

MOVING IDEAS INTO ACTION

Simon Fraser University engages researchers, staff and students with our communities and partners to solve societal challenges through innovation and entrepreneurship.



WE ARE CANADA'S ENGAGED UNIVERSITY

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

WHO WE ARE

We respectfully acknowledge the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), səl̓ílwətaʔɬ (Tsleil-Waututh), q̓íc̓oy̓ (Katzie), kʷikʷəƛ̓əm (Kwikwetlem), Qayqayt, Kwantlen, Semiahmoo and Tsawwassen peoples on whose unceded traditional territories our three campuses reside.

We equip our students with the knowledge, skills and experiences that prepare them for life in an ever-changing and challenging world. We are a world leader in research, knowledge development and innovation. And we forge lasting partnerships to enhance the social, economic and cultural well-being of the communities we serve.

SFU is recognized around the world for academic excellence, innovation and sustainability. We are consistently ranked among the top research universities in Canada and as one of the top 250 universities in the world. And with more than 170,000 alumni spanning the country and globe, SFU's impact in every facet of life is far-reaching.

With vibrant campuses in British Columbia's three largest cities—Burnaby, Surrey and Vancouver—SFU is not just shaping minds, we are also shaping communities.

WHAT IS SFU INNOVATES?

SFU Innovates is the university's award winning innovation strategy with a mission to engage SFU researchers, staff and students with our communities and partners to solve societal challenges through innovation and entrepreneurship.

Based on SFU's vision to be Canada's engaged university, SFU Innovates builds on our dynamic culture and seeks to strengthen SFU as Canada's academic leader in innovation.

SFU INNOVATES IS MOVING IDEAS INTO ACTION BY:

- Championing the pursuit of innovation.
- Creating a supportive environment that allows for innovation to thrive.
- Facilitating partnerships and relationship building.
- Providing multi-way paths to navigate innovation opportunities.
- Developing innovation skills and an entrepreneurial mindset.

SFU Innovates brings together one of the world's most comprehensive continuums of programming and resources for entrepreneurs and changemakers—from interdisciplinary learning, early stage ideation and venture mentorship, to helping companies scale up.

SFU INNOVATES IS BUILT ON FOUR INTERCONNECTED PILLARS



INDUSTRY AND COMMUNITY RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

- Bridging the gap to create innovations that benefit society.



INCUBATION AND ACCELERATION

- Transforming ideas made in the classroom, lab and community into ventures that scale.



ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- Developing innovation skills and an entrepreneurial mindset that applies creativity, adaptability and collaboration to solve problems that matter.



SOCIAL INNOVATION

- Developing emerging leaders and solutions for a sustainable, just and healthy community.

A WORLD LEADER FOR INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

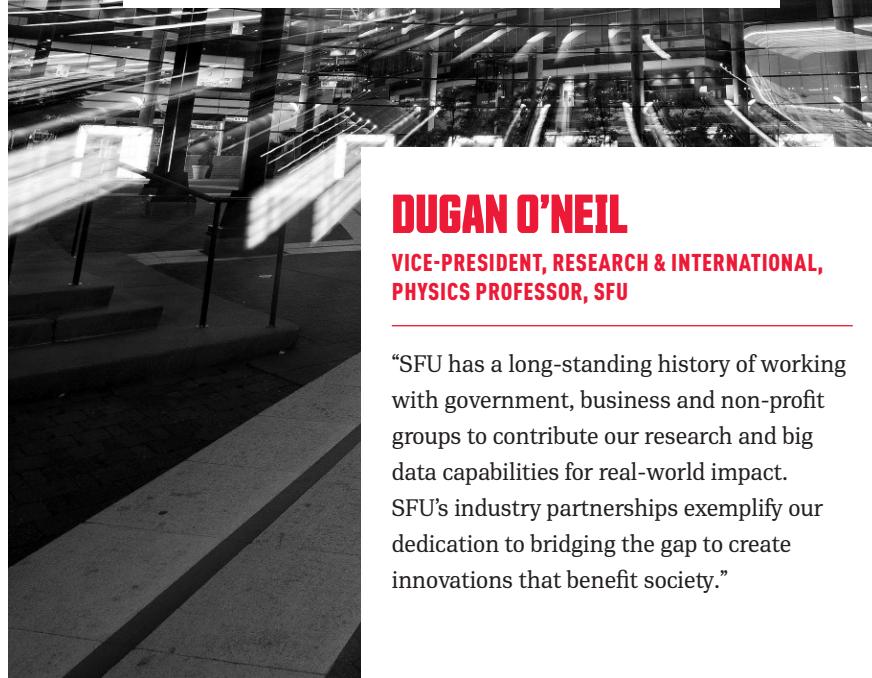
SFU is ranked as Canada's number one university for innovation and is number one in the world for our entrepreneurial spirit, according to the World's Universities with Real Impact (WURI) 2022 rankings. We are also number one in Canada for industrial applications. The WURI rankings measure how universities contribute to society and highlight creative and innovative approaches to university research and education.

