



March 2022

Welcome to our March issue, focusing on the latest research news, events and opportunities. From undergraduate research to professorial lectures, this month's newsletter has great updates for you!

We always appreciate hearing from you, so please feel free to [share your news with us](#). Thank you!

## Research News

### TRU students create a roadmap to research

Created by students, for students, CURN provides a roadmap to research, making it more accessible, approachable and attainable. [Read more](#)



### TRU chooses new provost after national search

Dr. Gillian Balfour has accepted the position of Provost and Vice-President Academic, effective July 1. [Read more](#)



## Lecture series celebrates newly promoted professors

TRU recognizes Dr. Matthew Reudink, co-chair of Biological Sciences, who has received full professor and whose research interests are behavioural ecology, evolution and ornithology. [Read more](#)



## TRU researcher develops climate-resilient crops

Department of Computing Science faculty member Dr. Yan Yan received a Discovery Grant in 2021 to focus on developing novel computational methods to assist plant breeding. [Read more](#)



## Women business leaders share the wealth, study shows

Dr. Salvador Barragan from the Bob Gaglardi School of Business and Economics looks at how female business owners view entrepreneurship and finds their perspective may make them more effective at spreading wealth than their male counterparts. [Read more](#)



## TRU researcher designs 6G networks of the future

Department of Engineering faculty member Dr. Omer Waqar received a Discovery Grant in 2021 to focus on designing smart and reconfigurable radio environments for 6G networks. [Read more](#)

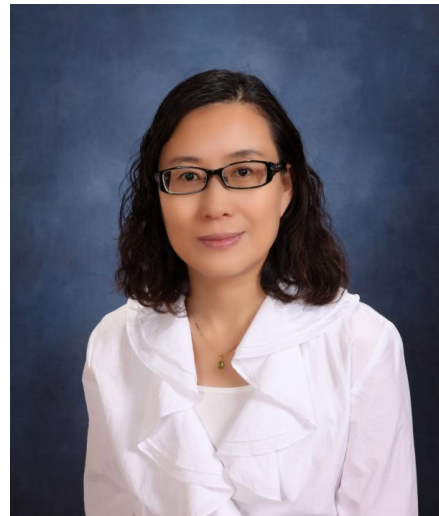


The value of communication and

## social media in real estate

Does technology add significant value to selling real estate? Accounting faculty member Dr. Liz Yanmin Gao clarifies our understanding of the question.

[Read more](#)



## TRU research drives meaningful impact

Dr. Javed Tomal, from the department of Mathematics and Statistics, received a Discovery Grant in 2021 to focus on housing predictions, drug discovery, public health and big data. [Read more](#)



## Thank you, Mae; Welcome, Jessie

On behalf of TRU's research community, we'd like to thank Mae Romero for her expertise, collegiality and commitment supporting research during the last two challenging years. Mae has left her position as Research Finance Officer, and she'll be sorely missed. We really appreciate your contributions, Mae, and wish you the best in your future endeavours.

We would also like to welcome Senior Financial Planning Consultant Jessie Robson, who will be temporarily stepping into the role of research accountant. To help streamline the transition, a new email address has been created to centralize requests for all research financial services, [FinResearch@tru.ca](mailto:FinResearch@tru.ca).



## Finance year-end

March 31 is TRU's fiscal year-end which entails reporting to the Province of BC under a constrained time frame. Fiscal year-end requirements are the priority, and therefore any

non-urgent research-related requests to [FinResearch@tru.ca](mailto:FinResearch@tru.ca) will be responded to on a prioritized basis by the end of April.

## Form 300s

A reminder that Form 300s for any tri-agency funded research projects are due on June 30. Finance will send these forms to researchers sometime in May. Researchers will be required to review, sign and return these forms to Finance by June 30.

## Update on Essential Travel – Message from the Provost

Essential travel is important for research, conferences, field experiences and many other rich opportunities for students, faculty and staff. TRU continues to follow the advice of the federal government and travel requests will be handled [as follows](#) for the foreseeable future.

## Research security

Open and collaborative research environments may be vulnerable to abuse through theft of data and cyber threats. As a researcher, it is important for you to take reasonable measures to safeguard your work. The following Government of Canada sites provide some guidance on how to better protect yourself:

[Safeguarding your research](#)

[Where can I learn more?](#)

[Security considerations for research and development](#)

## Kudos

**Noah Arney**, Career Services Coordinator, Career and Experiential Learning, co-authored "[Work-Integrated Learning Policy in Alberta: A Post-Structural Analysis](#)," an article published in the peer-reviewed *Canadian Journal of Educational Administration and Policy*.

**Dr. Sheila Blackstock**, Assistant Professor, School of Nursing, co-authored "[A review: Developing an ecological model approach to co-worker incivility experiences of new graduate nurses](#)," an article published in the peer-reviewed *Journal of Advanced Nursing*.

