

the magazine of the
**School of Geography
&
Sustainable Development**



University of
St Andrews

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Welcome

Welcome to the third issue of the School of Geography & Sustainable Development's magazine *Terra Nostra* as we reflect on our European connections in a time of 'Brexit' uncertainty.



I'm delighted to end 2019 with a note of welcome to our new Head of School, Keith Bennett. I first became Head of the newly formed Department of Geography and Sustainable Development over eight years ago, again stepping back into the role just over four years ago in time to lead the formation of the new School of Geography and Sustainable Development. It has been a privilege to see the School develop and grow over this period. I would like to offer my thanks to colleagues and particularly to our students, alumni and supporters across the world – thank you!

To read Professor Austin's graduation address from June 2019, please visit: <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/graduation/2019/graduation-addresses/william-austin/>

Welcome to Professor Keith Bennett, our new Head of School. Keith joined the University as Professor of Environmental Change in 2016, before becoming Head of School in January 2019. His main research interests are in the response of organisms to environmental changes on timescales of millenia and longer. Much of this response involves the movement of populations on sub-continental scales, investigated by means of analyses of the abundance of microfossils in the sediments of small lakes. He is increasingly involved in investigations of ancient DNA from microfossils and sediments as part of understanding both population movements and evolution of populations and species in relation to environmental change.



2019 has been a productive year for the school, being awarded the Athena Swan Bronze award for gender equality and ranked top in the UK by The Times and Guardian university guides.

Bell Edwards Geographic Data Institute (BEGIN)

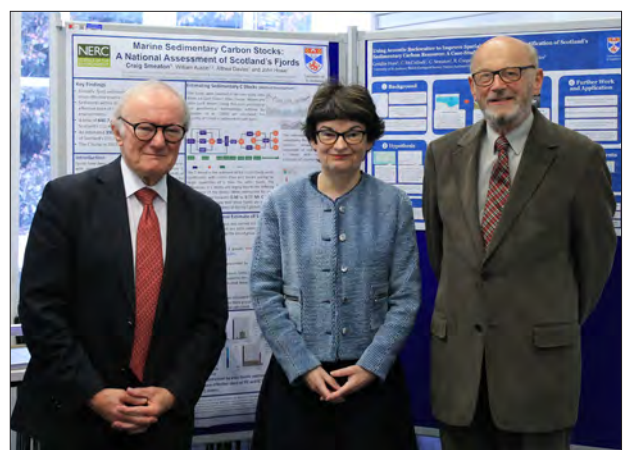


On Monday 3 September 2018, Professor Sally Mapstone, the Principal & Vice Chancellor of the University, opened the Bell Edwards Geographic Data Institute (BEGIN) in an event that showcased research of BEGIN members.

BEGIN is a network of data researchers in the School of Geography and Sustainable Development. The institute brings together academic staff, postdoctoral researchers and PhD students who work with geographic data and are interested in developing new methods and modelling approaches for geographic problems. The network also provides a platform to promote collaboration, teaching and outreach.

The institute is named in honour of the father of Tony Edwards, William Bell Edwards (1906-1989), who was an engineer and a surveyor. Tony Edwards is an alumnus and long-time friend of the School, was also present at the launch. The event started by a guest keynote by Professor Mike Batty, the Bartlett Professor of Planning at University College London and Chair of the Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis (CASA). The event consisted of presentations of research on varied topics, from geographic information science, to glaciology and palaeoecology, and concluded with a showcase of posters, prepared by BEGIN PhD students and postdoctoral researchers.

Professor Mike Batty, Principal & Vice Chancellor Professor Sally Mapstone & Tony Edwards at the BEGIN launch





Rita Gardner has recently retired as the first woman Director of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG), a role that she fulfilled for the past 22 years. She led the expansion and modernisation of the Society to become the world's leading geographical society and has been at the heart of raising the profile of geography nationally and internationally. Her early career was as an academic geographer, specialising in Quaternary environmental change, with particular reference to South Asia and the Middle East.

Professor Bill Austin asked Rita some questions about her life as a geographer.

Why Geography?

Geography is my passion and my profession. It is an education for life. While everyone needs to understand the world we all inhabit, change, depend upon, and share responsibility for sustaining, geographers have a particular challenge to lead that endeavour. And geography stays with you for life – forever shaping the way you observe, question and interpret the places, people and environments around you. Geographers are environmentally knowledgeable, socially responsible and culturally tolerant – it's a vital discipline for today's pressured world. In your book you criticise economic growth as the objective that most countries strive for.



Dr Rita Gardner with Professor Bill Austin following the award of Rita's honorary degree during the 2018 graduation ceremony

How did your journey into Geography begin?

Like many people I owe my passion for geography to an inspiring secondary geography teacher; and my love of field studies to childhood holidays wandering the varied and beautiful coastline of North Norfolk. University nurtured both further.

What, for you, are the most exciting challenges in Geography today?

