

# Newsletter October 2023



## ***Message from the Director***

### Partnership for Good

CIFAL York values partnership and collaborations with academic, public, and private institutions in developing training and learning events that are in line with the CIFAL York 5 core focus areas. Every month we establish new partnerships, new training programs and new friends of CIFAL York. For example, during September and October CIFAL York has been working closely with the Nightingale Initiative for Global Health to develop a new speaker series on Nurses' Voices. This virtual series began on October 24th, on UN Day. It brings together members of the nursing profession from around the globe to share their experiences and transfer knowledge to the new generations. These great learning events cannot happen without the support from many speakers, instructors, moderators, participants, student interns, CIFAL York staff and our partner agencies. We would like to thank everyone for their engagement and support. If you have training capacity, training needs, or training ideas that you would like to partner with us, please reach out to CIFAL York.



***Dr. Ali Asgary***

Ali Asgary  
Director, CIFAL York

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# What We Have Been Up To?

October 4th, 2023

Emergency Management In Hospitals & Healthcare Speaker Series

Topic: "Temporary Patient Housing"

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IN HOSPITALS & HEALTHCARE SPEAKER SERIES

**Temporary Patient Housing**

Speaker: **Andrew Moull**  
Manager, Disaster and Emergency Management,  
Hamilton Health Sciences

Moderator: **Meshia Richard**  
Emergency Preparedness Lead,  
Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre

VIRTUAL SESSION 4 WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 4, 2023, 12PM-1PM EST

Registration and more information:  
[www.yorku.ca/cifa/emhospitals](http://www.yorku.ca/cifa/emhospitals)

Logos: YORK UNIVERSITY, cifal, Unitar, United Nations, and a QR code.

## About The Speaker

**Andrew Moull** has been involved in healthcare emergency management since 2014 and is currently the Manager for the Emergency and Disaster Management at Hamilton Health Sciences, in Hamilton, Ontario. In addition, he is currently a co-course director for the York University Disaster and Emergency Management graduate studies program, teaching Emergency Management in Healthcare since 2019.

Andrew sits on several committees for the Association of Healthcare Emergency Preparedness Professionals including the Education and Resource Committees and is a passionate believer in bringing healthcare EM professionals together to collaborate and advance best practice in the industry. Andrew has completed two Masters Degrees. His first was in History at the University of Waterloo, and has his second degree in Disaster & Emergency Management from York University.

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# What We Have Been Up To?

October 11th, 2023

ESG (Environment, Social, Governance) in Practice Virtual Speaker Series

Topic: "ESG Landscape and Trends: Understanding Challenges and Implications"



*Click Video To Play*

## **About the Speaker**

Emrul Hasan is a highly experienced and sought-after transformational leader experienced in executive leadership and management, focusing on strategic planning, development, and execution of international humanitarian and development, ESG, CSR and DE+I initiatives. He is a certified sustainability professional with extensive knowledge of ESG reporting standards and frameworks. Emrul has worked with a variety of organizations across different sectors, including finance, retail, and extractive industries globally, helping them with sustainability, ESG, and DE+I strategy, reputational and regulatory risk management, social impact measurement, and net-zero pathway strategy. He has also worked with various governments and development organizations in 27 countries, designing, implementing and evaluating high-impact social and economic development programs.

Currently, Emrul is the Vice President of Global Programs at CARE Canada. Before this, he held various senior leadership positions, including Vice President of Citizenship + Sustainability at Hill+Knowlton's Corporate Advisory arm and Vice President of Program Effectiveness and Quality at Plan Canada. Emrul has also worked at Plan International Bangladesh, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and UNDP-UNCDF. He was a member and Co-chair of the CSO Partnership Advisory Group (CPAG), which advised Global Affairs Canada on implementing CSO's partnership policy. Emrul also served as the Executive Lead for the DE+I effort at Plan Canada and was a member of the Anti-racism and Equity Council of Plan International. He is also an Advisory Board Member of the JennAir Disrupting Design Initiative of Whirlpool Canada.

