



Teaching.
Learning.
Research.

University of Alberta

October 23, 2024



“ The people demand that knowledge shall not be the concern of scholars alone. The uplifting of the whole people shall be its final goal. ”

Henry Marshall Tory
Founding President, 1908





Celebrate!

TEACHING • LEARNING • RESEARCH

Hosts

Dr. Verna Yiu, *Provost and Vice-President (Academic)*

Dr. Aminah Robinson Fayek, *Vice-President (Research and Innovation)*

Opening Remarks

Dr. Verna Yiu

President's Greeting

Bill Flanagan

Closing Remarks

Dr. Aminah Robinson Fayek

Acknowledgements

Arrangements coordinated by:

Office of the Registrar, Convocation and Ceremonies Office

Special thanks to:

Members of the ***Celebrate!*** Steering Committee

Music provided by:

Keri Lynn Zwicker, *Harpist*



Teaching and Research Awards

Alberta Science & Technology (ASTech) Awards

Technology Alberta showcases substantial achievements in science and technology in Alberta.

Alberta-Wide Community Champion

- **Andrew MacIsaac** – *Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences*

Best in Agriculture

- **John Basarab** – *Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science*
- **Graham Plastow** – *Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science*

Best in Digital Innovation

- **Rafiq Ahmad** – *Mechanical Engineering*

Best in Energy/Cleantech

- **Jonathan Veinot** – *Chemistry*

Early Adopter of Innovation

- **Sumantra Monty Ghosh** – *Medicine*

Researcher of the Year

- **Jie Chen** – *Electrical and Computer Engineering*
- **Tarek El-Bialy** – *Dentistry*
- **Ying Tsui** – *Electrical and Computer Engineering*

Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching

This award recognizes graduate-level teaching excellence by academic staff at the University of Alberta.

- **Rebecca Gokiert** — *Public Health*

Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship

This fellowship is designed to attract and retain top-tier postdoctoral talent — both nationally and internationally — to develop their leadership potential and to position them for success as the research leaders of tomorrow.

- **Amanda Almeida de Oliveira** — *Obstetrics and Gynecology*
- **Ilamaran Meganathan** — *Physiology*

Canadian Academy of Engineering Fellow

Election to the Canadian Academy of Engineering is one of the highest professional honours accorded to an engineer in recognition of distinguished achievements and career-long service to the engineering profession.

- **Tayfun Babadagli** — *Civil and Environmental Engineering*
- **Douglas Ivey** — *Chemical and Materials Engineering*
- **Ryan (Yunwei) Li** — *Electrical and Computer Engineering*

Canadian Academy of Health Sciences Fellow

Canadian Academy of Health Sciences Fellows are recognized nationally and internationally for their contributions to the promotion of health science and have demonstrated leadership, creativity, distinctive competencies and background and a commitment to advance academic health science.

- **Sean Bagshaw** — *Critical Care Medicine*
- **Sara Davison** — *Medicine*
- **Lisa Hartling** — *Pediatrics*

Canadian Pharmacist of the Year

The Canadian Pharmacist of the Year Award recognizes a pharmacist who demonstrates leadership, exemplifies the evolution of the pharmacy profession toward an expanded role in health care and brings respect to the profession by advancing the recognition of the pharmacist's role in optimizing drug therapy outcomes for Canadians.

- **Sherif Mahmoud** — *Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences*

Canadian Society of Transplantation Lifetime Achievement Award

Awarded to a well established transplant physician surgeon or scientist for their internationally recognized work in the field of transplantation and participation in the development of transplantation activities in Canada.

- **Ronald Moore** — *Surgery*

Dorothy Killam Fellowship

Administered by the National Research Council, this fellowship is awarded to researchers whose superior, ground-breaking, best-in-class research stands to have significant impact on a national or global scale.

- **Marie-Cécile Piro** — *Physics*

VIDEO PORTRAIT

Marie-Cécile Piro

Dorothy Killam Fellowship

Dr. Marie-Cécile Piro joined the University of Alberta in 2017 and is an Associate Professor in the Department of Physics at the University of Alberta. Dr. Piro is passionate about exploring one of the universe's greatest mysteries, dark matter.

