



Canadian
Population
Society

<http://www.canpopsoc.org/>

Newsletter

Volume 29, Issue 1

June 2002

From the editor's desk ...

I would like to begin by welcoming Edward Ng to the editorial committee of the Newsletter. (I guess we can now call it a committee since we have two members!) I welcome Edward's participation beginning with the next issue.

Our recent meetings in Toronto lived up to everyone's expectations. We continued the popular practice of organising joint sessions – this time with the Geographers and the Political Scientists. These cross-disciplinary presentations allow us to explore germane topics from differing perspectives. It was generally agreed that such presentations provide a more complete forum for professional exchange and discussion. Frank Trovato and his organising committee are to be complemented on their success. The benchmark has been raised for Russell Wilkins, the incoming Vice President, and his organising committee. Please read the report on the general meeting from the outgoing president (p. 3). You will also find an abstract of Rod Beaujot's presidential address on page 5. Selected photographs appear at the end of the Newsletter – complements of Jim

Jackson and Rajulton Fernando.

It was proposed during our annual general meeting to organise a contest to find a new name for the Newsletter. Suggestions will be evaluated by an ad hoc committee. Please send your suggestions to the editor (gustave.goldmann@statcan.ca).

The Newsletter belongs to all the members of the CPS. As editor I make every effort to include all submissions sent to me by the posted deadline. I also attempt to include items and topics that I presume to be of interest to our members. However, without your input the Newsletter reflects my views on what is considered to be important to you. For instance, the sections that deal with recent and upcoming conferences and meetings reflect my professional interests and activities. It would be presumptuous of me to think that I am sufficiently in tune to all of your thoughts and ideas – as flattering as this may be. I encourage all of you to send me items that you feel would be of interest to your colleagues. This includes conferences and meetings that you have either attended or plan to attend. After all, this is your Newsletter. I am only one of many interested parties.

Gustave Goldmann, editor.

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CPS Officers: 2002-2004

President: F. Trovato, U. of Alberta
Vice-President: R. Wilkins, Stat. Canada
Secretary-Treasurer: R. Fernando, UWO

Councilors:
T. Chui Statistics Canada
S. Halli University of Manitoba
C. Krull Queen's University
A. Siggner Statistics Canada
R. Wanner University of Calgary
Z. Wu University of Victoria
A. Yacyshyn UWO

CSP Journal Editor: W.W. McVey, U of Alberta.
CPS Newsletter Editor: G. Goldmann, Stat Canada

Deadline for articles for the next issue of the Newsletter : Sept. 30, 2002

From the Webster ...

This byline replaces **The WWW ...** All the web addresses and URLs are listed on the CPS web site (<http://www.canpopsoc.org/>).

Discussions at the Annual General Meeting, with the old Council, and with the new Council generated an interesting discussion of what could be done to improve on our CPS website. As a result, a number of continuing and new initiatives are underway:

1. Enhance our Links to other sites

Have you bookmarked a number of demography-related sites that you'd like to recommend that others visit? Would you like to be able to consult those bookmarks no matter what computer you're using (one in the library, at home, or in your office)? Here's the opportunity. I'll be happy to add links from our links page www.canpopsoc.org/otherres.htm. If it gets too long, we can easily subdivide the list for better access.

2. Job Postings

We could have a page on the site dedicated to news about academic job openings in Canadian campuses,

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The Student Corner

Alison Yacyshyn

It is interesting to ponder why no two academics seem ever to be the same- be it students or those who have completed their degrees, recently or years ago! It is because everyone has unique life events and interests. The Canadian Population Society's recent meetings in Toronto, Ontario, Canada (May 30 -June1, 2002) demonstrated this rich diversity (see the meetings agenda for paper presentation titles and abstracts) see specifically <http://www.canpopsoc.org/congress.htm>. The annual meetings offer an excellent opportunity to meet and network with individuals from across Canada and abroad who have interests in population studies.

The society currently has 173 members and 28 are student members. In some ways, the current 28 student members are very fortunate to have such a disproportionate ratio but at the same time, the more students the better. If you are currently a student member of CPS then you know the benefits of this society- getting recognised by those in the field (professors from universities across Canada and abroad, Statistics Canada, private companies, etc) and the CPS is a highly esteemed society to add to your resume. Current student members know that a 15-dollar student membership offers connections into the Canadian Population Society's information web- newsletters, job postings, expert advice and connections. Everyone should encourage students to join, as it broadens one's horizons from the student's own university to a global framework. The benefits to the group in having new student members is to ensure that our society will continue its legacy into the future by incorporating research that is of interest to today's student.