Emrul is recognized as a thought leader in International Development, ESG, CSR, and DE+I, and his expertise is frequently sought by media, governments, and international agencies. He has been invited to speak at over 25 high-profile conferences, including the United Nations General Assembly, Intersessional UN Expert meetings and the Senate of Canada at the Standing Senate Committee hearing on Human Rights.

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# What We Have Been Up To?

October 23rd, 2023

Climate Change Emergencies & Culture Heritage Speaker Series

Topic: *"The Impacts of Climate Change on Traditional Cultural Heritage: Case of Helmand River Basin in Sistan (Eastern Iran)"*



*Click Video To Play*

## ***About The Speaker***

**Dr. Genito** is a professor at the University of Naples "L'Orientale" teaching Iranian Art History and Archaeology and Central Asian Art and Archaeology. Since 2013, he has served as the Director of Series Maior in the department of Asia, Africa and the Mediterranean. Dr. Genito has served as Director of the Italian Archaeological Mission in Azerbaijan since 2016, the Italian Archaeological Mission in Uzbekistan since 2008, and served as the Director of the Italian Archaeological Mission in Iran from 2003-2014 and in Hungary from 1983-1997. He was also the Vice-Director of the Italian Archaeological Mission in Turkmenistan from 1989-1994.

As of 2000, Dr. Genito has been a Member of the Advisory Board of the journal Ancient Civilisations from Scythia to Siberia. In 2003, he became a member of the Permanent Liaison Committee between European and Japanese archaeologists to facilitate archaeological research by non-nationals in Asia. Dr. Genito has several fields of interest including Iranian Archaeology from the Iron Age to the Islamic Period; Archaeology of Central Asia from the Iron Age to the Early Medieval time; Archaeology of the Nomadic Steppes peoples from the Iron Age to the Early Medieval Time; Archaeology of the Silk Roads; and Archaeology of the Early Medieval Period in the Mediterranean, Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

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# What We Have Been Up To?

October 24th , 2023

Nurses' Voices Speaker Series

Topic: "Nurses' Voices Grassroots to Global"



## About The Event

The world’s nurses have been enduring ceaseless challenges from the overwhelmed health care system—resulting in burn-out. This was further exacerbated by the most recent COVID-19 pandemic that strained the front-line nurses worldwide. Even as nurses have been appreciated and widely trusted for this service—their public voices are still rarely heard. The absence of nursing’s voice contributes to the fact that nurses continue to be undervalued. This ‘Nurses’ Voices Speakers’ Series’ will continue our innovative global multi-media outreach to prepare and engage nurses, including students and retirees, to become empowered leading public storytellers and to share their stories of advocating for healing, resilience, and collaboration for a healthy world—as thought-leaders across the global public space and to the listening ears of everyone!

[Click Video To Play](#)

October 27th , 2023

VR/XR Based Training & Education Speaker Series: Knowledge and Experience Sharing

Topic: "Augmented & Virtual Reality Sandboxes as Digital Twins of Learning Spaces".



## About The Event

Learning complex engineering concepts in varying fields can be a challenge on its own. It becomes more difficult when students do not have access to sophisticated lab equipment or are unable to fully understand complex concepts through listening to lecture material. Many educational institutions do not have access to complex lab equipment. It can also be very costly to replace faulty equipment or buy new components for training and testing. Specifically, testing robotics projects may require access to various environments and spaces that may not be easily accessible for educators and researchers. Further, limited access to field trips makes learning about complex geological processes and earth systems may be cumbersome for students with limited spatial cognition and 3D visualization. To address these issues, we, at Geospatial Visual Analytics Lab (called GeoVA), are developing an immersive virtual reality application, using the Meta Quest 2 VR headsets, called the VR Sandbox. The VR Sandbox is developed using the Unity Game Engine, where the in-person lab setting, and activities are stimulated. This will lead to develop a digital twins of learning spaces in which provides students an immersive, affordable, and accessible lab spaces learning complex engineering concepts without fear of breaking any equipment, violating safety guideline, or being intimidated by high end technologies.

