

“The Geo-Doc” Book Launch

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

TORONTO: York University is pleased to announce the launch of a new book by Contract Faculty member and documentarian Mark Terry (Canadian Screen Humanitarian Award winner 2011), **The Geo-Doc: Geomedia, Documentary Film, and Social Change**, published by Palgrave Macmillan.

The book launch event will take place at the historic Arts & Letters Club, 14 Elm Street, on Friday, March 13, 2020 at 6:00 pm. Admission is free and food will be served.

The filmmaker behind such climate change documentaries as **The Antarctic Challenge: A Global Warning** (2010), **The Polar Explorer** (2011), and the United Nations’ series, **The Youth Climate Report** (now in its 10th season), explores new methods and approaches to remediating the documentary film as an instrument of social change by incorporating geomedia platforms with database documentary film projects.

The result is the “Geo-Doc”, a multilinear, interactive, database documentary film project presented on a platform of a Geographic Information System map of the world. Dr. Terry’s initial experiment with this format, **The Youth Climate Report**, was adopted by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change along with other UN agencies in 2015. Today, the project showcases more than 400 documentary films from all seven continents.

The Geo-Doc: Geomedia, Documentary Film, and Social Change examines the history and theories surrounding mobilizing the documentary film as a communication tool between filmmakers and policymakers. Ecocinema and its semiotic storytelling techniques are also explored for their unique approaches to audience engagement. The proven methods identified throughout the book are combined with the spatial and temporal affordances provided by GIS technology to create the Geo-Doc, a new tool for the activist documentarian.

Dr. Terry will host the book launch and be available to sign books.

For further information:

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Book Website: <https://www.palgrave.com/gp/book/9783030325077#reviews>

Author Website: <https://markterry.academia.edu>

Geo-Doc UN Website: <http://bit.ly/YouthClimateReport>

BOOK REVIEWS:

“This book is a richly detailed study of the changing potentials of documentary filmmaking for contributing to social and policy changes. The combination of Mark Terry’s substantial professional experience and well-argued and researched scholarship makes for a rare and admirable synthesis.” (**Adrian Ivakhiv, Professor of Environmental Studies, University of Vermont, USA**)

“In The Geo-Doc, Mark Terry skilfully interweaves history, theory, and practice, both in the account he offers of the econcinematic evolution of the documentary and in his own film work. Through the interactive multilinear storytelling of Geo-docs, Terry argues, digital media can contribute to regional, national, and global efforts to address climate change. Climate change activists and communicators should pay heed.” (**Michael Svoboda, Professor of Writing, George Washington University, USA, and book editor and film reviewer for Yale Climate Connections**)

“I greatly admire the use of practical case studies to illustrate this new documentary format explored in this study. Especially in light of the growing importance of climate change and the urgent need to tease out the social changes facing our planet, documentary activists like Mark Terry, as evidenced in this volume, have a major role to play in this environmental communications struggle.” (**Pat Brereton, Professor of Communication, Dublin City University, UK**)