In education, the greatest challenge today is to increase the number of well qualified geography teachers so that the next generation can be inspired to understand our world and to study geography. In terms of government policy, the most exciting challenge is to make the most of the fact that the Government appointed its first ever 'Head of Geography' profession in January 2018. In research, a deeply interesting issue for me, as a physical geographer, is the fuller understanding of carbon sinks. For public geography, it would be great if the BBC could be convinced to label a 'geography' strand of programming!

Why are Geographers sought after by such a diverse range of employers?

Well trained Geographers are greatly in demand by employers across a wide range of private, public and third sectors for the skills, knowledge and understanding, and personal attributes they have. Teamwork, IT skills, literacy, able to analyse and understand data, research skills, a capability to see the big picture and to integrate ideas, experience of both the physical and the social sciences with their different approaches..... add to that the fact that many geographers have good people and communication skills, are trained to observe, are used to dealing with the complexity of the 'real world', and tend to be pragmatic, flexible, and understanding of change. It's a recipe for success!

If you were starting a career in Geography today, what advice would you give your younger self?

Be a **POET** and invest in:

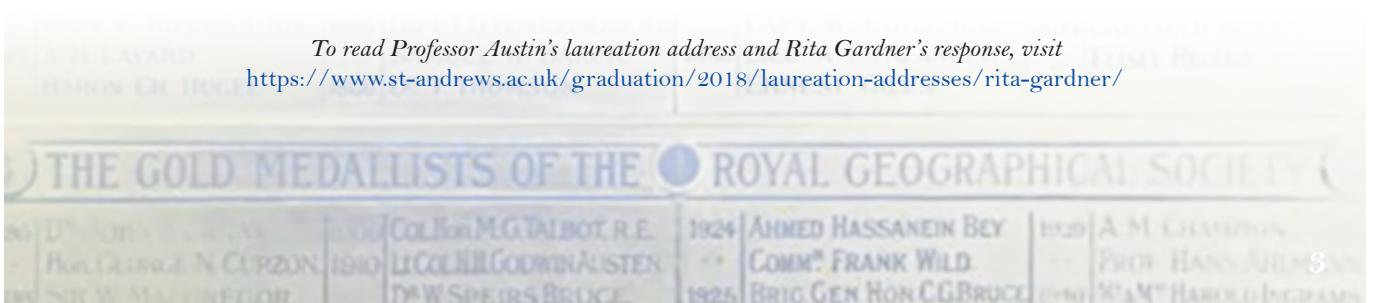
PASSION – follow what interests you and be yourself;

OPPORTUNITIES – be open to them;

EFFORT – nothing is achieved without it;

TIME – to understand the avenues open to you (study and jobs) and in finding the 'right' job after graduating

To read Professor Austin's laureation address and Rita Gardner's response, visit <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/graduation/2018/laureation-addresses/rita-gardner/>





Dr Kay MacIver (1921 - 2011)

A number of the SGSD's prizes are funded through the generosity of former staff and students. Among these are the MacIver Class Medal, awarded to the best students in each of the Junior and Senior Honours years, and the MacIver Award, an annual bursary that supports innovative undergraduate research. These prizes are named after Dr Kay MacIver, Head of the Department of Geography and the first woman to hold this post at any university in the United Kingdom. Here we take a look at a pioneering geographer who shaped the lives and learning of generations of St Andrews students.

Born in Dundee on 3 February 1921, Kay MacIver first started studying Geography at Birkenhead High School; as she later said, 'I really must have liked geography because I studied it under a woman who I disliked intensely'. Gaining a place at Oxford University's Lady Margaret Hall to study Geography did not come easily: Geography was classed as a science at degree level, and MacIver had chosen English, Geography and History for her Higher School Certificate. As a result she had two terms to put herself through studying botany, geology, physics, mathematics and chemistry in order to pass the Oxford entrance exam.



*Image courtesy of the
University of St Andrews
Library'*

MacIver's time at Oxford was unusual in large part due to the war: she and her cohort grew potatoes in the college gardens and were part of a research trial on diet, existing on mostly vegetables and 'two great bowls of pills'. Many of the university's Geography lecturers were involved with Admiralty Intelligence and it was not uncommon to see military dispatch riders on motorbikes outside the department. The teaching may have suffered as a result of the lecturer's divided attention: MacIver did not attend many lectures in her own department, but instead opted for talks by such intellectual luminaries as C.S. Lewis. She graduated with a first class honours degree in 1944.

MacIver was almost immediately conscripted into the Civil Service, where she worked for the Scottish Office and took up a post with the Housing Department in Edinburgh. Her work involved assessing housing conditions; rat bites on babies' toes and dusting the hem of her skirt with flea powder were not infrequent parts of the job. As she later said, 'I grew up... about six years in six months' – but at that time did not consider her work 'geographical', as the discipline of urban geography was not widely studied at the time.

