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## MEDIA RELEASE

# Media Advisory: SFU honours four with Outstanding Alumni awards

September 11, 2017

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Simon Fraser University will recognize four distinguished alumni on Wednesday, September 13—among them, an Indonesian government minister, the founder of a European ethical investment equity firm, a global economy ‘thinker’, and the co-creator of the iconic Vancouver Folk Festival.

Outstanding alumni awards are given annually by SFU and the [Alumni Association](#). The awards recognize those whose accomplishments and contributions reflect the University’s mandate of engaging the world.

The four will be honoured at the association’s [Outstanding Alumni Awards](#) event at the Four Seasons Hotel. Honorees include:

**Gary Cristall** – co-founder of the Vancouver Folk Music Festival, celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, and longstanding arts advocate and cultural programmer;

**Dr. Nathan Nunn** – Harvard University professor and one of the International Monetary Fund’s “25 economists under 45” shaping how we think about the global economy;

**Frode Strand-Nielsen** – leader in responsible and ethical investments; founder of one of the fastest growing private equity firms in Europe, FSN Capital;

**Dr. Yohana Yembise** – highly-regarded professor and first Papuan female to obtain a prestigious seat in the Indonesian government as Minister for Women Empowerment and Child Protection.

**Nunn, who will receive the Rising Star award for academic achievement, will also be the keynote speaker for the BMO Public Lecture, *Why Culture Matters: On the need of a new economics model*, at SFU’s Segal School of Business on September 14, at 7 p.m.**

He will share recent findings that show how cross-cultural differences can explain issues that affect our society, such as civil wars and the treatment of women. He will also share how successful policy interventions are dependent on policymakers who understand the cultural context.

For more on Nathan Nunn’s lecture event see details [here](#). To arrange interviews with Nunn contact Rebecca Ho at 778.782.5824; [econcomm@sfu.ca](mailto:econcomm@sfu.ca)

The Outstanding Alumni Awards is hosted by emcee **Dr. Jennifer Gardy**, a senior scientist at the B.C. Centre for Disease Control, and host of CBC’s *The Nature of Things*. She is also a past recipient of an SFU Outstanding Alumni Award.

For more details on the honorees see: <http://www.sfu.ca/alumni/events/2017/outstanding-alumni-awards.html>.

**What:** SFU's Outstanding Alumni Awards 2017

**When:** Wednesday, September 13, 5:30 p.m. reception; presentations at 6:30 p.m.

**Where:** Vancouver's Four Seasons Hotel, 791 West Georgia Street, Vancouver

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