2016 Awards Presentation

The University of Toronto Association of Geography Alumni (UTAGA), Planning Alumni Committee (PAC) and the Geography & Planning Department’s 22nd annual Awards Presentation evening on November 3rd, 2016, was a well-attended success, with more than 70 students receiving awards.

This year, UTAGA’s Fenton Chin Outstanding Service Award recipients were Helen Huang and Edwin Li for their contributions as members of the Friends of Planning Alumni Committee. As a member of PAC’s communications team Helen organized and co-lead a workshop to teach Adobe design software to students, and coordinated a very successful edition of the annual Matthew Hanson Planning Opportunities Workshop where planning students learned from professionals with a range of experiences. Edwin has been a dedicated volunteer on PAC since graduating in 2013 and continues to offer his energies to various aspects of PAC’s programming, from organizing a line-up of guest lecturers for the planning skills modules to now taking a lead on PAC’s finances and reporting. The UTAGA Honorary President Award was given to Mitchell Goldhar, the founder of SmartCentres. SmartCentres is a commercial real estate developer and owner of shopping centres which has developed over 250 shopping centres across Canada during the past two decades, the majority of which are anchored by Wal-Mart stores. Mitch has made outstanding contributions to the department, including helping to establish the prestigious John Bousfield Distinguished Visitorship in Planning, creating the Mitchell Goldhar Award for Excellent Achievement in Planning in 2003, and teaching Real Estate Development in the Program in Planning from 2000 to 2004.

The Distinguished Alumnus Award was awarded in absentia to Engin Isin. Professor Isin received his PhD in Geography from the University of Toronto in 1990 and currently holds a Chair in Citizenship at the Faculty of Social Sciences, The Open University, UK. He joined The Open University in 2007 after fifteen years at York University where he was professor of social science (1993-2001) and Canada Research Chair (2002-2007). His research focuses on the politics of citizenship and how citizenship has been contested by its ‘others’ (strangers, outsiders, aliens). He is the author or co-author of five books, including: Being Digital Citizens (2015), Citizens without Frontiers (2012), Being Political (2002), Citizenship and Identity (1999), and Cities Without Citizens (1992). He has edited or co-edited 10 books and is the joint Chief Editor of the leading journal Citizenship Studies.
UNDERGRADUATE GEOGRAPHY AWARDS

UTAGA Outstanding Performance Awards
Physical Geography: Lika Miao
Human Geography: Hafsah Siddiqui
Environmental Geography: Michelle Zhong
Methods/GIS: Aayesha Patel

UTAGA Outstanding Undergraduate Research Award
Jacob Dimen-Wagner
Liam Fox

UTAGA Undergraduate Computer Applications Award
Martin Marchiori-Wong

UTAGA Undergraduate Geography Toronto Award
Noel Ariyaratnam

GRADUATE GEOGRAPHY AWARDS

Graduate Alpar Scholarship
Naomi Schwartz

John D. Barnes Geodetic Sciences Fellowship
Laura Bryson

John Horner Graduate Scholarship in Geography
Brock Bersaglio  Lauren Kepkiewicz
Shannon Black  Joshua Steckley
Sherena Hussain  Nicole Van Lier

James T. Lemon Memorial Scholarship in Geography
Julie Mah

Oscar J. Marshall Graduate Fellowship
Parastoo Hosseinibehangi

Joseph A. May Scholarship
Aviva Coopersmith  Anastasia Hervas
Simon Erlich  Alexis Mitchell
Beyhan Farhadi

Donald F. Putnam Graduate Scholarship
Sarah Ariano
Jenny Cui

George Tatham / Geography Alumni Graduate Scholarship
Leah Montange

UTAGA J.B.R. Whitney Award
Adrian Lue

PLANNING PROGRAM AWARDS

Alan Tonks Planning Scholarship
Lauren An  Stuart Burkimsher
Ira Banks  Eric Forhan

Benjamin Sonshine Urban Planning Scholarship
Izabela Molendowski

CIP Award for Academic Excellence
Matthew Hilder

Edie Yolles Award in Urban Planning
Matthew Hilder

Friends of Planning Graduate Scholarship for Innovation
Anni-Claudine Buelles
Stephanie Cirnu
Aviva Coopersmith

LEA Consulting Ltd. Award in Planning and Transportation
Ira Banks

Matthew Hanson Scholarship in Planning
Lauren An
Keegan Butler
Alexandra Fortune-Rusnyk
Jonathan Kitchen
Holly Wacker
Louise Willard

Mitchell Goldhar Award for Excellent Achievement in the Planning Program
Brandon Paniccia

Ian D. Macpherson Award
Jennifer Williamson

Peter R. Walker Planning Fellowship
Lauren An  Danielle Magsumbol
Keegan Butler  Rebecca Roach
Adam Didycz  Holly Wacker
Jonathan Kitchen  Louise Willard

Peter R. Walker Planning Scholarship
Michelle Kearns

Thomas Luther Panton Scholarship
Maria Martelo
University of Toronto Planning Alumni Graduate Scholarship
Aqsa Malik

EXTERNAL AWARDS (PROVINCIAL)

Donald F. Putnam / George Tatham/ Ontario Graduate Scholarship in Geography
Adam Dickinson

Edward Sorbara / Building Industry and Land Development (BILD) / Ontario Graduate Scholarship
Nathan Stewart

J. M. Tomczak / Ontario Graduate Scholarship
Adrian Khan

Michael Ralph Walsh / Ontario Graduate Scholarship
Jillian Linton

Neptis Foundation / Ontario Graduate Scholarship in Geography
Christopher Webb

Neptis Foundation / Ontario Graduate Scholarship in Planning
Leah Forte

Urban Strategies / Ontario Graduate Scholarship
Brandon Paniccia

U of T Planning Alumni / Ontario Graduate Scholarship
Anni-Claudine Buelles

ESRI Canada Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarship in Science & Technology
Jeffrey Allen

Connaught International Scholarship
Phuong Dao
Yasmin Khan

Ontario Trillium Scholarship
Hyun-Chul Kim
Diala Lteif

EXTERNAL AWARDS (FEDERAL)

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)
Canada Graduate Scholarships – Master’s
Pamela Tetford
Michael Wang

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarships – Master’s
Stephanie Cirnu
Andrew Morgan
Aviva Coopersmith
Rachel Phillips
Amanda Crompton
Stephanie Stanov
Sean Grisdale
Katie Vasilyeva
Matthew Hunter
Zyler Wang
Rebecca Jacobs
Heather Wilson
Michelle Kearns

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarships – Doctoral
Kunitomo Kamizaki
Lea Ravensbergen-Hodgins

Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Doctoral Scholarship
Cynthia Morinville

UTAGA Award Winners 2016

UTAGA Distinguished Alumnus Award
Mitchell Goldhar

Fenton Chin Outstanding Service Award
Helen Huang
Edwin Li

Mitchell Goldhar receiving the award from David McKay
PAC Committee members Helen Huang and Edwin Li receiving the award from Fenton's brother Gordon and sister Sophia