

FAI NEWSLETTER

Seasonal Newsletter of the Food and Agriculture Institute

Kring, A. [photographer], 2020

Highlighting FAI's Post-Doc Dr. Alesandros Glaros

Meet Dr. Alesandros Glaros, Post-doc at the Food and Agriculture Institute and lead of Vertical Agriculture research at the FAI! Earning a PhD under the supervision of Dr. Evan Fraser and Dr. Eric Nost at the University of Guelph, Dr. Glaros has integrated himself into UFV both in his research - working closely with Dr. Lenore Newman, Director of the FAI and Dr. Glaros' postdoctoral supervisor, and as a Sessional Instructor of several courses in UFV's Planning, Geography, and Environmental Studies.

Dr. Glaros' work involves various collaborations across many projects addressing questions surrounding the Potential Role of Vertical Agriculture in Sustainable and Resilient Community Food Systems. The research team's current work addresses the following topics: ag-tech perceptions, willingness to try/buy vertically grown products, and food system planning with the goal of mapping and modelling land use scenarios for vertical agriculture development and deployment in regions including the Fraser Valley.

"WE ARE SUPER EXCITED ABOUT THE POTENTIAL FOR VERTICAL AGRICULTURE IN BC AND BEYOND. THE QUESTION WE ARE TRYING TO ANSWER, IS HOW DO WE IMPLEMENT THIS TECH IN SUSTAINABLE, ETHICAL, AND EFFICIENT WAYS?"

- DR. ALESANDROS GLAROS

Collectively, the FAI team is grateful to both live and work on the unceded, ancestral, and traditional territory of the Stó:lō.



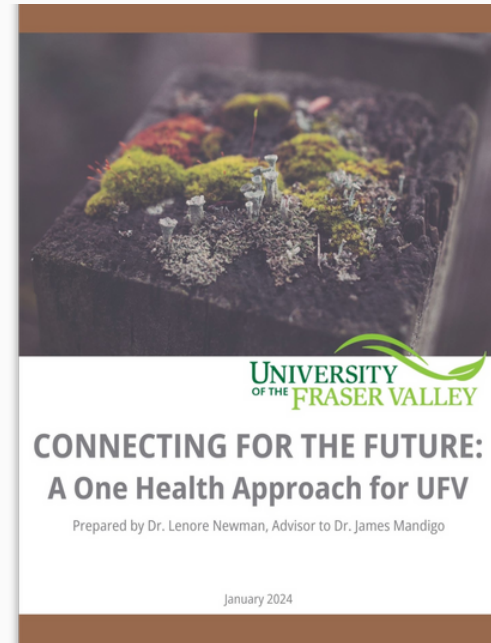
Above: Dr. Alesandros Glaros gives a microlecture at UFV's inaugural Post-Doc Talk November 2023

This winter, Dr. Glaros along with academic and industry collaborators ([QuantoTech](#) and [i-Open Technologies](#)), will run a series of focus groups with stakeholders and the public to showcase their research in vertical agriculture planning and demonstrate different land use patterns potentially suitable for multiple forms of vertical agriculture development.

Stay tuned for several new and exciting vertical agriculture-related project updates from Dr. Glaros! Including more to come on the recently funded RBC workshop/virtual farm simulator. For more of Dr. Glaros' current resources and project outcomes visit the FAI's [Vertical Farming](#) page.

A One Health Approach for UFV

One Health is an initiative that has emerged over the past few decades as a result of rising zoonotic diseases (including COVID-19 and SARS), and the connections between human and animal health, agriculture, and collective impacts on overall system health. One Health is the collaborative study of complex issues from seemingly diverse areas of study and frames wellness as a holistic result where humans, animals, and the environment thrive together. This initiative has already proven its effectiveness in Canadian and international universities and now UFV hopes to build a One Health presence. Read more about [One Health Approach for UFV](#), prepared by Dr. Newman.



FAI Faculty Associate Dr. Superle's 20 Harvest Challenge Exhibit

Congratulations to Dr. Michelle Superle, Faculty Associate of the FAI who wrapped up a second exhibit at the Reach Gallery Museum this November. The exhibition featured art from Dr. Superle's rights-based literary program Dig for Your Rights!, engaging children and youth to participate in their community's food system sustainably and food security endeavours. The exhibit also featured artifacts from the program's Food Museum Challenge collection showcasing tools and techniques that have helped make regional and household food security possible for centuries. Visit [20 Harvest Challenge](#) to learn about Dr. Superle's

initiatives to improve sustainability and regional food security in BC.

Dr. Superle is also a contributing author in Edible Magazine, recently featuring Dr. Lenore Newman's new book [Dinner on Mars](#). Visit [Edible Vancouver](#) to read this and more of Dr. Superle's articles including an article entitled [Up We Grow - Opportunities grow in vertical agriculture](#).

January 4, 2024

UFV leading the charge toward vertical agriculture

Current, Events, Newsroom



Lenore Newman likes lettuce when it's crisp and green and tasty, but good lettuce is hard to find. Most of the lettuce we eat is brought up from California, and Newman, director of UFV's Food and Agriculture Institute (FAI), finds it doesn't measure up.

Recent Publications News and Media

Hanley, L., Zai, B., Reisiger, C., & Glaros, A. (2023). [Chapter 26: Cellular agriculture and public health, nutrition, and food security](#). In [Cellular Agriculture Technology, Society, Sustainability and Science](#). (Vol. 1, pp. 407–422). Elsevier.

Newell, R. & Glaros, A. (2024). [Sustainable food systems, development paths, and scenarios for cellular agriculture](#). (Vol. 1, pp. 29–48). Elsevier.

Newman, L. (2024). [Connecting for the Future: A One Health Approach for UFV](#). University of the Fraser Valley.

UFV Today. (2024, January 4). [UFV leading the charge toward vertical agriculture](#).