

# ENDOWMENT STEWARDSHIP REPORT 2021



SFU



We are grateful to partner with you in helping to shape young lives and advance a sustainable, just and inclusive society.

*Cover photo: (from left) Hamid Eshghi, president of the Djavad Mowafaghian Foundation, with Margaret Thomson, treasurer, and Vahid Eshghi, secretary and director.*



## THANK YOU FROM PRESIDENT JOY JOHNSON

We are living in extraordinary times. The global pandemic, climate change, racial and social inequities and injustice—our challenges are complex and have an impact on all of us in deeply individual ways.

Universities are uniquely positioned to play an important role in building a sustainable, resilient and inclusive society. At Simon Fraser University, our faculty, students, staff and alumni are engaged with people and organizations in Canada and around the world to drive innovation, improve public health, advance climate action, promote democracy and social justice, and create exciting new economic opportunities.

Your support empowers us in shaping a better future for everyone, and we are grateful to partner with you.

In response to the escalating climate emergency, SFU recently announced a full divestment from fossil fuels by 2025. SFU has had a carbon reduction strategy for many years, and is a leader among Canadian universities for taking action in responsible investment. The university has already achieved zero direct investments in fossil fuels and only five percent of indirect investments remain in fossil fuel-related industries. This is the final step in the journey toward full divestment.

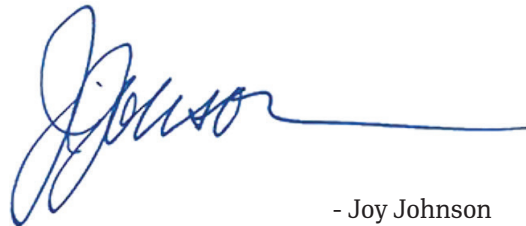
The Investment Advisory Committee (IAC), a subcommittee of the Board of Governors, provides investment advice on SFU's \$650 million endowment fund and \$550 million non-endowment or working capital funds. We are guided in our reduction targets by the Responsible Investment Committee (RIC) of the Board of Governors, and a Responsible Investment policy. We have been in discussion with these groups for years as we work to achieve targets, and will publish our approved goals when finalized.

A strong record of increasing commitment since 2014 puts SFU in a position to make this pledge—and ensure it can be achieved. Accomplishments to date include:

- reduced carbon footprint of the public equity portion of the investment portfolio by 60%
- commitment to net zero carbon emissions for both endowment and non-endowment funds by 2050
- founding member of the Canadian Investor Statement on Climate Change
- one of the first Canadian universities to sign on to the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment. Through this process SFU goes through a rigorous audit annually and has been shown to compare favourably to other universities worldwide in taking meaningful action toward responsible investment
- signed UN Race to Zero pledge.

SFU is a vibrant, smart, compassionate community of faculty, staff, students, alumni and partners working together to solve global challenges. I look forward to all that we can achieve together through our collective energy and commitment.

Thank you for your enduring dedication to SFU.



- Joy Johnson  
President & Vice-Chancellor



## MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ADVANCEMENT & ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

Thank you for your generosity in helping to improve people's lives and our community.

It's our sincere privilege to partner with you in fostering the diverse talent and ideas that our communities need to build a healthier, more resilient and inclusive future.

Throughout this past year, with you by our side, our SFU community leaned into unforeseen challenges—only to come away stronger together. With your lasting support, we are helping shape the paths of young people's lives and inspiring vital innovation and collaborations to address many issues facing our society.

SFU's impact is felt throughout B.C., Canada and the world. We consistently rank among Canada's top research universities and are among the world's top-ranked universities for our commitment to sustainable cities and communities, climate action and peace, justice and strong institutions. SFU's Renewable Cities Program was selected to host a new Low Carbon Innovation Centre to help identify, finance and scale-up local climate solutions—generating new jobs, building skills and expanding capabilities as we move to a more sustainable economy.

Important reconciliation work is being done across SFU as we strive to create conditions where students can thrive and where traditional knowledge is embraced. The First Peoples' Gathering House, now under development (architectural renderings were showcased to the SFU community in September), will provide a safe and welcoming space for the SFU

Indigenous community and an important cultural hub for reflection and education on Burnaby campus.

We are creating new pathways for people to attend university and reach their full potential. This fall, we welcomed the first cohort of Uggla Family Scholars, who are part of a comprehensive leadership program created through a transformative gift from alumnus and business leader Lance Uggla and his family. These exceptional students include those with financial need who identify as Indigenous, Black, a person of colour, members of the LGBTQ2S+ community, or students living with disabilities. SFU is also engaging with refugee communities in a number of important ways, providing scholarships and supports for refugee students and collaborating on joint-research projects.

We could not do this important work without you. Your thoughtful commitment touches countless lives and has a lasting impact—and in this year's Endowment Stewardship Report, we're pleased to highlight the difference that donors like you make.

On behalf of everyone at SFU, thank you for supporting opportunities for positive change. Your generosity helps strengthen the culture of philanthropy in the SFU community, and for that we are truly grateful.



- Erin Morantz  
Vice-President, Advancement & Alumni Engagement



# TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD THROUGH LOVE AND COMPASSION

“Children are one of the most important investments that we can make. They are the foundation of our society and need to be healthy to learn. Health and education are basic human rights, essential for a happy and productive life.”

– Dr. Djavad Mowafaghian

*Photo above: Hamid Eshghi, president, and Vahid Eshghi, secretary and director, Djavad Mowafaghian Foundation*

*Photo at right: Dr. Djavad Mowafaghian on a tour of Blusson Hall at SFU, January 2008*

As a young child growing up without a father in Tehran, Dr. Djavad Mowafaghian was deeply influenced by his mother’s consistent example of love and charity. He learned from her that every person on earth has inherent value, and all people—in particular our youngest citizens—deserve a full life lived in good health, with access to education.

The business leader and humanitarian’s compassion, generosity and bold spirit are reflected in the ongoing work of the Djavad Mowafaghian Foundation which he established in 2003.

“Children are the most important asset for the future,” says Hamid Eshghi, president of the Foundation and Dr. Mowafaghian’s nephew. “Our mandate and the cornerstone of the foundation is ensuring their health and education.”

The Djavad Mowafaghian Foundation’s generous philanthropy toward SFU has had an impressive impact across faculties and campuses and touched the lives of people around the world. Their partnership with SFU began nearly 15 years ago and during this time, the foundation has improved global health, built community through arts and culture, and fostered global citizenship and diversity.

