

## MEMO

FROM: Dr. Tracy Ryder Glass, Acting Provost and VP Academic

DATE: April 4, 2023

SUBJECT: Senate Provost's Report

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This past month has been overflowing with examples of collaborating with community educators, scholars and associations on research-based projects, student lead conferences, presentations, workshops, and many industry-based field trips including many opportunities to **celebrate** our students, staff, and faculty. It is inspiring to see living examples of our mission and goals of engaging learners, transforming lives, and building community.

For example, with the launch of the School of Social Justice and Global Stewardship, a series of events took place this past week to celebrate the occasion engaging our UFV community at large. Events included a showcase of program experiences of Global Development Studies, Indigenous Studies, and Peace and Conflict Studies students and graduates; a roundtable discussion with SoJust faculty welcoming keynote speaker Sarah Kamal and a discussion of her work with the Kanaka Bar Indian Band in developing collaborative and coalition building responses to climate displacement and the capacity of Indigenous story to promote healing; and a community engagement event at The'wá:lí First Nation, where attendees planted a pocket forest.

As I write this report, we celebrate Student Research Day with a record number of 70 student participants featuring Microlectures and a research poster competition. And this follows on April 13<sup>th</sup> with a Scholarly Sharing Celebration in promoting interdisciplinary dialogue at UFV.

And with the launch of our new Faculty of Business and Computing, we celebrate the success of students from the School of Computing for their first-place win in the Chilliwack Startup Hackathon for their presentation of AI and Social Companion Robots for Independent Living. And we acknowledge our UFV Enactus team who have been awarded the 2023 Scotiabank Climate Action Challenge Regional Championship at the Enactus Canada Regional Exposition held in Calgary March 16-17. The team showcased how Enactus UFV's Oak & Earth Social Business has been making a real impact to our Fraser Valley community especially to the local Indigenous communities. Oak & Earth partners with the Fraser River Indigenous Society, giving them 50 per cent of all profits from the sales. The champion team has now qualified to compete in the final rounds of the Enactus Canada National Exposition to be held between May 1-3, 2023 in Montréal, QC.

As featured on CBC, we congratulate and celebrate our UFV Welding students who have developed a prototype for a farm recycling compactor, funded by the UFV Research Office and supported by Cleanfarms Inc. and local dairy farmers. The innovative technology has passed testing and is ready for it's first real-world use.

And finally, we congratulate and celebrate Dr. Amea Wilbur (ADED) and Dr. Brianna Strumm (SWHS), together with their community partner Archway Community Services (ACS) on their nomination for a Fraser Valley Cultural Diversity Award for their photovoice project: Images of Newcoming acknowledging their work in fostering awareness of the role of marginalized and racialized refugee women in Canada and Northern Ireland.

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

### **Engaging Learners: Yoystexw ye totilthet**

*Provide inclusive learning environments for everyone.*

- Bachelor of Social Work alumni were speakers as part of BC Association of Social Workers' "Let's Talk" webinar series, March 13-16, building up to BC Social Work Week (March 19 to 25). One of our 4<sup>th</sup>-year students is completing their practicum with BCASW and has had a significant role in organizing these provincial online events.
- On March 30th, an open class for the LING 101 course was hosted by Dr. Maria de Luna, Assistant Professor in Modern Languages, with the valuable contribution of Camila Flores Salvo, a guest speaker from the University of Chile. The topic of the presentation was "Inclusive language/non-gendered language: A grammatical and identity dispute," which was well received by the attendees.
- English Associate Professor Dr. Heather McAlpine, English Sessional Instructor Dr. Ron Sweeney and Communications Sessional Instructor Jess Wind have co-edited a collection of essays on the Archie comics universe, coming this spring from McFarland: The Archie/Sabrina Universe: Essays on the Comics and Their Adaptations. The collection is based on the Riverdale conferences which were held at UFV from 2018-2020 and were co-organized by the co-editors and other UFV folks.
- On March 10, CHASI welcomed local visual artist and UFV alumni Faria Firoz to the Hub, where she joined the team for dinner and conversations around her journey of art activism and community-minded creativity.
- In collaboration with Drs. Awneet Sivia and Garry Fehr, A "Compiling the Dossier Workshop" has been scheduled for Thursday, May 4 from 10:00 to 12:00 p.m. to assist Candidates in compiling their tenure and/or promotion dossier for review in the 2023/24 academic year.
- Phyllis Johnston, Department Assistant for the Indigenous Office, and Rebekah Brackett, Student Transition and Engagement Coordinator, Indigenous Student Centre, spoke to grade 10 and 11 students at Seabird Island Community School. They provided insight into their experiences as students at UFV, how that journey led to working at UFV and what resources are available to Indigenous students at UFV.