**Dr. Catharine Dishke**, Director, Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching, co-authored "[Online, Qualitative Research: Conducting a Multi-institutional, Multinational Study on Immersive Learning Pedagogies](#)," an article published in the peer-reviewed *Sage Research Method Cases*.

**Dr. Mike Flannigan**, BC Research Chair in Predictive Services, Emergency Management and Fire Science, co-authored "[Mapping organic layer thickness and fuel load of the boreal forest in Alberta, Canada](#)," an article published in the peer-reviewed journal, *Geoderma*. Dr.

Flannigan also co-authored "[Future wildfire extent and frequency determined by the longest fire-conducive weather spell](#)," an article published in the peer-reviewed journal *Science of the Total Environment*.

**Dr. Yanmin Gao**, Associate Professor, Bob Gaglardi School of Business and Economics, co-authored "[Value of Communication and Social Media: An Equilibrium Theory of Messaging](#)," an article published in the peer-reviewed *Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics*.

**Dr. Edward R. Howe**, Associate Professor and Chair, School of Education, published *Teacher Acculturation: Stories of Pathways to Teaching*, a thought-provoking book that provides a window into the world of novice teachers from the 1950s through present day.

**Dr. Sharon Karsten**, Faculty Member, Open Learning/Program Delivery, authored "[Walk with Me: Uncovering the Human Dimensions of the Drug Poisoning Crisis in Small BC Communities](#)," a published policy report developed in the Comox Valley and Kamloops. **Dr. Will Garrett-Petts**, Vice-President Research, was the Principal Investigator of the "Walk with Me" research and community action project.

**John O'Fee, QC**, Assistant Teaching Professor and **Dr. Trent Tucker**, Associate Teaching Professor, Bob Gaglardi School of Business and Economics, participated in "[From Sage on the Stage to Host with the Most](#)", a chapter within the newly published book, *Higher Education Implications for Teaching and Learning During COVID-19*.

## Communicating Research

### [InfoNews Kamloops | Why rise in hate and domestic crimes during COVID are expected to continue](#)

While the roots for hate crimes and domestic abuse are different, and not necessarily directly linked to COVID, there doesn't seem to be any decline, according to Dr. Rochelle Stevenson, Interim Department Chair for TRU's Department of Sociology and Anthropology. [Read more](#)

### [CBC BC | Great thinkers love walking. This retired prof explains why you should do it, too](#)

Retired TRU philosophy professor and Professor Emeritus Dr. Bruce Baugh discusses his new book, *Philosophers' Walks*, and says walking is good for mental health and creativity. It was also something many great philosophers and writers did to generate ideas. [Read more](#)

### [The Georgia Straight | TRU gets ready to launch Master of Arts in Human Rights and Social Justice](#)

Dean of Arts Dr. Richard McCutcheon feels a new Master of Arts in Human Rights and Social Justice, which reflects recommendations for education by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, is perfectly timed. [Read more](#)

## Kamloops This Week | The Experimental City tackles climate change issues in Kamloops

This semester, Researcher-in-Residence Dr. Cheryl Gladu launched a new Master of Business Administration course called The Experimental City. Gladu says students are immersed in the community for the class, working on problems or questions that came out of the City of Kamloops' Community Climate Action Plan. [Read more](#)

## Kamloops This Week | The inflation squeeze: The long, hard road toward two percent

Economics professor Dr. Laura Lamb discusses the high inflation that's been seen in Canada to date. She says it's a symptom of the pandemic and a result of its impact globally. [Read more](#)

## United Nations Environment Programme news | As climate changes, world grapples with a wildfire crisis

Dr. Mike Flannigan, Research Chair at TRU and author of a UN report on wildfire and climate change, says ecosystem damage caused by wildfires can amplify the impact of natural events. [Read more](#)

## Economic Trust of the Southern Interior (ETSI-BC) | Tourism Innovation Lab builds entrepreneurship

At the Tourism Innovation Lab, TRU students apply their skills and critical thinking to the creation of tourism product ideas. The Lab is a partnership between the Tourism Management department ([Dave Carter](#)), the Kamloops Innovation Centre, Tourism Kamloops and the TRU Generator ([Lincoln Smith](#)), which supports student entrepreneurs.

## CBC Vancouver | The spread of misinformation and disinformation about Canadians' legal rights

COVID-19 isn't the only pandemic threatening Canada. The spread of misinformation and disinformation about Canadian's legal rights is as well, according to TRU Law faculty member Jeffrey Meyers. [Read more](#)

## Science | Night won't save us from wildfires in a warming world

Wildfire expert Dr. Mike Flannigan says the nightly fluctuations in weather are an important factor in fire behaviour, but they aren't "the only story line" for what's influencing nighttime fires. [Read more](#)

## Experts list

Media is reaching out to TRU routinely, searching for experts to speak on a variety of issues. Please make yourself and your expertise more accessible by joining the [Experts List](#). If you would like to be a part of the list, please take a moment and [simply register online](#).