After the rats and fleas of Edinburgh, MacIver moved to Uganda with the Colonial Office where she worked on land

law, hospital supplies, and ambulance provision. After two and half years in first Kampala and then Entebbe, she moved back to the UK in 1948, taking a job as a teacher at the Dame Harris Harper School in Bedford. It gave her a taste for teaching (if not for discipline), and from 1949 until 1953 she taught at Edinburgh University. At that time it was not a requirement for lecturers to have any postgraduate qualifications, but at Edinburgh Alan Ogilvie encouraged her to continue her studies, and she enrolled as an external student with Birkbeck College and, in 1950, began to examine the changing population of Uganda. Working full-time whilst at the same time trawling Colonial Office and Rhodes House records on the population of Uganda was tough, but in 1954 MacIver passed her postgraduate degree, examined by Frank Debenham from the University of Cambridge.

In 1953 MacIver moved to St Andrews as a lecturer; two years later, following the death of George Cumming, she unexpectedly found herself acting Head of Department, a post that was made permanent in 1961. At that time Geography was not a full honours degree and instead formed part of the university's Natural History course; it was only awarded degree status in 1968, following the separation of the university from Queen's College, Dundee. As Head of Department Kay oversaw all these changes; she was also the only woman to hold a Head of Geography post anywhere in the UK until the appointment of Professor Monica Cole (1922 – 1994) to the Chair of Geography at Bedford College in 1964.

MacIver remained the only woman in the Geography department throughout the whole of her tenure as Head of Department; it was only upon her move into university administration (she became first Dean and later Master) in 1980 that the School's next female member of staff was appointed: Elspeth Graham, who replaced MacIver as Lecturer in Population Geography before becoming the first female Professor in Geography.

Professor Graham had studied Geography with MacIver at St Andrews in the 1970s, where she remembers the older lecturer's prominent presence and open-door policy for students, combined with a very 'St Andrews' regard for propriety and tradition.



Graham fondly remembers undergraduate field courses at The Burn at which MacIver insisted that the students dress for dinner – jackets for men and dresses for women. She also recalls MacIver, resplendent in a full-length green evening gown, hosting parties for students at her home. Upon arrival everyone was provided with a wine glass complete with a name tag – woe betide those who misplaced theirs during the course of the evening!

This combination of academic accessibility and the ‘proper’ way of doing things, were defining features of MacIver’s style of teaching and leadership. MacIver never published a paper and never took a professorship: for her, success was measured in terms of her students. As an example of her ability to inspire, of Elspeth Graham’s 1972 cohort of graduates, three have gone on to become Professors of Geography. MacIver was truly a Head of Department with students at her heart; Graham remarks that she ‘taught me a lot of independence’, bringing out the best in students and letting them shape their own studies according to their interests.

MacIver retired from the post of Master in 1988 and was awarded a DDL by this University in 1991. She had long suffered from problems with her eyes; by the time of her retirement her eyesight was increasingly deteriorating, but this did not stop her taking an active interest in the life of the Department from her home in St Andrews. She died on 15 June 2011 at the age of 90, but her legacy lives on in the support the MacIver Medal and Award continues to give to Geography students here at the University of St Andrews.



Portrait of Dr Kay MacIver, 2008,
by Colin Dunbar (b.1969).
Reproduced courtesy of the
University of St Andrews
Museum Collections.
© Colin Dunbar.

MacIver Award

The **MacIver Award** is an annual award made to a student or students of **Geography** at **St Andrews** to support innovative field or library based research. The award is designed to provide part support for travel and/or accommodation. The only restriction is that the intended programme of work must not be part of an assessed assignment.



contact: **The Director of Teaching** ggdot@st-andrews.ac.uk

Symposium celebrates Elspeth Graham’s retirement



In **November 2018** we celebrated Professor Elspeth Graham’s retirement event within the International Symposium of Family and Fertility within the Life Course in Europe.

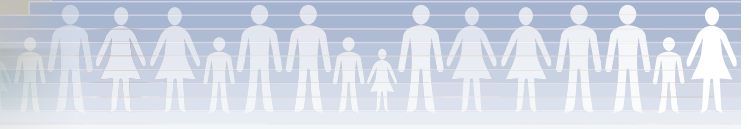
This special event as part of the symposium brought together friends and colleagues from all over Europe in the areas of family, fertility, migration and the life course to discuss recent research and the challenges that changing demographic realities pose to European countries at individual, regional and societal levels. The event and symposium was jointly organised by the University of St Andrews and the ESRC Centre for Population Change, and held in the Upper & Lower College Halls at the University of St Andrews.

Elspeth’s contribution to geography is recognised with the newly instigated **Elspeth Graham Prize in Human Geography**. Ellen Stimpson became the first recipient of the award in 2019.



