



News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers
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York U's Elizabeth Miller Earns Weston Northern Research Scholarship: Elizabeth Miller a graduate of York's environmental science program and current physical geography Master's student, applied for and received a \$15,000 scholarship through the Garfield Weston Award for Northern Research. Miller said her original hypothesis focused on the idea streams that had vegetation (moss) had a higher ground ice content, and therefore the ground would take longer to melt. But that might not be the case, she said. "There is a reason why researchers take years and years to complete their work," Miller said. "It's not like you just go up for a few months and find all the answers." Miller hopes to complete her Master's this year and then will decide whether to pursue a PhD or find work, she said. InsideToronto.com

York U's Philip Kelly on Sewing Together Canada's Multicultural Fabric: Canada's experiment sewing a multicultural fabric might, in certain cases, be most successful if sewn in patches, York University geography professor Philip Kelly told an audience on Parliament Hill. Presenting research on social mobility amongst Filipino youth across the country, Kelly said mainstream assimilation of young immigrants does not always foster a positive environment for integration. Rather, "enclaved, culturally specific upbringings [are] actually correlated with better educational and occupational outcomes," he said. While the long-term patterns of upward social mobility for children of Canadian immigrants are generally positive — they tend to outperform their own parents as well as the children of Canadian-born parents — Kelly warned against drawing broad conclusions. iPolitics

University of Toronto's Charles Hostovský Receives CMHC 2011 Excellence in Education Award for Promotion of Sustainable Practices: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) Ontario Region has established the Excellence in Education Award to honour outstanding educational contribution to sustainable practices. The award recognizes educators who have integrated sustainable concepts in housing and community development into the academic curriculum. University of Toronto's Charles Hostovský will receive the 2011 award in recognition of his commitment to educate his students about sustainable practices. CMHC Sustainable Practices Award

University of Western Ontario Team Wins Clean Air Challenge: The team of Janet Loebach and Sarah McCans, PhD students working with geography professor Jason Gilliland, successfully competed in the London Community Foundation's Clean Air Challenge. They were awarded \$25,000 to further their work on improving children's environments. With the support of numerous local organizations and other members of Western's Human Environments Analysis Laboratory, they are creating a project to 'green' the spaces of local elementary schools. The process of greening these spaces will be embedded into the curriculum and students will be active participants in the projects. Western News

UBC Geographer, October 2011: The most recent issue of the UBC Department of Geography Newsletter features an article of Derek Gregory's "The Everywhere War" public lecture; profiles of a number of new graduate students, sessional instructor Carlos F. Gaitan; and a look at this year's Geography Students' Association Executive. [UBC Geographer](#)

UWO PhD Candidate Frederick Armah Receives Ontario Trillium Scholarship: Trillium scholars are nominated by their graduate program due to their scholarly achievements and strong research potential, and receive \$40,000 annually for up to four years of study. Frederick Armah is pursuing a PhD in geography, hails from Winneba in the Central Region of Ghana, and received his undergraduate training in chemistry at the University of Cape Coast in Ghana and a master's degree in environmental studies and sustainability science from Lund University in Sweden. Armah's proposed thesis, Small-Scale Goldmining in Ghana: Adaptive Co-management and Human Health Risk Assessment, contributes to the understanding of the evolution of adaptive management systems in gold mining communities in Ghana. He hopes to bring a broader reflection on forms of local resource management institutions and the means to help improve these local institutions toward more efficiency, equity and co-operation with higher levels of resource governance. These issues, Armah contends, are ultimately central to human health and wellbeing. [Western News](#)

Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

A. Brenning, M.A. Pena, S. Long and A. Soliman. 2011. [Thermal remote sensing of ice-debris landforms using ASTER](#). The Cryosphere Discussions 5:2895–2933.

