Ninth Quadrennial Conference of
British, Canadian, and American Rural Geographers

VERMONT, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
July 13-19, 2019
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*Cover Art and Rural Quadrennial Logo by Lucia Possehl (2019)*
Accommodations & Rural Quad Details

Lodging: Attendees will be staying the University Heights North Residence Hall at University of Vermont (30 University Heights North 1, 30 University Heights, Burlington, VT 05405) from July 13-15. You may contact the University Heights North Residence Hall main desk at (802) 656-3131. Attendees will be staying at the Sugarbush Inn (102 Forest Dr, Warren, VT 05674) from July 15-19. You may contact the Sugarbush Inn at 802-583-6100.

Provided Meals: All breakfast and lunches will be provided during the conference. You will be on your own for dinner on Sunday, Tuesday, and Wednesday nights. Included in the program are recommendations for dinner options for those evenings.

Wi-Fi and Cell Service: Attendees will be given a guest access log in for the UVM Wi-Fi when they check into the University of Vermont dorms. Eduroam will also work for those who have log-ins for other universities and colleges. On Tuesday when we take a trip up to the Northeast Kingdom region of Vermont, it is likely that you will not have cellular service, so please plan ahead if necessary.

Emergency Contacts: The emergency services line in the United States is 911. For any on-campus related emergencies, the University of Vermont Police Services phone number is 802-656-3473. If you run into any problems that are not pressing emergencies, please contact Lucia Possehl at 612-859-3415 or Cherie Morse at 802-434-4460.

Conference Session Locations: While at the University of Vermont, we will be holding conference sessions in the Aiken Center (81 Carrigan Drive) in room 102. At the Sugarbush Inn, we will be holding sessions in one of their event rooms.
Rural Quadrennial Conference Schedule  
Saturday, July 13 – Friday, July 19, 2019

Saturday, July 13 – University of Vermont

8:30 – 3:00  Arrival, Check into UVM Dorms
5:00 - 7:00  Plenary - Lisa Butler Harrington, *The Quadrennial Rural Geography Meetings: A Topical Retrospective*  
Gathering to follow: Hors d’oeuvres, desserts, and a drink ticket

Sunday, July 14 – University of Vermont

8:30 – 10:00  Paper Session 1
10:00 – 10:30  Coffee Break
10:30 – 12:00  Paper Session 2
12:00 – 1:00  Lunch Break
1:00 – 3:00  Paper Session 3
3:00 – 3:30  *Welcome to Vermont* – Cheryl Morse and Peter Nelson
4:30 – 6:00  Optional New Farms for New Americans Tour  
*Ethan Allen Homestead in Burlington*  
*Hosted by Pablo Bose, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, UVM*
Explore Burlington, Dinner on own
(See Burlington Dining Recommendations, Page 35-37)

Monday, July 15 – University of Vermont

8:15 – 10:15  Paper Session 4
10:15 – 10:30  Coffee Break
10:30 – 12:30  Paper Session 5
12:30 – 2:00  Lunch Break
2:00 – 4:00  Paper Session 6
4:00 – 5:30  Free Time
5:30  Leave for Bread and Butter Farm (Meet outside of dorms)
5:45 – 8:00  Bread and Butter Farm Tour and Dinner
8:00  Return to Burlington & UVM Dorms

Tuesday, July 16 – Field Day to Northeast Kingdom

8:30 – 5:00  All Day Field Trip to Northeast Kingdom (See Page 30-33)
Dinner on your own in Waterbury
(See Waterbury Dining Recommendations, Page 36)
**Wednesday, July 17 – Sugarbush**

8:30 – 10:30  Paper Session 7
10:30 – 11:00  Coffee Break
11:00 – 1:00  Paper Session 8
1:00 – 2:00  Lunch Break
2:00 – 3:30  Roundtable Preparation Meetings
3:30 – 6:30  Available Afternoon Activities:
- Mount Abe Hike
- Swimming Holes
- Lawson’s Brewery & Taste of Place Vermont products store

6:30 – 8:00  Dinner at Round Up on the River, Waitsfield

**Thursday, July 18 – Sugarbush**

8:30 – 9:30  Drive to Middlebury from Sugarbush Inn
9:30 – 1:00  Field Site Visit at Bread Loaf View Farm

*Bread Loaf View Farm is the producer of 100% Pure Vermont Maple Syrup and Maple Products, located just outside of Middlebury. The farm is owned by Churchill and Janet Franklin and Kenn serves as the head sugar marker. The couple purchased the land in 2001 and began sugaring in 2006. To learn more about Bread Loaf View Farms, visit: https://breaddloafviewfarm.com*

1:00 – 2:00  Lunch with community development organizations at Middlebury College
2:00 – 3:30  Rural Development Roundtables
3:30 – 4:30  Wrap Up Planning
4:30 – 6:30  Free time
6:30 – 8:00  Dinner at Middlebury College

**Friday, July 19 – Return to Burlington and Departures**

9:00 – 11:00  Vans depart from Sugarbush Inn for Burlington
12:00  All Return to Burlington, Departures
Rural Quadrennial 2019 Participants

Ryan Bergstrom  
*Assistant Professor, Program in Geography*  
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Ryan Bergstrom is broadly trained in physical, economic, and rural geography, as well as sustainability sciences, and sees the value in integrating these multiple perspectives in scholarship. His research interests involve the complexity of coupled social-ecological systems and the human dimensions of global change, specifically as they relate to rural areas, agriculture, natural resource extraction, and recreation and tourism. He is particularly interested in understanding how natural resource-dependent communities impact their local environment and how these impacts facilitate or hinder a transition towards sustainability.

Lisa Butler Harrington  
*Professor of Geography*  
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Lisa M. Butler Harrington is a Professor at Kansas State University, where she has taught since 1994. Her appointment has now made it possible for her to live in the Pacific Northwest full-time, where she claims two rural bases of operation: Pacific Northwest Geography Campus, Kelso, Washington, and Pacific Rim Geography Field Station, Bay Center, Washington. She has participated in all Quadrennial Rural Geography meetings, starting in 1991.

Valentine Cadieux  
*Director of Environmental Studies & Sustainability Programs*  
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Valentine Cadieux directs Hamline’s Environmental Studies & Sustainability programs, and co-chairs the Twin Cities Community Agricultural Land Trust. Over the past twenty years, she has used art and science approaches to society-environment relations – specifically agri-food political ecology and moral economy – to build publicly-engaged participatory processes for collaborative learning about food and land justice. (foodfieldguides.com) Valentine’s research and teaching focus on how social and environmental practices can help people negotiate aspirations for equitable, healthy, and sustainable ways to eat and places to live.

Alison Caffyn  
*Research Consultant, Ludlow and School of Geography and Planning*  
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Alison is a research consultant who has specialised in rural regeneration, tourism and outdoor recreation in many parts of the UK. As a former academic she published on sustainable tourism, partnership approaches, urban-rural interdependencies and market town regeneration. She is currently writing up her PhD at Cardiff University, on the contestations around intensive poultry farm developments.
Sara Epp
Assistant Professor, School of Environmental Design & Rural Development
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Sara Epp is an Assistant Professor in the Rural Planning and Development program at the University of Guelph. Sara has worked extensively with rural communities in southern and northern Ontario, examining issues related to farmland loss, agricultural viability, land use conflicts and social aspects of rural life. Sara has previously worked in municipal land use planning and as a private consultant for a variety of rural agricultural planning projects. Her current research interests include rural land use planning, agricultural systems, migration, and food security.

Ryan Gibson
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Ryan Gibson is the Libro Professor of Regional Economic Development in the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development at the University of Guelph. Ryan is a rural geographer interested in issues of regional development, immigration, rural policy, multi-community collaboration, and governance.

Nathalie Gravel
Associate Professor, Department of Geography
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Nathalie Gravel graduated from her doctoral studies in Geography at Laval University (2003), Quebec City, and has completed a post-doctorate fellowship at Yale University (2003-2004) at the Program in Agrarian Studies. She is associate professor at the Department of Geography at Laval University, Quebec City, since 2005 where she teaches Latin American Geography, Globalization, the Geography of the Agri-Food System, and Rural Geography.

Keith Halfacree
Reader in Human Geography
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Keith Halfacree is a Reader in Human Geography at Swansea University in Wales in the UK. His research focuses on four overlapping areas. First, he engages with mostly internal expressions of human migration and has published widely on counterurbanisation, drawing out ‘counter-cultural’ currents informing some migration to rural areas, cultural perspectives on migration, and how migration helps structure institutions such as family and place. Second, he has undertaken scholarship on discourses of rurality in the global North, outlining the content of cultural representations of the rural and exploring how these link to practices such as counterurbanisation developing a sense of place and leisure. Third, and building on the latter, he engages with conceptual debates concerning how the rural is changing the shaping of rural futures. Finally, Keith teaches and researches marginal geographies, the geographical expressions of all things ‘counter-cultural’.
Christy Jean
Graduate Student, PhD Candidate
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Christy is a graduate student at Kansas State University where she will earn a Ph.D. in Geography. Due to military obligations which kept her in Kansas, Christy has been able to complete both her bachelors and masters in the Department of Geography. Christy’s main research interests involve human-environmental geography, rural geography and environmental perception. Her dissertation will focus on flood risk perception near dams that are at a greater risk of failing in the near future. Her research was influenced by her thesis work on the historical development and current social, political, and environmental challenges faced by watershed districts in the state of Kansas. Her activity within Association of American Geographers (AAG), the AAG Rural Specialty Group, and local organizations have allowed her to disseminate her research in an applicable way to resolve current issues.

Maria Kennedy
Public Folklorist and Professor, American Studies Department
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Maria Kennedy is a public folklorist who has worked in arts organizations in Indiana, New York, and New Jersey. She is currently an instructor in the American Studies Department at Rutgers University and Administrative Director of the New Jersey Folk Festival. Her PhD dissertation in the Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology at Indiana University investigated agricultural heritage and environmental conservation in England, focusing on orchards and heritage practices such as cider making and the festival of Wassail. She continues her interests in orchards, cider, and landscape heritage through research in the United States and Britain. In her capacity at Rutgers, Maria conducts research with diverse communities and artists in New Jersey to support programming for the New Jersey Folk Festival and is active in scholarship on festival, public humanities, and heritage.

