

MEMO

FROM: Tracy Ryder Glass, Acting Provost & Vice President Academic

DATE: September 15, 2023

RE: Provost Report to Senate

It is with great excitement that I say, “Welcome Back!” to our many faculty, staff and students that have been enjoying a much-deserved summer break, and a warm welcome to our new UFV employees. This includes our three new Deans, Dr. Michael Hitch (Faculty of Science), Dr. Lara Duke (Faculty of Health Sciences), and Dr. Teresa Kisilevich (Faculty of Applied and Technical studies).

The hallways (and parking lots) are full again, and it is fantastic to see the classrooms once again filled with students. And it was an impressive turnout at our Invocation ceremony this year. A thank you to all faculty and staff that spent their day ensuring our students were welcomed in a good way.

So, while it was a bit quiet on campus over the summer, this doesn’t mean work wasn’t being done.

If you attended the welcome back BBQ this year you had the opportunity to connect with and celebrate in the launch of Xwexwílmexwawt (formerly known as UFV Indigenous office). Our AVP Xwexwílmexwawt, was joined by Elders, faculty, and staff in engaging our UFV community in learning the Halq’emylem language. Congratulations to the Human Resources team for winning the salmon BBQ!

UFV’s Teaching & Learning Centre was also hard at work in preparation for the return of faculty. This summer they produced the **HOPE³ Strategy and Toolkit: AI and Accessibility Guidelines**. <https://www.ufv.ca/teaching-and-learning/teaching-strategies/#d.en.1024566> The Guidelines are intended for use by faculty and instructors in developing syllabi/course activities in preparation for any and all modes of teaching in the Fall 2023 semester. They are part of a “hopeful” strategy for enhancing teaching and learning at UFV.

It is innovative work such as this that exemplifies UFV’s ability to be adaptive, innovative, resilient, and relevant. Further examples of this are captured in the activities across the Academic Units under the headings of UFV Mission and Goals of Engaging Learners, Transforming Lives, and Building Communities, on the pages that follow.

I extend a warm thank you to the Academic Units who have engaged in this work and have contributed to this report.

Engaging Learners: Yoystexw ye totilthet

Provide inclusive learning environments for everyone.

Philosophy Emeritus Professor Dr. Peter Raabe published an article “*Approaching Elsewhere: On Fear of ‘The After-life’*” in the Journal of the American Philosophical Practitioners Association.

MA Criminology alumnus and sessional instructor, Ryan Buhrig, published his major paper project in the Journal of Police and Criminal Psychology titled, *The intersection of masculinity and mental health in police organizational culture* in the Journal of Police and Criminal Psychology.

Integrative Career and Capstone Learning Assistant Professor Dr. Candy Ho has co-authored chapter 21 of the *Handbook of Research on Sustainable Career Ecosystems for University Students and Graduates* by William E. Donald.

Modern Languages Associate Professor Dr. Maria de Luna Maria de Luna participated on a roundtable at Canadian Association of Hispanistas Conference in June 2023 on the “The future of language instruction in the age of Artificial Intelligence”.

The Faculty of Business and Computing in collaboration with the Office of the AVP Xwexwilmexwawt, Stó:lo Community Futures, Seabird Island Community, Shxwhá:y Village, and UFV International, were involved in organizing and coordinating a week-long cultural visit by 10 Indigenous visitors from Northern Arizona University (NAU).

Continuing Education is offering a fully subscribed Bookkeeping program, for the very first time, in Hope in the Fall term. This will give learners access to an in-demand program in their community and will deepen the university’s commitment to Hope.

Health Studies will be launching the new LPN Access program in September.

Dr. Gillian Hatfield supervised a research team of 10 students studying the physiological and cognitive benefits of Pickleball participation at the BC 55+ Games. This research is supported by a Work-Study Grant, and a Faculty Student Scholarly Activity Fund grant.

International office has engaged with O’ahu - University of Hawaii at Manoa Outbound Field School to provide the opportunity for 12 Indigenous students from UFV and Douglas College to take part in 2-week program on Indigenous Language Revitalization.

International office’s Climb (5-week online pre-arrival orientation) has seen an increase from 30 students participating, to 130 students per session for fall 2023.

International Mobility (Inbound): For fall 2023, UFV has welcomed 75 inbound students. This group is made up of true exchange (49), visiting/fee-paying exchange (8), students from consortia (5 from CONAHEC and 3 from ELAP), and visiting researchers (2).

International Mobility (Outbound): For summer/fall 2023, UFV saw 79 students to go abroad on international experiences. This group is made up of exchange (15), Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Scholars (8), and participants in a Kanagawa University short-term program (3).

Associate Director of International Relations, Walter Foreman, worked with Greg St. Hilaire (UUP) to develop a pilot program for partner university students wishing to receive English upgrading.

The library has Audiobooks! *OverDrive for Audiobooks* is a new database. Preparations are underway for preparing the content for sharing this platform with the UFV community to ensure it is used to its full potential and is relevant to users.

