Arts and Science News and Kudos

It has been just over one year since the world turned upside down. With the global pandemic growing, the senior leadership team at Queen’s University made an unprecedented decision on March 13, 2020 to send staff, faculty, and students home with no real idea of what the future held. Thank you to everyone who attended our recent Town Halls on the research conducted by Dr. Wendy Craig (Psychology) on the impact of Covid-19 on the Faculty of Arts and Science community as well as to those who of you joined us to recognize the day in our Coffee and Conversation event on March 12. If you missed our Town Halls, you can find out more about Dr. Craig’s research in the story Leading and Listening: The community speaks. Please also see Faculty of Arts and Science Dean Barbara Crow reflects on the year that was and what the future holds.

• In honour of the 20th anniversary of Black History Month, the Faculty of Arts and Science examined our history, the work being done today, and projects that provide hope for the future. Read the story: Black History Month: Resilience, Hope, and Building Community

• The Queen’s University Writer in Residence Kaie Kellough, the Department of English, and the Faculty of Arts and Science joined forces to present three unique events including a conversation with the 2020 Scotiabank Giller Prize winner Souvankham Thammavongsa. Read the story: A discussion with the Giller Prize winner

• Forty undergraduate and graduate students in the Faculty of Arts and Science have received funding from the Mitacs Research Training award, our Faculty, and Queen’s. Mitacs provided half of the funding for the $6,000 award while our Faculty and the Office of the Provost and Vice-Principal (Academic) provided the other half. Read the story: Unique research opportunities funded by Mitacs, the Faculty of Arts and Science and Queen’s University

• The Faculty of Arts and Science moved the annual Majors Night to online for the first time. Haley Everson, Associate Director, Student Services (Advising, Appeals, and Academic Consideration) reported it was a success. Read the story: Helping students with a major decision, virtually

• Queen’s University and the Faculty of Arts and Science marked International Women’s Day, by looking back at some of the key accomplishments, events, and women – mentors and role models, visionaries and trailblazers, leaders and supporters, faculty, students and staff – who have helped make a difference over the past 12 months. Read the story: Queen’s celebrates International Women’s Day
• Chris Herd, ArtsSci’97, a planetary geologist and one of the world’s top experts on meteorites from Mars, is working with NASA on the Mars Perseverance rover, which landed on the red planet on Feb. 18 after a 470-million-kilometre journey. He is involved in collecting rock samples that will advance the project’s primary mission: to search for signs of microbial life. Read the story: Queen’s alum Chris Herd joins NASA’s Mars Perseverance Team

• Faculty of Arts and Science doctoral student Alexandra Walters has been named a finalist for the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Scholars (PETF) program. The Kinesiology and Health Studies student is one of only 36 candidates to be named as a finalist for the Scholarship and Engaged Leadership program. More than 600 applications from around the world were received for this honour. Read the story: FAS doctoral student named a finalist for the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Scholars program