

ARTS AND SCIENCE UPDATE

Sept. 6, 2022

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



UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN

Statement on the tragedy at James Smith Cree Nation and Weldon

The tragic acts of violence this past weekend at James Smith Cree Nation and the village of Weldon will have a profound impact on our province and our country.



Indigenous Student Achievement Pathways program marks 10-year anniversary

A USask program committed to Indigenous student achievement is celebrating its 10th anniversary this fall. For the last decade, Indigenous Student Achievement Pathways (ISAP) has welcomed First Nations, Inuit and Métis students to the College of Arts and Science with academic and social programming that builds confidence, knowledge and skills.



USask chemists solve 27-year-old riddle, produce promising new compound

Researchers in the Department of Chemistry have successfully produced for the first time a new, stable organic compound which has eluded other scientists for more than 27 years. The compound, [10]annulene, has potential for use in applications including electronics and solar panels.



Fire-adapted insects make the most of breeding grounds sterilized by wildfires

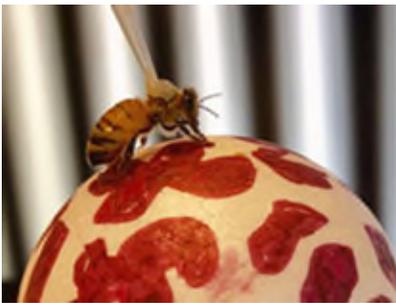
Most creatures find a burnt environment uninhabitable, but researchers in the Department of Biology are part of a team that has discovered how certain species of insects use scorched lands as a safe location to lay eggs.



USask galleries announce Capacitor project artists

The Capacitor project, a new USask programming channel for transgender, non-binary, Two Spirit and gender nonconforming artists in Saskatchewan, has announced its cohort of selected artists. Four artists will receive a \$2,000/month stipend for six months along with other supports aimed at growing their

practice.



Research finds insecticides impair a bee's ability to move in a straight line

Researchers in the Department of Biology have shown that even at sublethal quantities, certain insecticides impair a honeybee's ability to move in a straight line. The results add to growing concerns that insecticides might negatively affect bees' ability to forage, navigate and pollinate.



USask major scientific centres awarded \$170M of MSI funding

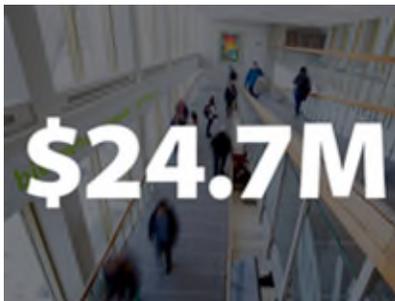
Four flagship research centres at USask have been awarded nearly \$170M through CFI's Major Science Initiatives (MSI) fund. The funding includes \$2.6 million for SuperDARN Canada, based in the Institute of Space and Atmospheric Studies in the College of Arts and Science.



Download the USafe app

The University of Saskatchewan has moved to a new emergency notification response system. [Download the USafe app](#) to your phone to receive emergency notifications. It also has a solution for working alone and has a virtual safewalk. The app makes it easy to report suspicious behaviour to Protective Services.

[Learn more on the Protective Services website.](#)



By the numbers

\$24.7M: The total research funding awarded to College of Arts and Science researchers in 2020/21. Read more facts and figures on the college's ["About us" webpage](#).

STAFF
SPOTLIGHT



Kreniene De Juan
Student Recruitment Officer – International Student Recruitment Specialist

Q: When did you start working in the College of Arts and Science?

I started in May as Erin DeLathouwer's recruitment summer student. Now, I am fortunate to have started my current position on Sept. 1.

Q: Using two sentences, how would you describe your work in the college?

The work of an international recruitment officer is to bridge the gap between the University of Saskatchewan and prospective students across the world. It is about creating connections as well as maintaining standing relations with potential students who may find their home at the College of Arts and Science.

Q: What activities do you enjoy outside of work?

I like reading and playing video games. I work on a lot of personal projects where I do graphic and video editing. I also like playing with my cat!