Professor in Profile

Professor Hill Kulu

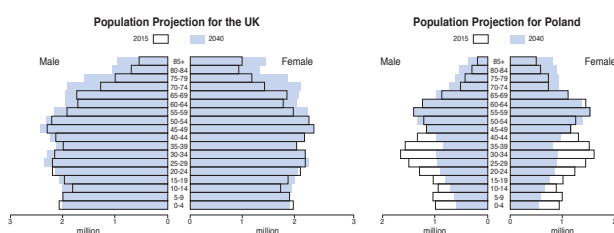


Estonian by birth (and British by choice), Hill Kulu studied economic geography at the University of Tartu before completing a PhD project on population migration at the University of Helsinki. After five years at the Max Plank Institute for Demographic Research in Rostock, Germany, Hill moved to the UK with his wife and two young sons in 2008 to become Senior Lecturer and then Professor of Quantitative Geography and Demography at the University of Liverpool. Since January 2017 the family has been in St Andrews, where the boys go to school and Hill's wife Katrin works in the School of Medicine. The family (pictured right, with colleague Lotta Purkamo's son) enjoy basketball, orienteering, and exploring the countryside with friends.



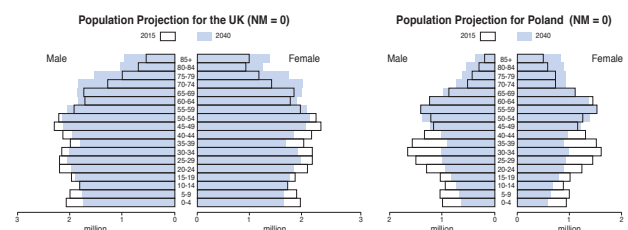
Hill's research centres on demographic analysis: what forces propel population change? Key factors of fertility, mortality and migration are combined with economic, environmental and socio-political forces to shape populations over time, and the resulting composition and structure is extremely important, as problems emerge in societies where they are rapid or dramatic changes in population composition. In industrialised nations in recent years there has been dramatic ageing in population; for example, in European countries in the 1950s, 5 – 10% of people were over the age of 65. By 2015, 15 – 20% of the population were over 65 years old. Population projections suggest that by 2040, a projection of 25 year or roughly one generation, between 25 and 35% of Europeans will be over the age of 65. This represents little change in absolute terms, but a massive difference in population composition – and this inverse population pyramid is ultimately not viable in the long term, with the ratio of working to non-working people unsustainably skewed. Without a large and active work force in reasonable proportion to unworking older people, public provision of essential services including pensions and health and social care will become unsustainable under the current model.

Countries in Europe vary hugely in terms of population structure. For example, if we compare current and projected population structures in the UK (western Europe) with Poland (eastern Europe), there is a marked differences in both 2015's population and the expected population by 2040.



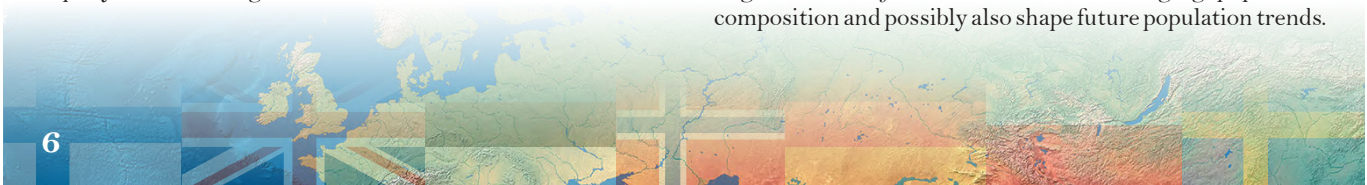
Whilst the UK's population should remain relatively stable over the coming generation (25 years), becoming only slightly 'top heavy' by 2040, the situation in Poland is rather more precarious. Not only does the 'population pyramid' have a comparatively narrow base today, with lower numbers of young people living in Poland relative to those in their 30s – 70s, but that this situation is predicated to accelerate rapidly in the coming decades.

Economic migration is a huge factor in determining population structure. By comparison, if net migration is reduced to zero, the UK's 'pyramid' starts to look less broad at its base, with fewer working-age people relocating to the UK for employment. For Poland, the situation remains precarious, as there remains a generational imbalance that is not redressed through migration.



Beyond Europe, there is a global trend towards population ageing across all high-income countries, and increasing in low- and middle-income regions. Japan is at one extreme, with between 35 and 40% of the population predicted to be over 65 in one generation. With low fertility, non-existent immigration and low mortality, Japan is increasingly focussing on improving opportunities for women to integrate employment and family life, as more women are working but are unsupported in terms of parental pay and leave, childcare options and societal expectations. China is similarly experiencing pronounced ageing, a result of its long-term one child policy, little immigration and longer life expectancy. As a continent, Africa remains an exception with high fertility and relatively high mortality, but even here fertility and mortality are both declining, with a resulting hike in ageing predicted during the coming decades.

Global solutions to this problem are needed. One element is to increase fertility, and it is clear that more equal societies (like Norway, Sweden and Finland) have higher birth rates than other industrialised nations where equality is lower (Japan and China). Another is to increase the pension age, as people now live longer, work longer and are more healthy. You can also increase productivity, gaining more per capita from each worker, and increase migration to fill gaps. All have socio-cultural implications, with migration a particular political 'hot potato' at the moment. The research of Hill and his team, working as part of a cross-European group looking at demography, is essential to better understand how our population currently functions, and what we might do to adjust our societies to changing population composition and possibly also shape future population trends.



