



# Showcase to Inspire: The Benefits of Undergraduate Research for both Faculty and Students

## Panel 1

**Time:** 9:45 am - 11:30 am

**Location:** Cedar Conference Center (1205AB), KPU Surrey Campus

**Zoom Link:** <https://ca01web.zoom.us/j/64633047044>

**Panel Moderator:** Melissa Arbocco

Faculty members and research assistants will provide unique insights into their firsthand experiences on research projects. We will delve into the 'behind-the-scenes' of research in an academic setting, discussing successes and challenges. This panel aims to motivate students and faculty alike to actively participate in research, and there will be an opportunity for attendees to ask questions to the panellists towards the end of the session.

### **Dr. Martha Dow**

Dr. Dow's work emphasises action-oriented research, community collaboration, and evidence-based decision-making. She completed her BA and MA in Sociology at the University of Western Ontario and her Ph.D. in Educational Studies at the University of British Columbia. Her MA research comparing inter-provincial sentencing patterns of violent young offenders combined with her frontline experience working with high-risk youth in conflict with the law sparked Dr. Dow's interest in strengthening the relationship between public policy decisions and the lived experiences of the individuals and communities impacted by these decisions.

Prior to joining UFV, Dr. Dow worked in government as a policy analyst in the areas of social assistance, employment readiness and child development. Dr. Dow has



worked on a variety of program and policy development projects in relation to public safety, health, education, and vulnerable populations and has presented her work internationally. Her appointments by the Solicitor General of Canada as an Independent Chairperson (Pacific Region, Correctional Services of Canada) presiding over serious court and by the Government of British Columbia as a panel member on the Industrial Training Appeal Board have provided Dr. Dow with additional opportunities to engage her commitment to equity, social justice and providing space for marginalised voices. She has worked with all levels of government, the United Nations, and a variety of non-governmental organisations collaborating on over 50 projects, academic papers, book chapters and reports.

Dr. Dow is a recipient of the UFV Teaching Excellence Award (2016) and an Associate Professor in the School of Culture, Media, and Society.

### **Lynsie Beaulieu**

Lynsie is a student at UFV, pursuing a Sociology degree with a Social Research Concentration and an extended minor in Psychology. She was happy to join the research team at CHASI in January of 2022. Lynsie has enjoyed engaging in collaborative learning where she can further her interest in programs that improve the lives of older adults in her community. Lynsie is interested in understanding the complexities of sexual identity concealment and has spent much of her degree advocating for older adults and working to understand the social aspects of ageing.

Upon completing her undergraduate studies, she intends to apply to graduate school to further her knowledge of social gerontology, progress toward a career as a researcher, and communicate the importance of healthy ageing. When Lynsie is not studying or researching, she is mastering the Art of Pickleball!

### **Camille Bédard**

Camille Bédard is a fourth-year student completing a BSc in applied psychology with a minor in counselling at KPU. He has experience conducting both quantitative and qualitative course-based research, and since early 2023, has been working with Dr.

Tara Lyons and her research team to explore the experiences of 2SLGBTQIA+ students at teaching-focused post-secondary institutions. Alongside his research, Camille is an active member of the KPU community, as President of both the Pride Society and Psychology Society. It's his goal to encourage co-curricular involvement and to strengthen relationships between faculty and students.

### **Liam Ruel**

Liam Ruel is a fourth-year psychology honours student at KPU, supervised by Dr. Daniel Bernstein and Dr. Carolyn Baer. He has worked with the Lifespan Cognition Lab to research overconfidence in youth and older adults since 2021. Since 2022, he has also worked with Dr. Tara Lyons to conduct mixed-methods research on the experiences of 2SLGBTQIA+ students.

### **Dr. Fabricio Telo**

Fabricio Telo is a sociology instructor at KPU and a member of Brazil's Peasant Truth Commission. He completed his PhD in Social Sciences at the Federal Rural University in Rio de Janeiro (UFRRJ), Brazil.

### **Nolan Jensen**

Nolan Jensen is an Early Learning and Child Care Policy Analyst for the Métis Nation British Columbia. He completed his Bachelor of History from Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) and is pursuing a Masters of History at Simon Fraser University.

### **Zoe Hong**

Zoe Hong is currently a research assistant at Simon Fraser University. She completed her Master of Arts in International Studies at Simon Fraser University and her Bachelor of Arts in History at Kwantlen Polytechnic University.



### **Bhawan (Vana) Mann**

Vana is currently completing her Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Psychology with a minor in Counselling at KPU. She has been able to work on several different research studies during her time at KPU as a research assistant in the Group Dynamics and Psychometrics Lab. Further, she has completed the Honours program, where she investigated student-instructor rapport-building strategies and preferences across diverse groups. Aside from conducting research, Vana has also had the opportunity to present her research findings at the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) conference in Toronto last year. She is excited to continue sharing her research findings and experiences at Empowering Minds.