



# Newsletter of the Climate Change Research Group of the Royal Geographical Society and the Institute of British Geographers

No. 2, June 2006

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## ***Editor's Introduction***

Welcome to the second Newsletter of the Climate Change Research Group of the RGS-IBG. We do hope that this newsletter will develop into a useful medium for the distribution of information on the activities of people involved or interested in climate research for any reason.

The CCRG enjoyed tremendous growth during its first year of existence. We organized a range of meetings; we had our second scientific meeting in March 2006 back to back with a meeting for postgraduates in Oxford. We also organize a significant number of sessions at the RGS-IBG annual meeting. We hope that these events allow sufficient space for interdisciplinary conversations and relationships to take root while also providing a home for established and growing core groups of common interest.

We will continue to promote the development of a postgraduate community in climate change research following the postgraduate meeting in Oxford and hope to build a significant postgraduate membership.

We now need your support for the CCRG: Please contribute to the newsletter and the website – let us know about publications, grants, meetings, conference presentations, funding opportunities, ... – we will increase the frequency of the newsletter and keep the web site up-to-date. We are eager to increase the usefulness of the newsletter and promote the activities of the CCRG members! Please pay your subscription and inform the RGS that you are a member of the CCRG. This will allow us to continue and increase the activities of the CCRG.

Let us hear what you think about our new logo designed by our new Web Editor Rizwan Nawaz.

With the very best wishes

Jörg Kaduk

## ***RGS-IBG Annual Conference 2006***

We are looking forward to the annual conference at the Royal Geographical Society in London 29 August to 1 September 2006. The CCRG has have arranged three sessions around the broad themes of Global Climate Change, Regional Climate Change and Local Climate Change and co- organized further two with the DARG. In addition there are two plenary sessions directly relevant to CCRG members.

### **Thursday 31.8**

9.00–11.00	Global climate change and variability	CCRG
14.00–15.30	Regional climate change and variability	CCRG
16.00–18.00	Local climate change and variability	CCRG

### **Plenaries**

11:30–13:00	Narratives of Climate Change (partially sponsored by JHG)	William Cronon, University of Wisconsin – Madison Diana Liverman, University of Oxford Sverker Sorlin, University of Stockholm Discussant: Richard Hamblyn, University of Nottingham
18.00–20.00	Climate Change	Peter Cox, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology Michael Grubb, Carbon Trust Discussant, Karen O'Brien, University of Oslo

### **Friday 1.9.**

14.00–15.30	Disasters, Development and Generosity	DARG & CCRG
16.00–18.00	Disasters, Development and Generosity	DARG & CCRG

Guest speaker in the Regional climate change and variability session: Dr Hayley Fowler, Civil Engineering & Geosciences Research Fellow, Univ. of Newcastle upon Tyne. On: Regional Climate Change and its impacts on water resources.

The CCRG AGM will be held on Thursday during the lunch break.

For all further information and how to register, please go to [www.rgs.org/AC2006/registration](http://www.rgs.org/AC2006/registration)

We hope to see you there!

## **Website ([www.rgs-ccrg.org.uk](http://www.rgs-ccrg.org.uk))**

Our website has experienced some further development and is now managed by our new Web Editor Rizwan Nawaz (n.r.nawaz@leeds.ac.uk).

Like any community site, our website will only be as good as the contributions you make to it. A new feature of the website is the searchable Members' Directory. Various options are available for searching the directory and it is intended for use by the climate change community and as a resource for media and NGOs alike. We hope to have up to date news for the climate community, and details of events and meetings which may prove useful to members. We want to know what you are working on: successful publications, grants, or projects, or perhaps vacancies for climate studies in your Department. If you have something to tell the climate community - we hope that this website will be the place to do it.

## ***Points of interest***

### **Our new banner and logo!**

Rizwan has also designed a new banner and logo for the CCRG – see the top of page one. We hope you like it. If you wish to use it for CCRG related publications please contact us.

