

# COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCE UPDATE

**June 1, 2021**

To provide feedback on *Arts and Science Update*, contact College of Arts and Science communications: [artsci.communications@usask.ca](mailto:artsci.communications@usask.ca).



## USask honours major research award recipients

College of Arts and Science faculty members Dr. Steven Rayan (PhD) and Dr. Julita Vassileva (PhD) are two of the four recipients of major research awards from the University of Saskatchewan. Rayan received the New Researcher Award and Vassileva received the Distinguished Researcher Award.



## Message of congratulations from Dean Peta Bonham-Smith

The College of Arts and Science's 2021 spring graduation celebration will be held online on Tuesday, June 1, at 5 pm. Dr. Peta Bonham-Smith (PhD), Dean of the College of Arts and Science and a professor of biology, will

offer a message of congratulations to the college's newest alumni during the virtual celebration. The college is also celebrating its graduating students with a [series of news articles](#) outlining their many achievements and contributions to life at the University of Saskatchewan.

---



### [Statement on burial site found at former residential school in Kamloops](#)

"What can individuals, in groups, or as a community do in response to this news? Acknowledge the truth. Light a candle, say a prayer, or have a minute of silence in remembrance of the lives that were taken," writes Vice-Provost, Indigenous Engagement Dr. Jacqueline Ottmann (PhD).

---



### [College of Arts and Science recognizes distinguished staff](#)

Communications officer Shannon Boklaschuk and psychology graduate program administrator Joni Morman are the recipients of the 2021 Dean's Distinguished Staff Award. Presented annually, the [Dean's Distinguished Staff Award](#) recognizes employees of the College of Arts and Science who have set themselves apart through excellence in work performance and quality of service. Recipients are presented with an award certificate and a \$1,000 prize.

---



### College of Arts and Science faculty, staff and students honoured with USSU awards

College of Arts and Science faculty, staff and students were among this year's winners of awards from the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union. The 2020-21 Teaching Excellence Award recipients in the College of Arts and Science are: Dr. Adam Bourassa (PhD), Department of Physics and Engineering Physics; Dr. Benjamin Hoy (PhD), Department of History; Dr. Jan Gelech (PhD), Department of Psychology (soon to be renamed the Department of Psychology and Health Studies); Dr. Josh Morrison (PhD), Department of English and Women's and Gender Studies Program; and Dr. Kyle McLeister (PhD), Department of History.

---



### USask Indigenous studies professor awarded changemaker fellowship

University of Saskatchewan professor Dr. Priscilla Settee (PhD) has been awarded an international fellowship to pursue social and environmental justice for Indigenous communities. Settee, a member of the Cumberland House Cree Nation, is one of 21 Indigenous organizers, activists, social entrepreneurs and cultural practitioners from across North America named a **2021 NDN Changemaker Fellow**. As part of the one-year fellowship from the NDN Collective, Settee has been awarded US\$75,000 to engage in work that defends, develops and decolonizes Indigenous communities and nations.

---



### USask drama department celebrates 75th anniversary

A series of online events will be held in June to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Department of Drama at the University of Saskatchewan. Established in 1945, it is known as the oldest degree-granting drama department

in the British Commonwealth. [The full schedule of events can be found here.](#)

---



### [USask psychology graduate wins Governor General's medal](#)

A graduate of the Department of Psychology whose research could help prevent sexual offences will receive the highest award for graduate students at the University of Saskatchewan. Dr. Ian McPhail (PhD), who graduated with his PhD in clinical psychology at the 2020 Fall Convocation, is one of two USask recipients of the 2020-

21 Governor General's Gold Medal.

---



### [College of Arts and Science graduates honoured for research](#)

Six students graduating from the College of Arts and Science are being recognized for their research on topics ranging from Indigenous women's personal histories to algorithms for the study of rare-earth elements. The new graduates—who were presented with master's and doctoral degrees at the 2020 Fall Convocation or will

receive them at the upcoming 2021 Spring Convocation—are the recipients of 2020-21 University of Saskatchewan Graduate Thesis Awards.

