

MEMO

FROM: Dr. James Mandigo, Provost and VP Academic
DATE: November 7, 2022
SUBJECT: Senate Provost's Report

Ey Swayel

This past month, I had the opportunity to represent UFV in Vietnam and in India. Myself, along with Dr. Chris Schinckus and David McGuire met with many University officials in both countries to discuss areas of collaboration. Our discussions focused on potential pathway opportunities for students to come to UFV, exchange opportunities for UFV students, and research collaborations amongst faculty members. While student recruitment in India remains a strong international partner for UFV, Vietnam is quickly emerging as a global leader in pathway opportunities for students. Many of their Universities deliver their programs in English, deliver high quality academic programs, provide exceptional student supports, and have strong quality assurance processes in place. As a result, there are several opportunities that emerged from our discussions that lend themselves to possible articulation agreements with several UFV programs whereby students would complete their first two years at universities in Vietnam and then come to UFV to complete their degrees.

In India, I had the opportunity to visit the Fraser Valley India (FVI) campus for the first time in my role as Provost. I was immediately impressed with FVI's commitment to student success and faculty excellence. During the Awards Ceremony, I met many students who have excelled both in and out of the classroom while students at UFV. Many of these students received awards for their academic excellence, impact in the community, and entrepreneurship stemming from opportunities through their course work. My congratulations to all of those at FVI who have fostered such a positive learning environment for students and for all of those here at UFV who have also played a vital mentorship and active role in the development of FVI over the past 17 years.

I would also like to extend my sincere gratitude to all those who participated in UFV's Open House on October 22nd. Although my trip to Vietnam and India prevented me from attending the Open House in person, I can tell you that I heard the excitement and energy from this event half-way around the world. My thanks and gratitude to everyone from the UFV community who welcomed over 1000 visitors to the UFV campus that day and for representing all that is great about our University.

Finally, please join me in congratulating Shirley Anne Swelchalot Shwwha:yahtel Hardman as UFV's inaugural Associate Vice-President, Indigenous Affairs. Shirley has been UFV's leading force to infusing Indigenization across UFV for many decades. This new role will ensure that UFV's commitments to Truth and Reconciliation are at the forefront of UFV's journey towards decolonization and Indigenization. I, and many others across UFV, have been the recipient many times of the gift of knowledge and understanding that Shirley has shared with us during her time at UFV. We are so honoured to have Shirley continue to lead UFV on this journey.

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

- The Political Science Department is pleased to host Dr. Noah Schwartz’s book launch [“On Target - Gun Culture, Storytelling, and the NRA.”](#) Dr. Schwartz is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of the Fraser Valley. His new book explores why the NRA is so influential and how we can understand the group’s impact on firearms policy in the United States. E-mail natasha.tvete@ufv.ca to RSVP for his book launch on November 3rd, 4:00 -6:00 PM, at the UFV Abbotsford Campus, Building A, room 225.
- SoCA Director and Theatre Associate Professor Dr. Heather Davis-Fisch received the 2022 Patrick O’Neill Award for best-edited collection of essays from the Canadian Association for Theatre Research. Heather received the award with Kimberly Richards for their issue of *Canadian Theatre Review* on *Extractivism and Performance* (published in Spring 2020).
- SoCA Assistant Professor Melanie Jones was awarded a Research and Creation Grant in the Canada Council Explore and Create Program. The grant was to write the first draft of a short experimental film called “Astronomical Bodies”. The story will explore themes of isolation and human connection through three intertwined character journeys, set in the vastness of space.
- Theatre Associate Professor Parjad Sharifi is the winner of [the Jessie Richardson Theatre Award for Outstanding Lighting Design](#) in the Large Budget Division in 2022. This award is for the production of Dolly Parton’s Smoky Mountain Christmas Carol, directed by the Arts Club Theatre Company, which has also won the Outstanding Production of a Musical this year.
- SoCA Associate Professor Shel Stefan collaborated in a live art performance at the Leather Archives & Museum in Chicago, Illinois entitled *Drawing Tending Tying: an art & rope experiment* which was live streamed from the museum and was recently published. Read more about this performance on the [Leather Archives & Museum \(LA&M\), Instagram](#) and on the [Chicago Tribune website](#).
- SoCA Instructor Toni Latour in collaboration with Dr. Syrus Marcus Ware (Toronto) received \$70,000 from the Canada Council for the Arts and \$15,000 from the BC Arts Council for the creation and exhibition of *The Black Lives Matter Memorial Project*. They have commissioned an original new piece of classical music composed by Maestro Jason Ikeem Rodgers and performed by Orchestra Noir (Atlanta) for this project.
- The upcoming UFV Theatre Production *Ghosting of Sumas Lake*, directed by Dr. Michelle LaFlamme is a devised show based on the students’ own experiences of the Sumas Prairie Floods of 2021. The shows will be presented live on November 30, and December 1, 2, and 3, 2022 at the UFV Abbotsford Campus. More information about tickets and showtimes will become available via Eventbrite.
- *Ghosting of Sumas Lake* is a stand-alone exhibition featuring archival documents about the floods in the Sumas Prairie region. It is also a place to learn more about the UFV Theatre Fall show, *Ghosting of Sumas Lake*, directed by Dr. Michelle LaFlamme. The exhibition runs from November 16-December 7, 2022, from 12-5 pm, Monday-Friday at the S’eliyemetaxwtexw Art Gallery, UFV, Abbotsford, B136.
- UFV student and CHASI research assistant Sharon Strauss was recently announced as a [runner-up in an art contest for the massively popular video game Valorant](#). Her comic, *Gone Dark*, was selected by a panel of judges as a runner up, and was shared by the game developers with their millions of fans.