- On May 30, the Undergraduate Research Excellence Awards (URE) return to celebrate students who have conducted high-calibre research as part of the UFV Work Study program, as research assistants, or for an outstanding project as part of a course. Nominations are open & must be submitted by May 1.
- The 8th Annual Math Match took place on Feb 25 where two teams of UFV math students solved some nonstandard math problems in a game-like setting. Judges from the Math and Stats Department enjoyed the humour, interesting solutions, awards, and pizza.
- The UFV WEST student association hosted their 4th Annual Career Panel on March 16 highlighting women in the Fraser Valley and their careers in Science, Engineering, and Technology.
- International student recruitment is currently on target to achieve the largest summer enrolment to date with 363 incoming registered and 766 returning students registered for a total of 1129 students.
- UFV Librarian has been accepted at the Canadian Society for Teacher Education for both a roundtable and poster presentation called *“Decolonization journeys: Narratives of learning and unlearning”*.

### **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.*

- A team consisting of faculty from UFV (ADED), Ontario Tech University, Bow Valley College (Alberta), and Mohawk College (Ontario) held a workshop-panel presentation entitled Compassion Fatigue in English Language Teaching at the 2023 Metropolis Conference in Ottawa this month sharing research into teacher well being and preparedness with respect to the impact of trauma disclosures.
- The South Asian Canadian Digital Archive (SACDA) has been awarded the British Columbia History Digitization Program (BCHDP) grant to digitize and describe the Dr. Norman Buchignani and Dr. Doreen Indra fonds (research materials donated in 2006 to SASI). The materials were created and collected by both Dr. Buchignani and Dr. Indra and cover an eighty-six-year period from 1898-1984.
- On April 6th, UFV will host the Here and There Exhibition Celebration at the Abbotsford Campus (S’eliyemetaxwtexw Art Gallery). Artists and community partners living with dementia have partnered in creative research pairings to explore intergenerational knowledge exchange.
- Students and faculty in the CDA program attended the Pacific Dental conference on March 9 and 10. It brought a strong sense of excitement and motivation to student learning as it exposed them to a variety of future career/employment opportunities that currently exist in the dental field.

- Paula Stubbings (Health Sciences) put forth a challenge to the Semester 1 BSN bud mentees and their Semester 5 BSN buds to collect food for the Chilliwack food bank during the month of March as part of the “BSN buds paying it forward campaign”. The groups have collected two large boxes of non-perishable goods to donate to the food bank.
- Health Sciences faculty and admin attended the Matrix Meal/ Fraser East Overdose Response Project (FEOR) Dinner and Dialogue on March 9th at UFV’s Rivers Dining Room, Trade and Technology Centre. It was an opportunity to gather over a meal with community members, to share knowledge and insight and engage in conversation surrounding the social and family impacts of the opioid crisis.
- This past month, the Faculty of Applied and Technical Studies in collaboration with BCCWITT hosted the Be More than a Bystander train the trainer workshop; a training and educational program to support organizational and cultural shifts towards more inclusive, safer, and respectful workplaces in the skilled trades. Participants learn practical tools and effective strategies to intervene in gender-based and other forms of bullying, harassment, and violence. They are then tasked with sharing what they have learned with others and to model it within their organizations.
- Congratulations to our Sto:lo Aboriginal Skills & Employment Training (SASET) students who successfully completed their culinary program on March 17th.
- Libraries held two half day PD workshops for all Faculty and Staff facilitated by Pacific Collaborative, entitled ‘*Thriving Through Change*’, March 23<sup>rd</sup> and March 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **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.*

- Criminology Associate Professor Dr. Irwin Cohen and the Centre for Public Safety and Criminal Justice Research were awarded a research grant from the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General to evaluate co-response mental health crisis teams.
- SASI's exhibit, We Are Hockey, has been a success, having been displayed at the Peel Art Gallery Museum & Archives from October 2022 to April 2023. The exhibit focuses on the experiences of people of colour in the sport and brings attention to the historical and ongoing racial inequalities present in the game, while also celebrating the successes of some of the world's best players. Excitingly, We Are Hockey is scheduled to be displayed at the Manitoba Legislative Assembly in Winnipeg and at the Women's World Hockey Championship in Brampton in April 2023, with Sikh Heritage Manitoba leading the installation.
- On February 28<sup>th</sup> the Peace and Reconciliation Centre (PARC) launched the Xwelítem Siyáya: Allyship and Reconciliation Building Program, an innovative collaboration with a group of Stó:lō agencies to offer an educational program that will help participants enhance their capacity for reconciliation building.

- SLUEC hosted the 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Western Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers (WDCAG) at UFV. This 2-day event was the first post-COVID, in-person WDCAG conference and it was a resounding success! They had over 170 attendees.
- The Faculty of Applied and Technical Studies hosted the Upper Fraser Valley Regional BC Skills competition again this year. The event that took place on March 2, 2023, with competitions from the following areas: Carpentry, Welding, Electrical Wiring, Architectural CAD, Mechanical CAD, and Automotive Technology.
- The Faculty of Applied and Technical Studies in partnership with the Fraser East Overdose Response Project (FEOR) held an evening of dinner and dialogue that took place on March 9<sup>th</sup> at UFV's Rivers Dining Room. The purpose of the event was to provide an opportunity to gather over a meal with community members, to share knowledge and insight and engage in conversation surrounding the social and family impacts of the opioid crisis, and to introduce community members to people with lived experience or their supporters.
- Library Faculty and Staff are participated in the first meeting of Xwelítem Siyáya: Allyship and Reconciliation Building program with Stó:lō and UFV PARC and a cedar weaving workshop.

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