Q: What is something people may find surprising about you?

I enjoy *Dungeons & Dragons* and watch streams of gameplays! I also listen to K-pop. Lastly, I can write mirrored very well.

Awards and Accolades

Dr. Michelle Gagnon (PhD), associate professor in the Department of Psychology and Health Studies, leads a [research project awarded more than \\$416,000](#) in CIHR Project Grant funding. The team will develop knowledge leading to prevention and education programs to support youth who experience dysmenorrhea—or menstrual pain—and related chronic pain.

Dr. Lorin Elias (PhD), professor in the Department of Psychology and Health Studies, has published a new book. *Side Effects: How Left-Brain Right-Brain Differences Shape Everyday Behaviour* delves into how [lateral biases in our brains](#) influence everyday behaviour and how being aware of these biases can be to our advantage. [Side Effects is published by Dundurn Press.](#)

Department of Geological Sciences professor **Dr. Graham George (DPhil)** and his collaborators [have been awarded \\$250,000](#) through a New Frontiers in Research Fund Exploration Grant. The researchers are investigating whether deficiency or excess of essential metals is linked to the development of such diseases as multiple sclerosis.

Dr. Jill Blakley's (PhD) term as interim vice-dean faculty relations in the College of Arts and Science has been extended for 16 months. Her term will continue from Jan. 1, 2023, until April 30, 2024. Blakley's academic appointment will continue to be in the Department of Geography and Planning.

Dr. Cheryl Troupe (PhD), assistant professor in the Department of History, [has been awarded \\$28,067](#) through Research Junction, a collaboration between USask

and the City of Saskatoon. Troupe will collaborate with Saskatoon's director of Indigenous initiatives on a project to trace the Métis presence and placemaking in Saskatoon since the mid-1800s.

A team led by Department of Geography and Planning professor **Dr. Martyn Clark (PhD)** has been awarded \$180,000 over three years by Environment and Climate Change Canada to improve seasonal streamflow forecasts for river basins across the country. The research will help Canada maintain its freshwater resources.

Four College of Arts and Science faculty members have been awarded 2022 USSU Teaching Excellence Awards: **Lisa Birke**, assistant professor, Department of Art and Art History; **Dr. Timothy Kang (PhD)**, assistant professor, Department of Sociology; **Dr. Amanda Lalonde (PhD)**, assistant professor, Department of Music; and **Dr. Julio Torres-Recinos (PhD)**, professor, Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies.

Upcoming Events

SEP 07

THE GLOBAL CAFÉ

Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2022
5 pm Arts 133

GUEST SPEAKER:
Mr. Uchida Tatsukuni
Consul General of Japan in Calgary

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College of
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DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL STUDIES
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Saskatoon Branch | Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

This **Wednesday, Sept. 7**, the Department of Political Studies hosts Japanese Consul General Uchida Tatsukuni for a discussion of the Sustainable Development Goals, Japan's Net Zero program and areas for cooperation with Canada. The [talk in the Global Café series](#) starts at 5 pm in Arts 133.

Until Sept. 6 [Airing: MFA Group Exhibition](#)
Sept. 6–15 [MFA Exhibition: Jesse Fulcher Gagnon](#)
Sept. 11 [Discovering the Amatis: Concert Series](#)
Sept. 16 [Reflections and Visions for Renewing the Kaplan Chair in Music](#)
Sept. 16–Dec. 16 [Anna Plesset: Various Records](#)

In the Media

Saskatoon StarPhoenix: [Struggling Sask. families should get larger rebate, 'zero' for wealthy: Economist](#) (with Dr. Joel Bruneau, PhD, Department of Economics, Aug. 24)

CBC: [Funding for USask-led water monitoring network will help understand, manage floods, drought: director](#) (with Dr. John Pomeroy, PhD, Department of Geography and Planning, Aug. 22)

BBC: [Why people lash out at service workers](#) (with Dr. Melanie Morrison, PhD, Department of Psychology and Health Studies, Aug. 2)

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

Visit artsandscience.usask.ca/news for the latest news and events.