## Research Funding Digest

The Office of Research and Graduate Studies is pleased to share our [Research Funding Digest for March 2022](#). Please feel free to share it with your colleagues.

To receive tailored funding prospects, please subscribe to our **Funding Distribution Listservs** (Health / Science and Engineering / Social Sciences and Humanities) and the **Monthly Research Digest** by sending an email to [facultyresearch@tru.ca](mailto:facultyresearch@tru.ca)

## Opportunities

### Be part of *The Conversation*

Are you a faculty member who wants to share your research with a larger audience? *The Conversation*, a daily independent news and analysis online publication, wants to hear from you.

Authors are invited to write on a subject on which they have proven expertise, which they must disclose alongside their article. [Learn more](#)

THE CONVERSATION

### Congress 2022

Deadline: Register before Thursday, March 31 to receive the early-bird discount

From May 12 to 20, scholars from across Canada and the world will gather virtually for the 91st Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences.

This year's theme is *Transitions* where attendees are invited to re-imagine the world we inhabit, so that together we can build a future that is more diverse, sustainable, democratic and just. [Register here](#)



## National Collaborating Centres for Public Health Knowledge Translation Graduate Student Awards

Deadline: Thursday, March 31

Value: Three prizes of \$1,500

These awards recognize graduate students' knowledge translation excellence in public health in Canada. Prizes are awarded during the Canadian Public Health Association's annual conference. Award winners will present their knowledge translation research projects to an audience of public health networks in Canada, during the conference, or via webinar (date and format to be confirmed). [Find out more](#)

## Sustainability Research Grant for Faculty

Deadline: Thursday, March 31

Value: Four awards of \$5,000 each

Funded by the TRU Sustainability Office, the purpose of the grant is to encourage interdisciplinary research and expand knowledge of sustainability and sustainable development, defined in terms of sustainability's four pillars—environmental, social, economic and cultural. All applications should be submitted to [jgordon@tru.ca](mailto:jgordon@tru.ca).

## Sustainability Research Grant for Students

Deadline: Thursday, March 31

Value: Two awards of \$5,000 each

The purpose of this award is to encourage interdisciplinary research and expand knowledge of sustainability and sustainable development and practices, defined in terms of TRU's four pillars of sustainability: environmental, social, economic and cultural. Students are strongly encouraged to discuss their research project with [James Gordon](#) from the TRU Sustainability Office before submitting.

## Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Cultural Mapping

Thursday, March 31, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., HL 269

Wednesday, April 13, 11 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., HL 269

Thursday, April 14, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m., HL 269

Students! Do you have an hour or two to share your equity, diversity and inclusion story? A team of TRU researchers are capturing experiences of belonging using cultural mapping, an arts-based research method where people draw and then talk about their drawing. Free drinks and donuts to help get you inspired.

Email [Evelyn Asiedu](#) to learn more.

## Mitacs Globalink Research Award Webinar: Karlsruhe Institute of Technology



Tuesday, April 5, 7 – 8:30 a.m. PT on Zoom

This webinar will showcase Mitacs' international partner, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), in Germany. The goal of this event is to promote potential research collaborations between Mitacs' Canadian partners and KIT, through the [Globalink Research Award \(GRA\) program](#). The webinar will focus on AI, hydrogen and quantum technologies.

[Register for this event](#)

## PhD position: fire weather and fire management

Deadline: Friday, April 15

This project is part of a large NSERC-supported Strategic Network grant focusing on improving wildfire science in Canada ([canadawildfire.org/nsercnetwork](http://canadawildfire.org/nsercnetwork)). The successful candidate will have the opportunity to work with university and government researchers, as well as students throughout Canada who are researching fire ecology, fire behaviours and fire/forest management.

This PhD could be located at the University of Toronto or the University of Alberta, with an option to spend time at TRU.

## Mitacs Training: April – June 2022

Sign up for Mitacs facilitated sessions now to gain the soft skills needed to make your project a success. Graduate students and post-doctoral fellows are invited to register by creating an account or logging in to Mitacs' learning management system [EDGE](#). For any questions, contact [training@mitacs.ca](mailto:training@mitacs.ca).

**Date:** Wednesday, April 27, 2 – 4 p.m. PDT

**Session:** Building your project network map

**Course bundle:** Networking skills

**self-paced e-learning:** Advance your reach

**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. PDT

**Session:** Applying the principles of sound leadership and team building

**Course bundle:** Leadership skills

**Self-paced e-learning:** High performing leadership and teams

**Date:** Thursday, May 19, 2 – 4 p.m. PDT

**Session:** Refined project communication plan

**Course bundle:** Communication skills

**Self-paced e-learning:** Enhance your communication skills

**Date:** Friday, June 10, 2 – 4 p.m. PDT

**Session:** Project and time management

**Course bundle:** Project and time management

**Self-paced e-learning:** Spur your project and time management skills