CARRIANNE LEUNG SHARES THE STORY WE NEED RIGHT NOW

DIGITAL CHANGE MAKERS

WHAT CANADA CAN LEARN FROM SOUTH KOREA’S RESPONSE TO COVID-19

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Please note: The Calendar of Events section will return in a future issue of UC Magazine. Information about upcoming virtual events is available at uc.utoronto.ca.
UNITING AS A COMMUNITY
IN EXTRAORDINARY TIMES

I hope you, your families, and loved ones are healthy and in good spirits. I would like to take this opportunity to update you on where UC presently stands. But before I begin, let me extend my heartfelt congratulations to the 2020 UC Alumni of Influence Award recipients. Your accomplishments bring a heightened sense of pride to the College and the shining examples you set for our students are needed now more than ever. Thank you for the outstanding contributions you have made to your diverse fields and communities.

University College finds itself in the middle of a truly extraordinary time and you might be interested in an overview of how UC is doing this school year. Currently, more than 5,100 students are registered for the 2020-21 academic year: 75% domestic, and 25% international.

While many of our activities and services have moved online, student life services remain on site to support our roughly 230 students living in residence. To ensure physical distancing, this number is significantly lower than our standard capacity of 740.

The University of Toronto started the fall term with a small number of courses being conducted in person with strictly limited class sizes, and, recently, all courses that were an in-person/online hybrid were moved fully online due to the changed regulations. University College staff and faculty are working tirelessly to ensure that the College is equipped to follow provincial health guidelines and to foster a level of on-campus activity that is practicable, sensible, and safe. We will continue to be appropriately adaptive to ensure our students’ safety and comply with any changes to the provincial guidelines.

Of equal importance is the need to reach our students remotely. Our registrarial services have fully moved online and we are continuously refining the ways in which we reach out to our students virtually. Appointments with our registrarial staff are conducted through video conferencing, email, and via telephone.

I am heartened by the collective strength and cooperation that our entire community found in order to meet the challenges that the pandemic posed. Our students and faculty members have been adapting to new ways of learning and teaching online, and I am continuously impressed by the level of patience, empathy, and understanding of UC students, staff, and faculty members, who suddenly found themselves in this pedagogical experiment forced upon us by the pandemic.

The mental health of our students is a perennial concern, and there is no doubt that the current situation creates added stresses in the lives of our students. Whether students are studying remotely or in person, they continue to have access to all student support services, including learning strategists, accessibility advisors, mental health counsellors, international student advisors, and much more. We at UC agree that we have to be exceptionally supportive of our students during these extraordinary times. At this moment in history, we must also reaffirm at every opportunity our commitment to our College’s founding principles of inclusiveness, diversity, and open inquiry.

One of the most crucial insights we have gained from our experience with the pandemic has been the increased need for scholarships that specifically support students from underrepresented communities. COVID-19 has disproportionately affected marginalized communities in Canada, something we explored in UC Perspectives on COVID-19, a special digital publication we put together last summer in response to the pandemic. This new urgency to support our most vulnerable students came to light as part of a broader conversation the College is having about our priorities, which will be informed in large part by you, our alumni.

The wisdom, experience, and thoughtful generosity of our alumni means so much, especially in times like these. Without your support, we simply would not be able to provide UC students with so many wonderful opportunities to thrive both personally and academically.

Let me close with a specimen of the new genre that has begun to dominate conversations everywhere, the COVID-19 anecdote. I recently taught a class on the differences between handwritten, print, and digital texts (I am a scholar of pre-print German literature)—over Zoom. Unsurprisingly, our class discussion not only revolved around the medial condition of texts (and the aura of the material textual object), but also around our own current human condition as mediated through digital means—and the gains and losses this new mediated existence creates. We readily agreed that there is something powerful in being able to connect across three continents to come together for class.

But the loss of co-presence was also noted: most of the students had never met in person. As this discussion went on, three of the students currently in Toronto described how they had accidentally met on a street near campus the week earlier and recognized each other from their Zoom encounters. “It was a moment of joy,” one student shared, “when we were able to wave at each other and to have a socially distanced chat in the ‘real’ world.”

The joy of the in-person experience: We keep in full sight this return to the ‘real’ world, the co-presence of people in our wonderful and beautifully restored shared spaces at UC. College life relies on in-person interaction and we look forward to resuming it. This hope unites UC as a community.

Professor Markus Stock
University College Principal
The Wikipedia entry for Scarborough, Ontario, begins thus: “First settled by Europeans in the 1790s, Scarborough has grown from a collection of small rural villages and farms to become fully urbanized with a diverse cultural community. … [It] is a popular place for new immigrants to reside.” Also known colloquially as Scarberia or Scarlem, in reference to its distance from the downtown core and its diverse mix of cultures, Scarborough’s many famous alumni include Lilly Singh, Eric McCormack, John Candy, Mike Myers—and UC’s Barker Fairley Visitor in Canadian Culture, Dr. Carrianne K.Y. Leung.

Originally from Hong Kong, Leung moved to Scarborough with her family when she was a young child and has been writing almost since she first picked up a pencil.
“I’ve been writing [since] I learned to read in English. There was nothing as exciting for me as to be assigned creative writing homework as a kid. But I didn’t write ‘seriously’ until way into my adulthood. I published The Wondrous Woo at 45! I did a lot of things in between. [Getting a] PhD was one of them,” she says, referring to her degree in sociology and equity studies from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education.

As a young reader, Leung was dismayed at the lack of characters that reflected her own experiences. It was natural, then, that she set not one, but both of the books she has published so far, The Wondrous Woo (2013) and That Time I Loved You (2018), in the heart of 1970s Scarborough.

“Growing up, there was a lack of fiction that truly reflected my identities,” says Leung. “Scarborough poured out of me in [my] first two books. I didn’t know why. I suppose I still had questions about my childhood there. Writing is a way for me to explore and reflect.

“I don’t think readers need to know what or where Scarborough is—and the Scarborough that I write doesn’t even exist anymore. I have often said that the two books were about being a marginalized person in a marginal place.”

The Wondrous Woo (2013) tells the story of a young Chinese Canadian girl, Miramar Woo, whom one reviewer described fondly as “a heroine in her heart.” After Miramar’s beloved father dies suddenly, she is left to struggle on virtually alone as her mother lapses into depression and her two siblings develop strange savant-like abilities that catapult them into the public eye.

That Time I Loved You shares the 1970s Scarborough setting and a preteen heroine, but the resemblance ends there. The book is a collection of short stories knit together around the central character, young June, and throughout the stories, Scarborough itself becomes a character of sorts, an almost malevolent backdrop against which things—and people—are not at all what they seem.

“Someone said That Time I Loved You was the perfect example of the specific being universal. I liked that.”

“I drew a lot from my life, as all writers do,” says Leung, when asked about the dark events depicted in both books. “The time and the place are familiar to me and reflect my own experiences. But I always have to remind readers that I am a fiction writer first and foremost.

“When I reflect on my childhood in Scarborough in the seventies and eighties, I realize how much it shaped me. The suburbs were new, my family and I were newcomers, the era was very optimistic with Trudeaumania, and the economy was booming. My Scarborough felt like a fleeting moment when so many of us were put together in this one place with these middle-class dreams. I wanted to reflect that, to document these stories as archive.”

Readers and reviewers alike have responded warmly to both books.
“I am blown away by readers’ responses,” Leung says. “Everybody has their own favourites and different reasons as to why they resonate. This is a bonus for a writer. I can’t control anything about the practice of reading. The book is no longer mine when it’s in the hands of a reader. I am just so pleased that readers have made the two books their own.”

Both The Wondrous Woo and That Time I Loved You were nominated for Toronto Book Awards, and That Time I Loved You won the Danuta Gleed Literary Award in 2019. Just before this article was commissioned, Leung learned that That Time I Loved You has been optioned for television.

“It’s still at the options stage, which means a team is putting together a pitch to networks. If a network ‘greenlights’ it, then they will move into development and production. Until that happens (and if it happens), we are just on hold and wishing.”

Asked whether she might have a role in the production, Leung is circumspect.

“I am not sure how I would be involved, and I guess that’s part of what will need to be thought through in development. I love the people involved, so I would welcome the chance to be part of it in some way.”

Leung also recently sold the Canadian rights to her third book, still in progress, to HarperCollins Canada for publication in winter 2022. The manuscript, which has the working title The After, is an apocalyptic fairy tale, told in part by a raccoon and a crow, about what remains when everything we know comes to an end.

This seems a fitting theme for the times, and it is also not the first time Leung has written about an apocalypse. In 2004, she was the lead researcher, project coordinator, and author of a paper titled “Yellow Peril Revisited: Impact of SARS on the Chinese and Southeast Asian Canadian Communities,” which discusses the negative social impacts of that year’s SARS outbreak on Toronto’s Asian population.

And now, during the COVID-19 pandemic, Leung is experiencing a sickening sense of déjà vu.

Earlier this year, she wrote a heart-wrenching essay for UC Perspectives on COVID-19 entitled “Racism: The Other Pandemic,” about the backlash she and her family, now including a young son, have faced since the virus made landfall in Canada. “I feel bruised,” the piece begins, and goes on to discuss in excruciating detail the double lockdowns—the first government-mandated, the second centred on fear for their own safety—that Leung and her family, as Asian Canadians, have been under since the pandemic began.

