

Spring 2023

Toast to USask's Doctoral Graduates

Hosted by the College of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies, USask

As we gather here today, we acknowledge we are on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis. We pay our respect to the First Nations and Métis ancestors of this place and reaffirm our relationship with one another.

Doctoral scholars lead with respect | nīkānītān manāchitowinihk | nī manāchīhitoonaan and respond to what the world needs.

11:30 Doors open
12:00 Greetings & light lunch
12:30 Champagne toasts
13:00 Farewell

Muhammad Imran (Animal and Poultry Science) Identification and Quantification of Sperm Head Plasma Membrane Proteins Associated with Male Fertility

Mohsen Hadian (Biomedical Engineering) Robust Model Predictive Control for Linear Parameter Varying Systems Along with Exploration of its Application in Medical Mobile Robots

Wenjun Lin (Biomedical Engineering) Filtering Methods for Mass Spectrometry-based Peptide Identification Processes

Fatemeh Mohabatpour (Biomedical Engineering) Development of Innovative Bioengineering Approaches for the Regeneration of Dental Enamel

Paul Boyce (Biology) Feral Horse Ecology in the Rocky Mountain Foothills of Alberta, Canada

Stephen Srayko (Biology) Seasonal Migration of Water Boatmen (Hemiptera: Corixidae) as a Wetland-River Ecosystem Linkage

Soumya Sucharita (Biochemistry, Microbiology and Immunology) Mechanism and Stages of Packaging of VP8, the Major Tegument Protein of Bovine Herpesvirus-1

Lai Wong (Biochemistry, Microbiology and Immunology) The Mechanisms and Effects of APOBEC Cytidine Deaminase Activity on Somatic Mutagenesis

Amin Babaeighazvini (Chemical and Biological Engineering) Study of Hybrid Cellulose Nanocrystals in Polymeric Nanocomposites

Alivia Mukherjee (Chemical and Biological Engineering) Generation of Activated Carbon from Spent Coffee Grounds: Process Optimization, Kinetics and CO₂ Capture

Ayash Fahyazadeh (Chemical and Biological Engineering) Synthesis of Carbon Nanotubes Supported Iron Catalysts for Light Olefins via Fischer-Tropsch Synthesis

Peyman Alizadeh (Chemical and Biological Engineering) Bioenergy Production from Pretreated Wood Sawdust

Onu Onu Olughu (Chemical and Biological Engineering) Ultrasonic and Fungal Pretreatment of Switchgrass for Biofuel and Bioproduct Applications

Tumpa Sarker (Chemical and Biological Engineering) Production of Torrefied Fuel Pellet from Agricultural Residues and Generation of Hydrogen-Rich Syngas

Li Zhou (Chemical and Biological Engineering) Refining of Vegetable Oil and Fatty Acid Methyl Esters with Electrostatic Fields and Nano-Adsorbents

Kelvin Sattler (Civil Geological and Environmental Engineering) Variable suction and its effect on stability at the Ripley Landslide near Ashcroft, British Columbia

Omozojie Aigbogun (Chemistry) Design, Synthesis, and Preclinical Evaluation of Alpha-Synuclein Binding 19/18Fluorine Labelled Bifunctional/Trifunctional Agents as Potential Positron Emission Tomography Imaging Probes for Parkinson's Disease.

Satavisha Bhattacharya (Chemistry) Silicon-bridged [1]Metallophenanes: Strained Monomers for Metallopolymers

Somnath Bhattacharya (Chemistry) Helical Poly(ferrocenylsilane)s Through Thermal Ring-opening Polymerization of Enantiopure Sila[1]ferrocenophanes

Douglas Fansher (Chemistry) Development of NAHE for Applications in Organic Synthesis

Ahmadreza Nezamzadeh Ezhieh (Chemistry) Strained Metallophenanes: Potential Monomers for Metallopolymers

Akam Salih (Chemistry) Development of Chelators for Enhancing Radiometal-based Radiopharmaceuticals



Steven Rayan | MC

Passionate about students, their experiences, math, physics, the arts and community. Steve can be found inspiring students and colleagues across campus as math professor and as lead for USask's signature area of research in quantum innovation.



