

ARTS AND SCIENCE UPDATE

April 3, 2023

Arts and Science Update is a monthly newsletter for faculty and staff of the University of Saskatchewan's College of Arts and Science. To give feedback, contact the college communications office: artsci.communications@usask.ca



College of Arts and Science celebrates outstanding research

The College of Arts and Science recognized the work of more than 40 scientists, scholars and artists at an event to celebrate progress on Think Big – Be Bold, the

college's plan to 2025. Videos and summaries of the featured research are now online.



'Art inside a material': USask mathematician recognized for quantum research

A paper coauthored by Dr. Steven Rayan (PhD) of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics is the finalist for a 2022 Cozzarelli Prize from the National Academy of Sciences. Rayan's research on quantum materials has sparked a flurry of work by other scientists around the world.



Indigenous students recognized for achievements

Ten College of Arts and Science students were honoured with 2023 Indigenous Student Achievement Awards in March. The awards recognize achievements in academics, community engagement, leadership, research and resiliency.



USask expanding biology program with new equipment at Prince Albert campus

New laboratory equipment purchased by the Department of Biology for USask's Prince Albert Campus has made it possible to teach new courses—and brings USask closer to offering the first two years of a biology degree in Prince Albert.



Sustainability of high-mountain water sources focus of new UNESCO Chair

To address the challenges of sustaining and managing critical mountain water sources, UNESCO has announced the creation of the UNESCO Chair in Mountain Water Sustainability. The chair will be hosted at the University of Calgary and co-held by six world-class water researchers, including Dr. John

Pomeroy (PhD) and Dr. Corinne Schuster-Wallace (PhD) of the Department of Geography and Planning.



USask project honours COVID-19 victims on third anniversary of pandemic

A team of USask researchers, including Dr. Jim Clifford (PhD) and Dr. Erika Dyck (PhD) of the Department of History, is creating a digital memorial to remember the individuals whose lives were taken by COVID-19.



Government of Canada recognizes national historic significance of USask biologist

A plaque unveiled in March on the USask campus commemorates former Department of Biology head Dr. Donald Strathearn Rawson (PhD) for his ground-breaking work in limnology.



[Register for the National Indigenous Spring Symposium](#)

This three-day national symposium hosted at USask by the College of Arts and Science on **May 17–19** is intended to help institutions, universities, colleges, schools and units learn why and how to Indigenize. We will hear from innovative leaders and practitioners who will help in educational

transformation.



By the numbers

7: The age of Rocket, the [new Brooks King Snake](#) at the USask Museum of Natural Sciences. Rocket lived at a reptile sanctuary before being rehomed to the museum.

Awards and Accolades

A team led by **Dr. Phil McLoughlin (PhD)**, associate professor in the Department of Biology, [has been awarded a \\$90,000 grant](#) from the Government of Saskatchewan to support innovative research into the spread of chronic wasting disease and meningeal worm in woodland caribou and other boreal species.

Susan Shantz, professor in the Department of Art and Art History, and **Beverley Kobelsky**, head of wardrobe in the Department of Drama, were each awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal (Saskatchewan) at a ceremony on March 24. The medals, which recognize significant contributions and achievements of Saskatchewan citizens, are being awarded at multiple ceremonies in 2022 and 2023.

Alumni and faculty members of the College of Arts and Science have been [shortlisted for 2023 Saskatchewan Book Awards](#). The nominated authors

include **Dr. Sheri Benning (PhD)** and **Dr. Jeanette Lynes (PhD)** of the Department of English; **Dr. Erika Dyck (PhD)** and **Dr. Andrew Watson (PhD)** of the Department of History; and **Dr. Clint Westman (PhD)** of the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology.

Numerous College of Arts and Science staff and faculty members received [University of Saskatchewan Students' Union Excellence Awards](#) in March. Undergraduate student advisor **Evan Potts** won the Academic Advising Award. Teaching Excellence Awards went to **Dr. Rachel Loewen Walker (PhD)**, assistant professor, Department of Political Studies; **Dr. Neil Chilton (PhD)**, professor, Department of Biology; **Paul Suchan**, sessional lecturer, Department of Music; **Dr. Barbara Fornssler (PhD)**, sessional lecturer, Department of Sociology; **Dr. Steven Rayan (PhD)**, professor, Department of Mathematics and Statistics; and **Dr. George Keyworth (PhD)**, associate professor, Department of History.

Dr. Susann Tegtmeier (Dr. rer. nat.), assistant professor in the Department of Physics and Engineering Physics, is lead author of Chapter 1 of the [2022 Scientific Assessment of the Ozone Layer Depletion](#), the report of the United Nations-backed Scientific Assessment Panel to the Montreal Protocol on Ozone Depleting Substances. The highly publicized report found that Earth's ozone layer is on track to recover within four decades.

[Research projects funded through the Research Junction partnership](#) between USask and the City of Saskatoon have produced significant results. **Dr. Lee Wilson (PhD)**, professor of chemistry, led a project to develop a method for removing contaminants from source water at Saskatoon's Water Treatment Plant. **Dr. Marie Lovrod (PhD)**, associate professor of English and women's and gender studies, led a project aimed at reducing homelessness among 2SLGBTQ+ youth.

Two College of Arts and Science research teams [recently received funding from SHRF](#) to conduct impactful research aligned with the needs of Saskatchewan's people. An interdisciplinary team that includes **Dr. Nathaniel Osgood (PhD)**, professor in the Department of Computer Science, received \$10,000 in funding towards developing an app to give patients better access to information. **Dr. Jorden Cummings (PhD)**, associate professor in the Department of Psychology and Health Studies, was awarded \$9,978 for a project to broaden RESOLVE SK: a research network that aims to end interpersonal and gender-based violence.

Upcoming Events



For its season finale concert, the USask Symphony Orchestra is excited to present music filled with joy and exuberance. [The concert is Wednesday, April 5](#), 7:30 pm, at Quance Theatre.

Until April 21 [Kyle Beal and Anna Hawkins: day for night](#)

Until April 21 [Manuel Axel Strain: Why does this land seem so small?](#)

Until April 28 [Love Ethic](#)

April 3 [The “Transvestites” of Lisetta Carmi](#)

April 6 [WGST New Feminist Research Lecture](#)

April 14 [Women's and Gender Studies Colloquium](#)

April 23 [Discovering the Amatis](#)

April 26 [Literature Matters: Romeo and Juliet](#)

In the Media

Saskatoon StarPhoenix: [Greystone Theatre season ends with U of S drama professor's last production before retirement](#) (with Dr. Dwayne Brenna, PhD, Department of Drama, March 29)

CBC News: [Why is Regina's name pronounced like that?](#) (with Dr. Jesse Stewart, PhD, Department of Linguistics, March 24)

CBC Saskatoon Morning: [A new play from Gordon Toosis Nikaniwin Theatre follows two strangers who meet deep in the woods of Northern Saskatchewan](#) (with Logan Martin-Arcand, College Office, March 22)

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