Membership forms can be downloaded from the CPS website at <http://www.canpopsoc.org/cpsmembershpform.pdf>

Let us use the student corner of the newsletter to raise issues or highlight significant events. Send newsletter submissions, intriguing demographic questions, etc, to the newsletter editor, Gustave Goldmann at <mailto:gustave.goldmann@statcan.ca>

As the student representative for CPS beginning July 2002, I invite other students interested in population studies to become members and those who are members to become actively involved in this society.

Recent Meetings ...

Innovation in an Evolving Economy

May 6 – 7, 2002

Ottawa

<http://www.statcan.ca/english/conferences/economic2002/index.htm>

Population Association of America

May 9 – 11, 2002

Atlanta, Georgia

Colloque de l'ADQ

May 13 to 17, 2002

Québec

CPS Meetings

May 30 to June 1, 2002

Toronto

Second biennial meeting of the International Society for Equity in Health (ISEqH)

June 2002

University of Toronto

ISEqH webpage: <http://www.iseqh.org>

Forthcoming Conferences

Seventh International Metropolis Conference

Sept. 9-13, 2002

Oslo, Norway

2002 National Policy Research Conference

October 23-25, 2002

Ottawa, Canada

From the Outgoing President ...

Rod Beaujot

In the President's report to the Annual General Meeting on 31 May, I proposed that the last two years had been good for the Canadian Population Society. At least we had no crisis, and there was no need to change the constitution whatsoever. Judging by the applause at the AGM, there was also much appreciation for the devotion on the part of various persons from the outgoing Council. Particular appreciation was given to Gustave Goldmann who does all the work for the Newsletter. The same goes to Judith Rempel who manages the website; her devotion is especially appreciated given that she does this kind of thing for two or three other societies, and thus knows the domain well. The dedication of Gustave and Judith is noteworthy in the context that they were not members of the 2000-2002 council, but have continued to play important roles for the Society. There was also a loud applause for Wayne McVey, who devotes much time to the journal. While Wayne could not be present, we wanted him to know that the quality and quantity of his dedication are strongly appreciated.

As announced at the AGM, the **incoming council** consists of Frank Trovato (President), Russell Wilkins (Vice-President), Rajulton Fernando (Secretary Treasurer), and Councillors Alison Yacyshyn (student), Tina Chui, Shiva Halli, Catherine Krull, Andy Siggner, Richard Wanner and Zheng Wu. Judging from the elections statements and from the endorsement at the AGM, the Society is in good hands.

Some specifics, coming out of the Council meetings and the AGM:

1. We welcome **CIDA at the Congress**, and would like to have more overlap with their program in 2003. We should strive to have a joint session with some of our best papers related to international and development questions. In spite of strong attempts, we had limited success this year. Katherine Krull's excellent paper was presented, but others could have been incorporated in the CIDA program, which reaches a broader audience.

2. From the Federation, we take note of a change in name to **Canadian Federation of Humanities and Social Sciences** (CFHSS). Ravi Verma has been our representative at the Federation, with Shirley Loh on their Women's Issues Network. The CFHSS is working on various questions: scholarly infrastructure, renewal, lobbying, endowment fund. There is now an on-line data base on the Congress.

3. Next year's meetings are **3-5 June in Halifax**, with the theme of "Conflict and cooperation" and sub-themes: local, national and regional, representative justice, and wealth and creativity. Of course, papers outside of this theme are welcome. There was enthusiasm to organize a visit to Pier 21, and to ensure that we have a session on immigration. The following meetings are 2004 at U of Manitoba, 2005 at U of Western Ontario, 2006 at York and 2007 at U of Saskatchewan.

4. The CPS welcomes the opportunity to be involved with the **2006 Census Consultation**. Marie Desnoyers will send out the consultation guide to any interested person, and we will try to send a coordinated response by mid-August 2002. Individual responses are also welcome. We will send out a note through the *Yahoo Groups* e-mail facility to solicit input once the consultation guide is available.

5. There was interest to establish some **training opportunity** in the day preceding the 2003 meeting. Depending on the interest, this would probably focus on analytical questions, with possible coordination with the Halifax Research Data Centre, and of interest to people within and beyond the CPS. We may also want to organize a census consultation at the time of the Halifax meeting. Gustave Goldmann has offered to chair a committee to advance the training question.

6. As **Treasurer**, Rajulton Fernando reported that the books are in order, and the financial statements were endorsed. We can anticipate a continued surplus of some \$20,000 which is more than one year's expenditure. There are further costs associated with the membership in the Canadian Federation of Humanities and Social Sciences, but these can be handled within the current fee structure. The SSHRC travel funds, administered by FCD, make it possible to subsidize travel to the meetings on behalf of persons without other funding.