Like most baby boomers, Leung has multiple responsibilities that don’t leave her much time to write.

“I am in the sandwich generation now. I have a twelve-year old kid. I have elderly parents who are thankfully healthy and well. COVID has been an interesting and intense time. I don’t have a car, so I haven’t been able to see my parents, but I talk to them every day. My kid is in the throes of tweenhood and stays in his room watching YouTube mostly. I drag him out to do chores and a mandatory walk every day,” she says wryly.

“My other COVID story is that I have learned to stitch! It’s completely out of character for me. I am not a crafty person, but I started and have not been able to stop. I’ve stitched dozens and dozens of pieces for friends as a way to stay connected. I have sent out around forty pieces to date.

“I couldn’t write at first, as I didn’t know what story we needed right now. Turning to stitching was such a relief. It kept me grounded.”

Asked how her role as writer-in-residence will work under the ever-changing COVID restrictions, Leung replies, “Hopefully, it will mean that I do one-on-one consultations through Zoom or another digital platform. Stay tuned!”
THE SECOND WAVE IS HERE

WHAT CANADA CAN LEARN FROM SOUTH KOREA’S RESPONSE TO COVID-19

BY TINA J. PARK, RANDY HANBYUL LEE, AND JAE HYUN PARK

As the recent hikes in COVID-19 illustrate, Canada is not immune to the second wave of the pandemic. In fact, we are all still vulnerable and even with the introduction of a new vaccine, it will take some time for normal life to resume. COVID-19 has revealed our vulnerability in terms of public health regulations and structural shortcomings in Canada’s healthcare system will take a long time and a lot of investment to improve. Fundamental challenges remain, such as a lack of coordination for an extended circle of care between provinces, a dire shortage of family doctors for Canadians, a lack of a common standard of care in nursing homes, a lack of multilingual care facilities, a lack of digitization of medical records, and a lack of technological integration into our daily lives as is required to facilitate contact tracing.

Much attention has been paid to various policies and handling of the pandemic by governments around the world and South Korea has emerged as one of the key role models for western countries. At this critical juncture, it is useful to take a moment to reflect upon some of the key lessons learned from countries like South Korea and adopt the best practices for the Canadian context as well.
In the early days of the pandemic, the South Korean government launched apps that allowed residents to evaluate COVID-19 risk by location, facilitate contract tracing, and determine whether they need to be tested. Mask distribution was also facilitated by the government via smartphone apps and residents received text messages to inform them of who could purchase masks on a given day.
Centralized and flexible response for healthcare and public hygiene

Centralized response to COVID-19 remains the hallmark of South Korea’s success in mitigating the pandemic. Centralization occurred in sharing information and in distributing healthcare capacities across the country. South Korea continues to centralize the information on the spread and containment efforts of COVID-19 on a single website managed by the central government. The availability of rich, real-time information for residents in South Korea means that a concerned resident can easily check the trend of infections in their neighbourhood and receive up-to-date contact tracing information. This allows them to evaluate the risks associated with visiting different areas and whether they need to be tested for COVID-19. In the Canadian context, it is up to the public to navigate through constantly changing municipal and provincial guidelines on COVID-19, such as business operations, usage of masks, or tracking the latest hotspots.

In addition to centralizing the provision of COVID-19 information, South Korean policymakers also centralized the distribution of resources related to healthcare capacity and public hygiene. This centralization allowed for a more flexible and efficient policy response, enabling the South Korean government to mobilize and distribute public health physicians at outbreak epicentres to mitigate staff shortages and facility overload. When the city of Daegu, once the epicentre of the outbreak, was hit hard by COVID-19, the South Korean government dispatched public health physicians from outside of this district to alleviate the shortage of medical personnel in the city. South Korea’s rapid transition to emergency measures ensured that Daegu overcame its outbreak without significant strains on its healthcare system. Human resources within the military were also drawn to decontaminate schools, kindergartens, retirement homes, libraries, and sports facilities.

Furthermore, the South Korean government continues to play a central role in regulating the distribution of personal protection equipment in the country. Production and distribution of facial masks were controlled by the central government until July 12, 2020. The number of masks available for purchase per resident and export amounts were tightly controlled in order to prevent shortages and panic buying. In addition, mask distribution was facilitated by smartphone map applications to indicate availability of masks in pharmacies. Text messages with safety information were also sent by the South Korean authorities.
government to all residents to inform them who could purchase masks on a given day. In Canada, using masks was not mandatory in the early stage of the outbreak in the spring of 2020, and while it is now widely recognized that masks are critical for containing the spread of the virus, too much is left in the hands of individuals and merchants with respect to the distribution of masks.

**Proactive policy implementation to incorporate marginalized communities into quarantine measures**

South Korea’s response to COVID-19 was also critical in identifying gaps in its healthcare coverage, especially regarding marginalized communities. Proactive measures to reach out and engage with visible minorities and migrant communities are absolutely required to ensure that no one is left behind. Given the quick spread of COVID-19, ex-post facto measures to close the gap in healthcare will only prove to be too late. On May 1, 2020, the South Korean government declared amnesty for undocumented migrants living in the country, encouraging greater testing among the migrant community in South Korea, numbering 390,000 residents.

Local governments have also played a significant role in pre-emptively engaging with local minority and migrant communities within their boundaries. For example, the Bucheon city government is engaging with visible minority residents through text messages in various languages, as well as automated telephone calls to ensure that non-Korean speakers may also access the government disaster relief subsidy. The unfortunate tale of high numbers of COVID-19 cases in vulnerable communities in Canada, such as nursing homes and LGBTQ communities, illustrates our inability to look after the nation’s most vulnerable populations and marginalized communities.
The Success of Triple T Mechanism: Test, Trace, and Treat

In South Korea, a quick deployment of available technology to trace and test possible outbreaks ensured efficient contact tracing and quarantine. South Korea has learned a hard lesson from its second wave of outbreaks. Like its Canadian counterparts, South Korean public health authorities also continue to struggle with patients who lie about their travel history, or those whose memories simply fail. In Seoul, for instance, many LGBTQ club-goers in Itaewon resisted proactive testing during an outbreak, as they feared that it might lead to an outing of their sexual orientation.

Adapting to new challenges, South Korea continues to invest in improving its tracing and testing capabilities. South Korean authorities already use pre-existing data such as payment history, cell phone signals, and CCTV records for their contact tracing. This was made possible by the Law on Management and Prevention of Infectious Diseases, which was amended to grant access to private data to government authorities for contact tracing purposes after a MERS outbreak in 2015.

In addition to these measures, South Korean authorities now ask all residents to sign in using a QR code when visiting high-risk areas, such as bars, gyms, night clubs, and sports fields. This is much more efficient than the paper-based surveys used by many Canadian businesses, which put the onus on customers. Korean authorities have also introduced an electronic reservation system at public beaches to ensure physical distancing. These measures were implemented very quickly. Between June 10 and July 19, 2020, about a month after the policy was put in place, 132,904 businesses in South Korea installed the QR code sign-in system, which was used by more than 20 million users nationwide. The South Korean government also works with local information and communications technology firms such as NAVER and Kakao, which operate messaging apps and internet search portal services widely used by residents in South Korea, to allow wider registration of residents into the QR code sign-in system. A rapid shift to the new normal allowed contact tracers to save significant amounts of time identifying individuals in need of testing. For example, the QR code sign-in system was used in Yeonggwang to track and test 89 people who came in close contact with a confirmed case in a gym. The paper-based forms that are currently being used in spas, gyms, and doctors’ offices in Canada are simply too time-consuming and leave too much room for error. We can do better in Canada, and the technology required is already at our disposal.

Digital transformation of the healthcare system for efficient diagnosis and treatment

Digitization of the healthcare system improved the efficiency of healthcare delivery in pandemic conditions in South Korea. At the onset of the pandemic, South Korea temporarily allowed the use of telemedicine to minimize the spread of COVID-19 in healthcare facilities. In addition to medicine prescriptions via telephone, healthcare workers also make use of video calls through smart phones to speak to patients and assess their needs. All data collected through the process is uploaded to a central network, allowing the information to be shared to hospitals and pharmacies across the country. Furthermore, artificial intelligence (AI) is actively integrated to ensure a greater efficiency in healthcare delivery. Currently, South Korea also actively uses AI assistance in their medical facilities to diagnose COVID-19; AI assist in scanning X-ray images of patients to flag possible COVID-19 infections. Doing so drastically cuts the workload of public health staff in efficiently diagnosing and treating COVID-19 patients, allowing South Korea to reduce the burden on its healthcare staff.

Conclusion

Given the experiences of South Korea in handling its second wave of COVID-19 outbreaks, the lessons for Canada are clear. Granted, South Korea’s policy measures may not be directly imported to Canada due to differences in local contexts and political institutions. Nonetheless, centralized communication and policy implementation, and aggressive use of available data and technology for tracing, testing, and treatment are general core principles that can be readily implemented in Canada to maximize the impact of COVID-19 mitigation policies and their efficiency. Just as important are the signs of strain in South Korea’s healthcare system, which also provide a lesson for Canada to increase investment in the healthcare sector for the safety of all Canadians. South Korea’s experiences with the second wave provided Canada with a playbook on how to manage the second wave of the pandemic. Canada should now look to adapt that playbook to fit Canadian contexts for the safety of all Canadians.
About the Authors

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Dr. Tina J. Park teaches CDN 267: Canadian Nationalisms at University College, University of Toronto. She is also a co-founder and executive director of the Canadian Centre for the Responsibility to Protect and CEO of The Park Group, a boutique consulting firm based in Toronto. She serves as a vice-president of the NATO Association of Canada and has advised more than thirty governments and international organizations on their human rights policies. She is a graduate of Trinity College and her doctoral research at the University of Toronto focused on a century of bilateral relations between Canada and Korea. She speaks seven languages and enjoys travelling and painting in her spare time.

