



Report to the
**Board of
Governors**

March 2024



Table of Contents

Office of the President and Vice Chancellor	3
Office of Associate Vice-President, Planning and Accountability	6
Vice President, Human Resources	9
Office of the Chief Financial Officer	11
Office of the Provost & Vice President, Academic	12
Office of the Vice President, Students	51
Office of the Vice President, External Affairs	58
Office of the Vice President, Administration	60



Office of the President and Vice Chancellor

In addition to my routine governance and administrative meetings, the following activities during the last few months are of note.

In December, the KPU Holiday Socials were held across the campuses and I was pleased to be able to attend those held in Richmond, Surrey and KPU Tech.

On December 13th I attended the virtual meetings of the AGB Council of Presidents and the CAEL Advisory Board. There have been numerous calls during this period with Universities Canada, Polytechnics Canada, and College and Institutes Canada, as well as with provincial groups and PSFS, to determine the impact of the federal IRCC regulations and caps. A lot of good local work has been done with MLAs and MPs to make sure they understand KPU's endeavors and successes in supporting international students, and what the impact of unreasonable caps might be on our communities. I plan to keep the university community fully updated as we manage our way through these unexpected constraints.

The first KPU New Moon Gala was held on January 11th and was a huge success. A lot of thanks to Gayle Bedard and her team and to Kim McGill and her team in Major Events. The event raised funds for Indigenous student scholarships. The gala welcomed B.C. Lieutenant Governor and recently appointed Office of the Order of Canada the Honourable Steven Point, as the guest speaker. Guests witnessed the celebration of culture with three performances, a silent auction and a catered dinner.



On January 15th we hosted Dr. Don Wright at a President's Dialogue on the future of higher education in BC. From January 16 to 20th, a group from KPU visited Southern New Hampshire University and met with key leaders and with the President Dr. Paul LeBlanc. SNHU is one of the most innovative and successful institutions in North America, and we came away with some key ideas to consider for KPU.

On January 29th I attended a press announcement by Ministers Rachna Singh and Selina Robinson and MLA Henry Yao on changes that Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills (PSFS) will be making to the regulation of international education. Part of the presentation included a great contribution from Arjun Taneja, a current student who described the outstanding experience he is having at KPU.

Representatives of the New Westminster and Coquitlam school districts met with KPU leaders on January 31st, and on February 2nd I enjoyed meeting with an old friend and major donor to KPU, Dr. Sherman Jen.

On February 5 -7 I attended Accelerate, the Universities Canada event that looks at major trends, including the pivotal role of generative AI, the future of Canadian health care, the housing crisis, and the political climate for universities.

On February 12th I was joined by VP Students Zena Mitchell and Provost Diane Purvey as we presented to the PSFS Deputy Minister Bobbi Plecas on the state of international education at KPU. We had a robust discussion with the DM and her staff on the impacts of BC's new regulations, but more immediately, those of the federal government on student visas.

Office of the President and Vice Chancellor cont'd

I attended the virtual Council for Adult and Experiential Learning Advisory Council meeting on February 15, followed by the State of the City address by Mayor Brenda Lock, Mayor of the City of Surrey. That evening I was very pleased to attend the latest KPU session at Science World, featuring Dr. Dr. Paul Adams.

KDocs held its annual film festival on February 21 to 25, and I was fortunate to attend the opening events and introduce one of the movies and presenters.

On February 24th I joined in the Coldest Night of the Year walk at the Cloverdale Community Kitchen and February 26 to March 1 was of course the Spring Convocation, which was a remarkable success and we honored distinguished awardees and honorary degree recipients Denise Amyot and Francois Paulette:



I joined my colleagues at an Advancing Accessibility workshop, organized by KPU's Accessibility Committee on March 4, and had an introductory call with the new PSFS Minister Lisa Beare that afternoon.

March 19 saw the annual Research Showcase, which I was able to pop in and out of, and on the 21st KPU hosted its annual Antiracism symposium. The BCAIU presidents met in Vancouver on March 22.

On March 26 I was able to attend the Association of Governing Boards Council of Presidents meeting in Boston.

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

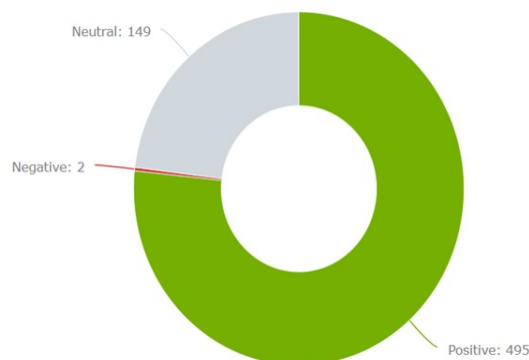
Media specialist Inna Davydenko joined the Office of Communications in December. Her experience locating and pitching new media contacts will help as the team seeks new avenues

to earn coverage for KPU in a diminishing traditional media market. Her early successes include securing coverage of the KDocs Film Festival on Global News and in the Tyee, while the New Moon Gala was covered by the Surrey Now Leader.

KPU garnered many positive mentions in major media outlets as a result of our news releases, targeted pitches and efficient responses to inquiries from reporters. Global News, CBC Radio, CTV News, Business in Vancouver, and Postmedia and Black Press newspapers all favourably showcased university people and programs in numerous stories.

Our news releases underscored student success, such as undergraduate research at the Applied Genomics Centre and Wilson School of Design's partnership with Museum of Vancouver, and told important stories of faculty achievements, from the successful Indigenous languages and cultures conference and Science Jam competition, to research on fast fashion from Dr. Yunzhijun Yu and instructors involved in the inaugural Agricultural Summit. Other stories promoted KPU's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, charitable efforts of Giving Tuesday and the timely conversations of the President's Dialogue Series.

During this reporting period from November 1, 2023, to January 31, 2024, the Office of Communications helped KPU gain 646 media mentions with a potential reach of almost 593 million readers, listeners or viewers (source: Meltwater). Of those mentions, 495 were positive and two were negative (one excluded KPU's response and the other did not give KPU an opportunity to respond). In addition, stories and news releases from the Office of Communications attracted almost 140,000 impressions on the KPU LinkedIn and the KPU News X



(formerly Twitter) accounts combined.

Chart showing KPU media mentions during the period November 1, 2023, to January 31, 2024. Source: Meltwater

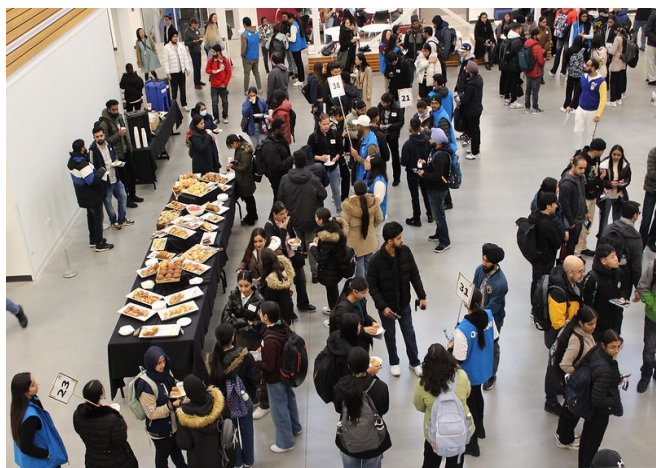
Office of the President and Vice Chancellor cont'd

Efforts to further enhance communications included regular reporting of media mentions, media training of experts and updating our style guide for university communicators. The weekly round up of media mentions was also revamped and relaunched into a more presentable and digestible format.

The communications team provided research and writing support to enhance or create webpages for the Career Development Centre, Indigenous Hub, student food security, a student wellness initiative, and sustainable agriculture. The team worked with Marketing on a LinkedIn social media project. Communications also provided advice and guidance to senior leadership on a number of issues, including the impact of the federal government's cap on new international student study permits.

During this reporting period, 38 stories were published on the SharePoint employee portal, 21 external and 17 internal stories. We experimented with some user-generated posts, specifically for content around the holiday season. That content was generally well-received but also provided lessons for the future. Processes for improving the accessibility of our SharePoint content were developed and launched in late January, specifically addressing screen-reader concerns for all content on SharePoint.

Today@KPU submissions continue to increase, showcasing more adoption of the platform by official and unofficial communicators. An audit of SharePoint analytics was conducted that provided us with more detailed insights on how staff and faculty are using the platform and what content is effective for communicating with specific audiences. This will help inform our communication strategies on SharePoint as we continue to track and measure user data and feedback.



AVP, INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP

KPU hosted the university's first annual New Moon Gala on January 11th, 2024 to raise funds for Indigenous student scholarships. The gala welcomed B.C. Lieutenant Governor and recently appointed Office of the Order of Canada the Honourable Steven Point, as the guest speaker. Guests witnessed the celebration of culture with three performances, a silent auction and a catered dinner.



Beading Event

EXPERIENCE

Student Experience

- Student Satisfaction Survey: This survey collects a range of information from students on their KPU experience to identify areas for improvement. The 2023 survey was launched on October 23, 2023 and closed on December 3, 2023. Reporting thus far has covered the following:
 - Slides of key findings on demographics, overall satisfaction, and perceptions of being treated fairly at KPU.
 - Needs and preferences regarding on-campus food services to support procurement of a new on-campus food services provider;
 - Registration and scheduling preferences for Trades Apprenticeship students to support decision-making on registration process;
 - Student perceptions of safety and use of the KPU Safe app to support campus security; and
 - Interest, needs, and preferences for on-campus student housing to support next steps in KPU's development of student housing.
- Held several consultation sessions with a range of KPU faculty and staff on OPA's inaugural 2022 Student Satisfaction Survey dashboard, which was published August 2023. The purpose of the sessions was to orient KPU community members to the dashboard and its functionalities and to elicit feedback to ensure the dashboard meets staff and faculty needs. Several dashboard changes were implemented due to the feedback received to improve reporting effectiveness.
- Supported KPU International's scholarship programming by providing them with a list of International students who are eligible for the *International Student Merit Scholarship*, as defined by their criteria.

Employee Experience

- Developed a comprehensive report of employee feedback on internationalization at KPU. The report consists of two parts: the main body and an appendix. The main body contains graphs of the survey results for each rated question and the results of the thematic analysis of the open-ended comments. The appendix contains the detailed results for the rated questions. For each question, a breakdown of responses is provided by the three employee groups: faculty, administrators, and staff. Thematic analysis was conducted on the responses to the open-ended questions to provide clear and organized results. This report was released to the KPU community in January 2024.

Student and Employee Health and Wellness

- Mindful Campus Initiative Surveys: The Mindful Campus

Initiative (MCI) is a federally funded program led by Ontario-based OCAD University. The program consists of a series of courses on mindfulness and resilience strategies to improve well-being of staff, students, and faculty on post-secondary campuses across Canada. The program was rolled out at the Wilson School of Design September 2023 and OPA has been supporting administration of surveys as part of the program's evaluation. Pre-course surveys measuring current levels of resilience and mental well-being of the initiative's registered students and employees were conducted in the Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 terms. A post-course survey was also administered for registered employees to measure changes in resilience and well-being over time. During this reporting period, student pre-course survey results were provided to the Faculty of Design Dean's Office, and survey results were provided to the MCI program coordinators located at the OCAD University in Toronto. A survey for the program's peer facilitators at KPU was also run to collect feedback on the program and information about potential benefits of participation. These results were also provided to OCAD University.

SUSTAINABILITY

Integrated Planning

- In coordination with the Office of the Provost and the Faculty of Arts, provided enrolment information so software licenses can be assigned to ENTA students in time for the start of the Spring 2024 term.
- Developed enrolment projections for Spring 2025 and updated the projections for Summer 2024 and Fall 2024 as of Spring 2024 Stable Enrolment Date. This information was used to develop International student enrolment targets and caps for Spring 2025.
- Developed several scenarios of the possible impacts of the reduction in international study permits announced by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) on January 22, 2024.
- Provided the Provost with data to inform institutional planning in relation to the anticipated impact of announced IRCC changes on International student numbers for Summer 2024.
- Provided tentative enrolment projections to 2030 for the Campus and Community Planning Office.
- Assisted the Faculty of Health in their efforts to lay out the process for offering a variation in their Bachelor of Science of Nursing Program. This variation is through special funding and support from the BC Nurses' Union and Fraser Health. OPA provided support in the calculation of potential FTEs and the mechanism to ensure that the FTEs generated by the students are assigned properly.

- Provided data and projections to the School of Business to inform their departmental planning in preparation for converting CISY and INFO programs from Open Intake to Limited Intake programs.

Enrolment Planning

- Developed and distributed an infographic fact sheet that provides an overview of enrolment (e.g., headcounts, FTEs, and international student seat utilization) for the most recent semester and academic year for KPU decision-makers. In this reporting period, a fact sheet was produced for Spring 2024. Fact sheets are produced each term following the stable enrolment date and are published on OPA's new SharePoint site.
- Supported the delivery of a survey to applicants to KPU nursing programs in 2022 and 2023 who either declined their offer or accepted but did not end up attending. The survey was in support of research being conducted by Education Planner BC (EPBC) to understand the reasons for declining nursing program enrolments at BC post-secondary institutions.
- Provided historical enrolment data on KPU's Diploma in Mechatronics and Advanced Manufacturing Technology program, as well as enrolment statistics and program descriptions (curriculum overview, tuition costs, admission and credit requirements) for comparable programs at other BC institutions, to the program's leadership to support enrolment planning in that program.
- Created the Stable Enrolment report for Spring 2024 as of January 19, 2024 in the PowerBI Enrolment Tracking Dashboard.
- Applicant Funnel dashboards: Applicant funnels for Summer 2024, Fall 2024, and Spring 2025, are currently running and dashboards are updated weekly. The dashboards provide information on the number of applicants and their conversion through each step in the application process to qualified, offered, admitted, and ultimately enrolled. The dashboards also include information on country of origin of international applicants.
- Ongoing enhancements and updates of OPA Power BI dashboards: Academic Standing, Grade Distribution, Credential, Applicant Funnel, Enrolment Tracking, Current Enrolment, Over-Enrolment, Seats, Employee, Retention Overview, Limited-Intake Retention, and others.
- Applicant Tracking Reports: Provides weekly updates during the final six months of the applicant cycle on expected conversions of applicants to admitted, and admitted to enrolled. Once registration begins, the report also includes the number of admitted who actually registered in courses. The weekly updates for Summer and Fall 2024 are ongoing.

JUSTICE

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility

- Provided analysis of aggregate student demographic data from the Student Satisfaction Survey to the Journalism department. The data is being used to support its action plan on diversity, which aims to address the representation of people of different demographic groups in the program.

QUALITY

Quality Assurance

- Program Review: OPA's Quality Assurance Team supports the Program Review process, from planning to data collection to coordination with the Senate Standing Committee on Program Review (SSCPR).
- Kick-off meetings were held for five programs that started the program review process in January 2024:
 - Nursing
 - Nursing – Advanced Entry
 - Traditional Chinese Medicine – Acupuncture
 - Computer Aided Design and Drafting
 - Entrepreneurial Leadership
- External review site visits were organized and hosted by the QA Team for the following programs:
 - Geography on November 30 & December 1, 2023
 - Journalism on February 1 & 2, 2024
 - Asian Studies on February 28 & 29, 2024
- Administrative Data reports were prepared and delivered to Marketing and Operations and Supply Chain Management programs.
- Plant Health and Marketing student, alumni, faculty, and discipline sector surveys were conducted and reports of results were provided.
- QA team drafted student, alumni, faculty, and discipline/sector surveys for Bachelor of Nursing and Computer Aided Design and Drafting.
- The SSCPR approved eight reports since November 1, 2023, as follows:
 - Two self-study reports
 - Criminology Self-Study Report
 - Fine Arts Self-Study Report
 - One external review report

- Geography External Review Report
- Five annual follow-up reports
- Biology First Annual Follow-Up Report
- Business Management Third Annual Follow-up Report
- Counselling Third Annual Follow-Up Report
- Foundations in Design Second Annual Follow-Up Report
- Product Design Second Annual Follow-Up Report
- Course Feedback: Course Feedback surveys for Fall 2023 were conducted for 1,845 sections. The Quality Assurance Team prepared and delivered 1,129 reports to instructors. Deans received the reports for probationary instructors and aggregate reports for post-probationary instructors. In Fall 2023, we used social media and incentives (two \$100 gift cards) for the second time to promote the course feedback surveys and increase response rates. At the start of the pandemic, response rates declined considerably. The overall course feedback response rate returned to its pre-pandemic level in Fall of 2023.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY TO FRIENDS, COMMUNITIES, PARTNERS AND GOVERNMENTS

- Received approval for the 2023 Accountability Plan and Report from the Ministry and posted the report on [the KPU website](#).
- Submitted the Diploma, Associate Degree, Certificate, Trades Foundation and Trades-Related Vocational (DACTFTRV) cohort and the Apprenticeship (APPSO) cohort to BC Stats for the student outcomes survey
- Completed the IRCC Compliance Report by providing the status of 7828 International students as of Fall 2023.
- Supported research being conducted by BC Council on Admissions & Transfer (BCCAT) profiling transfer students and their performance in the BC system by providing anonymized KPU academic data on transfer students.
- Supported the library by providing data on KPU headcounts and FTEs for the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL).
- Provided data on the number of students in the City Centre area to the City of Surrey to support research related to urban planning.
- Completed the annual submission to Statistics Canada's Full Time: University and College Academic Staff System (FT-UCASS).
- Validated KPU developmental enrolment numbers to assist the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills in preparation for their annual reports on the BC public post-secondary system.
- Provided KPU Finance with internal data needed by the University's external auditors, KPMG.
- Submitted data to Polytechnics Canada on KPU graduate employment statistics.



Vice President, Human Resources

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

BC's Top Employer Competition

KPU has been named one of BC's Top Employers for the fourth year in a row. The annual competition recognized KPU for celebrating employee achievements, family-friendly benefits, and campus environment. This special designation recognizes B.C. employers that lead their industries in offering exceptional places to work.

Employee Workshops

Human Resources offered several professional development workshops and webinars to KPU employees which included: Excelling in a Hybrid Workplace (Individual Contributors); Managing Hybrid Teams Successfully (People Leaders); The Working Mind (Managers); Having the Courage: Difficult Conversations Level 1; Having the Courage: Difficult Conversations Level 2; Masterful Meetings; Essential Skills for Managers; Mental Health First Aid; and True Colors.

Onboarding and Orientation

KPU held a virtual New Employee Orientation on January 26th. Approximately 49 new employees registered to attend the online event. HR also ran its third New Employee Meet and Greet event on February 12th, the purpose of which is to provide an opportunity for new employees to informally socialize and network in-person and meet the executive leadership team.

PEOPLE SERVICES

Health and Benefits

Following the ratification of the collective agreements, the Health and Benefits team has worked diligently with third party benefit providers to incorporate the negotiated enhancements to the group benefit plan/policy. Benefit enhancements included the development and implementation of a new one-time Wellness Account for all employee groups.

Human Resources Information Systems (HRIS)

HRIS has successfully completed the annual vacation upload for BCGEU and excluded employees, and new salary grids, as defined during bargaining for GEU and Faculty, have been uploaded and implemented in Banner.

Payroll

The Payroll team completed has completed retroactive payments for BCGEU employees as a result of the newly bargained collective agreement. Work related to retroactive payments for faculty has begun. Payroll has also completed year end reporting for pension and T4 adjustments.

PEOPLE RELATIONS

Talent Acquisition Team

Senior Searches Completed:

- Associate Vice President, Finance – Tracy Germaine
- Associate Vice President, Enrollment Services & Registrar – Nadia Henwood

Senior Searches Underway:

- Associate Dean, Melville School of Business (2 Openings)
- Associate Dean, Faculty of Health
- Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts

Number of new hires to KPU for the reporting period November 1st, 2023 to February 28th, 2024:

- Admin - 13
- BCGEU - 47
- Faculty - 48

In partnership with Marketing, the Talent Acquisition team has initiated the use of the main KPU LinkedIn page to promote specific leadership and other general career opportunities at KPU. This, in conjunction with work being done to encourage widespread ownership in attracting talent to KPU, helps increase awareness of KPU as an employer of choice.

Labour Relations Update

On January 5th, 2024, a new KPU-BCGEU Collective Agreement was officially ratified. Work has begun on implementing the new changes to the collective agreement.

The University reached a settlement agreement with the KFA on February 22, 2024, on the outstanding matters concerning the definition of Continuing and Professional Studies (CPS) work that may be assigned to non-bargaining unit CPS faculty. This settlement will provide the University with more clarity and direction for the development of future CPS offerings.

RISK AND SECURITY

Emergency Planning

KPU participated in a province-wide emergency response tabletop exercise within BC's post-secondary sector. Throughout the day, the KPU's Emergency Operations Centre Team and the Executive Team were mobilized and actively engaged in the scheduled activities throughout the day.

Installation of blackout blinds was completed at the Surrey campus. These blinds are installed in various classrooms and offices as protective measures to be utilized during security threats.

Occupational Health & Safety

Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) expanded the Monthly Safety Focus (MSF) Program with six new safety topics, aiming to enhance health and safety awareness across the KPU community. These topics, selected based on Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee feedback and OHS department trends, are shared through Today @KPU communications and accessible on the OHS SharePoint site.

The OHS team published the OHS at a Glance Report, covering safety metrics from September 2023 to December 2023. This tri-annual report, available on the OHS SharePoint site, undergoes review by our Joint Occupational Health and Safety committees.

OH&S successfully organized and conducted its annual training event for Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee members, focusing on office ergonomics.

Risk Management

Risk continues to support KPU with various ongoing engagements including the cyber insurance renewal process and renewal of the fleet insurance program. The team is creating and implementing a new KPU driver policy in collaboration with numerous different partners across the institution. In addition, the Risk department met with functional leads across the university as part of the annual risk review process resulting in an updated consolidated risk register.

Security Operations

Throughout this reporting period, Security responded to various concerns including alarms, property crime, suspicious activity, trespassing, and instances of aggressive behavior. In addition, the transition to the new Security Incident Reporting System was completed successfully.

The Security team recently collaborated with the Surrey Police Service to deliver a presentation on personal safety in an effort to educate and empower individuals about their own safety.



Office of the Chief Financial Officer

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

The Office of the Chief Financial Officer (“CFO”) would like to highlight the approval of the Fiscal 2024-25 Budget by the Board of Governors on January 31, 2024. This success is a result of hard work across the University, including the Budget and Planning team, who work on the budget development process year-round with a view to continuous improvement, the Executive team, senior leadership and key consultative groups, who contribute to both the current process and future enhancements. Approval of the budget in advance of fiscal year-end is a considerable accomplishment as it allows budget holders to begin their planning and recruiting efforts before the new fiscal year begins.

The Office of the CFO enthusiastically welcomed two new team members: [Tracy Germaine, Associate Vice President, Finance](#) and Zuleika Bhamji, Executive Assistant to the CFO. The team continues to build on its foundation to provide a well-rounded financial support system for KPU. Welcome Tracy and Zuleika!

The department is actively recruiting for positions to support its functions pursuing operational excellence. Positions include Director, Financial Services (Reporting and Budget), Director, Financial Services (Accounting and Systems), and Director, Internal Audit.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

The Financial Services teams recently welcomed new members:

- Financial Reporting team: Nick Smith, Interim Accountant; Evangelina Pizzo, Interim Accountant; and Allana Yang, Research Accountant.
- Budget and Planning team: Sunmeet Grover, Interim Financial Reporting Systems Coordinator.
- Accounting Services team: Angela Wang, Senior Accounts Payable Clerk; Elham Almasian, Senior Accounts Receivable Clerk and Ahmed Abdelkarim, Accounts Payable Clerk. Maco Hontiveros, a part of Accounts Payable, moved over to a new position in Procurement.

Welcome all to KPU!

In January 2024, the department held a retirement celebration for a long-standing team member. Barbara McGregor, most recently Senior Accounts Receivable Clerk retired from KPU after a dedicated 35 years with the University all within the Finance department. The department celebrated Barb and thanked her for her years of service, dedication and hard work. We wish her all the best for retirement.

PROCUREMENT SERVICES

In November 2023, all members of the Procurement Services team attended the BCNET Procurement Services Member Forum. These forums provide an opportunity for BCNET members to share knowledge, network and discuss new trends in procurement. Among the many topics discussed was the new Bill S-211 (Act on Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains) and its implications for the post-secondary sector.