7. As Vice-President and Chair of the **Program Committee**, Frank Trovato reported that there were many papers to accommodate within a three-day schedule. There were 41 papers, 13 sessions including three joint sessions, and one panel. The registered attendants numbered 71 by the time of the AGM. Judging by the comments and endorsement, there is enthusiasm to stay-the-course in the basic organization and structure of the meetings. In as much as possible, sessions could be limited to three papers, we could have more discussants, and joint sessions are to be continued. The structure works good to have all propositions of papers sent to the Chair of the Program Committee by a given deadline that is also used for the student paper competition..

8. As chair of the **National Committee**, Eric Fong has developed a proposal to sponsor an edited collection based on the 2001 census. Various venues are being considered, and it was decided that there should be a separate committee to continue this initiative.

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9. As chair of the **International Committee**, Ravi Verma reported on activities associated with the international side of the December 2001 FCD meeting, along with the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, Population Association of America, Action Canada for Population and Development. It was decided not to continue this committee, but to structure related activities through the **Population and Development Committee** of the Federation of Canadian Demographers. Persons interested in this FCD committee had a brief brown-bag lunch, and Shiva Halli is to bring these things forward. Persons interested to be included in these discussions should contact Shiva.

10. As President of the **Federation of Canadian Demographers**, Bali Ram reported especially on the December 2001 Congress in Ottawa, which was a strong success in both content and logistics. Edward Shin is looking after the proceedings which are to be funded by Statistics Canada. Given the limited finances of the FCD, it is important that CPS and ADQ give assurance of financial backing for such conferences. Evelyne Lapierre-Adamcyk will take the next FCD presidency. She is ensured the strong support of CPS.

11. As chair of the **Membership Committee**, Rajulton Fernando reported that the total paid membership in 2001 was 173 persons. There was encouragement at the meeting to approach more people in Economics and Epidemiology.

12. As chair of the **Committee on Student Paper Competition**, Shirley Loh reported that the protocol worked well this year, with coordination of the deadline dates for abstracts and complete papers with the Chair of the Program Committee. The announcement should also say that students need to be members before submitting papers to this competition, and it should indicate the limits to the travel costs that can be covered. The winner this year is Ron Budinski for his paper on "Cohabitation in Canada: stability of cohabiting unions and the effects of cohabitation on marital unions." Applause. Others whose papers are part of the competition receive one year's free subscription to the society. We should also continue the tradition of the Society paying for students at the banquet.

13. As our **Webster**, Judith Rempel indicated that we would invite students to put their resume on the web site, and to build a media-contact list. Invitation to join the media contact list will be sent through the *Yahoo Groups* e-mail distribution list. She is also posting papers from the meetings, with the intention of posting the papers that are ready before the meetings next year. The web site, at www.canpopsoc.org has instructions on how to join *Yahoo Groups*. Job postings will continue to be distributed through *Yahoo Groups* and also posted on the web site.

14. As Editor of Canadian Studies in Population, Wayne McVey reported on forthcoming publication dates and the number of papers under consideration. There is encouragement to send manuscripts.

15. As **CPS Newsletter** editor, Gustave Goldmann will continue to send reminders some two weeks before a given deadline, through the *Yahoo Groups*. Material should be sent in attachments that are in Word or WordPerfect, using the referencing format from existing newsletters. As solicited through the newsletter, other material of interest to the broad membership should be forwarded, including conference dates and places.

The following **committees and appointments were made by Council**. Chairs of given committees are welcome to add other persons to their committees, and they are encouraged to solicit discussion through the newsletter and the *Yahoo Groups*. All are invited to send suggestions and to participate in the work of the various committees:

Program Committee: Russell Wilkins (chair), Doug Norris, George Kephart, Alison Yacyshyn, Rosemary Venne

National Committee: Andy Siggner (chair), Zheng Wu, Mark Rosenberg

Membership Committee: Rajulton Fernando (chair), Alison Yacyshyn, Richard Wanner

Committee on Student Paper Competition: Tina Chui (chair), Shirley Loh, Catherine Krull, Richard Wanner, Edward Ng, David Hall, Madeleine Kalbach

Committee on 2001 census edited volume: Eric Fong (chair), Barry Edmonston, Zheng Wu, Catherine Krull, Shiva Halli

Committee on training at 2003 Halifax congress: Gustave Goldmann (chair), Rajulton Fernando, Céline Le Bourdais, Richard Wanner, Shelly Phipps

Federation of Canadian Demographers: Anne Gauthier (vice-president), Shiva Halli, Mark Rosenberg (council), Frank Trovato, Rod Beaujot and Kevin McQuillan (Assembly).

