



UNBC Annual Research Report

2018

UNBC UNIVERSITY OF
NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA



About UNBC

Located in the spectacular landscape of Northern British Columbia, UNBC is Canada's best small university according to Maclean's magazine. We have a passion for teaching, discovery, people, the environment, and the North.

UNBC provides exceptional undergraduate and graduate learning and research opportunities. In addition to fostering and celebrating academic excellence, UNBC is a welcoming place, with a learning environment that is friendly, inclusive and supportive.

UNBC is a University both in and for the North. This mission has instilled a strong sense of ownership, purpose and adventure among our students, alumni, faculty, staff and the communities we serve.

We are also Canada's Green University leading the way to a more sustainable future for all through teaching, research and University operations.

Mission

To grow capacity and opportunities for research and creative activities at UNBC by engaging our people and partners, leading to the discovery of new knowledge that has transformative academic, economic or social benefit for the region, province, nation, and beyond.

Vision

To build a flourishing research culture facilitated by state-of-the-art infrastructure and efficient support services, enabling UNBC scholars to undertake leading-edge local, national, and international research with respect for humanity and nature.

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Vice President's Message

It is my pleasure to provide a brief overview of research activities at the University of Northern British (UNBC) over the past year. Research is integral to the success of UNBC, and we are excited by the outstanding contributions of our students and faculty. UNBC was included in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings for the first time ever in 2017 and placed in the group of universities ranked 601st to 800th, putting the University in the top four per cent of post-secondary institutions worldwide. Research is one of the key indicators of this ranking and continues to grow at a progressive rate.

Our research program is grounded in Northern British Columbia, but extends globally. This year, UNBC began to measure our research impact against the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. These goals recognize that strategies for promoting peace and prosperity for people and the planet must also take into consideration how to tackle climate change and work towards preserving our oceans and environment. As a research-intensive University, we utilize our strengths in the areas of Natural Resources and the Environment; First Nations and Indigenous Studies; Rural, Remote, and Environmental Health; and Community Development. Further, UNBC is devoted to supporting the emerging research areas of Geospatial, Climate Change, Engineering, Environmental Sustainability, Healthy Communities, Bio-Energy and Agriculture.

UNBC is a vibrant and robust research community of knowledge leaders committed to preserving, sustaining and enhancing the future of the Canadian North and beyond. Through partnerships and collaborative efforts, we can generate a breadth of scholarship benefiting society and our future generations. We value and encourage research and scholarly activity that is locally motivated and relevant, yet has global effect and recognition. Our Annual Research Report provides an overview of what we have achieved over the last year and offers a look at the impact of the diverse research pursued by our researchers.

As UNBC community moves towards our goal of Destination 2040, paramount to the implementation of our vision will be to encourage and implement an innovative research culture. This is not about the outcome but the process - the culture of being innovative. For UNBC to be continue to be competitive on the innovation stage provincially, nationally and internationally, we must shift the needle to action-driven innovative thinking. This approach will allow UNBC to be one of the best research-intensive Universities in Canada and foster a culture that empowers students, faculty and staff to create academic and research environments that meet the needs of the 21st century University student, while producing innovative graduates who are change agents and leaders for their communities. As a destination university, UNBC is truly creating local solutions that are globally relevant, and I welcome you to connect with us.

Dr. Geoffrey W. Payne
Vice President Research and Graduate Programs





13,639
UNBC Alumni
19 Post-Doctoral Fellows

7 Canada Research Chairs
5 Endowed Chairs
2 BC Leadership Chairs
1 Knowledge Mobilization Chair



Grand total of research funding
\$14,171,187

Tri-Agency Funding \$ Amount (18/19 Fiscal Year)

NSERC	\$1,160,838
SSHRC	\$555,537
CIHR	\$1,250,196

GROWTH + PARTNERSHIPS

UNBC Recognized for Gains in Research Funding

The University of Northern British Columbia was recognised in 2018 for making significant gains in research funding in a national ranking of Canadian universities. UNBC's research funding for Fiscal 2017 increased by 29.8%, from \$7.6 million to \$9.9 million, the second-largest growth in research income for a primarily undergraduate university. The rankings are released by Research Infosource, a publication that specializes in research data and highlights research activity within Canadian universities.