Also, in November 2023, the procurement team held a full-day joint session with the University of Fraser Valley’s procurement team. The aim was to share unique experiences, lessons learned, as well as trends for public procurement practice in the Fraser Valley Region. Potential opportunities to enhance efficiency through economies of scale were identified for joint procurement including Request for Qualification for Construction Project Managers and Procurement Consultant.

Strategic Projects in the Procurement Cycle:

The following projects were completed during the period of November 2023 to January 2024:

- The Richmond Plaza Renovation tender closed and the contract was awarded in December 2023.
- The Project Management Services for Surrey Daycare Building solicitation was completed and the contract awarded in January 2024.
- The Child Care Operator for the Surrey Daycare competition was posted and closed in early February 2024.

INTERNAL AUDIT

Neetu Singh returned to her role as Senior Business Advisor in February 2024. Welcome back Neetu!



Office of the Provost & Vice President, Academic

ACADEMIC INITIATIVES

New International Students

The Provost's Office is responding to the federal government's move to cap new international student study permits by mitigating the potential effects of a significant drop in new international student enrolment. Of primary concern among these impacts is the logistical challenge we would face from fewer students in classrooms. For both Summer and Fall 2024, our mitigation efforts may involve consolidating multiple sections of the same class, and reassigning instructors to projects or, where there is alignment with their expertise, another class. Unfortunately, in some areas, we may have to cancel job postings.

This also presents an opportunity to retool the university for future growth through new curriculum opportunities and an expansion of Continuing and Professional Studies.

The Academic Plan

Last fall we began the process of developing the new academic plan to align with Vision 2026 throughout our academic programs. The new plan aims to build on the potential revealed by the covid-19 pandemic, while addressing several continuing structural institutional challenges.

In the first, fall phase of developing Academic Plan 2027, plan coordinator **Dr. Tracey Kinney** met with faculty, staff and administrators to hear concerns, ideas, and recommendations. We are grateful to all those who offered their insights and perspectives.

As a result of those conversations, we have identified four main goals, and 22 actions that will enable us to:

- improve student success and engagement,
- improve faculty, staff and administrative success and engagement,
- expand and promote experiential learning and scholarship, and
- update and futureproof the curriculum.

Now, in phase two, we are seeking broader feedback from faculty, staff and administrators across the university to ensure the new plan is credible, effective, and feasible. A survey has been sent to all employees to ask about the main goals, and the actions we believe will achieve those goals. The academic plan survey, which will be anonymous, will be open from Monday, February 26, to Sunday, March 10, 2024.

Policy and Academic Affairs Unit

[Proposal to Establish a Faculty of Graduate Studies \(FoGS\) at](#)

KPU

The FoGS Full Written Proposal Task Force met on January 15, 2024, and reviewed the draft full written proposal to establish the FoGS at KPU. The Task Force endorsed the draft full written proposal for university-wide consultation, which was available on the [Policy Consultation Engine](#) for feedback until February 9, 2024. In mid-January, the team sent a communication to the Deans, Vice Chair of Senate, and Faculty Council Chairs and Vice-Chairs, and hosted six drop-in Teams meetings over three weeks between January and February to solicit feedback from the university community. Detailed background information and updates can be found on the AVP Academic SharePoint site: <https://kpuemp.sharepoint.com/sites/avpa/SitePages/Update-on-Faculty-of-Graduate-Studies.aspx>

In February, the unit reviewed and considered all feedback received, and revised the draft full written proposal where appropriate. The final draft proposal will be sent to the Task Force in mid-March for consideration, and to Senate for recommendation to the Board of Governors for final approval in late spring 2024.

Proposed Policy AC5 Graduate Degree Studies, Omnibus Policy Revision

The unit conducted a university-wide preliminary consultation process between November 2023 and February 2024. The unit subsequently reviewed all feedback received to date and prepared the next set of drafts for a 3-week Phase Two Posting on the KPU Policy Blog in mid-February, where the university community was invited to provide feedback. The unit anticipates finalizing the next set of drafts for Senate's approval in late spring 2024.

Other Policies for Consultation

Draft Policy and Procedure ER2 *Naming of University Assets* (amalgamation of AC12 *Naming, Academic Units* and ER8 *Asset Naming Opportunities*) were made available on the Policy Consultation Engine in February as part of the university-wide preliminary consultation process. The unit, along with members of the policy writing team, subsequently reviewed feedback received during the preliminary consultation process. It is anticipated that the next set of drafts will be posted on the KPU Policy Blog for a 3-week Phase Two Posting in March, and to Senate in late spring for recommendation to the Board for final approval in early fall 2024.

Draft Policy and Procedure IM7 *Management of Surveys* have completed the Phase Two Posting on the KPU Policy Blog as of February 6. The policy developer reviewed feedback received, and is working on finalizing the drafts for the President's approval in March/April.

Communication

Questions and feedback about policy and academic initiatives can be directed to policy@kpu.ca or graduatestudies@kpu.ca.

Curriculum Unit

The launch of the newest module of curricular software, CIM Programs, is scheduled for summer, 2024. The project team is currently finalizing testing of the software and developing training for faculty members and staff. A member of the Curricular Support team will attend the software vendor's annual user conference and return with information about additional software features that may be of interest to include as well as the planned upgrade for the software that support the university calendar and course outlines.

The Curricular Support team has launched the "Curriculum Hub", a single location to house materials and resources related to curriculum development. This site will contain links to materials produced by several administrative units so that faculty members and staff can easily access training and information related to curricular processes at the university all in one place.

KPU Flex is receiving and processing applications for its pilot project in ePortfolio assessment for recognition of prior learning. This pilot project will help define how similar competency-based assessments could be used by other programs and identify new populations of applicants.

Academic Integrity Unit

The Academic Integrity Unit is excited to announce that Draft Coach has been launched to all KPU students alongside various online resources. Draft Coach is an optional tool that students can use to receive feedback on their writing through the similarity check, citation check, and grammar guide. The unit has also been providing information about Draft Coach across the university through student workshops, tabling on the Surrey and Civic Plaza campuses, faculty presentations and presenting to the ACP Faculty Council and ELS Department.

The Academic Integrity Unit has participated in various student events to promote and increase awareness around academic integrity and the available resources. This includes the Long Night Against Procrastination events hosted by the Library in November on the Surrey and Richmond campuses, the International Live Virtual Orientation in December for all new international students, the Student Resource Fairs during First Year Festival in early January, and in-person training for new International Peer mentors in mid-January. Our student ambassadors have also been supporting some of the WRTG 1100 clas-

ses by attending classes and presenting on academic integrity and, sharing their student perspective to engage their peers.

In mid-January, Academic Integrity Student Ambassador Alejandra Silvera shared her student perspective as part of a BC Campus FLO Panel on the Ethical and Creative Use of Artificial Intelligence in Post-secondary Education, sparking discussion on how artificial intelligence and academic integrity can interact.

The team piloted a conference centre exam session in December in partnership with Scheduling and the Accounting departments where some sections of Accounting exams took place in the conference centre alongside other sections to reduce the possibility of academic misconduct.

A pilot for the Restorative Responses to Academic Integrity Breaches Moodle Course that Dr. Alana Abramson has been working on was also launched. Once the feedback is received, the moodle course will be updated accordingly and will be available for all KPU employees.

Continuing Professional Studies Unit

Strategic meetings with Faculty units are being conducted in the first quarter of 2024 to discuss the strategic direction of CPS and, provide an update on the new language in the LOU#3 and LOU#4 of the KPU-KFA Collective Agreement.

CPS Central will proceed with the first offering of the Teaching Children to Read course from February 8 to March 7, 2024.

Two new CPS courses will be offered this year: (1) Small Batch Brewing Basics for Hobbyists (Faculty of Science), and (2) Decoding Company Financial Statements for Non-Accountants (Melville School of Business). Additional courses are anticipated to be offered this year as Faculty units are exploring more community and industry partnerships.

Work Integrated Learning Unit

The Fall and Spring terms have brought Work-Integrated Learning information to a wide range of faculty members. The following departments have arranged to receive a twenty-minute presentation on Work-Integrated Learning from Dr. Larissa Petrillo (Lead Advisor, Work-Integrated Learning) and Zakiya Housil (Academic Project Coordinator):

Accounting, Biology, BSN A-E, Creative Writing, Criminology, EACS, Educational Studies, English, Fashion Design, Fine Arts, Horticulture, Interdisciplinary Expressive Arts (IDEA), Journalism, Language and Cultures, Music, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Traditional Chinese Medicine, the ACP Faculty

Office of the Provost & Vice President, Academic cont'd

Council, Trades and Technology Faculty Council, and the Faculty of Science Faculty Council.

This has meant that over 250 faculty members have had a chance to hear about, and discuss, KPU's latest information on Work-Integrated Learning, including WIL learning outcomes, new [WIL guidebooks](#), available supports, and ways of expanding their offerings in this area. Meetings are ongoing this spring.

The [Service Learning Assistants](#), for the Spring, 2024 term, are held in Biology, Fashion Marketing, Public Relations, Employment and Community Studies, Political Science, Operations and Supply Chain Management, specific language courses, and the inaugural year of [KPU's Museum Lab](#). Service Learning Assistants (SLAs) are paid student leaders who help coordinate and support Work-Integrated Learning courses at KPU.

Including All Citizens Unit

Various workstreams are currently underway to support the work on IACP. Here are some of the highlights:

- Mentoring and support are being provided to current IACP students and faculty.
- Meeting with potential students.
- Working on creating supported learning admissions category.
- Continued work on inclusive classroom initiative.
- Promoting and marketing IACP Info sessions for Fall 2024 cohorts.

Additional workstreams that are currently underway to support accessibility and inclusion initiatives and provide a disability lens at KPU. Here are a few highlights:

- Working with Barber team, 'I am here because you are here', on initiatives (2023-2026) celebrating intersectional embodiment and resistance with: **Dr. Jennifer Hardwick, Vicki Haynes, Dr. Asma, Sayed, Dr. Greg Chan.**
- Continuing research on post-secondary services for students with disabilities.
- Developing Accessible and Inclusive Classroom Design Guide.
- Developing Accessible and Inclusive Program Development Guide.

- Active membership on KPU's Accessibility Committee.
- Working with various National and Provincial disability organizations to maintain collaborative partnerships. Feedback and collaboration with community is a key aspect to the BC Accessibility Legislation.
- Developing Provost Speaks event for May 2024: Decolonizing Ability: Indigenous Women and Girls with Disabilities and Introducing the Political Model of Disability. Guest Scholar: **Dr Lynn Gehl, Algonquin Anishinaabe-Ikwe.**
- Creating a website for the Lead Advisor and Disability, Accessibility, and Inclusion at KPU.
- Presentation at Faculty Council, with **Dr Jennifer Hardwick**: BCCAT Report: Accessible Admissions: Fostering Equitable, Accessible, and Inclusive Admissions through Disability Justice. February 15, 2024.
- Panel Presentation K-Docs Film Festival: Liberating the Body Politic. Wednesday February 21, 2024.

PEOPLE

Talent Searches

Dr. Holly Longair has accepted a temporary secondment to the full-time administrative position of Associate Dean, pro tem, Faculty of Arts. This appointment commenced on February 12, 2024 and concludes on April 30, 2024.

Dan Lett has accepted a temporary secondment to the full-time administrative position of Associate Dean pro tem, Faculty of Arts, effective January 3, 2024, and ending on April 30, 2024.

Shari-Ann Herrmann joined the Melville School of Business on January 1, 2024, in the position of Associate Dean pro tem, until March 31, 2024.

Dr. Tracey Kinney, KPU Faculty member, has been appointed to a part time position as Special Advisor to the Provost, until the end of the Spring 2024 term.

Nadine Siriban has joined the Office of the Provost team in Continuing Professional Studies, (CPS) for a 13-month term as the interim Divisional Business Manager, effective December 4, 2023 – Jan 31, 2025.

Office of the Provost & Vice President, Academic cont'd

Lilian Corrêa Leite (she/her/hers), joined the Office of the Provost as the inaugural Administrative Assistant, Policy and Academic Affairs, in the Office of the Provost and Vice President Academic beginning on January 8, 2024.

NOTABLE MEETINGS AND EVENTS ATTENDED BY THE PROVOST INCLUDE:

- **Dr. Candy Ho**, 2023 BCIT Distinguished Alumni Award, held at the Westin Bayshore, Vancouver, November 2, 2023
- Surrey Mayor's Evening of Giving banquet, November 3, 2023
- FBS CAUBO 2023 - Provosts Summit and Annual Conference, Montreal, November 8-10, 2023
- Gateway Theatre, Annual General Meeting, November 14, 2023
- KPU Speaker Series Faculty of Arts, (ENTA department) Presentation at Science World "Don't Push My Buttons. Unleashing creativity within constraints", November 15, 2023
- "Dress for Success" Luncheon, held at the Fairmont Hotel, Vancouver, November 21, 2023
- Indigenous, (INDG) Disability Awareness event, held at the Surrey campus, November 22, 2023
- BCcampus Interim Steering Committee Meeting, November 22, 2023
- The Provost participated as a cyclist to raise funds at the KPU Trades & Technology Bikeathon for Men's Mental Health at KPU Tech campus, November 23, 2023
- Urban Screen Advisory Committee meeting, Surrey Arts Centre, November 23, 2023
- Welcome attendees to the Restorative Justice Week - Lunch and Learn, November 24, 2023
- KPU President's seasonal reception, Civic Plaza, November 25, 2023
- Breakfast with the President, Surrey Conference Centre, November 27, 2023
- Post-Secondary Learning Continuity Working Group, November 27, 2023
- The Office of the Provost team Christmas Luncheon, November 28, 2023
- The Senior Women Academic Administrators of Canada, (SWAAC) conference planning 2024 meeting, November 29, 2023
- Fundraising for Dean's Workshop, hosted by KPU Office of External Affairs, November 29, 2023
- Coffee with the Provost, virtual drop-in session with KPU faculty and employees, November 29, 2023
- The British Columbia Association of Institutes and Universities, (BCAIU) VP Academic meeting, November 30, 2023
- University VP Network meeting, hosted by the Higher Education Strategy Associates, December 20, 2023
- EAB (Education Advisory Board) consultancy firm, annual partnership review meeting, December 20, 2023
- Coffee with the Provost, virtual drop-in session with faculty members, December 21, 2023
- SWAAC, (Senior Women Academic Administrators Canada), conference planning meeting, January 3, 2024
- The Provost helped support KPU's new student orientation event, held at the Surrey campus, January 4, 2024
- Gateway Board meeting, January 9, 2024
- NKPU's Inaugural New Moon Gala with special guest speaker **The Honourable Steven Point**, held on the Surrey campus, January 11, 2024
- BCcampus Co-Chairs meeting, January 12, 2024
- President's Dialogue with Don Wright, held on January 15, 2024
- Trip to Southern New Hampshire University, January 16-18, 2024
- Meeting with University Canada members, Update on International student caps, January 22, 2024
- Meeting with Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills, (PSFS), Deputy Minister, **Bobbi Plecas**, Government of the Province of BC, January 22, 2024
- Visit with the Ambassador of Canada to Kazakhstan, January 22, 2024
- Business Council of BC - Navigating Healthcare Transformation, Senior Executive Roundtable, January 24, 2024
- Wilson School of Design, Advisory Committee General Meeting, January 24, 2024

Office of the Provost & Vice President, Academic cont'd

- Deans winter celebration event, January 25, 2024
- BCcampus co-chairs meeting, January 26, 2024
- PSFS, Post-Secondary Institution Presidents & Sector Associations meeting, January 29, 2024
- Council of University Executives Updates, Conference Board, January 30, 2024
- University Vice President's Network meeting, Calgary, January 31 – Feb 2, 2024
- Premiere of *Allegiance*, the new police drama series from CBC and Lark Productions, set in Surrey, BC, held at Surrey City Hall, February 6, 2024
- Governance discussion with **Cheryl Foy**, Strategic Governance Consulting Services Ltd., February 7, 2024
- Meeting with **Steve Dooley**, Executive Director of SFU's Surrey Campus, February 8, 2024
- BCcampus Co-Chairs meeting, February 9, 2024
- EAB (Education Advisory Board), Research Advisory Services meeting, February 9, 2024
- Meeting with Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills, (PSFS), Deputy Minister, **Bobbi Plecas**, Government of the Province of BC, and senior leadership at KPU, to discuss international education at KPU, held in Victoria, February 12, 2024
- Maple Leaf World School and KPU meeting, February 13, 2024
- BC's Top Employers Gala, held at the Pacific Fairmont Hotel, Vancouver, February 13, 2024
- Compassionate Community of practice in collaboration with the Teaching and Learning Commons and the Compassionate Community Educational Consultants, February 14, 2024
- SWAAC, (Senior Women Academic Administrators Canada), conference planning meeting February 14, 2024
- Surrey Mayor's State of the City Address, February 15, 2024
- KPU Speaker Series, with Faculty of Science speaker, **Paul Adams**
- Coffee with the Provost, virtual meet up, February 16, 2024
- Black History Month presentation, *An Overview of Black Canadian History*, with our speaker **Channon Oyeniran**
- Tsawwassen First Nation, (TFN) and KPU Executive Council Meeting, February 20, 2024, held at the Tsawwassen First Nation
- Webinar with Indigenous author, **Robin Wall Kimmerer**, to discuss her book, "Braiding Sweetgrass", February 21, 2024
- In-Person session hosted by the Education Advisory Board, (EAB) titled, "Faculty burnout workshop for Deans", February 22, 2024
- KPU Board Planning Seminar, February 23, 2024
- Attended films plus the closing reception at KDocsFF, (Kwantlen's Film Festival), February 25, 2024
- KPU's Convocation ceremonies, from February 26 – March 1, 2024

TRAININGS AND EVENTS HOSTED BY THE OFFICE OF EQUITY AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

On behalf of OEIC, Dr. Romy Kozak and Trina Prince attended the *Black in BC: Celebrating Black Excellence* event hosted by DiverseCity on February 1, 2024. KPU student Eliana McFarlane also represented KPU and offered the opening remarks.

On February 16, 2024, OEIC hosted a Black History Month lecture by Channon Oyeniran titled "An Overview of Black Canadian History." The talk, which was well-attended by KPU employees and students, provided an overview of the rich and expansive history of people of African descent in Canada over 400 years.

OEIC in consultation with the Accessibility Committee, offered seven Accessibility Training sessions through Untapped Accessibility facilitators. Four sessions were offered to the Student

Office of the Provost & Vice President, Academic cont'd

"Relearning Gender" an online asynchronous course, developed by Trina Prince, was launched to KPU students and employees in February. This 3-hours course teaches individuals ways to be more inclusive towards the trans, queer, and Two-spirit communities, and provides a deeper understanding of gender identity, gender expression, and sexuality. A facilitated version of the course was offered by Trina to KPU faculty on February 20 in collaboration with Teaching and Learning Commons.

KDOCs Social Justice Film Festival was supported through PDEC and OEIC sponsorship funds. Trina Prince served as an active listener for the duration of the festival from February 21-25, 2024.

OEIC provided EDI-lens feedback on a number of new and under-revision policies to the Human Resources team and the Policy Development team in the Office of the Provost.

Trina Prince presented on the topic of fat liberation to the Academic Council.

NOTABLE MEETINGS, TRAININGS, AND EVENTS ATTENDED BY THE VP, EIC INCLUDE:

- Served as moderator, Intersectional Conversations on Gender-based Violence in the Punjabi Diaspora, November 28, 2023
- Holiday social, Surrey campus, December 12, 2023
- Training: Indigenous Trauma and Equity Informed Practice, online session through the Faculty of Arts, January 1, 2024
- Coffee with the VP, drop-in event, Surrey campus, January 10, 2024
- New Moon Gala hosted by KPU Indigenous Services, January 11, 2024
- Meeting with the British Consul General to Toronto, hosted by BC India Business Network, January 12, 2024
- Meetings with Universities Canada, January 15 and 22, 2024
- President's Dialogue with Don Wright, January 15, 2024
- Faculty of Health EDI Task Force meeting, January 17, 2024
- Training; Leadership for Advancing Accessibility, January 18, 2024
- Training: Senior University Administrators Course, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, January 25-26, 2024
- University Vice Presidents' Network, Higher Education Strategy Associates, Calgary, February 1-2, 2024
- KPU Accessibility Committee meetings, January 29, February 26, 2024
- KPU Sustainability Hub Meetings, January 22, February 5, 2024
- President's Diversity and Equity Committee meetings, December 14, 2023, and January 11, 2024
- KPU Global Education Advisory Committee Meetings, January 30, February 22, 2024
- Coffee with the VP, drop-in event, virtual, February 7, 2024
- BC's Top Employers Gala, February 13, 2024
- Surrey Mayor's State of the City Address, February 15, 2024
- Launch of Compassionate Community of Practice, Teaching and Learning Commons, February 14, 2024
- Provost Speaker Series with Robin Wall Kimmerer, February 21, 2024
- KPU Board Planning Seminar, February 23, 2024
- Meeting with the Executive Director, Ministry of Post-secondary Education and Future Skills, February 29, 2024
- Convocation Ceremonies, February 28, and March 1, 2024



Faculty of Academic & Career Preparation

EVENTS

Employment & Community Studies (EACS) Program Students Cheer on the Surrey EAGLES!

On December 10th, at the South Surrey Arena, fans watched a “nail-biter” ice hockey game between the Surrey Eagles and the Langley Rivermen... The Eagles won! 25 EACS students, plus family members, were in attendance cheering on their local squad and celebrating the end of the Fall term. Special thanks go to Steve Kooner, the Surrey Eagles Hockey Team, and KPU student and advocate for students with disabilities, Lesli Sanga, for gifting tickets to the EACS. We had a blast!

Conversations & Connections: Group Discussion Skills for Multilingual Speakers

English Language Studies instructor, Melissa Swanink, began offering weekly lunch-time events in collaboration with The Learning Centre, to offer ELS students an opportunity to practice their spoken English in a relaxed and supportive environment. Every Thursday on the Surrey campus they take the opportunity to discuss topics from the new or share their personal interests.

PUBLICATIONS/SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

English Upgrading (EU) instructors have been actively working on scholarship related to recent developments in artificial intelligence (AI) and the potential pedagogical impact of large language models (LLMs) on program curriculum and future skills. EU courses are particularly skill-based so critical thinking, critical reading, and writing skills continue to be integral to our programming, but the landscape of future skills is shifting with AI evolution, and pedagogical practices, are subsequently shifting. Recently, EU instructors have been including statements on appropriate AI usage in their course syllabi as a way of opening up conversations about AI in their classes. Additionally, the English Upgrading department is presently in the process of adopting a shared policy statement on appropriate AI usage for ENGQ (English Qualifying) exams.

PRESENTATIONS / COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

In October 2023, Dr. Jovita Vytasek served as a panelist on the *Teaching and Learning Spotlight* series – Panel of ePortfolio champions, on behalf of *The Learning Centre*.

English Upgrading instructor and Chair, Chris Traynor, continues to work with English Language Studies Chair, Kathy McPherson, and Future Students’ Office Student Recruitment Coordinator (and English Upgrading alumnus) Brooks Lewis to host regular online information sessions for prospective students. These twice-monthly information sessions are an opportunity for people to learn about both the English Upgrading and English Language Studies programs so prospective can choose the appropriate Pathway for their KPU careers.

INITIATIVES/ACTIVITIES

English Upgrading instructors, Sue Lee, Laken Randhawa, and Chris Traynor, collaborated with KPU’s *Academic Integrity Team* in Fall 2023 on a pilot project to embed student Academic Integrity Ambassadors within sections of Writing (WRTG) 1100. WRTG 1100, which is a shared course between *English Upgrading (EU) Department* and the *English Department*. This course was specifically chosen as it is an Undergraduate elective writing-intensive course that new students are encouraged to take early in their KPU career, usually prior to English (ENGL) 1100 which is a required course for many KPU credentials. As such, WRTG 1100 students are often navigating academic expectations for the first time and so a more intrusive peer support program was seen as particularly helpful. The *Academic Integrity Ambassador pilot* was coordinated by Susan Xia, KPU’s Interim Manager of Academic Integrity. The initiative connected student ambassadors Sehajpreet Kaur and Alejandra Silvera Calvo with five sections of WRTG 1100. The Academic Integrity Ambassadors gave in-class presentations on KPU’s academic integrity values, created online introductory videos and tutorials, supported student research by connecting students to citation resources, and met with students individually to offer guidance on navigating academic integrity issues and scholarly expectations. All parties agreed that the pilot project was helpful for student success, and the project has continued during the Spring 2024 semester with WRTG 1100 sections taught by Sue Lee and Janice Morris. EU looks forward to continued collaborations and future innovative projects, such as this one, aimed to better support student learning.