“One of the reasons we are proud of supporting SFU and why we are going to partner in the future is the vision that SFU and all the team have,” Hamid explains. “They have a global vision that’s very, very unique... From projects about innovation, clean energy, the environment—whatever the world needs, SFU is doing it in the best way.”

The Djavad Mowafaghian Foundation’s close collaboration with SFU began with a transformative commitment to the Faculty of Health Sciences, including an endowed gift to support the founding of the Children’s Health Policy Centre. The centre focuses on improving social and emotional wellbeing for all children and on the public policies needed to reach these goals.

Dr. Charlotte Waddell, director of the Children’s Health Policy Centre, met Dr. Mowafaghian in the centre’s earliest days, and says the connection was immediate.

“There was instant rapport, and instant overlap. It was clear we shared common goals,” she says. “Dr. Mowafaghian has the most positive, generous and infectious human spirit. Through supporting the centre, he has built an enduring legacy that will go on, benefitting children for many decades to come.”

The Djavad Mowafaghian Foundation Endowment in Children’s Health Policy Research has supported a variety of research projects aimed at making a difference in children’s lives, as well as public lectures on child health policy topics. It has also allowed the centre to recruit additional mentees and faculty members to advance research, teaching and public outreach.

Thanks to the financial stability provided by the Djavad Mowafaghian Foundation’s tremendous gift, the centre has leveraged the initial funds to garner other significant long-term research funding. This has meant that it has been able to ask—and answer—much more ambitious, long-term questions and take on large-scale projects that have a meaningful impact on children and public policy. For example, the centre is leading the 10-year, multi-million-dollar BC Healthy Connections Project which is helping 1,500 of BC’s neediest young mothers and their children—also leading the way in Canada by showing how much we can do to help children if we start early in life.

The centre made national news in 2020 for its research on children’s mental health and the COVID-19 pandemic. The centre’s message about the vital importance of children’s mental health—something that has driven much of Dr. Mowafaghian’s and the Foundation’s philanthropy—is reaching a wider audience than ever before and leading to new policy collaborations.

“We are very proud to support Charlotte Waddell and her team, and are very happy about their projects and results,” Hamid says. “For many years, they have been talking about children’s mental health, about how children suffer from

isolation. Suddenly with COVID, everyone is more aware of problems like depression, anxiety and suicide, and of the need for mental health support, especially for children.”

The Dr. Djavad Mowafaghian Child Health Practice and Research Award and Mowafaghian Doctoral Fellowship in Child Health are other examples of the Foundation’s commitment to improve health for children in every corner of the globe. These initiatives, also funded through an endowment, support SFU faculty and graduate students who are producing innovative research in diverse areas, including the effects of stress on human growth, HIV prevention strategies for youth, and the root causes of chronic diseases such as asthma, allergies and obesity.

Shaping a brighter future inspires the Djavad Mowafaghian Foundation’s generosity in many ways, which can be seen throughout SFU. Through its meaningful support of SFU’s Flight 752 Graduate Memorial Scholarship, the Foundation honours the lives of those lost in the tragic airline crash of 2020—many of whom were university students, professors and faculty members returning to Canada—and enables talented students to realize their dreams of a university education.

The scholarship benefits SFU graduate students who are advancing Persian culture and the Iranian community through volunteerism or research. In addition to their gift, the Djavad Mowafaghian Foundation’s leadership is encouraging others to support this important initiative.

“Unfortunately we can’t bring back the lives of these good people. It was a big loss for the global community,” says Hamid. “But we can keep their names alive and support other students who want to continue their education and research.”

Margaret Thomson, the Djavad Mowafaghian Foundation’s treasurer, adds, “If you want to support change in the world, you support students. Because it’s the students at the end of the day who are going to do the research and be the ones who will make the world a better place, whether it’s the environment or COVID or other challenges we are facing.”



# BUILDING A MORE JUST SOCIETY

For Simon Fraser University professor Parin Dossa and her husband, Aziz, empowering post-secondary students is an important goal in creating a more just and equitable world. And their vision of fostering the shared understanding and community interconnectedness that advances social justice extends well beyond the bounds of the university.

As an anthropologist and critical feminist ethnographer, Parin has devoted her research to understanding displacement and social inequality through lived experiences of Muslim women in Kenya, Afghanistan, India and diaspora communities. Her understanding of margins as spaces where social justice is embodied has personal roots.

In 1972, Parin and her family were displaced from Uganda, their home for three generations, when the country's ruler expelled residents of South Asian descent. Parin arrived in Canada as a refugee, and getting re-established in a new country brought with it many hardships.

"This is my story. It is the immigrant story of struggle, but also of aspiration to contribute to the country that we now consider to be our home," she recounts.

Aziz joined Parin from Nairobi, Kenya, where he had completed a degree in mathematics and trained as a teacher. Higher education had always held a central importance in their lives and within the Ismaili Muslim community. But in Canada, their credentials were not recognized. When Parin began her PhD at the University of British Columbia, Aziz entered the business world to support the family. Their perseverance paid off when Parin took a

**“We struggled to establish our careers and, being a professor at SFU, I recognize the struggles that students are subject to as well.”**

– Parin Dossa, SFU Professor



Photo above: Parin and Aziz Dossa with an SFU student

professorship with SFU's Department of Sociology and Anthropology where she has taught students for the past three decades.

"We need to foreground our personal stories because we struggled to establish our careers and, being a professor at SFU, I recognize the struggles that students are subject to as well," Parin reflects.

Through their philanthropy, they hope to lessen the financial burden on students and enable them to focus more time and energy on their studies.

"We really feel very privileged to contribute to helping other students follow their career and their dreams," Aziz adds.

In the spirit of giving back, Parin and Aziz established the first of three endowments supporting students in 2007. With additional contributions from SFU's Centre for Comparative Muslim Studies, Parin and Aziz created an award for graduate students traveling abroad to undertake research on Muslim societies and cultures.

"We put a lot of emphasis on education. It is the hallmark of the Islamic tradition. Prophet Muhammad said that one should travel far and wide in search of knowledge," Parin explains.

"We live in a globalized world, but we do not always recognize that it is a very unequal world. If students go abroad, they recognize that there are other ways of living and being. They can gain from the repertoire of practices and values of benefit to the world at large. My research has led me to interrogate tightly-knit boundaries of nation-states that contribute to inequality. To open up these boundaries, we encourage students to go abroad, conduct research and learn about our common humanity connected to nature and living beings."

Most recently, the Dossas created an award for students undertaking community-based, outreach work focused on building bridges and sustainable relationships between the Muslim community and other communities working on equity, diversity, and inclusion. They felt compelled to

establish the award in response to the many pressing social and environmental justice issues facing our world today.

