

Y-EMERGE Spotlight #10



<https://www.yorku.ca/research/yemerge/>

Welcome to the 10th Edition of the Y-EMERGE Spotlight

Y-EMERGE Spotlight is a monthly newsletter sharing the achievements of the York Emergency Mitigation, Engagement, Response, and Governance Institute (Y-EMERGE).

If you'd like to share a recent publication, upcoming event, or any other news in our monthly newsletter, please submit your information through [this Form](#). Past newsletters can be found [here](#).

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Featured Highlights:

Introducing Our Newest Program: [PhD in Disaster and Emergency Management \(DEM\)](#)



We are excited to introduce our latest academic offering: the PhD program in Disaster and Emergency Management (DEM).

The PhD in Disaster and Emergency Management is a unique program that combines rigorous academic training with practical experience. Our program is led by esteemed faculty members who bring knowledge and real-world expertise to the classroom. Students will engage in cutting-edge research, interdisciplinary collaboration, and fieldwork, preparing them to become leaders in emergency management.



For more details on the program, admission requirements, and how to apply, visit our [PhD program in DEM page](#).

Introducing the Canadian Journal of Emergency Management (CJEM)



We are excited to share that the **Canadian Journal of Emergency Management (CJEM)** is a key resource for both researchers and practitioners in the field of emergency management. Hosted by **York University**, this **open-access, peer-reviewed** journal is dedicated to advancing the theory and practice of emergency management, with a focus on promoting collaboration between academia and industry.

Why Publish in CJEM?

- **Open Access:** Free to read and publish—no article publication charges or access fees.
- **Global Submissions:** While primarily focused on Canadian emergency management issues, CJEM welcomes high-quality submissions from researchers around the world.
- **Translational Research:** Focus on research that connects theory with practical application in emergency management.
- **Impact:** Shape policy, influence practice, and contribute to the ongoing development of emergency management.
-  **How to Submit:** Researchers and practitioners are encouraged to submit their work, whether it's **empirical research**, **case studies**, or **policy-driven analysis**. CJEM provides a valuable platform for addressing challenges in **disaster risk reduction**, **preparedness**, and **response**.
-  **Learn More:** <https://cdnjem.ca/>We look forward to seeing your contributions to the emergency management community!

Y-EMERGE In The Media:

From crisis to prevention: York U leads shift in approach to homelessness

On **March 28**, 2025, Professor **Stephen Gaetz** was featured in YFile, discussing the shift from crisis response to prevention in addressing youth homelessness. He highlighted that while traditional approaches relied heavily on emergency shelters and crisis support, they failed to solve the root causes of homelessness. Through his work with the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness at York University, Professor Gaetz championed a prevention-first model, especially focused on youth. Key initiatives like the Making the Shift partnership have introduced policy innovations and pilot programs that reframe how we address homelessness. The recent International Conference on the Prevention of Youth Homelessness in Toronto marked a watershed moment in global engagement on the issue. [Read More](#)

UNITAR Workshop Explores AI and Cybersecurity in Airport Development

On **March 11**, 2025, Dr. **Maleknaz Nayebi** was featured in Mirage News, discussing her role in UNITAR's Future-Proofing Airport Development workshop. The event, held in San Salvador, El

Salvador, brought together aviation leaders to explore AI, cybersecurity, and technological innovations in air transport.

Dr. Nayebi, Associate Director at CIFAL York, joined global experts in leading discussions on strengthening airport resilience and fostering economic growth. A key outcome was signing a Sister Airports Partnership Agreement between Atlanta International Airport and CEPA, aiming to enhance connectivity and collaboration between North and Latin America. [Read more](#)

York University Exhibit Reflects on COVID-19, Five Years Later

On **March 11**, 2025, Professor **Aida Mamuji** was featured in CBC News, discussing From Distanced to Connected: COVID-19 Five-Years On, a York University exhibit showcasing pandemic experiences.

The exhibit, curated by the Disaster and Emergency Management program, featured 46 photos capturing lockdowns, PPE, and resilience. Dr. Mamuji described it as a “walk back in time” to reflect on challenges and progress.

