

## Monthly Report to the Provost – Faculty of Science

The Faculty of Science (FoS) has the following to report for the month of **March 2021**:

### Dean's Office:

We hosted Brooke Haller and Janet Carroll, Principal and Program Director, respectively, of Imagine High Secondary School for a lively Q & A session at our March Faculty Council meeting on March 5. We envision having a close collaboration with this new school that will open in Chilliwack in September 2021.

The FoS invited Dr. Lynne Quarmby from Simon Fraser University to present at our greenSpeak Series on Tuesday, March 30, 2021 at 1:00 PM via Zoom. Her talk, *Watermelon Snow: Science and Stories*, provided an interdisciplinary look at how scientists of diverse expertise might respond to the climate crisis. Read more about her talk here: <https://bit.ly/3tsXJiS>.

**Caroline Majeau** has begun her gradual return to work after her leave. She will be back to full time on April 12.

### Biology Department:

Biology Adjunct Professor, **Dr. Carin Bondar** has had another busy month. She hosted UFV's International Women's Day event on March 8 <https://events.ufv.ca/events/international-womens-day-4/>. She took part on a panel for the International Women's Day for the Fraser Valley Labour Council. The Squiala School in Chilliwack invited her to speak to their K-12 students about science and biology. Carin filmed a segment for Strange Evidence back in November which premiered this week on the Science Channel this month: <https://www.sciencechannel.com/tv-shows/strange-evidence/>. On March 24, she led a nature walk through the Chilliwack Community forest with the Chilliwack Metis Association. On March 27, she spoke at High Ground 2021 (a civic governance forum put on by the Columbia Institute) on Creative Approaches to Science Education. She finished off the month by hosting a science communication workshop for the Youth Innovation Challenge with Science Fair BC <https://www.sciencefairs.ca/>.

### Chemistry Department

**Dr. Noham Weinberg** presented the work of students **Darryl Wilson** and **Jordan Penner** at the virtual March meeting of the American Physical Society (APS) on March 15, 2021. **Dr. Jacob Spooner** was co-author and he also gave an oral presentation on March 16, 2021 for which Noham was also a co-author.

### Mathematics & Statistics Department

**Dr. Kseniya Garaschuk** wrote a piece for the Canadian Math Society Notes highlighting some events on her journey of indigenization teaching mathematics <https://notes.math.ca/en/article/some-stories-from-my-journey/>

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

**Dr. Olav Lian** participated as an invited speaker on March 2 in the Science Talks series <https://blogs.ufv.ca/blog/2021/03/olav-lian-to-speak-march-2-in-science-talks-series/> presenting on his research and how our physical environment is adapting to climate change.

**Drs. Afia Raja** and **Scott Shupe** presented at the Western Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers hosted remotely by the Department of Geography & Environment at the University of Lethbridge March 5-6, 2021. The conference program can be found here: <https://www.uleth.ca/artsci/geography/conference-program>.

On February 24, **Dr. Cherie Enns** was invited to speak at the Planning Institute of British Columbia (PIBC) as part of a Webinar Series, The Impact of COVID-19 on Planning. Her talk was entitled *How COVID-19 is changing the way we plan Cities as we move toward a healthier, spatially just and more sustainable outcome*. Cherie has collaborated with **Miranda Ting** from the School of Creative Arts on a course integrating social justice, equity and community resilience into placemaking. This course, GEOG 464/GD 464 Community Resilience: Pandemics and Placemaking, will be offered Summer 2021.

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

**Garaschuk, K.** (2021) *Some Stories from My Journey*. CMS Notes. March Issue.

<https://notes.math.ca/en/article/some-stories-from-my-journey/>

**Raja, A.Z.** (2021) *An assessment of Abbotsford community needs pre and post COVID-19*. WDCAG Conference March 2021.

**Shupe, S.** (2021) *3D modeling of environmental features in Kanaka Creek Watershed with a consumer-level drone*. WDCAG Conference March 2021.

**Spooner, J., Weinberg, N.** (2021) *Reaction Profiles and Energy Surfaces of Compressed Species Under Extreme Conditions*. APS March Meeting 2021.

Wilson, D., Penner, J., Spooner, J., Weinberg, N. (2021) *High Pressure Vibrational Spectra of Molecules via MD Simulations*. APS March Meeting 2021.