Andrew Maclaren
Teaching Fellow in Geography
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Andrew graduated with his PhD in Geography at the University of Aberdeen in 2019, having previously completed his undergraduate and research masters degrees in Geography at The University of Edinburgh. Andrew’s work explores culture and everyday life, in order to engage with social, economic and political changes affecting everyday spaces and places. Most recently Andrew has developed this interest in his PhD through a consideration of rural ageing. His PhD research on the everyday lives of older people in rural spaces, and wider considerations of rural studies and contemporary geographical theories, have been published in Sociologia Rurals and Geography Compass. Most recently Andrew has been contracted as a teaching fellow at the University of Aberdeen in Geography, leading lectures on cultural and political geographies as well as seminars on the history of geographical knowledge.
Aimee Morse
Graduate Student
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Aimee is currently studying for an MRes in Human Geography at the University of Birmingham, where she also completed her undergraduate degree. She is particularly interested in how the everyday, lived experiences of British farmers inform their identity, sense of place and perceptions of contemporary rural issues. She will be commencing a PhD at the University of Gloucestershire in September to study the social and environmental outcomes of landscape-scale agri-environment schemes.

Cheryl Morse
Associate Professor, Department of Geography
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Cheryl (Cherie) Morse is Associate Professor of Geography at the University of Vermont. She directs the Earth and Environment Scholars program, and is a member of the Environmental Studies Program faculty and the Food Systems Graduate Program. She is a social geographer who researches everyday engagements between people and place through topics including: working landscapes, migration, emotion, and the production of social and non-human rural spaces. The role of identity, power, and privilege is a central focus in these studies. Her degrees are from the University of Vermont (BA Honors, MA) and the University of British Columbia (Ph.D). For fun she serves as a youth lacrosse coach and official.

Peter Nelson
Professor of Geography
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Peter Nelson’s research interests revolve around the intersections between economic and demographic change in rural regions across the US. His work over the past 10 years has focused primarily on rural gentrification, and is looking forward to sharing a small slice of rural Vermont (his home for the last 20 years) with the conference attendees. When he is not studying rural landscapes, he enjoys running, biking, hiking, skiing, fly fishing, gardening, and golfing in and through them.

Karin Patzke
Visiting Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies
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My research is at the intersection of science, technology, and the environment. I incorporate both historical and ethnographic research methods to understand how rural communities adapt to both changes in agricultural practices, as well as pressures to incorporate environmental conservation endeavors on both private and public lands. I’m most interested in environmental governance at the local scale, or how people are enrolled and participate in policies.
Martin Philips  
*Professor of Human Geography*  
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Martin Phillips is Professor of Human Geography at the School of Geography, Geology and Environment at the University of Leicester. His research interests include the study of representations of rurality, rural energy geographies, attitudes and actions to mitigate and adapt to climate change, comparative rural research and rural social change, including rural gentrification. Recent research projects include a study 'International Rural Gentrification' (i-RGENT) which is examining the theory, forms and processes of rural gentrification in the UK, France and USA. Martin is also a member of programme coordination team of the recently announced 'Landscape Decision Making Programme' funded by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI).

Lucia Possehl  
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Lucia Possehl is a rising senior at the University of Vermont where she studies Geography, Environmental Studies, and History. She has done research on conservation practices and perceptions among farmers in rural Wisconsin and is currently working on her thesis research on the activist and health geographies of opioid harm reduction networks in rural Vermont. Her other academic interests include oral histories, experiential education, place-based identity, and rural studies.

Avantika Ramekar  
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Avantika is currently a graduate student at Kansas State University. Her Ph.D. research explores local opinions about energy development, how individuals in local communities’ experience energy extraction changes, and how local fossil fuel industry dynamics affect their opinions. She has presented her research at regional and annual meeting of the American Association of Geographers. Avantika is an active member of several professional and student organizations, including the International Geographical Honor Society (GTU) and the American Association of Geographers (AAG). She is an active member of the Rural Geography Specialty Group of the AAG, for which she has served as a student officer.

Doug Ramsey  
*Professor, Department of Rural Development*  
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Dr. Doug Ramsey is a Professor in the Department of Rural Development at Brandon University. His research and teaching interests include agricultural restructuring, rural tourism, and community well-being. He is the founding editor of the *Journal of Rural and Community Development*. Doug’s current research includes community museums, cross-border shopping tourism, and farmers’ markets.
Guy Robinson  
Professor, Department of Geography, Environment and Population  
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Guy Robinson is a human geographer with 45 years’ experience of research and teaching on rural development and environmental management. Currently affiliated with the Department of Geography, Environment and Population in the University of Adelaide (Australia) and as a Departmental Associate in the Department of Land Economy, University of Cambridge (UK), he is Editor-in-Chief of Research in Globalization and Editor Emeritus of Land Use Policy. His books include Conflict and Change in the Countryside, Sustainable Rural Systems, Geographies of Agriculture and Handbook on the Globalisation of Agriculture. Recently he has been a Guest Professor in the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing and at Xi’an Jiaotong University and a GIAN Visiting Fellow at Aligarh Muslim University in India.

Bruce Scholten  
Honorary Research Fellow  
Durham University – United Kingdom  
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Bruce A. Scholten (PhD 2007 Durham University UK) is Fellow, Royal Geographical Society, and Editor of Rural Geography Research Group’s RGRG Newsletter (2009-21). He has lectured at Durham, Newcastle, and Sunderland Universities in the UK, and abroad. He was Honorary Research Fellow, Durham University Geography Department, 2009-18. Books include India’s White Revolution (2010 Bloomsbury-Tauris), Food and Risk in the US and UK (2011 LAP) & US Organic Dairy Politics (2014 Palgrave-Springer). He was raised on a dairy farm near Lynden, Washington, USA, and writes for academic & stakeholder publications. Besides milch cooperatives, interests include motorcycle racing.

Felipe da Silva Machado  
PhD Student, Human Geography School  
University of Plymouth – United Kingdom  
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Felipe da Silva Machado is a fully funded PhD Candidate within the Human Geography Department at the University of Plymouth (UK), researching the global countryside and farming resilience in Brazil. Postgraduate Representative (2018-2019) of the Royal Geographical Society Rural Geography Research Group. His PhD study explores farmers’ strategies and networks and highlights the importance of sharing, building knowledges and learning practices in the rural hinterland of Rio de Janeiro in a global era. During his Undergraduate and Masters in Geography at Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, he specialized in Rural and Agricultural Geography, investigating the themes of urban and peri-urban agriculture in the Brazilian context and socio-spatial restructuring of metropolitan regions at the rural-urban interface.
Darren Smith  
Professor of Geography  
School of Social Sciences and Humanities  
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Darren is Professor of Geography and Director of Academic Staffing in the School of Social Sciences and Humanities at Loughborough University, UK. He is editor of Journal of Rural Studies and Population, Space and Place. Darren’s research interests include rural studies, population studies, and urban studies – with a current focus on migration, gentrification and studentification.

Kristin Smith  
PhD Candidate, Resources & Communities Research Group  
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Kristin is a PhD Candidate in Dr. Julia H. Haggerty’s Resources & Communities Research Group at Montana State University. Her research sits at the intersection of economic geography, natural resource management, and rural development. She is currently researching the long-term impacts of unconventional oil and gas development in the Bakken shale play with a focus on how the boom has physically transformed communities through capital asset investments.

John Smithers  
Professor, Department of Geography, Environment and Geomatics  
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John Smithers is a rural geographer and a Professor in the Department of Geography, Environment and Geomatics at the University of Guelph. John is currently on research and study leave following completion of an extended period of service as Department Chair in 2018. His current research interests focus primarily on local and alternative food systems with an emphasis on farm-level participation in short food supply chains, most recently as related to farm to school food initiatives in Ontario. John also has a longstanding interest in the transformation of rural communities and landscapes in response to the rise of more consumption-focused development in the countryside.

Tony Sorensen  
Adjunct Professor  
Geography and Planning  
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Tony Sorensen is a futurist working in the field of Australian rural economic development and have, for much of his academic career, straddled the boundary between Geography and Economics. A Fellow of two institutes, and the past-president of a third – the Australia and New Zealand Regional Science Association – He has also acted as an advisor to several tiers of government, worked consistently with Sydney’s Centre for Independent Studies - a pro market think-tank, and operated a consulting business. He has enjoyed collaborating on rural research themes with colleagues in many different countries including Japan, Poland, Romania, Israel, New Zealand and Portugal.
Aileen Stockdale
Professor, School of Natural and Built Environment
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Aileen is Professor in Environmental Planning at the School of Natural and Built Environment, Queen's University Belfast and co-editor of Population, Space and Place. Her research expertise is on the changing demography of rural areas. This focuses on rural mobility (in- and out-migration) and immobility (staying) and, in particular, the decision-making processes (including partner negotiations by couples) and economic and social consequences for rural destination and origin areas. Her research also includes a strong life course perspective.

Laura Taylor
Associate Professor Faculty of Environmental Studies
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Laura is a political ecologist and planner who studies exurbia. She is interested in how landscapes are made through environmental and social processes. She is co-editor of two books, A Comparative Political Ecology of Exurbia: Planning, Environmental Management and Landscape Change (2016) and Landscape and the Ideology of Nature: Green Sprawl (2013). She teaches sustainable ecological design and planning.

Marco van Gemeren
Undergraduate Student, Rural Quadrennial Intern
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Marco van Gemeren is currently a rising senior Geography major at Middlebury College (minoring in Computer Science and French). Having studied in Vermont and grown up in New Hampshire, he has always had an interest in studying the dynamics of rural places and populations.

Levi Van Sant
Lecturer of Geography
George Mason University – United States
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Levi Van Sant will start as an assistant professor in the School of Integrative Studies at George Mason University in August 2019. His current research focuses on the role of land ownership in environmental (in)justice, particularly in the coastal US South. He is also developing a participatory research project on the potential to democratize soil surveys for environmental justice.
William Wetherholt
Assistant Professor, Department of Geography
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William Wetherholt is a humanistic rural geographer and an Assistant Professor at Frostburg State University in the mountains of Western Maryland. His research interests include place attachment, rural sustainability, repeat photography, critical cartography, and the privacy/ethical issues inherent in geospatial technology. He is a member of the Maryland Geographic Alliance, the Association of American Geographers, and the AAG Rural Geography Specialty Group. This is his second Quad!

Jeffery Widener
Associate Professor, Director of Center for Spatial Analysis
Department of Geography and Environmental Sustainability
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Jeffrey Widener is an Associate Professor and the Director for the Center for Spatial Analysis (CSA) in the Department of Geography and Environmental Sustainability at the University of Oklahoma. Jeff is a cultural/historical geographer who’s interested in the processes of cultural landscape change in the American West. At CSA, Jeff helps build partnerships with the academic and community sectors (governmental and private) to develop and implement geospatial information systems (GIS) applications that advance research and support day-to-day spatial management practices.