Dimitre D. Dimitrov, Robert F. Grant, Peter M. Lafleur and Elyn R. Humphreys. 2011. [Modeling the effects of hydrology on gross primary productivity and net ecosystem productivity at Mer Bleue bog](#). Journal of Geophysical Research 116, G04010. doi:10.1029/2010JG001586

Sean T. Doherty. 2011. [Exploring blood glucose variation over geographical space](#). Diabetes Technology & Therapeutics. doi:10.1089/dia.2011.0159.

Stewart Fast, Mike Brklacich and Marc Saner. 2011. [A geography-based critique of new US biofuels regulations](#). Global Change Biology. DOI: 10.1111/j.1757-1707.2011.01131.x

Nathaniel M. Lewis. 2011. [Gay in a 'government town': the settlement and regulation of gay-identified men in Ottawa, Canada](#). Ser gay en una 'ciudad del gobierno': el asentamiento y la regulación de hombres identificados como gays en Ottawa, Canadá. Gender, Place & Culture. DOI:10.1080/0966369X.2011.624590

Robby R. Marrotte, Gail L. Chmura, and Peter A. Stone. 2011. [The utility of Nymphaeaceae sclereids in paleoenvironmental research](#). Review of Palaeobotany and Palynology. doi:10.1016/j.revpalbo.2011.10.007

Robert J. Patrick. 2011. [Enhancing water security in Saskatchewan, Canada: an opportunity for a water soft path](#). Water International 36(6):748-763.

Janis Shandro, Mieke Koehoorn, Malcolm Scoble, Aleck Ostry, Nancy Gibson and Marcello Veiga. 2011. [Mental health, cardiovascular disease and declining economies in British Columbia mining communities](#). Minerals 1:30-48.

Brian Slack and Elisabeth Gouvernal. 2011. [Container freight rates and the role of surcharges](#). Journal of Transport Geography 19(6):1482-1489.

Angharad Wylie. 2011. [Collective and community gardening. A contextualized analysis of urban agriculture in Montreal](#). Convergence Undergraduate and Community Research Journal. 2011:24-31.

John Zacharias, Tianxin Zhang and Naoto Nakajim. 2011. [Tokyo Station City: The railway station as urban place](#). Urban Design International 16:242–251.

Recent Theses and Dissertations

Sandra Kulon. 2010. “Exploring the Use of ASTER Imagery for Lithologic and Mineral Mapping, Montaña de Oro, Mexico”. Unpublished MSc thesis. Department of Geography. University of Western Ontario, London. Supervisor: Dr. Micha Pazner.

Mathew Novak. 2010. “The Evolution of the Retail Landscape”. Unpublished PhD thesis. Department of Geography. University of Western Ontario, London. Supervisor: Dr. Jason Gilliland.

David Stubbs. 2010. “A Quantitative Analysis of the Urban Morphology of Southwestern Ontario Census Metropolitan Areas”. Unpublished MA thesis. Department of Geography. University of Western Ontario, London. Supervisor: Dr. Jason Gilliland.

Kelly Alexander. 2011. “A Paleolimnological Investigation of the Impacts of Recent Human Activity and Temperature Change on Two Small Lakes in Southern Ontario”. Unpublished MSc thesis. Department of Geography. University of Western Ontario, London. Supervisor: Dr. Katrina Moser.

Katie Big-Canoe. 2011. “Indigenous Knowledge, Social Relationships and Health: Community-Based Participatory Research with Anishinabe Youth at Pic River First Nation”. Unpublished MA thesis. Department of Geography. University of Western Ontario, London. Supervisor: Dr. Chantelle Richmond.

Amanda Brunet. 2011. “Predicting Channel Geometry based on Urban Land Use and Riparian Bank Vegetation”. Unpublished MSc thesis. Department of Geography. University of Western Ontario, London. Supervisor: Dr. Marco Van de Wiel.

Emily Galley. 2011. “Remaking a forestry town: the multifaceted challenges of transition in Port Alberni, BC”. Unpublished MA thesis. Department of Geography. University of Western Ontario, London. Supervisor: Dr. Tony Weis.

