



Saint Mary's
University

Research EXPO

March 6, 2026

Loyola Conference Hall

Saint Mary's University

1:00 to 4:00 p.m.



Agenda

1:00 PM

Event opening, networking and visiting exhibitors

3:00 PM

Welcoming remarks and announcement of the Staff Research Recognition Award by Dr. Adam Sarty, Associate Vice-President, Research and Kevin Buchan, Director, Office of Innovation and Community Engagement

3:10 PM

Three-Minute Pitch Presentations
Hosted by Kevin Buchan

4:00 PM

Closing of Event

Presenters

Dr. Nicole Conrad

Department of Psychology

Identifying Barriers and Challenges to Equitable Access to Supports for Children who Struggle Learning to Read

Dr. Tony Charles

Sobey School of Business/Department of Environmental Science

Nova Scotia's Coastal Communities

Dr. Tatjana Takševa

Department of English Language and Literature

Where Peace Takes Root: Survivor Narratives as Living Ecologies of Healing

Dr. Elizabeth Blundon

Department of Marketing

How We Choose Where to Die: The Role of End-of-Life Experiences and Values in Shaping Care Preferences

Exhibitors

1. **Shelley Hessian** and **Gail Lethbridge**, Springboard Atlantic
2. **Michele Fash** and **Phil Romkey**, ACENET
3. **Hector Fraser** and **Peter Wilson**, Invest Nova Scotia
4. **Reid Sutherland**, Mitacs
5. **Christy Starkey** and **Novella Nicchitta**, Career Services and Experiential Learning, Student Affairs and Services
Student and Alumni Engagement Through Community Engaged Learning, An Empirical and Institutional Study
6. **Dr. Sveva Savelli, Alex Phillips,** and **Atticus Hagel**, Languages and Culture.
The Metaponto Archeological Project. Archeological Investigations in Southern Italy
The Metaponto Archaeological Project. The 2025 Archeological Investigations at Incoronata Greca (MT), Italy
7. **Dr. Luke Hathway, Dr. Deborah Kennedy, Dr. J. Russell Perkin,** and **Dr. Tatjana Takševa**, English Language and Literature
Dr. Luke Hathway, Eurydice Fragments, and 'Do You Hear Me?' from Penelope Dreamwalker
Dr. Deborah Kennedy, "The Literary Influence of Eighteenth-Century Women Writers."
Dr. J. Russell Perkin, "Olivia Manning's Fortunes of War Novels"

Dr. Tatjana Takševa, "Where Peace Takes Root: Survivor Narratives as Living Ecologies of Healing" and Special Issue of the Journal *Atlantis: Critical Studies in Gender, Culture and Social Justice, Migration and Women, Peace, and Security (WPS)*.

8. **Dr. Shane Theunissan**, Faculty of Education

CREATIVE Education: The Principles and Processes of Transformation.

9. **Dr. Margherita Cameranesi, Aya Nakamoto, Melissa Alvarez Del Angel**, and **Jacqueline Moore**, Finding Your Resilience Lab (FYRe Lab)

Finding Your Resilience as a Refugee Youth (FYRe-R)

Finding Your Resilience in Nova Scotia (FYRe-NS)

10. **Dr. Rachel Zellars** and **Dr. Val Johnson**, Social Justice & Community Studies

Social Justice & Community-Engaged Research

11. **Dr. Patricia Matsumoto, Dr. Peter Bush** and **Dr. Mathew Novak**, Wicked Problems Lab

Landscape Connectivity and Intact Forest Landscapes in Nova Scotia

Atlantic Crossings: Black Lives in Motion across space and time

12. **Dr. Xichen Zhang**, Finance, Information Systems and Management Science

13. **Meredith Drost** and **Leslie Arsenault**, Arthur L. Irving Entrepreneurship Centre

14. **Maxinne Baddoo**, Tribe Network
15. **Dr. Karly Kehoe** and **Mathias Rodorff**, Gorsebrook Research Institute
16. **Dr. Aldona Wiacek** with the **Atmospheric Research Group**, Environmental Science
17. **Dr. Jonathan Fowler**, **Dr. Laura Eastham** and **Wesley Weatherbee**, Anthropology
18. **Dr. Adel Merabet** and **Dr. Fateme Gholami**, Engineering
19. **Dr. Christa Brosseau**, Chemistry
Adventures in Plasmonics – From Sensing to Sustainability
20. **Dr. Somayeh Kafaie**, **Mohadeseh Akhavan Fard** and **Naeem Shirmohammady**, Mathematics and Computing Science
Hyperedge Classification for Predicting High-Order Drug-Drug Interactions in Pharmacological Networks Demographic-Enriched Knowledge Graph for Drug-Drug Interaction Prediction
21. **Dr. Ehab Elsharkawi** and **Sheheryar Khan**, Engineering
22. **Dr. Tony Charles**, **Abdul Mussa**, **Shahriar Nazrul**, and **Hasan Latif**, Community Conservation Research Network
23. **Greg Baker**, Maritime Provinces Spatial Analysis Research Centre

24. **Ive Velikova**, and **Emma Bocking**, TransCoastal Adaptions: Centre for Nature-Based Solutions
TransCoastal Adaptions: Transforming landscapes for coastal resilience.
Green Shores for the Maritimes: Building capacity for nature-based coastal resilience
25. **Dr. Danika van Proosdij** and **Leah Rudderham**, Intertidal Coastal Sediment Transport Research Unit
26. **Dr. Linda Campbell**, Environmental Science, Dynamic Environment and Ecosystem Health Research
27. **Patricia Granados**, Centre for Environmental Analysis Research - Atlantic Canada Environmental and Sustainable Chemistry and Engineering Centre (ACESCentre)
Strengthening Analytical Infrastructure: Recent Instrumentation Acquisitions
28. **Dr. Jacob Hanley**, Earth Science
Critical and archaeological metals research at Saint Mary's University
29. **Dr. Pawan Lingras** and **Nikita Neveditsin**, Mathematics and Computing Science
Compact Multimodal Language Models as Robust OCR Alternatives for Noisy Textual Clinical Reports

Office of Innovation & Community Engagement

About Us

The Office of Innovation and Community Engagement (OICE) facilitates and fosters relationships by providing partners with a variety of services to benefit the development of new collaborations and project ideas..

OICE assists faculty with commercializing products and services that have been developed within Saint Mary's University. The office is the gateway for external partners wishing to connect with researchers to develop research relationships.

Every year OICE hosts a series of events to spark connections. Stay informed of upcoming events and recent business and research news by visiting our website,, [SMU.ca/oice](https://www.smu.ca/oice).

Services for External Partners

- Match research needs with expertise on campus
- Foster collaborations
- Assist with contract development
- Facilitate technology transfer

Contact Us

Mr. Kevin Buchan, Director, MSc, MBA, CLP
Kevin.Buchan@smu.ca | (902) 491-6297
923 Robie Street
Atrium Building, 209
Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3H 3C3

Thank you
to our sponsors!



Saint Mary's
University

Springboard

