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UBC professor wins major Japanese prize

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Vancouver -- A University of British Columbia professor, one of the world's leading researchers on fisheries conservation, has become the first Canadian awarded a major Japanese academic prize.

Daniel Pauly has written or co-authored more than 500 scientific articles and 30 books and reports. The \$415,000 (Canadian) International Cosmos Prize is awarded annually for excellence in research promoting the coexistence of humans and nature.

Scientific American magazine named Dr. Pauly as one of the top 50 contributors to science and technology in 2003. He is a vocal and influential critic of current fishing practices, arguing they deplete the world's fish stock.

A 2002 profile of Dr. Pauly in Science magazine called him "arguably the world's most prolific and widely cited living fisheries scientist."

He created a global database with information on more than 28,000 species of fish -- the website gets 20 million hits a month -- and a software program that predicts how populations will respond to various environmental pressures.

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