[Click Video To Play](#)

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# Upcoming Events

November 1st, 2023

Emergency Management in Hospitals and Healthcare

Topic: "Code Silver - Weapons Threat/Active Killer"

Time: 12pm - 1pm EDT | Delivery Method: ZOOM

[MORE INFORMATION](#) | [REGISTER NOW](#)



## About The Speaker

**Tammy Ryan** has 26 years experience in healthcare. She has worked in Emergency Communications (911) for 22 years and has IMS 200 and EM 200 training. Tammy is a Professor in the Healthcare Administration Program at the Sault College of Applied Arts and Technology Under the current role of Quality Specialist, Tammy's responsibilities include Emergency Measures, Business Continuity Planning, Quality Improvement Planning and Accreditation.

November 6th, 2023

Climate Change Emergencies and Cultural Heritage Speaker Series

Topic: "Withstanding Change; Heritage Amongst Climate Uncertainty"

Time: 12pm - 1pm EDT | Delivery Method: ZOOM

**REGISTRATION CLOSED**



## About The Speaker

**Dave Simpson** is the current Program Manager of the International National Trust Organization's Withstanding Change Project. Prior to joining INTO, David followed a career beginning in overseas operations and risk management. He then pivoted towards the humanitarian sector, joining INTO in the UK. He now utilizes his interest in history, heritage and his Masters in Archaeology to help lead the Withstanding Change project across the Middle East and Africa.

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# Upcoming Events

November 15th, 2023

ESG (Environment, Social, Governance) in Practice Virtual Speaker Series

Topic: "Decarbonization"

Time: 12pm - 1pm EDT | Delivery Method: ZOOM

**REGISTRATION CLOSED**

ESG (Environment, Social, Governance) in Practice  
Virtual Speaker Series

**Decarbonization**

**Gordon Drake**  
Senior Manager  
Deal Advisory  
Global Infrastructure Advisory  
KPMG LLP

**NOVEMBER 15**  
12-1PM

Register at:  
[www.yorku.ca/cifal/esgpractice](http://www.yorku.ca/cifal/esgpractice) **Session 5**

Logos: YORK UNIVERSITY, cifal, Unitar

### About The Speaker

**Gordon Drake** is an Senior Manager in the Global Infrastructure Advisory practice of KPMG’s Toronto office. He specializes in energy and utility operations, regulatory issues, wholesale electricity market design, and the energy transition. For nearly two decades, Gordon was a leader at the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO), the crown agency at the heart of Ontario’s electricity system. There he developed expertise in power system operations, North American electricity markets, and emerging technologies such as demand response, energy storage, and renewable generation.

November 20th, 2023

Climate Change Emergencies and Cultural Heritage Speaker Series

Topic: "Climate Action and Cultural Heritage Connection: A Synopsis Of International Efforts to Strengthen The Connection"

Time: 12pm - 1pm EDT | Delivery Method: ZOOM

[MORE INFORMATION](#) | [REGISTER NOW](#)

Climate Change Emergencies & Cultural Heritage  
Speaker Series

**Climate Action and Cultural Heritage connection: a synopsis of international efforts to strengthen the connection**

**Dr. Rosa Milito**  
Secretary General of the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Energy and Sustainability + Climate Change

HOME INFO & REGISTRATION  
[www.yorku.ca/cifal/heritage](http://www.yorku.ca/cifal/heritage)

VIRTUAL SESSION 4  
NOVEMBER 20 2023, 12-1PM EST

Logos: YORK UNIVERSITY, cifal, Unitar, ICOMOS

### About The Speaker

**Dr. Rosa Milito** is an architect with cultural heritage expertise. She has been an expert member of ISCES+CC since its foundation and is currently Secretary General. She has been actively involved with the ICOMOS Climate Change Heritage Working Group and the Climate Heritage Network (WG4). She serves as Director of ICOMOS Canada for 6 years until 2021, when her second mandate ended. Her current research and professional emphasis is on a sustainable approach to heritage projects and intersection with Climate Change, urban conservation in sensitive areas and cultural landscapes. She provides peer reviews for the ATPI Bulletin and scientific heritage-focused conferences.

