

Ryerson Civil Engineering Ph.D. Graduate Wins Prestigious Governor General's Academic Gold Medal

Wai Yeung Yan, a recent Ph.D. graduate from the Department of Civil Engineering, Ryerson University, received the Governor General's Academic Gold Medal at the Fall 2012 Convocation. Yan, an international student from Hong Kong, enrolled in Ryerson's Geomatics Program in the fall of 2008 under the supervision of Dr. Ahmed Shaker. During the last four years, Yan conducted his Ph.D. research "Radiometric correction and normalization of airborne LiDAR intensity data for land cover classification" and published more than 30 papers in peer-reviewed journals, conferences and professional magazines.

"I really enjoyed the time studying in Ryerson. Although we are in a lately established graduate program, I like the cohesion and solidarity we have. I believe we are up and coming!" proudly said Yan. "This award makes a big encouragement for me, Dr. Shaker, and students and friends around me."

In addition to publication, Yan did actively participate in competitions to demonstrate his good work. He won 12 national/regional awards in the best student paper, poster and presentation competitions, among which are the five prizes from the AOLS Educational Foundation sponsored



Dr. Shaker (left) and Yan (right) at the Fall 2012 Convocation at Ryerson.

Graduate Student Poster Competitions: 1st (2009), 1st and 4th (2010), 2nd (2011) and 3rd (2012). "I am very thankful for what I have, and I do appreciate the support and encouragement from the AOLS, in particular Maureen, not only for me personally, but also for my program." said Yan. "I believe both the AOLS and Ryerson are creating the future geomatics professionals whose impact on society is much stronger than what we realize."

This prestigious Governor General's Academic Gold Medal award recognizes the



Yan's 4th place poster (2010 AGM) is pictured at the far left and his 1st place poster is directly beside it on the right.

overall excellence in academic achievement in graduate studies and is provided by the Chancellery of Honours in the Office of the Secretary to the Governor General of Canada. A more detailed description of the award can be found at: <http://www.gg.ca/document.aspx?id=187>.

