Faculty of Arts and Science

Dean's Report

October 2018

*additional information presented by the Dean at Faculty Board

KUDOs to You

The Faculty of Arts and Science took home several of the principal's Teaching and Learning Awards!

Educational Leadership Award

Laura Murray, Department of English Language and Literature

Over the last three years Laura Murray (English Language and Literature, Cultural Studies) has clearly displayed educational leadership through her commitment to engaging students and the community with the treaty history of Kingston/Ka'tarokwi as an essential part of fulfilling Queen's responsibility to Truth and Reconciliation. In 2016 she devised a new course, ENGL467, "Settler and Indigenous Stories of Kingston/Ka'tarokwi" to involve students in research into the treaty history of Kingston and surrounding area, and also to engage them in thinking about the implications of that history. This course received support from the Principal's Dream Course program in order to sponsor the participation of elders and Indigenous scholars to enrich students' experience and learning. While teaching the second iteration of the Principal's Dream Course she had begun reimagining the course for wider audiences. The Department of English has begun a new stream of ENGX courses for students without the ENGL 100 prerequisite, and Dr. Murray designed the first course to enable students from all disciplines across the university to participate in better understanding the Indigenous/Settler history of the land on which they are pursuing their degrees. At the same time she has developed a graduate version of the course for her interdisciplinary teaching in Cultural Studies.

Curriculum Development Award

Multidisciplinary Blended Learning Statistics Team:
William Nelson, Department of Biology
Randy Flanagan, Department of Psychology
Alan Ableson, Department of Mathematics and Statistics
Wanda Beyer, Erik Bigras, Julian Enright, Rachel Eagen, Nadia Morel
Faculty of Arts and Science Online

For decades introductory statistics has been offered separately by a wide range of departments within the Faculty of Arts and Science as well as across the university. In response a team was formed to develop a common multidisciplinary statistics course. In addition to gaining efficiencies, this presented an opportunity to rethink how statistics was taught relative to contemporary and evidence-based pedagogy. The course is delivered using blended learning with a focus on active learning. The multidisciplinary course was developed and is delivered using a collaborative team-based approach. The team includes faculty members from multiple departments, an instructional designer, a learning management specialist, multimedia specialists and undergraduate and graduate assistants. Students are first guided through statistical concepts with interactive online materials, followed by attending a weekly lecture and face-to-face tutorials where they work in small groups to solve problems using data from real case studies. Importantly, the course emphasizes instructor-learner interaction through weekly tutorials where instructors lead and facilitate groups working on 'real-world' problems, and Monday-Friday drop-in help sessions with faculty.





International Education Innovation Award

Yuxiang Wang and Stephen Lougheed, Department of Biology

Steven Lougheed (Biology) and Yuxiang Wang (Biology) developed the field course *Effects of human development on aquatic environments and biodiversity in Canada and China*. More than a biology course, it is a multifaceted international experience coupled with intensive scientific training in environmental biology, through which students from many backgrounds are brought together to study the environment in the field, in locations in both Canada and China. Over the past decade, the duo have developed a course which has not only had significant impact on Queen's students, it has also built strong relationships between faculty in the School of Environmental Studies and Department of Biology at Queen's, and with their counterparts at a number of prestigious institutions in China, including Tongji University, Beijing Normal University, Southwest University, and Fudan University. Queen's signed its first undergraduate "two plus two" agreement in Environmental Science as a result of this course, leading to the development of other 2+2 programs and several study abroad agreements, enabling students to study for two years at each partner institution.

Promoting Student Inquiry Teaching Award

David Parker, Department of History

Research skills are among the most important learning outcomes for undergraduate courses, no matter the discipline. David Parker continually demonstrates the ability to forge independent researchers out of undergraduate students. Dr. Parker engages his students, inspires them, and endows them with the tools and the support required to chart their own path as learners. In the course *HIST 353: Revolutions and Civil Wars in 20th Century Latin America*, Dr. Parker took the standard research paper and broke it down in an innovative manner, creating an ambitious yet feasible challenge for his students. The whole course was structured to ensure that they were equipped to meet this challenge. By the term's end, the students had not only produced top notch research papers, but had, as one student put it, "experienced the process of original historical research first hand to a high standard." Looking at the course's syllabus, it seems like a standard historical seminar. Upon closer reflection, however, it becomes clear that the whole course has been conceived with one principal goal in mind: creating independent researchers.

We've been BUSY

DEAN'S INITIATIVES FUNDS

The Faculty of Arts and Science is pleased to announce the launch of the Dean's Initiatives Awards, created to support and advance priorities of the Faculty, including equity, diversity and Indigeneity, promotion, international mobility, graduate education and teaching. These awards are to encourage our students, faculty, and staff to bring forward creative ideas to move the Faculty and the university forward in these important areas.

Many of these awards have been made possible through the support of donors and alumni, to which we are grateful.