Michael Woods
Professor of Human Geography
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Michael Woods is Professor of Human Geography at Aberystwyth University in Wales. His work explores various aspects of contemporary rural change, including globalization and the ‘global countryside’, rural politics and protests and rural policy and governance. He has recently completed a five-year European Research Council project GLOBAL-RURAL, and is currently involved in European projects on rural-urban synergies (ROBUST) and spatial justice and territorial inequalities (IMAJINE) and is Co-Director of the ESRC WISERD/Civil Society research centre. He was Editor of the Journal of Rural Studies until last year.
The Quadrennial Rural Geography Meetings: A Topical Retrospective
Dr Lisa Harrington - Geography, Kansas State University
Dr Guy Robinson - University of Cambridge; University of Adelaide

The quadrennial rural geography conferences have been taking place since 1991, developing out of an initial meeting of rural geographers in 1985, in Guelph, Canada. This is sometimes considered to be the first conference, although it might be thought of as the inspirational pre-quadrennial meeting. The quadrennial rural geography conferences, starting with the first Quadrennial Meeting in 1991, have been organized by the rural geography study groups of the UK, the US, and Canada, with each selecting a delegation from their own memberships (and a few participants from Eire, New Zealand, and Australia). This paper will explore shifts in themes and contributions from the meetings, including conferences that took place in London to the English Midlands (1991), focused on “Restructuring of Rural Areas;” in North Carolina (1995) organized around “Rural Systems and Geographical Scale;” Nova Scotia (1999), “The New Countryside: Critical Questions for the Future of Rural Regions and Communities;” Devon (2003), “Contrasting Ruralities: Changing Rural Economies, Societies and Landscapes;” Washington/Idaho (2007), “The Global Rural: Rural Change, Connections, and Scale;” Manitoba/Saskatchewan (2011), “Rural Geography--Rural Development: Theories and Applications;” and Wales (2015), “Global Challenges and Rural Responses.” Sources for tracing shifts in emphases include personal experiences and meeting materials, as well as books arising from several of the conferences (see below). The 1991 conference brought out ‘cultural differences’ among UK and North American rural geographers, with varying jargon and interpretations. In the initial meetings, contributions from the UK delegates tended to have a stronger focus on social theory while North Americans tended to focus on more applied and empirical topics. There has been a gradual convergence over time, with a move toward fewer nationally-related differences in approach and to broader considerations affecting/affected by rural conditions.

Migrating Mennonites: Exploring the Economic and Social Impacts of a Mennonite Migration in Northern Ontario
Dr Sara Epp – Lecturer and Post-Doctoral Fellow, University of Guelph

As the cost of farmland in southern Ontario continues to increase and farmers are unable to expand their farms or purchase new land, many are seeking alternate locations suitable for agriculture. Northern Ontario, with an abundance of productive, less expensive land, has proven to be an opportune location for many farmers. Over the past fifteen years, a significant movement of Anabaptist farmers, particularly Amish and Old Order Mennonites, to northern Ontario has occurred. These farmers have increased access to local food, broadened the productive spectrum of crops and improved food security for many communities. Utilizing traditional agrarian practices with limited modern technology, Anabaptist farmers have significantly broadened the agricultural landscape and challenged prevailing stereotypes of agricultural viability in the north. This paper explores the migration of three Old Order Mennonite communities to northern Ontario, including their motivations to move, community structure and cultural beliefs. It is
important to understand that substantial outreach, planning and research occurred prior to the initial migration and a move was only initiated with the support of the northern town. Such support was foundational to their current success and long-term viability. This paper will also discuss the economic and social impacts of Old Order Mennonites within their northern communities and successes with agricultural production. As many rural communities are facing population decline, many lessons can be learnt from these three case studies regarding rural migration, economic growth and social change.

**Geographies of Rural Gentrification in Time and Space**

Dr Peter Nelson – Geography Department, Middlebury College

Casey Lilley and Marco van Gemeren – Undergraduate Students, Geography Department Middlebury College

As a simultaneous reflection of cultural, economic, aesthetic, and demographic processes, gentrification has long been an object of intense and rich geographic inquiry. Scholars working in urban and rural contexts of both the Global North and Global South have used gentrification as a framework to interrogate a variety of different landscape changes and have identified different forms of gentrification including ‘pioneering’, ‘marginal’, ‘new build’, and ‘super’ gentrification. This paper draws on results from a detailed case study of rural gentrification in New York’s Finger Lakes Region to make three contributions to the rural gentrification literature. First, the results highlight the unique forms of gentrification present within a single rural region. Rural gentrification is manifest in forms similar to those already identified in the urban gentrification literature and by rural gentrification scholars in the UK. Second, the case study results demonstrate how rural gentrification can transform the temporal rhythms in the ways gentrifiers use rural space. Third, the case study location is situated in a distinctly rural portion of a large metropolitan region. Thus, the analysis will highlight the ways rural gentrification is transforming rural regions along the rural-urban interface – a spatial domain of growing research interest. By highlighting rural change within a metropolitan area, the analysis will bring to light complex rural dynamics that to date have gone largely unstudied in US rural scholarship which tends to rely on county-based metropolitan classifications as a proxy for rurality.

**Rural Cosmopolitanism & Refugee Reception in Rural Towns: Experiences from Ireland & Wales**

Professor Michael Woods – Department of Geography & Earth Sciences, Aberystwyth University

Dr Taulant Guma – School of Geosciences, Edinburgh University

Dr Sophie Yarker – School of Social Sciences, Manchester University

The geographical distribution of refugees and asylee seekers has become a major political issue in Europe as the displacement of people by the Syrian civil war has added to existing patterns of migration from Africa and Asia. The debate has not only been framed at national scales around the distribution of refugees and asylum seekers between EU member states, but also through questions about where refugees and asylum seekers are settled within countries. Whilst several EU countries, such as Germany and Sweden, have established policies of refugee and asylum seeker dispersal, including to rural areas, in Britain and Ireland the tendency has conventionally been to concentrate refugees and asylum seekers in cities with more diverse multicultural populations. In the early 2000s, both countries introduced dispersal schemes with asylum seekers assigned to reception centres in rural localities. The scheme has faced both opposition from local rural residents objecting to the perceived disruption of presumed homogenous monoethnic rural communities (Hubbard 2005) and criticism from humanitarian civil society groups who highlights concerns with the spatial and financial constraints imposed on asylum seekers and their isolation from cultural networks and resources (Conlon 2010). More recently, the settlement of Syrian refugees in the UK has broken with the policy of the previous 25 years by dispersing refugees across the country, including into rural districts. This paper examines case studies of two rural towns in Ireland and Wales that have received
asylum seekers or refugees. Ballyhaunis, Ireland, has hosted a direct provision centre for asylum seekers since 2001, with around 200 asylum seekers in residence at any time, as well as a short-term refugee orientation centre. Aberystwyth, Wales, received Syrian refugees under the first wave of the UK government’s programme, following grassroots lobbying, and has subsequently welcomed refugee Syrian families under an innovative community sponsorship scheme. The paper compares the experiences of asylum seekers and refugees in the two localities as well as the response of local civil society groups. It draws on the concept of ‘rural cosmopolitanism’ (Krivokapic-Skoko et al 2018; Schech 2014; Woods 2018) to explore how local engagements with refugees and asylum seekers draw on ideas of sense of place and international connections, and to assess how the capacities of refugees and asylum seekers are restricted or enabled by the small town location.

Paper Session 2 – Rural (im)mobilities
Sunday, July 14, 10:30 – 12:00pm

Rural Gentrification & Displacement: Critical & Necessarily Related?
Prof Martin Phillips – School of Geography, Geology & the Environment, University of Leicester
Prof Darren Smith – Geography & Environment, School of Social Sciences, Loughborough University
Dr Hannah Brooking – School of Geography, Geology & the Environment, University of Leicester
Dr Mara Duer – School of Geography, Geology & the Environment, University of Leicester

Displacement, or the outmigration of people, has long been viewed a key, indeed definitive, theoretical and political constituent of the concept of gentrification (e.g. Slater, 2006; 2008). Although has also considered as one of its most empirically elusive and theoretically underexplored aspects. Claims have emerged that it is possible to have ‘gentrification without displacement’ (Hamnett and Whitelegg, 2007), but criticisms have also been made about the ‘displacement of displacement’ within gentrification studies (Slater, 2006). Whilst such debates have been largely conducted in relation to studies of urban gentrification, Halfacree (2018) has argued that the concept of gentrification within rural studies might have limited applicability as population displacement has frequently occurred well before ‘counter-urban' middle class migration. This paper explores arguments over the presence and significance of displacement in relation to rural gentrification and the study of migration and rural population change, drawing on a study of villages in five rural districts of England. Employing an asset-based theorisation of class and gentrification, it is argued that displacement should be viewed as a multi-dimensional phenomenon encompassing employment, consumption practices and affective connections with people and place, as well as access to housing. It is also argued that attention needs to be paid to the temporal dynamics of gentrification and displacement, with often exhibit both asynchronicity and extended duration. It is argued that these features demonstrate the significance of ‘relations of exteriority’ (De Landa, 2006) within the formation of gentrification, but that displacement is very much in evidence in the contemporary English countryside.

Blocking the Pipeline of Rural Gentrification: Migrant Gentrifiers ‘Staying Put’
Prof Darren Smith – Geography & Environment, School of Social Sciences, Loughborough University
Prof Martin Phillips – School of Geography, Geology & the Environment, University of Leicester
Dr Hannah Brooking – School of Geography, Geology & the Environment, University of Leicester
Dr Mara Duer – School of Geography, Geology & the Environment, University of Leicester

Rural gentrification is viewed by the media and policy makers as a common process of change, that is very much ‘alive and kicking’ (Halfacree, 2018; Nelson, 2018). It is a process that has been studied within academic since the early 1990s (Phillips and Smith, 2018). Inherent to the processes of change are in- and out-migration flows, which are expressive of the displacement of lower income groups by affluent incomers.
In this paper we present findings from an ESRC-funded study of households in three Hertfordshire villages that formed the focus of Pahl’s (1965) study. Drawing on household surveys to examine rural gentrification, we show that there has been a relative absence of migration during the last decade (see Stockdale et al., 2018). Key factors include previous waves of gentrifiers in the 1980s-mid 2000s staying-put and ageing in place (despite some having ‘too many bedrooms’ and ‘unmanageable gardens’); the effects of tied cottages in landed estates; the lack of new-build housing and constraining planning frameworks, and; the lack of affordable housing for young local families. The latter signifies the dominant form of out-migration from the villages and is an unintentional marker of rural gentrification. We link these findings to analyses of 2011 census data which also revealed limited migration into and out of gentrified rural places.