Debby Burshtyn | toast

Dean of the College of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies, Debby is an advocate for adapting graduate education and mentorship to fit the changing funding and employment landscape.



Ryan Walker | toast

Associate Dean, CGPS and Professor of Geography & Planning. Ryan values a USask experience for graduate students that is well-supported in an intercultural environment of peers, service professionals, and faculty.

Bipinlal Unni (Chemistry) Infrared Spectroelectrochemical Studies of Redox Active Self Assembled Monolayers: Structure and Kinetics

Brady Vigliarolo (Chemistry) A Novel Platform For The Development of Cathepsin B-Selective Radiopharmaceuticals, Fluorogenic Substrates, and Prodrugs

Amit Mondal (Computer Science) Software Design Change Artifacts Generation through Software Architectural Change Detection and Categorisation

Tracey-Ann Stithell (Community Health and Epidemiology) Cannabis and E-cigarette Use and Associated Consequences Among Youth in the Context of Changing Legislation

Vanessa Ellis Colley (Educational Administration) An Exploration of Academy Deans' Responsibilities in Five U15 Research-Intensive Universities in Canada: Ambiguities and Managerialism in the Academe – A Mixed Methods Research

Idowu Mogaji (Educational Administration) Understanding the Role of Leadership Practice in the Implementation of Education for Sustainable Development

Darcia Roache (Educational Administration) Educational Leaders' and Teachers' Perspectives on Success

Jordan Raymond (Education) How Does Learning Anti-racist Education Through Critical Professional Development and Arts-Based Inquiry Contribute to Teacher's Understandings of their Classroom Practice?

Tasha Spillett (Education) From the Roots Up: (Re)Making Indigenous Women and Two-Spirit Peoples' Relationships with Land

Ali Fazeli (Electrical and Computer Engineering) Non-coherent Index Modulation Techniques in Wireless Communication Networks

Ozan Gunes (Electrical and Computer Engineering) Fabrication of Vanadium Dioxide Thin Films and their Structural, Optical and Electrical Characterization for Optoelectronic Applications

Masoud Javadi (Electrical and Cmptr Engin) Optimal Operation and Planning of Microgrids Considering Frequency Stability

Xingxing Jin (Electrical and Computer Engineering) High Speed Dig-ital Distance Relaying Scheme for Extra High Voltage Transmission Lines

“The pursuit of a PhD is an enduring and daring adventure.”

Gazi Mohammad Ali Ehsan Rahman (Electrical and Computer Engineering) An Internet of Things (IoT) Based Wide-Area Wireless Sensor Network (WSN) Platform with Mobility Support

Karim Shahbazi (Electrical and Computer Engineering) Optimized Hardware Implementations of Cryptography Algorithms for Resource-Constrained IoT Devices and High-Speed Applications

Bingzhi Wang (Electrical and Computer Engineering) A Novel Embedded Feature Selection Framework for Probabilistic Load Forecasting With Sparse Data via Bayesian Inference

Yi Wang (Electrical and Computer Engineering) Deep Learning Based Computer-aided Detection and Diagnosis Systems for Medical Imaging

Tara Chambers (English) John Milton's Republican Poetics and the Politics of Paradise Lost

Kyle Dase (English) Friendship and Sociability in the Verse Letters of John

Prithi Taylor (English) Thomas Becket in the South English Legend: Genre, Materiality, and Why the Reader Matters

Kevin Erratt (School of Environment and Sustainability) Cyanobacteria Presence in Boreal-Temperate Lakes in Response to the Anthropocene

Kristen Hargis (School of Environment and Sustainability) Practicing Climate Action: Following Climate Change Education Practice Elements in a K-12 School Using a Whole Institution Approach

Majing Oloko (School of Environment and Sustainability) Examining Food Preservation Participation Within Indigenous and Local Food Systems on Canada's West Coast

Oluwakemi Awe (School of Public Health) Burden of Back Pain Among Postpartum Women in Canada: A Mixed Methods Study of the Prevalence, Risk Factors, Comorbidities and Lived-Experiences