- +Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Indigeneity Fund (faculty, staff and all students, open deadline)
- +Conference Fund (faculty, \$1000, 4 deadlines per year)
- +Student Initiatives Fund (all students, \$2500, open deadline)
- +Project-based & Portfolio PhD Research (PhD students, \$3000, open deadline)
- +Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching
- +Prize for Student Data Visualization (All students, \$250, March 1)
- +International Mobility Fund

For more information: QUartsci.com/awards



We've been **BUSY** cont'd



GRADUATE STUDIES

The Faculty of Arts and Science welcomed five Predoctoral Fellows to the research community at Queen's in a reception at the Agnes Etherington Art on October 9th. I am pleased to announce that FAS will be supporting the program again this coming year by offering three Pre-Doctoral Fellowships. Applications will be invited from Indigenous doctoral students enrolled in a PhD program, and working on doctoral research in the creative arts, humanities, social sciences or natural and physical sciences at an accredited university other than Queen's. The successful candidates will have completed all doctoral degree requirements except the final doctoral project (e.g., dissertation), and will be expected to complete their doctoral work during their tenure as a Fellow at Queen's. The Fellowship holder will be required to teach one three-unit (four-month) University course in a program or department in the Faculty of Arts and Science, and to contribute to the intellectual life of the university.

The Faculty of Arts and Science is committed to advancing the success of this pilot project, which awarded five Pre-doctoral Fellowships in 2018-19. The intention in undertaking this pilot project is fourfold: 1) to support new-generation Indigenous scholars at a formative moment in the completion of their PhDs; 2) to provide mentorship and access to Queen's resources; 3) to bring new scholars and Indigenous ways of knowing into undergraduate classrooms; and 4) to foster conversations at Queen's that advance the university's aspirations for and commitment to Indigenization, diversity and inclusion. The pilot project is the first of what is envisioned as a program of Pre-Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Fellowships in support of scholars in equity-seeking groups In the Faculty of Arts and Science.

STUDENT LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Recruitment. We had a very successful showing at the OUF – thank you to all the faculty, staff and students who participated to share their experiences at Queen's. Fall Preview dates coming up on 3 and 17 November. FAS will host an academic fair and several presentations.

Thursday start of term. Look for the Thursday start of term survey now available for <u>all</u> Fall Term instructors to complete. This information will help the Faculty understand the impact, if any, of the Thursday start of class on the student learning experience.

Internships. We have seen slow, but steady growth in our internship numbers (2016 = 21, 2017 = 39 and 2018 = 47) and continue to work with some departments to improve student awareness of the program and its value. The top 5 departments in terms of student internship participation are CHEM, POLS, ECON, ENSC and BIOL!

Dean's Honour List. In 2017-2108, there were a total of 11,408 ASC students in a FT load (>=18.0 units in Fall, Winter, Summer)

Percentage of FT students with minimum GPA of 3.50:

Arts programs (BA/H, BFA/H, BMUS, BPHE/H) 31% Science programs (BCMP/H, BSC/H) 43%

GPA threshold for distinction (top 3% of students):

Arts programs 4.06 Science programs 4.24

Teaching Awards: Consider nominating a colleague for the Chancellor A. Charles Baillie Teaching Award. Deadline March 4, 2019. For more information, visit https://www.queensu.ca/ctl/awards/internal-awards/university-wide-awards#The%20Chancellor%20A.%20Charles%20Baillie%20Teaching%20Award

We've been BUSY cont'd



INTERNATIONALIZATION

Undergraduate Awards 2018

The Faculty of Arts and Science had another strong showing in the 2018 Undergraduate Awards international competition. The research work of eight FAS students were recognized as Highly Commended, meaning their papers were among the top 10% of papers submitted to that category. The Undergraduate Awards are the world's leading undergraduate awards program which recognizes top undergraduate work, shares this work with a global audience and connects students across cultures and disciplines. Queen's became an affiliate member of this program in 2016. We ask all departments to encourage your senior undergraduate students to submit their work for the 2019 competition. More information about the award winners and how to submit a research paper will be forthcoming in a future communication. List of award winners:

- Claire Hinton-Albert | BAH, Major in Art History
- Tessa Wilson | Queen's University, BAH in Art History, MA ARTH Candidate at Queen's
- William Cross-Bermingham | BAH in Economics
- Julia Witmer | BScH in Life Sciences
- Ashleigh Allen | BAH in Gender Studies and Sociology
- Cosimo Morin | BAH in Global Development Studies, JD Law Candidate at Queen's
- Sari Ohsada | BScH in Environmental Science, DEVS Minor (was also Highly Commended in 2017)
- Emily Lind | BScH in Biochemistry

Scholarship opportunity for Australians and Canadians

The Australian Government is offering two-way mobility opportunities in Canada and Australia. Two funding opportunities are available:

Recipient institutions

The funding provided is to support Institution-to-institution exchange; practicums, clinical placements, Internships, mentoring, work experience or other professional development. Duration is February 2019 to August 2020. The scholarship is between AUD 2,500-5,000 grant per student/researcher.

Deadline: November 15, 2018 at 11:59 pm Australian Eastern Daylight Savings Time (AEDT).

Individual Endeavour Leaders

The funding provided is to support study towards an undergraduate qualification (through a Recipient Institution), study towards a postgraduate or Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualification, research towards a PhD or Masters qualification and postdoctoral research. The duration varies. The award includes tuition fees, monthly stipend, travel insurance, health insurance and establishment allowance. **Deadline:** November 15, 2018 at 11:59 pm Australian Eastern Daylight Savings Time (AEDT).

For more information and to apply, visit **Endeavour Leadership Program**.

Have stories you want us to include? Send them to deanartsci@queensu.ca