**RANDY HANBYUL LEE**
Randy Hanbyul Lee graduated from the University of Toronto in 2015 with majors in international relations and cinema studies. After graduation, Randy served as a lieutenant in the Republic of Korea Air Force (ROK). As a foreign affairs aide for the ROK chief of staff, he assisted by interpreting and translating bilateral engagements between senior military leaders.

**JAE HYUN PARK**
Jae Hyun Park is a doctoral student in political science at the University of Toronto. He studies civil war economies and armed group governance during civil wars, focusing on Southeast Asia. Prior to his graduate studies, he worked in the international development sector, specifically with international organizations, to foster policy exchange among local governments for sustainable development goals in the Asia-Pacific region.
As an undergraduate, Toronto native Donna E. Young (BSc 1987 UC) chose University College because of its reputation for progressiveness and inclusion. Those values and her fondness for her hometown remained with her when she moved south of the border to build a distinguished career as a legal scholar. After 27 years working in the United States, most recently as the President William McKinley Distinguished Professor of Law and Public Policy at Albany Law School, Young returned to Toronto to serve as the inaugural dean of Ryerson University’s Faculty of Law—a different kind of law school based on the principles of equity and diversity.

Young’s homecoming has been feted by Toronto Life magazine, which named her among the city’s influential returning Torontonians 2020. It has also allowed her to be close to her son, Lucas Young, and her nephew, Matteo Halewood, both first-year students at UC in residence at Whitney Hall, where she once lived. The UC family legacy doesn’t end there; her niece, Michelle Young (BSc 2018 UC), is a recent UC grad and her father-in-law, William Halewood, retired in 2000 after nearly 30 years as a professor of English at UC. Young sat down with UC Magazine editor Yvonne Palkowski to discuss her new role and how UC helped her get there.

How is the Ryerson Faculty of Law different from other law schools?

There has been a long-running debate within the legal community over the proper balance in law schools between teaching practical skills and teaching foundational theoretical and doctrinal context. But the framing of the debate as practice versus theory reflects a false dichotomy and encourages a one-sided view of what law schools are meant to do. Critical thinking and theorizing about the law are important skills for lawyers, just as are oral advocacy and filing motions. Ryerson Law engages in the debate with its innovative curriculum and unique mode of teaching where theory and practice are synthesized in every class. Each of the three years of law school integrates all sorts of lawyering skills into the curriculum. Our graduates will not be required to article to be licensed as lawyers—they will be entitled to apply for membership in the bar immediately upon graduation.
Ryerson Law welcomed its first cohort of students this past September. Can you please tell us a bit about them?

They’re great. The pandemic has prevented me from interacting with most of our students in person. This has been a real disappointment because, as a professor, I have always treasured getting to know my students and learning from them while they learn from me. So, this distance from our students has been a little disorienting. Nonetheless, we do know quite a bit about our students because we dedicated our summer orientation program to getting to know them and introducing them to each other, to faculty and staff, and to key partners in the legal profession.

We know, for example, that the largest cohort of our students attended the University of Toronto as undergraduates, and a large majority of them are from Ontario. We know that our students have pursued a diverse range of careers before joining law school. We also know some of the challenges that our students have faced in their lives, which motivated their decision to apply. And finally, we know which areas of law our students are interested in pursuing, which are undoubtedly shaped by their personal and professional experiences. Our students are dynamic, innovative, and collaborative. They are entering the legal profession full of excitement and with a commitment to making the law more accessible and responsive to our evolving social and technological needs.

Ryerson’s law school has opened during an extraordinary time, in the midst of a pandemic and social movements like Black Lives Matter. What challenges and opportunities has this presented?

Opening up a law school at this time has been uniquely challenging but also momentous. Aside from the difficulties associated with trying to strategize, brainstorm, grow, and plan from a distance, there has also been the existential challenge of building and nurturing the kind of community that will help shape our institution. There are no spontaneous conversations, no serendipitous meetings in the hallways, offices, or classrooms. Before the pandemic, it was easy to take for granted the kinds of simple human interactions that help build trust, camaraderie, and a sense of shared purpose. The pandemic has put a damper on all of these important interactions. But I could not be prouder of what our faculty, staff, and students have accomplished over the last few months.

As a lawyer, I’m also aware of the ways in which the pandemic has laid bare inequities in society and exposed weaknesses in our system of justice. It has highlighted anti-Black and anti-Indigenous racism in health care, education, housing, neighbourhood services, and our system of criminal justice. The recent protests against racism in Canada and the US are a stark reminder of why a law school like Ryerson’s is necessary. Built into Ryerson Law’s DNA is a concern about access to justice and the importance of equality and inclusion. What we are witnessing today will profoundly

“My experience as a commuter and as a resident on campus confirmed for me that UC was a welcoming environment for every student. It valued diversity and inclusion. That experience influenced my decision to go to law school and ultimately my own focus on making the law more accessible...”
influence our implementation of the law school’s mission to equip our students with the contemporary skills and experience required to expand the reach of justice and respond to evolving societal challenges.

**What are your goals for the first five years of the law school?**

I’m really looking forward to building the program over the next several years. This means firmly integrating ourselves into the Ryerson community, the legal academy, and practicing bars; introducing new student opportunities and programming; supporting the research and scholarly agendas of our faculty; and providing enriching opportunities for our staff. Our first five years will lay the foundation for the law school. Our school will grow in size and diversity over the next three years as we welcome each new class of students. And as we grow, so too will our ambition for the future. But we will remain true to our founding principles while reimagining law school to create a new kind of lawyer who is technologically adept, equipped with diverse work experience, and driven to expand the reach of justice.

“**GO TO LAW SCHOOL WITH THE BELIEF THAT YOU CAN CHANGE THE WORLD. DON’T FEEL CONFINED BY PRECEDENT. SET YOUR OWN PRECEDENT.”**

**What role did University College play in getting you to where you are today, the inaugural dean of a law school based on the principles of inclusion, diversity, and equity?**

I have really fond memories of my time at UC. One of the reasons I chose to apply to UC was that it had a reputation for being progressive and inclusive. I found this to be true. During my first year at U of T I commuted from my home in North York. In my second year I lived in Cody House in Whitney Hall. My experience as a commuter and as a resident on campus confirmed for me that UC was a welcoming environment for every student. It valued diversity and inclusion. That experience influenced my decision to go to law school and ultimately my own focus on making the law more accessible to those who have been marginalized in society and in the legal system. My academic experience at UC in psychology and anthropology kindled a scholarly interest in human behaviour that has driven my research and teaching in law for many years.

**What advice do you have for UC students aspiring to become lawyers?**

Follow your interests and passions. Don't feel constrained by which program to pursue as an undergraduate—law schools look for dedicated, passionate, critical thinkers from all disciplines. Practising law is very rewarding but it is hard work. Before you venture down the path to becoming a lawyer, be sure to gather information and talk to as many people as possible about what being a lawyer really means. Go to law school with the belief that you can change the world. Don't feel confined by precedent. Set your own precedent.
Q: What do a leading editor, biotech entrepreneur, and philanthropist have in common?

A: They all got their start at UC.

For more than 150 years, University College’s culture of openness and excellence has nurtured leaders in the arts, science, business, education, law, and more. Since 2012, we have honoured these bright lights through the annual UC Alumni of Influence Awards. Read on to meet this year’s recipients, who share how UC helped them get to where they are today, as well as some advice for our current students.

The awards are traditionally presented at a gala event in Toronto in November. While we have been forced to cancel the 2020 gala due to the pandemic, we honour our deserving recipients here in UC Magazine and hope to gather next year to celebrate them in person at the tenth edition of the awards.

For full biographies of the 2020 winners and more information about the awards, please visit the UC website.
**Who** Bonnie Fuller (BA 1977 UC)  
**What** HollywoodLife.com president and editor-in-chief; former editor-in-chief, Us Weekly, Flare, YM, Marie Claire, Cosmopolitan, and Glamour. **In the Nominator’s Words:** “At Us Weekly, she reformulated and redesigned the struggling title, increasing newsstand sales by over 200%. She created such signature sections as “Stars Are Just Like Us,” “The Buzzometer,” and “Who Wore It Best.” The influence of such sections was so strong that iterations can now be found in most celebrity and digital news outlets.” **Achievements and Awards** The author of *The Joys of Much Too Much: Go for the Big Life—the Great Career, the Perfect Guy and Everything Else You’ve Ever Wanted*, she is credited with inventing the modern celebrity newsmagazine and was twice named Editor of the Year by Advertising Age. **Advice to UC Students** “Think big. Don’t be afraid to follow your greatest interests and passions. Don’t go to university with the idea that ‘I should study this or that’ or I should pursue this one particular career because that’s where there is going to be job growth.’ You will spend so many hours, days, and years working, that you have to love what you do. You have to have goals that excite you and that you feel will make a difference in some way in the world. Otherwise, you will feel bored and empty.”

