



REPORT TO THE
**BOARD OF
GOVERNORS**
JUNE 2021



KPU instructor wins YWCA Women of Distinction Award

Kwantlen Polytechnic University instructor and Network to Eliminate Violence in Relationships (NEVR) founder Dr. Balbir Kaur Gurm received two awards at the [2021 YWCA Women of Distinction Awards](#).

She was named the Community Champion and received the Connecting the Community award.

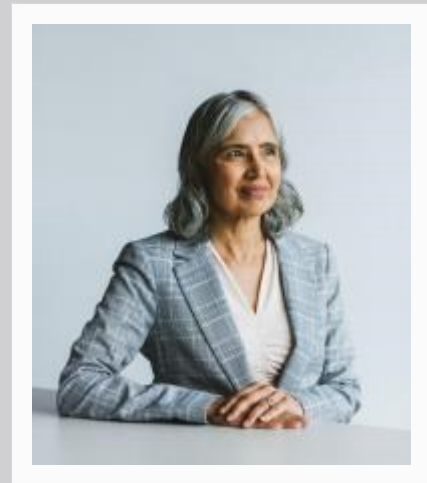
“I am honoured and humbled to have my community work recognized by the selection team,” says Gurm.

“I have worked on equity and oppression issues most of my adult life and have focused more specifically on relationship violence in the last decade or so. The YWCA does important work in this area and other women’s issues also.

“Getting recognized by an organization like the YWCA for my efforts towards eliminating violence allows me to amplify my voice and speak up for those who are not privileged enough to be heard, and also allows me to create the space for victims and survivors to tell their stories.”

Currently, Gurm’s work at NEVR, which is hosted at KPU, includes gathering feedback on changes needed to the family and criminal court systems. NEVR also recently presented a petition to the federal government to create a national gender-based violence plan.

Gurm is also the co-investigator on a study looking into the long-term effects of strangulation injuries on women’s health.



To help combat the relationship violence, especially during the COVID -19 pandemic, Gurm and her team [launched an e-book](#) last year called Making Sense of a Global Pandemic: Relationship Violence & Working Together Towards a Violence Free Society.

“I hope to continue to work with all community partners on this very important issue with even more momentum than ever before. There is still a lot more work to be done,” adds Gurm.

Dr. Jo-Ann Archibald, [an honorary award recipient at KPU](#), received the award in the Education, Training and Development category at the 2021 YWCA Women of Distinction Awards. She is recognized in Canada and internationally as a scholar for Indigenous education.

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Roxanne Charles initially went to KPU to earn an education to support her two young children. Once there she found KPU offered near boundless opportunity to explore intellectual curiosity.

Read more in the latest issue of the [#KPUAlumniMag](#), celebrating [Kwantlen Polytechnic University's](#) 40th Anniversary: <https://alumni.kpu.ca/magazine>

~ from the [KPU Alumni Facebook page](#)

KPU students can study medicine at St. George's University

Kwantlen Polytechnic University announces a new direct admission partnership with St. George's University in Grenada, West Indies.

Under the terms of this new "4+4" program, each admitted student will receive a \$10,000 scholarship to begin studies in medicine or veterinary medicine at St. George's following completion of their undergraduate degree at KPU.

"We're proud to team up with Kwantlen Polytechnic University to provide a direct pathway for students to pursue careers in medicine," said Dr. G. Richard Olds, president of St. George's University. "With U.S. and Canadian medical school admissions more competitive than ever, this partnership can relieve students of the stress of the standard application process."

"We are very excited about this new partnership with St. George's University in Grenada. It has been years in the making," said Carole St. Laurent, associate vice president, KPU International. "This partnership will not only provide the opportunity for our health science students to achieve their goals to become doctors, but it will also make KPU an attractive destination for local and international students to more readily access a graduate-level education in medicine by beginning their educational journey at KPU."

Students can gain provisional acceptance anytime during their first three years at KPU. They learn if they're accepted in the fall of their fourth year. All applicants must complete a degree in Health Sciences. To qualify, medical school applicants must

maintain a 3.4-grade point average and record a competitive score on the MCAT. Veterinary applicants must maintain a 3.2-grade point average and post a score of at least 300 on the GRE.

Upon graduation, successful applicants may enroll immediately at St. George's. Medical students have the opportunity to spend one year at Northumbria University in the United Kingdom.

Admitted students are eligible for merit and need-based financial aid, in addition to the \$10,000 grant from St. George's. Graduates of St. George's can pursue residencies throughout the United States and Canada.

"Canada is facing acute shortages of both doctors and veterinarians," said Sandra Banner, SGU's Director of Admission for Canada. "Partnerships like this one can boost the number of skilled professionals working in these fields -- and help people make their dream of becoming a physician or veterinarian a reality."

"This partnership is welcome news to our students who will now have the opportunity to pursue their dreams to become doctors," said Dr. Elizabeth Worobec, dean of the Faculty of Science and Horticulture at KPU. "The seats for medical schools in the Lower Mainland are highly competitive, so for many of our students, a chance like this to study abroad to fulfill their goals is a welcome opportunity."

President and Vice Chancellor Report

In addition to regular administrative and governance meetings, there has been continued outreach to government and the community, both internally and externally.

On May 27th, I logged into the South Surrey White Rock Chamber of Commerce Celebration of Resilience - Business Excellence Awards, where our own Marlyn Graziano was nominated for an award.

I was pleased to present on “The New KPU” to the Leadership Support group at KPU on May 28th, and I joined the BCNet Governance and Human Resource Committee meeting the same day.

At the May 31st meeting of Senate, Dr Amy Jeon (Biology) was elected as Vice Chair, replacing the outgoing Vice Chair, Dr. David Burns.

On June 1st, the Indigenous Advisory Committee met, and spent its time working through the impact of the former Kamloops Residential School discovery of the remains of 215 children. I did my best to convey what I heard in my weekly [video message](#).

The BCAIU presidents had their regular meeting on June 2nd, and I was pleased to attend the virtual YWCA Women of Distinction event on June 7 (where our own Rhiannon Bennett, Dr. Balbir Gurm, and honorary graduate Dr. Joanne Archibald were all nominated). The regular KPU Foundation Board meeting was held on June 8th.

On June 9th I was pleased to join a group of college and polytechnic presidents in a discussion about the role of Marketing and Communications in post-secondary education during the pandemic, hosted by the MarComm Guild.

On the same day I joined the executive team in the last session in the Cultural Competency training program offered by the Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion. The objective in the program is “to help participants understand the fundamental concepts of culture, so they can work toward being more culturally competent in their interactions with individuals from different cultural norms.”

On June 18th I attend a meeting of the faculty council for Academic and Career Preparation to discuss research and scholarship at KPU and later the same day we hosted a safe visit of Andrew Mercier (MLA for Langley) to KPU Tech to observe how we have continued with our programming during the pandemic.

That evening I attended and spoke at the opening session of CINI 2021: Integrative Thinking and Health: Post-COVID: a 3-day conference of which KPU is a sponsor.

On June 23rd I was pleased to provide a welcome to the Surrey Board of Trade event: BC's Education and Childcare with BC Minister of Education Jennifer Whiteside and Katrina Chen, Minister of State for Child Care.

Looking ahead, on June 24th my State of the University address will be broadcast, June 25th is the regular meeting of the BCNet Board, and June 28th is be the last Senate meeting of the academic year.

Associate Vice President, Human Resources

PEOPLE FIRST CULTURE:

Employee Engagement

On June 1st, 2021, KPU shared the overall results of the Employee Insights Survey with all employees through a University Communicator message. The voluntary survey, open from February 1 – 21, 2021, invited employees to provide feedback on their experience working during the pandemic, preferences for on-campus versus remote work post-pandemic, views on engagement, and further support needed. 1,613 employees were invited to participate and 1,041 responded, resulting in a 65% response rate. Employee engagement scores have increased since our last engagement survey in 2018. Divisional reports will be available this fall and Human Resources Business Partners will reach out to divisional leaders to share these aggregated reports once they are available. KPU's Employee Engagement work groups will continue their efforts to identify areas that need attention and bring forward recommendations.

KPU Engage virtual events continue to offer a way for colleagues across the University to connect and build relationships. Employees can access an events calendar to identify and join any events of interest and are also invited to bring forward ideas.

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI)

Since March of this year, KPU's senior executive team has been engaged with the Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion in a Leadership Growth program focused on EDI. In May, the leadership team completed an Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) which measures an individual's or group's level of intercultural sensitivity and participated in an Introduction to Cultural Competence workshop followed by a group IDI debrief. These exercises aim to help the senior executive team understand how they can work together to lead and create an inclusive work culture at KPU.

TALENT MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

Senior Talent Acquisition

Searches underway:

- Associate Dean, Faculty of Health
- Vice President, External Affairs

Organizational Development

Employee Workshops

Workshops offered to KPU employees included "Cultivating Calm: Mindfulness, Stress and You" and "Having the Courage: Difficult Conversations" levels one and two.

PEOPLE SERVICES

Human Resources Associate Team

The Human Resources Associate team currently has a number of projects underway related to designing and enhancing processes to increase operational efficiency. One of these projects includes collaboration with others across the organization in the development of a Faculty Information and Workload manual to be shared with Faculty departments. Another initiative is the development of metrics to report on various employee movement, status changes, and new contracts issued per department. A working group comprised of a cross section of stakeholders across the University has also been struck to review position numbers and position control.

Human Resources Information Systems (HRIS)

Historically, employee files have been maintained in a paper based filing system. The Banner Document Management project, a digital employee file system, is in its final stages. The testing phase is now complete and implementation is scheduled for the end of June. The next step will be to scan all employee files for upload into the system.

Occupational Health & Safety

KPU's participation in the North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) week was a success, with an increase in users accessing Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) information throughout the week of over 50%.

The OHS department is preparing for the annual Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee training on June 7th and 9th. The topics being covered this year are safety inspections and incident investigations.

Work continues on return to campus planning in anticipation of receiving the revised Go Forward Guidelines for the Fall semester.

Total Compensation

Merit based increases of up to 2% have been approved effective July 1st, 2021 for those administrative employees who are eligible. The compensation team is working on completing an analysis of each administrative employee's eligibility for the salary increase based on the required criteria.

PEOPLE RELATIONS

Accommodation Requests for Remote Working

The Labour Relations team has been working collaboratively with Health and Benefits to prepare for an increase in face-to-face instruction in September. With the anticipation of a related increase in the number of requests for accommodation, the Labour Relations has created and distributed resources to support administrators when they receive requests for accommodations, leaves, or remote working arrangements due to COVID-19.

Changes to Employment Standards Act: New Paid COVID-19 Sick Leave

On May 20, 2021, Bill 13 was passed, amending the Employment Standards Act (ESA) to allow for a new paid sick leave. This leave provides eligible employees with up to three days of paid leave when an employee requires time off and has

to stay home due to COVID-19. This leave applies to employees who do not have access to any other paid leave under these circumstances. Labour Relations has been in discussion with the unions with respect to these changes and has communicated that the intent of the University, without prejudice or precedent to our interpretation of the collective agreement or the ESA, is to extend these entitlements to those bargaining unit employees who are not otherwise entitled to sick benefits. This ESA entitlement is temporary in nature and remains effective from May 20, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

Human Resources Business Partner Team

The team of Human Resource Business Partners have been working on projects that align with HR's Strategic Plan and goals. These projects include an analysis and recommendation for recruitment at KPU, as well as exploring a mentoring program for KPU employees.



Office of the Vice President, Finance & Administration

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Financial Services is happy to announce that following a successful competitive recruitment initiative, Chervahun Emilien, CPA, CA, joined KPU on May 31st as the new Executive Director.

FINANCIAL OPERATIONS:

Staffing

Following a recent open competition, Kristine Kidd, CPA, CA, was appointed as the new Manager, Financial Reporting and is filling the Director, Financial Operations role on an interim basis. Kristine first joined KPU in August 2020 as the Interim, Manager Budgeting.

Initiatives

KPU's year-end financial audit, and supplemental financial reporting such as App C to the ministry and preparation of the management discussion & analysis on the audit are now complete. Financial Operations is now working with KPMG to complete the Foundation and Alumni Association year-end financial audits.

The team is participating in incorporating new operational and accounting processes for the new FM8 Student Tuition and Fees Procedures which becomes effective September 1, 2021. We also continue to work with CPS to find process improvements with the implementation of the new Elevate system earlier in the year.

BUDGETING:

Work on the 22 / 23 budget has begun. The budget timelines and priorities have been developed and are out for consultation. Training and templates to be used in the 22 / 23 budget process is under development.

Work is also progressing on developing a new enhanced variance reporting and financial forecasting model and stakeholder consultation has begun. This was presented at KPU Leadership Support Retreat on May 28th and will be presented to President's Council on June 23rd with a planned pilot project for Q1 scheduled to gather further feedback.

PAYROLL SERVICES:

Staffing

Job description updates are underway for the payroll management team. Once complete, staffing initiatives can begin for currently vacant payroll leadership positions.

Initiatives

The payroll team is continuing to review processes, procedures, customer needs and systems to identify opportunities for continuous improvement. They are currently working to streamline the tracking process for early retirement incentive payouts and work with the IT

department to help automate portions of this process. Information on how divisional areas across KPU play an important role in ensuring accurate and timely payroll to KPU employees was presented at the KPU Leadership Support Retreat in early June.

PROCUREMENT SERVICES:

Staffing

Procurement Services staff had the opportunity to attend the virtual BCNET (Procurement Consortium for BC post-secondary institutions) Spring Member Forum where various procurement topics were discussed, along with roundtable discussions between member institutions regarding their strategies in place to prepare for Fall return-to-campus activities.

Initiatives

Procurement Services has embarked on a post-transformation consultation/ Listening Tour with all key KPU stakeholder groups with goal of maintaining and improving upon gains made during the transformation strategy. During May, Procurement Services completed the stakeholder consultations with the following departments: Risk and Security, Facilities, IT and the Teaching and Learning Commons. The remainder of the stakeholder consultations are scheduled for June.

In order to improve pro-active planning for new projects and re-procurements of existing needs, Procurement Services has developed a two-year procurement pipeline (covering FY22 and FY23) which will be socialized with user departments and faculties during the month of June for their additional inputs. This will enhance collaboration, portfolio management and pro-active planning of new and existing business needs between Procurement and our internal customers (user departments and faculties).

Procurement Services delivered a presentation on KPU's procurement policy and practices at the recent KPU Leadership support retreat on May 28th. Information was shared on contract performance mentoring and management on June 4th at the second day of the retreat.

New strategic projects posted and currently underway in the Procurement cycle are as follows:

- Audit Services NRFP has closed and evaluation is underway
- Paving Services NRFP is posted and will close on June 17
- Roof Replacement (KPU Richmond Campus) ITT is posted and will close on June 24
- Landscaping and Snow Removal NRFP is posted and will close on July 6
- Painting Services Request for Pre-Qualification (RFPQ) is posted and will close on July 20

Procurement Services recently completed/awarded the following major projects greater than \$200K as well as strategic projects:

- Kitchen Equipment Repairs Services Contract has now been

awarded. The contract execution process is underway.

Major contracts renewed/being renewed for an additional/supplementary contract term:

- Curriculum Management Solution contract renewal for additional 1-year term is underway

RISK AND SECURITY

ORGANIZATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Organizational Risk Management is working closely with executive to organize and facilitate the identification and assessment of risks related to a gradual return to campus based on the return to campus primer released by the ministry. A staffing initiative is underway to fill the vacant Risk Advisor position.

SECURITY

This past quarter a few critical projects completed. Access control was added in Surrey for several administrative offices. An audit on the intrusion system was completed for the Richmond main building and repairs are soon to follow. A replacement camera server was ordered for Surrey to address end of life hardware and compatibility issues, and should be installed by the end of summer. A camera, card access, and an alarm keypad were installed into the Richmond IT storage area to secure high value areas. Otherwise all systems are functioning as expected.

EMERGENCY PLANNING

Emergency Planning working closely with external contractor and internal stakeholder working groups to prepare all-inclusive emergency plan for KPU. A new 911 protocol has been established which was required due to the new phone system within KPU.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

IT INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

Mobile Workforce Project

Information about this exciting initiative has been provided to users on SharePoint and we are continuing to build out the FAQ's section. Due to supply issues, the first shipment of laptops is delayed for approximately a week and is expected to arrive at Microserve for tagging on July 8. An information video about the mobile workforce project will be created providing end users more information about the program and its purpose. A survey has been sent out to faculty members requesting information about their software needs for course delivery, preferred pickup times, and locations which will feed into our deployment plan. We have received responses from approximately 50% of the users thus far.

Telephone System Implementation

Infrastructure to support the campus security phones are currently being setup. Once the security phones can operate independently, the old phone system can be decommissioned.

Digital Ready Classrooms and Meeting Rooms

Procurement of first batch of controllers for the annual refresh has begun. AV setup for 18 new desks have been completed across Langley, Richmond, and Surrey classrooms. Setup of a recording room within T&L has completed. Setup of 2 meeting rooms and 1 new classroom for the Wilson School of Design is currently in progress.

IT APPLICATION SERVICES

CRM Project

The CRM recruitment team (FSO, International, Marketing, OPA, OReg), continues to work with the new Greymatter CRM application. The Stakeholder and Steering committee are working on several initiatives: CRM Governance, Phase 1 Gap Analysis for the deliverables, CRM specialist job description for a position to take a leadership role in managing the CRM initiatives moving forward.

BANNER 9 Projects

The Banner Spring Upgrade is on track for June 5 implementation (the next upgrade is scheduled for Oct 24/25). The Degree Works upgrade to the newest release was completed in May. Other initiatives still in progress are: student official transcript request, General 9 Self Service, International tuition deposit, Banner 9 AR, Banner 9 E-Commerce. The technology teams are also working to upgrade the ORACLE databases to the most current version as well as Banner Document Management Systems.

SharePoint Intranet Portal

The IT department continues to work with stakeholder departments to migrate the KPU SharePoint site (our.kpu.ca) to a cloud service and will be finished ahead of schedule in

July. The team is in the final stages of deploying a new re-design of the our.kpu.ca site, along with new versions of the TODAY@ and COMMUNICATOR. This will allow for better communications to our staff and faculty, as well as centralizing some of the essential tools they will require.

CourseLeaf Curriculum (CIM) Project

The CourseLeaf project for curriculum is still in the data analysis phase. The KPU team is working with the LeepFrog team integrating BANNER and SharePoint Curriculum into the CIM system.

INFORMATION SECURITY SERVICES

Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) Project

The next phase of this project will begin in July/August to provision MFA to all staff in high-risk departments that may have access to and process personal, confidential and sensitive information.

CanSSOC Cybersecurity Threat Intelligence

The CanSSOC Threat Feed uniquely serves the Research and Education sector by identifying emerging threats based on intelligence shared among national and global partners. KPU Information security is presently onboarding this fully funded National cyber security service and should have it operational by July 2021.

O365 Advanced Threat Protection

As part of our ongoing initiative to improve KPU's data security, the Information Security Team has enabled ATP Safe Attachments for Teams, OneDrive, and SharePoint Online on Tuesday, May 25 2021. Microsoft O365 based file storage and sharing systems will begin scanning shared files to determine if they contain malware before making them available.

Microsoft Defender for Identity

A phased project has been kicked-off in June to implement this security solution to identify, detect, and investigate advanced threats, compromised identities, and malicious insider actions directed at our organization. Defender for Identity enables the KPU Security Team to detect advanced attacks in hybrid environments to:

- Monitor users, entity behavior, and activities with learning-based analytics.
- Protect user identities and credentials.
- Identify and investigate suspicious user activities and advanced attacks.
- Provide clear incident information on a simple timeline for fast triage.

2021 Information Security Vulnerability Scan

To reduce KPU's risk and prevent a data breach, critical vulnerabilities must be continuously identified, prioritized, and remediated. Information security is presently in the procurement stage of selecting a certified cyber security

company to scan KPU's computing and network environment for security vulnerabilities.

CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY PLANNING

KPU Richmond – COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic

KPU continues to work collaboratively with Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) and support the ongoing COVID-19 vaccination plans through the community vaccination clinic located in Richmond Main Building's Atrium. The clinic operates by appointment only and runs 7 days a week from 9AM to 7PM and is anticipated to run until late August.

KPU Langley - COVID-19 Testing Centre and Immunization Clinic

KPU continues with its coordination with the Fraser Health Authority (FHA) to support the ongoing effort against the spread of COVID-19 by hosting a drive-through testing and assessment centre and vaccination clinic on a portion of KPU Langley's parking lot. The clinic operates by appointment only and runs 7 days a week from 830AM to 6PM. FHA has reported that this clinic is also supporting vaccinations for vulnerable and at-risk populations along with refugees and new immigrants.

PPE Mask Recycling – Pilot Project

KPU has partnered with Vitacore Industries Inc., a local Canadian manufacturer of PPE masks and respirators, that has recently launched a pilot project to recycle the high-value polypropylene material used in PPE masks. Vitacore estimates that over 60,000 tons of COVID-19 related single-use masks and respirators will be used over the next year in Canada. KPU has worked with FHA and VCH to setup mask collection bins at the COVID-19 vaccination clinics currently operating at KPU Richmond and KPU Langley.

