

MORAVIAN GEOGRAPHICAL REPORTS

\$ sciendo

Institute of Geonics, The Czech Academy of Sciences journal homepage: http://www.geonika.cz/mgr.html doi: 10.2478/mgr-2019-0005

SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATION

Prestigious honour for the discipline of Geography: The Karel Engliš Honorary Medal presentation to Professor Bryn Greer-Wootten

Radim BLAHETA^a, Bryn GREER-WOOTTEN^b, Bohumil FRANTÁL^{c*}

Abstract

This communication concerns the prestigious award - the Karel Englis Honorary Medal for Merit in the Social and Economic Sciences - that Bryn Greer-Wootten, Professor Emeritus at York University in Toronto and the Editor-in-Chief of the Moravian Geographical Reports (MGR), received from the Czech Academy of Sciences in 2018. The article contains the most important and interesting points from the Laudation by Professor Radim Blaheta (Chair of the Institute of Geonics' Institutional Board and the previous Director of the Institute), the Response by Professor Greer-Wootten, and the Closing Speech by Bohumil Frantál (Executive Editor of MGR), which were presented during the award ceremony on August 28, 2018 at the historic Löw-Beer Villa in Brno, Czech Republic.

Keywords: Karel Engliš Honorary Medal, award ceremony, Bryn Greer-Wootten, Czech Academy of Sciences

Article history: Received 11 October 2018, Accepted 20 March 2019, Published 31 March 2019

1. Introduction

On August 28, 2018, Bryn Greer-Wootten, Professor Emeritus at York University in Toronto and the Editor-in-Chief of the Moravian Geographical Reports, was presented with the prestigious Karel Engliš Honorary Medal for Merit in the Social and Economic Sciences by Professor Eva Zažímalová, President of the Czech Academy of Sciences.

The Karel Engliš Honorary Medal for Merit in the Social and Economic Sciences was established by the Academic Council of the Czech Academy of Sciences on February 14, 1995, for outstanding contributions of Czech and foreign scholars in the social and economic sciences. The medal was named after Karel Engliš (1880–1961), a famous Czech economist and politician, Professor at Masaryk University in Brno and at Charles University in Prague, and a member of the Czech Academy of Sciences and Arts in the field of national economics. For further details about the award and political economist Karel Engliš, see the website of the Czech Academy of Sciences (2018).

Some 75 persons, approximately 2/3rds professional geographers from various Czech universities and research institutes, attended the ceremony at the historic Löw-Beer Villa in Brno, Czech Republic.

2. Laudation by Professor Radim Blaheta

Professor Bryn Greer-Wootten was born in West Ham, London, UK in 1938. He completed his M.A. in Geography at Durham University in 1962, after moving to Canada. In 1968 he obtained a double Ph.D. (Geography and Planning) at McGill University in Montreal. He taught at McGill and at the University of California, Berkeley, before his appointment in Geography and Environmental Studies

^a Department of Applied Mathematics and Computer Science & Department IT4Innovations, Institute of Geonics, The Czech Academy of Sciences, Ostrava, Czech Republic

^b Institute for Social Research and Department of Geography, York University, Toronto, Canada

^c Department of Environmental Geography, Institute of Geonics, The Czech Academy of Sciences, Brno, Czech Republic (*corresponding author: B. Frantál, e-mail: *bohumil.frantal@ugn.cas.cz*)



Fig. 1: Professor Bryn Greer-Wootten has his speech during the award ceremony (Photo: Z. Říha)

at York University in Toronto in 1970. At York, he was promoted to Full Professor in 1983 and became Professor Emeritus and Senior Scholar in 2003. Currently, he is Professor Emeritus in the Faculty of Environmental Studies and the Department of Geography, an Associate Director of the Institute for Social Research (ISR), and an Associate Coordinator of the Statistical Consulting Service (ISR).

Dr. Greer-Wootten's first contact with the Institute of Geonics was with the Department of Environmental Geography in 1998, in connection with his sabbatical research on the ecological and social impacts of nuclear power developments. He has been a consistent contributor to the CONGEO Conferences since 2001. In 2003 he was appointed a member of the Editorial Board of the Moravian Geographical Reports, and in 2012 he became the Editor-in-Chief of the journal, a position he retains until today.

