The Bulletin
University of Manitoba

Watching Walker
The Black Hole Theatre Company performs George F. Walker’s Escape From Happiness.

Moot decision
U of M law students tested their mettle at the Laskin Moot competition.

Research display
Students and teachers benefited from Science, Engineering and Technology Day at the U of M.

United Way record
Organizers with the 2007 University of Manitoba United Way campaign are delighted with the donations they received in the fall.

A total of $420,003 was raised, a 2.5 per cent increase from 2006. "We were very pleased with the ongoing support in the University of Manitoba community and consider this year’s campaign a great success”, says Fort Garry campaign co-chair Rosalyn Howard.

Also on the committee this year were Bannatyne campus co-chair Tom Klonisch, leadership campaign co-chair Norm Hunter, Fort Garry campaign co-chair John Wiens, Rainbow Auction coordinator Lynn Bohonos, public affairs liaison Pat Goss and universities and colleges division co-chair Janet Hoskins.

Last year’s total was $411,816 plus $27,826 pledged through the campaign to other charities. For this year’s total, there is an additional $21,261 as donor directed pledges to other charities. Howard said initially this year’s campaign experienced some challenges.

“We ran the campaign slightly longer this year, due to the strike in the fall,” said Howard. “We were also using new pledge forms this year, but our people came through with their strong commitment to our city.”

The 2007 campaign also showcased some special events, including the Rainbow Auction. There was also a large group of dedicated canvassers, committee members, and special event supporters such as the Bison football team for the United Way Plane Pull, and the Bison dance team for the launch of the campaign.

Most donors made their contributions to the campaign through payroll deduction or with a credit card. Howard says no matter how small or large the donation, it really is the thought that counts.

“The University of Manitoba has a history of leading the city in workplace employee campaigns and we have maintained that leadership role,” she said.

One University. Many Futures.
Simulated teeth? Yes, we have them too

The future of dental education touched down – if only for a short time – at the University of Manitoba’s Faculty of Dentistry in late January. It came in the form of the Digital Dental System, or DDS, an amazing new 3-D educational platform that many believe will set a new standard for dental education. Faculty, students and the local media assembled to witness a demonstration from Robert Hasel, DDS, of Midwestern University School of Dentistry in Glendale, AZ and one of the driving forces behind the project. In addition to a display and hands-on demonstration, Hasel explained that this new technology could have on all aspects of health professions education and patient treatment. ‘It’s not just a paradigm shift. This is a new reality,’ Hasel said. ‘We’re changing the culture of anatomical information and how we teach it, how we diagnose and how we treat a patient. I call it a revolution.’

The DDS offers self-paced learning, interactivity and an incredible 3-D simulation with haptic feedback that allows students performing dental work on virtual patients to actually feel the sensations. “This system incorporates all existing tools and improves upon the learning of the environment by providing tactile sensation and virtual patient scenarios in a true ‘gaming’ environment,” Dr. Anthony Iacopino said. “This is an outstanding opportunity for the University of Manitoba to take the lead and establish a new standard in dental education.”

This entirely new approach is now in the beta testing stage and is only being offered to a limited number of dental schools in North America for final development and design.

“The University of Manitoba Faculty of Dentistry has been chosen to be one of these schools based its reputation for excellence and innovation,” Iacopino said. “This will put our university on the cutting-edge of curriculum design and represents an excellent competitive advantage for the future.”

The digital-thermal curriculum is also one of the Nine Pillars of Innovation that is the centre of the faculty’s 2008 Drive for Top Five.

New baby joins simulated family

From Page 1.

Fetal heart monitors can be attached inside the uterus so that the baby’s heart rate can be checked, and the entire birth process, complete with fluids and even a simulated placenta, can be demonstrated in real time. A breech birth can be simulated as well.

“There is the potential for greater application involving team work and communication within teams around critical events,” says Crooke. “Faculty in the lab environment have had extensive training to run the computerized simulators and work constantly on developing and upgrading simulated experiences for students.”

The adult simulated patient is known as “Jake,” the child is called “Jenny” and, during a recent official run, the robot baby was named “Mac.”

Glenlea supported by Monsanto

Monsanto Canada announced today its support to help the University of Manitoba build a one-of-a-kind farm education centre that will attract up to 30,000 visitors per year. Monsanto will contribute $100,000 over five years to the proposed Glenlea Farm Education Centre.

