

# Vice-Provost Faculty Relations Newsletter

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## What's New?

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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

As we all anticipate and look forward to a return to some form of normalcy in a post-Covid-19 world, it is important to stay up to date on vaccination information. Getting vaccinated is vital to protecting our communities, including our campus community. A return to normalcy is only possible once vaccination targets have been met, so it is important that we all do our part! For the most recent information on vaccination, visit the Government of Saskatchewan's [website](#).

In early April, our office sent out information to colleges and schools regarding Associate and Joint Members expiring as of June 30, 2021. Please renew any applicable



appointments by May 30, 2021. Visit our website for information on renewing [Associate Members](#) and [Joint Members](#). Any questions about this process can be directed to Naomi Hansen at [naomi.hansen@usask.ca](mailto:naomi.hansen@usask.ca).

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## What's New Cont'd...

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**The University Library is now home to the Canadian Hub for Applied and Social Research ([CHASR](#)).** CHASR is a research support and consulting service, which regularly supports and engages with academic researchers from a variety of disciplines. It was initially started within the College of Arts and Science, and has since grown to become a nationally recognized research facility. As a result, CHASR is being moved to the University Library. To find out more about the move and what CHASR offers, visit the library's [website](#).

**In late April, a memo was sent out to all faculty, deans, and department heads regarding a Letter of Understanding** reached between the university and the USask Faculty Association on Sabbatical Travel Expense Account funds. The LOU is a temporary change that allows the funds to be used more broadly due to Covid-19. Please visit our [website](#) to see the memo and contact our office for any questions related to Sabbaticals at [vpfaculty.relations@usask.ca](mailto:vpfaculty.relations@usask.ca).



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## Reminders & Events

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### Upcoming Dates & Deadlines:

- **May 18<sup>th</sup> from 2-3:30 pm (renewal and tenure) and May 19<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-11 am (promotion):** [Well Prepared Candidate Workshop](#) for Candidates (virtual events).
- **May 25<sup>th</sup> from 2-3:30 pm:** [Well Prepared Candidate Workshop:](#) Indigenous Specific for Candidates (virtual event).
- **May 26<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-11 am:** [Well Prepared Candidate Workshop](#) for Deans, Department Heads, and Admin Staff (virtual event).

See the [collegial process calendar](#) for more information on these dates and specific dates on tenure, probation, renewal, and salary review.

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## Vice-Provost Pick of the Month

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### ***The Well Prepared Candidate Workshops:***

This month our office is hosting four Well Prepared Candidate Workshops, which will highlight best practices for case file preparation for renewal, tenure and promotion. These sessions will also provide an overview of the review process at the department, college and university level. If you are planning on going forward for renewal, tenure or promotion in the upcoming year or near future, these workshops are a great chance to learn and have an opportunity to ask questions about this process. It is never too early to get started on preparing a future case file. This is also a perfect time to sit down with your Department Head or Dean to talk about your upcoming case file and your progression in meeting the department, college and university standards for renewal, tenure, or promotion.

### **Upcoming Sessions:**

**These sessions will be led by Ken Wilson, Vice-Provost Faculty Relations and Chair of the University Review Committee.**

**May 18<sup>th</sup> from 2-3:30 pm:** The [Well Prepared Candidate Workshop](#) for candidates on Renewal and Tenure. Mark Carter, Professor in the College of Law, will also be there to provide perspective as a well-seasoned member of the University Review Committee.

**May 19<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-11 am:** The [Well Prepared Candidate Workshop](#) for candidates on Promotion. Mark Carter will also share his perspective (see above).

**May 25<sup>th</sup> from 2-3:30 pm:** The [Well Prepared Candidate Workshop](#) for candidates, Indigenous-specific. Jacqueline Ottmann, Vice-Provost Indigenous Engagement will share her perspective on Indigenous ways of knowing, community-engaged scholarship, and interdisciplinary research.

**May 26<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-11 am:** The [Well Prepared Candidate Workshop](#) for Deans, Department Heads, and Administrative Staff.

All of the upcoming sessions are virtual events. If you are unable to attend a session, we will be posting the session materials on our website after the sessions are done, so you will be able to access them there (check back in early June). If you would like more information or to RSVP for a session, please contact Anna Okapiec at [anna.okapiec@usask.ca](mailto:anna.okapiec@usask.ca).

**In the Vice-Provost Pick of the Month section,** each month we tackle a current issue or 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 [vpfaculty.relations@usask.ca](mailto:vpfaculty.relations@usask.ca).

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## End Notes: Faculty Spotlight

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Congratulations to faculty in the College of Arts and Science who received [College of Arts and Science Teaching Awards](#) for the 2020-2021 year. This year's award recipients include:

- Dr. Jorden Cummings, Psychology:** Distinguished Teacher Award in BA, BMus or BFA Programs.
- Dr. Kyle McLeister, History:** Pandemic Service Award.
- Dr. Marla Mickleborough, Psychology:** New Teacher Award in BA, BMus or BFA Programs
- Dr. Christopher Phenix, Chemistry:** New Teacher Award in BSc Programs.
- Dr. Ulrich Teucher, Psychology:** Distinguished Teacher Award in BSc Programs.

USask infectious disease specialist Dr. Alexander Wong spoke to The Conversation in mid-April to answer common questions about the AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine. In the article he discusses how the vaccine is different from other vaccines, and common myths and questions surrounding AstraZeneca in the media. Read the full article [here](#).

USask researchers at the Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence, in collaboration with long-term research partners at the Toronto Zoo, have produced the first female bison pregnancy with sex-sorted sperm, which is a key step to protecting and revitalizing wood bison, which are a threatened species. Read more about the research and the wood bison [here](#).

Congratulations to Dr. Holly Graham in the College of Nursing, who was awarded \$2.5-million over five years by Public Safety Canada to implement a program that will prevent crime, which will use Cree culture, languages, values, and beliefs as the intervention method. Read more about the work Dr. Graham is doing [here](#).

USask has adopted its first Sustainability Strategy, which was informed by President Peter Stoicheff's Sustainability Advisory Circle. The Sustainability Strategy commits the university to the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) by 2030, including reducing the university's greenhouse gas emissions by 45 per cent from 2010 levels by 2030. Read more about the Sustainability Strategy [here](#).

*If you have something you'd like to see highlighted in Faculty Spotlight, send your suggestions to [vpfaculty.relations@usask.ca](mailto:vpfaculty.relations@usask.ca).*

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