Canadian Federation of Humanities and Social Sciences: Andy Siggner (Assembly), Catherine Krull and Tina Chui (Women's Issue Network).

Newsletter Editor: Gustave Goldmann, Edward Ng

Webster: Judith Rempel (chair), K.V. Rao, Alison Yacyshyn

2002 Presidential Address

Rod Beaujot

It is traditional for the outgoing president of the CPS to address the members at the annual banquet. This year Rod Beaujot presented "Projecting the future of Canada's population: assumptions, implications, and policy." At our annual banquet held in Toronto on May 31, 2002. An abstract of the presentation follows. The full text of the address may be found at [dp02-06.pdf](#).

ABSTRACT

After considering the assumptions for fertility, mortality and international migration, this paper looks at implications of the evolving demographics for population growth, labour force, retirement, and population distribution. With the help of policies favouring gender equity and supporting families of various types, fertility in Canada could avoid the particularly low levels seen in some countries, and remain at levels closer to 1.6 births per woman. The prognosis in terms of both risk factors and treatment suggests further reductions in mortality toward a life expectancy of 85. On immigration, there are political interests for levels as high as 270,000 per year, while levels of 150,000 correspond to the long term post-war average. The future will see slower population growth, and due to migration more than natural increase. International migration of some 225,000 per year can enable Canada to avoid population decline, and sustain the size of the labour force, but all scenarios show much change in the relative size of the retired compared to the labour force population. According to the ratio of persons aged 20-64 to that aged 65 and over, there were seven persons at labour force ages per person at retirement age in 1951, compared to five in 2001 and probably less than 2.5 in 2051. Growth that is due to migration more so than natural increase will accentuate the urbanization trend and the unevenness of the population distribution over space. Past projections have under-projected the mortality improvements and their impact on the relative size of the population at older age groups. Policies regarding fertility, mortality and migration could be aimed at avoiding population decline and reducing the effect of aging, but there is lack of an institutional basis for policy that would seek to endogenize population.

From the Population and Development Committee (FCD) ...

As indicated in my earlier email some time in April, addressed to all the members of the committee, there was an informal meeting on May 31 in Toronto among those who attended the CPS meetings. Prior to the meeting, a two-page handout providing an historical summary prepared by Professor Rod Beaujot (former Coordinator of the committee) was distributed. The meeting was a brainstorming session to discuss the agenda for the coming year. Professor Alan Simmons suggested that we should consider a joint regional conference with the IUSSP on a topic of mutual interest. We could also invite other organizations in Canada if they have interest in the topic and would like to be co-sponsors of the conference. I would very much like to know your reaction to this suggestion before we start exploring the possibility of such a conference with the IUSSP.

Mr. Michael Shenstone, Chairman of the ACPD, who attended the meeting, mentioned that the UNFPA would be organizing the Parliamentary Conference on Population in Ottawa some time in November 2002. There was a suggestion that the committee explore the possibility of making a presentation to this group on the topics of interest to the committee and to the participants. I have been in touch with Mr. Shenstone to obtain more information on the state of play of the Conference. Mr. Shenstone has informed me that he will provide more information in the coming week. If there is a possibility of hosting a reception or making a presentation to this group, a small committee may be established in order to prepare. I will keep you posted on the future developments. Meanwhile, I would be delighted to hear from you about your ideas for the committee in order to organize any activities in the coming year.

Also, could all persons interested in the Population and Development Committee of the FCD please send me their e-mail address, so that I can be sure to have a current list of addresses.

Shiva S. Halli (halli@ms.umanitoba.ca)

Keeping Posted ...

Personal and Professional Activities:

Roderic Beaujot presented "Earning and caring" as the 2002 Porter Lecture at the meetings of the Canadian Association of Sociology and Anthropology in Toronto, May 2002. The presentation is available UWO website at the following hyperlink: [dp02-08.pdf](#). His presidential address to the Canadian Population Society, Toronto, May 2002, was titled "Projecting the future of Canada's population: assumptions, implications, and policy." And it can also be found on the UWO website at the following hyperlink: [dp02-06.pdf](#).