“Monsanto is a strong supporter of groups and programs that focus on enhancing agricultural awareness and education,” said Irish Jordan, public affairs director with Monsanto Canada. “This is a terrific initiative by the University of Manitoba to provide a centre of learning where people of all ages can gain a better understanding of modern agriculture, where their food comes from and how it is produced. We are thankful for the opportunity to support their efforts by making this important contribution.”

The centre will be constructed at the site of the National Centre for Livestock and Environment located at the university’s Glenlea research and teaching facility just south of Winnipeg. The centre will feature interactive, hands-on displays for the public to learn about the many aspects of food production and processing, from farming practices to retail sales.

“The University of Manitoba is committed to its role as a community educator,” said President and Vice-Chancellor Dr. Sazhmary. “We appreciate Monsanto’s support for the Glenlea Farm Education Centre, an engaging outreach venue that will help Manitobans understand the science and technologies that are used in the production of safe and healthy foods.”

In The News

University of Manitoba members are always making news – demonstrating the university’s impact on the community. Here’s a look at the stories and headlines that have boosted U of M faculty and staff impact the world around them.

Hands-on Arctic research

February 27, 2008
Winnipeg Free Press, Montreal Gazette

Stories focused on the University of Manitoba led Carcopino Flaw Lead system study and life on the icebreaker Amundsen have been a staple in the Winnipeg Free Press over the past two weeks due to the on-board photojournalist Free Press writer Bartley Kives. Complementing Kives’ Arctic stories is the online multimedia content at winnipegfreepress.com, including slideshows and video.

Creepy photos

February 27, 2008
National Post, CP, Winnipeg Sun

A four-minute montage of photos taken from the Thomas Glenedenning Hamilton Collection and posted to popular video sharing site YouTube has not only received attention from the mainstream media, but also managed to get itself ranked as the top video in YouTube’s education category the week it was posted. The video was produced by archives and special collections.

Revisiting a prehistoric flood

February 25, 2008
Victoria Times Colonist, Saskatoon Star Phoenix, Edmonton Journal, Calgary Herald, Montreal Gazette

After two Quebec researchers discovered new information about the prehistoric flooding caused by Lake Agassiz, which at its greatest extent reached from Quebec to Saskatchewan and which has been blamed for kick-starting a period of global cooling and raising sea levels around the world, U of M geologist Jim Teller was back in the news. It was Teller’s initial reconstruction of the lake’s dying throes that initiated a wave of research into one of the largest natural events in Canadian prehistory.

How to get hired

February 16, 2008
Vancouver Sun, Ottawa Citizen, Saskatoon Star-Phoenix

Penny Debrowski, an employment adviser with the U of M, was cited heavily in the media recently for her career search know-how. Debrowski was quoted on matters such as researching the competition, preparing for interviews and resisting the urge to post revealing photographs of yourself online. She also noted that social networking websites such as Facebook are delightfully antiquated when you consider how deeply students can examine the human body with new 3-D simulation technology.

Keeping it Riel

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Immunology grows

The Immunology Research Facility at the University of Manitoba’s Faculty of Medicine will be expanded and enhanced with a $1.6 million contribution through the Winnipeg Partnership Agreement. The new facility will give students and researchers access to new technologies and increased commercialization opportunities.

The announcement was made last week by Vic Toews, president of the Treasury Board, Marilyn Brice, MLA for St. Norbert and deputy mayor Brenda Leipsic.

The Government of Canada is working to enhance Canada’s international reputation for research excellence and to strengthen scientific research in Canada,” Toews said. “Today’s announcement will enable researchers, innovators and businesses to improve Canada’s productivity performance, create high-quality jobs and enhance Canadians’ quality of life.”

The immunology department has outgrown its current location in the Basic Medical Sciences Building. To be located on the fourth floor of the Apotex Centre at the Bannatyne Campus, the new facility will lead to the expansion of existing and new research programs, and to increased commercialization from these programs. This will enable the university’s immunology department to attract, train and retain the highly qualified personnel required to support the growing immunology and infectious disease research cluster in Manitoba.

This new funding will further advance the immunological research conducted at the University of Manitoba,” said president Esmie Szathmary. “It will build upon the university’s excellent reputation in the area of immunology and infectious diseases, and enhance research and teaching opportunities for faculty and students.”

The department of immunology was established in 1969 and is credited with the first immunology department in Canada. Currently the department has 25 professors, of which six are on-site professors located at the Basic Medical Sciences Building.

