$1 million for U of M research

Previous research has criticized the federal prison system for providing inmates with inadequate and inaccessible means to ensure their conditions comply with the law. But the situation in provincial jails, where the majority of Canadian prisoners reside, is mostly unknown.

This, however, will change thanks to a new study by University of Manitoba researcher Debra Parkes, who received new funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC).

Last month, SSHRC announced $202.2 million in new funding for the development of knowledge and talent through scholarships, fellowships and university-based research. The University of Manitoba will receive close to $1 million for 11 new projects.

“The wide range of projects at the University of Manitoba that have received this new SSHRC funding is truly impressive,” said Joanne Keselman, vice-president (research). “This group of scholars spans a variety of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences, and these researchers are applying their expertise to some of today’s most important social issues.”

Parkes, associate professor of Law, will examine the existing practice of internal complaints, and review of segregation (solitary confinement) in Manitoba. She will also study the only avenue prisoners have to exert external accountability to prisons – the Ombudsman. Her research aims to bring a comparative perspective to bear on these issues by studying the model of the United Kingdom’s independent inspectorate. She will receive $87,004 in SSHRC funding over three years to do this.

Another study will examine immigrant employees as a segment of the Canadian workforce, and what affects their social interactions with Canadian-born employees. Xiaoyun Wang, associate professor of organizational behavior/human resource management, will lead the study, and will receive $129,000 in SSHRC funding over three years.

The other researchers whose projects received new SSHRC funding are:

• Janet Morril, accounting and finance, will receive $37,830 over one year to support “Valuation of Pension Assets and Liabilities: A Simulation Study.”

• Subramanian Sivaramakrishnan, marketing, will receive $130,588 over three years to support “Effect of Incongruity between Brand Association and Attitude Toward the Brand.”

SEE WIDE/P 2

Agassiz Ice unveiled

It’s another Gordon Reeve masterpiece. The Winnipeg Arts Council unveiled Agassiz Ice just south of Portage Avenue and next to the Assiniboine Park footbridge.

There were over 150 people on hand for the event on Aug. 28, but given that the work of art stands five metres tall at its highest point and weighs more than 2,000 kilograms, there was no option of hiding it behind a curtain at this unveiling.

Agassiz Ice is intended to resemble three great icebergs rearing up out of the prairie.

St. James MLA Bonnie Korzeniowski said the art work, the winning entry in an arts council sponsored competition, gives the park an eye catching signpost.

“The park has always had this great location right next to Portage Avenue but it needed something to catch people’s eyes. I would never have dreamt that it would have been something as glorious as this,” Korzeniowski said.

See REEVE/P 2

Agassiz Ice is intended to resemble three great icebergs rearing up out of the prairie.
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 draw bow U of M faculty and staff impact the world around them.

Top of the world
July 17, 2008
Nature Magazine.
The University of Manitoba-led Circumpolar Flaw Lead (CFL) study and findings made via the icebreaker Amundsen continue to make news, this time in a lengthy piece in Nature Magazine. The story begins and ends with a quote from U of M researcher Dave Barber.

Regarding Henry
August 31, 2008
National Post, Winnipeg Free Press.
The Vanier Cup winning University of Manitoba Bisons football team opened their season with a notch in the win column, and did so with the help of star running back Matt Henry, who suffered a major injury during the Vanier Cup game last year. The media reported on Henry’s remarkable recovery from his leg injury.

More doctors for the province
August 20, 2008
Winnipeg Free Press, CJOB, CBC, Global TV
The largest class ever of first-year University of Manitoba Faculty of Medicine students proved to be a very popular story in the media, especially throughout Manitoba where the retention of doctors is an ongoing concern.

Listeria hysteria
August 26, 2008
CBC’s The National, Globe and Mail, National Post, Montreal Gazette, Ottawa Citizen
Rick Holley, a professor of microbiology at the University of Manitoba, has been in the news a lot in recent weeks commenting on listeria, a type of bacteria that has been responsible for the outbreak in recent weeks commenting on listeria, a type of bacteria that has been responsible for the outbreak.

Drug warnings: Do they work?
August 29, 2008
Washington Post, CBC, Atlanta Journal Constitution
Laurence Katz, a psychiatry professor at the University of Manitoba, was cited in several articles on a study that showed that warnings from Health Canada on the risk of death and stroke among seniors taking antipsychotic drugs failed to reduce the prescription rates of those drugs.

Headline News
Where else has the U of M been making news?
Here’s a look at just a few of our headlines over the past few weeks:

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Reeve’s art captures a moment in time

From Page 1

Reeve, a Winnipeg sculptor and School of Art professor, said the message behind the artwork is a very simple.