UFV's new Centre for High Pressure Research (CHPR) will open this fall. The only one of its kind in Canada, the Centre will be led by UFV Assistant Professor (Chemistry) Dr. Jacob Spooner. UFV's CHPR will aim to better understand how pressure affects chemical and biochemical reactions, creating the opportunity to identify new compounds capable of benefitting a wide range of key sectors.

In celebration of the *International Day of the Older Person*, CERA will be hosting a full day of workshops, session, and a keynote speaker on Friday, October 13 (8:30am to 3:00pm in Abbotsford).

Drs. Lauren Erland and Renee Prasad are collaborating with BC Ministry of Agriculture on a 2-year project to examine susceptibility of new blueberry varieties to blueberry scorch virus. The project has engaged four current students in the Agriculture Technology Diploma or BAS degree.

Manjot Benning (Faculty of Science) won the first-ever UFV Alumni Association's Outstanding Student Leader award.

Dr. Lucy Lee (Science) and three of her research assistants attended/presented at the Society for In Vitro Biology meeting (SIVB) held in Norfolk, Virginia. Student Ryan Goldbach won an SIVB travel award and student Mari Austadt placed 3rd in the Student Oral Presentation competition.

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.

BA Criminology graduate, Anureet Gill, was accepted into several law schools and will be starting at the University of Victoria's Law School in Fall 2023. And BA Criminology graduate, Christa Bulman, was accepted into two MA programs for the 2023/2024 academic year: University of Victoria's Master of Public Administration and Simon Fraser University's Master of Public Policy.

The Esposito Family Centre for Innovation & Entrepreneurship (EFCIE) is a research hub at UFV. Two groups of Physics students received funding for their projects (co-supervised by John English) for 2023-2024 academic year. Dr. Jon Thomas is the director of EFCIE.

Applied Business Technology graduate Danielle Deschamps (2015 ABT cert) was recently selected as the winner of the UFV Alumni Association wine label competition. Danielle works in Assessment Services at UFV and credits ABT with building her confidence in all aspects of her life. At the encouragement of several ABT instructors (now UFV colleagues), Danielle entered the wine label competition, and her exceptional watercolour artwork was selected unanimously by the panel of judges.

Cycling Without Age Program (Alison Pritchard-Orr and Dr. Shelley Canning of Health Studies) were awarded UFV Accelerated Research Fund grant (\$6000), received \$5000 in external funds from Elim

Village retirement community, to explore “Cycling without Age: Exploring Experiences of Intergenerational Pilots and Passengers”.

Dr. Chris Bertram works as Nick Taylor’s (professional golfer) mental performance coach, and this summer he (Nick) won the Canadian Open golf tournament.

Librarian Heather Compeau presented *Two-eyed seeing or Etuaptmumk: an Education Librarian’s journey through Integrative History* and co-presented a poster session with Teacher Education colleagues (Dr. Sheryl MacMath, Barbara Salingre and Dr. Nancy Norman from VIU), entitled *Decolonization journeys: Narratives of learning and un-learning* at the 2023 Conference of the Canadian Society for the Study of Education (CSSE).

Librarian Brenda Philip in collaboration with Satwinder Bains (SASI) developed a Caste book display for the upcoming event, *BUILDING SOLIDARITY: Anti-casteism at UFV*.

Librarians participated in the *Xwelítəm Siyáya: Allyship and Reconciliation Building* program from May-August which include such activities as Stó:lō Archaeology, Indigenous Stereotyping in Media, Residential School Survivors Panel, and more.

The Equine Media Awards recognized Shelagh Niblock's article on "*Practical Nutrition for Donkeys*" with an award for third place in the Horse Care category.

UFV Agriculture Technology Diploma student Sarah Mooney won 2nd Place in the 4H Special Topic Education Traditional Poster Display contest. Sarah's poster was titled: "*Mooving with Technology*" and focused on the use of technology in the dairy industry.

Fizza Haider (Learning Designer) participated as a panelist in the FLO Panel on Artificial Intelligence in Post-Secondary Ed organized by BC Campus.

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.

In two recent episodes of the CHASIcast, host Dr. Martha Dow spoke with guests on themes of identity and how it is politicized. Four of CHASI's own research assistants/interns joined her to discuss the vandalism and theft of CHASI's Pride Flag displays on the UFV campus. More recently, registered social worker Stacy joined Dr. Dow to explore the topic of gender identity and supporting gender diverse people.

CHASI and friends hosted a Tea Dance and Queeraoke event on June 28. The lively event was filled with music, laughter, and pride. A follow-up second Tea Dance and Queeraoke "Summer Send-Off" took place on August 31.

As top tier sponsors, the Faculty of Applied & Technical Studies along with Agriculture Department attended the 151st Chilliwack Fair this year. Thank you to over 20 ATS faculty and staff who took time to sit at our information booth, provide cooking demonstrations and helped with the overall planning for a successful event with over 900 visitors stopping by.

The Faculty of Business and Computing welcome its inaugural Associate Dean, Dr. Kevin Wainwright. While the School of Business welcomes its new director, Dr. Khyati Shetty.

