Aug. 2, 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

Final launch a success in student space training program at USask

With the launch of two balloons to the edge of space last week, an international group of students marked the end of the unique International Space
Mission Training Program led by Dr. Kathryn McWilliams (PhD) of the Department of Physics and Engineering Physics.

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**College of Arts and Science welcomes new dean**

Dr. Brooke Milne (PhD) began a five-year term as dean of the College of Arts and Science on Aug. 1. An anthropological archaeologist, Milne has a track record of successful academic leadership roles at the University of Manitoba and the University of Alberta.

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**USask experts sound warning over wildfire smoke, drought conditions**

Recent wildfires “are tied in to the hottest period on Earth since modern measurements began in the 1800s,” said Department of Geography and Planning professor Dr. John Pomeroy (PhD).

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**Jazz ensemble receives special recognition at Saskatchewan Jazz Festival**

The Saskatoon Jazz Orchestra, which is led by Department of Music head Dean McNeill and regularly features USask musicians, was presented with the Saskatchewan Jazz Festival’s Special Recognition Award in July.
**USask PhD student creates bursary for single parent students**

Department of Indigenous Studies graduate and College of Medicine PhD student Kate Loseth has created the Single Parents for Social Change Bursary in the College of Arts and Science because of her own experience as a single parent pursuing post-secondary education.

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**Associate dean student affairs team grows**

To help support College of Arts and Science students, the Office of the Associate Dean Student Affairs has hired numerous people into leadership roles in recent weeks and months. The new leadership team includes:

- Banjo Olaleye: Director of undergraduate student advising
- Vanessa Belyk: Manager of undergraduate academic policies and outreach
- Catherine Todd-McCoy: Manager of undergraduate academic student advising
- Danielle Gaudet: Academic success coordinator
- Melissa Kyrejto: Director of undergraduate student services
- Robyn Corcoran: Manager of undergraduate student services
- Evan Potts: Manager of first year programs and recruiting
By the numbers

5 years: The length of the USask clinical psychology program’s renewed accreditation from the Canadian Psychological Association. “Accreditation demonstrates to the world that we’re meeting the standards deemed necessary by the broader psychological community,” said program co-director Dr. Lachlan McWilliams (PhD).

Awards and Accolades

In recognition of her outstanding contributions to geology and paleobiology, Dr. M. Gabriela Mángano (PhD), a professor in the Department of Geological Sciences, has been named a corresponding member of Argentina’s national science academy. Fewer than 60 scientists outside of Argentina have previously received this honour from the National Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences.

USask research teams received more than $7 million in the latest round of CIHR funding. A team led by Department of Chemistry associate professor Dr. Eric Price (PhD) was awarded nearly $1 million for a project titled "Tumour targeted, radiolabeled, mimetic nanovesicle theranostics for imaging and treating head and neck cancer."

Department of Indigenous Studies associate professor Dr. Robert Henry (PhD) is co-editor of the newly released Oxford Handbook of Indigenous Sociology. The book is an authoritative, state-of-the-art survey of Indigenous sociological thinking.

An interdisciplinary USask research team received $250,000 from the New Frontiers in Research Fund Exploration stream to pursue a comprehensive investigation of aquatic insect exports from the wetlands in the Prairie Pothole region. Dr. Christy Morrissey (PhD), professor with the Department of Biology, is one of three leaders of the project.
Are you ready for the new term?

September is only a month away and the USask IT team is here to make sure you’re prepared. If you are planning on using new hardware, software or campus tools, make sure to contact IT first so we can make sure everything will work as intended or make alternate suggestions if we think it won’t.

It is important to remember that installing software takes time, especially if you intend to make it available to your students via the labs. We recommend that at least two weeks’ notice be given to IT staff when requesting software updates or new installs in the labs or classrooms, so that there is ample time for setup and testing. Make sure you get your requests in as soon as possible to avoid last-minute changes in your teaching schedule.

If you are new to campus and not sure where to go for IT help, you can check out our knowledge base at wiki.usask.ca for helpful how-to articles (like this one on getting started with our technology), submit a request for assistance directly to our web portal at itsupport.usask.ca, or send an email to itsupport@usask.ca to have a trouble ticket created automatically with all of your information.

The IT team can help with everything from purchasing to troubleshooting, so don’t hesitate to get in touch and make sure you hit the ground running when students arrive.
CBC News: Sask. reaches grim milestone of 2,000 total COVID-19 deaths (with Dr. Erika Dyck, PhD, Department of History, July 25)

The Conversation: Manitoba’s reasons for refusing to search for Indigenous women’s remains in landfill are a smokescreen (by Dr. Kathy Walker, PhD, Department of Political Studies, July 17)

The Conversation: Street gangs in South Africa and Canada are worlds apart - but they have a great deal in common (by Dr. Robert Henry, PhD, Department of Indigenous Studies, July 13)

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

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