



Each year, the University of Alberta honours the achievements of our faculty, students and staff at Celebrate! Teaching.Learning.Research.

We celebrate the most prestigious awards given out in the year to our university community members who are at the top of the scale, university-wide, nationally and internationally. We recognize these exemplary individuals: faculty who bring their research to life in the classroom; graduate and undergraduate students who have distinguished themselves for outstanding academic and extracurricular work; and staff that support research and learning.

2025 Award Recipients

- [Teaching and Research Awards](#)
- [Postdoctoral Awards](#)
- [Graduate Student Scholarships](#)
- [Undergraduate Student Scholarships](#)

Teaching and Research Awards

These awards celebrate outstanding research achievements and developments, as well as teaching practices and pedagogies, focusing on excellence and innovation.

AIMBE Fellow

American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE) Fellows, considered among the top two percent in their field, are elected for their distinguished and continuing achievements in medical and biological engineering.

- **Hongbo Zeng - Chemical and Materials Engineering**

Alberta Order of Excellence

The Alberta Order of Excellence is the highest honour the Province of Alberta can bestow on a citizen. It recognizes Albertans, from all fields of endeavour and backgrounds, for their outstanding provincial, national or international impact.

- **Robert Foster - Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences**
- **Douglas Stollery - Chancellor Emeritus**

Alberta Science and Technology (ASTech) Awards

Technology Alberta, through the ASTech Awards, honours innovators in science and technology in Alberta.

■ Environment, Water, and/or Air Innovation

- **Monireh Faramarzi - Earth and Atmospheric Sciences**

■ Hydrogen Innovation

- **Hassan Dehghanpour - Civil and Environmental Engineering**

■ Medical, Healthcare, and/or Pharmaceuticals – Research

- **Lara Mahal - Chemistry**

■ Medical, Healthcare, and Pharmaceuticals – Application (Academic Collaboration)

- **Martin Ferguson-Pell - Rehabilitation Medicine**

■ Outstanding Agri-Economy Innovation – Collaboration

- **Jane Batcheller - Human Ecology David Bressler - Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science**
- **Patricia Dolez - Human Ecology**

■ Outstanding Innovation in Construction

- **Simaan AbouRizk - Engineering**

■ Outstanding Woman in Innovation - Research

- **Aminah Robinson Fayek - Vice-President (Research) and Civil and Environmental Engineering**

■ Sustainability Solutions – Research

- **Wenming Zhang - Civil and Environmental Engineering**

A.M. Turing Award

The Association for Computing Machinery's (ACM) A.M. Turing Award, often referred to as the "Nobel Prize in Computing," is presented annually to an individual who has made lasting contributions of a technical nature to the computing community.

- **Richard Sutton - Computing Science**

American Academy of Nursing Fellow

The American Academy of Nursing Fellows are nursing leaders in policy, research, administration, practice and academia.

- **Shannon Scott - Nursing**

American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Fellow

American Association for the Advancement of Science Fellows are recognized for their scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications.

- **Kurt Konhauser - Earth and Atmospheric Sciences**

Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics

The Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics recognizes individuals who have made profound contributions to human knowledge. It is open to all physicists – theoretical, mathematical and experimental.

- **Douglas Gingrich - Physics**
- **Roger Moore - Physics**
- **James Pinfold - Physics**

Brockhouse Canada Prize for Interdisciplinary Research in Science and Engineering

The annual NSERC Brockhouse Canada Prize for Interdisciplinary Research in Science and Engineering recognizes highly collaborative Canadian teams of researchers from different disciplines who have combined their expertise to produce achievements of outstanding significance in the natural sciences and engineering.

- **Russell Greiner - Computing Science**
- **David S. Wishart - Biological Sciences and Computing Science**

CAIAC Lifetime Achievement Award

The Lifetime Achievement Award is the Canadian Artificial Intelligence Association (CAIAC)'s highest honour and is presented to individuals who have distinguished themselves through outstanding research excellence in AI throughout their academic career.

