



FACULTY OF ARTS
AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

2024 FASS FORUM

CELEBRATING OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PAST YEAR



DEAN'S MESSAGE

AN ACCOMPLISHED YEAR



S. Laurel Weldon
*Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social
Sciences; Distinguished SFU
Professor, Political Science*

FASS accomplished a great deal in 2023.

We welcomed 33 new continuing faculty members, the largest and most diverse in recent memory. This includes four Canada Research Chairs as well as the first ever Canada Excellence Research Chair held at SFU. Additionally, three FASS faculty became Distinguished SFU Professors.

We launched two new FASS-run grant programs: Kickstarter and Breaking Barriers. We revitalized the Reconciling Curriculum Grants, distributing to more recipients than ever before. We secured \$11M in external funding. Our faculty won book awards and numerous other distinctions. Our research is inspiring people in our academic fields and in the community—we once again won more SFU Newsmaker Awards than any other faculty.

These research accomplishments have been accompanied by an impressive commitment to our students, both graduate and undergraduate students. We offered five field schools, taking students to enriched learning experiences in places like Vanuatu, Greece, Finland, and Scotland. The NATO Field School and Simulation Program offers students unprecedented opportunities to see diplomacy and military alliances from the inside, attracting students from nine countries and universities like Harvard, Norwegian Defense University, University of Toronto, and University of Latvia. Our teaching fellows continue to raise the bar for pedagogical innovation and our Teaching Cafés, including a full-house discussion of ChatGPT, are not-to-miss events. We welcomed our first students in the Public Policy minor, and World Languages and Literatures announced new programming in Brazilian Portuguese language and culture.

We did important community and connection building with interdisciplinary Dean's Lectures on Humanism and Climate Justice. We started the important process of breaking down our teaching and research silos. Whether scholars collaborate on understanding people or interpreting texts, FASS seeks to embody the complexity and diversity of humanity itself. Our greatest successes come when our areas of research, teaching, and community engagement overlap, intertwine, and complement each other.

I thank you for being part of this continually evolving definition of what a university Faculty can be, and I look forward to what 2024 will bring.

A white handwritten signature on a red background, consisting of a stylized 'S' followed by a long horizontal line that curves upwards at the end.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

ANTHROPOLOGY

#4

RANKED IN CANADA

QS World Ranking 2023

FASS RECONCILING CURRICULUM GRANTS RELAUNCHED

Following a pause during the pandemic, FASS Reconciling Curriculum Grants are back with more awarded proposals than in previous years. Originally launched in 2019 to advance a reconciliatory approach to the university's curriculum, these grants are open to all FASS continuing faculty members who want to address the ongoing legacies of colonialism and the work of reconciliation. Together we are moving our Faculty's decolonial ideas into reconciliatory reality.

URBAN STUDIES PARTNERS WITH CITY OF NEW WEST

Launched in January 2023, the Urban Studies Program developed an immersive capstone course in partnership with the City of New Westminster as a living urban laboratory of vanguard policy development and efforts to implement systemic change.

In URB 499/692, students work with a City civic staff member or team. Together they pursue a deep understanding of one or more of the City's priorities and projects, including downtown livability, climate action, reconciliation, and equity, diversity, and inclusion.



Consul General of Brazil, Nestor José Forster Jr. and FASS Dean Laurel Weldon sign the memorandum of understanding.

BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE PROGRAMMING COMING SOON

After years of relationship-building and negotiations with the Consulate General of Brazil, SFU will for the first time ever offer Brazilian Portuguese language and Brazilian literature classes. The new lecturer will be hosted within the Department of World Languages and Literatures. This marks an incredible moment in SFU's long-standing history of multilingualism. It stimulates educational, academic, and cultural cooperation between SFU and Brazil.

HONOURING INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES

Described as a powerhouse and a revered figure in her community, Kèyishí Bessie Cooley is one of the few fluent first language Tlingit speakers in the world, and a driving force for language revitalization.

