding about one permanent new faculty member per year until 1968. Hung and Evans left in the mid-1960s to found the Geography Department at the new University of Guelph, but Evans returned in 1968. Growth continued and by the mid-1970s, the tenured faculty complement had grown to 18 (one of the largest Geography departments on the Prairies) and office and technical support staff had been added. Despite some attrition caused by retirements in the 1990s, Geography remained one of the larger departments in the University, whether measured in terms of full-time faculty, Majors, or total enrolments. For most of its existence, Geography was located administratively within the single Faculty of Arts and Science. When the university divided Arts and Science into separate faculties in 2005, Geography opted to be in the Faculty of Science, mainly because of its physical lab requirements.

In its early years, the Department occupied scattered offices in Manitoba Hall, with no lab facilities. The creation of The University of Winnipeg in 1967, however, led to a major building expansion. Lockhart Hall opened in 1970, providing the Department with new offices and well-equipped, modern teaching/research labs designed specifically for physical geography's needs. When Centennial Hall opened two years later, the department acquired additional space for cartography and remote sensing labs, a cartographer's office, more physical geography labs

and, most notably, the Map Library to house maps, air photos, atlases and related cartographic materials. The Library continues to have depository status for the National Topographic System maps (now in electronic format) and is used by both the University and general public, and houses the East European Genealogical Society's map collection. More recently, Geography faculty have developed three very specialized research labs- the Isotope Lab developed by Bill Buhay in 2001 to provide stable isotope analyses for UW researchers, students and commercial clients (eg. Environment Canada); and the Planetary Spectrophotometer Lab ("Mars Lab") created by Ed Cloutis in 2004 to enable spectroscopy-based analysis of planetary and planetary-analogue materials; and the Geosciences Laboratory for Environmental Analysis and Decision-Making (GeoLEAD) created by Christopher Storie in 2011.

Over the years, the interdisciplinary nature of Geography has led to close connections with several other units in the University. The Institute of Urban Studies was established in 1969 and, for most of the time since the mid-

eighties, it has been directed by members of the Department of Geography (Tom Carter, Ed Cloutis, and currently Jino Distasio). Environmental Studies, established in 1970, was led for more than two decades by Geographer Andy Lockery. The Centre for Forest Interdisciplinary Research (C-FIR) was created in 1998; although its curricular and research connections are principally with Biology and Environmental Studies, it has been directed by Ed Cloutis of Geography, some of its facilities were created out of Geography space, and there is a strong Geography component to its programs. Another very important external connection has been with the Churchill Northern Studies Centre (CNSC), a research facility near Churchill whose Scientific Coordinator, Dr. LeeAnn Fishback, has been a long-time Adjunct Professor in the department. Dr. Fishback's association with the department has enabled us to run very successful Honours field courses at the facility (approximately every two years) and has led to employment for a number of our students; she has also acted as thesis supervisor and mentor for several Honours stu-



The Department of Geography, March 31, 1967:

From left: Bill Bell, Jim Richtik, John Ryan and Tony Kuz. Seated are their respective spouses.

dents. Geri Sweet, Kim Monson, and Trish Fitzpatrick have all represented the University on the CNSC Board.

The curriculum has evolved to reflect overall changes within the discipline. Regional Geography was more prominent in the 70s and early 80s, with courses on Africa, the Soviet Union, the United States, Monsoon Asia, and Europe, as well as Canada, Manitoba, and the Prairies. The regional emphasis declined sharply in the 80s but from the late 70s Remote Sensing expanded rapidly, from a single course in aerial photography into multiple offerings which supported a Certificate Program. As cartography changed from manual to computerized methodologies, and GIS came on the scene, the manual cartography lab in Centennial Hall was replaced by the computer lab, the first departmental computer lab in the university. In the 90s, GIS became increasingly important, both for Geography Majors and for students in other programs such as Anthropology, Biology, Environmental Studies, Forestry and Politics. Urban Geography and a wide range of Physical Geography options have always been strongly represented. Most recently, the department has begun a new initiative in Health Geography and intends to develop a focus on water issues. Throughout all these curricular changes, however, the Department has sought to balance both the physical and human sides of the discipline and, as much as possible, to integrate them within the various degree programs.

Geography faculty have received the University's annual awards on numerous occasions. Tim Ball, Tony Kuz, Andy Lockery, and Jock Lehr all received the Robson Award for Excellence in Teaching, Ed Cloutis received the Erica and Arnold Rogers Research Award, Tom Carter the Marsha Hanen Award for Excellence in Creating Community Awareness, Tim Ball and Tom Carter the Clarence Atchison Award for Community Service, and Bill Rannie the Robin H. Farquhar Award for Excellence in Contributing to Self-Governance. In addition to their University awards, Tom Carter received a Lifetime Achievement Award from CMHC and was the University's first Canada Research Chair, Jock Lehr received the Manitoba Historical Society's Douglas

Kemp Award in recognition of Exceptional Service in the Promotion and Preservation of Manitoba's Heritage, and Ed Cloutis had an asteroid (6081 Cloutis) named after him by the International Astronomical Union!

