

TABLE TOPICS

Table Topics is a tool to help university faculty, staff and volunteers communicate with the broader community about the University of Calgary.

February 2017

- John Chen of the Schulich School of Engineering, one of Canada's most distinguished researchers in petroleum reservoir simulation, **earns national recognition for his ongoing collaboration** between scientists and industry. Chen and colleagues — a consortium of more than 100 researchers, industry partners, students, and postdoctoral scholars — receive the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council Synergy Award for Innovation. In other leading research news at the University of Calgary during February:
 - Scientists publish a study **exploring a new way to fight cancer** — blocking the function of invading cancerous cells by deregulating a molecular switch on L-plastin, a protein that plays a significant role in the spread of tumours.
 - Research reveals the **effects of workplace rudeness** on employees' psychological health, their sense of belonging, and even their physical well-being.
 - A multidisciplinary team reports finding a **link between depression and the arthritis associated with psoriasis**, a painful skin condition.
 - Researchers take part in an international study that measures, for the first time, a frequency of light or **optical "fingerprint" of antimatter**.
 - Researchers recruit older adults who have an increased risk of developing dementia, to take part in a **new study on the effects of exercise programs** on the health of their brains.
- As part of the Campus Mental Health Strategy, a new **Campus Community Hub is opening** in Yamnuska Hall, connecting students and the wider campus community to wellness resources and services. The hub will provide a central location for information and resources, as well as peer wellness guides who can answer questions about wellness and direct people to the appropriate resources.
- The Faculty of Law launches its **five-year strategic plan** and hosts a **special sitting** of the Court of Appeal of Alberta to help mark the school's 40th anniversary.
 - Find out what's happening at the University of Calgary daily by following us on Twitter **@UCalgary**
- The university announces that undergraduate and graduate **application fees will be waived** for citizens from countries affected by the U.S. travel ban, ensuring students have every opportunity to pursue or complete their studies.
- The Haskayne School of Business launches a Bachelor of Commerce concentration and Master of Business Administration **specialization in real estate studies**, to begin in the fall. Through the combined efforts of the Westman Centre for Real Estate Studies and faculty leaders, the approval of these programs within the BComm and MBA programs is a milestone achievement for the school and Canadian real estate education.
- Setting their sights on a distant horizon, architecture students **design a colony on Mars** in a new studio course offered by the Faculty of Environmental Design.
- The Graduate Students' Association **initiates the Letters to Home project**, encouraging international students to connect with their families the old-fashioned way — by writing a letter. The program sends more than 80 letters to 15 countries.
- In just five short years, the sports rivalry between the University of Calgary and Mount Royal University has become a tradition unlike any other: a season-long battle to claim the coveted "medal," a 68-kg cast iron manhole cover. The Crowchild Classic battle is not limited to the ice, however, as thousands of **students pack the Saddledome** in one of the highlights of student life each year.
- Annette Schmirler, the manager of the Brew & Blendz who passed away in October last year, is fondly remembered in the Faculty of Kinesiology as someone who had a gift for making people feel special. A **plaque in her honour** has been placed in Baron's Court, near where she worked.