Research News

The Arthur B. McDonald Canadian Astroparticle Physics Research Institute launched on May 10, 2018. It is a partnership of eight universities and five affiliated research organizations. Headquartered at Queen’s, the institute came to fruition as a result of the $63.7 million investment the university received in 2016 from the Government of Canada’s Canada First Research Excellence Fund.

Dr. Amir Fam (Civil Engineering) and his team unveiled a cutting-edge Moving Load Simulator on July 12, featuring new technology designed to test structural integrity of bridge materials and design.

Science Rendezvous Kingston continues to be a massive draw as more than 4,300 people attended the scientific celebration at the Rogers K-Rock Centre on May 12. It was a day of learning and family fun as attendees of all ages were able to speak with researchers, watch demonstrations and take part in experiments, while celebrating the fields of science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics (STEAM).

University Research Services (URS) and the Office of Partnerships and Innovation hosted the inaugural Research Development Day on May 3 to bring faculty members of all disciplines together for a day of panel presentations and open discussion. The goal of the day was to assist researchers in strategizing their funding goals and building their research programs.

Research Awards

The Queen’s Research Opportunities Funds (QROF) represent a strategic investment in areas of institutional research strength that provide researchers and scholars opportunities to accelerate their programs and research goals. Funds are distributed in four categories, and the QROF recipients are profiled in the Queen’s Gazette.
The Queen’s National Scholar (QNS) program is designed to enrich teaching and research at the university while also supporting faculty renewal and diversity and inclusion efforts. This year saw five new appointments:

- Carolyn Prouse – QNS in Urban Economic Geography
- Chantelle Capicciotti – QNS in Precision Molecular Medicine
- Ashwini Vasanthakumar – Queen’s National Scholar in Legal and Political Philosophy
- Laila Haidarali – QNS in African American Gender History
- Anita Tusche – QNS in Computational Neuroeconomics

Professor David Lyon (Sociology; Surveillance Studies Centre) was recognized for career contributions to the field of surveillance studies with the Outstanding Contribution Award from the Surveillance Studies Network.

Professor Rosa Bruno-Jofré (Faculty of Education) received the highest honour offered by the Canadian Catholic Historical Association – the 2018 George Edward Clerk Award.

Dr. DJ Cook (Surgery; Kingston Health Sciences Centre) has been named to the annual Canada’s Top 40 Under 40 list. He is recognized for his work in developing minimally-invasive surgical procedures for complex brain disorders, as well for his innovative research focusing on therapy and treatments to enhance recovery for patients who have suffered a stroke.

Dr. John Smol (Biology) has received several prestigious honours over the course of the summer:

- He was recognized by the recognized by the International Society of Limnology with the Naumann-Thienemann Medal – the highest honor awarded for outstanding contributions to limnology.
- He was named a Fellow of the Royal Society (London). Only two other Queen’s professors have ever been named to Fellowship – Kerry Rowe (Civil Engineering), and Nobel Laureate Arthur McDonald (Physics, Engineering Physics & Astronomy).
- He earned the Lee Lorch Award from the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) in recognition of the teaching, research, and service.

Professor Agnes M. Herzberg (Emeritus, Mathematics and Statistics) received an honorary degree from the University of Saskatchewan for her scholarly contributions, including the statistical design of experiments such as those used in medical clinical trials.

Dr. Wendy Craig (Psychology) was appointed an Officer to the Order of Canada in recognition of her seminal research on bullying and its impact on youth, as well as her groundbreaking efforts to link basic research, public policy, and community action together to solve the issue.
Dr. Ahmed Hassan (School of Computing) was honored with NSERC’s 2018 E.W.R Steacie Memorial Fellowship. He is only the 10th Queen’s faculty member to receive this prestigious honour since the award’s creation in 1965.

Three faculty members have been appointed Fellows of the Canadian Academy of Engineering:
- Dr. Amir Fam (Civil Engineering)
- Dr. Richard Holt (Emeritus, Mechanical and Materials Engineering)
- Dr. Yan-Fei Liu (Electrical and Computer Engineering)

Dr. Bill Plaxton (Biology) received the Canadian Society of Plant Biologists’ Medal Award at the joint meeting of Canadian and American Societies of Plant Biologists in recognition of his exceptional research.

The Canadian Academy of Health Science (CAHS) has recognizes two Queen’s University researchers for their global leadership, academic performance and scientific creativity:
- Robert Ross (School of Kinesiology and Health Studies)
- Michael Green (Health Sciences)