

Monthly Report to the Provost – Faculty of Science – **October 2024**

Engaging Learners

The classroom for Agri 203 today was a silage corn field. The students learned about pest management in silage corn including the role of transgenic technology. Students collected data and compared the impact of competition with the crop on weed density. They also did a survey for ladybug beetles.

New \$200,000 research proposal approved from SFU's BCCAI entitled "Micro-credentials for the advancing agri-tech sector: training and upskilling for our future food system". Stefania Pizzirani is the PI on this project.

New \$35,000 grant contract approved from Perkins and Will Canada Architects for a project entitled "Resource Circularity: Waste-to-Resource Closed-Loop Ecosystems". Alex Glaros is the PI and Stefania Pizzirani is Co-PI.

Transforming Lives

One health panel discussion, collaboration with the Cooperative University of Kenya. Engage with researchers on the interconnected challenges and opportunities that support a holistic approach to health resilience and sustainability.

Thursday, Oct 24 at UFV Abbotsford 2:30-4:00 pm

Building Community

As part of the UFV 50 Celebrations - Agriculture Dept and UFV Alumni are pleased to host the first ever UFV Agriculture Alumni Pop-Up Farmers' Market. The market will feature products grown by alumni of the program from the late 1980's to 2024. Products that will be available at the market include: cranberries, hazelnuts, potatoes, goat meat (cubed and ground), ground Waygu beef, cheese, microgreens, carrots, beets, Brussels sprouts (bulk and stalks), garlic, rhubarb, apples, blueberries, strawberries, sweet corn, green beans, squash and pumpkins, ornamental plants. Market was held at 45173 Petawawa Road, Chilliwack on October 5.

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List of Publications (UFV student names underlined>

K. Garaschuk, "Pre-pandemic versus post-pandemic: how do the students actually compare?", Canadian Mathematical Society Education Notes, 56 (4).

Tadayon, V., & Ghanbarzadeh, M. (2024). Spatial copula-based modeling of claim frequency and claim size in third-party car insurance: A Poisson-mixed approach for predictive analysis. *Insurance: Mathematics and Economics*, 119, 119-129.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.insmatheco.2024.08.005>

Young, C., Glaros, A., Newman, L., & Pizzirani, S. (2024). Assessing Climate Vulnerabilities of British Columbia and California Food Systems Through Spatial Analysis. The University of the Fraser Valley, Abbotsford, BC.

Conference Papers

Conference paper has been accepted: El Sayad, I., Sidhu, H., Kundan, M., Glaros, A., and Pizzirani, S. "AI-Driven Optimization for Urban and Vertical Agriculture Planning: A Multi-Model Approach", International Conference on Electrical, Communication and Computer Engineering