Tsawwassen Farm School

CCP continues to work closely with the Institute of Sustainable Food Systems ("ISFS") and the Tsawwassen First Nation ("TFN"), most recently by receiving TFN's Executive Council support to move forward with ISFS leading the development of a community farm on a plot of TFN land adjacent to the Farm School. This collaboration builds on recent community engagement where KPU Farm School staff volunteered time and resources on May 28th to make improvements to TFN's existing community garden. Photos and a description of the event can be found [here](#).

FACILITIES SERVICES

SPACE AND DESIGN ADMINISTRATION:

KPU Street-Facing Signage Refresh

The work to refresh all of the KPU street-facing signs is underway. Refresh work includes cleaning and painting signage frames and posts, retrofitting LEDs within the sign, and replacing all of the sign faces.



Spruce 3D Studio - Exhaust System Modification

To improve air quality at the 3D wood, plaster, metal and welding studio, the exhaust system is being modified to permit the localized use for individual pieces of equipment.



Spruce Gallery, Painting and Drawing Studio - Lighting Upgrade

KPU has committed to enhancing the student experience by upgrading the lighting in the first-floor gallery and second-floor drawing and painting studios. The lighting design has been finalized and items with long lead times have been delivered already.

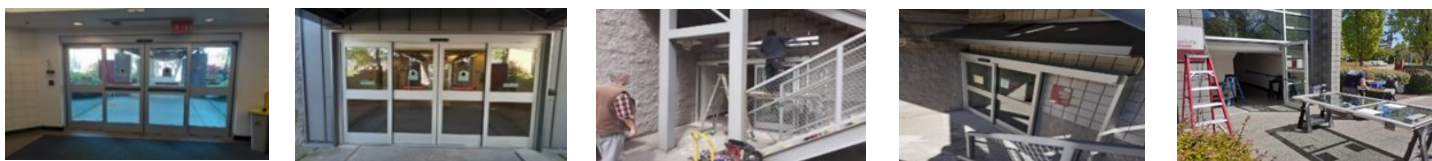
FACILITIES MAINTENANCE/OPERATIONS/GENERAL:

Facilities Services Management

Three management vacancies in the Facilities Services department are well on their way to being addressed. Shawn Cahill, a long-time employee of KPU, was recently promoted to the position of Manager, Maintenance and Capital Renewal. Shawn has worked in this role on an interim basis for the past two years overseeing KPU's asset replacement projects, energy management, and major maintenance. The department is also currently recruiting for two Operations Managers who will oversee day-to-day operations at all campuses. These three positions are key roles in the department and are essential for maintaining the KPU buildings and properties at peak condition.

Surrey KPU Campus Automated Door Installation Work

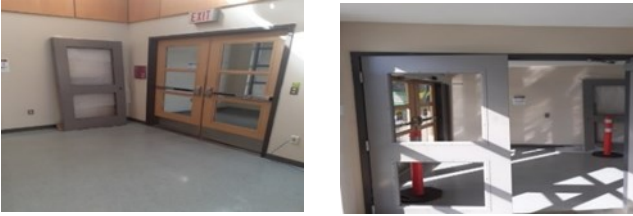
A fully automated slider door system was installed on the Fir building west entrance. This new door system will help students efficiently move into and out of the building while carrying books due to the touchless entry/exit feature. An automated door system was also installed on the south and east entrances with similar functionality.



Finance & Administration cont'd

Langley KPU Campus Stairwell and Interior Steel Door Replacements

Replacement of interior and stairwell steel doors was carried out on doors from original campus construction.

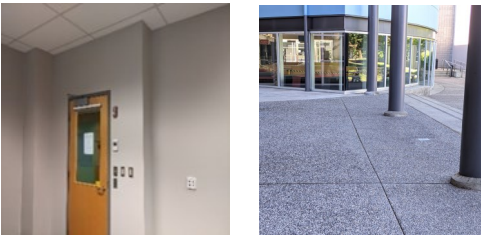


Facility Refurbishments and Seasonal Maintenance

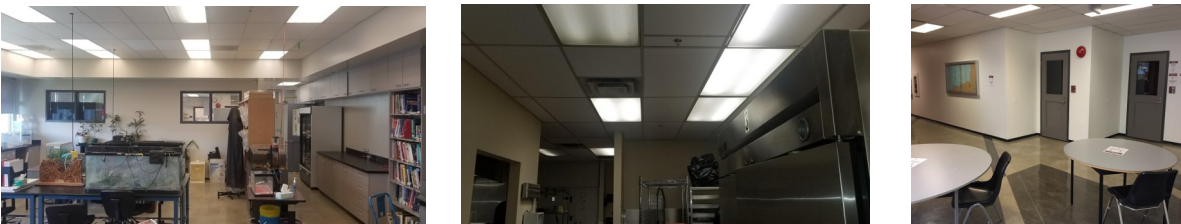
KPU Langley - Painting of The Learning Centre and the repair/start-up of Langley's water feature.



KPU Surrey - Painting of Birch lobby doors frames and walls, Classroom Cedar 2045, pressure washing of Cedar courtyard.



KPU Richmond - Painting the hallways doors/frames second and third floor and replacing ceiling tiles in the Cafeteria kitchen.



ANCILLARY SERVICES:

Food Services

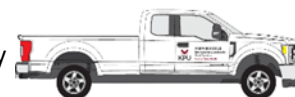
The transition to Compass as the new food services provider has been underway since the contract was signed in May. Regular project meetings are held weekly to ensure a smooth reopening in September at all campuses. Compass will be making a significant investment in refreshing each cafeteria and both Tim Hortons kiosks. Ancillary Services and Compass are working collaboratively to prioritize refresh concepts, set hours of operation, and menu selection.

The contract for kitchen equipment maintenance and repairs has been awarded to Key Foods. We will be working with Key Foods to assess the current equipment to be ready for the Fall reopening of food services.

Finance & Administration cont'd

Fleet

The new wrap design for the Tsawwassen Farm School Truck has been finalized and will be installed by the end of June 2021.



Parking

An RFP for paving contractor services has launched on BC Bid. A walkthrough with potential Vendors of KPU campuses has been completed. Once RFP is finalized, maintenance work on parking lots will be completed, such as line and curb painting, sealing, curb repairs and asphalt repairs.

Bookstore Operations

Completed financial analysis of Bookstore Operations. Options for store openings in September have been developed that will allow for more efficiently run the operations while not impacting the student experience.

Print Shop

The Print Shop is beginning to receive work orders for the Fall semester course material and course manuals from faculty in preparation for on-campus classes.

The Institute for Sustainable Horticulture has just completed their Report on the Okanagan Bioregion Food System Project that consists of a Report Booklet, a cover letter and 14 Briefs. The Print Shop will print these documents and compile them into 87 mailing packages to go to various stakeholders.

Logistics Services (Mailroom and Shipping & Receiving)

The mailroom continues to process all incoming and outgoing mail for KPU. This month the mailroom is shipping 2,500 graduation boxes and 500 KPU welcome boxes to students.

Our new work order system (TDx) has been incorporated with a Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Order Form so that orders for pandemic-related PPE such as masks, hand sanitizer, etc., can be processed efficiently. In preparation for on-campus classes this Fall semester, a stockpile of PPE supplies is being managed by Logistics Services.



Office of the Provost & Vice President, Academic

PROVINCIAL INITIATIVES

Dr. Rajiv Jhangiani, AVP Teaching and Learning, was appointed by the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training (AEST) to participate on behalf of the post-secondary system in a roundtable discussion with Ministers Anne Kang and Lisa Beare regarding the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA), and in particular, data residency. The roundtable will be discussing data residency restrictions under BC's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA), the scope of FIPPA related wholly owned subsidiaries, and any other issues related to the Act.

Dr. Sandy Vanderburgh, KPU Provost and VPA Academic, was appointed to the BC Digital Learning Advisory Committee by the AEST. The purpose of this committee is to guide work by the AEST and the post-secondary system to identify the lessons learned from the adoption of digital learning models in post-secondary education over the past year and to incorporate those into existing knowledge and best practices in order to develop recommendations that support flexible, high quality learning experiences and expand opportunities for post-secondary participation to more British Columbians.

ACADEMIC PORTFOLIO

Program Changes and Quality Assurance

At the May 31 Senate meeting, changes were approved for the following programs: Diploma in Traditional Chinese Medicine - Acupuncture, Bachelor of Science in Nursing - Advanced Entry, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Bachelor of Psychiatric Nursing, Certificate in Education Assistant, and the Post Baccalaureate in Accounting. The Quality Assurance Plans for the Bachelors of Horticulture Science and Philosophy were also approved.

Policies

The following policies were approved by the Presidents University Council (PUE): AC1 – Program Advisory Committee, AC10 - Development and Change of Senate-Approved Programs, AC15 – Micro-credentials, BP7 – University Space, and RS6 – Animal Use and Ethics in Teaching and Research and are now in the Senate process.

Research, Innovation and Graduate Studies

Thanks to a very generous donation from the Dr. Sherman Jen Education Foundation endowed through the KPU Foundation, KPU is creating two Sherman Jen Research Chairs to conduct research that supports our polytechnic mandate locally, nationally, and globally. The inaugural chairs will be appointed in two key areas for KPU:

1. **The Sherman Jen Research Chair in Next-Generation Design:** The Sherman Jen Research Chair in Next-Generation Design will be based at the Wilson School of Design at KPU Richmond. Together with internal and external allies, the Chair will be able to undertake transformational work on next-generation design addressing pressing challenges of technological empowerment, environmental sustainability, and social inclusion.
2. **The Sherman Jen Research Chair in Applied Genomics:** The Sherman Jen Research Chair in Applied Genomics will be based in the Faculty of Science and Horticulture at KPU Surrey. Building on prior funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the BC Knowledge Development Fund, KPU has completed a new facility for applied genomics that will serve as the home of this Chair. Together with leading researchers at KPU and other institutions, companies, industry associations, and non-profits, the Chair will be able to positively impact human health outcomes and competitiveness of the agricultural sector.

Teaching and Learning

The new Teaching and Learning Fund has supported eight projects this academic year, with additional proposals currently under review. Supported projects have ranged from the integration of technologies such as 3D scanning, augmented reality, virtual reality, and 3-dimensional illustration in the Wilson School of Design to the development and delivery of wellness labs to serve students in the Faculty of Arts.

PEOPLE

It is quite amazing to see the activities and successes of our faculty and staff during the pandemic. With so much facing us in our daily life and work routines, and yet so many have continued to raise the bar for KPU.

- Congratulations to Dr. Balbir Gurm, Nursing Instructor, Faculty of Health, who is the recipient of the 2021 BC Achievement Foundation's Community Award and has been nominated for a YWCA Women of Distinction award in the Community Champion category.
- Katherine Dunster, Horticulture Instructor, Faculty of Science and Horticulture, was elected to the Fellows for the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA). Induction to the College of Fellows is one of the highest honours the CSLA bestows on its members.
- Dr. Patricia Coburn, Psychology Instructor, Faculty of Arts, and KPU BA honours alum (2011), will receive the

Office of the Provost & Vice President, Academic cont'd

Governor General's Gold Medal at Simon Fraser University's June Convocation. The Governor General's Gold Medal is one of the most prestigious awards given to graduate students in Canada.

- The search process for the Associate Dean of the Faculty of Health has concluded and a public announcement will be made shortly. The search for the next Dean of Science and Horticulture has been temporarily suspended to the start of the fall 2021 semester. Over the summer the Search Advisory Committee Chair and Human Resources will work to address the issues that led to the temporary suspension of the search.

NOTABLE MEETINGS AND EVENTS INVOLVING THE PROVOST'S OFFICE INCLUDE:

- Strategic Enrolment Management (SEMM) Forum Spring 2021, May 05 and 06.
- BC Council of Administrative Tribunals (BCCAT), Decision Writing Workshop, May 14 and 17.
- Conference Board of Canada Webcast. *Taking a Behavioral Science Approach to Building a Resilient Culture*. Presented by Cheryl Fullerton, Executive Vice President of People and Communications, Corus Communications, May 20.
- BC Association of Institutes and Universities (BCAIU), VP Academics Meeting, May 26.
- Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion (CCDI), *Diversity and Inclusion Influencer Certificate Course 1 – Gender in the Workplace*, May 27.
- Polytechnics Canada, Vice Presidents Academic Meeting, May 28.
- BC Trades and Technology Directors Meeting, June 02.
- Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion (CCDI), *Diversity and Inclusion Influencer Certificate Course 2 – LGBTQ2+*, June 03.
- BC Council of Administrative Tribunals (BCCAT), Appeals Training – Hearing Skills Workshop, Day 1 - June 07.
- Lancaster House, 39th Annual Labour Arbitration and Policy Conference. The Latest Developments: Major caselaw and legislative update and Finding Calm after the Storm: Restoring the workplace and other post-investigation issues. Day 1 - June 08.



Faculty of Academic and Career Preparation

The ACP Dean's office has been working with the departments to determine the best mix of online, blended, and F2F offerings for the fall term. In addition, a return to work plan has submitted to ensure that administrative staff are safe as the campuses open up again. We are looking forward to seeing each other in actual human form once again.

The ACP Faculty Planning/Priorities document is in the final stages of completion. This document will provide guidance as to where to put our energy for ACP's future. The planning process began in the fall of 2019 and was somewhat slowed by the pandemic, so we are looking forward to having it in place.

The Faculty is also looking forward to the implementation of the new Faculty-level Research and Scholarship Committee, whose primary tasks will be encouraging faculty in their research pursuits and offering creative ways for them to share their work with their colleagues.

In response to KPU's Taskforce on Anti-Racism, ACP is in the process of drafting its own statement on anti-racism. This has been a meaningful task for the group who took on this task, and we look forward to sharing it on our website once it has been approved by Faculty Council.

A one-year pilot project that will see ELS instructors embedded in other academic faculties has been approved. This is exciting because not only does it mitigate several layoffs in the department, but it will also provide language support for students as they study in their disciplines. The project will get underway in the fall term.

ACP submitted six creative proposals to the President's Post-Pandemic Strategic Initiatives Fund, an impressive showing.

The Faculty Indigenous Reading Circle met in April to discuss the memoir *Heart Berries* by Terese Marie Mailhot. At the next meeting, set for June 18, the book under discussion will be Eden Robinson's *Son of a Trickster*.

ACCESS PROGRAMS

As the final course in the 2020-2021 program year is nearing completion, the Access Programs students are engaged in planning for their next steps after they leave KPU. Many feel they are confident about what they want to do next and others are working closely with Faculty and Instructional Associates to develop a strategy that will ensure any supports needed are in place.

The program revision process continues to refine and develop the framework for the updated AP program. By the end of August 2021, the proposal will have been presented to ACP Faculty Governance Committees for consultation.

Faculty member Glenda Lagasse has become a published author contributing a chapter 'Students with Intellectual Disabilities Navigating the Post-Secondary System' to a book on

"Career Development for Diverse Clients - Beyond the Basics", Roberta A. Borgen. In late July Glenda will be participating as part of a panel at UBC discussing Context and Culture as presented in the book.

Glenda has developed and will present a comprehensive overview of the KPU Access Program and its innovative virtual work experiences offered this past year during COVID at the upcoming provincial District Resource Network (DRN) meeting.

The Access Program will be saying goodbye to some long serving faculty and instructional associates as they move on to retirement – faculty member Nicola Soles, and Instructional associates Catherine Rauk and Valerie Newton. ASE, AP and the community wish them well and thank them for their incredible contributions to the program and all the students they reached over the years. They will be missed.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE STUDIES (ELS)

In light of increasing enrollments and other mitigation strategies, we are pleased that all layoff notices issued to six of our faculty members in January 2021 have been rescinded.

Faculty members Joanna Daley and Melissa Swanink are developing materials for business-focused versions of ELST 0381 Reading & Writing and ELST 0383 Listening & Speaking. They will be hosting an information session about these sections to encourage students to enroll in these sections if they plan on majoring in business.

Incoming co-chairs Lesley Hemsworth and Melissa Swanink completed two weeks of intensive workshops called *Having the Courage: Difficult Conversations, Levels 1 and 2*. This in-house training was hosted by KPU's Human Resources' Organizational Development team, and it was facilitated by Deborah White and Associates from the Justice Institute of British Columbia.

The ELS Marketing Committee along with reps from the EU department are working on two promotional videos. One video will be for the 2021-2022 KPU Faculty Showcases. The second video will be used as an orientation for new students in ACP and/or KPU. It is an opportunity to highlight ways our division can help all students needing support.

The virtual BCCAT EAL Articulation meeting was held on Friday, May 14th which provided an opportunity to hear updates from the post-secondary institutions in the province. Lynette Manton, Susan Saint and Elizabeth Spalding attended. Topics discussed included the impact of Covid and recovery plans, private pathway articulations, Duolingo placement testing, and new models for providing continuing EAL support for undergraduate students.

Susan Saint submitted a report to the Dean regarding the Pathways Articulation Proposal Project. In this work, she re-

Faculty of Academic and Career Preparation cont'd

searched three private language institutions to compare course content and outcomes with our ELS courses.

Three ELS faculty Karl Petersen, Steve Ko and Susan Saint attended the annual English, EU and ELS parity marking session organized by the ACP Assessment and Testing Committee held on Thursday, May 27th.

ENGLISH UPGRADING (EU)

English Upgrading faculty are excited to be planning for the return to in-person instruction in Fall 2021. The previous year of online instruction has spurred innovation within our programming and helped EU faculty develop a range of new methodologies for working with students. Faculty are keen, though, to return to the classroom environment to support students. As both faculty and students will bring with them a range of

new technological skills when they return to campus, and these new skills will invariably foster continued innovation in learning, the English Upgrading department is committed to providing the widest possible access to education for students in our region.

In other program news, the English Upgrading Program Advisory Committee met virtually on June 1, 2021 for another successful meeting. The group compared notes on how remote communication tools during the pandemic have altered service patterns with clients and students, as well as shared service plans going forward into the latter half of the year. The English Upgrading program has also initiated the start of its third full KPU program review and the department is looking forward to how the program review can assess the program's strengths and set a direction for years to come.



**Explore
WHAT IS
POSSIBLE**

**English Language Pathway to
Business Information Session**

**TUE, JUN 22
10:00-11:00AM**

KPU

Faculty of Arts

SPOTLIGHT:

Cydney Cocking (PSYC Alum '21): President, Kwantlen Psychology Society (2020-2021). Graduate, Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Psychology, Minor in Counselling (June 2021). Cydney Cocking graduated (with distinction) with a Bachelor of Arts (honours) in Psychology and a minor in Counselling from Kwantlen Polytechnic University



in 2021. She completed and defended her honours thesis on April 26, 2021 and will be presenting her honours thesis, Men's Differential Identification with Female-Perpetrated Intimate Partner Victimization, at the Society of the Scientific Study of Sexuality conference in Puerto Rico in November of 2021. She will be applying to Clinical and Counselling Psychology master's programs at the end of this year. Regarding her volunteer and research interests, she just finished her one-year term as Kwantlen Psychology Society's president and continues as an Alumni Advisor, assisting and training members in their new positions. Additionally, she remains a research assistant with the Observations and Research in Gender and Sexuality Matters research lab, and a volunteer reviewer and copyeditor for the Kwantlen Psychology Student Journal. Her research interests include various topics related to clinical psychology and counselling, particularly those incorporating aspects of gender and sexuality. Cydney is grateful for the invaluable experiences she has had at KPU and the knowledge she has gained, all of which has better prepared her not only for her future studies, but for life more generally.

STUDENTS ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Beth Galbraith (HIST/ENGL 2014): Beth Galbraith (BA History/English, 2014) accepted into the University of Alberta Master of Library and Information Studies for September 2021.
- Clea Hargreaves (HIST 2015): Clea Hargreaves (BA History, 2015) completion of End of Life Doula training program (May 2021).
- Sarah Hickinbottom (EDST): 3 students accepted into Masters programs.
 - * Ali Denno: Accepted to Master's Program in Counselling (Adler)
 - * Thomas Miller: Accepted to Masters Program in Counselling (Adler)
 - * Ravina Khella: Accepted to Masters Program in Counselling (Adler)
- Ashley McTaggart (PSYC Alum '20): Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Psychology, Minor in Counselling. Recipient of a Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) grant for her MA work at Adler University.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

- Daniel Bernstein (PSYC): Thesis Committees and Student Supervision
 - * Deva Ly (Ph.D., Psychology), Australian National University, 2019- present; committee member
 - * Daniel Derksen (M.A. Psychology), SFU, 2017-present; M.A. thesis and Ph.D. dissertation supervisor
 - * Megan Giroux (M.A., Ph.D. Psychology), SFU, 2014-present; M.A. thesis and Ph.D. dissertation supervisor
 - * Emma Kruisselbrink (M.A., Psychology), SFU, 2021-present; committee member
 - * Camille Weinsheimer (Ph.D., Psychology), SFU, 2017-present; committee member
- Dianne Crisp (PSYC): Dianne Crisp organized "Very Basics of Moodle" workshops for faculty in Psychology in May 2021.
- Amy Huestis (FINA): Meeting with Hwlitsum First Nation Chief and Council to invite participation in a public signage and art project, "Walk Softly" in Delta with Richmond Art Gallery as Artist in Residence (May 13, 2021).
 - * Andersen Elementary School, Richmond Public Schools. Installation with Birds Canada of "Motus Migratory Tracking System" Tower for community Art/Science Education project with Richmond Art Gallery (Artist in Residence). This is the first Motus tower installed on a public school in the Lower Mainland (May 14, 2021).
- Puqun Li (PHIL): Review of a book proposal for Broadview Press, Canada. The book proposal is entitled: "Laozi's Classic of Virtue and the Dao for the 21st Century" (completed and submitted to Broadview, May 27, 2021).
- John Martin (GEOG & ENVI): Attended (online) the Earth Science Articulation meeting.
- Kurt Penner (PSYC): Psychology Practicum instructor, Kurt Penner, is teaching a record high 36 Psychology practicum students this Summer 2021, despite the challenges of everyone's pandemic-altered work and lives. 27 of these students are working for external organizations or companies in quite varied service and research roles. These projects are the core engagement within PSYC 4010 Practicum in Psychology; participating organizations this year included Collingwood Neighbourhood House, Stepping Stone Community Services, Touchstone Family Association, the Goldie Hawn Foundation MindUp Program, and the Chilliwack Parole Board. The Psychology Department is excited to hear about the practicum experiences and will invite the

Faculty of Arts cont'd

public to the upcoming online student Practicum presentations later in the summer.

