

Monthly Report to the Provost – Faculty of Science – October 2025

Engaging Learners

Dr. Renee Prasad - Agriculture Pizza Party - 26 students attended (a big number for our little program). Students got information about CECE programs, Advising, Academic Success Centre, the MoVement Studio, BC Institute of Agrologists, Research in Ag, and the Agriculture Student Association. Students networked and enjoyed pizza and drinks.

A huge congratulations to Caio Nicholson de Figueiroa, Biochem major, for receiving the 2025 Gordon Sato & Wally McKeehan Award at the In Vitro Biology conference held in Norfolk, Virginia. His paper: Development and Utilization of a Rainbow Trout Skeletal Muscle Cell Line to Study the Physiology of Ammonia was submitted for consideration and won.

Dr. Lenore Newman, Director, Food and Agriculture Institute, took part in a European project to develop an international exhibit on the history and future of food, based in Copenhagen, Denmark, in June 2025.

Dr. Alesandros Glaros, Research Associate, Food and Agriculture Institute, hosted a table at *March for Sustainability's* Early Earth Day event, focusing on the FAI's vertical agriculture research and growing systems. Dr. Alesandros Glaros also ran a workshop entitled *Bubbling Bliss: A Fermentation Fiesta*, offering a hands-on workshop teaching how to make sourdough and ferment locally grown produce.

Dr. Stan Manu, Associate Professor, Math & Stats, was invited to give a talk at Tonga National University's School of Education's annual public lecture series. Dr. Manu's talk titled "Re-examining Language Use within a Bilingual Mathematics Classroom in Tonga" was attended by members of the university academia, students, and members of the public.

Transforming Lives

Dr. Cherie Enns, Associate Professor, Planning, Geography, and Environmental Studies Department was selected and interviewed by IDRC. They are to be featured in a final Women RISE Impact Brief. Dr. Enns also met and presented to IDRC during her visit to Kenya in August. The app works, but scaling it up requires further funding, and CUK is exploring several options. See page 11 of the program 4th International One-Health Conference, Rome, September 30- October 2, 2025 "Integral Ecology as a light to foster the One-Health approach"

https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fonehealthconference.it%2Fprogram_2025%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cscience%40ufv.ca%7C785e17e6a2f3409e7d0008ddee1e673d%7Ca3d10b1dc22648f9a6db976df918187e%7C1%7C0%7C638928536548465750%7CUnknown%7CTWFpDr.LenoUniversity

Dr. Lenore Newman, Director, Food and Agriculture Institute, Evaluated incoming companies for this year's "Creative Destruction Labs: Rockies" Agriculture intake, September 2025. The Creative Destruction Lab (CDL) is a nonprofit organization that delivers an objectives-based program for massively scalable, seed-stage, science- and technology-based companies, organized through the

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University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management. Dr. Newman is a mentor with the CDL, categorized as a Scientist in the 'AgriFood' stream, with 'Rockies' being her designated location.

Building Community

The Dean's Office recently hosted the annual Science Social, bringing together over 100 students, faculty, and student groups for an evening of connection and celebration. The event offered students a chance to explore the wide range of student-led clubs associated with the Faculty of Science, meet professors in a relaxed setting, and connect with peers from across departments. Attendees enjoyed games, won fun prizes, and helped themselves to plenty of pizza and pop. It is an event that helps set a positive tone for the new academic year.

Dr. Alesandros Glaros, Research Associate, Food and Agriculture Institute, hosted a sourdough fermentation workshop at Archway Community Services in August 2025. The workshop was attended by 15 community members.

In Spring 2025, Dr. Lenore Newman, Director, Food and Agriculture Institute, took part in UFV's Chilliwack Library's Science Café alongside Chilliwack City Councillor and UFV alumnus Jason Lum. Both speakers discussed the challenges of managing land in a rapidly growing region with limited space. Dr. Newman highlighted UFV's One Health report, which adopts an interdisciplinary lens to tackle complex health challenges by connecting human, animal, and environmental well-being.

Dr. Lenore Newman, Director, Food and Agriculture Institute, gave the keynote speech at the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) BC's Council's 36th AGM held in Abbotsford from May 2 – 4, 2025.

Dr. Lenore Newman, Director, Food and Agriculture Institute, was named as one of the 2025 Festival Authors for the Denman Island Readers and Writers Festival and gave a talk during the festival.

Dr. Stefania Pizzirani, Associate Director, Food and Agriculture Institute, was invited to attend a closed meet-and-greet with the Governor of Colorado and Colorado's Commissioner of Agriculture on June 9, 2025. Areas of discussion were emerging technologies and innovations, agricultural needs, and opportunities for collaboration.