Putting Rural Stayers in the Spotlight
Prof Aileen Stockdale – School of Natural &amp; Built Environment, Queen’s University Belfast
Prof Tialda Haartsen – Faculty of Spatial Sciences, Groningen University
Dr Annett Steinführer – Institute of Rural Studies, Johann Heinrich von Thünen Institute

Population and rural geography research has mainly focused on the ‘migration discourse’ (Barcus & Halfacree 2018; Cooke 2011; Cresswell 2011 & 2012; Sheller & Urry 2006; Stockdale & Haartsen 2018) and has given limited attention to those who do not move (stayers). Yet, residential mobility is an infrequent occurrence in most people’s lives (Coulter & van Ham 2013; Coulter et al. 2016) and national migration rates are in decline: the expansion of daily-life and virtual mobilities (e.g. commuting and social media) has increased the possibilities to stay (Cooke & Shuttleworth 2017). Staying, especially in rural areas, is frequently reported in negative terms (Looker & Naylor 2009; Nugin 2014; Tucker et al. 2013). But increasingly there have been calls for it to be considered more positively, for example, in a recent Special Issue of Population, Space and Place ‘Putting rural Stayers in the Spotlight’. We concentrate on the agency of stayers and view staying as a positive and deliberate decision (based on senses of rural identity and selective and elective (s/elective) belonging) which is re-evaluated over the life course (Geist & McManus 2008; Haartsen & Stockdale 2018; Hjälm 2014). Those who elect to stay and to belong are likely to be a valuable resource contributing to rural community quality of life and participatory society.

We report on preliminary research which shows that the decision to stay is re-negotiated at key life stage transitions (Haartsen & Stockdale 2018; Stockdale et al. 2018), and introduce our new international research project (STAYin(g)Rural) which examines staying in three countries (N Ireland, Netherlands and Germany) and at three life course stages: the young adulthood, family formation and post-retirement stages. In doing so, we adopt a life course perspective on staying and position the decision to stay within stayer biographies. We seek to capture the multiple types of contemporary rural stayers (for example, newcomers who have stayed; those staying in the rural but not in their home rural area; etc.), staying processes, and stayers’ participation in and contribution to social community life. All have been under-researched to date.

Rootedness in the very rural Great Plains of Kansas and Nebraska
Dr William Wetherholt – Department of Geography, Frostburg State University

While metropolitan populations in the Great Plains – primarily on its periphery – have expanded, significant interior rural portions have experienced decades of outmigration (Wilson 2009). The vantage point of residents remaining in these emptying spaces has received little attention. Grounded theory guided a sequential mixed method study of 1,000 mailed questionnaires, followed by three separate focus groups, to gain a better perspective on the aspects of place contributing to an individual’s rootedness in the most rural and depopulating portions of the central Great Plains. Rootedness is a strong, local sense of home
that carries with it a similarly strong emotional attachment to the local area (Hummon 1992). McHugh and Mings (1996) associated rootedness with the strongest level of place attachment.

Our study found rootedness to be most associated with a sense of belonging, which supports Raymond, Brown, and Weber’s (2010) assertion that a sense of belonging strengthens place attachment. Rooted respondents also indicated that they felt good about where they live, and many perceive themselves to be community insiders. This echoes Burholt’s (2006) finding that established relationships in a place provide a source of emotional support and contribute to one’s attachment to place. A significant need for more vocational services was elicited from our participants. A lack of sufficient trained individuals was seen as a reflection of institutional fast-tracking of students out of the area combined with a lack of support for motivating young people to apply their skills locally. Daniels and Lapping (1987) suggested that these places (under 2,500 people) have the lowest likelihood of survival. The communities in our study may not be in danger of disappearing altogether, but their populations’ continued downward trajectory undermines their long term viability. Results suggest strategies like a shift in local educational approaches and inclusive activities targeted at those more likely to leave may encourage new roots to be put down or nurture roots to grow deeper, thus helping to curb outmigration and strengthen the livability of some of America’s most rural places.

Farmland habitat loss for native pollinators: What are the prospects for recovery? A landscape study of the Kennebec County, Maine, United States
Dr Nathalie Gravel – Département de géographie, Université Laval

While biodiversity on farmlands has been declining since at least the 1940s in North America due to monocrop agriculture and elimination of the fallow, pressure from the use of pesticides has made it even more difficult for small wildlife and pollinating insects to continue existing in today’s countryside. Agricultural expansion, urbanization and forest conservation initiatives have widely disrupted natural and manmade ecosystems in which pollinators used to thrive, making the number and quality of natural habitats for wild pollinators such as birds, butterflies and native bees decline with time. Given the changes in farming and lumbering practices since the modernization of the Kennebec rural counties in the state of Maine (Augusta region) since the 1850’s, the resulting working rural landscapes offer scarce opportunities for wild pollinators’ population to recover unless some more biodiverse farming and forest management methods emerge. Patchwork development practices have been helpful in preserving heterogenous landscapes providing for pollen, nectar and nesting grounds but are these food sources and nesting places sufficient for the maintenance of native pollination services? This research program uses a comprehensive landscape analysis approach to assess habitat capacity to sustain native pollinators according to a rural-urban continuum including a review of diverse forest habitats and farm management techniques.

Reworking the Landscape: Foraging Forgotten Agricultural Landscapes for the Craft Cider Revival
Dr Maria Kennedy – Department of American Studies, Rutgers University

New interest in craft cider-making has emerged amongst a generation of brewers, wine-makers, and farmers, bringing cider producers in the Finger Lakes region of New York back into contact with the remnants of the vernacular orchard landscapes that characterized early farmsteads. In addition to presenting practical issues of re-working hitherto abandoned agricultural landscapes and the re-introduction of orchards as productive crops, the conceptualization of foraging for apples amidst “wild” or abandoned landscapes presents a captivating story and a successful marketing and media narrative for
these producers (Jacobson 2015). The narrative of the cider maker as valiant forager, rediscovering old
trees and encountering wild or feral trees, engages simultaneously in tropes of the wilderness explorer and
productive agrarian citizen that have previously characterized the legendary figure of Johnny Appleseed
(Kerrigan 2012). However ethnographic examination of foraging practices opens up much more complex
portraits of the ways that rural land has been used, disused, and reused for various social and productive
purposes (Hufford 2002), bringing into focus more nuanced understanding of the interactions of
communities, wildlife, and agriculture in the formation of the rural landscape (Williamson 2013). Comparing and contrasting lived experiences of the reworked landscapes with media narratives of craft
cider making, I demonstrate the both the gap between lived realities of rural communities and the ongoing
media myths of rural places, while also showing the importance of such narratives to rural identity (Morse
et al 2014). As these media narratives continue to shape a new craft industry, it leads us to wonder, will
such narratives have material effects in reshaping a rural landscape yet again if they are successful in
creating further demand for rural products, as well as shaping the imaginative contours of the rural
imagination?

(re)Structuring rural relationships through public and private land use in Central New York
Dr Karin Patzke – Environmental Studies, State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and
Forestry

In the first half of the 20th century, Central New York condemned and deeded so-called marginalized
agricultural lands to both state and federal agencies, creating a patchwork of recreational lands including
forests and parks, as well as research and educational spaces. While recreational use dominants these lands
(for example, snowmobile trails, public hunting, camping and hiking), they retain traces of agricultural use,
including orchards, remnants of homesteads, and roadways. This paper examines relationships in rural
communities between contemporary use and historical narratives regarding both the legacy of
transformation, as well as new forms of capital development (Flora, Flora and Gasteyer 2016). Discursively,
these rural spaces are valued for both their potential for economic production and development (Higgins
and Larner 2017), as well as for the cultural role they play in establishing narratives of authentic
Northeastern wilderness (Vidon 2016), highlighting the tension between cultural and economic discourses.
As informal and formal histories of these marginalized agricultural lands are passed along, contested
narratives of individual agency, governance, and the value of public goods are debated (McGuire and Wurst
2002, Morse and Mudgett 2017). Of specific interest in this paper is the public perception of land use and
value within the contemporary neoliberal context of economic rural development and natural resource
management in the Heiberg Memorial Forest, established in 1948 as both a research station for the state
College of Environmental Science and Forestry and as a recreational venue for the public. As private rural
lands transfer to public use, this research seeks to understand why and how compelling narratives of
governance, culture, and economics are deployed.

Canada Experiences of “rural re-making” after decline: from grain corn and Chryslers to farm
gateway and “a nice chardonnay” on Ontario’s Lake Erie North Shore
Dr John Smithers, Ms Heather Reid, & Ms Julia Withers – Department of Geography, Environment and
Geomatics, University of Guelph

Contemporary rural change in many developed regions has involved the transformation of landscapes
dominated by primary production and an unambiguous productivist identity, to more consumption-based
patterns of economic activity that seek to both capitalize upon and actively promote different aspects of
the inherent natural and cultural capital (Argent, 2002; Woods, 2005). Such is the case in the Essex
County-Pelee Island Region of Southwestern Ontario where continuing decline in the automotive sector,
a major economic ’engine’ of the regional economy, together with unrelenting pressures on commodity-
based small and medium scale farm enterprises form the backdrop for a turn to the consumption side via. The region affords an opportunity to assess early on how local authorities are framing and seeking to support two quite different forms of activity – one grounded in the cultural refinement properties of place, product and experience associated with the designation of the Lake Erie North Shore wine appellation, and the other implicating a wider swath of family farm enterprise operators who might seek to develop tourism-related activities either independently or in concert with nascent regional development actors. Two separate, but related data sets are used to explore these two forms of agritourism, in both presentation and practice, as an element of the regional brand and as a form of farm-level diversification. The analysis considers both the dynamics of representation and recruitment at the regional governance level via document and key informant interviews, as well as attempting a more nuanced understanding of agritourism-provider experiences and motivations at the farm- and estate winery-level.

**Paper Session 4 — Rural Relationality and Experience**

**Monday, July 15, 8:15 – 10:15am**

**A Return to Topophilia: Recognising & Celebrating Critically an Emotive Rural**

*Dr Keith Halfacree – Department of Geography, College of Science, Swansea University*

This paper seeks to resurrect for 21st Century scholarship the concept of topophilia or love of place that was popularised within Geography and beyond through Yi-Fu Tuan’s 1974 book of that name. Subsequently overlooked through the later 20th Century, not least as material and representational understandings of human lives asserted predominance over more subjective or emotionally rooted perspectives, the paper argues that it is now an idea whose time has come again. This resurrection is inspired not just by social science’s turn towards recognising the role of the more-than-representational in the shaping of everyday life but also through a more explicitly political need to recognise the potential of emotions – of diverse kinds, not solely love - in our interactions with and in the ultimate shaping of place. The argument in the paper will specifically focus on rural topophilia i.e. love of the rural and what is associated with it. It will be achieved through drawing on topophilian resonances and lessons within a number of noted contemporary rural expressions including the ‘new nature writing’, leisure activities, the playing-out of pro-rural migration, reactions to recent reports of dramatic biodiversity decline in the UK countryside, resistance to development in rural locations, and even advocacy of ‘ecosexuality’. Overall, the paper will usefully add to the interpretative framing of the diverse rural expressions of everyday life illustrated by many of the other papers and practical expressions experienced through the conference.

