

GHHCSG January 2024 Communiqué

What's happening in Canadian Health Geography?



Canadian Association of Geographers
Association Canadienne des Géographes



Geographies of Health and
Health Care Study Group

Jenna Dixon (UBC-O): Chair (2023-25); Andrea Rishworth (UTM): Vice Chair (2023-25); Emily Shantz (UW): Secretary (2023-24); Abraham Marshall Nunbogu (UW): Social-Communications (2022-24); Cynthia Itbo Musah (UW): Student Representative (2023-24)

A note from the executive : This month we are covering some very Canadian relevant news from one of the foundational health geography journals, *Health & Place*; profiling work from Centre for Environmental Research (CEHR) in the Faculty of Health Sciences, at Ontario Tech University; and highlighting the release of a new book in the *Geographies of Health* series. If YOU have any exciting news you would like to share with the community, reach out to us at ghhcsg@gmail.com. Have a great month!

- Jenna, Andrea, Emily, Abraham and Cynthia.

Canadian based Health Geographers take over as Editors in Chief at Health & Place

Congratulations to **Dr. Valorie Crooks** (Simon Fraser University) and **Dr. Michael Widener** (University of Toronto) for their new roles as co- Editors in Chief at the journal **Health & Place**!

“It’s an honour to be serving in this role with my Co-EiC, Valorie. It is exciting that both of us are in Canada, and in many ways, it is a recognition of the amazing work being done by the broader scholarly community in health geography and place-oriented public health across the country. I have always found my colleagues here to be supportive and curious, and I’m proud to be one of many who make Canada a hub for high caliber work on health and place,” reflects Dr. Widener. This sentiment was strongly echoed by Dr. Crooks.



Health & Place was established in 1995 by original Editor in Chief, **Dr. Graham Moon**. In its inaugural editorial, Dr. Moon outlined the journal’s vision to emphasize differences in health and health care between places, the experience of health and care in specific places, the development of health care for places, and the methodologies and theories underpinning these themes. Concluding *“In short, the journal will aim to publish sound work which contributes to an understanding of how, why and whether place and context really matter when it comes to health and health care.”*

Outgoing Editor in Chief of Health & Place, **Dr. Jamie Pearce** (University of Edinburgh), has moved to Senior Editor at the Medical Geography desk of Social Science & Medicine, as **Dr. Susan Elliott** (University of Waterloo) took over as Editor in Chief of that journal in 2023. Dr. Pearce comments:

"After 10 years as Editor in Chief at Heath & Place, I am thrilled to be making the move to Social Science & Medicine, working with Susan Elliott and other colleagues leading the various sections of the journal. It is a wonderful opportunity to continue to serve the health geography community, and play a role in growing the profile of our discipline in such a successful and internationally prominent journal.

At the same time, it is also very reassuring to be handing over the leadership of Health & Place to two such distinguished colleagues as Valorie Crooks and Michael Widener. The appointment of two Canadian Editors reflects the long-standing strength of health geography in Canada, a profile which our colleagues around the world have recognised for many years. I look forward to seeing the journal go from strength to strength under the new Canadian team!"

Watch for our new 'meet the editor' series to learn more from behind the editorial desk.

Meet the Centre for Environmental Health Research (CEHR): A small space with big ideas!

The Centre for Environmental Research (CEHR) in the Faculty of Health Sciences, Ontario Tech University is looking for graduate students and researchers who are interested in undertaking collaborative research on various topics in environmental health. **Dr. Caroline Barakat** stewards the Centre and brings her expertise in researching topics related to air pollution and health, longitudinal research designs, and child health development, steering CEHR towards pioneering contributions in environmental health. CEHR researchers come from diverse disciplines, faculties, and backgrounds, and work collaboratively in this inclusive space toward their academic trajectory. CEHR's environment nurtures innovative ideas while fostering a culture of engagement and mutual support among students at both undergraduate and graduate levels.

CEHR is embarking on multiple exciting, and diverse projects, involving the exploration of the complex relationships between knowledge, risk perceptions, and behaviours related to environmental exposures and human health outcomes, policy-related research on indoor air quality, contributing to research methodology that facilitates longitudinal environmental health research, and evidence-informed parental decision-making in relation to sport participation for girls. The Centre offers students multiple opportunities to expand their research portfolio, collaborate with leading experts, and make significant contributions to the field of environmental health.