She completed her undergraduate and graduate studies at the University of Montreal, where she earned her Ph.D in experimental particle physics for her research on bubble chamber detectors in dark matter searches. Dr. Piro continued her pursuit of dark matter as a postdoctoral associate in France, where she worked with high-purity germanium detectors in a condensed matter group and conducted critical operations at the Modane Underground Laboratory. She moved to the United States as a research associate, then spent two years at the Gran Sasso National Laboratory in Italy, working on the world's largest xenon dark matter detector.



In addition to her research, Dr. Piro is actively engaged in mentorship in physics, developing and leading outreach programs and projects, holding events to enhance public awareness of physics and has undertaken numerous equity, diversity and inclusion initiatives at the University of Alberta.

Her strong leadership and extensive experience in using different detector technologies have allowed her to collaborate with several international research teams and to make significant contributions to world-leading searches for dark matter.

Engineering Institute of Canada Fellow

Fellows are elected to the Engineering Institute of Canada in recognition of their exceptional contributions to engineering in Canada.

- **João Soares** – *Chemical and Materials Engineering*
-

Ethel Johns Award

The Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN) Ethel Johns Award recognizes outstanding nursing education leaders for leadership in curriculum development, administration, teaching and research; significant contributions to the CASN Council and committees at national and international levels; and for strengthening the quality of nursing education and the nursing profession.

- **Pauline Paul** – *Nursing*
-

Fulbright Awards

The Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program operates on the principle of reciprocal exchange and provides the opportunity for outstanding Canadian scholars to lecture and/or conduct research in the United States.

- **Reza Hasmath** – *Political Science*
Fulbright Canada Research Chair at University of Southern California
-

Governor General's Innovation Award

The Governor General's Innovation Awards recognize and celebrate outstanding Canadian individuals, teams and organizations whose exceptional and transformative work help shape the future and positively impact our quality of life.

- **Kisha Supernant** – *Anthropology*
- **William Wadsworth** – *Anthropology*

Graduate Student Awards

BMO Financial Group Graduate Scholarship

Awarded annually to students registered in, or admitted to, a full-time PhD or thesis-based Master's program on the basis of superior academic achievement and demonstrated research ability or research potential.

- **Kimberly Friesen** – *Education*
 - **Mary Olukotun** – *Nursing*
-

Kaleidoscope Program Scholar

The Associate of Research Libraries Kaleidoscope Program is a two-year commitment that aims to prepare IBPOC graduate students for purposeful and consequential careers in research libraries and archives through enriched leadership development and community building opportunities.

- **Aizle Bernardo** – *Library and Information Studies and Business*
- **Joseph Takeda** – *Library and Information Studies*

Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Scholarship

Recipients are selected based on their academic excellence, leadership and engagement, willingness to engage with a plurality of perspectives and their agility and resilience.

- **Madison Dabbs-Petty** — *Education*

Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship

This program aims to attract and retain world-class doctoral students by supporting individuals who demonstrate both leadership skills and a high standard of scholarly achievement in graduate studies in the social sciences and humanities, natural sciences and engineering, and health.

- **Yared Aynalem** — *Nursing*
- **Hajar Ghorbani** — *Anthropology*
- **Sofiia Huraka** — *Mathematical and Statistical Sciences*
- **Abhijeet Pathy** — *Renewable Resources*
- **Megan Tipler** — *Education*
- **Nakita Valerio** — *History, Classics, and Religion*

Madison Dabbs-Petty

Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Scholarship

Madison Dabbs-Petty (MEd; she/her) is a second-year PhD student in Counselling Psychology in the Faculty of Education, supervised by Dr. Taymy Caso.

Madison also holds a Bacclauréat-ès-arts from the University of Alberta's Faculté Saint-Jean and a Certificate in International Learning, also from the University of Alberta.

Madison's research interests centre on LGBTQ+ and BIPOC health and intersectionality. Her Master's capstone project was focused on the importance of human sexuality training for aspiring psychologists in Canada and the US. Currently, Madison has contributed to projects regarding sexuality and technology, health disparities for sexual and gender minorities, Black mental health and reproductive justice for LGBTQ+ and racialized Canadians.

Madison is also continuing her Master's work by identifying gaps in human sexuality training among Canadian student clinicians. For her doctoral project, she aims to conduct a needs assessment of rural LGBTQ+ health in Canada by engaging providers and community members. This project would serve to highlight the ongoing resilience of queer and trans individuals in Canada as they face ongoing threats to their autonomy, wellbeing and healthcare rights.