"People always ask ‘What’s it supposed to be?’ It’s supposed to be something like icebergs," Reeve said.

"It’s always been a thrill to me to think that we’re living at the bottom of what one was Lake Agassiz. There would have been a moment when the ice wall began to collapse and these great sheets of ice began to collapse into the water and I can imagine this clean pristine water, even before it was warm enough to support any kind of life.

The artwork reflects that moment, showcasing itself spectacularly in bright sunlight with the metal catching and reflecting the light the same way the icebergs would have.

"It’s a particularly poignant moment now as the Arctic ice sheet declines in the face of global warming," Reeve said.

This is really not meant to be a cautionary piece at all, it’s not meant to teach you a lesson. But it is to say, that this is an incredibly beautiful environment," Reeve said.

“So this isn’t meant to say anything more than we’re all we lucky to be here.”

Like the icebergs it reflects, only about 10 per cent of Reeve’s work can be seen above the surface: sunk into the riverbank below it are 10 cement piles to ensure that the artwork is able to withstand the test of time.

Reeve gave a special thanks to the people at Parr Metal Fabricators who helped turn his dream into a reality.

“Every line in there means a piece of metal was put into a machine and bent and bent,” Reeve said.

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Wide range of projects supported

From Page 1

• Hikmet Gunay, economics, will receive $69,600 over three years to support “Beliefs and Learning in Initial Public Offerings and Bank-Runs.”
• Eker Gerkes, Natural Resource Institute, will receive $112,800 over three years to support “Governance, Local Knowledge and Livelihoods in Community-Based Conservation.”
• Tina M. Chen, history, will receive $55,000 over three years to support “War, Transnational Metropoles and the Political Economy of the Personal: Overseas Chinese Migration from Rangoon to Kunming, Chongqing and Calcutta, 1932-1947.”
• Kent D. Fowler, anthropology, will receive $122,100 over three years to support “Materializing Zulu identity: the influence of social networks on pottery production and the expression of Zulu identity in Southeast Africa.”
• Dawne C. McCance, religion, will receive $45,287 over three years to support “Life after Derrida.”
• Myroslov Shkindri, German and Slavic studies, will receive $37,739 over three years to support “Literary Myth and National Identity in Eastern Europe.”
• Krista L. Uggerslev, business administration, will receive $82,619 over three years to support “Applicant Attraction across the Stages of the Recruitment Process.”

SSHRC is an independent federal government agency that funds university-based research and graduate training through national peer-review competitions. SSHRC also partners with public and private sector organizations to focus research and aid the development of better policies and practices in key areas of Canada’s social, cultural and economic life.

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The Bulletin University of Manitoba

The Bulletin is the newspaper of record for the University of Manitoba. It is published by the Public Affairs department every second Thursday from September to June and monthly in December, July and August.

The Bulletin welcomes submissions from members of the university community. Submissions can include letters to the editor, columns, news briefs and story and photo suggestions.

Material in The Bulletin may be reprinted or broadcast, excepting materials for which The Bulletin does not hold exclusive copyright.

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Advertising Policy
With the exception of advertisements from the University of Manitoba, ads carried in The Bulletin do not imply recommendation by the university for the product or service. The Bulletin will not knowingly publish any advertisement which is illegal, misleading or offensive to its readers. The Bulletin will also reject any advertisement which violates the university’s internal policies, equity/human rights or code of conduct.

The Bulletin can be viewed online at umanitoba.ca/bulletin
Record-setting medicine class
110 students enter the faculty and recite the Hippocratic Oath

BY ILANA SIMON
For The Bulletin

One hundred and ten new medical students – the Faculty of Medicine’s largest medical school class ever – were welcomed into the profession at the faculty’s annual inaugural day exercises held Aug. 20 at the Bannatyne campus.

Med 1 students began their first official day at the Faculty of Medicine by participating in a symbolic white coat ceremony that included reciting the Hippocratic Oath.

“The best thing about Medicine is the capacity to draw you out of the place you came from,” noted University of Manitoba alumnus and award-winning author Kevin Patterson (MD’89) in his keynote address reflecting on his life experiences in challenging health-care environments.

“The most important and interesting medicine happens on the margins of the world far from urban centres among people who need it the most,” advised Patterson. (Consumption, Country of Cold and The Water In Between) who has spent much time working up north through the faculty’s J.A. Hildes Northern Medical Unit.

This year’s class is comprised of 99 Manitoba residents and 11 out-of-province residents. Of the 110 students, six self-declared as Aboriginal and 26 self-declared as rural.

