

BU staff carry out fieldwork in Romania

Researcher and Technician collect valuable samples

Fieldwork was recently carried out by PhD Student/Researcher April Bentley and Patricia Furphy, Skeletal Technician in the gypsy village of Szaszcsavas, Transylvania in Romania. The pair travelled to the village to collect buccal swab samples for research into lactose SNPs (single nucleotide polymorphisms or allelic changes) in world populations. Presently, the inability to digest lactose affects over 60% of the known world.

However, certain populations have acquired a mutation within or near the lactose gene that allows for these individuals to be lactose persistent, or for the continuing digestion of milk or milk products. This research hopes to determine if the Roma Population of Romania and Hungary has this lactose persistent allelic change, and in doing so be used to determine if convergent evolution plays a part in human adaptation.



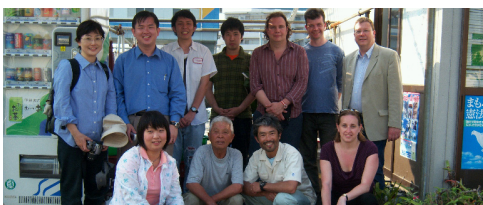
Riverside Project 2007

Visitors welcome!

The Stonehenge Riverside Project is a project that is jointly directed by BU, Bristol, Manchester and Sheffield Universities, and University College London. Bournemouth University is represented by Dr Kate Welham and Mark Dover. Visitors are welcome between 10am and 4pm on Sat 1st September. There are open days between 10 and 4 on Sat 25th, Sun 26th and Mon 27th August along with Sat 8th and Sun 9th September.

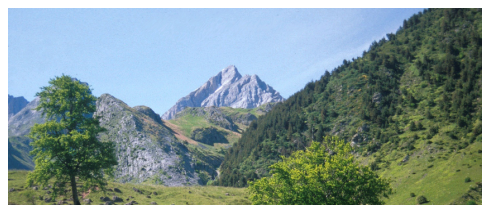
BU Coastal Seminar

Read more about this recent seminar organised by Dr Steve Fletcher and held at BU [Page 2](#)



Earthwatch collaboration

Discover the facts about this exciting collaboration between ConSci and Earthwatch [Page 3](#)



Jurassic Coast scanning

ConSci staff help to preserve the past by scanning the Jurassic Coastline [Page 4](#)



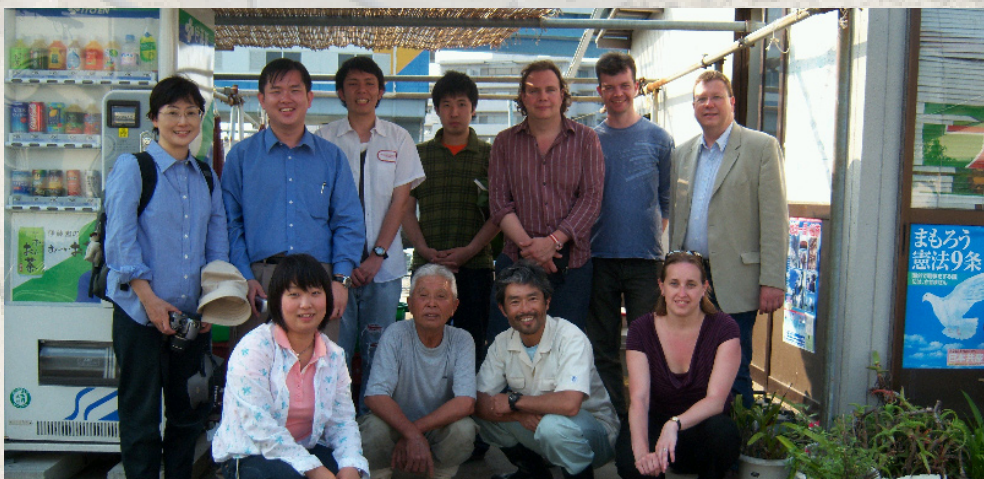
BU hosts Seminar on Coastal Management in Japan Seminar proves a resounding success

On Friday 20th July, the University hosted a seminar on Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Japan. The seminar, organised by Dr Steve Fletcher (School of Conservation Sciences), was designed to share experiences of coastal management between researchers and practitioners from Japan and the UK. The speakers, who were visiting the UK as part of a coastal management learning exchange visit funded by The Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation, represented Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology, The Japanese Coastal Zone Studies Association, United Nations University Tokyo, and the Japanese Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transportation. The seminar was a rare opportunity to find out how coastal management is 'done' elsewhere and provided an opportunity to place progress in the UK against systems elsewhere. The seminar was attended by 40 people, including politicians and policy-makers, local, regional and national coastal management practitioners, and BU staff and students. The seminar marked the end of the project (co-ordinated by Dr Fletcher) which saw representatives from Bournemouth University, Bournemouth Borough Council, Purbeck District Council and Government Office for the South East visit the Tokyo Bay area in May this year. The final outcome of the project will be a peer-reviewed paper exploring the success of visits as a pathway for international capacity building in coastal management.