RECOGNITION

Awards and Appointments:

- Daniel Bernstein (PSYC): 2018-2023 Canada Research Chair Tier II Lifespan Cognition \$500,000.
- Patricia Coburn (PSYC): Dr. Patricia Coburn, KPU Psychology faculty member and BA honours alum (2011), will receive the Governor General's Gold Medal at Simon Fraser University's June Convocation. The Governor General's Gold Medal is one of the most prestigious awards given to graduate students in Canada. Patricia's dissertation studied the cross-examination of children who experienced a repeated event — research with important implications for theory and legal practice. Her research revealed the adverse effects of cross-examination on children's accuracy and consistency. In particular, it highlighted the heightened adverse effect on children who testify about an instance of a repeated event. Patricia is an extremely dedicated scholar who has worked extremely hard and independently to achieve a high quality of work. Upon graduation, she has 18 publications and she lectured in dozens of courses. Congratulations, Patricia, on this outstanding accomplishment!
- Heather Cyr (ENGL): Elected to Children's Literature Association International Committee: ChLA, 2021-2024 (three-year term).
- Candy Ho (EDST): May: Appointed by the Labour Market Information Council-Future Work Skills to be on the national Career Guidance Stakeholder Committee: <https://lmic-cimt.ca/career-development-stakeholder-committee/>
- Jocelyn Lymburner (PSYC): is the recipient of a Teaching & Learning Innovation Fund Award (May 2021) for her project Improving Student Wellness through Education: The Development and Delivery of Wellness Labs. With the advent of COVID-19, students have not only faced additional stressors but have been robbed of their typical coping resources, creating what some have called a mental health crisis in this population. In order to combat this, the current project aims to engage students through the development and delivery of wellness labs within the framework of KPU's new ARTS 2000 course – The Science and Practice of Wellness. This award will provide experiential learning opportunities and direct wellness benefits through the application of scientifically supported wellness practices (i.e. mindfulness, emotional intelligence, gratitude practices, and self-compassion) designed to improve the overall well-being of our students. Congratulations to Jocelyn on this very impactful and timely project.



Faculty of Arts cont'd

- Asma Sayed (ENGL): Appointed member-at-large on the board of South Asian Network for Secularism and Democracy (SANSAD) for 2021-22 term, May 2021.

Creative Works and Scholarly Publications:

- Daniel Bernstein (PSYC): published abstracts and papers presented (*denotes student or post-doc when work was done)

- * *Derksen, D.G., *Giroux, M.E., Connolly, D.A., Newman, E.J., & Bernstein, D.M. (2021, May). Clarifying photos do not increase the magnitude of the truthiness effect. Paper presented to Northwest Cognition and Memory. Virtual conference.
- * *Dogra, K. K., *Rai, I. K. & Bernstein, D. M. (2021, May). The effect of socioeconomic status on hindsight bias across the lifespan. Poster presented to Northwest Cognition and Memory. Virtual conference.
- * *Dogra, K. K., *Rai, I. K. & Bernstein, D. M. (2021, May). Ethnicity and hindsight bias across the lifespan. Poster presented to the Interdisciplinary Conference in Psychology. Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Virtual conference.
- * *Hamzagic, Z., Matsuba, K., & Bernstein, D.M. (2021, May). Developmental change in the sunk-cost effect from age six to nine. Poster presented to Northwest Cognition and Memory. Virtual conference.
- * *Hamzagic, Z., Wichmann, M., * Bernstein, D.M. (2021, May). Assessing the Children's Social Understanding Scale in 2- to 9-year old children. Poster presented to Northwest Cognition and Memory. Virtual conference.
- * *Pelletier, A.S., *Derksen, D.G., & Bernstein, D.M. (2021, May). Effects of rumination on theory of mind in participants with high trait depression. Poster presented to Northwest Cognition and Memory. Virtual conference.
- * Ad Hoc Review: American Journal of Psychology completed with students.

- Aislinn Hunter (CRWR): Paperback version of 'The Certainties' published (with new cover); cover lauded online: <https://spinemagazine.co/book-covers-we-love/27052021> (May 15, 2021). Cover Design by Kelly Hill.

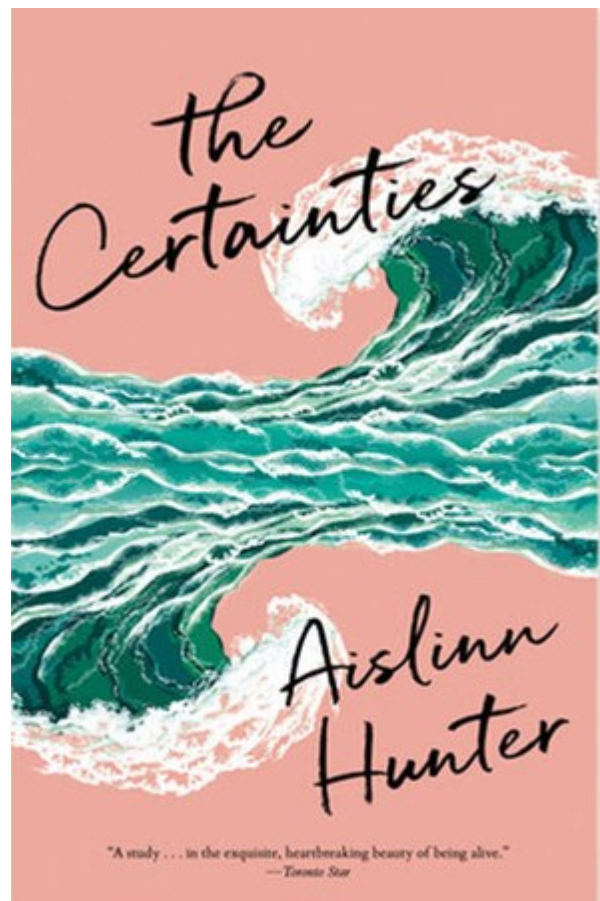
- Lilach Marom (EDST): Marom, L. et. al. Teaching and teacher education in an era of superdiversity: Challenges and opportunities. In G. Li, J. Anderson, & M. McTavish (Eds.) Superdiversity and teacher education: Supporting teachers in working with culturally, linguistically, and racially diverse students, families, and communities. Routledge.

- * Li, G. Marom, L. Anderson, J. Hare, J & McTavish, M. Superdiversity emergent priorities, and teacher learning, introduction. In G. Li, J. Anderson, & M. McTavish (Eds) Superdiversity and teacher education: Supporting teachers in working with culturally, linguistically, and racially diverse students, families, and communities. Routledge.

- Kyle Matsuba (PSYC): Jia, F., Soucie, K., & Matsuba, M. K. (2021). A spotlight on environmental psychology and sustainability with Dr. Susan Clayton. Sustainability, 13, 5830. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su13115830>
- Susan Thompson (PSYC): Susan Thompson's below noted textbook has been published by Pearson: McMahan, I and Thompson, S. (2021). Adolescence. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson.

Public Presentations:

- Daniel Bernstein (PSYC): York University, False Memory Webinar (Toronto, Canada): Keynote address.
- Gira Bhatt (PSYC): Dr. Gira Bhatt's three media interviews:



- * May 3, 2021: CKNW Radio Interview <https://soundcloud.com/cknw/the-sean-leslie-show-w-liza-8>
 - * May 5, 2021: Global News: Video Interview: Understanding why young people join gangs: Kwantlen Polytechnic University Psychology Professor Dr. Gira Bhatt breaks down the risk factors associated with youth gang involvement. <https://globalnews.ca/video/7835777/understanding-why-young-people-join-gangs>
 - * May 18, 2021: Red FM 93.1: Radio interview
 - Heather Cyr (ENGL): Cyr, Heather. "A big bright beautiful tomorrow!": Disneyland as a Palimpsestic Vision of Childhood." Children's Literature Association National Conference. (Virtual): June 9, 2021. Presentation.
 - Candy Ho (EDST): May 26-28: Presented two sessions at the Asia Pacific Career Development Association titled "Finding Inspiration, Purpose, Career Paths, and Resilient Jobs with UN 2030 Global Goals" and "Social Emotional Learning and Career Development from Kindergarten to Higher Education".
 - * May 29: Taught a masterclass titled "Teaching Career Using the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals" to over 130 educators and administrators in India, Pakistan, Nigeria, and Dubai through NPOCA, a social initiative in India focused on mainstreaming Career Education & Guidance in the school curriculum.
 - * May 31: Presented at Congress – Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education conference; session titled "Stories from the Learning Space: Student Reflections on Their Experiences in an Educational Leadership Doctoral Program".
 - Aislinn Hunter (CRWR): featured speaker on a CBC IDEAS radio documentary about the poet Rilke 'No Feeling is Final: Rainer Maria Rilke' (May 14 2021).
 - * Featured author at Surrey Muse reading (broadcast on YouTube) (May 28, 2021).
 - Kyle Jackson (HIST): "Adventures in Digital History," presentation for the British Columbia Historical Federation Virtual Conference 2021, co-presented with KPU students Emily Deasy (General Studies), David Piraquive (Political Science and History), Lucas Akai (History), and Birk Zukowsky (Wilson School of Design). June 3, 2021.
 - Parthiphan Krishnan (GEOG & ENVI): Panelist - Make Meetings Grrreat, Again...! (19 May 2021).
 - Lilach Marom (EDST): Education Distorted by the Market: Punjabi International Students in Canadian Higher Education. Canadian Society for the Study of Education (CSSE), University of Alberta, May 30-June 3. (Online).
 - * Outsiders-insiders-in between: Punjabi international students navigating identity amid tensions during Canadian higher education. Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education (CSSHE), University of Alberta, May 31-June 2. (Online).
 - * With Jeannie Keer and Amy Parent Engaging Indigenous Sovereignty in Higher Education: Stories of Disruption through Land-Based Pedagogies in Teacher Education. American Educational Research Association (CSSE), May 31-June 2. (Online).
 - John Martin (GEOG & ENVI): Guest Lecture for Arts 1100 (summer semester): "The Geography of Holidays".
 - Asma Sayed (ENGL): Conference Presentation (with Sameena Siddiqui, Ph.D. Candidate at UBC): "South Asian Canadian Diasporic Art: Examining the Cultural Politics of Canonization and Deviant Artistic Subjectivities." Annual Conference of the Canadian Comparative Literature Association, May 16, 2021.
- UNIVERSITY WIDE INITIATIVES:**
- Daniel Bernstein (PSYC): Psychology Honours Committee; Chair
 - * Senate Standing Committee on Research; Chair
 - Asma Sayed (ENGL): Attended a conference as the Chair of KPU's Task Force on Anti-Racism: "Anti-Racism in Higher Education" organized by Academic Impressions, May 26-27, 2021.
 - * Organized an international conference (virtually at KPU) as the President of the Canadian Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies (caclals.ca), "Ecologies of Alliance in a Divided Age," June 7-11, 2021.

Faculty of Health

ACADEMIC PLAN 2023 (Note: Alignment with the Academic Plan relevant strategies)

STUDENTS/STUDENT SUCCESS

Graduate Nurse, Internationally Educated Re-entry (GNIE)

- GNIE students continue to be successful at passing the NCLEX and many are hired prior to taking the NCLEX.

Bachelor of Science in Nursing Advanced Entry (BSN-AE)

- BSN-AE semester 6 students are out in the community collaborating with community partners on global health projects and initiatives.
- BSN-AE semester 6 students are also working alongside RNs in acute care throughout the summer.
- We have a BSN-AE student sitting on the FOH AD search committee.

NEW PROGRAMS, POLICIES AND INITIATIVES

Graduate Nurse, Internationally Educated Re-entry (GNIE)

- The GNIE Program continues to follow the policies regarding COVID 19.

Bachelor of Science in Nursing Advanced Entry (BSN-AE)

- At the June Senate meeting, BSN-AE successfully presented proposed program changes including a new Pathophysiology course, discontinued Relational Engagement course, changing three Graduate Nurse required courses to Nursing courses, streamlining the course titles of four Relational Engagement courses, changes to Admissions and Curriculum Requirements and the addition of Requisite Skills and Abilities for Registered Nurses notice.
- These exciting changes are based on student, graduate and faculty feedback on the program.

MANAGING RISK (Note: Emerging risk issues and how they are being identified and addressed)

Bachelor of Science in Nursing Advanced Entry (BSN-AE)

- BSN-AE students are working alongside health care providers in COVID-19 sites and with clients who are potential or positive COVID-19 clients. We are working with our health authority partners to assess risk, ensure that students have the appropriate PPE and access to vaccination.

Graduate Nurse, Internationally Educated Re-entry (GNIE)

- The GNIE Program manages risk by identifying students who are struggling. Students are referred to Early Alert. Students who are struggling are often referred to the lab and our FOH simulation faculty for extra support. Students are identified in the classroom and in clinical. GNIE faculty and the GNIE Program Chair provide students with extra support by meeting with the students and identifying strategies to meet learning goals.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (Note: special events, intersection with our external community) :

Bachelor of Science in Nursing Advanced Entry (BSN-AE)

- BSN-AE – no special events at this time due to COVID-19 but BSN-AE students are out in the community working alongside health care providers in mental health, acute care, residential care, COVID-19 testing sites, public schools, maternity, pediatrics, home health & clinics, strengthening collaboration between KPU & our practice partners.

Graduate Nurse, Internationally Educated Re-entry (GNIE)

- GNIE students have been volunteering and working at vaccine/COVID testing centers in the community.

Dr. Balbir Gurm

- Dr. Balbir Gurm continues to facilitate the Network to Eliminate Violence in Relationships (NEVR) committee that consists of over 200 members. NEVR is a knowledge translation and community engagement project that started in 2011 to bridge the gap between research and practice. NEVR hosted a conference Healthy Relationships 2021: Justice = Just + Us June 2,3,4. Purpose was to learn with our members about the current domestic violence justice system in BC. A report with recommendations is being written based on community input.
- As part of the South Asian Canadian Task Force, Dr. Gurm helped with translation for community members at the COVID Vaccination Clinic held at Dukh Niwaran Gurdwara May 14, 2021 by Fraser Health.
- Invited Speaking Engagement—Dr. Gurm was an invited guest and spoke about “Living B’tween Spaces” to the United Forces of Equality, a girls’ group at Khalsa Secondary School, May 21, 2021.

RECOGNITION (Note: Awards, recognition, publications, public presentations, reviews, media spots, general bragging)

Graduate Nurse, Internationally Educated Re-entry (GNIE)

- GNIE students have volunteered their personal time to help with vaccine centers.

Dr. Balbir Gurm

- Dr. Balbir Gurm is the recipient of the [BC Achievement Foundation’s](#) Community Award.
- Dr. Gurm was interviewed on Sher -e- Punjab radio by Navjot Dhillon for Wonderful Women’s Wednesday. This show highlights female role models.
- As well, Dr. Gurm had a number of media appearances:
 - * Harjinder Thind show on REDFM on segment “COVID Mythbusters” and on a segment called

Health is Wealth.

- * Evening Show on REDFM with host Jaspreet Sidhu May 13, 2021 and discussed “How overworking is Overrated”.
- * on Connect FM and Zee TV about her community work that led to being awarded the BC Achievement Foundation’s Community Award.
- * Asian Pulse and the Kamilla Show, two television programs, to discuss relationship violence and gang violence on.
- Dr. Gurm participated in the Federal Anti-Racism Secretariat virtual discussion
- [“Building Allyship & Safer Communities”](#) Tuesday, May 18, 2021 and May 30 Virtual Celebration of Heritage Month with Minister Chagger.
- Dr. Gurm’s service that led her to receiving the BC Achievement Foundation’s Community Award was written about in the Indo-Canadian Voice Newspaper, May 15, 2021.
- Dr. Balbir Gurm was interviewed by reporter from KPU Runner for series on Focus on KPU faculty May 14.
- Dr. Gurm was invited by Premier John Horgan to participate in a virtual Vaisakhi Celebration April 13, 2021.
- As part of the South Asian Task Force, Dr. Gurm participated in online feedback session May 3, 2021 with Premier John Horgan on how to improve vaccination rates in Surrey.

EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT

Graduate Nurse, Internationally Educated Re-entry (GNIE)

- GNIE students are well sought out for employment. Our students are often hired prior to completing the program.

SCHOLARSHIP

Connie Klimek

- BSN faculty member, Connie Klimek, is a recipient of the Teaching & Learning Innovation fund to support the alignment of the Fraser Health 48-6 model of care with isolated seniors’ home health and the KPU BSN community health nursing curriculum.

Dr. Balbir Gurm

- Dr. Gurm is a co-investigator with Hannah Varto, Forensic Nurse Practitioner on strangulation research that has just received a small FHA grant and ethics approval.
- Dr. Gurm presented Cross disciplinary and cross sectoral collaboration: The NEVR framework for addressing relationship violence has been accepted for an oral session

presentation at the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN) Biennial Canadian Nursing Virtual Education Conference 2021 May 3-5, 2021.

- Dr. Gurm was invited to join the British Columbia Family Violence and Family Law Community of Practice facilitated by Dr. Margaret Jackson at the FREDA Centre for Research on Violence against Women & Children, as one of five Communities of Practice facilitated by the Alliance of Canadian Research Centres on Violence. These Communities of Practice have received financial support from the Public Health Agency of Canada for a 3- year period from November 2020 to October 31, 2023 through a project entitled “Supporting the health of survivors of family violence in family law proceedings.” Participated in the Canadian Domestic Homicide Prevention Initiative: Preventing Domestic Homicide Conference 2021 to learn about the latest research in order to translate it back to NEVR members.
- Dr. Gurm continues to contribute as part of the management team on Haq & History South Asian Canadian Legacy Project. She is chairing the committee for the online platform and contributing to the social history book. The project has released two films April 29 on historical places: Abbotsford Gurdwara (a Canadian heritage site) and 4 historic sites of significance in Vancouver area.
- Dr. Gurm continues as co-investigator on Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council funded project: Inclusive communities for older immigrants (ICOI). Developing multi-level, multi-component interventions to reduce social isolation and promote connectedness among older immigrants in Canada. It has had a very slow start due to COVID-19. Committees with themes have been developed and the work is just starting.
- Dr. Gurm is in a collaboration project with a university in Peru. They are translating Gurm, B., Salgado, G., Marchbank, J., & Early, S. D. (2020). Making Sense of a Global Pandemic: Relationship Violence & Working Together Towards a Violence Free Society. Kwantlen Polytechnic University: Surrey, BC. Ebook ISBN 978-1-989864-14-2 or Print ISBN 978-1-989864-13-5. <https://kpu.pressbooks.pub/nevr/> into Spanish so that it can be available to a wider audience. The translation is expected to be completed by September.

Faculty of Science and Horticulture

NOTEWORTHY ITEMS:

- Congratulations to Katherine Dunster (HORT) on her election to the 2020 Class of Fellows for the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA)! The pandemic delayed the College of Fellows Virtual Investiture Ceremony last year so she was included in this year's celebration. Induction to the College of Fellows is one of the highest honours the CSLA bestows on its members.



STUDENTS:

- During the month of May, KPU Brewing Intensive students from Italy visited multiple breweries with virtual tours and talks organized by DeAnn Bremner (Communications, Events and CPS Coordinator) to learn more about brewing and BC's craft beer industry. Virtual tours included visits with KPU Brewing alumni: Kyle York, CANOE Brewpub; Adam Keil, Mountainview Brewing Co.; Ignacio Rodriguez Arria, Molson; Allan Cukier, Ucluelet Brewing; Jonny Kostuk, Deep Cove Brewing & Distilling; and Dan Marriette, Ravens Brewing. Industry talks also included presentations from Mauricio Lozano from Faculty Brewing Co. and Ken Malenstyn from Barnside Brewing Co. (pictured) about the rise of agribreweries in BC.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Lee Beavington (BIOL) had two poems curated for permanent display in the City of Surrey.
- As part of Katalyst research funding, Kathy Dunster (HORT) continued work with EarthHand Gleaners at Trillium and Means of Production within Vancouver Park Board system on plants for food, fibre, dye, and medicine. They harvested soil, roots, leaves and flowers from dandelions at 49 sites around City of Vancouver (by bicycle) to continue an exploration of heavy metal contamination, bio-accumulation, and safe urban foraging. A student will be undertaking the lab processing and analysis for her HORT 4810/4820 research project in Fall 2021.