Yikai Ren (Food and Bioproduct Sciences) Utilization of Pulses in Low-Glycemic Extruded Pet Foods: Effects of Pulse Variety, Processing Condition, and Rosemary Extract

Caroline Aubry-Wake (Geography and Planning) From Processes To Predictions In Hydrological Modelling Of Glacierized Basins **GOVERNOR GENERAL'S GOLD MEDAL**

Fernando Valencia Fermin (Geological Sciences) Sedimentology, Ichthyology, and Stratigraphy of the Cenomanian Buda Formation in West-Central Texas, U.S.A.: Integrating Multiple Datasets in the Analysis of Upper Cretaceous Lagoonal Chalks

Yanna Ma (Medicine) The Effect of Interleukin-10-Differentiated Dendritic Cell Therapy on B Cell Tolerance in a Mouse Model of Asthma

Abukari Kwame (Interdisciplinary Studies) Nurse-Patient Interactions in a Ghanaian Hospital Setting: Exploring Patient Rights in Clinical Accommodation

Pawan Kumar (Kinesiology) Exploring Sensorimotor Integration Abilities of Individuals with Neurological Impairments: Can Added Haptic Input Improve Balance Control?

Natasha Mostat (Kinesiology) Autonomic Control of Cardiac Function and Peripheral Blood Flow Regulation in Health and Heart Failure with Reduced Ejection Fraction

Alireza Farahinia (Mechanical Engineering) A Novel Centrifugal Microfluidic Approach for Magnetic Circulating Tumor Cell Separation of Blood Cells Through Biocompatible Magnetite-Arginine Nanoparticles

Rayyan Khan (Mechanical Engineering) Deep Learning-Based Diagnostic System for Malignant Liver Detection

Pamela Farthing (Nursing) Managing the Unmanageable through Interdependence in Adolescents Living with Type 1 Diabetes and their Parents: A Constructivist Grounded Theory

Solomon Mcharo (Nursing) Exploring Nursing Presence as Experienced by Parents in Pediatric Oncology

Heather Nelson (Nursing) The Social and Emotional Benefits and Barriers of Traditional Karate Participation for Children from Low-Income Settings

Irene Ostapowich (Nursing) Prescribing Opioids in Primary Care Settings: Experiences of Nurse Practitioners

Laura Vogelsang (Nursing) CareGIVR: Building Self-Efficacy in Dementia Care Through Immersive Education

Pardis Keshavarz (Nutrition) Dietary Patterns of Canadians Across Different Ethnic Groups and the Association With Chronic Diseases in 2004 and 2015

Saniya Alwani (Pharmacy & Nutrition) Amino Acid Functionalized Nanodiamonds as Nucleic Acid Delivery Vectors: Synthesis and Optimization of Histidine-Modified Nanodiamonds, Biological Interaction Studies and Utilization for Nucleic Acid Therapeutics

Asher Brandt (Pharmacy & Nutrition) In-vitro and In-silico Computational Modelling of the Cannabinoid Type 1 and Serotonin 2a Class A G Protein Coupled Receptors

Gabriel Dalio Bernardes (Pharmacy & Nutrition) Cyclization of Polyphenols from Natural Products: Potential Pharmacological and Toxicological Implications

Shanal De Silva (Pharmacy & Nutrition) Phytochemical and Synthetic Investigational Compounds as Modulators of Cytometabolic and Cytoskeletal Dynamics for Pre-Clinical Targeting of Prostate Cancer

Fatma Elzahrha Elessawy (Pharmacy & Nutrition) The Use of Targeted and Untargeted Mass Spectrometric Based Metabolomics to Explore the Diversity of Polyphenol Profiles in Pulse Crop Flowers and Seed Coats and Their Relationship to Antioxidant Capacity and Iron Chelation Ability

Hye Ji Kim (Pharmacy & Nutrition) Endocannabinoid and Orexin Interactions, With a Special Consideration for Sex- and Estrogen Cycle-Dependent Differences

Kimberlee Dube (Physics & Engineering Physics) Satellite Limb Observations of Stratospheric NO_x

Huiyao Kuang (Physics & Engineering Physics) First-Principles Studies on the Structures and Properties of Glasses and Melts under Extreme Conditions

