



# DOWN TO EARTH



Newsletter of the Department of Earth Sciences, U.W.O.

Friday November 14, 2008

## DEPT EARTH SCIENCES COLLOQUIA SERIES

Dr Yehuda Ben-Zion  
University of Southern California

“Collective behavior of earthquakes  
and faults”

November 21, 2008, 1.30 pm  
Kresge Bldg. room 203

>All Welcome<

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## Mary-Claire Ward Geoscience Award Call for Applications

The 2008 competition is now receiving applications from graduate students whose research has strong emphasis on field mapping. The Award honors the many contributions to the Canadian geosciences community of Mary-Claire Ward, a past-president of the GAC.

**Value:** \$3,000, a certificate and an opportunity to attend the annual meeting of either the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada or the Geological Association of Canada.

**Eligibility:** Fulltime graduate students attending a Canadian university undertaking a Canadian geosciences thesis that has a focus on field mapping. They must have active student status until at least April 30, 2009. Previous recipients of the award are ineligible to apply.

Additional information about the award, application procedures and application forms are posted on the websites of the PDAC

([www.pdac.ca/pdac/programs/awards/index.html#Mary-Claire](http://www.pdac.ca/pdac/programs/awards/index.html#Mary-Claire)) and the GAC  
([www.gac.ca/awards/maryclaire.php](http://www.gac.ca/awards/maryclaire.php))  
**Deadline:** December 15, 2008

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## GL/GP 9580/9680 Presentations

Saturday November 22, 2008

9.00 am-4.00 pm

B&G room 0165 (formerly 52)

- 9:00 *Dominic Veillette:* Icy moon cryovolcanism.
- 9:15 *Melissa Battler:* Lava tube formation, morphology, and detection on Earth, Moon, and Mars.
- 9:30 *Haley Sapers:* Mineralogical and textural classification of impactites produced by hypervelocity meteorite impact.
- 9:45 *Nathan Bridge:* To change or not to change: The oxygen isotopic composition of seawater.
- 10:00 *Bhairavi Shankar:* A comparative study of unique hydrothermal vent systems - Tonga Arc and Lost City.

### 10:15 COFFEE

- 10:30 *Alaura Singleton:* Shape, composition and particle size as contributors to beach variation.
- 10:45 *Geoffrey Pearce:* Surface and near-surface indicators of past permafrost.
- 11:00 *Alireza Babaie Mahani:* An overview of the hanging-wall effect on earthquake ground motions.
- 11:15 *Rashedul Islam:* Imminent natural hazards prediction based on scientific observation and necessary survival procedures.
- 11:30 *Ryan Sawyer:* Snowball Earth: When the whole world looks like Winnipeg in January.
- 11:45 *Matt Zbyszewski:* Heavy oil: Can we bare the weight?

### 12:00 LUNCH

- 1:00 *David Cooper:* The ‘Peak Oil’ debate: Is the world over a barrel?
- 1:15 *Ryan Hladyniuk:* Anthropogenic sources of methane: <sup>13</sup>C and D in urban areas.

- 1:30 *Natasha Bumstead*: Thermohaline circulation in ocean records.
- 1:45 *Michael Craig*: The study of a variety of inclusions in terrestrial environments: an analogue for the study of inclusions in meteorites.
- 2:00 *Jalpa Pal*: Earthquake induced deformation of earth dams.
- 2:15 COFFEE**
- 2:30 *Greg Robinson*: Melting the “hot spot” hypothesis.
- 2:45 *Jeremiah Shuster*: Origin of gold deposit formation from a hydrothermal perspective.
- 3:00 *Hadi Ghofrani*: Comparison of various site-response estimation techniques.
- 3:15 *Soushyant Kiarasi*: Tidal modulation of non-volcanic tremor.
- 3:30 *ZhongYing Mi*: High pressure scales.



### United Way Campaign

M. Rice.

Would you please consider donating to the United Way? Please complete the forms for one-time donations or payroll deductions and leave them with me; I will submit them. Thanks so much for your donations, they all help - large or small.



### Departmental Food Drive for Needy Families at Christmas

M. Rice

As we have done for the last few years, we (Marie, Margaret and I) are establishing an appeal for food items and gifts for children in a needy family. Also, women and children who have escaped from abusive family situations very often have to leave their home with only the clothes on their backs; the Women's Shelter provides them with space to sleep and help for the women to get back on their feet - *the need keeps on growing!*

I now have details regarding a family we can help:

Mom – size 12 – would like a coupon to have her hair done professionally (the family lives in the Sherwood Forest Mall area)

Dad – size men's medium

Callum (boy) – age 8, size 10

Adam (boy) – age 7, size 7

Hanna (girl) – age 4, size 5-6

Campbell (boy) – age 2, size 4

The family can use any kitchen items: tea towels, towels, toaster oven, kitchen glasses, cleaning supplies. I would also invite you at this time to provide non-perishable food items for needy families. Alternatively, if you would like to donate funds to be used in this endeavour, they would be very much appreciated as well. Please bring all items to my office in HSA 110.

Thank you for your support in past years, and I hope you will be able to help out this year.



### Western Innovation Fund

*Reminder to faculty*: Application and guidelines are available at:

[www.uwoca/research/rds/internal/rds\\_funding\\_interfunding\\_technicalgrants\\_wif.html](http://www.uwoca/research/rds/internal/rds_funding_interfunding_technicalgrants_wif.html)

Deadlines: LOI/ROI-December 15, 2008

Full application January 30, 2009



### Opportunities for Exchange Students

The Outcrop Club has organized a presentation for opportunities for exchange students from U.W.O. on November 19, 2008 at 1.30 p.m. in B&G 1084. Snacks and refreshments provided.



### Physics & Astronomy Colloquia

**Dr. John S. Tse**

**University of Saskatchewan**

**“Superconductivity in high pressure solids”**

**Monday November 17, 2008, 1.30 pm**

**Location: P&A Bldg. room 123**

>All Welcome<