- **Osmar Zaiane - Computing Science**

Canadian Academy of Engineering Fellow

Election to the Canadian Academy of Engineering is one of the highest professional honours accorded to an engineer in recognition of distinguished achievements and career-long service to the profession.

- **Richard Chalaturnyk - Civil and Environmental Engineering**
- **Abdulahakem Elezzabi - Electrical and Computer Engineering**
- **Aminah Robinson Fayek - Vice-President (Research) and Civil and Environmental Engineering**
- **Tian Tang - Mechanical Engineering**
- **Xuehua Zhang - Chemical and Materials Engineering**

Engineering Institute of Canada Fellow

Fellows are elected to the Engineering Institute of Canada in recognition of their exceptional contributions to engineering in Canada.

- **Amit Kumar - Mechanical Engineering**

Excellence in Community-Campus Research Partnership Award

This Community-Based Research Canada award honours the exemplary contributions of a community-campus research partnership that has demonstrated excellence in community-based research.

- **Monty Ghosh - Medicine**

Fearless Innovator Award

In alignment with the University of Alberta's [A Culture of Care: Safety Action Plan](#), this award celebrates individuals who have undertaken a bold initiative or project to enhance teaching and learning and share their experiences.

- **Brian Chwyl - Oncology**
- **Jen Dewhurst - Oncology**

Frontiers Planet Prize - National Champion

This prize recognizes research with the greatest potential to address the ecological crisis. It's the world's biggest prize for transformative, science-based breakthroughs to enable healthy lives on a healthy planet.

- **Suzanne Tank - Biological Sciences**

Fulbright Award

The Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program operates on the principle of reciprocal exchange and provides the opportunity for outstanding Canadian scholars to lecture and/or conduct research in the United States.

- **Wayne Inuglak Clark - Psychiatry**
- **Fulbright Arctic Initiative Scholar at Johns Hopkins University**

Governor General of Canada Meritorious Service Medal

The Meritorious Service Medal recognizes Canadians for exceptional deeds that bring honour to Canada.

- **Gordon Wilkes - Surgery**
- **John Wolfaardt - Surgery**

Governor General's Innovation Award

The Governor General's Innovation Awards recognize and celebrate exceptional Canadian individuals, teams and organizations whose exceptional and transformative work help shape the future and positively impact our quality of life.

- **Monty Ghosh - Medicine**

Governor General's Literary Award

The Governor General's Literary Award promotes literature from Canada by recognizing the most notable English-language and French-language books in seven categories. These awards are administered by the Canada Council for the Arts.

- **Jordan Abel - English and Film Studies**

Henry Marshall Tory Chair

Named for the first President of the University of Alberta, recipients are outstanding individuals who excel in teaching, research and service to impact the university and the community.

- **Selena Couture - Drama**
- **Lana Whiskeyjack - Women's and Gender Studies**

J.Gordin Kaplan Award for Excellence in Research

The University of Alberta's most prestigious research award is named for the university's first Vice-President (Research). It recognizes and honours faculty members for their research contributions and impact nationally and internationally.

- **Biao Huang - Chemical and Materials Engineering**
- **Temitope Oriola - Sociology**

McCalla Professorship

Recognizes outstanding academics who have made significant contributions to the integration of teaching and research and educational leadership.

- **Geoffrey Bostick - Physical**
- **Therapy Lia Daniels - Education**

Order of Canada

The Order of Canada is the cornerstone of the Canadian Honours System. Presented by the Governor General of Canada, it recognizes outstanding achievement, dedication to the community and service to the nation.

- **Robert Foster, Member - Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences**

Provost's Award for Early Achievement of Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

This award recognizes teaching excellence by academic staff within five years of their first university appointment.