For the Institute of Geonics (IGN), he has been a member of its International Advisory Board since 2006 and has made some valuable contributions. For the Academy, Dr. Greer-Wootten has served as a visiting International Expert for the Review of the Institute of Geonics in 2011, and in 2014– 2015 he was a member of the CAS Review Committee: External Evaluator, International Expert for the Review of the Institute of Geonics. His comparative analyses with Canadian experience have been invaluable.

From the perspectives of the Institute of Geonics and the Academy of Sciences, the contributions of Bryn Greer-Wootten to Geography reflect several important elements:

- his broad range of interests, from deep (philosophical) thoughts and investigation of basic problems and principles in Geography, to applications of modern statistical analysis;
- he has been a consultant and enthusiastic advisor for the (young) researchers from the Department of Environmental Geography, including assistance with publications;
- his important participation in the development of research concepts in the Institute of Geonics and the Department of Environmental Geography; and

 his very important contributions and selfless hard work in increasing the quality of our journal, the Moravian Geographical Reports.

As an acknowledgement of his exceptional and generous work for the Institute of Geonics, we proposed awarding Professor Greer-Wootten the Karel Engliš Honorary Medal for Merit in the Social and Economic Sciences.

Many thanks to Bryn Greer-Wootten for his friendship, and the work he has devoted in favour of the Institute of Geonics, the Academy of Sciences and the Czech Republic. Cordial wishes to Bryn for continuing his fruitful, valuable work, to have good health, to be as usual full of positive energy and the joy of life.

3. Response by Professor Bryn Greer-Wootten

I thank Professor Radim Blaheta for his remarks, all the while wondering if he was actually talking about me! Some of my expressions of gratitude are as follows:

- First, to The Academy to Madame President Professor Eva Zažímalová for coming to Brno from Prague to make this presentation on behalf of the Academy Council;
- Second, to the Institute of Geonics to former Director Radim Blaheta, my perhaps "unconscious mentor" for all matters 'Academy' in nature, and to current Director Josef Foldyna, for many logistical and other solutions behind the scenes for today's meeting;
- Third, to members of my family for making this journey with me – especially to my wife Mirka, without whom, quite literally, I would not be here today, and to my sister Annemarie from England, accomplished historian of religion and (now retired) actress of renown, so I will be trying my best to 'perform' well today!;
- Fourth, to my colleagues in the Department of Environmental Geography: I owe a special debt to former Heads of the Department who have helped me in many ways, academic and otherwise, during my visiting appointments: Doc. Antonín Vaishar, Doc. Karel Kirchner, and currently Dr. Petr Klusáček. Principally,

I am most indebted to my colleagues on the Editorial Board of the Moravian Geographical Reports, on which body I have been proud to serve as Editor-in-Chief for the last ten years: Bohumil Frantál (the best Executive Editor of any geographical journal anywhere!), Stanislav Martinát, Tomáš Krejčí, Jana Zapletalová – and even some members of the Board from "away" – greetings to Dan van der Horst from Edinburgh!; and to all of you who have honoured me by your presence today!

Now, I have a few moments to share some thoughts with you about my journey to this place and at this time – thoughts that perhaps constitute some elements of 'merit', as indicated by the Medal itself – as clearly decided by the Academy, for which I am truly humbled. I do not want to make a big point of it but when one reaches a certain age, much water has passed under the bridge. In this case, the 'water' is the continually flowing currents of geographical thought over the last fifty-plus years, and the 'bridges' are certain landmark points characterising those currents, captured at specific points in time.

In many ways I have been fortunate to witness and, to some extent, to be a part of some rather dramatic changes that have "ravaged" or "saved" the discipline of Geography, depending on 'from where' and 'when' one looks at it! Please note: 'from where' and 'when' – the essence of a "Geographical Perspective" – today encapsulated in the driving motif of current Geographical research as "spacetime" – a conceptual umbrella for all that geographers aspire to do – but difficult to realise as one's basic Euclid does not work! Unabashedly, I am also following in the steps of my friend, Kevin Cox, in his magisterial account of the evolution of Human Geography (Cox, 2014).

