

# VP RESEARCH AND INTERNATIONAL (VPRI)

JANUARY 2022

## 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) 25<sup>th</sup> 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.