- **Simone Pflieger - Women's and Gender**
- **Studies Sonya Sachar - Education**

Royal Society of Canada College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists

The College is Canada's first national system of multidisciplinary recognition for the emerging generation of Canadian intellectual leadership. Members are elected based on excellence and demonstrated impact in the early stages of their academic careers.

- **Matthew Macauley - Chemistry**
- **Angelique Slade Shantz - Strategy, Entrepreneurship and Management**
- **Sheena Wilson - Faculté Saint-Jean**

Royal Society of Canada Fellow

Fellows are distinguished Canadians from all branches of learning who have made remarkable contributions in the arts, the humanities and the sciences, as well as in Canadian public life. Fellowship in the Royal Society of Canada is one of the highest levels of recognition of artistic and intellectual accomplishment in Canada.

- **Biao Huang - Chemical and Materials Engineering**
- **Michael Lounsbury - Strategy, Entrepreneurship and Management**

Royal Society of Canada Yvan Allaire Medal

The Royal Society of Canada Yvan Allaire Medal is awarded annually to a scholar for the quality of research and publications in the field of governance.

- **Sadok El Ghouli - Faculté Saint-Jean**

Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

Recognizes teaching excellence by continuing academic staff at the University of Alberta.

- **Lech Lebedowski - History, Classics, and Religion**

Support Staff Research Enhancement Award

This award is a joint initiative of NASA and the Vice-President (Research) Office that recognizes support staff who consistently make a positive contribution to the research success of their faculty/department/unit and the university by providing outstanding service, fostering innovation, creating a positive influence in the workplace and demonstrating leadership.

- **Georgie Columbus - Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation**
- **Isaac Lank - Psychology**

Teaching Collaboration Award

This award recognizes teaching excellence that occurs as a result of the collaboration of instructors and promotes informed discussion of teaching and its improvement at the University of Alberta.

- **Lisa Prins - Arts**
- **Allison Sivak - Library and Museums**

University of Alberta Distinguished Professor

The title of University of Alberta Distinguished Professor recognizes exceptional faculty members who are globally recognized leaders and whose teaching, scholarly work and citizenship have made them leaders in their disciplines.

- **Toshifumi Yokota - Medical Genetics**

Vargo Teaching Chair

Vargo Teaching Chairs have been created to foster excellence in teaching by supporting individuals who have a history of educational leadership, teaching innovation and who are committed to enhancing the learning experience of students at all levels.

- **Janet Wesselius - Augustana**

William Hardy Alexander Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

This award recognizes excellence in undergraduate teaching to promote informed discussion of teaching and its improvement by academic staff in temporary appointments.

- **Jay Friesen - Arts**
- **Erina Harris - English and Film Studies**

University Cup

The University Cup is the highest honour this university can bestow on a member of its academic staff and is granted only to those individuals who have achieved sustained commitment in each of the areas of research and/or creative endeavours, teaching and service to the university and the community at large. Thus, the recipient of the University Cup is a leader whose scholarly work has merited broad attention, whose teaching and student supervision ability is widely recognized by colleagues and students alike as exceptional and who has earned significant regard from the community which favours both the individual and the university.

- **David S. Wishart - Biological Sciences and Computing Science**

Postdoctoral Awards

These awards celebrate the activities of postdoctoral scholars to ensure they have a rewarding experience at the University of Alberta. The awards are meant to develop their leadership potential and to position them for success as research leaders of tomorrow.

Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship

This fellowship is designed to attract and retain top-tier postdoctoral talent, both nationally and internationally, to develop their leadership potential and to position them for success as research leaders of tomorrow.

- **Bruna Ramos da Silva - Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science**

Royal Society of Canada Alice Wilson Award

The Royal Society of Canada Alice Wilson Award is given annually for outstanding academic qualifications in the Arts and Humanities, Social Sciences or Science to three women who are entering a career in scholarship or research at the postdoctoral level.

- **Anffany Chen - Computing Science**

Graduate Student Scholarships

These awards celebrate academic excellence and outstanding achievements made by graduate students highlighting their leadership and engagement, research, community building and more.

