

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH: May 2018

UFV's Student Research Day 2018!

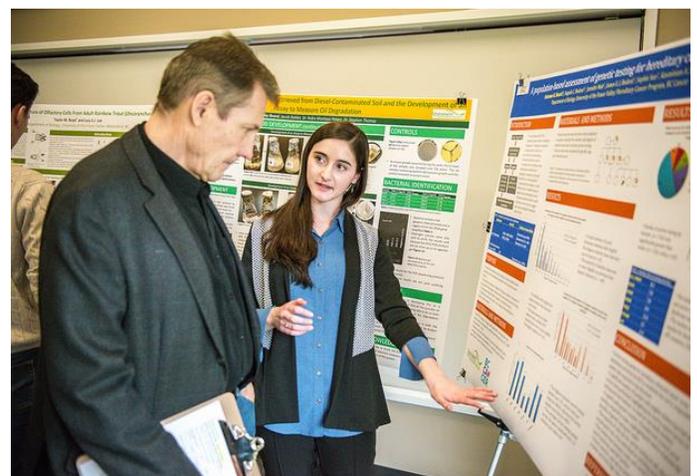
The UFV Research Office was pleased to host the annual UFV Student Research Day on April 5th. This event included a two-minute micro-lecture challenge, in which students shared details about their research projects in a fast-paced format. The micro-lectures were followed by a poster fair and research awards ceremony. This year's event featured the most participants ever with 25 micro-lecturers and 78 poster presentations!

Research subjects varied from examining the effects of aging on the mind, discussions with Stó:lō Elders concerning a proposal to develop a First Nations Court, littering in Abbotsford parks, exploring innovation in the Fraser Valley, the effects of acute stress on variable

immune responses, and many more. Micro-lecture participants were enthusiastic and engaging as they raced to share their research details in 2 minutes to a packed crowd at the Spirit Bear Café. Then it was over to U House to view and present 78 posters exhibiting student's research results. The dynamic event concluded with an awards ceremony. The micro-lecture video and poster photos are available to view on our website at <https://www.ufv.ca/research/students--research/student-research-day/> along with a list of award recipients.



Geography student Travis Gingerich shares details of his research project headed by faculty supervisor, Dr. Olav Lian, titled "Sandy beaches and shifting seas: Postglacial sea level change on Savary Island, BC."



Vivienne Beard is seen here explaining her research findings to faculty judge and UFV Associate Professor Dr. Robert Harding during the poster presentations at Student Research Day 2018. Vivienne's faculty supervisor is James Bedard and her research is titled "A population-based assessment of genetic testing for hereditary colorectal cancer."



Minister Lana Popham talking with agricultural student Ramanpreet Kaur in the UFV Greenhouse.



Dr. Adrienne Chan presenting biology student Taylor Boyd with the President's award for her poster at Student Research Day.

B.C. Minister of Agriculture Lana Popham, and Minister of Advanced Education Melanie Mark, visit UFV

The B.C. Minister of Agriculture Lana Popham visited UFV in March. She met with faculty and students and learned of the research and innovation that is being offered at UFV through inter-disciplinary collaborations within agriculture, geography, science and external partners.

The B.C. Minister of Advanced Education, Melanie Mark, visited UFV on March 29th and announced the partnership funding for Metis programming at UFV. Honorable Mark toured the many different departments on the Chilliwack campus, stopping to talk with faculty and students.

Minister Melanie Mark talking with students in the carpentry program at Chilliwack's UFV campus.

