

# UTM Office of the Dean Newsletter



The personal trainers at the RAWC advises those of us who headed back to the gym in January with fitness resolutions, it's best to start slow and work in increments.

Photo by Steve Dagg

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Acting Editor: Dina Moreira

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### 1. From the Dean's Desk

The Office of the Dean is delighted to announce that we have hired **Ms. Anita Srinivasan** as our new Director, Academic Planning, Policy, and Research. This position was formerly held by Anuar Rodrigues who, as of February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020, has taken a position in the Provost's Office.

Anita currently holds the position of Manager, Executive Education Programs at the Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy. She joined U of T's School of Public Policy & Governance (SPPG) in 2007 and was part of the senior leadership team that launched the Master of Public Policy & Executive Education programs. She has a wealth of knowledge and experience working with faculty, staff, and students, both in terms of policy and research at this university. Anita also holds a graduate degree in Economics from U of T. Her past positions have included managing an array of programs and leadership initiatives at the Maytree Foundation, United Way, Centre for Education and Training, Peel Board of Education. She has been involved in the community with People for Education; the Parent Voice in Education Project, Ministry of Education; Nahani Way and Applewood Heights School Councils (Mississauga); the Munk School's Public Good Initiative; the Education Quality Accountability Office (EQAO); and Sampradaya Dance Creations.

On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, please join me in welcoming Anita to UTM!

## 2. Vice-Dean, Academic Experience

### *Lecture Me! a series*

On February 4, 2020, at the Mississauga Central Library, Professor Kent Moore, Department of Chemical and Physical Sciences, opened the 2020 *Lecture Me!* season with a talk titled ***Climate Change: Taking the Earth's Temperature***. Based on over 25 years of research, Professor Moore discussed the dynamics of the climate system and its impact on human physiology and performance. As part of his exploration, he flew through winter storms in the Arctic, climbed some of our highest peaks, measured Arctic Sea ice, and examined ice cores. Professor Moore's talk drew our largest crowd of 205 audience members since the series inception in the spring of 2016. Many U of T alumni were among the audience thanks to the marketing efforts of the Alumni Relations team in the Office of Advancement.



*Professor Kent Moore delivering his Lecture Me! talk at the Mississauga Central Library on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Photo courtesy of Melissa Heide.*

On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, Professor Teresa Lobalsamo, Department of Language Studies, will give her *Lecture Me!* talk, ***Italian-Canadian Foodways: Redefining Italian Culinary Culture***. Her presentation will explore the influence that Italian immigration has had on food, from recipes and traditions to eateries and industries, both locally and abroad. Fastening the link between consumption and identity, Professor Lobalsamo's talk will chart the ways in which food is replete with cultural meaning: what it represented when immigrated, and how it became (and remains) one of the most important contributions to Italian cultural identity.

Event organized by the  
Experiential Education Unit  
Office of the Dean

In partnership with the  
Mississauga Library System

For more information visit:  
[uoft.me/lectureme](http://uoft.me/lectureme)



PRESENTED BY **PROFESSOR TERESA LOBALSAMO**  
FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE STUDIES  
ON **TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020**  
FROM 7:00 PM TO 8:30 PM  
IN THE **NOEL RYAN AUDITORIUM**  
AT THE **MISSISSAUGA CENTRAL LIBRARY**



Image design by Khizar Elahi.

In addition, on April 7<sup>th</sup>, Professor Rosa Hong, Department of Language Studies, will give her lecture entitled *A Land of Her Own: Tales of Three Women Authors from Franco-Canadian Literature*. Professor Hong will discuss how Quebec offers a fertile ground for authors of a variety of origins, cultures, and languages, who are united by several common factors: transculturation, immigration, identity and alterity, memory, and their relationship with French, among others. Her talk will explore how these topics are portrayed by three Québec francophone authors: Kim Thúy, Ying Chen, and Aki Shimazaki. Participants will be invited to reflect on how the authors' stories relate to their own thoughts and experiences.