Presenting her thesis project was more than just about obtaining her master's degree in Indigenous Languages and Linguistics, it was also a tribute to her family and a testament to her life story around the language which she has fought hard to preserve.



Marianne Ignace, Dzéiwsh James Crippen, Kèyishí Bessie Cooley, and Heather Bliss celebrating Cooley's successful MA project presentation in Whitehorse, Yukon.

RESEARCH

Canada Excellence Research Chair



Nicholas Reo
Indigenous Studies

*CERC in Coastal
Relationalities and
Regeneration*

2023 Canada Research Chairs



Joanne Leow
English

*CRC in
Transnational and
Decolonial Digital
Humanities*



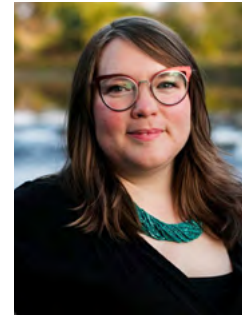
Theresa Pauly
Gerontology

*CRC in Social
Relationships,
Health, and Aging*



Marlene Moretti
Psychology

*CRC in Youth
Clinical
Psychological
Science*



Zoe Todd
Indigenous Studies

*CRC in Indigenous
Governance and
Freshwater Fish
Futures*

2022 - 2023
Fiscal Year

\$11,219,908

TOTAL GRANTS AND CONTRACTS
(OVERALL 76% SUCCESS RATE)

\$3,171,274

TOTAL TRI-AGENCY FUNDING

\$1,673,543

SSHRC INSIGHT GRANTS AND
SSHRC INSIGHT DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

NEW FASS FUNDING

Research support is a priority for Dean Laurel Weldon. In addition to the renewed Reconciling Curriculum Grant program, three new FASS funding opportunities were created and launched in 2023.

Kickstarter Seed Grant

This grant encourages continuing faculty members to develop new ways to share their research or to start a new research project with the hopes of securing further external funding in the future.

The Dean was able to fund 33 projects which range from producing podcasts, hosting townhalls, expanding digital access to materials, to amplifying the experiences of those marginalized by age, race, class, gender, sexual orientation, or ability by fostering new connections with communities outside of SFU.

Breaking Barriers Inter-disciplinary Incentive Grant

This grant supports continuing faculty members to form research connections with faculty members outside of FASS, deepening our understanding of the world's most pressing issues, creating solutions, or otherwise addressing these problems.

FASS researchers rose to the challenge to develop new interdisciplinary collaborations to tackle a wide range of complex problems. Thirteen projects are currently being adjudicated.

FASS SSHRC Bridge Funding

In order to support the continuation of research for applicants who were highly ranked without receiving funding in SSHRC Insight or Insight Development Grant competitions, and to facilitate their reapplication to those programs, FASS will provide bridging grants valued at a maximum of \$10,000.

Last year, two Insight Grant applicants and one Insight Development Grant applicant received bridging funding. This funding opportunity will be repeated depending on budgetary constraints.

2023 RESEARCH SNAPSHOT

An overview of some of the many research accomplishments from FASS researchers this past year.

With \$1M funded by the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions, **Nancy Olewiler** (Public Policy) will lead a team over the next four years to investigate how remote and rural Indigenous communities in B.C. will be impacted by climate change, and what policies and innovations in housing practices and technical safety are needed to improve their climate resiliency.

Kendra Strauss (Labour Studies) together with Economics alumnus and CCPA senior economist **Iglika Ivanova** released a report as part of their six-year “Understanding Precarity in B.C.” study, which seeks to better understand precarious employment and their prevalence in the province.

The Alzheimer Society of Canada awarded the New Investigator Grant to **Brianne Kent** (Psychology) to fund her research on how the body’s internal clock affects resilience in Alzheimer’s disease.

In her article, *At the Intersection of Equity and Innovation: Trans Inclusion in the City of Vancouver*, **Tiffany Muller Myrdahl** (Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies; Urban Studies) calls upon municipal governments to attend to and redesign the gendered models of service, programs, and space in which the city is built upon.

