

Monthly Report to the Provost – Faculty of Science

The Faculty of Science has the following to report for the month of December 2019:

Dean's Office:

- UFV Let's Talk Science (LTS) Coordinator and 4th Year BSc Student, Emily Ell, and her team have managed to reach over 340 youths this semester. They were invited to schools across the Fraser Valley and hosted workshops at both the Chilliwack and Sardis libraries. The response has been so amazing that they've been invited back again in the new year! Their recent visit to the Chilliwack Library was picked up by The Chilliwack Progress. See article here: <https://www.theprogress.com/community/super-science-event-offered-stem-based-learning-for-kids-at-chilliwack-library/> Emily will be attending the LTS Western Conference at the University of Alberta in February.
- The UFV Women in Engineering, Science and Technology (UFV-WEST) Student Group partnered with the UFV President's Office for the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, in memory of the women who died at the École Polytechnique massacre on December 6, 2019.
- **Dr. Lucy Lee** was an external examiner for a PhD student at U. Calgary held Dec 16. She also met with the Dean of the Faculty of Science at U. Calgary, gave a workshop in Dr. M. Vijayan's lab on fish cell culture, and a seminar to the Department of Biological Sciences on Dec 17 2019.
- **Dr. Carin Bondar** has been active as always and we missed this in our Nov report. She was featured in the Chilliwack Progress regarding Climate change issues <https://www.theprogress.com/news/chilliwack-scientist-shocked-to-hear-climate-change-denial-from-some-school-trustees/> on Nov 29, 2019.

Biology Department:

- **Dr. Sharon Gillies'** BIO 310 and 410 classes presented their projects at the CityStudio HUBBUB event at Abbotsford City Hall on December 3, 2019. The team of **Jide Arojoye, Raveena Brar, Anmoljeet Hans, Valerie Mensah-Wilson, and Vanessa Mensah-Wilson** won first place with their project "Investigation of Soil Compositions to Eradicate Japanese Knotweed" and joined Abbotsford Mayor Henry Braun and City Councillor Patricia Ross for lunch. Honourable Mentions went to the student group of **Zach Mattie, Austyn Jarvis, Chelsea Clarke, and Opharsh Lail** for their project "Pond Life".
- **Dr. Gillies** was also successful in receiving a \$4K grant from the Fraser Valley Real Estate Board for researching control methods for invasive knotweed plants in the valley.
- **Drs. Gregory Schmaltz, Alida Janmaat and Debbie Wheeler**, met with Abbotsford airport authorities to discuss birds and wildlife issues at the airport for ongoing collaborative projects that may employ some of our science students.

Chemistry Department:

- As is tradition, Chemistry put up a new display of the Chemist-tree in the display cabinet near A385 for the merry enjoyment of all, and learning about the chemistry of Christmas scents and more. <https://blogs.ufv.ca/science/2019/12/02/happy-holidays-from-the-chemis-tree-department/>
- Chemistry is updating their first year laboratory technique videos and is currently hiring a work-study student for the Winter 2020 semester.

Mathematics & Statistics Department:

- **Professor Anna Kuczynska** has published an Open Textbook “Intermediate Algebra and Trigonometry” which is now available in the BC Campus Open Textbook Collection <https://open.bccampus.ca/browse-our-collection/find-open-textbooks/?uuid=76dc2b51-6695-4914-8d39-6118efd321b7&contributor=&keyword=&subject=>
- **Dr. Kseniya Garaschuk**, along with her colleagues in the Math & Stats department and local district representatives, have been busy organizing the 2nd Fraser Valley Mathematics Education Sq’ép event to take place on February 29, 2020 at the Abbotsford Campus. This event brings together a community of mathematics educators through the sharing of ideas, examples, resources, teaching practices and research activities that weave Indigenous knowledge and world views of knowing and connecting with mathematical learning.

School of Land Use and Environmental Change (SoLUEC)

- **Dr. Afia Zubair Raja’s** GEOG 360 Community Planning Class showcased their Abbotsford Bike Share projects at the CityStudio HUBBUB event on December 3, 2019 at Abbotsford City Hall. The student team of **Finlay Buzzage, Kevin Denbok, Shuntong Yang, Xinyue Pan, and Aaron Duerksen** won the People’s Choice Award for their project “Growing into a Bike Share: Plan for 200K”. The project discussed the possibilities of the replicability of the Vancouver Mobi/Shaw BikeShare in Abbotsford.
- **Dr. Jonathan Hughes** has now formally stepped into the new role of Director of the new school as of January 1st. Thank you to **Dr. Greg Schlitt** for his service as the Interim Director for the past 6 months. Greg will be heading back to his home department in Math and Stats. **Amy Huesken**, is the new SoLUEC assistant as of January 2, 2020. She replaced Leah Sperling who moved over to Health Sciences in November.
- **Dr. Cherie Enns** attended a convocation ceremony for her PhD at the University of Ardhhi held in early December in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania. While at Ardhhi University she also participated in workshops and planning sessions regarding her research in City Lab projects.
- **Dr. Michelle Rhodes** is organizing the 5th UFV Environment and Planning Network at U-House Jan 29 from 1 to 4 pm.
- **Dr. Lenore Newman** was featured in CBC’s Quirks and Quarks on Dec 20 with respect to her book Lost Feast <https://www.cbc.ca/radio/quirks/dec-21-the-quirks-quarks-holiday-book-show-1.5397535/exploring-culinary-extinction-the-foods-we-have-eaten-out-of-existence-1.5397544>. She was also featured in CBC’s The Current on October 7, which we failed to report in our October report. See <https://www.cbc.ca/radio/thecurrent/the-current-for-oct-7-2019-1.5311435/food-is-a-keystone-how-to-save-our-favourite-foods-from-extinction-1.5312318>

Sample List of Presentations/Publications (UFV student names underlined) by FoS personnel in past month:

1. **Enns, C.** 2019. Child-Friendly Planning Policy; Dec. 11, TULAB and UNICEF Stakeholders' Workshop on a Research Agenda towards Programming, Services, and Innovations for Children and Adolescents in Tanzanian Cities, ESRF Conference Hall, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
2. **Kuczynska, A.** 2019. Intermediate Algebra and Trigonometry. Victoria, B.C.: BCcampus. Accessed from <https://open.bccampus.ca/browse-our-collection/find-open-textbooks/>
3. **Lee, L.E.J.** 2019. In vitro made sushi. Dec 17, Integrative Cell Biology Seminar, University of Calgary. Calgary Alberta.