"We live in a time of crisis. Racism, Islamophobia, climate change, global poverty and structural violence loom large," Parin says.

"We need to support communities engaged in activist work to bring about positive change. Towards this end, I encourage students to recognize that there is a world outside academia where they can work to bring about a better world even if this is in the way of small steps. Engaging with communities is one way in which they can creatively reflect on socio-political issues."

"It is a global village. If other people are suffering then we too are suffering. In the Qur'an, there is one verse that says God created humankind from one soul," Aziz echoes.

Among the inspiration for these awards, and their endowed scholarship for undergraduate sociology and anthropology students, Parin and Aziz wish to leave a legacy for their children and inspire them to give back to the world. Their philanthropy also aligns with the ethics of the Ismaili Muslim community, which include service to the community, fostering cross-cultural appreciation and understanding.

"We have gained inspiration from our tradition, and it is my hope that students draw creatively from their own traditions to discover what they have to offer in terms of knowledge, ethical values and practices to the society at large," Parin explains.

And Parin and Aziz hold a strong belief that each action—whether it is donating to support students or building bridges at the grass roots—contributes to transformative change.

"It's a ripple in a stream," Parin says. "Speak a new language so that the world will be a new world," she continues, quoting 13th-century Persian poet Jalaluddin Rumi.

Aziz adds, "If all communities work together, we can build a just society."

# INSPIRING DIVERSE LEADERS



Darcy and Karina Biagioni know from experience that an SFU education makes anything possible—and are determined to give students who may not otherwise be able to afford that education a chance to reach their full potential.

In 2017, the Lower Mainland-based business and philanthropic leaders established the Darcy and Karina Biagioni Family Scholarship with a generous \$1 million endowed gift to SFU. The \$50,000 entrance scholarship was created as a beacon to help keep capable students focused on their high school studies and thinking about their post-secondary goals. The renewable scholarship covers the costs of SFU tuition, books and other expenses for the duration of their first undergraduate degree.

Modelled after SFU's Undergraduate Scholars Entrance Scholarship program, the Biagioni scholarship evaluates incoming high school students on academic excellence, extracurricular activities and community service and also considers personal circumstances that impact the content of an individual's resume.

"There aren't a lot of opportunities for kids who have all the intelligence and none of the funding," Darcy says. "We want to help kids who have a story, who may have gotten sidetracked, who may have not been able to be in the school band or on the student council because they were looking after their younger siblings while their mother was working two shifts.

"This is going to make a huge difference to their lives," he continues. "But it's also going to make a great difference to society by having people with these kinds of experiences succeed. None of these kids has lived without some sort of adversity that will shape how they move forward."

Both SFU graduates, Darcy and Karina have two sons, Nick and Sam, who are also SFU alumni. They cite the benefits of their university experience as well as SFU's active role in building a more innovative and inclusive future for fueling their desire to give back.

"From the time I made the decision to first attend SFU," Karina explains, "it has always been a forward-thinking university. SFU is always on the leading edge of new things, looking to the future, not going backwards. This was really important to me as a student and in the students that we're helping. These are people that are hopefully going to do wonderful things in the world."

Scholarship recipients must graduate from a B.C. high school and can pursue studies in any area.

“I chose to study at SFU because of the innovative programs which it offers, the amazing mentorship and research opportunities available there, and its welcoming and inclusive environment. I decided my major in SFU to be in biomedical physiology and kinesiology because I love learning about the anatomy and physiology of the human body. In the future, I hope to use the knowledge gained through this major program to pursue medical school and become a family physician.

I'm grateful to the Biagioni family for their kindness, generosity, and the amazing opportunity they have offered me to pursue my university education and reach my dreams.”

- Judi, 2nd from the left in photo below

Photo below: Darcy and Karina Biagioni with son Sam (far left) and the Biagioni Family Scholarship recipients



“Releasing this financial burden from my family has been a huge motivator for me. One day, I hope to help students achieve their goals just as the Biagionis have helped me do so with this scholarship. Stay tuned as I have big plans for the future!”

- Johnson, 4th from the left in photo above

“Whatever you study, it means you’ve learned how to learn, you’ve learned how to deal with stress, you’ve learned how to finish something. That’s the important part,” Darcy explains.

The couple calls this an auspicious year as there are now Biagioni scholarship recipients studying in each year of a four-year undergraduate program. Their goal is to build the scholarship program to eventually have 12 students in SFU undergraduate studies at any given time.

The Biagionis were particularly impressed by SFU’s investment decision earlier this year to add capitalization to all endowment funds thanks to an accumulated surplus held in the Endowment Stabilization Fund. In response, they recently donated an additional \$500,000 to grow the fund and support more students in the future.

“SFU’s ability to return even more money to the program incentivized me to top up the fund and we hope to do more in the future,” says Darcy. “The idea for the endowment is that it will outlive us—it could go on for 50 years. If that’s the case, a lot of people will benefit from it.”

While the Biagionis’ gift helps students gain access to SFU, their sustainable support also alleviates students’ financial concerns and enables them to get the most from their student experience. From participating in various student groups to mentoring and tutoring, all of the recipients to date have been very active in campus life and are making meaningful

connections at SFU and in the community through volunteering, teaching, co-op job placements and more.

“The kids are so involved,” says Karina. “Part of it is they appreciate the opportunity they’ve been given but they also have so much to offer. They are being leaders.”

Darcy and Karina take an active interest in the recipients, and have sent words of encouragement to them during the pandemic. With the return to on-campus learning, they recently had the opportunity to meet with all the Biagioni scholars in person.

“It is with joy and excitement that we look forward to meeting our new scholarship recipients at our annual welcome dinner, as well as reconnecting with our previous recipients,” they say. “This was extra special this year after all the COVID restrictions. We are always impressed in the growth in our scholarship group as they progress from first year students through their programs. Our role is not to be actively involved in the students’ lives, so every year we enjoy hearing their achievements of the previous year and their dreams for the future.”

The Biagionis are enthused for what the journey holds for these exceptional young people, and the difference they will make to shape and strengthen their communities. They also hope their philanthropic actions will inspire others to support SFU students and encourage the Biagioni scholars to pay it forward.



## MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT, FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Thank you for your continued support and trust in SFU. We are committed to the stewardship of your investment in the future of SFU.

Your thoughtful support, combined with judicious oversight and sound investment decisions, has enabled SFU to provide stable spending income to further its vision, navigate market volatility, and prepare for the future. Thanks to your generosity, our strong investment performance allows us to improve lives through SFU’s academic, research, housing and athletics infrastructure and further the long-term sustainability of the university.