Jie Yang (Sociology and Anthropology) earned a SSHRC Partnership Development Grant to create a partnership between anthropologists, psychologists, philosophers and literary scholars to develop a framework for alternative models of psychological care drawing upon Chinese Indigenous psychology.

As a panelist on the Council of Canadian Academies’ Expert Panel on Public Safety in the Digital Age, **Richard Frank** (Criminology) co-authored the *Vulnerable Connections* report which revealed how harmful activities have evolved as a result of digital technologies, particularly in the drug-cryptomarket ecosystem.

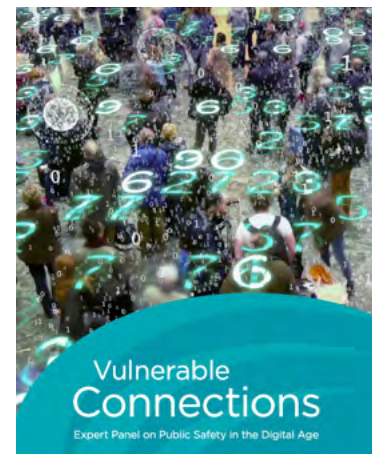
Megan MacKenzie (International Studies) co-authored a report presenting alternative options for the future, including the pursuit of demilitarization as necessary for upholding Canada’s commitment to Women, Peace, and Security Agenda priorities.

The Gender Gap Tracker, originally developed in 2019 by **Maite Taboada** (Linguistics), is now available in French. Radar de Parité measures gender representation in French news stories.

Gerontology researchers **Andrew Wister, Andrea Wadman, and Laura Kadowaki** identified senior centres as vital for seniors’ well-being, and created a report using data from focus groups with non-profit Metro Vancouver senior centres outlining the challenges, successes, and opportunities.

Chelsey Geralda Armstrong (Indigenous Studies) and **Jonathan Hartt** (Philosophy; Indigenous Studies; Political Science alumnus) conducted research alongside researchers from the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History whereby their studies shed light on the ancestry and genetics of the now extinct woolly dog breed that was of great cultural significance for the Indigenous Coast Salish communities in the Pacific Northwest.

Four projects by Criminology researchers **Jennifer Wong, Evan McCuish, Zachary Rowan, Martin Bouchard, and Shannon Linning** received funding from the City of Burnaby to study gang and gun violence, prevention, and intervention.



ADVANCEMENT



CREATING LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES TO STRENGTHEN GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

Thanks to the generous contributions of professor emeritus **Dr. A.H. Somjee** and his wife **Dr. Geeta Somjee**, a new professorship was established in the Department of Political Science. Dr. Shivaji Mukherjee was appointed as the inaugural Dr. A.H. Somjee and Dr. Geeta Somjee Professor in Indian Political Development.

A loyal philanthropic supporter of SFU, Dr. Somjee has also over the years extended his generosity to the W.A.C. Bennett Library and to Political Science students in the form of a graduate student scholarship.

GIVING THE GIFT OF EDUCATION

A strong believer in the importance of a Criminology degree in providing a better understanding of the criminal justice system and in preparing students for a lifetime of learning and critical thinking, **Nancy E. Joyce** set up an endowment to create a perpetual source of bursary funding for Criminology students who otherwise might not be able to afford a post-secondary education.

ADVANCING RESEARCH IN AGING

Recognizing the importance of Gerontology’s research expertise for seniors’ advocacy and well-being, alumnus **Lorna Court** established a faculty support fund and a generous gift in will to the Department of Gerontology.

“I wanted to be part of the solution by helping to support the critical work of researchers and students. I decided I could do this by putting a gift to SFU in my will to support Gerontology.”

2023 – 2024
Fiscal Year
(As of February 2024)

\$2.5M
RAISED

1,845
GIFTS

260
DONORS



IMPROVING STUDENT ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY

With growing student demand for more BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) stations on campus, retired staff member **Malcolm Toms** stepped in to help.