**Who** Catherine Tait (BA 1979 UC)  
**What** President and CEO, CBC/Radio-Canada  
**In the Nominator’s Words** “She has reinvigorated CBC/Radio-Canada on several fronts, including the launch of a new strategic plan to build upon the public broadcaster’s digital transformation, allowing audiences the ability to customize and deepen their experience with CBC.” **Achievements and Awards** She co-founded New York-based Duopoly Inc., an independent film, television, and digital content company, as well as iThentic, a digital content company, and Hollywood Suite, a broadcasting company. She was previously the president and COO of Salter Street Films and was named Playback’s Executive of the Year (2019). **What this Honour Means to Me** “I am honoured to receive this award from my alma mater. As my grandfather was a professor at U of T and both my parents graduated from UC, I recognize the legacy of the College in my own story, but also in the story of many other graduates.” **Advice to UC Students** “Never stop learning. Do not be afraid to take risks. Live your life as an adventure in learning.”
The Scientists & Inventors

3. **Who** The late James Hillier (BA 1937 UC)  
**What** Scientist and inventor; co-developer of the first high-resolution transmission electron microscope, the basis for all subsequent electron microscopes.  
**In the Nominator’s Words** “He noted success favours a prepared mind and to this end, he established the Dr. James Hillier Foundation in 1992 with a $500,000 US endowment to support, in perpetuity, Brantford-area secondary school students attending university and studying the sciences.”  
**Achievements and Awards** He held 41 patents and won the Lasker Prize (1960) for co-developing the electron microscope. He was named an Officer of the Order of Canada (1997) and was invested into the US Inventors Hall of Fame and the Canadian Science and Engineering Hall of Fame.

4. **Who** Paul Lem (BSc 1998 UC)  
**What** Co-founder and CEO, Spartan Bioscience Inc., a company that develops, manufactures, and markets DNA testing systems for on-demand applications.  
**In the Nominator’s Words** “Paul quickly jumped into action in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic to create a rapid test kit that will produce results in under an hour…. this will be especially beneficial to rural and Indigenous communities that have less access to the proper processing equipment.”  
**Achievements and Awards** He was named one of Ottawa’s 40 Under 40 (2015), and he was recognized with the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers of Ottawa’s 2016 Outstanding High Technology Company Recognition Award “for developing the world’s smallest on-demand DNA testing system, enabling unprecedented portability and convenience.”  
**How UC Prepared Me for Life Beyond University** “The biggest life lesson I learned was how to be relentlessly resourceful in achieving my goals, such as getting into medical school.”  
**Advice to UC Students** “Watch the movie Dead Poets Society with Robin Williams and remember to seize the day.”

5. **Who** Jeff Wrana (BSc 1984 UC)  
**What** Renowned cancer researcher and senior investigator, Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute  
**Achievements and Awards** He was awarded the McLaughlin Medal by the Royal Society of Canada (2018) in recognition of “his pivotal contributions to our understanding of biology, human disease, and its treatment.” He and his team also recently discovered a new type of intestinal stem cell that may lead to a better understanding of and treatment for inflammatory bowel disease.  
**Advice to UC Students** “University is about learning how to think about problems. The things you need to memorize for an exam are much less important than gaining the intellectual skill set to explore, challenge, and learn new things. Those tools you will carry with you for life, the stuff you study for exams, not so much.”
6. **Who** The late Honourable Marvin Catzman (BA 1959 UC)  
**What** Justice, Ontario Court of Appeal  
**In the Nominator’s Words** “Throughout his distinguished career, both as an advocate and a judge, he earned an exemplary reputation for his knowledge of the law, his integrity, his fairness, his civility, and his dedication to the highest ideals of the legal profession. He truly inspired younger lawyers by example and contributed to legal education by writing and lecturing with great insight, humour, and wit.”  
**Achievements and Awards** One of his most notable judgments was a 1993 decision to grant bail to Guy Paul Morin, pending Morin’s appeal of a first-degree murder charge for which he claimed he was wrongfully convicted. This was at a time when both the public and the justice system we not convinced that wrongful convictions were even a possibility; Morin was later exonerated based on DNA evidence.

7. **Who** The late Honourable Robert Kaplan (BA 1958 UC)  
**What** Renowned lawyer, politician, and businessman  
**In the Nominator’s Words** “He was very proud to be Canadian, he believed in this country’s core values and the education of its citizens. He promoted freedom, equality, equal opportunity, inclusiveness, multiculturalism, and bilingualism.”  
**Achievements and Awards** He was first elected to The House of Commons in 1968 and re-elected in 1972, 1974, 1979, 1980, 1984 and 1988. In 1980, he was sworn to the Privy Council as Solicitor General of Canada and brought in the Young Offenders Act and the Canadian Security Intelligence Service. After his decision not to seek re-election in 1993, he became active in international business. He was awarded the Legion of Honour medal from France, as well as the Order of Kazakhstan.
Who Peggy Gale (BA 1967 UC)  
**What** Independent curator and art critic  
**In the Nominator's Words** “Her collection of writings on artists’ videos, *Videotexts* (1995), established artists’ videos as a major art medium, and her study, *Artists Talk: 1969 – 1977* (2004) is a widely assigned course text that clearly and engagingly sets out the history and terms of conceptual art.” 
**Achievements and Awards** She received the Toronto Arts Award (2000) and the Governor General’s Award in Visual and Media Arts (2006), the highest arts award in the nation. 
**What this Honour Means to Me** “I think of influence as a position of power and social prestige. My work in the arts is pretty much invisible in the larger world, a specialty within a specialty, and to be included in Alumni of Influence feels truly remarkable.” 
**Advice to UC Students** “You will know some of the people you meet here for the rest of your life. Don’t let opportunities slip. And keep on reading.”

Who James Gifford (BA 1994 UC)  
**What** Editorial director, non-fiction, HarperCollins Canada  
**In the Nominator’s Words** “His publication of Theo Fleury’s (with Kirstie McLellan Day), *Playing with Fire*, changed the face of sports publishing in Canada and has helped bring forward many men who were sexually abused as boys to seek help.” 
**Achievements and Awards** He has published more than 15 No. 1 bestsellers and is approaching 100 national bestsellers. His titles have been nominated for or have won every major literary award in Canada, and his author list includes Linden MacIntyre, Dr. Marla Shapiro, David Suzuki, Lloyd Robertson, Ron MacLean, Bruce Cockburn, Andrea Martin, Raj Patel, and Tara Westover, among others. 
**What this Honour Means to Me** “I never would have imagined more than 30 years ago as a frosh living in Sir Dan’s (Taylor House) that I would find myself years later an established non-fiction book editor, helping others shape and share their narratives with other Canadians and millions of other readers around the world. This honour represents the culmination of my academic and professional experiences, and I accept with great pride and humility.”

Who Alvin Rakoff (BA 1948 UC)  
**What** Celebrated television, film, and stage director  
**In the Nominator’s Words** “An award-winning director, writer, producer, and novelist, in the last 68 years he has directed some of the world’s leading actors from Laurence Olivier to Sean Connery. He is 93 years old and still working. And if he knew I was writing this, he’d kill me.” 
**Achievements and Awards** He won an Emmy Award for *Call Me Daddy* (1967) and *A Voyage Round My Father* (1983) and is credited with launching the career of the late Alan Rickman. 
**How UC Prepared Me for Life Beyond University** “Life was a cave. At the far, far end was a door. By the time I got to the door, I felt I knew it all or at least enough to get by. I opened the door. Stepped through. And saw cave after cave after cave in never ending number. And saw mountains. Rivers. Forests. Plains. Deserts. And more. I now knew I could not explore them all. But education had made me aware of their existence.” 
**Advice to UC Students** “Try harder.”
THE LEADERS in
BUSINESS & ECONOMY

11 Who Linda Bertoldi (BA 1971 UC) What Senior partner, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (retired 2019); former chair, National Electricity Market Groups In the Nominator’s Words “She is widely recognized as a leading lawyer in the power sector by international ranking organizations including Lexpert, Best Lawyers in Canada, and Chambers Global, and was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award, Ontario Energy Association, for outstanding contribution to the power sector (2019).” Achievements and Awards She received the inaugural Zenith Award for leading women lawyers (2009), was named one of Canada’s Top 100 Most Powerful Women (2012), and was recognized with the Canadian Civil Liberties Association’s award for excellence in advocacy and philanthropy on behalf of those with dementia (2017), among other honours. Advice to UC Students “Be open to new ideas and opportunities, have the courage to take risks and to recognize that you can be successful while being true to your personal values. And to women and to minorities: There are still barriers—let’s break them down!”

12 Who William Lazonick (BCom 1968 UC) What Professor of economics and director of the Center for Industrial Competitiveness, University of Massachusetts; president, Academic-Industry Research Network In the Nominator’s Words “An economist in the fifth decade of an impactful career, he is known globally for his research on innovation and development. Since the late 1980s, he has become increasingly influential as a critic of the ideology that business corporations should be run to maximize shareholder value.” Achievements and Awards His book, Sustainable Prosperity in the New Economy? Business Organization and High-Tech Employment in the United States, was awarded the International Schumpeter Prize (2010), and his article, “Profits Without Prosperity,” won the McKinsey Award for outstanding article in Harvard Business Review (2014). He holds honorary doctorates from Uppsala University and the University of Ljubljana. Advice to UC Students “Don’t believe everything you are taught but have confidence to believe what you learn.”

