



Dean's Report

February 2020

**additional information presented by the Dean at Faculty Board*

Arts and Science News and Kudos

Please join us for a Coffee and Conversation with Dean Barbara Crow on **Friday, March 12**. This is meant to be an informal conversation, where we reflect on the past year and look forward to the future. We would like to chat with you about the things that we have come to appreciate even more, the things we have just let go, and the things we have missed the most and look forward to in the future. Registration: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlud-2gqDkvHde9Ecoyjpws9wWHY9HMcQk8>

We are also excited to announce the [Fireplace Series event](#) Timely Teaching for a Globalizing Present and Decolonial Futures. Join Dr. Thashika Pillay (Faculty of Education) and Dr. Beverly Mullings (Geography and Planning), scholars concerned with diasporic and global identities, as they seek common and uncommon ground, in a Fireplace Series chat about teaching in, from, and to the current moment. The Zoom event is scheduled for **Friday, March 19** from 10 to 11:30 am.

Registration: https://queensu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJkcuvoqD0iGd3-FHb_0flzNBrmB55PKprn

- The Faculty of Arts and Science announced [Dr. William Nelson](#) was appointed Associate Dean (Teaching and Learning) to commence July 1, 2021. Dr. Nelson is currently an Associate Professor in Biology and has been involved with several curriculum and course design initiatives, including leading the Faculty's largest multidisciplinary project to develop an introductory blended statistics course, both as an instructor and Undergraduate Chair. [Read the story: William Nelson Appointed Associate Dean \(Teaching and Learning\)](#).
- The Faculty of Arts and Science announced [Dr. Amitava Chowdhury](#) has been appointed Special Advisor to the Dean on Global and Decolonization Initiatives. As Special Advisor to the Dean, Dr. Chowdhury will investigate and advise on global and decolonization initiatives to ensure they are in accordance with the Faculty's Strategic Plan. Dr. Chowdhury is currently an Associate Professor and Chair of Undergraduate Studies in the Department of History. [Read the story Amitava Chowdhury appointed Special Advisor](#)
- Queen's University and the Faculty of Arts and Science announced the formation of a new Employee Resource Group (ERG) designed to create a more inclusive and supportive workplace for LGBTQ2S+ employees at Queen's University. The Queen's University Association for Queer Employees (QUAQE) was recently approved for funding as an ERG by the Provost Office. These ERGs help create an inclusive workplace by giving equity-seeking groups a formal structure to support their unique needs. [Read the story: Queen's University announces new Employee Resource Group designed to support LGBTQ2S+ employees](#)



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- The Government of Canada recently announced its investment of \$118 million in funding through the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada's (NSERC) inaugural Alliance grants program. More than \$6 million was secured by 12 Queen's researchers, including three from the Faculty of Arts and Science, with four projects awarded more than \$1 million each. [Read the story: The Government of Canada recently announced its investment of \\$118 million in funding](#)
- With the ongoing pandemic, professors and instructors in the Faculty of Arts and Science have had to rethink the ways they connect with students. Several courses have been adapted to the new world of online learning including redesigning the use of textbooks, using Zoom technology for performances, and exploring archaeology virtually. [Read the story: Creativity in the new online classroom](#). If you have an example of innovative and creative teaching techniques within the Faculty of Arts and Science, please email anne.craig@queensu.ca for inclusion in our monthly feature.
- International Day of Women and Girls in Science 2021 was an opportunity to recognize the achievements of women working in science and the motivation they are providing for young women just beginning or in the early stages of their careers. Heather Jamieson, Wendy Powley, and Cathleen Crudden are working hard to open up the world of science to everyone. [Read the story: Experienced researchers work to bridge the gender gap](#).
- In a new study published in *Nature Photonics*, lead author [Dr. Bhavin Shastri](#) (Physics, Engineering Physics and Astronomy) worked alongside an international team to examine how neuromorphic photonics, a field that uses light (instead of electronics) and neural "brain-like" networks, could improve the speed and efficiency of computing systems. [Read the story: Computers powered by light and brain networks](#)
- Queen's University [Professor Gauvin Bailey's](#) passion for art history has led him to become one of the leading experts in Southern Baroque art in Europe and globally. His most recent endeavour is working as a consultant and author for a Latin American art exhibition at the Museo de Artes at the Universidad de los Andes in Santiago, Chile. [Read the story: Professor's passion for art history motivates students](#).
- The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have rippled across every aspect of society. To confront all this change and uncertainty, the Queen's School of Policy Studies (SPS) brought together researchers from across the university to create several interdisciplinary COVID-19 working groups to explore the impact of the pandemic and ask how we might use it as an opportunity to reshape some parts of our world for the better. [Read the story: Planning for post-pandemic recovery](#).
- Queen's researcher in the Faculty of Arts and Science [Christopher Cotton](#) (Economics) is the senior economist on the COVID Strategic Choices Group, an interdisciplinary taskforce that includes doctors, epidemiologists, public policy and industry experts, and economists. The group has modelled the epidemiological and economic consequences of various lockdown scenarios. In their recently released strategy paper, *Building the Canadian Shield*, they say their alternative — a pan-Canadian, longer lockdown, followed by a gradual results-based relaxing of restrictions — will save more lives and cost less economically than the COVID-mitigation strategies most of the country has adopted. [Read the story: A longer lockdown will save more lives and cost less economically](#)