

George Brown professor receives coveted CMU-OCASA Award

A capstone paper discussing aboriginal education at the post-secondary level has been awarded the CMU-OCASA Outstanding Research Award for 2010.



Linda Croall, a faculty member from George Brown College, was awarded the honor for her master's thesis entitled *Self-Determination Through Indian Controlled Indian Education (ICIE) at the Level of Higher Learning*.

A full-time faculty member in the School of Arts and Sciences at George Brown, Linda traces her ancestry between the Scottish background of her father and the Odawa roots of her mother who was born and raised on the Sucker Lake reserve on Manitoulin Island. She began her career in education through the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto (NCCT), located on Spadina Road.

The award is sponsored jointly by Central Michigan University (CMU) and Ontario College Administrative Staff Association (OCASA) to recognize the high quality of research being conducted in Ontario by CMU graduate students that impact the development of the colleges. This Outstanding Research Award is presented annually to Ontario students in CMU's Master of Arts degree in Education, with a Community College concentration, for conducting outstanding research related to Community Colleges in Ontario. Nominees are first selected by CMU faculty with the OCASA review panel selecting the final recipients.



Bonnie Jasper, an instructor at Centennial College, was given honorable mention for her paper *Honouring a Student's Identity in the Diverse Classroom*.

Others included in the short list of nominees included: Teresa Dreossi, a teacher with the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board, for a paper on *Perceptions and Best Practices of Educational Technology in Enhancing Student Success*; Melissa Bosomwort, First-Year Experience Coordinator, Student Life at Durham College for *First-Year Student Retention Initiatives At Ontario Universities*; and Irokansi Worenwu, Instructor & Life Skills Counselor, The Salvation Army for a paper entitled *Academic Advising In Student Developmental Process*.