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Research@Smith

COMMUNITY QUARTERLY




Smith
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
Queen's University





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CELEBRATING RESEARCH & TEACHING EXCELLENCE



2026 marked the first year of the combined Research and Teaching Excellence Awards, an exciting moment to acknowledge the impactful work taking place at Smith by faculty and graduate students. The Smith community gathered at the Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts to celebrate how transformative pedagogy and scientific inquiry can change the world around us.

The event opened with remarks from Interim Dean Lynnette Purda, and was followed by moving statements from alumnus Mike Murray and his father, Dr. Harry Murray. Mike and his wife Heather's generous commitment to supporting teaching excellence at Smith led to the creation of three awards: the Dr. H. G. Murray Educational Leadership Award, Emerging Excellence in Teaching Award, and the Innovation in Teaching Award. The 2026 winners are:

- **Kathryn Brohman**, Educational Leadership Award
- **Erica Pimentel**, Emerging Excellence in Teaching Award
- **Blair Robertson**, Innovation in Teaching Award





The Research Awards were presented by Associate Dean, Graduate Programs **Olena Ivus** and Associate Dean, Research **Shamel Addas**. These awards recognize graduate students and faculty members who have distinguished themselves for their doctoral work, graduate teaching and supervision, and research.

- **Rajesh Kumar**, New PhD Student Research Excellence Award
- **Kaylee Somerville**, PhD Student Research Excellence Award
- **Peter Dacin**, Graduate Teaching Excellence Award
- **Goce Andrevski**, Graduate Research Supervision Award
- **Paula Lopez-Pena**, New Researcher Achievement Award
- **Ekin Ok**, New Researcher Achievement Award
- **Vedat Verter**, Award for Research Excellence

Thank you to all who joined us for the event! We hope to see you again next year.



FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS

Smith welcomes Fulbright Canada
Research Chairs for 2026–2027

We are very pleased to welcome two distinguished American scholars as Fulbright Canada Research Chairs. **Dr. Russell Matthews**, the John Miller Professor of Management at the University of Alabama's Culverhouse College of Business, is one of the most highly cited scholars in industrial-organizational psychology, with an h-index of 52, more than 12,000 citations, and recognition on Stanford's "World's Top 2%" list of scientists. A Fellow of the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology, 2024 winner of the Rosabeth Moss Kanter Award, and Associate Editor at the Journal of Business and Psychology, Dr. Matthews will pursue a cross-cultural validation of the Organizational Citizenship Behavior continuum framework he and his colleagues have pioneered, using subtle but consequential differences between U.S. and Canadian workplaces as a natural comparative laboratory.



Joining Dr. Matthews is **Dr. Anand Nair**, Professor and Jeff Bornstein Faculty Fellow at Northeastern University's D'Amore-McKim School of Business, a leading authority in healthcare operations whose scholarly impact is reflected in more than 7,700 citations and editorial leadership at three premier journals, including Senior Editor of Production and Operations Management. A previous Fulbright Distinguished Chair at Aalto University (2018–2019), Dr. Nair will spend five months at Smith developing and validating an AI-enhanced risk stratification framework for remote patient monitoring in post-discharge care. Hosted by **Vedat Verter**, the Stephen J.R. Smith Chair of Management Analytics, his project will leverage Ontario's mature digital health ecosystem and existing Smith–Kingston Health Sciences Centre infrastructure, building directly on Verter's team's ongoing study of virtual recovery after cardiac surgery. The visit promises substantive collaboration with a Smith doctoral student, deep engagement with clinical partners at Kingston Health Sciences Centre, and the kind of cross-border work positioned to yield top-tier publications and a translational toolkit for national digital health strategies.



Pictured above (L to R): **Ahmed E. Hassan**, **Murray Lei**, **Ting Hu**, **Ceren Kolsarici**, and **Shamel Addas**.

SMITH BUSINESS - COMPUTING EVENT

Connecting research
across disciplines

On May 6, Smith School of Business and the School of Computing came together at Goodes Hall for the "School of Computing and Smith Business Research Exchange: AI in Action," a two-hour interdisciplinary exploration of how artificial intelligence is reshaping research questions, industries, and society. Hosted by **Shamel Addas**, Associate Dean, Research, the event brought together faculty from both schools for a series of short presentations, audience Q&A, and a closing panel discussion. The four talks brought distinct disciplinary lenses to a shared set of questions about how AI is changing both what researchers study and how they study it.

Ceren Kolsarici (Smith), **Ting Hu** (Computing), **Murray Lei** (Smith), and **Ahmed E. Hassan** (Computing) gave engaging presentations with common threads that emerged across the talks: a shift from prediction to decision-making, the centrality of interpretability and trust, the reciprocal influence between AI methods and established research disciplines, and the reframing of AI as a collaborator rather than a tool. A panel discussion moderated by Addas closed the program, drawing out these connections and opening the floor for questions, before the event wrapped with a networking session that reinforced the cross-school dialogue and laid the groundwork for future collaboration between schools.