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming March and April 2020 *Lecture Me!* Talks.

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For more information visit:  
[uoft.me/lectureme](http://uoft.me/lectureme)



PRESENTED BY **PROFESSOR ROSA HONG**  
FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE STUDIES  
ON **TUESDAY APRIL 7, 2020**  
FROM 7:00 PM TO 8:30 PM  
IN THE **NOEL RYAN AUDITORIUM**  
AT THE **MISSISSAUGA CENTRAL LIBRARY**



Image design by Khizar Elahi.

## **Scholars-in-Residence Program (May 4 - 29, 2020)**

This year, UTM faculty will be participating in the Jackman Scholars-in-Residence (SiR) program with five research projects, all located at UTM.

*Truth Be Told: Cross-Linguistic Explorations of True and Its Nearest Neighbours*

Supervisor: Professor Barend Beekhuizen, Language Studies

*The Making of an Icon: Examining the Global Circulation of Saint Oscar Romero*

Supervisor: Professor Kevin Coleman, Historical Studies

*Community-Engaged Learning with the Indigenous Action Group*

Supervisors: Professors Sherry Fukuzawa (Anthropology) and Nicole Laliberté (Geography)

*Italian Food in Toronto, Past to Present: Menu Archiving and Digitization*

Supervisor: Professor Teresa Lobalsamo, Language Studies

*"This is Real Beauty": Defining Aesthetic Citizenship*

Supervisor: Professor David Pettinicchio, Sociology

The Jackman Scholars-in-Residence program is a unique opportunity for students to work intensively on a research project with U of T faculty that features:

- \$1,000 Jackman Scholar Award
- Free accommodation and meals for the duration of the program
- An opportunity to contribute to original faculty research, develop skills, and network with peers and professors

Previous participants have called SiR: *life-changing, transformative, and the highlight of my academic career.*

### **Welcome Atiya Hamid and Tali Ajimal!**

Atiya Hamid joined the Experiential Education Unit in the role of Experiential Learning Officer. As part of her portfolio, Atiya will be responsible for supporting cognate Humanities units in the implementation and delivery of experiential learning opportunities. She has worked as an Occasional Teacher with the Toronto District School Board and Durham District School Board. Atiya graduated from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education in 2018, obtaining her Master of Teaching degree. Prior to these studies, she completed her undergraduate degree at the University of Toronto Scarborough in 2016. As a former U of T Humanities and Social Sciences co-op student, she is excited to be a part of the EEU and support its mission to provide experience-driven learning opportunities for students.

Tali Ajimal joined the Academic Integrity Unit in the role of Academic Appeals & Integrity Coordinator. As part of her portfolio, Tali will be responsible for the management and oversight of the UTM Academic Appeals Subcommittee (AAS) and will support students involved in the appeal process. She will also be involved in the development and implementation of educational and proactive initiatives relating to Academic Integrity for students, staff, and faculty. Tali previously worked at Ryerson University for over 6 years in roles supporting Student Life, Advising, Event Planning, and Admissions. She graduated from Ryerson with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and is currently completing her Masters in Leadership at Royal Roads University, Victoria, B.C.

### 3. Vice-Dean, Faculty

The Vice-Provost, Faculty & Academic Life, has organised a series of workshops that will be very beneficial for Chairs, faculty, and administrative staff who deal with academic HR. Please try to attend all of the sessions that are appropriate to your role.

**March 4: Academic HR Day for Faculty** with Jane Harrison, Director, Office of the Vice-Provost, Faculty & Academic Life. These sessions are for **faculty** regarding Tenure, Continuing Status, and Promotion.

