

**MEMO**

**FROM:** Dr. James Mandigo, Provost and VP Academic  
**DATE:** May 31, 2022  
**SUBJECT:** Senate Provost's Report

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**COVID-19 Updates**

With the repeal of several health orders on April 8, 2022 as announced by the PHO, the Return to Campus Guidelines that were produced in collaboration with BC's PSI institutions, the BCCDC, the Ministry of Health, and the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training and which have guided our approach to managing COVID-19 over the past 2 years, have now been retired. They have been replaced by a more streamlined approach as outlined by the BCCDC [see [Post-Secondary \(bccdc.ca\)](https://www.bccdc.ca)] that provides consistency across all sectors.

**Strategic Enrolment Management Plan**

Results from the various consultations regarding the Strategic Enrolment Management Plan Framework are in the final analysis stages and an update report on SEM Plan progress will be presented to Senate in June.

**Sr. Administrative Searches**

The SAC supporting the search for a new AVP Teaching and Learning had their inaugural meeting and provided feedback on the job posting available on [UFV's Career Site](#). SACs are also being formed to begin the search for a new Dean of the Faculty Science and new Dean of the Faculty of Applied and Technical Studies. Dr. Lucy Lee and Dr. Peter Geller, the current Deans of FoS and FATS, have appointment terms that end on August 31, 2023.

**Major Teaching Awards!**

I am overjoyed to be able to recognize Dr. Awneet Sivia from the Teacher Education Department as UFV's first recipient of Canada's most prestigious award for teaching excellence in higher education – the [3M National Teaching Fellowship Award](#). Dr. Sivia is also one of the inaugural recipients of the [West Coast Teaching Award](#)! Congratulations to Dr. Sivia on being UFV's first recipient for both awards that recognize her passion, leadership, mentorship, and commitment to the scholarship of teaching excellence.

To align my report with the Integrated Strategic Plan, I have reorganized the activities across the Academic Units under the Mission and Goals of Engaging Learners, Transforming Lives, and Building Communities. Thank you to all those who contributed to providing these updates from the Faculties and Academic Units.

**Engaging Learners: Yoystexw ye totilthet**

*Provide inclusive learning environments for everyone*

- Assistant Professor in Global Development Studies Dr. Geetanjali Gill has been awarded a [New Frontiers in Research Fund Special Call - Innovative Approaches to Research in the Pandemic Context grant](#) for a two-

year research project entitled: “Innovative community- and youth-led approaches to collect and analyze qualitative data and to support the empowerment of marginalized girls in the pandemic context in Mali and Senegal”.

- Arts Studies Sessional Instructor Dr. Chelsey Laird participated in a pilot project on Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL). The 7-week COIL pilot program was created in partnership with a colleague from the University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific (UMAP) group at Prince of Songkla University (PSU) in Thailand, and it was built into the ARTS299 course this semester. 10 UFV students self-selected to participate, and they worked in small groups with PSU students looking at the ARTS299 curriculum through an intercultural lens. The group project was to complete a [video project about the benefits of COIL](#), the skills this type of engagement built for the students, and how it might impact their future careers.
- GDS BA student, Bailea Taylor has written a [blog article for BC Council for International Cooperation](#) on rural women’s leadership on localized climate solutions.
- The FoS hosted the in-person Fraser Valley Regional Science Fair April 6-9, 2022. Students from K-12 from across the Fraser Valley competed for prizes and chance to represent the Fraser Valley with Team BC at the Virtual Canada Wide Science Fair in May <https://youthscience.ca/science-fairs/cwsf/virtual-2022/>. Awards Day began with our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Science Fair Open House where we welcomed the participants, their friends, and families to tour our science labs and take part in demonstrations hosted by some of our amazing UFV faculty and students. Read more on our science blog: <https://blogs.ufv.ca/science/2022/04/12/ufv-hosts-the-29th-annual-fraser-valley-regional-science-fair/>
- Culinary Arts students attended the BC Culinary Schools Competition at Vancouver Community College on April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020. This year’s theme was an Italian Dish Competition with UFV’s Team winning in the “Consumer’s Favourite” category.
- Shirley Hardman, Senior Advisor on Indigenous Affairs; Betty Peters, Director of Indigenous Student Centre; and Daryl Smith, Director of UFV International, participated in a Community Connections trip to Northern Arizona University (NAU) Native American Cultural Centre (NACC) in preparation of the Indigenous Global Learning Collective initiative. Year #1 will culminate in a study tour to that destination and will see 7 students from UFV, 6 from Douglas College, and 4 from Langara taking part.
- The Centre for Education and Research on Aging (CERA) launched the sixth episode of their podcast [Gero Nurses: Tales From the Front- Episode 6 – Conversation with Mariko Sakamoto on understanding the importance of person-centred care](#).
- Four BSN preceptorship students participated in the Emergency Department Pathway – a partnership initiated with Fraser Health to enable students to preceptor in the ER Dept. and receive Fraser Health education and support to prepare for entry-level practice ready to work upon graduation.
- Congratulations to Lorne Mackenzie’s students for their achievements related to Business 405 (Business Management Simulation): Tushar Malhotra, Aryan Gulsia, Gaurja Kaytal and Ankit Nirankari achieved the Global Top 100 ranking tied for the 43<sup>rd</sup> best Overall simulation (to date) score performance out of 3585 teams from 189 colleges/universities (undergraduate and masters) participating in the simulation world-wide. More information here: <https://www.bsg-online.com/home/stats/top-performers/prior/2337>