SFU is acknowledged as a global leader in sustainability. We rank among the world's top 10 universities for our commitment to sustainable cities and communities, according to the Times Higher Education (THE) 2022 Impact Rankings. SFU works with local and global partners to co-develop climate solutions and innovations. Three foundational approaches that inform our community-centred climate innovation research are: community partnerships; innovation; and valuing of Indigenous knowledges and perspectives.

ELICIA MAINE

**W.J. VANDUSEN PROFESSOR OF INNOVATION &
ENTREPRENEURSHIP, SFU BEEDIE**
**ASSOCIATE VICE-PRESIDENT, KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION &
INNOVATION, SFU**

"SFU attracts and develops researchers who care about making impact from their research. Many of our faculty and students engage deeply with the communities we research. Most of us mobilize our research output in a variety of ways. Some knowledge mobilization and innovation pathways we aim to better support include: influencing policy change; informing the design of more resilient and low carbon communities; founding well-endowed science-based ventures tackling societal needs; and enhancing the regional and national innovation ecosystems."



DUGAN O'NEIL

**VICE-PRESIDENT, RESEARCH & INTERNATIONAL,
PHYSICS PROFESSOR, SFU**

"SFU has a long-standing history of working with government, business and non-profit groups to contribute our research and big data capabilities for real-world impact. SFU's industry partnerships exemplify our dedication to bridging the gap to create innovations that benefit society."

INDUSTRY AND COMMUNITY RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

BRIDGING THE GAP TO CREATE
INNOVATIONS THAT BENEFIT SOCIETY.

SFU'S TECHNOLOGY LICENSING OFFICE

SFU's Technology Licensing Office (TLO) delivers intellectual property (IP) protection and technology licensing services and support. The office supports faculty, graduate students and university researchers in the strategic management of the IP they generate through their inventions. The TLO enables a streamlined pathway for SFU tech advances to get out into the world to drive innovation and change.



KAMALDEEP SINGH SEMBI

DIRECTOR & IP LEGAL COUNSEL, TECHNOLOGY LICENSING
OFFICE (TLO)

"In addition to SFU's creator-owned IP policy—allowing creators to own their own IP—our Technology Licensing Office furthers SFU's innovation ecosystem by giving creators strategic IP management, commercialization, licensing and startup support."

MAYOR MIKE HURLEY

CITY OF BURNABY

"Our world is changing rapidly and cities like Burnaby need to be able to adapt quickly and deploy innovative solutions to solve the emerging challenges we face in the 21st century—we are excited to be partnering with one of Canada's top research-intensive universities to find those solutions. This is an exciting moment for our community, as municipalities across Canada will benefit from the projects in development at the Civic Innovation Lab."

NEIL BRANDA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 4D LABS

SFU INNOVATES DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY
READINESS & PROTOTYPING

"4D LABS is an open-access and science-driven core facility and a leader in the research and development of nano-fabrication and advanced functional materials. At 4D LABS, the interaction between industry, researchers and our experts has fostered an environment that has successfully transformed research into world-class companies."

SFU'S PARTNERSHIPS HUB

The Partnerships Hub advances SFU's vision as Canada's engaged university by facilitating and supporting external partnerships. The team helps connect stakeholders to the right expertise and resources at the university to build and grow impactful relationships. Our partners work with us to make advancements in important areas such as agricultural technology (agritech), community-centered climate innovation and social justice. We are innovating for good.