- GDS BA student, Nadia Bamford, has been selected by the College of Arts to attend the [UN Green Summit](#), Dec. 13-16, 2022, in Bangkok, Thailand.
- Working towards Indigenizing the curriculum of the culinary program, Chef Sian and her class observed and participated in the butchering of a moose with Kevin Garner, as part of the Professional Cook's unit on Butchering
- For Fall 2022, UFV welcomed 51 inbound exchange and 11 visiting exchange; UFV sent 15 students abroad on exchange
- Hosted by Victoria Surtees (Learning Specialist – Internationalization), Chat-I is a monthly interdisciplinary discussion forum designed to build a set of competencies for engaging in internationalization and creating dialogue to locate opportunities to dismantle barriers for international students. This month's session features a guest speaker, Lilach Marom, a specialist in the Punjabi international student experience.
- Claire Hay (Learning Specialist – Teaching) and Michelle Johnson (Educational Developer) completed four sessions of UFV Launch in October which include building community, introducing Indigenous perspectives, digital learning tools, active learning, and curriculum development. They have been joined by guests Lorna Andrews and Michael Batu to assist with conversations. The UFV Launch participants are engaged in interactive online sessions that use a combination of conversation, presentation, and activities to highlight ideas and concepts. Participants also complete weekly journal entries to reflect on their learning.
- Claire Hay (Learning Specialist – Teaching), Martin Warkentin, and Janell Sztuhar hosted the first *Open Education Working Group meeting* which took place on Oct 4. They discussed initiatives for growing the awareness of open education on campus and talked about an *open education data collection project* underway. Working with Cole Lindenbach (work-study student) they are collating textbook information from the UFV Bookstore for the Fall 2022 semester to identify courses that do not require textbooks. In addition, a request for information on the use of open education resources was sent to department heads. They will then cross-reference both sets of information to identify which courses/sections and instructors are using open education resources in the Fall 2022 semester.

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

- **Projections:** *Projections* is a collaborative multi-media creative project between researchers from the Centre for Education and Research on Aging and children (CERA), exploring questions arising from cross-generational beliefs about aging and dementia. The show runs from October 18 – November 4, 2022, at the S'eliyemetaxwtexw Art Gallery. A closing reception will be held on Thursday, November 3, from 4:00 - 6:00 pm. This event is free and open to the public.
- **Holocaust Remembrance Event – A Conversation with a Holocaust Survivor:** Join this conversation with Holocaust Survivor Alex Buckman and History Sessional Instructor Dr. Sebastian Huebel in honouring the victims of Nazi persecution. Witness a personal and powerful story of survival and courage while learning and reflecting on how we can engage in meaningful ways to build a better world.

Date: Wednesday, November 23, 2022

Time: 4:30-6:00pm, doors open at 4:00pm

Location: UFV Abbotsford campus, building B, B101

RSVP: Please [RSVP on Eventbrite](#) by November 22, 2022.

