



PRESIDENT'S KUDOS REPORT

JANUARY 2022



[Mark Terry](#), Course Instructor in the Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change and Research Fellow with the Dahdaleh Institute for Global Health Research, was a recipient of the 2021 Order of Vaughan – the City of Vaughan’s highest civic honour. On December 21, Vaughan Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua honoured Terry for his contributions to media and communication, recognizing his film work in environmental research.



[Cora Young](#), Associate Professor of chemistry and the Guy Warwick Rogers Chair in Chemistry in the Faculty of Science, has been named the 2022 recipient of the Environment Division Early Career Research Award from the Chemical Institute of Canada.



The Faculty of Graduate Studies awarded York University Professors [Petros Faloutsos](#) and [Ellen Bialystok](#) with the Postdoctoral Supervisor of the Year Award. This honour is bestowed annually on a postdoctoral supervisor who provides an exemplary environment of support for professional skill development, and promotes a climate of respect and collegiality.



Lassonde Professor [Ping Wang](#), from the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science department, has been elevated to Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Fellow as of January 2022 for her contributions to radio resource allocation and performance modelling of heterogeneous wireless networks.



Professor [Sarah Flicker](#) and her research team were awarded a \$208,000 grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research for the project “*niizh jijaag gashkibijigan: Building Our Bundles of Support with Two-Spirit Youth.*”



[Patrick Alcedo](#), Chair of the Department of Dance at the School of the Arts, Media, Performance & Design, received the Asia’s Best Independent Documentary Film award at this year’s All Asian International Independent Film Festival for his feature documentary titled, *A Will to Dream.*



Lassonde School of Engineering Professor [Aleksander Czekanski](#) has been elected a 2022 Fellow of the Engineering Institute of Canada in recognition of his exceptional contributions to engineering in Canada. Czekanski has been instrumental in creating and launching the Mechanical Engineering program at Lassonde.



[Ruth Green](#), Associate Professor in the School of Social Work, is the recipient of the City of Toronto's Mino Bimaadiziwin Award (Indigenous Award), which recognizes contributions to the well-being and advancement of the Urban Indigenous Community of Toronto.



The new James Webb Space Telescope launched on December 25, 2021, with the Canadian-built Near-Infrared Imager and Slitless Spectrograph (NIRISS). It will take images and spectra of fainter objects than the Hubble Telescope ever could, and it is creating an astronomical amount of excitement. Associate Professor [Adam Muzzin](#) of the Faculty of Science is a member of the Canadian instrument team that built the NIRISS.



Faculty of Education Professor and Associate Vice-President Indigenous Initiatives [Susan Dion](#) (York University) and Jane Griffith (Ryerson University) were awarded the prestigious 2021 FEL Priestly Prize for their article "Narratives of Place and Relationship: Bev Sellar's Memoir *They Called Me Number One*." The award was presented by the Association of Canadian College and University Teachers of English.



[Twenty-seven individuals](#) with connections to York University are among the 135 new appointments to the Order of Canada, announced December 29, 2021, by Governor General of Canada Mary Simon.



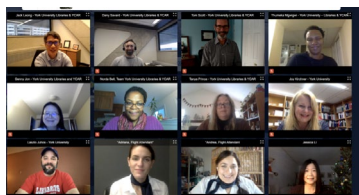
[Team Schulich](#) represented York University at the 34th annual MBA Games, hosted online by the Schulich School of Business. Considered the largest MBA competition in Canada, this year's three-day competition featured over 280 students from 16 MBA programs across the country competing in academic, athletic and spirit challenges for the coveted Queen's Cup. Schulich finished in first place overall, ending up first in academics and athletics, as well as fourth in the spirit category.

Team members included:

Rageeb Kibria (MBA), Deanna Galati (MBA), Leslie Woo (MMGT), Rachel Carvalho (MBA), Jatin Parmar (MMKG), Aman Amin (MBA), Mahima Walia (MMGT), Allison McAuley (MBA), Shubham Sood (MBA), Jennifer Mahendran (MBA), Maxim Ferracane (MMGT), Saumya Chaudhary (MBA), Abisha Vignabalan (MBA), Yuqi Li (MBA), Seyed-Amir Joharifard (MBA), Marcus Piggott (MMGT), Albina Mamonkina (JD/MBA), Meenakshi Kukreja (MBA), Arnav Arora (MF), and Sabeel Sadicote (MBA).



York alumna [Jaime Vieira](#) (MSc '19) was named the Toronto Blue Jays' minor-league hitting coach — the first female coach in the organization's history.



The joint York University Libraries and York Centre for Asian Research (YCAR) team was named a top team in the [Orbis Flight for Sight](#) virtual charity event. Together with York University and other participating teams, Orbis raised more than \$153,000 to support and increase awareness of vision care and health education in developing countries.

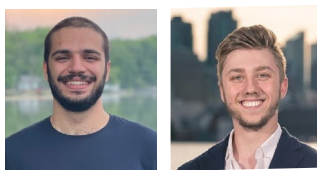
Jack Hang-tat Leong, Associate Dean, Research and Open Scholarship at the Office of the Dean of Libraries and Faculty Associate of YCAR, organized York's participation in the event. Participants included Dean of Libraries Joy Kirchner, Associate Professor Jessica Tsui-Yan Li and York University Libraries faculty and staff Norda Bell, Genny Jon, Laszlo Juhos, Thumeka Mgwigwi, Tanya Prince, Dany Savard, and Tom Scott.



[Khadija Omar](#), a psychology student at York University, will represent Somalia at the Miss World pageant this March.



York University and Qatar University launched the world's first international cardiac rehabilitation registry, which was designed to improve patient outcomes around the globe. [Sherry L. Grace](#), a Professor in the Faculty of Health, is co-leading the development and operation of the registry.



Three York University trainees received the [Innovation York Commercialization Fellowship](#). The Fellowship was launched this year to support the research commercialization process by providing strategic, short-term funding to assist in developing commercially viable projects at the University. The winners are:

- Aref Soltani Tehrani, MSc candidate, Department of Mechanical Engineering
- Artem Solovey, MSc candidate, Department of Civil Engineering
- Carmen Victor, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Cinema and Media Arts



York alumna [Gillian Gallow](#) (BFA '04) was named the 2021 Laureate of the Siminovitch Prize, Canada's largest and most prestigious theatre award. She most recently designed costumes for the Shaw Festival's *The Devil's Disciple* and set and costumes for the Dora Award-winning production of Human Cargo's *The Runner*. She is the 2018 recipient of the Virginia and Myrtle Cooper Award in Costume Design, and has been nominated for eight Dora Mavor Moore awards, receiving four.



York alumna [Ginella Massa](#) (BA '09) was awarded one of *Canadian Immigrant* magazine's Top 25 Canadian Immigrant Awards. The Top 25 Canadian Immigrant Awards is a people's choice awards program that recognizes inspirational immigrants who have made a positive impact on their communities since arriving in Canada. Ginella is a Canadian Screen Award-winner best known as Canada's first hijab-wearing television news reporter, local anchor, and national host. She is currently the host of *Canada Tonight with Ginella Massa*, airing weeknights on CBC News Network.



Associate Professor [Norio Ota](#) from the Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics was awarded the 2021 Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold and Silver Rays from the Government of Japan for his contributions to promoting the Japanese language.

APPOINTMENTS



[Dr. Margaret Kierylo](#) has been appointed Assistant Vice-President, Institutional Planning & Chief Data Officer. She will take up her position commencing April 1, 2022.
