



Putting Education to work

NEWS RELEASE for 2014 Co-op Students of the Year Awards

“OUTSTANDING CO-OP STUDENTS EARN NATIONAL RECOGNITION”

Toronto, ON, March 16, 2015 – The Canadian Association for Co-operative Education ([CAFCE](#)) announces the 2014 Co-op Students of the Year: **Andrew Andrade** from the University of Waterloo and **Rumman Ullah Khan** from Fanshawe College.

Rising to the top, from a field of 27 nominees, Andrew and Rumman embodied all the attributes of an outstanding co-op student – a significant impact in their co-op placement, high academic performance, commitment to enhancing the profile of co-operative education at their post-secondary institution, and making a difference in their communities.

Andrew Andrade is a third year Mechatronics Engineering student at the University of Waterloo. During his 2014 work term he took part in an entrepreneurial co-op work term, wherein he co-founded his own company, PetroPredict. PetroPredict is a software company that uses risk modelling and mitigation to alert companies in the oil industry about leaks in their pipelines. Andrew is the lead software developer and also strategizes funding for his company through the UWaterloo Velocity entrepreneurial program and elsewhere. During his work term he hired and supervised four co-op students, two of whom were high school level. Andrew shares his ambitions to change the world through motivational speaking to high school students. He is actively involved in the UWaterloo entrepreneurial program and has organized various on-campus events for students with start-up ideas and companies to encourage awareness and recruitment.

Gabrielle Smith, Co-op Student Experiences Manager at the University of Waterloo wrote that “Andrew believes that students can use their ideas and change the world. He is a proud promoter of co-op programs and entrepreneurial opportunities for students. Andrew’s dedication to his beliefs is clear through his work creating opportunities for other co-op students and sticking with his own ideas to their completion. He was able to reach his dream of developing a company and its reputation and now spends considerable time working to give other students the same chance.”

Rumman Ullah Khan is a student at Fanshawe College enrolled in the Business Marketing program with the Lawrence Kinlin School of Business. He is an international student having arrived from Pakistan in 2012. Rumman has successfully completed three co-op work terms and hold a 4.05 GPA while at the same time volunteering in the community and on-campus at every opportunity. Rumman is an avid learner, having completed one international exchange in The Hague and one in Wales, UK. Rumman is a true ambassador for co-operative education, Fanshawe College and the London community. He praises the benefits of co-operative education, stating that “this is such a great program which helps students integrate academic study with paid, related work experience. Especially as an international student, it was a golden opportunity for me and I took full advantage of it.”

In support of Rumman’s nomination, Tracy Wintermute, VP Human Resources at Voyageur Transportation Services, wrote that “Not only did Rumman exceed my expectations, he exceeded expectations of all those employees who had contact with him. He worked on several projects for the President who to this day still asks when Rumman is coming back to work for us.”

In addition to receiving a \$500 cash award from CAFCE, with a certificate to commemorate their achievements, Andrew Andrade and Rumman Ullah Khan will each receive the \$500 Emery-Dufault Award. The Emery-Dufault Award was established by CAFCE in 2003 in recognition of the contributions of two of the founding fathers of co-operative education in Canada, Dr. Charles Leslie (Les) Emery and Professor George Joseph Dufault. Les Emery first introduced the idea of co-operative education to Waterloo College Association Faculties, the forerunner of the University of Waterloo. His proposal and subsequent work led to the establishment of the first co-operative education program in Canada. George Dufault set up and headed the Department of Co-ordination during its first year (from 1957 to 1958) at Waterloo College Associate Faculties. This was the forerunner of the current Co-operative Education and Career Action department at the University of Waterloo.

Each year CAFCE recognizes outstanding co-op student achievement at the college and university level. Co-op offices across Canada will be celebrating this and other co-op initiatives during National Co-operative Education Week, March 16-20, 2015. Currently there are 79 CAFCE member institutions across Canada and the U.S. representing over 80,000 students.

Honourable mentions were awarded to **Erin Nga Lam Wong** from University of Waterloo (Bachelor of Science - Kinesiology), and **Joao Ricardo D'Errico Chavez** from Sheridan College (Software Development and Network Engineering Co-op Diploma).



Andrew Andrade



Rumman Ullah Khan

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Scott Daniels
Chair, CAFCE Co-op Students of the Year Awards Selection Committee (2014)
902.457.6375 | scott.daniels@msvu.ca