

## Monthly Report to the Provost – Faculty of Science

The Faculty of Science (FoS) has the following to report for the month of **October 2020**:

### Dean's Office:

The Faculty of Science has partnered with the Esposito Family Centre for Innovation & Entrepreneurship (EFCIE), a new research hub at UFV <https://www.ufv.ca/innovation-entrepreneurship/>, to offer innovation grants. These grants are open to joint UFV student-faculty teams to carry out research in either of 1) general and 2) in STEM related fields. Up to \$5,000 are available for each of these grants. The application deadline is Nov 30, 2020. <https://www.ufv.ca/innovation-entrepreneurship/students/innovation-grant/>

UFV's Climate Change video, directed by Biology Adjunct Professor **Dr. Carin Bondar**, was selected for the Chilliwack Independent Film Festival <https://www.ciff.ca/the-festival>. The video featured many of our UFV science and arts students, faculty, as well as Deans **Lucy Lee** and **Jacqueline Nolte** along with UFV President **Joanne MacLean**. VIDEO: <https://youtu.be/Dr1tgIWEJeA>.

The FoS held their 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Science Social as a virtual welcome week event October 5-9. Each day two UFV Science Student groups were featured and draws were made daily for 2 x \$100 gift cards to the UFV Bookstore. <https://blogs.ufv.ca/science/2020/09/11/science-welcome-week-oct-5-9/>

Voting was held for two Student Representatives to sit on Science Faculty Council for 2020/2021. Eight student candidates were nominated. Although the final numbers were close, **Jordan Penner** and **Kabeer Poonia**, both biology majors, received the majority of the votes.

### Biology Department:

Despite the hardships of COVID-19, Biology offered several labs on campus at 50% capacity this fall term, and students, staff and faculty have been grateful for the face-to-face component, albeit under strict safety guidelines.

Senior student research projects have also started on a limited basis, including research at various field sites. Students and faculty have been very responsible and are adhering to the strict COVID-19 safety guidelines.

### Chemistry Department

Chemistry has also offered several labs on campus this fall term at reduced capacity and under strict safety guidelines. Students, staff and faculty have reported that they are grateful for the opportunity to interact face-to-face even when wearing masks and keeping appropriate distance measures.

**Connor Frey** and **Kenneth Ku** from **Dr. Golfam Ghafourifar's** research lab have been accepted to present at the 27<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Electrophoretic and Liquid Phase Separation Techniques, ITP 2020 in November. They will each be doing a poster presentation and a 3-minute oral pitch.

Dr. Ghafourifar will be going on maternity leave starting January 2021 until the end of August. She intends to be back teaching in September. Congratulations and best wishes on baby #2.

### Mathematics & Statistics Department

**Dr. Kseniya Garaschuk** offered a two week intensive Pre-Calculus refresher course 'Nuts & Bolts of PreCalculus' prior to the beginning of the fall term. This was an optional course and 318 students accessed the materials placed in WebWork at least 5 times, and 138 students completed at least one online assignment. About 50 students provided feedback and greater than 95% of students enjoyed and appreciated the course.

The Canadian Mathematical Society released their 2019 Math Camps report and UFV's Science Rocks camp on Patterns, Puzzles and Pedigree led by **Dr. Robin Endelman** were prominently featured on pages 4, 6 and 7 for both the Chilliwack and Abbotsford camps. <https://cms.math.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2019-Math-Camps-Report-1.pdf>.

### **School of Land Use and Environmental Change (SLUEC)**

**Dr. Cherie Enns** has been invited to the Vancouver Island University MCP Program's Planning week 2021 "Covid-19 and Cities" as the Keynote Speaker. She is also in the process of submitting a proposal for the Bachelor of Community and Regional Planning City Studio Project (GEOG 360) <http://downtownabbotsford.ca/call-for-artists-community-driven-pavement-mural/>. Dr. Enns and her co-investigator Dr. Michelle Superle from the English Department at UFV are conducting a Farm Surplus Survey – RSF <https://test-4ad82c.webflow.io> with UFV's Food and Agriculture Institute.

2018 UFV Geography Honours graduate, **Madelaine Bourdages**, has successfully defended her MSc thesis at Carleton University and has now begun the PhD program where she will be focussing on the fate and transport of microplastics within Great Slave Lake and along the Mackenzie River. She thanked her UFV supervisor, Associate Professor **Steve Marsh**, for taking her on as a work-study student and initiating her work on microplastics.

SLUEC Adjunct Professor, **Dr. Lionel Pandolfo** was referenced as a corroborating source in a recent Abbotsford News article "The Fraser Valley has been warming at a quicker rate than Vancouver. Why?" <https://www.abbynews.com/news/the-fraser-valley-warming-quicker-than-vancouver-why/>

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

Beard, V., Bedard, A., Nuk, J., Lee, P., Hong, Q., **Bedard, J.**, Sun, S., Schrader, K. (2020) "Genetic testing in families with hereditary colorectal cancer in British Columbia and Yukon: a retrospective cross-sectional analysis" *cmajo* 8:4 <http://cmajopen.ca/content/8/4/E637.full>

Footitt, R.G., H. Adler, P., Gillespie, D.R., Cock, M.J.W., Decaëns, T., Gerard, P.J., **Gillespie, S.D.**, Jiménez, J.J. and Olfert, O.O. (2020). Global Change and Insect Biodiversity in Agroecosystems. In *Insect Biodiversity* (eds R.G. Footitt and P. H. Adler). doi:10.1002/9781118945582.ch26.

Lee, P.W.C., Bedard, A.C., Samimi, S., Beard, V.K., Hong, Q., **Bedard, J.E.J.**, Gilks, C.B., Schaeffer, D.F., Wolber, R., Kwon, J.S., Lim, H.J., Sun, S., Schrader, K.A. (2020) Evaluating the impact of universal Lynch syndrome screening in British Columbia. *Cancer Medicine* doi.org/10.1002/cam4.3279.

Leung, J.P.S., Cory, J.S., Kabaluk, J.T., and **Janmaat, A.F.** (2020) Effect of Collection Month, Visible Light, and Air Movement on the Attraction of Male *Agriotes obscurus* L. (Coleoptera: Elateridae) Click Beetles to Female Sex Pheromone. *Insects* (in press).

**Raja, A.** (2020) Sustainable Housing Practices-spatial analysis of housing stress in Corvallis Oregon. *J Urban Planning and Development* (in press).