

URBAN UPDATE

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Urban Projects

Joined the Masters thesis committee for Aida Mollaei, who is working on the Weight of Cities, with Prof. Komal Habib, focusing on the Region of Waterloo as the case study.

Consulted by a couple of student groups considering capstone project ideas around cities and urban challenges.

Engineering Education

In preparation for CEEA-ACEG 2019, 3 abstracts have been accepted, and finalizing a paper on Engineers-in-Residence across Canada; and two other papers on education for sustainable cities.

Teaching

Preparing for upcoming CIVE400 Capstone included opening LEARN two weeks earlier, and students are already submitting project ideas.

Preparing for upcoming CIVE230 involves Kahoot, and introducing new interactive activities during lectures.



Urban Design Days

Introducing Design Days with an urban influence was conceived as an idea to bring together the sub-disciplines in the department in an innovative design activity, and as a way of creating excitement around cities engineering as one of the key mandates of the Turkstra Chair. Together with the help of Rania Al-Hammoud, who has been the brains behind the success of previously held Design Days, a brainstorming session was held on April 23rd with students, faculty, and technical staff, and the Ideas Clinic who together came up with great ideas. A LITE grant proposal will be submitted soon.



Event Highlights



Media and Op-Ed Training. Full day training by Shari Graydon at Informed Options, April 25 at E7.

Water Connections. Met Glen Shkurhan of Urban Systems Ltd.

Women's Infrastructure Network. Attended WIN Awards 2019 at KPMG, Toronto, April 23.

10th Smart Cities and IoT Expo. Attended sessions on Engineering Smart Cities, Sustainability in the Digital Age and the Built Environment. April 30 - May 1, Holiday Inn, Toronto.

Keep an eye out next month for...

Here are events to look forward to in May 2019:

- UW 11th Annual Teaching and Learning Conference, May 2.
- Great Lakes Economic Forum, Cleveland, OH, May 6-8.
- Blue Cities 2019, Canadian Water Network, May 7-8.
- KPMG Mobility Ecosystem 2030 Hackathon, May 9.
- CIVETalks, May 15.



THE WATER INSTITUTE JOINED THE EXPERTS



CAGBC JOINED IN PREPARATION FOR LEED AP ND



UN-HABITAT UN SUBSCRIBED TO UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS



GHG Emissions in the Region of Waterloo

An exchange student, Ludovico Vermeir, from the University of Exeter, UK took an interest in exploring climate change in the Region of Waterloo, and under my supervision completed a project titled "Analysis of residential building systems in the Region of Waterloo, Ontario, and strategies to mitigate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions." Thanks to the Region for providing good data to work with. The project focused on the tri-cities: Waterloo, Kitchener and Cambridge, and analyzed Greenhouse gas (GHG) for residential buildings in the region, in addition to developing strategies for future climate change mitigation. According to the analysis, the region will reach its 2020 target of reducing emissions by 6% compared to the 2010 base year. However, at the current rate the region will not meet its 2050 target of 80% unless strategies are adopted to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The significant reduction or phase out of natural gas will be necessary.