SFU'S CORE FACILITIES

Over the last 10 years, SFU has invested in core facilities, which are purpose-built to house and provide access to infrastructure shared across our community, and beyond. They allow for the pooling of resources at a university scale, providing opportunities to acquire world-class equipment and to realize economies of scale in facility management. 4D LABS is our open-access applications and science-driven core facility. It offers fully-customized research and development programs for researchers, startups and industry in any sector. And SFU's Big Data Hub supports our partners in every step of their big data journeys, focusing on solutions that transform data problems into opportunities and put data to work for real-world results.

INCUBATION AND ACCELERATION

TRANSFORMING IDEAS MADE IN THE CLASSROOM, LAB AND COMMUNITY INTO VENTURES THAT SCALE.

COAST CAPITAL VENTURE CONNECTION®

The Venture Connection innovation hub and incubator supports early stage entrepreneurship—from food trucks to fuel cells—cultivating entrepreneurs throughout the SFU community. Venture Connection engages with students, faculty, staff and recent alumni through a continuum of programs—from ideas to growth. Just some of these programs include:

Mentor Meet

A flagship program at all SFU campuses where entrepreneurs can sign up for time and guidance with seasoned mentors from diverse sectors and backgrounds.

SPARK

A self-guided validation process for ideas and ventures.

Ignite

A customized later-stage incubation program with a dedicated mentor helping develop both the business and the entrepreneur.

Refuel

A program for SFU alumni and serial entrepreneurs to receive support and opportunities to re-engage and thrive in the SFU community.

SFU VENTURELABS®

SFU VentureLabs is a world class science and technology accelerator based in Vancouver, B.C. Its mission is to scale up technology companies by connecting them with the talent, research capacity, entrepreneurial expertise, capital and international expansion opportunities needed to accelerate growth. VentureLabs' partners include leading universities, government, international industry and investment sector partners who collaborate in supporting innovation acceleration and scale up of world class Canadian technology businesses.

LESLEY ESFORD

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SFU VENTURELABS®

"SFU VentureLabs accelerates Canada's most promising and transformational science and tech-based companies. Our success commercializing IP and growing companies that are positioned to scale is achieved through top-tier mentorship, programming and connections. It takes a vibrant ecosystem to support innovation, and VentureLabs is an active community contributor and builder."



INNOVATION FOR GOOD

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

DEVELOPING A MINDSET THAT APPLIES CREATIVITY, ADAPTABILITY AND COLLABORATION TO SOLVE PROBLEMS THAT MATTER.

CHARLES CHANG CERTIFICATE IN INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Open to students in any faculty at SFU, the Charles Chang Certificate in Innovation and Entrepreneurship develops future entrepreneurs using the power of learning by doing. As students taking the certificate learn and apply market-based approaches to innovation and venture development, they also cultivate connections between peers, faculty members and experienced entrepreneurs. Equipped with the skills and acumen to create, collaborate and adapt, students will be ready to navigate a world that is rapidly changing.

At the heart of the certificate is the interplay between new ideas and different perspectives. SFU's Beedie School of Business delivers this certificate in collaboration with the university's other faculties, including applied sciences; communication, art and technology; environment; science; health sciences; and the political science department. RADIUS SFU and Coast Capital Venture Connection also provide support.

INVENTION TO INNOVATION (i2I) PROGRAM

The Invention to Innovation (i2I) program provides frameworks and skills for research scientists to commercialize their inventions. It also prepares research scientists to contribute to new product development and commercialization in industry. This entrepreneurship program is designed to help scientists and engineers think about the complex commercialization challenge around their invention in the marketplace.

Taught by leading faculty from SFU's Beedie School of Business, the program is for students whose research could contribute to high-potential economic impact and social innovation. The program is open to graduate students, post-doctoral students, faculty and recent alumni of SFU and the University of British Columbia graduate programs in science, engineering, health and environmental sciences. In addition, in partnership with Mitacs—a national organization that builds partnerships that support industrial and social innovation in Canada—the i2I program provides innovation skills training to graduate scientists and engineers across the country.

