Welcome Everyone

GRC Annual Awards Ceremony

June 19th, 2023
Welcome to our Guests

Dr. Kenneth S. Coley
Professor & Dean
Faculty of Engineering

Dr. Clare Robinson
Prof. & Associate Chair
Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering

Dr. Tom Lardner (MC)
Grandson of Mr. & Mrs. William Lardner
William and Ruth Lardner Graduate Award

Mr. Peter Quigley
Son of Dr. R.M. Quigley
R.M. Quigley Award

Mr. & Mrs. Eric Chung
Y.F. Eric & Ruby Chung Graduate Scholarship Award
Dr. Tom Lardner

- Graduated BASc from Queen’s University in 2006
- Graduated MESc from Western University in 2011
- Graduated PhD From Western University in 2018

- Over 10 years of geotechnical and geosstructural engineering.
- Currently a Senior Geotechnical Engineer with EXP Services Inc.
Dr. R.M. Quigley the founding director of the Geotechnical Research Centre

Developed the Geotechnical Group in the Department of Civil Engineering to become one of the strongest in Canada

Robert Quigley
1934 – 1995
R.M. Quigley Award
Terms of Reference

Awarded annually to an engineer or scientist to pursue graduate studies in Geotechnical Engineering

Special consideration will be taken of a candidate's academic, professional and general contributions to the engineering profession
R.M. Quigley Award
2022 Recipient

Difan Su
(Supervisor: C. Power)
R.M. Quigley Award
2022 Recipient

Yuxuan Xie
(Supervisor: B. Li)
John Booker Award

Distinguished scientist, engineer, researcher who, while a professor at the University of Sydney, had close research collaboration with the GRC.

He was one of the finest researchers working in the field of theoretical geomechanics.

John Booker
1942 – 1998
John Booker Award
Terms of Reference

Set up in memory of John Booker with the Geotechnical Research Centre

Awarded to an engineer or scientist to pursue graduate studies in geotechnical or geoenvironmental engineering

Preference to students conducting research in computational geomechanics
John Booker Award
2022 Recipient

Behrouz Badrkhani Ajaei
(Supervisor: M.H. El Naggar)
Milos Novak Award

He was one of the foremost world experts in dynamics of civil engineering structures and foundations.

He was a member of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences (CSAV).

He earned a reputation as a truly outstanding researcher.

Milos Novak

1925 – 1994
Milos Novak Award
Terms of Reference

Set up in memory of Professor Milos Novak with the Geotechnical Research Centre

Special consideration will be given to students working in the area of dynamics and soil-structure
Milos Novak Award
2022 Recipient

Yongxu Liu
(Supervisor: H. Hong)
Milos Novak Award
2022 Recipient

Abdelmoneim El Naggar
(Supervisor: M. Youssef)
L.G. Soderman Award

The Soil Mechanics Section of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Western was started in 1965 by L.G. Soderman and was one of the first Soil Mechanics Sections in Canada.

He was the driving force behind the founding of the company Golder.

Larry Soderman
1927 – 1969
L.G. Soderman Award
Terms of Reference

Established in memory of the late Professor Soderman, distinguished Canadian Geotechnical Engineer

Chosen for the candidate's academic and professional qualifications and his general contribution to the engineering profession
L.G. Soderman Award
2022 Recipient

Preemjeet Singh
(Supervisor: A. Sadhu)
Y.F. Eric and Ruby Chung Graduate Award

The award was established in May 2014 by Mr. & Mrs. Chung

In February 2000, Mr. Chung and Mr. Vander Doelen established their own consultancy, Chung & Vander Doelen Engineering Limited in Kitchener, Ontario

Mr. & Mrs. Chung
Y.F. Eric and Ruby Chung Graduate Award

Terms of Reference

Awarded to a full-time graduate student who is conducting research in the field of geotechnical or geoenvironmental engineering

Preference will be given to a student whose research has shown potential industrial application
Y.F. Eric & Ruby Chung Graduate Award
2022 Recipient
Ahmed Mneina
(Supervisor: M.H. El Naggar)
William E. and Ruth Lardner Graduate Award

His company, Deep Foundations Contractors Inc., was recognised as one of the most innovative geotechnical construction engineering companies.

Lardner credited Western Engineering for providing Deep Foundations Inc. with outstanding young engineering graduates.

Mr. William Lardner 1927 - 2018
William E. & Ruth Lardner Graduate Award
Terms of Reference

Awarded to a full-time graduate student who is conducting research in the area of geotechnical/structural interface (first preference) or geoenvironmental/infrastructure interface.

Has at least one year of consulting or industry experience and intention to return to industry after graduation.
William & Ruth Lardner Graduate Award

2022 Recipient

Behnoush Honavar Sedighian

(Supervisor: B. Li)
Professor Jason I. Gerhard
Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering

GRC research director since 2007

He was a professor in Civil and Environmental Engineering and a leading international expert in groundwater contamination and environmental remediation technologies including “environmental beneficial smouldering”.

Dr. Jason Gerhard
1969 - 2022
The Jason I. Gerhard Graduate Leadership Award in Environmental Engineering is awarded to a full-time female graduate student enrolled in a Doctoral (PhD) or Masters’ Program (MESc) within the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

The student’s research is within the field of environmental engineering. Preference will be given to a student who demonstrates an affinity for leadership in the student body and/or professional and/or local communities, sharing her passion for working together to solve environmental challenges.
Jason I. Gerhard Graduate Leadership Award in Environmental Engineering

2022 Recipient

Sabrina Jivani

(Supervisor: C. Robinson)
GRC EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Dr. T. Newson
Dr. M.H. El Naggar
Dr. C. Robinson
Dr. H.P. Hong
Dr. C. Powers
Dr. A. Sadrekarimi
Dr. B. Li