PRESENTATIONS:

- Lee Beavington (BIOL) and others presented, 'Walking as attuning to an Earthly curriculum: A Métissage of brief provocations' for the Canadian Society for the Study of Education.

RECOGNITION:

- Lee Beavington (BIOL) won the SSHRC Storytellers Engagement Prize.
- Lee Beavington (BIOL) won the KPU PebblePad Rollin' Stones competition in the "Best in Show" category.

EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT:

- Lee Beavington (BIOL) completed the graduate-level course ANTH 591, Ethnobiology: Traditional Knowledge of Plants, Animals, and Land in Contemporary Global Context.
- Raquel Cabral (MATH) attended the Changing the Culture 2021 Conference by the Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences.
- Members of the KPU Biology Department (faculty, lab instructors, and staff) attended the [BC Bio conference](#) for post-secondary biology instructors in British Columbia. There were invited speakers on topics related to the pedagogy of biology, as well as the opportunity to network with colleagues. This was the second time the meeting was held virtually.
- Michelle Ikoma (Administrative Support Assistant) is now the BCGEU representative on the recently formed Disability Inclusion Group at KPU. It includes Faculty, Students, Admin, HR, and Accessibility Services representatives.

Faculty of Science and Horticulture cont'd

- DeAnn Bremner (Communications, Events and CPS Coordinator) attended the Canadian Association for University Continuing Education (CAUCE) Spotlight 2021: Reimagining the Role of CE in Higher Education conference May 25-27.
- DeAnn Bremner (Communications, Events and CPS Coordinator) participated in the Polytechnics Canada Continuing Education Working Group on May 26.
- Barnabe Dossou Assogba (BIOL) attended the American Society of Microbiologists and the Spanish Society for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (SEIMC) webinar series on "Microbiology Evolution: Future Challenges".
- Barnabe Dossou Assogba (BIOL) attended a virtual conference on "Global Fund COVID-19 Response Mechanism (C19RM): SARS-CoV-2 Diagnostics Laboratory Systems Strengthening Priorities".
- Barnabe Dossou Assogba (BIOL) joined a Special COVID-19 ECHO on "Countries Experiences with the Use of Digital Tools for SARS CoV-2" where the design and implementation of digital tools to globally manage the COVID-19 pandemic was discussed.
- Barnabe Dossou Assogba (BIOL) attended the Journal of Microbiology & Biology Education meeting series to discuss critical aspects of discipline-based education research.
- Barnabe Dossou Assogba (BIOL) joined a virtual conference on "Introducing the NovaFluors, new fluorescent molecules for flow cytometry and the Bigfoot, the first Spectral Cell Sorter".
- Maria Valana (HORT) attended the Creating Assessments Workshop and delivered the Grafting Workshop to Kamloops' community members.
- Janis Matson (HORT) presented a seminar on creating hanging baskets at Dart's Hill. She also presented Designing Shade Gardens at Van Dusen Gardens.
- Janis Matson, Ellen Pond and Laura Bryce (HORT) spent two days exploring Queens Park in New Westminster and Specimen Trees Wholesale Nursery for potential production field trips.
- Langley Sustainable Agriculture Foundation's (LSAF) Langley Learning Farm continues to progress with new raised beds and plantings. The greenhouse was also erected in May and is operational now. Gary Jones (HORT) along with colleagues in LSAF hosted MP Tako van Popta and his office staff where they also learned about KPU Horticulture programs.
- As BC Society of Landscape Architects Continuing Education Chair, Kathy Dunster (HORT) is currently working with Sky Spirit Studio (Squamish) on Board training regarding Decolonial Practices in Planning and Design and contributing a mandatory member webinar on the Professional Governance Act (PGA). In this role she's also working with BUILDEX 2021 to organize a mini-seminar series at the F2F event in September at the Vancouver Convention Centre connecting design and designers to materials and human well-being during the pandemic and going forward.
- Kathy Dunster (HORT) attended Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Weeks 2021 which was co-hosted by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).
- Kathy Dunster (HORT) attended the Urban Food Production Virtual Symposium – Green Roofs for Healthy Cities. COVID19 demonstrates the need for strong local economies and resilient solutions. Urban agriculture is a productive form of green infrastructure that supports local economies, creates jobs, improves access to healthy fresh food, and provides ecosystem services.
- Kathy Dunster (HORT) attended the Annual Edward Said Memorial Lecture at the University of Warwick Dr. Brenna Bhandar (UBC) on, "Cultivating the soil: use, improvement and the colonial conditions of our present".
- Kathy Dunster (HORT) attended the virtual Canadian Society of Landscape Architects Annual Congress on Green Recovery.

Office of Research, Innovation & Graduate Studies

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE AVP, RESEARCH, INNOVATION, AND GRADUATE STUDIES

Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Research and Scholarship

Given the growing recognition of equity, diversity, and inclusion in research by major research funders, particularly the Tri-agencies, the Senate Standing Committee on Research and Graduate Studies supported the creation of a Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Research and Scholarship.

The Task Force will ideally represent all five major equity-seeking groups: women, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities, members of visible minority/racialized groups, and members of LGBTQ2+ communities. The purpose of the Task Force is to identify needed supports for the KPU community and resources needed for the university administration.

The Associate Vice President, Research, Innovation, and Graduate Studies, has received six applications, and the Task Force will be finalized and will commence its meetings shortly.

The updates will be posted at Today@KPU.

FROM THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH SERVICES

The Sherman Jen Research Chairs positions

Thanks to a very generous donation from the Dr. Sherman Jen Education Foundation endowed through the KPU Foundation, KPU is creating two Sherman Jen Research Chairs to conduct research that supports our polytechnic mandate locally, nationally, and globally. The inaugural chairs will be appointed in two very key areas for KPU:

A. The Sherman Jen Research Chair in Next-Generation Design: The Sherman Jen Research Chair in Next-Generation Design will be based at the Wilson School of Design at KPU Richmond. Together with internal and external allies, the Chair will be able to undertake transformational work on next-generation design addressing pressing challenges of technological empowerment, environmental sustainability, and social inclusion. More details are available at the [Employee Career Centre](#).

B. The Sherman Jen Research Chair in Applied Genomics: The Sherman Jen Research Chair in Applied Genomics will be based in the Faculty of Science and Horticulture at KPU Surrey. Building on prior funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the BC Knowledge Development Fund, KPU has completed a new facility for applied genomics that will serve as the home of this Chair. Together with leading researchers at KPU and other institutions, companies, industry associations, and non-profits, the Chair will be able to positively impact human health outcomes and competitiveness of the agricultural sector. More details are available at the [Employee Career Centre](#).

Kwantlen Polytechnic University invites applications from all eligible post-probationary faculty members for these Chairs through Taleo.

Canada Research Chairs program – public accountability and transparency

As of 2021, institutions with less than 5 chairs are required to meet the CRCP's [public accountability and transparency requirements](#) in order to remain eligible for the program participation.

The requirements must be published on the Institution public facing website, in the language of its choice, by the deadline indicated by the program.

KPU's Canada Research Chairs Program public disclosure can be found on [the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Research](#) web page.

RS6 Animal Use and Ethics in Teaching and Research

Following a 6-week public posting period on the KPU Policy Blog, the President approved the following Policy and Procedure: [RS6 Animal Use and Ethics in Teaching and Research Policy / Procedure](#)

With this Policy and Procedure in place, KPU researchers will be able to undertake independent research in accordance with the Canadian Council of Animal Care ([CCAC](#)) guidelines, which requires Institutions conducting animal-based research, teaching, testing, or production to have a functional and active Animal Care Committee and be governed by the 2006 CCAC policy statement.

Office of Research, Innovation & Graduate Studies cont'd

The following members of the RS6 Policy Working Group have contributed to the development of the Policy and Procedure:

Dr. Deepak Gupta, Associate Vice President for Research, Innovation, and Graduate Studies

- Dr. Amy Jeon, faculty, Biology
- Dr. Layne Myhre, faculty, Biology
- Dr. Levente Orban, faculty, Psychology and Principal Investigator, Bee Cognition Laboratory
- Dr. Kent Mullinix, Director, Institute for Sustainable Food Systems
- James Callander, Lab Technician, Biology
- Gerard Laverty, faculty, Farrier
- Foluso Fagbamiye, Research Ethics Coordinator, Office of Research Services
- Josephine Chan, Special Assistant to the Provost on Policy and Academic Affairs

FROM KPU'S RESEARCH LABORATORIES, CENTRES, AND INSTITUTES

Institute for Sustainable Food Systems – presentations given

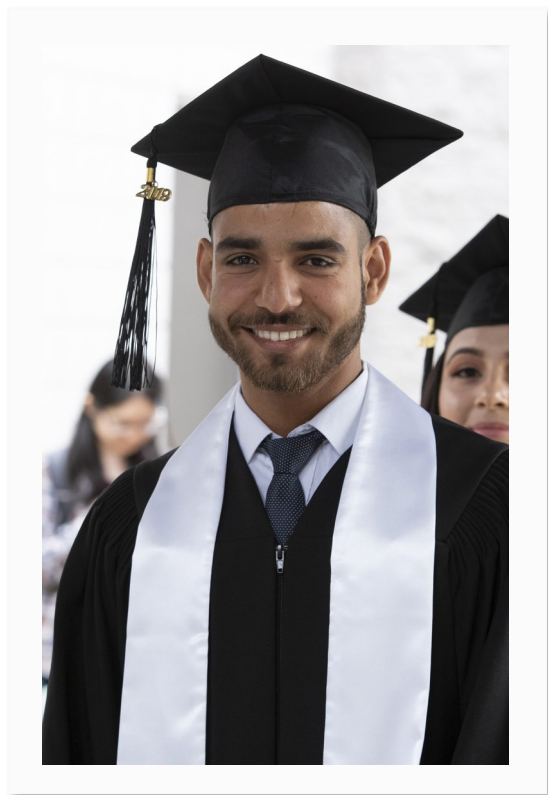
- Kristi Tatebe. Webinar Presentation - "Bringing Our Food System Home: The Okanagan Bioregion Food System Project" - Unpacking the Guide: Food Security" Association of Interior Realtors webinar series - May 26, 2021.

Institute for Sustainable Food Systems – publications

- Mullinix, K., Tatebe, E. Hansen, N. Robert, M. Wijekoon, W. Polasub, S. Smukler, R. Harder, A. Rallings, C. Elton, D. Senese, C. Dorward, and M. Kissinger. 2021. "Bringing Our Food System Home: Report on the Okanagan bioregion Food System Project". Richmond, BC: Institute for Sustainable Food Systems, Kwantlen Polytechnic University.
- Mullinix, K., Tatebe, E. Hansen, N. Robert, M. Wijekoon, W. Polasub, S. Smukler, R. Harder, A. Rallings, C. Elton, D. Senese, C. Dorward, and M. Kissinger. 2021. Series of technical briefs for the [Okanagan Bioregion Food System Project](#).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Office of the AVP, Research, Innovation, and Graduate Studies acknowledges funding from the federal Research Support Fund in support of its operations and services.



School of Business

EXPERIENCE: WE WILL

A1. ENHANCE THE EXPERIENCE OF OUR STUDENTS

Summer Orientation: First Year Festival

Associate Dean Don Reddick and Faculty member Mike Ford presented to first-year students on Academic Integrity and the Power of Networking at the KPU Summer Orientation First Year Festival. The May 12 event saw 8 first year students who actively engaged in conversations regarding the two topics. All in all, it was a very valuable session for the students as they were introduced to these two topics and were also introduced to two potential mentors on campus. Thank you Don and Mike for hosting this session!

Tiny Homes Re-imagined (THR)

THR is an ongoing iterative program composed of three ongoing phases. Each iteration brings together students from all seven of KPU's Faculties in a design and development project. The distal goal of the efforts behind THR is to create ongoing institutional infrastructure to support student driven, experiential learning opportunities that allow for authentically engaged, interdisciplinary problem-solving. The educational infrastructure created by this project and perhaps a Tiny Home one day, will ensure future students will have an opportunity to learn important employment and life skills collaboratively by tackling real world problems and taking on significant leadership roles while they earn credit for the completion their programs. And more importantly, allowing students to engage with problems that are at the top mind for them and support them in the search for solutions and a sense of agency.

During the Spring term, students from a first year Interior Design Foundations class taught by Erika Balcombe and Brenda Snaith, competed to have their project concept selected as the design for a Tiny Home. The winning student, Aimee Karlika's proposal, "Bridging Generations", is a design fostering the integration of generations. Aimee's concept of "old and new" is woven throughout her design. Emma Baggot, electrical instructor, will coordinate with future Trades students by way of this winning design to think about applications in their learning and the use of reclaimed as well as new materials.

Two Co-op students were hired to play critical roles in the ongoing work. Luke Niblock, a student from the Computer Aided Design Drafting Technologies program, was tasked with creating "trades ready" drawings from Aimee's design. Under the supervision of CADD instructor Daryl Massey, Luke will have these drawings completed by Fall 2021.

Through funding from the Office of Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurial Services, Varsha Mannar was hired for a second Co-op position. She is working with the Office of Advancement to craft grant proposals which will help secure funding for future Coop student positions. In addition, Varsha is partnering with our "End User Challenge" working group to identify

a possible community partner who will help shape the direction of the next phase. In this role she is serving as a partner to Phaedra Burke's Marketing 2333 course to research a number of community groups and their mandates to help inform the selection of the community partner. The collaboration between students completing course work projects, and Co-op student leaders to complete the goals of the first stage of THR exemplifies the collaborative interdisciplinary work that is achievable through this initiative.

Heather Harrison, Associate Dean in School of Business, and Wade Deisman, Associate Dean in Arts presented on the Tiny Homes Reimagined initiative at the Polytechnic Summit 2021. The presentation outlined the goals and benefits of interdisciplinary problem solving when combined with experiential learning opportunities as well as sharing the organizational challenges posed by this kind of institutional wide initiative.

Undergraduate Student Support Team Meet & Greet Sessions

The School of Business undergraduate student support team hosted daily meet and greet sessions during the week of May 10. These sessions were intended to better familiarize 3rd and 4th year BBA students with the support of our degree advisors and student success coaches. The students who attended the sessions were engaging and asked questions freely with the team and were well received. An example of a great student centered initiative put on by our support team.



BBA Accounting Student Highlighted in Wiley Article

Fourth year School of Business student Wajeeha Rahman was interviewed by the Wiley Network, for an article that will be viewed internationally. Wajeeha is currently studying accounting and hopes to attain a CPA upon graduating from the BBA program. Her interview focuses on navigating university through a pandemic, her accomplishments as well as how she stays motivated.

In terms of accomplishments, Wajeeha's list is long. As the President of the KPU Muslim Student Association (MSA), she helped create a mental health awareness event called *Revive Your Resilience*. Wajeeha was also largely involved in KPU Case Analysis Network's Inaugural Case Competition in March, as VP

School of Business cont'd

Internal. She spoke gracefully at the opening ceremony and maintained exemplary professionalism through minor hiccups that took place behind-the-scenes. Wajeeha is also a volunteer participant in the Mentoring with PowerPlay Young Entrepreneurs program which included weekly mentorship sessions with middle-school students. She shows great passion for giving back to the community through volunteering and the giving of her time which truly embodies a star KPU School of Business student. Congratulations on this feature, Wajeeha!

I want to be a symbol to other young girls who are looking to pursue higher education.



The article can be read here: <https://www.wiley.com/network/latest-content/at-home-with-wajeeha-rahman?HootPostID=6d78fb4a-e473-4ce7-af45-910fa3a3a18c&Socialprofile=wiley&Socialnetwork=linkedin>

Industry Insider Event: 6th Edition

KPU's Industry Insider Series 6th Edition, an event that targets 3 & 4 year BBA, and post-baccalaureate/graduate students, took place virtually on May 19. This event is an informative networking opportunity where KPU business students meet, listen to, and converse with local employers. Students learn about specific local industry partners, what they do, and what each employer is looking for when hiring.

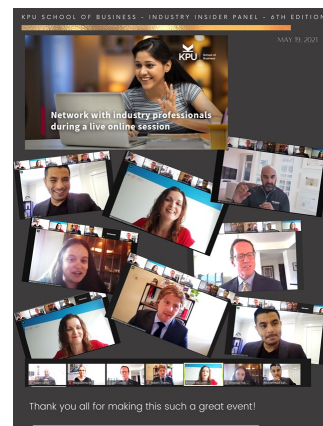
46 attendees participated in this event, which included 35 students and 5 guest employers on a discussion panel moderated by Associate Dean Ian Cowley. Magdalena Mot, Success Coach, covered introductions and transitions, Waheed Taiwo, Success Coach, was the tech coordinator, and 2 faculty members attended and moderated the breakout rooms: Lindsay Clayton, Accounting and Ademola Afolayan, OSCM. In addition to Magdalena and Waheed, Susan Xia, Administrative Assistant and Tracey Bowles, Administrative Coordinator, provided administrative support and 'Thank you' cards to employers.



- The following is a list of our guest employers: Brenda McLaren, HR Director at Sunrise Soya Foods
- Amanda Fox, Director of Talent at Aspect Biosystems
- Adam Jaffer, Risk Manager at Amazon
- Mohammad Kallas, Senior Talent Acquisition Partner at CIBC
- Robert Thomson, Western Regional Manager at Argentus Supply Chain Recruiting

The aftermath: 5 business students (4 Post Baccalaureate and 1 graduate) won an individual Information Interview in the draw organized at the end of this event; they have been trained on how to conduct this interview online and are now each matched with one of the guest employers.

The coordinators have received great feedback so far from both students and industry partners, and there was strong engagement on the School of Business LinkedIn page. The School of Business team looks forward to hosting more Industry Insider events in the future.



Business Schools Association of Canada: The health and well-being of business students

Dean Stephanie Howes was a panelist for an event put on by the Business Schools Association of Canada on June 3, which focused on lessons learned from the pandemic and key considerations for the future. This event targeted business students across Canada.

The description of the event read: *"It is no secret that the pandemic has been impactful on everyone, but in many cases our students have been disproportionately impacted. In 2020 the Canadian Association of Business Students (CABS) conducted a survey of their members about the impacts of the pandemic on students, especially their health and wellbeing. This panel session will provide a summary of these findings and have experts discuss key considerations for business schools as they develop strategies for COVID recovery that will support and enhance the health and wellbeing of business students. Attendees were joined the discussion and to learn more about how to help their teams to be best prepared to support the wellbeing of our students and future business leaders."*

The event was open to all members from BSAC schools, including Deans, Associate Deans as well as staff or faculty in leadership positions responsible for supporting student health and wellness. The virtual event saw 5 panelists with great discussion over the 1.5-hour time period.

Panelists:

- Chris Rogerson, Executive Director, Undergraduate Programs, Beedie School of Business, Simon Fraser University (moderator)
- Mitch Bellefleur, Vice President of Conferences, The Canadian Association of Business Students
- Stephanie Howes, Dean, School of Business, Kwantlen Polytechnic University
- Jonny Moris, CEO of Canadian Mental Health Association – BC
- Gabriela Morales, Past president Lazaridis Student Society, VP Marketing, The Canadian Association of Business Students

A2. ENRICH THE EXPERIENCE OF OUR EMPLOYEES

Tiffany Valle Anaya: NACADA planning committee co-chair

School of Business Degree Advisor Tiffany Valle Anaya was accepted for a position on the NACADA annual conference planning committee as volunteer co-chair. The conference is the annual national conference and will take place October 23-26, 2022 in Portland, Oregon.

Prior to receiving this position, Tiffany facilitated multiple NACADA PD sessions, which included viewing the videos below, then having a Q&A and discussion with the advising team after each. This was very informative, inspiring and built up our collaboration among all the advising units!

Sessions facilitated by Tiffany:

- #NowTrending: Gen Z & Microcredentialing presented by Lauren Daly, Touro University Nevada
- Emotional Economics: Budgeting Empathy to Ensure Equal Support for All Students presented by Megan Terawaki, University of Hawaii at Manoa
- Getting Gritty With It: Grit as an Advising Strategy presented by Kelly Rush, Western Oregon University
- Setting Up Your Digital Command Center for More Effective and Efficient Advising in Uncertain Times presented by Carrie Ben-Yisrael, Washington State University
- Relational Advising in the Virtual World presented by Adam Ek & Miguel Aranda, Brandman University
- TED talk on The Power of Believing You Can Improve by Carol Dweck
- TED talk on Grit: the power of passion and perseverance by Angela Lee Duckworth

C: CREATIVITY: WE WILL

C2. INCREASE INNOVATION IN TEACHING, LEARNING AND CURRICULUM

Monica Affleck: recipient of the 2021-22 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Open Pedagogy Fellowship!

