



First Session of University-Industry Interaction Series Held at UBC Campuses

MMRI with the support of NRC-IRAP launched its University-Industry Interaction Series on July 30. The event, run concurrently at both campuses, included short presentations from academic researchers and industry associates followed by a networking time. The next session is scheduled for Thursday, February 14.



Afshin Doust, CEO of Advanced Intelligent Systems, speaks to the audience at UBC Vancouver.



The attendees at UBC Okanagan are listening to the presentation of Asha Srinivasan, CTO of Boost Environmental Systems.

For more pictures and information, visit the link [here](#).

News Briefs

Cluster of Research Excellence in Biocomposites Received Eminence Award

Dr. Abbas Milani and his co-PIs including Dr. Michael Deyholos (UBCO), Dr. Cigdem Eskicioglu (UBCO), Dr. Sepideh Pakpour (UBCO), Dr. Kasun Hewage (UBCO), Dr. Wesley Zandberg (UBCO), Dr. Kevin Golovin (UBCO), Dr. Parisa Mehrkhodavandi (UBCV), Dr. Philip Evans (UBCV), Dr. Dr. Frank Ko (UBCV), received the UBC Okanagan Vice-Principal Research's Eminence award to establish a research cluster on biocomposites. The initiative was also supported by a number of companies including BioComposites Group Inc., Champion Marine Inc., Dr. Grant R Boggy Inc., HYTEC-Kohler Canada, Open Mind Developments Corp., and Advanced Bio-Carbon 3D Inc. along with City of Kelowna. Congratulations to Dr. Milani and the cluster team. More information about the cluster can be found [here](#).

Cluster of Research Excellence in Wine/Grape Received Eminence Award

Dr. Wesley Zandberg and his co-PIs including [Dr. Michael Deyholos](#) (UBCO), [Dr. Susan Murch](#) (UBCO), [Dr. Daniel Durall](#) (UBCO),[Dr. Kasun Hewage](#) (UBCO), [Dr. Roger Sugden](#) (UBCO), [Dr. Deanna Gibson](#) (UBCO), [Dr. Jorg Bohlmann](#) (UBCV), [Dr. Vivien Measday](#) (UBCV), [Dr. Dr. Simone Diego Castellarin](#) (UBCV), received the UBC Okanagan Vice-Principal Research's Eminence award to establish a wine/grape cluster toward catalyzing the formation of an industry-engaged, integrated research consortium. Congratulations to Dr. Zandberg and the cluster team. More infromation about the cluster can be found [here](#).

Meet a Member!

Dr. York Hsiang, Professor, Faculty of Medicine



What interests you the most when working in the education sector and why? I enjoy working with young enthusiastic minds. It raises everybody's energy levels!

What will be the next big development in your field? In vascular biology, there has been a disconnect between understanding the disease processes and mechanical methods of treating vascular conditions. Arteries and veins are not simply tubes that contain non-Newtonian fluid. The

cells that determine the shape and function of these conductance vessels in health and in disease are subject to fluid and mechanical forces. I would like to see a joint vascular biology and engineering effort to address vascular pathology.

What is the one thing people would be surprised to know about you? I used to play basketball but now enjoy watching NFL football. I love the perspective of the coach - a strategist concealing their team's weaknesses, taking advantage of the other team's weakness, and creating mis-direction. It's much like running a corporation, organizing a team of researchers, or leading a team of medical and nursing specialists in a joint effort.

Describe yourself in one word. Reliable!

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