RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT: FACULTY OF EDUCATION

SFU’S FACULTY OF EDUCATION IS HOME TO SOME OF THE WORLD’S FOREMOST EDUCATIONAL EXPERTS—PROFESSORS, PRACTITIONERS AND RESEARCHERS WHO UNDERSTAND THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE OF EDUCATIONAL PRACTICE AND INNOVATION. THE FACULTY HAS 11 DEDICATED RESEARCH CENTRES AND INSTITUTES

Education is powerful. It transforms lives and creates safer, stronger communities. It equalizes opportunities, ignites potential and breaks down barriers—all for the betterment of society. SFU’s Faculty of Education is an inclusive, welcoming community of students, researchers, practitioners and staff committed to advancing the field of education through scholarly inquiry and community engagement. We help learners become leaders, so they can inspire others.

WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

Simon Fraser University’s Faculty of Education is ranked 89th in the world, and 5th in Canada by the 2023 Times Higher Education World University Rankings. Making the top-100 in the world in any discipline is something to be proud of, and signifies an international reputation across a broad set of strengths in teaching, research and overall impact. To do so as a comparatively smaller faculty is truly an outstanding testament to the quality of the work of all members of this faculty, and of their enduring commitment to scholarship while upholding the faculty’s core values of Indigeneity, Equity and a Culture of Inquiry. This is a remarkable achievement, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic that has made this one of the most difficult periods for universities around the world.

RESEARCH HUB

The faculty’s Research Hub is an innovative, collaborative, interdisciplinary, technology-infused and centralized space for supporting the research and scholarly activities of our faculty and students. It creates a central space to share at-a-glance information on the research projects and initiatives that interconnect and intersect within the university and in our communities around the world.

RESEARCH IN FOCUS

Research in Focus is a website where the faculty profiles and celebrates the exciting work of scholars and students. The stories help demonstrate the interconnectivity of research and how the work being done now has the potential to influence and impact the future of learning.

The Research in Focus Podcast series features in-depth interviews and discussions with faculty members on their research activities and the impacts of their work locally and worldwide. Available on SoundCloud and iTunes.

SCHOLARLY IMPACT OF THE WEEK SERIES

SFU’s Scholarly Impact of the Week series has featured 6 articles featuring the works/impacts of researchers within the faculty.
• Sara Florence Davidson: Embracing Superdiversity in the classroom and beyond
• Elina Birmingham: Cross-disciplinary support for individuals with autism
• Alanaise Goodwill: Counselling with care to heal Indigenous trauma
• Kevin O’Neill and John Nesbit: Course conundrum: how do students choose between online and in-person learning?
• Celeste Snowber: Art, healing, discovery and the marrow of longing
• Tenzin Doleck: Optimizing social learning networks

OUR SCHOLARS
The faculty has a long list of research faculty members of distinction who have achieved exceptional performance and accomplishments. Below are some recent highlights.

Distinguished SFU Professors:
• Alanaise Ferguson (2022)
• Nathalie Sinclair (2021)
• Phil Winne (2020)
• Danièle Moore (2019)

Royal Society of Canada inductees:
• Phile Winne, Fellow to the Academy of Social Sciences (2019)
• Nathalie Sinclair, Member of the College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists (2017)

Funding:
Three research projects with principal investigators from the faculty received a combined total of over $175,000 from the 2020 SSHRC Insight Development Grants.

Awards:
• Danièle Moore received Knighthood in Ordre des Palmes académiques. The French Republic bestows this honour on those who make significant contributions to education and culture (2020).
• David Zandvliet appointed to newly established United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Chair in Bio-Cultural Diversity and Education. This appointment is in partnership with the Universitas Sam Ratulangi (UNSRAT) in Indonesia. Zandvliet, will work to improve environmental education at all levels through this enriched inter-institutional cooperation (2020).
• Roland Case received Governor General’s Meritorious Service Medal. Meritorious Service Decorations recognize Canadians for exceptional deeds accomplished over a limited period of time that bring honour to the country, recognizing contributions from advocacy initiatives and health care services, to research and humanitarian efforts (2021).
• Amy Parent was announced as member of the Indigenous Leadership Circle in Research. This group will advise the presidents of Canada’s three federal research funding agencies—the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council—and the Canada Foundation for Innovation, on the implementation of the interagency strategic plan Setting new directions to support Indigenous research and research training in Canada 2019-2022.