

## Monthly Report to the Provost – Faculty of Science

The Faculty of Science (FoS) has the following to report for the month of **February 2023**:

### Engaging Learners

**Dr. Ian Affleck**, Associate Dean of Science, via the Let's Talk Science at UFV program, planned an open house for 115+ grade 8 students from Abbotsford Traditional Secondary and Middle School on February 21. UFV student volunteers lead groups through different activity locations put on by Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Agriculture and the School of Land Use and Environmental Change. <https://blogs.ufv.ca/science/2023/02/21/abbotsford-traditional-school-visit/>

**Dr. Afia Raja**, Assistant Professor from the School of Land Use and Environmental Change (SLUEC) took part in UFV's Faculty Microlecture and presented on "Tactical Urbanism for Mission Waterfront Development".

Associate Professor, **Dr. Cherie Enns**, from SLUEC was invited to Nairobi to deliver a workshop at the IDRC event and participate in the Women Rise IDRC grant project launch. See presentation details below.

**Dr. Stefania Pizzirani**, Assistant Professor from SLUEC with Sustainability UFV and other departments across campus have been busy planning for the second annual March for Sustainability. Throughout the month they will be hosting sustainability events. <https://bit.ly/3S5F5eK> The kick off event which is being led by Stefania is "Clothes the loop: Renew, Reuse, Restyle". **Dr. Renee Prasad** from the Department of Agriculture Technology will be leading the Sustainable Food Event on March 29 and from Biology, **Dr. Alan Reid** and **Dr. Sandra Gillespie** will be leading the Pollinator Garden event.

The Agriculture Technology Department is sponsoring the 4-H Special Educational Display Contest. Students are to build a traditional 4-H educational display or create a digital poster on the topic: Agri Technology (Agritech). <https://www.4hbc.ca/news/posts/special-topic-educational-display-contest-2023>

**Dr. Tadgh O'Leary**, Assistant Professor from the Department of Agriculture Technology recently took his AGRI 331 students to visit a UBC dairy farm to see how the science of dairy is applied at the farm level. The class also attended the Dairy Farmer Research Day in Abbotsford to learn about the latest research in dairy cow welfare, health, and nutrition.

### Transforming Lives

**Dr. Kseniya Garaschuk**, Assistant Professor from the Math and Stats Department has just been confirmed as the chair of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusiveness committee of the Canadian Mathematical Society. <https://cms.math.ca/about-the-cms/governance/committees/#edic>

**Dr. Golfam Ghafourifar's** research student, **Maor Arad** has just been accepted for the Biochemistry and Molecular MSc Program at the University of British Columbia. He will be working in the same lab where Dr. Ghafourifar will be spending her sabbatical next year.

**Dr. Lucy Lee** participated in the 2023 NSERC competition deliberations for Discovery grants for the Biological Systems and Functions Grant Evaluation group 1502 this month. Later this week, she will be participating in the Western Deans of Arts and Sciences meeting as a Panel Chair in Victoria, BC.

**Dr. Cherie Enns** has also signed on to be an advisor related to the Young Gamechanges Initiative for UN-Habitat and Botnar Foundation. <https://www.fondationbotnar.org/project/young-gamechangers-initiative-ygi/> This program focuses on design of cities and public places using Minecraft. Her role is related to the research framework.

## **Building Community**

**Dr. Afia Raja**, Assistant Professor from SLUEC appeared on CTV Vancouver news on the topic of the environmental impact of abandoned homeless camps on the Chilliwack River. Read and view her interview here:

<https://bc.ctvnews.ca/deformities-in-the-fish-pollutants-found-in-waterways-near-fraser-valley-encampments-1.6258088>

**Dr. Renee Prasad**, Agriculture Technology Department Head was invited to present to teachers from the Abbotsford School District as part of the Shared Learning Conference 2023 on February 17.

**Drs. Cindy Loten, Ruwan Karunanayaka, and Vanessa Radzimski**, from the Math & Stats Department and their Math Mania team of 18 UFV student volunteers visited Vedder Elementary School in Chilliwack earlier this week. They spent the evening finding out how much fun you can have playing with mathematical concepts. Over 80 kids and their families attended the event. The next Math Mania is scheduled for May 2023.

<https://blogs.ufv.ca/science/2023/02/10/math-mania-vedder-elementary-school-tons-of-fun/>

**Dr. Renee Prasad** and **Dr. Lauren Erland** presented during the 2023 Cranberry Congress held on February 23, 2023. They have also submitted proposals for funding for the 2023 field season.

<https://www.bccranberries.com/growers/cranberry-congress/>

The Agriculture Technology Department took part in the Pacific Agriculture Show January 26-28.

<https://www.agricultureshow.net/> This premier event is the largest and most important agriculture exhibition in the province. BC's agriculture industry is unique in its diversity and the Show attracts an attendance from all the livestock and horticulture sectors. Read more on our science blog here:

[https://blogs.ufv.ca/science/2023/02/17/pacific\\_agriculture\\_show/](https://blogs.ufv.ca/science/2023/02/17/pacific_agriculture_show/)

**Dr. Lucy Lee** has been appointed as Adjunct Professor of Biological Sciences at SFU. She will be collaborating with former Biology Professor **Dr. Vicky Marlatt** who is now an Associate professor of Environmental Toxicology and Biology at SFU, and an adjunct with our Biology Department.

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

**Lee, L.E.J.**, Anderson, G., Dea, S., Goltz, D. (2023) *Crossing Boundaries: Arts & Science*. Western Deans of Arts and Science Meeting (Feb 24, 2023, Victoria, BC)

Mohamed, H., Kim, G., Macphail, C., Bhuiyan, I., Sidhu, T., Emami, A., **Huang, L., Sun, S.**, and Ko, J. Multicenter population-level analysis of systemic therapy use in metastatic or recurrent prostate cancer. *ASCO Genitourinary Cancers Symposium* (Feb 17, 2023, San Francisco, CA).

Nyamongo, I.K. and **Enns, C.** (2023) Catalyzing Women's Involvement in Post-Covid-19 Recovery Through Agricultural Cooperatives in Kenya (WINRACK) Project. *Women Rise Inception Workshop*. (Jan 24-26, 2023, Nairobi, Kenya). [https://idrc.ca/sites/default/files/2022-11/Women%20RISE%20Project%20profiles\\_CCGH%2022%20launch\\_ENG%20-%20221122.pdf](https://idrc.ca/sites/default/files/2022-11/Women%20RISE%20Project%20profiles_CCGH%2022%20launch_ENG%20-%20221122.pdf)

**Prasad, R.** (2023) Agriculture in the high school curriculum: Beyond raised beds. *Shared Learning Conference* (Feb 17, 2023, Abbotsford, BC). <https://sharedlearning.abbyschools.ca/node/66892> B13.