- 10:00am-12:00pm – Preparing for Your Interim and Tenure Review (with contributions from Professor Anna Korteweg, Chair of Sociology, UTM)
- 12:00pm-12:30pm – Lunch & Open Discussion
- 12:30pm-1:30pm – Preparing for Your Promotion from Associate to Professor in the Tenure Stream
- 1:30pm-3:30pm – Preparing for Your Probationary and Continuing Status Review (with contributions from Professor Anna Korteweg, Chair of Sociology, UTM)
- 3:30pm-3:45pm – Break
- 3:45pm-4:45pm – Preparing for Your Promotion from Associate to Professor in the Teaching Stream

**When:** Wednesday, March 4, 10:00am-4:45pm

**Where:** Davis Building, Room 3214 (Principal's Boardroom)

Faculty who wish to attend this workshop must register at:

<http://www.faculty.utoronto.ca/programming/faculty/>

#### **March 5: Hiring TAs, Course Instructors, and Sessional Lecturers**

This session will provide Chairs, Directors, Associate Chairs, TA Coordinators, and administrative staff responsible for the administration of CUPE 3902 appointments with the tools and information necessary for posting, hiring, and filling positions under the CUPE 3902 Unit 1 and Unit 3 Collective Agreements. Topics will include: subsequent appointment assignments, job security commitments, timelines, job postings, and navigating the hiring criteria.

**Who should attend:** Chairs, Directors, Associate Chairs Vice/Associate Deans, and administrative staff

**When:** Thursday, March 5, 1:00pm-3:00pm

**Where:** Davis Building, Room 3214 (Principal's Boardroom)

**Register** by emailing Dina Moreira at [dina.moreira@utoronto.ca](mailto:dina.moreira@utoronto.ca)

#### **April 8: Retirement Information Sessions for Faculty and Librarians**

This session, for faculty thinking about retirement, is an opportunity to engage in a discussion about the human and financial elements relevant to this next stage in your academic career. A panel of faculty who have declared retirement or are in phased retirement will discuss the decision-making process. Ian MacEachern, Director of Pensions, Benefits, and Payroll, and Jo-Anne Vanhorn, Pension Specialist, will highlight the financial considerations and review the U of T pension plan. A hot breakfast will be served.



**When:** Wednesday, April 8, 9:00am-12:00pm (Hot breakfast at 8:30)  
**Where:** Davis Building, UTM Room (formerly Faculty Club) Room 3141

Anyone interested in attending this workshop must register at:  
<https://faculty.utoronto.ca/programming/faculty/>

### **May 21: Recruitment & Hiring for Chairs and Directors**

A unit's ability to hire the best possible candidates for academic positions can depend on effective management of the recruitment process. This session, for Chairs/Directors and supporting staff, is intended to provide information about the following topics that are critical to the success of this process, including recruitment plan, job ads, immigration considerations, appointment files, and search reports.

**Who should attend:** Chairs/Directors and administrative staff who support hiring/recruitment  
**When:** Thursday, May 21, 12:00pm-2:00pm (A light lunch will be served)  
**Where:** Davis Building, Room 3138

Anyone interested in attending this workshop must register at:  
<https://faculty.utoronto.ca/programming/academic-administrators-and-staff/>

### **ATTENTION: All Newly Appointed UTM Faculty**

Angela Lange, Vice-Dean, Faculty, and Heather Miller, Vice-Dean, Teaching and Learning, wish to invite all newly appointed faculty in the Tenure Stream and Teaching Stream, who joined the UTM community during the 2019-20 academic year, to meet with them to discuss their transition to UTM. The Vice-Deans would like to hear from you on how we can make the move of new faculty to UTM more successful and what types of workshops or training would benefit you in this and future transitions.

We plan to meet in small groups (i.e., about 6-7 faculty) to facilitate discussion and answer any questions that you might have regarding your appointment at UTM. In early March, an e-mail with the dates and times of the meetings will be sent, so keep a look out for it and sign up for one of the meetings.

### **Save the Date: New Faculty Orientation, 2020**

Please note that the 2020 New Faculty Orientation for all new U of T faculty will be held on August 10 and 11 at the St. George Campus and the University of Toronto Mississauga session will be held on August 12 at the UTM Campus.