My own journey begins more than sixty years ago as an Honours undergraduate at Durham University in the UK. The prevailing motif of the day and for decades before then was "The Region": a concept as real or imagined as one wished, but one that was supposed to unite Physical and Human Geography. My dissatisfaction with the constraints of this concept was realised in my Masters thesis (Greer-Wootten, 1962), which demonstrated that a former regional entity – the Darent Valley in North West Kent – had been 'destroyed' by the metropolitanisation of the countryside. To my surprise, I was not required to defend my thesis.¹

Perhaps emboldened by this turn of events, I ventured even further into the theoretical framing of regional problems in my doctoral work (in Geography and Planning) at McGill University in Montreal, Canada. The 1960s were the exciting times of the so-called Quantitative Revolution in Geography – and I was swept up into this cyclone of ideas.

While I strongly believe that these early academic experiences have had a strong influence on my development as a Geographer, in the interests of time I am going to use a commonly accepted framework for the development of the discipline since the late 1950s, and present some brief examples (among many such possibilities) of the work that I have carried out in line with this evolution.

The Quantitative-Theoretical Revolution: $1960s +^2$

In a sense this was a real revolution – against descriptive regional accounts, branching out to include many sister social science disciplines, especially economics with its strong emphasis on theory and model building. The geographic work was also strongly geometric, driven by William Bunge's (1962) 'Theoretical Geography'. My doctoral dissertation was completely in this mode, and the following statement gives some idea of what this work entailed, as much brazen as in its lack of humility: "One might speculate that geography, with a full development of the geometric approach, may one day be defined as that discipline that investigates the interface between two-dimensional space and multidimensional spaces. Processes occur in the latter spaces, and have some spatial elements in them ..." (Greer-Wootten, 1968, p. 276).

Reactions to Theoretical Geography: 1970s +

Against the restrictive (spatial) modelling of the 1960s, researchers began to question the absence of decisionmaking processes. For the Behavioural Revolution, empirical research depended to such a large extent on survey research methods, such that important methodological issues as sample design, questionnaire design, fieldwork using direct interviews, etc., gained importance - but the analysis continued to be largely quantitative in nature. This methodological approach continues to inform my empirical research to the present. As part of this 'revolution', my work in this area largely concerned intra-metropolitan migrations in Montreal and Toronto: imagine my dismay when we found that most migrant paths were random in nature (Greer-Wootten, 1972; Greer-Wootten and Gilmour, 1972), relatively unaffected by spatial structural constraints.

Another alternative to the theoretical modelling of the 1960s is seen in research that places humans at the centre of geographical research and, importantly, humans as humans – their beliefs, values, attitudes, perceptions, life-styles, etc. This Humanistic Turn stressed identity, landscape as a visual entity but also lived, region as home, topophilia, place (not space), etc. My own work in this area for about 15 years when I never touched a statistic and in the process missed out on exciting work on Geographical Information Systems - primarily concerned people without 'home', not only homeless but "identity-less" refugees in Toronto. A phenomenological approach revealed the ways in which refugees reconstituted their lives - interpreted as a metaphor of a broken mirror, smashed into many many pieces, which gradually became whole again, piece by piece, until they were able to see themselves whole, again, a new identity (Morris, 1994). Such a metaphor cannot be gained from 'normal' social science - it is too complex and multilayered - but place matters.

Radical Geography: Early Marxist versions: 1970s +

Another equally important critique of 1960s spatial modelling is registered in the early work in Radical Geography, a movement largely inspired by Marxist scholars, especially by another friend, David Harvey.

My particular experience in this work was in the Toronto Geographical Expedition – an offshoot of the famous Detroit expedition led by Bill Bunge (Bunge, 1971: yes, the same theoretical geographer). Today, we would say that it was an example of geographical participatory action research. Then,

¹ In the 1950s and 1960s in the U.K., it was not necessary to defend one's thesis unless there were 'problems' with it! – lucky for me, as I was a new immigrant in Canada, without financial resources!