### **A Note from the Treasurer**

Dear CCRG Members

The response to my call for subscriptions in Newsletter 1 has met with a disappointing response. I estimate that fewer than half of those who receive the Newsletter have actually paid a subscription! This is particularly critical in this, our first year of operations, when we do need to build a solid subscription base in order to successfully plan and develop the Group's activities. Can I please appeal to those of you who have not as yet done so, to complete the subscription form appended to this Newsletter, and return this to me as soon as possible at:

Dr Duncan McGregor  
Centre for Developing Areas Research  
Department of Geography  
Royal Holloway, University of London  
Egham, Surrey TW20 0EX, U.K.

Thanks in anticipation!

Duncan

Those of you who are also RGS/IBG members should register register your membership of CCRG separately with them (details are in their recent Subscription circulation). This does help the Group in that we get a small (£1 per head) subvention from RGS/IBG annually.

### **CCRG Annual Meeting and CCRG Meeting for postgraduate students Oxford**

A two-day event held at the Oxford University Centre for the Environment (OUCE) organised by Prof. Diana Liverman (University of Oxford), Sam Randels (University of Oxford), David Preece (UCL) and Charles Williams (University of Sussex) which was thoroughly enjoyed by all participants.

#### Day 1: Open meeting of the CCRG

Participants presented current research and there was opportunity for networking for geographers and other interested parties working in the climate change field. Presentations were made by: Diana Liverman (Oxford), Richard Washington (Oxford), Pam Berry (Oxford), Jacqui Harman (UK-CIP),

Rizwan Nawaz (Leeds), Mark Pelling (King's College London), Sonya Boehmer-Christiansen (Hull), John Thornes (Birmingham), Howard Oliver (Oxford), Charles JR Williams (Sussex) and Sarah Lindley (Manchester)

In the evening dinner was arranged at St Edmund Hall, Oxford University.

#### Day 2: Postgraduate Meeting:

The first meeting of the CCRG postgraduate community attracted like-minded PhD and MSc students to resent and discuss their current postgraduate research. It was also an opportunity to network and discuss the challenges of being a postgraduate and finding future work in the Climate Change field. Presentations were made by Keith Trigwell (Teaching and learning), Diana Liverman (Interdisciplinarity), Nynke Hofstra (Gridding of long-term high-resolution daily European climate data), Daniel Kingston (Climate-river flow relationships across the northern North Atlantic region), Mark Pelling (politics and hierarchy in an academic department), Dave Thomas (Climate change and Africa), Jane Strachan (Developing General Circulation Models to improve predictions of future climate), Gina Cavan (Climate change, tourism and environmental capacity), Susannah Gill (Climate Change and Urban Greenspace), Adam Bumpus (Carbon Offsets: neoliberalism, development commodities, and fair trade carbon?), Sam Randalls (Controlling the climate).

### **Collaborations with RMetS**

The Association of British Climatologists is being re-started with a mainly new team. It hopefully will again have meetings and fund undergraduate climatology prizes. We hope for good collaborations between the ABC and CCRG groups in the future.

Also, the Royal Meteorological Society has very kindly decided that, in the interest of cross-society collaboration, CCRG members will be made welcome at any of the Met Soc's monthly London meetings (Wednesday afternoons) with no charge for the meeting (or even for the refreshments!).

Meteorology and climatology is a fairly small science area so it would be good for everyone to know what everyone else is up to!

Many thanks to Howard Oliver for this information and his liaising with the RmetS! I am sure we are looking forward to many interesting interactions between the groups.

### **Routledge Book Proposal**

Routledge have invited the CCRG to bring together a collection based on the 2005 RGS-IBG conference. If you would like to find out more on this initiative please contact Jeff Blackford [jeff.blackford@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:jeff.blackford@manchester.ac.uk) or Callum Firth [c.firth@bton.ac.uk](mailto:c.firth@bton.ac.uk).