- Dr. Jon Thomas, director of EFCIE, was co-author of a paper published in Nature Nanotechnology, focusing on rapid response through entrepreneurial capabilities of academic scientists:  
<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41565-022-01103-6>
- Dr. Sarah Beaulieu awarded SASI/CHASI Research Fellowship in Anthropology: Working alongside the Community Health and Social Innovation Hub (CHASI) and South Asian Studies Institute (SASI) teams, Dr. Beaulieu will undertake applied anthropological projects, with an initial focus on histories of South Asian Canadian families with ties to East Africa.
- Brysen Becker (BFA, GDD Major), Justine Robinson (BMA) and Manmeet Nagra (BMA) won the [CityStudio Team Award](#) for their GD357 Digital Project Management course project “Promoting Food Security” at a Hubbub event on April 12<sup>th</sup>.
- UFV Theatre wrapped up the 2021-2022 season with the *Emerging Directors’ Showcase* from April 28-30, 2022. The showcase was sold out each night and was well-received by audiences. The final projects were 10-minute plays presented live on campus by UFV Theatre’s fourth-year directing class. The student directors involved were Mia Davison, Berent Erkol, Béatrice Frenette, Sarah Green, Adam Nelson, Anatole Smith, and Keegan Zaporozan, under the mentorship of UFV assistant professor Shelley Liebembuk.
- UFV SoCA and GDD collaborated to host the third annual *Interpret Creative and Performing Arts Festival* on April 29. The highly successful event celebrated the emerging talent of students and graduates in Visual Arts, Media Arts, Film, Graphic Design and Theatre. *Interpret* had a great turnout from the UFV community and beyond with over 500 people who registered to attend. Audience members were excited to experience the artworks, designs, screenings, performances, and the food by Stó:lō *Catering*.
- Young Authors’ Conference at the Chilliwack CEP campus was a huge success: organized by English Associate Professor Dr. Heather McAlpine, the Young Author’s Conference welcomed 50 middle school students from around Chilliwack to take part in four creative writing workshops designed and led by UFV students.
- Leading the way in teaching career development, Assistant Professor of Integrative Career & Capstone Learning [Dr. Candy Ho was awarded the Career Practitioner of the Year 2022](#) by the [BC Career Development Association](#). Recognized for her outstanding work, Dr. Ho became an influential voice in career development by creating a unique approach to career development and social justice leveraging the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as a framework to help students consider their purpose and how it aligns with their career aspirations.
- Congratulations to UFV Welding student Connor Crevier on winning the Skills Canada provincial title in Welding, with his creation of BC ferry vessel the Salish Raven. Connor is a dual credit student, and took the first part of his Welding program with the Chilliwack School District’s Sardis Secondary school and then came to UFV. And thanks to faculty coaches Chelsea Fulford and Matt Olafson. Link to Chilliwack Progress article: [https://www.theprogress.com/news/sardis-student-wins-provincial-welding-title/?fbclid=IwAR1vYAiP-DF81M42gyBRL\\_QYMMhAxaZmeRnLZo3R8jFINAslZkjWB2uHUWQ](https://www.theprogress.com/news/sardis-student-wins-provincial-welding-title/?fbclid=IwAR1vYAiP-DF81M42gyBRL_QYMMhAxaZmeRnLZo3R8jFINAslZkjWB2uHUWQ)
- Seabird Island high school Explore Trades program started on March 26 with 11 students. Students attend classes at both UFV and Seabird Island Highschool.
- Celebrate Learning Event on May 3 -4 – hosted by Teaching Specialist Indigenization Lorna Andrews, and Educational Developer Michelle Johnson. The Celebrate Learning – Indigenization event on May 3<sup>rd</sup> included concepts related to decolonization, Indigenization, and Reconciliation efforts occurring at UFV. These were

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demonstrated through relationship-building, infusing Indigenous worldviews and/or Indigenous Ways of Knowing and being into the classroom. The second annual *Celebrate Learning at UFV* event was held May 4<sup>th</sup>. This event recognized and celebrated adaptability, ingenuity, and dedication to students' learning. The goal of both events was to provide an opportunity for faculty to share aspects of their course with their colleagues. By the end of the event, participants learned new knowledge, strategies, and awareness of what their peers have accomplished over the past year.