---



### [USask to pay tribute to honorary degree recipients](#)

During this year's virtual USask Spring Convocation online celebrations, the university will award honorary degrees to celebrated writer, Elder and community worker Maria Campbell, world-renowned barley breeder Dr. Bryan Harvey (PhD), award-winning author and social justice

advocate Trevor Herriot, innovative entrepreneur and philanthropist Dr. That Ngo (PhD) and distinguished legal scholar Ed Ratushny.

---



### **USask student receives inaugural Gabriel Dumont Graduate Scholarship in Métis Studies**

A high-achieving University of Saskatchewan student has been awarded the inaugural Gabriel Dumont Graduate Scholarship in Métis Studies, valued at \$20,000. Kate Gillis, a Master of Arts student in the Department of Indigenous Studies, is the 2020-21 scholarship recipient.

“It is very satisfying to see this award supporting Kate, who is already showing excellent progress in her program,” said Dr. Allyson Stevenson (PhD), the Gabriel Dumont Institute Research Chair in Métis Studies and a faculty member in the Department of Indigenous Studies.

---



### **Miniature worlds, big problems: Jude Griebel’s artworks address consumerism and environmental degradation**

On May 3, Canadian artist Jude Griebel began serving as the artist-in-residence at the Kenderdine Art Gallery on the University of Saskatchewan campus, where he created new work and installed an exhibition curated by College of Arts and Science alumna Leah Taylor

(BFA'04). Griebel’s residency wrapped up on May 27 and the show, **Jude Griebel: Illuminated Collapse**, officially opened on May 28.

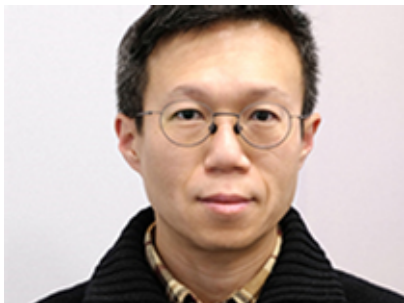
---



### [Arts&Science spring 2021 issue now available](#)

The [spring 2021 issue of Arts&Science](#) magazine has launched. Published in print and online, *Arts&Science* is the magazine for alumni and friends of the College of Arts and Science. The spring 2021 issue features a [cover story](#) on the artwork of Ruth Cuthand (BFA '83, MFA '92), an award-winning artist and the recipient of a 2021 University of Saskatchewan Alumni Achievement Award.

---



### [USask researchers funded to tackle MS, osteoporosis, and plant health](#)

A New Frontiers in Research Fund exploration grant was awarded to the team of Dr. Byung-Kook (Brian) Ham (PhD), assistant professor in biology in the College of Arts and Science and research chair in USask's Global Institute for Food Security. Ham's team will combine plant biology and plasma physics along with real-time imaging

to help improve crops by studying how a live plant's vascular system distributes minerals to survive under nutrient-stress conditions.

---



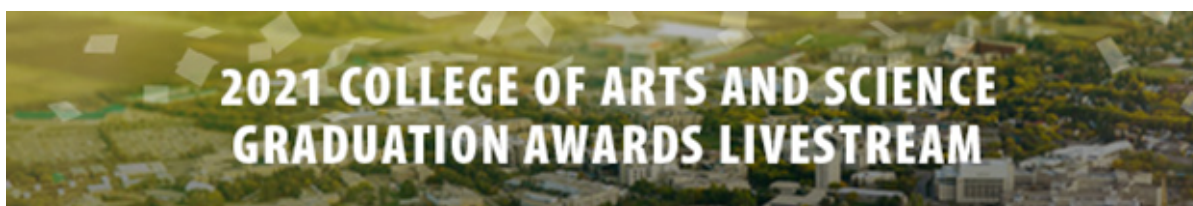
### **By the numbers**

**50:** As part of a national initiative to mark the 50th anniversary of Gerhard Herzberg's Nobel Prize in Chemistry, the University of Saskatchewan is partnering with Defining Moments Canada, Canadian Heritage and the National Research Council of Canada on a [major digital project that will showcase Herzberg's life and](#)

[achievements](#) to a wide public audience.