² The '+' indicates that most so-called "revolutions" or "turns" continue to be represented in geographical research today

2019, 27(1): 54-60

as now, in such research, the aim was to reveal the distinctive ways in which people organised their own space and why this is important in planning.

When Bill first came to Toronto (as a Visiting Professor at York for two years), I offered to show him the city, its structure and land use, following typical disciplinary norms. His first request, however, was to take him to "the ghetto": my response that such an area "did not exist in Toronto" was not well received, initially – but then, in typical dialectical response mode he said: "OK, so what makes Toronto work?"

It took another two years of intensive 'expeditionary' fieldwork to begin to answer this question, resulting in a book with the provocative title: "The Canadian Alternative" (Bunge and Bordessa, 1975), much of which related back to Bill's innovative assertion that 'as long as we take care of the children, our society will be equitable and open and...' (i.e. the things that American society is not).

Policy-oriented Geography: 1980s +

A strong implication from previous geographical research was that it did not pay enough attention to resolving practical planning and policy questions, i.e. that it was oriented to its own (academic) pursuits... basically, it was not relevant. Stronger ties to research on governance (from political science) emerged, especially oriented to important policy questions with an immediate geographical basis – such as any questions that related to environmental issues (e.g. acid rain), or natural resources (e.g. energy), or sociopolitical issues (e.g. discrimination, housing), etc.

My own work in this area primarily concerned energy resources: recycling and energy conservation; and nuclear power and its socio-economic and political problems (Greer-Wootten and Mitson, 1976) – largely viewed as examples of risk management issues, greatly influenced by the work of Harry Otway and his associates at IIASA in Austria (Greer-Wootten, 1980).

Modern Critical Geography: 1990s +³

The earlier Radical Geography gradually shed much of its Marxist clothing to incorporate many approaches with a consistent epistemological base (i.e. stressing the nature of the knowledge produced by the researchers; how do we judge what is valid and reliable information?, etc.). In this respect, I note the following:

- The researcher does not only stand inside the researched phenomena (as with the humanist approach, compared to spatial modelling); and
- Does not only incorporate understanding of human behaviours in space and time (as in the behavioural geography approach, compared to spatial modelling); and
- Does not only approach the researched phenomena from a Marxist or similar perspective (e.g. class-based analysis compared to the earlier geometric modelling);
- But demonstrates a stand-point epistemology.

What is a standpoint epistemology for critical Geography? Note: 'critical' does not necessarily equate to 'critique' – it is epistemological, not methodological. In the research process it involves several important and interdependent and often overlapping steps, but primarily it involves accepting one's own values as an input to all stages of the research process – i.e. the set of questions that relate the researcher to the researched phenomena, an epistemological decision that minimally involves the following steps:

- From... What phenomena are worthy of investigation?... {who decides on priorities? Is it the researcher (typical academic response: yes; critical response: problem to be negotiated with people, etc.};
- To... Which methods best serve the demands of this inquiry?... {concerns researcher imposition [power issue] or negotiated response?};
- To... What methods of fieldwork? {community involvement in the field}... xx ... ; and
- To... How to best communicate the results of this work? {With whom? For what purposes?} ...
- ... {And then repeat the process}.

Here are some of the typical responses to these questions from critical geographers:

- Stemming from "What phenomena?": the objective of the work is to change the situation, directly political (e.g. reduce inequalities, fight for tenants in public housing, etc.);
- Stemming from "Which methods?": often qualitative in nature, but better as mixed methods (i.e. quantitative and qualitative) to serve end-user demands; the actual method choice is often co-determined with people subject to the issues;
- Stemming from fieldwork demands: participatory action research, inter alia; and
- Stemming from "How?": the importance of public presentations, especially in the public domain (e.g. hearings, social media,...).

Critical Geography therefore encompasses a distinctive approach to geographical problems, (almost) regardless of substance. Nonetheless, some of the substantive issues investigated under this banner include:

- Feminist Geography (critical of patriarchy, e.g. in employment, in social reproduction, in social movements, etc.);
- Development Geography (also called post-colonial: problems of neoliberalism, globalisation, the 'Global South', racism, etc.);
- Labour Geography (working with trades unions, participating in strikes, scalar relations in employment, etc.);
- Population Geography (critical demography; refugee studies; the geopolitics of population movements, etc.);
- Political Geography (borderlands research; security studies, etc.); and
- Critical Geography of X, Y and Z: you name it (including the bio-physical domain), we do it!