The top photos—Touch, Birthday Party, and The Little Things While Staying Connected—were voted for by the audience and highlight how people stay connected during isolation. [Read More](#)

Criticism of Tokenism in Academia Sparks Call for Meaningful Change

On **March 10**, 2025, Professor **Yvonne Su** was featured in NetNewsLedger, discussing tokenism in academia. She highlighted how superficial diversity efforts often fail to address systemic barriers, emphasizing the need for meaningful inclusion and equity-driven change within academic institutions. Dr. Su emphasizes that true inclusion requires addressing deep-seated institutional inequalities, moving beyond mere optics to foster genuine transformation within academic environments. [Read more](#)

Wildfire Risks on the Rise: York Professor Eric Kennedy Weighs In

On **March 7**, 2025, Professor **Eric B. Kennedy** was featured in Excalibur, discussing the increasing threat of wildfires across Canada. He highlighted that wildfires are a natural part of the ecosystem but are becoming more intense due to climate change, human activities, and fuel aridity.

Professor Kennedy explained that while some fires are naturally ignited by lightning, human-caused fires play a significant role in wildfire outbreaks. As Canada experiences more extreme

fire seasons, Dr. Kennedy underscores the need for government policies and community efforts to reduce ignition sources and adapt to the evolving wildfire landscape. [Read More](#)

Research Publications:

Transforming the Field Education Landscape: Student Handbook on Field Education



On **March 17**, 2025, Professor **Evalyna Bogdan** and Elaine Miller-Karas were featured in the Student Handbook on Field Education, published by the University of Calgary Press. Their chapter, Trauma- and Resilience-Informed Practice for Self-Care and Peer-Support Among Social Work Students, highlights the importance of integrating trauma-informed approaches into social work education. The work provides essential guidance on fostering resilience and peer support among students in field placements. The open-access e-book is available for readers seeking insights into self-care strategies in social work education. [Read More](#) (open access [e-book](#))

Study Explores Anti-Asian Discrimination During COVID-19



On **March 11**, 2025, Professors **Eric Kennedy**, YEMERGE Director, and **Carry Wu**, were featured in a study published in Migration, Mobility & Displacement. The study examines how nativity shapes experiences of anti-Asian discrimination during the COVID-19 pandemic. The research analyzes Canadian national survey data from 2020, revealing that native-born Asians report

significantly higher perceptions of discrimination compared to foreign-born Asians. The findings contribute to broader discussions on race, immigration, and societal responses to discrimination in times of crisis. [Read More](#)

Special Announcements:

York University Secures \$386K for Wildfire Mitigation Research



On **March 20**, 2025, Professor **Eric Kennedy**, Y-EMERGE Interim Director, was featured in a York University announcement about a new research project funded by Natural Resources Canada (NRCan). With \$386,000 in funding, the project, “Understanding and Improving Wildfire Mitigation Partnerships with Local Governments,” aims to help communities strengthen their wildfire resilience.

Dr. Kennedy emphasized the role of local governments in wildfire prevention, highlighting strategies like fire breaks and resilient infrastructure. The project will address challenges in wildfire mitigation and develop solutions to enhance preparedness across Canada. [Read more](#)

Upcoming Events:

2025 CRS Summer Course on Refugee Issues: Climate Migration Futures



On June 2-6, 2025, York University’s Centre for Refugee Studies (CRS) will host the **2025 CRS Summer Course on Refugee Issues** under the theme *Climate Migration Futures: Shaping the Research Agenda for 2050*. This interdisciplinary course will bring together global experts, policymakers, and practitioners to explore the intersection of climate change and human mobility.

The course aims to challenge conventional approaches to climate migration and equip participants with innovative research tools and policy frameworks. Topics will include **planned relocation, statelessness, large-scale internal displacement, and governance solutions** to address climate-induced migration.

What to Expect:

- ✔ *Expert-Led Discussions:* Insights from scholars at Harvard, Stanford, Oxford, and York University on climate migration governance and policy.
- ✔ *Hands-on Workshops:* Training on digital storytelling, rights-based relocation consultation, and participatory research methods.
- ✔ *Case Studies:* First-hand accounts of climate migration and policy responses from around the world.
- ✔ *Collaborative Learning:* Interactive sessions to develop future research priorities.
- ✔ *Publication Opportunity:* Participants can contribute to the *Climate Migration Futures* magazine.

Special Early Bird Offer (Until April 15, 2025)

To support institutions and individuals facing financial challenges, a **50% discount** is available for virtual participation. The final cost will range from **CAD\$300 - \$462** (approx. USD\$ 200 - \$320), plus HST.

In-person attendees may apply for tuition subsidies ranging from **CAD\$100 - \$400**.

The **early bird registration deadline is April 15, 2025**. For more details and to apply, visit [Summer Course - Centre for Refugee Studies](#).