Adrianna Trifunovski
Health Science's Master's Student

Participating in academic conferences is ingrained in CEHR's ethos. Through regular meetings and engaging group activities, researchers in training immerse themselves in each other's research. Recently, CEHR students showcased their work at the Canadian Association of Geographer's - Ontario Division Annual meeting, October 2023, Toronto Metropolitan University, unveiling their findings in relation to three ongoing projects. One focuses on women's perceptions, knowledge, and behavioral patterns related to toxins in personal care and household (PCH) products, as well as a related project that focuses on designing an educational toolkit for reducing toxins' exposure and assisting consumers in making healthier PCH product choices. The latter project targets perceived susceptibility and severity and encourages self-efficacy to execute behavior change. Lastly, CEHR researchers presented a project that focuses on utilizing social networking sites for tracing longitudinal study participants.

Currently, CEHR has openings for graduate students (Master's or PhD levels) who are interested in public health, epidemiology, environmental health, sociology, or a related discipline, with a specific emphasis on quantitative and qualitative methodologies, as well as mixed methods research designs. CEHR is looking for collaborative researchers with interdisciplinary mindsets, who will make substantial contributions to CEHR. Candidates with a background in environmental health, health geography, public health, epidemiology, or a related field are encouraged to apply.



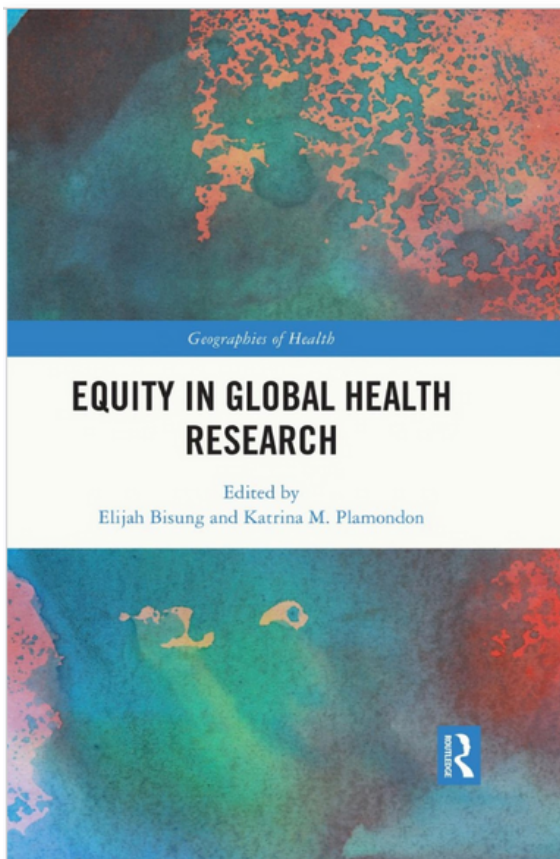
*Rogih Riad Andrawes
Health Science Master's Student*

The Centre also has an opening for a post-doc position. This is a limited-term position (1 year) supervised by Dr. Caroline Barakat, with the possibility of extending the term. Specific tasks include conducting literature reviews, conducting interviews, analyzing quantitative and qualitative data, knowledge dissemination activities, mentoring undergraduate and graduate researchers, and other research related activities. Strong written and oral communication skills are essential. The successful candidate will be responsible for managing projects within CEHR, in collaboration with our research partners, as well as exploring, developing, and maintaining partnership opportunities with various NGOs, government agencies, and research partners. This position offers an exceptional opportunity for the successful candidate to expand their research portfolio, collaborate with leading experts, and make significant contributions to the field of environmental health.

Interested in undertaking quantitative or mixed-methods research? Using creative digital and integrative tools to recruit and engage with participants? Contributing to understanding the long-term impacts of early childhood exposures to a range of socioeconomic, demographic, residential, environmental, medical, and behavioral factors? If you would like to receive more information on this role and the ongoing research projects, please email caroline.barakat@ontariotechu.ca or susan.yousufzai@ontariotechu.net for more information.