SFU’s endowment fund investment returns were 23.3% for the year ending March 31, 2021. Following the market downturn in the first quarter of 2020, equity markets rebounded strongly—driven by abundant monetary and fiscal stimulus around the world and the positive COVID-19 vaccine development. SFU’s endowment continued to outperform the endowment portfolio composite benchmark over the 5-year and 10-year periods on an annualized basis. The endowment also performed well when compared to other Canadian universities in the Canadian Association of University Business Officers (CAUBO) survey.

With the accumulated surplus held in the Endowment Stabilization Reserve, in June 2021, SFU’s Board of Governors approved a one-time \$45 million, or 10.4%, additional capitalization to all endowment funds. This is the largest capitalization in more than a decade, and demonstrates the strength of the endowment fund. (The last capitalization was 1.8% in fiscal year 2014). With strong returns, SFU continues to provide stable spending income to its endowment accounts and will maintain its 5% Spending Income Allocation Rate this year.

Despite the pandemic’s persistent impact on the economy and society, the endowment portfolio outperformed its composite benchmark during the first quarter of fiscal year 2021/22. Equity markets continued to trend upwards during this same period.

SFU is a leader among Canadian universities for taking action in responsible investment. In September 2021, SFU signed the Canadian Investor Statement on Climate Change as a founding member. In November 2021, SFU announced a full divestment from fossil fuels by 2025. Signing the statement and the divestment announcement is SFU’s pledge to integrate climate-related risk and opportunities into our investment processes and support the transition toward a net zero economy. As institutional investors, SFU is committed to a 45% carbon footprint reduction of the public equity portion of its investment portfolio below the 2016 baseline, and to achieve this reduction by 2025. The 2021 measurement results have indicated a 60% reduction over the baseline and the portfolio carbon footprint is well within the 2025 target.

We look forward to updating you on this initiative and our overall investment performance in the coming months.

Thank you again for your investment in SFU. The support of leading donors like you strengthens the university and the communities we serve.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Pochurko".

Martin Pochurko  
Vice-President, Finance & Administration

## THE FINANCIAL ADVANTAGE TO GIVING BACK

The Biagionis established their scholarship fund through a gift of securities, and encourage others to consider this vehicle when contemplating their philanthropic decisions.

There is a significant tax benefit to giving publicly traded securities (like equities, bonds, and shares/units of mutual funds (listed on a prescribed stock exchange)) that have accumulated capital gains rather than donating cash. Tax law allows for the full elimination of any capital gains tax on donations of publicly-traded securities to a registered charity. Donors will receive a charitable tax receipt for the full market value of their donated security.

“There’s definitely financial incentive for donors when you donate in-kind,” Karina says. “A \$1 million investment may only cost you \$300,000. You get the benefit of that without paying for it. If you kept the money you’d have to pay all those taxes. This way we lever that to do some real good at a reasonable cost.”

Darcy continues, “We get to see the results. We don’t do it to avoid taxes—we do it to build a program like this. I feel good about what we’re doing every day.”

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

## ENDOWMENT HIGHLIGHTS FISCAL 2021

The market value of the SFU Endowment at year end was

# \$604,984,539

The endowment provided

# \$21 MILLION

in spending allocation for the support of research, teaching & learning, and community engagement.

In the 2022 fiscal year, the endowment will provide at least

# \$24 MILLION

in spending allocation.

In June 2021, the Board of Governors has approved a one-time

# \$45 MILLION (10.4%)

additional capitalization to all endowment funds due to healthy surplus of the stabilization reserve.

The capitalization also provides

# \$2.3 MILLION

of additional endowment spending income allocation.

Income from the endowment fund provided approximately

# 3.8%

of the university's operating budget.

The endowment investment portfolio returned

# 23.3%

over the year due to strong market recovery since market downturn in Q1 2020.

# 95.3%

of SFU's endowment assets are managed by United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (UN PRI) signatory investment managers.

The SFU endowment comprises

# 978

individual endowment funds.

## ENDOWMENT PHILOSOPHY

### GROWTH

SFU's endowment is responsibly invested on a pooled basis to optimize total investments and minimize administrative expenses. All funds relating to the endowment are invested and professionally-managed solely for the benefit of the endowment program.

### STABILITY

SFU holds sufficient funds in reserve to absorb market fluctuations. This stability means that SFU can allocate spendable funds at the beginning of the fiscal year, before investment returns have been realized, providing programs with predictable budgets for each upcoming year.

### IMPACT

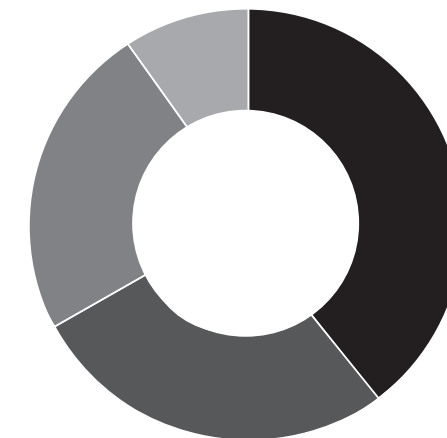
SFU maximizes the impact of the endowment investments by setting a sustainable spending rate (currently 5% of endowment principal) and moving reserve funds to individual principal accounts when the amount needed for stability has been exceeded.

## INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

The investment pool is a diversified portfolio managed by external investment managers and is held by the independent custodian CIBC Mellon.

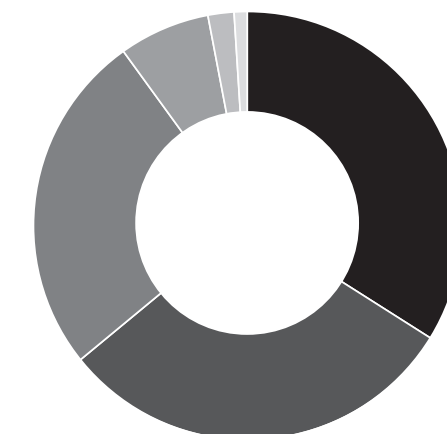
## ENDOWMENT ASSET MIX

(As of March 31, 2021)



Global equities	43.9%
Canadian equities	27.2%
Canadian fixed income	20.6%
Alternative investment	8.3%

## ENDOWMENT ASSETS BY PURPOSE



Faculty, academic & other programs	34%
Financial aid	30%
Chairs	26%
Professorships	7%
Library	2%
Athletics	1%

## INVESTMENT MANAGERS

### GLOBAL EQUITY

BMO Pyrford (Global)

Fiera Capital (Global)

Janus Henderson Investors (Global SRI)

North Growth Management (US)

### CANADIAN EQUITY

Franklin Templeton Canada

Fidelity Canada Institutional

### CANADIAN FIXED INCOME

PH&N Institutional

TD Asset Management

### ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT

Raven Capital

Balfour Pacific Real Estate

Kensington Capital Partners

Northleaf Capital Partners

Second City Capital Partners

Stafford Capital Partners

Greystone Real Estate LP Fund Inc.

