

VP RESEARCH AND INTERNATIONAL (VPRI)

MARCH 2022

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STRATEGIC PLANNING

The [Strategic Research Plan](#) is set to expire at the end of 2022. Community consultations for the next SRP will begin in early spring.

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RESEARCH AWARDS

In the latest Canada Foundation for Innovation's John R. Evans Leaders Fund competition, five SFU researchers received a total of \$950,000 for five projects.

SFU Environmental Science Professor Ruth Joy was awarded \$1,465,400 for three years from Fisheries & Oceans Canada, as part of the Canada Nature Fund for Aquatic Species at Risk Program, for the proposal, *Building an intelligent whale detection and movement forecast system*.

SFU Health Sciences Professor Travis Salway was awarded \$492,077 for two years from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, as part of the Team Grant: Indigenous Gender and Wellness Program, for the proposal, *Wellness in Two-Spirit Communities across Turtle Island: A two-eyed seeing approach to a gender-inclusive community-based 2S research network*.

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IN THE NEWS

Four SFU researchers are among the country's new and renewed Canada Research Chairs. [SFU News](#).

SFU Science Professor Randy McIntosh was named the BC Leadership Chair in Neuroscience and Technology Translation Across the Lifespan. He will lead the new SFU Institute for Neuroscience and Neurotechnology. [SFU News](#).

Canada's Digital Technology Supercluster announced an investment in the Standard Data Platform for Autonomous Agriculture project. SFU is the only academic partner. [News release](#).

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SFU INTERNATIONAL

Shaheen Nanji was named Executive Director, SFU International. She will lead the team to enhance the work of those at SFU engaged in internationalization, build a streamlined plan for global engagement, and deepen our work on decolonization, inclusion and sustainability.

SFU will host the [Asia-Pacific Association for International Education 2022 Conference and Exhibition](#) from March 27-31.

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SUSTAINABILITY

The four 2021 [SFU Living Lab](#) projects completed and four new projects began in January. The projects support SFU in meeting our sustainability targets under the [SFU 2025 Sustainability Plan](#) while connecting graduate students, faculty, staff and community members on research teams.

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CORE FACILITIES

SFU's Big Data Hub (BDH) is helping [BC Assessment](#) (BCA) undertake a major digital transformation and IT implementation project while addressing staff skill gaps. Through customized and scalable training videos tailored to BCA's operations, the BDH is making data skills more accessible. The goal is to elevate their core competence in working with data, creating best practices for data workflows and improving evidence-based decision-making.

Two SFU Core Facilities (CF)—the WearTech Lab and the Public Knowledge Project—have officially joined our [CF program](#). We are working with the CF staff on a roll out plan to inform the SFU community.

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SFU INNOVATES

We launched the [Volker IP Fund](#) for SFU scientist entrepreneurs to commercialize their innovations by funding the legal costs of pursuing patents or intellectual property (IP) protection. Successful applicants can receive up to \$25,000 in repayable awards to reimburse legal IP costs.