My work in this area has been to attempt to bring a critical sensibility to various substantive problem areas: such as a continuing interrogation of regionalism and the theories of regions (e.g. Greer-Wootten, 2005), scale and scalar politics (Greer-Wootten, 2007), and the problems of sustainability (e.g. Vaishar and Greer-Wootten, 2006) at various CONGEO conferences over the years since 1999; such as attempts to continually upgrade submissions to the Moravian Geographical Reports, especially in terms of argumentation

³ The strongest 'turn', by many degrees

and methodology for the last ten years; such as contributing to renewable energy studies (e.g. Greer-Wootten, 2017), and research on brownfield redevelopment with my colleagues here at the Department of Environmental Geography (Frantal et al, 2015); and to studies at my Institute for Social Research at York University in Toronto, such as those on Canadian identities, the public health system, etc.

The Current Alternatives: Hybrid Geographies... ...the Anthropocene

There are reactions (of course) to Critical Geographies, which tend to be less concerned with a pragmatic voice for Geography, less action-oriented, less political, more inwardlooking (to the discipline?). Two of the current important developments are as follows:

- Hybrid Geographies/Relational Geographies/More-thanhuman Geographies: a grand refusal of binaries such as Nature-Society, etc. This stream of work is derived recently from work in the 'New' Cultural Geography and post-colonial studies or more commonly from Science and Technology Studies (STS) derived from Latour's (2005) Actor-Network Theory. My view is that the latter studies are most noteworthy; and
- Geographies of the Anthropocene the new geological era – largely alarmist rather than responding to the reality of global climate change, which truly presents challenges for Human and Physical Geographers to work together. If in fact the Anthropocene serves to unite geographers in their research, I would be warmer to its call for action.

Future Interdisciplinary Human and Biophysical Sciences

Geography's traditional interdisciplinary objectives concern 'place' (originally 'region') where the natural sciences and the social sciences and the human sciences meet! Yet we know from many attempts at interdisciplinary research projects, that a key element for the success of such difficult endeavours is communication! Beside any language or translation boundaries (basically, methodological issues), we need a common set of beliefs and values to guide our research: an epistemological bond that is provided by critical sensibilities: Yes! There is a Critical Physical Geography as well as a Critical Human Geography!

The bonding comes from common standpoint epistemologies, exhibited primarily in which societal problems we choose to investigate (poverty is not prioritised over flood risks, landslides over regional inequalities, etc.) – and how we intend to "right the wrongs" in our public engagements. These two points are strongly inter-related.

(In the guise of) Conclusions

So – Geographers of the world unite!! You only have to lose your discipline! And you only have to admit that there is no longer an elephant (climate change) in the room – the elephant is the room!! So, maximise your hearts in what you do – but, please do retain your theoretical and practical interests in making this world a better place! Finally, I would like to say – "Jsem tu jako doma! Mockrát děkuji!" (in English: "I'm here at home! Thank you very much!").

4. Closing Speech by Bohumil Frantál

I spent few weeks wondering what I should talk about when Professor Blaheta asked me to prepare a speech for this event (particularly for the guests who are not geographers), perhaps some lecture on the importance of Human Geography in the world today, and then reflecting Bryn's contribution to it. From the beginning I was little embarrassed since, first, I'm not originally a geographer but a sociologist, and second, I do not feel sufficiently experienced for such a task – especially to present it after the laureate's comprehensive presentation. Therefore, I will simply try to present my subjective views of what are the fields of research in which I see Geography can play a key role – and these areas are actually the ones where the research activities of our Department of Environmental Geography meet with the work of Bryn Greer-Wootten.

It is still not easy for me to explain to my family and friends what I actually do in my work (or what geographers do in their work). The most common laic idea is still probably that geographers are making maps. It has been often said that Geography is a "distinct" discipline, but Geography is a multi-paradigmatic, an extremely broad discipline that includes a wide variety of perspectives, approaches, and specific topical areas which span both the natural and social sciences. It is a science which may be perceived as being "a little bit about everything".

