



## A recap of 2023 at U of A: Crossword edition

By The U of A Internal Employee  
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### ACROSS

- 1 This faculty, once called FGSR, is home to more than 500 graduate programs in 300 research areas, changed its name in October 2023 (abbreviation). (3)

#### GPS.

Formerly called the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR), the new name, Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (GPS), was approved by the General Faculties Council on Oct. 16, 2023. GPS supports and promotes excellence in graduate education for over 8,400 graduate students in more than 500 graduate programs in 300 research areas.

[Read more about GPS.](#)

- 4 The \_\_\_\_ Strategy is a deliberate plan to ensure that the U of A is a place where our faculty and staff can thrive and flourish. (6)
- People.**  
The U of A Strategic Plan, *Shape*, identified people as the cornerstone of the university's ambitions for the next decade. This led to alignment with *Shape*; *Forward with Purpose*; *Braiding Past, Present & Future*; and the current work guiding the university's revamped strategic plan for EDI. The People Strategy will also link with and reflect other related work, such as the Healthy University Strategic Plan and the Culture of Care.  
[Read more about U of A's People Strategy.](#)

- 6 In June, the Faculty of Native Studies and Rupertsland Centre for Métis Research celebrated the arrival of a new one of these, an important physical symbol of Métis presence and community relations that stands in front of Pembina Hall (three words). (3,5,4)

#### Red River Cart.

A Red River Cart has stood in front of Pembina Hall since June 2016. The cart signifies the important relationship between the Métis Nation of Alberta, Rupertsland Institute and the Faculty of Native Studies. When the life cycle of the first cart ended, a new cart was purchased through a generous donation from the Rupertsland Institute.  
[View a picture](#) or check it out in person in front of Pembina Hall on North Campus.

- 9 The number of newly named Canada Excellence Research Chairs who will be joining the U of A in 2024. (5)

#### Three.

Three newly named Canada Excellence Research Chairs will be joining the U of A in 2024:

Kalyan Das – CERC in Antiviral Drug Design (Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, College of Health Sciences)

Rebecca Hull-Meichle – CERC in the Islet Microenvironment (Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, College of Health Sciences)

Shinichi Nakagawa – CERC in Open Science and Synthesis in Ecology and Evolution (Faculty of Science, College of Natural & Applied Sciences)

[Read more about U of A's three newly-named Canada Excellence Research Chairs](#)

- 10 The U of A strategic plan, launched in September 2023. (5)
- Shape.**  
*Shape*, the University of Alberta's strategic plan, was launched on Sept. 19, 2023. *Shape* outlines a bold vision for the University of Alberta's future.  
[Read more about the launch of Shape](#) or [view photos of the launch day celebration.](#)

- 13 Titled \_\_\_\_ with purpose, this strategic plan guides U of A's research and innovation. (7)

#### Forward.

*Forward with Purpose* is U of A's first pan-institutional strategic plan for research and innovation. This plan for 2023-2028 identifies four goals and six areas of research. These areas of global excellence and growth, alongside strategic goals for research and innovation, will help further position the U of A as a global leader that is addressing critical challenges within society.  
[Read more about Forward with Purpose](#)

- 15 The name of the program by the Fyrefly Institute that supports 2SLGBTQ+ community members who are experiencing houselessness (abbreviation). (4)

#### CHEW.

Fyrefly, with help from collaborators like the United Way, is working to support members of the 2SLGBTQ+ community who are experiencing houselessness through the Community, Health, Empowerment and Wellness (CHEW) Project.  
[Read more about Fyrefly and the CHEW project.](#)

- 16 This faculty, which is part of the College of Natural and Applied Sciences, is home to the first U of A UNESCO World Chair and one of the world's most cited researchers (abbreviation). (4)

#### ALES.

The Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences (or ALES for short), which is part of the College of Natural and Applied Sciences, is now home to the first [U of A UNESCO World Chair](#). In addition, ALES researcher [Michael Gänzle was named one of the world's most cited researchers.](#)

- 17 This building, known for its central North Campus location and proximity to transit, will have accessible entrances, all-gender washrooms and student-focused spaces (abbreviation). (8)

#### UCommons.

The University Commons (UCommons) building will be one of the most accessible spaces on North Campus with sight lines that travel all the way through the space, at-grade or accessible entrances on all sides, all-gender washrooms and spaces on every floor for all members of the community, including students, faculty, staff and visitors. In 2023, the community learned more about the project in a video preview. In this video preview, learn more on how UCommons was shaped by students and will have a dedicated student-centric space with all the core, supportive, student services available in one place.  
[Watch the most recent video on University Commons.](#)