### *Meetings*

#### **RMetS meetings**

<http://www.rmets.org/event/calendar.php>

#### **A selection:**

#### **AGM and RMetS SUMMER VISIT TO BRITISH ANTARCTIC SURVEY**

Date: Wednesday, 5th July 2006 Time: 11.00

Info: Cambridge 11.00 am to 5.00 pm Further information can be obtained from the meeting organiser. Jonathan Shanklin, British Antarctic Survey, Madingley Road, Cambridge. CB3 0ET

The visit (starting at 2.00 pm) is organised by the Meteorological Observing Systems Special Interest Group and will include a presentation on the work of the British Antarctic Survey and a tour of some of

the facilities including the cold room, meteorological test and training facility and ozone measurements with a Dobson spectrophotometer

## **General Meetings**

### ***Climate Changes and Their Impact on Boreal and Temperate Forests***

Dates: June 05-07, 2006  
Subject: Atmosphere/Climate.  
Location: Ekaterinburg Russia  
Contact: Dr. Pavel Moiseev . Institute of Plant and Animal Ecology 8 Marta Street, Ekaterinburg, Russia , 202620144, Russia  
Fax: +7 (343) 260-65-00  
Email: moiseev at ipae.uran.ru

### ***ESF and Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Climate Change Meeting***

Dates: June 24-29, 2006  
Subject: Atmosphere/Climate. Human Dimensions. Science/Information Policy.  
Location: Nynashamn, Sweden  
Contact: Anne Guehl .  
Tel: +33(0)388767135 Fax: +33(0)38836987  
Email: aguehl at esf.org  
[http://www.esf.org/esf\\_genericpage.php?section=10&language=0&genericpage=2443&shortcut=1](http://www.esf.org/esf_genericpage.php?section=10&language=0&genericpage=2443&shortcut=1)

### ***IGU 2006 Brisbane Conference***

International Geographical and joint meeting of the Union Institute of Australian Geographers and the New Zealand Geographical Society  
Brisbane, 3-7 July 2006, Queensland University of Technology (QUT)  
Theme: Regional Responses to Global Changes: A View from the Antipodes  
[www.igu2006.org](http://www.igu2006.org)

IGU 2006 Brisbane will focus geographical attention on critical physical and human processes driving global change. Complex, global-scale processes exert pressures on environmental, social, cultural and economic resources at regional and local scales. It will look at regional responses in a changing world, with emphasis on tropical and arid zones, particularly in Australia, New Zealand, south-east Asia and the south-west Pacific.

### ***SCAR Open Science Conference***

Dates: July 12-14, 2006  
Subject: Atmosphere/Climate.  
Location: Hobart Australia THE HOTEL GRAND CHANCELLOR  
Abstract Due Date: February 13, 2006  
Registration Date: February 21, 2006  
Contact: Leishman Associates. 113 Harrington Street, HOBART, TAS, 7000  
Tel: (03) 6234 7844 Fax: (03) 6234 5958  
Email: info at scarcomnap2006.org

### ***Summer 2006 Climate & Health Colloquium***

Dates: July 16-22, 2006  
Subject: Atmosphere/Climate.  
Location: The National Center for Atmospheric Research  
Registration Date: February 06, 2006  
Contact: Veronica Wynne.  
Tel: (303)497-8117

Email: vwynne at ucar.edu

***Second International Conference on Global Warming***

Dates: July 17-19, 2006  
Subject: Atmosphere/Climate.  
Location: Courtyard by Marriott, Santa Fe, NM  
Contact: Manvendra K. Dubey .

***Global Change and Caribbean Vulnerability: Environment, Economy and Society at risk?***

Mona, Jamaica, 24th to 28th July 2006

Joint Regional Meeting of the Climate Change Research Group, the Developing Areas Research Group and the Department of Geography and Geology, The University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica.

Papers are invited on one of the following themes:

Environmental change in the Caribbean Basin: current trends and future predictions

Vulnerable Caribbean natural systems: the impacts of environmental change and population pressure.

Vulnerable Caribbean economies and societies: the impacts of globalization and environmental change

Papers which fall outside these themes but are linked to the main theme will also be considered.

Organizers:

Dr Duncan McGregor (d.mcgregor@rhul.ac.uk) (Department of Geography, Royal Holloway, University of London, Egham, Surrey TW20 0EX, UK)

Professor David Barker (david.barker@uwimona.edu.jm) (Department of Geography and Geology, University of the West Indies, Mona, Kingston 7, Jamaica)

Dr David Dodman (david.dodman@uwimona.edu.jm) (Department of Geography and Geology, University of the West Indies, Mona, Kingston 7, Jamaica)

The organizers have secured some funding for the meeting from the RGS and hope to be able to support postgraduate attendance. Please contact them of for further details and provisional local costings.