**Relational Ruralities: Exploring Geo-historicity through the Lives of Older People**

*Dr Andrew Maclaren – Department of Geography & Environment, University of Aberdeen & Social, Economic & Geographical Sciences Group, James Hutton Institute*

This paper explores the relational and embodied geographies of older people's everyday lives in rural spaces. This paper contributes to the study of rural ageing and the burgeoning field of geographical gerontology, where scholars are illustrating the complex relationality that exists within and between the spaces and places of older people’s lives, both in their present and against the longer trajectory of their life course. Drawing on contemporary movements within social and cultural theory, this paper utilises the concept of geo-historicity to consider the role of time and memory in the everyday lives of older people within rural spaces. To explore these concepts, this paper draws on findings from six months of ethnographic research undertaken in a village in rural Scotland. The paper frames a consideration of time and memory in two ways: on a collective level and at the level of the individual. This paper elucidates how the geographical and temporal are bounded in the experience of older people, through both their collective
memories and personal histories that contributes to the complex interdependence older people have in the spaces and places of their lives. The paper contributes to the idea of relational ruralities, where older people draw on their geo-historicity to define rural space, from across their experience of the same, similar or contrasting spaces, experienced throughout their lives. The embodied nature of all these combined produce an individual’s understanding of rural space, drawing on the longer trajectory afforded by the life course of older people.

Dowsing: A Way of Knowing and Restoring Agricultural Landscape
Dr Cheryl Morse and Dr Harlan Morehouse—Geography Department, University of Vermont

Dowsing is a traditional method for finding underground water and other invisible or intangible resources and energies. In rural areas where landowners must source their own water, it is not uncommon for rural residents to hire a dowser to identify a location for a well before the driller arrives. Quietly, some rural residents also use dowsing to orient gardens, design farming systems, and solve agricultural problems. In these instances, dowsing can be understood as way of getting to know a landscape in great detail through an embodied practice. This paper reports on an international research project that investigated how rural residents employ dowsing to make environmental decisions. This research adds new perspectives to several discussions in rural studies including: how rural residents perceive and produce local landscapes (Morse et al. 2014), how farmers and others experience place through material engagements (Burton 2004, Carolan 2008, Wylie 2005), how people learn through skilled interactions with the environment (Ingold 2000, 2011) and how rural residents interact with animals and other non-humans to navigate spaces (Yarwood 2015). Ultimately, the research introduces an alternative way to know place and negotiate environmental uncertainty.

Why Cynefin Matters: The Importance of Place Attachment & Identity for Survival of Snowdonia’s Family Hill Farms
Ms Aimee Morse - School of Geography, Earth & Environmental Sciences, University of Birmingham

The paper explores the concept of *cynefin*, an intangible connection between farmers, their families, communities and land(scapes) on farms in Snowdonia, Wales. Through phenomenological analysis of walking interviews conducted with 17 farmers, the research assesses the importance of everyday experiences and practices in shaping the farming landscape. It considers how these practices shape farmers’ understandings of the spaces they work in, their senses of place and identities. It explores how farmers use these identities and intimate knowledges of the land they work to make cases for the future of their farms. The paper investigates the consubstantial relationships farmers form with their farm and how these, and traditional, tacit knowledges, are reproduced through succession, a key farming virtue. Finally, it reflects on the importance of farming to Wales’ culture, the effects this might have on farmers’ attachment to their land and what this might mean for farm and rural community survival.

Paper Session 5 – Rural Dynamics beyond the US, UK, and Canada

Monday, July 15, 11:00 – 1:00pm

Dairyscapes in the New Global (Dis)order: Can Indian, EU & US Co-op Cooperate?
Dr Bruce Scholten - Independent Geographer

Globally, family-scale farmers form dairy cooperatives to resist encroachment by highly-capitalised competitors. Dairyscapes, like milchcows grazing along Lake Champlain, are valued by pastoralists (often religious minorities), who eschew the confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs), which animal welfarist call factory farms for sentient creatures (Dawkins 2012). Vermont Sen. Patrick Leahy consulted with
smallholders of CROPP-Organic Valley cooperative (est. 1988), to pass the Organic Foods Production Act (1990), and USDA National Organic Programme (NOP-2002). But organics did not stem the agribusiness onslaught, whose 10,000-cow megadairies bankrupted 50-cow farms—despite pastoralists’ lawsuits claiming mega-dairies violate USDA rules that cows graze a minimum 120 days/annually on pasture (Scholten 2007, 2011, 2014).

In Europe, cessation of EU 1984-2015 Milk Quotas turned the placid sector to expansion and mergers. As in USA, one survival tactic is marketing grassfed milk with healthy Omega-3s (Benbrook et al 2015; Bio-Wiesenmilch 2018). But EU sanctions against Russia further weakened farm incomes. So, organic coop OMSCO-UK has been working with Soil Association-UK to pool milk with Organic Valley-USA coop, to market UHT milk to China (Farmers Weekly 2016).

India’s White Revolution (Scholten 2010) has nurtured smallholders’ livelihoods, not export. But the Old-World Order, formed at the end of the Cold War with multilateral WTO rules, allowed India’s AMUL dairyfarmers’ coop to buy US processing plants supplied by Upstate Niagara-DFA coop (Bus-Std 2014; ToI 2014). The question is: Will Pres. Trump’s aggressive anti-multilateral policies (Economist 22Apr.17; W-A 2018) quash India’s export potential in cooperation with coops in the US, EU, and elsewhere? My April 2019 discussions with coop officials in Gujarat will examine these questions, as well as progress sourcing milk from tribals in the Green Hills of India for world export (Scholten 2007; IFOAM 2018).

Configuration of Rural Space in the Fourth Industrial Revolution: an Australian Perspective
Mr Anthony Sorensen – The University of New England, Armidale

Most aspects of rural economy, society, demography, polity, and even environmental management are likely to change profoundly over the next 20 years, driven by a constellation of new, highly transformative, and increasingly integrated technologies. Those rural regions and communities within them that fail to adapt to the increasingly dominant forces for change are likely to suffer painful futures including higher unemployment, redundancy of existing knowledge and skills, out-migration, loss or slow replacement of essential services, and higher dependency ratios. On the other hand, some places may benefit substantially for several reasons. These included high geographical accessibility; strong portfolios of resources, including environmental assets; and agile thinking or strategies. Much business literature these days focuses on agile management approaches of the kind found in Google, Amazon, and Apple and the approaches employed by such companies potentially have important implications for steering benevolent futures for rural and regional society. Given this background, my presentation will focus – within Australian rural Space – on the potential impacts of the forces and processes just described and how best to manage them. Needless to say, these tasks are immensely complicated given the diversity of geographical circumstances and a huge range of encompassing variables. The latter include national macro- and micro-economic settings, international relations and trade, social security arrangements, government infrastructure provision strategies, extent of public subsidies to different business operations, and so on. Australia provides an interesting laboratory for diagnosis of these processes. Reasons include its strong market economy with minimal subsidies, energetic engagement with rapidly growing Asian economies, heavy dependence on rural exports, sparse rural settlement, and wonderful rural environmental assets.

On the Edge of the Metropolis: Narratives of Farming Resilience & Knowledge Sharing in the Peripheral Countryside of Rio de Janeiro
Mr Felipe da Silva Machado – School of Geography, Earth & Environmental Sciences, University of Plymouth

Brazilian farming systems face a range of social, environmental, economic and political disturbances and changes, such as market fluctuations, climate change, new technology, modification of governance structures, operating at a range of scales. Brazilian agricultural policies usually focus on making agribusiness
farming systems more robust against shocks in the short term. However, a broader view of resilience is needed to ensure a sustainable small-scale agricultural sector in Brazil which can develop farmer capacities and adapt farming systems to changing circumstances and to transform their agricultural models in order to maintain the long-term supply of food and public goods.

This study seeks to understand whether governance arrangements, knowledge sharing, and learning capacities effectively enhance the resilience of small-scale farming systems in the peripheral countryside of Rio de Janeiro. It is based on primary research undertaken with farmer-led networks over the last years.

The need for a holistic approach, using the place-based foundation is timely. An analysis founded on bottom-up information flows and qualitative investigation.

A group of small-scale farmers has been able to elaborate flexible strategies adapted to their availability of natural and financial resources in Rio’s hinterland. The research highlights patterns of the resilience of agriculture land use within the contradictory relationship between urban, industrial and global forces on the viability of farming systems and rural landscapes. Different types of knowledge and cross-scale linkages are part of this process in which farmers are proactive in the context of rural change that has arisen on the edge of the metropolis of Rio de Janeiro.

Rural Transformation in China: The Quest for Sustainable Rural Development
Dr Guy Robinson – University of Cambridge and University of Adelaide

Since the dramatic changes in the management of the Chinese economy first introduced in December 1978, the country has been transformed. The effects on rural China have been dramatic, initially through wholesale out-migration which fuelled rapid urbanisation. This produced the phenomenon of ‘hollowed villages’ in which many rural settlements were deserted by their economically active population (Long et al., 2012). Subsequently, government-financed wholesale land consolidation and modernisation schemes have seen major increases in agricultural output. Large-scale investment in mechanisation has sought to compensate for small plots and a fragmented farm structure as the country has shifted from communal systems of production to land management by individual farm households. However, major losses of some of the best farmland have occurred to urban sprawl while more marginal land has been transferred from agriculture to conservation via payments to farmers for ecosystems services (Zhang et al., 2018). Concerns have been voiced about maintaining food security in face of reduced farmland, but higher yields and massively increased output have accompanied wholesale shifts from traditional farming systems. These are part of a growing multifunctionality of farms reflected in the emergence of a rapidly expanding rural tourism industry (Robinson and Song, 2018. This paper provides an overview of the rural transformation, drawing specifically on recent research in Shaanxi province (north-west China) in which the focus was on changes to ecosystem services through adoption of horticultural production, farmhouse-based rural tourism and village co-operatives investing in food processing and distribution enterprises (Song et al., 2017). The policy focus on creating ‘balanced’ rural and urban development (Zhang et al., 2015) is examined.

