

Vice-Provost Faculty Relations Newsletter

What's New?

The Office of the Vice-Provost, Faculty Relations monthly newsletter is distributed to all faculty. The newsletter's purpose is to offer helpful tips, send out reminders, answer Frequently Asked Questions, and to highlight items of interest to faculty.

Office Updates

The university is preparing for [primarily remote delivery](#) for the fall term. Visit our [website](#) for helpful links for faculty, including information on working and teaching remotely. If you have questions about anything, feel free to reach out to our office. On our homepage you will also find a link to the [Letter of Understanding](#) between USask and USFA on the Agreement on Measures in Response to COVID-19. We covered this in our [April newsletter](#), but please reach out if you have any questions about the LOU and its implementation.



In early May, our office sent out information for sabbatical and administrative leaves. Normally we host a spring information session for faculty going on leave, however, due to COVID-19 we instead sent these resources electronically. Included in the package was information on the Sabbatical Travel Expense Fund, the responsibilities of sabbaticants, tax and insurance implications, and more. If you would like these resources or need assistance with anything in the documentation, please contact Isabel Bacalao at isabel.bacalao@usask.ca.

What's New Cont'd...

In our last issue we acknowledged faculty who received promotion, tenure and renewal as of July 1, 2020. We would like to also acknowledge the following medical faculty in the College of Medicine who were promoted from Assistant to Associate Professor:

Dr. Philip Davis, Emergency Medicine - Saskatoon
 Dr. Erika Penz, Medicine - Saskatoon
 Dr. Bonnie Richardson, Medicine - Regina
 Dr. Franco Vizeacoumar, Oncology - Saskatoon
 Dr. Humphrey Fonge, Medical Imaging - Saskatoon
 Dr. Yagan Pillay, Surgery – Prince Albert



Medical Faculty: Their Roles & Responsibilities

Medical faculty are physicians licensed in Saskatchewan, or Clinical PhDs working in the Saskatchewan Health Authority. They deliver essential academic services in the College of Medicine, while also providing important clinical services to their communities throughout the province. Although medical faculty are not employees of the university, their academic contributions are important to the academic mission of the university. The appointments issued by the university are conferred with the academic rights, freedoms, and responsibilities similar to those held by all university faculty members. The standards by which their academic work and professional skills are evaluated for promotion are the same as for all members of the College of Medicine and the University of Saskatchewan.

Congrats to all medical faculty who received promotion this year!

Reminders & Events

Our office's upcoming events have all been cancelled or postponed due to COVID-19, with future dates to be determined.

The deadline to apply for Educational Leaves with a start date of January 1 is June 30. For more information see our website [here](#).

**Vice-Provost
Pick of the
Month**

UnivRS CV Transition: *An Update on Deadlines, Procedure, and Requirements*

The deadline of **July 1, 2020** for faculty to transition to the new standardized CV format still stands and will not be changed due to COVID-19. **As of July 1, 2020, faculty will be required to use the revised USask Standardized CV format and the revised Forms 1 and 2.**

Important Points:

A) This transition process *does not* mean that faculty must use the UnivRS system to generate their CV. You may instead use the online guidelines to create a word document or pdf version of your CV. Creating a word document or pdf in the new format meets the requirements. Using UnivRS is not necessary to transition your CV.

B) Faculty have had several years to make necessary changes to their CV, so the process and deadline will remain as planned. This transition is important for a number of reasons. It is necessary for some units to use online CV registries as part of their accreditation process. Research Services and Institutional Planning and Assessment prefer the UnivRS CV, because data can be tracked and accessed more easily, which allows for more effective planning. The new format also attempts to better capture interdisciplinary and community-based work.

C) The new CV guidelines, a side-by-side comparison, and Forms 1 and 2 are available online [here](#). UnivRS FAQs are available [here](#).

D) We are exploring the possibility of hosting online training sessions for faculty who want to use the UnivRS system to generate their CV. If we are able to do this, we will likely host them in the summer and will notify faculty. However, use of the UnivRS system is not required for the CV transition and therefore regardless of training sessions, the

July 1, 2020 deadline still applies.



Please direct all questions about the CV transition to our office. If you need technical assistance when using UnivRS, please refer to the UnivRS contact page [here](#).

In the Vice-Provost Pick of the Month section, each month we will tackle a common FAQ that our office gets. If you have ideas for what to address in coming newsletters, feel free to email your suggestions or questions to vpfacultyrelations@usask.ca.

End Notes

Faculty Spotlight

The university has launched a community-driven COVID-19 Digital Archive to document life in Saskatchewan during the pandemic. The archive is a partnership between USask's Department of History and the University Library. It will include photographs, social media posts, blog entries, and more. Thanks to all faculty involved in this project!

Congratulations to researchers at the Canadian Light Source who are developing Microbeam Radiation Therapy (MRT) for inoperable cancer. The research team recently published a paper in *Physics in Medicine and Biology* showing that MRT can be scaled up for human radiation treatment, which could be a valuable addition to conventional radiation therapy.

Congrats to Dr. Carrie Bourassa, who has been appointed as the Indigenous Engagement Lead on the federal COVID-19 Immunity Task Force. The Task Force will be overseeing national efforts to measure the scope of COVID-19 immunity across the country.

Dr. Jim Barton, medical faculty and Associate Dean of Continuing Medical Education, has produced an accredited weekly educational series for physicians in the province that highlights a particular COVID topic. The webinar brings together medical faculty experts from around the province to present and allows for a provincial Q&A. Examples of topics include the impact of COVID on various patients groups, health care worker wellness, vulnerable populations and ethical decision making.

Drs. Erika Penz, Robert Skomro and Stephen Sanche, medical faculty in Medicine, are co-investigators on a study led by Dr. Walter Siqueira, Dentistry, to evaluate a point-of-care diagnostic platform of COVID-19 based on the identification of specific SARS-CoV-2 peptides in human saliva. Through this work, the researchers hope to find an effective test for the SARS-CoV-2 virus with a rapid turn-around time.

If you have something you'd like to see highlighted in Faculty Spotlight, send your suggestions to vpfaculty.relations@usask.ca.