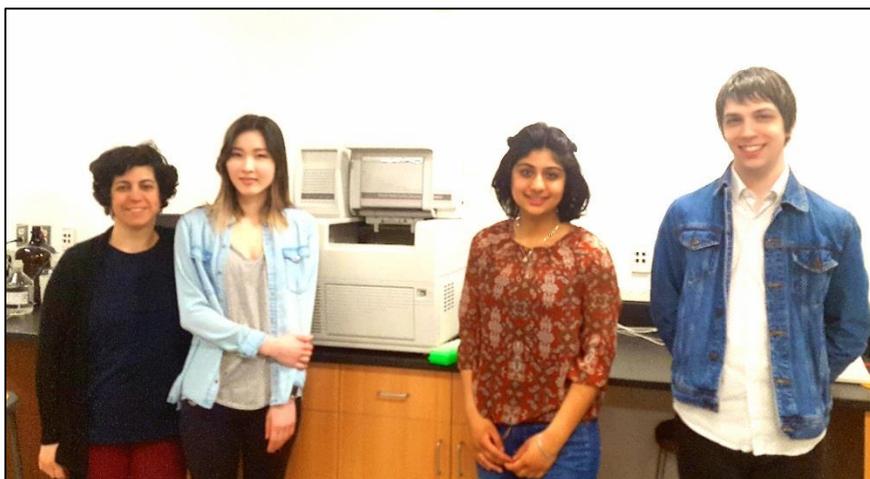


"I never could have imagined all that I learned throughout my directed study. Not only was I able to expand my knowledge of the phenomenon I was studying, I was able to strengthen my research and communication skills. I participated in the UFV Student Research Day, as well as UBC's Graduate Student Research Symposium. My faculty supervisor Shelley Canning provided me with a tremendous amount of support and guidance and always believed in my abilities which helped increase my confidence. Overall, this experience was a highlight of my nursing degree, one that I'll carry forward throughout the remainder of the program and into my career."

- Karen Pickford
Nursing Student, UFV

Nursing student Karen Pickford, joined by her faculty supervisor Shelley Canning, presenting her research findings at this year's Student Research Day.





From left to right: Associate Professor of Chemistry Dr. Golfam Ghafourifar, students Hailey Kim, Arashpreet K. Tamber and Kaeden A. Teindl.



FACULTY RESEARCH: May 2018

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What are our Faculty Researchers up to? Here's a few examples.....

Dr. Golfam Ghafourifar, Assistant Professor in Chemistry, is seen above with some of her students and a Capillary Electrophoresis machine which holds a capillary tube inside. The capillary tube has been chemically modified by Golfam and her students and is a vital tool for their research with proteins. Proteins are normally very large molecules folded into complex three-dimensional arrangement, which makes it hard to study them. Using enzymes, they can cleave the proteins into smaller pieces to study them. Golfam and her students have immobilized enzymes on the inner capillary tube wall, where proteins pass through, and become smaller products. Golfam and a student research assistant will be displaying and discussing this technology at the BCTech Summit in May in Vancouver.

Dr. Jon Thomas, BC Regional Innovation Chair on Canada-India Partnership Development, and Assistant Professor in the School of Business, is



currently working on a research project with a goal of mapping innovation in the Fraser Valley.

Existing literature on the geography of innovation has mostly focused on cities and metropolitan regions, though there is growing recognition

that peripheral regions may also be innovative in niche industry sectors. In this project, student research assistant Jordan Evans and Jon are collecting and analyzing several decades of U.S. patent data to identify inventors and innovative organizations in the Fraser Valley. The results of this study will help identify

institutions and industry sectors which are contributing to innovation in the Fraser Valley and can be used to develop policies to nurture innovation and entrepreneurship. The study will also contribute to the growing literature on innovation in peripheral regions by examining the dynamic relationships between resources, actors and policies.



AVP Research, Engagement and Graduate Studies Dr. Adrienne Chan with UFV's Canada Research Chair Dr. Lenore Newman.

UFV's Canada Research Chair in Food Security and Environment, Dr. Lenore Newman, was named one of nine board members on a new committee of nine agriculture experts. The Provincial Agriculture Minister, Lana Popham, announced the formation of this committee on January 4, 2018 and it will be tasked with making recommendations to the provincial government on how to "revitalize" the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR).

Coming Soon:

**UFV's Undergraduate Research Excellence Awards
May 24, 2018**

Faculty Sabbatical Leave Workshop:

June 12, 2018

9:30 am – 12:00 pm in C1429, Abbotsford campus