

Monthly Report to the Provost – Faculty of Science

The Faculty of Science (FoS) has the following to report for the month of **December 2020**:

Dean's Office:

So, it's a wrap up for the oddest year anyone of us ever experienced, but we survived! The Faculty of Science had its last calendar year council meeting on Friday Dec 4, which under normal circumstances would have included a buffet lunch, but alas, that was not possible. We also normally, have draws of poinsettias, chocolates and wines (the latter as personal donations from the dean) and we did the draw online during our council zoom meeting. Throughout the subsequent days, Janice and Lucy made personal deliveries to ten lucky draw winners covering the valley from Vancouver to the eastern end of Chilliwack. It was nice to meet some of the faculty in their porches, and at a safe distance from the recipients' doors, to share brief updates and wish each of them a happy and safe Holidays.

Dr. Lucy Lee invited Dr. Charles Ikejiani, Orthopedic Surgeon from the Royal Victoria Hospital in Barrie, Ontario to speak to our science students and share his journey into medicine. He provided a pre-recorded presentation <https://youtu.be/qJzGN89NQEg> which will be followed up with a live Q&A to be held mid January (date to be confirmed).

Biology Department:

In collaboration with Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and Stó:lō nation, the Biology research team (Associate Professor **Dr. Sharon Gillies** from Biology, Associate Professor **Steve Marsh** from the School of Land Use and Environmental Change, **Dr. Martha Dow**, Director of CHASI and the Research Chair in Health and Social Innovation, **Dr. David Schaepe**, Director and Senior Archaeologist of the Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre at Stó:lō Nation and Sessional Instructor with the School of Social Work and Human Services, **Dr. Keith Carlson**, Tier 1 Canada Research Chair with Research, Engagement and Grad Studies at UFV, and **Greg Laychak**, documentary photographer and UFV Communications and Video Specialist) has submitted a grant application to study the prevalence of microplastics in the Fraser River and coastal waters around the Fraser Estuary.

Dr. Carin Bondar, Biology Adjunct Professor, has been filming for two series, one for the Science Channel and one for a network called Love Nature. She was also a guest on the 'Science! with Friends' podcast out of the University of Nebraska <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/71-carin-bondar-wild-life/id1471423633?i=1000501865084>. Carin has also announced her candidacy for the Chilliwack School Board's byelection to be held February 13, 2021. Chilliwack Progress News: <https://www.theprogress.com/news/carin-bondar-announces-candidacy-for-chilliwack-school-board/>

Chemistry Department

Dr. Noham Weinberg in collaboration with Chemistry faculty and with the Physics department speedily produced a new course outline for Engineering Transfer students, CHEM 116, that would align our chemistry offerings with the requirements of the Engineering Transfer program.

Mathematics & Statistics Department

Drs. Kseniya Garaschuk and **Shaun Sun** were both successful in their applications to the UFV Open Education Faculty Fellows program <https://libguides.ufv.ca/OpenEducationFacultyFellows>. This program supports faculty projects that create, develop, or modify open education resources to be used in UFV courses as well as similar courses taught at other institutions.

School of Land Use and Environmental Change (SLUEC)

Dr. Lenore Newman and her team with the Food and Agriculture Institute with has been awarded a Watersheds BC contract for \$65,000 to produce an environmental plan. The program is funded by the BC Agriculture Council and Watersheds BC and will employ three UFV students.

Leanne Julian, a student with **Dr. Cherie Enns**, has been awarded a Student catalyst scholarsjip from the Peace and Reconciliation Centre (PARC)

Dr. Cherie Enns has recently signed a contract with UK Routledge African Studies related to a book based on her PhD. She is writing it with her PhD Advisor, Professor Kombe, Professor of Urban Land Management and Director of the Institute of Human Settlements Studies at Ardhi University, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The title of the book is, 'Child Rights and Displacement in East Africa: Agency and Spatial Justice in Planning Policy'.

Dr. Olav Lian has been acknowledged by the Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences in his role within the Editorial Board for his excellent contribution as Editor and "advancing the quality of published science" as a volunteer "scientific citizen".

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

Garaschuk, K. and **Radzimski, V.** "Ten Practical Principles of Prosperous Pandemic (remote) Pedagogy", CMS Notes, 52(6), December 2020. <https://notes.math.ca/en/article/ten-practical-principles-of-prosperous-pandemic-remote-pedagogy/>