



**News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers**  
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**U Regina's Emily Eaton's book shortlisted for Saskatchewan Book Awards:** Emily Eaton's book [Growing Resistance, Canadian Farmers and the Politics of Genetically Modified Wheat](#) (University of Manitoba Press) has been shortlisted for the [Saskatchewan Book Awards](#) in two categories, the First Book Award and the Non-Fiction Award. In *Growing Resistance*, Emily Eaton reveals the motivating factors behind farmer opposition to GM wheat. Through interviews with producers, industry organizations, and biochemical companies, Eaton demonstrates how the inclusion of producer interests was integral to the coalition's success in voicing concerns about environmental implications, international market opposition to GMOs, and the lack of transparency and democracy in Canadian biotech policy and regulation. [Emily Eaton](#) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at the University of Regina

**U Saskatchewan's Robert Patrick receives Arts & Science 2014 Teaching Excellence Award:** Robert J. Patrick was a recent recipient of the 2013-14 College of Arts & Science Teaching Excellence Award at the University of Saskatchewan. Robert, who received the award for the college's Division of Social Sciences, is an associate professor in the Department of Geography and Planning. His research focuses on the protection of public drinking water supplies, especially within First Nations communities, through land use and watershed planning. In the classroom, Patrick emphasizes active learning to help his students connect academic material to real-world issues in urban planning. "My hope is that many of these students will become engaged citizens and perhaps formal educators and teachers themselves," says Patrick. [U of S Recent News](#)

**Carleton U's Ryan Katz-Rosene's got GRIT:** Ryan Katz-Rosene on winning a 2014 Graduate Research and Innovative Thinking (GRIT) Award. Ryan's research examines why Canada doesn't have a high-speed rail line nor any official plans to develop high-speed rail, despite a long list of social, economic and environmental 'benefits suggested by the technology's proponents. He will be travelling to Tampa, Florida, where I will be taking part in a panel session he helped organized at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, titled Critical geographies of climate fixes and green infrastructure. Ryan was also a finalist in the 2013 3MT. You can [view his video here](#). The Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs' GRIT Awards acknowledge and support outstanding senior PhD students conducting highly original and innovative research. [Carleton U Graduate Studies](#)

**Memorial U's Vincent Lecours recipient of the 2014 ESRI Canada GIS Scholarship Award:** The ESRI Canada GIS Scholarship recognizes exceptional students that work in Canadian institutions known for having a strong multidisciplinary focus on geographic information systems (GIS). The scholarship consists of a one-time payment to the student, a comprehensive package of the latest ESRI desktop software, several educational workbooks and access to ESRI's Virtual Campus. Vincent Lecours is currently completing a PhD degree in the Marine Geomatics Laboratory under the co-supervision of Drs Rodolphe Devillers and Evan Edinger. His PhD is on the role of scale of analysis on our understanding of cold-water coral ecology in Canada. [Memorial Geography News](#)

**Brandon U offering Interdisciplinary Master of Science in Environmental & Life Sciences:** Brandon University is offering a graduate degree in Interdisciplinary Master of Science in Environmental and Life Sciences (MELS) program. The department of Geography is one of the 'core' departments, along with Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science and Geology. The [MELS program](#) provides students with: technical skills in applied and theoretical research, project design and reporting; the ability to integrate and apply knowledge and techniques across a suite of disciplines to selected areas of interest within the environmental and life sciences; courses integrating knowledge and techniques drawn from the traditional disciplines of biology, chemistry, environmental science, geography, and geology; an interdisciplinary thesis that investigates the interactions within and among organisms and/or the environment at scales from the molecular to planet-wide; and training in the application of life and environmental science technologies. [MELS](#)

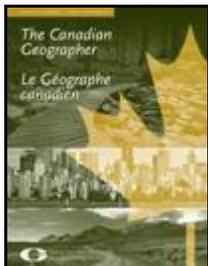
**McGill U's Geography PhD student Noelani Eidse on gentrification in Hanoi, Vietnam:** We hear the term 'gentrification' often nowadays. The news is full of it. Protests against Google and Microsoft buses, people in Vancouver fighting condo development by burning condos, food co-ops in Brooklyn worried about whether they're displacing the local Hispanic community. The news almost always frames the wealthy new residents as the culprits, and those unable to afford rising rent and property taxes as victims. Noelani Eidse, a PhD candidate at McGill, has been researching the case of Hanoi's street vendors and how their livelihood has been affected by land grabs on the urban fringe. "It's all part of this larger push for Hanoi to become a global city," Eidse said. "The rationale behind banning vending is that vendors are adding to traffic congestion. A less explicit reason is that vendors are seen as uncivilized and their livelihoods are considered to be anti-modern, and a hindrance to development." Eidse has found that it's often the same people who were pushed off their land who are also forced to make a living in other ways. "For a lot of these people," she explained, "it's either working in factories or working informally." Those who choose informal work, like street vending and trading trash, are now being targeted by these new laws. Arrests and fines are more and more common, making it difficult for these people, mostly women, to practice their livelihood. [The McGill Daily](#)