Madison aims to embody the scientist-practitioner-advocate model of psychology



by serving her community in a number of roles. She is the Vice President of her area's Professional Psychology Graduate Students Association and the Student Liaison for her program. She has enthusiastically pursued teaching roles, acting as a teaching assistant for two graduate-level courses in the Fall 2024 semester. In the previous academic year, Madison engaged in knowledge mobilization by presenting at several international conferences, including those for the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality (SSSS), the American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors, and Therapists (AASECT) and the American Psychological Association (APA). Madison's academic, clinical and advocacy work has been honoured through her receipt of the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Scholarship, the SSHRC Canada Graduate Scholarship and the Alberta Graduate Excellence Scholarship. Madison is trilingual, has two cats and loves to write fiction and watch Shakespeare in her free time.

Teaching and Research Awards

ISHLT Lifetime Achievement Award

The ISHLT Lifetime Achievement Award is the highest honour bestowed by the International Society for Heart & Lung Transplantation on an individual whose lifetime body of work has made a significant contribution toward improving the care of patients or engaged in pioneering work that improved the care of patients with advanced heart or lung disease.

- **Lori West** – *Pediatrics*
-

J. Gordin Kaplan Award for Excellence in Research

The University of Alberta's most prestigious research award is named for the university's first Vice-President (Research). It recognizes and honours faculty members for their research contributions and impact nationally and internationally.

- **Julie Rak** – *English and Film Studies*
 - **Denise Spitzer** – *Public Health*
-

Lieutenant Governor of Alberta Emerging Artist Award

The Lieutenant Governor of Alberta Emerging Artist Award supports and encourages Alberta's most promising artists at an early stage of their careers.

- **Erina Harris** – *English and Film Studies*

Martha Cook Piper Research Prize

This award recognizes two faculty members in the early stage of their careers who enjoy a reputation for original research and show outstanding promise as researchers.

- **David Brown** – *Economics*
- **Maria Ioannou** – *Physiology*

McCalla Professorship

Recognizes outstanding academics who have made significant contributions to the integration of teaching and research, and educational leadership.

- **Normand Boulé** – *Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation*
- **Ben Dyson** – *Psychology*
- **David Stuart** – *Biochemistry*
- **Thao Tran-Minh** – *Campus Saint-Jean*

Order of Canada

The Order of Canada is the cornerstone of the Canadian Honours System. Presented by the Governor General of Canada, it recognizes outstanding achievement, dedication to the community and service to the nation.

- **Glen Baker, Member** – *Psychiatry*
- **Vickie Baracos, Member** – *Oncology*
- **Louis Francescutti, Member** – *Public Health*

Provost's Award for Early Achievement of Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

This award recognizes teaching excellence by academic staff within five years of their first university appointment.

- **Louise Harrington** – *English and Film Studies*
- **Kristin Zelyck** – *Nursing*

Royal Society of Canada Bancroft Award

This award is given for publication, instruction and research in the earth sciences that have conspicuously contributed to public understanding and appreciation of the subject.

- **Kurt Konhauser** – *Earth and Atmospheric Sciences*

Royal Society of Canada College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists

The College is Canada's first national system of multidisciplinary recognition for the emerging generation of Canadian intellectual leadership. Members are elected based on excellence and demonstrated impact in the early stages of their academic careers.

- **Stephanie Green** – *Biological Sciences*
- **Narges Noori** – *Art & Design*
- **Martha White** – *Computing Science*

Royal Society of Canada Fellow

Fellows are distinguished researchers from all branches of learning who have made remarkable contributions in the arts, the humanities and the sciences, as well as in Canadian public life. Fellowship in the Royal Society of Canada is one of the highest levels of recognition of artistic and intellectual accomplishment in Canada.

- **Tee Guidotti** — *Medicine*
 - **Cressida Heyes** — *Political Science*
-

Royal Society of Canada Rutherford Memorial Medal

The Rutherford Memorial Medal is awarded for outstanding research during the formative stage of a career in any branch of physics and chemistry.

- **Rylan Lundgren** — *Chemistry*

Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

Recognizes teaching excellence by continuing academic staff at the University of Alberta.