SMITH HOSTS OPERATIONS RESEARCH EVENTS



Canadian Operational Research Society Conference (CORS) and Canadian Healthcare Optimization Workshop (CHOW)

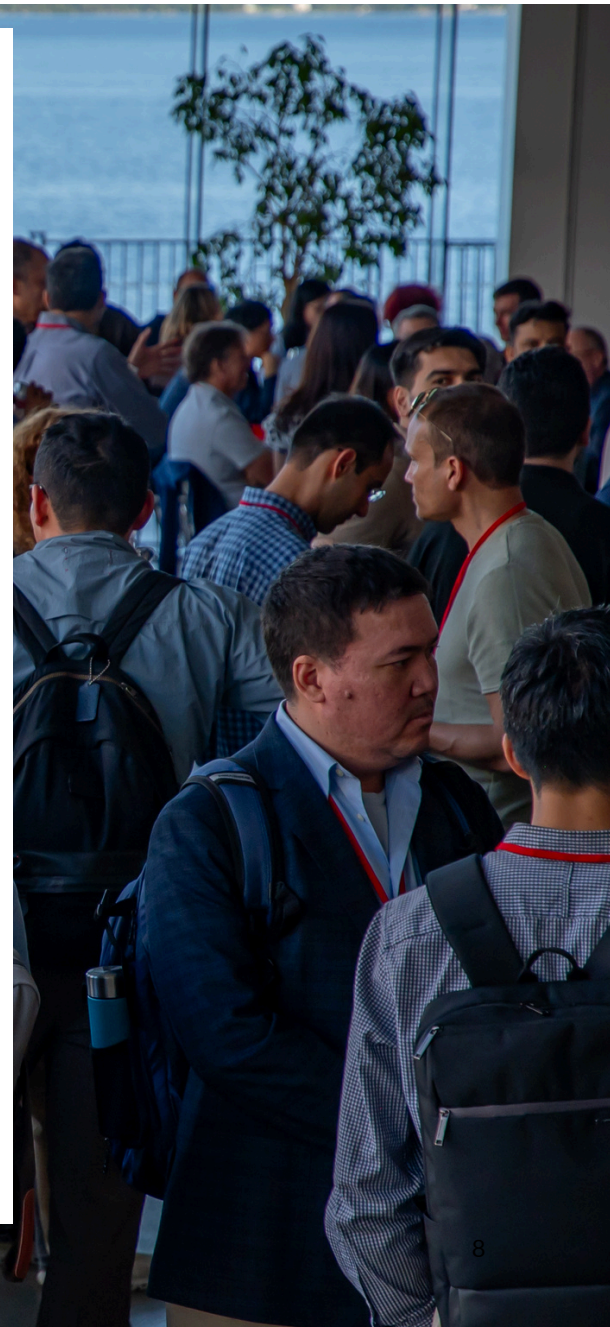
Vedat Verter co-chaired the 67th Annual Conference of the Canadian Operational Research Society (CORS 2026), which took place in early June at Smith Business, bringing together academics, researchers, and practitioners working in operations research, management science, data science, and analytics. Immediately preceding the main conference, the Canadian Healthcare Operations Workshop (CHOW) — hosted by **Beste Kucukyazici** and CORS's Health Care Operational Research Special Interest Group — provided a dedicated forum for sharing the latest advances in healthcare optimization and connecting researchers with practitioners to discuss innovative, system-improving solutions. Highlights of this year's program include the Student Paper Competition finals, where three finalists from McMaster University, the University of Ottawa, and the University of Toronto presented their research on topics ranging from neonatal ICU bed capacity planning to MRI queue management. Together, these back-to-back events make Kingston a hub for Canadian operational research, bringing around 400 attendees to campus.

The organization of this national gathering was a team effort, shared by not only Vedat and Beste but also members of the Conference Organizing Committee:

Guang Li - Logistics Chair

Mikhail Nediak - Technical Program Co-Chair

Nasrin Yousefi - Outreach Chair



RESEARCH CENTRE UPDATES

News from the Scotiabank Centre for Analytics & AI, the Institute for Sustainable Finance, and the Centre for Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Social Impact

UPDATES FROM THE SCOTIABANK CENTRE FOR ANALYTICS & AI

The Smith Centre for Analytics and Artificial Intelligence (SCAAI) marked a landmark year with the successful launch of its inaugural AI Academy in September 2025, drawing over 150 registrations and engaging 80 undergraduate students in direct exposure to analytics and AI industry practice. The Centre also concluded a multi-year renewal of its Scotiabank partnership, securing an investment from Scotiabank of \$2.5 million over five years. Graduate Research Fellows presented their applied research findings to the steering committee with Scotiabank partners in attendance, while new Mitacs units were activated to expand the research portfolio — translating industry pain points identified through an internal Scotiabank hackathon into focused research questions.

On the research and knowledge mobilization front, the Centre produced three peer-reviewed publications this year, including a widely covered paper in Manufacturing and Service Operations Management on AI bias in organizational decision-making that prompted policy-level discussion. External funding for the period totalled \$311K through the Centre's joint Scotiabank-NSERC-Mitacs research grant and contract. The Centre also developed an Ethics Assistant teaching case featuring Scotiabank as protagonist, targeted for distribution through Smith Business Insight and leading management outlets including HBR, MIT Sloan Management Review, and INSEAD, as well as integration into professional graduate programs.



INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE FINANCE UPDATES

The Institute for Sustainable Finance (ISF) recorded its most productive year to date in 2025–26, releasing twelve research outputs spanning playbooks, white papers, briefing notes, and reports on topics ranging from transition finance and sustainable bonds to executive compensation and impact investing. The Institute deepened its policy influence through official submissions to the CSA, the House Finance Committee, and Environment and Climate Change Canada. ISF also expanded its network of nine Research Fellows and formalized new collaborations with the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI), and continued its role as a Canadian convener of the Task Force on Nature-Related Financial Disclosures (TNFD).

ISF's public reach this year was extensive, with researchers and advisory board members quoted or featured in major outlets including the Globe and Mail, CBC News, Toronto Star, Financial Post, Bloomberg, and Corporate Knights, across topics including Canada's proposed sovereign wealth fund, anti-greenwashing legislation, and ESG disclosure trends. The Institute hosted fourteen events attracting audiences ranging from intimate closed-door roundtables on Parliament Hill to webinars drawing over 400 registrants, including a widely attended session on designing a Canadian taxonomy co-hosted with PRI. Faculty affiliated with ISF also delivered presentations at international conferences and provided expert commentary to government finance staff, underscoring the Institute's growing role at the intersection of sustainable finance research, policy, and practice.

UPDATES FROM THE CENTRE FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP, INNOVATION & SOCIAL IMPACT

The Centre for Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Social Impact (CEISI) had a landmark year, marked by the launch of several new initiatives and a significant expansion of its programming. Highlights include the establishment of the Employee Ownership Research Initiative (EORI), secured through \$250,000 in donor funding, and the co-founding of the Centre for Indigenous Corporate Partnerships (CICP) in partnership with BCG and Jay Wright, which attracted \$600,000 in committed donor funding over three years.

CEISI also organized Canada's first university-led Entrepreneurship Through Acquisition (ETA) Summit in partnership with Venture for Canada and Desjardins, drawing 100 participants and 13 speakers. The delivery of the federally funded Experience Ventures program created 142 student experiential learning placements across five host organizations, distributing \$98,000 in stipends to students. The UPstart Venture Challenge, newly sponsored by Desjardins, awarded \$100,000 in prize money into early-stage entrepreneurial ventures. CEISI facilitated, through other programming, approximately \$250,000 into other early-stage entrepreneurial ventures.

On the education and partnerships front, CEISI delivered two certificate programs - the Certificate in Social Impact (110 students enrolled) and the newly launched Certificate in Professional Impact Analysis (two cohorts, 30 students) - while piloting an integration of Council on Business and Society (CoBS) modules that engaged 40 students, one of whose team placed second globally in the CoBS sustainability simulation. CEISI co-led the Venture for Canada Fellowship Training Camp (85 participants, 30 speakers) and reintegrated the Hult Prize program at Queen's, advancing three teams to the National Finals. Active collaborations with Queen's Executive Education, Kingston Economic Development, Dunin-Deshpande Queen's Innovation Centre, and the Queen's University Biotech and Innovation Consulting club further expanded the Centre's reach across the entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystem.



FACULTY GRANTS, AWARDS & HONOURS



Queen's award recognizes outstanding Smith researcher

Congratulations to **Abayomi Baiyere**, who was awarded Queen's Prize for Excellence in Research for Outstanding Emerging Researchers! These awards celebrate faculty who have distinguished themselves through their significant contributions. Abayomi has built a prolific and impactful career since receiving his PhD in 2016, focusing on the information systems discipline globally.



Murray Lei was awarded a 2025 Distinguished Service Award by *Operations Research*. This honour is given to a small number of reviewers in recognition of their extraordinary work.



Evan Dudley and PhD student **Haoxiang Tang** ('27) received an Ontario Securities Commission grant of \$30,000 for their project titled "Choosing Canadian: Assessing Market Design and Competitiveness of Canadian ETFs in an Integrated North American Market".

Smith faculty celebrated at Applause 2026

Queen's University recently celebrated its top researchers at Applause: A Celebration of Research Excellence, an event hosted by the Vice-Principal Research portfolio at the Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts. The gathering brought together members of the research community and their families to honour 85 Queen's researchers who collectively received 111 national and international prizes and awards in 2024 and 2025, reflecting the breadth and impact of scholarship across the university.

Among the honorees from Smith Business were **Vedat Verter**, who received the Canadian Operations Research Society Award of Merit – CORS's highest distinction, recognizing lifetime contributions to operations research and presented at the CORS Annual Conference in Edmonton – as well as the Industrial Engineering and Operations Management Society's Distinguished Professor in Supply Chain Management Award, recognizing exceptional contributions to research, teaching, and service in supply chain management. **Nicole Robitaille** received the AMA-EBSCO-RRBM Annual Award for Responsible Research, a prestigious recognition that celebrates marketing scholarship producing credible and useful knowledge for the benefit of society. The award supports the vision of “better marketing for a better world,” highlighting research that addresses issues such as consumer wellbeing, public health, financial security for at-risk consumers, and the responsible marketing of potentially harmful products.



RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Baiyere, A., Constantiou, I., Indulska, M., & Tuunainen, V. K. (2006). Digital transformation as future-ready strategizing: beyond the destination view, *The Journal of Strategic Information Systems*, 35(2).
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsis.2026.101975>

Li, A., **Ng, E.S.**, **Goerzen, A.**, & Chrysostome, E. (accepted). CEO aging and the MNE internationalization portfolio. *Journal of World Business*.

This publication originated as one of PhD student Milad's thesis chapters!

Mirzaee, M., **Fata, E.**, & **Li, G.** (2026). EXPRESS: Operations Management under Paradox of Choice. *Production and Operations Management*, 0(ja).
<https://doi.org/10.1177/10591478261454489>

Ng, E., & Bates, K.A. (2026). Making DEI research impactful. *Equality, Diversity and Inclusion*. 45(3), 501-516.
<https://doi.org/10.1108/EDI-10-2025-0697>

Ovchinnikov, A., & **Forestell, D.** (2026) From Range Anxiety to Charge Anxiety: Operations Scholars' Reflections on the State of Electric Vehicles' Public Charging Infrastructure. *Service Science* 18(1):55-78.
<https://doi.org/10.1287/serv.2024.0137>

Daniel Forestell, Anton Ovchinnikov's co-author, is a former Smith MSc student ('22) who stayed on the project to completion.

Ross, L. E., **Packalen, K.**, Roy, M. J., Krupa, T., Schneckenburger, S., & Lysaght, R. (2026). The Impact of a Disability Financial Support Program on Employment Experiences Within Work Integration Social Enterprises in Ontario, Canada, *Journal of Disability Policy Studies*, 10442073261430840.

Salterio, S., **Luo, Y.**, & Adamson, C. (2026). Predicting citation in financial accounting and auditing research: The role of replication, *Accounting Open* 2. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.accop.2026.100007>

Stanton, P., Wang, L., & **Ng, E.** (2026). In pursuit of impact: How HRM research drives meaningful changes in policies and practices. *Personnel Review*, 55 (3): 817-829. <https://doi.org/10.1108/PR-03-2026-0409>

Turner, N., **Barling, J.**, Granger, S., & Dawson, A. (in press). Job-embedded recovery from injury: A framework for psychological recovery after workplace injury. In L. Siegl, C.L. Cooper. & M. Leiter (Eds.) *Routledge Companion to Wellbeing at Work* (2nd ed). UK: Taylor & Francis.



FACULTY IMPACT



Shamel Addas' research on how people interact with AI agents that offer financial advice and the likelihood of adopting that advice was featured in the Globe and Mail: "[AI can be great, but Canadians still need humans for personalized financial advice](#)" (March 9). Shamel also discussed Anthropic's Mythos AI model in the [Financial Post](#).



Goce Andrevski was recently appointed as an Associate Editor for the Journal of Management, an FT50 journal, effective July 1, 2026.



Julian Barling's research, published in [The Conversation](#), shows that how well surgeons lead the operating room team, combining clear direction with trust and open communication, may matter just as much for your outcome.



Paul Calluzzo's work on pension funds was included in a Corporate Knights article titled "[Can Ottawa convince Canada's pension giants to invest at home](#)" (April 1, 2026). In the piece, Paul highlights the critical fiduciary duty owed to beneficiaries. Recently, Paul also spoke to several outlets about Canada's sovereign wealth fund, including the [Toronto Star](#), Bloomberg, The Financial Post, and the [Times Colonist Online](#) on the topic.



In a [Special to the Financial Post](#) (April 23, 2026), **David Detomasi** wrote an op-ed on why Canada needs to act immediately if it wants to be an energy superpower.



Anthony Goerzen was awarded the Alan Rugman Fellowship by the Henley School of Business at the University of Reading.



Jay Handelman was appointed an Area Editor at the International Journal of Research in Marketing.



Olena Ivus gave an invited seminar at Université Laval on February 6, presenting the paper “How Patent Exhaustion Reshapes Global Value Chains: Evidence from Lexmark” (co-authored with postdoctoral fellow **Felix Fosu**).



Evan Jo and **Paul Calluzzo**, together with co-author Dan Cohen, published “Canada’s new sovereign wealth fund is ambitious, but its design raises questions” in The Conversation. You can read the article [here](#).



Christy Zhou Koval wrote a piece in The Conversation explaining the challenges women freelancers experience, including “the glass wall”. Read her piece “Women who expand their freelance careers hit a different kind of glass ceiling — the glass wall” [here](#). She also presented her work at the 3rd Equitable Opportunities Conference in Montreal. Christy was interviewed by several media outlets relating to her work on accent bias in the workplace, including multiple radio shows (including CJAD 800 Montreal and QR Calgary), CBC news, and the [Canadian HR Reporter](#).



Tracy Jenkin delivered a keynote and research workshop at York University’s Spring Research Day, “Advancing AI in Research,” and a poster at Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Operations Management Research (AIMOR) in Banff. At York, her keynote was titled “In Conversation with AI: Studying Decision Biases in Human-LLM Interaction,” and her workshop was on methods in AI research.



Michelle Lee gave a research talk at Wilfrid Laurier University, presenting her paper titled “Privilege and Prejudice: Shareholder Primary and Social Class in CEO Selection.”





