Sept. 1, 2021

To provide feedback on Arts and Science Update, contact College of Arts and Science communications: artsci.communications@usask.ca.

Welcome to the fall term!

Whether you’re working on campus or remotely, welcome to a new academic year in the College of Arts and Science. Watch a welcome video from the Dean’s Executive Committee.
**Therapy dogs set to assist with vaccination clinics on USask campus**

Is a fear of needles making you nervous about getting your COVID-19 vaccination? This Thursday and Friday, the PAWS Your Stress therapy dogs will be at outdoor vaccination clinics on USask’s main campus.

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**USask to launch new symphony orchestra**

USask is launching a new symphony orchestra this fall that will be open to all students and employees, as well as to community musicians. Renowned conductor Shah Sadikov will lead the ensemble.

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**Follow the College of Arts and Science on Spotify**

The College of Arts and Science is now on Spotify! Follow [USaskArtSci](#) to hear playlists curated by and for College of Arts and Science students, faculty, staff and alumni. More than 50 playlists are already available, including the [USaskArtSci Against Racism playlist](#), tracks by [Department of Music faculty](#), Dean Peta’s “not my workout playlist”, the [USaskArtSci Lockdown Mix](#), and [podcasts featuring our faculty and staff](#).
Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan panel discussion

College of Arts and Science faculty members Dr. Gordon DesBrisay (PhD), Dr. Peter Robinson (PhD) and Dr. Joanne Rochester (PhD) joined Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan artistic producer Will Brooks on July 26 for a panel discussion titled *The Scottish Play in the Time of the Pandemic*. The full talk is now on YouTube.

Faculty relations documents now accessible in PAWS

The office of the Vice-Dean Faculty Relations has a new folder in PAWS for all relevant documents. Here you’ll find the collective agreement, forms, CRC documents and the PowerPoint presentations from our new faculty and department head mentorship sessions. These documents can be accessed via PAWS in the Arts and Science Channel. Go to the Links and Resources tab and select Faculty Relations. They can also be accessed by this direct link: [artsci.usask.ca/collegedocuments/Faculty_Relations/](artsci.usask.ca/collegedocuments/Faculty_Relations/)

Updated suspected and positive case reporting guidance

Safety Resources has updated the instructions/guidelines around *self-reporting confirmed or suspected cases* of COVID-19 for students, employees, faculty/instructors and people leaders. These simplified instructions will allow USask to take the appropriate actions to safeguard our community as well as provide all faculty, staff and students with available resources or support.
USask travel approvals

College of Arts and Science faculty and staff are reminded that travel to destinations with travel restrictions or advisories must be approved by the dean. All airfare must be booked through one of the approved USask travel booking processes: either Concur or Direct Travel. Airfare booked outside of these two options will not be reimbursed. More information about USask’s travel policy and steps for completing a travel request are available at covid19.usask.ca/info/travellers.php.

By the numbers

$54M: The total research, scholarly and artistic work funding awarded to faculty in the College of Arts and Science in 2019/20. Read the latest facts and figures on the college website.

Awards and Accolades

*Girl Running*, an upcoming poetry book by Department of English office coordinator **Diana Tegenkamp**, was featured in CBC Books’ “45 Canadian poetry collections to watch for in fall 2021.” *Girl Running* is available on Sept. 15.

“Holding Tightly: Custom and Healing in Timor-Leste,” a short film co-directed by **Dr. Susanna Barnes (PhD)** of the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, has been selected for the 2021 Society for Visual Anthropology Film and Media Festival in November. [Watch a trailer for the film.](#)

Department of Art and Art History office coordinator **Joseph Anderson** was the [Bridges Art Movement (BAM)](#) artist-in-residence for the month of August. An exhibition by Anderson titled *Ghosts in the Basement* was held in the Drinkle Building Mall in late August.
Dr. Angela M. Jaime (PhD), vice-dean Indigenous for the College of Arts and Science, has been seconded as USask’s interim vice-provost Indigenous engagement effective Sept. 1.

Dr. Patti McDougall (PhD), associate professor in the Department of Psychology and Health Studies, has been appointed deputy provost of USask effective Oct. 1.

A project co-led by Dr. Brian Ham (PhD), assistant professor in the Department of Biology, has been awarded $250,000 and lab time by the New Frontiers in Research Fund. The funded project, based at the Global Institute for Food Security, will image live plants to allow for more efficient crop breeding.

Two College of Arts and Science teams were awarded funding in August through the Canada Foundation for Innovation's John R. Evans Leaders Fund. Department of Computer Science faculty members Dr. Chanchal Roy (PhD), Dr. Debajyoti Mondal (PhD) and Dr. Kevin Schneider (PhD) were awarded $350,000 to fund a software analytics lab. Dr. Benjamin Hoy (PhD) and Dr. Cheryl Troupe (PhD) of the Department of History were awarded $15,200 to expand the geographical information systems lab.

In the Media

Global News: Scientists warn glacier in Canadian Rockies is slipping away before their eyes at unprecedented rate (with Dr. John Pomeroy, PhD, Department of Geography and Planning, Aug. 31)

The Conversation: Transitional justice for Indigenous Peoples should be a key federal election issue (by Dr. Kirsten Fisher, PhD, and Kathy Walker, Department of Political Studies, Aug. 23)

Global News: Survey shows little sympathy for unvaccinated, Sask. residents less likely to mask up (with Dr. Pamela Downe, PhD, Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, Aug. 18)

Arts and Science Update is sent to faculty and staff of the College of Arts and Science. Visit artsandscience.usask.ca/news for the latest news and events.