Fiera Real Estate Core Fund LP

### OTHER BALANCED PORTFOLIOS

Beedie Endowment Asset Management

Student Investment Advisory Services

Vancouver Foundation Managed Fund

## ENDOWMENT POLICY

- SFU's endowment program is governed by its Investment Governance Policy (B 10.09) and Endowment Management Policy (GP 20).
- The current Spending Income Allocation Rate is 5%.

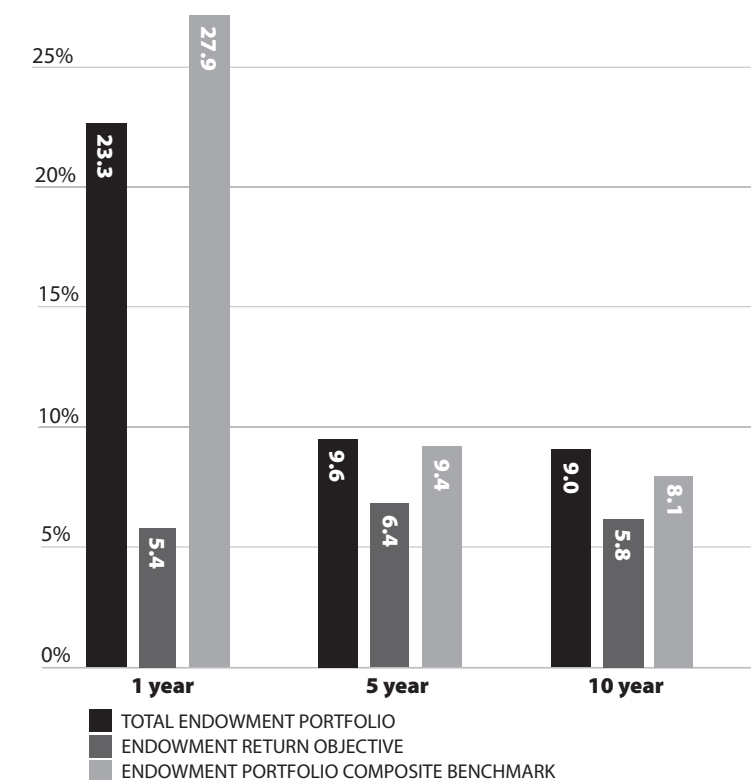


## INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

- The primary objective is to earn an annual return in excess of inflation plus the Spending Income Allocation, net of investment expenses.
- In addition, SFU measures its endowment performance against a composite benchmark calculated by Ellement Consulting Group, which is based on portfolios invested in major asset classes in broad market indices, and the CAUBO survey data of annualized rates of return at universities across Canada.
- SFU's endowment portfolio outperformed the endowment portfolio composite benchmark over the fiscal 5-year and 10-year periods as of March 31, 2021.

## ANNUALIZED RATES OF RETURN

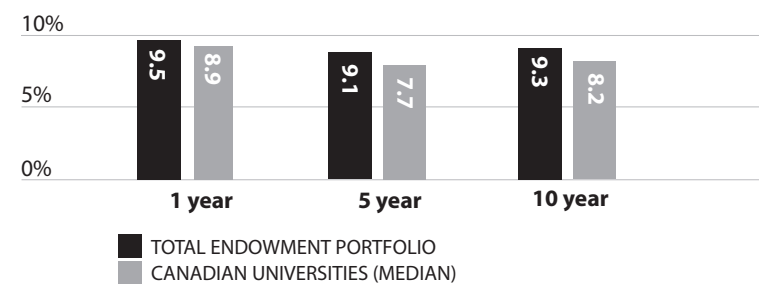
Return objectives and composite benchmark comparison  
(Fiscal year ending March 31, 2021)



- The Canadian Association of University Business Officers (CAUBO) provides universities with information to assist them in better managing their investment portfolios. Each year CAUBO collects data from between 60-70 Canadian universities comparing endowment performance.
- SFU's endowment portfolio outperformed the Canadian university median over the calendar 1-year, 5-year and 10-year periods as of December 31, 2020.
- SFU has consistently ranked among the top performing endowments out of all surveyed universities for the 10-year annualized return since 2014, when SFU began preparing the CAUBO University Endowment Survey Summary results.

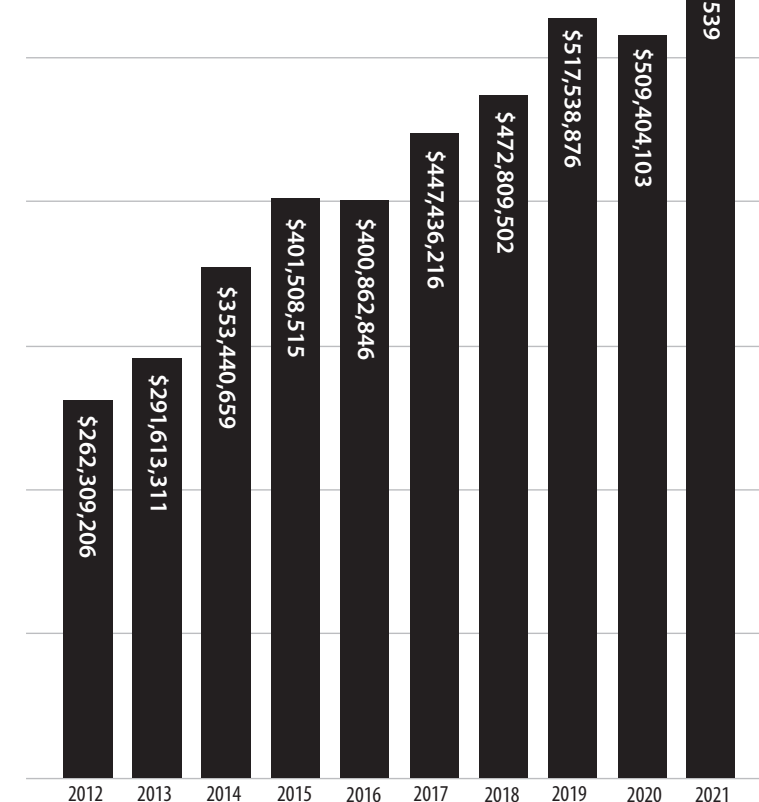
## ANNUALIZED RATES OF RETURN

CAUBO Comparison  
(Calendar year ending December 31, 2020)



