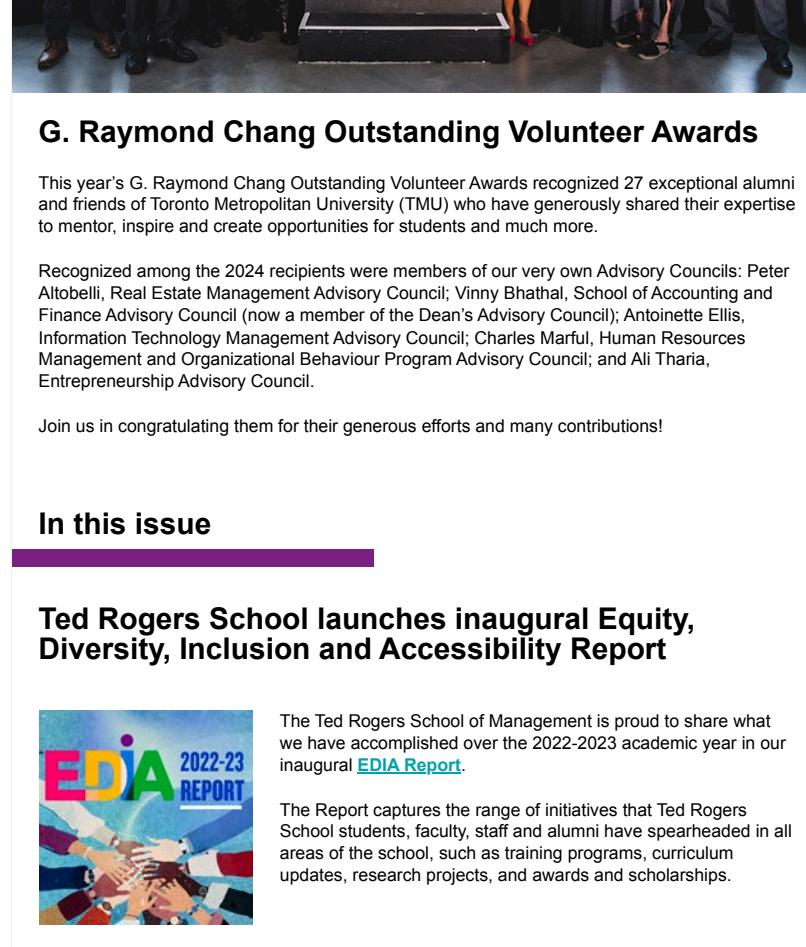


January 30, 2025



## G. Raymond Chang Outstanding Volunteer Awards

This year's G. Raymond Chang Outstanding Volunteer Awards recognized 27 exceptional alumni and friends of Toronto Metropolitan University (TMU) who have generously shared their expertise to mentor, inspire and create opportunities for students and much more.

Recognized among the 2024 recipients were members of our very own Advisory Councils: Peter Altobelli, Real Estate Management Advisory Council; Vinny Bhathal, School of Accounting and Finance Advisory Council (now a member of the Dean's Advisory Council); Antoinette Ellis, Information Technology Management Advisory Council; Charles Marful, Human Resources Management and Organizational Behaviour Program Advisory Council; and Ali Tharia, Entrepreneurship Advisory Council.

Join us in congratulating them for their generous efforts and many contributions!

## In this issue

### Ted Rogers School launches inaugural Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility Report



The Ted Rogers School of Management is proud to share what we have accomplished over the 2022-2023 academic year in our inaugural [EDIA Report](#).

The Report captures the range of initiatives that Ted Rogers School students, faculty, staff and alumni have spearheaded in all areas of the school, such as training programs, curriculum updates, research projects, and awards and scholarships.

### Congratulations to our faculty members

#### Newly Tenured Faculty Members

- [Dr. Irfan Butt](#), Department of Marketing Management
- [Dr. Karen Peesker](#), School of Hospitality and Tourism Management
- [Dr. Vik Singh](#), Department of Global Management Studies
- [Dr. Yanfei Sun](#), Department of Finance

#### Newly Promoted to Full Professors

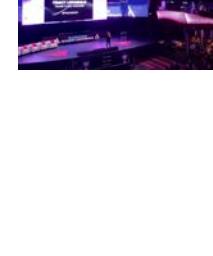
- [Dr. Sui Sui](#), Department of Global Management Studies
- [Dr. Shadi Farshadfar](#), Department of Accounting

### Advancement

#### [CIBC removes barriers to career-enhancing co-op for business students](#)

CIBC is making it easier for students from under-represented groups to access career-enhancing co-op opportunities. According to an analysis by the Office of the Vice-President, Equity and Community Inclusion at TMU, First Nations, Métis and Inuit students, Black students and students with disabilities face particular challenges in applying to the co-op program. For these equity-deserving students, the newly established CIBC Co-op Student Award for Equity and Excellence at the Ted Rogers School will level the playing field by providing up to 75 students each year with \$2,000 each — more than covering the initial costs associated with accessing the co-op program.