13 Who Peter Slan (BA 1992 UC) What Vice-chair, The Bank of Nova Scotia, and head of the bank’s Global Strategic Client Group In the Nominator’s Words “Over 22 years with Scotiabank, Peter has served in a wide variety of roles and has made significant contributions to the bank’s success…. He leads a team responsible for serving Scotiabank’s largest and most valuable enterprise-wide clients … and he is also active in several community initiatives.” Achievements and Awards He received the IR Magazine award for Best Investor Relations During a Corporate Transaction for Scotiabank’s $3.2 billion acquisition of DundeeWealth. How UC Prepared Me for Life Beyond University “At UC, I learned the importance of surrounding myself with good people—something which I have always tried to pursue in my business career. Quality decisions in life often emerge from a clash of ideas. In my experience, working with intelligent, curious, hardworking people who reflect diverse experiences and perspectives ultimately leads to better decision-making.” Advice to UC Students “Spend time on soft skills, particularly those involving writing and presenting your thoughts and ideas.”
Who Frances Clark (BA 1969 UC) What Philanthropist and director, Clark Family Foundation

In the Nominator's Words “She is one of Canada's most committed philanthropists.”

Achievements and Awards: She and her husband, former TD Bank CEO Ed Clark (BA 1969 UC), met while they were students at UC and have made substantial donations to a wide variety of charities in the hospital sector, mental health services, social services, the arts, and post-secondary education. They are major supporters of a number of organizations, including WoodGreen Community Services (to help alleviate homelessness); University Health Network; Toronto General & Western Hospital Foundation; Habitat for Humanity; the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts; and a number of post-secondary institutions. They were lead donors of the UC revitalization project at U of T.


In the Nominator's Words “Fifteen years ago, Robin heard that 30 children were sharing one pencil in a classroom, in Niger, West Africa. It broke her heart and she felt compelled to act…. Since that time, under Robin's presidency and leadership, P4K has built three schools, 14 kindergartens, the community's first library and started scholarships for girls. . . . Because of Robin's determination and passion in the face of danger and numerous obstacles, she forever changed the lives of thousands of people who now have hope for their future.”

Achievements and Awards She received the Meritorious Service Medal (2018) from the Governor-General of Canada for her achievements in Niger.

In Her Own Words "I learned to take risks when I was at UC and step out of my comfort zone on a regular basis and that prepared me for my future studies in Oxford and work in Niger. I was encouraged at UC to participate in activities I knew nothing about…. UC helped give me the courage and self-confidence to explore the world.”

Advice to UC Students “Abandon your expectations and live in the moment. If you have fear, as I do, then simply 'do it afraid.' ”
Who Samin Khan (BSc 2019 UC)  
What Co-founder, Animo AI  
In the Nominator’s Words “He stands out as one of most impressive students I have encountered in my 24 years as a professor at the University of Toronto. There are many very smart, ambitious, and socially committed students here. But almost none of them combine these traits with the spirit of innovation and openness that defines Samin.”  
Achievements and Awards He won the 2018 Imagine Cup World Championship, a student developer competition sponsored by Microsoft, for smartARM, a 3D-printed robotic prosthetic arm that uses computer vision to detect objects and predict the appropriate grasp. His start-up, Animo AI, is focused on providing preventative mental health solutions through cutting-edge artificial intelligence.  
How UC Prepared Me for Life Beyond University “I would say I’m more capable of communicating with people of different backgrounds, upbringings, and walks of life than I was before attending UC. One of the many things I cherish about my first year living in residence at UC was walking down the hallway every evening and knocking on doors to ask people to have dinner together at Fung. My hallway was filled with diverse students from all over the world. UC helped me understand that while people may come from completely different walks of life, you can always sit down and chat over a good meal together.”  
What this Honour Means to Me “Being recognized as a UC graduate is in and of itself a great honour because my personal experience of the culture of the College has shaped my identity in significant ways. Living in residence at UC, going to parties, and cultivating friendships constituted a large part of my social life at U of T. In terms of my education, one of my programs, cognitive science, was offered through UC, and it made me passionate about education, which isn’t something I had experienced before. The UC registrar was also able to help support me through some rough financial difficulties my family was facing. While I am honoured to receive this award, I feel immense gratitude for what I’ve already received from UC.”  
Advice to UC Students “Celebrate being the dumbest person in the room. You have the most opportunity to learn.”
While Dr. Siobhan O’Flynn describes CDN 355: Digital Media, Digital Makers, as a broad introduction to the digital humanities as an area of academic research and practice, her goal for it extends far beyond teaching technical prowess.

“The recent summer session looked at how students can use digital tools for either community building or activism,” says O’Flynn, also the director of UC’s Canadian Studies program. “Or knowledge sharing to support building toward a better world.”

A big ambition, no question, but a review of the remarkable array of digital projects created for the third-year Canadian Studies course reveals students took the challenge to heart. Their work is all the more impressive given the session lasted only six weeks, most of the students had no background in the featured platforms, and, due to the pandemic, it was taught virtually.

For the final assignments, O’Flynn asked students to design projects that could address shifting values from the “surreal experience of living in lockdown,” as well as use their own areas of expertise to present issues meaningful to them.

Their work consists of online story maps, interactive stories, games, and mobile apps focused on wide-ranging subjects, including the over-incarceration of Indigenous people, domestic abuse, the meaning of travel, Black Lives Matter activism, and interior design for pandemic living.

To help reduce any tech-related jitters, O’Flynn has students design a basic mobile app in the first class using the spreadsheet-based Glide platform.

“And then they’re like, ‘Oh, wow! I can do this!’ ” says O’Flynn.

Students also do projects with Esri Story Maps (which O’Flynn describes as a mapping equivalent to WordPress) and Twine, an interactive story and gaming platform that requires coding.

The course also introduces working with geo-located data sets with ArcGIS (the back end of Esri), information architecture as it relates to web design, and ethics and other issues related to the shift online.

Some examples of the outstanding work from the summer session:
Looking at the pandemic’s effect on the homeless

Designing a project on the impact of COVID-19 on Toronto’s homeless was a no-brainer for Geethana Sajentheran. A new graduate with a major in equity studies, Sajentheran is applying to a master’s program in social work and has volunteered in soup kitchens and at food and clothing banks.

“With the pandemic, we don’t really think about homeless people—we’re very focused on what we do in our own lives,” says Sajentheran. “So I felt like a story map could be a great way for people to see different perspectives.”

Sajentheran’s *Pandemic Reveals Inequalities* opens with a narrative written from the perspective of a homeless person and then focuses on various aspects of the topic, including how people end up facing housing insecurity.

The project also highlights news stories about the issue, including one on a recent immigrant escaping domestic abuse who was diagnosed with COVID-19 shortly before she gave birth last spring.

Sajentheran also includes links to organizations where people can volunteer or donate and maps detailing the locations of public washrooms, shelters, and COVID-19 programs.

While admitting to being initially intimidated by the platforms, Sajentheran believes “everyone should take the course,” and thinks she’ll be able to use what she learned in social work, as well as personally.

As an example of the latter, Sajentheran did an earlier story map about her late father. “I got to map out where he lived and how he relocated,” explains Sajentheran. “When my younger cousins grow up and want to know about my dad, this is a good way to show them.”
Documenting the Second World War with 21st-century visual tools

Doug McLeod’s story map 18 Weeks to Bergen op Zoom—which documents the South Alberta Regiment’s (SAR) experience in 1944 as they land in Juno Beach and then journey across France and into Belgium to liberate the city of Bergen op Zoom—staggered the viewer with its scale and scope.

“We did a showcase in the final class,” recalls McLeod, a mature student taking Canadian studies part time. “And Professor O’Flynn had been going through it for four minutes, when she said ‘Oh, my gosh, I haven’t even reached the halfway point!’ ”

McLeod explains he used the regiment’s war diaries as a starting point and has posted entries for each week leading up to the liberation. The multilayered project also presents maps illustrating the regiment’s progress, along with archival photos, McLeod’s personal photos from trips to Bergen op Zoom, video, and numerous other resources.

Also included are materials from the McLeod family archive, which was compiled by then-lieutenant (later major) Danny McLeod, who was Doug’s father and among the first soldiers to enter Bergen op Zoom. While Danny passed away in 2014 at age 92, his presence is felt in photos as well as in video and audio clips in which he discusses his war experiences.

Despite having an engineering degree and working for a technology company, McLeod had no background with the course’s technology and says he had a steep learning curve with ArcGIS.

McLeod occasionally also found the project emotionally draining. Discussing the SAR soldiers who didn’t survive the campaign, whom he documents in the project, McLeod becomes choked up. “When I think of the fallen, that’s when it gets difficult for me.”

He hopes his project will introduce the topic to a new generation of Canadians, and he’d also like to share it with his contacts in the Netherlands, France, and Belgium.

“The liberation of Bergen op Zoom was a milestone that deserves recognition,” says McLeod. “And I hope my story map helps people realize that.”
A medical and emotional visual history

O’Flynn admits Jenn Boulay’s story map *Surviving the Odds: A Scarred Medical History and Adoption* made her cry at multiple points. Born with three holes in her heart, Boulay spent her first three months in hospital and was placed with the Children’s Aid Society as an infant.