Susan McDaniel's Presidential Address at the Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association, University of Toronto, 30 May 2002 was titled "Leaky Generational Boundaries: Intergenerational Justice and the Generational Division of Welfare." In June 2002, Susan was invited as a plenary speaker at the International Symposium on Reconceptualising Gender and Ageing, University of Surrey, UK. Her paper was "Hidden in the Household: Now It's Men in Mid-Life." In July, she will be a plenary speaker at the World Congress of Sociology, Brisbane, Australia. Her paper is "Tangled Hierarchies and Strange Loops: Challenges Of/To a Risk Society of Intimate Relations."

Susan was nominated for Vice President (Publications), International Sociological Association, 2002. She continues as Editor, *Current Sociology*, an official journal of the International Sociological Association, until August 2002 when her five year term ends. She also continues as Chair, Advisory Committee on Science and Technology, Statistics Canada. Susan serves on the Royal Society of Canada Women in Scholarship Committee (2001-03), the International Organizing Committee for the Pacific Sociological Association, 2002 meetings and the International Scientific Committee, BUGS International Conference, International Sociological Association, Montreal, September 2001 (postponed to April 2002)

Russell Wilkins has been appointed to the editorial board of the new WHO electronic journal *Mortality*, edited by Alan Lopez. He is also an editorial advisor to the forthcoming electronic *International Journal for Equity in Health*, to be published by the International Society for Equity in Health. Both journals are to be freely available on the internet through PubMed Central. Russell was recently elected vice-president of the Canadian Population Society, which means he will be responsible for organizing the society's next annual meeting in 2003.

Conference Presentations

Beaujot, Roderic. "Earning and caring" Presented as Porter Lecture at the meetings of the Canadian Association of Sociology and Anthropology, Toronto, May 2002. Available as: [dp02-08.pdf](#)

Beaujot, Roderic. "Projecting the future of Canada's population: assumptions, implications, and policy." Presented as Presidential Address to the Canadian Population Society, Toronto, May 2002. Available as: [dp02-06.pdf](#)

Bélanger A, Martel L, Berthelot JM, **Wilkins R.** Gender differences in disability-free life expectancy for selected risk factors and chronic conditions in Canada. Population Association of America, Session 84: Gender differences in adult health in developed countries. Atlanta GA, 9-11 May 2002.

Fong, Eric. Invited Discussant. Special Session: Metropolis I: Immigration, Settlement and culture - Session on Housing and Ethnicity. Canadian Association of Geographers.

Fong, Eric. "Disentangling the Segregation Patterns of Immigrants in Suburbia." Presented at the Population Association of America, Atlanta, Georgia (with Tracy Matsuo and Rima Wilkes)

Fong, Eric. Invited presentation at the Department of Sociology, University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Fong, Eric. Invited presentation at the Population Studies Centre, University of Western Ontario.

Goldmann, Gustave and Tom Caplan, 2002. "Developing the Labour Force of the 21st Century: A comparison between Canada and Israel". Ottawa, May 6-7, 2002.

Ng E, Wilkins R, Fung MFK, Berthelot JM. Cervical cancer mortality by income in urban Canada from 1971 to 1996. Society of Gynecological Oncologists of Canada, Winnipeg, 20-25 June 2002.

Ng E, Wilkins R, Fung MFK, Berthelot JM. Cervical cancer mortality by income in urban Canada from 1971 to 1996. International Society for Equity in Health, Toronto, 14-16 June 2002.

Ng E, Wilkins R, Fung MFK, Berthelot JM. Cervical cancer mortality by income in urban Canada from 1971 to 1996. Canadian Population Society, Toronto, 30 May to 1 June 2002.

Ross N, Mayer F, Berthelot JM, **Wilkins R.** The determinants of regional-scale health expectancy in Canada. Canadian Regional Science Association, Toronto, May 2002.

Wargon, Sylvia. "The demography of Enid Charles (1894 - 1972) in historical perspective." Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science-CSHPS/Association canadienne pour l'histoire et la philosophie des sciences-ACHPS, Toronto, May 2002

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Wilkins R. Mortality by income in urban Canada from 1971 to 1996. International Society for Equity in Health, Toronto, 14-16 June 2002. International Society for Equity in Health, Toronto, 14-16 June 2002.

Wilkins R, Ng E, Berthelot JM, Mayer F. Différences régionales en espérance de santé au Canada selon le revenu et la scolarité du voisinage. Colloque de l'Association des Démographes du Québec, ACFAS, Québec, 15 May 2002.

Recent Publications

Bélanger A, Martel L, Berthelot JM, **Wilkins R.** 2002. "Gender differences in disability-free life expectancies for selected risk factors and chronic conditions in Canada". Chapter in Laditka S, ed., *Health Expectations for Older Women: International Perspectives* (Hayworth):xx-xx (in press).