- 18 The Augustana \_\_\_\_\_ women's curling team won their first national gold medal this year. (7)  
**Vikings.**  
In March 2023, the Augustana Vikings women's curling team travelled to Sudbury, Ont., for nationals. In the gold medal game against the Niagara Knights, the Vikings stole one point in the tenth end to claim their first Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) national championship in a 5-4 win.  
[Read more about the Vikings national gold medal win](#)
- 19 This First Peoples' House Elder, alongside cultural helper Elder Elsey Gauthier, guided a group of U of A employees in a pipe ceremony to launch the project transitioning First Peoples' House into a newer and larger space (last name). (11)  
**Whiskeyjack.**  
In September 2023, the U of A announced the transition of First Peoples' House into a newer and larger space. At the project kickoff, a group of U of A employees were led in a pipe ceremony by Elder Francis Whiskeyjack and cultural helper Elder Elsey Gauthier.
- 2 The short name for U of A's new library space that has a Dentistry Museum Collection, Indigenous learning space and virtual reality lab. (7)  
**Sperber.**  
The Geoffrey and Robyn Sperber Health Sciences Library (or Sperber for short) officially opened to the U of A community on Sept. 30, 2023. The reimagined space includes quiet and group study areas, virtual reality and media labs, an Indigenous learning space, Indigenous Healing Collection and an exhibit from the Dentistry Museum Collection.  
[Tour the new Sperber library through photos.](#)
- 3 Increases our institution-wide capacity for research grant development and administrative support to the research community (abbreviation). (5)  
**RPnet.**  
The research partner network (or RPnet for short) is designed to provide the research community with the expertise to craft innovative, fundable research proposals as efficiently as possible and to help manage the administration of funds. In 2023, the network refreshed the [RPNet webpage](#) to identify detailed examples of support as well as the different areas of specialization and faculty/department assignments.  
[Read more about the research partner network](#)
- 4 Cette Alumna (nom de famille) du Campus Saint-Jean fut nommée en novembre au plus haut tribunal du Canada. This Campus Saint-Jean Alumna (last name) was appointed to Canada's highest court in November. (6)  
**Moreau.**  
[Mary Moreau](#) fut nommée en novembre à la Cour suprême du Canada; il s'agit de la première fois qu'une majorité de femmes siégera au plus haut tribunal de système judiciaire canadien.  
[Mary Moreau](#) was appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada in November, marking the first time that a majority of women will sit on Canada's highest court.
- 5 The college that houses the Black-led Research Network Initiative (abbreviation). (4)  
**CSSH.**  
The College of Social Sciences and Humanities (CSSH) houses the Black-led Research Network Initiative. The initiative recently hosted its first Visioning Workshop to create a unified vision and lay the foundation for structural capacity for Black-led research at the U of A.  
[Read more about the Black-led Research Network Initiative](#)
- 6 This artist (last name) joined U of A community members at the First Peoples' House Orange Shirt Day events at the U of A Bookstore. (9)  
**Whitehead.**  
In September, Jerry Whitehead attended First Peoples' House's Truth and Reconciliation Week events at the U of A Bookstore, painting with community members in honour of Orange Shirt Day. That same week, the U of A launched its [Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report to the Community](#).
- 7 The \_\_\_\_\_ of radicality, the spoken word poem by School of Business grad Nisha Patel, was performed at the launch of Shape. (8)  
**Practice.**  
In honour of [Shape](#), the U of A commissioned a spoken word poem from School of Business grad Nisha Patel. Nisha performed the poem during the launch of Shape on Sept. 19, 2023.  
[Read in the practice of radicality.](#)
- 8 U of A's global ranking by Times Higher Education Impact Rankings. (7)  
**Seventh.**  
In 2023, U of A ranked second in Canada and seventh in the world by Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings for the university's ongoing efforts to tackle the United Nations Sustainable Development goals.  
[Read more about U of A's ranking.](#)
- 9 The name of the multi-factor authentication application that U of A uses as an effective control against account compromise (first word of name). (3)  
**Duo.**  
To safeguard sensitive information and data within the University of Alberta, the university implemented Duo Mobile MFA authenticator app. Duo Mobile MFA is safe and secure and adds a second layer of security when logging in to a U of A system or app.  
[Read more about Duo, the multi-factor authentication application used by U of A.](#)
- 10 The Faculty of Nursing, which ranked as a top program in Canada in 2023 by Maclean's and QS World University Rankings by Subject, is part of this U of A college (abbreviation). (3)  
**CHS.**  
In 2023, the Faculty of Nursing, which is part of the College of Health Sciences (CHS), [placed first in both the program-reputation and research-reputation subcategories by Maclean's and ranked as Canada's best program](#) in the QS World University Rankings by Subject.
- DOWN**
- 1 In early 2023, U of A created a new taskforce on this topic to better understand its impact on learning environments across our campuses (two words). (10,2)  
**Generative AI.**  
With the growth of generative AI like ChatGPT, Lex, page DALL-E2, Google BARD, Microsoft Bing and similar applications, U of A created the Provost's Taskforce on AI and the Learning Environment to provide recommendations on how best to deal with the opportunities and challenges of generative artificial intelligence in the learning environment. This task force will also contribute to society's broader conversations about the role of artificial intelligence in society's learning environment and beyond.  
[Read more about U of A's generative AI taskforce](#)