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# Upcoming Events

November 24th, 2023

VR/XR Based Training & Education Speaker Series: Knowledge and Experience Sharing

Topic: "A Virtual Reality Application for Diagnose and Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorder".

Time: 12pm - 1pm EDT | Delivery Method: ZOOM

[MORE INFORMATION](#) | [REGISTER NOW](#)

### About The Speaker

Dr Ali Ahmad is a specialist in the fields of AI and learning models and has worked on many different projects in many different fields, ranging from image processing to search engines, data analytics, virtual reality, HCI and bioinformatics. Dr. Ahmad graduates from Osaka University, Japan in 2004 and worked there as a senior researcher in the Nanodevice Research Center of Hiroshima University from 2004 to 2007. Currently, Dr.Ahmadi is a team advisor at York University.

November 28th, 2023

Nurses' Voices Speaker Series

Topic: "Nurses' Voices from the Western Hemisphere"

Time: 12pm - 1pm EDT | Delivery Method: ZOOM

[MORE INFORMATION](#) | [REGISTER NOW](#)

### About The Event

The world's nurses have been enduring ceaseless challenges from the overwhelmed health care system—resulting in burn-out. This was further exacerbated by the most recent COVID-19 pandemic that strained the front-line nurses worldwide. Even as nurses have been appreciated and widely trusted for this service—their public voices are still rarely heard. The absence of nursing's voice contributes to the fact that nurses continue to be undervalued.

This 'Nurses' Voices Speakers' Series' will continue our innovative global multi-media outreach to prepare and engage nurses, including students and retirees, to become empowered leading public storytellers and to share their stories of advocating for healing, resilience, and collaboration for a healthy world—as thought-leaders across the global public space and to the listening ears of everyone!

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# Upcoming CIFAL York Courses

Course: "AMR Policymaking Course"

Date: October One week during late May or early June 2024

[MORE INFORMATION](#)



## ***About The Course***

AMR (Antimicrobial Resistance) kills and debilitates millions of people annually, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). It also turns back years of progress on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in global health, food safety and security, economic growth, poverty alleviation, and the environment. Economically, the World Bank estimates AMR will cost economies \$100 trillion USD from 2017 - 2050. More must be done urgently and collectively to mitigate AMR, while we still can. Ensuring that life-saving antimicrobials remain available as effective treatment options will require a massive, coordinated global effort.

The AMR Policy Accelerator at York University's Global Strategy Lab is a policy think-tank that bridges AMR science and policy and provides policymakers at the national and international levels, with rigorous policy research needed to inform AMR policymaking and National AMR Action Plans.

This course is designed to help technical professionals (Eg. Medicine, Pharmacy, Veterinary, Epidemiology) make the leap from research and practice to policy, and to equip them with the tools to make effective policy decisions in the AMR policy space, from a One Health perspective. Taught by leading AMR and health policy experts, this course will provide participants with:

- A deeper understanding of policy levers and how to use them as AMR leaders in government to make effective decisions.
- An appreciation of the role of policymaking and governance structures at the national and international levels as they pertain to progress on AMR goals.
- A stronger foundation in monitoring, evaluating, and learning principles to strengthen AMR policy programs and assess their effectiveness.
- A robust toolkit and insight into how different types of evidence are developed and used in the policy process, and their relationship(s) to one another

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# Upcoming CIFAL York Courses

Course: "AI-Powered Higher Education: Transforming Teaching and Learning"

Date: November 23rd. 2023

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:30p.m. (Malaysia Time)

[MORE INFORMATION](#) | [REGISTER NOW](#)



## About The Course

In today's post COVID-19 world, this seminar responds to the ways technology is re-shaping how we teach and learn. and how it is broadening our horizons for knowledge development.

