

January 30, 2025



G. Raymond Chang Outstanding Volunteer Awards

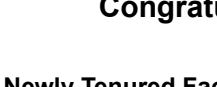
This year's G. Raymond Chang Outstanding Volunteer Awards recognized 27 exceptional alumni and friends of Toronto Metropolitan University (TMU) who have generously shared their expertise to mentor, inspire and create opportunities for students and much more.

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 grantsmanship. 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
- Anatoliy Grudz, Information Technology Management
- Atty Mashatan, Information Technology Management
- Kelly McShane, Human Resources Management
- Ojelanki Ngwenyama, Global Management Studies
- Ravi Vatrappu, 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-nominated writer and entrepreneur Olufikayo Adeola on the development of the Disney Channel's Iwájú animated series, a visit to the Royal Institution, where the Antarctic explorer Ben Saunders re-lived his historic trek to the South Pole and multi award-winning TV and content producer Jayne Hancock discussed her work on true crime documentaries for the UK's Sky Crime 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 hosted by members of the C-suite and had the opportunity to observe the innovation, technology and brand contributions to the Aston Martin brand.

Alumni spotlight



How Coldtuture landed an impressive offer on Dragons' Den

After sustaining a knee injury during the pandemic, Toronto-based hockey player and Ted Rogers School alumnus Daniel Mazour discovered the benefits of cold plunging. With a rise in health and wellbeing, Mazour and co-founder Michael Spivak saw a market for cold-water therapy. It was in the beginning of 2022 when these ambitious entrepreneurs created Coldtuture — Canada's premier cold plunge company.



Meet the visionary behind Canada's largest blockchain conference

Tracy Leparulo, Founder and CEO of Untraceable — a company that hosts one of Canada's largest Blockchain and Crypto Conferences. "Crypto is taking over the planet," emphasizes Tracy Leparulo, Founder and CEO of Untraceable — a company that hosts one of Canada's largest Blockchain and Crypto Conferences. Created in 2013, Untraceable is all about running events and marketing campaigns for the Web3 community. Not only did Leparulo run the first Bitcoin Expo in Canada, but she continues to host events all around the world.

Recognition

Ted Rogers School faculty and staff recognized at Toronto Met Awards Gala

Ted Rogers School faculty and staff were recognized for their excellence in teaching and education, scholarly, research and creative activities, and service and leadership at the Toronto Met Awards Gala, which took place on April 30, 2024 at the Mattamy Athletic Centre. See story for complete list of Ted Rogers School award recipients.

Call to action

DEAN'S CIRCLE

As an Advisory Council member, your leadership and influence have already shaped the futures of our 12,000+ students at the Ted Rogers School. Yet, significant challenges remain — especially for students facing financial barriers. To continue driving impactful change, you're invited to join the Dean's Circle. With a contribution of just \$85 a month, you can provide essential support in areas such as food security, emergency relief and experiential learning. Your commitment can make the difference between a student merely getting by and truly thriving.

HUMAN RESOURCES STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The Human Resources Student Association (HRSA) is back for the 2024-2025 year after a successful year. One of our first initiatives of the year is the External Mentorship Program aimed at connecting Ted Rogers School students with industry professionals, offering valuable insights and career guidance. If you are interested in becoming a mentor, you can find more information and sign up using the Industry Mentorship Program interest form.

[Join the Dean's Circle](#)

[Complete Interest Form](#)

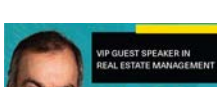
► We welcome your feedback, suggestions and questions. Please e-mail Habibah Haque, External Relations and Inclusion Coordinator at habibah.h@torontomu.ca.

Upcoming events



Mastering the Art of Failure

HR Alumni Association
October 8 at 6 p.m. | In-person
Adaptivist, 45 Front Street East, 4th Floor



Surviving or thriving? Primary Care and Healthy Communities

October 10 at 5:30 p.m. | In-person
Ted Rogers School of Management, 55 Dundas St. West



Benjamin Tal | Canadian Economy in 2025: What to Expect for Growth and Interest Rates

October 23 at 11 a.m. | In-Person
Chrysalis (at the Creative School), 43 Gerrard Street East



Reconciliation in Business Conference

November 3 at 9 a.m. | In-Person
Ted Rogers School of Management, 55 Dundas St. West



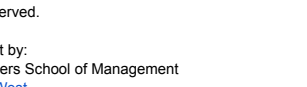
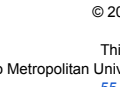
Philip Cote Artist Talk

November 5 at 1 p.m. | In-Person
Ted Rogers School of Management, 55 Dundas St. West



Ted Rogers Sales Alumni Executive Breakfast

November 6 at 6 p.m. | In-person
Adaptivist, 45 Front Street East, 4th Floor
Link will be posted soon on our [Alumni events](#)



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This email was sent by:
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In April 2022, Ryerson University announced our new name — Toronto Metropolitan University — which will be implemented in a phased approach. Learn more about our [next chapter](#).

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