

# Work-Integrated Learning



## CapU WIL Newsletter

### Spring 2026

Issue No. 002/26



### Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) this Spring

A new year and a new Spring term bring exciting opportunities to develop the ways we engage in learning through work experiences. If you're an organization looking to work with CapU students, or a faculty member seeking WIL support, we're here to make it happen.

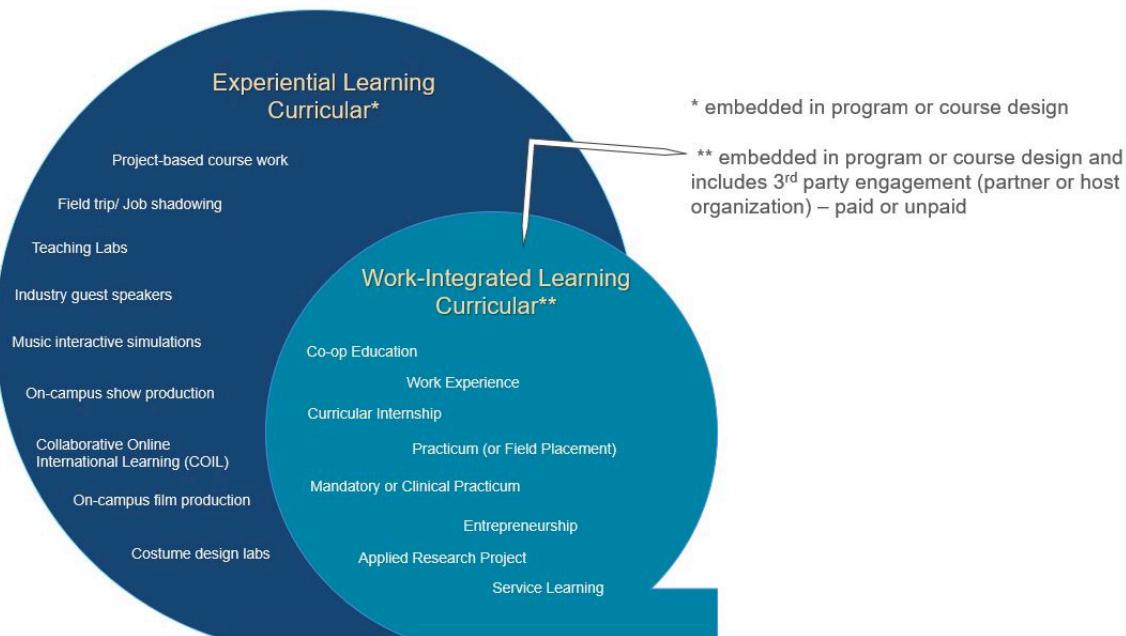
#### This issue at a glance:

- Types of WIL at CapU
- WIL Awards: introducing our presenting sponsor and announcing winners
- Let's Talk WIL: SPR/NG (join one of the two sessions, as a partner or as a faculty member)
- Announcing new program launch: WILCAP
- Fall 2025 WIL highlights
- Faculty spotlight
- CapU WIL committees
- Meet the (always on the move) WIL team

## WIL Types at CapU

Most common curricular WIL types at CapU include experiences such as:

- Practicum (mandatory, clinical, or field placement)
- Co-op
- Internship
- Work experience
- Entrepreneurship
- Applied research project
- Service learning



### CapU WIL Annual Awards Announcing the annual CapU WIL Award winners.



**Partner of the Year 2025 Award:**  
[The District](#)

**Partner of the Year 2025 Honourable Mention:**  
[Louis Brier Home & Hospital](#)

**Student of the Year 2025 Award (co-op category):**  
[Kaveh Sanaei](#)

**Student of the Year 2025 Award (other WIL category):**  
[Bao Ngoc \(Rachel\) Pham](#)

**Student of the Year 2025 Honourable Mention:**  
[Paige Heintzman](#)

We are grateful to acknowledge the CapU WIL Awards presenting sponsor: **DoubleTree by Hilton North Vancouver**. On the day of the ceremony, March 26, [Zack Bhatia](#) and his daughter will join us at Capilano University to present these awards to our students. We are excited about the positive impact this sponsorship will have on recognizing two CapU students that

went above and beyond during their curricular WIL experiences in 2025.

## Let's Talk WIL: *SPRING*

### Let's Talk WIL: Partners

Thursday, February 19

11:30 a.m.

CapU Lonsdale

Click the RSVP button below to get all the details and join us at CapU Lonsdale to learn more about work-integrated learning at CapU. We can connect you with applied research projects, practicums, internships, work experience terms, service learning and co-op education.

[Partners RSVP](#)

### Let's Talk WIL: Faculty

Wednesday, March 11

11:30 a.m.

Library Building, room LB322

Tania Loken will facilitate a short workshop providing an overview of WIL at CapU, along with a clear outline of the steps for integrating a WIL applied project into a course.