With matching funds from FASS, the Malcolm Toms Technology Grant greatly expanded BYOD stations at SFU—first adding stations to W.A.C. Bennett Library on Burnaby campus, and finally, to the libraries at SFU’s Surrey and Vancouver campuses.

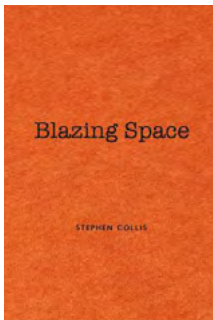


ALUMNI COUPLE GIVES BACK TO SUPPORT STUDENTS

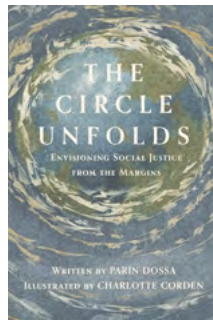
Doug and Sandra Cramen met while studying at SFU in the 80’s. Now they are giving back by donating \$40K to create a bursary endowment supporting undergraduate Economics major students in financial need.

“Our families were not in a position to help us when we went to university. We had to pay our own way and came out with student debt. We would like others to be able to start their careers without that burden, which is our intention for creating this bursary.”

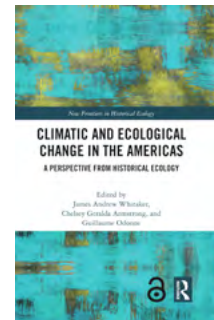
PUBLICATIONS



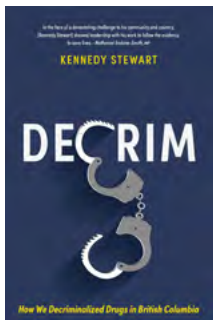
Blazing Space
Stephen Collis



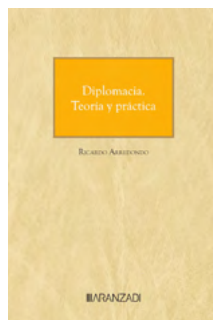
The Circle Unfolds: Envisioning Social Justice from the Margins
Parin Dossa



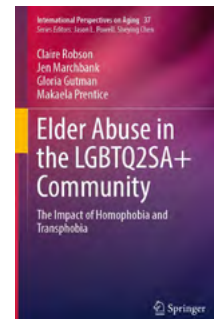
Climatic and Ecological Change in the Americas: A Perspective from Historical Ecology
Co-edited by
Chelsea Gherald Armstrong



Decrim: How We Decriminalized Drugs in British Columbia
Kennedy Stewart



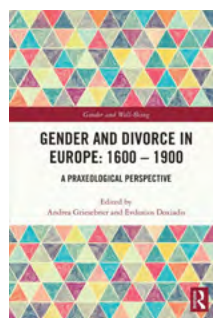
Diplomacia. Teoría y práctica (Dúo)
Ricardo Arredondo



Elder Abuse in the LGBTQ2SA+ Community
Claire Robson, Jen Marchbank, Gloria Gutman, Makaela Prentice



Fact Book on Aging in British Columbia and Canada, 8th Edition
Andrew Wister, Boah Kim, Sarah Qiu



Gender and Divorce in Europe: 1600-1900, A Praxeological Perspective
Evdoxios Doxiadis



Good Soldiers Don't Rape: The Stories We Tell About Military Sexual Violence
Megan MacKenzie



The Matryoshka Memoirs: A Story of Ukrainian Forced Labour, the Leica Camera Factory, and Nazi Resistance
Sasha Colby



Niitsipowahsin at Home: A Blackfoot Language Learning Guide for Families
Co-authored by
Heather Bliss, Naato'saaki Annette Fox-BruisedHead, and Blackfoot Elders



Place Management and Crime: Ownership and Property Rights as a Source of Social Control
Co-authored by
Evdoxios Doxiadis