Professor in Profile - our man in Europe

Professor Maarten van Ham

The SGSD is proud of its connection to research institutions across Europe, and it may surprise readers to know that not all SGSD professors are based in St Andrews. After six years as a lecturer here, Prof Maarten van Ham returned with his family to live in the Netherlands in 2011, and now combines his University of St Andrews professorship with being Professor of Urban Renewal at Delft University of Technology. Managing around 20 staff in Delft, Maarten is a population geographer with a background in economic and urban geography. In this issue of Terra Nostra we catch up with Maarten during one of his regular visits to St Andrews to find out more about his work as ‘our man in Europe’.

The central question around which Maarten’s research revolves is one to which we can all relate: ‘why do people move home?’ Specifically, Maarten examines the many factors that influence residential mobility – small-scale movement within the same locale and community – rather than migration, the term for leaving one area, town or country to set up home in a distinct and different one. In particular, Maarten looks at how the residential environment affects people’s outcomes throughout their lives, aiming to develop a better understanding of the relationships between socio-economic inequality, neighbourhoods and the people who live there – and the policies designed to combat these inequalities.

Maarten works with complicated geo-coded large-scale data sets from across Europe, allowing his research team to examine longitudinal data for behavioural patterns. In 2014, Maarten was awarded a 2 million Euro ERC Consolidator Grant for DEPRIVEDHOODS, a 5-year research project on neighbourhood effects, and has also authored Economic Segregation in European Capital Cities: East meets West (Routledge), which examines socio-economic segregation from 13 European cities: Amsterdam, Athens, Budapest, London, Milan, Madrid, Oslo, Prague, Riga, Stockholm, Tallinn, Vienna and Vilnius.



When questioned about the impact of Brexit on inequalities within Europe’s communities, Maarten believes that ‘Brexit effect’ will be largest in the UK, and less so in the rest of the EU. In terms of inequalities, a lot will depend on the type of deal that is reached between the UK and the EU, but as things stand currently

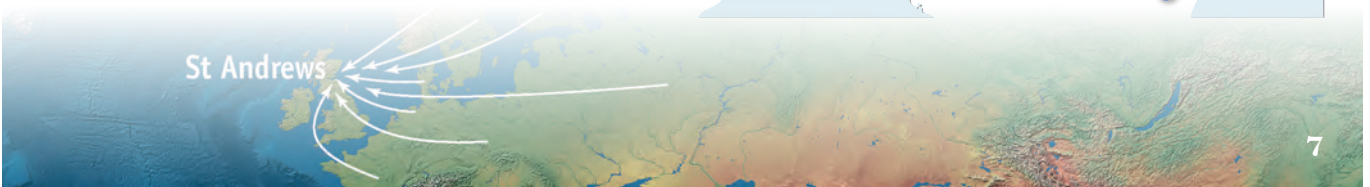
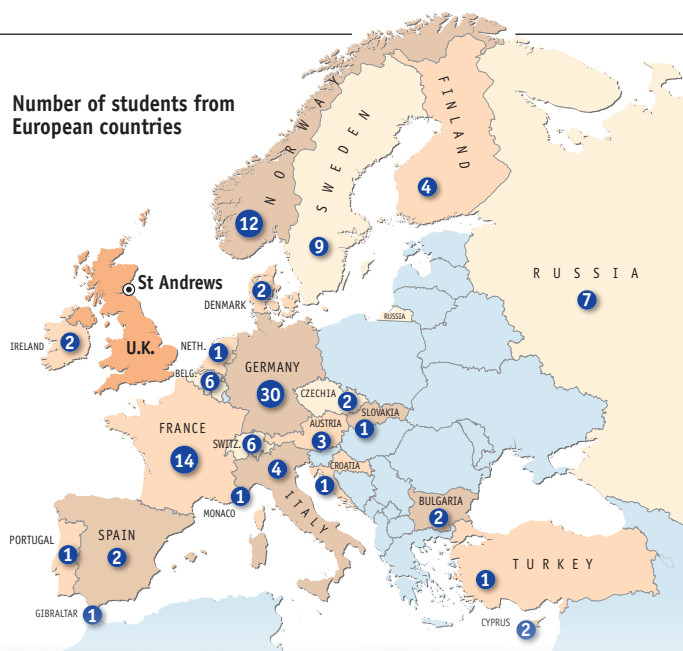
Maarten expects that the lowest income groups in the UK will be hardest hit: the costs of many goods will go up, and labour shortages are likely in many industries and in health care, especially as immigration will be restricted. This in turn might lead to more inequality in health care as private hospitals will be able to recruit staff for higher wages than the NHS. With decades of experience in analysing trends in socio-economic inequalities, Maarten believes that it is lower income and deprived communities in the UK that will be hit hardest by Brexit.