***Climate Variability and Extremes During the Past 100 Years***

Dates: July 24-26, 2006  
Subject: Atmosphere/Climate. Hazards.  
Location: Gwatt near Thun (Switzerland)  
Abstract Due Date: February 28, 2006  
Contact: Stefan Bronnimann.  
Email: stefan.bronnimann at env.ethz.ch

***Biohydrology***

20. - 22.9.2006 2006

Prague , Czech Republic

Contact: Dr. Lubomir Lichner [ lichner@uh.savba.sk ]

Phone:-2-49268227

Fax:-2-44259404

Organizer(s): Institute of Hydrology SAS

***Sea level changes : records, processes and modeling***

25. - 29.9.2006

Giens , France

Deadlines: Pre-Registration 31.5.2005

Contact: Gilbert CAMOIN [ gcamoin@cerege.fr ]

Organizer(s): G. CAMOIN,A. DROXLER,C. FULTHORPE & K. MILLER

<http://www.cerege.fr>

***FOSS4G2006 - Free and Open Source Software for Geoinformatics***

Dates: September 12-15, 2006  
Subject: Earth/Space Science Education. GIS & Remote Sensing. Geography. Science/Information Policy.  
Location: Lausanne, Switzerland  
Contact: Conference Committee.  
Email: committee at foss4g2006.org

***Water, ecosystems and sustainable development in arid and semi-arid zones***

Dates: October 09-15, 2006  
Subject: Hydrology/Oceanography.  
Location: Urumqi China  
Contact: Beatrice ARGANT .  
Email: watarid at ephe.sorbonne.fr

***Rapid Climate Change International Science Conference***

Dates: October 24-27, 2006  
Subject: Atmosphere/Climate.  
Location: Birmingham, U.K.  
Abstract Due Date: July 15, 2006  
Contact: Eystein Jansen.  
Email: eystein.jansen at bjerknos.uib.no

<http://www.noc.soton.ac.uk/rapid/rapid2006/>

Some models predict that rapid (decadal-scale) climate change could occur under the scenario of global warming that is likely to happen over the next century. The Atlantic Ocean's thermohaline circulation (THC) is thought to have played a key role in rapid changes in the past and to have the potential to do so in the future, although other processes may also cause rapid climate change to occur. This conference will explore the scientific understanding of rapid climate change, with a main but not exclusive focus on the role of the THC in such change

The topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- \* present day observations of the strength and structure of the Atlantic THC
- \* paleo data (ice, land, ocean) on past rapid climate changes
- \* modelling of past and possible future rapid climate change
- \* understanding of processes controlling the strength of THC
- \* testing models using present day and paleo observations
- \* impacts of rapid THC change on climate and weather
- \* probability of rapid climate changing occurring
- \* impacts of rapid climate change on society

The conference seeks to bring together the international community of scientists carrying out oceanographic observations, paleo studies and ocean and coupled climate modelling in order to discuss recent research findings and to identify outstanding problems and ways forward in the science of rapid climate change

This conference is organised under the auspices of the UK Natural Environment Research Council's Rapid Climate Change programme (RAPID), and in cooperation with NWO, RCN, NSF, NOAA, CLIVAR and the CLIVAR / PAGES working group, and with the Cape Farewell project.

***Symposium on Impact Evaluation of Global Warming and Approach to Risk Analysis in East Asia***

Dates: October 31 - November 02, 2006  
Subject: Human Dimensions.  
Location: Taipei, Taiwan  
Abstract Due Date: June 30, 2006  
Registration Date: August 31, 2006  
Contact: Don-Chung Liu. Fisheries Research Institute, 199 Hou-Ih Road, Keelung, Taiwan, 202, Taiwan  
Tel: +886-2-2462-0053 Fax: +886-2-2462-4254

Email: GWEA2006 at mail.tfrin.gov.tw

***Responding to Climate Change 2007***

Dates: November 06-17, 2006

Subject: Atmosphere/Climate.