Running
Lindsey Freeman



The Smoke and Mirrors Game of Global CSR Reporting
Andy Hira



Terror Capitalism: Uyghur Dispossession and Masculinity in a Chinese City
Darren Byler received the 2023 Margaret Mead Award from the Society for Applied Anthropology

AWARDS

EXTERNAL AWARDS

American Society for 18th Century Studies Excellence in Mentorship Award

Betty A. Schellenberg
English



BC Reconciliation Award

Eldon Yellowhorn
Indigenous Studies

APPA Award for Excellence in Research

Michael Howlett
Political Science

Gregory Bateson Book Prize for Cultural Anthropology

Darren Byler
International Studies

Michael Smith Health Research C2 Award and Reach Award

Theodore Cosco
Gerontology

Moonbeam Children's Book Award and Junior Library Guild Gold Selection Award

Eldon Yellowhorn
Indigenous Studies

Research Impact Canada Engaged Scholarship Award: Doctoral

Indira Riadi
Gerontology

Research Impact Canada Engaged Scholarship Award: Master's

Ashley Kyne
Criminology

Research Impact Canada Engaged Scholarship Award: Honourable Mention

Sarah Law
Sociology and Anthropology

Surrey Women in Business Award

Jen Marchbank
Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies

TLN Top 10 Most Influential Hispanic Canadians

Evelyn Encalada Grez
Sociology and Anthropology

SFU AWARDS

Community-Engaged Partnership Award

Anthony Kupferschmidt
Gerontology

Distinguished SFU Professors

Kendra Strauss
Labour Studies

Krishna Pendakur
Economics

Kora DeBeck
Public Policy



Media Newsmaker Award

James Horncastle
Global Humanities



Newsmaker Lifetime Achievement Award

Robert Gordon
Criminology

FASS AWARDS

Cormack Teaching Awards

Amanda Watson
Sociology and Anthropology

Atiya Mahmood
Gerontology

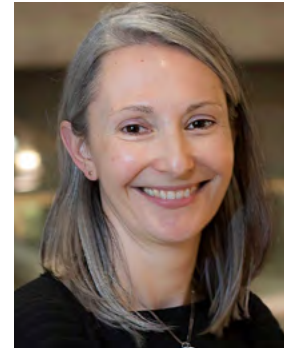
Coleman Nye
Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies

John-Henry Harter
History; Labour Studies

Tamara O'Doherty
Criminology

**Dean's Medal Award:
Lifetime Achievement**

Betty A. Schellenberg
English



2023 Distinguished SFU Professors: Kora DeBeck, Krishna Pendakur, Kendra Strauss

Dean's Medal Awards

Mark Pickup
Political Science

Yue Wang
Linguistics

**Employee Achievement Award:
Individual Work Performance**

Huyen Pham
Global Humanities



**Employee Achievement Award:
Sessional Instructor**

Evan Caldbick
Psychology

**Employee Achievement Award:
Teaching Assistant or Tutor Marker**

Richard Hohn
Psychology

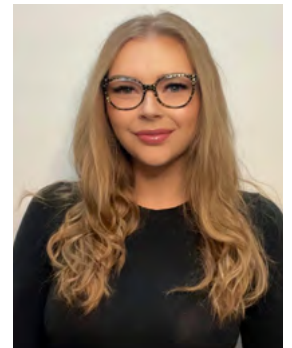
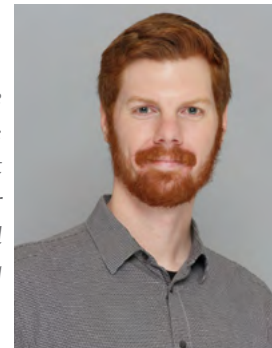
Sara Doering
Criminology