Arash Tavassoli (Physics & Engineering Physics) Drift Instabilities, Anomalous Transport, and Heating in Low-Temperature Plasmas

Nnanna Ukoji (Physics & Engineering Physics) Structure, Electronic Structure and Electronic Spectra of Simple Materials at High Pressure

Stanley Adobor (Plant Sciences) Genetic Analysis of Stemphylium Blight Resistance in Lentil Interspecific Recombinant Inbred Lines and Advanced Backcross Population

Adam Carter (Plant Sciences) High-throughput Phenotyping and Genomic Prediction in Multi-environment Plant Breeding Field Trials

Soudeh Farzadfar (Plant Sciences) Role of Cover Crops in Regulating Nitrogen Dynamics, Productivity and Phytochemical Quality in Vegetable Production Systems

Bayartulga Lkhagvasuren (Plant Sciences) Plant and Soil Responses to Fertilization of Grasslands in Saskatchewan, Canada and Selenge, Mongolia

Nicole Bolt (Psychology & Health Studies) Neural Markers of Self-Other Differentiation During Dynamic Joint Action

Kirstian Gibson (Psychology & Health Studies) Mother's Experiences of Supportive and Critical Comments: An Application of the Self Discrepancy Theory

Joshua Neudorf (Psychology & Health Studies) Relating Structural Connectivity to Brain Function Using Deep Learning, Graph Theory, Complexity and Disease **GOVERNOR GENERAL'S GOLD MEDAL**

Elly-Jean Nielsen (Psychology & Health Studies) Outspoken: The Lifeworld of Queer Women and Non-Binary Spoken Word Poets

Sharmi Jaggi (JSG School of Public Policy) Law Without Order: Lower Court Sentencing, the Application of Gladue Principles, and Joint Sentencing Practices in Canada

Bianca Jamal (JSG School of Public Policy) Barriers to and Opportunities for Intergovernmental Conflict Resolution: A Case Study of the Trans Mountain Pipeline Extension

Stephanie Ortynsky (JSG School of Public Policy) The Cases of Public Sector Budgeting for K-12 Education in Canada and Wellbeing Budgeting in New Zealand: Incremental to Performance-Based Budgeting

Danette Starblanket (JSG School of Public Policy) Government and Indigenous Protest: An Analysis of the Response to Idle No More - Ignored No More Backcross Population

Olufunmilola Ayotunde (Law) Indigenous Peoples' Procedural Environmental Rights and Transnational Indigenous Advocacy Networks

Amy Zarzeczny (Law) Regulation and Governance of Access to Unproven Medical Interventions in Canada: A Case Study Analysis

Ashebir Godebo (Soil Science) Biocontrol of Root Rot Complex in Field Pea and Lentil and Complete Genome Analysis of Biocontrol Bacteria

Mohammed Abulai (Sociology) The Paradox of Cybercrime Risk and Internet Use in Canada: A Socio-Criminological Perspective

Siyu Ru (Sociology) Understanding the Relationship Between People with Physical Disabilities and Their Companion Animals in Urban China

Atefeh Nasri (Veterinary Biomedical Sciences) Nucleobindins and Stress And Metabolism

Pahupati Bhandari (Veterinary Microbiology) Elucidating the Mechanisms of Extracellular Glycogen Utilization in Gardnerella spp

Kayla Buhler (Veterinary Microbiology) Wildlife Reservoirs and Sentinels for Vector Borne Zoonoses in Northern Canada

Kylee Drever (Veterinary Microbiology) Novel Insights into the Regulation of the Mycobacterium tuberculosis Type-VII Secretion System ESX-1

Temtope Kolapo (Veterinary Microbiology) Molecular Epidemiology and Diagnostics for Echinococcus multilocularis in Canid Definitive and Intermediate Hosts

Rankothde Wellawa (Veterinary Microbiology) Characterizing the Role of Putative Virulence Genes Associated with Infection, Colonization, and Persistence of Salmonella Enteritidis in Chicken using a Bioluminescent Reporter

Bold & Ambitious.
responding to what the world needs