Murray Lei's work on the importance of developing AI skills was featured in the Globe and Mail's piece "In a tough job market, what AI skills do you really need?" (March 9, 2026) and the Queen's Gazette.



Jean-Baptiste Litrico spoke to Global News about the Dress for Success "Glamour for Grad" event, saying "Studies show that it's about 90% of the garments in Canada that show up in the landfill...A circular economy is when we try to create backloops where we reuse some of those products".



Paula Lopez-Pena was invited to serve as a member of the Scientific Committee for the 2026 LACEA Annual Meeting,

the premier conference for economists working in Latin America and the Caribbean, and a critical platform for presenting rigorous empirical and theoretical research on the region's most pressing development challenges. Together with **Henry Schneider**, Paula co-organized the second edition of the Workshop on Firms and Inclusive Economic Growth (see page 20 for more information).



Ed Ng was appointed to serve on Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)/Impact Canada's Review Panel for Workplace Opportunities: Removing Barriers to Equity (WORBE) for a three-year term. In this role, he helps assess proposals and track progress of projects aimed at removing workplace barriers, improving representation of designated groups, and advancing equity in federally regulated workplaces. He also joined the Research Advisory Board for Signal49 Research (formerly operating as The Conference Board of Canada). The RAB provides strategic input on the organization's DEI Outlook and DEI Survey Series, including review of a survey, focus group guide, toolkit, report, and dashboard.

Ed has also been active with knowledge mobilization, delivering a keynote on "Navigating Anti-DEI Agendas and Unmasking Racism in Organizations" at the Administrative Sciences Association of Canada Conference in Calgary (May 2026). He also gave a talk on "When credentials speak louder than race: Foreign credential bias in hiring decisions" based on research with Jessie Kim (MSc'23) at the Asia School of Business in Kuala Lumpur, established by the Central Bank of Malaysia in collaboration with the MIT Sloan School of Management (April 2026), and spoke at the Canadian Operational Research Society Conference (organized by **Vedat Verter**) on "Defending and Advancing DEI: Evidence, Policy, and Strategy for Scholars" (June 2026).

Finally, Ed recorded a podcast on the Future of Work, discussing six megatrends (e.g., AI, hybrid work, evolving workforce expectations and generational change) are redefining the workplace, and how they are reshaping careers, organizations, and the capabilities people need to thrive in an increasingly dynamic world.



Anton Ovchinnikov created a Teaching Note for the previously-published case Leveraging Analytics at Victory Farms (A): Background (INSEAD Publishing). The Note is a joint work with **Elaheh Fata** and former undergrad summer Research Assistant, **Chunrui Li**, underscoring the scholarly value in hiring summer students.



Erica Pimentel was promoted to Editor of the Accounting Education journal, which is ranked A on the Australian Business Deans Council ranking list - congratulations, Erica! In April, Erica presented her research at the 14èmes Etats généraux de la recherche comptable in Paris. This event included the VP and other reps of the International Accounting Standards Board, the President of the French accounting standard board, members of various EU accounting regulators, as well as leading practitioners on the topic.



Nicole Robitaille spoke on the panel “Lessons from the Field: How Impactful Research Comes Together”, and had two conference papers presented, one at the Marketing and Public Policy Conference (“Empowering Consumers to Manage Debt: Evaluating Gamification-Based Interventions for Credit Card Debt Reduction” with **Ekin Ok** and PhD student **Tara Rezvan**) and at the Southern Ontario Behavioural Decision Research conference (“Beyond Pampering: How Investment in Self-Care Shapes Social Perceptions” presented by **Tara** and co-authored with **Ekin**). Nicole also served as a faculty mentor and was an invited speaker at the Marketing and Public Policy Junior Scholars Workshop.





Michael Sartor was appointed to the Editorial Review Board of the *Journal of Management Studies* (FT-50) for a second consecutive term.



Wei Wang presented his studies “The Value of Familiarity: Evidence from Lawyer-Judge Interactions in Corporate Bankruptcy” at the University of New South Wales and the University of Liverpool, and study “Global Insolvency and Cross-border Capital Flows” at City University of Hong Kong, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen, and Singapore Management University. Wei also participated in a panel discussion with American and Korean bankruptcy judges on Pre-Filing Negotiations and Procedures at INSOL London Academic Colloquium.



Jingyu Zhang delivered two seminar presentations in China (at Zhejiang University and the University of Nottingham, Ningbo Campus) while teaching for the Master of Finance—Beijing program, both on the paper “Hedge Fund Shadow Trading: Evidence from Corporate Bankruptcies”. The research is coauthored with **Wei Wang** and **Yan Yang** (PhD’24).

RECENT SMITH EVENT

Economic growth workshop brings
researchers together in Kingston

The second edition of the Workshop on Firms and Inclusive Economic Growth, co-organized by **Paula Lopez-Pena** and **Henry Schneider**, took place on June 11-12 and brought together scholars from Yale University, UBC, Toronto, Imperial College London, CEMFI, Georgetown, The World Bank, and Universidad Autónoma de Madrid.