Bélanger A, Martel L, Berthelot JM, **Wilkins R.** 2002. "Gender differences in disability-free life expectancies for selected risk factors and chronic conditions in Canada". Special issue on International Perspectives on Health Expectancies for Older Women. *Journal of Women and Aging*;14 (1/2):xxx-xxx (in press)

Fong, Eric. 2002. "The Social Consequences of Participating in the Ethnic Economy." *International Migration Review* 36(1): 125-146. (with Emi Ooka)

Mayer F, Ross N, Berthelot JM, **Wilkins R.** 2002. "Disability-free life expectancy by health region". *Health Reports* June;13(4):xx-xx (in press).

McDaniel, Susan A. 2002. "Women's Changing Relations to the State and Citizenship: Caring and Intergenerational Relations in Globalizing Western Democracies," *Canadian Review of Sociology and Anthropology* 39(2):1-26.

McDaniel, Susan A. 2002. "Information and Communications Technologies: Bugs in the Generational Ointment?" *The Canadian Journal of Sociology*, forthcoming.

McDaniel, Susan A. 2002. "Toward the Capture of Innovation Potentiality in Social Contexts," in de la Mothe, John and Fred Gault (Eds.), *Alliances, Networks and Partnerships in the Innovation Process*. Boston: Kluwer, forthcoming. [In the Series, "The Economics of Science, Technology and Innovation," Series Editors, Christiano Antonelli and Bo Carisson].

McDaniel, Susan A. 2002. "Family/Work Challenges Among Older Working Canadians", in Marion Lynn (Ed.), *Voices: Essays on Canadian Families* (2nd edition). Toronto: Nelson.

McDaniel, Susan A. 2002. "Families, Feminism and

the State", in Anthony, Wayen and Les Samuelson (Eds.), *Power and Resistance: Critical Thinking About Canadian Social Issues* (3rd edition). Halifax: Fernwood.

Wargon, Sylvia. 2001. "Connections. Demography and Sociology in Twentieth Century Canada." Special issue of the *Canadian Journal of Sociology* entitled "Legacy for a New Millenium",26 (3), pp. 309 - 331.

Wargon, Sylvia. 2002: *Demography in Canada in the Twentieth Century*, Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press.

Wilkins R, White K. 2001. "Income gradients and mortality". *Au Courant* (Newsletter of the Health Analysis and Measurement Group, Statistics Canada), October 2001:2-3.

Wilkins R. 2001. *PCCF+ Version 3G User's Guide (Geocodes/PCCF). Automated Geographic Coding Based on the Statistics Canada Postal Code Conversion Files, including Postal Codes to June 2001.* Ottawa: Health Analysis and Modeling Group, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, August 2001.

Yang H, Kramer MS, Platt R, Blondel B, Gréart G, Morin I, **Wilkins R, Usher R.** 2002. "How does early ultrasound estimation of gestational age lead to higher rates of preterm birth?" *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*;186(3):433-7.

News from the ADQ ...

The 2002 meeting of the Association des démographes du Québec (ADQ) was held at Laval University in Québec City on May 15 to 17. Around 40 conferences were presented, the majority related to the two main topics : "The Impact of Demographic Changes on Aging Society" and "Longitudinal perspectives for Social Changes and Public policies".

Only minor changes were made to the ADQ board during the General Assembly. The 2002-2003 composition of the Association des démographes board is:

- President: Luc Roy
- Vice-president: Alexandre Genest
- Director of the *Cahiers québécois de démographie*: Marc Tremblay
- Editor of the *Échos de l'ADQ*: Valérie Émond
- Organiser of the Annual Conference: Pierre Turcotte
- Treasurer: Yves Pepin
- Secretary: Lucienne Jetté
- Students representative: Marie-Eve Blackburn

News from QICSS ...

April 11th was the day that QICSS's permanent offices were finally opened. The day's events included a workshop which brought together researchers, professionals and government representatives to discuss issues regarding longitudinal studies. QICSS's objectives and strategies for the next four years were also discussed, with special emphasis being placed on questions concerning the development of research initiatives and the formulation of policies in the field of social statistics. A summary of these discussions can be found on the QICSS web site (www.qicss.umontreal.ca). The opening of the QICSS offices was also an occasion to honour a deserving statistician, as Ivan P. Fellegi, Chief Statistician of Canada, was presented with honorary doctorates from both the University of Montreal and INRS.

