PRESIDENT'S
KUDOS REPORT
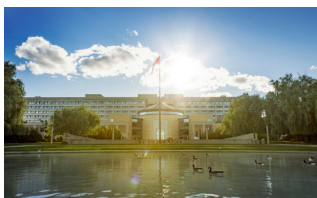FEBRUARY 2020

Andrea O'Reilly, a Professor in the School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, has won a 2019 Status of Women and Equity Award of Distinction, presented by the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations (OCUFA). As the founder of the field of motherhood studies, O'Reilly has received the award for her leadership in transforming the lives of mothers around the world.
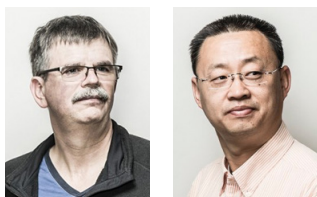
Ontario's Ministry of Colleges and Universities announced that Ramón Alain Miranda Quintana, a postdoc and York Science Fellow at York University's Faculty of Science, is the John Charles Polanyi Prize winner in chemistry. Miranda Quintana is researching new ways to understand the behaviour of complex chemical compounds using computational algorithms, which could lead to new innovations in industry and health.

York University has created the new Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change, combining the expertise housed in the Faculty of Environmental Studies (FES) and the Department of Geography in order to advance knowledge of and solutions to the issues posed by the climate crisis, degradation of nature and the rapid growth of cities.

BIOSA Technologies won the $25,000 Aird & Berlis StartupSource Market Entry Award for its potential for commercial success. The startup's founder, Nicholas Ledra, was a graduate of York University's LaunchYU Accelerator program led by Innovation York.
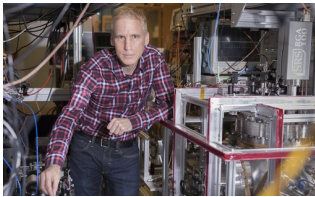
Two projects led by Lassonde School of Engineering Professors Michael Jenkin and Jinjun Shan were awarded funding from the Department of National Defence's Innovation for Defence Excellence and Security (IDEaS) program. Each contribution is worth close to $1.5 million.

An undergraduate case team from the Schulich School of Business, consisting of David Sholkov, Jett Bui and Tyler Taaca, won first place in the Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment (MLSE)'s Global Partnerships Case Competition. This is the first time a Schulich team has captured this distinction.
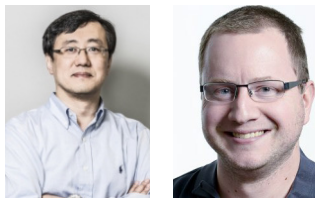
A new global rating system designed to measure how business schools are contributing to solving important societal challenges ranked the Schulich School of Business one of the world's 30 leading schools in responsible business. The Positive Impact Rating (PIR) measured impact in several key areas, including educating future responsible business leaders, providing relevant research, participating in the ongoing public debate regarding responsible business and serving as a role model institution.

Distinguished Research Professor Eric Hessels of the Faculty of Science recently received two grants of $900,000 from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation to work on a project titled "EDMcubed: an electron Electric Dipole Measurement using Molecules in a Matrix" which will shed light on the mysteries of antimatter.

UrbanToronto named the York University TTC Station to its list of the 15 Most Influential Buildings of the 2010s for the station's "organic curves, futuristic interiors, and an impressive light well".

Two York professors received Natural Sciences & Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Collaborative Research and Development (CRD) Grants:

- Lassonde Professor Gunho Sohn was awarded a grant worth $1,024,000 for his project that seeks to update Canada's critical infrastructure, including utilities, transportation and facilities; and

- Faculty of Science Professor Derek Wilson was awarded a grant worth $1,040,000 for his project aimed at the implementation of new Canadian bioanalytical technologies to accelerate pre-clinical development and enable precision manufacturing of protein therapeutics.

Contract faculty member Ray Williams from the School of the Arts, Media, Performance, and Design, was honoured at the 2019 Engineering Emmy Awards along with his team at FabFilter, an Amsterdam-based music production and audio processing software company. The Emmy was awarded for their program, Pro-Q 3, an audio equalizer tool with an easy-to-use interface that has been widely embraced in music production and television.

York is one of the first universities in Canada to develop a detailed social procurement policy. By leveraging the University's significant purchasing power, we benefit local economies by increasing employment, apprenticeship, and training opportunities for people from our local neighbourhoods, and by providing underrepresented businesses and communities more access to York's procurement process.

The Faculty of Science hosted its annual Honours & Awards Ceremony to celebrate the achievements of faculty, as well as the academic excellence and extra-curricular involvement of both graduate and undergraduate students.

As part of our commitment to enhancing the student experience, York has launched a virtual assistant that enables students to receive immediate answers to many commonly asked questions related to campus services, course and program changes and extra-curricular activities

Randy Williamson, Osgoode alumnus and partner at Aird & Berlis LLP, has been honoured with Innovation York's Partner of the Year Award. Williamson is the first-ever recipient of the award, which recognizes outstanding contributions to York University's innovation unit and to the growth of innovation at the university.

Ela Veresiu, Schulich Assistant Professor of Marketing, has been awarded a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Insight Development Grant to study online female empowerment. This award and research is in collaboration with Marie-Agnès Parmentier, Associate Professor of Marketing at HEC Montréal.

APPOINTMENTS

Markus Giesler, associate professor of marketing at the Schulich School of Business, was elected one of the next editors of the *Journal of Consumer Research*, the most prestigious journal focused on scholarly research that describes and explains consumer behavior.

Alumna Mumbi Tindyebwa Otu has been appointed Artistic Director of the Obsidian Theatre, which promotes the development of work by Black theatre makers and offers training opportunities through mentoring and apprenticeship programs for emerging Black artists.