Meet nine year old Alejandro Gutierrez. He’s a Starry Nights veteran, and has several well-developed opinions about astronomy. He’s pretty certain Pluto is underrated, and he really likes dwarf stars.

Vantage point: Trottier Observatory opens

Friday, April 17, 2015 marked an out-of-this world opening of the Trottier Observatory on Burnaby Mountain. Generously gifted to Simon Fraser University by self-proclaimed science geek, Lorne Trottier, and his wife, Louise, through the Trottier Family Foundation, the facility will encourage star-gazing in the community and beyond.

While housing a very “serious” telescope, the observatory will be used primarily for education and outreach. Programs such as Starry Nights, run through SFU’s Faculty of Science by Dr. Howard Trottier (brother to Lorne), have been wildly successful in engaging Lower Mainland children and families with astronomy. Supported by a dedicated network of faculty and staff, and drawing on skilled volunteers from the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada and members of SFU’s Astronomy Club, thousands of children have experienced the beauty of stars and the larger universe. This bright program showcases the best of what SFU offers the larger community.

Pictured above: Alan Jones, volunteer of the Vancouver Centre of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (RASC).
In pursuit of exciting multi-disciplinary research that can help answer conservation and biodiversity questions, Dr. Moore has seen more of B.C. than most British Columbians – all while doing “wet boot” field studies within coastal communities. Dr. Moore’s research is funded by visionary donors who are equally passionate about environmental studies and give through SFU to promote important research.

“Donor support enables us to be responsive and work on problems that emerge rapidly,” says Dr. Moore. Because the mandate for the Chair is left to the scientist’s discretion, there are opportunities to pursue research in uncharted areas. That wet boot research has enabled partnership opportunities with First Nations groups on community salmon programs that build capacity, stewardship and science for salmon.

“I want my daughter, and her daughters, to stand on the side of a river and see the salmon,” envisions Dr. Moore. Understanding the biodiversity of salmon is at the heart of realizing his dream.
Scotiabank blazes trail to campus-wide social entrepreneurship

RADIUS – RADical Ideas, Useful to Society - is SFU’s social innovation lab and venture incubator. Sparked by Beedie School of Business adjunct professor, Shawn Smith, RADIUS supports several programs that encourage students and community members to collaboratively address pressing global issues by generating sustainable solutions. Some current RADIUS initiatives include a program exploring inclusive economic development in Vancouver’s inner city, a national conference focused on building the future of education and an intensive fellowship program for emerging social impact leaders in British Columbia.

The rapid development and success of RADIUS is due in part to the incredible support of donors. Most recently, Canada’s international bank, Scotiabank, shared its commitment to education by providing a $1 million gift from its philanthropic program. These funds support student awards and experiential learning opportunities for business students. In addition, a portion of the Scotiabank donation establishes a Social Innovation Challenge for SFU that competitively brings students from across the university together to create far-reaching, entrepreneurial solutions to specific issues such as food security, education or sustainable economies.

For more information, please contact Sofia Janmohamed at 778-782-5314 or ssj@sfu.ca
Through the Power of Engagement campaign we are raising $250 million for programs that will engage students, increase research capacity and contribute to the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of our communities.

University Advancement, Simon Fraser University, 2118 Strand Hall, 8888 University Drive, Burnaby, British Columbia V5A 1S6 Canada Tel: 778.782.4154 sfu.ca/engage50

Celebrate SFU’s 50th anniversary!

On September 9, 1965, Simon Fraser University opened its doors and welcomed its first class of 2,500 students. That initial group of students was unique in its role as SFU’s inaugural class, but you can be sure that every class since has been just as excited and full of hope for a bright future.

To commemorate this exciting milestone, numerous events will take place throughout the year. The kick-off is set for September 9, 2015 when SFU community members - students, alumni, faculty, staff, family and friends - are invited to join us for Celebrate & Savour, on SFU’s Burnaby campus. This not-to-be-missed evening event will see the iconic AQ Courtyard come alive with lights, music, live entertainment and chefs from more than 30 local restaurants - including Four Seasons Hotel Vancouver, Hawksworth and Vij’s to name but a few. The evening will be emceed by Bard on the Beach Artistic Director, Christopher Gaze, and will culminate in a dazzling fireworks display atop Burnaby Mountain.

For tickets and more information: sfu.ca/50