The lack of a clear public understanding of Geography as a discipline is caused also by the fact that – at least in the Czech Republic - geographers are little to be seen in the media commenting on current issues and news (in comparison with economists, sociologists or political scientists). Bryn Greer-Wootten is the first geographer to receive some honorary medal of the Czech Academy of Sciences since their foundation in 1995. It seems to reflect the fact that Geography is apparently the single traditional scientific discipline which does not have its own separate institute in the Czech Academy of Sciences. The Institute of Geography was cancelled after 30 years of its existence in June, 1993, in the process of the transformation of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences (Vaishar, 1993). Only one department (the 'Department of Geography of Natural Environment' then, and the 'Department of Environmental Geography' as it is called today) prevailed as part of the newly-established Institute of Geonics. Nonetheless, this situation does not mean that Czech and Moravian geography is weak and internationally non-competitive. I dare to say the opposite: Czech geographers already play an outstanding role in many fields of research in the European or even global context.

We live in an era of the so-called 'third energy transition', a transition from the fossil fuel-powered age into the postindustrial era, which is characterised by the scarcity of natural resources, energies and living spaces (Whipple, 2011). The following three words – energy, recycling, resilience – represent some of the most important challenges of our time, and the same research themes that our Department deals with, but – in my eyes – they also well illustrate the characteristics and qualities of Bryn Greer-Wootten.

Already in 1961, the Canadian geographer John D. Chapman recognised the rapid growth in demand for inanimate energy and the role geographers could be playing in explaining its patterns and importance in the growing world economy (Chapman, 1961). The last decades have shown that this prediction was true, and now geographers are studying an even wider spectrum of energy challenges than Chapman could ever have imagined. As a social science, Geography has become more critical than ever to our understanding of how inhabitants of our planet interact and how the quest for energy is affecting economic and political stability everywhere: as Pasqualetti and Brown (2014, p.1)

2019, 27(1): 54-60

indicate, "If energy and society are parts of the same cloth, geography is the thread that ties them together". Czech Geographers (see for example, Frantál et al., 2018; Frantál and Malý, 2017) currently investigate issues that Bryn Greer-Wootten dealt with more than forty years ago, such as public perceptions and attitudes to nuclear power plants, the problems of nuclear waste disposal, public acceptance of different energy production and conservation systems, or the perceptions of environmental risks in general (Dobson, Greer-Wootten and Mitson, 1976; Douglin and Greer-Wootten, 1980; Greer-Wootten, 1980, etc.).

The second topic where Geography can play a key role and where the research activities of our Department meets Bryn's interests, is the recycling of landscapes or the regeneration of underused, abandoned or derelict lands (the so-called brownfields). With its integrative view of the world, Geography can provide a framework for conceptualising 'brownfields' as products of the interrelationships between places and social and ecological processes (Bjelland, 2002). Geography and GIS can play an important role in many aspects of brownfields regeneration (Frantál et al., 2013)

Last but not least, I have to (once again) emphasise Bryn's role in the Moravian Geographical Reports (MGR) journal. He has been a member of the Editorial Board since 2003, and in 2011 we started together to work on the goal to be indexed in the Web of Science database (by reconstructing the Editorial Board, setting more strict criteria for accepted papers, promoting special issues on current hot topics, etc.) – and we succeeded just one year later. The MGR has gradually become the leading geographical journal in Central Europe. The graph in Figure 2 well illustrates the qualitative development of our journal from the time when Bryn started to actively "intervene" in the journal review and editorial process.



Fig. 2: Development of the CiteScore metrics of three leading Czech geographical journals Source of data: SCOPUS, 2019; authors' elaboration

Moreover, Bryn Greer-Wootten is not just a name on the journal's pages. His active role starts with the initial review of submissions and ends with the detailed cross-check and proofreading of all accepted papers. His work is, actually, not just proofreading, but careful and detailed work that attempts to have all published papers as high quality as possible.