School of Business faculty Monica Affleck was selected to receive the 2021-22 United Nations Sustainable Development

Goals Open Pedagogy Fellowship.

This fellowship is designed to assist faculty with creating renewable assignments (all of which will carry a Creative Commons license) to help students become agents of change in their own communities. Each fellowship team (which will include at least one faculty member from KPU and one faculty member from a partner institution) will design three renewable assignments during the Summer 2021 semester. A minimum of two renewable assignments will be deployed in the classes of each fellowship team during the subsequent academic year.

D: QUALITY: WE WILL

D3. BE ACCOUNTABLE TO OUR PARTNERS, GOVERNMENTS AND COMMUNITIES

Update: Young Indigenous Leaders Project Showcase

The Young Indigenous Leaders project creates a welcoming space for middle-school aged Indigenous youth to learn about social responsibility, design thinking and problem-solving as they work together online to conceptualize and pitch a creative response to a food security issue in their community.

On June 3, three middle-school aged teams presented their final ideas to the judges and mentors regarding local issues of hunger, nutrition, and food. The final presentations were judged by a community leadership team including Dean Stephanie Howes. The presentation of ideas were all innovative, socially responsible and well researched. It was impossible to choose a winner – all 3 of the teams were deemed winners! Envision Financial donated \$500 to each team for their school's meal programs to an excited round of applause.

OUR AMAZING FACULTY & STAFF

Lindsay Wood: Outstanding Contribution Member Award

Faculty member Lindsay Wood received an Outstanding Contribution Member Award from the Association of Co-operative Education and Work-integrated Learning (ACEWIL BC). This award recognizes an educator for their significant contributions to work-integrated learning in their institution and/or within BC. Lindsay was recognized for her service to the ACEWIL Board and as Co-Chair of the Professional Development Committee. Specifically, she has demonstrated a commitment to ensuring equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) not only at the board level but also takes action to promote EDI in ACEWIL programming and in WIL curricular components. In response to the BC Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training's 2020-21 funding opportunity, Ms. Wood successfully secured government funding for two transformative projects relating to emotional intelligence and inclusive WIL curriculum that will positively impact the WIL landscape in BC.

Teaching & Learning

EVENTS AND UPDATES

- Policy AC15: Micro-credentials has received approval from the Senate Standing Committees for Policy Review and Academic Planning & Priorities. It will proceed to the Senate Standing Committee on Curriculum on June 16 and Senate on June 28 before going to the Board Governance Committee on September 8.
- In conversation with the Senate Standing Committee on Research and Graduate Studies, the Chair of the Research Ethics Board (REB), the AVP for Research, Innovation, and Graduate Studies, and several faculty colleagues, a plan has been drafted to provide support for faculty members interested in engaging in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL). This will include workshops and guides from the Commons, SoTL-specific guidance from the REB, subscriptions to SoTL books and journals from the Library, guidance and support for publishing in SoTL journals, and access to relevant research software. More information will be provided as these supports are developed in the months to come.
- We are happy to report that we have secured licenses for Camtasia, which is a popular software application used for recording and editing videos with ease. Videos created or edited in Camtasia can be saved and then shared via Kaltura. Camtasia is now available upon request to all faculty and instructional staff, for installation on KPU-issued laptops.
- The Teaching & Learning Commons is on the lookout for beta testers for our new [AV recording studio](#) at KPU's Surrey Campus. This space allows faculty to create high quality video elements for their courses. Currently, we are seeking beta testers who are comfortable with creating videos to come in (keeping COVID safety measures in mind) and test the equipment and our instructions to help ensure a smooth process for all.
- Our Teaching & Learning Blog, [Pedagogy + Practice](#), featured the following post:
 - * [Maximizing the LMS with Moodle Templates](#) by Teaching & Learning Technologies Strategist, Lisa Gedak & Educational Consultant, Dr. Nishan Pereira (May 21)
 - * [Mental Health and UDL by Educational Consultant](#), Dr. Seanna Takacs (June 4)
- Season 3, Episode 4, of our 'Beyond the Chalkboard' podcast (Mindfulness and the Universal Design for Learning) has launched. Listen on Spotify or watch it on YouTube.
- Now in its second semester, KPU COMPLETE is an initiative designed to ensure a smooth transition to post-secondary education for experienced and mid-career learners (25 years of age and older). Acknowledging that the needs of

more experienced learners can differ from those of students fresh from high school, KPU COMPLETE offers an educational experience tailored with these needs in mind. 19 students officially registered for the Summer 2021 KPU Complete section of EDUC 1100.

- A new, comprehensive and integrated framework for faculty development, known as the Foundations in Teaching Excellence program was presented to Academic Council, the Senate Standing Committee on Teaching and Learning, and the various Faculty Councils, where it received strong support. The framework will include training in five core domains: Learning Design, Learning Assessment, Inclusive Teaching, Learning Technologies, and Reflective Practice.

Upcoming Workshops

Registration is open for our Summer 2021 Teaching & Learning Workshops. See below for all upcoming workshop offerings in June and visit KPU's Teaching & Learning Events page for our full slate of asynchronous learning opportunities.

Instructional Design

- [Supporting Cultural Diverse Learners in Online Environments | June 4](#)
- [Interculturalizing the Curriculum | June 10 & 11](#)
- [Creating and Supporting Diverse Teams | June 17](#)

Open Education

- [Finding OER | June 3](#)
- [Indigenous Resources for Virtual Classrooms: Part One | June 16](#)
- [Linking to Library Resources | June 17](#)
- [Indigenous Resources for Virtual Classrooms Part Two | June 18](#)

LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES

- The Learn Tech team resolved 665 support tickets and our faculty Educational Consultants completed 40 pedagogical consultations.
- After much rockin', rollin' and reflection, the PebblePad Rollin' Stones ePortfolio Capstone Showcase is now live! You can see the impressive PebblePad creations submitted by KPU staff and faculty and our international 'tour mates', the faculty from the College of the Canyons in Santa Clarita, California, by clicking here. KPU faculty and staff can *hop on the tour* any time, and start their journey with PebblePad: Rollin' Stones Tour – A PebblePad Starter.
- Zoom is available to support instructional activities! There were 48 new Zoom license requests by faculty and students. Faculty and instructional staff who would like to use Zoom can request an account using this [intake form](#). Instructions for both faculty and students, with links to various resources and video tutorials, have been developed to continue supporting teaching and learning activities of

Teaching & Learning cont'd

learning technologies.

- Faculty looking for a simple easy-to-use platform for creating visual syllabi, posters, process maps, and more, need look no further than Venngage. These licenses can be used, returned and re-issued to another user. For more information, please email tlcommons@kpu.ca

OPEN EDUCATION

- On Wednesday, June 16, Dr. Rajiv Jhangiani and Urooj Nizami will speak at the Open Education Network (OEN) Summit about Building a Thriving Open Education Ecosystem at KPU. OEN 2021 is an event designed for emerging and established open education leaders to build community and explore open education strategies.
- The Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) initiative has crossed several milestones this Spring, including \$6 million in student savings since the initiative was launched 3 years ago and over 52,000 students enrolled in ZTC sections within a single semester. The ZTC now has nearly 850 unique courses taught by over 400 instructors and represents over 20% of all KPU courses in a given semester. Most recently, the Bachelor of Interior Design became the latest program to be designated a Zero Textbook Cost Program.

PERSONNEL UPDATES

- Please join us in welcoming Diana Christie, M.A., as the new Divisional Business Manager, Continuing and Professional Studies (CPS). Diana will be responsible for providing strategic administrative leadership to CPS and will be working closely with the Director, Flexible Learning and Academic Integrity, as well as internal stakeholders including the Faculties, the Office of the Registrar, and Finance, and external stakeholders such as funding agencies, governments, and employers.
- The search process for the Director, Flexible Learning and Academic Integrity is nearing its conclusion with interviews and stakeholder meetings having now been complete.
- In May, regular and NR-2 KPU faculty were invited to apply to collaboratively develop an online Faculty Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition (PLAR) Assessor training module and associated reference guide. The purpose of the module is to offer training to faculty members in principles and effective practice in the assessment of PLAR applications in line with university policy AC6: Recognition of Prior Learning and its associated procedure. The deadline for submitting Expressions of Interest was May 31.
- Last month, Ridhima Suri joined the T&L Learn-Tech team as our new Junior Analyst! Please join us in giving Ridhima a warm KPU welcome. A second Junior Support Analyst position will also soon be filled.
- A search is currently underway to fill five new Educational

Consultant positions. Seconded from their respective faculty appointment through a partial time release, the role of an Educational Consultant is intended to serve the Teaching and Learning Commons Team in our efforts to support the further development of teaching expertise of KPU educators and the activities and efforts of the Teaching and Learning Commons. Current portfolio opportunities include, Indigenization, Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, Science and Horticulture, Trades and Technology and Portfolio advancement. Applications closed on May 31.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Teaching & Learning Innovation Fund

- The Teaching & Learning Commons is thrilled to announce and congratulate the latest recipients of the Teaching & Learning Innovation Fund (TLIF); Jocelyn Lymburner from the Faculty of Arts' Psychology department and Connie Klimek from the Faculty of Health's Nursing program. This award will assist Jocelyn in the development of wellness labs within KPU's ARTS 2000 course – The Science and Practice of Wellness and help Connie establish a 26-week program between Fraser Health and KPU's Bachelor of Science in Nursing that will see nursing students engaging in their communities & providing care to isolated seniors in the Lower Mainland.
- The Teaching & Learning Innovation Fund (TLIF) is designed to support pedagogical innovation at KPU. Recognizing the diverse array of programs and instructional approaches that are necessary and valued at a polytechnic university, the TLIF takes an inclusive approach by supporting a broad range of projects that advance teaching practices at KPU (Goal 2 of Academic Plan 2023). Regular instructors and support staff with instructional responsibilities (e.g., lab instructors, etc.) are eligible to apply. Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis until the annual funding is exhausted. Applications may be submitted with project budgets up to \$10,000 and will be adjudicated within two weeks, in order to support the rapid implementation of teaching and learning innovation.



0.6% Faculty Professional Development Fund

- Faculty PD Fund applications involving research, conference presentations, teaching and learning enhancements, and tuition support are some areas considered for funding. The next application deadline is October 1, 2021. The

Teaching & Learning cont'd

ROME application portal for the next round will open on September 1, 2021 and close September 30, 2021.

Open Educational Resource (OER) Grants

- The Open Educational Resources (OER) Grant program provides funding and staff support to KPU faculty members interested in creating, adapting, or adopting OER (or engaging in other forms of Open Pedagogy). Three levels of OER Grants are available:
 - ⇒ OER Adoption Grant
 - ⇒ OER Adaptation Grant
 - ⇒ OER Creation Grant
- To date, we have received 8 OER Grant proposals for Summer 2021. The next application deadline for OER Creation and OER Adaptation grants is September 1, 2021. OER Adoption Grants have a rolling deadline and applications are accepted until funds are exhausted. More information is available here.

External Teaching Awards

- KPU will support our exemplary faculty in gaining the recognition they deserve through several external teaching award opportunities. With the support of the Senate Standing Committee on Tributes, faculty nominations for external teaching awards, including the newly-established West Coast Teaching Excellence Award (from the BC Teaching and Learning Council) and the 3M National Teaching Fellowship (from the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education), will be made over the upcoming academic year.

SCHOLARLY CONTRIBUTIONS BY THE TEACHING & LEARNING TEAM

KPU's T&L team has been hard at work over the last few months advancing teaching & learning best practices in higher education. For a full list of presentations, see below:

- Gedak, L. & Ryan, C. (2021, Apr 28). *The overlooked Intimacy of conferencing tools*. BC NET Connect Higher Ed and Research Tech Summit, Online.
- Hardwick, J. (2021). *The Labour of Care: A Reflection on Ethics, Inclusion, and Digital Pedagogy in Times of Crisis*. Digital Humanities Summer Institute: Open/Social/Digital Humanities Pedagogy, Training, and Mentorship, virtual. June.

- Jhangiani, R. (2021). *Opening Education Isn't Enough: From Access to Justice*. 34th Annual Conference of the Asian Association of Open Universities, Online.
- Page, C. (2021, May 19). *Interculturality for Learning Centre Professionals*. Learning Specialists Association of Canada National Conference, Online Workshop.
- Page, C., & Takacs, S. (2021, May 17). *Helpful or harmful?: Unpacking learning strategies trends in search of equity and justice*. Learning Specialists Association of Canada National Conference, Online.
- Page, C., & Gedak, L. (2021, April 28). *Supporting faculty, Supporting students: Creating a digital literacies ecosystem for the pivot to online learning*. BC NET Higher Ed and Research Tech Summit, Online.
- Page, C., Tan, E., & Jing, F. (2021, April 28). *Supporting students in the pivot online: Collaborative strategies to provide holistic learning support*. BC NET Higher Ed and Research Tech Summit, Online.
- Perera, N, Gedak, L (2021). Maximizing the LMS with Moodle Templates for Online Courses. BC Net Connect 2021 Virtual Conference
- Sable, S., Hardwick, J., (2021). *Ethical Care for Two-Spirit Storytelling*. Native American and Indigenous Studies Association, virtual. June
- Waddington, L, Cleveland-Innes, M. (2021). Supporting faculty adoption of technology and online learning: pandemic inspired possibilities. Congress 2021 – Open Technology in Education, Society and Scholarship (OTESSA) stream. virtual conference, June.
- Waddington, L, Gedak, L., Ryan, C., Mohammed, M., Jakir, O., and Leung, R., (2021). Pebblepad- a tool for teaching and learning in a post pandemic world. Educational Technology Users Group (ETUG), Spring workshop, virtual. May.
- Waddington, L., Sudlow, G., Takacs, S., Hardwick, J., and Page, C. (2021). Creating cultures of support and care in digital spaces. BC Net Connect Higher education and Research Tech Summit, virtual. April.
- Watson, C. E., Avila, P., Houston, R., Powell, & Waddington, L. (2021, January). *How to ensure success: Launching, sustaining, and growing an eportfolio program*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Association of American Colleges and Universities, Forum on Digital Learning and ePortfolios, Washington, DC.

Faculty of Trades and Technology

INTRODUCTION:

In the Faculty of Trades and Technology, we are bringing to a close the Spring intakes and starting to plan for a full return of larger classes on campus in the latter part of the Summer and early Fall. The Faculty reached this decision since there is a significant number of students enrolled in their programs. In some trade programs, there are significant numbers of apprentices on wait-lists. The Faculty is not on a semester program, hence, as early as mid-August, the first “Fall” intake will have a full class of 16 students. All the other classes, which start on September 7, will see class sizes ranging from eight students to 16 students.

Class sizes will increase in subsequent October and November intakes. The overall goal is to give everyone the opportunity to adjust as the general population becomes vaccinated and there is confidence that the pandemic is over. As early as January, 2022, the Faculty is expecting all classes to be at their maximum class size. The overwhelming feeling by instructors and staff is they need time to socialize, prepare and get ready for more people at KPU Tech.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND EXCELLENCE:

Dean’s Awards

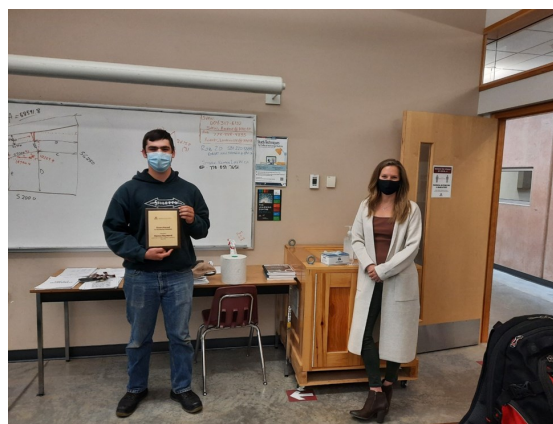
Congratulations to the following Dean’s Award for Outstanding Achievement recipients for the May and April classes. This non-monetary Award is based on Academics, Attitude and Attendance. The presentation is made as the students reach the end of the program.

Renee Kalkman	Certificate in Farrier Science
Dusten Tulak	Appliance Service Technician
Marcus Raymond	Carpentry/Building Youth Train in Trades Construction

Faculty Award

We introduced a new Award in the Faculty of Trades and Technology: it’s called the Faculty Award. Like the Dean’s Award, which is presented in the final year, the Faculty Award is also a non-monetary Award based on Academics, Attitude and Attendance, but is aimed for Level One, Level Two and Level Three apprentices. The Award is chosen by the program instructor and is presented to the top apprentice at the end of the apprenticeship level.

Carson James Sturock	Automotive Apprenticeship Level 1
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Upper left—Dean Moukperian and Renee Kalman

Upper middle—Marcus Raymond and Assoc Dean Laura McDonald

Upper right—Carson James Sturock and Instructor Grant Conversi

Lower left—Dusten Tulak and Dean Moukperian

Trades and Technology cont'd

PROGRAM UPDATES

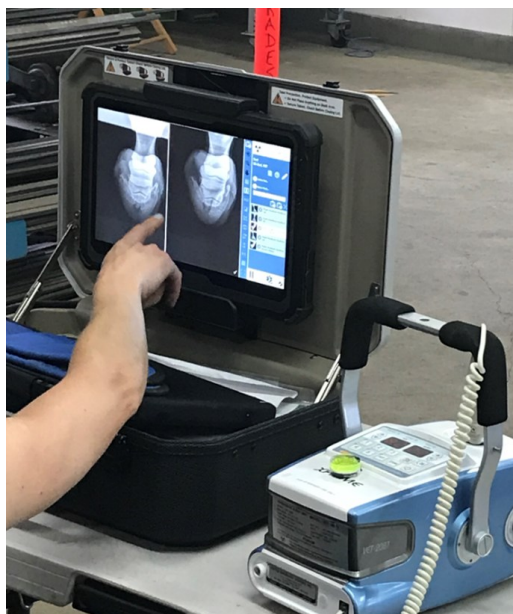
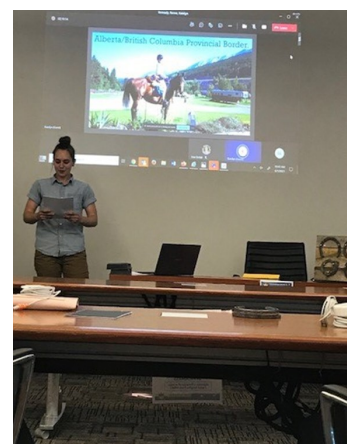
Farrier Science Program Presentations

- Farrier Science students presented their capstone projects in the final week of classes (May 30th to June 4th). The students reflected on their learning and used a variety of media to present their portfolios.

(Right—Renee Kalkman presenting her capstone project to the class.

Far Right—Katelyn Stomgren presenting her capstone project to the class.)

- On Thursday, May 31, students had a special presentation on interpreting x-ray images in the Farrier Barn.



Construction Craft Worker program starts

- On June 7th, we started the Construction Craft Worker program which is sponsored by MOSAIC (Multi-lingual Orientation Service Association for Immigrant Communities). This program will introduce new Canadians to the construction industry. Construction Craft Workers work alongside Masons, Carpenters and others on major construction projects.

Plumber Level 1 at Squamish First Nation

- On May 31st, we started the Squamish First Nation Level 1 Plumber program. This program covers First year Plumbing piping code book and plumbing applications following the Industry Training Associations' training standards.

First Farrier Science Program graduates seven students!

- The first Farrier Sciences certificate program completed on June 4th. The program was re-envisioned and gave the students the opportunity to begin their career in the Farrier industry. (Below—The first graduating class of KPU Certificate in Farrier Science)

Career Development

- In conjunction with the KPU Career Centre, KPU Faculty of Trades and Technology has started to highlight key job posting in Career Connections using the headline Career Services Jobs of the Week. Over the last two months 20 job postings of interest to KPU Faculty of Trades and Technology students have been highlighted. These have been from national, provincial and regional employers in the public and private sector.
- The jobs are posted every week and our faculty is encouraged to share the posting with their students.
- Over the last months, 10 employers have reached out directly to KPU Faculty of Trades and Technology in search of new apprentices. The employers are in the construction and metal work sectors and are interested in having direct contact with our faculty. We have started to tabulate the direct contact and create a database of interest.