### **Other Resources:**

[Webinars from the National Centre for Faculty Development & Diversity](#)

How to Develop a Daily Writing Practice (March 12, 2:00pm-3:30pm)  
How to Challenge Race and Gender Bias in Student Evaluations (March 24, 2:00pm-3:00pm)

Activate your NCFDD Membership now and take advantage of these webinars:  
<https://www.facultydiversity.org/institutions/utoronto>

The Office of the Provost will reimburse 50% of the cost associated with participation in the Faculty Success Program on behalf of a faculty member, and the Dean's office will contribute the other 50% of the cost. Full-time continuing faculty in the tenure stream will be eligible for reimbursement.

## 4. Vice-Dean, Teaching & Learning

### Teaching Grants and Awards News

Congratulations to the many UTM faculty who have received Teaching Awards and Grants over the past few months – including UTM and tri-campus grants, and provincial awards:

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#### **UTM Awards:**

*The UTM Office of the Dean is pleased to announce the following award recipients of the Winter 2019 UTM Teaching Grants:*

#### Teaching Development and Innovation (TDI) Grant Recipients:

Elsbeth Brown and Daniel Guadagnolo, Historical Studies. “Flipping the U.S. History Survey.”

Shay Fuchs, Mathematical and Computational Sciences. “Measuring the Effectiveness of Active Learning Methods in a Large First-Year Calculus Course.”

Alex Rennet, Jaimal Thind, Mathematical and Computational Sciences. “A Study of the Effectiveness of an Active-Learning Redesign of MAT223H5.”

Bogdan Simion, Mathematical and Computational Sciences. “Investigating the Dynamics and Effects of Group Work in Introductory Computer Science.”

Steve Szigeti, ICCIT; Michael Kaler, RGASC; Christoph Richter, Biology. “Academic Integrity Survey.”

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#### Teaching & Learning Conference & Colloquia Fund (TLCC) Recipient:

Sherry Fukuzawa, Anthropology. “Teachings with Elders Be’sha Blondin and Albert Marshall.”

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#### Teaching Development Travel Grants (TDT) Recipients:

Jade Atallah, Biology

Sherry Fukuzawa, Anthropology

Rosa Hong, Language Studies

Nicole Laliberte, Geography

Teresa Lobalsamo, Language Studies

Bogdan Simion, Mathematical and Computational Sciences

Jaimal Thind, Mathematical and Computational Sciences

Xinli Wang, Mathematical and Computational Sciences

Tingting Zhu, Geography

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## **Tri-Campus University of Toronto Awards:**

### U of T Learning & Education Advancement Fund (LEAF):

Alex Rennet, Konstantin Khanin, Jacopo De Simoi, Tyler Holden, Alvaro Nosedal-Sanchez, Andrew Petersen, Bogdan Simion, and Maria Wesslen, Mathematical and Computational Sciences.

“Interdisciplinary Curriculum Alignment and Pedagogical Collaboration Through Communities of Practice and Learning.” IMPACT Grant for \$180,000.

Fiona Rawle, Biology; Nicole Laliberte, Geography; Mairi Cowan, Historical Studies; Ken Derry, Historical Studies; and Jackie Goodman, Centre for Student Engagement. “FLIP (Failure: Learning in Progress): A resiliency-learning project for teaching students to embrace, learn, and bounce-back, from failure.” IMPACT Grant for \$148,000.

Sherry Fukuzawa, Anthropology; Andrew Petersen, MCS; Brett Beston, Psychology; Vivienne Luk, Forensic Science; Ivan Chow, Language Studies; and Rosa Hong, Language Studies. “The Virtual Mystery Project Custom Web Tool.” SEED Grant for \$18,000.

