

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCE UPDATE

December 1, 2021

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



Government of Canada funding boosts travel opportunities for USask students

More than 500 University of Saskatchewan students will gain international experience through a new national program. The College of Arts and Science and the College of Agriculture and Bioresources have been awarded a total of almost \$950,000 through the Government of Canada's Global Skills Opportunity program to support international learning opportunities for students.



[New book co-authored by USask researcher shares stories of women’s involvement in street lifestyles](#)

Six women share their stories in a new book, *Indigenous Women and Street Gangs*, co-authored with Dr. Robert Henry (PhD), an assistant professor in the Department of Indigenous Studies. [A book launch](#) will be hosted by McNally Robinson on Dec. 2

at 7 pm via Zoom.



[USask researcher hosts theatre workshops to explore workplace harassment in health care](#)

University of Saskatchewan sociologist Dr. Elizabeth Quinlan (PhD) believes the arts can help create social change. Until Dec. 6, she will host *Healthcare: CODE BLUE*, a series of interactive online theatre workshops that will explore the prevention and resolution of workplace harassment faced by

Saskatchewan’s front-line health-care employees.



[Saskatoon kids ‘break the code’ of Cree language in USask science outreach program](#)

Science outreach instructors are connecting codebreaking and Cree language for kids in Saskatoon. A new lesson titled “Break the Code” is part of this year’s Kamskénow program offered by the College of Arts and Science. It teaches cryptography in combination with Cree syllabics—

the set of symbols used to write Cree dialects—to Saskatoon schoolchildren.



Designing the future of accelerator physics

CERN, one of the world's largest and most respected centres for scientific research, the University of Saskatchewan and the Canadian Light Source are paving the way for a new accelerator for world-class research. The three organizations have signed a memorandum of understanding for the Future Circular Collider Feasibility Study.



USask to launch new applied computing degree program

A new interdisciplinary program in the Department of Computer Science will prepare students for careers in fields as diverse as video games, agriculture, mining and banking. The Applied Computing Program will begin accepting students in May 2022. Department head Dr. Kevin Stanley (PhD)

said his department started with one premise when designing the new program: that computer science is “the technical substrate of our civilization.”



USask, United Way collaboration creates new course

The new collaborative community engaged applied social science research course is the culmination of a discussion United Way CEO Sheri Benson began in 2009 with then vice-dean of social sciences Dr. Harley Dickinson (PhD). They talked about a collaboration that would serve the United Way, its

clients and partner organizations, as well as provide research and training internship opportunities for university students.



Live theatre finally returning to USask

Greystone Theatre revived a 75-year tradition of live theatre on campus by presenting celebrated playwright Jordan Tannahill's *Concord Floral* in the John Mitchell Building from Nov. 18-27. The official opening night of *Concord Floral* was the first Greystone Theatre presentation in front of a live audience since Sunday, March 15, 2020, when *The*

Grass Tomb was presented in front of friends and family.



USask researcher uses evolutionary biology to bring medieval literature to new life, online

As part of festivities commemorating the 700th anniversary of Italian poet Dante Alighieri's death, an international team of researchers, including USask English professor Dr. Peter Robinson (PhD), is launching a new online edition of the Divine Comedy

(Commedia) with a twist—using evolutionary biology to trace how previous versions are related.



College of Arts and Science RSAW award nomination packages due by Jan. 10

The College of Arts and Science RSAW awards have been redeveloped into three distinct award categories: Distinguished Scholar RSAW Award, New Scholar RSAW Award and Publicly Engaged Scholarship Award.

Effective this year, one award will be made in each of the Distinguished and New Scholar categories with no categorization based on scientist versus artist/scholar or based on the type of degree(s) offered in the nominee's academic department. In addition, a new award recognizing publicly engaged scholarship (PES) has been

introduced, reflecting the college's commitment to PES and aligning with shifts at the institutional level to also recognize publicly engaged scholarship. The PES award is open to all faculty members in the college of any career stage or discipline.

The College RSAW Steering Committee endorsed the new categories and terms of reference at a meeting held on Oct. 28. The recognition to awardees has also changed from a monetary award (\$1,000) to a gift of local or Indigenous artwork.

The deadline for submission of nomination packages is Monday, Jan. 10, 2022. Please submit your nomination packages to Tara Hackl (tara.hackl@usask.ca).



College of Arts and Science Teaching Award nomination deadline set for Feb. 11

As we move through another unusual academic year impacted by COVID-19, instructors across the College of Arts and Science continue to provide outstanding instruction to our students. Therefore, the College of Arts and Science Teaching Awards will go forward as usual this year.