Boulay presents her story with mapping of the Toronto hospitals where she was treated and her childhood home, along with photos and accompanying matter-of-fact text.

Upon viewing the diverse images—including a toy clown given to Boulay by the social worker who was her only visitor during her first hospitalization, more recent close-ups of her surgical scars, and as a beaming high school graduate with her adoptive parents—it’s hard to imagine a traditional essay could be as evocative.

Boulay, who’s in drama, theatre and performance studies, and equity studies, says she was drawn to the course for the opportunity to “embed activism into the projects.”

Beyond sharing her tough start in life and her continuing medical challenges, she says her goal was to present the complexity of the medical system and the obstacles faced by children in foster care. “I wanted to show how foster children who are ill and have been given up for adoption tend to be displaced and have a loss of permanency within the first few years of their lives,” Boulay says.
What does it mean to lead with your heart? I cannot say for certain, but I am trying. My hope is that my leadership reflects this, particularly in this moment of a global health pandemic, mass economic strife, and a revolutionary social change movement, Black Lives Matter. In my leadership role at the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO), I lead because I have a passion for art, change, building community capacity, and making spaces for inspiring pedagogical conversations. I think of my leadership work as mapping new constellations by shaping fresh beginnings that are arts-based, educational, and blended with concepts that elevate voices that have not been previously heard in these circles. At this moment of executive convergence culture, my leadership is my social practice.

This declaration stems from my musings on a movement known as leadership-as-practice, which focuses on the everyday practice of leadership including its moral, emotional, and relational aspects, rather than its rational, objective, and technical ones. To better suit my work ethics at the AGO and at the University of Toronto, I see my dedication...
“...I ASPIRE TO HAVE STUDENTS MAKE AN IMPACT ON ANTI-BLACK RACISM DURING THE CURRENT SOCIAL CHANGE MOVEMENT. I BUILT MY SYLLABUS WITH THOUGHTS ABOUT OUR FUTURES AMIDST CONTENTION THAT DRAPED THE WORLD AND WAS WITNESS TO ACTIONS FOR EQUALITY ON A SCALE I HAD NEVER DREAMED. ALL OF A SUDDEN, THE WORLD CARED ABOUT US—CARED ABOUT BLACK PEOPLE.”
more closely related to leadership-as-social-practice, whereas social practice is a theory within psychology that seeks to determine the link between practice and context within social situations, with emphasis on a commitment to change in activity and inquiry, and with a personal commitment that does not exploit Black, Indigenous, or People of Colour.

This fall, as I accepted the invitation to teach Black Canadian Studies at University College, University of Toronto, I was compelled more than ever to do this for my community. Aside from the course subject, I aspire to have students make an impact on anti-Black racism during the current social change movement. I built my syllabus with thoughts about our futures amidst contention that draped the world and was witness to actions for equality on a scale I had never dreamed. All of a sudden, the world cared about us—cared about Black people.

I was inspired by the recent article on slavery in Canada co-authored by Dr. Charmaine Nelson and her students. This piece inspired me to contemplate the value of outward engagement within academia. I paused to consider how I was going to close the gap between theory and praxis in my course, by way of social practice. I decided to do this through an assignment rooted in letter writing, influenced by Syrus Marcus Ware’s project, Activist Love Letters. My assignment is my small gesture, but one that I hope brings a needed smile, a pause, or acknowledgement that we see you doing the good work, we hear you, have learned from you, and appreciate all you do. This year, my students will be writing letters, creative responses, and poems to Black Canadians who are advocating for a more just, caring, equitable way forward for Black people. My aim is for this class to map out a new constellation that shines on Black communities.

This year, like never before, I put the call out to professors, as leaders of your classes, to consider assignments that are more relevant to the moment of revolutionary social change as part of your responsibility to humanity. I believe in slow, momentous change and as Karen Carter stated in a recent editorial, take your time, and do your research.

In closing, I want to share three (of many) questions that help me craft my social practice. What does it mean to have empathy as I lead? How does my practice benefit the communities I serve? And, what do new constellations with my leadership look like?

In the two roles mentioned above, I aim to create new ways of being that are more inclusive for Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour to lead. I have been fortunate to have been given many mentors along my journey, all whom have encouraged my thinking, and so I try to do the same for others. The young people I work with inspire me to do more, as I appreciate their aspirations to reach into the galaxies to write our own futures. Our ancestors worked hard for us to be here, and I want to prove that their hard work was not lost.

About Dr. Audrey Hudson

Dr. Audrey Hudson joined University College in 2019 and teaches CDN 335: Black Canadian Studies. She is the Richard & Elizabeth Currie Chief, Education & Programming, at the Art Gallery of Ontario. Prior to this, she was an assistant professor at OCAD University and has been an active art educator and programmer for 22 years. She has developed and taught undergraduate and graduate level courses at OCAD University, University of Toronto, and Ryerson University and serves on the editorial board of Art Education, the official journal of the National Art Education Association. Her work looks at intersections of art, education, and social change, with a focus on solidarities between Black and Indigenous communities. She holds a PhD from the University of Toronto’s Ontario Institute for Studies in Education.

About Black Canadian Studies at University College

Black Canadian Studies is an interdisciplinary course that interrogates the constitution of Blackness in Canada, exploring race and ethnic relations alongside other identity formations such as class, gender, and sexuality. Topics addressed include media, education, law, immigration and mobility, urbanism, work, political representation, and the arts.
Germany has given Canadian Supreme Court Justice and UC Alumni of Influence Award winner ROSALIE SILBERMAN ABELLA (BA 1967 UC) a national decoration, the Knight Commander’s Cross of the Order of Merit. The daughter of Holocaust survivors, she was born in a displaced persons camp in Stuttgart, Germany.

ROBERT ARMSTRONG (BA 1969 UC) published La télévision au Québec : Miroir d'une société (Presses de l’Université Laval, 2019), which explores the challenges faced by French language television in the digital age.
Sweetness in the Belly, a film based on the novel by Camilla Gibb (BA 1991 UC) and starring Dakota Fanning, was released by Sienna Films Inc.

Natasha Bakht (BA 1996 UC), Professor of Law and the Shirley Greenberg Chair for Women and the Legal Profession at the University of Ottawa, published In Your Face: Law, Justice, and Niqab-Wearing Women in Canada (Irwin Law, 2020). The book analyzes niqab bans while also drawing on interviews with niqab-wearing women to reveal their complex identities and multiple motivations for dressing this way.

Dave Doldersum (BA 1999 UC) is best boy on the production team for the Disasters at Sea, Season 2, which premiered on Discovery Canada this fall.

David Garofalo (BCom 1988 UC) was appointed CEO of Gold Royalty Corp., a subsidiary of GoldMining Inc.

Sergio Gattesco (BCom 1984 UC) was appointed to the board of directors of INEO Tech Corp., a provider of digital advertising, loss prevention, and data analytics solutions to retailers. He is a former PwC national managing partner.

Marketing consultant and UC Alumni of Influence Award winner Martin Goldfarb (BA 1962 UC) was appointed to the board of directors of Covalon Technologies Ltd., a company that develops, licenses, and sells medical technology.
MENY GRAUMAN (BA 2001 UC) was appointed managing director of Canadian financial services, equity research department, at the Bank of Nova Scotia.

JAMES GRIER (BA 1977 UC), a professor of music history at Western University, was awarded a prestigious Guggenheim Fellowship. He is a renowned scholar on the origins of musical literacy and the fellowship is a distinguished honour for academics who have produced groundbreaking scholarly work and continue to show exceptional promise.

AMIR HUSSAIN (BSc 1987 UC), professor and chair of theological studies at Loyola Marymount University, has been elected vice-president of the American Academy of Religion, the largest scholarly society in the world dedicated to the academic study of religion.
Geophysicist **ALAN KING (BSc 1976 UC)** has been appointed to lead the technical management team at Class 1 Nickel & Technologies Limited, a Canadian mining company.

**SONIA LAWRENCE (BA 1995 UC)**, a professor at Osgoode Hall Law School and director of the Institute for Feminist Legal Studies at York University, was awarded the Osgoode Hall Law School Teaching Award.

**HARVEY McKENZIE (BSc 1970 UC)** was appointed to the board of directors of Jaguar Financial Corp.

**LESLIE KERN (BSc 1988 UC)**, a faculty member in the Departments of Geography and Environment and Women’s and Gender Studies at Mount Allison University, received the 2020 Paul Paré Excellence Award for achievement in both teaching and research. She also published *Feminist City* (Verso Books, 2020), which explores the social inequalities built into cities, homes, and neighborhoods and offers an alternative vision of the feminist city.
JOHANNA MIKKOLA (BA 2005 UC), CEO and co-founder of Wyncode Academy, which offers training in web development, digital marketing, and user experience and interface design with an emphasis on innovation and diversity, received the Influential Business Women Award from the South Florida Business Journal.

CARMELA MURDOCCA (BA 2000 UC), a professor of sociology at York University, was awarded a York-Massey Fellowship at Massey College, U of T, for the 2020-21 academic year. She is using the fellowship to work on a manuscript about racial violence and redress.

NESSA RAPOPORT (BA 1974 UC) published Evening (Counterpoint, 2020), a novel about female relationships and the complex dynamic between two adult sisters.

DAVID NAYLOR (1974 UC), a former dean of medicine and president of U of T, was named to the federal government’s COVID-19 immunity task force.

