

VP RESEARCH AND INTERNATIONAL (VPRI)

MAY 2022

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RESEARCH AND INNOVATION AWARDS

SFU received \$11,800,000 in federal research funding from Pacific Economic Development Canada for two initiatives. [The AGtech Innovation Sandbox](#), led by SIAT Professor Sylvain Moreno will support small and medium-sized agritech enterprises in B.C. [WearTech Labs](#), led by Mechatronics Systems Engineering Professor Ed Park and Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology Professor Max Donelan, is SFU's new core facility in Surrey that develops, tests and commercializes wearable technologies designed to improve quality of life.

The Canadian Statistical Sciences Institute (CANSSI) headquartered at SFU and led by SFU Professor Donald Estep was awarded \$5,768,740 over four years from the Natural Science Engineering Research Council of Canada, as part of the *Discovery Institutes Support Program*.

SFU's 4D LABS, led Chemistry Professor Neil Branda, was awarded \$2,046,760 over three years from Pacific Economic Development Canada, as part of the *Pacific Economic Development Canada Program*, for their proposal entitled: *Establishing the Centre for Environmental & Food Analysis*.

Two SFU faculty, Michael Hathaway (Anthropology) and Geoff Mann (Geography), received prestigious international [Guggenheim Fellowships](#) this year.

SFU Health Sciences Professor [Travis Salway](#) earned the CUFA BC Early in Career Award in recognition of his work improving mental health outcomes among 2S/LGBTQ people.

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IN THE NEWS

SFU has partnered with the City of Burnaby on the new Civic Innovation Lab and will share our leading-edge research and strengths in innovation and sustainability to advance practical solutions for the city's most pressing urban issues. [SFU News](#).

In 2020, SFU moved to eliminate the sale of more than 260,000 individual-use plastic water bottles annually, other than for accessibility purposes. SFU has since eliminated the sale of all other plastic bottle beverages. [SFU News](#).

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STRATEGIC PLANNING

[Consultations](#) for the development of the next Strategic Research Plan (to launch in early 2023) are underway and taking place concurrently with the President's [SFU: What's Next?](#) community conversations.

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SFU INTERNATIONAL

SFU and the B.C. Council for International Education virtually welcomed over 1,100 international education professionals from around the globe to the [APAIE 2022 Conference & Exhibition](#) from March 27-31. Participants engaged on the theme [Brave New Realities for Higher Education in the Asia Pacific](#) at the well-received event.

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SUSTAINABILITY

SFU Sustainability is updating the goals and targets of the [SFU 2025 Sustainability Plan](#). The updates include the integration of [UN-led Race to Zero](#) campaign milestones, climate resilience planning, and climate justice considerations.

SFU's Living Lab program launched four new projects to help reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050. [Staff & Faculty Dashboard](#).

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BIG DATA

SFU's Big Data Hub is collaborating with the National Research Council of Canada to develop a new system to aid in the review of electroencephalographic (EEG) brain scan data. Extremely complex and difficult to understand, BDH researchers and developers hope to ease the burden of physicians and improve health outcomes.

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SCHOLARLY IMPACT OF THE WEEK

Between March and April, SFU's [Scholarly Impact of the Week](#) series highlighted the work of the following SFU scholars: [Jiangchuan Liu](#); [Ryan Tacata](#); [Mark Collard](#); [Behraad Bahreyni & Gary Leech](#); [Elina Birmingham and Grace Iarocci](#); [Fereshteh Mahmoudian & Jamal Nazari](#); [Julian Guttman](#) and [Elicia Maine](#). A special [Earth Week feature](#) also celebrated several SFU faculty members who are making an impact on global sustainability.