The English Upgrading (EU) Department is continuing its partnership with *Tsawwassen First Nation* (TFN) to offer Adult Upgrading classes on TFN territory, and the program has seen recent increases in enrollment. The program serves a wide variety of students: those needing to complete their high school diploma, those wanting to build relevant employment skills, general

Faculty of Academic & Career Preparation cont'd

interest students interested in improving their reading and writing skills, or those interested in pursuing higher education at KPU or other institutions. The students in this program will be visiting the KPU Surrey Campus later this semester to visit the Gathering Place, meet with Indigenous Services for Students, and get a tour of the KPU campus.

The Learning Centres (TLC)

KPU100-Melville (Post-Bacc)

The Learning Centre has developed a 'Introduction to KPU' series for upcoming Post-Bacc students in the **Melville School of Business**. Learning Strategists worked with faculty, administration, and support staff to develop and redesign KPU100 content to align with the needs of students joining this program. Faculty reported a growing international population among Melville Post Bacc. students and wanted to incorporate content that would support these students.

- This included the addition of:
 - An introduction to Canadian business culture
 - KPU support available for international students
 - English communication skills for multi-lingual students.

The first two cohorts of KPU100-Melville were delivered online in December with an in-person cohort held for January 2024.

KPU100-Pathways

The Learning Centre has also created a **KPU100 Pathways Introduction to University** short program specifically targeted at new Pathway students. The new version of KPU100 was designed to be more accessible, as in-person sessions occurring in the computer lab space. Sessions were designed with additional time so that students could work through activities with the support of a learning strategist. This provides a more hands-on KPU100 experience, with the space to address specific learner needs. To develop this program, Marti Alger (Learning Strategist), and Melissa Swanink (ELST Instructor in English Language Studies) worked together to update the program to reflect the needs of incoming Pathways students. Dr. Alice Macpherson delivered this first offering at the Surrey campus in December.

Tutor Training

Going into the Fall term we saw a large number of our senior tutors graduate and so we have been focused on recruitment for new peer-tutors in a variety of areas. As part of our ongoing training and support, we onboarded 24 new level 1 tutors, and trained 15 level 2 tutors, and 6 level 3 tutors. We also add-

ed 6 new writing tutors. In the Fall, we had a total of 60 peer tutors employed.

Fall 2023 Activities

- Writing Labs (5 tutors)
- Tutor Navigator program (2 tutors)
- ACCT review sessions (6 tutors)
- Peer-led workshops (5 tutors)
- ACCT Monopoly event (5 tutors)

Tutoring Initiatives

- New tutor facilitated Cell Biology review session
- New Langley tutor recruited to support Nursing program
- New Peer Tutors available for PebblePad support
- New Peer-lead PebblePad online workshops.

English Language Support Workshops

Ten workshops are being offered on a range of topics, for example, sentence structure, writing concisely, pronunciation, paraphrasing, summarizing and responding to texts, and presentation skills. Workshops targeted at specific classes are also on offer.

<https://www.kpu.ca/learningcentres/workshops/english-language-support-multilingual-students>

Record Enrollment for Returning Students Support and Development Program for International Students

In collaboration with **International Academic Advising**, the Returning Students Support and Development program was completed with **The Learning Center's** largest cohort to date.

- 34 students enrolled (an increase from 24 students last semester)
- 74% completion rate, which includes 2 live sessions and a one-on-one appointment with a Learning Strategist for custom strategy support.
- Sessions took place in October 2023, to support students returning in Spring 2024.

KPU101 Thriving in Action

In Fall 2023, **The Learning Centres** collaborated with counseling to provide a revised, blended version of the six-week program. Twenty students amended. Based on the successes of the last offering, in Spring 2024, we are offering a new format, co-facilitated with <https://www.kpu.ca/learningcentres/kpu-101-thrive-action>

Canadian Western Bank (CWB) supports the Employment & Community Studies (EACS) program in developing an Entrepreneurial (ENT) Focus Stream Offering for the Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 semesters.

Faculty of Academic & Career Preparation cont'd

EACS Entrepreneurial Focus (Summer Semester) Curriculum Development

- Through an EACS faculty time release, and an established partnership with the Melville School of Business (ENTR), Simon Driver successfully adapted three EACS courses to align with an entrepreneurial/intrapreneurial focus. Simon met with ENTR faculty (Brad Anderson and Amanda Bickell) weekly between May 2023 – Aug 2023 to develop the SLOs/PLOs (Student/Program Learning Outcomes) for the courses.
- Between June and August Simon promoted and interviewed candidates for the 2023/24 ENT cohort, closing the interview process early August with a full cohort of 12 students.
- Course content and approaches to teaching and learning embrace Universally Designed Learning (UDL). Course assignments and reflections were created through E-portfolio (PebblePad) and will exist, in perpetuity, as a virtual archive of student's work.

EACS Entrepreneurial Focus (Fall Semester)

- Student mentors were secured in the Melville School of Business. Community Partnerships were secured with Community Futures Inc, KDOCS Film Festival, and Milieu Family Services.
- KPU project partners included the following KPU departments and student groups: Dept of Sports and Recreation, KPU IT (Information Technology), and KPU's Muslim Students Association. **partnerships were based on the student's entrepreneurial objectives.*
- Students began exploring their entrepreneurial values and their relationship with global sustainability through the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.
- Students learned about critical thinking, project management/ collaboration, and idea sharing. Students were partnered with a mentor from the Melville School of Business to develop a project pitch event.

The **Project Pitch Night** was an event held on the KPU Surrey campus on November 23rd. With a panel of 15 invited guests (faculty, community members, and KPU staff) students "pitched" their business plans. The attendees provided feedback and the panelists answered questions. CWB funds were allocated to support Phase 1 of these unique plans in the Spring semester of 2024.

Academic Integrity Initiatives

In collaboration with KPU's **Academic Integrity Team**, **The Learning Centres** are incorporating updated initiatives into our current support models.

These include:

- Providing ongoing information in Tutor Training Community of Practice meetings with a focus on Academic Integrity and ways to support tutees.
- In collaboration with KPU Librarians, incorporating basic citation information into paraphrasing focused workshops.
- Streamlining the process of student appointments with Learning Strategists in response to an Academic Integrity breach.
- Embedding KPU's Academic Integrity Resource links into KPU100.
- Fall 2023 Academic Integrity Week Workshops:
 - ***New*** Completing Assignments with Academic Integrity
 - Learning From Mistakes
 - Note Taking & Summarizing
 - Quote, Paraphrase and Summarize
 - Reading Texts and Taking Notes

Alumni Stories

Nina Hung, an alumna of ACP's English Language Studies and English Upgrading programs, has recently been hired by the KPU Learning Centres as a Peer Tutor. Nina is an exceptional student who is compassionate and highly attentive, and we are extremely proud of her dedication. We wish her continued success, both in her own KPU courses and as she works within The Learning Centre to mentor other KPU students.

Student Success

We wish to share several of our Tutoring Students' successes accomplished in the Fall 2023 semester.



Ishant Goyal, received three awards: Business Quantitative Studies (BUQU) Department Award, Deloitte & Touche Foundation Canada Endowed Award, and Peter Podovnikoff Award for Community Involvement.

Faculty of Academic & Career Preparation cont'd



King Lee is graduating from the Diploma General Business Studies, Melville School of Business and has been awarded the President's Outstanding Graduate Award (Diploma Program). This will be awarded to him at convocation.

The Learning Centre welcomed two new part-time Learning Strategists: Dr. Shannon Guichon, who has a strong background in Biology and Science education, and Shaila Shams (PhD ABD) who brings a wealth of experience in writing support.

The English Language Studies Department is pleased to welcome five new instructors to our Qualified Faculty List. We were able to offer part-time work to four of these instructors in the Spring. It has been wonderful to have new members on our team.

Rajmale Kaur has been awarded the EC Managed IT Co-op Award. This award supports women in IT Co-op positions.



Muskandeep Kaur received the Guard Me International Student Scholarship worth \$3500. She also co-led the Student Advisory Committee- ACES, students for climate change and co-founded the Menstrual Awareness initiative alongside Manvinder Rayat. Fall 2023 was her last semester as a peer tutor with the learning centre as she has currently received a coveted position as a student research assistant in the Applied Genomics Center at KPU.

We are incredibly proud of all of our students' outstanding accomplishments.



STAFFING

The ACP Deans' Office welcomed Nushi Wickramasinghe as Interim Department Assistant for the English Language Studies Department and English Upgrading Department. and Malvis Okika as Interim Department Assistant for the Access Programs Department. The Access Programs Department (APD) has also welcomed Hannah Sanvido, and Nancy He, as two new faculty members in their Employment and Community Studies (EACS) program.



Faculty of Arts

Spotlights/Grants/Awards:

- **Daniel Bernstein (PSYC):** (2022-2024) Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Insight Development Grant. *False memory and personality across the lifespan* (\$64,934) with Co-I, Kyle Matsuba
- **Kyle Jackson (HIST), Fabricio Telo (SOCL), and Candy Ho (EDST):** Congratulations to these three Arts faculty members who each received a Chancellor's Chair Award (2024-2027).

EVENTS

- **Amanda Camillo, ADBM (ENTA):**
Hosted several online workshops of various topics including Exploring Animation, 3D software demonstrations, and more. Graduate Showcase on December 15, 2023 highlighting student work: [Grad Showcase Video](#)
- **David Sadoway (GEOG/POST):** Organized and Moderated, [KPU Climate+Talks, an online Spring 2024 Speaker Series](#) featuring KPU Faculty, and their teaching or research linked to the climate crisis. Completed talks to date (in February) have featured: Fairuz Sharif (Sociology) Feb.6th, Victor Martinez (WSD) Feb.13th, Candy Ho (EDST) Feb.27th. Other Climate+Talks are scheduled for March and April 2024.
- **Eryk Martin (HIST):** History department members (Eryk Martin) attended KPU's Black History Month talk with Channon Oyeniran.



- **Greg Chan (ENGL):** Co-director of KDocsFF; co-hosted the 10th Annual Film Festival, "Journeys in Solidarity," at the VIFF Centre, February 21-25, 2024.
- **Heather Cyr (ENGL):**
The English Department hosted a session for students "Applying to Graduate School" on Nov. 8.
The English Department will host a "Leap Day Mixer" on February 29, 2024 to encourage students to declare their English Major and Minor.

- **John Martin (GEOG):**
Geohunt finale Friday Feb 16th. Determined the winner of our first Geohunt event! Casey won top prize and we handed out some other prizes too. A success! Attended by John M. and Victoria T. Student Christmas/holiday social Friday Dec 8th. Student club event attended by Chair John M
- **Shelley Boyd (Dean):**
November 13-15, 2023: Dean Shelley Boyd attended the PIE Live Conference in Boston on International Student Recruitment. January 16-20, 2024: Dean Shelley Boyd was part of a KPU delegation that visited Southern New Hampshire University to learn about their approach to student engagement in online education. February 22-24, 2024: Dean Shelley Boyd attended the Western Canada Deans of Arts and Science conference in Victoria.
- **Mary Quinn (INDG Residence, Communications & Events Coordinator [CEC]):**
Shut Up and Write with Napatsi Folger: An invitation for students to bring their homework, poetry, screenplay, sketch book or fan fiction and write together with Indigenous Writer and Artist-in-Residence, Napatsi Folger and other folks who needed a bit of community and motivation. Every Friday from November 2023 - February 28, 2023. Spooky Halloween Reading: Guests were invited to go on a thrilling Halloween reading adventure with our Indigenous Artist and Writer in Residence, Napatsi Folger, and make it an unforgettable Halloween. October 31, 2023 Holiday Beading with Napatsi Folger (INDG): Indigenous Writer and Artist in Residence, [Napatsi Folger](#), taught some simple brick stitch beadwork at The Gathering Place. December 1, 2023. We had a full house. Meet and Greet with Selina Boan and Richard Pierre: Held a Meet and Greet for our new Indigenous Residents. Met [Richard Pierre](#), our new Indigenous Knowledge Keeper in Residence and [Selina Boan](#), our new Indigenous Writer in Residence. February 6, 2024. Valentines' Day Beading Event: Napatsi Folger and Selina Boan, Indigenous Writers and Artists in Residence, led guests through Valentine's themed beading to unleash their creativity and craft the perfect token of affection. February 13, 2024. Had a full house.
- **Pearl Tran (Retention, CEC):**
Halloween Social: October 31, 2023. Our inaugural Dean's Office Social to celebrate Halloween with all KPU students and get them engaged with Arts and KPU! Featured a photobooth,

Faculty of Arts cont'd

trick-or-treating, and small games. Goal was to build rapport between students and Arts leadership. Exceeded attendance predictions. Bachelor of Arts Workshop Series: Nine in-person sessions across November, 2023. Organized by the Arts Degree Advisors, led by Naomi Ben-Yehuda. Covered three topics that were commonly asked by students: (1) Online Resources for Arts Students; (2) Choosing Your Major and Minor; (3) Reading your MAP audit). Dodgeball Tournament: January 29, 2024. Our first collaboration with the **KPU Sport and Recreation Department**. Co-hosted a fun game of dodgeball for students to get active and make new friends. Handed out Arts swag in goodie bags and as prizes. A wide diversity of attendees.

Dean's Honour Roll and Declaration Scholarship Celebration: January 31, 2024 to February 2, 2024. Our inaugural Dean's Honour Roll and Declaration Scholarship Celebration Series, held across KPU Surrey, KPU Richmond, and KPU Langley. Co-organized with the Arts Degree Advisors, led by Domenik Adamoski. With over 300 students attending these events, the goal was to celebrate students' achievements and socialize with faculty, Dean, staff, and peers.



- **Samantha Harold (Retention, CEC):**

Holiday Celebration: November 29, 2023. A fun social retention event inviting Arts students and potential Arts students to come enjoy festive activities, photobooth, and refreshments. Goal was to build rapport between students and Faculty of Arts staff, faculty, and leadership

"We Love Arts" Valentine's Day Social: February 14, 2024. A festive event inviting current and Arts students to come enjoy creating crafts to share what they love about KPU, Arts, their department, or their favorite professor. Goal was to build rapport between students and Faculty of Arts staff, faculty, and leadership.

- **Wade Deisman (CRIM):**

Feb. 25, 2024. [KDOCs - Panelist: Manufacturing the Threat](#).

Feb. 22, 2024. [CTV Vancouver Morning Live: Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program](#).

Feb. 21, 2024. [Third Age Learning: Social Media Manipulation](#).

Feb. 16, 2024. [CBC Radio One - BC Today - also podcasted: Project Juliet](#).

Feb. 16, 2024. [CBC Television News - \(6 & 11 PM & podcasted\): Project Juliet](#).

Feb. 12, 2024. [CityNews - Television: Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program](#).

Feb. 11, 2024. [City Radio - News \(CKNW\) Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program. MediaView](#)

Feb. 7, 2024. [Global News: Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program](#).

Jan. 31, 2024. Canadian Security and Intelligence Studies - Keynote Address: The Changing Threat Matrix. Annual West Coast Conference Proceedings. Opening Remark and Keynote Address - Day Five, January 31, 2024. Influence and Hybridity: The Evolution of Violence. Volume 6, Issue 3 of the Journal of Intelligence, Conflict, and Warfare (January 2024)."

Participant: Attendee. Gendered Violence in South Asian Communities, November 28, 2023.

- **Yunzhijun Yu (PSYC):**

Media attention –recently published paper (Yu et al., 2023) on fast fashion and sustainability:

Live TV (CTV Morning Live, Nov 7th, 2023) Radio Interviews (CBC Early Edition with Gloria Macarenko, CBC On the Island with Gregor Craigie, CBC Daybreak Kamloops with Shelley Joyce, CBC Daybreak South with Chris Walker, CBC Daybreak North with Carolina de Ryk, January 30th, 2024) Print Media (Vancouver Sun, Jan 25th, 2024; Victoria News, Jan 25th, 2024; Education News Canada, Nov 7th, 2024) School News/Media (KPU, Jan 22nd, 2024; SFU, Nov 3rd, 2024; BCIT, Dec 15th, 2024)

Presentations/Community Activities

- **Amanda Camillo (ENTA):**

Studio Tours:

Sony Pictures Vancouver Studio on November 16 and February 1. Versatile Media on February 10 Science World Speaker Series on November 15: **Clint Forward (ENTA)** presented [Don't Push My Buttons](#) – an event about the role of constraints in video game production. Dream It, Be It Conference on Feb. 10: Unique opportunity for young women, transgender, and non-binary youth aged 15 – 19 to join interactive workshops, engaging speakers, and empowering activities.

- **Candy Ho (EDST):**

Nov. 23, convened the Cannexus 2024 conference in her role as Board Chair, Canada's largest career development conference welcoming 1100+ in-person delegates and 800+ virtual

Faculty of Arts cont'd

delegates. Delivered the following international and local keynotes: Nov 23 at the Careers and Transition Education Association of New Zealand Conference in Whangarei, New Zealand titled "Finding true north: Navigating the past, present, and future of career development" Dec 8 at the ePortfolio and Identity Conference (ePIC) in Vienna, Austria titled "The great recognition: Leveraging life and learning experiences to advance the SDGs" Jan 26 at the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade Leaders of Tomorrow event in Surrey, BC titled "Navigating the future: Career development in 2040"

- **Craig Stensrud (ENGL):** Dr. Craig Stensrud (ENGL) and Dr. Moberley Luger (of UBC English) presented "[Speaking Up: A New Approach to Scholarly Speaking](#)" at the [Arts Speakers Series](#) in January.
- **Dale Tracy (ENGL):** Featured in [late November on the Canadian Poetry blog](#) "Roll of Nickels" in "[Uncooperative with the Expected: An Interview with Dale Tracy.](#)"
- **David Sadoway (GEOG/POST):** Invited [Cloverdale Community Association](#) Director, Ken Bauder, to speak to [GEOG 3220: Urban Planning & Politics](#) class (Jan 31st) about local planning, socio-economic and environmental issues in Cloverdale/Surrey, in advance of the students' planning seminar and studio research/projects. Invited West Coast Environmental Law, Climate Accountability Strategist, [Fiona Koza](#), to speak to ARTS 1150: Intro to the Climate Crisis class (Jan 26th) about their "Sue Big Oil" campaign. Organized a public transit awareness field trip (with the class of GEOG 3220) on the R6 and R1 Rapid Buses with a walk about at Newton Exchange (Surrey, Newton) to KPU Civic Plaza and a [KPU Community Planning Engagement \("Winter 2024 Open House"\)](#) related to KPU 2050, housing, transportation, KPU Community Trust and sustainability (January 17th).
- **Eryk Martin (HIST):** 9 February: BC History Digitization Program (UBC Library) meeting, attended in his role as a committee member. Meeting adjudicated funding for digitization projects for 2024-2025.
- **Gira Bhatt (PSYC):** Dec 08-2023: Community engagement: Invited Keynote speaker at City of Vancouver hosted "Youth Safety & Violence Prevention Research Summit"

- **Greg Chan (ENGL):** Coordinated and hosted a series of community-building workshops in the KDocsFF Social Justice Lab: The Did-It Diary Workshop with **Rebecca Yoshizawa (SOCL)** on February 6, 2024 and led a Mahjong Workshop for the Chinese Lunar New Year on February 15, 2024. Sat on the shortlist jury for the Sundar Prize Film Festival and had the pleasure of selecting the winner of the KDocsFF Emerging Filmmaker's Residency Award. The local filmmaker will be joining the KPU community for a four-month residency in the KDocsFF Social Justice Lab starting in July. Faculty supervisor of Fall 2023 iteration of ARTS 4800; coordinated and hosted the interdisciplinary showcase of practicum students' projects representing ASIA, ENGL, GEOG, HIST, JRNL, PHIL, and POST.

- **Sabine Stratton (ANTH):** Poster presentation (February 23, 2024) at the 76th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, Denver, Colorado. "A call for community: Working toward humanitarian solutions to address Indigenous death investigations in North America" S. King, G.S. Anderson, T. Palys, A. Ross, and S.U. Stratton

- **Ying Ma (EDST):** Editorial Board Member for Journal of Currere and Praxis, since February, 2024
Program Chair for Canadian Philosophy of Education Society, 2024. Presenter for KPU Arts Speakers Series, January, 30th 2024. "[Gadamerian Hermeneutics and Confucian Interpretation: A Pedagogical Exploration](#)". Invited Reviewer for Journal of Contemplative and Holistic Education, January, 2024
Invited Reviewer Studies in Philosophy of Education, January, 2024. Invited Speech for Faculty of Education, UBC, December 15th, 2023. "[A Philosophical Inquiry into Teachers' Identities and Beyond](#)".

Publications/Scholarly Activity

- **Aaron Goodman (JRNL/COMM):** Goodman, A., Keeble, J., & Pocrnich, A. (2024). Unsilencing Stories: Creating a Counter-Memorial Podcast with Bereaved People Affected by Canada's Opioid Overdose Crisis. *Journalism Practice*, 1-22. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/17512786.2024.2314721>
- **Aislinn Hunter (CRWR):** Acting as Guest Editor for Best Canadian Poetry 2025; read all the poems published in literary magazines and journals in Canada in 2023 and picking the best 50 poems for publication in

the Best Canadian Poetry anthology (which is published annually by Biblioasis). Uses this anthology as a text in CRWR 1100 and will also be the Guest Editor for issue that comes out in 2025.

- **Amanda Champion (PSYC):** Peters, A., Corrado, R., & Champion, A. (2024). *Youth-involved/juvenile homicide cases in Canada*. In K. Heide (Ed.), *International handbook of juvenile homicide* (pp. 68-84). Routledge.

- **John Rose (GEOG) and Ari Goelman (CRIM):** [Government must do more, faster to fix our dysfunctional housing system - Business in Vancouver \(biv.com\)](#)

- **Cory L. Pedersen (PSYC):** Oswald, F., Walton, K. A., Hooper, A., Orlova, L., Ayad, J., & Pedersen, C. L. (2024). "I had already reconciled with being a slut when I came out as bisexual": Experiences of binormativity, prototypicality, and marginalization within the bisexual community. *Journal of Bisexuality*. Advanced online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15299716.2024.2310159>

- **Young, M., & Pedersen, C. L. (2024).** Understanding queer Asian in/visibility via stereotype application. *Asian American Journal of Psychology*. Advanced online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1037/aap0000334>
- **Oswald, F., Orlova, L., Khera, D., Walton, K. A., Lopes, A., & Pedersen, C. L. (2023).** "They might be wondering why I didn't set my sights higher": The associative stigma of having a fat partner. *Journal of Sex Research*. Advanced online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00224499.2023.2291104>

- **Daniel Bernstein (PSYC) (*Denotes Student or Post Doctoral Co-Author):** *Jordan, K., Nielsen, N.P., Bernstein, D.M., Newman, R.J., Zajac, R., & Garry, M. (in press). Den mørke side af semantisk kontekst [The dark side of semantic context]: Semantic context boosts people's confidence in their ability to comprehend Danish. *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition*. *Ly, D. P., Bernstein, D. M., & Newman, E. J. (2024). Examining the effect of an ongoing secondary task on the Illusory Truth Effect. *Frontiers in Psychology*. 14:1215432. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2023.1215432.

Senate Standing Committee on Research; Chair Research Data Management Committee, Member. **Published Abstracts and Papers Presented:** Baer, C., & Bernstein, D.M. (2023, November). Global estimates of self-performance in childhood. Poster presented at Psychonomic Society. San Francisco, CA. Bernstein, D.M., *Baer, C., Undorf, M., & Ackerman, M. (2023, November). Lifespan metacognition. Paper presented at Psychonomic Society. San Francisco, CA. **Ad Hoc Reviews:** *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition* *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition*. *Memory & Cognition*, *Psychology Research and Practice*

- **David Sadoway (GEOG/POST):** Academic Conference Presentation – Critical Infrastructure Interdependencies—A

'System of Systems' Approach, [KRITIS Research Group, Technische Universität Darmstadt \(TUD\)](#), Germany. 14-15 November 2023. "Systems of Infrastructural (In)justice: Investigating 'Criticality' in Transitional Energy and Mobilities Infrastructures" [Dr. David Sadoway](#) (KPU Geography & the Environment | Policy Studies). Travel expenses and accommodations were funded by TUD and [Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft](#).

- **Greg Chan (ENGL):** Editor-in-chief of KPU's film studies journal, *Mise-en-scène*; published Issue 8.2: First Blood on January 11, 2024. Headlined by an article on the portrayal of disability and ableism in Mehboob Khan's *Mother India* (1957) by Nilakshi Goswami.

