

CAG Award for Scholarly Distinction in Geography

Dr Glen B. Norcliffe

Glen Norcliffe is a prolific and remarkable scholar whose sustained contributions and leadership in Canadian geography have deeply influenced economic geography. His exceptional body of work has covered a wide range of issues from the theoretical understandings of economic restructuring to the detailed empirical studies on various sectors of the Canadian economy, including the household and community-level processes of socio-economic change. He has extensively studied rural development in Africa as well as developing on the application of statistical and modelling techniques in economic geography in his early years as a scholar.

With his longstanding interest in cultural aspects of economic change, Dr. Norcliffe has been at the forefront of the recent 'cultural turn' in economic geography. This research has been highly original by bridging culture, economy and modernity. It has culminated in a most interesting book published in 2001 and entitled *The Ride to Modernity: The Bicycle in Canada 1869-1900* published by the University of Toronto Press. This work has received the Fairman Prize of the American Precision Museum and has garnered attention from researchers in history and cultural studies as well as geography.

His lifetime publication list is truly outstanding including the authorship of three research books and monographs, the editorship of three others, 18 book chapters, a widely-used text on statistical geography and numerous articles in leading academic journals, such as *Annals of the AAG*, *Economic Geography*, *Transactions of the IBG*, *Regional Studies*, *Urban Geography*, *Area*, *IJURR* and, on 12 occasions, in *The Canadian Geographer*.

The past President of the Canadian Association of Geography recognized Glen Norcliffe's important and influential contributions to our understanding of economic and industrial change in Canada when she asked him to write a lead article entitled 'Canada in a Global Economy' for the 50th Anniversary Issue of *The Canadian Geographer*. Glen's contribution to the professional life of geography in Canadian universities includes his involvement as associate editor of the *Canadian Journal of Regional Science*, his participation on a number of adjudication panels for SSHRC and OGS, as well as chairmanship of the CAG study group in industrial geography and participation in numerous CAG conferences. Glen has also acted as the Director of a major training program for Kenyan civil servants brought to Canada for graduate study in Canadian universities. Within York University, he has been prominent over many years in a variety of administrative and advisory capacities including the chairmanship of the Geography Department and directorship of the graduate program on several occasions.

It is with great pleasure that we honour Glen's contribution with *CAG Award for Scholarly Distinction in Geography*.