“This is one of the best times possible to enroll in Medicine. We’ve seen unprecedented growth in the faculty and increasing educational supports,” said Dean Sandham, dean, Faculty of Medicine in welcoming the first-year students.

“Over the last six years, we have seen in Manitoba the largest growth in health professional education in two generations. We celebrate the largest class of new medical students in Manitoba with pride and we thank our partners in the community and government for this exciting, and important, opportunity.”

For Med 1 students Ian Alexander, 21 and Veena Agrawal, 20 a career in Medicine offers an unparalleled ability to contribute to society. “I want to give back to my community and help out the people who helped me,” said Alexander, originally from Selkirk.

“Being a physician is the most amazing way to give to your community. I can’t imagine doing something more meaningful with my life,” added Agrawal.

Meanwhile, becoming a physician is a dream come true for Med 1 student and former CBC journalist John Webb who is embarking on a second career at 39. “I realized a few years ago that I was happier in a helping capacity than as a producer,” he said, adding his life experience will undoubtedly serve as an advantage in the arduous years ahead completing his undergraduate and postgraduate medical education.

“I am battle tested. I have dealt with conflict, tension and danger working as a television producer and news reader for 12 years … what doesn’t kill you makes you stronger,” he said.

Students plan to build hybrid car

The University of Manitoba is going to have a brand new player in the Society of Automotive Engineer (SAE) competition circuit.

The university already has a track record in the formula hybrid race car category. The new team was announced in the Engineering and Information Technology Centre Atrium on Aug. 28.

“Researchers at the Faculty of Engineering at the U of M have taken the lead in so many areas concerning alternative energy and fuel, it only makes sense we now get involved with the design of new hybrid vehicle technology,” said Doug Ruth, dean of Engineering.

“Design of a high performance race car that runs on alternative energy is innovation we can all be excited about,” he said.

The hybrid team includes about 20 students, including representatives from computer science, electrical and computer engineering and mechanical engineering. So far McGill University has been the only Canadian entry in the international SAE hybrid competitions, but U of M hybrid team leader Sean Fabbro said his group is ready to do something about that.

“I think that Manitoba is going to be a leader in the hybrid competition. I do think we can beat McGill,” Fabbro said. The hybrid team will be starting its design from scratch.

“It’s a challenge, but it can be an advantage too, because the other teams have a lot of baggage from past competitions,” hybrid team member Curtis Rafferty said.

Ian’s pass on their plans to incoming students, which means every vehicle has a sort of history. While they’re challenging McGill, Rafferty said they’ve also got their eye on the U of M’s own Formula Race Car. It would be a sweet victory, Rafferty said, if they could outgun the race car with a hybrid vehicle that runs on alternative fuel.

The UMSAE’s line-up of vehicles was on display for the formula hybrid car announcement and it was a chance for those teams to talk about their own victories.

“All of our teams have had a successful year at national and international competitions,” said UMSAE president, Daniel Nychuk. “We want to take this opportunity to thank all our sponsors who have brought us this far, and let people know about the exciting new direction we are taking.”

Call for Nominations

Nominations for the following titles and honours are now invited:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Honour</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Distinguished Professor</td>
<td>October 15, 2008</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. President/Dean/Professor/Librarian Emeritus/Emerita</td>
<td>December 31, 2008</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Honorary Degrees</td>
<td>October 31, 2008</td>
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<td>4. Distinguished Service Award</td>
<td>December 31, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Peter D. Curry Chancellor’s Award</td>
<td>October 15, 2008</td>
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For more information and nomination forms, please go to:

umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/forms/
National win for Faculty of Music talent

Students, faculty and staff from the University of Manitoba’s Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music captured top prizes in the prestigious Federation of Canadian Music Festivals’ 2008 National Music Festival recently.

The chamber ensemble is coached by renowned saxophonist Alan Harrington and is comprised of soprano saxophonist Mary Ellen Packer, alto saxophonist Keegan Dill, tenor saxophonist Alena Amason and baritone saxophonist Andrea Will’s. Finally, in the guitar category, Andrew Erickson, student of guitarist Richard Tyborskiw, received third place.

“The Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music is proud of these outstanding achievements and is pleased that our students continue to distinguish themselves on the national stage,” said dean Edith Lord, Dave.

Getting to the festival is a feat in itself. To qualify musicians must receive a first-place standing in a senior class or a provincial class at one of Canada’s more than 200 local festivals. After that, and with adjudicator recommendation, musicians can then proceed to a Provincial Music Festival, where they are adjudicated and then must win first place and receive recommendation by adjudicators. When a musician makes it to National Music Festival, they individually represent their province in their respective category.