- **Guillermo Hernandez Ramirez** — *Renewable Resources*

VIDEO PORTRAIT

Guillermo Hernandez Ramirez

Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

Dr. Hernandez Ramirez joined the University of Alberta in 2012 and is a Professor of Renewable Resources in the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences (ALES). He previously worked as a scientist with the Plant and Food Research Institute in New Zealand, as a professor in the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences at the University of Panama and as a postdoctoral researcher with USDA-ARS at the National Laboratory for Agriculture and the Environment in Iowa, United States. Dr. Hernandez Ramirez received his B.Sc. from EARTH University (Costa Rica) and his Ph.D. from Purdue University (Indiana, United States) and holds a professional agronomist (P.Ag.) designation in Alberta.

Within the U of A, Dr. Hernandez Ramirez also participates in the Sustainability Council, Land Reclamation International Graduate School (LRIGS) program sponsored by NSERC CREATE, the Alberta School of Forest Science and Management (ASFSM) as well



as the Alberta Centre for Reclamation and Restoration Ecology (ACRRE).

Dr. Hernandez Ramirez serves the broader community as an elected Councilor of the Alberta Institute of Agrologists (AIA) and on the Prizes and Awards Committee of the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS). In addition to receiving the Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, Dr. Hernandez Ramirez has been frequently recognized by the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences and the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture for his commitment to teaching excellence.

Undergraduate Scholarships

Scholastic Distinction

The Scholastic Distinction Scholarship Program recognizes the top academic students from across Canada and around the world. These are among the most valuable and prestigious undergraduate scholarships awarded by the University of Alberta.

BMO Financial Group Entrance Citation

- Dylan Becker-Mcnaney – *Engineering*
- Carissa Lewis – *Arts*
- Zaira Seffern – *Native Studies*

Chancellor's Entrance Citation

- Madison Metrunc – *Arts*
- Martin Sataric – *Campus Saint-Jean*
- Saaigh Taimur – *Engineering*
- Arianna Van Heeren – *Education*

President's Centenary Entrance Citation

- Feliciaa Baldner – *Science*

President's Entrance Citation

- Edana Clyne – *Engineering*
- Cheyenne Lauzon – *Campus Saint-Jean*
- Sarah Roberts – *Nursing*
- Elayne Williams – *Arts*

Royal Society of Canada Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella Prize

The Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella Prize awarded by the Royal Society of Canada is presented annually to a graduating law student in each of the law schools in Canada who is most likely to positively influence equity and social justice in Canada or globally upon graduation.

- **Michael Christ** — *Law*

Schulich Leader Scholarship

An annual scholarship for high school students enrolling in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics) program in university, who have demonstrated academic excellence, outstanding community/business/entrepreneurial leadership and/or financial need.

- **Charlise Bruchet** — *Engineering*
- **Oliver Chen** — *Engineering*
- **Jenny Lee** — *Science*
- **Selena Pang** — *Science*
- **Gabe Thacker** — *Engineering*
- **Shen Zhou** — *Science*

TD Scholarship for Community Leadership

The TD Scholarship for Community Leadership recognizes students who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to community leadership.

- **Chetan Brar** — *Science*



Teaching & Research Awards

University Cup

The University Cup is the highest honour this university can bestow on a member of its academic staff and is granted only to those individuals who have achieved sustained commitment in each of the areas of research and/or creative endeavours, teaching and service to the University and the community at large. Thus, the recipient of the University Cup is an established academic whose leadership and scholarly work has merited broad attention, whose teaching and student supervision ability is widely recognized by colleagues and students alike as exceptional and who has earned significant outstanding regard from the community which favours both the individual and the university.

- **David M. Olson** – *Obstetrics and Gynecology*
- **Tian Tang** – *Mechanical Engineering*