Paper Session 6 – Rural Cultural Resilience
Monday, July 15, 2:00 – 4:00pm

Community Agriculture Pedagogy: Tools for Provoking Peer-to-Peer Agricultural Education
Dr Valentine Cadieux – Environmental Studies, Hamline University

The need for more critical agricultural literacy has been well established by sustainable agriculture and anti-hunger advocates (Baker 2010, Magdoff et al. 2000, Anderson et al. 2016). Several challenges face agricultural literacy building efforts, however, including the overstretched time and resource base of most sustainable agriculture organizations, the crowded and confusing discourse field of agrifood advice, and the dominance of lobbying organizations for extractive agriculture in contributing to traditional educational
domains such as primary and secondary school curriculum. (In Minnesota, for example, the state Agriculture in the Classroom committee has only just added one vegetable farmer to a full slate of commodity farmers.) This paper describes efforts to build and share peer-to-peer educational programming supporting community agriculture, in contrast to more commonly encountered promotion of conventional agriculture (MDA 2018, for example, names positive environmental impact and economic justice, for example, in a state program). Almost 20 years after Michael Pollan’s critiques of the U.S. food system and the rise of GMO critiques, what does critical agricultural literacy look like? Focusing particularly on efforts to address racial justice, food chain workers’ conditions, stress and trauma, and farmland access for farmers outside conventional agriculture, these efforts to build community agricultural literacy include efforts to create new programming for public television, policy education, and public art spectacles. Using frameworks from critical pedagogy (Friere 1970) and contemporary social movement theory (Brown 2017), I argue that these cases reflect new convergence in food movement theories of change that may be particularly salient for connecting rural lived experience with food movement politics.

The Importance of Community Museums in Rural Tourism in Southwestern Manitoba
Dr Doug Ramsey – Department of Rural Development, Brandon University, Manitoba

As natural resource extraction economies continue to restructure, contributing to rural population and service decline, the potential and limits for rural tourism development as an element of economic diversification have received increased attention. Community museums often already exist as a component for tourism attraction. Often, the museums are located in heritage or period buildings which add value and importance to their success. The key to their success is in ensuring they are offering the experience visitors desire. The results of the two year study of 18 museums, including a survey of 218 visitors and 15 museum directors are analyzed. In a two stage survey, visitors were asked about their expectations prior to visiting and their levels of satisfaction after their visit. Visitors generally reported high expectations and satisfactions for seeing, learning, and reading about museum displays. Directors were surveyed about the issues related to their particular museum, including future prospects. The conclusions point to both hope and despair for museums in rural and small towns located beyond the urban fringe.

Agritourism as Land Saving Action in the New West
Dr Jeffery Widener – Department of Geography and Environmental Sustainability, University of Oklahoma

Colorado’s upper Grand Valley is a tiny example of the modern American West. This region has experienced it all—the phasing out and in of the Old West, booms, busts, droughts, recessions, and the phasing in, as a High Country News reporter termed it, the “new” New West. Farmers in the upper Grand Valley have a formula for conserving farmland and for preserving their way of life—via technological improvements in irrigation, land trusts and conservation easements, and through agritourism. Agritourism is blooming across the US, and, in the American West, farmers are seeing this activity as a valuable enterprise. The economic importance is a given. But, perhaps just as important is that agritourism activities educate those who partake in them. This paper showcases how farmers in this precious region have preserved their way of life, their landscapes, and their industry for posterity amid the chaos of changes taking place around them—amenity migration, exurbanization, rural gentrification, and natural resource development—by exploring the theme of agritourism and its associated landscape changes.

Conserving What? Conservation Easements and Environmental Justice in the Coastal US South
Dr Levi Van Sant – George Mason University

From 2005 to 2015 private land under conservation easement in the United States increased by 175%, growing to more than 16 million acres. Despite their increasing centrality to conservation strategies, there is little scholarship on the ways that private land easements relate to broader geographies of inequality.
Thus, this paper examines the political and economic dynamics related to the growth of conservation easements in the coastal US South, and argues that they have become popular because they serve the interests of both the region’s conservation NGOs and elite white landholders. This paper presents an integrative socio-environmental analysis of: 1) interviews with land trust staff and landowners regarding their motivations for entering into conservation easements, and 2) a spatial-statistical comparison of the environmental justice consequences of private versus public lands protection. The findings show that, as development pressures increased over the past several decades in coastal Georgia and South Carolina, securing conservation easements on large parcels (many of which were former slave plantations) simultaneously allowed land trusts to protect vast swaths of the countryside and elite whites to maintain their monopolization of land. Thus, through reproducing (or even increasing) inequality in private landholdings, conservation easements provide not only disproportionate economic benefits to plantation owners but access to their ecological benefits also distributed unequally. Ultimately, this paper develops a methodological framework for analyzing the environmental justice consequences of conservation easements across the US, and suggests how the broader turn to private lands conservation might be redirected towards more just and sustainable futures.

**Paper Session 7 – Dimensions of Resource Extraction**

**Community Sustainability in the Face of Resource Extraction: A Case Study of Minnesota’s Arrowhead Region**

Dr Ryan Bergstrom – Program in Geography, University of Minnesota Duluth

The seven counties that make up northeastern Minnesota are known collectively as the “Arrowhead.” The region is vast, covering over 27,000 square kilometers; rural, with a population of less than 250,000; and rugged, covered with thousands of glaciated lakes and dense forests. Because of the region’s unique geologic history, the extraction of its natural resources, primarily iron ore and timber, has literally built the nation and reshaped the region both economically and environmentally. At the same time it has also produced a thriving recreation and tourism industry that draws tourists from across the globe. Despite the success of these three industries, which often seem at odds with one another, the regional poverty rates can reach close to 17 percent, nearly twice the statewide average. Dependence on resource extraction has resulted in ongoing recognition that in order to achieve long-term sustainability, economic diversification is critical. Complicating this narrative is the upcoming decision by the State of Minnesota to allow extraction of one of the largest undeveloped deposits of copper, nickel and precious metals in the world; a decision that will determine the economic and environmental fate of the region for decades to come. As such, the objective of this study was to determine how communities throughout the northeastern Minnesota perceive, prioritize and act upon issues of sustainable community development and natural resource management, and how those perceptions and priorities differ spatially and temporally in the face of proposed copper-nickel and precious metal mining.

**Local Views of New Energy Development in Rural Kansas and Oklahoma**

Ms Avantika Ramekar - Geography Department, Kansas State University

Oil and natural gas industry are one of the most important contributors to the economies of Kansas and Oklahoma. With horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing, there was a new oil rush in the Mississippian Limestone Play (MLP) that underlies western Kansas and northcentral Oklahoma. An increase in drilling activity was seen in the region from 2010 to end of 2014. Industrial changes not only alter the land, but also impact the lives of individuals and the communities in the area. Studies have shown that oil and gas
industrial development and associated business establishments impact the socio-demography of the place, economic status, and environmental quality related issues (Bugden 2014, Adgate et al. 2014, Bamberger and Oswald 2012, Boudet et al. 2014). For rural areas and small communities in Kansas and Oklahoma, where the population base is small and subjected to population loss for decades, volatile industrial development such as oil and natural gas, can have a lasting impact. I used a mixed method approach of survey and interviews to gather data from 10 randomly selected counties within the MLP. I build on the theoretical premise that people’s perceptions are based on subjective interpretation of information, previous experience and knowledge, rather than objective outcomes (Paul 2011, Bunting and Guelke 1979). The questionnaire gathered self-reported knowledge, awareness, risk perception, evaluation of benefits and risks, cultural biases and values, sources of information, and socio-demographic data. Key informant interviews helped to clarify mailed survey responses. This research illuminates local opinions about energy development, how individuals in local communities’ experience industrial changes, and how fossil fuel extraction affect opinions.

The Role of Environmental Governance and Social Implications for Aging Dams
Ms Christy Jean – Geography Department, Kansas State University

This paper will explore how environmental governance has influenced the socio-environmental interaction between dam development and the populations that choose to live in those areas. Environmental governance is defined as a ‘social arrangement for decision-making about the environment and a mechanism that produces a particular social order through environmental management’ (Joslin and Jepson 2018). In response to nation-wide flooding the federal government enacted the Flood Control Act of 1936 to protect rural farmlands and the steady urban population growth occurring in flood-prone areas (Arnold 1988). Technological advancements in large-scale projects such as dams and other flood reducing infrastructures (Moser et al. 2014) were constructed at a uniformly high pace across the country eventually changing the way people made decisions about where they deemed safe enough to live. However, there is a changing risk associated near flood control structures as the pressure of environmental threats expose vulnerable populations to hazardous events. Climate change and increased urbanization projections suggest more frequent and extreme flooding requiring greater demands on current infrastructure (O’Neill et al. 2016), increased rates of economic loss, and an impact on human lives (Szewranski et al. 2018). Flooding events vary spatial and as a result unequally affect individuals based on their vulnerability to the event (Ebert et al. 2010). Overtime, this will result in either a focus on new risk management strategies or leave an unknowing population at even greater risk (Moser et al. 2014).

Exploitable Ambiguities & the Unruliness of Natural Resource Dependence: Public Infrastructure in North Dakota’s Bakken Shale Play
Ms Kristin Smith – Montana State University

Whether public infrastructure investments reinforce or disrupt natural resource dependence constitutes a critical knowledge gap in resource geography and energy impacts scholarship. This research revitalizes William Freudenburg’s (1992) addictive economies framework to address the conundrums and ambiguities of infrastructure in communities that host unconventional oil and gas (UOG) development. The addictive economies framework is applied to a large regional water supply project in North Dakota (the Bakken shale play) to investigate the endogenous and exogenous drivers that shape infrastructure decisions. The analysis illustrates how a descriptive approach to theorizing dependence foregrounds geographic context, allowing for a more nuanced understanding of challenges facing local decision makers in communities with extractive industries. Specifically, it illustrates how infrastructure embodies exploitable ambiguities that can be leveraged by different stakeholders to justify and advance diverging agendas. The principal findings
suggest that the interplay between the UOG industry and the local geography shape governance decisions related to public infrastructure with ambiguous future consequences for communities.

**Paper Session 8 – Rural Politics, Planning, and Development**

**Wednesday, July 17, 11:00-1:00pm**

**The Planning (Im)balance in Hybrid Rural Contestations**

**Ms Alison Caffyn** – School of Geography and Planning, Cardiff University

Working agricultural landscapes are increasingly dominated by large scale industrial farming developments such as polytunnels, glasshouses and intensive livestock units producing massive flows of commodities for global marketplaces. But the decision-making process for their development is entangled in a complex web of opaque relations.

This paper presents results from research exploring the multiple sets of conflicting relations around planning applications for intensive poultry units in Herefordshire and Shropshire (UK). The planning process has difficulty handling the arguments over environmental, social and economic sustainability and has become dominated by professional and scientific discourses infused with rationality. Decisions are taken within a politicised arena to which some actors have better access than others (Murdoch, 2006). Rural communities, ‘locals’ and ‘incomers’ alike, have recently begun fighting back, challenging the agricultural hegemony. Making the issue public (Latour, 2004; Marres, 2007), has escalated conflicts and drawn wider networks of actors into the debates. Communities have been struggling to protect valued rural places, landscapes and enterprises. Concerns have also been raised over environmental pollution and health risks (Callon, Lascoumes and Barthe, 2001).

