



# CANADIAN STUDIES CENTER NEWS

JUNE 2021 -- STUDENT EDITION

We are enormously proud of our Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellows for 2021-22, as well as the work and achievements of our 2021 Corbett Virtual Exchange Scholars. The Center awarded a record 13 FLAS fellowships to students in the College of Arts and Sciences and the professional schools including the Law, Marine and Environmental Affairs and Public Health. In addition to French language fellowships, the Center continues to be the only National Resource Center in the country to offer awards in Indigenous languages. In 2021-22 FLAS fellows with study Inuktitut, Nuu-chah-nulth and Tsek'ene. Our 2021 Corbett program included 12 students from the UW, University of British Columbia, and University of Victoria who were awarded scholarships to take part in the innovative new Corbett Virtual Exchange Program found below. -- *Rich Watts, Nadine Fabbi and Marion Ferguson*

## 2020-2021 FLAS FELLOWS



### **Indigenous-state relations in the Arctic**

Ellen Ahlness' dissertation analyzes the role of Inuit and Sami on the Arctic Council and how their influence has increased over time. [MORE](#)



### **Inuktitut opens doors to film studies**

Elena Bell's research focuses on Indigenous film as cross-border self-representation in Russia and Canada. [MORE](#)



### **Canadian perspectives on migration challenges**

Sandra Bonequi, a recent graduate of the Jackson School's MAAIS program, brings her own migration experience to her research. [MORE](#)



### Canada's approach to health equity

Sopheakvatey Chey hopes to bring best practices in Canadian health care to U.S.-Cambodia NGO partnerships. [MORE](#)



### Cross-border tribal territories

Hannah Garland's work focuses on the legal issues facing Indigenous communities whose traditional territory is found on both sides of the Canada-U.S. border. [MORE](#)



### U.S. relationship with Arctic states

Caroline Humphreys has a keen interest, and background, in U.S. relations with Arctic nation-states in particular with Canada. [MORE](#)



### Ensuring the wellbeing of marginalized groups

Robyn Long is exploring ways to co-create social policies and programs with Indigenous groups in Canada and the U.S. [MORE](#)



### Canada's Trans Mountain Expansion Project

Jessica Rose is passionate about community-based and collaborative work with First Nations in Canada concerning resource development issues. [MORE](#)



### Wellbeing for West African migrants and refugees in Canada

Sarah Shaw will work with Canadian NGOs to study how health care is provided to migrant and refugee communities in Canada and the U.S. [MORE](#)

### Revitalization of First Nations languages in Canada

Tsudoi Wada's research documents



Tsek'ene, a First Nations language spoken in northern British Columbia. [MORE](#)



### Indigenous landscape management practices

Elizabeth Wessells' research focuses on landscapes and plants in national parks in Inuit Nunangat in Canada. [MORE](#)

## 2021 CORBETT VIRTUAL EXCHANGE SCHOLARS

Last winter, our students were forced to cut their exchanges short and return home, and we haven't been able to send anyone across the border since. For a program that is built on immersive, in-person experiences, this has created a real challenge.

Rather than cancel the Corbett Exchange for the year, we designed a virtual experience to give students a good foundation in U.S.-Canada cross-border relations and current events, and to approximate, as much as possible, the kinds of learning experiences they might have had in person. Four workshops, led by colleagues from the Canadian Consulate, Salish Sea Institute at WWU, University of Victoria, and the Border Policy Research Institute gave students the context to better understand this region they share and the common issues that permeate the border.

Students also attended virtual events of their choosing in Victoria, Vancouver, and Seattle, and wrote [blog.posts](#) about their experiences and reflections on the virtual exchange. They filmed and shared video tours with each other of their home cities. Their final task was to develop a project based on a topic of their choosing, to further explore the cross-border relationship. These projects gave students a chance to deep-dive into their own interests and the resulting topics and presentations are varied and reflective of the wonderful diversity of personalities, lived experiences, and fields of study that our students embody.

I've found this year to be challenging in the best way. The circumstances under which we had to operate forced us to innovate and develop a program that is more robust and inclusive than we've had before. I've watched as the students have formed a wonderful cohort and community around this experience and their shared love of this region and these two countries. I am so grateful to these 12 students for their willingness to throw themselves into this new space. -- *Marion Ferguson, program manager*





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## ALUMNI NEWS

**Arctic minor alum travels to  
Sanikiluaq, Nunavut**



In her studies at University of St. John's, Natasha Haycock-Chavez (2016) worked with former UW Fulbright Canada Arctic Chair Joel Heath in Nunavut. [MORE](#)



### **Sea otter management on Vancouver Island**

Lindsey Popkin, FLAS fellow in Nuu-chah-nulth, just completed her thesis on Indigenizing sea otter management on Vancouver Island. [MORE](#)

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Box 353650. Seattle, WA 98195-3650

Thomson Hall 503 | 206-221-6374 | [canada@uw.edu](mailto:canada@uw.edu)

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