

Monthly Report to the Provost – Faculty of Science

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

Engaging Learners

After over a year and a half of working remotely most faculty and staff were back at work this semester mingling with students, with appropriate COVID-19 precautionary measures. Our lectures and labs are full and students are enjoying being back on campus. Students were actively engaging in various activities within their classes as well as extracurricular, volunteering in the various groups, clubs and institutional activities.

Two of our science students were selected as Student senators: **Ishika Sethi** and **Charnjit Nijjar** and have already participated in their first senate meeting on Sept 24.

Students are active in various club activities and are participating on the Student Campus Expo this Sept 29. The Physics student association (PSA) held a meeting on Sept 28 and the Women in Science Engineering and Technology (UFV WEST) are planning a social for Oct 7.

The Faculty of Science sponsored a Best face mask contest to promote use of face masks on campus <https://blogs.ufv.ca/science/2021/09/23/best-face-masks-contest-deadline-monday-sept-27-5pm/> . Winners will be announced in October.

Dr. Robin Endelman, Science Rocks Outreach Coordinator and Math and Stats Professor applied for a WIL grant earlier this year to help support our new science outreach program this semester. This week she received notification that grant has been approved for \$21,948. Science Rocks! Days is a series of one-day science education events for children, held on Saturdays, on our Abbotsford and Chilliwack campuses. The events are geared for kids from grades 4-8. <https://www.ufv.ca/science/science-in-the-community/science-rocks/science-rocks-days/>.

Christine Dalton, lab instructor in Biology, joined the editorial board of Nature WILD magazine, a publication of Nature Kids BC <https://www.naturekidsbc.ca/be-a-naturekid/naturewild/>.

Transforming Lives

Faculty and students continue making impacts in various scientific fields making presentations and publishing in peer reviewed journals. Some of these are listed below under Presentations/Publications List.

Three students, **Annabelle Czihaly**, **Connor Frey** and **Heather Kelly**, participated in this year's London International Youth Science Forum in August and their experiences have been posted in our blogs:

<https://blogs.ufv.ca/science/2021/09/01/london-international-youth-science-forum-2021-with-annabelle-czihaly/>

<https://blogs.ufv.ca/science/2021/08/27/london-international-youth-science-forum-2021-with-connor-frey/>

<https://blogs.ufv.ca/science/2021/08/27/london-international-youth-science-forum-2021-with-heather-kelly/>

Dr. Carlos Leon, from Biology, who had been volunteering in Vancouver hospices assisting the needy in these times of COVID-19, attended his convocation for Saint Mark's College UBC this month. He graduated with a Master degree in Pastoral studies.

Dr. Ian Affleck started Sept 1 as the inaugural Associate Dean of Students for the Faculty of Science.

Dr. Lucy Lee officially started as a committee member for the NSERC evaluation committee 1502 and began the experience by reading over hundreds of Notices of Intent for Discovery Grant applications nationwide.

Dr. Michelle Rhodes, currently on leave from SLUEC, has published a book: *The Tree Farm: The evolution of Canada's first community forest*, which was released on Sept 20. https://www.amazon.ca/Tree-Farm-Evolution-Canadas-Community/dp/1989025684/ref=sr_1_42?dchild=1&keywords=forest+conservation&qid=1632759865&sr=8-42.

Michelle also spoke to the growth and values of community forestry in a brand new series of videos produced by the City of Mission and ValleyTech productions, the first two of which were released on September 23:

Community Forest: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nQQ7lulCkDQ>

History of the Tree Farm: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U90rhshGQvY>

Building Community

We held a Sto:lo Places Name Tour on Sept 15 with Albert (Sonny) McHalsie. Various administrators, faculty and staff from across the university joined in this tour. See photos of event on <https://www.flickr.com/photos/ufv/albums/72157719857670219>

A Welcome back social was held on the afternoon of Sept 9 on the patio of K-building. This opportunity facilitated the introduction of our new Associate Dean to the faculty and staff of Science.

Dr Greg Schmaltz continues to be Director of the Great Blue Heron Nature Reserve in Chilliwack. <https://www.chilliwackblueheron.com/the-society>

Lab instructor **Pat Harrison** participated in the RegenBC virtual conference, a three-day conference on regenerative farming held Sep 27-29.

Drs. Vanessa Radzimski and **Kseniya Garaschuk** contributed a nice article in the recent issue of Math Notes on Supporting Community and Communication through Online Learning Journals. See <https://notes.math.ca/en/article/supporting-community-and-communication-through-online-learning-journals/>

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

Beigi, A., Vafaei-Nodeh, S., **Huang, L., Sun, Z.S.**, Jaeun Ko, J. (accepted) Survival outcomes associated with first and second-line palliative systemic therapies in patients with metastatic bladder cancer. *Current Oncology*-1324316

Hickin, A.S., **Lian, O.B.**, Telka, A., Levson, V.M., and Geertsema, M. 2021. Geomorphic and ecological age constraints for paraglacial to boreal transition in northeastern British Columbia. *Quaternary Science Reviews*, 268: 107002.

Khan, M.Y., Turab, S.A., Ali, L., Shah, M.T., **Qadri, T.**, Latif, K., Kanli, A.I., and Akhter, M.G. 2021. The dynamic response of coseismic liquefaction-induced ruptures associated with the 2019 Mw 5.8 Mirpur, Pakistan, earthquake using HVSR measurements. *The Leading Edge*. 40: 590–600. <https://doi.org/10.1190/tle40080590.1>

McIntosh, P.D., Neudorf, C., **Lian, O.B.**, Slee, A.J., Walker, B., Eberhard, R., Doyle, R., and Dixon, G. 2021. Late Pleistocene and early Holocene aeolian deposits of Tasmania and their climatic implications. *Quaternary Research*, 102: 91–114.

Nelson, L.-A., Sanborn, P., Cade-Menun, B.J., Walker, I.J., and **Lian, O.B.** 2021. Pedological trends and implications for forest productivity in a Holocene soil chronosequence. Calvert Island, British Columbia, Canada. *Canadian Journal of Soil Science*, in press.

Wolfe, S.A., and **Lian, O.B.** 2021. Timing, rates and geomorphic controls on Holocene aeolian sand deposition using multiple chronometric methods, southeastern Cordillera, Alberta, Canada. *Aeolian Research*, 50: 100687.