Phil Oreopoulos. Economics. “Improving Student Mental Health at Scale Using Online and Text-Message Coaching.” IMPACT Grant for \$86,280.00

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### Fields Institute Grant:

Dr. Parker Glynn-Adey received a special grant from the Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Science meant to promote mathematical outreach to the general public by funding a one-day event entitled "A Celebration of Classical Geometry."

A Celebration of Classical Geometry will take place at the Fields Institute on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am to 5:00pm. Organized by Parker Glynn-Adey (UTM) and Zohreh Shahbazi (UTSC), the event will be a geometric feast for eyes and hands. Students, parents, children, and all life-long learners are invited to participate in a full day of geometric exploration featuring: model making, hands-on crafts, lectures, and a poster session. The world-renowned mathematical sculptor George Hart will facilitate a "sculptural barn raising" where participants work together to assemble an intricately symmetrical work of mathematical sculpture, much like a village working together to raise a barn. <http://www.fields.utoronto.ca/activities/19-20/classical-geometry>

Parker's MAT 402 class ("Classical Geometry") will present their final poster presentations and help facilitate the event using their knowledge from MAT 402. This event is an opportunity for undergraduate students to co-create a mathematical conference and engage in experiential learning through mathematical outreach.

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### **OCUFA Teaching Award:**

The Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations (OCUFA) has rewarded Dr. Andrew Petersen, Associate Professor, Teaching Stream, in the Department of Mathematical and Computational Science with a 2018-19 [teaching award](#) which recognizes teaching excellence. The [citation](#) states Dr. Petersen's work in advancing innovative teaching practices, including internationally-recognized pedagogical tools. OCUFA also highlighted his role as a teaching community builder. The OCUFA Teaching Award recognizes exceptional contributions to the higher education community and is based on many criteria including research on university teaching, service



in teaching, innovative teaching development, dissemination of university teaching theory and practice, and feedback from peers and students. Congratulations, Andrew!

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### *News from the Curriculum and Programs Office*

#### **Student Voices in Higher Education: Quality Assurance Perspectives and Practices Symposium**

On November 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Humber College hosted the inaugural Student Voices in Higher Education: Quality Assurance Perspectives and Practices Symposium in collaboration with Centennial College. Yen Du, Program & Curriculum Officer, and Lori Innes, Program & Curriculum Assistant, represented UTM at this two-day symposium that brought college and university professionals together with international student leaders to explore the various ways in which student experiences and insights can support curricular enhancement.

With a strong overarching message that student insights are essential to ensuring quality learning experiences in higher education, the symposium profiled a number of innovative initiatives to demonstrate the diverse ways that students contribute to continuous improvements in teaching, learning, and curriculum development; highlighting the opportunities, benefits, and challenges to engaging students in the quality assurance process. Importantly, this symposium emphasized how an approach to student engagement that is authentic, adaptive, and challenges the traditional student-teacher role can lead to new understandings that are mutually beneficial for students, educators, and institutions as a whole. Though it is clear there is no single best strategy to engage students, the act of engaging can be just as important as the insights gained. With this in mind, as the Office of the Dean works with departments and institutes at UTM to review and enhance our academic offerings, we will be making a more concerted effort to develop strategic engagement plans to offer more varied opportunities for quality student engagement.

Should you wish to hear more about the Symposium or discuss opportunities to engage students in your own quality assurance processes, we invite you to reach out to Yen Du ([yen.du@utoronto.ca](mailto:yen.du@utoronto.ca)) or Lori Innes ([lori.innes@utoronto.ca](mailto:lori.innes@utoronto.ca)).

#### **Launch of the new Curriculum Manager System**

For many years, the Online Calendar Admin Tool has served as UTM's tool for managing curriculum change proposals. In February 2020, this tool was retired and UTM adopted the University of Toronto's institutional curriculum management system, known as Curriculum Manager (CM). At UTM, CM will provide a centralized and searchable inventory of our undergraduate academic offerings. CM will be used to support and manage the governance process for minor undergraduate curriculum changes, providing a platform for our educators and administrators to propose enhancements to existing offerings.