14 Johanna Mikkola  Photo courtesy of Wyncode 15 David Naylor 16 Bob Rae
17 Book cover courtesy of Counterpoint
18 Sara Seager 19 Book cover courtesy of Penguin Random House Canada
20 Marlene Taube-Schiff
Former Ontario premier **THE HONOURABLE BOB RAE (BA 1969 UC)** was appointed Canadian Ambassador to the United Nations.

MIT astrophysicist and planetary scientist **SARA SEAGER (BSc 1994 UC)** published *The Smallest Lights in the Universe: A Memoir* (Penguin Random House Canada, 2020), which interweaves the story of her search for meaning and solace after losing her first husband to cancer, her unflagging search for an Earth-like exoplanet, and her unexpected discovery of new love.

**C. SCOTT SHEPHERD (BA 1981 UC)** has been appointed to the board of directors of Unisync Corp., a provider of corporate apparel.

**MARLENE TAUBE-SCHIFF (BSc 1996 UC)**, a professor and psychologist at the Frederick W. Thompson Anxiety Disorders Centre at Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto, was awarded the Sunnybrook Excellence in Education Award – Student Experience, for her dedication to teaching.

Writer **MELISSA VINCENT (BA 2017 UC)** penned the cover story for the September 2020 issue of *Elle Canada*, an interview with Canadian singer Jessie Reyez.
A MESSAGE FROM THE UC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

I AM GRATEFUL to serve the UC alumni community as chair for the year ahead. I step into the enormous shoes filled by Ho K. Sung (BSc 1980 UC), who has served as chair for the past three years and as a UCAA member for the past five. I also thank Rae Gouette (BA 1962 UC) for his membership on the UCAA. We are grateful for his passion for our College, his incisive insights, thoughtful contributions, and his long-standing volunteerism with UC.

As I write this, I am looking out on a glorious river that runs through the traditional unceded territory of the Algonquin people. The river and its surrounding marsh remind me of our UC alumni community. We are all flowing through different places, sometimes connecting in online meeting spaces for a salon talk or a food-inspired event with UC. Sometimes, we are off in our own little stream, somewhere else in the world. And, like these marshlands, there is so much diversity—across gender and generation, across race and sexuality, from academic disciplines of study to fields of work. Together, our complex connections are what makes our UC alumni community stronger.

In dialogues in the executive committee, we are unified around delivering one clear motivation for our volunteering: we want to connect with you, our fellow UCAA members. This year, we plan to deliver on just one outcome. The UCAA aims to foster community amongst UCAA members—the UC alumni—through dialogues and small group insights into what our membership thinks the UCAA community is.

Pre-pandemic, we used to shake hands, pass the coffee cups, and reach over one another to grab a lump of cheese or a couple of cookies at the buffet. I don’t know about you, but I really miss this.

Being together is different now. So, for the next few months, your UCAA executive will be welcoming the chance to have an online coffee and ask you what you hope for our UCAA community. This vision for the UCAA community will then feed into a longer-term planning process taken on by the next chair.

Ready to chat? We would love to connect. Send us a quick note at ucaa@utoronto.ca.

On behalf of the UCAA—Julie Jo, Sharda Angl, Dayna Waltman, and Chris Girard—we are looking forward to connecting with you over the year ahead. May you and your loved ones stay well.

Erika Bailey (BA 1997 UC)
President, UC Alumni Association
SYLVIA BASHEVKIN, a professor of political science and former principal of UC, was named one of YWCA Toronto’s Women of Distinction 2020 - Education. The citation states that she: “… has championed women’s voices in research and academic leadership throughout her career. She is an author, activist, and mentor who is an internationally recognized leader in the field of gender and politics.”

LEANNE DE SOUZA-KENNEY has joined UC as an assistant professor, teaching stream, in human biology and the UC Health Studies program. She holds a doctorate from the Institute of Medical Science at U of T and is the author of *Nutritious and Delicious*, a non-fiction book for children that promotes healthy eating.

University College students JEFFREY FASEGHÁ and ARTHUR LEI QIU were awarded the University of Toronto Alumni Association Scholarship. The award recognizes students who stand at the apex of U of T’s culture of excellence. Fasegha studies finance, psychology, and economics, while Lei Qiu is scholar of mathematics and physics.

EMILY GILBERT was appointed vice-principal of University College for a five-year term through June 30, 2025. She is a professor jointly appointed to the Department of Geography and the UC Canadian Studies program and her research interests include: citizenship, borders and security; nationalism, colonialism, and globalization; the culture and politics of money; and social and political theory.

MYRTO GRIGOROGLOU has joined UC as an assistant professor in psycholinguistics with a joint appointment between the Department of Linguistics and the UC Cognitive Science program. Her research interests include language acquisition, referential communication, semantics and pragmatics, inference, and the language of events.
JOSEPH HEATH, a UC faculty member and professor of philosophy, has been awarded a Killam Research Fellowship from the Canada Council for the Arts. The two-year fellowship supports research projects of broad significance and widespread interest. His project will address a foundational issue in modern scholarship—how to criticize society.

PAUL HAMEL was appointed interim director of the Health Studies program at UC for a one-year term through June 30, 2021. He is a professor in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology and his research focuses on cell signalling governing mammary gland biology and breast cancer, as well as on proteins involved in autism. His interests include global health and human rights.

ANTOINETTE HANDLEY, a UC faculty member and chair of the Department of Political Science, published Business and Social Crisis in Africa (Cambridge University Press, 2019). Based on qualitative, country-based fieldwork in Eastern and Southern Africa, the book explores how African businesses can be key responders to wider social and political crises, often responding well in advance of the state.

TOM KEYMER, a UC faculty member and Chancellor Jackman University Professor in the Department of English, published Jane Austen: Writing, Society, Politics (Oxford University Press, 2020) in North America earlier this fall.
**MIKINAAK (CRYSTAL) MIGWANS** has joined UC and U of T as an assistant professor of Indigenous contemporary art in Canada in the Department of Art History, and as curator at the Art Museum at the University of Toronto. An Anishinaabekwe of Wikwemikong Unceded First Nation and a multimedia artist by training, Migwans has expanded their work to include research, teaching, curation, and community engagement.

**PAMELA KLASSEN**, a UC faculty member and professor in the Department for the Study of Religion, received an award from the Connaught Community Partnerships Research Program for her project, Treaty Teachings: How Universities, Communities, and Museums Can Work Together to Tell the History of Treaty 3. The program supports new collaborative research projects and early-stage partnerships between the University and community partners, in the hopes that the partnerships may evolve and attract external funding.

*That Time I Loved You*, a book by **CARRIANNE LEUNG**, UC’s 2020-21 Barker Fairley Visitor in Canadian Culture, has been optioned for television. The collection of interconnected stories set in 1970s and 1980s suburban Toronto was first published in 2018. Leung also recently sold the Canadian rights to her third book to HarperCollins Canada for publication in winter 2022.

UC Writing Centre instructor **SIMON LEWSEN** won a Gold National Magazine Award for “The End of Articling,” which was published in PrecedentJD.

UC CAO **YVONNE MacNEIL** was honoured with the 2020 A&S Dean’s Outstanding Administrative Service Award.
JORDAN MacQUARRIE, UC’s assistant to the dean of students, administration, was recognized with a True Blue Award for outstanding service in residence life.

SIOBHAN O’FLYNN was appointed director of the Canadian Studies program at UC and UC online teaching advisor. She holds a PhD in English from U of T and her research focuses on digital media, narrativity in the digital realm, and the data privacy of minors in Canada and internationally.

Canadian Studies program director SIOBHAN O’FLYNN and students ERIN CALHOUN, JEREMY CLYNE, ZOHAL KOHISTANI, BENJAMIN RABISHAW, MANIK SARAF and THOMAS TRIMBLE were honoured with the Lieutenant Governor’s Ontario Heritage Award for Youth Achievement for their digital mapping project, Hidden Histories: Labour to Lofts, created as part of the third-year Canadian Studies course Digital Media, Digital Makers. The award recognizes exceptional contributions to cultural and natural heritage conservation.

University College welcomed 2020 Pearson Scholars, SAMI EL SABRI, MOLLY ELIZABETH GRAHAM, and ANUJ MANCHANDA, from Germany, Northern Ireland, and Thailand, respectively. The Lester B. Pearson International Scholarship was created to bring exceptional students from around the world to study at the University of Toronto.
DANA SEITLER, director of the Mark S. Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies at UC, was honoured with the University of Toronto Alumni Association’s Ludwik and Estelle Jus Memorial Human Rights Prize. She has led a number of initiatives to expand the Bonham Centre’s commitment to advocacy for human rights, equity, and anti-discrimination.

LORNE TEPPERMAN, a UC faculty member and professor of sociology, published Consumer Society (Rock’s Mills Press, 2020). The book explores buying as a social behaviour, consumer culture, consumerist ideology, and the marketing and advertising industry and its efforts to revise consumerism in the face of globalization, protest, and environmental destruction.

ANNA SHTERNSHIS, a UC faculty member and the Al and Malka Green Professor of Yiddish Studies at U of T, was awarded a prestigious Guggenheim Fellowship, which will support her work on the Grammy-nominated Yiddish Glory project.

