

VP RESEARCH AND INTERNATIONAL (VPRI)

JUNE 2023

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VPRI PORTFOLIO UPDATES

SFU has named Alison Shaw the inaugural executive director of community-centred climate innovation. [Faculty & Staff Dashboard](#).

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RESEARCH FUNDING AND AWARDS

SFU engineering science professor Bonnie Gray was awarded \$592,000 from Health Canada for their proposal: *Wearable Vital Sign Monitoring for Overdose Detection and Emergency Notification*.

SFU molecular biology and biochemistry (MBB) professor Mani Larijani was awarded \$672,000 from the Lotte & John Hecht Foundation for their proposal: *Development of a novel class of therapeutic molecules to reduce mutations in cancer cells*.

Three SFU researchers received a total of \$750,000 for 3 projects in the latest New Frontiers in Research Fund Exploration competition: Sheelagh Carpendale (computing science); Jane Fowler (biological sciences); and Dustin King (MBB).

SFU computing science professor Sheelagh Carpendale received a Lifetime Achievement Award from Computer Science Canada recognizing “outstanding and sustained contributions to computing” over her career.

SFU health science professor Zabina Brumme received the Canadian Association for HIV Research Excellence in Research Award, Basic Sciences category, for her research on the evolution of the HIV virus.

SFU SIAT professor Wolfgang Stuerzlinger, was inducted into the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers’ Visualization and Graphics Technical Community’s Virtual Reality Academy, acknowledging his leadership in the field.

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RESEARCH, INTERNATIONAL AND SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

SFU ranked first in the world for its global impact on sustainable cities and communities, and fifth in the world for its response on climate action according to the Times Higher Education 2023 Impact Rankings. [SFU News](#).

SFU was named Canada’s top university for innovation and industrial application, as well as placing number two in the world for entrepreneurial spirit, according to the 2023 World’s Universities with Real Impact (WURI) rankings. [SFU News](#).

From regenerative brain treatment to renewable packaging: Mitacs i2I Skills Training finale showcases the impact of science innovators. [SFU Research Twitter](#).

SFU and Mitacs have partnered to share and promote 'impact stories' about successful SFU research projects funded by Mitacs. The first story features an industry collaboration supported by Mitacs and the National Science and Engineering Research Council and led by SFU sustainable energy engineering professor Erik Kjeang. The project will help scale up technology needed to lead the transition to a hydrogen economy as part of Canada’s Hydrogen Strategy. [Faculty & Staff Dashboard](#); also featured on [Mitacs website](#).

SFU's associate VP, knowledge mobilization and innovation, Elicia Maine wrote an op-ed for Research Money, about SFU's ambitious efforts to bridge the gaps that often separate promising research from effective commercial applications. [Research Money](#).

Elicia Maine was also featured in Pacific Economic Development Canada's social media promotion of Canadian Innovation Week 2023. [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

SFU Sustainability launched an open call to the SFU community to apply to be part of SFU’s COP 28 delegation this December in Dubai seeking to send a diverse group of students and faculty with climate action experience in a number of areas. The final delegation will be announced in the fall.

As part of the Embedding Sustainability and Climate Action Approach, SFU Sustainability has been working with each VP portfolio, including supporting the VP teams in writing detailed implementation plans to move SFU towards its 2025 commitments.

SFU graduate students were well-recognized at the Research Impact Canada (RIC) Engaged Scholars Awards, winning an award in both the Masters and Doctoral categories, plus 2 honorable mentions—earning 4 of 8 available recognitions. RIC membership is facilitated by the Knowledge Mobilization Hub.

REM professor Clifford Atleo joined CERi as a researcher-in-residence. He is a Tsimshian (Kitselas/Kitsumkalum) and Nuuchahnulth (Ahousaht) scholar who researches and teaches Indigenous governance, political economy and resource management.

CERi celebrated its fourth anniversary at 312 Main and honoured the recipients of the 2022 CERi Community-Engaged Research Awards. It also partnered with the UBC Centre for Climate Justice to organize two community events focused on climate justice and explored the possibilities for interdisciplinary, cross-institutional and impactful climate justice research with communities.

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SCHOLARLY IMPACTS

In May, the [Scholarly Impact of the Week](#) series featured the works of [Vincenzo Pecunia](#), [Jie Yang](#) and the [Hey Neighbour! Collective](#).