Location: Nairobi, Kenya

Contact: Victoria Chambers. 16-18 Strutton Ground, London SW1P 2HP, UK

Tel: +44(0)2077992222

Email: info at entico.com

<http://www.rtcc.org/2006/html/index.html>

Whilst it is widely accepted the consequences of global warming will fall disproportionately upon developing countries, the developed world will also experience the effects of climate change. The extreme climatic events of 2005 may be an indication that the increased frequency of such events, predicted to be a cause of climate change, is finally starting to occur. This increase can only confound the notion that climate change is an unquestionably international problem that must be tackled holistically by all sectors of society across the globe. RTCC recognises the Framework of the UNFCCC is aimed at the next century as much as this one, a notion we must consistently adhere to. The Kyoto protocol provides an important step between scientific evidence and real action being taken at the international, national and local level. Now is the time to look beyond Kyoto, which expires in 2012, and realise that immediate and ongoing action will be our greatest defence against global warming.

***Open Science Conference in Beijing***

Dates: November 09-12, 2006

Subject: Environmental Chemistry.

Location: Beijing International Convention Center Beijing, China

Contact: Martin Rice.

Email: mrice at essp.org

[http://www.essp.org/ESSP2006/Registration\\_index.html](http://www.essp.org/ESSP2006/Registration_index.html)

***2006 Berlin Conference on the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change***

Dates: November 17-18, 2006

Subject: Science/Information Policy.

Location: Freie Universitaet Berlin - Environmental Policy Research Centre

Abstract Due Date: June 15, 2006

Contact: Henrik Vagt. 14195 Berlin, Berlin, Germany

<http://web.fu-berlin.de/ffu/akumwelt/bc2006/>

***The 2006 IHDP/IDGEC Synthesis Conference***

Dates: December 06-09, 2006

Subject: Environmental Chemistry.

Location: Bali, Indonesia

Contact: Chandra Panjiwibowo. Pangaran Antasari No. 10, Jakarta, Indonesia, 12160, Asia

Tel: 62-21-7280-1172 Fax: 62-21-1174

Email: chandra at pelangi.or.id

<http://fiesta.bren.ucsb.edu/~idgEC/science/synthesis.html>

***2006 AGU Fall Meeting***

Dates: December 11-15, 2006

Subject: Agriculture/Forestry. Atmosphere/Climate. Biosphere. Cryosphere. Data/Metadata Issues. Earth/Space Science Education. Ecology. Energy. Environmental Chemistry. GIS & Remote Sensing. Geography. Geology/Geophysics. Hazards. Human Dimensions. Hydrology/Oceanography. Science/Information Policy.

Location: San Francisco, California, USA

Tel: +1-202-462-6900

Email: webmaster at agu.org  
<http://www.agu.org/meetings/>

## **Links to meeting calendars**

### **Global Change Master Directory**

Global Change Calendar: [http://gcmd.gsfc.nasa.gov/ConferenceCalendar/confs\\_date.html](http://gcmd.gsfc.nasa.gov/ConferenceCalendar/confs_date.html)

### **Institute for Technology Assessment and Systems Analysis**

Conferences announcements: [http://www.itas.fzk.de/eng/infum/gch\\_act.htm](http://www.itas.fzk.de/eng/infum/gch_act.htm)

### **European Geosciences Union**

Meeting Overview: [http://www.copernicus.org/EGU/meeting\\_overview.html](http://www.copernicus.org/EGU/meeting_overview.html)

COSIS Meeting Calendar for the European Geosciences Union:

[http://www.cosis.net/members/mc/showEvents.php?karealist=3,5&p=the%20European%20Geosciences%20Union&ex=1&hf=egu\\_y](http://www.cosis.net/members/mc/showEvents.php?karealist=3,5&p=the%20European%20Geosciences%20Union&ex=1&hf=egu_y)

## ***Recent publications of CCRG members***

Hoshen, M.B. and Morse, A.P. (2005). A model structure for estimating malaria risk, In Environmental Change and Malaria Risk - Global and Local Implications, W. Takken, P. Martens and R.J. Bogers (eds.), Wageningen UR Frontis Series, Volume 9, Springer, pp41-50 ISBN 1-4020-3927-1

Marchant, R.A., Berrío, J.C., Behling, H., Boom, A. Hooghiemstra, H. 2006. Colombian dry moist forest transitions in the Llanos Orientales – a comparison of model and pollen-based biome reconstructions. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology* 234, 28-44.

