

Spring is often described as a season of transformation, growth, and renewal. As classes come to an end, after a busy and challenging academic year, our administrative leadership team is in the midst of change as well. The School's long-time Executive Associate Dean Dr. Rehan Sadiq was appointed Provost pro tem for the Okanagan campus in February. In his absence, Dr. Lukas Bichler will assume the role's responsibilities along with his current appointment as Director pro tem with support from the Faculty of Applied Science's Office of Dean.

Joshua Brinkerhoff has been appointed the Associate Director, Research & Industrial Partnerships effective February 1, 2022 for a 3-year term. Dr. Brinkerhoff assumed the acting role when Dr. Bichler was appointed Director pro tem, and has developed systems and practices that are improving the School's responsiveness and effectiveness in activities within the portfolio.

The Manufacturing Engineering program underwent its first accreditation review by the CEAB in late January and early February. Staff and faculty worked extremely hard to provide the review committee with an exceptional virtual experience that showcased the program. The program's first cohort graduates this spring.

Plans are well-underway to roll out a new Computer Engineering program along with Aerospace and Environmental Options to follow. The new Arts Minor for Engineering students and Master of Design are also scheduled to roll-out in 2023.

Materials and manufacturing researchers are well-ensconced in Innovation Precinct One (IP1). An industry partner will join the facility in August at which point an official grand-opening will occur.

In January, the School also welcomed new members of faculty and staff. Dr. Klaske van Heusden joins the School as an assistant professor of Mechanical Engineering. Dr. van Heusden's research enables high performance and high precision in robotics and mechatronics through data-driven and learning control. Her work on emerging applications in agriculture and health care uses sensor and control technology to improve sustainability, safety and health outcomes. Jill Heinrichs also joins the School as an administrative assistant to the Director.

Congratulations to Mike Jacobs for being recognized with a 2021-22 Alumni UBC Builder Award. A industry and community leaderr, Mike has embraced his alma mater, and the School is truly thankful for his contributions to support the Faculty and the campus. The Awards recognize a cross-section of alumni who have significantly contributed to the university and enriched the lives of others while supporting a better world and an exceptional UBC.

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

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING LEADERSHIP TEAM

Rehan Sadig - Provost pro tem

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

Zheng Liu - Civil Engineering Program Chair

Thomas Johnson - Electrical Engineering Program Chair Dimitry Sediako - Mechanical Engineering Program Chair Dean Richert - Manufacturing Engineering, Program Chair

Colin Wilson - Director, Research and Industry Partnerships (250-317-7688)

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UBC Engineering - Okanagan (Group)

ENGINEERING CHANGE REPORT

March 2022 Issue 010



Next-generation battery research offers electric cars a boost

School of Engineering researchers have teamed up with a BC company to create a smaller, more powerful battery than what's currently available. The collaboration with Fenix Advanced Materials is helping researchers in UBCO's Advanced Materials for Energy Storage Lab design and develop much improved state-of-the-art batteries.



COVID-19 has changed the way we grocery shop

New research from UBC Okanagan suggests instead of braving the cold, this year's consumer is going to fill an online grocery cart instead. Dr. Mahmudur Fatmi and his team says online shopping habits spiked across the globe during the pandemic—mostly as a result of social distancing measures, business closures and travel restrictions.



Rehan Sadiq inducted as 2022 EIC Fellow

The Engineering Institute of Canada, founded in 1887, recently announced the recipients of its 2022 senior engineering awards and fellowship inductees. Dr. Sadiq is among 20 outstanding engineers being inducted as 2022 EIC Fellows for their exceptional contributions to engineering in Canada.



Smart windows can significantly reduce indoor pathogens

Daylight passing through smart windows results in almost complete disinfection of surfaces within 24 hours while still blocking harmful ultraviolet (UV) light, according to new research. The smart windows blocked more than 99.9 per cent of UV light, but still let in shortwavelength, high-energy daylight which acts as a disinfectant.



Graduate researcher received SRK Canada Scholarship

Shayan Sheikhi Narani, who is currently pursuing a PhD in civil engineering at UBCO was recently awarded an SRK Canada Graduate Scholarship for the 2021/22 academic year. Narani is supervised by Associate Professor Sumi Siddiqua in the School of Engineering's CFlfunded Advanced Geomaterials Testing lab.



Graduate Student Receives Tyler Lewis Clean Energy Grant

A passion for the environment, sport, and the outdoors brought MASc student Amandine Drew to UBC Okanagan. An accomplished scholar and athlete, Drew recently arrived at UBCO to work with supervisor Dr. Alexander Uhl at the Laboratory for Solar Energy and Fuels where they are developing innovate photovoltaic solutions for solar power.