Scientists and engineers who are advancing platform technologies in sectors such as nanotech, biotech, cleantech and advanced materials, will particularly benefit from this program. Students will learn skills such as opportunity assessment, market prioritization, innovation management, profiting from uncertainty, finance, leadership and how to develop and validate a business model.



SARAH LUBIK

DIRECTOR OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP, SFU

ACADEMIC DIRECTOR, INVENTION TO INNOVATION (i2I), SFU BEEDIE

"SFU's radical history and culture of coming together across disciplines for social change has allowed us to create the most inclusive and comprehensive continuum of entrepreneurship support in the country. This 'for every faculty by every faculty' approach helps us unleash the entrepreneurial mindset within everyone and create the interdisciplinary teams required to address the world's most pressing issues and opportunities."

SHAWN SMITH

DIRECTOR, RADIUS SFU

"We call RADIUS SFU 'a place for radical doers', and while helping students become better innovators we are exploring how business can—and should—be leveraged for social impact. In many ways, the students already get it. We are just the conduit."



SOCIAL INNOVATION

DEVELOPING EMERGING LEADERS AND SOLUTIONS FOR A SUSTAINABLE, JUST AND HEALTHY COMMUNITY.

ASHOKA U CHANGEMAKER CAMPUS DESIGNATION

The Ashoka U Changemaker Campus designation is the world's leading designation for social innovation in higher education. As the first institution to be designated in B.C., SFU is committed to empowering our students—and all university stakeholders—to be changemakers. By firmly embedding changemaking into our culture and operations, SFU has become an internationally recognized leader and force for social impact, building strategic partnerships to propel this work both locally and globally.

RADIUS (RADical Ideas, Useful to Society) SFU

RADIUS SFU is a social innovation hub based out of SFU's Beedie School of Business, and located in the heart of Vancouver at the Charles Chang Innovation Centre. At RADIUS, students, social innovators and entrepreneurs are collectively working towards a transformed economy that is just, inclusive, resilient and sustainable.



AILEEN MURPHY

SENIOR SOCIAL PLANNER, CITY OF SURREY

“RADIUS has been an important partner in building connections between SFU and the City of Surrey, including working to establish an exciting new Refugee Livelihood Lab for the region, contributing regularly to our growing Surrey Social Innovation Summit and helping launch and grow Surrey’s Health Change Lab undergraduate program.”

All of RADIUS' programming drives toward building an economy that is more just, dynamic, sustainable and resilient. The variety of programming includes:

SFU Student Opportunities

RADIUS helps SFU students engage in social entrepreneurship and innovation through programs such as SFU Change Lab; the Social Innovation Seed Fund in partnership with Embark Sustainability; paid internship opportunities, competitions, events and workshops.

Social Innovation Labs and Ventures

RADIUS provides social innovation lab and venture incubation programming in four thematic areas: Refugee Livelihood Lab, Health Promotion Lab, First Peoples Enterprise Accelerator Program, and Future of Work Lab.

Professional Development

The RADIUS Fellowship is Metro Vancouver’s preeminent professional development opportunity for top emerging social innovators from across the region. Fellows build relationships with their peers, develop personally and professionally and tap into the broader social innovation and social entrepreneurship ecosystem. RADIUS offers customized workshops and training for professionals and institutions to develop new ways of thinking and working in service of positive social change. The RADIUS Hub is a shared workspace in the Charles Chang Innovation Centre where social innovators and entrepreneurs can rent space, participate in learning opportunities and grow their network.

ENGAGE WITH SFU INNOVATES

INDUSTRY AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- Are you interested in learning more about SFU's areas of expertise and facilities that support innovation and research?
- Can SFU's expertise in research and innovation help solve your problems?
- Are you a startup that would like to take your venture to the next level?

STUDENTS

- Are you interested in entrepreneurship or social changemaking?
- Do you have an idea or venture that you would like to build or explore?

RESEARCHERS

- Are you looking for funding opportunities?
- Are you interested in co-innovation with industry and community partners?
- Would you like to make more impact from your research?



CONNECT WITH US AT
WWW.SFU.CA/INNOVATES

EMPOWER. INNOVATE. CHANGE.

SFU
INNOVATES

CANADA'S ENGAGED UNIVERSITY

Find out more at sfu.ca/innovates