---

## Upcoming Events



### [June 3: College of Arts and Science Graduation Awards Livestream](#)

The College of Arts and Science is celebrating its top graduating students of 2020/21 with a special online event on **Thursday, June 3, at 7 pm**. The College of Arts and Science Graduation Awards Livestream will honour our Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 medal winners as well as our most distinguished graduates in a diverse range of undergraduate academic programs. Join Dean Peta Bonham-Smith, our award-winning students and their family and friends for this livestreamed event. [Watch online.](#)

June 1: [Department of Drama 75th Anniversary: Opening Event](#)

June 1: [2021 Spring Graduation](#)

June 3: [Department of Drama 75th Anniversary: "In the Beginning..."](#)

June 5: [Department of Drama 75th Anniversary: Our First 25 Years](#)

June 10: [Department of Drama 75th Anniversary: Greystone Theatre: Remembered in Photos](#)

June 12: [Department of Drama 75th Anniversary: Our Last \(Though Not Final\) 25 Years](#)

June 12: [Department of Drama 75th Anniversary: Our Second 25 Years](#)

June 15: [Symposium: Legacy of Eugenics in Canada](#)

June 17 - 19: [Greystone Theatre: \*Unity \(1918\)\*](#)

June 18: [Department of Drama 75th Anniversary: Greystone Trivia](#)

June 19: [Department of Drama 75th Anniversary: Beginning Our Next 25 Years](#)

Until Aug 21: [Jude Griebel: \*Illuminated Collapse\*](#)

---

## In the Media

The Conversation: [Is it time to move Ottawa out of Ottawa?](#) (with Dr. Loleen Berdahl, PhD, Department of Political Studies, May 24)

**Saskatoon StarPhoenix:** ['Drought brewing': Saskatchewan farmers hope for rain](#) (with Dr. John Pomeroy, PhD, Department of Geography and Planning, May 19)

**The Sheaf:** [Canada must do more to ensure global access to vaccines](#) (with Dr. Simonne Horwitz, D. Phil, Department of History, April 11)

---

## Awards and Accolades

**Dr. Pamela Downe (PhD)**, a faculty member in the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, and her research partners from Prairie Harm Reduction, were selected as one of two inaugural recipients of the University of Saskatchewan's Publicly Engaged Scholarship Team Award. Watch for more information in the July edition of the *College of Arts and Science Update* newsletter.

**Dr. Robert Englebert (PhD)**, a faculty member in the Department of History, was awarded the [2020 Wilson Prize](#) for his co-edited collection *French Connections: Cultural Mobility in North America and the Atlantic World, 1600-1875*.

**Dr. Elizabeth Quinlan (PhD)**, a faculty member in the Department of Sociology, is the lead author of a paper that was awarded the [SAGE Prize for Innovation and Excellence](#). Quinlan co-authored it with the late **Dr. Susan Robertson (PhD)**, from the Department of Sociology; **Dr. Ann-Marie Urban (PhD)**, from the University of Regina; **Dr. Isobel M. Findlay (PhD)**, co-director of the Community-University Institute for Social Research (CUISR); and **Dr. Beth Bilson (PhD)**, from USask's College of Law and College of Education.

David L. Kaplan Chair in Music **Dr. Véronique Mathieu (D. Mus)**, a faculty member in the Department of Music, released a CD entitled *Cortège*, which has been nominated for Classical Artist/Ensemble of the Year at the [2021 Western Canadian Music Awards](#).

**Dr. Terry Wotherspoon (PhD)**, a faculty member in the Department of Sociology, was awarded the *Canadian Review of Sociology* Best Article Award for 2021, along with co-author Dr. Emily Milne (PhD). [Their article](#) was published in the February 2020 issue of the journal.

---

*Arts and Science Update* is sent to faculty and staff in the College of Arts and Science.



Visit [artsandscience.usask.ca/news](https://artsandscience.usask.ca/news) for the latest news and events.

---