Drs. Lenore Newman and Stefania Pizzirani, Food and Agriculture Institute, held Grounded Innovation 2.0 event on May 21, 2025. The event brought together researchers, policymakers, Stó:lō Elders and knowledge keepers, and industry leaders to explore what's on the horizon for agri-food innovation in Canada and the Fraser Valley specifically. The event celebrated the launch of UFV's Chilliwack campus as the new western hub for the Sustainable Food Systems for Canada (SF4C) national platform.

In May, the Food and Agriculture Institute facilitated a series of ɬ:westel qe tótel:exwtel sq'ep ("teaching each other and learning together gathering") events as part of its four-year research project on The Social Implications of Agri-Genomics: Ensuring a Just Transition to Climate-Resilient Agricultural and Food

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Systems in Canada funded by Genome Canada and Genome BC. This series of events was a cross-cultural exchange between industry partners [Maia Farms](#) and [QuantoTech Solutions](#), the Stó:lō Community Advisory Council, project team members, and collaborators. The exchange included tours of industry partners' facilities in Vancouver and on-the-land learning about traditional and contemporary Stó:lō foodways and wellness practices in Stó:lō Téméxw, including an Upriver Place Names Tour guided by Si:yémiya, Dr. Albert (Sonny) McHalsie.

Dr. Sandra Gillespie, Associate Professor, Biology, is organizing and hosting the annual meeting of the Entomological Society of BC at UFV (Abbotsford Campus) in November. Dr. Gillespie will be the plenary speaker for the meeting.

Dr. Sandra Gillespie, Associate Professor, Biology was interviewed for the following article: Isabella, J. (2025, August 12). *Plight of the bumblebees*. bioGraphic. Retrieved from <https://www.biographic.com/plight-of-the-bumblebees/>

List of Publications (UFV student names underlined>

Laxdal, A., Þorgeirsson, S., Saavedra, J. M., **Karunanayaka, R. C.**, Ivarsson, A., Sigurgeirsson, Ó., & Haugen, T. (2025). Is it time for a more analytical approach? Suboptimal shot selection strategies in handball. *International Journal of Sports Science & Coaching*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/17479541251369049>

Gio Ferson M. Bautista, Oliver Musl, Michael L. A. E. Easson, Lars H. Kruse, **Harley Gordon**, Markus Bacher, Ivan Sumerskii, Aude A. Watrelot, Jörg Bohlmann, Antje Potthast, Thomas Rosenau, and Orlando J. Rojas. Strong Association between Proanthocyanidins and Polysaccharides in the Cell Walls of Western Redcedar Bark
Biomacromolecules Article ASAP. DOI: 10.1021/acs.biomac.5c00271
| <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.biomac.5c00271?ref=pdf>

Attrée, E., Newell, R., & **Glaros, A.** (2025). Intersection of agri-genomics and agriculture 5.0 technologies: Role for life cycle assessment. Transdisciplinary Research on Integrated Approaches to Sustainability (TRIAS) lab. Royal Roads University. <http://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.35387.53282>

Dring, C., Newell, R., & **Pizzirani, S.** (2025). Urban agriculture planning education programs: Needs and opportunities. Food and Agriculture Institute, University of the Fraser Valley. <http://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.10852.85124>

Glaros, A. (2025). The proverbial elephant in the petri-dish: futures for cellular agriculture science in an uncertain world. *Communications Biology* 8, 592 (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s42003-025-07976-2>

Imam, M., **Glaros, A.**, Chen, C., Dsouza, A., Brander, A., Ferguson, R. (2025). A Carbon-Centric Evaluation Framework for Building-Integrated Agriculture: A Comparison of Three Farm Types and Building Standards. *Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems*. Volume 9. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fsufs.2025.1533433>

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Pizzirani, S. (2025). "The meaning of our meals", Science 387, 1359-1359.

<https://doi.org/10.1126/science.adu6373>

Vakhshoori, S. V., **Glaros, A.**, Newell, R. (2025). Farming futures in a changing climate: Spatial shifts in agricultural suitability across British Columbia under multiple climate change scenarios. Transdisciplinary Research on Integrated Approaches to Sustainability (TRIAS) lab, Royal Roads University, & Food and Agriculture Institute, University of the Fraser Valley. [http://doi.org/ 10.13140/RG.2.2.17536.55040](http://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.17536.55040)

Perkins & Will. (2025, June). *The resource circularity report: Reimagining cities as regenerative ecosystems* (Contributors from the Food and Agriculture Institute: **Glaros, A., Pizzirani, S., & White, C.**). Perkins & Will. <https://perkinswill.com/news/new-release-the-resource-circularity-report-reimagining-cities-as-regenerative-ecosystems/>