- We are pleased to announce the release of our second issue of the Faculty of Science Magazine <https://issuu.com/goufv/docs/fos.magazine.2022>. It not only spotlights some of our amazing students but highlights some of the wonderful science that takes place here at UFV. To view our first edition, please visit: [https://issuu.com/goufv/docs/fos\\_2019-2020/1?ff](https://issuu.com/goufv/docs/fos_2019-2020/1?ff).

### **Transforming Lives: Ayeqet kw'e shxwaylexws**

*Provide opportunities for people to discover, develop, and share their gifts while also recognizing and celebrating the gifts of others*

- Dr. Justin Lee, Assistant Professor of Biology, was recently awarded an NSERC Discovery grant for 5 years as well as an early investigator supplement that should allow him to continue work with our undergraduate students providing unparalleled research experience.
- Several Science students were recipients of the NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Awards. CHEMISTRY: Connor Frey (Dr. Golfam Ghafourifar, Faculty Supervisor) and Rachel Sailer (Dr. Linus Chiang, Faculty Supervisor); BIOLOGY: Heather Kelly (Dr. Justin Lee, Faculty Supervisor), Ryan Goldbach (Dr. Lucy Lee, Faculty Supervisor); and SLUEC: Vanessa Brewer (Dr. Olav Lian, Faculty Supervisor).
- The School of Trades hosted the Regional Skills Competition on March 3, bringing high school students from across the Fraser Valley together for competitions in Electrical, Automotive, Carpentry and Welding at the Trades and Technology Centre. This marked the return to an in person Regional Skills Competition since COVID-19 resulted in remote-learning events over the past 2 years. See <https://blogs.ufv.ca/blog/2022/03/skills-canada-competition-returns-to-ufv-after-covid-hiatus/>
- May 17 | PARC presents a one-day Zoom workshop on Recognizing and responding to brain injuries among survivors of intimate partner violence in the Fraser Valley.
- Co-Chairs of the Faculty Health Science Council Standing Committee on EDI Jason Brandenburg and Cindy Schultz met with Coalition of African, Caribbean and Black Nurses in BC to discuss EDI issues facing Nursing and other Allied Health professions and academic programs.
- Nursing students continue to provide education and training for the Take Home Naloxone program. Another nursing student group provided supports and education or staff working at the Salvation Army shelter.
- Yayoi, a Social Service Worker diploma student, was honoured in a ceremony at the end of her practicum with the Fraser Valley Aboriginal Child and Family Services Society in the Stó:lō Family Strengthening program. The ceremony was conducted by Joanne Hugh, a graduate of the diploma program and FVACFSS' Family & Cultural Connections Worker, in collaboration with her team of family preservation workers.
- Launched on April 12, 2022, by the South Asian Studies Institute (SASI), the [South Asian Canadian Legacy Projects](#) it is a one-of-a-kind initiative that aims to raise awareness and knowledge of the valuable

contributions of South Asian Canadians to British Columbia's diverse cultures, history, heritage, economy, and society. NOTE: Dr. Satwinder Bains will be leading June's [Provost Lunch and Learn](#) on the Legacy Project

- CHASI launches [Channelling Youth Voices Documentary](#): Channeling Youth Voices, a year-long participatory research collaboration between CHASI researchers and Chilliwack youth, screened on April 27 to an engaged crowd at Chilliwack's Conversation on Children and Youth, hosted by the Chilliwack Child and Youth Committee. The documentary short is formed with video submissions from participants, covering topics such as mental and/or physical health, transitioning out of government care, loss of a main support figure, impacts of incarceration, substance use, poverty, and homelessness, told through youth sharing their daily lives.
- Our Enactus UFV team h, under the leadership of Dr Saeed Rahman has won this year's the Most Improved Team Award (Out of 71 other schools). For the first time, our UFV Enactus is now qualified for the National final ceremony that will be held from Friday, September 30, 2022 to Sunday, October 2, 2022 in Toronto (Venue: The Westin Harbour Castle).
- CERA Director, Dr. Shelley Canning, appeared with Aaron Pete on his \_Bigger Than Me Podcast\_ to discuss careers in nursing, the challenges health care professionals face, and what improvements can be made. Watch the podcast.
- UFV has become a member of the Community-Based Research Canada Network. Faculty members are being recruited to lead the initiative on campus.
- Shirley Hardman was a finalist for the YWCA Women of Distinction Award in the category of Reconciliation in Action