- **Heather Cyr (ENGL):** Cyr, Heather K. "Wayfinding in 'Un-London': Charlie Fletcher's *Stoneheart* Trilogy and the Rejection of Nostalgic Landscapes in Children's Fantasy," *Landscape in Children's Literature*, eds. Jennifer Miscec and Željka Flegar, Routledge, 2024.

- **Jack Hayes (HIST):** *Decision Making in the PRC & CCP ~ China's Environmental Policy and Governance Simulation Project (capstone)*. 1-day session for the Canadian School of Public Service (Ottawa, ON), Dec 7, 2023. Critical Introduction (lecture on Chinese policy making, apparatus and key officials); China's Environment & Climate Policy (policy panel with Dr. Jack Hayes KPU, Dr. Iza Ding Northeastern University, Dr. Li Guo Kings College London); PRC Policy Making Simulation (4 hours) with 24 senior bureaucrats in the current administration and Canadian consulate officials to the PRC.

- **Kyle Jackson (HIST):** Published 6 November 2023: Kyle Jackson, Joy L. K. Pachuau, Natasha McConnell, and Nick Gill, eds. *Lorrain's Logbook: Notes from a Missionary in Mizoram, Northeast India (1891-1936)* (Surrey, BC: Kwantlen Polytechnic University, 2023). <https://kpu.pressbooks.pub/lorrain-logbook>. Published 4 January 2024: Kyle Jackson, *The Mizo Discovery of the British Raj: Empire and Religion in Mizoram, Northeast India, 1890-1920* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2023).

- **Mark Vardy (CRIM):** One of four co-editors on this book, which was published in December 2023 and is available for free as a PDF through open access at this link: <https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/oa-edit/10.4324/9781003409748/climate-science-society-zeke-baker-tamar-law-mark-vardy-stephen-zehr> Wrote one of the chapters in the book. Baker, Z., Law, T., Vardy, M., & Zehr, S. (Eds.) (2023). *Climate, Science and Society: A Primer*. Routledge. Vardy, M. (2023) "Consensus, National Self-Interest, and the Shaping of Climate Knowledge in IPCC Assessment Processes." IN: *Climate, Science and Society: A Primer*. Baker, Z., Law, T., Vardy, M., & Zehr, S. (Eds.) Routledge, pp. 152-60.

- **Puqun Li (PHIL):** "Hypocrisy as Described in the Analects and the Mengzi. Published online on January 2024. March 2024 | Volume 23, Issue 1, Dao, *A Journal of Comparative Philosophy*, <https://link.springer.com/journal/11712/volumes-and-issues/23-1>

- **Wade Deisman (CRIM):** Canadian Security and Intelligence Studies (CASIS) - Annual West Coast Conference Proceedings. Opening Remark and Keynote Address - Day Five, January 31, 2024. Influence and Hybridity: The Evolution of Violence. Volume 6, Issue 3 of the *Journal of Intelligence, Conflict, and Warfare* (January 2024)

- **Ying Ma (EDST):**

Ma, Y. (December, 2023). *Ethics of Becoming a Good Teacher: In Conversation with Aristotle and Confucius*. Routledge.

Ma, Y. & Wang, H. Y. (January 2024). Pedagogy of Emptiness: A Daoist Perspective. *Asian Pacific Education Review*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12564-023-09920-7>

Ma, Y. (Accepted on January 31st 2024). Educational Evaluation as Hermes, *Journal of Contemplative and Holistic Education*.

Ma, Y. (Accepted on February, 1st 2024). The Possibility of Life in the Index: A Phenomenological Search in Online Zoom Teaching. *Holistic Education Review*

Thesis Committees and Student Supervision

- **Daniel Bernstein (PSYC):**

Liam Ruel (B.A., Honours Psychology) KPU, 2023-present; supervisor, Camryn Yuen (M.A., Psychology), SFU, 2023-present; committee member, Dr. Carolyn Baer (post-doctoral fellow, Psychology), KPU, 2023-present; supervisor, Deva Ly (Ph.D., Psychology), Australian National University, 2019- present; committee member, Daniel Derksen (M.A., Ph.D., Psychology), SFU, 2017-present; Ph.D. dissertation supervisor Emma Kruisselbrink (M.A., Ph.D., Psychology), SFU, 2021-present; committee member, Camille Weinsheimer (Ph.D., Psychology), SFU, 2017-present; committee member

- **Wade Deisman (CRIM):** Participant: Attendee and Interlocutor. Criminology Honors student defences. December 1, 2023

Student Success

- **Amanda Champion (PSYC):** Mehreen Mundi was awarded 2 scholarships for the KPU General Awards

- **Greg Chan (ENGL):** KPU English majors Carolina Mesquita Rocha and Jordan Redekop-Jones had their scholarly articles published in Issue 8.2 of *Mise-en-scène: The Journal of Film and Visual Narration*.

Honours Cohort (PSYC)

These students received Student Research and Innovation Grant for their honours theses: Melissa Champion (supervisor, Shayna Minosky), Sean Pearson (supervisors, Cory L Pedersen and Amanda Champion), Misha Turychenko (supervisor, Cory L Pedersen), Tina Jensen-Fogt (supervisor, Cory L Pedersen), Liam Ruel (supervisor, Daniel Bernstein), Tamara Dodds (supervisor, Patricia Coburn)

- **Jocelyn Lymburner (PSYC):** [Jocelyn's honours student Pearl Meredith was interviewed about her Honours research by host, Mollie Adler, on a top listened podcast, Back from the Borderline.](#)

- **Kurt Penner (PSYC):** Kurt's student, Laiba Musab was accepted into the MA Counselling program at Adler University for Fall 2024.

- **Sarah Hickenbottom (EDST):** Amie Orsetti, Psyc Major, Counselling Minor: Accepted to UBC Masters in Counselling Program. Note: They got into a Counselling Master's program and did so because of their Counselling minor that they did with EDST's CNPS courses.

- **Yunzhijun Yu (PSYC):** Their PSYC 2400 students Anraj Kang and Arjun Kalsi have their research paper accepted for a poster presentation at the Empowering Minds conference in March 2024.

Program/Policies/Initiatives

- **David Sadoway (GEOG/POST):**

Initiated instruction starting in January 2024 for the inaugural (first time) course offering, [ARTS 1150 "Introduction to the Climate Crisis"](#). Initiated instruction starting in January 2024 with two supervised research students for a course offering focused on climate change research, [ARTS 3991 and ARTS 3993 Undergraduate Research and Scholarship: "Understanding the Climate Emergency,"](#) with students Aaron Wu (POST) and Brooke Alexander (GEOG).

- **HIST:** History Department met to discuss its last module in a suite of decolonizing practices webinars. Meeting was online via Zoom on 21 February.

Faculty of Health

STAFFING

Analita Nand, who has been an integral part of our team, recently completed her 7 month tenure as the interim Divisional Business Manager and transitioned seamlessly back to her permanent Administrative Assistant position.

Christy Jahn has been appointed as the Interim Divisional Business Manager for a period of 6 months. Christy brings a wealth of experience in financial management and strategic planning, contributing to the continued success of the division.

PUBLICATIONS/SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY/AWARDS

Dr. Balbir Gurm, a valued member of our faculty, is actively engaged in several significant research endeavors. Dr. Gurm serves as a co-investigator on two impactful projects: The "**A**lliance Against **V**iolence and **A**dversity (AVA)" project, led by PI Nicole Letourneau and funded by CIHR, focuses on addressing violence affecting girls, women, and gender-diverse individuals. This project has been awarded \$2.4 million over 6 years (2022 – 2028) with a funding of \$400,00 per year. Additionally, she is involved in the "Inclusive Communities for Older Immigrants (ICOI)" project, with co-investigator PI Sepali Gurge and funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. This initiative aims to develop interventions to reduce social isolation and promote connectedness among older immigrants in Canada, with a funding of \$2.5 million for the period 2020-2027.

Dr. Balbir Gurm is an active participant in the Community of Practice for British Columbia Family Violence and Family Law. This community, facilitated by Dr. Margaret Jackson at the FRE-DA Centre for Research on Violence against Women & Children, serves as a platform for collaborative engagement and research initiatives aimed at addressing issues related to family violence and family law in British Columbia.

Dr. Gurm has had two abstracts accepted on Racism in Education and Healthcare, demonstrating her commitment to advancing knowledge in critical domains. Currently, she is involved in the process of system mapping services for youth in BC, highlighting her dedication to improving outcomes for vulnerable populations.

Dr. Gurm collaborates with Hannah Varto, a Forensic Nurse Practitioner, on strangulation research, further demonstrating her interdisciplinary approach to addressing complex issues. Dr. Gurm actively engages in knowledge translation efforts, working with Network to Eliminate Violence in Relationships (NEVR) to draft health promotion policies based on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) and neuroscience, thus contributing to the development of evidence-based interventions to address relationship violence.

PRESENTATIONS/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Faculty of the Whole, held on February 23rd, was a full day event which included a wonderful presentation in the morning from Dr. Nicole Harder. The topic "Beyond Tradition: Transforming Health Professions Pedagogy with Effective Pedagogy and Practical Tools" focused on new ways to integrate simulations and sim labs in the health care curricula to better our student's experience and learning. The Faculty of Health has Simulation Lab Steering committee working to identify how to better integrate the use of sim labs into our programs.

The afternoon, opened by Elder Lekeyten, included concurrent sessions on Indigenous plants, Generative AI, Mindfulness, Decluttering and of course, we were very happy to see the Therapy Dogs. Many thanks to Trish Toth and Cheryl Burnstein for organizing these excellent sessions.

The BSN and BSN-AE programs provided a "Welcome Kick-Off" for new students in the first week of January. It was a wonderful, on-campus, event including food, music, meet and greet, and photo booth. The students participated in a scavenger hunt which toured them through the sim labs, the Student Learning Centre, the Library and the Dean's office. Many thanks to Connie Klimek for her hard work on this event. Dr. Balbir Gurm remains actively involved in facilitating Network to Eliminate Violence in Relationships (NEVR), a community initiative aimed at addressing relationship violence. NEVR collaborates with various stakeholders to promote awareness and prevention strategies within the community. Dr. Gurm's dedication to this cause was evident as she participated in radio interviews discussing the significance of December 6 and played a key role in organizing a candlelight vigil at Holland Park.

In addition to her involvement with NEVR, Dr. Gurm holds notable positions and engages in initiatives aimed at fostering community engagement and addressing social issues: Chairing the Minister's Advisory on community engagement with the South Asian Community, led by Minister Lana Popham. This advisory focuses on initiatives related to the establishment of a museum to promote cultural awareness and understanding within the South Asian Community.

Collaborating with youth to update the youth healthy relationships toolkit, aiming to equip young individuals with the knowledge and skills necessary to cultivate healthy relationships and prevent violence.

Dr. Gurm also worked with healthcare professionals to update the toolkit on screening for abuse, ensuring that healthcare providers have the necessary resources to identify and support individuals experiencing abuse.

Dr. Balbir Gurm collaborated with DIVERSEcity and PREM to organize the annual One Billion Rising Event. This event aimed to raise awareness about the widespread issue of gender-based violence. Through this partnership, Dr. Gurm demonstrated her commitment to addressing this pressing societal issue and promoting advocacy for gender equality and empowerment.

INITIATIVES/ACTIVITIES

LPN into BSN Program:

KPU is working with the Fraser Health Authority, Ministry of Health, and the BC Nurses Union on an “learn while you earn” initiative for Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) to complete their academic requirements (BSN) for licensure as RNs. This initiative is in alignment with the BC Health Human Resources Plan, and will also provide additional nurses to Fraser Health to assist with their staffing needs for the Royal Columbian Hospital redevelopment project and the new hospital in Surrey. Work continues on planning for a “pilot” cohort of 24 LPNs that will enter KPU’s BSN Program with an advanced standing in recognition of their prior learning and experience as LPNs. This will be an additional cohort, over and above the 2 intakes the BSN Program has each year. Eligibility criteria for this pilot cohort include: current registration with BCCNM as an LPN; currently employed at Royal Columbian Hospital as an LPN; a minimum of 3 years experience working as a LPN; and, meeting KPU’s admission requirements for the BSN program. The selection of the cohort will be made by a process established by Fraser Health and the BC Nurses Union. The LPNs that do not currently have the admission requirement courses of BIOL 1160, BIOL 1260, ENGL 1100 and an Arts course will be proceeding through a Summer (May 2024) Term at KPU to take these classes. The LPN applicants will proceed through a “KPU Flex” process supported by the Provost’s Office, where applicants will submit a portfolio of their education, work history, additional courses/training taken, etc. to determine eligibility for course credit. There has been an incredible KPU Team working on this initiative that deserve thanks and recognition: from the Faculty of Health: Dean Sharmen Lee, Associate Dean Sarah Beasleigh, DBM Christy Jahn, Sherilyn Sweeney, Connie Klimek, June Kaminski, and the BSN Program faculty; from the Faculty of Arts: Dean Shelley Boyd, Associate Dean Dan Lett and the Departments of English and Criminology; from the Faculty of Science: Dean Brett Favaro, Associate Dean Erika Eliason and the Department of Biology; from the Finance Department: Stef Singer and Kristina Kidd; from the Office of Planning and Accountability: Associate Vice-President Lori McElroy and Norwinda Binuya-Barros; from the Office of the Registrar, Nadia Henwood and Molly Kirsch; from the Office of the Provost: Meredith Laird and Pal Trehan.

Faculty members within the GNIE program are diligently working on curriculum mapping exercises to ensure alignment with program objectives and industry standards. Additionally, GNIE faculty are actively contributing to the preparation of reports that provide valuable insights into the program's performance and impact.

The GNIE program is exploring opportunities to expand its offerings virtually to enhance accessibility and flexibility for students. This initiative reflects the program's commitment to innovative teaching methods and reaching a wider audience. The HCAP program has completed its update of the curriculum to align with the new provincial Registry guidelines. The FoH EDI committee has established Terms of Reference and identified several recommendations from the TFA Final Report to focus our efforts in the area of Curriculum and Pedagogy. The committee will be gathering resources and identify appropriate training activities for FoH faculty members. The Indigenization and Decolonization Community of Practice has identified a goal of bringing Indigenous culture to the Faculty of Health and is planning a “Celebrating Indigenous Ways” day for Fall 2024. As well, they have identified several activities in the *xe?elh- KPU Pathway to Systemic Transformation* document under “Pathway 1: Reflecting Upon Our Own Biases” as a priority for the community to start with.

PARTNERSHIP AND EVENTS

Dr. Balbir Gurm collaborated with Soroptimists to organize the DIBI (Dream it Be it) Girls’ Conference at KPU on February 10. During the event, Dr. Gurm facilitated two engaging sessions focusing on youth and healthy relationships. Additionally, she hosted a booth aimed at providing valuable resources and support to conference attendees.

Faculty of Science & Horticulture

On Nov.18, we hosted the annual **Kwantlen Science Challenge** at KPU Richmond. Over 250 high school students from across the lower mainland competed in various faculty-led challenges throughout the campus. Faculty, staff and student volunteers from Physics, Chemistry, Math, Engineering, Sustainable Agriculture, Biology and Geography helped to put on the event.



From January 25-27, KPU hosted an exhibitor booth at the **Pacific Agriculture Show** in Abbotsford. Faculty and staff from Sustainable Agriculture, Horticulture, the Applied Genomics Centre and the Future Students' Office assisted at the booth with demos and displays.

KPU hosted a talk at **Science World** on February 15 with Mathias Schuetz (BIOL) filling in for Dr. Paul Adams, director of the KPU Applied Genomics Centre (AGC). The talk was about the fundamentals of genetics, how genetic technology and tools have drastically evolved over the past several decades, and the implications of these advances for innovation and sustainability for BC's agriculture sectors and beyond. Following the talk, over 90 attendees enjoyed interactive stations where they could engage with researchers and students from the AGC.



From Nov. 7-Dec. 12, **KPU Brewing** student beers were featured on tap at CAMP Beer Co. as a 'Pioneer Series'. Second-year students whose beer was on tap, included Dawson Boyd (BREW), Wilson Chu (BREW), Rylan Dewick (BREW), Francisco Hwang (BREW), Tyson Kauth (BREW), Su Kim

(BREW), Gonzalo Marquez (BREW), Thomas Nickel (BREW), Julio Padilla Navarro (BREW), Bence Stevens (BREW), and Harry Kim (BREW).

On Nov. 30, Smugglers' Trail Caskworks in Langley hosted the **first student cask-off competition**. The first place \$500 prize was sponsored by CAMRA BC and was awarded to student brewers Bence Stevens (BREW) and Dawson Boyd (BREW). A donation from Smugglers also went to support the John Mitchell Legacy Endowed Scholarship for KPU Brewing students.

Media coverage:

Dec. 9 | The Runner

<https://runnermag.ca/2023/12/two-kpu-brewing-students-win-top-prize-for-their-beer-at-langley-event/>

KPU's Faculty of Science hosted the **UBC Med School Forum at KPU** on January 25. Over 40 current students attended this event and learned about the steps needed to apply to med school. KPU's Pre-Med Student Club hosted an information booth and Science Advisors Hannah Cenaiko and Andrea Fello helped with Q & A.



On Nov. 24, KPU Brewing hosted a **collaboration brew day** with Molson Coors' Fraser Valley Brewery head brewer Keely Johnston, and plant-wide manager, Wenji Liu, and students who were recipients of Molson Coors' scholarship awards. Instructors Dominic Bernard (BREW), Martina Solano Bielen (BREW), Emily Kokonas (BREW) and Michael Miller (BREW) helped organize and participate in the brew day.

Faculty of Science & Horticulture cont'd



Media coverage:

Feb. 15 | KPU media release

<https://www.kpu.ca/news/2024/02/15/czech-out-kpu-students-and-molson-coors-debut-dark-lager>

Feb. 21 | Langley Advance, Peach Arch News, Cloverdale Reporter, Surrey Now-Leader, North Delta Reporter

On Jan. 2, KPU Brewing was featured on **Global BC Curious Minds** with journalist Safeeya Pirani, who interviewed instructor Dominic Bernard (BREW) and students Rylan Dewick (BREW) and Thomas Nickel (BREW).

Media coverage:

Jan. 22 | Global BC segment

<https://globalnews.ca/video/10243373/global-bc-curious-minds-making-beer-at-kpus-brew-lab/>

The new **2024 Signature Series** student capstone beers were launched on Feb. 2 at the KPU Brew Lab in Langley with a new Series beer being released every Friday until Mar. 16.



On Feb. 2, Brewing hosted a **Pink Boots Collaboration Brew Day** led by instructors Martina Solano Bielen (BREW), Emily Kokonas (BREW) and Nancy More (BREW). Participants included Brewing students, local industry members from small craft breweries to Molson, as well as media from the BC Ale Trail. The beer will be released on International Women's Day Mar. 8th at Farm Country Brewing in Langley and will also be available to purchase at the KPU Brew Lab the same day.



The **HORT Industry Networking Social** organized by Horticulture Co-Chair Jamie Lamont provided an opportunity for students, and horticulture industry representatives, to network and discuss career opportunities in an informal environment. It was a great opportunity for students to expand their contacts, make employment connections, hone their networking skills and learn about options within the different horticultural sectors.

STAFFING (APPOINTMENTS/PROMOTIONS/TRANSITIONS)

We welcomed the following new hires to the Faculty of

Faculty of Science & Horticulture cont'd

Science

Gordon Field- faculty HORT

Tim Vandenburg- faculty HORT

Wyatt Sjodin- faculty HORT

Godhe, Alexander - staff PHYS

Wang, Laura – staff, CHEM

Alles, Ben – staff, AGRI

Betz, Emily – staff, BIOL

Lewis, Jaden – staff, BIOL

Cheng, Julia – staff, Dean's Office

PRESENTATIONS/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

On December 5th 2023, Horticulture Co-Chair Jamie Lamont was awarded the **British Columbia Nursery & Landscape Association's member of the year award** for 2023. This award recognized many years of continued support for industry, education and general participation as a volunteer in planning, and hosting industry events. Jamie is also the Provincial Landscape Awards of Excellence Chair for the BCLNA, which had a record number of award winners this year. With six of the winners meeting the criteria to be moved onto the national awards hosting by the Canadian Landscape and Nursery Association. The BCLNA has over 500 members from all facets of industry who are directly involved in the horticulture on a daily basis.



On Jan.5, Horticulture Co-Chair Jamie Lamont was invited to the **City of Surrey's Park's Recreation & Leadership Summit**, at the Harrison Hot Springs Hotel. There were over 150 guests in attendance from multiple municipalities across the west coast, and island. The ask of Jamie was to be on a four-member panel, focusing on Attracting Talent. The lower main-

land cities are currently experiencing a disconnect between the university aged skilled students, and the municipal job offerings. KPU HORT was one of three learning institutions invited.

On Jan. 29, Dr. Kenneth Moodley, Process Improvement Expert and consultant, spoke to students in instructor Nancy More's HOPS 2421 course about process improvement tools for brewing.

On Feb. 12, Alexis Esseltine, co-owner, Tin Whistle Brewing and environmental consultant, spoke to students in instructor Nancy More's HOPS 2421 course about how to implement environmental programs in a small brewery.

On Feb. 29, first-year Brewing students will be going on a field trip to Molson Coors' Fraser Valley Brewer with instructor Alek Egi (BREW).

The volunteer program at the KPU farm blossomed because there was significant interest from the surrounding community to have an opportunity to spend more time in nature and have food security addressed. Those who participate in the program learn about sustainable care for the earth, growing healthy food, and learn the importance of community relationships. This fall, volunteers participated in a variety of tasks including the following:

- Building and maintenance of the new section of the Learning Garden

- Weeding (mainly of invasive species)

- Cleaning up for winterization of the garden

- Harvesting a variety of crops for both the Kwantlen Street Farmers Market and the Richmond Food Bank

- Helping lead tours and facilitating workshops with school groups

Sustainable Agriculture hosted workshops with Henry Anderson Elementary School, Tsleil-Waututh Nation (TWN) siʔámθət School and South Delta Secondary School (a girls in STEM initiative). Attendees toured the KPU farm, made seed bombs, harvested veggies and participated in scavenger hunts.



INITIATIVES/ACTIVITIES

Since January 2024, KPU Brewing has implemented a new software, Grist Analytics, that allows students to track brewing data in real time.

The renovations to the 2nd year Biology labs were completed in December allowing us to offer our full complement of first- and second-year Biology and Health Science courses on the Richmond campus for the first time since 2018.

Approval of our revisions to the BSc, Major in Biology, Cooperative Education Option and the BSc (Honours), Major in Biology, Cooperative Education Option by Senate and the Board of Governors.

School of Horticulture Chair Jamie Lamont attended the "Skilled Trades Showcase" event at Thomas Haney high school, and the Langley School District's "Pathway to The Future" event showcasing the Horticulture Apprenticeship Skilled Trades programs. The goal of both events was to build students and parents knowledge of trades and career program opportunities. Jamie shared KPU's School of Horticulture connection to both school districts programs as well as potential post secondary pathways.

On Feb. 15, Sustainable Agriculture hosted a KPU Farm tour with ENTR 1200 (Introduction to Entrepreneurship) class. Faculty and staff toured the class to teach them about both sustainable farming and what it takes to run a small-scale farming business.

New part-time options for completing the Brewing and Brewery Operations diploma were created and will be offered for students entering the Fall 2024 term. The new options will allow students to complete the program in three or four years versus two years full time, offering greater flexibility.

The Brewing Program Advisory Committee met on Feb. 13 and voted in a new chair, Brad McQuhae, co-founder, Konig Brewing Systems.

STUDENT SUCCESS

Six of Brewing first-year students received funding via SRIG to do a project on non-alcoholic beer production. The brewing for this project started on Feb. 28.

Nine students from our programs were awarded SRIGS in November and December: 5 HSCI and 4 BIOL.

There are eleven Health Science and Biology students registered in our senior research courses this semester and look forward to inviting the KPU community to attend their capstone presentations in April 2024.

On Dec. 5, the Student Research Symposium was held at KPU Richmond. Students studying both physics and sustainable agriculture got together to present at the annual symposium. The Sust. Ag. Students' research projects can be found on our website here: <https://www.kpu.ca/agriculture/student-research/2023>

PUBLICATIONS/SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

Jeon, J., Manirathinam, T., Geetha, S., Narayanamoorthy, S., Salimi, M., Ahmadian, A. (2024): An identification of optimal waste disposal method for dumpsite remediation using the fermatean fuzzy multi-criteria decision-making method, Environmental Science and Pollution Research, published on February 22, 2024.