**New UBC Geography Lab, one of a kind in Canada:** The new physical geography laboratory at UBC officially opened on January 23rd 2014, the outcome of four CFI grants amounting to approximately \$3 million. The laboratory resides in the basement of Ponderosa Commons West. The lab is designed to establish an experimental laboratory to conduct innovative research on the interface between hydrology, geomorphology, ecology and climate (environmental sciences). Such a lab is unique in Canada with only one or two in the U.S.; this lab will put UBC research on the frontiers of science as there are both great scope and great demand for innovative and fundamental research in environmental sciences. Research in these topics is particularly important given the ongoing and anticipated changes to the Earth's climate and land surface cover. Land-use changes and rising demands for natural resources will put increasing pressure on landscapes, almost certainly leading to significant, progressive deterioration. In order to make significant progress, it is necessary to combine lab experiments, computer modelling, and available long-term data sets in the research. [UBC Geographer](#)

**Our environmental future, according to SFU's CLIVE:** At current erosion rates, as many as 1,000 homes on Prince Edward Island are vulnerable to erosion during the next 90 years. That's according to CLIVE, a new geo-visualization tool that gives scientists a window into the future. Created by researchers at SFU and the University of Prince Edward Island, the Coastal Impact Visualization Environment program, or CLIVE, is the first of its kind. With the click of a mouse on a laptop, CLIVE can project and communicate the future outcomes of global environmental change related to coastal erosion and oceanic thermal expansion. The tool can display historical coastal data back to 1968 and future sea-level rise projections to 2100, anywhere along PEI's coastline. It will evaluate past, current and future strategies for dealing with changes such as the construction of setbacks, armouring and other mitigating approaches. "The ability to view sea-level-rise futures in B.C., eventually, will help us anticipate changes in a coastline whose morphology is very changeable," says CLIVE's co-creator [Nick Hedley](#), SFU professor of geography. "This in turn will help us make better choices in long-term coastal urban planning, coastal navigation, port construction and vulnerability assessment." [SFU News](#)

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### New in [The Canadian Geographer](#)



Suzanne Huot, Belinda Dodson and Debbie Laliberte Rudman. 2014. [Negotiating belonging following migration: Exploring the relationship between place and identity in Francophone minority communities](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien. DOI:10.1111/cag.12067

John Warkentin. 2014. [James Mavor: Forerunner in Canadian geography](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien. DOI: 10.1111/cag.12082

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### Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

P.R. Eddy, A.M. Smith, B.D. Hill, D.R. Peddle, C.A. Coburn and R.E. Blackshaw. 2014. [Weed and crop discrimination using hyperspectral image data and reduced bandsets](#). Canadian Journal of Remote Sensing. DOI:10.5589/m14-001

Christopher J. Keylock, Arvind Singh, Jeremy G. Venditti and Efi Foufoula-Georgiou. 2014. [Robust classification for the joint velocity-intermittency structure of turbulent flow over fixed and mobile bedforms](#). Earth Surface Processes and Landforms. DOI:10.1002/esp.3550

Derrick Y.F. Lai, Nigel T. Roulet and Tim R. Moore. 2014. [The spatial and temporal relationships between CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> exchange in a temperate ombrotrophic bog](#). Atmospheric Environment. doi.org/10.1016/j.atmosenv.2014.02.034

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## Recent Theses and Dissertations

[Connie Ko](#). 2014. Tree genera classification by ensemble classification of small-footprint airborne LiDAR. Earth and Space Science, York University. Co-supervisors: Tarmo K. Remmel and Gunho Sohn.

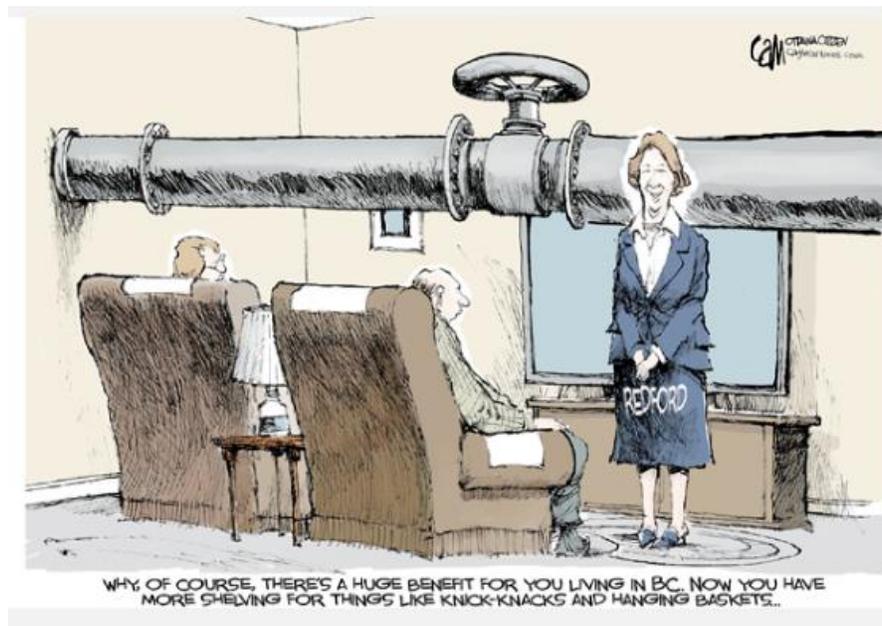
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## Other “Geographical” News

**Let's stop the 'hero worship' when it comes to big name academics:** PhD students and professors sometimes betray a certain infatuation with the "big names" of academia. It goes beyond admiration into the realm of hero worship, and it's a bit silly. We're getting too old for it. Especially by the time the dissertation has been written. Shouldn't we expect a measured nonchalance toward the whole notion of big names and so-called great ideas? Shouldn't routine exposure to "greatness" have a demystifying effect on PhD students and professors? [The Gaurdian](#)

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## Some not so “Geographical” News



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