



ENGINEERING CHANGE

Quarterly update highlighting the School of Engineering's signature projects and achievements during the past four months.

After conferring nearly 300 undergraduate and over 100 graduate degrees on June 2, 2021 as part of UBC's second virtual convocation, the School of Engineering is turning its attention back to preparing to welcome students, staff, and faculty to campus in September.

Nearly 90% of engineering students are expected to be back on campus in the Fall, with the remaining students unable to attend due to health or travel restrictions. UBC is equipping all classrooms with video conferencing capabilities, and accommodations will be available for students unable to attend in-person classes.

School of Engineering researchers and programs were the recipients of several grants this quarter including \$1.6-million from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) to establish the world's first immersive technologies program. The CREATE Immersive Technologies program will offer cross-departmental courses, multi-faculty co-supervision, multidisciplinary teamwork research projects, and industry mentorship. The program led by School of Engineering Professor Abbas Milani will include researchers from engineering, computer science, creative studies, nursing and math.

NSERC also awarded a Promo Science Grant to The School of Engineering and Geering Up to support Indigenous learners and Interior youth. Over the next year, the Geering Up Engineering Outreach team in collaboration with Indigenous partners will provide programming to over 1,000 rural youth, 500 Indigenous learners, and 300 teachers.

Assistant Professor Sepideh Pakpour is leading a recently-awarded New Frontiers in Research Fund (NFRF) 2020 Exploration project along with colleagues from the Irving K. Barber Faculty of Science to investigate seasonal impacts of microplastic inhalation on health. The funding targets interdisciplinary, high-risk, high-reward research that defies current models, bridges disciplines in novel ways, or tackles fundamental problems from new perspectives.

The School of Engineering welcomes several new faculty in July 2021 including:

- Chris Collier, Assistant Professor (Electrical Engineering)
- Alyse Hawley, Assistant Professor (Civil Engineering)
- Lisa Tobber, Assistant Professor (Civil Engineering) & Principal Research Chair - Tier 2 (Women in Engineering)
- Suliman Gargoum, Assistant Professor (Civil Engineering)

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

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING LEADERSHIP TEAM

Rehan Sadiq - Executive Associate Dean
Lukas Bichler - School Director *pro tem*
Yang Cao - Associate Director, Undergraduate Studies
Sumi Siddiqua - Associate Director, Graduate Studies
Joshua Brinkerhoff - 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, Program Chair
Colin Wilson - Director, Research and Industry Partnerships (250-317-7688)

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UBC Engineering - Okanagan (Group)



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

School of Engineering

Faculty of Applied Science
Okanagan Campus



SOE students receive CEMF Engineering Ambassador Awards

Third-year mechanical engineering student, Madisyn Szpula, and first-year engineering student, Kayley Beckie, were both recognized by the Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation (CEMF) with 2021 awards. As part of the CEMF Awards, both award recipients will act as Ambassadors for the engineering profession and serve as role models.



Sadaf Sadat Shabanian awarded Spiro Yannacopoulos Award

The 2021 Dr. Spiro Yannacopoulos Memorial Award in Engineering Leadership was presented to PhD student Sadaf Sadat Shabanian. This award, in memory of Dr. Yannacopoulos' outstanding professional and personal accomplishments, is given annually to a student who has demonstrated excellence in both academics and leadership.



New staff help launch Clean Technology Hub

The School of Engineering welcomes two new staff who will play a critical role in launching the new Clean Technology Hub at Innovation Precinct One (IP1). Ayse Alemdar, Project Manager / Business Developer, and Matthew Brown, Technician, will work closely with other faculty and staff as we prepare for the opening of the new facility.

For more information about the School of Engineering visit engineering.ok.ubc.ca. For the latest on campus resumption at UBC Okanagan visit ok.ubc.ca/covid19.



Top students recognized at 2021 convocation

The 2021 EGBC Certificate recipients include: Amy Ly (EGBC Civil Certificate), Yulin Shen (EGBC Electrical Certificate), and Issac Alexander (EGBC Mechanical Certificate and the Canadian Society for Mechanical Engineering Gold Medal). The EGBC Overall Certificate and UBC Head of Class Gold Medal recipient is Rhan Ikebuchi.



Venedict Tamondong awarded Dr. Gordon Springate Sr. Award

The School's most prestigious donor-funded student award, the Dr. Gordon Springate Sr. Award in Engineering was awarded to Venedict Tamondong. The award is annually bestowed on a student completing their Bachelor of Applied Science degree in the School of Engineering who has demonstrated a material contribution to their community.



New Masters of Design receives Senate approval

The Masters of Design jointly being developed by the Faculty of Creative & Critical Studies and the School of Engineering will provide students with professional training in the areas of design, innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship.