DOI 10.1007/s11356-024-32366-2

[Read here](#)

Badakaya, A.J., Tsoho, S.M., Salimi, M. (2024): On Some I-Catch Pursuit Differential Games with Different Players' Dynamic Equations, Differential Equations and Dynamical Systems, published on January 30, 2024.

DOI 10.1007/s12591-023-00673-8

[Read here](#)



Faculty of Trades & Technology

EVENTS

Welding department PAC and American Welding Society meeting

On February 6, 2024, KPU Welding hosted a meeting of the American Welding Society (AWS) and a Program Advisory Committee meeting. This joint session was an opportunity to hear from industry about upcoming changes in technology and processes, and also how we can tailor practical assignments to better prepare students for future careers in the skilled trades.

Apprenticeship Recognition Month Celebration

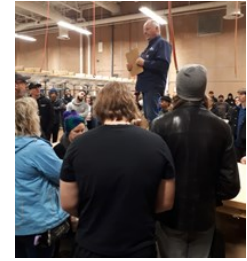
In November, 2023, the province celebrated Apprenticeship Recognition Month, as a record number of people have registered as apprentices in B.C., closing a crucial skills gap, and benefiting the economy. The Faculty of Trades and Technology hosted an event to appreciate our apprentices on November 15, 2023. Coffee and refreshments were provided to our apprentices and pre-apprentice students.

2nd Annual 24-Hour Bike-a-thon for Men's Mental Health

The event started on **Thursday, November 23, 2023 at 11:00 am and ran to Friday, November 24 2023 at 11:00 am**. The Faculty of Trades and Technology partnered with Community Engagement and Major Events to host KPU's 2nd Annual [24-Hour Bike-a-thon for Men's Mental Health](#). This important Initiative aimed to shine a light on men's mental health and suicide prevention. The goal was to keep the pedals of four stationary bikes in continuous motion while we encouraged important conversations about mental health, shared resources for people who are struggling, and raised funds for [Movember Canada](#).

Youth Train in Trades Orientation

The Youth Train in Trades Orientation was held on Tuesday, January 16, 2024. Dr. Joel Murray, Associate Dean of the Faculty of Trades and Technology, welcomed the 140 students and their family members attending the event. We express a sincere thanks to our instructors for volunteering their time to support this event through their presentations: Larry Rhodenzler, Grant Conversi, Wayne Andrews, Ed Miks, Rob Lafreniere, Collin Warren, Steve Reimer, Jamie Lamont, Bob Davis, Michael Lloyd and Mike Rumpeltes.



Plumbing Piping Career Day and PAC meeting

On February 2, 2024, the Plumbing and Piping program hosted a Plumbing/Piping Career Day and a PAC meeting. Students from our Maple Ridge class and our on-campus plumbing classes took part in the event.



Spring 2024 Indigenous Trade Sampler

On February 13, 2024, the Faculty of Trades and Technology, in partnership with ACCESS, held the Spring 2024 Indigenous Trade Sampler, which was added due to the success of and overwhelming demand for the Fall 2023 Indigenous Trade Sampler. Students from the Delta, Langley, and Surrey school districts took part in the event. The Sampler focused on the Mechatronics and Advanced Manufacturing Technology, Farrier, and Electrical programs. A special thanks to our instructors Ron Murray, John Singh, Gerard Laverty, and Stephen Dockery for hosting the sessions.

PRESENTATIONS/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Apprenticeship Registration Task Force

On November 24, 2023, Dean Laura McDonald and Associate Dean Dr. Joel Murray attended the Apprenticeship Registration Task Force. This is a group of experts and stakeholders from across the institution who come together to review the current apprenticeship registration system and determine if there are ways to improve the process for students. This task force continues to meet and is making recommendations to the Dean on short-term and long-term changes for consideration.

Faculty of Trades & Technology cont'd

National Council of Deans of Apprenticeship, Trades and Technology (NCDATT)

On November 24, 2023, Laura attended the National Council of Deans of Apprenticeship, Trades and Technology (NCDATT) Executive meeting. Laura was recently elected to the Executive, and agenda items included continuing the national conversation related to skilled trades training, future meeting dates and locations, and ways to support international students in response to changing legislation.



School District 42 Maple Ridge / Pitt Meadows Trades Showcase and Hiring Fair Event

On January 30, 2024, the Faculty of Trades and Technology attended the School District 42 Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows Trades Showcase and Hiring Fair Event. The Faculty of Trades and Technology was represented at the event by Steve Reimer, Collin Warren, Cindy Bilow and Kulpreet Sasan. This was a great opportunity to highlight our programs, engage with students and parents/guardians, and be ambassadors for the skilled trades.



Langley School District's Trades and Career Education Parent Information

On February 1, 2024, the Faculty of Trades and Technology attended the Langley School District's Trades and Career Education Parent Information evening at Walnut Grove Secondary School. KPU was represented at the event by Brooks Lewis from FSO and Kulpreet Sasan. This was another great opportunity to engage with potential students and discuss Youth Train in Trades opportunities.

School District 43 (Coquitlam) Careers and Trades Showcase

On February 13, 2024, the Faculty of Trades and Technology attended the School District 43 (Coquitlam) Careers and Trades Showcase. The purpose of this showcase was not only to promote SD 43 trades training programs, but also to promote and showcase careers in the trades. Over 300 students took part in the event and learned a lot about opportunities in the trades.



INITIATIVES/ACTIVITIES

Whytecliff Agile Learning Centre

On January 11, 2024, we hosted a tour from Whytecliff Agile Learning Centre. Youth Train in Trades students from this independent not-for-profit school are taking part in our next Millwright Foundation program. This is part of our new initiative to reach out to independent schools for the Youth Train in Trades program.

STUDENT SUCCESS

Mechatronics and Advanced Manufacturing Technology (MAMT) Lab Test Certification

On December 12, KPU Mechatronics and Advanced Manufacturing Technology (MAMT) program hosted Lab Test Certification to their semester-end Renewable Energy Systems student presentations.

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/labtest-cert_kpu-mamtprogram-mechatronics-activity-7140749481838280704-8ues?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

DEAN'S AWARDS

Congratulations to the recipients of the Dean's Award for Outstanding Achievement for the months of November 2023 to March 2024. This award is based on Academics, Attitude and Attendance. The presentation is made as the students reach the end of the Foundation intake and final program level in the trade. Five students were recipients of the award. Starting in February, 2024, the winner of the Dean's Award for a Foundation class will also receive a \$250 award.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

In conjunction with the KPU Career Centre, the Faculty of Trades and Technology has started to highlight key job postings in Career Connections using the headline "Career Services Jobs of the Week." Over the last five months, 77 job postings of interest to Faculty of Trades and Technology students have been highlighted. These have been from national, provincial and regional employers in the public and private sector.

The jobs are posted every week and our faculty members are encouraged to share the postings with their students.

During recent months, eleven employers have reached out directly to the Faculty of Trades and Technology in search of new apprentices. The employers are in the automotive, construction and metal work sectors and are interested in having direct contact with our Faculty.

PROGRAM/POLICIES/INITIATIVES

Student Enrolment Officer

We have been hosting regular meetings of the Mechatronics and Advanced Manufacturing Technology (MAMT) PAC at the Tech campus. Industry partners and subject matter experts from industry and neighboring post-secondary institutions are guiding conversations regarding suggested strengths and potential changes to the current program. The ultimate goal is to increase student enrollment and potentially better meet the needs of our students and industry. The Fall 2024 intake has been cancelled.

STAFFING

Faculty Retirements

Longtime Farrier Science instructor Gerard Laverty, started his retirement journeys. His contributions to the KPU community and active engagement in student success and teaching excellence will be missed.

Campus Coffee

Campus Community Coffee was held at KPU Tech on November 9, 2023 and January 23, 2024. It was a great opportunity for members of our campus community from across disciplines and programs to meet and chat with one another.

Melville School of Business

EVENTS

Program Advisory Committee (PAC) Appreciation Event

On November 2, the Melville School of Business hosted an in-person social that provided us the opportunity to thank our industry representatives for contributing to the Melville School of Business's progress, as it relates to our educational programming and strategic planning. Industry experience, perspectives and expertise have been and continue to be invaluable to our business school's success, and more importantly help us to ensure students flourish once they begin their work life as new graduates. Approximately 55 guests attended this event at the Wilson School of Design building of KPU's Richmond Campus.



Student Success Social Event

The Student Success Social Event, held on Feb 2 at both Civic Plaza and Surrey campuses, provided students with a fantastic opportunity to interact with the dedicated Student Success Team. Attendees had the chance to engage with advisors and coaches, participate in entertaining games, enjoy delicious snacks, and network with fellow students. The event facilitated an environment conducive to forging new connections, expanding networks, and discovering valuable support resources available throughout their academic journey. It was a memorable occasion for students to enhance their overall student experience and foster meaningful relationships within the campus community.



ACHIEVE Case Competition

Four Accounting students participated in the ACHIEVE Case Competition at Toronto Metropolitan University January 19-20. The students battled against 14 other teams, most of which were more senior business students. The theme for the competition was "Banking Crisis", which emphasized key areas such as financial stability, risk management, regulatory compliance and ethical considerations, and provided a real-world context for applying accounting principles and practices. Coach and instructor Sabrina Rai accompanied the team for the weekend.



ACHIEVE case team: Micah Sherart, Hassan Shafi, Sabrina Rai (faculty), Rousbel Rabanal, Manveer Kaur

NAIT Winter City Case Competition

Three students accompanied by instructor/coach Duane Radcliffe participated in the Winter City Case Competition at Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) in Edmonton. Case competitions give students direct experiential learning experience so we're happy to be sending teams to four competitions this year (two to follow in March).

NAIT WCCC Case team: Angel John, Ridhi Khullar, Keerat Bhandal, Duane Radcliffe (faculty)

MSB Spring Term Event

Each Spring, Melville School of Business staff and faculty are invited to attend a Reading Week event. The goal is to update everyone on our strategic plan, current initiatives, get acquainted and excited for the year ahead. Approximately 100 attended this event, which took place at KPU Richmond's Melville Centre for Dialogue.

One highlight of this event was hearing from two current students. Manmeet Kaur (CSIT) and Rija Khurram (HRMT) worked hard during Reading Week on a new initiative called "KPU Social Innovation Incubator: Where Business Meets Sustainability". This initiative focuses on creating more opportunities for Melville Business students to grow and put their innovative ideas into action. Aligned with the UNSDG goals, the "Social Innovation Incubator" fosters the development of early-stage business start-ups and supports entrepreneurial projects through business support services, physical workplace, funding, and networking possibilities.



Manmeet Kaur (CSIT) and Rija Khurram (HRMT)

Future Business Leaders

On February 21 (rescheduled from January 17) approximately 50 high school students, including members of YELL Canada's program for young entrepreneurs, gathered for the annual Future Business Leaders case competition. Students worked in groups to develop a solution to a community issue linked to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, before presenting their idea to a panel of MSB faculty judges. Members of the winning team each earned a \$1,000 KPU tuition voucher for their concept – a rideshare app similar to “Uber” but with therapists as drivers, called “Ride 2 Recovery”.

John Grant, faculty, hosted a similar workshop for YELL students on January 19 at KPU Richmond. Approximately 35 Richmond high school students attended this session. Tuition vouchers were granted by the Future Students' Office for winners!

We would like to thank the Future Students office and the following faculty who helped this event succeed: Brad Anderson, Jen Anstett, John Grant, Hannah Celinski, Suzanne Pearce, Chris Motiu.

February Convocation

Over 800 Melville School of Business Students crossed the stage over 4 convocation ceremonies on February 26 & 27. We were excited to share this year's grad gift to fresh alumni, who may still be transitioning into their careers or networking at new workplaces: an [OVOU digital business card](#)!

Staffing: Dean's Office

- The Melville School of Business welcomed two new Associate Deans Assistants: Smriti Kaur in December and Elaine Wang in February.
- Associate Dean's Assistant Alyssa Jeffrey started her mat leave in February.
- Amanda Tao and Simran Gill onboarded as Administrative Assistant in November.
- Sheri Browning from the Future Student's Office was onboarded as Interim Degree Advisor for a January-March

term, with the possibility of extension.

- Angelo Contreras, Marketing Co-op Student Assistant, was extended to a second Co-op term in our office until April.
- Vanessa Ferreira Leal, who previously held a Student Assistant role, transitioned to a Student Success Coach.
- The Dean's office parted ways with Magdalena Mot in January who previously worked as Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) Coordinator.
- Alex Al Modares moved up from Student Success Coach to WIL Coordinator.
- Joanne MacNeil moved from Administrative Coordinator to Dean's Office Coordinator.

Presentations/Community Activities

Andrea Niosi: ePIC 2023 Conference

Faculty member Andrea Niosi (ENTR) presented at the ePIC Open Recognition for a Sustainable Planet conference in Vienna, Austria, December 6-8. The topic of her presentation was how Open Pedagogy & UDL create meaningful ways to recognize students and their contributions to scholarly work and the development of their own skills, knowledge, and attributes. Andrea continues to focus on open recognition in the ENTR department and will be piloting a project this summer where students will use open recognition to map real-world skills and attributes. Attendees at the ePIC conference included a global audience of experts and academics who support open recognition through digital badges, micro credentials, ePortfolios, and institutional teaching and learning programs.

[ePIC 2023 - ePIC 2023 \(openrecognition.org\)](https://openrecognition.org/)

John Shepherd: ND Rotary Club Contributions

John Shepherd, faculty, is the Grants Chair for the North Delta Rotary Club, which continues to experience rapid growth in demand for its Starfish Pack food supplement program. The Starfish Pack program targets food insecure children enrolled in 14 Delta public elementary schools. Volunteers deliver 246 food hampers to the schools for children to bring home their families, roughly 1-1/4 tons of food in a week. The annual program costs are an estimated \$140,000. The surge in demand, up nearly two-thirds from June 2023 shocked the club.

Vancouver Sun's Adopt a School recently approved a \$15,000 grant to the North Delta Starfish Pack Program. The Community Gaming Grant Program (BC Gaming) approved \$40,100 to the North Delta Rotary Club. Since November, successful applications have been \$15,000 from Adopt a School, \$50,100 from BC Community Gaming Grant Program, \$2,500 from Mazon Canada, and \$4,000 from the Delta Community Foundation.

Sasha Ramnarine: Top 40 Under 40

Melville School of Business instructor Sasha Ramnarine was recently named on Business in Vancouver's Top 40 Under 40 list!

Sasha was recognized in December 2023, and is currently CEO of "Dr. Bill". His business lesson learned in business? "The power of adaptability", he says.



Link to article [here](#).

PRME Leads: Presenting at Biannual Conference

The Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) Leads of the Melville School of Business - Maryanne Eva, Tara Immel, and Ulrich Paschen – will be participating in a panel discussion at the upcoming PRME North American Chapter Biannual Conference, taking place at the University of Victoria from May 31 to June 2. Their proposal to discuss "Fitting Pieces of the Puzzle – Using PRME as a Catalyst to Align Sustainability Efforts across a Public University" was accepted and will be discussed in a panel consisting of participants from KPU, St. Mary's University (Halifax, NS), and Conestoga College (Kitchener, ON).

Lori-Ann Gilbert: A Christmas Carol

MSB Administrative Coordinator Lori-Ann Gilbert performed this November-December in a production presented by Langley's Theatre in the Country. The show "A Christmas Carol" was directed by Rachel Stephens, with music direction by Paul Beckett. Her experience was beyond thrilling and her role both Narrator 2 (British dialect coaching required) and Ensemble member provided new challenges. Lori-Ann shares "find your childlike passion and if it's left you for a while, bring it back. You won't be disappointed! "

Publications/Scholarly Activity



Joanne Marlow: Book Publication

Joanne Marlow (faculty) published her 10th book in November "How to Find Your Ideal Job in a New Country...A Detailed Guide for International Students." The book was declared a "best seller" on Amazon.com in December. Joanne has been collecting, researching and writing curricu-

lum on this topic for over a decade, and after teaching international students for over six years, she realized that this group needed to hear the reality of leaving their countries to come to North America for their education with the potential of finding a job that excites them and uses their new skills and strengths. Joanne interviewed over 500 international students, new arrivals and HR managers to gain more information on their concerns, needs, and expectations and covered their thoughts and possible solutions in the book.

Melissa Ashman: Faculty and Student Perceptions of Open Pedagogy

Melissa Ashman has published an article about faculty and student perceptions of open pedagogy in the OTESSA (Open/Technology in Education, Society, and Scholarship Association) Journal. A unique aspect of the study was that it assessed the perceptions of open pedagogy of faculty and students across several courses and a range of types of open pedagogy, all within the context of one Canadian post-secondary institution (KPU). The study results indicated students and faculty had positive perceptions of open pedagogy, though they did experience some challenges.

Ashman, M. (2023). Faculty and Student Perceptions of Open Pedagogy: A Case Study From British Columbia, Canada. The Open/Technology in Education, Society, and Scholarship Association Journal, 3(2), 1–29. <https://doi.org/10.18357/otessaj.2023.3.2.40>

Student Research and Innovation Grant recipients

Sholpan Aralova and Nichol Louis, two OTM students were awarded a Student Research and Innovation Grant (SRIG) award to work with instructor Marcelo Machado in a project about the use of AI for Improving the Sustainability Performance of Supply Chains. The trio will be surveying BC companies with large carbon footprint as part of the project. Marcelo is excited for the students to have the opportunity to learn from a different research-based perspective, yet in practical way by interacting with real businesses.

Initiatives/Activities

New program: Citation in Cloud Architecture and Security

The Melville School of Business introduced a new program for Fall 2024 start: A Citation in Cloud Architecture and Security! This program is tailored for a diverse audience, catering to seasoned IT professionals and recent graduates with a passion for technology. The program offers a focused and comprehensive curriculum- 5 courses total. For recent graduates, it provides an opportunity to gain specialized knowledge and be at the forefront of an industry with an ever-increasing demand.

Office of Research, Innovation & Graduate Studies

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Group Session

In collaboration with Phronesis Consulting, the Office of AVP, Research and Innovation, arranged a group session on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) for ORS on October 20, 2023. Dr. Deena Kotak Buckley was invited as a guest speaker for the presentation. Deena has worked for the Surrey and Vancouver school districts and as a secondary teacher in a public high school in Hong Kong. She has been on multiple district and ministry committees in support of inclusive education and anti-racism.

KPU Agricultural Summit

Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) hosted its inaugural Agricultural Summit on November 3, 2023, bringing together farmers, researchers, elected officials and industry representatives to explore farming challenges and opportunities in the Surrey area. The day-long summit included presentations from researchers from KPU and Simon Fraser University (SFU), along with input from more than 20 area farmers. The link to Today@KPU news coverage of the event is [here](#).

Irish Delegation's KPU Visit

On November 8, 2023, an Irish delegation visited KPU. This meeting was organized by Polytechnics Canada. Dr. Amit Shukla, along with Dr. David Burns, Andhra Goundrey and Randall Heidt, attended this meeting. The agenda included discussions on collaboration opportunities in curriculum development and research, a tour of the Richmond Farm and Wilson School of Design, followed by an evening reception at the BCIT campus.

CICan's 2024 Applied Research Symposium

Dr. Amit Shukla attended CICan's 2024 Applied Research Symposium in Ottawa, ON, from February 12 to 15, 2024. The event presented a valuable opportunity for members of the applied research community to convene and exchange best practices while reflecting on this year's theme of 'Growing Impact.' The symposium was essential to advancing Canada's drive towards net-zero and increasing labour productivity while addressing the impediments to sustainable growth facing Canada's business and not-for-profit community.

THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH SERVICES

CITI Program Training Test Rollout for KPU Community

ORS is pleased to provide an update on the recent rollout of CITI Program training for the KPU community for selected fac-

ulty and their research teams. This initiative is currently in its testing phase, designed to gather feedback and testimonials before potential expansion across the university. These courses cater to researchers involved in various fields, including social & behavioural, applied and clinical research. The program represents a significant step toward fostering a research integrity, ethics, and compliance culture. The training encompasses a variety of courses, each designed to provide valuable insights and knowledge in different aspects of research ethics and compliance. The following CITI Program courses are offered.

Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR): This course equips researchers with knowledge and skills to navigate ethical issues in research, covering topics such as research integrity, data management, authorship, and conflicts of interest. It provides best practices for doing research for our faculty and research staff. It differs significantly from TCPS and broadly addresses best practices in research not limited to human ethics only.

Social and Behavioral Ethics: This course covers informed consent, privacy, confidentiality, and the handling of sensitive data. It is particularly valuable for researchers working with human subjects.

Transportation of Dangerous Goods/ International Air Transport Association (TDG/IATA): Essential for research involving hazardous materials transportation, this course ensures compliance with regulations, safeguarding community well-being and environmental standards.

These courses have been generously sponsored through Health Research BC and have been aligned with Canadian regulations and policies by the Network of Networks (N2) Canada. We are dedicated to continuously improving the training experience and plan to offer workshops attached to the first two courses to include scenarios relevant to social, behavioural and applied research. Moreover, we also offer a comprehensive clinical research course package as a commitment to promoting high-quality clinical research within our university community.

Supporting ENTA: KPU Speaker Series: Don't Push My Buttons

ORS supported ENTA's KPU Speaker Series with information on SRIG Grants and their benefits for enrolled and prospective students. The event took place on November 15, 2023. Pamphlets and posters illustrate the relevance of the SRIG grant to ENTA's needs, aligning with our ongoing commitment to pro-

vide tailored support to students and departments.

Community-Based Research Discussion Panel

On January 25, 2024, the Office of Research Services held a virtual Community-based Research Discussion Panel via Teams. We invited two distinguished faculty members, Dr. Victor Martinez (Wilson School of Design) and Dr. Tara Lyons (Criminology), to share their valuable insights. Dr. Martinez discussed his initial steps in engaging the community in his future research, and Dr. Lyon shared her hands-on experience in conducting community-based research. The event provided a platform for thought-provoking conversations and facilitated an exchange of ideas. Dr. Keith Leung and Foluso Fagbamiye organized this discussion panel. Follow-up events may be arranged to further promote community-based research at KPU.

Drop-In Consultation Sessions for RS2, RS3, RS4 And RS7

Two drop-in Teams Consultation Sessions were conducted for RS2, RS3, RS4, and RS7 on January 16 and 19, 2024. The purpose of these sessions was to invite members of the university community to provide their feedback and comments on these policies before proceeding to Phase Two in Summer 2024. ORS will ensure the feedback received will be taken into consideration and incorporated as appropriate.

THE RESEARCH ETHICS BOARD (REB)

REB Membership Updates

The REB is pleased to announce the appointments of two new REB members for 2-year terms:

Dr. Tanjeem Azad – Faculty member
Rylen Moore – Community member

THE ANIMAL CARE COMMITTEE (ACC)

ACC Membership Updates

As of November 1, 2023, Heather O'Brien from the Farrier Science Program has joined the ACC, replacing Gerard Laverty, who has now retired from KPU.

The Canadian Council on Animal Care's First Assessment Visit at KPU

The [Canadian Council on Animal Care](#) (CCAC) performed their first assessment visit at KPU on November 29th and 30th, 2023. This visit marked a significant milestone in KPU's pursuit of attaining Good Animal Practice (GAP) Certification from the CCAC, which will demonstrate that KPU participates fully in the CCAC programs and adheres to its internationally recognized

standards of animal care and use in research and teaching, a requirement of the Tri-Agency Framework: Responsible Conduct of Research and the Agreement on the Administration of Agency Grants and Awards by Research Institutions. The next step in the [GAP Certification process](#) is for the CCAC to provide a formal report outlining their recommendations. We will then have six months to respond with our own report outlining what actions we are taking to address these recommendations. The ACC, chaired by Dr. Layne Myhre, hopes to achieve GAP Certification by the end of 2024.

KPU'S RESEARCH LABORATORIES, CENTRES, AND INSTITUTES

Applied Genomics Centre – Funding Advancement

On July 17, 2023, Dr. Paul Adams, the Director of the Applied Genomics Centre (AGC), was awarded a \$278,000 grant from the BC Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BCSRIF), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO). This funding will allow the AGC to work with the Abbotsford Animal Health Centre on developing molecular tests specific to *Aeromonas salmonicida* -- a pathogenic bacterium that severely impacts salmonid populations and other fish species. This work will include performing whole genome sequencing (WGS) for several *Aeromonas* species, including *A. salmonicida*.

