

# FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Making a difference  
from cell to society

John D. O'Neil, PhD  
Professor and Dean



SFU

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

# BACKGROUND

- Creation of a Faculty of Health Sciences approved in late 2003.
- First complement of faculty arrived in 2005.
- First cohort of students began their studies in Fall 2005.



# MISSION

- To integrate social and natural science research to address population health outcomes.
- To apply this knowledge in the development of healthy public policy.



# GOALS

To equip the public health leaders of the future with the knowledge and skills needed:

- to improve the overall health and well-being of the population;
- to prevent diseases, injuries, or disabilities that may shorten life or impair health, well-being and quality of life; and
- to reduce inequalities in health between different groups and communities locally and globally.



SFU

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

# DEFINING FEATURES

- Multidisciplinary studies spanning cell to society.
- Canada's most comprehensive program in population and public health.
- Highly diverse student composition reflects British Columbia and the world.



SFU

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

# WORLD-CLASS FACULTY

- Approx. 30 full-time faculty hired to date.
- Ten more scheduled to join FHS in next two years.
- Three Canada Research Chairs – Global Health, Children’s Health, HIV/AIDS Vaccine Development.
- Six Endowed Research Chairs (Arthritis, Cancer, Cardiovascular, HIV/AIDS; Environment and Children, Aboriginal).
- Associate faculty from across SFU; Adjunct and clinical appointments from public health community.



SFU

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

# TEACHING & RESEARCH

## Populations

- Global Health.
- Indigenous Health.
- Women's Health.
- Children's Health.

## Public Health Issues

- Infectious Disease.
- Environmental & Occupational Health.
- Mental Health and Addictions.
- Aging, Chronic Disease and Disabilities.

## Disciplines and Perspectives

- Public Health Biology.
- Public Health Practice.
- Social and Behavioural Sciences, Social Epidemiology, and Ethics.
- Research Methods (e.g., Epi, Biostats).
- Public Health Practice.

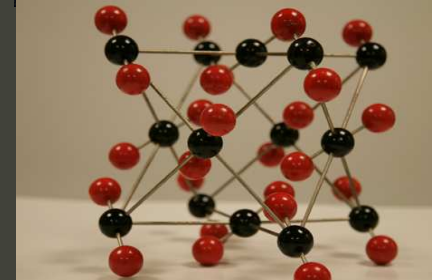


SFU

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

# UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

- Bachelor of Arts – first offered in Fall 2006.
- Bachelor of Science – first offered in Fall 2007.
- Two multidisciplinary degrees with an overlapping focus on population and public health.
- Co-op Program commenced in Fall 2007.

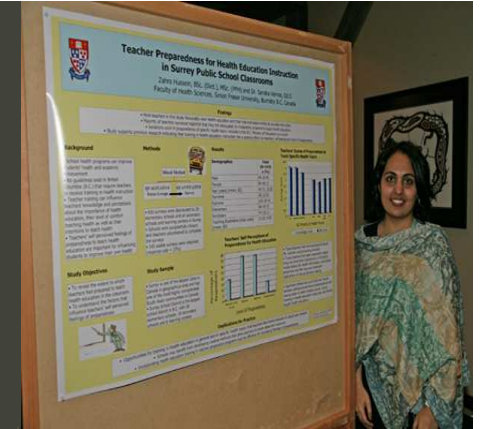


SFU

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

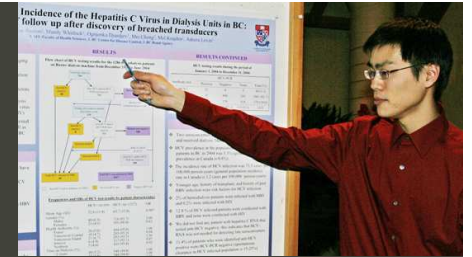
# GRADUATE PROGRAMS

- Master's degree in Population & Public Health (MPH) with two options.
- Diploma in Global Health.
- Master of Science research degree under development.
- PhD program under development.



# ACCREDITATION

- Application to accredit MPH program submitted to CEPH in April 2007.
- Will be second university in Canada to be accredited.
- Faculty of Population and Public Health Sciences (five years).



SFU

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

# INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION

- Global attention on Canadian development of Schools of Public Health – SFU recognized as a leader in this field
- Global health has emerged as a signature program and links with Canadian and international efforts in this area.



# BLUSSON HALL

- \$60 M dedicated facility opens in May 2008.
- State-of-the-art labs and teaching facilities.
- 12,000 square metres.
- Wet and dry labs.
- Level 3 bio-containment facility.
- Data warehouse for health data research.
- \$12M donation from Dr. Stuart and Marilyn Blusson in 2007.
- \$4M donation from Djavad Mowafaghian Foundation in 2007.



# ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN

- Undergraduate interest in interdisciplinary pre-professional population and public health programs.
- Graduate student interest in interdisciplinary, critical, and applied programs related to public health.
- Canadian interest in public health infrastructure development – Schools of Public Health.
- Canadian developments in research funding for population and public health – CIHR, SSHRC, Michael Smith.
- International interest in Canadian research and educational expertise and leadership – Gates, CIDA, etc.



# DEAN'S VISION

- Continue to foster collaboration, collegiality, interdisciplinarity across Faculty, University and Community.
- Expand and strengthen linkages to population, public and community health sectors for applied research and education.
- Strengthen global footprint in research and education.
- Build a resource base for expansion through endowed Chairs and Research Centres/Institutes.
- Develop new interdisciplinary undergrad and grad programs with resources to attract best and brightest.



# FHS INTERDISCIPLINARITY AND THE “NEW PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCE”

- **Epigenetics** – environment and children’s health.
- **Public Health Genomics** – population based disease prevention.
- **Complex Interactions** – mathematical modeling of infectious disease transmission and social networks.
- **Social Determinants and Health Equity** – social inequality and health inequities in a global community.