

# ARTS AND SCIENCE UPDATE

**May 8, 2024**

*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](mailto:artsci.communications@usask.ca)



## **Nine USask faculty members named distinguished professors**

Three College of Arts and Science faculty were recognized for their exceptional achievements in research, scholarly and artistic work. Dr. Jim Handy (PhD), a professor in the Department of History, Susan Shantz, a professor in the Department of Art and Art History, and Dr. Terry Wotherspoon (PhD), a professor in the Department of Sociology, were among nine USask faculty to receive the honorary title of distinguished professor.



### **College of Arts and Science faculty members honoured for teaching excellence**

Drs. Maggie FitzGerald (PhD), James Reichert (PhD) and Dr. Amy Stevens (DPhil) are the 2023-24 winners of the College of Arts and Science Teaching Awards. All three were recognized for outstanding teaching.

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### **College of Arts and Science honours innovative staff**

Two College of Arts and Science staff members, Michelle Jarvin and Todd Lyons, are recipients of this year's Dean's Distinguished Staff Awards. Jarvin and Lyons were recognized for bringing innovative ideas to their respective workspaces.

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### **Teaching fellowship recipient to study uses of AI in classroom**

Ian Moy, a PhD candidate and sessional lecturer in the Department of English, is the first recipient of the Lesley Biggs Early Career Teaching Fellowship. Moy plans on using the award to observe the uses of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) in the study of English literature.

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### **USask professor receives prestigious 3M National Teaching Fellowship**

Political Studies professor Dr. Loleen Berdahl (BA'93, PhD) has received the most prestigious national teaching award in Canada-the 3M National Teaching Fellowship. Berdahl is also the first woman from USask to receive the recognition.

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### [USask archaeologists recognized for advice, advocacy on residential school graves](#)

Three archaeologists affiliated with USask are receiving the Governor General's Innovation Award for their contributions to the ongoing search for missing children and unmarked burials at former residential school sites. Dr. Terence Clark (PhD), Micaela Champagne (BSc'22) and Joshua Murphy (MA'22) are part of the Canadian

Archaeological Working Group on Unmarked Graves (CAAWGUG).

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### [USask researchers develop eggshell 'bioplastic' pellet as sustainable alternative to plastic](#)

Chemistry professor Dr. Lee Wilson (PhD'98) and his research team recently published a paper that detailed a **◆bioplastic◆** material they created at USask. The bioplastic material, looks like plastic but made of biological materials, absorbs excess phosphate from

water and be used as a fertilizer when it decomposes.

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### [USask celebrates launch of Canada's freshwater monitoring network](#)

USask is leading a partnership project with eight other Canadian universities called The Global Water Futures Observatories (GWFO), which is a network of freshwater monitoring and observation stations across Canada. Dr. John Pomeroy (PhD), the director of the GWFO project, and Dr. Corinne Schuster-Wallace (PhD), director of the

Global Institute for Water Security (GIWS) spoke at the launch.

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### [USask water researcher discusses impact of microplastics on planet](#)

Global Institute for Water Security executive director Dr. Corinne Schuster-Wallace (PhD) discusses the impactful changes consumers can make to reduce their plastic consumption.



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### [USask supports new music, community organizations](#)

With support from the Office of the Vice-President Research (OVPR), a concert titled, A Kolomyika Fantasy, took place in March performed by the Saskatoon Jazz Orchestra in support of the Ukrainian Museum of Canada. The performance featured musicians from USask as well as many USask alumni and musicians from

across Western Canada.

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### **News to "lift" your mood: Arts Building elevator renewal**

The elevators in the Arts Building are being replaced, one after the other, starting this month. The first elevator renewal will begin in May and take approximately 14 weeks to complete. To minimize disruption, one of two elevators will remain in operation and signage will be posted detailing an alternate path for users to the basement. The work on the second elevator will begin once the first elevator is operational. Inquiries can be directed to [SBA Gail McKenzie](#).

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### **Student mobility workshop**

On May 23rd, all staff and faculty are invited to join the USask International Office and the International Student and Study Abroad Centre for an in-person "Workshop on International Opportunities in Student Mobility" that will:

- discuss current student mobility trends at USask and its

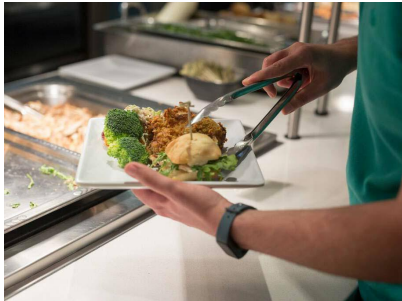
impact

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- explore existing international partnerships and new opportunities
- draw inspiration from success stories in the College of Arts and Science and Edwards School of Business

For more [information and to register](#). If you have questions or concerns, contact [Derek Tiessen](#).