The public announcement included the BCSRIF funding received by KPU's Applied Genomics Centre -- \$278,272 in support of a project that includes whole genome sequencing of *Aeromonas salmonicida*, a pathogenic bacterium that severely impacts salmonid population and other fish species. [The Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia team up to protect salmon populations and the fisheries they support.](#)

Applied Genomics Centre – Presentations/Community Activities

November 3, 2023 – Dr. Paul Adams gave a presentation at the KPU Agriculture Summit about how AGC is advancing ag-tech solutions.

December 1, 2023 – Dr. Paul Adams and Dr. Mathias Schuetz gave a presentation to the Board of Directors at Genome BC. December 14, 2023 - The Honourable Diane LeBouthillier, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, and the Canadian Coast Guard, and the Honourable Nathan Cullen, BC Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, announced \$86,119,340 for 58 projects receiving funding under the second phase of the British Columbia Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BCSRIF).

Office of Research, Innovation & Graduate Studies cont'd

Dr. Abhinaya Venkatesan, AGC Molecular Geneticist, attended the press event at the Gulf of Georgia Cannery in Steveston, Richmond.

January 17, 2024 – Dr. Layne Myhre was invited to present details of the Kwikwetlem First Nation water monitoring pilot project to the Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable Core Committee at their quarterly meeting. The pilot project is a collaboration between Biology, Environmental Protection Technologies, the Applied Genomics Centre, and the Kwikwetlem First Nation, to assess water quality, toxicity, and bacterial eDNA in water samples from the Coquitlam watershed. AGC employees, in collaboration with the KPU's Faculty of Science and Future Students' Office (FSO), participated in the Pacific Agriculture Show, a weekend-long event held at the Tradex in Abbotsford from January 25 to 27, 2024. The activity included networking with potential industry or academic partners and prospective students; and presentations given by AGC employees: Lyndsey Baillie, Laboratory and Research Coordinator; Michael Ke, Junior Bioinformatician, Dr. Mathias Schuetz, Faculty, Biology; and Sharmin Malek, former AGC student research assistant.

Fifteen AGC employees from KPU's Applied Genomics Centre attended the Plant and Animal Genome (PAG31) Conference in San Diego from January 11 to 17, 2024, where nine scientific posters from KPU were presented.

Institute for Sustainable Food Systems – Events

October 28, 2023 - ISFS hosted a pumpkin celebration event for the Tsawwassen First Nation community with the pumpkins grown in the Farm Schools.

November 7, 2023 - ISFS hosted an end-of-the-year celebration event with the incubator farmers. Four representatives from Coast Capital (donor), one representative from the Zimbabwe Cultural Society of British Columbia (ZICUSO), Mr. Steve Lewarne, Executive Director from KPU Foundations, and twelve incubator farmers attended the event. Calendars featuring photos of our incubator farmers and farm event were prepared and distributed to the participants to promote KPU and the program.



December 6, 2023 - Naomi Robert, research associate, hosted a Regional farmer dialogue event in Comox Valley to discuss research and extension work for drought resilience for her research project.

December 14, 2023 - ISFS hosted a winter holiday community dinner with the Tsawwassen First Nation.

Institute for Sustainable Food Systems – Staffing Updates

Shannon Hanson, Indigenous Foodways Outreach Facilitator at ISFS, was on board on October 19, 2023.

Kalista Pruden, part-time Indigenous Foodways Outreach Facilitator, was on board on November 14, 2023.

Akshit Puri, a part-time Research and Extension Associate, Organic Regenerative Agriculture, was on board on January 3, 2024.

Kristi Tatebe and Naomi Robert were promoted to Senior Research and Extension Associate - Policy and Planning effective February 1, 2024.

Griffy Vigneron joined ISFS as a Research and Extension Associate – GIS Analyst on January 23, 2024.

Institute for Sustainable Food Systems – Funding Advancement

ISFS received the Climate Action Events Award from the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions with \$5,000 in funding in October 2023. The awarded funding will support ISFS to coordinate a regional farmer dialogue in the Comox Valley to gather farmer priorities for building drought resilience capacity. The project lead is Naomi Robert.

ISFS received \$3,000 from Farmfolk Cityfolk to support Naomi Robert's research project aimed at the development of food policy and climate change platforms to inform provincial party platform development in the 2024 election.

Ministry of Agriculture and Food awarded \$120,000 to ISFS to complete the project entitled "Food Supply Chain Analysis to investigate resiliency of current BC food supply chain and recommendations to increase resiliency" on December 15, 2023.

Institute for Sustainable Food Systems - Presentations/Community Activities

Members of the Zimbabwe Cultural Society of British Columbia (ZICUSO BC) joined our KPU Farm Schools program as incubator farmers. A [YouTube video](#) was produced with ZICUSO and published on October 14, 2023, to show their experience as immigrant farmers under the farm school program.

Podcast recording of "Beyond GPD Redefining progress for Canadian food system policy", a research project conducted by Naomi Roberts, was featured on the "Handpicked Podcast: Stories from the field" produced by Wilfred Laurier University on October 16, 2023. Link: [Handpicked: Stories from the Field \(libsyn.com\)](https://libsyn.com)

Dr. Wallapak Polasub was interviewed by the [Georgia Straight](#) on October 23, 2023, for the November-December 2023 print edition. The article is titled, "When money is tight, food is often the first necessity that falls away. We still treat food as a commodity."

The ISFS team visited the Tsleil-Waututh Nation on December 11, 2023, for potential collaboration in Orchard Management, Food Sovereignty, and Community Garden Expansion. Jenn Cline, research associate, presented as a panel speaker on Regenerative Agriculture after the showing of the new documentary, [Common Ground](#) for the Vancouver Film Festival at the Rio Theatre in Vancouver on November 21, 2023.

Institute for Sustainable Horticulture - Mitacs funding

The Institute for Sustainable Horticulture received approval for a Mitacs grant (\$202,500) to support 21 Interns who will work on the Weston Home Grown Challenge project "Carbonneutral, pesticide-free glasshouse berry production for Canada" at KPU and SFU over the next year.

A second Mitacs grant related to the same project received approval with industry partner Argus Controls for 1 Intern employed for 15 months and valued at \$104,000.

Institute for Sustainable Horticulture – Staffing Updates

In January 2024, ISH welcomed Thaís Almeida, a Ph.D. student from the Laboratório de Controle Microbiano, Federal Rural University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to spend 6 months in our lab investigating insect immune responses to natural soil-borne fungi that attack insects as well as their responses to some fungi that attack plant pathogens. Thaís is the recipient of an ELAP Scholarship.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Office of the AVP, Research and Innovation acknowledges funding from the federal Research Support Fund in support of its operations and services.

Teaching and Learning

EVENTS & UPDATES

- The Teaching and Learning Commons is undergoing a program review with an external consultant in order to assess the development of our center and to finalise our strategic and operational plans, we look forward to sharing the outcomes of that upon completion.
- The Teaching and Learning Commons office refresh has been completed. It includes a space that will host faculty events as well as a place to connect with one another and us on a drop-in basis.
- The TL Commons has curated some material to support faculty in their understanding and exploration of Generative AI in particular as it relates to their work as an educator. We have prepared a playlist in the KPU LinkedIn learning account to support you to learn at your own pace. To access this curated material click [HERE](#) Login with the same email address you use for LinkedIn.com or your organization email And start learning!
- The latest editions of the [T&L Commons Newsletter](#) have been published:
 - [November](#)
 - [February](#)

WORKSHOPS/EVENTS

- Check out our Spring workshop offerings [here!](#) Register at [TL Events](#).
- [TL commons recently hosted the following events in our new Space.](#)
- Compassionate Learning Communities: February 14 Community of Practice kick off
- Chair Chats: February 20, We're excited to invite faculty to see our office refresh which includes a space for partnering with you! Partnership with Department Chairs is an important part of our work and we would love to have you join us in The "Commons Community Corner" for connection, brainstorming and consultation.
- Generative AI Community of Practice: February 22, The TL Commons is initiating a community of practice to bring together educators who are considering using Generative AI in their courses or to support their work. It is our intention that this group will work together to develop knowledge, share use cases and inform KPU leadership decisions around Generative AI tools, policies and processes. Everyone is welcome.
- Convocation Week: February 26 and February 28, TL Commons is excited to invite faculty to see our office refresh which includes a space for partnering with you! The

"Commons Community Corner" provides a cozy space for consultations, collaboration or coffee with a friendly face!

LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES

- [The Learning Technologies team resolved 509 support tickets and our faculty Educational Consultants completed 134 pedagogical consultations](#) since November 1 2023.
- FY23 capital classroom technology improvement to Fir 136 and Langley 2030 is now complete as well as the light-board recording studio on Langley campus. The 3 Civic broadcast studio has been updated to support podcast functionality and a pilot is underway.
- Three additional technology enhanced classrooms, Surrey Fir 124, Richmond 2540 and Langley 2575 have been completed over the holiday break. One additional classroom in Richmond will be completed in March 2024.
- Academic departments may request rooms through their Chair or Dean's Office responsible for submitting the booking timetable to the Office of the Registrar. More information on the room scheduling process can be found [here](#).

OPEN EDUCATION

- [There are 647 ZTC courses being delivered in Spring 2024](#)

Presentations by Teaching & Learning Team

- Dr. Leeann Waddington presented at the American Conference of Academic Deans (ACAD) annual meeting. "Intention, Flexibility and Strength- leadership yoga"
- BCCampus and the Ministry of Advanced Skills and Training hosted a Digital Learning Forum on November 23rd. Dr. Leeann Waddington presented with Ben Farrell a jointly created self-assessment tool to support post secondary institutions with their implementation planning for the Digital Learning Strategy
- On Saturday Feb 10 Dr Leeann Waddington was the Key-note speaker at the– Soroptimist Dream it Be It Event
- Lisa Gedak, Ross Laird, Dr. Maureen Lee & Sarah Duncan presented on March 1, 2024 at the VCC TL Symposium "Situating Wellbeing in the Framework of "Us": Supporting Professional Wellness"

EVENTS

Long Night Against Procrastination



KPU Library hosted its first Fall semester edition of Long Night Against Procrastination (LNAP) in November at Surrey Library. LNAP brought together KPU organizations and services like the Learning Centre, Academic Integrity, the KSA, and KPU International for a study, research, support, and stress relief event for students. The event included a visit from therapy dogs, video game stations, Learning Centre Tutors, and fun study breaks. Prizes were given throughout the night and students enjoyed free snacks, coffee, and tea to fuel their studying.

Richmond Library also hosted a smaller afternoon edition of LNAP that proved popular with students. The [Library](#) looks forward to future LNAPs.

Library table at the Student Mental Health Fair

KPU Librarians hosted a table at the 2nd Annual Student Mental Health Fair. The [Library](#) table included a positivity activity, borrowable stress relief equipment, including a white noise machine, and a selection of books from the Wellness Collection - small collection of material meant to promote health and wellness to the KPU community. To engage with students, a board was posted with sticky notes. On this board, students followed the prompt, "Take what you need, give what you can". Students left messages of positivity, encouragement, and kindness.



Climate + Challenge Book Club

KPU Library once again partnered with the Climate+ Challenge to present another Book Club in November. Wilson School of Design instructor, Sue Fairburn, facilitated a discussion about the book *Fire Weather: The Making of a Beast* by John Valliant.

Extended exam period opening hours

KPU Library was open 24/7 between December 4 and 14. These extended hours helped support students needing a safe place to study on campus during the exam period. KPU Library will resume these hours for the Spring exam period.

Staffing Presentations / Community Activities

KPU Library Presentation at IILF 2023 Conference



KPU Librarians Cleire Lauron and Rachel Chong, along with Simon Fraser University's Ashley Edwards, presented at the International Indigenous Librarians' Forum 2023 in Honolulu, Hawaii. Their presentation, titled *Breathing New Life into Information Organization: Brian Deer Classification in two academic libraries*, discussed the development and implementation of a modified Brian

Deer Indigenous Classification system to organize materials on KPU's ʁʷəḷḷəyəm Indigenous Collection and SFU's Indigenous Curriculum Resource Centre. The presentation highlighted how the modified Brian Deer Classification system alters the information landscape, allowing students to navigate Indigenous world views.

Community Scholars Program

KPU Library has agreed on its memorandum of understanding to participate in the Community Scholars Program. The Community Scholars Program grants researchers working in non-profit and charity organizations access to library resources and databases.

Network Decolonizing Libraries in the German-Speaking-Region presentation

Librarians Ulrike Kestler and Rachel Chong presented virtually

at a conference hosted by the Network Decolonizing Libraries in the German-Speaking-Region. Their presentation over-viewed the creation of KPU Library's Indigenous Information Literacy project – a project aimed to support the respectful use of Indigenous sources in writing- and KPU Library's $\chi^w\alpha\chi^w\acute{e}y\grave{o}m$ Indigenous Collection.

INITIATIVES/ACTIVITIES

Updated Research Help Page

In January, KPU Library launched our updated [Research Help Page](#). This page guides students to the various types of Research Help available at KPU Library, including online, in-person, through chat, or by email. Students are also able to use the page to book Research Appointments with KPU Librarians.

New Mahogany Chairs

Richmond Library has new mahogany chairs on display. The chairs are created from recycled vintage mahogany wood originally harvested in Nicaragua and Guatemala between 1950 and 1970. Their creation follows an initiative of urban mining – gathering discarded materials from construction and demolition sites and turning them into new products. The material used for these chairs was discarded by a local ship building company and then donated to and stored by the Museum of Vancouver. The materials were then passed along to be used by Wilson Product Design students. In early 2025, the chairs will be displayed at the Museum of Vancouver as part of *Take a Seat* (working title), an exhibition featuring the design and cultural history of chairs. The [Library](#) is excited by this opportunity to show off more KPU student created work.

APA Workshops

To connect with students looking for help on their citations, Librarian Ulrike Kestler launched weekly APA Q&A sessions in January. These virtual drop-in sessions help students learn the basics of the APA citation format and give students an opportunity to ask specific questions about the citations they are working on for assignments.

COPPUL Jessica Johns author visit

Librarian Rachel Chong organized an author visit with Vancouver-based Cree author Jessica Johns to discuss their debut novel *Bad Cree*. This virtual event was coordinated in collaboration with the Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries. Approximately 50 attendees [participated virtually](#).

'What the Heck is RDM?' Workshops

'What the Heck is RDM' is a webinar series being offered this academic year by the Research Data Management (RDM) Librarian Melissa Cuthill. Delivered via Teams and targeted at KPU faculty, staff, and student researchers and research support personnel, each session introduces a core area of RDM. Four sessions have been delivered so far: Introduction to RDM; Persistent Identifiers for Research; File and Folder Management; and Data Management Plans. Two further sessions are planned to round out the Spring term.

Library Employee News

A number of staff and librarians have retired or are off on a variety of leaves leading to some movement:

Kelsey Chong moved from her Student Engagement and Community Outreach Librarian position to become the Indigenous Engagement and EDIA Librarian.

As Kelsey shifted her portfolio, we welcomed Alison Horne back for another year long contract as the Student Engagement and Community Outreach Librarian.

Caja Blomley has been hired on a [year](#) contract as the Student Success Librarian.

After several years as a library auxiliary, Ginger Lu has been hired into a permanent Library Technician position at the Richmond Library. Technician, Richmond (Permanent). Brianna McDonald has moved into a permanent Library Technician position at the Langley Library.

For the foreseeable future, Andrea Pilgrim has joined the Langley Library as Interim Library Technician.

Ben Davis has become the Interim Library Campus Supervisor at Surrey for the next year.

Alex Knopp will be part of the Surrey Library team as Interim Audiovisual Technician for the next year.

And finally, a number of staff have joined us as Library Auxiliaries:

Kaley Farrell, Rijoon Ha, Josie Haswell-Lee, Jaimie Lawrence and Scott Mijo.

Wilson School of Design

EVENTS

National Portfolio Day A Success

On Saturday November 18, the Wilson School of Design hosted another successful National Portfolio Day event. We received 570 student registrations and over 700 people attended the event! With 20 schools in attendance from across North America (including KPU's Entertainment Arts team) and a couple from Europe, students had the opportunity to meet one on one with representatives and review their portfolios and questions.



Presentations/Community Activities (max.6)

Guest Speaker - Kits Eyewear – Technical Apparel

In January, we welcomed Edita Hadravska, Head of Product Design at Kits eyewear. Edita joined this year's Technical Apparel capstone research students to provide input on their design directions – with topics in technical apparel ranging from increased usability of female urinary devices, to base layers for managing thermal comfort and performance by competitive female fencers. With almost 20 years experience in soft and hard goods design with various local industries (Arc'teryx, Aritzia, etc.) Edita's input was super helpful and inspiring.

Guest Speaker – Co-Founder Vessi – Fashion Marketing

Tony Yu, cofounder of local footwear brand, Vessi visited our Fashion Marketing program to share his expertise and insights into the industry.



Interior Design Guest Speaker – Westpoint Sales

"A huge Thank You to [Arthur Tsang](#) from Westpoint Sales Inc. for delivering such a detailed and thoughtful presentation to my class on all things plumbing for residential interiors. Thank you for sharing your knowledge, experience and positive energy!" Seng Sengsavanh, Interior Design faculty, Dec 2023.
Initiatives/Activities

WSD Hosts 1st All-Program Advisory Committee Meeting

On January 24th, the Wilson School of Design proudly hosted an all-program Advisory Committee meeting. Faculty and KPU leadership had the unique opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions with over 70 guests representing a wide range of disciplines and industry experts. The packed agenda for the event included challenging topics such as the usage and application of Generative Artificial Intelligence in both the industry and post-secondary environments.



Indigenous Artist in Residence

The Wilson School of Design is thrilled to announce its' first Indigenous Artist in Residence, Pam Baker (Himikalas). A highly accomplished Indigenous artist, designer and successful entrepreneur, Pam has an impressive history of art and design accolades ranging from large-scale art installations, Olympic regalia designs to fashion show production.



Pam is very familiar with the Wilson School of Design as a former student of the Foundations in Design program. Pam's residency commenced on February 1st, and will run until the end of March.

Product Design Field Trip

On February 1st, the 2nd year Product Design students visited

Wilson School of Design cont'd

local manufacturer, Aggressive Tube Bending as part of their course DEPD 2420 Production Technologies. Located in Port Kells with more than 26,000 square feet of manufacturing space, ATB offers a wide spectrum of services including pipe, tube, and structural steel forming, custom fabricating and manufacturing.

Hemlock Printers – Graphic Design for Marketing Field Trip

In December, the 2nd year Graphic Design for Marketing students got to explore the possibilities of printing by visiting [@hemlockprinters](#). What an amazing opportunity to learn about the inner workings of the industry!

New Media Gallery – Graphic Design for Marketing Field Trip

On October 26, 3rd-year Graphic Design for Marketing students, along with faculty members Carley Hodgkinson and Erin Ashenhurst, visited the New Media Gallery ([newmediagallery.ca](#)) in New Westminster for a curatorial tour of their exhibit, "Measure". This field trip was part of GDMA 3140 Interactive Technologies and Society, in which the class looks at how technology influences culture and the place of designers in mediating that space. The exhibit was a beautiful mix of art, design, engineering and science. Students spent the longest time staring at the piece in the photo, in which every possible RGB spectrum colour was generated by AI-driven code.

Creative Mornings – Fashion Marketing

"It was an incredible experience attending Creative Mornings with my talented Fashion Marketing students from [The Wilson School of Design at Kwantlen Polytechnic University](#). Many thanks to [Mark Busse](#) for putting together such an enlightening event. The story of [Joleen Mitton](#) and her passion for fashion as the founder of [VIFW](#) left us all feeling inspired. We can't wait for the next season! Such a pleasure to connect and network with other industry professionals as well." Alice Lee – Fashion Marketing faculty.



Vancouver Airport Field Trip – Interior Design

"Thank you [Nancy Stern](#) for taking us through security at YVR and through 3 beautiful airport lounges. What a treat it was for our students to see these spaces and many others in and around the airport. Thank you for sharing your insights about

their designs and the concepts behind them. Kudos to my faculty partner [Erika Balcombe](#) for arranging this amazing field trip!" Seng Sengsavanh November 2023.



Nickel's Custom Cabinets Field Trip – Interior Design

"A big Thank You to [Dieter Nickel](#), [Ted Federau](#) and the whole design and production team at Nickel's Custom Cabinets for the amazing tour of their showroom and manufacturing facilities. It was an eye opening experience for our 2nd Year Design Studio students to get a behind the scenes view of how kitchen cabinets all come together." Seng Sengsavanh, Interior Design faculty, Nov 2023

Interior Design Field Trip – Pure Image Technology

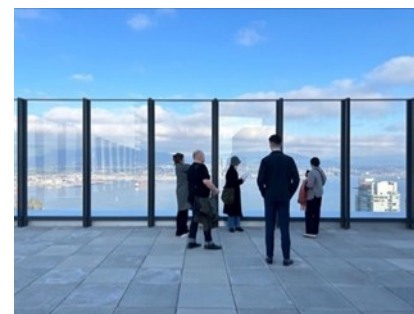
"Thank you [Kevin Hall](#) ([PureImage Technology](#)) for the wonderful hospitality and informative presentation on new technology for the home (and commercial spaces). Our students were in awe, and left feeling informed and inspired." Seng Sengsavanh, Interior Design faculty, Dec 2023.

Interior Design Field Trip - Richmond Centre

"Starting off the new semester with a visit to RC @ Richmond Centre by [Shape Property Group](#)." Seng Sengsavanh, Interior Design faculty, Jan 2024.

Interior Design Field Trip – Aviary Presentation Centre

"Our KPU 2nd Year Interior Design students visited the Aviary Presentation Centre and were treated with such warm hospitality. A big thank you to [Tera Development](#), [Macdonald Platinum Marketing](#), and [Kardum Design Studio Inc.](#) for such wonderful insights into multi-unit residential design projects." Seng Sengsavanh, Interior Design faculty, Feb 2024.



Wilson School of Design cont'd

Interior Design Field Trip – The Stack Building

“Our 4th Year Interior Design Honors students were treated to a wonderful tour of the future-forward workplace environment and amenities at The Stack building this afternoon.” Seng Sengsavanh, Interior Design faculty, Feb 2024

Alumni Stories

Graphic Design for Marketing Grad Keynote Speaker

On Friday, November 3, Graphic Design for Marketing 2021 Alumna Ella Taylor was featured as the Keynote Speaker at [Creative Mornings Vancouver](#). Ella spoke on the topic of Rhythms, beautifully connecting her personal history to her growing confidence and finding her voice as a young designer. The event was sold out, with approximately 160 people in the SFU Woodwards audience, including current 4th-year students, recent grads, and GDMA faculty. Marga Lopez (GDMA faculty), the President of DesCan and a founding member of Creative Mornings, was the day's emcee.



Mackenzie Gooch – 2018 Graphic Design for Marketing Grad: Starting a new role as Senior Designer at [Free Agency Creative](#)

Skylar Mann – 2022 Fashion Marketing Grad - Starting new role as a Content & Social Media Specialist at [Pela](#)

Natalli Wan – 2022 Fashion Marketing Grad - Starting a new role as Trims Associate at [Aritzia](#)

Technical Apparel Alumna Featured on CBC's Dragon's Den

Cheryl LeBarr, a KPU Wilson School of Design alumna, design instructor and co-founder of MADE, a custom outdoor apparel company, faced the Dragons' Den with her partners seeking a deal for their growing company. Despite an offer from Arlene Dickinson, LeBarr and her partners decided to explore other options and have since landed a more favorable investment deal. LeBarr founded MADE, along with Dustin Butcher and fellow KPU Wilson School of Design alum Capri Philip (both Cheryl and Capri graduated from the Fashion & Technology program), as a socially-conscious outdoor apparel company,

selling custom direct-to-consumer outerwear suitable for the slopes. MADE uses a unique AI-based fitting approach to offer an inclusive outdoor fashion option.

Student Success (max.4)

Graphic Design Students Win Prestigious Awards

The Jim Rimmer Scholarships have been awarded since 2009 to student projects for a community program, a non-profit organization, or an environmental or social cause. Students who are currently enrolled, or have graduated within the last year from a design program in BC are eligible.

Congratulations to 2023 Graphic Design for Marketing alumna, Rachel De Freitas, winner of a 2023 Jim Rimmer Scholarship award for her project Employment Opportunities for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Individuals. “Supporting and learning about an underrepresented group allowed me to further understand the value and importance of designing with a purpose”.



