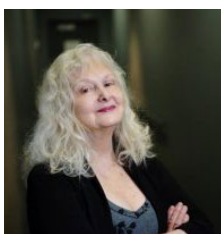# YORK U

PRESIDENT'S
KUDOS
REPORT

NOVEMBER 2022

Professor John E. Moores, Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies, Dept. of Earth and Space Science and Engineering at York University, has been named the new Science Advisor to Lisa Campbell, President of the Canadian Space Agency. Moores replaces Sarah Gallagher of Western University who was the first science advisor to the President, appointed in September 2018. He also currently serves as the Director of the Technologies for Exo-Planetary Science NSERC CREATE Program.

Lassonde School of Engineering Dean, Jane Goodyer, has been appointed to the executive committee of the Global Engineering Deans Council (GEDC) for a three-year term. Created in 2008, GEDC's mission is to serve as a global network of engineering deans and leverage the collective strengths for the advancement of engineering education and research. In her new role, Goodyer hopes to help pave the way for engineering leaders to network and increase the organization's membership to further its mission, vision and strategic priorities.

School of the Arts, Media, Performance & Design Professor Christina Petrowska Quilico has been appointed to the Order of Ontario for 2021. Petrowska Quilico, a professor of musicology and piano at York University, has opened the ears of music lovers internationally through numerous classical and contemporary performances, with an orchestra and as a soloist on more than 50 internationally acclaimed recordings. As a professor, she has received esteemed research awards. As a benefactor, she established The Christina and Louis Quilico Award at the Ontario Arts Foundation and the Canadian Opera Company. The Order of Ontario recognizes exceptional leaders from all walks of life and diverse fields of endeavour whose impact and lasting legacy have played an important role in building a stronger province, country and world.

APPOINTMENT

Oluwakemi (Kemi) Oke has been appointed as the Ombudsperson of York University, commencing December 1, 2022. As an experienced Ombudsperson, who most recently served as Associate Ombudsperson at Simon Fraser University, she has advised on procedural fairness concerns in university policy review processes, identified and resolved systemic challenges, and collaborated with different stakeholders to promote fairness and equity in the university. The university would like to thank Maureen Armstrong, who has been serving as the Interim Ombudsperson since 2020.

Osgoode Hall Law School's chief law librarian, Yemisi Dina, has been honoured as one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women by the Toronto-based Women's Executive Network (WXN). Dina was recognized for her leadership within her field. WXN is a national organization dedicated to propelling and celebrating the advancement of women of all ages, at all levels and in all sectors.

School of Politics, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies Professor Nergis Canef, has been selected for a second consecutive year for a fellowship at the Institute of Human Sciences in Vienna, Austria – a prestigious institution of advanced study focusing on intellectual exchange across disciplines, between academia and society, and among regions that now embrace the global south and north. During her fellowship, she will focus on research examining the societal dimensions of war crimes and mass atrocities in the context of crimes against humanity, such as those witnessed by the decade-long Syrian conflict, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Rohingya exodus from Myanmar, and other such human-made catastrophes of the post-Cold War era.

Rami Mayer, executive director of Schulich ExecEd, an extension of York University's Schulich School of Business, was awarded the Queen's Platinum Jubilee pin by Member of Parliament for Thornhill Melissa Lantsman. This year marked Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee, and the pin was created to commemorate her 70-year reign. Under Mayer's leadership, Schulich ExecEd has become one of the most successful and prominent professional development providers in Canada, with a vast network of consultants, facilitators, boutique company partners, and Schulich School of Business faculty. As the initiator of custom programs for organizations, Mayer systematically built and led a team that created, sold and delivered a portfolio of programs and customized solutions to B2B and B2C clients across the globe.

The Glendon School of Public and International Affairs has announced the appointment of Clare Hutchinson as the inaugural Power Corporation of Canada Distinguished Fellowship for 2022-23. The fellowship recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to public policy through leadership, service, mentorship and high-impact research. From 2018-21, Hutchinson was appointed as NATO secretary-general special representative for women, peace and security, high-level focal point on children and armed conflict and head of the NATO Human Security Unit. Hutchinson is a "Women Leader for Peace" as part of the International Leadership Association, and a mentor for the Women in International Security for Eastern Partnership Program.