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### Some Culinary Services locations closed for summer

Select Culinary Services locations at USask are closed for the summer, effective May 1. These are Booster Juice, Subway, Choices at STM, and Tim Hortons (Arts Tunnel location). All other locations are following a summer hours schedule. Visit the [Culinary Services website](#) for details.

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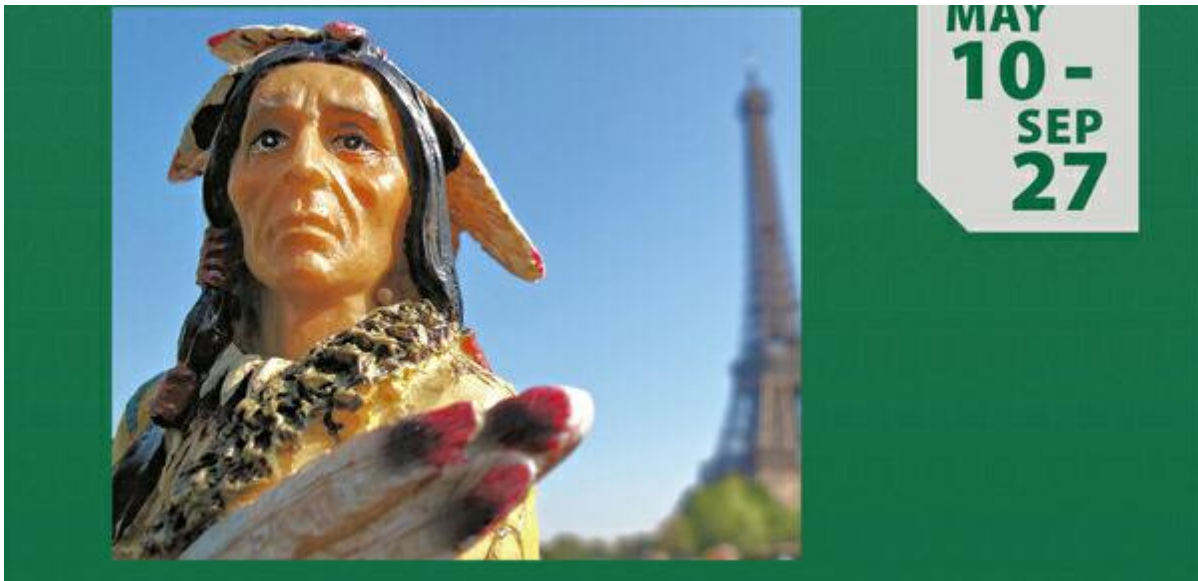
## Awards and Accolades

Faculty members from the Department of Geological Sciences received [NSERC Alliance Missions grants](#) for critical minerals research, totalling more than \$4.13 million for four projects. Grant recipients include Drs. **Chris Holmden** (PhD), **Lambert Baraut-Guinet** (PhD) (geochemist in the Saskatchewan Isotope Lab), **Kevin Ansdell** (PhD), **Yuanming Pan** (PhD) and **Camille Partin** (PhD).

Indigenous Studies assistant professor Dr. **Robert (Bobby) Henry** (PhD) has co-edited a book that won recognition within the Association of American Publishers. The book, *The Oxford Handbook of Indigenous Sociology*, has won a [PROSE \(Professional and Scholarly Excellence\) Award](#) for Reference for best Single Volume Reference Work. The book was also a finalist for the best book in Cultural Anthropology and Sociology category.

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## Upcoming Events



From **May 10 to Sept. 27**, the College Art Gallery is hosting the exhibition [Jeff Thomas: I Refuse to be Invisible](#). The exhibition presents three bodies of photographic work by artist Jeff Thomas: *The Bear Portraits*, *Indians on Tour* and *Strong Hearts: Powwow Portraits*. The work explores the dialogue between historical and contemporary representations of Indigenous identity in photography, while investigating the absence of images produced by Indigenous people.

Until May 10 [Senior Art Show](#)

May 17-Aug. 30 [Allison Hrabluik: The Splits](#)

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## In the Media

Saskatoon StarPhoenix: ['Each word is a spirit': Saskatoon play reinvents Shakespeare in English, French and Cree](#) (with Randy Morin, Department of Indigenous Studies, May 7)

Kobo: [Jeanette Lynes on finding play in the rigours of writing fiction](#) (with Jeanette Lynes, Department of English, April 17)

Saskatoon StarPhoenix: [Opinion: History will see climate inaction of Saskatchewan as baffling](#) (with Jim Handy, PhD, Department of History, April 17)

CBC Saskatoon: [The way you pronounce Calgary says a lot about where you're from](#) (with Jesse Stewart, PhD, Department of Linguistics, April 9)

Visit [artsandscience.usask.ca/news](https://artsandscience.usask.ca/news) for the latest news and events.

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