



School of Kinesiology

Strategic Plan

2016-2020



THE UNIVERSITY
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

School of Kinesiology



Vision

The School of Kinesiology is world-renowned for its distinguished research, teaching, and community engagement in the field of human movement.

Mission

The School of Kinesiology is dedicated to creating, advancing, and disseminating interdisciplinary knowledge that fosters individual and societal health and wellbeing through sport and physical activity.

Values

- People
- Curiosity and the pursuit of knowledge
- Research, teaching, and community service
- A positive learning and working environment characterized by integrity, scholarship, equality, citizenship, collegiality, and mutual respect
- Interdisciplinary and interprofessional collaboration

Message from the Director

Physical activity is part of our human nature, our biological and cultural heritage, and is essential to health and wellbeing across the lifespan. Over the course of human history, our identities, cultures, and even our genes were shaped by high levels of physical activity. Here in BC, robust physical activity was part of Indigenous Peoples everyday life and cultural orientation. Dating back thousands of years, the Thunderbirds of the Musqueam people were known for their running ability. In modern times, insufficient daily physical activity now threatens the health of Canadians from coast to coast.

The School's outstanding scholars are addressing these challenges through research and knowledge dissemination across disciplines of history, sociology, culture, psychology, biology, and medicine. From the molecular to organ system level, to lifestyle and behaviour, to cultural identity, social justice, indigeneity and equity, to public policy, our faculty and students are making research discoveries that reach across borders and offer worldwide applications for the future. The School has an international reputation of research excellence in diverse areas of Kinesiology including the physiology of exercise, sport and exercise medicine, neuromechanical regulation of posture, gait and balance, motor skill acquisition and physical literacy, the psychology and behavioural factors underlying physical activity and sport participation, equity and inclusion, identity and self-image, sport, society and sustainability, and Olympism and high performance coaching. The multidisciplinary research activity within the School and our local and international collaborative networks has fostered a thriving scholarly environment and citizenship that is committed to improving the lives of Canadians.

The School provides a rich learning and mentoring environment and unique community culture, attracting a growing number of talented domestic and international undergraduate and graduate students interested in the exciting, diverse areas of study in the field of Kinesiology. Our vibrant outreach programs translate best-evidence knowledge to action in service to the community across all ages, while providing rich experiential learning opportunities for students. Our talented and dedicated staff bring a supportive professionalism across all operations of the School. With significant growth and impact of our research activity, renewal of undergraduate and graduate learning pathways, and energized community outreach, I'm looking forward to working with our talented and dedicated faculty, staff, and students helping to shape the future of the School of Kinesiology.

- Dr. Robert Boushel

01 | Overview of Priorities

To be a world-leading hub of integrated research across disciplines converging on the study of movement, physical activity, sport, and health.



Teaching, Student Learning, and Engagement

The School offers a world-class environment and exceptional learning opportunities for training the next generation of leaders in kinesiology.



Research Innovation and Excellence

The School has a highly regarded international reputation for multidisciplinary research excellence, community impact, and cultural collaboration.



Knowledge Exchange and Community Engagement

The School is a leader in engaging diverse communities in the study and promotion of physical literacy, physical activity, sport, and health.



Outstanding Work Environment

The School strives to provide an exceptional and sustainable working environment that fosters intellectual and social vibrancy, wellbeing, and a culturally diverse and a supportive collegial atmosphere.



02 Teaching, Student Learning and Engagement

The School offers a world-class environment and exceptional learning opportunities for training the next generation of leaders in kinesiology.

Goals and Actions:

Provide rich undergraduate and graduate curricula incorporating classical foundational knowledge and specialized contemporary themes across biological, behavioural, and sociocultural.

- Complete the review of both the undergraduate and graduate programs, with a strategy to implement revitalized curricula by 2019.
- Revitalize the Master's of Kinesiology Program to provide advanced training for kinesiologists working in diverse health and industry settings.
- Strengthen the profile of the recently launched Master's Program in High Performance Coaching and Technical Leadership, which provides enhanced training for elite level coaches and sport leaders nationally and internationally.

Expand the scope of interdisciplinary team-based teaching, experiential learning that incorporates new learning technologies, and innovative teaching strategies.

- Develop and mount online courses and novel learning technologies into degree and non-degree programs.
- Partner with UBC-Okanagan on graduate programs and research and develop cross-cutting thematic and team-based courses including other Faculties and universities.



03 | Research Innovation and Excellence

The School has a highly regarded international reputation for multidisciplinary research excellence, community impact, and cultural collaboration.

Goals and Actions:

Support and enhance research excellence and innovation with high-quality infrastructure and resources.

