

## Monthly Report to the Provost – Faculty of Science – November 2024

### Engaging Learners

**Indigenous School Visits** are set for November 13 at CEP. We will host Indigenous students from local school districts for a day of activities and information. Each student will receive a swag bag provided by various campus teams and the lunch will be provided by the Future Students Office. We expect between 250 – 300 students for this event.

**Chemistry Lab** – Saturday, November 16, 2024, Chemistry is hosting a lab skills competition. There are 13 teams from 9 local high schools.

The competition will involve 2 separate sessions that will require the students to demonstrate their lab skill prowess that includes but is not limited to the following: (i) Use of analytical and mass balances (ii) Pipetting (iii) Solution separations (iv) Chromatography (v) Lab kit set up (reflux & filtration) (vi) Melting point measurement (vii) Recrystallization.

Top 3 teams will get prizes, lunch is provided and after the competition the staff and volunteers will host a magic show

**Math Instruction** in High Schools and Higher Education - A Learning Exchange. Friday, November 8 | 8:30 - 11:15am PST. This learning exchange brings together high school math teachers from Fraser Valley and math instructors from UFV to explore strategies that support students' transition from high school to university-level math courses. This session supports our efforts to close gaps and address common challenges in math education. An invitation email was sent to around 50 district schools to ensure broad participation.

**Vancouver Island Trip:** Students from Dr. Olav Lian's GEOG 402 class (Quaternary Geology & Geomorphology) participated in a three-day field trip to Vancouver Island, Oct 17-19, to observe some of the most important lithostratigraphic units in western Canada, which are thought to span the last three glacial climate cycles. These sediment packages contain information that are proxies for what the climate in southeast BC was like going back more than 130,000 years. Students also were given talks from scientists at the BC Geological Survey on the importance of critical mineral exploration for clean energy, on collaboration with Indigenous groups, and on careers in geoscience. This fourth-year Quaternary geology and geomorphology field trip provides students opportunities to not only see, but 'feel,' deposits that they have studied in the classroom for years – an essential component of geoscience learning. The trip was accompanied by Geoscience members Carolyn Atkins (faculty) and Dr. Sam Woor (postdoctoral fellow).

### Transforming Lives

IDRC visit in Kenya first week of September to review field work Submitted a poster to the World One Health Congress in Cape Town in September Drafted a Policy Brief related to One Health

Intervention Drafted a paper moving forward to publishing in November Organized and held a One Health event at UFV on October 24th: [Video](#)

Presented two papers at the 8th World One Health Conference in Vancouver September 20-23rd  
Continued to plan the One Health Intervention to be piloted over the coming months

## **Building Community**

[Arts in the Alley](#) – Community Planning and Development: Local Applied Studio (Cherie Enns)

Urban Library Event – Nov 6. Shaping the public space discourse with unheard, marginalized and young scholars.



Flyer\_Urban library  
event.mp4

**UFV Open house**, many of our faculty and students participated in the UFV Open House on October 26.

**UFV's Luminescence Dating Lab** was recently awarded an NSERC Alliance International Grant which will enable postdoctoral fellow Dr. Sam Woor to visit Technical University of Denmark for several weeks to work with one of their physicists, Dr. Kristina Thompsen, and their luminescence emission spectrometer. We hope experiments conducted with this instrument will allow us to rapidly identify critical minerals in the environment, minerals crucial for the transition to 'green energy.' If our experiments prove to be promising, we will apply for funds to purchase our own spectrometer.

**On Oct 18, the College of Arts and the Faculty of Science hosted the Fall 2024 meeting of the BC Deans of Arts and Science.** The one-day conference was attended by about 40 deans and associate deans from across the province. Special thanks to Dr. Keith Carlson for his exceptional presentation to on Indigenization, decolonization and reconciliation in academic institutions, and to Lorna Andrews, Stefania Pizzirani, Heather McAlpine and Tetsuomi Anzai for an inspiring roundtable on Lorna's *Educators Journey Towards Reconciliation* initiative. Thanks also to David McGuire for providing insights and advice in a session about the effects of federal immigration policy changes on post-secondary institutions. Attendees gathered the evening prior for dinner and a guided tour of The Reach Gallery, currently showing the "Emerge 10th Anniversary Exhibition", featuring works by many UFV alumni.

**Alida Janmaat coordinated the Glenbrook Ravine Restoration Project**, which just wrapped up its final volunteer planting event on October 26. Twenty-one volunteers joined us, and together we planted over 150 native plants in areas of the ravine that were previously overrun by Himalayan Blackberry. This initiative is a collaboration between the New Westminster Environmental Partners, the City of New Westminster, and the Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver.

## **List of Publications (UFV student names underlined)**

Kabaluk, J.T., van Herk, W.G., Janmaat, A.F., and Bomford, M.K. (2024) *Agriotes* spp. Eschscholtz and Other Elaterids (Coleoptera: Elateridae) Wireworms and Click Beetles. Ed. Vankosky, M.A., and Martel, V. Biological Control Programmes in Canada 2013-2023. CABI, Oxfordshire, UK.