**Employee Achievement Award:
Term Teaching**

Adam Blanchard
Psychology

2023 Dean's Medal Award winners: Betty A. Schellenberg, Mark Pickup, Yue Wang

2023 Employee
Achievement Award:
Teaching Assistant
or Tutor Marker
winners: Richard
Hohn, Sara Doering



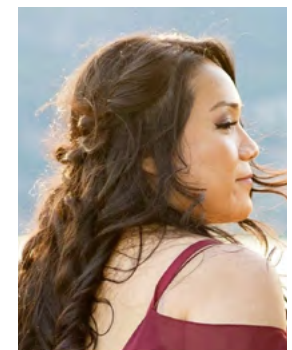
2023 Cormack Teaching Award winners: Amanda Watson, Atiya Mahmood, Coleman Nye, John-Henry Harter, Tamara O'Doherty

2023 Employee Achievement Awards

Term Teaching winner:
Adam Blanchard

Sessional Instructor winner:
Evan Caldbick

Individual Work Performance winner:
Huyen Pham



FACULTY + STAFF

NEW CONTINUING FACULTY



Adele Quigley-McBride
Psychology



Ali Bhagat
Public Policy



Alix Shield
Indigenous Studies



Alyssa Croft
Psychology



Amanda Butler
Criminology



Andy Yan
Urban Studies



Bryan Myles
Indigenous Studies



Cornel Bogle
English



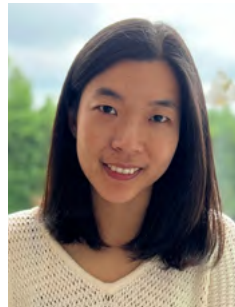
Cynthia Xie, World
Languages and Literatures



