

## Welcome from the Associate Dean

Congratulations and thanks to our students! There is no denying that this semester has been unique. From moving entirely online, to navigating the challenges and opportunities presented by current realities in the K-12 school system - it has been a semester that has required flexibility and a renewed commitment to looking at schooling differently. Thanks to you all for your willingness to do just this, and congratulations - for completing Field I, for completing your courses so gracefully in the online context, and I wish all the best for those of you going into Field Experience III. You have demonstrated yet again that the future of education is in great hands.

-Dr. Amy Burns, Associate Dean



## Career Updates

In October, a highly successful series of Careers in Education Coffee chats ran, with approx. 150 participants, and panelists from a variety of professional backgrounds. Thanks to panelists Mike MacDonald, Sandra Duggleby, Garry Jones, and Jeff Turner, who went above and beyond to answer students' questions.

Additionally, in collaboration with Career Services, UPE ran a Careers in Indigenous Education panel with esteemed educational leaders Bill Shade, Angela Sanregret, Marianne Wolfleg, and Wade Hart – we thank them for sharing their knowledge and personal reflections on careers in Indigenous education.

Missed the session? Check out the [Careers in Indigenous Education video here](#).

Career advising appointments will relaunch in December following Field 3, so make sure to check out our Student Resources D2L in the meantime for resume prep and other resources. Also make sure to attend the Alternative Careers in Education session hosted by UPE in collaboration with the ESA, 6-8pm on Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>.

## Field Experience Updates

*Thank you to everyone involved with our Community-Based program. This year in Field Experience 1, we had over 90 students placed in over 40 different school districts across six Canadian provinces. In Field Experience 3, we sent out 56 students to 28 different districts in four different provinces. A special thank you to the Field Experience instructors who were incredibly patient and committed, the Field Experience office staff for their tenacity, and to the students who have been very flexible and gracious with accepting unexpected changes to placements.*

- Dr. Astrid Kendrick, Director of Field Experience (Community-based pathway)

*We are very grateful to everyone for all their work in contributing to such a meaningful Field Experience One. With the amazing support of our school partners and our field team, we placed 415 students in Calgary and Area schools. Thanks to all our students for their professionalism, commitment, and flexibility. For Field III, we have placed 380 students and I know they are excited to get started! We wish all our students, field instructors and schools a safe, healthy and fulfilling field III experience ahead.*

- Dr. Theodora Kapoyannis, Director of Field Experience (On-campus pathway).



## Undergraduate Research Awards

This past summer, 10 Werklund students were the recipients of undergraduate research awards, which allowed them to delve into research topics with the support of a supervising Werklund School of Education faculty member. Thank-you to all the faculty who supported these students through their applications and research this past year! Students chose a wide range of topics, based on their own interests and experiences. Through their research experiences, they were able to gain knowledge, skills and abilities, gained clarity on their educational goals and career pathways, and in the process, learned more about themselves and gained confidence.

They shared some thoughts on the benefits of participating in these opportunities, as follows:

*"I highly recommend the PURE research program. It's a great way to deepen knowledge of your field, and to begin to see yourself not just as a passive learner but as an active contributor to academic knowledge."* – Leonard Cohen

*"This research award provided me opportunities to dive into scholarly articles and books... Most importantly, I have a better understanding of who I am: I should be proud of where I came from and my mother language, and I perceive Chinese as a personal strength."* – Jinping Pang

*"This experience has increased my ability to read and understand studies surrounding education methods, which will shape my practice as an educator, so I stay up to date on relevant studies and use methods that are backed by research."* – Robyn Buttigieg

*"For me, participating in research was a way to contextualize the field of education to a much broader realm. It has made me recognize that what we know about teaching and learning is ever evolving. It is truly an exciting space to be able to engage in, [to have] the opportunity to apply the ways people are innovating and testing what they want to know, and seek answers."*

– Catherine Huynh

*"I ended up meeting so many interesting people and learning about things I never expected. I also had a few shifts in my perception about what kind of person I want to be and what service I can provide for my community. It was honestly a life changing experience. My advice for anyone considering applying for PURE is – just do it!"* – Savannah Poirier Hollander