Over the last few months, QICSS has organised training sessions on the subject of longitudinal data analysis. On February 22nd and May 3rd the last two sessions of a four-session series on the *analysis of data from longitudinal surveys with complex design* were held. Some of the teaching aids used during these sessions can be found on the QICSS web site. On May 16th, at ACFAS's 70th Congress in Québec City, QICSS ran a session in cooperation with the *Association des démographes du Québec* and the *Association canadienne des sociologues et anthropologues de langue française* on the theme: *Social Change, Public Policy and Longitudinal Perspective*.

To promote the services and facilities now offered by QICSS, Céline Le Bourdais, Director of QICSS, and other staff members have been running a series of presentations to familiarize researchers and institutions with the centre.

News from CIED ...

Université de Montréal / INRS-Département de démographie / INRS-Urbanisation, Culture et Société

Joint Programmes in Demography: A Reality for September 2002

Starting this September, the Masters and PhD programmes in demography will be offered as joint degrees between the University of Montreal and INRS. Discussed since the creation of CIED, this agreement formalises many years of common work between the two institutions. Professors from INRS, themselves members of CIED, have participated in the teaching and training of demography graduate students since the opening of the centre. Beginning in September, students will be enrolled at either the University of

Montreal or INRS, depending on which institution their supervisor is affiliated with. Although certain courses may be offered at INRS, the majority of classes will take place at the University of Montreal campus.

New Director for the University of Montreal's Department of Demography

On June 1st, Robert Bourbeau began his four year term as Director of the Department of Demography at the University of Montreal. Robert, who has also been named Associated Director of CIED, succeeds Victor Piché, who completed his second term as Director on May 31st.

To thank Victor for his eight years of service to the department, more than forty collaborators, professors and researchers, as well as a large number of students, attended a party organised in his honour. Many of his colleagues took advantage of the occasion to congratulate him for the devotion and leadership skills which he brought to the job. On behalf of CIED, Céline Le Bourdais made a special point of thanking Victor for his constant support for the centre and the study of demography in Quebec.

CIED Membership

CIED now counts 16 regular members; 10 associate members; 3 invited members; 6 assistant members and research professionals; 6 post-doctoral interns; and 32 student members (18 PhD and 14 Masters students).

PAA Annual Meeting

A host of CIED members attended the Population Association of America's 2002 Annual Meeting which was held recently in Atlanta, Georgia. The dinner and dance, a nice break from academic matters, gave former members of the department who are now working across Canada and the United States a chance to catch up with each other. Colleagues from the University of Western Ontario joined them for this fun and relaxing evening.

On May 22nd, Nicole Marcil-Gratton, **Céline Le Bourdais** and Évelyne Lapierre-Admcyk participated in the book launching of «*Quebec Longitudinal Study of Child Development (QLSCD 1998-2002) – From Birth to 29 Months.*» a volume to which they have contributed. (site <http://www.stat.gouv.qc.ca>)

contract opportunities, funding deadlines, etc. Just send the info along to the Webster and we'll get it online in a timely way. Most of the time, the information will be posted on another site and we'll simply provide a link to that information.

3. Student Resumés/Curriculum Vitae

We really want to see more involvement from students in the CPS (although we're impressed that involvement has been steadily increasing in recent years), so we thought that a page dedicated to listing student members seeking employment opportunities might be valuable. If interested, provide your resume/CV in MS Word (pc) format and I'll convert to PDF for online presentation (stick to standard fonts, or it may not display as you intended). If you're a Mac-user and have access to pdf conversion software, I'd recommend that you submit it in pdf format (other options are also available – just ask). If you'd like to consult with someone locally about the readiness of your resume/CV for this, Frank Trovato (U of Alberta), Fernando Rajulton (U Western Ontario) & Gustave Goldmann (Statistics Canada) have agreed to be contacts in these three key locations.

4. Media Consultants

There are regular occasions when a member of the media is looking for someone to interview – an expert – on a population-related matter. Are you ready to take on this task? We'd like to have a page of such contacts. Just supply your name, phone number, email address & a 2-3 sentence summary for the basis of your "expert" status (your credentials) & the short list of topics on which you'd be prepared to be interviewed and we'll get this online.

5. e-commerce

There has been interest for a few years in our providing the opportunity to become a CPS member (or renew that membership) via an online e-commerce form. I'm in the process of getting acquainted with a tool that is finally affordable for Canadian websites (trickier issues here because our banking legislation has greater security than that of the USA) and hope to have this option online by fall.

6. Search engine

The titles, authors, & abstracts of most *Canadian Studies in Population* journal articles have been online for a few years. A final cleanup is taking place and we hope to have all online before the summer is over. In addition, the plan is to get the French translations online soon as well.

