

Monthly Report to the Provost – Faculty of Science

The Faculty of Science (FoS) has the following to report for the month of **January 2021**:

Dean's Office:

We welcome **Rebecca Fry** to the Dean's office temporarily while **Caroline Majeau** is on leave. Rebecca has already been quite busy filling Caroline's shoes. We wish Caroline a speedy recovery.

The Faculty of Science with the Pre-Med Student Association at UFV hosted a Q&A session via ZOOM with Dr. Charles Ikejiani, Orthopedic Surgeon from the Royal Victoria Hospital in Barrie, Ontario on January 14th, 2021. He pre-recorded a presentation at <https://youtu.be/qJzGN89NQEg> where he shared his journey into medicine and offered some advice to students who are planning a career in medicine.

Dr. Lucy Lee contributed a picture to UFV's 2021 EDI calendar. One of her paintings graces the month of May. See https://ufv.ca/media/assets/presidents-office/edi-resources/EDI-wall-calendar_Print.pdf

A virtual event to celebrate International Day of Women and Girls in Science is being planned in collaboration with UFV's WEST team for February 11, highlighting women in STEM. Further details will be circulated shortly.

Biology Department:

Dr. Greg Schmaltz received \$3800 from the new research fund established by the Research Office that is available to faculty members towards purchasing equipment which will facilitate his work. Dr. Schmaltz has also been elected as the next Head of the Department of Biology.

Dr. Debbie Wheeler published a paper recently (see below) that featured the work of undergraduate students **Shae Turner** who now works for Hemmera, an environmental consultancy company, **Eric Demers**, who teaches at VIU, and **Kyle Norris** who works for Fortis BC.

Dr. Alan Reid was featured in a recent UFV at Work blog posting authored by Shawn Johnston, UFV's Director of Labour Relations and Human Resources, <https://blogs.ufv.ca/ufv-at-work/2021/01/06/remote-learning-turning-a-challenge-into-an-adventure/>

Christine Dalton joined the editorial board for the publication Nature Wild, and contributed an article in the Winter 2020 issue on her work with the Salamanders on the Abbotsford Campus. <https://www.naturekidsbc.ca/>

Chemistry Department:

Chemistry technician, **Aileen Ablog**, has published her second cook book on ketogenic diets, this one covering sauces, rubs and marinades. The title is "Keto BBQ" and can be purchased from Simon & Schuster <https://www.simonandschuster.com/books/Keto-BBQ-Sauces-Rubs-and-Marinades/Aileen-Ablog/9781646040360>

We welcomed **Dr. Walid Abdemagil** as a sessional lab instructor in Chemistry, to teach some of our face-to-face labs, as a replacement to a last minute resignation of one of our regular sessionals.

Mathematics & Statistics Department:

COVID-19 forced the mathematicians and statisticians to work from home, but this does not stop students from sending congratulations to their instructors. Here is one that came recently and it is worth sharing: "I took Stats 104 with **Gillian Mimmack** last semester and I just want to let you know she is a very caring and thoughtful teacher. She was available whenever we needed help and was very patient. She encouraged us to ask for help and she spent as much time with us as was needed to make sure we understood the material. It was a difficult course and I really don't believe I would have passed the course if she hadn't been so generous with her time."

School of Land Use and Environmental Change (SLUEC)

A big congratulations goes out to SLUEC who won both the CityStudio Award and the Peoples Choice Award at the City of Abbotsford's virtual event: <https://letstalkabbotsford.ca/citystudio-virtual-hubbub-fall>. **Dr. Afia Raja** and **Dr. Cherie Enns** had various teams participating in the event. From **Dr. Afia Raja's** GEOG 252, **Aiden Haagensen** won the Peoples Choice Award for his poster "Safety and Abuse Data Understood Through Analytics." From **Dr. Cherie Enns' GEOG 360** **Angela Rieberger, Lana Harach** and **Travis Weishaar** won The UFV City Studio Award for their poster "Inclusivity of Indigenous Artwork into Abbotsford Schools." Karen Fech also received a special mention for her GEOG 252 project "A Comparative Assessment of Abbotsford Community Needs Pre and Post COVID-19."

Dr. Cherie Enns is a featured speaker for the Planning Institute of BC Webinar #2 – The Impact of COVID-19 on Planning. <https://www.pibc.bc.ca/event/pibc-2021-webinar-2-impact-covid-19-planning>, that will be held virtually on Feb 24, hosted by the Planning Institute of BC. She will also be doing a webinar for the President's office -Panjab University, Feb 9th, on Child Friendly Cities. <https://www.pibc.bc.ca/event/pibc-2021-webinar-2-impact-covid-19-planning>.

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

Ablog, A. (2020) Keto BBQ. Ulysses Pres. 128 p. ISBN13: 9781646040360

Jenik, K., Alkie, T.N., Moore, E., Dejong, J.D., Lee, L.E.J., DeWitte-Orr, S.J. (2021) Characterization of a bovine intestinal myofibroblast cell line and stimulation using phytoglycogen-based nanoparticles bound to inosine monophosphate. In Vitro Cell.Dev.Biol.-Animal. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11626-020-00536-4>

Turner, S., Demers, E., Norris, K., Wheeler, D. (2020) Application of Radio Frequency Identification Technology to Study Nesting Behaviour of Tree Swallows. North American Bird Bander 45(3): 81 – 95