



LRIGS Master's student Kangyi Lou.

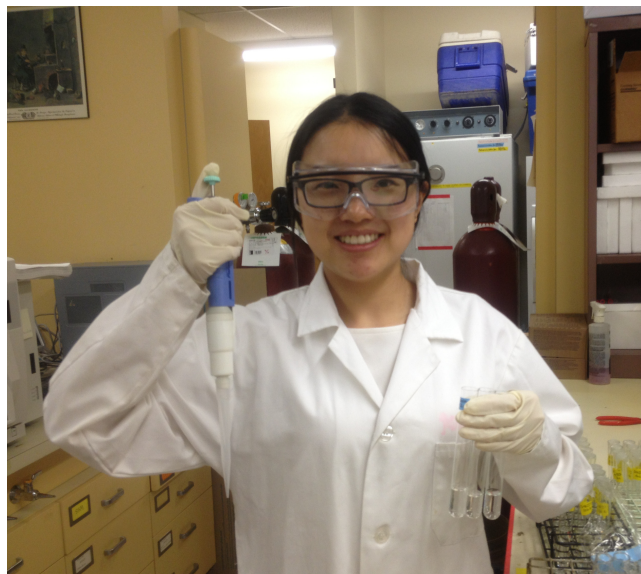
Kangyi Lou, an MSc student in the NSERC CREATE Land Reclamation International Graduate School (LRIGS) program, is a person who likes variety. She enjoys reading, swimming and dancing. She has lived in China and now in Canada. She very much enjoys the multidisciplinary nature of land reclamation work. Kangyi is studying the use of biochar to remove heavy metal pollutants in oil sands process affected water and to prevent eutrophication by removing excess phosphorous. A part of her work will include a cost-benefit analysis of biochar use in mitigating oil sands pollution. The combined natural sciences and economic foci of her research adds an interesting challenge. She was inspired to expand her research into the social sciences through her experiences in LRIGS.

One of her graduate course requirements for the program on economic impact assessment introduced her to some of the economic and social dimensions of environmental challenges. Kangyi saw how she could use what she learned from the course as a helpful and interesting extension to her work.

Kangyi has always been interested in environmental issues and problems. Some of her undergraduate work in China contributed to the development of a regulatory framework for handling non-point source pollution from agricultural fertilizer run-off in the Three Gorges reservoir area of China. She studied transgenic tobaccos and the ecosystem services provided by earthworms.

While in Canada, Kangyi has been involved in extra-curricular activities at the University of Alberta. She is very passionate about community work, and has been involved in the Chinese Graduate Students' Club and the Graduate Students' Association for over a year. She has been a volunteer with U School, a program that connects students in grades 4 through 9 with the University of Alberta, by giving campus tours to students and working with her supervisor, Dr





Scott Chang, to provide soil science demonstrations and presentations to the visiting students. Kangyi is a senior volunteer in the University of Alberta's International Center to mentor new international students. Through LRIGS, she is currently being mentored by Mr David Lloyd from the Alberta Institute of Agrologists; David has been her role model in her own work as a mentor.

Kangyi will complete her LRIGS program later this year in August. After graduating, Kangyi plans to initially pursue employment in the area of consulting.