The 'blacksmith of words' is probably a proper term for describing one of Bryn's skills of working with words and sentences. When you look back at the titles of papers presented at the CONGEO geographical conferences (which our Institute has been organising since 1993), Bryn's papers have always been among the most attractive, appealing or even provocative ones – not only by their titles by also by their contents (see e.g. "A Politics of Scale and the Regional Trap", "The 'New Regionalism' and 'Europe of the Regions: A Geographical Oxymoron?", or "Radical Alterity and the Concept of Regional Identity").

It has always been his endeavour to present geographical research in an attractive form – be it in his own papers or the papers of other authors being published in MGR, or in the papers of myself or my colleagues with whom Bryn helped in some way (for example in consulting with respect to the statistical analysis or interpretation of data, recommending literature or proofreading English). His excellent work with words and his influence on our work is well illustrated by one story with which I would like to close my speech. Bryn Greer-Wootten is the only geographer of the people whom I know personally who has published in the 'Progress in Human Geography' journal and its predecessor 'Progress in Geography' (see Greer-Wootten, 1972; Bailly and Greer-Wootten, 1978), a famous geographical journal, which is unattainable for most Czech geographers.

So far, only one of my articles has been cited in Progress in Human Geography (Calvert, 2016). The citation includes part of a sentence from the paper on 'New Trends and Challenges for Energy Geographies', which was an introductory paper to a Special Issue of MGR (Frantál et al., 2014, p. 5). I have to admit that this one sentence has been conceived by Bryn, when he helped us with the proofreading of the paper. Let me end this speech by this sentence: "... Geography as a discipline has changed, to reflect the world as inhabited – but also the world as desired".

I hope that this award for Bryn Greer-Wootten, which can be considered also an award for Geography as a discipline, will contribute to a new revival of Geography within the Czech Academy of Sciences. At least, our Department will work hard for such a goal.

References:

- BAILLY, A. S., GREER-WOOTTEN, B. 1983): Behavioural Geography in Francophone Countries. Progress in Human Geography, 7(3): 344–356.
- BJELLAND, M. (2002): Until Justice and Stewardship Embrace: Or, How a Geographer Thinks About Brownfield Sites. Christian Scholar's Review, 31(4): 393–412.
- BUNGE, W. W. (1962): Theoretical Geography, Lund Studies in Geography, Series C, General and Mathematical Geography I, Lund, Sweden, Gleerup.
- BUNGE, W. W. (1971): Fitzgerald: Geography of a Revolution, Cambridge, MA: Schenkman. Second Edition: 2011 with a foreword by Nik Heynen and Trevor Barnes. Athens, University of Georgia Press.
- BUNGE, W. W., BORDESSA, R. [eds.](1975): The Canadian Alternative: Survival, Expeditions and Urban Change, Geographical Monograph, No. 2. North York, Atkinson College, York University.
- CALVERT, K. (2016). From 'energy geography' to 'energy geographies'. Perspectives on a fertile academic borderland. Progress in Human Geography, 40(1): 105–125.
- CHAPMAN, J. D. (1961): A Geography of Energy: An Emerging Field of Study. The Canadian Geographer, 5(1): 10–15.
- COX, K. R. (2014): Making Human Geography, New York, The Guilford Press.
- CZECH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES (2018): Medals of the Czech Academy of Sciences [online]. Available at: http:// www.avcr.cz/en/about-us/awards/medals-of-the-cas/
- DOBSON, J. K., GREER-WOOTTEN, B., MITSON, L. (1976): National assessment of public perceptions and attitudes to nuclear power in Canada: Study development and utilization. Nuclear Energy and the Public, 3: 32–105.
- DOUGLIN, J. J., GREER-WOOTTEN, B. (1980). Public attitudes toward energy conservation: A review of three Ontario hydro studies, 1977–1979. Cornett Occasional Papers, 2: 35–56.
- FRANTÁL, B., MALÝ, J. (2017): Close or renew? Factors affecting local community support for rebuilding nuclear power plants in the Czech Republic. Energy Policy, 104: 134–143.
- FRANTÁL, B., MARTINÁT, S. (2013). Brownfields: A Geographical Perspective. Moravian Geographical Reports, 21(2): 1–5.
- FRANTÁL, B., PASQUALETTI, M., VAN DER HORST, D. (2014): New trends and challenges for energy geographies: Introduction to the Special Issue. Moravian Geographical Reports, 22(2): 2–6.
- FRANTÁL, B., VAN DER HORST, D., MARTINÁT, S., SCHMITZ, S., TESCHNER, N., SILVA, L., GOLOBIC, M., ROTH, M. (2018): Spatial targeting, synergies and scale: Exploring the criteria of smart practices for siting renewable energy projects. Energy Policy, 120: 85–93.
- GREER-WOOTTEN, B. (1962): The Darent Valley. A Regional Study in Metropolitan Influence. Unpublished M.A. Thesis, Geography, University of Durham.