- Trades instructors and students forged some strong statements against war in Ukraine, constructing a "hedgehog" sculpture that is now displayed in front of CEP A Building in Chilliwack. <https://blogs.ufv.ca/blog/2022/10/ufv-welders-forge-strong-anti-war-symbol/>
- On Sept 23rd, 2022, all Teacher Education candidates in the BEd visited St. Mary's Residential School to learn, firsthand, from survivors and families of survivors about residential schools. The day that we visited the site, ground penetrating radar was occurring. This overall experience continues to be a profound one for students.
- Dr. Dave Harper gave a keynote address and workshop on October 11th on design innovation to equity-challenged women entrepreneurs. About 80 women CEOs of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), developing impact business initiatives, aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Developments Goals, mostly in health and/or education, were in attendance. They came from more than 40 countries from Western Africa to Central Asia, the Middle East, and Indonesia. The educational initiative is called the Tadamon Accelerator (<https://tadamon.community/>) and it is supported by the United Nations Development Program and the Islamic Development Bank.
- Dr. Jo Sheppard gave a presentation at the 2022 Physical and Health Education in BC Provincial Teachers Conference: Champions for Health Promoting Schools: The values of international experiential education experiences on the undergraduate student
- Open Access week occurred in October with an event and campaign in collaboration with the Student Union Society and The Learning Centre focused Open Access information sessions.
- Camille Callison presented at the webinar "Conversation to Decolonize Humility in Intercultural Community Services" A Conversation on Approaches to Decolonize Intercultural Services: from mastery to accountability to shifting power imbalances hosted by the Centre for Excellence on Empathy, Equity & Diversity (CEEED) (<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/decolonizing-with-humility-and-empathy-in-intercultural-community-services-tickets-409232674947?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>)
- NOV 26 9 am-12 pm, U-House, Abbotsford Campus | **Community Forum on Crime Prevention and Sports**. Engage with some of Canada's leading researchers in the field of sports, positive youth development, and crime prevention. UFV criminologists [Jon Heidt](#) and [Yvon Dandurand](#) will also launch their new book, **Youth Crime Preventing and Sports**.
- Faculty of Science Associate Dean, Dr. Ian Affleck and Science Admin Assistant, Caroline Majeau, were interviewed recently by Michael Unger from Science Fair BC for their [Let's Innovate! Podcast](#). Season 3: Episode 302 where they talked about volunteering with the Fraser Valley Regional Science Fair. The interview link released earlier this month is here: <https://www.sciencefairs.ca/website/media/Podcasts/ian-affleck-caroline-majeau.mp3>
- Biology Associate Professor, Dr. Alan Reid, hosted a walking tour on October 5 for the Reach Gallery Museum's Program 3C: Culture, Coffee, and Cookies. The group toured UFV's Pollinator Garden and the Indigenous Teaching Garden. They learned about how the gardens help the local ecosystem and are teaching spaces for biology, biodiversity, and conservation. <https://thereach.ca/events/c3-culture-coffee-cookies-2/>

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

- Channeling Youth Voice to show at [Chilliwack Independent Film Festival](#): A documentary created in collaboration between CHASI researchers and Chilliwack Youth will be screened as an official selection of the Chilliwack Film Festival on Saturday, November 19. The film shares the experiences of youth in Chilliwack, documented through their own recordings of their day-to-day experiences and challenges. It will be screened in a block with five other short documentaries from around the world
- Our team in Welding responded to a request from the Abbotsford Canucks to design and fabricate a mock up of an aircraft throttle. They will be using this throttle on game days to “power up” the team as part of their community promotion efforts.
- *Images of Newcoming* faculty members Brianna Strumm, Amea Wilbur, and Tanis Sawkins had two stories published in local media regarding the photovoice gallery exhibit:
 - <https://newcanadianmedia.ca/photo-gallery-a-story-of-belonging-and-exclusion-of-immigrant-women/>
 - <https://ufvcascade.ca/images-of-newcoming-the-art-exhibit-that-illustrates-moments-of-exclusion-and-belonging-from-newcomers-in-canada/>
- Continuing Education is taking leadership on piloting the CanCred digital badging platform. Between now and December 31 CE will award digital badges for course completions. We will also establish recommended processes and standards for UFV digital badging, as well as learning how students use their digital badges to inform a final recommendation report for UFV
- Dr. Iris Lesser hosted a workshop with Thrive Collective on Women Moving Forward with Physical Activity after the birth of a child on Friday October 21 with two upper year kinesiology students.
- the Fall 2022 semester marks UFV’s most diverse fall semester with students from 63 countries (vs 59 in Fall 2021) represented on campus. A total of ten countries have 10+ students (as opposed to 8 in Fall, 2021).
- “How do you know that” workshop - delivered to the Abbotsford School Board. Victoria Surtees (Learning Specialist – Internationalization) along with Sundeep Hans delivered a workshop by request to a group of 20 K-12 curriculum specialists.

Kw'es hoy

Dr. James Mandigo

Provost & VP Academic