SSHRC FUNDING



Insight Grants (IG)

Stream A: \$10,000 to \$125,000

Stream B: \$125,001 to \$500,000

Duration: 2 to 5 years

Insight Grants support research in the social sciences and humanities by emerging and established scholars. This opportunity funds longer-term initiatives than the Insight Development Grant stream. Faculty who have not yet secured tri-agency funding for a current or upcoming social sciences initiative should apply!

- JULY 6:** Insight Grants workshop featuring past successful Insight Grant recipients, the Research Office, and Diane Davies.
- JULY 7:** NOI submitted to Research Office.
- AUG 4:** NOI due to Diane Davies (included in the body of an email or attached as a Word Document).
- AUG 4-12:** First draft due to Research Office.
- AUG 20:** Optional full review deadline for Research Services.
- AUG 27-SEPT 4:** Second draft due to Research Office.
- SEPT 8:** Co-applicant/collaborator invites completed. Funds from Other Sources should be confirmed with Diane Davies.
- SEPT 17:** Mandatory administrative review deadline (Research Services).
- OCT 1:** Final SSHRC deadline. Diane Davies will forward complete applications to SSHRC.

Partnership Engage Grants (PEG)

\$7,000 to \$25,000

Duration: 1 year

Upcoming Deadlines: September 15, December 15
Decisions communicated in November and February, respectively

(University Research Services Notice of Intent deadlines are at least one month prior)

PEGs provide short-term, timely support for partnered research activities that inform decision-making at the partner organization (public, private or not-for-profit sector). These partner-driven grants respond to the immediate needs of the non-academic partner. Click [here](#) for more information.

Connection Grants (CG)

Events: \$10,000 to \$25,000 over 1 year

Outreach Activities: \$10,000 to \$50,000 over 1 year. Higher amounts may be considered if well justified

2026 Deadlines: May 1, August 4, November 2
(University Research Services Notice of Intent deadlines are at least one month prior)

These grants support short-term, targeted knowledge mobilization activities designed to exchange knowledge and engage researchers. Events and outreach initiatives funded by a CG may serve as a first step toward more comprehensive and longer-term projects.

Applying for a grant?

Email Nenagh Hathaway

(nenagh.hathaway@queensu.ca)

NSERC FUNDING

NSERC Discovery Horizons Grants

NSERC Discovery Horizons Grants support investigator-initiated, interdisciplinary research projects that advance knowledge in the natural sciences and engineering (NSE) and integrate perspectives or methodologies from other disciplines (social sciences or health sciences). The program encourages collaboration across disciplines to address research questions that transcend traditional NSE boundaries. Proposals must be led by an eligible researcher at a Canadian institution and demonstrate excellence, feasibility, and high potential for impact through interdisciplinary integration.

Upcoming deadlines

- **JUNE 8:** Research Services Letter of Intent (LOI) review deadline (optional). Submit a PDF of your LOI to Merline Fonkwe.
- **JUNE 15:** NSERC LOI deadline.
- **OCTOBER 12:** Queen's internal deadline for mandatory application review (if invited to apply).
- **OCTOBER 19:** NSERC deadline (by invitation).

NSERC Discovery Grants

NSERC Discovery Grants support individual researchers pursuing ongoing, long-term research programs rather than short-term or one-off projects. These grants are for up to five years.

Upcoming deadlines

- **AUGUST 4:** Research Services mandatory Notification of Intent to apply (NOI) deadline
- **NOVEMBER 2:** Full application due to NSERC

Applying for a health sciences (CIHR) grant?

Email Dora Baczyk (d.baczyk@queensu.ca) and Nenagh Hathaway (nenagh.hathaway@queensu.ca)



The Fulbright Canada Scholar Program for U.S. scholars is now accepting applications! The current cycle is for awards to be taken up in the 2027-2028 academic year. Smith Business hosts Research Chairs in Business and Management whose work aligns with faculty members' ongoing projects.

Know an American scholar who might be interested? Please contact Nenagh Hathaway (nenagh.hathaway@queensu.ca).

TRAQ UPDATE

TRAQ transitions to Cayuse this summer

Cayuse Sponsored projects goes live on July 21 at 9 am, replacing the TRAQ awards module for research grants and contracts administration. At this stage, ethics remains on TRAQ. **There will be a TRAQ blackout period from July 10 at 5 pm to July 21 at 9 am to finalize the transition.** During this time, no new submissions or updates to grant or contract files can be made.

Before the blackout, researchers are encouraged to:

- Submit new applications, amendments, and project changes early where possible.
- Complete any time-sensitive activities (e.g., project set-up, early account requests) prior to July 10.
- **Only Active and Pending TRAQ Award files will be migrated into Cayuse.** All other records will be available on a read-only basis and managed according to our record retention schedules.
- **Ethics and biohazard processes will continue in TRAQ and are not impacted by this change.**

The Research Systems team will proactively monitor in-progress TRAQ submissions during the blackout period and will contact PIs and signing authorities, as needed, to support timely completion of submissions and their approvals in the workflow.

If urgent requests for submissions arise during the blackout, please reach out to the [Research Systems office](#) for assistance.





GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

Graduate Student Showcase

This spring, Smith graduate students presented their research to a packed audience of students, faculty, and staff. **Tara Rezvan** (MSc'24, PhD'28), **Becca MacAulay** (MSc'26), **Julia Otte** (PhD'26), **Edbert Oey** (PhD'29), **Lucy Jeong** (MSc'26), **Dhruv Baswal** (PhD'26), and **Brandon Legacy** (PhD'28) (all pictured above), delivered engaging, 180-second showcases followed by a Q&A. Thanks to all who attended!

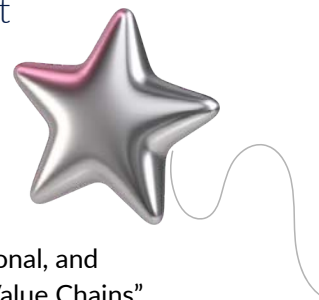


CPA Scholarship

For the second consecutive year, PhD student **Guillaume Picard-Lalonde** ('29) received the CPA Quebec PhD Scholarship. This award is given to CPA members who are pursuing a doctorate degree and is valued at \$10,000. Guillaume also presented "Mandatory but Meaningful? A Qualitative Study of Continuing Professional Development in Accounting" at a virtual symposium organized by the Canadian journal *Accounting Perspective*, which gave emerging scholars the opportunity to present research and receive feedback. **Yu Hou** was also a discussant at the symposium.

Dissertation Award Finalist

Simon Iskander's ('25) PhD thesis entitled, "Towards a Tradeoffs-based Theory of GVC Governance: Three Essays on Mitigating Exposure to Reputational, Transactional, and Operational Hazards Along Global Value Chains" was identified as a finalist for the 2026 Buckley and Casson AIB Dissertation Award. Many outstanding dissertations were submitted for this honour, and competition was tough, so being named a finalist is a great accomplishment. Congratulations, Simon!



Best Student Paper Award

PhD student **Waqaz Nawaz** ('26) received the 2026 Administrative Sciences Association of Canada Social Responsibility Division's Best Student Paper Award for "Reconfiguring CEO Motivation for Corporate Sustainability: An Extension of Upper Echelons Theory". This paper was also selected for the Lightning Talk session at the Doctoral Consortium, making it one of the top five doctoral papers at the conference, chosen through a rigorous two-stage process involving divisional nominations and a multi-university adjudication committee, with a final presentation before three AOM Editors and the AOM President.



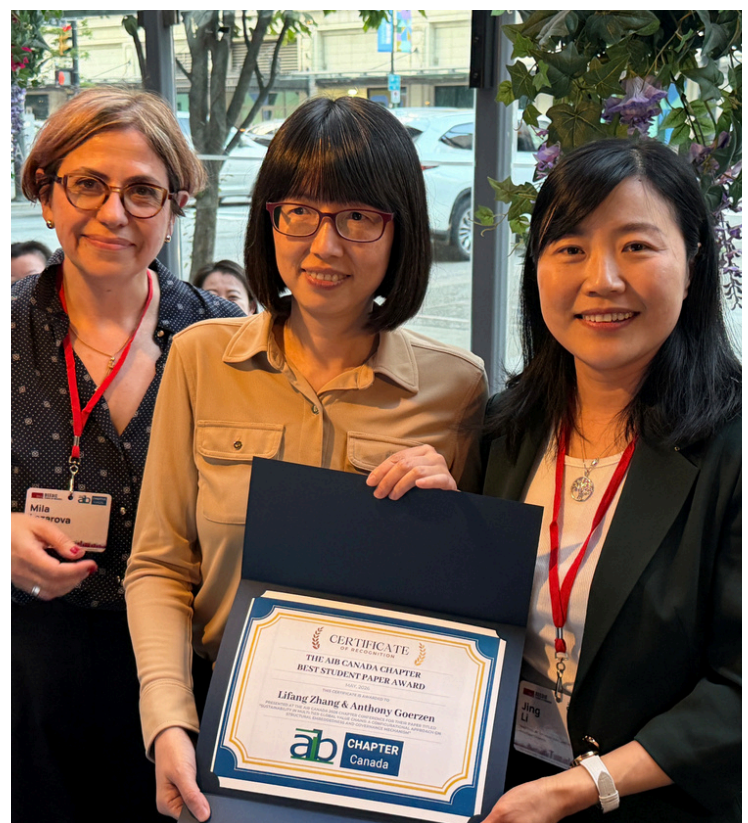
Pictured above, L to R: **Tara Rezvan** (MSc'24, PhD'28), **Mickey Zeyuan Liu** (MSc'24), **Daniel Zebian** (MSc'24), **Zheng Xu** (PhD'28), **Mariam Guirgius** (BCom'24 and MSc'25), **Emma Vanlerberghe** (MSc'23), and **Eylul Ozekes** (PhD'30).

Marketing students attend conference

Current and former MSc/PhD students in Marketing met at the annual Southern Ontario Behavioural Decision Research (SOBDR) conference this year. At the conference, held at the University of Guelph's Gordon S. Lang School of Business, current Marketing PhD students **Tara Rezvan** (MSc'24, PhD'28, supervised by **Ekin Ok** and **Nicole Robitaille**) and **Zheng Xu** (PhD'28), supervised by **Laurence Ashworth**) presented their projects, "Beyond Pampering: How Engaging in Self-Care Shapes Moral Judgments" and "Short Window Aversion", respectively. The students who attended are or were members of Smith's Consumer Behaviour Lab (see image above).