New book in the 'Geographies of Health Series': Equity in Global Health Research

The nineteenth addition to Routledge's *Geographies of Health Series* has just been released. **Dr. Elijah Bisung** (Queen's University) and **Dr. Katrina Plamondon** (University of British Columbia) co-edit *Equity in Global Health Research* which includes authorship contributions from a number of Canadian based health geographers.



The book offers insights on global health research, drawing attention to the equity choices embedded in day-to-day patterns and assumptions that shape how people do, think about, and navigate research.

It invites readers to position equity as the driving principle and purpose of this field and presents a plethora of examples that demonstrate how to navigate the complex work of centring equity in research. This book provides foundational content on the standards of guiding equity considerations in global health, with chapters adopting cross-disciplinary methods of engaging in equity thinking and doing. Chapters explore applications of six distinct elements of the CCGHR Principles for Global Health Research, including partnering authentically, embracing inclusion, sharing benefits, committing to the future, acting on causes of inequities and practicing humility. Each chapter is accompanied with engaging reflection questions.

This book is a pivotal resource for those who perform, use or support global equity health research. It will appeal to students, researchers, policy makers, professionals and funders, as well as those with an interest in and commitment to centring equity in their approaches to doing, using, or supporting health research.

Full author list and purchasing options available at: <https://www.routledge.com/Equity-in-Global-Health-Research/Bisung-Plamondon/p/book/9780367463199>

More about the series, which is overseen by series editors **Dr. Allison Williams** (McMaster University) and **Dr. Susan Elliott** (University of Waterloo), can be found at: <https://www.routledge.com/Geographies-of-Health-Series/book-series/GHS>

Job postings

Full Professor, Global Public Health and Equity, University of Manitoba. Application review begins December 16, 2023.

https://viprecprod.ad.umanitoba.ca/default.aspx?REQ_ID=30543

Assistant/Associate Professor and Canada Research Chair (Tier II) in Disability Justice, Carleton University. Application review begins January 8, 2024.

<https://carleton.ca/deputyprovost/2023/assistant-or-associate-professor-and-sshr-c-canada-research-chair-tier-ii-sociology-and-anthropology/>

Assistant Professor (2-year term), Health Sciences, Brock University. Application closing date: February 9, 2024.

https://brocku.wd3.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/brocku_careers/job/Assistant-Professor--Health-Sciences--Limited-Term-Appointment_JR-1017020

Open Rank in Indigenous Health Policy & Management, York University. Applications due Feb 9 2024. See:

https://www.yorku.ca/vpepc/faculty-affairs/wp-content/uploads/sites/698/2020/06/HH_SHPM_IndiHthPolMan2.pdf

Assistant Professor & Novo Nordisk Research Chair in Social and Environmental Determinants of Health, University of Toronto. Application closing date: March 11, 2024.

<https://jobs.utoronto.ca/job/Mississauga-Assistant-Professor-&Novo-Nordisk-Research-Chair-in-Social-and-Environmental-Determinants-of-Health-ON/577592417/>

Send us your important dates and job openings at **all levels** at ghhcsg@gmail.com to have it highlighted in the next communiqué.

Dates of note

As of January 1, 2024 - 2024 CAG membership registration/renewal is open.

March 15-16th, 2024 - Western Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers (WDCAG) Symposium. Registration for Oral Presentations deadline February 16, 2024. Registration for Poster Presentations deadline March 1, 2024. See details at <https://www.cag-acg.ca/wdcag-2024-home>

April 8 to 12, 2024 - Global Public Health week of the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA). See <https://www.wfpha.org/global-public-health-week/>

April 16 to 20, 2024 - American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii. See <https://www.aag.org/events/aag2024/>

May 15 to 16, 2024 - Human geographies of climate change adaptation in Bergen, Norway. Registration now open. See <https://tinyurl.com/adaptconf>

July 14 to July 19, 2024 - The International Medical Geography Symposium in Atlanta, Georgia. Abstract submission and registration is OPEN. Discounted rates to March 31, 2024. See <https://imgs2024.org/>

August 14 to 19, 2024 - Canadian Association of Geographers Annual Meeting in St. John's, Newfoundland. Details TBA.

August 24-30, 2024 - International Geographical Congress in Dublin, Ireland.