This percentage in growth strongly outperforms the national trend, and has boosted UNBC's ranking up three spots to 45 on the Top 50 Research Universities List. The funding is based on grants, contributions, and contracts from external sources.

"The past few years have been incredibly productive for research at UNBC, meaning UNBC is entering a significant moment in its history," explains Geoff Payne, UNBC's Vice President of Research and Graduate Programs. "UNBC plans to leverage this success by increasing student enrolment and improving student education and experiences. This will subsequently make a positive impact on faculty recruitment and retention by fostering a mindset of innovation towards research."

UNBC and Rio Tinto Partnership to Support Students and Research

The University of Northern British Columbia and Rio Tinto are forming a partnership to support students and grow the capacity for education and research in the region.

Rio Tinto will provide \$450,000 over the next three years towards programs at the University that promote their mutual interests and values. This partnership is expected to include involving students in hands-on research programs, as well as internships and co-operative placements with Rio Tinto across a range of disciplines.

"This partnership will build on Rio Tinto's long standing support for the UNBC, which includes being one of the initial funders of the Northern Medical Programs Trust that provides support to medical students in the North," said Rio Tinto BC Works operation director for power and services Andrew Czornohalan. "We share UNBC's commitment to advancing education and research in the region, which plays an important role in ensuring Rio Tinto BC Works stays at the forefront of the aluminum industry with a highly skilled workforce and the latest technologies. By developing relationships between researchers, educators and businesses like ours, we are encouraging a culture of innovation in our organizations and communities across the region."



3,834 Total Students
3,158 Undergrad
676 Graduate
(2017/2018)

9.7%
International
Students

696 Credentials conferred
528 Undergraduate
168 Graduate
(2018)



STUDENTS IN RESEARCH

UNBC Celebrates Research

The Office of Research in its effort to highlight research activities at UNBC launched its very first UNBC Research Week. The three-day event celebrated the increasingly innovative and collaborative research that happens at UNBC and beyond. Research Week consisted of various events to celebrate and showcase the ground-breaking and interdisciplinary research on and beyond the UNBC campus. With over 70 registered presenters, UNBC faculty, undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and research staff as well as some non-UNBC presenters were given the opportunity to share their research with the entire UNBC community.

This inaugural Research Week was well received by the community and the Research Office plans to host this event annually to bring researchers from various disciplines together and foster more innovative and collaborative research.



Research Week
2019

Research
Beyond
Boundaries

UNBC Research Ambassador Program

As part of UNBC's efforts to celebrate and promote research at UNBC, a new Research Ambassador program was launched in January 2019. UNBC's Research Ambassadors are an eager group of undergraduate and graduate students who have research experience across a broad spectrum of research fields, ranging from the sciences, natural sciences, and health sciences, to the social sciences and humanities. They work closely with the Office of Research and Recruitment Office as champions for research, to enhance research culture at UNBC, and to encourage more students to get involved in research activities. UNBC's Research Ambassadors are passionate about sharing their research experiences with university and high school students. They promote research involvement, participate in formal and informal discussions, visit classes and participate in outreach activities.

The first cohort of the program (Winter 2019 Semester) consisted of three undergraduate and three graduate students. The ambassadors were involved in a variety of activities from class presentations, to coffee chats and workshops. They were also involved in recruitment activities such as EBUS online chats with high school students, and engaged with UNBC Scholars and Academic Achievers.



UNBC Masters student reels in BC Freshwater Fisheries scholarship

For Luc Turcotte, a love of the outdoors led to fly fishing, and his passion for connecting with nature led to a decision to pursue his Masters at the University of Northern British Columbia. Turcotte is partway through his second year of graduate studies at UNBC under supervisor Dr. Mark Shrimpton, who encouraged Turcotte to apply for the Freshwater Fisheries Society of B.C. scholarship. The scholarship is designed to recognize "outstanding commitment to academic pursuits in the field of freshwater fisheries."

Of 20 applicants, Turcotte was selected to be one of four recipients of a \$1,500 grant that will go a long way in helping him during his final year of research on coho salmon and their habitat in the Coldwater River near Merritt, B.C.