SGSD European students

During the 2017-18 academic year, the School of Geography & Sustainable Development hosted students from across Europe.

114 undergraduate students from 23 countries attended our courses, largely from within the European Union but also from Russia, Turkey, Switzerland and Norway. The largest group of students are from Germany, Norway and France and account for almost half of all nationalities. The map also highlights a lack of students from the Baltic and almost all Eastern European states.

*Data courtesy of Mr Scott McDonald
Senior Registry Administrator*



Lecturer at Length

Dr Antje Brown



Originally from Berlin, Antje Brown arrived in Britain as student of politics at Glasgow University in 1990, later completing her PhD in Politics the University of Stirling. She went on to teach environmental politics at a number of Scottish universities before joining St Andrews in January 2014. Her research interests include the politics and policy of biodiversity, environmental impact assessment, environmental liability and, more recently, nuclear energy and fracking. Here she gives us an insight into what it is like to be an EU national living and working in Britain over the past three decades.

Antje, tell us a little about your journey:

Arriving in the UK twenty-eight years ago I experienced no barriers to almost full participation in British, and particularly Scottish, society. As an EU national, I was eligible for a National Insurance number, a UK driving licence, and could automatically continue my studies. In 1992 I married my British husband with whom I have two children, both of whom hold dual German-British nationalities.

Until the Brexit referendum in 2016, the only obstacle to my complete integration into life in Britain was being unable to vote in a General Election. I could vote in local council and European parliamentary elections, and continued to vote in federal German elections until relatively recently, when, as more than 25 years had elapsed since I last lived in Germany, this right was eventually revoked. Although I had spent more of my adult life in Britain than in my home country, I always felt German rather than British, and had no desire to acquire UK citizenship.

How did Brexit change this?

Following the UK referendum on EU membership in June 2016, I became aware that my options as an EU national living in Britain could be limited following the Brexit negotiations. Starting on the path to acquiring UK citizenship was very much a 'head not heart' decision: I wanted the certainty of knowing that my existing rights regarding healthcare, a pension and social support would still be respected in the UK – and I did not want to become a human 'bargaining chip' as the UK withdraws its membership from the EU. I was also aware this was the right time to do this: after March 2019, EU citizens will not be automatically eligible to apply for dual UK-EU citizenship.

What was the process like?

The first step for anyone wishing to apply for British citizenship is to acquire a permanent residence certificate. You must prove that you have spent at least five years living continuously in the UK (or three if you are married to a UK national), and submit an application supported by evidence including wage slips, contracts and your marriage certificate. Despite having been resident here for over 20 years, my first application for this was turned down.

After a successful second attempt at acquiring my permanent residence certificate, I could apply for UK citizenship. For this I had to prove my fluency in the English language (fortunately my PhD was in English!), study for and pass a 'Life in the UK' exam (which included learning about Henry VIII's wives), and supply two references. The total cost of the application was around £1,500. Fortunately I was granted citizenship on my first application; I went to a citizenship ceremony organised by the local council where, in front of a picture of the Queen framed by a Union flag and a Saltire (pictured here), I had to take an oath of allegiance to the Queen and her descendants.

How does your identity as a dual EU-UK national inform your work as an SD lecturer?

I grew up in West Berlin, a capital city divided by a wall – all my life I have felt cosmopolitan and fundamentally opposed to both national boundaries and limitations on personal freedom. My approach to SD comes from this viewpoint: SD is about the complexities of interconnection, of the value of sharing cultures. My experiences following Brexit have only strengthened these beliefs – communality, not boundaries or differences, is what defines us.

Corallie Hunt: Scientific Writing and Ethics Course in Cologne

I was fortunate to be one of two fully-funded SAGES candidates selected to participate in a Scientific Writing and Ethics Course in Cologne in April 2018. Not only was this a chance to spend some time in the Central European version of spring, it was a fantastic opportunity to learn best practice and pick up valuable tips for authoring scientific papers – before I had developed any bad habits.



The course was hosted by the University of Cologne and was delivered by Professor Markus Flury, from Washington State University. Well-subscribed, with about 40 students enrolled, the course focussed on the key principles and goals of writing scientific papers. The course combined several elements and was interactive, which made for an engaged and enthusiastic audience; students were encouraged to share their own experiences as well as their current work, which allowed the class to apply some of the knowledge we had learnt along the way; for instance, discussing a clearer way to present results, or re-working a sentence to conclude a discussion point better.

To top it off, my fellow SAGES-colleague and I had the fantastic opportunity to visit the city of Cologne. It is a vibrant city, abundant in historical buildings, green parks – and good beer. What could be a better combination for productive learning? Prost!