### **Building Community: Thayt kw'e st'elt'elawtexw**

*Collaborate and partner in pursuits that enrich the lives of all people on our campuses, in our local communities, and beyond*

- [Chilliwack youth share their stories in collaboration with CHASI](#): In late March, Channeling Youth Voices, a year-long participatory research collaboration between CHASI researchers and Chilliwack youth, hosted a celebratory thank-you dinner for all the youth involved in the project. The event was put on at the Chilliwack Cyrus Centre by youth, for youth, and featured a documentary co-created by eight Chilliwack youth and CHASI's Greg Laychak.
- Environmental Studies student, Aysha McConkey, is volunteering with the Abbotsford-Mission Nature Club to set up maternity bat 'condos' and roosting boxes at Willband Creek Park. She will continue to work on bat conservation this summer. <https://www.abbynews.com/community/abbotsford-mission-nature-club-opens-new-homes-for-bats-at-local-park/>
- Dr. Lucy Lee had the opportunity to engage with a research group in Norway and participated in a Gill Model workshop as an expert scientific advisor. She also made a presentation at the Norwegian Veterinary institute (see details under Sample List of Presentations). She also invited Dr. Anita Solhaug, Senior Researcher from the Norwegian Veterinary Institute to our campus, and she will be coming here in May/June.
- In collaboration with the UFV Student Union Society, Dr. Rita Dhungel and four BSW practicum students raised \$410 for Ukraine from a fundraising bake sale on March 31 at the Abbotsford Campus

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- The students in History 396: History of Residential Schools in Canada, installed an exhibition at the UFV Abbotsford campus entitled *Beckoning Home: Honouring the Lost Children* to commemorate the children who died in those institutions.
- SASI Coordinator and History Sessional Professor Dr. Sharanjit Kaur provided the keynote address for an exhibit opening titled “The Sikhs: Faith, History and People” at the Royal BC Museum. During the launch event she also gave an [interview to Check News](#) about the power of art and Sikh history.
- On May 2<sup>nd</sup>, the University Librarian, Camille Callison co-chaired the National Indigenous Knowledge and Language Alliance (NIKLA-ANCLA) national event, *Respectful Terminology: Creating the National Framework*, attended by over 500 participants centered on identifying the next steps to develop a framework for respectful terminology and aimed at bringing the communities together to walk the path of creating a national Indigenous-led framework for respectful terminology. Recording will soon be available on [nikla-ancla.com](http://nikla-ancla.com).
- First Nations Intrinsic Relationship With Land Presentation –Lorna Andrews, Teaching and Learning Specialist Indigenization, was asked to present at the Early Childhood Education Conference, Outdoor Pedagogy: Change makers from diverse perspectives, on the topic First Nations Intrinsic relationship with land. This was a conference offered province wide for early childhood educators. zoom for an hour with 43 participants.
- On Friday, May 27 Dr. Lucy Lee announced our FoS Awesome Achievement Awards for 2022. Congratulations to Dr. Mariano Mapili (SLUEC) and Dr. Sandra Gillespie (Biology) Co-Recipients of the Awesome Achievement Award for overall excellence in academic endeavors. Steve Marsh (SLUEC) - FoS Teaching Excellence; Dr. Justin Lee (Biology) – Research Excellence; Dr. Vanessa Radzimski (Math & Stats) – Outreach Excellence; Dr. Renee Prasad (Agriculture) -Superb Performance of Service Duties (Faculty); Shawn Millar (Chemistry) – Superb Performance of Service Duties (Staff). Read more: <https://blogs.ufv.ca/science/2022/05/27/congratulations-to-our-2022-faculty-of-science-aaa-award-recipients>
- This month certified dental assistant (CDA) students have been participating in our spring preventive public clinics. During these clinics, students provide high quality, professional, preventive care services at low cost to the public. The students provide services to children and adults that include taking radiographs, coronal polishing, topical fluoride applications, the placement of fissure sealants, along with personalized oral hygiene instructions.

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Dr. James Mandigo

Provost & VP Academic