Building A Public Health Approach to Preventing Suicides in China's Scientific Community

DAHDALEH INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL HEALTH RESEARCH
Seminar Series

Building a Public Health Approach to Preventing Suicides in China's Scientific Community

The rising number of suicide cases in Chinese academia are not isolated incidents but rather reflect systemic issues within the academic and sociopolitical environment. Recent advancements in creating a public health approach to suicide prevention will be discussed, and a public health framework specifically tailored to China's scientific community will be outlined.

Cary Wu
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Dahdaleh Institute for Global Health Research
York Research Chair,
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Associate Professor,
Department of Sociology,
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Wed, March 19, 2025
1 - 2 p.m. ET
Hybrid
[RSVP: yorku.ca/dighr/events](https://rsvp.yorku.ca/dighr/events)

On **March 19, 2025**, Professor **Cary Wu** will lead a seminar on suicide prevention in China's scientific community. He will discuss systemic issues contributing to rising suicide rates in academia and present findings from a unique database of media-reported cases spanning decades. Wu will also outline a public health framework specifically tailored to address this issue. [Read More](#)

Event Recap:

Y-EMERGE & CJEM Book Review Workshop

Y-EMERGE
YORK UNIVERSITY'S EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT RESEARCH CENTRE

Canadian Journal of
Emergency Management
Revue canadienne de
gestion des urgences

YORK UNIVERSITY

Book Review Workshop

Dates: Fridays, January 31st, February 14th, March 7th, and March 21st, 2025
Venue: Zoom

Interested in publishing a book review in an academic journal
Join our interactive workshop series designed to guide you through the full process—
from selecting a book to preparing a polished, publication-ready review!

This workshop series offers:

- A step-by-step guide to academic book reviewing*
- Tips for choosing the right book and outlining your review*
- Best practices for concise, critical, and constructive academic writing*
- Sample reviews and templates to support your process*
- A safe and supportive space to receive feedback on your work*

Please register by **January 25, 2025**, by completing the
REGISTRATION FORM
For questions, contact: dadoust@yorku.ca

Throughout four interactive sessions held between January and March 2025, Y-EMERGE, in partnership with the *Canadian Journal of Emergency Management (CJEM)*, hosted a dynamic Book Review Workshop that brought together emerging researchers to develop academic book reviews for publication.

Facilitated by Dr. Eric B. Kennedy and Dr. Evalyna Bogdan, the workshop guided participants through the full Book review writing process—from selecting a scholarly book to drafting, refining, and presenting their work for peer feedback.

Workshop Highlights:

- **Session 1** focused on the fundamentals of academic book reviews, including selecting appropriate texts and distinguishing scholarly critique from summary writing.
- **Session 2** emphasized reading strategies and outlining techniques using a structured template to help participants organize their reviews effectively.
- **Session 3** created a safe and constructive space for peer feedback on draft reviews, highlighting clarity, precision, and academic tone.
- **Session 4** celebrated participants' progress and provided tips for final revisions and submission to journals like CJEM.

Participants submitted impressive drafts and engaged deeply with the material. We thank all participants for their dedication and look forward to their contributions enriching scholarly conversations in their fields.

Highlighted Resources for Researchers:

Development and Disasters – New Open Access Book

New book, free to download:

Development and Disasters: Natural Hazards and Vulnerability Reduction (2nd ed.) by J. Lewis and I. Kelman.

This book explores the intersection of development and disaster risk, offering insights into reducing vulnerability to natural hazards. A must-read for those interested in disaster risk reduction and resilience.

Free PDF download: [Practical Action Publishing](#)

Thanks to UCL Open Access & Practical Action Publishing.

Feel free to share this resource with colleagues and peers who may find it useful.

Grants & Funding Opportunities:

NSERC - ECCC Call for Proposals on Plastics Science and Innovation for a Cleaner and More Sustainable Future

On **March 28**, 2025, NSERC and ECCC launched a new Call for Proposals on Plastics Science and Innovation. The initiative aims to support research that advances Canada's efforts toward zero plastic waste. Researchers are invited to submit proposals under five main themes, including microplastic detection, human and environmental impacts, sustainable plastic design, behavioral sustainability, and plastic waste recovery. Funding ranges from \$50,000 to \$200,000 per year for up to 3 years. The Letter of Intent is due to [ORS](#) by May 13, 2025. [Read More](#)

Stay Connected:

For questions or contributions, email us at dadoust@yorku.ca.

If you'd like to share a recent publication, upcoming event, or any other news in our monthly newsletter, please submit your information through [this Form](#). Past newsletters can be found [here](#).

We value your input! Please take a moment to share your feedback on this edition of the Y-EMERGE Newsletter. [Click here to submit your feedback](#).

Thank you for being part of the Y-EMERGE community!