

CEN RESEARCHERS AND STUDENTS WELCOME CANADA'S GOVERNOR GENERAL

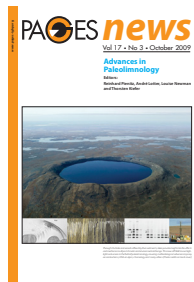
On September 18th, several CEN researchers and students had the honour of welcoming Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada. Her Excellency travelled to the North over the summer and was impressed by the Northerners' vitality and the breathtaking scenery. Since these travels, she continues to take interest in the dreams and concerns of Northerners. During her meeting with CEN members and Louis Fortier from ArcticNet, she shared these concerns, presented her ideas for education in the North and sought to better understand the scope of the research conducted by scientists and students.



Photos: Marc Robitaille



PAGES BULLETIN (VOL. 17, NO. 3, OCT. 2009) EDITORIAL BY REINHARD PIENITZ AND ANDRÉ F. LOTTER



CEN researcher Reinhard Pienitz co-edited an issue of the PAGES (Past Global Changes) Bulletin. The PAGES project is an international effort to coordinate and promote past global change research. This issue focuses on advances in paleolimnology, with special emphasis on recent methodological developments and their significance for research in the PAGES context. Several contributions herald a PAGES initiative aimed at the high-resolution reconstruction of the climate history obtained through lake records from several countries, as well as those resulting from deep sediment drilling efforts in old crater lakes, such as in Lake Pingualuit in Nunavik (front cover). Regional syntheses are crucial for establishing and

pin-pointing the spatial and temporal patterns of climate change across climatic, hydrological, and ecotonal boundaries, thereby allowing to distinguish between climate-driven and anthropogenic impacts on terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems at both the site-specific and the landscape scales.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Your Northern Scientific Training Program (NSTP) applications for next year and your reports for this year's field work will be ready to be signed shortly. For Laval University students and professors, they will be printed by mid November and available for signature at the CEN secretariat. Please contact the representative at your university for more information.

ArcticNet's sixth Annual Scientific Meeting (**ASM2009**) will be held from 8 to 11 December 2009 at the Fairmont Empress Hotel and adjoining Victoria Conference Centre in Victoria, British Columbia. As the largest annual Arctic research gathering held in Canada, the ArcticNet annual meeting is the ideal venue to present results from all fields of Arctic research and stimulate networking and partnership activities.

This year, the **CEN 2010 Symposium** will take place on February 25 and 26 in room 2330 of the G.-H. Kruger Building, Laval University. The event will be a joint symposium bringing together researchers and students from CEN, the NSERC - Produits forestiers Anticosti Industrial Research Chair, the Caribou Ungava project and ArcticWOLVES (see details in A Word from your Student Reps).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Last July, northern researchers mourned the sudden passing of their friend and colleague Robert (Bob) Jefferies. Bob was an active Arctic researcher for more than 50 years and was internationally renowned for his innovative research. From 2008 onwards, CEN was honoured to have Bob as a member of our International Advisory Board and he was also a key researcher in the ArcticWOLVES initiative. His devotion to northern ecology and his involvement at all levels will be missed by the scientific community, his peers and his friends. A celebration of Robert's life will be held on Monday, November 9, 2009, 2-5 p.m. at the Great Hall (Hart House), University of Toronto.
- **CEN-SCANNET-SAON:** On October 27, CEN signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the European network SCANNET as a contribution to global initiatives such as SAON (Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks). The MOU will notably augment CEN's international visibility as well as facilitate scientific exchanges and the sharing of stations across the circumpolar North by researchers and students. This MOU will increase CEN's impact at the circumpolar level while promoting and sharing our resources (stations, data, and highly qualified personnel).



A WORD FROM YOUR STUDENT REPS

Dear CEN students,

We are taking advantage of this issue of the Bulletin to relay several messages to the CEN student body. Firstly, we would like to welcome our new CEN student rep from UQAR, Yanick Gendreau. Secondly, the beginning of the academic year reminds us to encourage all students with Northern projects and directors (or co-directors) who are CEN members to become a CEN student. Why should you join the CEN? For several great reasons! Among other things, as a member you can benefit from our program of prizes (publication prizes, bursaries for oral presentations, exchanges during doctoral studies, and productivity incentives) in addition to being invited to the CEN Christmas party which will take place on December 3rd at Laval University. We are planning to combine the party with a student meeting in early afternoon to discuss existing and upcoming projects. Also, you can be involved in the Centre's festivities for its 50th anniversary which will be celebrated in 2011. This said, we are looking forward to hearing your ideas on how we can highlight this event. Please do not hesitate to contact us at the following email address: etudiants@cen.ulaval.ca.