Caroline Damgaard: Europaeum Scholar

SGSD PhD student Caroline Damgaard is one of just thirty doctoral students to have been selected from universities across Europe as one of the inaugural Europaeum Scholars. The broader Europaeum scheme is an association of twelve of Europe's foremost universities and aims to promote academic links and research collaboration between its partners; in 2017 the Europaeum celebrated the 25th anniversary of its foundation. The Europaeum Scholars programme is programme designed to produce a new generation of leaders, thinkers, and researchers who have the capacity and desire to shape the future of Europe. Running for two years alongside Scholars' existing doctoral studies, the programme is multi-disciplinary, multi-university and multi-locational, and aims to engage academic thinking with the cultural, political, and societal challenges facing Europe today.

With a first-class MA (Honours) in Geography from St Andrews, and an MSc with distinction in Environmental Policy from the London School of Economics, Caroline's research and publications explore interactions of energy and society, addressing the roles of justice, citizenship and democracy in different energy contexts. During her PhD she will be comparing community energy projects in Britain and Denmark, exploring the views, values and priorities of individuals as energy users, around sustainable energy development.



With a passion for both environmental and social wellbeing, Caroline has been involved with various NGOs in Denmark, Ghana and Nepal. Caroline is also an enthusiastic traveller, hiker and cyclist; she has crossed Eurasia by train, reached Everest Base Camp, and cycled across Africa. We are proud to have one of the Europaeum Scholars here in the SGSD and we look forward to hearing more about Caroline and her work as she continues her PhD.





Spotlight on: Adam Browne-Wilkinson



Adam Browne-Wilkinson graduated from St Andrews in 1980 with a joint honours degree in Geography and Psychology. An odd combination then, but my interest was in the perception of landscape/community/place and how they interact. I shall never forget driving up through Buckhaven, Methill, and Leven for the first time and seeing communities abandoned by their purpose.

That interest in community has stayed with me, shaping my future I started the first community owned Internet provider in Europe in the early 1990's, but the strand that you may find of more interest is that I was one of the first people to ask what public value means for communities. I worked with the New Economics Foundation to develop their Local multiplier model (LM3) and applied the model to public procurement in Northumberland and then all 26 authorities in the NE, this provided objective evidence of the different socio economic impacts on communities of using local or non local suppliers. I went on to develop this as a commercial business but also ended up working with Defra on how to include sustainable procurement outcomes within public tender processes.

I eventually abandoned the public sector in frustration and decided to concentrate on the Tier 1 suppliers on the basis that they get about 95% of public funds and if I could make the business case for improved sustainability outcome and evidence in public tenders then they would provide the added value. This has remarkably proved to be true particularly with the large construction companies and energy providers most of whom are now my clients. As an example last year I worked with SSE on the socio economic impact of Project Beatrice (offshore windfarm £2.7b). More contentiously I have a 10 year contract to measure socio economic impacts of Hinkley Point C construction (interesting debate). As another I am a partner in an H2020 project on food production/sustainability/procurement with 17 Universities across Europe, and also was part of High level task force for the EU looking at Social value in Social Infrastructure investments.

Anyway I feel grateful to St Andrews for letting me play. I was a very poor student who rarely attended lectures but given where Geography seems to have got to I thought it just possible that your current crop might find it entertaining to see how you can make a sustainable development business from an oddball but I think quite interesting starting point.

Spotlight on: Philip Russell (Assistant Director – Sustainability, The R&A)



"I graduated from the University of St Andrews in June 2009 with a BSc (Hons) in Sustainable Development. Having studied climate change, renewable energies, biodiversity loss, ecosystem degradation and natural resource management, I knew I wanted to pursue a career in the sustainability sector, and in 2010 I joined The R&A, working in Golf Course Management.

My work was initially focused on supporting The R&A's delivery of sustainability advocacy, education and awareness raising programmes, across its international Affiliate base, on key issues including water and chemical use, biodiversity, energy efficiency and community integration. Since I started at The R&A there has been rapid growth globally in the awareness of, and focus upon, the sustainability implications of staging major sport events and their resultant impact on social and environmental issues.

To reflect the growth in scope of the sustainability topic, The R&A's Golf Course Management Department was renamed as the Sustainability Department in 2016, with its remit being broadened accordingly. In my current role as Assistant Director – Sustainability, I deliver the GreenLinks programme which focuses on the sustainability and legacy strategy of The Open, addressing key issues such as procurement, energy, waste management and environmental footprint. We are currently exploring how new technologies and innovations can be integrated into the event staging process."



Alumni News

Spotlight on: Arina Nagy-Vizitiu (Public Affairs Officer for Woodland Trust Scotland)



“I was the **second person** from my school in Arad, Romania, to ever attend the university of St Andrews. The first person was my brother. I started my first year in September 2011, and everyone called us the ‘Class of 2015’ – 2015 felt like a long time away, but graduation time came round tremendously fast.

Fast-forward exactly three years since graduating, I now work as Public Affairs Officer for Woodland Trust Scotland, based in Edinburgh. I never intended to work in the government affairs area, but when it involves saving trees and ancient woodland, and ensuring that the Scottish Government puts forward the sort of legislation that enables the type of woodlands we want to see, that’s another story. It’s a thrilling role and my time at St Andrews prepared me well for it, giving me access to the top academics in the field to teach me about managing natural resources, community engagement, changing people’s behaviour, glaciers, and much more.