Cannabis Legalization on Cannabis-Related Stocks

Understanding the performance of the cannabis industry amidst the legalization process across Canada and state-specific legalization in the United States creates a basis for research surrounding regulation and the entrance of an illicit industry to the legal market. As cannabis legalization in North America is a new phenomenon, there is a lack of literature surrounding the effects of cannabis legalization on the performance of related stocks. This presents a unique opportunity to explore the impact of legalization on the direct performance of these stocks and to identify whether the regulatory environment allows these

companies to flourish or hinders their performance. Under the supervision of Dr. Chengbo Fu, UNBC Commerce student Joshua Nycholat aims to analyze the historical stock returns for cannabis companies and suppliers which have a relation to the Cannabis industry in North America. Preliminary results indicate that there is a significant predicted decline in the performance of these companies over the next five years. Mr. Nycholat's research is currently ongoing and he will be presenting his research at the Administrative Sciences Association of Canada's Annual Conference in May 2019.

#UNBCInTheField

Each year, several UNBC students and faculty participate in various field school programs. This experiential learning provides student with hands on research experience under the guidance of their supervisors.



Death Valley/Owens Valley field school

UNBC Geography is committed to field schools and experiential learning and organizes at least one field school each Spring semester. In May 2018, eight undergraduate students and one graduate student joined Drs. Brian Menounos and Joseph Shea in the Death Valley 2018 Field School in the mountain and desert landscapes of the southwestern US. Together, they explored the incredible geological and geomorphological formations of Death Valley and Owens Valley, collected and analyzed ground-based and airborne data, and learned about water resources in this arid region. Students spent four days at UNBC's Prince George campus and then traveled together for 10 days throughout the Basin and Range region (eastern California, Arizona, Nevada and southern Utah).

Geography Field School to Guatemala 2018

Since 2004, Dr. Catherine Nolin and Grahame Russell of Rights Action (and Adjunct Professor of Geography at UNBC) have co-organized eight field schools to Guatemala with more than 80 students including senior undergraduate students, Master's and PhD students. The field schools centre on memory-truth-justice issues in the context of post-war Guatemala with special attention to post-genocide survival in Indigenous communities and resistance to imposed development projects. These fields schools are exemplars for bringing together undergraduate and graduate students together with faculty members and communities in Guatemala to conduct research together on these critical issues.



Student research with the newly opened RDC at UNBC

Emmanuel Ogwal a graduate student in Economics under the supervision of Dr. Jalil Safaei undertook his thesis project in conjunction with the recently established Research Data Centre (RDC). The RDC provides researchers with a secure connection to Statistics Canada population, household survey and administrative data enabling researchers like Ogwal and Dr. Safaei to answer critical questions facing Canadians.

In the project titled "Out-of-Pocket Expenditures on Healthcare Across Canadian Provinces: Implications for Access and Equity", Ogwal seeks to find out about the key factors affecting the amounts of out-of-pocket payments towards healthcare services by patients across the Canadian provinces. The results of this study will help to identify any barriers to accessing healthcare, and whether such payments are equitable. The empirical results are being analyzed and summarized, and are intended to be published in related scientific journals.

Graduate students present at international scholarly conferences

English MA student Megan Kuklis presented a paper titled "Ignoring Canada: Lack of Landscape within Canadian Young Adult Fiction." At the Nordic Association of Canadian Studies conference in Iceland and also had a literary review published in The Fiddlehead.

Graduate student Nolan Hansen presented a short story titled "The Gift." at the American Culture/Popular Culture Association conference in Washington, D.C.

Geography Student present at WDCAG Conference

UNBC Geography students and faculty were well represented at the 61st Annual Meeting of the Western Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers conference at the University of Victoria.