They haven't been terribly easy to use to date – you would have to go to the journal page www.canpopsoc.org/journal.htm and use the browser "find" function or skim the titles looking for articles that might fit your informational need. This has now been improved. You now can conduct a search of the entire site from the homepage FreeFind search engine. Find it close to the top right corner of that page.

7. Congress Papers

I saved the best for last! I've begun to populate a password protected area of the website with copies of the papers/presentations that were made at the CPS meetings at U of Toronto in May/June, 2002. So that this remains a privilege of membership and so that it doesn't impinge on the ability of the authors to formally publish their work elsewhere, they're behind password. Information on how to access that section of the site will be coming out in a Yahoo Groups announcement to members (we can't mention it here, because non-members can read our newsletter online). Stay tuned. The address will be <http://www.canpopsoc.org/2002/>.

Send all website submissions/comments/questions to: Judith (Judii) Rempel at: webster@canpopsoc.org

Study of infant mortality in Nepal offers "surprising" results

Ryan Smith (Reproduced with the permission of ExpressNews of the University of Alberta)

February 27, 2002 - Juhee (Vajracharya) Suwal came to Canada and the University of Alberta from Nepal more than seven years ago, but her homeland halfway around the world has not remained far from her focus.

The PhD student in sociology has recently published an article, The main determinants of infant mortality in Nepal, in Elsevier's Journal of *Social Science and Medicine*. The article, a part of Suwal's masters thesis, reveals some results that Suwal called "surprising". For one, pregnant women in Nepal who had more frequent visits with doctors, nurses and midwives were shown to have a higher incidence of mortality in their babies than the pregnant women who did not meet these professionals as often.

"That surprised me, you'd think the women who were in closer contact with the doctors would have more successful births, but that wasn't the case. My theory to explain this is that it is hard for women to get to see doctors in Nepal, and as prenatal care in Nepal is not compulsory they only do it when there are complications with the pregnancy, and when there are complications there are higher infant mortality rates," Suwal said.

Suwal also noted fluctuations in infant mortality rates among more than 75 different ethnicities in Nepal. In particular, the Newar people of the Kathmandu Valley had much lower probability of infants' death than the two most prevalent ethnic groups in Nepal, the Chhetri and the Brahmin.

"When a baby is born, it is a top priority in the Newar culture that both the mother and the baby, whether it is a boy or a girl, receive special treatment for a few months after the birth," explained Suwal, who is a Newar herself. "For example, the mother and the baby both live in private rooms in the mother's parent's home (natal home), where family members take special care of them, feeding them healthy, nourishing food, giving them herbal medicines, giving only boiled and cooled water to drink, and even giving them both oil massages twice a day. This is different from how babies and mothers are treated by other ethnic groups in Nepal."

Another surprise, Suwal found that male infants in Nepal died more often than females. This contrasts with statistics from other developing countries, where females died more often than male babies. Although Nepal is largely a male-dominated country and there is a preference placed on producing male children over female children in Nepal as there is in other countries, both male and female babies are cared for equally, Suwal explained.

However, the main part of Suwal's findings show three determinants that are particularly significant to the infant mortality in Nepal. First, the number of children a mother has had affects infant mortality. If a pregnant woman has already had a few children then the likelihood of infant mortality increases markedly.

Second, the place of residence, whether it is urban or rural, affects mortality rates. There is a better chance that infants born in urban areas will survive.

Third, there are three main immunization shots that infants receive in Nepal in addition to the DPT vaccine (to prevent diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus), and when infants receive one or none of these shots their chances of survival decrease significantly. When they receive two or three of the immunizations--which are to prevent TB, polio and measles--their survival probability increases.

Suwal noted that the infant mortality rates in Nepal are high--97 per every 1,000 born compared to seven per every 1,000 in Canada--and she hopes her study can help increase knowledge of the problems that typically cause higher rates so that they may be addressed and corrected.

For her study, Suwal used the most comprehensive, up-to-date statistics available at the time: the Nepal Fertility, Family Planning, and Health Survey from 1991. However, now she's engaged in an even more ambitious study on demographics and epidemiology for her doctoral thesis. She is expanding the scope of study to include broader social, cultural and health related issues in Nepal.

"Nepal is a developing country, it's very poor and it's difficult to get demographic and epidemiological information about it, but this means it's also important to learn more about it," said Dr. Frank Trovato, a sociology professor at the U of A and Suwal's doctoral supervisor.

"[Suwal's] study requires a lot of intensive research but she's a hard worker and she's perfect for the job because she's familiar with the culture and she can look at the numbers and make sense of them socially and culturally," Trovato added.

