

## Monthly Report to the Provost – Faculty of Science

The Faculty of Science (FoS) has the following to report for the month of **September 2022**:

### Engaging Learners

The Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training has approved the Stage 1 review of the Bachelor of Regional and Community Planning (BRCP) degree proposal. The board found the consultations done with Indigenous groups and others to be exemplary for this program and a model for other institutions to follow. UFV is not required to undergo Stage 2 review and is now free to launch the BRCP degree!

On Saturday, Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> **Dr. Tadhg O’Leary** from Agriculture Technology hosted a symposium “The fundamentals of sheep health”. He was joined by guest presenters, Dr. Michael Gottstein, Head of Knowledge Transfer from Teagasc Ireland <https://www.teagasc.ie/> and UFV student researcher, **Loreal Klassen** who shared her findings from her research project “Exploring technology deficits and needs in BC’s sheep farming sectors”.

The FoS hosted a Faculty Welcome Session on September 6 in Evered Hall. **Dr. Ian Affleck**, Associate Dean welcomed 200+ new science students. Following introductions, the students took part in a lively icebreaker game of Bingo. Biology major, **Rhien Hare** and Physics major, **Catherine Laflamme** shared their experience and encouraged students to get involved in campus life. Students spent the remainder of the hour visiting with science faculty. The departments of Biology, Chemistry, Math & Stats, School of Land Use and Environmental Change, Agriculture Technology, Physics, and the School of Computing all took part in our event. The departments continued their day by taking part in the Service’s Fair on the green.

<https://blogs.ufv.ca/science/2022/09/27/faculty-of-science-welcomes-200-new-students/>

### Transforming Lives

The Women in Science Engineering and Technology (UFV WEST) hosted a welcome back social the evening of September 22. The event featured female STEM professors and UFV Science clubs and associations. Students were able to connect with other science students and gather some helpful information including amazing opportunities in STEM here at UFV. Read more on our blog: <https://blogs.ufv.ca/science/2022/09/22/ufv-west-hosts-their-2nd-annual-welcome-social/>

**Dr. Cherie Enns** in conjunction with colleagues in Kenya received a major grant for close to one million dollars for the project “Catalyzing Women’s Involvement in Post-Covid-19 Recovery through Agricultural Cooperatives in Kenya (WINRACK)”. Dr Enns will receive approximately 250K for her role in this project.

**Dr. Lucy Lee** started her second of a three-year appointment as member of NSERC’s evaluation committee group 1502. This committee provides quality assessment and funding recommendations on grant and scholarship applications for NSERC applicants in the Biological Sciences.

Professor **Steve Marsh**’s student **Abigail Riddolls** has received a Guest Student appointment at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution for 6 weeks and she will travel there later this term.

### Building Community

Several Faculty and science students attended our 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Science Social event held on Sept 29 on the patio of K-building. UFV Student STEM groups were joined by Campus Rec, Centre for Experiential and Career Education,

Sustainable UFV, CIVL Radio. Drs. Joanne MacLean, James Mandigo were our guests and Dr Ian Affleck acted as Master of ceremonies. The event was a success and students enjoyed the various group tables, free pizza, drinks and many prizes donated by various Science departments and Advising office.

The Science Curriculum Indigenization gathering met earlier this month. Returning guest, Lorna Andrews, Teaching and Learning Specialist, Indigenization continues to lend her knowledge and guidance to the group. The main topic of discussion was focused on how to Indigenize the delivery of a few upper-level Math courses. This gathering is a great opportunity to share ideas on curriculum Indigenization that are not about content.

**Dr. Afia Raja** has been successful in two funding applications for Community Emergency Preparedness Fund where she was a co-applicant. One is with Leq'a:mel First Nation and the other is with City of Mission. The funds will assist in student involvement in Extreme Heat Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning projects.

**Sample List of Presentations/Publications (UFV student names underlined) by FoS personnel:**

Frey, C.M., Ku, K., Arad, M., and **Ghafourifar, G.** (accepted) Development of a Novel Enzyme Immobilization Method Employing Formaldehyde and TESB To Fabricate Immobilized Enzyme Microreactor for Bottom-Up Proteomics. *Analytical Methods*, 2022, <https://doi.org/10.1039/D2AY00840H>