Oliver, H. R. (2005) John Dalton, Weatherman and Father of Modern Hydrology. *Manchester Memoirs*, 142, pp. 107-113

Thomson, M.C., Doblas-Reyes, F.J., Mason, S.J., Hagedorn, R., Connor, S.J., Phindela, T., Morse, A.P., and Palmer, T.N. (2006). Malaria early warnings based on seasonal climate forecasts from multi-model ensembles, *Nature*, 439, 576-579.

Kaduk, J.D., Los, S.O., 2006. Phenological rules for the leaf out date in temperate and boreal Biomes determined from NDVI. *Geophysical Research Abstracts*. Vol. 8. Talk at the EGU General Assembly, Vienna, Austria, 2-7 April 2006.

## ***Recent grants of CCRG members***

Dr Rob Marchant & Dr Amos Majule Royal Society award to develop research collaboration and development of joint Masters programmes between The York Institute of Tropical Ecosystem Dynamics (KITE) and the Institute of Resource Assessment (IRA), University of Dar es Salaam.

Prof. Nick Hewitt NERC consortium grant Oxidant and particle photochemical processes above a South-East Asian tropical rain forest (OP3-Danum-08)

Dr Mark Pelling and Dr Ailsa Holloway (University of Cape Town) are working with Tearfund to record experiences of making national policy change to legislate for and implement disaster risk reduction in low- and middle-income countries.

**Climate Change Research Group**

**Royal Geographical Society/Institute of British Geographers**

***Subscription announcement***

Dear Member of CCRG

It was agreed at the inaugural AGM of the Climate Change Research Group, held at RGS/IBG on 2 September 2005, that the following annual subscription charge should be levied on all members (including members of RGS/IBG), to support and develop the activities of the Group:

Waged: £10 per annum  
Unwaged/students: £5 per annum

It was also agreed to offer a three-year subscription option:

Waged: £30 for the period 1 September 2005 – 30 August 2008  
Unwaged/students £15 for the period 1 September 2005 – 30 August 2008, with the caveat that members gaining full-time employment during this period would be expected to pay the balance of full subscription for any remaining complete years.

The preferred method of payment is by personal cheque (made payable to: *Climate Change Research Group*). Please remit your subscription to me at the address given below. Please also include your full contact details with your cheque, as per the form attached, and I will acknowledge receipt of the cheque by email.

Overseas members should pay in sterling if possible. If this is difficult, please contact me.

If you wish to set up a Standing Order through a UK bank, please email me (with contact details) and I will post the form to you.

In future, the subscription year will run from 1 September to 31 August, to facilitate reporting at the Group's AGM (to be held at the RGS/IBG Annual Conference).

Yours sincerely

***Dr Duncan McGregor***

Treasurer, Climate Change Research Group  
4 November 2005

Contact details:

CEDAR, Department of Geography, Royal Holloway, University of London, Egham, Surrey TW20 0EX, UK

Tel: (+)44 (0)1784 443573; Fax: (+)44 (0)1784 472836; email [d.mcgregor@rhul.ac.uk](mailto:d.mcgregor@rhul.ac.uk)

**Climate Change Research Group**

**Royal Geographical Society/Institute of British Geographers**

***Subscription form***

A. I wish to pay by personal cheque (enclosed)

Please circle payment option:

Waged: £10 per annum

Unwaged/students: £5 per annum

Waged: £30 for the period 1 September 2005 – 30 August 2008

Unwaged/students £15 for the period 1 September 2005 – 30 August 2008. I understand that if I gain full-time employment during this period I will be expected to pay the balance of full subscription for any remaining complete years.

I wish to pay annually by Standing Order. Please post the SO form to me.

Contact Details

Name: ..... Prof/Dr/etc .....

Unwaged status : undergrad/postgrad/retired/other: please circle as appropriate

RGS/IBG Member/Fellow: YES NO Please circle as appropriate

Address for correspondence: .....

.....

Tel: ..... Fax; .....

Email(s): .....

Signature: .....