1 STRATEGIC PLANNING

We have completed a progress report on the university’s 2016-2022 Strategic Research Plan (SRP). It will be available on the SFU research website in early 2022. This report lays the groundwork for creation of the next SRP by the end of 2022.

2 RESEARCH AWARDS

SFU Environmental Science and Geography Professor Jeremy Venditti was awarded $3.5M for the project, *Landslide impact on the flow dynamics, fish migration and genetics of Fraser River Salmon*, through the BC Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund. This research was mentioned in a *Globe and Mail* article on the recent catastrophic flooding in B.C.

Arts and Social Sciences Professor Kendra Strauss was awarded $2,499,946 for five years from the Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada’s Partnership Grant – Stage 2 Program, for their proposal, *Understanding Precarity in B.C.*

Institutional Strategic Awards (ISA) led an internal selection process for 2023 Canada Foundation for Innovation Fund projects. There were a total of 18 proposals from SFU researchers submitted to ISA, requesting a total of just over $44.6M. This is nearly double our institutional allocation of $22.4M.

3 IN THE NEWS

As part of the Canada Foundation for Innovation’s (CFI) 25th anniversary celebrations, the *Globe and Mail* published, *Amplifying Research Impact: SFU Unleashing Economic Growth Through Innovation* — an article within the *Excellence in Research and Innovation Report*. It featured Dugan O’Neil, VPRI and Elicia Maine, special advisor on innovation. It highlights 4D LABS, Supercomputer Cedar, SFU’s research responses to COVID-19, Beedie’s *Invention to Innovation program*, and congratulates CFI for 25 years of reshaping the Canadian research and innovation landscape.

The *Globe and Mail* published the *Strategies for Sustainability Special Report*, and O’Neil was featured in the article, *Reaching Higher and Moving Faster: SFU Elevates its Commitments on Climate Action to a New Level*. He describes how universities have a special responsibility to take action on climate change.

On November 25, 2021 Canada’s Digital Technology Supercluster announced an *investment in the world’s first earth x-ray discovery platform*. The project brought together industry, government and university partners (SFU was the only academic partner). O’Neil and Earth Sciences Professor and Department Chair Glyn Williams-Jones are quoted in the media release — it garnered ample media hits.

4 KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION

Year two of the SFU Knowledge Mobilization Hub was a great success. The Hub hosted 32 training events for almost 1,200 participants and supported $3.5M in successful grant proposals. These numbers exceeded expectations for engagement and impact.

Scott White, editor-in-chief of *The Conversation Canada*, presented a workshop to 26 SFU faculty and communicators on crafting journalistic articles, identifying story ideas and developing strong op-ed story pitches for submission to the online platform. SFU Professor Alissa Antle submitted a story pitch after the workshop and it was accepted.

Before the holidays, we published our final 2021 Scholarly Impact of the Week story, *Top 21 of 2021: SFU Scholars Making an Impact*. It highlights and celebrates SFU’s top 21 scholarly works in 2021.

5 SUSTAINABILITY

The SFU 2025 Sustainability Plan is in the renewal process and will include our United Nations-led *Race To Zero* campaign targets and divestment commitment, among other priorities, such as climate resilience integration and feedback from the community on reconciliation, and equity, diversity and inclusion improvements.