Students, faculty and staff are all eligible to submit nominations. If you know an outstanding instructor deserving of an award, please contact Toryn Adams (toryn.adams@usask.ca) for information on how to submit a nomination package for a College of Arts and Science Teaching Award. The deadline for nominations is Friday, Feb. 11, 2022.



By the numbers

50: The number of years since Dr. Gerhard Herzberg (PhD) was awarded the Nobel Prize. As part of a national initiative to mark the 50th anniversary of Herzberg's honour, the University of Saskatchewan is [naming the main experimental](#)

[hall of the Canadian Light Source and a prominent physics lecture theatre](#) on campus after the renowned scientist.

Upcoming Events



[Dec. 5: USask Symphony Orchestra: Celebrating Holidays](#)

On Sunday, Dec. 5, at 3 pm, the newly created University of Saskatchewan Symphony Orchestra (USO) will perform its debut concert at Quance Theatre, featuring students, faculty, staff and community members of the university and the city. Featured soloists are Dr. Veronique Mathieu (DMus), associate professor of violin and David L. Kaplan Chair in Music, and her student, Talant Kosmosbekov.

Until Dec. 1: [Beyond Words: Dictionaries and Indigenous Languages](#)

Dec. 1: [USask Jazz Ensemble: SpontaneoUS](#)

Dec. 3: [High-salience, low-friction communication increases uptake in labour market programs during COVID-19](#)

Dec. 3: [USask Wind Orchestra: Ensemble](#)

Dec. 4: [Department of Music Virtual Open House](#)

Dec. 11: [Saskatoon Jazz Orchestra: Make a Joyful Noise!](#)

Until Dec. 18: [Proliferate: works on paper](#)

Until Dec. 18: [derdie: PLAY](#)

In the Media

The Chronicle-Journal: [Dogs trained to comfort nervous people, help kids get COVID-19 vaccines](#) (with Dr. Colleen Dell, PhD, Department of Sociology, Nov. 28)

Regina Leader-Post: [T.rex of the sea: Royal Sask. Museum unveils 'significant' new fossil](#) (with Dr. Emily Bamforth, PhD, Department of Geological Sciences, Nov. 26)

CBC Saskatchewan: [New graphic novel depicts famed history of LSD research in Sask.](#) (with Dr. Erika Dyck, PhD, Department of History, Nov. 21)

Global News: [Anxious about climate change? Here's what you need to know about 'ecological grief'](#) (with Dr. John Pomeroy, PhD, Department of Geography and Planning, Nov. 19)

CBC Saskatoon: [Rock art found at Wanuskewin Heritage Park as 4 petroglyphs excavated](#) (with Dr. Ernie Walker, PhD, Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, Nov. 19)

The Atlantic: [No bird wants to live in a murder nest](#) (with Dr. Karen Wiebe, PhD, Department of Biology, Nov. 16)

Global News: [Saskatoon theatrical community mourns loss of actor, mentor Henry Woolf](#) (with Dr. Dwayne Brenna, PhD, Department of Drama, Nov. 15)

Saskatoon StarPhoenix: [SJO is Back in the Swing of Things after nearly two years away](#) (with Prof. Dean McNeill, Department of Music, Nov. 9)

Awards and Accolades

Department of Geography and Planning faculty member **Dr. Jill Blakley (PhD)** has been [appointed interim vice-dean faculty relations in the College of Arts and Science](#) from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2022. The vice-dean faculty relations is a key member of the college's leadership team and is the liaison between Arts and Science faculty, the vice-provost faculty relations and the University of Saskatchewan Faculty Association.

Department of Computer Science faculty member **Dr. Raymond Spiteri (PhD)** is the [recipient of the 2021 Mitacs Award for Exceptional Leadership](#). The award is given by Mitacs to an academic supervisor with an exemplary record of developing collaborations with industry partners, providing valuable research and training experiences to interns and initiating research projects with significant outcomes.

Computer scientists from around the world came together to [honour the memory of a pioneering University of Saskatchewan researcher](#) through a special issue of an international journal. A new two-part issue of the [International Journal of Artificial Intelligence in Education](#) is dedicated to **Dr. Jim Greer (PhD)**, a USask Department of Computer Science faculty member who passed away in 2018.

Dr. Martyn Clark (PhD), associate director of the Centre for Hydrology and Coldwater Laboratory and a faculty member in the Department of Geography and Planning, has been [named to Clarivate's 2021 Highly-Cited Researchers list](#).

Researchers honoured on this list have published multiple academic papers that rank in the top one per cent of citations in their field that year from the global Web of Science.

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

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