*"The benefits from participating in undergraduate research are so numerous. Academically, you have the unparalleled opportunity to engage in the research process alongside faculty members and learn valuable lessons about how to manage and engage independently as well as collaboratively in research. [I have] increased my foundational knowledge of education theory [...] and gained a stronger understanding of the lifecycle of research projects. Professionally, I was able to refine my skills of independent work and project management. Central to my research was actively engaging with the Werklund undergraduate community. Learning how to ask rich questions and engage in meaningful dialogue, gave me insight into how to better interact with members of my community and truly hear their perspectives."* – Jonah Secreti

For those that are considering applying for Summer 2021, the Summer 2020 recipients suggested that it's helpful to start planning and reaching out to potential faculty supervisors early, as it can take time to develop a strong research proposal. The other big suggestion they had was to make use of the resources available to you, such as staff and instructors, the Education Library, the Student Success Centre – there are many resources available to students at the University of Calgary that we sometimes forget. Best of luck!

### **Werklund Award Recipients:**

**Nancy Liu:** "Exploration of Bilingualism in the Linguistic Landscape of Bilingual Schools and Surrounding Communities"

**Jordann Fernandes:** "Developing a design framework for student-generated questions to drive research, innovation, and creative inquiry in science courses"

**Jinping Pang:** "Exploring ethnic identity in Canada: A Chinese woman's experience"

### **PURE Program Recipients:**

**Catherine Huynh:** "Student Performance on Large-Scale International Assessments in Canada, Singapore, and China: A Systematic Review"

**Jonah Secreti:** "Pre-service teacher preparation to educate citizenship: An analysis of the discourses of civics and citizenship education"

**Leonard Cohen:** "Best Practices for the Implementation of Board Games in the Elementary Mathematics Classroom"

**Nicole Langevin:** "Fostering Genetic Mathematical Understanding through the Early STEM Classroom."

**Robyn Buttigieg:** "Effectiveness of Methods for Educating Elementary Students with ASD in Literacy"

**Savannah Poirier Hollander:** "Sacred Beginnings"

**Sydney Suffron:** "Studying the Impact of a Teaching Intervention with Students with Math Learning Difficulties"

Applications for Summer 2021 PURE Program & Werklund Undergraduate Research Awards are expected to open in early December, and will be due by **February 5, 2021**

More info here:  
[werkklund.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate-programs/current-students/awards/continuing-student-awards](http://werkklund.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate-programs/current-students/awards/continuing-student-awards)



## Experiential Learning Updates

As COVID continues to impact our communities, traditional Experiential Learning programming has had to pivot and evolve to accommodate this new reality. 12 students completed the first *Dare to Care* webinar series, which offered a professional development lens to bullying prevention tools in classrooms. We will be offering the webinar series again next semester, so stay tuned for more information: <https://live-werklund.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate-programs/student-opportunities/professional-learning/dare-to-care-webinars>

*"I have worked at The Reading Foundation and Renfrew Educational Services for several years with remedial and special needs students, and there is a TON of overlap with the Dare to Care content and my professional training at these institutions! It's wonderful to have access to a deeper level of understanding regarding my formal training - thank you for hosting this PD session and providing that opportunity."*

- Mandy, participant of Dare to Care webinar series



Photos: a different kind of Field One experience in 2020.

## ESA Events

Highlights for November include a Monday Morning Meditation series, Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), an Alternative Careers in Education panel, and a Reading Session in partnership with the Black Teachers' Association of Alberta.

In December, the ESA will run the last ASIST session, so don't miss out on this great professional development opportunity!

Explore & Register for upcoming events hosted by the ESA here: <http://ucalgaryesa.weebly.com/events.html>

## Upcoming Dates

Nov. 2 – Dec. 11: Field 3 (500-level students)  
Nov 17 (6-8pm): Alternative Careers in Educ.  
Dec. 2020: Summer Research apps open  
Jan. 26 (9-4pm): Virtual Education Career Fair

### Winter 2021 Service-Learning Applications

Applications open: Nov 20<sup>th</sup> – Dec 4<sup>th</sup>  
Orientation sessions: Dec 11<sup>th</sup>  
Placements start: Jan. 2021