Trades and Technology cont'd

Online / Blended Delivery

The majority of Faculty of Trades and Technology programs are still being delivered in an online or blended model. The need for in-shop delivery is a function of the amount of practical hours needed for the successful completion of the program. Some programs have started to deliver higher percentage of their instruction in person to re-enforce student learning and provide greater engagement.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

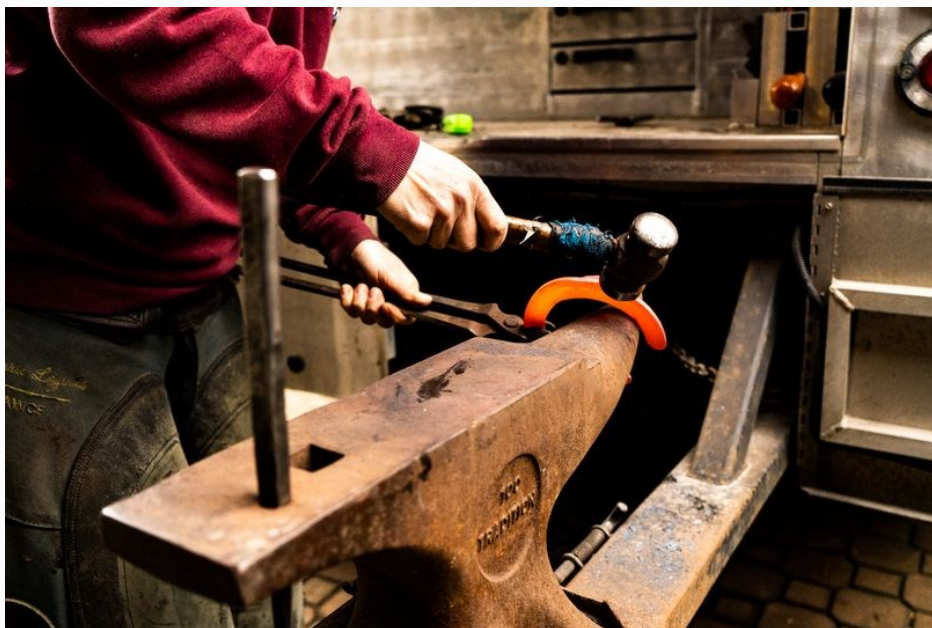
Information Sessions

Program Name	Date
Appliance Service Technician Information Session	19-May-21
Welding/Metal Fabrication Information Session	11-May-21
Mechatronics Information Session	13-May-21

EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT & INNOVATION

Continuous Capacity Building (Employee Engagement)

- As instructors use online/blended models, we are learning from them how to get ready for the “New KPU” in September.
- Cross-department support and development of best practices for teaching and transitioning to online instruction is ongoing.
- Strengthening the use of in-shop instruction.
- Streamlining the implementation of Program /Course Health and Safety forms for each department and implementing standardized health and safety practices.
- Instructors are adapting and becoming skilled in utilizing (and when not to use) online technology.
- Instructors are looking for new technological tools to deliver content.
- Some instructors are looking at using sound booths to develop vignettes.
- Some instructors are practicing using Pebble Pad - an e-portfolio management software.
- More instructors are using Circuit Scribe to train students.
- Some instructors are using a Lightboard.



University Library

LIBRARY EVENTS

Continued Support for Instructors

Librarians continue to offer virtual teaching support to our instructors and faculty via courses with the Teaching & Learning Commons. Karen Meijer-Kline once again offered the popular *Copyright Awareness for Online Teaching* on May 20 and *Finding OER* on June 3.

SERVICES

New collaboration

KPU Library and KPU Learning Centres joined forces this semester to offer KPU students the [KPU Library & Learning Centres Newsletter: Summer 2021](#). We utilized the Teaching & Learning tool PebblePad to create a newsletter that features recent news, services and events from both our departments. It was shared with all active students via email. We hope to continue this helpful collaboration in the future!



AskAway

Just within a two-week period, between May 17 and 31, over 150 KPU students engaged with our chat reference tool, AskAway to ask questions. 78 of those questions were answered by KPU Librarians. During a recent survey, one KPU student remarked, "Keep up the good work and thank you for all the support and guidance to students in these hard times."

COLLECTIONS

Collection Update

The Library started a subscription to Euromonitor's [Passport](#) database. It includes internationally standardized statistics and data; analysis of lifestyle, population, and socioeconomic factors; historical and forecast data; and market share, market size, and market environment data for Canada and 51 other countries. The Library would like to recognize the efforts of the Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries (COPPUL) for successfully negotiating for the elimination of an important privacy issue and for the creation of a pricing model that allows for greater participation of small and medium sized institutions.

"Today, Kwantlen Polytechnic University lowered the flags at all our campuses until further notice in honour of every child found buried at Kamloops Indian Residential School.

*At Kwantlen Polytechnic University, we work, study, and live in a region south of the Fraser River which overlaps with the traditional and ancestral lands of the *hən̓q̓əmiñəm* and *SENĆOŦEN* speaking peoples, including the Kwantlen who graciously bestowed their name on this university.*

*We offer our sympathy and solidarity to the *Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc*, to all those who survived residential schools and to all the Indigenous peoples of Canada. ..."*

~ from the [KPU Facebook page](#)



Wilson School of Design

INDUSTRY/COMMUNITY:

WSD Donates Materials To Indigenous Youth

The Wilson School of Design donated several boxes of knit material and notions to A'mut, a program affiliated with the Elizabeth Fry Society. The materials will be used by female Indigenous youth in the program for a variety of sewing and creative projects. The Elizabeth Fry Society is a human rights and social services charitable not-for-profit agency for women and girls affected by the justice system.



A'mut is a Full-time Attendance Program that supports female Indigenous youth who have been adjudicated. The program is an alternative to a custodial sentence. Youth are supported through this culture-based program, to address substance use and trauma.

Interior Design Faculty Speaks On Career Panel

Paola Gavilanez, Interior Design faculty, participated in a Housing and Living Environments Careers Panel for a Housing and Living Environments 12 class at GW Graham Secondary in Chilliwack. She was asked about her career path, the profession of Interior Design and our program at KPU



Faculty Hosts Summer Design Book Club For Students

Students in design keep those design skills humming over the summer. Erick Villagomez, faculty from KPU's Interior Design program and faculty member at SALA (UBC School Of Architecture And Landscape Architecture) is once again holding a 'Summer Design Book Club'.

New this year is the addition of students from UBC's Master of Community and Regional Planning. KPU and UBC students will read and review books over the summer and be part of online discussions on various topics. Their first book is the the "99% Invisible City-A Field Guide to the Hidden World of Everyday Design" by Roman Mars and Kurt Kohlstedt.

STUDENTS/ALUMNI:

New Grads Secure Employment

During their third year Fashion and Technology students take part in a practicum placement. For some students if the timing is right and a company has an open position (or two), the funding available, and the student is the right fit they may be offered a paid position or contract for part-time work that may then shift to full time upon their graduation. Aritzia has been one such company this year, and a standout supporter of students and alumni. They employed 3 fourth year students part time through their final year of study, which have now shifted to full time positions, and Aritzia has also hired two other new graduates as well.

Our other new grads, despite only finishing up courses in April 2021, have jumped right into things applying for roles and positions and in some places finding employment through regular paid or contract positions.

Recent Fashion & Technology Grad Testimonial

"I am currently working with contracts for 2 companies: In-House Creations and Grey Area Studio. For In-House, I am working as a product developer with Austin Sandrin [Alumni, 2020) where we work with clients in developing cut and sew garments for production. I am currently making fit and final samples, tech packs for production and working on implementing 3D rendering into the fit and sample making process. This is a small business and Austin and I are responsible for the majority of the work in the cut and sew department.

For Grey Area Studio (formerly Intern Techwear where I had finished my practicum) I am working with bags/accessories. I have been making bag patterns and samples based off sketches and will be doing tech packs for these products as well.

Overall I am very happy and am enjoying working for smaller businesses. Everyday I see something new with the value of the program. From the connections you make, skills you learn and work ethic needed to get through, the program has built me up and proved its value in post grad to an incredible amount."

WSD/PROGRAM INITIATIVES:

Practicum Placements Successful, Despite Pandemic

During the Spring 2021 semester, there were 23 Fashion and Technology students taking part in a practicum work-place experience. Through this crucial experience students engage with local companies, creating contacts, while also gaining experiential understanding, and greater understanding of practical application of skills gained in the classroom.

Learning outcomes for experiential courses are broad and go far beyond the list and requirements and "hours" worked. Students are prepared for post- graduation and employment and often hired before they complete 4th year studies. Despite the

Wilson School of Design cont'd

challenges the global pandemic has brought this past year, the following companies were willing and excited to work with students, in some cases hosting multiple students, in both virtual and in-person settings for practicum placements.

- Vitae Apparel
- Blushing Designs
- Lululemon
- Manuel Mendoza
- Aqua Lung
- Ten Tree
- Paper Label
- International Fashions
- Sai Leather Goods
- Creative Stitches
- Oremony
- Revol Girl
- Gentle Fawn



Once a student completes their hours, the supervisor is asked to provide some feedback. Below are some excerpts from post practicum supervisor evaluations. Note that student and supervisor names have been removed for confidentiality.

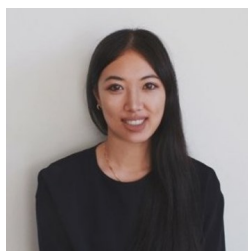
"Excellent taste level & aesthetic – really contributed to our new collection"

"Has great enthusiasm and wants to learn. She has a great work ethic, great ideas. She has a firm grasp on design/cutting. We hired her to work 1 Day/Week."

"Was lovely to have on the team, she fit in well with our team members and was capable and enjoyable to work with. She asked questions when necessary and always provided a great final product."

New Advisory Committee Members

Graphic Design for Marketing held their Program Advisory Committee meeting on Monday, May 17. The Advisory membership is new this year, with fantastic representation from agency, inhouse, and freelance graphic designers as well as other educational institutions. At this virtual meeting, the group discussed the future of work in a post-pandemic world; tools for creative ideation and client meetings online; and newly relevant skills for young designers graduating into a hybrid work environment. The spirit was collegial and fun, and faculty look forward to hosting future meetings on campus. Carolyn Phoenix, strategy associate at Wiseblood in Vancouver, was nominated as the Advisory Committee Chair (photo to right).



Welcome Packages Shipped To Fall 2021 New Students

Branded Wilson School of Design Welcome Packages were shipped to all incoming new students (for Fall 2021) with a variety of branded 'swag' and a letter of welcome from Dean Goundrey. Students were encouraged to share in their excitement for starting their design education by sharing on social media and tagging us. Several posts have already been captured.

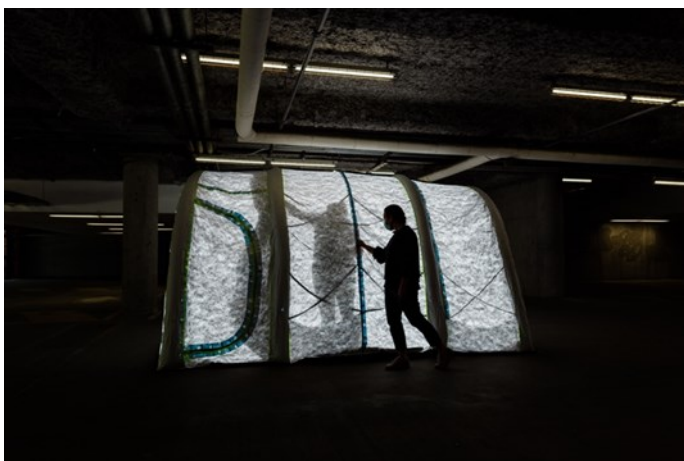


Designing For Outer Space

The pandemic has presented unique challenges for everyone, however, many silver linings have emerged. One of the most significant is the accessibility for faculty and students to connect with others, globally, with the increased usability of online platforms such as Zoom or Microsoft Teams.

As a result, our virtual classrooms have engaged with industry leaders and organizations from around the world, and our faculty and students have had unique opportunities to collaborate. As an example, our 3rd year Product Design students and faculty were invited to participate in a 10 week project with a non-profit collective from Iceland, which includes the European Space Agency.

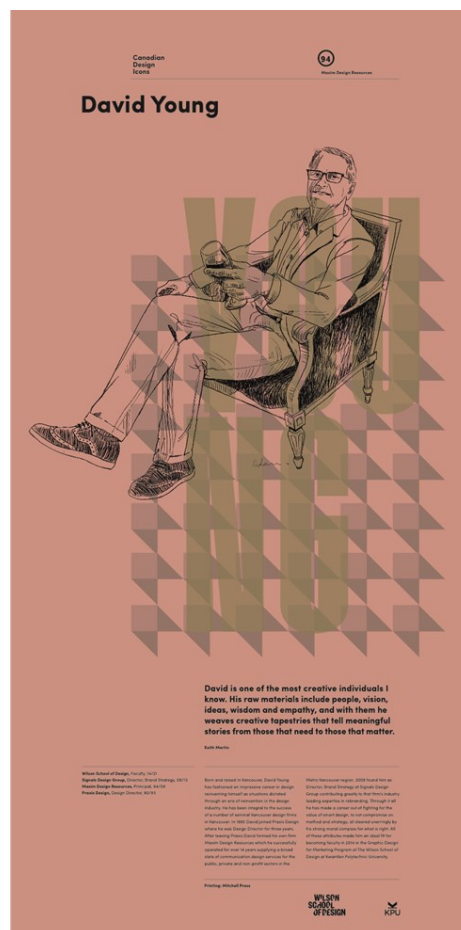
The Design team was tasked with developing a habitat that will be deployed in an Icelandic lava tube this summer as part of an analog astronaut mission. What does this mean? This collective's mission is to test new technologies and develop new skills for scientists and astronauts. In simple terms, they locate unique habitats on earth, that can replicate as closely as possible environments found on the Moon or Mars. Then, they deploy a small team of astronauts and scientists to these locations, such as caves or lava tubes, and, recreate as closely as possible the challenges they may face when traveling to other planets.



The KPU Design team developed, prototyped and built a unique tent-like structure, they named ECHO (Extreme Cave Habitat One) that will be used as the habitat in the next 'analog mission' in Iceland this summer. Not only did the team work cohesively to gather user input and research, to understand the specific design requirements and challenges but they successfully constructed the ECHO habitat despite the stringent health and safety protocols that were in place due to Covid-19. This project embodies so many of the values, goals and design methodologies that the Wilson School of Design teaches, and provided an incredible learning opportunity for students to work on real-world challenges that will positively impact our future. Stay tuned for updates of the outcomes of the summer mission.

FACULTY RECOGNITION

David Young is retiring after eight years teaching in the Graphic Design for Marketing program. Student favourite and passionate defender of design, David has had an impressive design career spanning 30+ years. He brought sharpness and rigour to the program's marketing and strategy focus, molding students into great thinkers, storytellers, and presenters. GDMA faculty member John Belisle applied his creative skills to designing a commemorative printed poster for David – with bio and kind words written by former GDMA instructor, and David's long-time collaborator, Keith Martin. David will be greatly missed.



Office of the Vice President, Students

The following reports from *Student Services* and *International* outline the key activities undertaken recently by the departments under the Vice President, Students. It is with great appreciation and acknowledgement of the hard work, dedication to student success and commitment of all staff serving KPU within this portfolio that the following reports are presented.

In addition, notable recent virtual meetings and events involving the Vice President, Students include:

- Liaison meetings with Elders Lekeyten and Cheryl Gabriel – ongoing
- Along with senior staff colleagues, liaise with *Kwantlen Student Association (KSA)* – ongoing
- Liaise with *Maple Leaf School (Richmond)* – ongoing
- Attend *BC Association of Institutes and Universities (BCAIU)* Student Services meetings
- *ASTTBC 2021 Virtual AGM & Conference* – month Long (during May)
- Provincial Indigenous Articulation Committee/BCCAT Meeting – May 6
- *Surrey Urban Indigenous Leadership Council (SUILC)* – May 13
- Breakfast with the Food Bank (Surrey) – May 14
- South Surrey - *White Rock Board of Trade* - Business Excellence Awards – May 27
- *Learning Forward*: Table Officers meeting as past president – May 27
- *KPU Indigenous Advisory Committee (IAC)* meeting – June 1
- *First Nations Health Authority (FNHA)/Fraser Health Authority (FHA)* discussion – June 2

- Participated in *BC Council on Admissions and Transfer (BCCAT)* provincial council – June 3
- Indigenous Partnership Success Showcase (IPSS) June 4
- Invited guest for Honorary doctorate presentation (UFV) for James Chamberlain – June 4
- Meeting with Cognia CEO – world schools accreditation – June 7
- *Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion (CCDI)* group debrief – June 9
- *Learning Forward*: Nominations Committee meeting Chair as past president – June 9
- Minister Mary Ng, Minister for International Trade: webinar - The PIE and Navitas – June 10
- *Surrey Poverty Reduction Plan* Advisory Committee – June 11

Upcoming meetings/events

- *Surrey Urban Indigenous Leadership Council (SUILC)* – June 8, July 8
- State of Education South of the Fraser planning meeting – Surrey SD, KPU, SFU – June 16
- Dual credit discussions with AEST – June 18
- Vancouver Board of Trade - Indigenous business – June 24
- *Young Entrepreneurship Leadership Launchpad (YELL)* introductory meeting – June 24
- *BC Council for International Education (BCCIE)* virtual conference – June 21-25
- Doctoral student supervision meeting (UBC) – June 30
- *Technical Education & Career Council (TECC)* meeting – July 6
- *BC Association of Institutes and Universities (BCAIU)* Student Services meeting – July 6

STUDENT SERVICES

The following activities and programs are underway across Student Services in alignment with the University's strategic vision and goals.

Fall Applicant Night

Applicants who had not yet accepted their offer of admission for Fall 2021 were invited to Fall Applicant Night to "Ask Us Anything." This event was a partnership between the Future Students' Office and the Major Events Team. Students had the opportunity to enter Faculty breakout rooms and ask program specific questions to Student Recruitment Coordinators and Academic Advisors. The goal of the event was to help answer questions and alleviate any of the concerns that may have been preventing students from accepting their offer of admission and help them feel that they could confidently choose KPU.

National Portfolio Day

The Future Students' Office (FSO) participated in National Portfolio Day to help prospective students prepare for the next intake of Design programs, providing program information and portfolio review insights.



Office of the Vice President, Students, cont'd

Breaking Barriers

This online event for KPU's Community Partners was held by the Future Students' Office to showcase university programs and services that are tailored to support the clientele of settlement and employment agencies. This year included a networking and education fair, which sparked meaningful conversations around barriers in accessing education and how the Covid-19 pandemic has changed the landscape of higher education from the community partners' perspective.

Student Recruitment

During the month of May the Future Students' Office hosted 11 information sessions and provided recruitment presentations to 8 local high schools. Conversion calling campaigns continued in earnest!

Professional Development

The *BC Registrars' Association* (BCRA) spring meeting during featured an update from EducationPlannerBC, discussing fall planning scenarios and micro-credentials.

The University Registrar attended the *BC Council on Administrative Tribunals* Writing Decision Letters workshop with other members of the Senate Standing Committee on Appeals and, attended by a variety of outside institutions involved in the administrative hearing process. The workshop included lectures, discussion, writing exercises and individual feedback sessions on adopting a reader-oriented perspective and writing clear coherent decisions.

The SEMM 2021 Forum was attended by the Future Student's Office and the Registrar's leadership team. The focus included various aspects of recruitment, admissions and marketing strategies that have been put in place by other Post-Secondary Institutions. This event sparked many new ideas that the Future Students' Office is excited to begin implementing.

The University Registrar, Associate Registrar and Manager of Registration, Records and Scheduling attended the Canadian Association for University Continuing Education (CAUCE) conference, *Reimagining the Role of CE in Higher Education* to learn more about scheduling and registration under a new student information system, *Elevate* by Ellucian.

Co-op Work Placements

With the summer term well underway at the Career Development Centre, 82 new students have registered on KPU's Job Board, *Career Connection*. In May, 357 employment opportunities were posted, including 29 brand new employers.

There were also 323 new Co-op job postings, with the help of Career Development Centre's first ever "Lightning Round" email campaign, contacting over 4,000 Co-op employers to help boost summer postings.

Summer New Student Orientation

Orientation and Transitions hosted the Summer 2021 Orientation and First Year Festival. Over 2,500 new students attended 38 virtual sessions, run in partnership with Departments and Faculties across KPU. Summer 2021 Orientation also saw the return of the O-Team Student Leaders: so critical to the success of Orientation, this was their first appearance since moving the events online!

Student Affairs Engages in Safe Harbour Training

A key priority of the Student Affairs Management Team for 2021 is, alongside other diversity, equity and inclusion efforts currently underway at KPU, to facilitate Division-wide professional development opportunities to provide a common understanding and awareness. To that end, Student Affairs has connected with the *Affiliation of Multicultural Societies and Service Agencies of British Columbia* (AMSSA) to deliver their *Safe Harbour* workshop as an e-learning module for all Student Affairs employees. The goal of Safe Harbour Training is to support individuals with building awareness of diversity and to gain knowledge that helps to foster inclusion in workplace settings and with the clients those workplaces serve.

National Indigenous History Month

Across the month of June, and in recognition of *National Indigenous Peoples' Day* on June 21st, KPU will celebrate National Indigenous History Month through a number of virtual events. These include *Indigenous Language Revitalization* with Fern Gabriel, Kwantlen First Nation; *Telling Modern Indigenous Stories* with Kelvin Redvers, Dene Nation; and *Mind, Body, Spirit Feather Collage* with Melanie Rivers, Tiyaltelwet-Squamish Nation. More information and event registration can be found online: <https://www.kpu.ca/indigenous/month>

CACUSS 2021

Like most events and conferences, the *Canadian Association of College and University Student Services* (CACUSS) moved their 48th annual conference online and virtual. This important, Canadian community of practice for student affairs professionals has ensured a platform for gathering, and to address the ongoing uncertainties of the pandemic, while continuing to provide a content-rich conference agenda. Significantly reduced group pricing for the online event, meant that 20 Student Affairs employees were able to attend up to 4 days of professional development at CACUSS 2021.