Law students get real world experience when U of M hosts Laskin Moot

BY DALE BARROUR

The 2008 Laskin Moot brought competitors from 19 law schools across Canada to Winnipeg from Feb. 28 to March 1 to battle it out in the city’s Law Courts building.

It’s the first time the University of Manitoba has hosted the Laskin Moot and for third-year law students Katharine Basarab, Roxanne Gagné, Meghan Campbell, and Courtenay St. Croix, it was a chance to test their legal skills in front of some of the toughest judges in the country.

We have 39 judges participating from all across Canada,” Faculty of Law special events coordinator Rosa Muller said. “Most come back every year.

As with all moot courts, the cases aren’t real. But the questions being considered are being raised every day. For the judges, it’s a chance to give back to the law schools that helped launch their careers. It’s also a chance to meet the next generation of advocates.

The Laskin Moot is named in honour of the late Right Honourable Bora Laskin, Canada’s first Chief Justice of Canada from 1973 to 1984. It’s in its 23rd year and deals with constitutional law. The legal question at the heart of this year’s Laskin Moot focused on whether it was appropriate for the federal government to discontinue funding for a minority-language preschool education program.

Each school entered four participants, with two appellants acting on behalf of a fictitious English-language Quebec parent’s group and two respondents arguing the point from the government’s perspective.

Law professor Darcy McPherson said it’s critical to nail down the legal argument, which meant students had to spend weeks wading through Canada’s constitutional law books to see what’s required of the government and what’s been done in the past on similar questions.

But there is also what I would call the emotional appeal,” McPherson said. “Ideally, you can lead a judge to do what they would choose to do even if they were not constrained by the law. You’re arguing that this is the right thing to do.

“The judges asked a lot of questions. It felt like machine-gun fire up there. One question after another. But hope you get a judge that’s engaged. If they’re not asking questions, it means they’re not engaged.”

Meghan Campbell, Faculty of Law student

The difference between the law and justice.” In the Laskin Moot students argue their cases directly to a three-judge panel. The judges are more than willing to give the students the gears if the arguments aren’t sound.

“The students get real world experience that the classroom just can’t provide,” McPherson said.

Part of the lesson from the moot court was also learning how to structure an argument. Students have up to 22 minutes to argue their case. But, again, that’s assuming they won’t be interrupted by judges looking to prick holes in their statements.

You know they’re going to interrupt,” Basarab said. “So you have to balance getting your argument across and fielding questions.

One of the challenges of the Laskin Moot is that at least one member of each team must make their submissions (both oral and written) in each official language. In fact, the liberal use made of both official languages is part of what makes the Laskin Moot competition unique.

For Gagné, a Franco-Manitoban and used to working in an English-language setting throughout most of her studies, it was a pleasure to head into court and work in her first language.

“I was able to do it at that level and argue the case in French was great,” Gagné said.

McGill University was the overall winner for the competition, but the U of M team could claim bragging rights of their own.

Their factum, a written document produced by all four team members which includes both the appellant and respondent arguments, was ranked third at the competition. The respondent side of their factum, however, received the highest score ever at the moot, giving all four team members something to brag about.

From left, third-year law students Katharine Basarab, Meghan Campbell, Roxanne Gagné and Courtney St. Croix were the home-team when the University of Manitoba hosted the Laskin Moot competition over Feb. 28 to March 1.

Law students get real world experience when U of M hosts Laskin Moot
Trade mission focuses on research
Government helps link University of Manitoba to Australian partners

Over the last week of February I had a vivid demonstration of the importance of our university’s researchers to our province.

In the past, I have often written and spoken about the financial importance of the University of Manitoba to the city of Winnipeg, and a few years ago Premier Grant HorseCoopers showed that the direct and indirect spending arising from the presence of the university contributes some $1.2 billion to the provincial economy. However, comparisons have consistently shown that every dollar of research funding spent actually contributes more money to the provincial economy than do dollars spent from the operating budget. The sheer magnitude of the total research funding received primarily from agencies external to Manitoba is enormous, especially when funding obtained by the university’s affiliates, among them the teaching hospitals, is included in the total. For example, the most recent accounting indicates that this sum surpassed the $150 million mark last year, and most of this was spent in the province.

It was not this kind of contribution, however, that brought home the notion that our university’s researchers serve the provincial interest in other ways as well. In late February I was part of a trade mission led by Premier Doer to Australia, a group that included 22 representatives of some dozen organizations. I have been on other trade missions before, but the nature of this one was different. This one had a research focus, rooted in the notion that exchanges of ideas and policies along with actions that stimulate industry development are good for like-minded people living on opposite sides of the world.