Evan Freeman
Global Humanities



Helene Love
Criminology



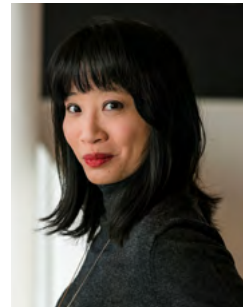
Janice Jeong
History



Jason Brown
Global Humanities



Joanna Peplak
Psychology



Joanne Leow
English



Joel Akinwumi
World Languages and
Literatures; French



Kamala Todd
Urban Studies



Mariam Georgis
Gender, Sexuality,
and Women's Studies



Mary O'Brien
Linguistics



Mei Lan Fang
Urban Studies;
Gerontology



Michael Gilraine
Economics



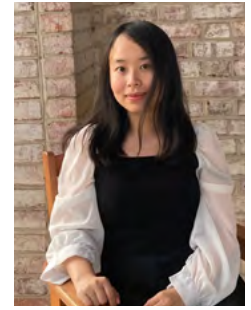
Nazanin Shahrokni
International Studies



Nicholas Reo
Indigenous Studies



Prof-Collins Ifeonu
Sociology and
Anthropology



Qiu Lin
Philosophy



Robert Bandringa
Indigenous Studies



Rupak Shrestha
International Studies



Sepideh Fotovatian
Economics



Shivaji Mukherjee
Political Science



Spyros Sofos
Global Humanities



Theresa Pauly
Gerontology



Victor Aguiar
Economics



William Scott
Public Policy

IN MEMORIAM



**Michael
A. Lebowitz**
Economics



**Richard
Debo**
History



**Simon
Verdun Jones**
Criminology

NEW CONTINUING STAFF

- **Agnes Jeon**
Sociology and Anthropology
- **Allen Yee**, Psychology
- **Amanda Furney**
Political Science
- **Brian Chand**
Urban Studies
- **Carina Thanabadeepathara**
Economics
- **Catalina Bobadilla Sandoval**
International Studies
- **Cerisse Dela Cruz**
Psychology
- **Chieh Wei Chen**
Sociology and Anthropology
- **Claire Paradis**, French
- **Dionysios Arkadianos**
Global Humanities
- **Dora Lau**, Gerontology
- **Dylan Kubota**
Public Policy
- **Elina Jin**
Global Humanities
- **Erin Norman**, History
- **Heather Montgomery**
Global Humanities
- **Heidi Antolick**, Gerontology
- **J. J. Watson-MacKay**
Global Humanities
- **Janelle Stutheit**
Linguistics
- **Jason Leardi**, Philosophy
- **Joelle Lee**
International Studies
- **Kylie Broderick**
Comparative Muslim Studies
- **Lana Kwan Wakelam**
Economics
- **Lee Gellatly**, Linguistics
- **Marilyn Trautman**
Dean's Office
- **Melanie Kang**, Economics
- **Nicole North**, Linguistics
- **Patricia Wong**, Dean's Office
- **Rachel Sze**
Sociology and Anthropology
- **Sanaa Uraizee**, English
- **Sarah Qiu**, Gerontology
- **Shannon Li**, Public Policy
- **Tina Cusmano**, Linguistics
- **Vasundhara Seli**
Political Science
- **Zahraa Hawili**, Dean's Office

RETIRED FACULTY



Betty A. Schellenberg
English



Cindy Patton
Sociology and Anthropology



Dara Culhane
Sociology and Anthropology



George Alder
Psychology



Gordon Rose
Psychology



Lisa Shapiro
Philosophy



Maureen Maloney
Public Policy



Murray Munro
Linguistics



Raymond Corrado
Criminology



Robert McMahon
Psychology



Ronald Roesch
Psychology



Trude Heift
Linguistics

RETIRED STAFF



Anne Marie Barrett
Gerontology



Ellen Kurz
Psychology



Jeanne Persoon
Sociology and Anthropology

STUDENTS + ALUMNI



Lieutenant Governor's Medal of Inclusion, Democracy, and Reconciliation

Nimrit Basra
English



Gordon M. Shrum Undergraduate Gold Medal

Aleksandra Ciesielska
Criminology



Dean's Graduate Convocation Medal

Tiara Cash
Psychology



Dean's Graduate Convocation Medal

Xiaolin Sun
Economics



Dean's Undergraduate Convocation Medal

Russell Zhang
Economics



Robert C. Brown Award

Alea Mohamed
International Studies



Terry Fox Gold Medal

Angelica Parente
Criminology

ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS

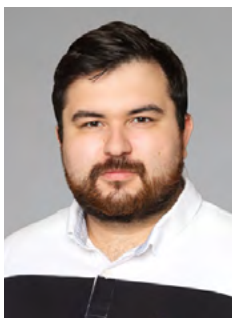
- Indigenous Studies alumnus **Aliya Boubard** was appointed as Curator to the Bill Reid Gallery of Northwest Coast Art.
- Political Science alumnus **Helen Sofia Pahou** was named by the Surrey Board of Trade as one of their 2023 Top 25 Under 25.
- Graduate Liberal Studies alumnus **Dorothy Dittrich** won the Governor General's Literary Award for her play, which was inspired by a GLS course on grief and mourning rituals.

Fall 2022-2023 competition year

- 3 from CIHR
- 1 from NSERC
- 35 from SSHRC

TRI-AGENCY CANADA GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS (CGS)

12	26	1
CGS-DOCTORAL RECIPIENTS	CGS-MASTER'S RECIPIENTS	VANIER CGS RECIPIENT



BREAKING DOWN STIGMA AND PROMOTING INCLUSIVITY

A Métis doctoral student in the Clinical Psychology program supervised by Dr. Grace Iarocci, **Troy Boucher** was awarded the highly prestigious Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship.

Through his work at the Autism and Developmental Disabilities Lab, Boucher delves into the challenges faced by individuals with autism across the lifespan. The primary focus of his research is inclusivity; to gain insight into the stigma surrounding autism and partner with autistic individuals to instigate transformative shifts in society. This includes initiatives such as designing educational programs to enhance autism awareness among children and adolescents.

