



PRESIDENT'S KUDOS REPORT

DECEMBER 2021



A project led by Lassonde School of Engineering Professor [Ali Sadeghi-Naini](#) is advancing research in predicting cancer treatment outcomes. The quantitative MRI biomarker developed in this project can predict whether a patient's tumor is likely to be controlled by stereotactic radiotherapy (SRT) or if the treatment is likely to fail.



[Lara Ubaldi](#), Director, Student Advising and Academic Services, has been awarded the inaugural Lynda Tam Guiding Light and Legacy Award, which was established in honour of Lynda Tam, a long-serving leader at York.



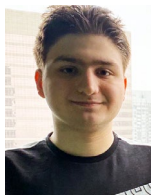
The Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies named Professor [Daniel Kikulwe](#) as the new Special Advisor on Student Success. An Associate Professor in the School of Social Work, Kikulwe's area of research focuses on child welfare practices, policies, families, and immigration.



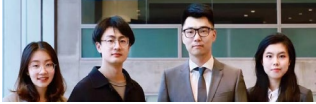
Four Faculty of Science professors received grants from the Academic's Indigeneity in Teaching & Learning Fund to advance three projects that incorporate Indigenous knowledges and perspectives into teaching and learning. Professors [Tamara Kelly](#), [Paula Wilson](#), [Amenda Chow](#) and [Pamela Sargent](#) are recipients of the grants.



Associate Professor [Elisabeth Jensen](#) has been elected president of the Clinical Nurse Specialist Association of Canada. Jensen, a faculty member in the Faculty of Health's School of Nursing, will lead the association for a two-year term until the end of 2023.



Lassonde electrical engineering student [Erfan Nourae](#) earned a bronze medal for his Photon Detector System at the 2021 International Invention and Innovation Competition hosted by the Geneva-based International Federation of Inventors Association.



[Eight students](#) representing the Schulich School of Business finished in the top two spots at the Data Visualization and Datathon virtual competition hosted by the University of New Brunswick's program for International Business and Entrepreneurship.



First-place: Team Data Spring (Master of Business Analytics Program):
Xinke (Skylar) Wang, Jiannan Zhao, Xiingkai (Joseph) Wu, Yangming (Katherine) Ye

Second-place: Team Rocket (Master of Management in Artificial Intelligence Program):
Wenhui (Eva) Ma, Shengrong (Jack) Hong, Wangshu (Winston) Peng, Junyi (Adrian) Peng



The York U Alumni Awards took place on November 18, in celebration of alumni who exemplify the values of York University, have made remarkable contributions to their fields, and changed the world for the better. Leaders honoured at this year's awards include [Dr. Earle Nestmann](#) (MSc '71, PhD '74); [Christopher House](#) (BFA '79); [Dr. Pamela Ohashi](#) (BSc Hons '82); and [Weyni Mengesha](#) (BFA '05).



Second-year film student [Abraham David](#) received four awards for his film *My Girl, Skelly*. The film was initially produced for a project as part of David's first year Film Production program in the School of Arts, Media, Performance and Design. David received Best Short Film from the Toronto Film Magazine Fest Summer Season Award. Soon after, The Great Canadian Sci-Fi Film Festival recognized *My Girl, Skelly* in two categories: Best Short in Code Red Block 2021 and Best Canadian Film. On December 1, David received his most recent recognition in the Awards of Commendation category with Canada Shorts Film Festival.



Schulich Professor [Moshe Milevsky](#) played a key role in the largest retirement documentary film in the history of film. The documentary film, *The Baby Boomer Dilemma: An Exposé of America's Retirement Experiment*, reveals the shocking risks around retirement savings in America and provides a troubling reality check for many who expect a safe retirement income in the future.



A short story written by School of Kinesiology and Health Science Professor [Lucia Gagliese](#) about a healthcare worker coping during the pandemic will appear in *The Best Canadian Stories 2021*, a prestigious Canadian short fiction publication.

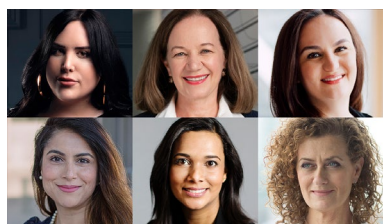


York Criminology Professor [James Sheptycki](#) is the recipient of the 2021 Allen Austin Bartholomew Award for best-published paper of the year by the *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology* for his essay titled "The Politics of Policing a Pandemic Panic."



The Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies is celebrating the fourth annual [Dean's Award for Research Excellence](#) by recognizing 54 students for their research achievements. Over the summer, each student played an integral role in coordinating projects that added valuable scholarly inquiry to the social sciences, humanities, and professional studies. The recipients are:

Eyram Agbe, Abdirahman Ahmed, Muhammad Ahsan, Matthew Andary, Kimiya Asadi, Chantal Barry, Aysha Campbell, Muzammil Chatha, Theodora Contanas, Emily Coussons, Nina Maria de Meira Borba, Erin Edghill, Mariam Elzeiny, Stefan Fassler, Negar Fathi, Dylan Gruspier, Morag Hegge, Nissaba Hido, Shehnaz Islam, Golgiso Jafari, Jasraj Khokhar, Eunhee Kim, Melissa La Roche, Aditya Lakhina, Shanshan Lao, Renée Lefebvre, Elijah Leotaud, Emma Litschko, Christina Love, Reem Mohammed, Michelle Molubi, Sophie Morgan, Leah Nicholson, Munzungu Nzeyedioperf, Jessica Oliveira Da Silva, Noorin Pattni, Tiana Putric, Anika Rahman, Jennifer Raymer, Sayyed Raza, Althea Elise Reyes, Jellisa Ricketts, Rachel Russell, Humayra Rashid Safa, Jennifer Santin, Maria Beatrice Serdon, Lorenzo Serravalle, Tushar Sroya, Kiana Therrien-Tomas, Devin Stroink, Serina Walimohammad, Wei Wang, Thomas Worthington, and Barbra Yagoo.



Six York University alumnae have been recognized by [Women's Executive Network \(WXN\) Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100](#) list for creating positive change in the workplace by advocating for workforce diversity and inspiring tomorrow's leaders:

- Charlie Wall-Andrews (MA '14, School of the Arts, Media, Performance & Design)
- Angela Brown (MBA '83, Schulich School of Business)
- Lena Azzou (BA '05, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies)
- Sadaf Parvaiz (BBA '02, Schulich School of Business)
- Kashmera Self (BA '99, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies)
- Ingrid Macintosh (BA '85, Glendon College).

APPOINTMENTS



[Susana Gajic-Bruyca](#) has been appointed Vice-President, Advancement. Her initial five-year term commences January 1, 2022.



[Lisa Philipps](#) has been re-appointed as Provost & Vice-President Academic for an additional five-year term, commencing July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2027.