

# PRESIDENT'S KUDOS REPORT

JANUARY 2020



Assistant Professor [Jesse Thistle](#)'s memoir *From the Ashes* was included among only fifteen books selected for CBC's Canada Reads longlist for 2020.



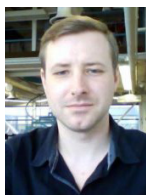
[Team Schulich](#) finished in second place overall in academics, and third place in athletics and spirit, at the 32nd annual MBA Games held by the DeGroote School of Business at McMaster University. Schulich also raised over \$12,000 for the charity, [Empowerment Squared](#).



Lassonde School of Engineering Professor [Satinder Brar](#) was recognized with the International Achiever Award by Save the Environment for her distinguished accomplishments in the fields of environmental sustainability and green chemistry that have contributed to improving global environmental safety.



Osgoode Hall Law School graduate program assistant [Chantel Thompson](#) received the 2019 Louella Sturdy Leadership Award for outstanding contribution to the Law School through her leadership and teamwork with members of the Osgoode community.



History undergraduate student Evania Pietrangelo-Porco and geography PhD student Warren Bernauer were awarded prizes for best 2018-19 undergraduate thesis and PhD dissertation, respectively, from the prestigious [Canadian Studies Network-Le Réseau d'études canadiennes \(CSN-RÉC\)](#), a national association dedicated to serving scholars involved in the study of Canada through Canadian Studies programs at the post-secondary level in Canada.



The Schulich School of Business launched the [Part-Time Master of Finance \(MF\) program](#), which is specifically designed to offer working professionals a flexible way to acquire the tools and credentials required for success in today's finance industry. Classes begin in September 2020.



Faculty of Education master's student [Collette Murray](#) received the 2019 Community Arts Award from the Toronto Arts Foundation's Neighbourhood Arts Network for the work she has done with, in and for communities to create access and inclusion to arts and culture in Toronto.



[Innovation York](#) announced the winners of the fourth round of the National Research Council of Canada's Artificial Intelligence Industry Partnership Fund, which supports industry-driven research projects in artificial intelligence (AI), deep learning and machine learning:

- Northforge Inc. and Professor Natalija Vlajic (Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Lassonde);
- Nobul Corporation and Professors Hongmei Zhu and Steven Wang (Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Faculty of Science);
- Cogneeto Inc. and Professor Vassilios Tzerpos (Department of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science, Lassonde);
- Pleora Technologies and Professor Ali Sadeghi-Naini (Department of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science, Lassonde);
- Able Innovations and Professor Michael Brown (Department of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science, Lassonde);
- Solstice Environmental Management and Professor Baoxin Hu (Department of Earth and Space Science and Engineering, Lassonde); and
- Provision Analytics and Professor Steven Wang (Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Faculty of Science).



TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) Program Coordinator and Associate Professor [Antonella Valeo](#) has been recognized by TESL (Teachers of English as a Second Language) Ontario with the Distinguished Contributions Award for her many years of service.



Lawyer and Osgoode Hall Law School alumnus [Brandford Smith](#) received the honorary title of Queen's counsel for his excellent performance and dedication to the legal system in British Columbia.



[Perry Sadorsky](#), Associate Professor of Economics at Schulich, has been recognized as a Highly Cited Researcher (HCR) for 2019 by the Web of Science Group for his exceptional influence and performance through the publication of multiple papers on business issues related to energy, the natural environment, and financial markets that have been frequently cited by peers over the past decade.

## APPOINTMENTS



Professor [John Justin \(JJ\) McMurtry](#) was appointed York's new Dean of the Faculty of Liberal arts and Professional Studies for a 4.5 year term, which began on January 1, 2020.



Faculty of Health Professor [Debra Pepler](#) has been named an Officer of the Order of Canada for her innovative, community-based research on social issues involving children and youth, which changed the way psychologists study bullying.



Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies Professor [Natalie Coulter](#) was appointed the new director of the Institute for Research on Digital Learning (IRDL), an Organized Research Unit (ORU) at York.