The seminar is of interest for: (a) Academic staff, faculty members, or educators interested in harnessing AI's potential to innovate teaching methods and curriculum; (b) Higher Education administrators planning to re-shape institutional policies and strategies to incorporate AI-driven advancements into broader educational framework; (c) EdTech professionals, researchers, scholars, enthusiasts and other individuals engaged in AI-related initiatives and eager to explore some higher education AI-driven tools and solutions; and (d) Students who want know more about the applications of AI for their learning.

Sunway University's Centre for Higher Education Research (CHER) and Department and Information Systems, jointly with DRM Learning Consultancy and International Training Centres for Local Authorities and Local Actors, York University (CIFAL York, Canada), invite all to hear views of the distinguished speakers below and join in the discussion following the presentations.

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# Upcoming CIFAL York Courses

Course: "Humanitarian Water Engineering"

Date: Fall 2024

Delivery Method: ZOOM

[MORE INFORMATION](#)



## ***About The Course***

The Humanitarian Water Engineering Intensive Course offers participants an opportunity to gain essential knowledge and skills on safe water supply in humanitarian emergencies. The course covers the theoretical fundamentals of, and practical considerations for the design and operation of water supply systems in humanitarian response including source water selection, water quality, water treatment, distribution and the safe water chain, and outbreak preparedness and response.

Over the course of twelve weeks, participants will engage in a rich, multifaceted online learning experience consisting of curated readings, knowledge-testing quizzes, lectures from experienced engineering practitioners and faculty, and small group problem-based learning (PBL) activities guided by talented facilitators.

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# Upcoming UNITAR Courses

## Short Course: "Patient-Centred Care"

Date: Fall 2023 | Delivery Method: Online

[MORE INFORMATION & FREE REGISTRATION](#)



### About The Course

This short course on patient-centred care will introduce you to the concept of patient-centred care and help you think about how this may be rationally included in your day-to-day clinical practice.

## Anaesthesia Tutorial Of The Week: "Blood Sparing Techniques in Paediatric Anaesthesia"

Date: Fall 2023 | Delivery Method: Online

[MORE INFORMATION & FREE REGISTRATION](#)



### About The Course

This course will teach you about all the strategies and techniques aimed to reduce blood loss.

## Short Course: "The Magic Drop: Supporting mothers along the journey"

Date: Mar 30th, 2023 - Dec 31st, 2024 | Delivery Method: Online

[MORE INFORMATION & FREE REGISTRATION](#)

### About The Course

Our free e-learning course aims to empower parents to be in control of their own breastfeeding journey and make well-informed choices, while simultaneously ensuring that their families, healthcare providers, employers, and communities have the resources they need to effectively support them. The first Module, focused on the essentials of breastfeeding, will be available in 14 languages.



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# Upcoming UNITAR Courses

**Degree Program: MSc Global Sustainable Development**

**Awarding Body: University of Plymouth**

**Intake: 8th January 2024**

[MORE INFORMATION](#)



## ***About The Course***

If you have a background in sustainability already, or already hold a degree, the MSc in Global Sustainable Development is the ideal course to take advantage of that experience and higher-level learning.

The course aims to:

- Provide a sound, and critical, understanding of sustainable development, particularly with reference to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Show how sustainability is conceived and practiced differently across the globe.
- Show how sustainability is conceived and practiced differently across different sectors, and to critically evaluate how the UN SDGs interact with these sectors.
- Enable students to evaluate the role of individuals, communities, and institutions in delivering sustainable development.
- Foster debate and enable students to express reasoned, evidence-based arguments.

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