Welcoming a New Director, Student Success

Student Affairs is so pleased to announce the appointment of Lisa Higashi to the role of Director, Student Success. Lisa brings experience supporting student engagement and success from across three post-secondary institutions in BC, involving advising, student orientation, experiential learning and career development, international student services and student recruitment.

Office of the Vice President, Students, cont'd

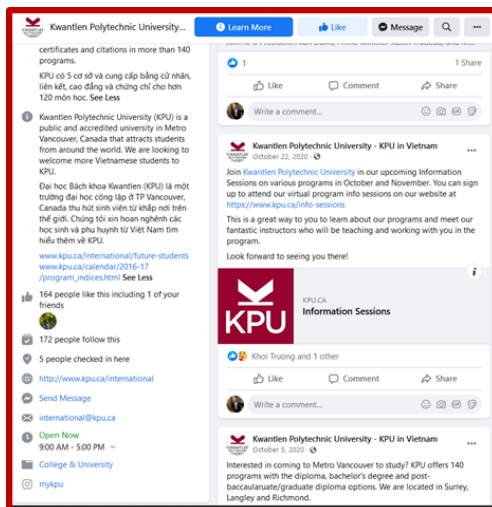
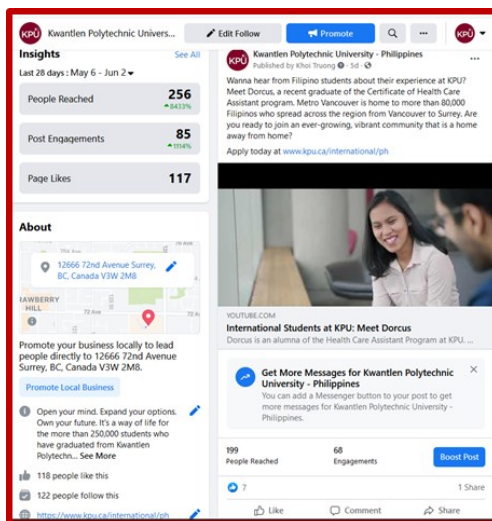
KPU INTERNATIONAL

International Recruitment - Admissions

KPU International met its international student enrolment targets for Summer 2021. There are 1,176 new international students enrolled for the summer semester. Admissions for Fall 2021 are on target.

Social Media

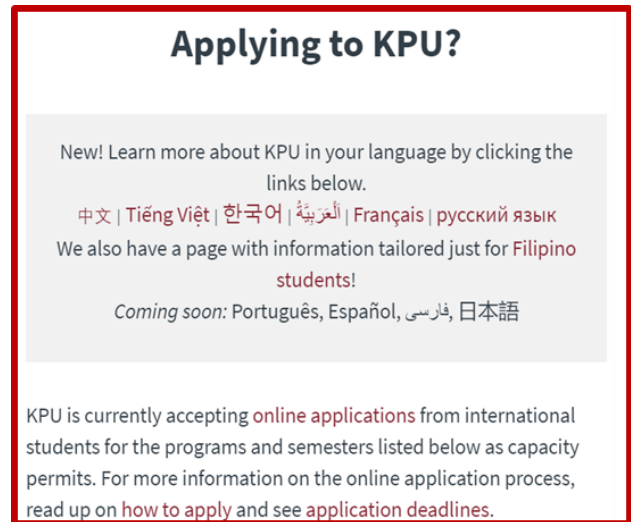
KPU International has created two Facebook pages for our Vietnamese and Filipino students. These pages have enhanced engagement with students and improved their satisfaction with the support provided by KPU, made evident from a recent survey administered to all admitted students from Fall 2019 to Spring 2022. (Below) *Philippines and Vietnam Facebook pages*



Landing Pages

KPU International now has dedicated pages to provide essential information to students in target languages. Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, Arabic, French, and Russian are already online. Spanish and Portuguese are near completion. (Below)

Screenshot of KPU website showing links to pages in target languages



Global Partnership

Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)

On May 31, 2021, Senate approved the recognition of *Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)*. SQA is the public body of the Scottish Government responsible for accrediting and awarding educational qualifications. The articulation agreement to follow will recognize SQA's Advanced Diploma graduates attending the business stream and allow them to come to KPU to complete their last two years under the School of Business programs.



Study Abroad

Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) Information Session

In Spring 2021, Faculty member Lesley McCannell (School of Business/Faculty of Arts) collaborated with a professor from KPU partner institution, the University of Monterrey (UEM), Mexico, to deliver HRMT 3115 (Human Relations). A COIL Information Session on May 27th was made available to the KPU community to share the pilot project's result. Many interested faculties will be embarking on the COIL journey in the Fall 2022 semester to include collaborations with the University of Monterrey (UEM, Mexico, and Nottingham Trent University, United Kingdom).

Office of Associate Vice President, Planning and Accountability

EXPERIENCE

Employee Experience:

- Employee Insights Survey: This survey was sent to all employees at KPU. It elicited feedback on current remote and on-campus work arrangements and supports, post-pandemic preferences, and additional topics related to employee engagement. It was launched on February 1 and closed February 28. Full reporting on the survey was completed on May 28 and delivered to HR for further distribution to the KPU community.
- OPA is providing support for the collection of data to inform the development of KPU's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Action Plan. This includes providing guidance on an interview component of the research being conducted by CCDI, which will obtain qualitative information on EDI practices, gaps, and suggestions for improvement. The interviews were conducted in May and the information will be included in CCDI's report to KPU to be delivered in July.

Student Experience:

- BSN Program Completion Survey: This is a recurring survey for students about to graduate from the BSN program. Students provide feedback about the program including their development of professional competencies and overall satisfaction. The survey of the Spring 2021 graduates was launched on March 12 and a report of the results was provided to the program chair on May 25.
- BSN-AE Community Partners Survey: This is an ongoing survey that provides feedback from organizations with which Bachelor of Science in Nursing – Advanced Entry students are placed for practica, including the ease of arranging the practica and students' effectiveness within them. The survey launched April 22 and closed on May 13; a report is in progress and will be provided to the program chair in June.

QUALITY

Student Success:

- OPA is conducting research on the impact of KPU International's First Year Boost initiative, including an analysis of administrative data, as well as a feedback survey. The survey was launched on April 6 and closed on May 12. A report was delivered to KPU International on June 2.
- A survey was conducted in May to understand the experiences of students who participated in the KPU Complete Program, which is a cohort-based approach to support mature learners at KPU. A report was delivered to the program's coordinators on June 8.
- Conducting a study on of relation of entrance requirements and student performance in Business Graduate Diploma and Post-baccalaureate programs.

- Conducting a study for Academic Advisers on the number of students who change their majors or intended majors

Program Review:

- Support is currently being provided to 32 programs (or cluster of related programs) that are at various stages in the program review process.

As of June 8, 2021	Number of Programs
Phase 1: Self-Study	8
Phase 2: External Review	4
Phase 3: Quality Assurance Plan	2
Phase 4: Annual Follow-Up	18
Total	32

- Addressing recommendations of the Quality Assurance Process Audit (QAPA): OPA is working on revising the Program Review process as identified in KPU's QAPA action plan, in consultation with the Senate Standing Committee on Program Review and other stakeholders, as appropriate.

Course Feedback:

- Summer 2021 project was launched on June 4. OPA will be surveying 932 sections between June 4 and August 13, 2021. . The majority of the course feedback surveys (87%) will be launched on July 12. All surveys will close on or before August 13 and reports will be distributed on September 1, 2021.

Accountability to Government:

- Preparing the 2020/21 Accountability Plan and Report for submission to the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training by mid-July. This entails collecting information from across KPU on key initiatives carried out or being planned to address KPU's strategic priorities as well as the Ministry's priorities set out in its mandate letter to KPU. The Draft report was submitted to the Board Governance Committee for their June 16th meeting.
- Submitted the FY 2020-21 FTE Report for submission to the Ministry in late May.
- Completed the Central Data Warehouse submission to the Ministry, which was due in early June. This process is a collaboration with the Office of the Registrar, IT, and other departments.
- Working with HR for the FY 2020-21 HRDB Data Collection submission to the Post-Secondary Employers' Association (PSEA), which is due in late June.
- Preparing the 2021 Baccalaureate Graduates Survey (BGS) cohort for submission to BC Stats by the end of July.

INSTITUTIONAL PLANNING

Integrated Planning:

- OPA Data Warehouse: To improve OPA's ability to provide timely information, OPA is working with IT to create a comprehensive data warehouse. The purpose of the OPA Data Warehouse is to have a single source of data that will meet the requirements for institutional reporting and analysis, including KPU's business intelligence dashboards. The data warehouse will replace various existing sources of information for faster data extraction and report preparation. The data warehouse has moved from test to production with all the data elements in place. Data validation and fine-tuning of data definitions are ongoing.
- Preparing to use the data warehouse for reporting purposes by developing dashboards using Power BI to replace existing ones that are currently in EXCEL. The new dashboards will be more efficient, since Power BI can better handle large data sets, and will have more features than available in EXCEL. OPA is also working with IT to create a gateway for automatically updating the dashboards, and to publish the dashboards on SharePoint.
- Providing support to the project to implement a Customer Relations Management (CRM) tool. OPA's role is to ensure definitions of data elements reported in the CRM are consistent with definitions in institutional reports generated by OPA, and to provide the recruitment, marketing and events teams with support in dashboard and chart creation on the system level.
- Providing ongoing support to the Sustainable Enrolment Planning Council through the provision of customized data to inform planning. Analysis of the number of active students who has been admitted into open-intake programs in Arts, Business and Science and Horticulture to determine how many have not declared into a program by the time they have earned at least 45 credits.
- Updated the Academic Standing Dashboard to include academic standing of students as of Spring 2021.

Enrolment Management:

- Applicant Funnel dashboards: Applicant funnels for Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 are running currently. The dashboards are updated every Wednesday. The dashboards provide information on the number of applicants, and their conversion through each step in the application process to qualified, offered, admitted and ultimately enrolled. The dashboards also include information on country of origin of International applicants.
- Applicant Tracking Reports: Providing weekly updates during the final six months of the applicant cycle on expected conversions of applicants to admitted, and admitted to enrolled. Once registration begins, the report also includes the number of admitted actually registered in courses. The weekly updates for Fall 2021 are ongoing.
- Created the Stable Enrolment report based on Summer registrations as of the Stable Enrolment Date, May 25.
- Provided data to Faculty of Health to inform Health Foundations course and program planning.
- Conducted an analysis of admitted students who had no enrolments at start of term for Summer 2021 and Summer 2020 to understand the relationship between final registration status on Stable Enrolment Date and registration activity before start of term: no registration attempts, attempted by not completed, waitlisted only, or previously registered but all courses dropped.
- Updated the following dashboards with data for Spring 2021: Grades Distribution Dashboard, Enrolment Dashboard.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

VICE PRESIDENT, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS – ACTIVITY REGISTER

- » Townhall with Dr. Bonnie Henry
 - Return-to-campus planning context for fall
- » Breakfast With The Bank
 - virtual fundraiser for the Surrey Food Bank
- » Advocacy Committee meeting
 - Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce
- » Virtual meeting with Surrey-Fleetwood MLA Jagrup Brar (with President Davis and Katie Openshaw, Special Advisor Government Relations)
- » Virtual meeting with MLA Bob D’Eith, MLA Maple Ridge Mission and Parliamentary Secretary for Arts and Film (with President Davis and Katie Openshaw, Special Advisor Government Relations)
- » Meeting with Parliamentary Secretary Andrew Mercier at KPU Tech
- » Universities Canada virtual meeting
 - Government Relations Officers and Directors of Communication
- » Surrey Mayor Doug McCallum’s State of the City address
- » South Surrey & White Rock Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards.
- » Richmond COVID-19 Community Task Force meeting
- » YWCA Women of Distinction Awards (virtual celebration)
- » KPU Foundation
 - » Board meeting
 - » Finance & Investment Committee Meeting
 - » Governance Committee meeting
 - » Events Committee meeting
- » Transition planning

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Work continues to build a firm foundation for a robust Government Relations function at KPU.

Some baseline metrics have been established to track email engagement through the pandemic and are summarized in the table below. To start, the GR team is looking at what percentage of emails are received and acknowledged, and how many of those efforts are converted into a virtual meeting. In April and May, two different targeted meeting request approaches were taken which accounts for the higher conversion rate.

Topic	Date Sent	Total emails sent	Receipt Acknowledgement	Conversion
October Election - Provincial	4-Dec-20	25	44%	20%
Fall Economic Update - Federal	16-Dec-20	4	0%	0%
Genomics Centre - Federal	19-Mar-21	10	0%	0%
ISFS Brochure - Provincial	29-Mar-21	16	25%	6%
Budget Response Letter - Federal	22-Apr-21	4	0%	0%
Budget Response Letter - Provincial	23-Apr-21	15	27%	40% (targeted)
Genomics Centre - Provincial	20-May-21	15	33%	50% (targeted) 8% (untargeted)

Over the summer, GR will work with IT to develop a stakeholder management system through Team Dynamix which will bring some sophistication to the way this information is tracked and organized in the future.

› EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Since April 2021, virtual events attended to elevate KPU's profile within our stakeholder network include:

- » Virtual meeting with MLA Jagrup Brar (Surrey-Fleetwood)
- » Surrey Board of Trade: Women in Business Awards
- » Vancouver Board of Trade: A New Industrial Policy with Innovation Minister Champagne
- » CiCan: Perspectives Live Episode 8: Sustainability Means Intergenerational Equity
- » Public Affairs Association of Canada – How Will Sustainability Define the Post COVID-19 World?
- » Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion: The Difference between Racism, Not Racist and Anti-Racist
- » CiCan: Contribute to Stronger Research on Expanding Student Pathways
- » City of Surrey: State of the City Address
- » Public Affairs Association of Canada – The GR/PR Intersection
- » Filming at KPU Tech with Parliamentary Secretary Andrew Mercier (Langley)
- » Virtual meeting with MLA Bob D'Eith (Maple Ridge-Mission)

Total stakeholder engagements attended in 2021: 35

OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT & ALUMNI AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT

Since the May Board of Governors' Report, The Office of Advancement has raised an additional \$18,755 bringing the fiscal Year-to-date total to \$96,970. A new major gift of \$10,000 was received from Coral Miller for the Beta Sigma Phi Endowed Award.

On May 7, KPU and the KPU Foundation were pleased to announce a \$3-million gift made by Dr. Sherman Jen and the Dr. Sherman Jen Education Foundation. Although these funds were received and counted in the previous fiscal year, COVID-19 safety protocols prevented a larger in-person celebration. We look forward to a time when we can celebrate this gift in person with Dr. Jen, staff, students, and faculty.

The Dr. Jen gift supports two endowed research chairs as well as an endowment to provide annual scholarships for global studies and exchange.

ALUMNI AFFAIRS

ADMINISTRATION

The Alumni Affairs office supported the following KPUAA board and committee meetings since the last report:

- » May 3 - Tribute Selection Task Force Awards process review meeting
- » May 10 - Risk Committee meeting
- » May 13 - Tribute Selection Task Force Awards adjudication meeting
- » May 26 - Tribute Committee meeting
- » June 7 - Risk Committee meeting
- » June 8 - Engagement Committee meeting and Foundation board meet and greet
- » June 15 - Board meeting

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

The KPUAA Tribute Selection Task Force comprised of eight alumni, faculty and staff members convened to adjudicate the 2021 Distinguished Alumni Awards in May. The Task Force recommendations were brought forward to the KPUAA Tribute Committee and approved. The KPUAA board will ratify the recommendations at its June 15 board meeting. We expect to announce our 2021 winners over the summer.

> **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

ALUMNI AFFAIRS *CONTINUED*

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Convocation – The Alumni Affairs office participated in the assembly of the memorabilia boxes. We were pleased to support the inclusion of the Alumni pen and Alumni Magazine. In addition, the Alumni Affairs office is creating a special welcome e-newsletter which will be deployed to all our graduates the day of the ceremony. The newsletter provides information on all the exciting ways alumni can remain connected and stay involved with KPU.

*You can learn more about all our alumni engagement efforts on our website at **ALUMNI.KPU.CA***

ALUMNI PERKS

One of our key ways to engage alumni is to offer exclusive benefits and discounts. Our new mobile app Alumni Perks functionally replaced the Alumni Benefits card and streamlines our ability to engage with alumni. The app is gaining traction, with over 500 alumni signed up. We expect to see a substantial increase in participation at convocation when we offer access to this exclusive app to our newest alumni through our welcome e-newsletter.

We continue to negotiate several new benefits with KPU alumni business owners to offer discounted products and services to alumni. We plan ongoing calls for expressions of interest from our alumni business owners to partner free of charge during the current launch phase.

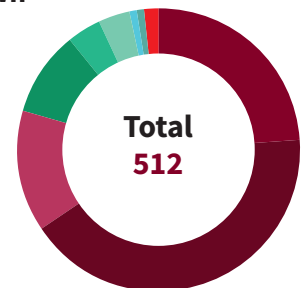
ALUMNI PERKS DASHBOARD METRICS:

Member Counts

512	Unprocessed Pending	1
Active Members	Alumni Records	0

Age Breakdown

- 18-24 (123)
- 25-30 (214)
- 31-35 (71)
- 36-40 (49)
- 41-45 (20)
- 46-50 (18)
- 51-55 (5)
- 56-60 (4)
- 61+ (8)

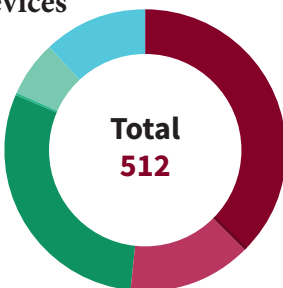


Recent Site Activity (Last 30 Days)

Logins	29
Sign Ups	40
Offers Viewed	240
Cards Shown	64

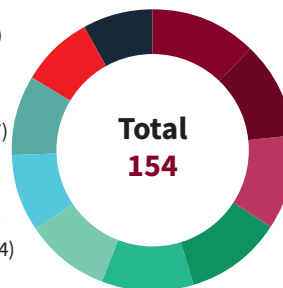
Sign Up Devices

- APP 192
- Admin (1)
- Android (72)
- iPhone (153)
- iPod (1)
- Macintosh (32)
- Windows (61)



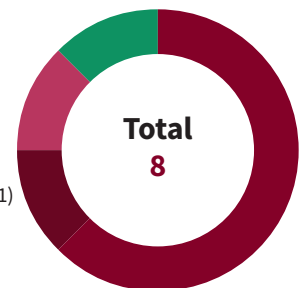
Offer Views

- TD Home Insurance (19)
- KPU Bookstore (17)
- Fresh Prep (17)
- Artona Photography (17)
- TD Life & health Insurance (16)
- Vancouver Canucks (15)
- Convocation Flowers (14)
- KPU Sports & Rec (14)
- KPU Library (13)
- Best Coast Bonsai Inc (12)



Cards Shown

- LEAD Benefits (5)
- Artona Photography (1)
- TD Home Insurance (1)
- ConsciousWorks (1)



EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

TEN THOUSAND COFFEES ONLINE CAREER NETWORKING/ MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

We've had tremendous success in the first four months of the program with over 670 students and alumni signed up to begin connecting. In addition, twice a year we offer special career development opportunities through the 'Office Hours' virtual events, which are geared to our students and alumni. On May 20 we offered our second Office Hours event on Foundational Skills for Career Success. We were thrilled that 87 KPU students and alumni attended this event, and the event received a rating of 87%.

SUPPORTED BY

Ten Thousand Coffees RBC Future Launch

OFFICE HOUR EVENT

Foundational Skills for Career Success Thursday, May 20, 2021
10:30 am PT | 11:30 am MT
12:30 pm CT | 1:30 pm ET
2:30 pm AT | 3:00 pm NT

 Harpal Sekhon, Head of HR, Consumer Canada

HOSTED BY

 Dave Wilkin, Co-Founder & CEO

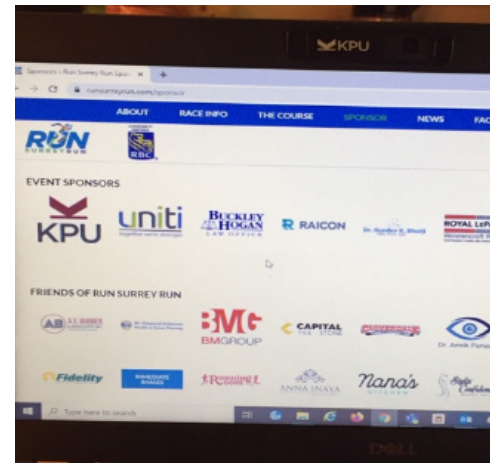
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & MAJOR EVENTS

RUN SURREY RUN-VIRTUAL 5KM/10KM WALK/RUN JUNE 1-15

KPU is pleased to be a sponsor of the Run Surrey Run event this year. The vision for this event is to create a sustainable and inclusive world-class run that aims to promote a healthy lifestyle for the vibrant and diverse community of Surrey.