Our Department, along with Brandon University, co-founded the Prairie Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers in 1976 and has been its strongest supporter. Winnipeg Geography has hosted the annual PCAG meetings at Hecla, Swan River, Misty Lake (north of Gimli), Portage la Prairie, and twice in Russell. Several Geography faculty have received the Division's awards – the John Welsted Award for Service to Geography in the Western Interior (Lehr, Selwood, Rannie) and the John Warkentin Award for Scholarly Contributions to the Geography of the Western Interior (Lehr, Carlyle, Selwood, Carter, Rannie). In addition to our involvement in the Prairie Division, we hosted the national meeting of the Canadian Association of Geographers in 1983.

Perhaps most of all, we can be proud of the quality and accomplishments of our students over these 60 years. The Department is fortunate to be able to recognize their accomplishments through a very well-endowed scholarship program (probably the best in the University, thanks in large

part to the estate of Brian Evans). A number geography students have also won prestigious Faculty- or University-wide awards. Many of our graduates have gone on to successful post-graduate studies at other universities where they are uniformly held in very high regard. Of those who entered the work-force after completing their degrees, the majority have found satisfying careers which utilize the methodologies, information, analytic skills, and overall 'mindset' they acquired as geography undergraduates.

For 60 years, the Geography Department has been an important part of the University's academic fabric. It has exposed tens of thousands of students to an enormous diversity of subjects and ideas, using methodologies as different as searching archival records, laboratory analysis, or analyzing satellite imagery; at scales ranging from a neighborhood, to a country, continent or the entire globe; and over time-frames from geologic eras to today's newspaper headlines. Always, the guiding principle has been to foster the understanding of both human and physical environments and the interconnections between them. This 'mission' is likely to be even more relevant in the increasingly complex world of the next sixty years.



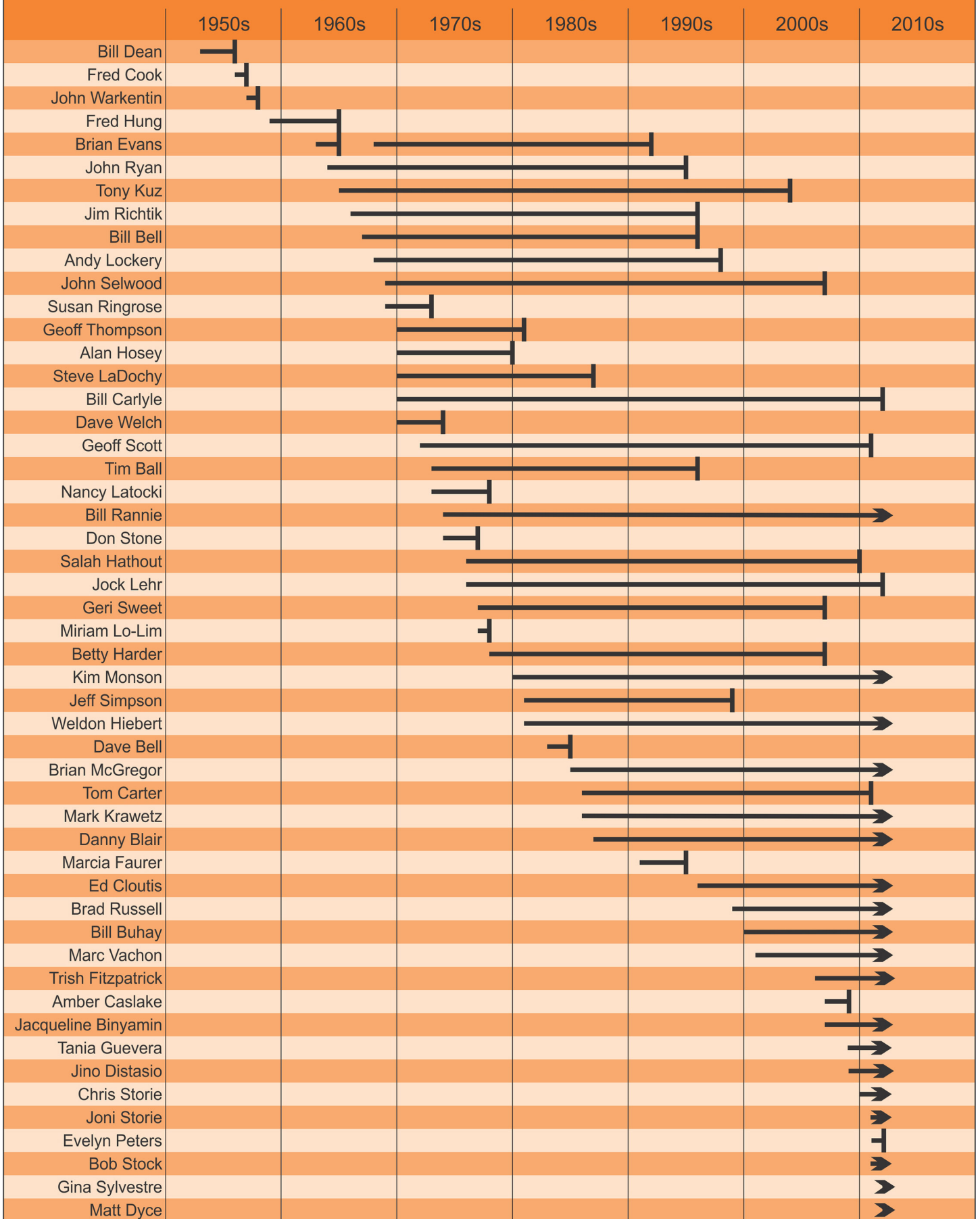
The Department of Geography, September 4, 2012:

Back Row: James Currie (Dean of Science, geographer wannabe), Geoff Scott, Danny Blair, Ryan Smith, Chris Storie, Ed Cloutis, Mark Krawetz, Bill Buhay, Brad Russell, Bob Stock, Brian McGregor.

Front Row: Weldon Hiebert, Jino Distasio, Jennifer Janzen, Jacqueline Binyamin, Trish Fitzpatrick, Joni Storie, Matt Dyce, Gina Sylvestre, Bill Rannie, Marc Vachon

Missing: Kim Monson

THE DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY 1953-2013



Geography Welcomes Two New Faculty Members...

The Department of Geography is pleased to announce the hiring of two new faculty members, Gina Sylvestre and Matt Dyce:

Gina Sylvestre is originally from Winnipeg most recently calling St. Boniface home. She received her PhD from the University of Manitoba and her research explores the qualities of place that impact the health of both urban and rural residents. While Gina's earlier experiences focused on survey methods and longitudinal research design, she now integrates quantitative findings with qualitative approaches that pursue the subjective experience. Notably, she is exploring mobile methodologies to inform concepts of place, mobility and health. Gina is currently developing a research project related to ageing that will examine neighbourhood features perceived to be important by older adults living in poverty. Her other areas of research include: the safety of pedestrian environments; mobility exclusion; providing rural



Gina Sylvestre – Health Geographer

transportation; and rural vibrancy and intergenerational knowledge-sharing. Gina looks forward to meeting students of the department and engaging in lively discussions about geography!

Matt Dyce joined the department in July of 2012 as a Regional Geographer. Besides settling into UW, this year he will be teaching Canada's Human and Physical Environments and the two first-year introductory human geography classes. Matt's last few years were spent at the University of British Columbia where he studied in historical, environmental, and cultural geography and wrote his dissertation on archives and geographical knowledge in twentieth-century Canada. The research and teaching specialties he brings to UW include the West and Canadian regionalism, and his interests in public memory and commemoration, photography and representation, and the history of geographical thought and education. Although he will have to return to Vancouver in January to defend his PhD dissertation, he is looking forward to a sunny and cold winter



Matt Dyce – Regional Geographer

in Winnipeg. In his spare time, Matt runs, swims, and bikes to prepare for next year's triathlon season - he's still waiting to be drafted by the UW faculty hockey team ... where are they!?

... And Says Goodbye to Two Others

This summer marked the retirement of two long-term faculty of the Geography Department, Dr. William (Bill) Carlyle and Dr. John (Jock) Lehr:

Dr. Carlyle joined the Department in 1970 specializing in cultural and human geography. He spent many years teaching education students the geographies of Manitoba and Canada. If you took geography in high school there's a good chance your teacher was taught and influenced by Dr. Carlyle!



Dr. Carlyle's research interests included the study of agriculture and rural land use on the Canadian Prairies.

Dr. Lehr joined the Department in 1976 specializing in cultural and human geography. Dr. Lehr's research interests included Ukrainian settlement patterns of Western Canada and South America, and communal settlements in Canada and Israel. His cultural/human field trips around southern Manitoba were popular with the students.



The Department congratulates both of you on your retirements and wishes you much success in your future endeavours.