

VP RESEARCH AND INTERNATIONAL (VPRI)

JUNE 2022

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VPRI PORTFOLIO UPDATES

SFU announced two appointments in the Office of the VPRI. On July 1, 2022, SFU Archaeology Professor and Canada Research Chair Michael Richards will join the portfolio as Associate Vice-President, Research. SFU's Special Advisor on Innovation to the VPRI, Elicia Maine will take on the new role of AVP, Knowledge Mobilization and Innovation. [Faculty & Staff Dashboard](#).

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RESEARCH FUNDING AND AWARDS

Three SFU researchers, (Sharon Luk, Geography; Graeme Koelwyn, Health Sciences; and Stephanie Simmons, Physics) are among the new and renewed Canada Research Chairs (CRC). They share awards of \$1,700,000 over five years. Koelwyn received additional funding of \$150,000 through the Canada Foundation for Innovation's John R. Evans Leaders Fund. [SFU News](#).

Eight other SFU researchers from various faculties received \$4.6 million in funding from various CRC-supported programs.

SFU Health Sciences Professor John O'Neil was awarded \$1,400,000 over four years from Grand Challenges Canada, as part of the Transition to Scale - Innovation Program, for the proposal: *Global Mental Health: AIMDiV: Accessing Innovative Mental Health Services for Depression in Vietnam*.

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RESEARCH NEWS

SFU ranked once more among the world's top 10 universities for its commitment to sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11), according to the Times Higher Education 2022 Impact Rankings, measuring universities against the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). SFU is ranked third in Canada for SDG 11 and within the top 10 in the country for climate action (SDG 13) and peace, justice and strong institutions (SDG 16). [SFU News](#).

SFU Biological Sciences Professor Lynne Quarmby has written a memoir spanning decades of science, art and activism. Her book *Watermelon Snow: Science, Art, and a Lone Polar Bear* is "contributing to the zeitgeist of climate change." [Knowledge Mobilizers](#).

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STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

As part of the work towards the SFU 2025 Sustainability Plan (SFU 2025), SFU Sustainability is collaborating to co-design a model for embedding sustainability across all vice-president portfolios. Currently they are piloting different models with VP Finance and Administration and with VPRI. The SFU 2025 renewal will be a central strategic document used as a pilot for this embedding of strategic sustainability priorities. They expect to launch this strategy on a new web platform in fall 2022.

At a recent Research Money conference, Special Advisor on Innovation to the VPRI Elicia Maine and Chemistry Professor and Co-Founder of Ionomr Innovations, Steven Holdcroft, shared insights on how deep tech inventions can build for scale. [Research Money Q&A](#).

Based on positive feedback from last year's pilot, the SFU Knowledge Mobilization Hub (KM Hub) is hosting its second [Research Meets Policy at SFU summer institute](#) in July.

The KM Hub team presented at the [annual scientific meeting](#) for Knowledge Translation Canada, is presenting at the [Canadian Knowledge Mobilization Forum](#), and is co-hosting [Health xChange](#) with Michael Smith Health Research BC.

The Community-Engaged Research Initiative (CERi) is accepting applications for its fourth cohort of the [Graduate Fellowship Program](#), open to SFU graduate students. The program facilitates community-engaged research through a combination of community connection, financial support, peer learning, professional development and opportunities for mentorship from CERi staff or affiliated researchers.

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SCHOLARLY IMPACT OF THE WEEK

In May, SFU's [Scholarly Impact of the Week](#) series highlighted the work of [Ahmed Al-Rawi](#), [Kora DeBeck & Kanna Hayashi](#), [Allen Thornton](#) and [Lara Aknin](#). Ahmed Al-Rawi was also published in the [Conversation Canada](#).

SFU Beedie School of Business Mitacs Invention to Innovation (i2I) Skills Training Final Pitch Competition took place. Top honours went to neuroscience firm Dynamiris and second place went to mDETECT, who screens for early stage breast cancer. SFU Beedie