

PEOPLE & PROJECTS



J.L. BEATON AWARD



Merrilees Willemse (R), Pamela Robinson, Assistant Professor, Urban & Regional Planning (L)

Merrilees Willemse, an inaugural member of the President's Crew, has received the J.L. Beaton Award from Ryerson University for outstanding contribution to an academic area, in this case, planning. Merrilees won this award for her senior paper: *Examining the Impacts of Density Target on Mixed Use Development in Urban Growth Centres*.

The paper is an investigation into the intention of the *Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe* to encourage mixed use development through the application of density targets in urban growth centres. Ultimately, this research improves our understanding of the relationship between meeting density targets and achieving mixed use development to satisfy the objectives of regional growth management planning. The research finds that the province's use of density targets to encourage mixed use development is not sufficient if mixed use is the desired outcome, but it is a beginning.

Merrilees has been contributing to the planning and development strategies practice in Toronto for the past five months. She is continuing her "tour of duty" in the Vancouver office working with the natural environment management practice for the months of November and December.