RESEARCH CHAIRS + FELLOWS

Canada Research Chair (CRC)

- New- Canada Research Chair in Humanities and Health Inequities
Sarah de Leeuw
- Canada Research Chair in Integrative Physiology of Diabetes
Sarah Gray
- Canada Research Chair in Rural and Small Town Studies
Greg Halseth
- Canada Research Chair in Aboriginal Governance and Law
Natalia Loukacheva
- Canada Research Chair in Glacier Change
Brian Menounos
- Canada Research Chair in Health, Ecosystems and Society
Margot Parkes
- Canada Research Chair, Hybrid Wood Structures Engineering
Thomas Tannert

Endowed Research Chairs

- FRBC / Endowed Research Chair in Landscape Ecology
Phil Owens
- FRBC / Endowed Research Chair in Landscape Ecology
Ellen Petticrew
- FRBC / Slokan Mixedwood Ecology Chair
Ché Elkin
- FRBC / West Fraser Growth and Yield Chair
Oscar Venter
- Ian McTaggart Cowan Muskwa-Kechika Research Professor
Katherine Parker

BC Leadership Chairs

- Dr. Donald B. Rix BC Leadership Chair for Aboriginal Environmental Health
Henry Harder
- BC Leadership Chair in Tall Wood and Hybrid Structures Engineering
Thomas Tannert

Knowledge Mobilization Chair

- Northern Health - UNBC Knowledge Mobilization Research Chair
Martha MacLeod

“I would like to explore whether the influence of the humanities can increase levels of empathy in health professionals and thus increase response to complex health issues, I also want to examine how those who live with health inequities might be able to better describe their needs through methods that include the arts in informed practices.”
– Sarah de Leeuw



RESEARCH INSTITUTES, FACILITIES + FORESTS

UNBC research Institutes, facilities and forests provide state-of-the-art infrastructure and an enabling environment to foster collaboration among researchers and getting valuable research outcomes to communities.

Institutes and Centres

- Community Development Institute (CDI)
Directors – Marleen Morris and Greg Halseth
- Cumulative Impacts Research Consortium (CIRC)
Research Lead – Marieka Sax
- Health Arts Research Centre
Research Director – Sarah de Leeuw
- Health Research Institute (HRI)
Chairs – Martha MacLeod and Henry Harder
- Institute for Social Research
Acting Director – Jalil Safaei
- National Collaborating Centre for Indigenous Health
Academic Lead – Margo Greenwood
- Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Institute (NRESi)
Director - Darwyn Coxson
- Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions
UNBC Program Manager – Michelle Connolly
- Urban Aboriginal Knowledge Network Western Research Centre
Directors – Ross Hoffman and Paul Bowles
- Women North Network/Northern FIRE
Lead – Dawn Hemingway

Research Forest and Stations

- Aleza Lake Research Forest
- Dr. Max Blouw Quesnel River Research Centre
- John Prince Research Forest

Research Facilities

- Genetics Lab
- GIS & Remote Sensing Lab
- High Performance Computing Lab
- I.K. Barber Enhanced Forestry Lab
- Northern Analytical Laboratory Services
- Northern BC Archives
- Tree Ring Lab
- UNBC Research Data Centre



RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS: INNOVATION + IMPACT

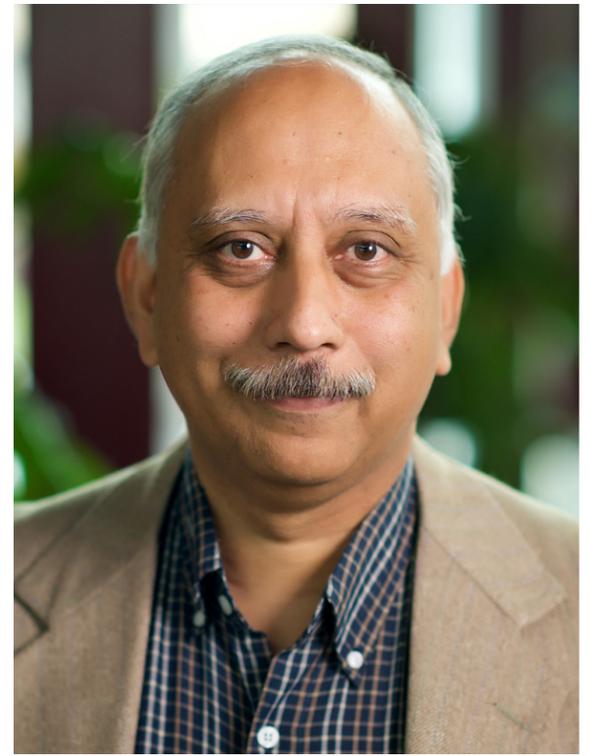
New Trauma Care Dashboard developed by UNBC Research Group

Dr. Waqar Haque of the School of Business and Computer Science Department along with his team of graduate and undergraduate students in the Business Intelligence Research Group (BIRG) lab have created a new Trauma Care Dashboard.