Run Surrey Run is being organized as a not-for-profit event benefiting not only the participants of the Run, but also supporting community charities. A wonderful opportunity for KPU to engage and support the Surrey Community.

For more information [RUNSURREYRUN.COM](https://www.runsurreyrun.com)



10TH ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT WITH THE SURREY FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION ON JUNE 22

KPU has been a longstanding supporter of the Surrey Fire Fighters Association and this year is no exception. As part of our community engagement efforts KPU will be a proud hole sponsor at The Surrey Fire Fighters' Charity Golf Tournament that benefits the Surrey community. Attendees will be treated to a unique and safe experience, allowing sponsors and supporters to come together for a great round of golf. We will be sharing information about our incredible KPU programs and services ensuring that our brand is well showcased.

For more information [SURREYFIREFIGHTERS.COM/GOLF](https://www.surreyfirefighters.com/golf)



> EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

FALL SHOWCASE FILMING

The Major Events & Community Engagement team has launched a new series of **Faculty Showcases** to complement our annual KPU Open House with a suite of faculty-specific branding and recruitment events. The next series of Virtual Showcases will begin in Fall 2021 going into 2022.

Representatives from all Faculties will participate in a series of pre-recorded engaging and informative videos about their programs and have the opportunity to hold live information sessions via Microsoft Teams. The Future Students' Office and the KPU International Office will host virtual drop-in sessions and How to Apply workshops, and we will give away \$250 in free tuition to prospective students at each Showcase. The feature videos will be housed on **KPU.CA/SHOWCASE**.

SAVE THE DATES: OPEN HOUSE & SHOWCASES FOR THE 2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR INCLUDE



- ✓ **KPU Virtual Open House**, Saturday, October 2, 2021, 12-2pm
- ✓ **KPU Virtual Showcase: Faculty of Science & Horticulture**, Thursday, October 28, 2021, 5-7pm
- ✓ **KPU Virtual Showcase: Wilson School of Design**, Thursday, November 18, 2021, 6-8pm
- ✓ **KPU Virtual Showcase: Faculty of Health**, Thursday, November 25, 2021, 5-7pm
- ✓ **KPU Virtual Showcase: Faculty of Arts**, Thursday, January 20, 2022, 6-8pm
- ✓ **KPU Virtual Showcase: School of Business**, Thursday, January 27, 2022, 4-6pm
- ✓ **KPU Virtual Showcase: Trades and Technology**, Thursday, March 3, 2022, 5-7pm

***Please note that, instead of hosting a Faculty of Academic and Career Preparation Showcase, ACP will present its offerings at all six of the other Faculty Showcases.*

VIRTUAL CAMPUS TOURS

Our team has been delighted to see an increase in requests from our community stakeholders and MLAs for virtual campus tours and we are thrilled to assist our colleagues in the Faculties and Government Relations in order to do so.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

May 1 – 31

MARKETING

We have been busy meeting virtually with advertising vendors and representatives to build and secure our campaigns for the year. The next several weeks will entail strategizing, negotiating and confirming bookings for our KPU brand campaigns that will take us through 2021/2022, fall and winter.

One exciting initiative that we are currently working on refreshing is the 2 advertising murals at Guildford Mall. Before the end of the month, our new graphics will be up and will remain until June 2022.

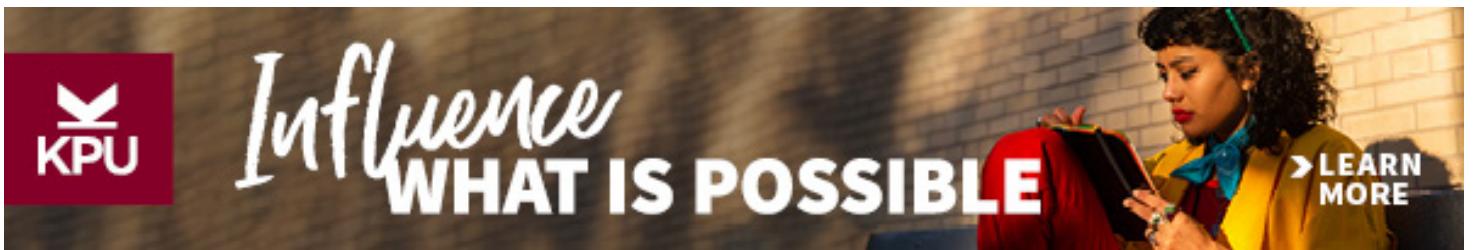
The new murals will be viewed by over 14 million visitors to Guildford Mall in the coming year.



New Guildford Wall Mural

THE VANCOUVER WRITERS FEST: E-NEWSLETTER AND BANNER ADS SUPPORTING THE FACULTY OF ARTS

The Vancouver Writers Fest is a registered non-profit, charitable organization that operates with the support of public sector funding, ticket sales, advertising revenue, corporate sponsorships and donations. The banner ad below was added to their weekly e-newsletter, which is emailed to their 14,000+ distribution list. This ad links to the [kpu/arts](#) feature page on the website where prospects can learn about studying at KPU.



EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Communications team was busy in May supporting a range of internal communications functions including employee insights and program changes among others. Internal communications have become an increasingly important part of our work and we were delighted to be able to post for the university's first internal communications specialist this month.

The team has also been providing communications support and guidance to more areas of the university, including in May to Indigenous student services, university's special advisor on government relations, and the Office of the President. Requests from external media for interviews also started picking up in May.

On the web front, we have been developing content to support Pride communication efforts planned for this summer, as well as delivering new content for the Faculty of Academic and Career Preparation, English Language Studies and the Zero Textbook Cost initiative. Preparation work has begun for a refresh of Wilson School of Design web pages, including their program pages.

Social media statistics



TWITTER

» 7 Tweets » 12,223 Impressions » 15 Mentions
» 11 New Followers (1411 total) » 1225 Profile Visits



LINKEDIN

» 9 Posts » 1010 Clicks » 44,311 Impressions » 602 Social Actions
» 0 Video Views » 445 New Followers (43, 898 Total)



FACEBOOK

» 4 Posts » 6849 People Reached » 101 Social Actions (Reactions, Comments And Shares)
» 202 Overall Engagements (Views, Link Clicks, Other Clicks, Likes, Shares, Comments)



INSTAGRAM

» 5 Stories Sent » 4751 Impressions » 4763 Average Reach » 177 Actions

HIGH PERFORMING SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

Top Tweet earned 5,256 impressions

Marilyn Graziano, @KwantlenU vice president, External Affairs, has won the Corporate Leadership Award at the 2021 Surrey Women in Business Awards. The @SBofT honour caps a distinguished career in media and post-secondary education: kpu.ca/news/2021/04/3... pic.twitter.com/vUNELKtq9b

KPU Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Published by Sucheta Singh · May 7 at 9:34 AM · 🌐

A big kudos to these KPU students for donating 1000 food items to the Greater Vancouver Food Bank.

RICHMOND-NEWS.COM
Kudos: KPU student club donates 1,000 food items to a local food bank

1,782 People Reached 62 Engagements

Boost Post

KPU Kwantlen Polytechnic University
43,898 followers · 🌐

Thanks to a \$3 million donation from the Sherman Jen Foundation, KPU can expand its applied research capacity. Learn how this donation will help create research chairs and scholarships.

#endowment #KPU #KwantlenPolytechnicUniversity #donation #research

KPU announces \$3-million donation from the Dr. Sherman Jen Education Foundation

kpu.ca · 2 min read

108 · 1 comment

KPU May 26 12:57 PM

@KPU SCIENCEHORT STUDENTS CAN NOW STUDY MEDICINE @STGEORGESU IN GRENADA.

LEARN MORE AT [KPU.CA/NEWS](https://kpu.ca/news)

MEDIA

Media training, key message prep, response statements, interview facilitation included these topics:

Gang issues, police transitions, sport and rec online, return to campus, nursing student enrollment, Balbir Gurm awards, how to plant a garden, health foundations, nursing, Pride, catering services, international student recruitment

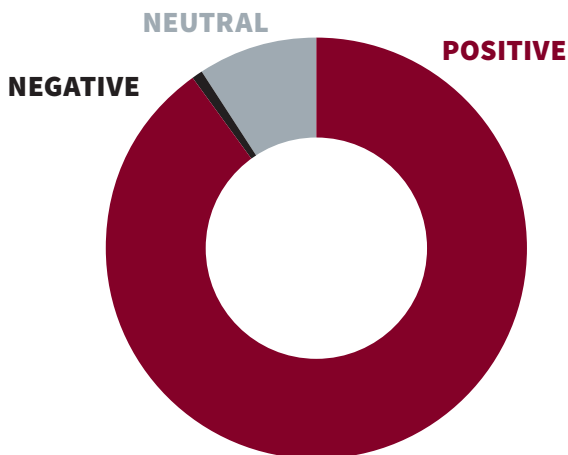
› EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

KPU MEDIA COVERAGE MAY 1 – 31, 2021

Facilitated media requests from and/or received coverage in:

National Observer, The Good Men Project Magazine, Metropolis Magazine, Perishable News, Education News Canada, Global News, CKNW, Hortidaily, Aldergrove Star, The Peace Arch News, Surrey Now Leader, Delta Optimist, Langley Advance Times, The Runner, Richmond News, Stockhouse, Onetz, Toronto Star, The Daily Hive Vancouver, Mična, Vancouver Sun, the Province, Campus Rec Magazine, Academia Group, University Affairs, Richmond Sentinel, Comox Valley Record, Colleges and Institutes Canada, Cloverdale Reporter, the PIE News, Vancouver Miss Blog 604, The Georgia Straight, CTV News, The Indo-Canadian Voice

The following graphic was created by our media analytic software and shows the overall media sentiment for this reporting period (March 1 – April 30). The chart is an aggregate measurement that includes everything from public service announcements, which are largely considered neutral, to large news and feature pieces.



Media exposure during this period totaled 221 mentions, divided into 203 positive and 18 neutral mentions. (source: Meltwater).

During this reporting period, Communications issued seven media releases, produced one video and posted two web stories:

» May 1 – 31: four media releases

The following is a list of the KPU media releases and web stories posted during this reporting period. Media advisories, videos and Instagram stories are not included.

MAY 2021

May 31 NEW KPU STUDY SUGGESTS OKANAGAN COULD SATISFY LOCAL DIETS BY PRODUCING ITS OWN FOOD

May 26 KPU STUDENTS CAN STUDY MEDICINE AT ST. GEORGE'S UNIVERSITY

May 13 KPU INSTRUCTOR WINS BC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

May 07 KPU ANNOUNCES \$3-MILLION DONATION FROM THE DR. SHERMAN JEN EDUCATION FOUNDATION

DIGITAL ADVERTISING

KPU Generic Campaigns Ads running May 2021

FACEBOOK ADS (INCLUDING NEW VIDEO ADS)

KPU Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Sponsored · 18

Discover what is possible at KPU.

With programs and courses in business, health, design, arts, science, horticulture, trades and more, there's something for everyone.

Learn more about our programs, sign up for an info session or download our latest viewbook!

KPU.CA
Welcome to KPU
Where thought meets action. [LEARN MORE](#)

Like Comment Share

KPU Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Sponsored · 18

Discover what is possible at KPU.

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KPU.CA
Welcome to KPU
Where thought meets action. [LEARN MORE](#)

Juanchito Hernandez and 1... 1 Comment

Like Comment Share

GOOGLE DISPLAY AD EXAMPLES

YOUTUBE ADS

Faculty of Arts

KPU Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Sponsored · 18

Whether you aspire to be a teacher, lawyer, psychologist, or painter, a well-rounded education will give you a solid foundation in creative and critical thinking for life. Learn more to see if an arts education is right for you!

KPU.CA
Faculty of Arts
Influence What is Possible! [LEARN MORE](#)

Lindsay Pierre and 3 others

Like Comment Share

KPU Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Sponsored · 18

Whether you aspire to be a teacher, lawyer, psychologist, or painter, a well-rounded education will give you a solid foundation in creative and critical thinking for life. Learn more to see if an arts education is right for you!

KPU.CA
Faculty of Arts
You have an influence. Learn how... [LEARN MORE](#)

Sukhwant Kooser and 4 others 1 Share

Like Comment Share

KPU Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Sponsored · 18

Whether you aspire to be a teacher, lawyer, psychologist, or painter, a well-rounded education will give you a solid foundation in creative and critical thinking for life. Learn more to see if an arts education is right for you!

KPU.CA
Faculty of Arts
You have an influence. Learn how... [LEARN MORE](#)

Beatriz Loud and 4 others 2 Comments

Like Comment Share

KPU Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Sponsored · 18

INFLUENCE WHAT IS POSSIBLE!
Use your arts education to turn a wealth of possibilities and hands-on experience into exciting career options. Learn more: <https://www.kpu.ca/arts>

KPU.CA
Faculty of Arts
Influence What is Possible! [LEARN MORE](#)

Mais Winn and 3 others

Like Comment Share

KPU Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Sponsored · 18

INFLUENCE WHAT IS POSSIBLE!
Study contemporary and interconnected social and cultural issues and influence what is possible in the arts. Learn more: <https://www.kpu.ca/arts>

KPU.CA
Faculty of Arts
Influence What is Possible! [LEARN MORE](#)

Dyfm Marius and 4 others

Like Comment Share


EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Wilson School of Design

WILSON SCHOOL OF DESIGN CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

KPU Kwantlen Polytechnic University
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DISRUPT WHAT IS POSSIBLE!
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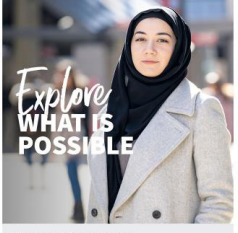
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> EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

AD CAMPAIGN LANDING PAGE PERFORMANCE

(compared to previous year of May 1, 2020 - May 31, 2020)

We see a significant growth in terms of landing page activities this fiscal year compared to the same period of last year. We continue to work with each faculty to promote their priority programs and initiatives via digital advertising. Alongside our ongoing generic KPU brand campaign we launched 5 digital ad campaigns running to support the defined faculty priorities and we will continue to include 2 more faculties and their priority programs in the coming weeks. Below is a performance summary of these landing pages in terms of web traffic.

Prospect Page	Landing Page	Pageviews	
Generic	/discover	419	∞%
Faculty of Arts	/arts	2,945	134% ↑
School of Business	/business/entrepreneurial-leadership	2,745	1,433% ↑
Faculty of Academic and Career Advancement	/acp/english-upgrading	1,462	∞%
	/explore-els	910	848% ↑
Wilson School of Design	/design	4,669	11% ↑
Faculty of Trades and Technology	/mechatronics	1,170	425% ↑





LANDING PAGES AVERAGES

Users	326% ↑
New Users	414% ↑
Pageviews	140% ↑
Unique Pageviews	146% ↑
Average Time on Page	80% ↑

NEW VS. RETURNING

New Visitors 69% OF TOTAL	4,619 users	190% ↑
	3,291 sessions	395% ↑
Returning Visitors 31% OF TOTAL	2,060 users	60% ↑
	1,426 sessions	179% ↑

DEVICE BREAKDOWN

 Total	New Users	395% ↑
	Sessions	301% ↑
 Desktop 47% OF TOTAL	New Users	286% ↑
	Sessions	203% ↑
 Mobile 51% OF TOTAL	New Users	512% ↑
	Sessions	429% ↑
 Tablet 2% OF TOTAL	New Users	200% ↑
	Sessions	171% ↑

CHANNEL, SOURCE & MEDIUM BREAKDOWN (TOP 5)

1. **Google (CPC)**: 3,148 sessions (6,458% increase)
2. **Google/Organic**: 737 sessions (5% increase)
3. **Direct**: 509 (97% increase)
4. **Facebook/CPC**: 173 sessions (∞% increase)
5. **Bing/Organic**: 22 (24% decrease)

> EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Social Media (Compared with previous period of Apr 1 – 30)

AUDIENCE GROWTH

Total Fans	40,950	1%	⬆️
Facebook Fans	23,920	1%	⬆️
Facebook likes	104	79	⬇️
Twitter Followers	7,764	1%	⬇️
Twitter followers gained		-18	⬇️
Instagram Followers	9,266	2%	⬆️
Instagram followers gained	155	23%	⬆️
Total Fans/Followers Gained	241	28%	⬇️

Our social media accounts continue to be a source of organic communication and paid engagement as we launched our spring campaigns. We see an overall audience growth and increase in impressions and engagement due to messaging efforts and paid faculty campaigns promoting the KPU brand and faculty priorities. Our campaigns have strategically started earlier this fiscal year and we expect to see a more steady amount of traffic throughout the year as a result.

GROUP MESSAGES

Facebook Messages Received	84	61%	⬆️
Twitter Messages Received	214	3%	⬇️
Instagram Messages Received	71	28%	⬇️
Total messages Received	369	2%	⬇️

IMPRESSIONS

Facebook Impressions	2,151,738	103%	⬆️
Twitter Impression	14,003	30%	⬇️
Instagram Impression	649,432	123%	⬆️
Total Impressions	2,815,173	106%	⬆️

ENGAGEMENT

Facebook Engagements	20,400	101%	⬆️
Twitter Engagements	190	19%	⬇️
Instagram Engagements	809	48%	⬇️
Total Engagements	21,399	79%	⬆️

New KPU study suggests Okanagan could satisfy local diets by producing its own food

Regionalizing food systems can be a driver of sustainable community development and the basis for resilient local and regional economies and ecologies. This is the message from a new study at Kwantlen Polytechnic University.

“Food systems cannot be separated from other planning and development activities. We need to recognize the inextricably linked nature of food systems and adopt a ‘food systems lens’ in all our planning activities,” says Dr. Kent Mullinix, director of the Institute for Sustainable Food Systems (ISFS).

The ISFS has concluded the three-year [Okanagan Bioregion Food System Project](#). The study focused on farming and food systems in the Okanagan region of British Columbia.

“Planners, decision-makers, and community leaders in the region are grappling with food system challenges at the present time and asking how they can realize a sustainable food system for the region. At the request of and to support local leaders, and building on our successful Southwest BC Bioregion Food System project, we began this work in the Okanagan.”

Mullinix says the current global industrial food system is unsustainable and has many adverse ecological and social impacts, including habitat degradation, unsustainable use of finite resources, labour issues, increased vulnerability to distant disruptions, and corporate concentration and control which leave out farmers, and local economies.

“Regionalizing our food systems by producing food closer to home, bringing the economic activity home to local communities, and having more control over our own food system through local policies, can help address some of these issues. However, good regional-level data about the potential impacts of regionalizing the food system have been previously unavailable.”

The goal of the study is to inform food system discourse and provide useful information to citizens and decision-makers in the Okanagan bioregion. Results include:

- Considering the population, current diet, and agricultural land base, the Okanagan could theoretically satisfy approximately 70 per cent of local diets by producing food for the local population.
- Developing regional food systems can have economic benefits for the bioregion. These benefits are maximized when investments are made in the development of food processing, distribution and storage infrastructure.
- Agriculture has historically been one of the primary drivers of habitat loss and continues to have negative impacts on wildlife habitat. Measures like protecting critical habitat and implementing on-farm habitat enhancements can help mitigate some of these impacts.
- Increasing the consumption of locally produced food does not reduce the environmental impacts associated with the food system, but changing diets does: When it comes to ecological footprint and greenhouse gas emissions, how food is produced, and the resources required, matter more than where it is produced. Reducing the consumption of livestock products can reduce the ecological footprint of the food we consume, as well as greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture.
- The Okanagan Nation Alliance has been highly successful in advancing and restoring sustainable Indigenous food systems and food sovereignty. Collaboration with them and other First Nations partners is critical moving into the future.

This multi-disciplinary study involved stakeholders including researchers, local government, health authorities and community groups.

“The Okanagan Bioregion Food System Project Report could not have been released at a more opportune time. Food insecurity has long been a growing concern and the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the alarming fact that too many households in Canada and in British Columbia face inadequate or insecure access to food,” says Summerland Mayor Toni Boot. “

“This Report provides the regional data required by communities and policymakers to make informed decisions on how to strengthen the Okanagan/Similkameen food system. It also provides examples of food system policy initiatives that are underway in other jurisdictions; these are leading to cohesive, healthy, and resilient human communities without neglecting the needs of wildlife and the ecosystems that support them—something that is always top-of-mind-for local governments.”

Jill Worboys, a dietician with Interior Health, adds that healthy eating depends on a healthy food supply.

“Climate change and other factors bring uncertainty to the dominant global food system. Finding a better balance between our global and regional food systems can help make sure that we continue to have access to the foods we need to support good health now and in the future,” says Worboys, “The Okanagan bioregional study is a new tool that can help our communities increase their food self-reliance to support healthy eating while considering other important aspects such as the environment and the economy.”

Mullinix adds agricultural land needs to be protected and be accessible to farmers.

“We need to consider the impacts of any development to food, water, and wildlife, and also ensure that we develop local post-production infrastructure so that we can realize many of the potential benefits to the local economy and communities that regional food systems can provide.”

ISFS is also running a series of [introductory webinars](#) that are free to attend. Registration is required.



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