Taking a relational approach the research seeks to allow the multiple human and non-human actors to be heard. It also draws on work which has linked relational approaches with pragmatism (Jones, 2008), with phenomenology (Ingold, 2010; Pink, 2015) and with the landscape literature (Rose and Wylie, 2006). The research has used multiple methods to bring out the perspectives of hybrid rural networks about the liveability of intensive agricultural landscapes, aiming to inform future policy and decision making.

**Going, Going, Gone? Disappearing Rural Development Strategies in Canadian Public Policy**

**Dr Ryan Gibson** – School of Environmental Design and Rural Development, University of Guelph

Governments across Canada struggle to develop and implement robust, flexible, and effective rural policies and programs to meet the ever-changing contexts of rural communities. Turbulence, transitions, and technological changes are the new realities for rural economies. At the same time, the migration from Keynesian rural development policies to neoliberal-inspired development policies has re-constructed how rural development is defined, the role of the provinces, the implications for rural regions, and the desired outcomes. Over the past 15 years, there appears to be a withdrawal, discontinuance, or disappearance of rural policies in Canada. This presentation examines the role of public policy in rural development strategies at the sub-national level in Canada through key informant interviews and focus groups with senior policymakers. The presentation shares findings on the current public policy landscape for rural development policy and reflections on recently discontinued rural strategies. The multi-directional and contested approaches undertaken across Canada are examined to understand the implications for public policy, rural development practice, and the academia.
The Future of Greenbelts
Dr Laura Taylor - Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University

In this paper about the future of greenbelts, I will discuss the future of the balance between urban and rural as central to the debate about the sustainability of the planet. Greenbelts exist in many countries of the world to protect the near-urban countryside, which historically is that peri-urban, exurban, scenic working landscape of farmland and natural heritage that makes liveable cities possible. Greenbelts have always been a big idea in the rural planning imagination and are at the heart of our preoccupation with urban and rural differences, especially around cities and towns facing high growth pressures. Greenbelts may have originally been based on an over-simplified understanding of life and landscapes both inside and outside of the city and certainly continue to run the risk of perpetuating urban-rural environmental imaginaries. I will discuss the greenbelt around the Toronto region in Canada as more recent example of a long history of rural planning and countryside protection. The Toronto example underscores the much greater appreciation we have today of how the countryside supports the health of the city. It also is a lesson in how regional planning works as a coalition of urban and rural politics and interests in creating the greenbelt not just as a plan but as a sustainable living, working integrated urban-rural landscape.

Densifying Amenity Landscape on the Rural-Urban Fringe: Challenges and Opportunities for the Engagement of Diverse Publics in Civic Coproduction
Dr Nik Luka - Department of Geography, McGill University

This paper explores the dynamics of densification in amenity-rich periurban settings, presenting work underway in central Canada and central Sweden. It specifically examines how attempts at participatory decision-making play out in landscapes that have particular cultural value (as scenic and restorative ‘countryside’ spaces) for what some have termed residential tourism (Casado-Diaz, 1999; Luka, 2011). Our research builds on empirical work done by the lead author and colleagues on ‘civic coproduction’ and/or contested amenity landscapes in the rural-urban fringe (Bornstein & Leetmaa, 2015; Farina et al., 2014; Kong et al., 2017; Luka et al., 2010, 2011, 2015, 2017, 2018; Qviström et al., 2007, 2013, 2016). The central premise acknowledges that conflict and contestation arise in periurban pockets that are rich with certain amenities, whether ‘natural’ or cultural (Gillon, 2014; Qviström, 2007, 2008; Nelson & Nelson, 2011; Scott et al., 2013)—something that is acute where there is great demand for ‘countryside living’ on the part of exurbanites or amenity migrants (Gillon, 2014; Matarrita-Cascante, 2017; Taylor, 2011), notably ageing ‘Baby Boomers’, many of whom have tremendous purchasing power (Jauhiainen, 2009; Luka, 2010, 2011; Nelson et al., 2014; Qviström et al., 2016). While not a new phenomenon, nor one defined solely or even mainly by the so-called ‘silver tsunami’ (Dahms, 1996; Hartt & Biglieri, 2018), densifying amenity settings in the rural-urban fringe continue to be wicked problems for local decision-makers in liberal democracies. This is especially so in Canada, where local governments must rely on property taxes to finance their operations and can thus find it difficult to resist private-sector projects. If, as suggested by evidence from the Toronto-centred metropolitan region and other contexts where ‘greenbelt’ strategies have been introduced by the State, the ‘nearby countryside’ is increasingly important to supporting the health of major metropolitan regions (Cadieux et al., Taylor et al., 2011, 2013, 2016), continued work is needed to conjugate insights on deliberative democracy in everyday planning practice with procedural strategies for sustainably managing the densification of highly-valued amenity settings. Questions of carrying capacity, infrastructure provision, and social equity that are often discussed exclusively vis-à-vis densifying (sub)urban contexts (e.g., Bunce, 2018; Charmes & Keil, 2015; Delmelle et al., 2014; Forsyth et al., 2010; Leffers, 2016; Senbel & Church, 2011; Touati-Morel, 2015) thus become central to governance, planning, and design on the rural-urban fringe.
Field Day Itinerary
Tuesday, July 16, 2019

8:25  Meet outside of University Heights Dorms to Leave for Northeast Kingdom
      (Bags packed! We will not be returning to Burlington until Friday, July 19 for
departure)

8:30 – 10:00  Drive to Northeast Kingdom

10:00 – 11:00  Tour of the Center for an Agricultural Economy (CAE), Hardwick, VT

11:00 – 11:30  Drive from CAE to Laggis Brothers Farm

11:30 – 12:15  Tour of Laggis Brothers Farm, Hardwick, VT

12:15 – 12:45  Drive from Laggis Brothers Farm to Highland Center for the Arts

12:45 – 1:45  Lunch and Tour at Highland Center for the Arts, Greensboro, VT

1:45 – 2:15  Drive from Highland Center for the Arts to Craftsbury Nordic Center

2:15 – 3:45  Craftsbury Nordic Center Tour

3:45 – 5:00  Drive back to Waterbury from Craftsbury Nordic Center
      Dinner on your own in Waterbury (See Waterbury Restaurant
      Recommendations, page 36)
Field Day Sites: Background Information

Northeast Kingdom

The Northeast Kingdom of Vermont is located in the northeastern corner of the state, bordering the Canadian Province of Quebec and New Hampshire. The region is comprised by the three counties of Essex, Orleans, and Caledonia and has an estimated population of 62,764 (U.S. Census, 2010). The term “kingdom” was first introduced in a speech given by former Vermont Governor George Aiken in 1949. In the state, you will likely hear locals refer to the region as the “NEK” or “The Kingdom”.

Geographically, the Northeast Kingdom is a unique landscape in Vermont as it is bordered on the east by the Connecticut River (and the nearby White Mountains of New Hampshire) and on the west by the Green Mountains, resulting in a highly wooded, rolling hill landscape. The largest town in the Northeast Kingdom is St. Johnsbury with a population of 7,603 (U.S. Census, 2010).

The Northeast Kingdom is largely deemed as a culturally “different” region of Vermont, separate from the lower counties and communities. Perhaps most notably, the region generally recognized to be more politically conservative than the national perception of the “Progressive State of Vermont”, but also is home to many “Back to the Lander Movement” settlements and farmsteads of the 1970s. The Northeast Kingdom is also known to be one of the poorer regions of the state, with Orleans and Essex Counties having the highest poverty rates in Vermont, just under fifteen percent.

In an attempt to describe what differentiates the NEK as a cultural region in Vermont, Northeast Kingdom Radio Show Host Scott Wheeler declared, “The Northeast Kingdom is a state of mind” (VPR, 2018). To listen to Vermont Public Radio’s “Brave Little State” podcast on the Northeast Kingdom and what makes it different from the rest of the state, visit: https://www.vpr.org/post/northeast-kingdom-really-so-different#stream/0.
Hardwick, VT

Hardwick is located in Caledonia County and has an estimated population of 3,010. The town was established in 1781 and reached a population of 1,402 by 1859. Historically, the economy of Hardwick has revolved around sawmills, gristmills, tanneries, and granite quarrying. Currently, Hardwick serves as a center for the agricultural economy of the region. There is now a growing localvore movement and food renaissance occurring in Hardwick, explored in Ben Hewitt’s 2011 book, *The Town That Food Saved: How One Community Found Vitality in Local Food*.

Greensboro

Greensboro's demographic profile is fascinating: although it has a permanent population of 762 but contains 850 homes. In the summer, wealthy and highly educated summer residents occupy cabins and cottages (known locally as "camps") clustered on the shores of Caspian Lake. Often these summer homes have been in families for generations. Some summer residents retire permanently to Greensboro. Greensboro Bend, located just east of Greensboro has a very different demographic composition with higher rates of poverty and lower rates of education.

Craftsbury

Craftsbury is a town of just over 1,100 located in Orleans County. Craftsbury in many ways could be described as the quintessential Vermont town with rolling hills, white picket fences and family run farms. The town is home to the Craftsbury Outdoor Center, Sterling College, Pete’s Greens and several other farms and businesses recognized across the state.

Center for an Agricultural Economy

The Center for an Agricultural Economy (CAE) has been in operation for fifteen years and does work on farmer loans, rural community development, food access in the Northeast Kingdom. CAE believes that a place-based agricultural economy and intentional community development is the path to a future of thriving landscapes, local food, and equitable communities. CAE has several community programs including place-based education initiatives, food access and equity projects, Atkin’s Field Community Commons, and the Northeast Kingdom Organizing Project.

Laggis Brothers Farm

We will be meeting with John and Johanna Laggis. John is on the Vermont Land Trust Board and Johanna is on the board for the Center for an Agricultural Economy and Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department. The Laggis Brothers Farm consists of a four hundred Jersey dairy farm and logging and sugaring operations.
Craftsbury Nordic Center
The Craftsbury Nordic Center was founded in 1976 and is a non-profit with some of the finest cross-country skiing trails in the East. The Craftsbury Nordic Center also includes space for biathlons, sculling, running, cycling, green racing, and lodging. The Nordic Center has local food focus, an eco-building, and interesting snow storage research project on site.

Highland Center for the Arts
The Highland Center for the Arts is located in Greensboro in the Northeast Kingdom region of Vermont. The performance theater has seating for 250 people and has programming for dance, music, theatre, circus arts, cinema, workshops, artist residencies, and lectures. The $14 million Highland Center for the Arts project and construction was funded by a London businessman. The construction of the center was controversial within the community as groups questioned who it’s establishment would benefit and how it would change the physical and cultural landscape of Greensboro. The Highland Center for the Arts officially began programming and opened its doors to the Northeast Kingdom community in June 2017.
For those that will be arriving earlier in the day on Saturday, July 13, the Burlington Farmer’s Market is a great place to stretch your legs, check out the local food, craft, and produce scene and have a delicious bite to eat. The Burlington Farmer’s Market is located on 345 Pine Street and runs from 8:30am-2:00pm on Saturdays. The Farmer’s Market has free and secure bike parking, limited vehicle parking, and located along a bus line.