Dr. Brianna Strumm (SWHS) and Dr. Amea Wilbur (Adult Education) co-presented *Belonging and Exclusion for Newcomer Women in the Lower Mainland and Northern Ireland* at the Canadian Association for the Study of Adult Education (CASAE) Annual Conference in Toronto.

Queering Cancer partnered with Rethink Breast Cancer to host, virtually, the Canadian premiere of the documentary, *Trans Dudes with Lady Cancer*. The film follows the experiences of two trans-masculine people, their families, and their communities, as they navigate breast and ovarian cancer in the American healthcare system. The event included a panel discussion with the filmmakers and Assistant Professor Dr. Evan Taylor.

In partnership with the School of Social Work and Human Services and the Nepal School of Psychology, a community event titled *Women Living with HIV and their Mental Health and Psychological Wellbeing* was held in Kathmandu, Nepal. Preliminary findings from a study on the mental health of women living with HIV were presented to community-based HIV organizations by Rita Dhungel and Narendra Thagunna.

Dr. Gillian Hatfield (Health Sciences) presented at an International fitness event in Los Angeles on updates to research she has been conducting on Les Mills group fitness classes over the past year, and specifically on the efficacy of a new Les Mills program- Shapes. The first research update had 350 international group fitness instructors in attendance, and the second presentation was a media event with approximately 30 fitness journalists and social media “influencers” in attendance.

Dr. Iris Lesser partnered with Elder College on a hiking program for older adults. She will be presented these results through CERA events in the fall.

Dr. Chris Bertram is co-chairing the Nick Taylor Charity ProAm taking place Sept 13-14 in Chilliwack. This tournament will add to the endowment funds for UFV students.

UFV International is liaising with the Office of Sustainability to assist with an SDG-related survey from a consortium-based organization – University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific (UMAP).

UFV International is collaborating with CHASI to explore development the Fraser Valley Community Charter. Like the Brampton Charter developed with Sheridan College, this would focus on the transition, settlement, and integration of international students, recent immigrants, and refugee into the Fraser Valley community as well as their integration into UFV.

Librarian Brenda Philip submitted the article Newman Western Canadian Cookbook Collection for the Culinary Historians of Canada.

Camille Callison, University Librarian, attended UBC First Nations House of Learning and Xwi7xwa Library 30th Anniversary dinner and celebration as a guest of Dr. Gene Joseph, Xwi7xwa Library’s founding Librarian.

Camille Callison, University Librarian, worked extensively with co-lead Dr. Stacy Allison-Cassin to form the NIKLA Respectful Terminology Platform Project (RTPP) – Indigenous Advisory Circle (IAC) and

organized three Deep Listening sessions with the Elders and Indigenous professionals facilitated by Shift Collective including collaboration on the final report with recommendations to be reviewed by IAC Fall 2023.

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CHASI's comic, *Our Charmed Circle*, continues with another installment which explores the impact of a word and the healing power of support. Created by the talented Sharon Strauss, *Our Charmed Circle* aims to explore the issues we face, the world we live in, and how we find the strength to forge an identity in an ever-changing political landscape.

The Faculty of Science had successful summer offerings of Thinking Playground Camp 2023, with the Centre for Philosophy for Children (CP4C) with a total of 106 registrants.

On September 25, Research and Graduate Studies will host a Collaboratorium Open House, (B121, Abbotsford Campus) for student interns to showcase their summer research work. Everyone is welcome. PARC will be involved in various events for the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (September 30). A PARC information booth will be at the Clearbrook Library entrance informing the public about the centre and its initiatives, and storyteller David Guterrez will be presenting throughout the day.

Drs. Ian Affleck and Robin Endelman worked with Caitlin Pascuzzo from Community Engagement to organize and help to staff a booth for UFV Science in the STEM Zone at the 2023 Abbotsford International Airshow. Students Brendan Matthews, Nicola Ferguson, Adhiraj Gupta, and Akarshi Sharma volunteered a total of 56 hours at the booth over three days.

Dr. Javad Hadian (Agriculture) was one of four recipients of a 2023 Abbotsford Community Foundation Agricultural Enhancement Grant. He is collaborating with a local producer (Ramsar Farms, Abbotsford, BC) to develop best practices for saffron production in the Fraser Valley.

Dr. Renee Prasad (Agriculture) gave a presentation to the PoCo Garden Club entitled *Know Your Allies: Beneficial Critters in your Gardens*. The PoCo Garden Club has been a supporter of the horticulture portion of the Agriculture Technology Dept since 2001. They donate 50% of the profits of their annual garden club plant sale to the dept.

Dr. Carin Bondar, Biology Adjunct Professor, represented the Faculty of Science and Chilliwack School District as Trustee for a Medicine Walk collaboration with Elder Muriel Victor and Fraser Health (Cristal Biela).

Claire Hay (Learning Specialist Curriculum and Assessment) attended STLHE 2023 Annual Conference in Charlottetown, PEI and presented with co-authors Lorna Andrews and Michelle Johnson – “An Indigenized Approach to curriculum development through the 5Rs” (over 60 participants in the presentation) and with co-author Victoria Surtees – “Ungrading: Instructor and Student Perceptions”.