

# COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCE UPDATE

**November 10, 2020**

To provide feedback on *Arts and Science Update*, contact College of Arts and Science communications: [artsci.communications@usask.ca](mailto:artsci.communications@usask.ca).



## 'It's back home': USask faculty members assist in repatriation of birch bark canoe

The process to return a decades-old birch bark canoe to the Lac La Ronge Indian Band community of Grandmother's Bay, located approximately 104 kilometres north of La Ronge on the north shore of Otter Lake, took place in October. Dr. Terence Clark (PhD), an assistant professor in the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, worked for a week to build a 16-foot crate to ensure the canoe could be safely packaged for shipment from Saskatoon—where it had been stored in USask's Archaeology Building—to Grandmother's Bay.

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### [Loleen Berdahl wins Master Teacher Award](#)

Dr. Loleen Berdahl (PhD) is the fall 2020 recipient of the Master Teacher Award from the University of Saskatchewan. An inspiring undergraduate and graduate teacher, Berdahl serves as the executive director of the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy at USask. The former head of the Department of Political Studies in the College of Arts and Science, Berdahl's teaching philosophy is grounded in her belief that she is educating future citizens and knowledge workers. [Learn more about the award recipients here.](#)

USask's 2020 Fall Convocation was celebrated virtually on Nov. 10. Congratulations to the College of Arts and Science's newest graduates! To mark [Fall Convocation](#), Dean Peta Bonham-Smith [recorded a congratulatory video message.](#)



### [College of Arts and Science releases annual progress report](#)

The College of Arts and Science has published its annual update on "Think Big – Be Bold," the college's plan to 2025. [Featured on the college plan webpage](#), the fall 2020 progress report provides updates on the college's progress toward its major commitments: Students First, Equity and Diversity in Faculty and Staff, Excellence in RSAW, and New Curricula.



### [Remembrance Day at the University of Saskatchewan](#)

In lieu of an in-person ceremony this year, members of the USask community are invited to take some time to view messages of remembrance and reflection from university community leaders and read stories about the many USask faculty, staff,

students and alumni who have served their country and the memorials that exist on campus to honour them. [Prof. Dean McNeill, head of the Department of Music, plays the Last Post and Reveille in this video.](#)

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### [Dimensions in Diversity: College of Arts and Science launches new discussion series](#)

A new seminar series launching this fall in the College of Arts and Science will start an ongoing conversation about diversity, inclusion and equity within the college. Titled Dimensions in Diversity, the virtual series will be offered to College of Arts and Science faculty, staff and administrators who want to expand their understanding of social justice issues.

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### [USask physicist teams up with U.K. partners in world-first program of quantum technologies](#)

As part of a new U.K.-Canada collaboration, a University of Saskatchewan quantum physics team will develop a highly sensitive and precise sensor for measuring magnetic fields, a technology of potential benefit for geological prospecting, medicine, and quantum computers. Dr. Michael Bradley (PhD) is one of eight winners of the U.K.-Canada Quantum Technologies Competition aimed at accelerating promising quantum technologies for real-world applications in areas such as health care, secure communications, and financial services.

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### **College of Arts and Science faculty, alumni contribute to new e-book examining provincial election issues**

The Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy (JS GS), at the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Regina, has published a new e-book that provides context and a historical record of the 2020 provincial election and examines the core policy issues that made headlines. College of Arts and Science faculty members and alumni contributed to the e-book.



### **College of Arts and Science professor, alumni honoured with Women of Distinction Awards**

Dr. Pamela Downe (PhD), a professor in the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, was named the winner in the Research and Technology category during the awards ceremony, which was held online on Oct. 16. Downe is a medical anthropologist with expertise in community-based engagement, infectious disease research, and maternal health research. She has served as president of the Canadian Anthropology Society (CASCA), co-chair of the American Anthropological Association's joint conference with CASCA, and vice-chair of University Council.



### **USask-affiliated poets make CBC Poetry longlist**

Three writers connected to the Department of English were longlisted for the 2020 CBC Poetry Prize. Assistant professor Dr. Sheri Benning (BA'02, PhD), alumna Katherine Lawrence (MFA'17) and office coordinator Diana Hope Tegenkamp were among 32 Canadian poets named to the longlist on

Oct. 29. Their entries were chosen from nearly 3,000 submissions from across the country.

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### **International team tracks record-setting smoke cloud from Australian wildfires**

Researchers with the University of Saskatchewan's Institute of Space and Atmospheric Studies are part of a global team that has found that the smoke cloud pushed into the stratosphere by last winter's Australian wildfires was three times larger than anything previously recorded. Physics and

engineering physics faculty member Dr. Adam Bourassa (PhD), his post-doctoral student Landon Rieger, and research engineer Daniel Zawada were the only Canadians involved in the project.

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### **Student-created videos shine a light on collaborations between Museum of Antiquities, Canadian Light Source**

Students and faculty members in the College of Arts and Science are raising awareness of the benefits of collaborative interdisciplinary research by highlighting how synchrotron science can provide new information about historical and cultural

artifacts. The students and professors were involved in a joint Chemistry/Classical, Medieval, and Renaissance Studies course that uses technology available at the Canadian Light Source to shed new light on ancient coins and other artifacts.