Congratulations also go to 2023 Graphic Design for Marketing alumna Bella Sanchez, recipient of an honourable mention in the 2023 Jim Rimmer Scholarship awards for her project Residential School Awareness–Frozen Child.



Wilson School of Design cont'd

Interior Design Students Wins Industry Scholarship

Interior design student, Caitlyn Defalco, was awarded The NEWH Vancouver Region scholarship. This scholarship is for students pursuing a career in the hospitality industry.



Interior Design Student Finalist in Western Living Magazine's Design Awards

"It is an honour to have been selected by Western Living Magazine for their Design 25 Awards for my Sway Fidget Chair prototype. I hope to continue refining it until we can produce some school-ready chairs!" Joshua Swanson, Interior Design student.

PROGRAM/POLICIES/INITIATIVES

Product Design Program Launches Clean Air Shelters Project

A design project for year 3 Product Design students, "Clean Air Shelters" has students working in teams to learn about collaboration, working with external experts and focusing on meaningful issues / Sustainable Development Goals. This intensive 7-week project presents an opportunity to reach out to local companies. This year - Instructor Sue Fairburn reached out to BC Wildfire Services to scope where the need was, to General Recycled (a local company working in the material circularity for Aramids) and to local Indoor Air Quality Company: BGE Clean Air for their knowledge in monitoring air quality. The team at BC Wildfire Services's Research and Innovation Team - with Lead Natasha Broznitsky (R&I Senior Officer) presented remotely to the students on 16 Jan, followed by Roberta MacGillivray (CEO of BGE Clean Air) and their Technical Expert Randy Drage on 18 Jan, followed by Dave Kasper of General Recycled on 25 January. The students have been soaking up all the information provided by the experts and learning to develop the key insights that will inform their design direction. The project will wrap up with a final Exhibition of prototypes and team presentations during SDG week on 5th Mar 2024.

New Program Launched - Front-End Development for Interactive Applications

WSD's brand new Diploma in Front-End Development for Interactive Applications was officially approved and launched for fall recruitment in January. A collaboration with the Computer Sciences and Information Technology program in the Melville School of Business, the 2-year Diploma is part of a larger BC tech seat expansion. Students in Front-End Development will have opportunities to work on UX projects with Graphic Design for Marketing students – fusing together the design and coding sides. We look forward to welcoming our first cohort in September.



Product Design and Museum of Vancouver Collaboration

On December 11th, 2023, the 2-year Product Design studio students presented the "Mahogany Chair Project". The project is a collaboration between WSD and the Museum of Vancouver (MOV) that involves the production and display of 15 chairs designed from reclaimed mahogany wood. These chairs will be displayed at the third phase of the MOV exhibition "Take a Seat" in January 2025. Honoring the mahogany wood values and communities where this wood was harvested, the MOV donates 1/3 of the revenue generated from the exhibition artifacts sale to Indigenous-led reforestation efforts in Nicaragua and Guatemala.



Group Spinning - Equinox

Thanks to Equinox Fitness for giving our students and faculty an opportunity to destress and bring some wellness into our lives! In what has become an annual tradition, Equinox generously offered a custom class to our team, right when we needed it the most (December 2023).



Faculty Awarded KPU 2024 Chancellor Chair Award

Product Design Program Co-Chair Victor Martinez, PHD was one of the recipients of the KPU 2024 Chancellor's Chair Award, awarded by The Office of the Provost and VP Academic awarded. This multi-year award will provide funding over a 3-year term commencing April 1, 2024.

Victor's research aims to engage diverse community groups using a systems thinking and design thinking methodology developed over 14 years for complex social problem-solving, facilitating the understanding of root causes and the creation of systemic interventions. The goal is to develop actionable plans and strategies for communities to implement or share with all community members, including politicians, policymakers, and business leaders, to effect real change and empower communities.

High School Career Presentations

Dr. Victor Martinez, Product Design Co-Chair and faculty presented at the "Career-Life Conference Day" organized by Cambie Secondary School in Richmond. Victor spoke to two groups of grade 10, 11 and 12 students about what the career and life of a Product Designer could look.



Office of the Vice President, Students

Strong Student Employment

The Career Development Centre shows 535 new students registered on KPU's student job board, *Career Connection*, along with 146 new employers. A remarkable 1,248 employment opportunities were posted, with students assisted through 84 career advising appointments and 265 resume reviews.

Co-operative education has seen 630 Fall and Spring job postings with 301 students admitted into Spring and Summer intakes. 2,321 student job applications were submitted across Fall and Spring terms, a 71% increase from the previous year.

Advising Workshops

The Central Advising team had a busy Fall with a 10% increase in appointments that totalled 2,279 while facilitating course planning workshops for over 100 students.

Getting Ready to Thrive

Student Health Promotion led the 8th Annual Thrive Month celebration back in the Fall. Over fifty on-campus events were hosted on all five campuses by various service areas, such as Student Services, Campus & Community Planning, and Human Resources. These events focused on positive well-being and social connection.

This success led to developing the Thrive Month working group comprising partners from across KPU. This enduring group is planning and strategizing not only for Thrive Month 2024 this October, but to ensure Thrive Month remains a sustainable initiative at KPU for years to come.

Transgender Awareness Week

Pride Peer Leaders celebrated Transgender Awareness Week at KPU Surrey with an engaging and interactive booth. Visitors learned about transgender history and how to be a supportive ally.

Student Mental Health Fair

Student Health Promotion hosted the 2nd Annual *Student Mental Health Fair* at the Surrey Conference Center. The event promoted student mental health through activities like info booths, therapy dogs, low-sensory spaces, painting, video games, and free fitness classes. More than 250 students were in attendance supported by numerous KPU services and community friends.

Cricket Comes to KPU

Sport and Recreation recently collaborated with the KSA and student-led Cricket Club to host an indoor cricket tournament with approximately 40 participants, marking a successful first foray into cricket at KPU. Also new this spring is an intramural table tennis league.

The action continued with the Faculty of Arts, which joined Sport and Recreation to host a dodgeball tournament that fielded 32 teams, and an always-popular 5v5 basketball

tournament!

Food, Focus and Harmony

During October, the Multi-Faith Centre (MFC) conducted a food drive at the Surrey and Richmond campuses as part of Thrive Month. The food collected was donated to the KSA's food hamper program to support KPU students experiencing food insecurity.

In November, the MFC chaplains participated in International Focus Week and hosted tabling sessions at Richmond and Surrey with the theme "One Table, Many Beliefs". Chaplains hosted a discussion around how culture, religion, and beliefs intersect through the act of sharing food and invited students to share their thoughts and cultural backgrounds over some light refreshments.

The Multi-Faith chaplains ensured KPU's continued engagement with the annual UN Interfaith Harmony Week. Chaplains hosted booths at Surrey and Richmond where they invited students to write their thoughts, quotes, ideas, and/or an influential figure that resonated with their notion of peace.

Welcoming New Students

Our flagship new-student orientation event, *KPU Welcomes You*, hosted 952 new students in Spring 2024 at four events across three campuses. This could not have been done without the help of more than 100 student leaders and, critically, more than 75 KPU employee supporters.



Following "orientation day," the First Year Festival was host to a series of events during the first week of classes and for the first time incorporated the Kwantlen Student Association's *Week of Welcome* alongside a KPU-led student resource fair.

Unmet Financial Need

As of November, 964 applications for KPU's full-time bursary program had been received, demonstrating a total need of close to \$2.5 million. SAFA disbursed \$864,200 in award funding to support 404 students in high financial need.

Safer Campuses Training Modules

Office of the Vice President, Students cont'd

The Student Rights and Responsibilities Office is excited to announce that the [Safer Campuses for Everyone training modules](#) are not only live but are now digitally badged! Everyone who completes all four modules will receive a digital badge that demonstrates their commitment to being a member of a safe campus.

Anonymous Reporting Support

The Student Rights and Responsibilities Office launched a new [webpage](#) in the fall alongside expanded functionality in the KPU SAFE app providing tools for anonymous sexual violence reporting. Messaging and content are being continually refined in consultation with the Office of Equity and Inclusive Communities to ensure a survivor-centred approach.

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

BC Registrar's Association Long Service Awards

Every year the BC Registrar's Association awards long service awards to acknowledge staff in a Registrar's Office within BC for the years of service. This year the awards were presented at our Holiday luncheon by Nadia Henwood, AVP Enrolment Services & Registrar to the following staff:

Elaine Devlin, Records and Graduation Officer – 20 years

Zena Mitchell, VP Students – 15 years

Linda Siemens, Coordinator, Enrolment Services – 15 years

Kiren Gill, Assistant Registrar, Enrolment Services – 10 years



Counsellors' Conference

The Counsellors' Conference was held on the Surrey Campus for 80 school counsellors. The Opening Presentation and Welcome was presented by the Domestic Recruitment and Admissions team.

Four Information Sessions were hosted:

- Entertainment Arts
- Access Programs at KPU (EACS, IACP, and Accessibility Services)
- The Future of KPU Programming with Dr. David Burns
Nursing & Psychiatric Nursing.

On the Road Again - Showcasing KPU Across BC and On Campus

Our Domestic Recruitment team has had a very busy recruitment season attending recruitment fairs, high schools, and hosting some group tours on campus. Below are a few highlights:

- **Youth Train in Trades Orientation:** presentation to around 200 high school students at KPU Tech.
- **Maple Ridge Secondary group tour:** Counsellors from Maple Ridge Secondary reached out for a KPU Langley campus tour and presentation.
- **Education Careers Fair:** Held in Kelowna, targeting local high school students to provide insights into educational programs and career opportunities.
- **Canadian Universities Event:** Organized at Grandview Heights Secondary School to provide information about universities across Canada.
- **Parents and Supporters Information Session:** Targeted at parents and supporters of high school students to provide comprehensive information about KPU's programs.
- **Group Campus Tours:** Held for students from Lord Tweedsmuir Secondary, White Rock Learning Centre, L.A. Matheson, Richmond Secondary, and the School of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. We were able to accommodate up to 100 students on some of these tours.

Our Student Ambassadors had the chance to speak to students through a panel during their visit on some of these tours. They were able to talk about their experiences at KPU and answer questions students had. Having a student panel created a great discussion of what it's like to study at KPU, especially when the information is coming from current KPU students. Having our Student Ambassadors on the panel allowed high school students to feel comfortable asking questions and hearing first-hand about the KPU student experience.

KPU Tour for the School of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

A recent visit from the School of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing was an amazing experience. The device seen below acts like a

Office of the Vice President, Students cont'd

microphone and is connected to all students' hearing aids, which enables the students to hear the speaker's voice directly without the need to project loudly during the tour, helping to provide a more supportive experience.



Peer-to-Peer Recruitment/Admission Support Project

We have launched a pilot of our Peer-to-Peer (P2P) Admissions Support Project for the Summer 2024 term. This project aims to increase contact with prospective students and improve application completion rates. Our Student Ambassadors will assist students by answering questions and redirecting them to specific departments when needed. Application statistics will be monitored weekly to gauge the project's success.

KPU INTERNATIONAL

Appreciation Event

KPU International hosted an agent appreciation event in the Philippines last Fall. Dr. Davis and Zena Mitchell were also in the Philippines for University Canada's President's Mission and were able to extend their stay to attend the agent appreciation event. Having senior leadership attend these events makes a huge impact on KPU's branding in the region.

Agent Appreciation Event in the Philippines



Pre-Departure Sessions

KPU International hosted a pre-departure session for students and their families in the Philippines. Unfortunately, the pre-departure session in India was cancelled due to the geopolitical situation at that time. Filipino Students enjoyed meeting with Carole St. Laurent, AVP International, and Uttkarsh Bhardwaj, Manager, International Recruitment and Admissions, to learn more about KPU before arriving.



Pre-Departure Session in the Philippines

Educational Fair in Mongolia

To further expand in emerging markets, KPU International attended its first online Educational Fair in Mongolia, presenting KPU programs to International students in Ulaanbaatar. An in-person recruitment trip was conducted in South Korea, Taiwan, and Japan where KPU International participated in key events to enhance KPU branding in the market. With the newly hired field representative in Colombia, there will be more focus on recruitment in Latin American countries.

Student Readmissions

Through the dedicated efforts of the KPU International Advising and Admissions teams, 21 students who were previously required to withdraw have been successfully readmitted to the Spring 2024 semester. By providing personalized assistance and addressing individual challenges, staff enabled these students to overcome obstacles and resume their educational journey with KPU.

Work Permit Letters

Support letters for Post-Graduation Work Permits (PGWP) were sent to each of the 616 international students who graduated from October to February.

In January, KPU International hosted a highly successful Live Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP) workshop, drawing an

Office of the Vice President, Students cont'd

impressive turnout of 147 participants. The workshop delved into the intricacies of the PGWP program, highlighting essential IRCC policies, application procedures, and the legal framework governing immigration. This event offered valuable insights to KPU International students, equipping them with the knowledge to navigate the complexities of immigration laws and IRCC regulations confidently.

Diwali Celebration

KPU International's Diwali Celebration in November was a resounding success! This year's on campus celebration attracted over 500 attendees, many of whom dressed in traditional clothing. The event featured a rich tapestry of cultural activities, including Diya crafting, Henna application, and authentic Indian snacks like samosas, pakoras, and bhel puri. Attendees were delighted by KPU International gift boxes filled with traditional sweets, including Kaju Katli and Ladoo, adding to the joyous atmosphere. Attendees also had the opportunity to capture memories with photos at the Diwali-themed photo station and get caricatures done by a talented artist. The overwhelmingly positive feedback from attendees highlighted the event's significance in fostering community spirit and cultural appreciation. It was truly an unforgettable celebration of joy and unity!



Fly and Dine

International students that joined the Fly and Dine event were whisked off to enjoy legendary Iceland: Landscape and Lore by Fly Over Canada. After the flight, students took a short walk to Al Porto Ristorante where they enjoyed lunch and tried some Italian food all without leaving Metro Vancouver. Many attendees noted this was the first time they had enjoyed a meal in a restaurant in Vancouver after being here for over a year!



International Peer Mentorship Appreciation Event

As an end-of-term appreciation event, student mentors met in Gastown where they enjoyed a meal at the Old Spaghetti Factory. After dinner they took part in one of North Vancouver's most spectacular experiences, the Capilano Suspension Bridge, where they were able to enjoy some breathtaking sights and activities. This was the first appreciation event that all mentors were able to attend and they enjoyed crucial bonding and relationship-building together as a team. All mentors left with the understanding that the work they do is so valuable to the university and that KPU truly appreciates each and every one of them.



Winter Wonderland Welcome

The International Peer Mentors welcomed new international students to KPU during the First Year Festival. The event theme was a Whimsical Winter Wonderland and it was full of fun activities and opportunities to connect with mentors and mentees. Students enjoyed warm drinks, yummy treats, free giveaways and even maple syrup tasting. Students came out to have fun and connect with others from their KPU community!



Valentines Chocolate Workshop

KPU International hosted an enchanting Chocolate Making Workshop that united learning with delight. Students were immersed in the art and history of chocolate crafting before diving into the hands-on experience of creating their personalized chocolate bars, exploring various flavors with excitement. With a special nod to Valentine's Day, the workshop was imbued with festive charm, making it an unforgettable experience for all attendees. To sweeten the occasion even more, students received specially curated giveaway packages. The event received glowing feedback, with participants praising it as a delicious and creatively engaging experience that left everyone feeling happy and inspired.



Lunar New Year Celebration

KPU International hosted Lunar New Year 2024 celebrations with a variety of food and fun cultural activities. The Year of the Dragon was celebrated with a Lion Dance performance, calligraphy workshops, sugar painting, caricature artists, bubble tea & waffle giveaways, a variety of fun games and festive prizes.

Faculty Mobility

In 2023, in addition to the existing guard.me Faculty Mobility Fund, KPU introduced the Global Faculty Experiences Grant, offering faculty up to \$7000 to engage in international experiences. This initiative aims to enhance KPU's global presence by allowing faculty to share and learn best practices, promote student mobility, and build partnerships with international institutions. Six faculty members received a total of \$14,752 from the guard.me Faculty Mobility Fund, while eight faculty members received a total of \$49,627.40 from the Global Faculty Experiences Grant. These funds supported various globalization initiatives, enabling faculty to gain valuable experiences, expand their global awareness, and establish connections with organizations worldwide.

Guard.me Faculty Mobility Fund

Department	Faculty	Destination	Partner Institution
BHS Urban Ecosystems	Science + Horticulture	UK and Irish Republic	South East Technological University (Ireland) Nottingham Trent University (UK)
Product Design/ Technical Apparel/ Foundations in	Wilson School of Design	Reykjavik, Iceland	Iceland University of the Arts (IUA) and Technology Transfer Office (TTO) Iceland
Interior Design	Wilson School of Design	Bogota and Calanoa, Colombia	Calanoa
Nursing	Faculty of Health	Honolulu, Hawaii	University of Hawaii
Interior Design	Wilson School of Design	Bogota and Calanoa, Colombia	Calanoa
Product Design	Wilson School of Design	Talca, Chile	Design, Systems and sustainability at Talca University

Global Faculty Experiences Grant

Department	Faculty	Destination	Partner Institution
Accounting	Business	Chiang Mai, Thailand	NA
Nursing	Health	Arusha, Tanzania	International HD Volunteers
Product Design	Design	Himalayas, Delhi and Ahmadabad, India	Spacehouse Himalayas, National Institute of Design, MadSalon
Graphic Design for Marketing / Foundations in Design	Design	London, UK	AMPS (Architecture, Media, Politics, Society) hosted at the University of London; Rebecca Ross Programme Director Graphic Communication Design at Central Saint Martins, London; The Place Bureau, London
Graphic Design for Marketing	Design		
History	Arts	Seattle, United States of America	Suzzallo Library (University of Washington) and Jackson South Asia Centre
Faculty Consultant, Environmental Scan, SDG Mapping Initiative- Melville School	Business	Indonesia	Institut Teknologi Sepuluh Nopember – ITS (Indonesia)
Interior Design	Design	Dubai	Interior Design Articulation Agreement – Canadian University Dubai

International Focus Week

“Around the World in 5 days” – KPU International had engagement with close to 400 students over 5 days last November. Students had a chance to become savvy cultural navigators at the Global Engagement Fair where they interacted with exchange and international students from different countries, enjoyed international snacks, partook in a tea-tasting session, and immersed themselves in a Virtual Reality travel experience.



Delegation Visits

KPU International has continued to foster global connections and collaborations by hosting delegation visits from partner and prospective institutions. This past Winter, KPU welcomed esteemed delegations including:

- VIA University College (Denmark)
- Irish Delegation
 - Munster Technological University (MTU)
 - Technological University of Shannon (TUS)
 - Atlantic Technological University (ATU)
 - Dundalk Institute of Technology
 - Technological University Dublin (TU Dublin)
 - South East Technological University
- Shih Chien University (South Korea)
- Edith Cowen University (Australia)
- Canada-ASEAN Scholarships and Educational Exchanges for Development (SEED) delegation – (Laos, Cambodia, Indonesia and Brunei)
 - Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)
 - BINUS University
 - Sepuluh Nopember Institute of Technology (ITS)
 - IPB University (Bogor Agricultural University)
 - Universitas Esa Unggul (UEU)
 - University of Indonesia (UI)
 - Prasetiya Mulya University Jakarta
 - Airlangga University (UNAIR)
 - National University of Laos (NUOL)

Savannakhet University

Universiti Teknologi Brunei

- Ambassador from Kazakhstan

These visits are invaluable opportunities for sharing knowledge, exchanging ideas, and exploring potential avenues for partnership and collaboration. KPU reaffirms its commitment to promoting cross-cultural understanding and facilitating meaningful exchanges within the international education community.



Articulation Pathway with Canadian University Dubai

Canadian University Dubai (CUD) is a leading institution in the United Arab Emirates, offering various undergraduate and graduate programs in multiple fields. Zainab Al-koubaisi, the Director of Global Engagement, and Paola Gavilanez, Chair of the Interior Design program at KPU, visited Canadian University Dubai from February 5th to 9th to finalize an articulation agreement. This agreement allows CUD students in their interior design program to transition seamlessly into the third year at Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU). Upon completing this pathway, students can earn either a Bachelor of Interior Design or a Bachelor of Interior Design (Honors) degree from KPU. This collaboration marks a significant milestone as it is the first in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. The agreement facilitates academic advancement for CUD students and opens doors for future partnerships, including student and faculty exchange opportunities between the two institutions.

Office of the Vice President, External Affairs

This report highlights the work of the Vice President External Affairs division, including Advancement, Alumni, KPU Foundation, and Government Relations.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

KPU Agricultural Summit grows relationships

The government relations and major events teams organized and hosted KPU's first ever [Agricultural Summit](#) recently. The summit was attended by more than 20 farmers from the Surrey area along Surrey city councillors Mike Bose and Linda Annis as well as MLA Megan Dykeman (Langley-East) and MLA Ian Paton (Delta South). The summit was a great opportunity for KPU applied researchers to share their work in agricultural technology and sustainable food systems with local farmers. Participants also toured three local farms in Surrey, Evergreen Herbs Ltd., Heppell's Potato Corporation and Burnaby Lake Greenhouses.



GR team meeting on International students

The government relations and international education teams and others have been meeting with several municipal, provincial and federal elected officials regarding the caps put on in-



ternational students. Meetings have been held with MLA Harry Bains and MP Sukh Dhaliwal (Surrey-Newton), MP John Aldag (Cloverdale-Langley City), Minister Terry Beech (Burnaby-North

Seymour), MP Parm Bains (Richmond East), MLA Megan Dykeman (Langley East) and MLA Selina Robinson's chief of staff as well as representatives from Minister Marc Miller's office. This outreach will continue for the foreseeable future.

Irish delegation impressed with KPU

KPU hosted a delegation from Ireland (photo right), which was on a Canada-wide tour of post-secondary institutions. It was very interesting to learn how similar post-secondary education is in Ireland. The group was very impressed with KPU programs and facilities and wants to arrange partnerships with KPU.

Road Safety Meetings for Richmond farm land

The government relations team has met with Richmond City Councillors Kash Heed, Andy Hobbs and Chak Au to discuss road safety concerns regarding the crosswalk connecting our Richmond Campus to our Richmond farm lands after safety concerns were expressed by students and faculty. City staff are currently researching the intersection and all three councillors are advocating for improvements on KPU's behalf.

KPU Communities Trust Outreach

The government relations team has been working with Jaret Lang (President & CEO, KPU Communities Trust) and Brent Elliott (Associate Vice President, Campus & Community Planning) to arrange meetings with elected officials to discuss the purpose and goals of the Communities Trust. Meetings have been held with MP Sukh Dhaliwal, MP Parm Bains and MP Wilson Miao (Richmond Centre). On the provincial level, meetings were held with MLA Teresa Watt (Richmond Centre), MLA Ian Paton, Minister Harry Bains and MLA Megan Dykeman.

Community relations

KPU earns EDI award from Cloverdale Chamber

The Cloverdale District Chamber of Commerce recently recognized KPU for its commitment to fostering an equitable and inclusive learning and working environment. The [award](#) was presented during the Clovies, the Chamber's annual award ceremony (Top right photo). As outlined in its [Vision 2026](#) document, one of five themes of KPU's goals is justice — to foster decolonization and reconciliation, advance antiracism, and further equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility.

OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT

Fundraising Activity

Since the last report prepared on October 27, an additional \$480,000 has been raised by the Office of Advancement team.

Office of the Vice President, External Affairs cont'd

This report highlights the work of the Vice President External Affairs division, including Advancement, Alumni, KPU Foundation, and Government Relations.

Government Relations

KPU Agricultural Summit grows relationships

The government relations and major events teams organized and hosted KPU's first ever [Agricultural Summit](#) recently. The summit was attended by more than 20 farmers from the Surrey area along Surrey city councillors Mike Bose and Linda Annis as well as MLA Megan Dykeman (Langley-East) and MLA Ian Paton (Delta South). The summit was a great opportunity for KPU applied researchers to share their work in agricultural technology and sustainable food systems with local farmers. Participants also toured three local farms in Surrey, Evergreen Herbs Ltd., Heppell's Potato Corporation and Burnaby Lake Greenhouses (photo right).

GR team meeting on International students

The government relations and international education teams and others have been meeting with several municipal, provincial and federal elected officials regarding the caps put on international students. Meetings have been held with MLA Harry Bains and MP Sukh Dhaliwal (Surrey-Newton), MP John Aldag (Cloverdale-Langley City), Minister Terry Beech (Burnaby-North Seymour), MP Parm Bains (Richmond East), MLA Megan Dykeman (Langley East) and MLA Selina Robinson's chief of staff as well as representatives from Minister Marc Miller's office. This outreach will continue for the foreseeable future.