CEN's 2010 annual symposium will feature a whole new, dynamic approach bringing together CEN researchers and students and those from the NSERC - Produits forestiers Anticosti Industrial Research Chair, the Caribou Ungava project, and ArcticWOLVES for an event spanning two days (February 25-26). The first day's program will be devoted to CEN's multidisciplinary research with the second day focusing on wildlife themes specific to the three other groups. Students are invited to submit their ideas for invited speakers. Keep an eye on your emails for more information on the CEN's 2010 Symposium!

Have a great fall and we look forward to meeting you!

Your student reps: Pascale (pascale.ropars.1@ulaval.ca), Tania (tania.giberyen.1@ulaval.ca), Frédéric (frederic.bouchard@detc.inrs.ca) and Yanick (yanick.gendreau@uqar.qc.ca)

CEN IN THE NEWS

Results from the international initiative ArcticWOLVES are summarized in the Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program (CBMP) newsletter. Researchers from ArcticWOLVES were dispersed across Nunavut and Nunvik to examine the trophic dynamics between terrestrial plant, bird, and mammal populations in the Arctic. e-CBMP Newsletter, Vol. 2, Issue 1.

CEN was awarded \$8.3 million dollars from the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs to upgrade and expand its network of climate and field stations in the Eastern Canadian Arctic. Warwick Vincent, CEN director, explains that CEN is upgrading its research facilities in addition to building a Community Science Centre at Whapmagoostui-Kuujuarapik and centres in Salluit and Umiujaq. Au fil des événements, 14 May edition; *l'Actualité*, 24 August 2009.

Last spring, Laval University and the Centre

national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS, France) signed an international Memorandum of Understanding for research on northern environments in the context of climate change. This Memorandum aims to bring together scientific expertise from CNRS and CEN and to increase opportunities for collaboration while facilitating joint projects, exchanges between researchers and students, and offering the possibility of joint meetings and publications. Au fil des événements, 14 May edition.

The Xstrata Nickel-Raglan mine fully supports the Caribou Ungava project studying the dynamics of migratory caribou of the Quebec-Labrador peninsula in a context of climate change. The Project Leader is Steeve Côté of Laval University with CEN members Jean-Pierre Tremblay of Laval University and Marco Festa-Bianchet from Université de Sherbrooke. The project is also supported by NSERC, the Ministère des Ressources naturel

CEN STUDENTS HONOURED

Philippe Constant was awarded the Cargene Gold Medal Award from the Canadian Society of Microbiologists in June 2009. His doctoral research was co-directed by CEN member Laurier Poissant (Environment Canada) and he is now a postdoctoral fellow at the Max Planck Institute in Germany.

Catherine Plasse, Master's student under Serge Payette's supervision in Laval University's Biology Department, was awarded one of two prizes for the best oral presentation at the International PPS Arctic Conference in Russia last April.

The Société de géographie de Québec awarded **Valérie Labrecque** a prize for the highest overall average for her Bachelor's degree in Geography in 2008-2009. She has continued on to undertake a Master's degree with Reinhard Pienitz in Laval University's Geography Department.

This year the prestigious Garfield Weston bursaries were awarded to six Canadian PhD students who are conducting research in the North. Of those six, two are CEN students from Laval University's Biology Department: **Jean-François Therrien** supervised by Gilles Gauthier and **Julie Veillette** supervised by Warwick F. Vincent.

les et de la Faune du Québec and Hydro-Québec. Marketwire, 19 May 2009.

A news bulletin highlighted the 15 years of collaboration between New Brunswick (government and industry) and the peat moss research conducted by the team of Line Rochefort at University Laval. Several media showcased the peat moss industry and related research on peatland restoration. Société Radio-Canada, 8 June 2009.

During an interview with *Le Soleil*, Monique Bernier, CEN codirector, states that local communities ought to be actively involved in the development of the North. According to this article, the government's promises of investing in the North may not have the repercussions originally sought. *Le Soleil*, 2 August 2009.