On November 1, 2022, the Lassonde School of Engineering celebrated its 10th anniversary with a series of events recognizing the School's many accomplishments since its inception. Over the past decade, Lassonde has established itself as a leading interdisciplinary School, a home where creators are empowered to make the world a more just and sustainable place. The all-day celebration started with Lassonde welcoming York University President and Vice-Chancellor, Rhonda Lenton; the School's Founding Donor, Pierre Lassonde; and his daughter, Julie Lassonde, for a luncheon and masterclass.

Faculty of Health Associate Professor Christine Jonas-Simpson is part of a research team recognized with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research Institute of Aging Betty Havens Prize for Knowledge Mobilization in Aging. The Team, led by KITE senior scientist Dr. Pia Kontos, created the research-based theatre production and film *Cracked: New Light on Dementia* and *Dementia in New Light: A Digital Learning Experience.* The award recognizes the outstanding achievements of an individual, team or organization who have advanced the mobilization of research in aging at a local or regional level.

The fifth annual Dean's Award for Research Excellence (DARE) winners were recognized in a special celebration by the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies (LA&PS). Thirty-eight recipients showcased their exceptional work completed over the summer under the leadership of their professors. LA&PS launched DARE to provide opportunities for undergraduate students to engage in faculty-supervised research. Students each received $5,000 for their work over a four-month period. View the 2022 award recipients in the winner's gallery.

Nicole Arsenault, MES alumna, was a finalist for the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) Campus Sustainability Research Award for her MES Research Paper on "The Role of Universities Towards a Sustainable Future: Integrating the Sustainable Development Goals" (Supervisor: Alice Hovorka; Advisor: Jose Etcheverry). The award recognizes published and unpublished research that contributes to the advancement of higher education sustainability.

Congratulations to York Lions 2022 Women's Soccer Team on their Ontario University Athletics (OUA) silver medal. An OUA silver medal and an appearance at the U SPORTS championship will go down in the history books as the highlights of the season for the 2022 York University Lions women's soccer team, as they dropped a 4-1 decision to the UBC Thunderbirds in the U SPORTS championship's consolation semifinal. The loss ends a memorable campaign for York, who went until the OUA championship game without registering a road loss.

The new Alchemy Lecture, which aims to run annually, is hosted by LA&PS and is a multi-vocal model that brings together a constellation of three to four thinkers and practitioners from different disciplines and geographies to think together on the most pressing issues of our times. Spearheaded by the Canada Research Chair in Black Studies in the Humanities and York Professor Christina Sharpe, York University's new Alchemy Lecture debuted on November 10th. The inaugural lecture, titled "Borders, Human Itineraries and All Our Relation," brought together four alchemists:

- Dele Adeyemois (UK/Nigeria), is an architect, artist, and critical urban theorist.
- Natalie Diaz (US/MOJAVE/AKIMEL O'OTHAM), is an author, MacArthur Foundation Fellow, a Lannan Literary Fellow, and a Native Arts Council Foundation Artist Fellow
- Nadia Yala Kisukidi (FRANCE), is an Associate Professor in philosophy at Paris 8 Vincennes-Saint-Denis University.
- Rinaldo Walcott (CANADA), is a Professor in the Women and Gender Studies Institute and former Canada Research Chair of Social Justice and Cultural Studies.