Greenride Bikeshare is Burlington’s public rent-a-bike transportation system and has 18 pick up and drop off locations in the Burlington region. Greenride is a great way to explore Burlington and Lake Champlain. From campus, the most convenient location to pick up a Greenride is in front of the Howe Library on the UVM campus.

How it works:
1. Reserve a bike using the mobile app that can be found at [app.socialbicycles.com](http://app.socialbicycles.com)
2. Once you’ve reserved a ride, just enter your 4-digit PIN code on the keypad to unlock the bike from the station.
3. Ride! If you want to make a stop while cruising around, press the “HOLD” button and lock the bike to a rack. Just re-enter your 4-digit PIN to unlock and continue riding.
4. To return the bike, lock it at one of the Greenride bike racks on the systems map which can be found at [http://greenridebikeshare.com/](http://greenridebikeshare.com/)

Walking and Bike Trails

**Island Line Trail** – 14-mile trail along Lake Champlain
The Island Line Trail follows Burlington’s waterfront via the Burlington Greenway and heads out on the Colchester Causeway three miles into the middle of the lake. There are several public beaches and natural areas along the bike path.

**Waterfront Park** – Beautiful view of Lake Champlain, Greenride station, access to Burlington Bike Path, stunning view of sunset every evening!

More bike path information and detailed maps can be found for free download at [https://www.localmotion.org/maps_routes](https://www.localmotion.org/maps_routes)
Burlington Dinner Recommendations

Dinner will be provided on Saturday night after the plenary, but for those who would like to have another meal later on in the evening or go out for a drink, below are some suggested spots for great food and delicious drinks. On Sunday, dinner will be “on your own” and you will have the late afternoon and evening to explore the city.

**Pascolo Ristorante - $$$**
Italian, fresh pasta, wood fired pizza, antipasti
83 Church St, Burlington, VT

**Honey Road - $$$**
James Beard Nominated Eastern Mediterranean, small plates, cocktails, creative desserts
156 Church St, Burlington, VT

**El Cortijo - $$**
Farm-to-Table Mexican, tacos, burritos, unique cocktails
189 Bank St, Burlington, VT

**Pho Hong - $**
Vietnamese, pho, vermicelli, BYOB (Bring your own beverages, no alcoholic beverages served on site)
25 N Winooski Ave, Burlington, VT

**Farmhouse - $$**
Farm-to-Table gastropub, American, burgers
160 Bank St, Burlington, VT

**Sherpa Kitchen - $**
Nepalese, momo, curries
119 College St, Burlington, VT

**Leunig’s Bistro & Café - $$$**
Classic French, bistro, bar
115 Church St, Burlington, VT

**Pizzeria Verità - $$$**
Wood-fired Neapolitan pizza, farm-fresh Italian mains, craft cocktails
156 St Paul St, Burlington, VT

**Bistro de Margot - $$$$**
Classic French cuisine, full bar, Owned by partner of UVM Geography Professor
126 College St, Burlington, VT
Burlington Bar Recommendations

Foam Brewers
Brewery located along Lake Champlain lakefront, seasonal rotation of beers, food trucks, cheese and charcuterie plates
Address: 112 Lake St, Burlington, VT

Citizen Cider
Cider tasting room, cocktails, full food menu
Address: 316 Pine Street, Suite 114 in Burlington, Vermont

Monarch and the Milkweed
Pastry shop, unique cocktails, hip space
111 St Paul St, Burlington, VT

Light Club Lamp Shop / Radio Bean
Full-service bar, unique and cozy space, live music
12 N Winooski Ave, Burlington, VT

Waterbury Restaurant Recommendations

On Tuesday, July 16, dinner will be on your own in Waterbury after our field study day in the Northeast Kingdom. Below are some restaurant and bar recommendations in town.

Prohibition Pig - $$
Southern style barbeque, local tap beer, cocktails, additional brewery with small-eats located behind restaurant
23 S Main St, Waterbury, VT

Hen of the Wood - $$
Fine dining American restaurant with a changing menu of local, sustainable fare
92 Stowe Street, Waterbury, Vermont

The Reservoir - $$
Craft beer, cocktails, American, local food, live music
1 South Main Street, Waterbury, VT

Blackback Pub - $$
Seasonal, locally sourced American menu & rotating regional beers on tap
1 Stowe St #2, Waterbury, VT
Rural Quadrennial Roundtable on Rural Development
Thursday, July 18 – Middlebury College

In an effort to create a mutually beneficial, applied learning opportunity for Quad participants and members of the rural development community in Vermont, we will hold discussion round tables centered on specific questions. In addition to providing generous financial support, our rural development sponsors have submitted questions related to challenges they face in their work. Rural Quad participants will be assigned one question to consider prior to arrival at the meeting. During the meeting the participants will work in teams to prepare responses to the question. On Thursday afternoon, July 18, we will gather at Middlebury College with representatives from the sponsoring organizations to hold round table discussions of each question. The goal is to promote engaged and collaborative interaction from international perspectives on global challenges present in rural communities.

Vermont Community Foundation: Lessons from growing rural communities: can a town grow socially, culturally, and economically in an ecologically sustainable fashion without gentrification?

Team 1: Valentine Cadieux, Alison Caffyn, Sara Epp, Ryan Gibson, Nathalie Gravel, Keith Halfacree, Maria Kennedy, Peter Nelson, Kristin Smith, Tony Sorenson, Laura Taylor

AARP-Vermont: Are new technologies such as Lyft, Uber, and AVs impacting how older adults meet their transportation needs in rural areas? Are there other models for addressing transportation needs for older adults in rural areas?

Team 2: Ryan Bergstrom, Lisa Harrington, Christy Jean, Felipe da Silva Machado, Aimee Morse, Andrew MacLaren, Karin Patzke, Martin Phillips, Doug Ramsey, Guy Robinson

Vermont Council on Rural Development: What are the best model immigration policies and engagement strategies to attract and help optimally settle international immigrants in rural areas?

Team 3: Nik Luka, Cheryl Morse, Avantika Ramekar, Bruce Scholten, Darren Smith, John Smithers, Aileen Stockdale, Levi Van Sant, Bill Wetherholt, Jeffrey Widener, Michael Woods
Our Academic Sponsors

The University of Vermont was founded in 1791 and is known to be a “Public Ivy”, as it is the fifth oldest higher education institutions established in the Northeast. “UVM” stands for the Latin words Universitas Virdis Montis, meaning the University of the Green Mountains. In 1865 the University of Vermont merged with the Vermont Agricultural College with the passage of the Morrill Land-Grant Colleges Act and now serves as the state’s public university.

UVM’s campus is located in Burlington, Vermont, just a mile away from the shores of Lake Champlain. The University of Vermont is home to 10,600 undergraduate students and 1,500 graduate students, allowing it to be large enough to offer a breadth of research opportunities and resources while still maintaining close faculty-student relationships, tight knit communities, and seminar-style courses. Vermont residents account for 35 percent of student enrollment and 65 percent of students come from elsewhere. The University is comprised of seven undergraduate schools, an honors college, a graduate college, and a college of medicine.

UVM has long been a leader in environmental sustainability efforts, making several commitments to ending the sale of plastic water bottles on campus, building and remodeling several LEED certified campus buildings, and pledging to purchase 20 percent of their on-campus food from sustainable, local food systems. The University of Vermont seeks to create, evaluate, share, and apply knowledge and to prepare students to be accountable leaders who will bring to their work dedication to the global community, a grasp of complexity, effective problem-solving and communication skills, and an enduring commitment to learning and ethical conduct.

Middlebury College was founded in 1800 by Congregationalists in Vermont’s Champlain Valley as the Middlebury town college and over the last two centuries has developed as one of the highest regarded private liberal arts colleges in the United States. The college currently enrolls 2,500 undergraduate students from all 50 states and 74 countries. Middlebury is known for its international engagement, language schools, global graduate and specialized programs. Middlebury College Language Schools take place during the summer and enroll 1,350 students in intensive courses offered in ten languages.

Middlebury College has also shown its commitment to studying the environment, as it was the first higher education institution in the U.S. to offer an environmental studies major in 1965 and continues to invest resources into cutting the college’s carbon footprint by researching new ways to creatively combat climate change. Middlebury College seeks to create a transformative learning experience for our students, built from a strong foundation in the liberal arts and supported within an inclusive, residential environment. We not only inspire our undergraduates to grapple with challenging questions about themselves and the world, but we also foster the inquiry, equity, and agency necessary for them to practice ethical citizenship at home and far beyond our Vermont campus.

The Rural Quadrennial has received generous financial and in-kind support from Middlebury College’s Departments of Geography, International and Global Studies, Food Studies, and Environmental Studies and from the Geography Department of UVM.
The Vermont Community Foundation was established in 1986 as a source of support for the state. The organization is composed of hundreds of funds and foundations created by Vermonters. VCF’s mission is “better together”, inspiring giving and bringing together people and resources to make a difference in Vermont. In 2018, VCF declared that the opportunity gap was the single greatest challenge to the health and vitality of the state and is working to close the opportunity gap through deepening the Foundation’s connection to communities, targeting grantmaking resources, and making more place-based investments.

Visit the Vermont Community Foundation’s website to learn more about their grant programs and opportunities at:  https://www.vermontcf.org/

AARP’s mission is to empower people to choose how they live as they age. Since its inception in 1958, AARP has grown and changed dramatically in response to societal changes, while remaining true to its founding principles: To promote independence, dignity and purpose for older persons To enhance the quality of life for older persons To encourage older people “To serve, not to be served.”

To learn more about AARP Vermont, visit https://local.aarp.org/vt/

The Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the support of the locally-defined progress of Vermont’s rural communities. VCRD is a dynamic partnership of federal, state, local, nonprofit and private partners. Actively non-partisan with an established reputation for community-based facilitation, VCRD is uniquely positioned to sponsor and coordinate collaborative efforts across governmental and organizational categories concerned with policy questions of rural import. Since its inception in 1992, VCRD has built a profile of rural policy leadership that is grounded by work in local communities and extends to collaborative partnerships with the highest levels of state and federal programs. The Vermont Council on Rural Development’s mission is to help Vermont citizens build prosperous and resilient communities through democratic engagement, marshalling resources, and collective action.

Learn more about the Vermont Council on Rural Development, their mission, and programs at https://www.vtrural.org/