MATTHEW TOOHEY was awarded a Schulich Leader Scholarship, which recognizes Canadian students who exemplify academic excellence, leadership, and embrace STEM fields. His interests include travel, gaming, coding, volunteering, and audiovisual club. He has a black belt in karate, holds a championship in popsicle stick bridge-building, and by Grade 9 had built himself a desktop computer.
MICHAEUL J. WIIDENER was appointed incoming director of the Health Studies program at UC for a five-year term commencing July 1, 2021. He is a professor in the Department of Geography and Planning with a cross-appointment in epidemiology at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health. He is also Canada Research Chair (Tier 2) in Transportation and Health.

NELSON WISEMAN, a professor of political science and UC faculty member, published Partisan Odysseys: Canada’s Political Parties (University of Toronto Press, 2020), which explores the history of Canadian political parties from pre-Confederation to the present day. Topics covered include nationalism, minority governments, third parties, and the reconfiguration of party positions.
In Memoriam

Notices of death published in this issue were received between January 1 and September 30, 2020. Date of death, last known residence, and name at graduation (if applicable) are noted where possible. Friends and family of deceased alumni can help by sending information to address.update@utoronto.ca.

1930s
Dr. Reva (Appleby) Gerstein (BA 1938 UC)
Toronto, ON; Jan. 6, 2020
Mr. Lloyd R. McAlpine (1939 UC)
of Agincourt, ON; Jul. 10, 2020

1940s
Mrs. Helen M. Adams (BA 1949 UC)
of Kitchener, ON; Jan. 11, 2020
Ms. E. Joy Alexander (BA 1947 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Apr. 19, 2020
Mrs. Marjorie R. (Dun) Castledine (BA 1949 UC)
of Ottawa, ON; Apr. 29, 2020
Mrs. Jean M. (Jarvis) Connor (BA 1949 UC)
of Mississauga, ON; Jan. 26, 2020
Mrs. Ruth J. (Kert) Eisen (BA 1945 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Mar. 16, 2020
Mrs. Helen S. (Potash) Glazer (BA 1940 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Sep. 20, 2020
Mrs. Isabel C. (Hay-Roe) Harrison (BA 1948 UC)
of Don Mills, ON; Jan. 4, 2020
Mrs. Kathleen E. (Hare) Hawker (BA 1948 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Feb. 9, 2020
Mr. Carl W. Heimrich (BA 1949 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Jan. 27, 2020
Prof. Colin O. Hines (BA 1949 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Aug. 30, 2020
Mr. Werner Jablonski (BA 1946 UC)
of Chesapeake, VA; Jan. 28, 2020
Mrs. Margaret J. (Stonehouse) Jackson (BA 1944 UC)
of St. Catharines, ON; Jun. 28, 2020
Mrs. Evelyn F. (Karp) Lent (BA 1947 UC)
of North York, ON; Jun. 27, 2020
Mrs. Irene O. (Nazarkevich) Maxmonko (BA 1948 UC) of Etobicoke, ON; Feb. 3, 2020
Mr. Patrick J. Maloney (BA 1949 UC)
of Newmarket, ON; Sep. 4, 2020
Mr. John B. Matchett (BA 1947 UC)
of Tucson, AZ; Apr. 27, 2020
Mrs. Margaret P. (Thompson) McKay (BA 1940 UC)
of Port Coquitlam, BC; Feb. 11, 2020
Ms. Margaret E. McKelvey (BA 1949 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Jan. 20, 2020
The Rev. William J. Moorhead (BA 1944 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Apr. 12, 2020
The Rev. Canon James F. O’Neil (BA 1949 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Sep. 10, 2020
Mr. Edward D. Perrault (1947 UC)
of Woodstock, ON; Feb. 21, 2020
Mrs. Mary E. (Ferguson) Phelps (BA 1945 UC)
of Lindell Beach, BC; Jan. 18, 2020
Mrs. Nancy M. (Topp) Pulver (BA 1947 UC)
of North York, ON; Feb. 4, 2020
Mr. Vernon E. Purcell (BA 1945 UC)
of North York, ON; Mar. 2, 2020
Mrs. Gertrude Schein (BA 1946 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Feb. 18, 2020
Mrs. Margaret J. (McKay) Taylor (BA 1945 UC)
of Waterloo, ON; Feb. 4, 2020
Mrs. Eleanor E. (Langbord) Thall (1945 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Sep. 25, 2020
Ms. Maryalyce (Renwick) Vogl (1946 UC)
of Don Mills, ON; Sep. 14, 2020
Prof. Melville H. Watkins (BCom 1952 UC)
of Woodlawn, ON; Apr. 2, 2020
Mrs. Eva J. (Sanderson) Watts (BA 1947 UC)
of Willowdale, ON; Sep. 25, 2020
Mrs. Margaret D. (Livingstone) Wesley (BA 1943 UC)
of Weston, ON; Jan. 10, 2020
Mrs. Virginia E. (Johnson) Woods (BA 1943 UC)
of Toronto; ON; Mar. 7, 2020
1950s

Mr. Donald G. Barber (BA 1952 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Jan. 30, 2020
Dr. Bernard Bassett (BA 1955 UC)
of Willowdale, ON; Jun. 22, 2020
Mr. Gordon J. Ciglen (BA 1950 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Sep. 18, 2020
Mr. John E. Crawford (BA 1955 UC)
of Westmount, QC; Sep. 19, 2020
Mr. Bruce T. Currie (BA 1955 UC)
of Cambridge, ON; Sep. 16, 2020
Mr. Seymour J. Durbin (BA 1956 UC)
of North York, ON; Mar. 12, 2020
Ms. Hilda E. Dymott (BA 1955 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Aug. 6, 2020
Mrs. Clare Endicott (BA 1959 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Apr. 6, 2020
Ms. Margaret (Stoddart) Glassco (BA 1954 UC)
of Hillsburgh, ON; Mar. 28, 2020
Mr. John A. M. Gray (BA 1959 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Sep. 23, 2020
Mrs. Joan M. (Wilkinson) Hoolihan (BA 1951 UC)
of Mississauga, ON; Apr. 21, 2020
Mr. Bruce A. Hughes (BA 1957 UC)
of Port Sydney, ON; Mar. 31, 2020
Mrs. Arden H. (Wells) King (BA 1957 UC)
of Toronto, ON; May 29, 2020
Mrs. Barbara (Mostoway) Kosar (BA 1957 UC)
of Sudbury, ON; Jan. 21, 2020
Mrs. Nora J. (Matheson) Langley (BA 1950 UC)
of Brantford, ON; Jul. 13, 2020
Mrs. Jane E. A. (Campbell) Lynd (BA 1952 UC)
of Thornhill, ON; Jun. 25, 2020
Dr. Renata (Diringer) Maas (BA 1955 UC)
of Hastings on Hudson, NY; Apr. 8, 2020
Mr. Gordon M. Malloch (BA 1953 UC)
of Midlothian, VA; Feb. 26, 2020
Dr. Rocco L. Martino (BA 1951 UC)
of Villanova, PA; Jun. 29, 2020
Mr. William J. McDonald (BA 1959 UC)
of Willowdale, ON; May 18, 2020
Mrs. Anne E. (Armstrong) Nerby (BA 1954 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Apr. 19, 2020
Mr. Kenneth E. Noble (BCom 1952 UC)
of Port Credit, ON; Jun. 1, 2020
Mrs. Diane (Shanoff) Novack (BA 1951 UC)
of Toronto, ON; May 25, 2020
Mr. Arthur E. Pierce (BA 1959 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Apr. 27, 2020
The Hon. Mr. Justice Romain W. M. Pitt
(BA 1959 UC) of Toronto, ON; Apr. 29, 2020
Mrs. Inge E. (Wiesener) Radko (BA 1958 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Jul. 4, 2020
Mrs. Jean E. (Slack) Somerville (BA 1950 UC)
of Alliston, ON; Jul. 5, 2020
Mr. Richard E. Snodgrass (BCom 1955 UC)
of Alliston, ON; May 1, 2020
Mr. Norman S. Stewart (BA 1959 UC)
of Scarborough, ON; Jun. 28, 2020
The Hon. Robert Sutherland (BA 1950 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Jun. 20, 2020
Dr. Martin Tesher (BA 1957 UC)
New York, NY; Apr. 27, 2020
Mr. James A. Wise (BA 1953 UC)
of Willowdale, ON; May 11, 2020

1960s

Mrs. Valerie E. (Young) Argue (BA 1967 UC)
of Toronto, ON; Jul. 8, 2020
Mrs. Amber J. Armitage (BA 1969 UC)
of Owen Sound, ON; Jul. 11, 2020
Mr. Lorne D. Barsky (BA 1965 UC)
of Mississauga, ON; Apr. 11, 2020
Mrs. Joan E. A. (Saila) Bulger (BA 1963 UC)
of Orleans, ON; Aug. 14, 2020
Dr. Alan R. Bull (BA 1964 UC)
of Windsor, ON; Jul. 5, 2020
Mr. John Burkus (BCom 1960 UC)
of Oakville, ON; Mar. 25, 2020
Mr. Robert L. Burton (BA 1962 UC)
of North York, ON; May 22, 2020
University College can be designated as a beneficiary in your will.

If you wish to designate your bequest to a specific program or project (UC Annual Fund, scholarships and financial aid for a UC student, area of greatest need, etc.), please contact Naomi Handley, Director of Advancement, at (416) 978-7482 or naomi.handle@utoronto.ca
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