## ENDOWMENT MARKET VALUE 10 YEAR GROWTH

(As of March 31 per fiscal year)



## RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT

- Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) is an independent proponent of responsible investment supported by the United Nations. Their summary scorecard for the most recent survey results, which measures institutions' overall approach to responsible investment, again scored SFU well within its peer group, and in terms of strategy and governance, scored SFU 29 points out of 30, the same scoring received in the previous year recorded.
- SFU began measuring the carbon footprint of its investment portfolio as of March 31, 2016, committing to a 30% reduction of its carbon footprint by 2030. In September 2018 the university committed to a further 10% decrease for a total reduction of 40% by 2030, keeping in line with British Columbia's and Canada's new carbon emission reduction targets. In November 2019, SFU increased its commitment to a 45% reduction of its investment portfolio carbon footprint below the 2016 baseline and to achieve this reduction by 2025, five years ahead of the 2030 target as proposed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

# FAQS

### WHY ARE ENDOWMENTS IMPORTANT?

Endowments build a legacy of support that spans generations. The SFU endowment is responsibly invested to advance, in perpetuity, the strategic vision of generous donors and the university. The annual income provides stable funding that promotes long-term planning and allows the university to recruit the best students and faculty and create outstanding programs.

### WHAT ARE THE MINIMUM LEVELS TO ESTABLISH NAMED ENDOWMENTS?

The minimum gift to establish an endowment varies depending on the type of initiative the endowment principal will support. As of September 2020, in-course undergraduate scholarships, bursaries and awards begin at a \$20,000 commitment while department-based graduate awards begin at \$30,000. Gifts can be designated to a particular faculty or program, student awards, chairs and professorships, and many other opportunities at the university. Endowment gifts can be pledged and paid over a period of five years.

### HOW IS THE ANNUAL, AVAILABLE SPENDING INCOME ALLOCATION DETERMINED AND DISTRIBUTED?

The spending allocation rate is set annually by the Board of Governors on the recommendation of the Vice-President, Finance & Administration and is reviewed every third year. As of April 1, 2020 the rate continues to be set at 5% annually. The Spending Income Allocation is calculated by applying the spending rate to the average monthly endowment principal account balance during the current fiscal year. An initial amount is made available based on the spending allocation calculated at fiscal year start, with any spending adjustments made available at fiscal year-end.

### WHEN WILL AN ENDOWMENT BEGIN DISBURSING FUNDS?

Once the minimum endowment funding levels have been met and the Terms of Reference have been authorized, the payout, pro-rated based on fiscal year timing, will become available for spending. For scholarships, bursaries and awards, once the spending minimum is available (\$1,000 for undergraduate funds and \$1,500 for graduate funds), the disbursement will occur in the next available award cycle.

### HOW DOES THE ENDOWMENT PRINCIPAL INCREASE IN VALUE?

Both investment returns and additional gifts contribute to endowment principal growth. The university makes an annual capital addition to the endowment principal to preserve purchasing power. This is calculated as the latest calendar year percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for British Columbia times the average endowment principal account balance during the fiscal year. Ongoing gifts to the endowment principal, and any recapitalization of unspent funds, also increase the capacity of the endowment to provide annual support.

# NEW ENDOWMENTS



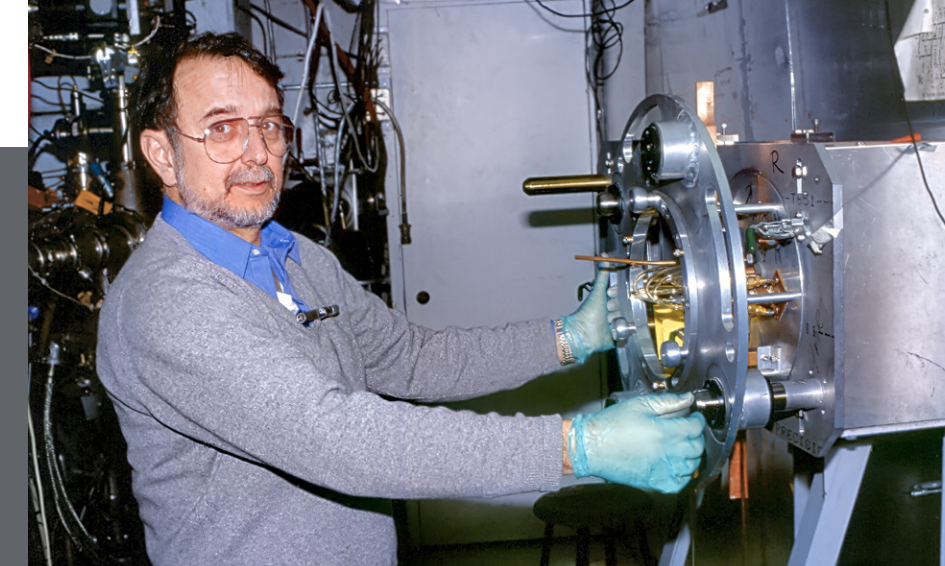
▲ The Asian Rangers were an SFU intramural soccer team formed predominantly by students from Malaysia and Hong Kong in 1975. Following a team reunion in 2019, former members of the team came together to establish the **Asian Rangers Award Endowment**. The award recognizes outstanding SFU undergraduate students with a demonstrated commitment to a healthy and balanced lifestyle as well as outstanding leadership and performance within SFU Recreation Sports and/or Club Sports.

The **Yvonne Becker Memorial Linguistics Endowment** was established with a generous gift from the estate of SFU alumna, Yvonne Becker (BA '94, BA '03). Yvonne was a lifelong learner with a passion for Linguistics and Humanities, who completed two undergraduate degrees at Simon Fraser University in her lifetime. The endowment supports strategic priorities of the Department of Linguistics.

The **Janice Carscadden Scholarship in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry Endowment** was established in 2020 with a generous gift from SFU alumna Janice Carscadden. The scholarship recognizes undergraduate students in SFU's Faculty of Science with a declared major in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry or a joint major in Chemistry and Molecular Biology and Biochemistry who are in excellent academic standing.

