Alumni Receptions

**Winnipeg:** Friday July 20, 2018 from 5-7 pm [Tavern United, Bell MTS Place](#) (CIP/MPPI National Conference, SOUL 2018). Prof. Leela Viswanathan is a keynote speaker at the conference and Prof. Dave Gordon (MPL'79) will also join the reception.

**Toronto:** October. Stay tuned for details on the [SURP LinkedIn Group](#)

Gerald Hodge Memorial

Professor Gerald Hodge FCIP passed away peacefully at his home on Hornby Island, BC, on November 18, 2017 just as the Fall Newsletter was sent to press.

A [memorial minute](#) has been placed on the School's website. [Flags at the university were flown at half-mast](#) in Gerald's honour.

This picture of Gerald has been installed in SURP’s newly-renovated classroom in E230 Macintosh-Corry Hall, where he taught for over a dozen years.

Alumni are invited to send memories of Gerald as a teacher, scholar, and mentor, to [Dr. David Gordon](#) or to contribute to the [SURP Trust Fund](#) or [SURP Bursary Fund](#) in his honour.

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Dr. Leela Viswanathan appointed Director of SURP

Message from Warren Mabee, Professor and Head of the Department of Geography and Planning:

It is my pleasure to announce that Dr. Leela Viswanathan MCIP, RPP has accepted the role of Director of the School of Urban and Regional Planning and Associate Head of SURP within the Department of Geography and Planning,
Dr. Viswanathan focuses her research and teaching on topics related to social planning, planning with Indigenous Peoples, research methods, and urban geography. Since the creation of Geography and Planning, she has worked diligently alongside her colleagues to find ways to better integrate the planning and geography programs. We are fortunate indeed that she has agreed to assume the Directorship and to lead the School of Urban and Regional Planning forward.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Viswanathan in her new role!

Professor Dave Gordon (MPL’79) will return to teaching and research on July 1, 2018 after over a decade of service as SURP Director.

SURP alumni Tony Gkotsis (MPL’14); Hugh Gale (MPL’79) and Alan Gummo (MPL’78), pictured here, attended a reception in Dave’s honour in June.

**Alumni Enrich SURP Speaker Series**

SURP Alumni are famous for their devotion to the School and we want to thank those of you who gave public lectures in class visits this year. Alumni were prominent contributors to our lecture series:

Andrew Sacret (MPL ’05 - University of Ottawa)  
"Planning as a Career"

Andrew Palmiere (MPL ’02 - O2 Planning + Design)  
"Halifax Green Planning & Mobility"
Other prominent speakers included:

- Ken Greenberg FRAIC, (Greenberg Consultants) on Community Design
- Andy Fillmore MCIP, (Member of Parliament, Halifax) on Communities Built for Progressive Change
- Antonio Gomez-Palacio FRAIC MCIP, (DIALOG Design) on Progressive Policies to Promote Wellbeing

Awards

**Mayor's Innovative Pitch Challenge**

Four SURP students won the Mayor’s Innovation Pitch Challenge with their proposal for a winter cycling network.

Gurraj Ahluwalia ('19), Nick Kuhl ('18); Anna Geladi ('18), and Mac Fitzgerald ('19) are pictured here with Kingston Mayor Brian Patterson. They received paid summer internships and a grant to implement their ideas.

**International Experience Awards**

- Leah Weiler, Public Spaces (Madrid and Barcelona, Spain)
- Stephanie Magnanelli, Perceptions of Safety in the Public Realm (Medellin, Colombia)
- Gabrielle Snow, Ireland’s Aging Policy (Dublin and Galway, Ireland)

Their travels will be featured in the Fall newsletter.

Sarah Lumley ('18) won the Canadian Institute of Planners’ Thomas Adams Scholarship, which will be presented at the CIP's National Conference in Winnipeg in July. Sarah is now with O2 Planning + Design in Calgary.

Jillian Simpson ('18) and Meg Morris ('18) took a break from their studies on exchange at the University of Otago to visit Slope Point, the extreme southern edge of South Island, New Zealand.

Meg Morris ('18) won the Gerald Carrothers Graduate Award from the Ontario...
Professional Planners Institute. She will receive the award at the OPPI conference in Sudbury. Meg joins her classmate Emily Goldney ('18), the 2017 recipient of the Carrothers Award. Quite a class!

Dr. Leela Viswanathan shared the Julian Szeicz award for teaching excellence from the Queen’s Department of Geography and Planning.

**SURP International**

Prof. Ajay Agarwal and Carla Guerrera (MPL'03) tour the Nizamuddin Basti Redevelopment Project. They were invited to New Delhi for different conferences in the spring.

**Real World Project Courses**

Alumni often mention that their most rewarding courses were projects that had real clients and real planning problems. Locally, our students prepared the Kingston Community Profile to aid the Social Planning Council.

Other SURP students advised the City of Ottawa on long-range scenario planning with *Canada’s Resilient Capital: Ottawa in the Next Half Century*.

Students engaged with policy planners from Ottawa (Royce Fu MPL’02) and Kingston (Hugh Gale MPL’79) during a workshop. Photo by Ben McCauley (MPL ‘18)
Another team was engaged by the federal government on *Energy and City Building: the Future of District Energy in the National Capital Region*.

Further away from home, SURP students travelled to India to prepare the *Growth Management Framework for Settlements in the Auroville Green Belt* for the Auroville Integral Sustainability Institute and Lalit Kishor Bhati.

The Auroville project team takes a break in the weekend before their final presentation. Photo by Prof. Ajay Agarwal

These wonderful student experiences are supported by the SURP Trust Fund through donations by alumni, faculty and friends of the School. Please consider supporting SURP for future experiences.

**Have a great Summer!**

Edited and produced by Dave Gordon MPL’79, and Stephanie Magnanelli (’19), with assistance from Angela Balesdent.