The dashboard developed by Dr. Waqar and his team uses Business Intelligence techniques to analyse trauma-related data and generates reports for making informed decisions and resource allocation. The dashboard uses filters that are consistent with Accreditation Canada measures and inclusion/exclusion criteria. This highly efficient dashboard pulls data from existing registries and databases as well as from a web-based data platform to generate reports in less than 5 seconds. It can generate more than 40 reports in just one click.

The Trauma Care Dashboard was deployed for use at Northern Health in October 2018 and has received great feedback. The project was highlighted by the accreditation team as an innovative project and was nominated in the Top Innovation category of the BC Health Care Awards. The project has been presented to several health care groups and was also shared at the Trauma Association of Canada conference and at e-Health 2018.

The project has received great interest from the BC Trauma Registry, and there is the potential to extend this project for use by all six health authorities across the province.



#ThisIsResearch

Health Risks of Long-Haul Trucking

Dr. Mamdouh Shubair of the School of Health Sciences, and his research team are conducting a study to better understand the factors that impact the health, safety and wellness of drivers.

The project is funded by WorkSafe BC and is a joint research project with the University of Saskatchewan, University of Waterloo, Transport Canada and SafetyDriven, the Trucking Safety Council of BC. The study uses two online surveys; one for truck drivers and the other for trucking companies to gather data. Initial results of the pilot showed truck drivers face risk factors related to diet, exercise, stress, mental health issues, alcohol use and smoking habits.

“We are trying to better understand how long sitting hours with vibrations in the truck and stress on the road could cause these things,” says Shubair. “There’s a multitude of conditions affected by them not eating healthier and not exercising enough, but we can’t expect them to if they are on the go always.”

The results of the surveys are being analyzed, and the project is expected to complete in summer of 2019.



Intergenerational Activities for Growth and Engagement (InterAGE) project

How can intergenerational living benefit university students and seniors? As part of an innovative pilot study and new experiential learning course this past fall, two UNBC students spent four months living in Northern

Health’s Gateway Lodge, a residential care facility in Prince George, engaging with and learning from the lodge’s residents. The success of the pilot led to its continuation for the Winter 2019 semester.

Led by Drs. Shannon Freeman and Dawn Hemingway, the Intergenerational Activities for Growth and Engagement (InterAGE) project is a unique research partnership between UNBC and Northern Health. Students spend part of each week over the course of their four-month semester connecting with the lodge’s residents during meals and different recreational events.

“The experience all around has been very positive, and is a reminder that older adults have as much life experience and expertise to share with young people as students have to share with seniors,” said Dr. Hemingway. “The research component was also critical and will allow us to move forward with further co-housing initiatives knowing we’re on solid footing.

“Overall, it’s been an exciting and forward-looking undertaking that I feel certain will improve the lives of both the students and the residents in ways that we have yet to identify,” added Dr. Freeman. “We are looking forward to recruiting our next students for the 2019-2020 school year.”



Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia (CAH) study completed

Dr. Caroline Sanders with a team of international researchers from Belgium, Ireland, UK, patient partners and clinicians from BC in the areas of gynaecology and endocrinology as well as colleagues from UNBC School of Nursing successfully completed a Women’s Health Research Institute Grant examining the experiences of women with congenital adrenal hyperplasia (CAH). The grant allowed the team to use a qualitative approach to better understand the meaning of wellness for women with CAH. As a follow-up to this grant, new partnerships have flourished resulting in a successful REACH Michael Smith Award due to be completed in September 2019. Dr. Sanders, the Michael Smith student awardee and patient partner have presented part of this work at the Canadian Organization for Rare Diseases inaugural meeting in Toronto in May 2019. In addition, Dr. Sanders with international partners from Australia, Belgium and knowledge users from BC was awarded a CIHR grant in March 2019 to examine life-course transitions for individuals with intersex.



