

# WELCOME

It gives me great pleasure to extend my warmest greetings to all participants in our 20th annual Student Research and Ideas Fair.

When I first arrived at St. Thomas University at the beginning of this academic year, I recognized immediately the extent to which the goals of a liberal education are embedded in our mission and infuse our everyday practices. Faculty, staff, and students all appreciate the importance of broad and deep knowledge, of inquisitiveness and critical thinking, and of thoughtful moral and ethical judgement. We also share a commitment to write and speak clearly and precisely, and to apply our knowledge and understanding to fundamental questions about humanity, as well as an array of challenging new issues that face us in the 21st century.

The Student Research and Ideas Fair provides a unique opportunity for St. Thomas University students to share the results of their research within our scholarly community. Important ideas, findings, and insights must be shared both within and beyond the university for their impact and potential to be achieved. This process of knowledge mobilization is an essential step that allows each of our students the opportunity to demonstrate their understanding, engage with knowledge users, and take their first steps towards making the world a better place.

As presenters in this year's Student Research and Ideas Fair, you are already well aware of the importance of these processes of research, study, reflection, and engagement. Through the mentorship of your professors and debate with your fellow students, you are well on your way to putting your liberal education to work in your fields and in your communities. I offer you all my heartfelt congratulations, and I look forward to following you on your academic journeys.



Dr. Nauman Farooqi  
President and Vice-Chancellor