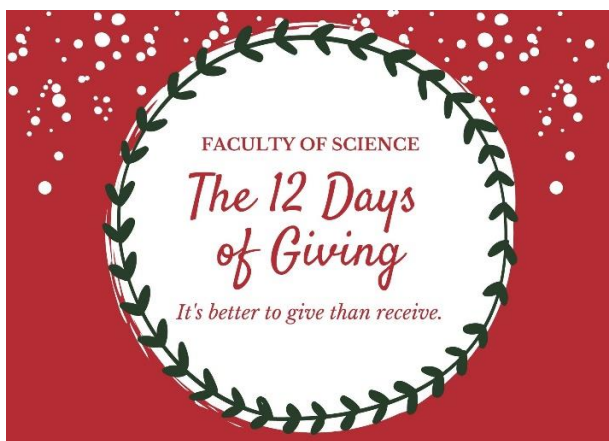


FACULTY OF SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

Monthly newsletter sharing extraordinary work within the Faculty of Science

“Think like a proton, stay positive.”

In the spirit of giving, kindness and spreading holiday cheer, the Dean’s Office launched “*The 12 Days of Giving*” campaign. The purpose of The 12 Days of Giving is two-fold: to provide our faculty with a stress-reducing, feel-good and covid-friendly activity, in lieu of a holiday get-together, and to show our students that we continue to care and support them this holiday season. We have teamed up with TRUSU’s food bank to help our students get the food they need. The campaign runs Monday, November 30th to Friday December 11th.



Jamie Lee Ushko and Kathy Baethke, Biology technicians, kept the non-human denizens of the Lepin building (numerous animals, plants and microbes) alive over the summer and provided vital support for

various instructors; they went above and beyond repeatedly, playing a vital role in the department.



Hundreds of faculty hours were spent converting Biology labs into a new format that would allow them to be offered virtually. Dr. Lyn Baldwin spent approx. 600/hrs putting all of the Biol 2280 (Botany) labs online. Dr. Louis Gosselin spent 5 weeks converting the labs for BIO 2170 (Introduction to Ecology). Christine Petersen took the rewritten BIO 2170 labs and invested time making lab and field-based videos, etc, with help from Don Ferguson and Jamie Lee Ushko.

Stephen Joly revised the lab manual, spending 22-28 hours per lab on average (x 11 labs). Dr. Mark Rakobowchuk spend 100's of hours redesigning the labs in Biology 3540 (Human Physiology). As Biology’s Biosafety rep, Mark took on the task of developing the safety plan for the Biology Dept. and its labs. To meet

COVID safety demands, Dr. Natasha Ramroop Singh spent a month revising BIOL 4150 - a lab-intensive course providing workforce skills.



Supported by a \$50,000 NSERC Alliance Grant, Drs. John Church, Joanna Urban and Kingsley Donkor are working toward the development of an antiviral nasal spray and mouthwash using high-cannabidiol (CBD) extracts, terpenes, and nitric oxide with the goal of preventing the spread of COVID-19.

Animal Health Technology, Sonia Walczak received the “British Columbia Registered Veterinary Technologist of the Year Award” and Heather Shannon received the Registered Veterinary Technologists and Technicians of Canada “Making a Difference” Award. The Animal Health Program has been running for over 35 years and celebrated its highest enrolment of students in its history, this semester!

In addition to the monumental task of converting both lecture and labs to an online environment, many of the faculty in Natural Resource Science brought portions for the field component to the online world by filming field trips to improve the learning environment.

The Respiratory Therapy program increased the Fast-Track RT student cohort by 20 students this semester, in response to an increased demand for respiratory therapists in the health care system.