Irish delegation impressed with KPU

KPU hosted a delegation from Ireland (photo right), which was on a Canada-wide tour of post-secondary institutions. It was very interesting to learn how similar post-secondary education is in Ireland. The group was very impressed with KPU programs and facilities and wants to arrange partnerships with KPU.

Road Safety Meetings for Richmond farm land

The government relations team has met with Richmond City Councillors Kash Heed, Andy Hobbs and Chak Au to discuss road safety concerns regarding the crosswalk connecting our Richmond Campus to our Richmond farm lands after safety concerns were expressed by students and faculty. City staff are currently researching the intersection and all three councillors are advocating for improvements on KPU's behalf.

KPU Communities Trust Outreach

The government relations team has been working with Jaret Lang (President & CEO, KPU Communities Trust) and Brent Elliott (Associate Vice President, Campus & Community Planning) to arrange meetings with elected officials to discuss the purpose and goals of the Communities Trust. Meetings have been held with MP Sukh Dhaliwal, MP Parm Bains and MP Wilson Miao (Richmond Centre). On the provincial level, meetings were held with MLA Teresa Watt (Richmond Centre), MLA Ian Paton, Minister Harry Bains and MLA Megan Dykeman.

Community relations

KPU earns EDI award from Cloverdale Chamber

The Cloverdale District Chamber of Commerce recently recognized KPU for its commitment to fostering an equitable and inclusive learning and working environment. The [award](#) was presented during the Clovies, the Chamber's annual award ceremony (Top right photo). As outlined in its [Vision 2026](#) document, one of five themes of KPU's goals is justice — to foster decolonization and reconciliation, advance antiracism, and further equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility.

Office of Advancement

Fundraising Activity

Since the last report prepared on October 27, an additional \$480,000 has been raised by the Office of Advancement team. To date, more than \$1,702,000 has been raised for the fiscal year ending March 31st.

Giving Tuesday

On Tuesday, Nov. 28 our donor community came together and raised more than \$65,000 to help KPU students in financial need. The funds raised will help to create quality, life-long learning opportunities for KPU students and to help them achieve personal, social and career success. A new food security fund was also established for students experiencing food insecurity.

Office of the Vice President, Administration

FACILITIES SERVICES

UNIVERSITY SPACE, DESIGN & CAPITAL PROJECTS

Entertainment Arts Program – Richmond Renovation: The 3rd-floor renovations are complete and ready for the Winter semester. The renovated 3rd floor includes five high-tech computerized classrooms, a new communication room, and a meeting room. A multipurpose room, gaming room, and a green screen room will be constructed before the end of the fiscal year.



Richmond Main Building – Employee Lounge 1900: The existing carpet and vinyl flooring at the employee lounge needed replacement to correlate with the refreshed furniture in this area.

Before



After

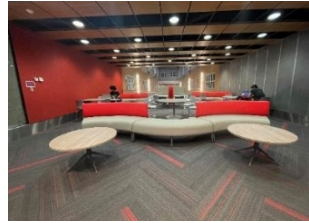


Richmond Main Building – Furniture Refresh and Carpet Installation in 2nd and 3rd Floor Common Areas: The existing furniture in the 2nd and 3rd floor common areas needed replacement. By introducing various forms of furniture in harmony with KPU branding colours and new carpets throughout, a welcoming and functional space was created for students. The new setting provides opportunities for individual work as well as group study zones.

Before

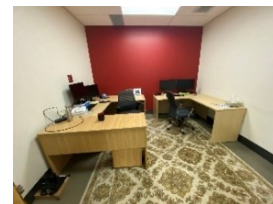
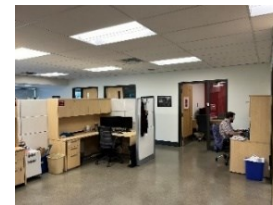
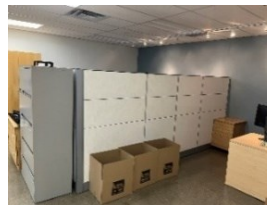


After

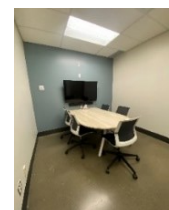
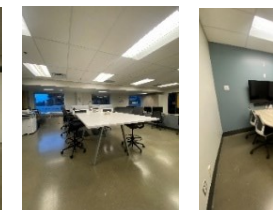


Teaching and Learning Office Refresh – Surrey Campus, Arbutus Building, Room A2400-A2416: The office refresh was completed on time at the end of January 2024. The 195m² Office was transformed from a disjointed collection of reused furnishings to a cohesive design with an open-concept floor plan. The Teaching and Learning department embraced an Activity-Based Work (ABW) environment with six benching stations, a standing-height community table, comfortable break-out seating, a focus room with four stations, a small meeting room, a private office for two and a comfortable breakroom.

Before



After



Faculty of Arts Office Refresh – Surrey Campus, Arbutus Building, Room A2110: The office refresh was completed on time at the end of January 2024. This 160m² dated office underwent a significant furniture upgrade, better utilizing space, increasing efficiencies. Increasing storage and workstations was a primary

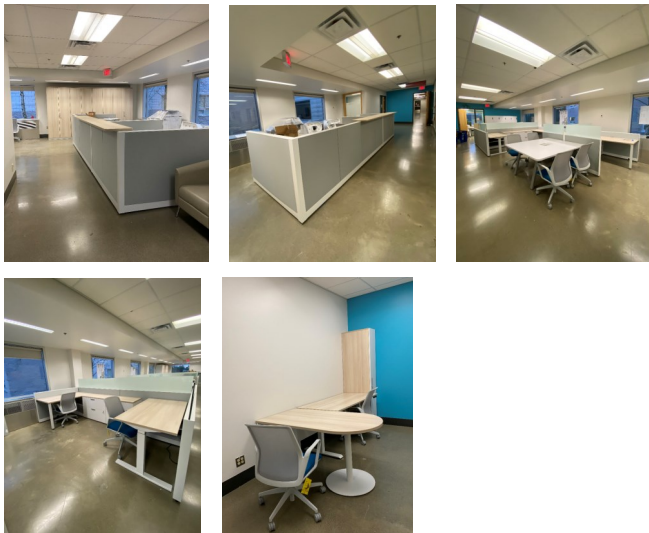
Office of the Vice President, Administration cont'd

goal for the project. The newly designed layout has increased from 9 to 13 workstations and added storage throughout.

Before



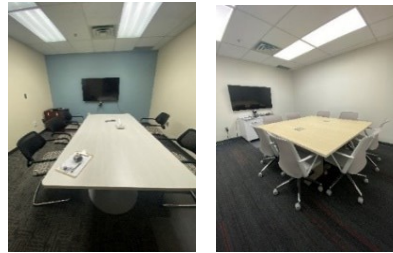
After



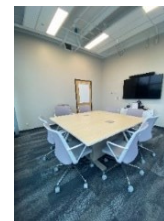
IT Office Refresh – Surrey Campus, Arbutus Building, Room A358: As the storage demand increased for KPU's IT department, the Facilities Design team responded by removing under-utilized workstations and decluttering the office. New storage racking and a large workbench were installed to alleviate their storage needs. Completing this refresh meant IT wouldn't have to pay \$100/month for off-site equipment storage.

Small Meeting Room Refresh – Surrey Campus: New carpeting, paint, roller blinds, lighting, and furnishings were added to four of Surrey Campus's small meeting rooms. The objective was to match the aesthetic of the recently refreshed Cedar Boardroom.

S-Main 234 – Before & After Cedar 1140 – Before & After



Cedar 1065 – Before & After Fir 3416 – Before & After



Cedar Boardroom – Surrey Campus: New tables have been installed in the Cedar Boardroom to address the mobility and modesty concerns from the table installed last year. The Global tables have larger casters, allowing for greater mobility, and a full-length modesty panel providing maximum privacy.

Office of the Vice President, Administration cont'd

Before



After



Roller Blinds Update – Langley Campus, East and West Building: Replaced old roller shades in the East and West building with our new standard roller shades.

Cloverdale Dean's Suite – Student Services: A new desk, partitions and task chair were purchased, and the front counter was reconfigured to meet the ergonomic needs of staff members to help reduce the risk of inquiry in the future.

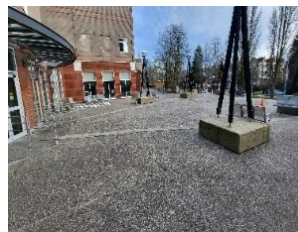
The Assessment and Testing Centre – Tek Pods: Pods work together to create a diverse range of small-scale private environments within the open office. These Tek Pods were installed in 118 FIR to provide access testing services for students with accessibility requirements.



MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS

Rick Hansen Accessibility Certification (RHFAC): Facilities Services partnered with RHFAC professionals to conduct an audit of all KPU Campus buildings, providing us with a rating for each building and, an RHFAC Rating Summary and a detailed Accessibility Gap Analysis Report, which allows us to see where improvements are needed. To date, with each audit that has been completed, we received an Accessibility Certification Rating, and they are: Brew Instructional Lab, Langley Campus & Header House. We are working to have the rest of the buildings (Tech, Richmond and Civic Plaza) rated by mid-March. As each building is certified, we will order an RHFAC plaque to place in the building.

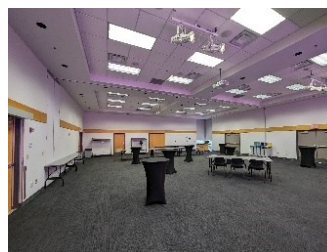
Richmond Campus South Plaza: Work has begun on the Richmond Plaza renovation. This project will replace the end-of-life membrane that protects the parking lot level below, upgrade lighting and railings, and expand the concrete decking. Projected completion: July 2024



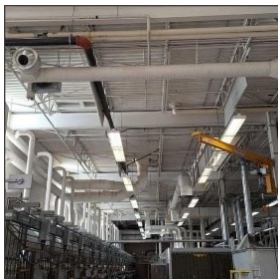
Richmond Melville Conference Room Door Replacement: The KPU Richmond Melville conference doors were replaced. High-quality electric panic hardware and automated door sensors have been installed to increase accessibility for students and staff. The new door systems also include wave sensors to provide a touchless exit option for users.



Surrey Campus Cedar Conference Centre: A complete refresh was done in the Conference Centre during the holiday closure, with paint, new wallcoverings, and carpet tiles installation.



KPU Tech Welding Shop: Extensive cleaning was completed to remove particulates from the equipment and air handling systems.



Snow Response: FSG's supported snow removal activities across the campuses, attending the site as early as 5:00 a.m. to clear snow and ensure the grounds were safe for the KPU community.



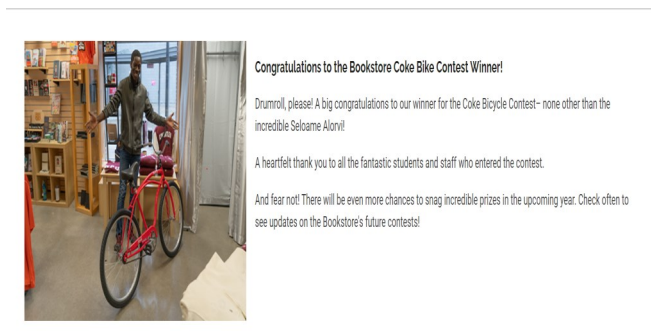
ANCILLARY SERVICES

Food Services

Retail Food Services Procurement: The procurement process has resulted in a preferred proponent, and contract negotiations are currently underway.

KPU Bookstores

KPU Bookstore's "Win a Coca-Cola Bike" Contest: The contest concluded, and we provided valuable metrics to Marketing for future promotions and social marketing.



KPU Bookstore POS System: The KPU Bookstore also completed migrating its POS system to the cloud, which reduces transactional processing time, allows quicker troubleshooting, and eliminates the need for POS servers on each campus. Moneris pin pads were also upgraded to ensure continued PCI compli-

ance.

Surrey Campus Bookstore: We have signed an agreement with a local Katzie First Nation artist, Rain Pierre, to develop Indigenous design elements for the Surrey Bookstore.

Rebranding Bookstores: We've begun work to re-brand the Bookstore to become the KPU Campus Store. This is a more accurate reflection of the products and services that we provide.

Parking

Tech Campus Parking: With the loss of 25 parking stalls along 55th Avenue due to the hospital construction, KPU Tech parking is often at capacity. Working with a consultant and Facilities, Ancillary Services is looking into options to temporarily expand parking.

Richmond Campus Reserved Parking Signage: Additional reserved-only signage has been installed in the underground parking lot at the Richmond campus to help clearly define the reserved parking stalls.

Print Shop, Mailroom & Receiving

Semester Startup Activities: Course materials and course manuals were produced on target for Faculty for Spring Semester startup. A new Exam Booklet cover was updated and put into production after being reviewed by the Office of Equity & Inclusive Communities. These Exam Booklets are produced at the Print Shop and distributed for Faculty use through the Copy Centres on each Campus.

IT INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

Entertainment Arts Program

All 11 classrooms in the ENTA project are complete. The 6 classrooms on the 2nd floor are currently being used by the ENTA program, with all required Audiovisual (AV), networking, PC's and monitors with arms installed. The 5 classrooms on the 3rd floor are ready for ENTA use with required AV and networking in place. PC's and monitors and arms will be installed once ENTA is ready to use these classrooms. The display wall is complete (the vendor is scheduled to install a replacement cracked screen in mid Feb). Procurement of AV equipment for the Multipurpose is currently in progress.

Tenant Merger Project

Testing of Information Barriers v2 is currently in progress and implementation is scheduled during the reading break period.

Non-Banner Cloud Project

Agreements for Amazon Web Services (AWS), VMWare on

Cloud (VMC) and Palo Alto have been finalized. The design of KPU's cloud architecture was completed in January. The landing zone and control tower have been setup in AWS. The setup of Firewalls and VMC environment are currently in progress. The first migrations with assistance of the AWS Proserve team will begin mid-February right through to the end of March.

AV and Digital Classrooms

Completed New Installations:

- 1x Lightboard Recording Studio
- 4x Technology Enhanced Classrooms
- 3x standard e-classroom
- 1x Teams Ready Meeting Room
- 2x large screen monitor installation for presentation spaces
- 1x Library Study Room

Refreshes include:

- 1x science lab
- 1x Teams Ready Meeting Room
- 2x standard e-classroom
- 1x Library Study Room

IT APPLICATION SERVICES

BANNER Initiatives:

Banner Tax processing (T4/T2202)

Several significant changes by Canada Revenue Agency were applied to the BANNER system. The IT, Payroll, OREG and Finance teams are working to get this deployed by Feb 28, 2024 deadline.

Curriculum Information Management System (Program phase) Project

This project is in its final stages with a targeted go-live in June 2024.

Ellucian Experience Portal

The Experience team continues its work on a new student portal to replace the out-of-date Online Self Service(OSS) portal product to leverage current web technologies including a new mobile application for student and employee services targeted for the Summer of 2024.

Ellucian CRM Advise

The Ellucian Customer Relationship Management (CRM) Advise project goal is to implement a new advising solution for KPU.

The project team is in the configuration phase with Ellucian, with the move to testing and training starting in April. A soft go-live for staff advising is targeted for June 2024.

Other Projects:

Bookstore POS Cloud Migration

The Bookstore Point of Sale cloud migration project completed in December 2023. The final phase will be to move the main Bookstore server to the cloud later this fall in 2024.

KPU Website Migration to Cloud

The Marketing team's project to move the KPU.CA website to the cloud was completed in December 2023. This now ensures that the website has a higher rate of availability and is independent of the KPU technology infrastructure.

INFORMATION SECURITY SERVICES

Student Multifactor Authentication (MFA) Expansion

Phase one is now complete with all active Melville School of Business students using MFA. Additionally, students throughout all other programs are given the option to self-enroll. To date, a total of 3582 students are using MFA. The next phase of this project will be targeting students in the Faculty of Arts.

Cyber Incident Response Training

KPU Executives were provided a Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercise facilitated by MNP to help the University prepare for a cyber incident. The resulting post-exercise report acknowledged areas of strengths, and a summary of recommendations for KPU to continue maturing its incident response capabilities.

Additional KPU Executive incident response training is planned for later this year along with a workshop to help develop a decision tree for dealing with ransomware incidents.

National Cyber Security Assessment

IT has completed and submitted the annual National Cybersecurity Assessment that enables research and education organizations to annually receive comprehensive assessments of their cybersecurity capabilities. The assessment report will be ready for review and actioning in February 2024.

Student Housing

In January, CCP hosted in-person engagement pop-ups across KPU campuses to inform the development of KPU's first Student Housing Strategy. The strategy will help guide the development of student housing at KPU over the long term, as well

as help shape the business case for KPU's first student housing facility at the Surrey campus. A detailed draft Student Housing Strategy will be available in the spring for University Executive's review and subsequently further community input.

CCP and Procurement Services are in the process of hiring the consultant team who will work with CCP to develop the KPU Surrey student housing business case, which will be submitted to the Provincial Treasury Board for funding approval later this year, following review by KPU's University Executive and Board of Governors.

Surrey Childcare and ECE Facility

CCP has submitted a rezoning application to the City of Surrey for the future KPU Surrey Childcare Facility. The team has now procured professional project management services to help facilitate the design and construction of the building and the project is now starting the design development stage of the process.

Office of Sustainability and the Sustainability Hub

CCP's Office of Sustainability is working collaboratively with members of faculty to establish a KPU Sustainability Hub (the "Hub"), a space where members of the campus community, including faculty, staff, and students, come together to collectively advance sustainable performance at KPU through dialogue, advocacy, and action. The Hub had its "kick-off" meeting on November 15th, 2023. Since then, two "Sub-Hubs" (project-specific working groups) have been created: one to develop a draft institution-wide definition of sustainability for KPU; while the other has been informing the framework for KPU's first Annual Sustainability Report which will be launched later this year.

Launch of the Annual Sustainability Survey

CCP worked with the Office of Planning and Accountability to develop KPU's first Annual Sustainability Survey, which is currently launched for participation from KPU's employees and students. The survey will remain open until the end of February for employees, and until early March for students. This survey will help guide the University's sustainability commitments, including future projects and initiatives, and strategic transportation decision-making. Aggregate results of this survey will be reported publicly through KPU's website and as a part of KPU's Sustainability, Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System (STARS) submission later this year, as well as in KPU's first Annual Sustainability Report. These results will also inform

future sustainability-related outreach materials.

Transportation Demand Management Strategy

In January, CCP hosted in-person engagement pop-ups across KPU campuses to inform the drafting of KPU's first Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Strategy, which is currently underway. The TDM Strategy aims to shape how students, faculty, and staff travel to and from campus by managing travel demand, with a focus on reducing drive-alone (single-occupancy vehicle) trips. The objectives of this strategy are to shift travel patterns towards sustainable transportation modes, reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with campus community travel, reduce demand for vehicle parking on campus, and inform opportunities for redeveloping existing parking lots. A draft TDM Strategy will be presented to the campus community in March after the University Executive's review.

CCP New Staff

CCP has recently hired a new Divisional Business Manager, Zarine Mistry. Zarine brings to KPU over a decade of senior administrative experience from Douglas College. Zarine holds a Bachelor's degree in Advertising and Visual Communications and is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Professional Communications. CCP has also hired a Student Assistant who will support a number of pending projects, including future student engagement on KPU's student housing efforts throughout 2024.

MARKETING, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND MAJOR EVENTS

Faculty Campaigns

Campaigns to support our seven faculties were all launched in the fall with creative assets to support their priority programs and messaging. The Faculty of Academic & Career Preparation, Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Science, Faculty of Trades and Technology and the Wilson School of Design have primarily utilized a digital advertising strategy this year.

The Melville School of Business is continuing its high exposure campaign with digital advertising as well as out-of-home advertising options including transit shelter ads and a large 68 ft wall mural at the Granville Skytrain station, which expands our reach of over 1.1 million impressions per month.



To support the various campaigns, we also promoted KPU through industry specific magazines and newsletters including the BC School Counsellor's Association, City of Surrey Recreation Guides, CPHR BC & Yukon – People Talk Magazine, BC Business and Business in Vancouver.

We supported the launch of two new programs: Citation in Cloud Architecture and Security and Diploma in Front-End Development. Digital ads were created to promote the new programs as well as a magazine article in Business in Vancouver.

Sponsored Content Stories

We ran two articles on the Daily Hive Vancouver that promoted the [Bachelor of Psychiatric Nursing program](#) (December 2023) and the [Post-Baccalaureate programs](#) at KPU (January 2024). This platform reaches our target demographic with tens of thousands of readers.

KPU Brand Awareness

We are continuing our KPU brand campaign featuring our students in action. We are receiving a high number of impressions in all of our out-of-home advertising such as digital billboards, transit shelter ads and full wrap busses which reach millions of people per month. Ads are running on four outdoor LED screens at Hwy 99 (Massey Tunnel; North and South bound), Hwy 91 (Alex Fraser Bridge) and Hwy 17 (Tsawwassen Springs) which allows us over 100,000 impressions per month.

In addition, we created a variety of ads to support external affairs initiatives and partnerships including Dress for Success, Delta Chamber of Commerce, Surrey Eagles, Surrey Now Leader, SBOT Business Excellence Awards, Shakti Film Festival and the Surrey Now Leader Community Leader Award.

Social Media

We continue to see an increase in engagements and post link clicks across all our main social media platforms. Facebook – up 33% and 350%, Twitter – up 176% and 628% and LinkedIn – up 32% and 66%.

Event Support

The Marketing Services Department supported various high-profile events with designing marketing materials and promotion including (Re)Imagining the Indian Ocean World: A Symposium on Literature and Culture, New Moon Gala and the KPU Speaker Series at Science World. In addition, we supported the Mindful Campus Initiative within the Wilson School of Design by creating various materials, banners and swag.

Web Infrastructure

The KPU Web Team completed a major web infrastructure project moving the kpu.ca website from local servers to AWS (Cloud Hosting). This was a year-long project that involved a major upgrade to the version of our content management system, Drupal, and other areas of the website to enhance security and web performance. The team worked closely with the IT team to ensure there was little disruption of services to the internal KPU community.

Website

The KPU Website received over 4.3 million page-views during this period and saw a total of 883,000 unique visitors. The top cities web visitors were visiting from were Surrey, Vancouver, Burnaby, Richmond, Abbotsford and Langley. And over 55% accessed our website from a mobile device.

We generated 6,907 leads on the website from digital ads. Leads from marketing campaigns are a point of funnel entries for prospective students. Form submissions from the website lead the prospects to the Future Students office where the data is collected, recruiters reach out to provide more information and we send follow-up emails to keep them engaged with KPU.

Digital Advertising

Our Digital ads resulted in over 31 million impressions and 142,000 clicks through to our website.

Office of the Vice President, Administration cont'd

We continue to see high performance with TikTok advertising to our domestic target audiences with over 15 million impressions and over 300,000 engagements on the platform.

Our Connected TV Ads (Digital TV programming and targeting) had over 2 million impressions on many digital channels (news stations and popular digital programming).

We launched campaigns for our two new programs in a short period of time and the results are very promising. The digital ads for Diploma in Front End Development for Interactive Applications and Citation in Cloud Architecture and Security resulted in over 20 leads generated for the Future Students office in the first month of running ads.



Digital Ads for 2 new KPU programs

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & MAJOR EVENTS

Community Engagement and Major Events spent the past few months hard at work planning the marketing and events logistics for February Convocation & KPU Day, while successfully executing one of our busiest winter event seasons to date.

October to January Events

October 10	KPU Langley Nursing Lab Grand Opening
October 10	Government Relations Town Hall Meeting at KPU Surrey
October 14	KPU Open House
October 25	Wilson School of Design Donor and Industry Stewardship Event
October 27	Accessibility Paper Launch
October 31	Halloween Photobooth at KPU Surrey
November 3	KPU Agriculture Summit

November 23 to November 24	KPU Bike-a-thon for Men's Mental Health
November 24 to January 10	Cloverdale Christmas Tree Festival at the Museum of Surrey
November 25	Surrey Tree Lighting Festival
November 25	President's Seasonal Reception at KPU Civic Plaza
December 3	Surrey Santa Parade
December 6	Surrey Fire Fighters' Charity Gift Wrapping Station at Guildford Town Centre
January 11	New Moon Gala



President's Seasonal Reception

KPU Bike-a-thon for Men's Mental Health