Student paper award recipients

At the recent Academy of International Business conference, held in Vancouver, **Lifang Zhang** ('26) won Best PhD Student Paper, and **Khan Rahman** ('26) was first runner up! Congratulations to both!



POSTDOC NEWS



Welcome, Pedro Vanni!

Our community welcomes **Pedro Vanni** to Smith. Pedro will be working under the supervision of **Ed Ng** during his time here, and will research prosocial behaviour and inclusion in the workplace. This work involves interviews with employees from corporate organizations, including subordinates and leaders. Pedro will participate in Smith's EDII Research Cluster and continue his collaboration with Ed on a forthcoming chapter in the *Oxford Handbook of Inclusion Practice*.

Before coming to Smith, Pedro received his PhD from the Universidade São Francisco (Brazil) in Psychology, with an emphasis on positive psychology and wellbeing. Pedro is also interested in psychometrics, phenomenological approaches in clinical psychology, statistics, and psychological assessment.



Postdoc publishes in MSOM

Smith postdoc **Guokai Li** published a paper in Manufacturing & Service Operations Management last month titled "When to Push Ads: Optimal Mobile Ad Campaign Strategy Under Markov Customer Dynamics", which can be read [here](#). This paper studies how a seller should optimally time advertisements to customers whose engagement fluctuates between active and inactive states, modeled as a hidden Markov chain, with the goal of maximizing long-run average profit. The key finding is that a "triple-threshold policy" — based on time since the last purchase or ad, and the number of repeated ads sent — is optimal for a single customer, and can be extended to a budget-constrained multi-customer setting with provably near-optimal performance. Notably, while ads should be pushed earlier to customers with low ad costs, high purchase rewards, and high activation probabilities, the model also reveals the surprising result that customers with intermediate churn rates should be targeted earlier than those with either small or large churn rates.



Current research by Felix Fosu

Working under the supervision of **Olena Ivus**, postdoctoral fellow **Felix Fosu** has a paper at the revise and resubmit stage in *The World Bank Economic Review*. He summarized his work on sanctions “Coercion Through the Budget: Sanctions’ Effects on Fiscal Capacity of the Targeted Regime” as follows:

Economic sanctions are widely used to pressure governments, but an important question remains: do they actually weaken the fiscal capacity of the regimes they target? This study provides new evidence that they do.

Using data from 130 developing countries between 1980 and 2019, the paper shows that sanctions significantly reduce government revenue as a share of GDP, with the largest effects concentrated in external revenue sources like trade taxes and foreign grants. Although governments attempt to offset these losses through domestic adjustment and greater reliance on non-tax revenue, these efforts do not fully compensate for the decline. The result is lower fiscal capacity, cuts in spending, and rising debt burdens.

The research also shows that not all sanctions operate in the same way. Financial trade, and arms sanctions generate the strongest fiscal contractions, with the effects amplified when restrictions are imposed by multiple senders acting together. Multilateral sanctions – particularly those coordinated by the United Nations, the European Union, or coalitions of major economies – produce substantially larger revenue losses than unilateral measures, reflecting the limited scope for target governments to redirect trade, finance, or aid flows toward non-sanctioning partners. The findings also reveal a clear link between coercive success and fiscal damage: sanctions episodes that ultimately achieve their stated political objectives are associated with significantly larger declines in government revenue than those that fail, suggesting that fiscal pressure is one of the central mechanisms through which sanctions translate into policy concessions.

By identifying the channels through which sanctions affect GDP, trade, aid, and state finances, the paper helps explain how coercive economic pressure works in practice. For policymakers and scholars alike, the findings highlight a central vulnerability of developing economies: when states rely heavily on external revenue and have narrow domestic tax bases, they become especially exposed to geopolitical shocks – and to the coordinated economic statecraft of the world’s largest economies.



UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

Welcome USSRF and USRA Summer Students!

This summer, Smith will host five Undergraduate Student Summer Research Fellows and one Undergraduate Student Research Award recipient, who will work on faculty research projects and get to know what conducting research looks like first hand. The program offers an important experiential learning opportunity for students enrolled in a Bachelor's degree at Queen's. Smith's PhD, MSc and Research Office hosts events to help integrate the students in our community.

Our summer students are **Rishab Chakraborty**, **Ali-Youn Gueye**, **Jason Hu**, **Elizabeth Kim**, and **Odeya Leikin**, some of whom are pictured below.

At the end of their term, these students are encouraged to share their research at another forum during the academic year like the Inquiry@Queen's Undergraduate Research Conference or school-specific seminars.

Thank you to our Smith faculty who are mentoring these students this year!



ITEMS OF INTEREST



Canadian Law and Economics Association Annual Meeting 2026

October 23 & 24
University of Toronto

You are invited to submit a paper for presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Law and Economics Association (CLEA).

The meeting's keynote speaker will be Roberta Romano.
Registration coming early in the fall term.

Submission deadline: Sunday, June 21

For submissions to the CQ, please contact:

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Research