To begin at the beginning, in the spring of 2006 our government had signed two memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with the states of Victoria and South Australia, each agreement outlining areas of co-operation to the partners’ mutual benefit. Interest in the life sciences, especially in agricultural biotechnology, infectious disease and biosecurity research, were identified as important to Manitoba and the State of Victoria, and research on issues around the world’s future.

It is often said that the “tone at the top” underscores the values and the culture of an organization. Governors, premiers and ministers do likewise for the polities they represent. The investment of our Premier’s time and premiers and ministers do likewise for the polities they represent. The investment of our Premier’s time and premiers and ministers do likewise for the polities they represent.

The candidate should have administrative experience, leadership abilities, fundraising skills, and a record of academic and scholarly achievements and community service.

The Principal is appointed by the Board of Directors upon the approval of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada and is directly responsible to the Board of Directors. We are looking for a person who has the ability to function as a senior academic administrator.

To say that the University of Manitoba delegates, among them Dr. Rob Hill, Dr. Gary Fulcher, and Dr. Curtis Rempel from the agricultural science sector, and Dr. Geoff Hicks and Dr. John Wilkins, representing the cancer genomics and systems biology sector, were happy campers is an understatement. Dr. Hicks and Dr. Wilkins also participated in the first of the specified workshops held in Melbourne, where the State of Victoria’s official welcome was delivered by its Governor, professor David de Kretser, a distinguished medical researcher, who also chose to “take the day off” and to spend it at the workshop!

Of course, to facilitate the undertaking of joint research and the exchange of professors and students, universities do have to establish formal relationships. We were fortunate that the way had been prepared for this in the fall of 2006 by Dr. Robert Kerr, vice-president (academic) and provost, who had visited a number of Australian institutions with Dr. Christine Blais, director of University 1, and Ms. Rhonda Friesen of our Office of International Relations, assessing their suitability for more student exchanges. We were therefore prepared for Manitoba’s 2008 trade mission to Australia. In Adelaide I signed three MOUs with the vice-chancellors of the University of Adelaide, the University of South Australia, and Flinders University that were in turn signed by Premier Doer and Premier Rann, as witnesses. We also signed an MOU with Monash University in Melbourne, with Minister Gavin Jennings (Environment and Climate Change) of Victoria and Deputy Minster John Clarkson (Science, Technology, Energy and Mines) of Manitoba signing as witnesses. Other Manitoban institutions that will launch exchanges include the Winnipeg Art Gallery, which is now planning for a reciprocal exhibition of indigenous contemporary art with Art South Australia.

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Marks of Achievement

Earned some recognition or an award? The Bulletin wants to celebrate with you. Please e-mail information about your Marks of Achievement to barboard@umanitoba.ca. Fee free to include a photo or a picture, if available. We'll need a 200 dpi jpeg image. If you would like to chat about the details or picture, please call 474 8111.

Blatz on NSERC

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) has appointed Manitoba’s James Blatz as a member of their council.

Canada’s Ministry of Industry and Science President and Professor of the Department of Engineering, he is also principal of Blatz Engineering, a consulting company.

Berube is a member of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of the Province of Manitoba, the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering and the Canadian Geotechnical Society. He was also Postdoctoral Fellow at the GeoEngineering Centre at Queen’s University - Royal Military College of Canada from 2000 to 2001.

NSERC is a federal agency whose role is to make investments in people, discovery and innovation for the benefit of all Canadians. The agency invests in people by supporting some 23,000 university research and training projects valued at over $4 billion each year, and it helps make innovation happen by encouraging companies to invest in about 1,300 Canadian companies to invest in university research and training.

Berube is Coach of the Year

At the 2008 Canada West Track and Field Championship at the University of Saskatchewan, the Manitoba track and field head coach Claude Berube was named as the Canada West Track and Field Men’s Team Coach of the Year.

Berube led the Bison men’s track and field team to their first conference championship title since 1996. At the conference championship this year, Manitoba accumulated 82 points, three ahead of second place Calgary and ten points ahead of defending Canada West champion Saskatchewan. The Bison men’s improved from third place and 68 points at last season’s conference championship at the U of M.

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The Seventh Annual Elders and Traditional People's Gathering is set to run March 6 and 7 at University Campus Centre.