My heart as well as my work is here in Scotland: I met my current boyfriend, another St Andrews Sustainable Development graduate, before starting my fourth and final year at St Andrews. Philip had already graduated in 2009, and he knew St Andrews was the place he wanted to live in. He is lucky I love living here too, and we are both lucky our Sustainable Development degrees put us on the path to do what we love.”

SGSD prize-winning students

Every year the SGSD celebrates the achievements of its students by awarding a series of prizes and awards for excellence. Many have been funded through the generosity of the School’s former staff and students.

The School is proud to announce the following prize winners:

2018 prize winners

- MacIver Class Medal – Abbie Greig; Carys McCulloch
- Edwards Prize – Bethany Hudd
- George Cumming Memorial Prize – Abi Whitefield
- Mathieson Prize – Carys McCulloch
- Royal Scottish Geographical Society Medal – Megan Zerilli
- Elizabeth Edmead Geography Dissertation Prize – Carolyn Hindle
- Graduate’s Prize – Mark Edwards; Leonie Hoher
- Geography Citizenship Prize – George Beale-Pratt; Phoebe Grant; Carys McCulloch; Polly Windsor
- Stephen Sterling Student Prize – Luisa Melloh
- Sustainable Development Student Prize – Rebecca Grant
- Sustainable Development Citizenship Prize – Tara Chalmers; Anya Kaufman; Sam Woolhead
- Sustainable Development Dissertation Prize – Neal Millar



2019 prize winners

- MacIver Class Medal – Luke Fiveash & Liberty Roberts
- Edwards Prize – Carolyn Hindle
- George Cumming Memorial Prize – Lucy Thomson
- Mathieson Prize – Chelsea Malouf
- Royal Scottish Geographical Society Medal – Luke Fiveash
- Elizabeth Edmead Geography Dissertation Prize – Carolyn Hindle
- Graduate’s Prize – Gabrielle Kyriakou
- Elspeith Graham Prize in Human Geography – Ellen Stimpson
- Stephen Sterling Student Prize – Constance Dawson
- Sustainable Development Student Prize – Anna Harker
- Sustainable Development Citizenship Prize – Yolanda Cowen
- Sustainable Development Dissertation Prize – Sarah McArthur



SGSD ranked top in university guides

Geography and Environmental Science at St Andrews has been ranked first in the UK by The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2020! We were also rated top in the UK by The Guardian University Guide 2020 - a rare achievement to hold both of these at the same time. We're delighted by this recognition of all the hard work from our amazing students and staff!

School achieves gender equality award

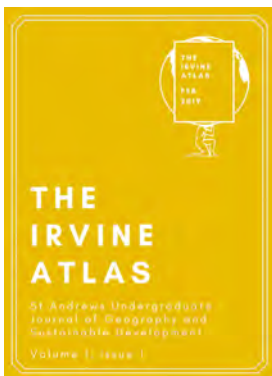
The School of Geography and Sustainable Development has been recognised with an Athena SWAN Bronze Award for its work to promote gender equality and overcome barriers to career progression.

The award success is thanks to the work of a School Self-Assessment Team comprising staff and student representatives over a period of two years. The School will now begin implementing an ambitious action plan which will lead to further improvements and lay the groundwork for a future Silver Award application.



SGSD undergraduates launch The Irvine Atlas

The **Irvine Atlas** is the newly created St Andrews Undergraduate Journal of Geography and Sustainable Development. The launch party in February 2019 for the inaugural journal was held in the Forbes Room, with nearly fifty scientific journal enthusiasts in attendance. The event provided an excellent opportunity to exchange intergenerational views about scientific writing with attending guests including undergraduates, postgraduates, staff members, friends and family.



The journal is a student-led initiative, supported by Dr Dan Clayton and Dr Matt Sothern, to revive STAG - The St Andrews Geographer. It has been a lively venture undertaken by young geographers of all personal and academic backgrounds. The editorial board consists of 15 committed, creative and ambitious undergraduates, led by Editors-in-Chief Iga Józefiak, Gabrielle Wolf and Carys Stirling.

The journal's mission is to create a platform that will showcase and archive the excellent work of SGSD students; to inspire our peers to work creatively and join us in this exercise; to integrate all levels of university learning; to ensure accessibility and to legitimise different displays of knowledge. Each article has been reviewed by at least three "peers": undergraduates, recruited by the editorial board, who had an interest or expertise in an article's subject. The editorial team is not resting on their laurels as the second issue will be published in December 2019.

Contact Us

Terra Nostra is the magazine for the School of Geography & Sustainable Development, published each year. We'd love to hear from our alumni, friends and former colleagues around the world, so please get in touch using the following details:

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If you would like to **make a donation** to support the School's work then please visit: <https://sparc.st-andrews.ac.uk/giving>

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