The **Dr. Alberto Ciria Memorial Bursary in Political Science Endowment** was established through a generous gift from the estate of Dr. Ciria's late wife, Raquel. The endowment honours the life and career of Dr. Ciria, who joined SFU's Department of Political Science in 1969. The bursary supports undergraduate students in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences who demonstrate financial need.

▶ The **John D'Auria Memorial Graduate Scholarship in Chemistry and Physics Endowment** was established through generous gifts from friends, family and colleagues in honour of the late SFU Professor Emeritus, Dr. John D'Auria. Dr. D'Auria was a renowned physicist who participated in the early planning of TRIUMF (Canada's particle accelerator centre), which was founded in 1968, and was pivotal in the creation of SFU's affiliated nuclear-science program. The scholarship recognizes graduate students in SFU's Department of Chemistry or Department of Physics who are pursuing research in collaboration with TRIUMF.



First established through generous annual donations by alumnus, Mark Bailey, the **Bernd Dittrich Memorial Award in Football Endowment** was created through a further contribution by the SFU Football Alumni Society. The endowment honours Bernd Dittrich, quarterback of the SFU varsity football team, who tragically passed away in 2009 at the age of 21. Bernie was an inspiration to his teammates and was known for his enthusiasm and tremendous work ethic. The award will support full-time undergraduate students who are pursuing a bachelor's degree in any faculty and are members of the SFU varsity football team who have demonstrated positive community contributions including athletic ability, leadership, sportsmanship and volunteering.



◀ The **Firma Foreign Exchange Corporation Undergraduate Award in Finance Endowment** was established through the generous support of the Firma Foreign Exchange Corporation. The award recognizes undergraduate students in SFU's Beedie School of Business with a concentration in finance who are in good academic standing and have a demonstrated history of volunteerism.

The **Fondation des Francophones de la Colombie-Britannique Grant Endowment** was established through a generous gift from the Fondation des Francophones de la Colombie-Britannique. The Foundation shares a mandate with SFU's Bureau des affaires francophones et francophiles (Office of Francophone and Francophile Affairs) to promote the development of the Francophone community in BC and to promote higher education options in the French language. The grants support SFU students in any faculty who are enrolled or have successfully completed programs offered in the French language and/or the Francophone community and who have demonstrated service or volunteerism.

The **Raymond Galer Memorial Award Endowment** was established with a generous gift from Joan Kloss and James Galer in honour of their late father, Raymond Galer. Raymond never had the opportunity to attend university himself, but recognized the value of education and ensured that both of his children could attend SFU without incurring financial hardship. The award recognizes undergraduate students in any faculty who have overcome significant obstacles in the pursuit of a post-secondary education with preference given to students who have aged out of foster care.

The **A. E. Housman & Moses Jackson Unrequited Love Award Endowment** was established by SFU charter alumnus, Dale Essar (BED '68). The award provides financial assistance to undergraduate students in SFU's Department of English who are participating in the London & Lake District Field School.

The **Ray Kapahi and Denise L. Wesleder Scholarship in Physics Endowment** was established with a generous gift from SFU alumnus Ray Kapahi (BSc '72) and his wife Denise L. Wesleder. The scholarship recognizes undergraduate students in SFU's Faculty of Science who have declared a major in Physics and are in excellent academic standing.

Initially established as an annual award in 2004 by Simon Fraser Student Society department, Out on Campus, the **Living Personal Truths Award Endowment** was created through a generous additional contribution from the Simon Fraser Student Society in 2020. Out on Campus is dedicated to supporting SFU's LGBTQ+ students and allies. The Living Personal Truths Award recognizes undergraduate students in any faculty who have made a significant contribution to reducing discrimination and/or increasing awareness of sexual orientation and gender diversity.

Rowland (Rowly) Lorimer was the founding director of the Master of Publishing program and the Canadian Centre for Studies in Publishing for more than 19 years. The **Rowly Lorimer Graduate Award for Research Excellence Endowment** was established through generous gifts from friends, colleagues, and Rowly himself with support from the Canadian Centre for Studies in Publishing, to honour his remarkable career in publishing at SFU. Each year, the award will be granted to a student who has completed the most outstanding final project report in the Master of Publishing degree program and who has demonstrated academic excellence at the graduate level.



◀ SFU alumni Ian (BSc '87) and Yvonne (BA '93, CLA '93) Reddy established two endowment funds through a generous gift to the university. Ian and Yvonne consider the SFU community to be a vibrant and engaging part of their lives. Upon graduation, Ian worked in Computing Science and IT Services for 11 years, helping to design and build the networked services for which SFU has become renowned. Yvonne continued with advanced degree work at the university.

The **Ian and Yvonne Reddy Award for Community Service Supporting Sustainability Endowment** supports undergraduate students pursuing a bachelor's degree in any faculty at SFU, who have demonstrated volunteer service in community development and sustainability issues.

The **Yvonne and Ian Reddy Award for First Generation Learners Endowment** provides support to undergraduate students, who are first generation learners pursuing a bachelor's degree in any faculty at SFU.

The **School for the Contemporary Arts Award for Indigenous Students Endowment** was first established in 2018 as an annual award by alumnus and the former Director and Curator of SFU Galleries, Bill Jeffries (MA '95), and later endowed through the generosity of multiple donors. The award supports Indigenous undergraduate students who are pursuing a bachelor's degree with a major in the School for the Contemporary Arts who have demonstrated creative potential in their field.

The **Stephen and Karen Sharlow Criminology Co-op Awards Endowment** was established through a gift from SFU alumni Stephen Sharlow (BA '78) and the Honourable Karen Sharlow (BA '79). The endowment will also receive future support through a generous bequest. Stephen earned a degree in criminology and went on to have a long career in criminal justice. Karen completed a business degree and then obtained a law degree from the University of British Columbia. She practiced law in Vancouver and served as a judge, most recently as a judge of the Federal Court of Appeal. The award will recognize undergraduate students pursuing studies in SFU's School of Criminology in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.



◀ In 2020, alumnus Frode Strand-Nielsen (BA '80) established four endowments through a remarkable and transformational gift to SFU. As a student, Mr. Strand-Nielsen was a forward on the SFU men's soccer team, leading the team in scoring as a freshman and helping to set an SFU record with 20 wins that still stands. Mr. Strand-Nielsen is a major supporter of SFU Athletics and has further contributed by sharing his financial and leadership acumen with SFU by mentoring athletes and business students in recent years.

The **Andrew Petter and Maureen Maloney Excellence Award Endowment for Varsity Women Athletes** and the **Andrew Petter and Maureen Maloney Award in Women's Soccer** recognizes undergraduate students in any faculty who have demonstrated excellence, leadership or potential to excel as a member of the varsity women's athletic program and respectively, the SFU women's soccer team.