Indigenous Territorial Rights in the Russian Federation: A Quarter Century Onward

Dr. Gail Fondahl recently carried out fieldwork in Moscow & Yakutsk researching the 'social life of laws' in practice-how laws are invoked, interpreted and implemented in place and time, and how this leads to a variegated geography of experienced rights (and wrongs). The project also investigates how those who seek to benefit from laws' alleged protections evaluate their efficacy.

Upon completing the fieldwork Dr. Fondahl gave a conference plenary in Yakutsk & a seminar at Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology in Moscow. This research project is funded through her SSHRC Insight grant and the outcomes of this project are expected to inform discussions on legislative reforms regarding indigenous territorial rights.



GRANTS + AWARDS



Resource Development and Social Infrastructure in Northern British Columbia: What's in the Media?

Drs. Glen Schmidt and Dawn Hemingway recently completed a research project examining media reporting and editorial commentary about the need for and impact on health and social services during periods of intense resource development in northern British Columbia. In the rural, northern, and remote parts of Canada, including northern British Columbia, hydro-electric dams, pipelines for oil and natural gas, as well as mining developments have an impact on the region and its people. The findings indicated that health and social service needs were given limited media coverage within the context of natural resource development in northern BC. It is important for northern residents and communities, including social workers, to develop greater awareness about the negative aspects of resource development so that they can assert more control over the decisions that affect their lives.

Pathways to Social Work Supervision

Social work research and literature in the area of supervision tends to focus on the supervision of field education students. Less attention is given to the supervision of social work practitioners and there is almost no information that examines how social workers become supervisors. A recent study by Dr. Glen Schmidt and Anthony Kariuki recruited and interviewed

27 practicing social work supervisors across different fields of social work practice in Western Canada. The participants included 15 supervisors with a graduate degree and 12 supervisors with an undergraduate degree.

The results of the study revealed three pathways to supervision: task exposure, supervision by happenstance, and deliberate decision. The responses suggested that additional focus on supervision might be included in undergraduate education and that universities, professional associations, and employers pay more attention to succession planning.

Indigenous Self-Determination in Northern Canada and Norway

Over the last several decades, two circumpolar Indigenous peoples — the Canadian Inuit and the Norwegian Sámi — have made great strides in developing innovative governance regimes to foster greater Indigenous self-determination within their respective states.

A recent study by UNBC's Dr. Gary Wilson and his colleague Dr. Per Selle of University of Bergen compares how the Inuit in northern Canada and the Sami in Norway have taken different paths towards self-determination over the past four decades. The study was published by the Institute for Research on Public Policy.

The findings show that the Sami and Inuit have made significant progress towards creating a better balance between self-rule and shared rule. However, both groups need to work towards the development of robust and effective institutions of self-rule and shared rule, which is critical to the success of Indigenous self-determination in Canada and in Norway.



Dr. Sarah de Leeuw and Dr. Margo Greenwood leading Indigenous Health Project

Dr. Sarah de Leeuw and Dr. Margo Greenwood received \$1.3 million as part of a Healthy and Productive Work Initiative - Partnership Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) to embark on a five-year research project focused on further enhancing Indigenous health in northern B.C.

The Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR), is contributing an additional \$130,000 in funding. The project is also receiving support through in-kind contributions, valued at approximately \$460,000, from Northern Health, Two Rivers Gallery, NCCAH and UNBC.

SSHRC Grants and Awards

Dr. Nathan Andrews, Global and International Studies and Dr. Nathan Bennet, University of British Columbia received a SSHRC Insight Development Grant for a collaborative project titled "Converging Pressures and Slippery Livelihoods: The Dynamics of Oil Extraction, Fisheries, Community Wellbeing and Ocean Governance in Ghana and Mexico".

The project will focus on coastal regions in Ghana and Mexico, exploring how the livelihood benefits of oil development converge with other pressures that are impacting the wellbeing of rural coastal communities,

specifically those whose sustenance is dependent on small-scale fishing activities.

Dr. Mark Groulx of the School of Environmental Planning and Dr. Kyrke Gaudreau received a SSHRC Insight Development Grant for a project on "Low-carbon Resilient Northern Cities: Advancing practice in Canada's nearnorth through integrated evaluation".