BMO Financial Group Graduate Scholarship

Awarded annually to students registered in, or admitted to, a full-time PhD or thesis-based Master's program on the basis of superior academic achievement and demonstrated research ability or research potential.

- **Jaqueline de Lima Munhoz - Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science**
- **Jemma Forgie - Human Ecology**

Kaleidoscope Program Scholar

The Association of Research Libraries Kaleidoscope Program is a two-year commitment designed to prepare IBPOC graduate students for purposeful and consequential careers in research libraries and archives through enriched leadership development and community building opportunities.

- **Amy Lim - Library and Information Studies**

Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Scholarship

Recipients are selected based on their academic excellence, leadership and engagement, willingness to engage with a plurality of perspectives and their agility and resilience.

- **Carolyn Belanger - Native Studies**

Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship

This program aims to attract and retain world-class doctoral students by supporting students who demonstrate both leadership skills and a high standard of scholarly achievement in graduate studies in the social sciences and humanities, natural sciences and engineering and health.

- **Truong An Bui - Psychiatry**
- **Andrea DeKeseredy - Sociology**
- **Victor Do - Pediatrics**
- **Katelyn Favel - Rehabilitation Medicine**
- **Steven Hall - Nursing**
- **Saba Ismail - Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences**



Undergraduate Student Scholarships

These awards celebrate academic excellence, community building, leadership and outstanding achievements made by undergraduate students within their respective fields of study and faculty.

Scholastic Distinction Scholarship

The Scholastic Distinction Scholarship recognizes top academic students from across Canada and around the world. These are among the most valuable and prestigious undergraduate scholarships awarded by the University of Alberta.

■ BMO Financial Group Entrance Citation

- Khue Huynh - Nursing
- Jiseo Lee - Business
- Sarah Leighton - Science
- Garrett Skakun - Science

■ Chancellor's Entrance Citation

- Narjes Alhakeem - Science
- George Anithottam - Science
- Irish De Guzman - Science
- Iolanda Liang - Nursing
- Emily Schuler - Education
- Aaliyah Vroege - Arts

■ President's Entrance Citation

- Reece Collins - Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation
- Owen Dobrowolsky - Arts
- Lina Duong - Science
- Jenna Xu - Business

Fearless Innovator Award

In alignment with the University of Alberta's [A Culture of Care: Safety Action Plan](#), this award celebrates individuals who have undertaken a bold initiative or project to enhance teaching and learning and share their experiences.

- Renson Alva - Science
- Nicholas Kryz - Science

Royal Society of Canada Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella Prize

The Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella Prize awarded by the Royal Society of Canada is presented annually to a graduating law student in each of the law schools in Canada who is most likely to positively influence equity and social justice in Canada or globally upon graduation.

- **Furyal Hussain - Law**

Schulich Leader Scholarship

An annual scholarship for highschool students enrolling in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics) program in university, who have demonstrated academic excellence, outstanding community/business/entrepreneurial leadership and/or financial need.

- **Sophia Banfield - Faculté Saint-**
- **Jean Amanda Cepeda - Engineering**
- **Fatima Khalid - Science**
- **Jeff Khuu - Science**
- **Kaylie Murangwa - Engineering**
- **Eythan Young - Engineering**

TD Scholarship for Community Leadership

The TD Scholarship for Community Leadership recognizes students who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to community leadership.

- **Haleema Malik - Education**



The University of Alberta, its buildings, labs and research stations are primarily located on the territory of Nêhiyaw (Cree), Niitsitapi (Blackfoot), Métis, Nakoda (Stoney), Dene, Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) and Anishinaabe (Ojibway/Saulteaux), lands that are now known as part of Treaties 6, 7 and 8 and homeland of the Métis. The University of Alberta respects the sovereignty, lands, histories, languages, knowledge systems and cultures of all First Nations, Métis, and Inuit.