### Research and innovation



#### [TMU students win big at regional and national competitions for social innovation](#)

In June, Enactus TMU, Ted Rogers School's largest social entrepreneurship group, was named one of the country's top four social innovators at Enactus Canada's National Exposition for its two pioneering projects.

In March, Enactus TMU's Project BITS, a financial literacy program designed by and for students, was named Regional Champion in Enactus Canada's Desjardins Youth Empowerment Challenge.

Project Terra-Plast, a revolutionary biodegradable polymer made from potato starch, was the Runner-Up in the Canadian Tire Corporation Environmental Sustainability Challenge.

#### [Inaugural group of Ted Rogers School Research Ambassadors recognized](#)

TRSM Research Ambassadors are a new group of researchers recognized for their lifetime research achievements, which are identified through citation impact and/or successful grantmanship. These ambassadors are exemplars of the top-quality research conducted in the Ted Rogers School, and are encouraged to represent the school outside of the faculty to advocate for our research and researchers.

Research ambassadorship is a permanent recognition, and a class of Ted Rogers School's most accomplished researchers will be inducted each year. The inaugural 2024 class was recently celebrated at a launch event for this initiative. Here is a list of this year's inductees:

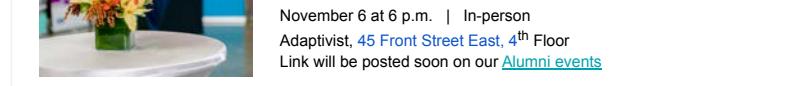
- Rupa Banerjee, Human Resources Management
- Wendy Cukier, Entrepreneurship & Strategy
- Frederic Dimanche, Hospitality & Tourism Management
- Rachel Dodds, Hospitality & Tourism Management
- Deb Fels, Information Technology Management
- Anatoly Gruzd, Information Technology Management
- Atty Mashatan, Information Technology Management
- Kelly McShane, Human Resources Management
- Ojelanki Ngwenyama, Global Management Studies
- Ravi Vatrapu, Information Technology Management

#### [Ted Rogers School professor helps to build research capacity in Uganda](#)

In April, Dave Valliere (Professor, Entrepreneurship & Strategy) and another professor from Carleton University created and ran a Train-the-Trainer workshop for early career researchers in Uganda at Kyambogo University, Academics Without Borders (AWB), along with Network for Education & Multidisciplinary Research Africa (NEMRA) and East Africa Scientific Research Network (EASRN) organized the five-day workshop.

There were five academics in Kampala, Uganda who were leads on this project from different universities there. Approximately 25 trainers attended and actively participated in the sessions. The program also made [national news in Uganda](#).

### Graduate studies



#### [MBA students cross the pond to learn about international business in London](#)

A group of 20 Ted Rogers MBA students had the opportunity to travel to London, United Kingdom to expand their knowledge on international business in late May.

The trip was part of their International Experience Capstone course. Highlights from the trip included a presentation by award-winning writer and entrepreneur Olufikayo Adetola on the where the Antarctic explorer Ben Saunders relived his historic trek to the South Pole and multi-documentaries for the UK's Sky News network, and a stop at the European headquarters of CBRE at Henrietta House and its innovative workspace environment.

The most popular visit was to Aston Martin Formula One at their Silverstone headquarters where students were technology and brand ambassadors of the Aston Martin brand.

### Alumni spotlight



#### [How Coldbeginning landed an impressive offer on Dragons' Den](#)

After sustaining a knee injury during the pandemic, Daniel Matz, CEO of Coldbeginning, discovered the benefits of cold plunging. With a rise in health and well-being, Matz and co-founder Michael Sivak saw a market for cold-water therapy. It created the Coldbeginning in 2022 when they cold plunge company.

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