[Faculty RSVP](#)

## WILCAP—Work-integrated learning at your doorstep

Capilano University is excited to announce **WILCAP**, a new internal work-integrated learning program connecting students with curricular learning experiences found across CapU's non-academic units.

WILCAP helps departments move projects forward while offering students meaningful, real-world experiences through a practicum, co-op, work experience or applied research project. Opportunities may be paid or unpaid and vary in length depending on the program.

With the launch of this new program, all departments engaging students in curricular WIL must register through WILCAP, even if a student has been already identified.

[WILCAP registration](#)

## A glance at Fall 2025 WIL-related stories

Fall 2025 was an incredible term full of wonderful WIL opportunities across all five faculties. The WIL team supported connections for long-form types of WIL in the business and communications as well as IDEA School of Design and psychology programs.

We facilitated 19 projects involving over 560 students. Interdisciplinary opportunities with partners such as CapU's safety & emergency services, Lyn Valley Services Society, SUCCESS, Soroptimist International, North Shore Black Bear Society, School District 44, Agent Market, North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, Specialized Bikes, Hollyburn Society, Presentation House Theatre, Museum of North Vancouver & Archives (MONOVA), North Shore Women's Centre and with the Violence Against Women in Intimate Relationships Committee (VAWIR), Museum of Migration (PCHC-MoM) and BC Hotel Association.



A BIG thank you to our faculty and community partners for all of your hard work and dedication to support WIL opportunities for a diverse group of students. We appreciate you!

Please [email us](#) student stories and any WIL-related news or success stories. Your voice deserves to be heard.



## Faculty spotlight: Christine Dodds

co-operative education coordinator, instructor,  
School of Tourism Management

As a long-standing champion of the tourism co-op program, Christy is grateful to dedicate her energies to lifting students up through co-op. Every program in the School of Tourism and School of Outdoor Recreation Management has a required work experience and they are proud of that. The co-op/practicum faculty help students prepare for the workplace and search for quality WIL opportunities.

On the job search front, they very often find (or create!) student opportunities that never make it to a job board. With valued partners that make it all possible, the school keeps those relationships strong. More and more alumni working in hospitality and outdoor recreation reconnect with faculty in search of hiring a co-op or practicum student. That is a tremendous testament to the quality of the programs. Christy is proud to be part of a faculty that gets better and better at what they do, graduating students who are ready for careers in tourism, hospitality and outdoor recreation.

If you are a faculty member and interested in WIL, find more [ways to collaborate!](#)

## CapU WIL committees

CapU WIL meets and consults with two committees on a regular basis.

### **WIL university-wide committee**

This committee meets four (4) times a year. If you are a faculty member interested in WIL, please feel free to join as a guest at any of the meetings scheduled for 2026:

- February 4, 2026
- June 10, 2026
- September 10, 2026
- December 3, 2026



### **WIL external advisory committee**

This advisory talks about labour market trends, local employers' needs and other factors influencing WIL at CapU. External and internal partners, alumni and staff will meet on the following dates in 2026 (three times a year):

- March 26, 2026
- June 18, 2026
- September 24, 2026

## **CapU WIL Team Updates**



**Magdalena Mot**  
*Senior Manager,  
Work-Integrated  
Learning*



**Aderyn Davies**  
*Work-Integrated  
Learning Liaison*



**Sermin Tatar**  
*Work-Integrated  
Learning Liaison*



**Tania Loken**  
*WIL Educational Developer,  
Centre for Teaching Excellence*



**Farnaz  
Abdolmaleki**  
*Work-Integrated  
Learning Student  
Support*



**Mersaydes Baines**  
*Work-Integrated  
Learning Student  
Research Assistant*

In September 2025, our team welcomed Sermin Tatar, who's now actively contributing to the team's shared goals and university-wide work-integrated learning endeavors as a WIL liaison.

We're sad to say goodbye to Jay Mhaiskar, our student support ambassador who has been such a vital part of our team for the past one and a half years. Jay has graduated from CapU at the end of 2025 with a bachelor's degree in science—we wish him all the best in his next life adventures.

Please join us in welcoming our new student team members who are joining us this January:

- WIL support ambassador—Farnaz Abdolmaleki, Bachelor of Science student
- WIL student research assistant—Mersaydes Baines, Paralegal Diploma student



## Mark Your Calendar:

- February 4: CapU WIL committee (university-wide)
- February 19: Let's Talk WIL: Partners
- March 11: Let's Talk WIL: Faculty
- March 26: CapU WIL external advisory committee meeting
- March 26: CapU WIL Awards ceremony
- June 10: CapU WIL Committee (university-wide)
- June 18: CapU WIL external advisory committee meeting

Find more WIL-related [new & events](#) and read stories shared by our students on [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#).

Reach out to [CapU WIL](#) to learn more!

*Message sent to all CapU employees.*

*If you question the validity of this or any other email, please contact digital technology services before you click on links or open attachments.*



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