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## College of Arts and Science RSAW update: SSHRC Insight Development Grant Competition

The SSHRC Insight Development Grant Competition is upon us. **Notice of intention to apply is due on Tuesday, Nov. 10.** A workshop has been scheduled and will take place on Nov. 30 from 10 am - 11:30 am. Please ensure you are signed up to the listservs

to receive notification of this workshop. You can find further RSAW information, including a document with the most recent funding applications, at this link: [https://artsci.usask.ca/collegedocuments/Research\\_Resources/](https://artsci.usask.ca/collegedocuments/Research_Resources/)

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## Lambert provides expertise on disaster risk reduction for Indigenous communities

As the world continues to grapple with the COVID-19 pandemic, Indigenous studies faculty member Dr. Simon Lambert (PhD) is examining various responses to the global health crisis, which has highlighted racial and socioeconomic disparities in Canada and far beyond. Lambert said the risk of contracting and spreading the coronavirus is greater in Indigenous communities that already face issues such as poverty, overcrowding, and inadequate housing. He also noted that people living with co-morbidities, such as diabetes or heart conditions, may face poorer health outcomes if they contract COVID-19 or other viruses.

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## Picasso prints part of the USask story

The permanent art collection of the University of Saskatchewan holds works by great artists from countless cultures and art movements, but none are quite as iconic as the artist behind six large prints hanging in the President's Residence. "You can recognize the work pretty much immediately. And

given that it is a very simple graphic process, it's very interesting to think that this person that's characterized as a modern master is immediately recognizable in these marks," said Jake Moore, director of the USask Art Galleries and Collection and a faculty member in the Department of Art and Art History.

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### **USask researcher seeks stories about historic 62-year-old mining strike**

A University of Saskatchewan researcher wants to speak with anyone who has stories about a historic mining strike that started 62 years ago in Ontario and affected thousands of Canadian workers and community members. Dr. Elizabeth Quinlan (PhD), a sociology professor in the College of Arts and Science, is examining the International Nickel Company (Inco) strike that began on Sept. 24, 1958, and lasted until just before Christmas of that year—impacting 17,000 mine workers in Sudbury and Port Colborne, Ont., along the way.

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### **USask research teams awarded \$345,000 for COVID-19 mental health projects**

With \$174,577 from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), a team led by Department of Psychology faculty member Dr. Megan O'Connell (PhD) will expand a pilot project for older adults in Saskatchewan that employs "virtual socialization hubs" and will also extend the program into British Columbia. The hubs involve eight to 10 seniors meeting online weekly or bi-monthly on a secure Zoom videoconferencing site.



### By the numbers

**12:** After four years of transformative research, the University of Saskatchewan–led Global Water Futures (GWF) program is launching the second phase of its seven-year mission with a \$2.5-million investment in [12 new critically important water security projects](#). The new projects—which include research into climate projections, water-borne diseases, and metal release in thawing permafrost environments—are led by investigators from USask and its partners McMaster University, Wilfrid Laurier University, McGill University, and the University of Waterloo, as well as the University of Quebec at Montreal.

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## Upcoming Events



### The Global Café: Security of Research in Canadian Universities

The Department of Political Studies is partnering with the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) on a public talk titled *Security of Research in Canadian Universities*. [The Nov. 18 discussion](#), part of the Certificate of Global Studies Global Café series, will focus on efforts by CSIS during the past few months to work with medical and scientific researchers across the country to sensitize them to threats of foreign interference and espionage targeting their research, data and other intellectual property. This event is free and open to the public. [Tickets are available through Eventbrite.](#)

Nov. 18: [Ingrid Stölzel: Fine Arts Research Lecture in Music](#)  
Nov. 24: [Dimensions in Diversity Seminar \(Upper Admin., Dept. Heads\)](#)  
Nov. 25: [Faculty and Friends Virtual Concert](#)  
Nov. 25: [Dimensions in Diversity Seminar \(Asst. Professors, Sessionals\)](#)  
Nov. 25: [Dimensions in Diversity Seminar \(Assoc., Full Professors\)](#)  
Nov. 26: [Dimensions in Diversity Seminar \(Staff\)](#)  
Nov. 27: [Dimensions in Diversity Seminar \(Staff\)](#)  
Nov. 27: [Dimensions in Diversity Seminar \(Upper Admin., Dept. Heads\)](#)  
Nov. 30: [Dimensions in Diversity Seminar \(Assoc., Full Professors\)](#)  
Dec. 2: [Faculty and Friends Virtual Concert](#)  
Dec. 3: [Dimensions in Diversity Seminar \(Asst. Professors, Sessionals\)](#)  
Dec. 9: [Dimensions in Diversity Keynote by Francisco Rios](#)

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## In the Media

**CBC Saskatoon:** [8 Sask. ridings too close to call, including NDP Leader Ryan Meili's, with mail-in ballots still to be counted](#) (with Dr. Neil Hibbert, Department of Political Studies, Oct. 27)

**CBC Saskatoon:** [The psychology of wearing masks: Why some people are complying and others are not](#) (with Dr. Jan Gelech, Department of Psychology, Oct. 26)

**The Washington Post:** [Aim assist in the crosshairs](#) (with Dr. Regan Mandryk, Department of Computer Science, Oct. 16)

**The Globe and Mail:** [Are Canadians ready to accept psychedelics in palliative care?](#) (with Dr. Erika Dyck, Department of History, Oct. 11)

*Arts and Science Update* is sent to faculty and staff in the College of Arts and Science.

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