Christopher Hewitt. 2011. “The Relationship between Proximity to the O-Train Stations and Property Values in the City of Ottawa”. Unpublished MA thesis. Department of Geography. University of Western Ontario, London. Supervisor: Dr. Jacek Malczewski.

Vincent Kuuire. 2011. “Migration and Food Remittances - A Strategy for Ensuring Household Food Security in North-Western Ghana”. Unpublished MA thesis. Department of Geography. University of Western Ontario, London. Supervisors: Dr's. Godwin Arku and Isaac Luginaah.

John McDonald. 2011. "John McDonald. 2011. "Historical analysis of urban-induced channel change: Highland Creek, 1954-2005". Unpublished MSc thesis. Department of Geography. University of Western Ontario, London. Supervisor: Dr. Peter Ashmore.

Paul Mkandawire. 2011. "Vulnerability of adolescent orphans to HIV/AIDS in Malawi". Unpublished PhD thesis. Department of Geography. University of Western Ontario, London. Supervisor: Dr. Isaac Luginaah.

Emmanuel Songsore. 2011. "Community Responses to Wind Energy Development in Ontario". Unpublished MA thesis. Department of Geography. University of Western Ontario, London. Supervisor: Dr. Mike Buzzelli.

Jennifer Vansteenkiste. 2011. "Participatory Action Research on Food Security with Urban Women in Cap Haitien, Haiti: A Feminist Political Ecology Approach". Unpublished MA thesis. Department of Geography. University of Western Ontario, London. Supervisor: Dr. Rachel Bezner-Kerr.

Other "Geographical" News

Improved Processes, Parameterization and Prediction Network Closes: The network for *Improved Processes, Parameterization and Prediction* in cold regions hydrology, known as IP3, has now officially shut down after more than five years of activity. For anyone interested in the network's aims, participation and results the is information on the [IP3 website](#), and summarised in its [final newsletter \(http://www.usask.ca/ip3/download/newsletters/ip3news_sep11.pdf\)](http://www.usask.ca/ip3/download/newsletters/ip3news_sep11.pdf). Outputs include greatly improved physically-based models for a range of processes in high altitude to high latitude settings, a long list of publications (including two books aimed primarily at a general public audience) and a comprehensive [data archive](#).

NASA, Japan Release Improved Topographic Map of Earth: NASA and Japan released a significantly improved version of the most complete digital topographic map of Earth produced with detailed measurements from NASA's Terra spacecraft. The improved version of the map adds 260,000 additional stereo-pair images to improve coverage. It features improved spatial resolution, increased horizontal and vertical accuracy, more realistic coverage over water bodies and the ability to identify lakes as small as 1 km in diameter. The map is available online to users everywhere at no cost. "This updated version of the ASTER global digital elevation model provides civilian users with the highest-resolution global topography data available," said Mike Abrams, ASTER science team leader at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif. "These data can be used for a broad range of applications, from planning highways and protecting lands with cultural or environmental significance, to searching for natural resources." [ScienceDaily](#)

Energy Map Initiative: The Energy Map initiative was designed to pioneer methods to bring affordable renewable energy to the 1.5 billion people around the world that don't have access to these resources. The materials on the site include the energy map, and sections that include "Technologies" and "Business Models". First-time visitors should check out the introductory video on the homepage that will help them learn how to use and interpret the map. The map gives users the ability to track and locate where different energy projects are underway and they can also use the map to see where the energy needs are most dire. Moving along, the "Technologies" area gives a bit of background about the new and interesting energy sources that may be most effective in providing energy access in the developing world. Finally, the "Business Models" area provides a rigorous look at different aspects of those businesses involved in these enterprises, such as affordability, financing, and scaling. [Energy Map](#)

Some not so "Geographical" News



GeogNews Archives: <http://www.geog.uvic.ca/dept/cag/geognews/geognews.html>