In January, undergraduate administrators got their first taste of the new CM system. Through training sessions, administrators learned how to navigate the system as well as submit and approve course and program changes. CM officially launched on February 10th and is being utilized for the upcoming March 2020 Divisional Undergraduate Curriculum Committee meetings. To further support administrators as they transition to CM, training resources have been developed by the Office of the Dean and will be posted online. Multiple drop-in sessions have been organized ahead of the curriculum meetings to assist administrators submitting proposals. All are welcome to attend any (or all) sessions and encouraged to bring their proposed changes and questions to Lori and Yen, who will be available to walk through the proposal submission system one-on-one and/or troubleshoot any

issues that have been encountered. Additional training and drop-in sessions will be scheduled in April and October as a refresher for administrators.

Should you have questions about CM, the curriculum review process, and/or timelines, please contact Lori Innes, Program & Curriculum Assistant, in the Office of the Dean, at [lori.innes@utoronto.ca](mailto:lori.innes@utoronto.ca).

## 5. Associate Dean, Graduate

### Graduate Events Calendar

UTM is proud to host and support a wide variety of events for graduate students across the U of T tri-campus. Facilitated through our academic and non-academic units at UTM, these events are intended to foster interdisciplinary exchange and help graduate students develop the skills necessary to be successful in their academic careers.

A calendar of scheduled graduate events for the 2019-20 season can be viewed at <https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/dean/graduate-events-calendar>.

If your unit is planning an event for graduate students that you wish to add to the Graduate Events Calendar, please contact [jessica.carlos@utoronto.ca](mailto:jessica.carlos@utoronto.ca).

### **Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Preliminary Heat – Thursday, March 5, 2020**

We are excited to announce that we will be hosting a preliminary heat to the Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition at UTM. The event will be held on **Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020** in room KN L1220 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

The Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition is open to graduate students enrolled in Canadian universities. Participants have three minutes or less to present their research to a panel of non-specialist judges, and competitions are held at local, provincial, and national levels. The challenge is to present complex research information in an engaging, accessible, and compelling way. **The winner of the UTM 3MT competition will advance to the semi-finals at the St. George campus.**

This competition is a unique opportunity for graduate students to showcase their innovative and significant research to a wider audience, across disciplines within the University, and to the broader public. This year's competition at the University of Toronto will be open to all master's students and students from both research-stream and professional programs at the masters and Ph.D. level.

Please see below the website provided by the University of Toronto's School of Graduate Studies for competition rules, eligibility, and more information:

<https://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/resources-supports/gpd/three-minute-thesis-3mt-at-u-of-t/>

**Please access the following link for registration:**

<https://secure.utm.utoronto.ca/3mt-2019/>

We look forward to seeing you there!

## Graduate Research Colloquium (GRC) – Tuesday, April 28, 2020

The keynote speaker for this year's Graduate Research Colloquium will be Banu Subramaniam of the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She will be presenting research from her forthcoming book titled *Decolonizing Botany: From the Herbarium to the Plantarium*. Dr. Subramaniam's most recent book is *Holy Science: The Biopolitics of Hindu Nationalism* (University of Washington Press, 2019) while her previous book, *Ghost Stories for Darwin: The Science of Variation and the Politics of Diversity* (University of Illinois Press, 2014) was the winner of the Ludwik Fleck Prize for the best book of the year in the field of science and technology studies.

Registration details will be forthcoming.

### 6. Team Building

Being a Dean is not always about making the tough decisions. Our Dean, Amrita Danieri has other hidden talents, such as whipping up delicious desserts alongside Mary-Catherine, whose smiling face greets you upon arrival at the Office of the Dean. Just before the University closed for the winter holidays, our office had a team-building cooking experience at Culinaria Restaurant. This was an awesome experience; we all worked well together in preparing our meal, which turned out to be very delicious!