This project would explore how to expand existing capacity to plan for and evaluate progress towards a low-carbon resilient future in Canada's northern cities which experience higher constraints in securing sufficient and stable financial and human capacity.

Dr. Kevin Hutchings, Department of English received a SSHRC Insight Grant for a Project titled "The life and literary adventures of Sir Francis Bond Head". This project will provide knowledge of the immediate circumstances in which Head carried out his literary, administrative, and political activities prior to, during, and following his tenure as lieutenant governor of Upper Canada.

Dr. Henry Harder and Dr. Travis Holyk partner with Carrier Sekani Family Services Elder wellness project

UNBC's Dr. Henry Harder and Dr. Travis Holyk with Carrier Sekani Family Services (CSFS) have received a \$1.5 million grant to pursue a five-year research project

focused on strengthening mental wellness and suicide prevention for Elders in B.C.'s Northern Interior. The funding is provided through the Institute of Indigenous Peoples' Health, part of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR).

Dr. Menounos' CUFA BC Academic of the Year Award

Dr. Brian Menounos, UNBC Canada Research Chair in Glacier Change received CUFA BC's Ehor Boyanowsky Academic of the Year Award. The award recognizes a specific and recent outstanding contribution to the community beyond the academy through research or other scholarly activity by an individual or group at any stage of their career.

Dr. Menounos was nominated for his research in building connections between historical climatology and ongoing work on climate forecasting, and the significant consequences for public policy planning. And also for his work with Engineers and Geoscientists British Columbia (EGBC) on helping its members understand the impact of climate change on their practice.

Edōsdi (Dr. Judy Thompson) receives Distinguished Academic Award

UNBC's Assistant Professor in First Nations Studies, Edōsdi is the Director of the Tahltan Nation's language and culture program. Because of her scholarly community work focusing on language revitalization, in April 2018 she received a Distinguished Academic Award – Early in Career Award Category, from the Confederation of University Faculty Associations of BC. This award "recognizes the contributions to the non-academic community made by faculty members who are at an early point in their careers." At the May 2018 CASHS convocation ceremony, Edōsdi was also awarded the UNBC Award for Excellence in Teaching

NSERC Discovery Grants

Dr. Alia Hamieh and Dr. Andy Wan of the Mathematics and Statistics department have each won 5-year NSERC

Discovery Research Awards. Dr. Hamieh's research interests are in number theory motivated by questions about automorphic forms and L-functions. With the NSERC Research Award Dr. Hamieh hopes to answer questions regarding the non-vanishing of L-functions in the critical strip by studying various aspects of families of these functions.

Dr. Wan's research interests are in the development and rigorous analysis of numerical methods for problems arising in applied mathematics, physical sciences, and engineering. Dr. Wan's research program for the NSERC Research Award will explore the theoretical developments and the applications of a new class of conservative methods known as Discrete Multiplier Method (DMM) in physical science and engineering.

IURC /Tri-University Partnership Research Fund

The Interior University Research Coalition (IURC) created by the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC), Thompson Rivers University (TRU) and University of British Columbia-Okanagan (UBCO), forms a core of research and innovation talent, and infrastructure in the interior of BC.

The IURC established the Tri-University Partnership Research Fund (TPRF) to promote inter-institutional and inter-disciplinary research collaborations among the institutions. Three grants aimed towards research that addresses Disaster Prevention, Response, Recovery and Resilience (Disaster PR3) were awarded in winter 2019. Among the successful teams were UNBC's Dr. Stephen Dery; who is a lead on one project and a team member of another, and Dr. Joseph Shea.



PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS

Song of the Earth: The Life of Alfred Joseph by Dr. Ross Hoffman

The life of Gisdewe Alfred Joseph, lead plaintiff for the Witsuwit'en people of northwest BC in the landmark Delgamuukw-Gisday Wa v. BC court case, is the subject of a new book written by UNBC First Nations Studies Professor Dr. Ross Hoffman.