STUDENTS + ALUMNI

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ADVISING, RECRUITMENT, AND OUTREACH

Through a combination of participation in SFU-led events, FASS-specific activities for high school (future) students, and advising for incoming and current students in 2023, Arts Central connected with and helped:

5,000+

FUTURE STUDENTS

3,500+

NEWLY ADMITTED STUDENTS



REACHING A WIDE AUDIENCE ONLINE

Videos and content posted by the @fass.engage Instagram account, FASS's primary student-facing social media account, continues to grow at an impressive rate.

56%

NON-FOLLOWERS



44%

FOLLOWERS

SUPPORTING STUDENTS' JOURNEYS

Among its many services, Arts Central runs the FASS Mentorship program for students to make friends, expand their networks, and blossom in their academic careers. Connecting to our new students, Welcome Week saw big turnouts, particularly in the fall term, with an overall attendance of 916 FASS students.

43

MENTORS

143

MENTEES

916

WELCOME DAYS ATTENDEES



INSPIRING STUDENT STORIES

Criminology student and accomplished wrestler **Payten Smith** was honoured with the Hometown Heroes Award by the City of Maple Ridge.

After an injury cut her wrestling career short, she switched focus to pursue her master's degree in criminology, helping with youth wrestling, and getting kids interested in STEM.



MARCHING FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Students and alumni from International Studies and Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies organized Vancouver's first annual International Women's Day March. **Yasmin Simsek, Nidhi Ghelani, Maria Kouhi, Spencer Lee, Megan Bobetsis, and Karissa Ketter** led the event with the goal of bringing awareness to gender-based violence and inequality faced by women around the world.

#5

RANKED IN CANADA

Times Higher Education Ranking (2023) by subject area, “arts and humanities” and “social sciences”

27

DEPARTMENTS, SCHOOLS,
AND PROGRAMS

14

RESEARCH CENTRES
AND INSTITUTES

188

UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE
PROGRAM OPTIONS

MORE THAN

300

CONTINUING RESEARCH
AND TEACHING FACULTY

29% of all CFL at SFU *

9,937

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

33% of all undergraduates at SFU *

MORE THAN

200

PUBLIC EVENTS

Not including colloquiums, research seminars, and student-only events

125

CONTINUING STAFF

773

GRADUATE STUDENTS

19% of all grad students at SFU *

2,133

GRADUANDS

LOOKING AHEAD: ANTICIPATING MORE GREAT NEWS

2024 will be an exciting year for FASS. We will continue to find new ways to support research and teaching innovation and excellence. We are keen to connect with new constituencies in our community and to renew and deepen our relationships with existing ones. We are working on new opportunities and credentials for students, and new ways to recognize the work of our staff. From our efforts to launch a minor in Medical Humanities and Social Sciences, to strengthening our Social Data Analytics program, to developing more robust interdisciplinary research teams, we will position FASS strategically with respect to the changes around us.

We will launch FASS's first Strategic Research Plan. This is our opportunity to build exciting new communities of inquiry, engage new community and global partners, and break down barriers within our Faculty. The process of developing this plan has revealed the commitment and vitality of intellectual life at SFU, and we anticipate that our plan will align well with SFU's Strategic Research Plan (2023-2028) and the President's What's Next Strategic Plan, while setting ourselves apart as humanities and social science researchers. We also anticipate releasing an updated Strategic Academic Plan.

As part of these efforts, the Dean's Lecture Series started in 2024 to uplift and support research clusters, bring together researchers within FASS and connect us to colleagues from universities near and far.

Our commitment to Indigenization and decolonization, social justice, and equity, diversity, and inclusion are long-standing and emerge from our FASS community at all levels.

Addressing global and local challenges, from health care to rapid technological changes such as those represented by ChatGPT, require experts who understand people (in their individual and societal forms) and who excel at interpreting – and learning from – texts (broadly writ). Our combined efforts will benefit FASS and SFU, the province, and can even help mitigate global issues such as climate change, poverty, and human rights violations. Collaboratively, we will chart a thoughtful strategy for an age-old institution (the University) and a venerable field of study (humanities and social sciences) in an age of rapid, complex processes of change and forces of resistance to that change, both within and beyond our communities.