- GREER-WOOTTEN, B. (1968): The Spatial Structure of the Urban Field. Unpublished PhD Dissertation, Geography and Planning, McGill University.
- GREER-WOOTTEN, B. (1972): Metropolitan Regional Analysis. In: Board, C. et al. [eds.]: Progress in Geography, 4 (pp. 255–299). London, Edward Arnold.
- GREER-WOOTTEN. B. (1972): Changing Social Areas and the Intra-urban Migration Process. La Revue de Géographie de Montréal, 26(3): 271–292.
- GREER-WOOTTEN, B., GILMOUR, G. M. (1972): Distance and Directional Bias in Migration Patterns in Depreciating Metropolitan Areas. Geographical Analysis, 4(1): 92–97.
- GREER-WOOTTEN, B., MITSON, L. (1976): Nuclear Power and the Canadian Public. A National and Regional Assessment of Public Attitudes and Perceptions of the Use of Nuclear Power for the Production of Electricity. Downsview, Institute for Behavioural Research, York University.
- GREER-WOOTTEN, B. (1980): Context, Concept and Consequence in Risk Assessment Research: A Comparative Overview of North American and European Approaches in the Social Sciences. In Conrad, J. [ed.]: Society, Technology and Risk Assessment (pp. 67–101). London, Academic Press.
- GREER-WOOTTEN, B. (2005): The 'New Regionalism' and 'Europe of the Regions': A Geographical Oxymoron? In: Kallabová, E., Vaishar, A., Zapletalová, J. [eds.]: Geography in Europe of Regions (pp. 27-32). Brno, Institute of Geonics.
- GREER-WOOTTEN, B. (2017): Energy landscape research Lessons from Southern Europe? Review Essay. Moravian Geographical Reports, 25(1): 60–72.
- LATOUR, B. (2005): Reassembling the Social: An Introduction to Actor-Network Theory. New York, Oxford University Press.
- MORRIS, J. K. (1994): Talking to friends talking to me: An interpretation of refugee experiences in re/establishing in Toronto. Unpublished PhD. dissertation, Geography. York University.
- PASQUALETTI, M. J., BROWN, M. A. (2014). Ancient discipline, modern concern: Geographers in the field of energy and society. Energy Research & Social Science, 1: 122–133.
- VAISHAR, A. (1993): Institute of Geonics, Czech Academy of Sciences, Brno Branch (its origin, structure, scope of scientific activities). Moravian Geographical Reports, 1(1–2): 6–9.
- VAISHAR, A., GREER-WOOTTEN, B. (2006): Sustainable Development in Moravia: An Interpretation of the Role of the Small Town Sector in Transitional Socio-economic Evolution. In: Bochniarz, Z., Cohen, G. B. [eds.]: The Environment and Sustainable Development in the New Central Europe (pp. 217–231). New York, Berghahn.
- WHIPPLE, T. (2011): The Peak Oil Crisis: The 3rd Transition. Falls Church News-Press [online]. Available at: http:// www.fcnp.com/commentary/national/8548-the-peakoilcrisis-the-3rd-transition.html

Please cite this article as:

BLAHETA, R., GREER-WOOTTEN, B., FRANTÁL, B. (2019): Prestigious honour for the discipline of Geography: The Karel Engliš Honorary Medal presentation to Professor Bryn Greer-Wootten. Moravian Geographical Reports, 27(1): 54–60. Doi: 10.2478/mgr-2019-0005.