The goal of the gathering is to promote, validate, and pass on traditional knowledge and traditional teacher's knowledge, as well as to make the University of Manitoba more relevant and accessible to First Nations communities; to ensure that the university develops an academic and social environment that is culturally relevant and respectful to staff, students, as well as accessible to all staff and students on campus; and to promote cultural awareness and ensure that racism and racial stereotyping are addressed in positive, inclusive, and creative ways.

The two day event includes teaching circles, workshops, entertainment, feast and more. Teaching circles are given by Elders and traditional teachers from First Nations communities in Manitoba, Canada and the United States.

The program is open to the public as well as students, staff or faculty from the University of Manitoba.

Onsite registration is available from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Friday, March 7 and beginning at 9 a.m. on Saturday, March 8 at University Centre. The opening ceremonies for the event will take place at 9:30 a.m. in 210 University Centre.
Putting meaning into airspace

Millward studies how women contested airspace in the early days of flight

**Books**

**by University Staff**

**BY DALE BARBOUR**

**The Bulletin**

Airspace might be masculine, feminine or both, but you can be guaranteed it’s not neutral.

Women’s and gender studies professor Liz Millward recognizes this in her book *Women in British Imperial Airspace, 1922-1937* to discover how men and women dealt with the new territory open by the invention of the airplane at the start of the 20th century.

“The interwar period is really the pivotal period for the aviation industry. It’s when the idea of airspace and what it means is up for grabs,” Millward said. “The idea that you can use an airplane to fly right across the empire is new and it’s the period when people really start flying for leisure.”

The commercial industry took off, benefiting from changes in technology that made planes larger, faster, and able to carry heavier loads. It was a time when men and women were both looking to a sky and wanting a piece of the new world.

“I’m interested in how women tried to gain access to that space,” Millward said. “With respect to airspace women assumed they were entitled to fly.”

And often, men were determined to keep them on the ground. The records, letters and reports on women aviators from the period noted acts of sabotage and hostility towards them.

“When they’re writing at the time they acknowledge that this is happening, but they attempt to minimize what’s happening because they were determined not to let women win,” Millward said.

From a theoretical point of view, Millward breaks the space down into five somewhat overlapping kinds of airspace: private, commercial, imperial, national, and finally the pilot’s body itself considered as a kind of airspace. The ability of women to take control of the airspace varied widely between the five categories.

“Women had good success accessing private or leisure airspace in contrast with commercial airspace where women were initially barred from being able to hold a pilot’s licence,” Millward said. In some ways, that split isn’t a shock, considering the private sphere has generally been coloured feminine while the public sphere has been coloured masculine.

Millward stretches her study between Great Britain and New Zealand, enabling her to look at how airspace was perceived and fought over at the heart of the British empire to how it was considered at what would have been the farthest flung portion of the empire. Appropriately, the gap between the two was bridged in 1936 when Jean Batten became the first person to fly direct from England to New Zealand.

While they were blocked from doing business in the air, women were allowed to proudly represent the nation or the empire as figureheads or emblems of success with Batten’s world-spanning flight being one example.

“It speaks to the importance of women as emblems for how modern a nation is during the interwar period.”

Millward’s research taps everything from the letters and personal correspondence of female pilots, to the British Empire and New Zealand records of the aviation industry, to newspaper accounts of the masses reacting to the exploits of pilots such as Batten.

“With anything like this you have to tease out the layers of meaning,” Millward said.

Millward’s own relationship with the aviation industry goes back to when she was a child with her mother having been in the Royal Canadian Air Force and her father in the Royal Air Force and then the civilian industry.

“I really grew up in the aviation industry and when I looked around I wondered why there were so few women in it,” Millward said.

“I knew there had been a period when there had been high profile female pilots and I wanted to know about them.”

Women in British Imperial Airspace, 1922-1937 has only partially quenched her thirst for knowledge. Millward’s next project continues her interest in the interwar period, but this time the focus will be on the female-led aviation groups that sprang up during the period and attempted to promote imperial aviation.
Small investment, major impact

Just a few dollars can make a workplace ‘work’ for people with disabilities

A Day in the Life of an equity officer

BY DALE BARBOUR
The Bulletin

The reasonable accommodation fund and the employment equity incentive fund are just two of the programs run by the University of Manitoba’s equity services. But each of them is having a major impact on people at the university.

In some ways the reasonable accommodation fund is an example of how a small contribution can make a big difference.

