Western Geography welcomes students and teachers from Central Elgin Collegiate Institute (St. Thomas)

On February 19th the Geography Department welcomed 26 Grade 11/12 students and 2 Geography Teachers from Central Elgin Collegiate Institute (St. Thomas) to discover and explore the uses and benefits of Geography with an emphasis on GIS research and applications, and the abundance of career opportunities that come with an education in Geography.

Following a workshop of GIS and its applications run by Kathy Tang (GIS Analyst), graduate students Sarah McCans, Mark McGregor and Christine Mitchell conducted a tour of the Human Environments Analysis Lab (HEAL) and discussed some of the labs projects including the Smart App and research on Children’s Health using GIS.

The students then toured the Map and Data Centre at Weldon Library and Newalta Environmental Fluids Lab, where graduate student Sarah Peirce lectured about her research on sediment transport in gravel bed rivers while exposing students to a large-scale River Modelling Flume.

To finish off the day, within the Physical Geography Learning Lab (see photo), Erika Hill (Lab Supervisor), graduate students Danielle Barr, Natalie Izral, and Nathaniel Bergman set up stations where each had the opportunity to chat with small groups of the students about their research, allowing a personal and interactive glimpse of their work within the Geography Department.