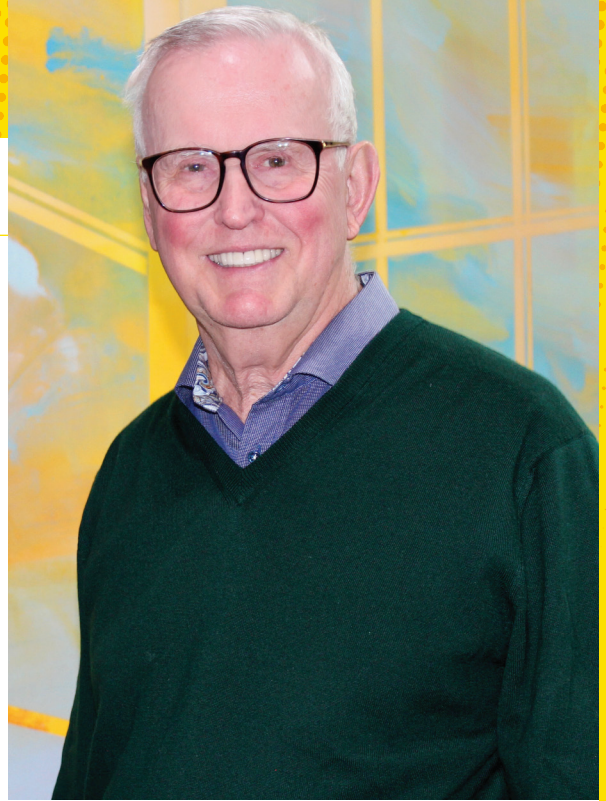
David M. Olson

University Cup

Dr. David M. Olson joined the University of Alberta in 1991. He is a University of Alberta Distinguished Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology with adjunct appointments to the Departments of Pediatrics and Physiology. He has served the University of Alberta community as Director of the Perinatal Research Centre, chair/member of faculty strategic planning committees, course coordinator, mentor and collaborator.

Dr. Olson focuses on improving women's pregnancy and newborn health. His studies and patents on products to predict and treat preterm birth and fetal/newborn inflammation and on pregnant women's vulnerability to environmental mental health stressors and their transgenerational transmission are internationally renowned. He firmly believes in translating scientific discoveries into products that serve society and founded two companies to translate his laboratory discoveries into women's pregnancy health products.

Dr. Olson is a founder of several organizations: the Mogensen Trust and the Children's Health Research Institute at Western University, PolicyWise, the Canadian National Perinatal Research Meeting, the International Inflammatory Pathways to Preterm Birth Team and the Optimal Pregnancy Environment Risk Assessment (OPERA) program (WHO, WUN). He was elected an officer in three scientific



societies and chairs the Worldwide Universities Network Mental Health and Maternal-Child Health Committees.

In 2021, he was awarded a Doctor of Science (honoris causa) from the University of Lethbridge for his contributions to women's pregnancy health and in 2022, he received the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry's Tier I Basic Science Mentor Award from the U of A. He was elected to fellowships in the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecology (UK) (ad eundem) and the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.

Tian Tang

University Cup

Dr. Tian Tang joined the University of Alberta in 2007 and is a Professor of Mechanical Engineering. She has served as Associate Chair (Research) of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Acting Associate Dean (Programs & Planning). Dr. Tang was a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair from 2007 to 2018 and has been a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair since 2021. She is an internationally recognized researcher in multi-scale modelling and simulation of soft materials and interfaces. Her group creates novel approaches to studying functional materials and proposes ways to guide material design in nanotechnology, biomedicine and the environment.

Dr. Tang is passionate about teaching all levels of courses in mechanics, has mentored over 80 trainees and contributed to the faculty's curriculum development. Her teaching extends beyond the university into the community as an Edmonton Lifelong Learners Association instructor.

Dr. Tang proudly advocates for equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) in STEM fields. She supports Women in Scholarship, Engineering, Science and Technology (WISEST) as a member of the Advisory Board and was an Academic Co-Chair from 2017 to 2023. Within the Faculty of Engineering, she served as Department Director for



Outreach and Diversity on the faculty's EDI team. As a Women in APEGA (Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta) Committee member, Dr. Tang contributed to developing policy documents promoting the recruitment, retention and advancement of underrepresented groups in engineering.

Dr. Tang has received numerous awards, including the Adhesion Society's Distinguished Paper Award and Outstanding Young Adhesion Scientist Award, the Martha Cook Piper Research Prize, the Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching and the Killam Annual Professorship.

University of Alberta Distinguished Professor

The title of University of Alberta Distinguished Professor recognizes exceptional faculty members who have achieved significant distinction and scholarship in each of the areas of teaching, research and/or creative endeavours, and service to the university and the community at large.

- **Biao Huang** — *Chemical and Materials Engineering*
- **Carla Prado** — *Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science*
- **Hasan Uludağ** — *Chemical and Materials Engineering*

Vargo Teaching Chair

This award recognizes innovative, excellent teachers, who have shown leadership and mentorship of colleagues.

- **Ava Chow** — *Dentistry*



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OF ALBERTA**