“Our typical disbursement is around $400 and it can be for anything from new speech recognition software to help a person with limited dexterity continue working to adjusting a workplace to suit an employee with a physical disability,” employment equity officer Louise Giesbrecht said.

The fund is run through equity services and works on a case by case basis.

“Very often it’s a case where something may have come up. Somebody within the department requires some sort of change for them to continue working,” Giesbrecht said. And given that it’s a surprise, the department hasn’t factored it into their budget. Carpal tunnel is an obvious example, but other changes could include adjusting for a vision or hearing impairment.

In most cases, the employee can still do his or her job, s/he just needs some adjustments to their work station or work process.

Departments will typically step up to match the fund 50/50, but their cost could be in the form of time or labour rather than monetary. The fund is also available when a department is making a new hire.

“It could be a case where they would be great for the new employee that just need some form of accommodation,” Giesbrecht said. “We want to take away any fear of hiring individuals because of fear there being some sort of extra cost.”

The law is clear that that shouldn’t happen anyway.

Employment equity officer Louise Giesbrecht is busy making sure that the University of Manitoba works for its workers.

Human rights legislation stipulates that an employee has to accommodate a potential hire up to the point where it could cause undue hardship.

“Part of our role is to educate our workplace about equitable and respectful (workplace) practices that contribute to the independence and equality of people with disabilities,” said Giesbrecht.

While the reasonable accommodation fund is accessed on an as needed basis, the employment equity incentive fund is an annual competition aimed at addressing equity issues at the university.

“We really see some interesting projects come in,” Giesbrecht said.

In the Faculty of Medicine, for example, it’s standard training to have students work with cadavers in an effort to get a better understanding of the human body. The problem is there are chemicals used in the preservation that can be harmful to pregnant women, which meant they would lose the learning opportunity of working with the cadavers. It comes down to a gender equality issue with women being denied access to the same learning opportunities as their male classmates.

“So they came up with the idea of video taping the laboratory procedures so that the experience of exploring the human body can be accessed for people outside the lab,” Giesbrecht said.

The Faculty of Social Work at Thompson ACCESS program has students from throughout, Northern Manitoba – all working on similar projects but rarely having the opportunity to take part in conferences or see experts in their field as easily as students in Southern Manitoba. So, with the help of the employment equity incentive fund, the program held a conference last fall to offer some value added training for their students and, as importantly, to allow them to connect with one another. (See story below for more information on the Faculty of Social Work at Thompson ACCESS program.)

Giesbrecht has been employment equity officer with the university for a little over a year, but the position is a natural fit. Her previous track record includes developing a non-governmental agency to help refugees integrate into Manitoba. She has also worked as a human resources officer with Palliser Furniture and said one of the primary lessons she learned was that if you’re going to look at workplace integration you have to consider it in a holistic manner.

Giesbrecht said she has also watched the notion of what is an appropriate accommodation in the workplace change over the years.

“When I worked in a steel fabrication plant 25 years ago and somebody with a physical disability needed to access an area, they might be carried up the stairs,” Giesbrecht said. “That’s just not acceptable.”

It’s the difference between providing a form of accessibility and providing it with independence, dignity and respect.

Conference is a perfect fit for Northern cohort

The Honouring Our Women conference was a get-together tailor made for a rather unique cohort of students.

The conference was held on Nov. 7 in Thompson for the 60 members of the Faculty of Social Work at Thompson ACCESS program. As a cohort, many of the group face similar challenges, including second-ary education due to a lack of financial resources, living in remote/isolated communities and, cultural and language challenges. Ninety-eight percent of the group are female and of those some 80 per cent are of Aboriginal ancestry.

But it’s those shared challenges and experiences that made the Honouring Our Women conference such a unique affair. Bolstered by funding from the employment equity incentive award, the conference brought graduates of the program back to mentor current students. Other prominent women from Northern Manitoba, including Florence Duncan, a band councillor of Norway House, and Jackie Fitzpatrick, a counsellor with University College of the North, talked about their own experiences and gave advice to students.

One outcome from the conference was the establishment of a support group for the students who were interested in working on their personal issues surrounding the topic of forgiveness. Another outcome was coordinating a sweat lodge experience to any student who wanted to participate.

As one of the students attending the conference noted, “It was nice to see all of the years come together to share, learn and work as one.”

The Hamilton photograph collection is now on Youtube

A four-minute video montage of photographs from the Thomas Glendenning Hamilton Photograph Collection has been produced by University of Manitoba archives and special Collections and posted to the popular video hosting site.

