

The School of Engineering is preparing to welcome its largest first-year cohort ever in September 2020. Despite a global pandemic, domestic and international enrollment is at an all-time high. The number of transfer students is also at its highest level ever.

The incoming cohort includes three Schulich Leader Scholarship recipients. Kailey Beckie, Yosamin Esanullah and James Ropotar were among the 150 Schulich Leaders who received STEM scholarships.

Through additional funding and resources from the Faculty of Applied Science, Office of the Provost, and the UBC Okanagan Library, School of Engineering faculty have been busy all summer preparing to welcome students online with interactive tools and new pedagogical approaches to help meet student learning needs.

Despite a research curtailment, some researchers received special permission to undertake COVID-19 related research during this period. Researchers on the Okanagan campus received over \$250-thousand in NSERC COVID-related research funding.

In August, UBC Okanagan announced its first five Principal Research Chairs (PRC). The School of Engineering received three of these Chairs including: an Indigenous Reconciliation Chair in Engineering - Tier 1 (Ian Foulds), Blockchain Empowered Digital Technology - Tier 2 (Chen Feng), and Advanced Manufacturing - Tier 2 (Mohammad Al-Dabbagh). The Principal's Research Chairs program provides internal funding support for top-tier researchers engaged in outstanding research or creative scholarship.

In conjunction with International Women in Engineering Day in June, the School of Engineering launched a special webpage to celebrate female engineers on the Okanagan campus and beyond. Check out the new page

at engineering.ok.ubc.ca/women-in-engineering/.

UBC announced a five-year appointment extension for Executive Associate Dean Rehan Sadiq. In the announcement, the Provost pointed to his exceptional leadership and dedication as a driver for the School's on-going success.

Visit **engineering.ok.ubc.ca** for program details & collaborative research opportunities

## **SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Rehan Sadiq - Executive Associate Dean

Mina Hoorfar - School Director

Yang Cao - Associate Director, Undergraduate Studies
Sumi Siddiqua - Associate Director, Graduate Studies

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Lukas Bichler - Associate Director, Research and Industrial Partnerships

Rudolf Seethaler - MEng Coordinator

Dwayne Tannant - Civil Engineering Program Chair Julian Cheng - Electrical Engineering Program Chair

Dimitry Sediako - Mechanical Engineering Program Chair

Homayoun Najjaran - Manufacturing Engineering, Associate Director & Program Chair Colin Wilson - Director, Research and Industry Partnerships (250-317-7688)

## **FOLLOW THE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING ON SOCIAL MEDIA:**



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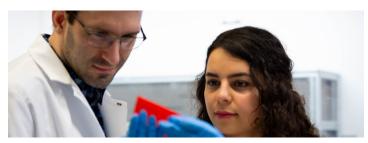
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UBC Engineering - Okanagan (Group)

## **ENGINEERING CHANGE REPORT**

September 2020 Issue 003



Arc'teryx seeks out SOE to develop next generation fabrics

New research led by Assistant Professor Kevin Golovin in collaboration with Arc'teryx has developed the world's first non-toxic oil and water-repellent performance textile finishes. While outdoor fabrics are typically treated with perfluorinated compounds (PFCs) to repel oil and water, this research opens up new area of green textile manufacturing.



**National recognition for Professor Kasun Hewage** 

The Canadian Society of Civil Engineers recognized professor Kasun Hewage for his outstanding contributions to the development and practice of construction engineering in Canada by presenting him with the Water Shanly Award. The award celebrates an engineer for sustained activities over an extended period



New device isolates and removes COVID airborne droplets

UBC Okanagan researchers are collaborating with Kelowna-based Care Health Meditech to develop a new device that isolates and eliminates airborne droplets and germs associated with COVID-19 and other illnesses. Associate Professor Sunny Li says the device is initially targeted at the dental industry.



Student teams finish 2nd & 4th at AquaHacking Challenge

Congratulations to Team GAPSS (including 5 first-year students) who finished 2nd at the AquaHacking 2020 Challenge. Another Okanagan team, Group Elite, finished 4th. Students teams from last year's APSC 169 submitted a number of proposals to the online competition that sought solutions to B.C.'s greatest water challenges.



Powering electric vehicles more sustainably

New research from UBC Okanagan aims to improve the efficiency and cost associated with charging electric vehicles. The proposed cost-efficient and sustainable fast-charging station prioritizes the source of its power whether it be renewable, from storage or the main distribution system.



**Executive Associate Dean elected CAE Fellow** 

School of Engineering Executive Associate Dean Rehan Sadiq included among the 2020 Fellows elected by Canadian Academy of Engineering (CAE). The CAE pointed to his leadership in establishing the School of Engineering as a leading incubator for high quality engineering education and research.

For the latest information related to COVID-19 and the School of Engineering visit engineering.ok.ubc.ca/covid-19/. For UBC-wide updates, FAQs and resources, visit ubc.ca. For UBC Okanagan-specific updates, visit ok.ubc.ca/covid19.