Dr Steve Fletcher interviewed for 'Geographical' magazine

Dr Steve Fletcher, Senior Lecturer in Coastal and Marine Affairs, was also recently interviewed for the mainstream 'Geographical' magazine, along with a small group of academic geographers from other universities. The purpose of the article was to establish current attitudes to the meaning and relevance of geography. The article seeks to place geography in context ahead of the Royal Geographical Society conference later this month in London, at which Steve is chairing two sessions for the Coastal and Marine Working Group. The article, which features Steve's comments prominently, is in the August issue of the magazine, which is available from most newsagents.



Land Quality Seminar

Booking now available

Land Quality, Planning & the Property Market

A one-day seminar on contaminated land issues for professionals dealing with the planning regime and property market. Topics to be covered include: Contaminated Land issues for Solicitors, Developers, Planners & Surveyors. Case study based approach to solving common planning and contamination issues. Communication and Risk Assessment. Remediation & Delivering Solutions. For further information on this event you can contact Marie Dunning directly on 01202 965160. Alternatively, for registration please use our online booking form which will ensure your place at the event. Visit the Enterprise and Short Courses site at http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/conservation/enterpriseandshortcourses/landqualityseminar/land_quality_seminar.html

BU Land Quality, Planning & the Property Market
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 - Case study based approach to solving common planning and contamination issues
 - Communication & Risk Assessment
 - Remediation & Delivering Solutions



25th September 2007, 9.30 – 17.00hrs
Bournemouth University, Talbot Campus
Delegate Fee: £95

Earthwatch collaboration helps students on Ecology & Wildlife Conservation BSc

Conservation Sciences is currently involved in a collaboration with Earthwatch on a project which aims to carry out innovative new research that will directly help the conservation of South American Cloudforest as well as develop tools that can be applied to the conservation of other ecosystems. The project provides an opportunity for students on the Ecology & Wildlife Conservation BSc to participate in this research by travelling to Ecuador and training as research assistants. The project has been funded by Earthwatch, the charitable organisation which outlines its goals on their website. “Earthwatch is an international environmental charity which is committed to conserving the diversity and integrity of life on earth to meet the needs of current and future generations. Our mission is to engage people worldwide in scientific field research and education to promote the understanding and action necessary for a sustainable environment”.

Archaeology students from all over the UK visit BU Teaching and Learning in Archaeology Conference

BU recently hosted the Higher Education Academy’s Teaching and Learning in Archaeology conference and the first postgraduate archaeology student event. In the postgraduate event, archaeology students from all over the UK engaged in discussion on a wide range of topics including: archaeological careers, routes into academia, how to write grant applications, and getting published. The day was extremely successful and a great platform for the main conference held directly afterwards. Dr Kate Welham who helped to organise both conferences alongside postgraduate students James Morris and Kayt Armstrong, said that “The student conference demonstrates the strength and enthusiasm of our postgraduate research community in the School, and linking to the main conference has given students a fantastic opportunity to get involved with learning and teaching on a national level. BU has given a wonderful start to what I hope will become a regular event.”

BU at forefront of Jurassic Coast scanning process

ConSci staff help to scan the coastline

Scientists from ConSci have been involved in placing their high-tech laser scanning unit on the beach, in front of the cliffs, then scanning entire sections at a very high resolution. This will help to build up a comprehensive picture of cliff and beach erosion over the coming years. Andy Ford, a lecturer in Geoinformatics at the School of Conservation Sciences, Bournemouth University said; "Using our new state-of-the-art laser we're able to automatically scan the entire cliff face at a resolution of centimetres over hundreds of square metres. What is more, once we tell the scanner where it is and what we want it to do it takes over and scans a section of the cliff, robot fashion, in comfortably under an hour. Back in the office we stitch the sections together to make a very detailed virtual model of the entire cliff. The results are something to behold!"



New Staff arrivals

Ross Hill Ross studied a BA in Geography at the University of Oxford. From there he moved to the University of Wales Swansea to study a PhD which involved mapping rain forests in the Amazon and Borneo using satellite remote sensing techniques. Next followed ten years at the Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, during which time Ross mapped the whole of the UK using satellite data, and devised unique ways of modelling forests using airborne hyper-spectral and LiDAR data. This all fed into models of habitat quality for British birds, leading to an improved understanding of species-habitat relationships, their stability over time and the regional-scale drivers behind current trends. At BU Ross hopes to develop biodiversity indicators and drive ecosystem models with remotely sensed data. **Email: rhill@bournemouth.ac.uk**



Submit a story via email

Go to the ConSci website and click on the Contact Us link to supply your news story. Your comments and feedback may also make it into our regular newsletter releases which will bi-monthly from now on.

www.bournemouth.ac.uk/conservation/