The video and its haunting soundtrack, which was produced by local sound engineer and archives assistant Robert Ross, adds a new dimension to the compelling images taken by Dr. T.G. Hamilton, who investigated psychic phenomena in his home in Winnipeg during the first half of the twentieth century.

Hamilton began investigating paranormal phenomena such as materializations, psychokinesis, ectoplasms and rappings, psychokinesis, ectoplasms and materializations shortly after the death of his son in 1918.

The challenge for Ross, who cut his teeth in film sound in the U of M’s film studies program, was to enhance the video with atmospheric music without getting too Scooby Doo.

“I wanted to do something that didn’t ridicule the material,” says Ross. “These photographs are a strange but important part of Winnipeg history.”

Sweeney says the video will increase awareness of the Thomas Glendenning Hamilton Photograph Collection, which can be found online at: manitoba.ca/library/archives/Hamilton.shtml

The Hamilton collection video can be found at www.youtube.com/watch?v=W0HncGNBCqY.
Walker offers a wild ride

Can a run-of-the-mill family survive an all out assault from both the hired authorities and the criminal fringe? Escape from Happiness is one of George F. Walker's East End Plays. Walker, master of dark comedy and poet of profanity and of every-day speech, is one of Canada's most produced and successful playwrights.

The core cast: Quinn family, mother, three daughters, car thief son-in-law, ex-cop father, and two daughters who are not speaking to their father, do battle amongst themselves and against the local crooks and a corrupt police force.

As Walker says, “these warrior women are all working to survive in a threatening environment, struggling to make it in the world. There are no big political issues, just an attempt to hang in there.”

Escape from Happiness is The Black Hole Theatre Company's final mainstage production of the year and is being directed by theatre program chair and Walker fanatic Chris Johnson.

Language warning! Performances run from March 4 to 8 and 11 to 15. See Arts and Entertainment listing for more details.

Events continue on Page 10.
ACADEMIC JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The University of Manitoba

Indigenizing Teacher Education for the 21st Century: Looking Back to the Future

Dr. Ethel Gardner

616 member of the Stó:lo Nation in B.C

Chairs the Department of Aboriginal Education

Associate Professor, at Lakehead University

Dr. Ethel Gardner is a leader in the field of Teacher Education spans over 20 years, and includes a passion for work in Aboriginal language revitalization. Writing, researching and contributing to community efforts for language renewal have been a common theme in her work at the First Nations House of Learning at UBC (1999-2004), at Stó:lo Nation (1990–2000), the First Nations Education Steering Committee (2001-2002) in B.C., at Simon Fraser University (2002-2006) and at Lakehead University (2006-present). In addition to her work in language revitalization and Indigenous education, Dr. Gardner has led the design and development of unique teacher education initiatives at Simon Fraser and Lakehead Universities.

Wednesday, March 12, 2008

7:30 p.m.

224 Education Building, Fort Garry Campus

All are welcome. Free admission.

For more information, please call 474-7402

Events Listing

From Page 8.

Faculty of Architecture Lecture Series.

New Fires, New Architect: Los Angeles. Centre Space John A. Russell Building, 12:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 11.

Disability Studies M.A. Thesis Defense. The experiences of First Nations people with disabilities and their families in receiving services and supports in First Nations communities in Manitoba by Don Shackle 314 Education Building, 1 p.m., Tuesday, March 11.

Anthropology. The making of fortified enclaves in Egypt and the complexities of power and place by Karl Schmid, tenured-track candidate, 307 Tower Building, 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 11.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

Centre for Architecture Toronto Lecture Series. The Modernist Revolution. The 1956 Hungarian Uprising in the Work of Hungarian-Canadian Artists by Oliver Bonney 409 Tower Building, 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 12.

Education. Indigenizing Teacher Education for the 21st Century: Looking Back to the Future by Stellemöeth Ethel Gardner. Chair University (2006 - present). In addition to her work at the First Nations House of Learning at UBC, Gardner is a leader in the field of Teacher Education spans over 20 years, and includes a passion for work in Aboriginal language revitalization. Writing, researching and contributing to community efforts for language renewal have been a common theme in her work at the First Nations House of Learning at UBC (1997-1999), at Stó:lo Nation (1999-2001), at the First Nations Education Steering Committee (2001-2002) in B.C., at Simon Fraser University (2002-2006) and at Lakehead University (2006-present). In addition to her work in language revitalization and Indigenous education, Dr. Gardner has led the design and development of unique teacher education initiatives at Simon Fraser and Lakehead Universities.