York University has announced this year's recipients of the Provost's Postdoctoral Fellowships for Black and Indigenous Scholars. This important initiative supports up to four scholars annually in any field of study and provides the successful applicants with a salary of $70,000 annually for a two-year term. The 2022 recipients, where they will be housed, and their research focuses are:

- Sylvester Aboagye, PhD candidate in Electrical Engineering from Memorial University, Housed with Lassonde School of Engineering, Research focus: How humans can improve the achievable data rate, coverage and energy efficiency performances of communication technologies, with a focus on wireless communication networks.
- Landing Badji, PhD in Ecology and Ecosystem Management from Cheikh Anta Diop University, Housed with Glendon, Research focus: Self-medication, hormones and human-chimpanzee interactions.
- Leora Gansworth, PhD in Critical Human Geography, York University, Housed with Osgoode Hall Law School, Research focus: The environmental health priorities in the Algonquin territory.
- Graeme Reed, PhD candidate in rural studies at the University of Guelph, Housed with Center for Indigenous Knowledges and Languages, Research focus: Indigenous visions for self-determined climate solutions

YSpace, York's pan-University entrepreneurship hub, held one of its flagship events, the YSpace Technology Accelerator Demo Day, where the top three startups in the accelerator program were recognized. AI technology startup NLPatent secured the top prize, and the top three finalists were each awarded a portion of the $30,000 prize funds. Securing the second-place prize of $10,000 was Cola's Kitchen, a personalized, fresh food solution for dogs and their owners. The third-place prize worth $5,000 went to Sn126, a tech startup dedicated to building the future of API testing.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has been declared a co-laureate of the 2022 Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity, together with the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). Ellie Perkins served as one of the authors in the 6th Assessment Cycle and was instrumental to the IPCC's success. The Jury of the Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity, led by Dr. Angela Merkel, selected the IPCC and IPBES out of 116 nominations from 41 countries, in recognition of "...the role of science on the front line of tackling climate change and the loss of biodiversity." The prize was launched by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation in 2020 with the objective of distinguishing persons and organisations from around the world whose work has greatly contributed to mitigating the impacts of climate change.

On October 26, 2022, the Lassonde School of Engineering hosted the Lassonde Awards Ceremony. This annual ceremony celebrates our students' academic successes and extracurricular excellence in the 2021-2022 academic year. The ceremony welcomed many special guests including external partners, students, faculty and staff. In total, 45 awards were presented throughout the ceremony. Many of these awards and scholarships would not be available to students without the support of Lassonde's partners and donors.
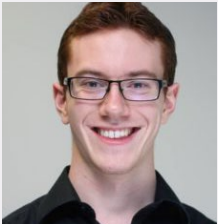
Wellcome Trust, a leading charitable foundation that supports science to solve the urgent health issues facing everyone, has awarded $8.7-million to support a new initiative based at the Global Strategy Lab at York University. The initiative will bridge science and policy to support evidence-informed AMR policymaking around the world. This initiative is led by York Professors Steven J. Hoffman and Susan Rogers Van Katwyk with support from leading York University researchers Professors Mathieu Poirier, Adrian Viens, Tarra Penny and University of Ottawa Professor Patrick Fafard.

The AMR Policy Accelerator is designed to advise the world's governments, public health institutions and decision-makers on effective and equitable policies to ensure sustainable antimicrobial use for everyone. The AMR Policy Accelerator will undertake rigorous research, develop practical resources and tailor custom advisory services to comprehensively support equitable, evidence-informed policymaking on antimicrobial resistance at the national and global levels.

A team of researchers from the Dahdaleh Institute for Global Health Research and Lassonde School of Engineering have revamped their Safe Water Optimization Tool with multiple innovations that will help aid workers unlock potentially life-saving information from water-quality data regularly collected in humanitarian settings. Created in partnership with Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières, the free-to-use, open-source online platform has been shown to dramatically increase water safety for people living in refugee camps and has corrected major inaccuracies about proper chlorination levels that went on for decades. The team, who say these improvements are informed by real-life lessons gleaned from the field, includes:

- Syed Imran Ali, team lead, research Fellow at the Dahdaleh Institute and an adjunct professor at the Lassonde School of Engineering
- Professor Usman T. Khan, machine learning lead from Lassonde's Department of Civil Engineering
- Mike De Santi, modelling graduate researcher
- Dahdaleh Institute Director Dr. James Orbinski, MD
- James Brown, field advisor