



education at work ontario

*The voice of post-secondary co-operative education in Ontario*

### **EWO Co-op Student of the Year Award 2016**

The EWO Co-op Student of the Year Award recognizes Ontario Co-op students who have showcased exceptional job accomplishment, extra-curricular involvement, academic achievement and a strong contribution to Co-operative Education.

#### **Students nominated:**

##### College:

Wen Shen, Fanshawe College  
Avery Konda, Georgian College  
Kewen (Kaye) Mao, Sheridan College  
Catherine Pehlman, Sheridan College  
Amanda Barratt, Conestoga College  
Skylar Manitowabi, Algonquin College

##### University:

Cameron Chamberlain, University of Guelph  
Brianna Guild, University of Guelph  
Rosa Cao Liu, University of Toronto Scarborough  
Julia Yan, University of Toronto Scarborough  
Baraa Hamodi, University of Waterloo  
Natalya O'Neill, University of Waterloo  
Brenda Lamb, University of Ottawa

Our Committee is pleased to announce the winners along with two honourable mentions for the College and University Awards for 2016:

#### **College Winner: Catherine Pehlman – Sheridan College**

Catherine Poehlam is a student in Sheridan's CST- System Analyst Co-op program. Catherine's academic achievements, having maintained a perfect 4.0 GPA throughout her program, are matched by her professional, personal and community achievements.

Not only has Catherine overcome anxiety to become a confident self-starter who founded a club specifically for young women hoping to work in the technology sector, she also lead a team of students in developing a project that commanded a first place finish by a panel of judges. In addition, Catherine mentored students in her web design class. Catherine's Co-op term for PointClick Care resulted in an impressive tool to improve efficiency within the company, drawing direct recognition from the CEO. In addition, her promotion of Co-op at Sheridan resulted in a new posting.

As a student who has demonstrated overwhelming success, forward momentum and spirit, Catherine is an amazing representative of Sheridan College and of Co-operative Education.

#### **University Winner: Brianna Guild – University of Guelph**

Brianna Guild graduated with distinction from the University of Guelph in February 2017 with a B.Sc. Honours Biochemistry (Co-op) degree and a minor in Psychology; Brain & Cognition.

Her undergraduate research career included accomplishments such as authorship on a publication as well as another manuscript in progress, and presenting at six scientific conferences. She completed co-op work terms with three different employers, most recently in the laboratory of Dr. Jim Uniake at the University of Guelph, where she is currently employed post-graduation. Through volunteer experiences with Speech-Language Pathologists at St. Joseph's Health Centre and Let's Talk Guelph, Brianna discovered her interest in working with individuals with communication disorders. She has applied for Master's Programs in

Speech-Language Pathology and hopes to improve the human condition by ensuring that each individual she works with reaches their full potential.

**Each of these students will receive a plaque and cheque for \$750. Congratulations to the winners of these prestigious awards!**

Our Committee felt strongly about two additional nominations, and would like to give **Honourable Mentions** to: Kewen (Kaye) Mao from Sheridan College and Natalya O'Neill from the University of Waterloo for their achievements.

We would like to thank all of the nominees and their supporting employers and institutions for their participation.

Sincerely,

Your EWO 2016 Co-op Student of the Year Award Committee:

Co-Chair: June Martin, Georgian College ([june.martin@georgiancollege.ca](mailto:june.martin@georgiancollege.ca))

Co- Chair: Alexis Trejgo, George Brown College ([atrejgo@georgebrown.ca](mailto:atrejgo@georgebrown.ca))

Committee Member: Rob Phillips, Sheridan College ([rob.phillips@sheridancollege.ca](mailto:rob.phillips@sheridancollege.ca))

Committee Member: Kirk Patterson, University of Waterloo ([pkpatterson@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:pkpatterson@uwaterloo.ca))

Committee Member: Bettyna Belizaire, University of Ottawa ([bettyna.belizaire@uottawa.ca](mailto:bettyna.belizaire@uottawa.ca))

Committee Member: Ashley Carnrite, Georgian College ([ashley.carnrite@georgianCollege.ca](mailto:ashley.carnrite@georgianCollege.ca))