Third Annual Manitoba Science and Technology Centre, 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 18.

High Performance Computing Seminar Series. Exploring the Implications of the Seismic Revolution: An Impressionistic Overview of Recent Developments in Seismic Imaging. Chair Lab, 409 Engineering and Information Technology Centre, 10:30 a.m., Monday, March 16.


WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

Smartpark Interactive Breakfast Speaker Series. 3D Imaging and its Applications for Surgery by Jason Morrison, assistant professor, 409 Engineering and Information Technology Centre, 10:30 a.m., Monday, March 16.

Anthropology. Genomic Anthropology: Coming In From the Cold by Gilli Pálsson, department of anthropology, University of Iceland, 2:30 p.m., Monday, March 16.

Agricultural and Food Sciences. So food in Canada is the safest in the world, eh? by Rick Holley, department of food science, 2:30 p.m., Monday, March 16.
SET Day takes students into the future

BY SEAN MOORE
Research Promotion

On February 22, the University hosted its second annual SET Day, assembling over 100 students and teachers from across the province to learn about the future of research.

SET Day – Science, Engineering and Technology Day – is the only event of its kind in Manitoba and 30 high schools participated. The day featured presentations by leading researchers in six fields: high-energy astrophysics, physiology, wireless communications, plant science, robotics and civionics.

“The topics are cool,” said Erica Robertson, a Grade 12 student from Straitcliff Community School, “so it makes me feel less nerdy for liking science.”

Indeed, SET Day is meant to invigorate student interest in the sciences.

“The event’s goal is to get students excited about present day research and fascinate them with what research we, or I should say they, might be doing twenty-five years from now,” said Digvir Jayas, associate vice-president (research) at the University of Manitoba.

The first presenter of the day was Samar Safi-Harb, a professor of physiology spoke and in it he outlined modified organisms produced in farms and in it he outlined that modified organisms produced in farms future meals will consist of genetically modified foods. The only way to send information, he said, is through electromagnetic waves, which is how our expanding knowledge of gene regulation may one day allow us to trick immune systems into accepting donor organs.

Cattini also suggested the future will see the advent of a wallet-friendly card that holds person’s genetic information. The gizmos won’t stop there though. Cattini speculated that diagnostic equipment may one day be in everyone’s home, allowing a patient to step into a full-body scanner and send the results to a doctor via the internet. If surgery is needed, this scanner can help surgeons to pre-map their route into the body before robotic arms manipulated by them, perhaps a continent away, make the incisions.

The ability to send such vast amount of information, however, will require new methods of communication, and the next speaker addressed that area.

Electrical and computer engineer Lotfollah Shafai presented Signaling the Future, which dealt with his research on antennas and wireless communication. The only way to send information is through electromagnetic waves, so our ability to control them is correlated to our ability to send information. The better we understand the spectrum, the better we can manipulate it so that sensors can be placed in buildings or other objects to monitor just about anything, or be used to change the colour of nearly any material on demand.

After Shafai, plant scientist Jane Froese asked a pertinent question in her lecture’s title, What’s for Supper? In 2033, the world population will have climbed from the six or so billion people alive today to 8.5 billion people.

Since current food production is unsustainable, Froese speculated that future meals will consist of genetically modified organisms produced in farms adept in multi-cropping or companion cropping. But since nitrogen is the most limited element in the soil, and a crop’s yield is proportional to the amount of the most limiting nutrient, finding new ways – other than the energy-intensive fertilizing process – to deliver nitrogen to crops will be a focus of research in years to come.

The day then stepped out of the organic realm and into the inorganic, specifically robots.

In his presentation titled Robotics – Now and Into the Future, mechanical and manufacturing engineer Natanim Sepehri informed the audience that future robots will be smaller, softer and in multi-cropping or companion cropping. But since nitrogen is the most limited element in the soil, and a crop’s yield is proportional to the amount of the most limiting nutrient, finding new ways – other than the energy-intensive fertilizing process – to deliver nitrogen to crops will be a focus of research in years to come.

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SET Day was sponsored by the Prairies Office of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Manitoba (APEGM), Manitoba Hydro, the Province of Manitoba and the Office of the Vice-President (Research) at the University of Manitoba.

The Office of the Vice-President (Research) is currently developing a SET Day Website, which will include audio recordings of the day’s presentations. Check back soon at: www.umanitoba.ca/research/set
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