

The School of Geography's top achievements during academic year 2009/10

- **Professor Gill Valentine** was awarded a £2.2 million grant from the European Research council to investigate how we can develop the capacity to live with difference in the context of an era of rapid population change and migration.
- **Professor Andy Baird** and colleagues were awarded a £1.1m grant from the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) to examine the impact of peatland restoration on carbon capture and release from the landscape.
- **Dr Paul Chatterton** and colleagues have been at the forefront of social enterprise, for example by developing prizewinning schemes for affordable, low carbon homes for local communities.
- **Dr Simon Lewis, Prof Oliver Philips** and colleagues have shown that contrary to some previous thinking, the Amazon forests are very susceptible to climate change after they showed large disturbance following a major drought.
- The School of Geography is a partner in [water@leeds](#) which is a university-wide centre of excellence for interdisciplinary water research and which has secured over £4m in new research grants since it began 18 months ago.
- The School of Geography has been developing wider links with industry and end-users to ensure that our research has real impact on people's lives. For example, we have secured a new five year research partnership with [Yorkshire Water](#); the UK's top utility company, helping them deliver excellent research on water and land management saving costs to the consumer.
- The School has a new knowledge transfer partnership funded by the technology strategy board with a company called [Dinsdale](#) who are the UK's leading moorland management contractor, enabling us to develop new applied research on underground survey techniques to save carbon in peatlands.
- **Steve Carver** and colleagues have been working with the Scottish government on developing a policy for wildland in Scotland, and **Sarah Buckmaster, Pippa Chapman** and colleagues across the schools of Geography and Earth and Environment have been working together with the Westminster government on re-shaping rural upland policy by creating sustainable uplands that benefit society as a whole.