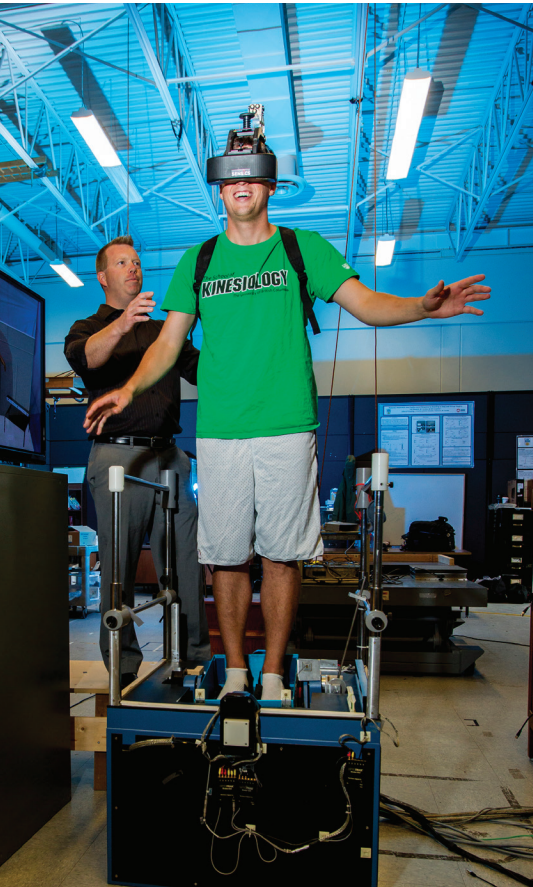
- The School has undertaken a systematic assessment of current and future infrastructure and resource needs pointing to 2025.
- A functional plan has been developed for a future state-of-the-art, research, teaching, and community engagement facility incorporating kinesiology research, recreation, athletics, sport science, and learning space.
- Launch exercise testing and prescription, molecular biomarker screening as part of a new paradigm of exercise and sports medicine in the primary care setting, and expand exercise research partnership with the Faculty of Medicine and other faculties, in the new Chan Gunn Pavilion.
- Continue to support the activities of the Centre for Sport and Sustainability, a Kinesiology-based centre dedicated to improving understandings of the relationships between sport and human and ecological wellbeing, social and economic development, and cultural identity.

Increase recognition and impact of research excellence by faculty and students.

- Develop a strategy to enhance visibility of top students and scholars through digital and multimedia approaches that profile Faculty and graduate student research, awards and distinctions.

Support and enhance research collaboration within the school, across university faculties, and throughout the broader research community.

- Use the established strategic initiative fund to catalyze collaborative research that can provide the basis for larger team grants.
- Expand connectivity through the formation of strategic clusters and research partnerships across the university sector and broader community, both nationally and internationally, to enhance research novelty and impact.



04 | Knowledge Exchange and Community

The School is a leader in engaging diverse communities in the study and promotion of physical literacy, physical activity, sport, and health.

Goals and Actions:

Deliver best-evidence programs that serve the community and enhance student engagement opportunities in physical literacy and activity, health, and sport.

- Strengthen collaborations between the Undergraduate Program and the Kinesiology Outreach Programs through faculty research projects, courses, and field placements. Implement an evaluation mechanism to assess the success of these partnerships.
- Develop and implement a strategy to publicize community engagement opportunities both local and international, encouraging greater participation by students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the broader community.
- Showcase the School's achievements in community engagement.
- Expand the seminar series, conferences, workshops, and other activities to stimulate public dialogue and promote societal action on kinesiology-related initiatives.

Promote wellbeing in research, teaching, and operations in human movement and sport.

- Identify how the School's research and teaching in physical activity and health can contribute to social development and sustainable community health with a mandate to incorporate findings into actions.
- Play a leadership role in wellbeing initiatives through participation, cooperation, and service at UBC and in the broader community.





05

Outstanding Work Environment

The School strives to provide an exceptional and sustainable working environment that fosters intellectual and social vibrancy, wellbeing, and a culturally diverse and supportive collegial atmosphere.

Goals and Actions:

Upgrade existing infrastructure and initiate facility improvements which support a welcoming and productive atmosphere for faculty, staff, and students.

- Create and support a teaching, research, and community engagement space dedicated to Indigenous studies in kinesiology.

Cultivate a healthy, supportive, and sustainable work environment that fosters intellectual curiosity and exchange and supports physical, social, and mental wellbeing.

- Refine and promote a new organizational structure that aims to enhance intellectual and social vibrancy, a sense of accomplishment and mental health within the School to faculty and staff.

Ensure economic and intellectual support and sustainability by aligning the school's resources with UBC's strategic plan.

- Develop dynamic strategies for funding and opportunities for growth and impact aligned with the strategic goals and priorities of the School.



CHAN GUNN PAVILION



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