The **George K. Pedersen International Graduate Students Fund** supports international graduate students with unforeseen or unmet expenses and may also support programs and initiatives designed to enhance the education experience for international graduate students at SFU.

The **James Dean Scholarship for International Students** recognizes international undergraduate students in SFU's Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences with demonstrated academic excellence.

The **Herbert and Evelyn Taverner Scholarship in Creative Writing Endowment** was established through a generous gift from the estate of former ballerina Sonia Taverner in honour of her parents, Herbert and Evelyn. The scholarship will be granted to undergraduate students pursuing a bachelor's degree in the Department of English with a declared minor in Creative Writing.

The **Trottier Family Foundation Science Outreach Endowment** was established through a transformational gift from the Trottier Family Foundation. The Trottier Family Foundation has an extraordinary history of support at SFU, including their visionary partnership that led to the opening of the Trottier Observatory and Science Courtyard at the Burnaby campus in 2014. One of the goals of the Trottier Family Foundation and Dr. Howard Trottier, retired SFU Physics professor, is to help young people develop and pursue a passion for science. Through the newly established endowment, invaluable educational outreach programs for children and community members, such as Science in Action and Starry Nights, will continue to build an enduring legacy of citizens who understand the benefit of scientific approaches to solving global issues. ▼



Thank you for your thoughtful support of SFU and the diverse people and communities we serve.

The **Walter F. and Esther J. Wilson Undergraduate Bursary Endowment** was established with a generous gift by Enola D. Stoye in honour of Lolita (Letty) N. Wilson, who came to SFU in 1965 as Dean of Women and Associate Professor of Psychology. Letty went on to lead a successful career at the university until her retirement in 1978. The bursary, named in honour of Letty's parents and Enola's great-grandparents Walter and Esther, supports undergraduate students with demonstrated financial need.

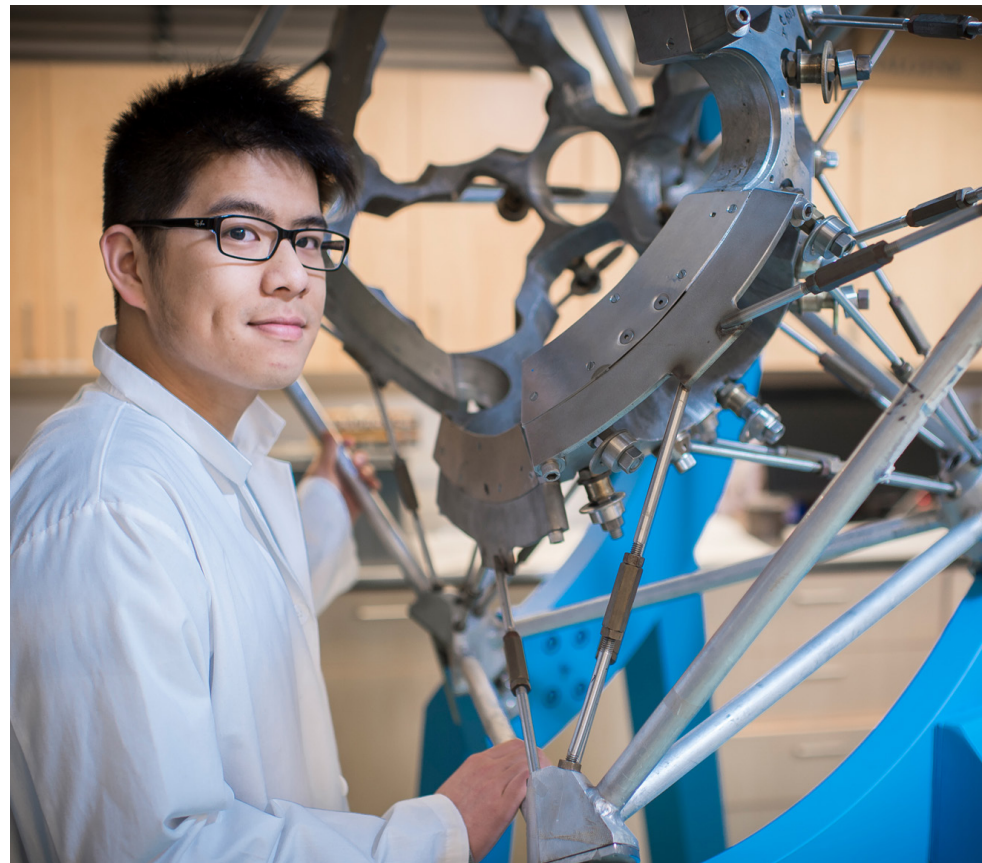
The **Wister-Mitchell Graduate Scholarship in Gerontology Endowment** was established with a generous gift from Andrew Wister and Barbara Mitchell, both professors who are dedicated to teaching Gerontology and Sociology at the graduate and undergraduate level at Simon Fraser University. The scholarship recognizes outstanding graduate students in SFU's Department of Gerontology.

# TESTAMENTARY ENDOWMENTS

Testamentary endowments enable donors to express their values and create a lasting legacy through gifts in their will. For many friends and partners of the university, this can be the best way for their family to have an enduring impact, while providing support for causes that matter most to them. SFU is deeply grateful for all of our donors who support the university and our community through testamentary endowments.

The **Wayne Janzen Bursary in French Endowment** will be established through a generous bequest from the future estate of SFU alumnus Wayne Janzen (BA '76). While at SFU, Mr. Janzen double-majored in French and Geography, graduating with a degree in French with honours. His hope for this bursary is to help offset the students' expenses and provide them with more time to focus on their studies and extracurricular activities. This bursary will be granted to undergraduate students who are pursuing a bachelor's degree in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences with a declared major in a program in the Department of French.

The **Ray Kapahi and Denise L. Wesleder Bursary in Physics Endowment** will be established through a generous gift from the future estate of SFU alumnus Ray Kapahi (BSc '72) and his wife Denise L. Wesleder. The bursary will be granted to undergraduate students pursuing a bachelor's degree in the Faculty of Science with a declared major in any program in Physics who also demonstrate financial need.



The SFU logo consists of the letters "SFU" in a white, bold, sans-serif font, centered within a solid red rectangular background.

**SFU**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION,  
PLEASE CONTACT:**

**Erin Morantz**

Vice-President

Advancement & Alumni Engagement

Simon Fraser University

604-764-7896

[vpaae@sfu.ca](mailto:vpaae@sfu.ca)