Written in collaboration with Joseph, Song of the Earth: The Life of Alfred Joseph brings us inside the heart and mind of a man who grew up in the heart of Witsuwit'en culture and lived to see it transformed. But he was no passive observer; he initiated and participated in legal battles that have reshaped how Canada addresses its colonial past and struggles to find ways to reconcile with Indigenous nations.

In Song of the Earth: The Life of Alfred Joseph, Hoffman opens the feast hall doors, throwing light on what the Witsuwit'en have lost and what they have preserved since settlers came to their lands.



Gold Mining and the Discourses of Corporate Social Responsibility in Ghana by Dr. Nathan Andrews

Drawing on extensive fieldwork material collected in Ghanaian communities located around the project sites of Newmont Mining Corporation and Kinross Gold Corporation, the monograph employs critical discourse analysis to accentuate how mining corporations use CSR as a discursive alibi to gain legitimacy and dominance over the social order, while determining their own spheres of responsibility and accountability.

This book critically examines the practice and meanings of corporate social responsibility (CSR) and how the movement has facilitated a positive and somewhat unquestioned image of the global corporation



Mary Oliver's Grass Roots Poetry by Dr. Dee Horne

Mary Oliver's Grass Roots Poetry examines the poetry and essays of Pulitzer Prize winner Mary Oliver. Her writing offers an environmental ethics that is relevant to readers interested not only in poetry but also environmental writing. She neither replicates hierarchical relationships nor romanticizes nature. In situating all as kin while also respecting differences, Oliver creates a grassroots poetics and an environmental ethics that invite readers to rethink our responsibilities and how we interact with others, human and nonhuman, animate and inanimate. Respectful coexistence with differences is necessary for the survival of all.

Other Notable Publications

Beeler K. (2018). Moonlighting: "Lunar Eclipse." D. L. Howard and D. Bianculli (Eds.) Television Finales: From Howdy Doody to Girls (pp.242-248). Syracuse University Press.

Beeler S. (2018) Smallville: "Finale". D. L. Howard and D. Bianculli (Eds.) Television Finales: From Howdy Doody to Girls (pp.339-344). Syracuse University Press.

Dickson L. & Summerville T. "The Truth About Stories: Coming to Compassionate Pedagogy in a First-Year Program." Journal of Applied Academic Practice. Special Issue. Ed. Kathryn Waddington, 6.3 (2018): 24-29.

Dickson L., Murray S. & Riddell J. "Just" Teaching Shakespeare: Wyrd Sisters, Allowed Fools and Critical Hope in the 21st-Century Classroom. University of Toronto Press. (Forthcoming 2019)

Dickson L., Murray S. & Riddell J. "'Something Wicked This Way Comes': Wyrd Sisters, Collaborating In-The-Round." Critical Collaboration Communities: Academic Writing Partnerships, Groups, and Retreats. N. Simmons (Ed.) Brill Press (Forthcoming 2019).

Horne D. (2018) "News". POUi, Cavehill Journal of Creative Writing, No. XIX, (pp 12).

Guest, K., & Mattfeld, M. (Eds.). (2019). Equestrian Cultures: Horses, Human Society, and the Discourse of Modernity. University of Chicago Press.

Guest, K., & Mattfeld, M. (Eds.). Humanimalia, vol. 10, n° 1, Fall 2018; Special Issue: Breed.

Romanets, M. (2019). Ukrainian Erotomaniac Fictions: First Postindependence Wave: First Postindependence Wave. Routledge.

Wilson, G. N., and Selle P. (2019). Indigenous Self-Determination in Northern Canada and Norway. IRPP Study 69. Montreal: Institute for Research on Public Policy.

Greenwood, M., de Leeuw, S., & Lindsay, N. (2018). Challenges in health equity for Indigenous peoples in Canada. The Lancet, 391(10131), 1645-1648.

Schmidt, G., & Kariuki, A. (2019). Pathways to social work supervision. Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment, 29(3), 321-332.

Kebede, H. Z., & Schmidt, G. (2018). Organisational Response to Child Trafficking in the Tigray Region of Ethiopia. Social Change, 48(4), 616-629.

Schmidt, G., & Hemingway, D. (2018). Fields of practice in post-degree social work employment. Professional Development: International Journal of Continuing Social Work Education, 21 (1), 13-19.



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Office of Research