The National Music Festival provides a showcase for Canada’s finest young classical musicians. The winners in each category are awarded $1,500, while second and third place award winners receive $1,000 and $500 respectively. This year the festival was held Aug. 14 to 15 in Edmonton.

University of Manitoba students are travelling the world to study and volunteer. Sarah Swan, a graduate of Fine Arts, joined the army as a medic for a few years and has now returned to the U of M to pursue a degree in Nursing. She is one of three U of M students participating in the Canadian Physicians for Aid and Relief (CPAR)-World Wise Study Tour to Tanzania. The others are Jill Heinrichs, Environment, Earth, and Resources, and Doug Allen, Arts. Last year, the University of Manitoba sent two students to northern Uganda, Amanda Nolan in Social Work and Dorian Watts, now doing her grad work in community health sciences.

Swan is tracking her progress with a regular blog at http://cpar-studytour2008.blogspot.com/

Wednesday, August 27, 2008

Impressed

As soon as we opened the gate they began to dance toward us, a blaze of fabrics and colours, throwing flower petals in the air and singing ‘yi-yi-ya-yi’!” These are the UMATU women of Karatu, loosely translated as “hope and love women living with HIV.” We spent the morning observing them in action, and then spent most of the afternoon together, in one of the most interesting and inspiring discussions I have ever been a part of. These women are brave. They have firm hand shakes and broad smiles, and are terrific at asking and answering pointed questions. We wanted to know about local culture here, how the role of women are responding etc, and they wanted to know about responses for homosexuality in Canada. The exchange of ideas that followed included much nervous laughter and clearing of throats as we talked about stigma in our respective cultures, exactly how gays and lesbians achieve sexual pleasure, gay pride in Canada, the church’s perspective, and more. The reason I loved the discussion so much is that it was not the typical dynamic of Africans entertaining the white tourists, it was real and gritty cultural exchange, with both sides giving and taking, shifting awkwardly in our seats.

UMATU was started by two local women in 2005. Because of CPAR’s market outreach, at this time, these women knew they had somewhere to go for information on how to live with their disease. Once armed with information, they began to teach other women, encouraging them to get tested and offering support for those testing positive.

Now there are 60 members, some benefiting from small business loans, all taking ART drugs, all full of life and doing well. Poppy says, “A word about the CPAR staff here – I am watching them as closely as I am the huts on the side of the road, the flitting birds, the slow-eyed doves ... not only is this my first time in Africa, it is my first time as an NGO and the staff have made quite an impression on me. They are so animated in the way that they speak and so focused on what they are doing towards it. I do however, feel a bit a pale-spiritied and aimless beside them. I do however, feel a bit a better about being a tourist after reading a passage in a Goethe novel I brought with me from home. He said (and I paraphrase) there are two truths about a place. The first truth belongs to the person whose home it is, the second to the traveller, it is the traveller that notices what others who have been there too long fail to notice anymore.”

Prominent businessman Arni Thorsteinson was honored at a luncheon by the Winnipeg Associates of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, the Stu Clark Centre for Entrepreneurship in the I.H. Asper School of Business, and the Winnipeg community for his dedication to a student exchange program.

The Arni C. Thorsteinson Exchange Program was designed to build networks between students and local business leaders and to foster cultural exchange between Israeli and Canadian youth. This year 10 Asper School students went to Israel in May to spend the month studying at BGU’s He’er Sheva campus. In spring 2009, 10 students from BGU will travel to Winnipeg to study at the Asper School.

Business leader and U of M grad honoured

“Arni has been a great supporter of the program in terms of the organization of the cultural component and he has also been one of the leaders thinking about the cultural experiences,” says Robert Warren, I.H. Asper director of Entrepreneurship. The exchange program was established by Gerald W. Schwartz, who was a guest speaker, and who named the program in honour of Thorsteinson. Schwartz is an 1953 I.H.E.A. recipient, a two-time graduate of the University of Manitoba, and chairman and chief executive officer of Onex Corporation.

University of Manitoba Research Support Programs

For further information on these programs (i.e., program priorities and guidelines, application procedures, etc.), contact the appropriate person listed below or, for the deadlines of the programs, visit http://umanitoba.ca/research/ors/internalfunding_deadlines_forms.html.

NAME OF PROGRAM PURPOSE DEADLINES

University Research Grants Program (URGP)
To support the growth of research at the University – highest priority is the provision of grants to new faculty members (those in the first 3 years of their appointment)
October 15 (New Staff)
March 1 (Established Staff)

UWSSRC/SHRC Graduate Grants Program (UWSSRC/SHRC GPG)
To provide support for small-scale research projects in the social sciences and humanities – open to researchers in disciplines supported by SHRC
15th March 2010

UWSSRC/SHRC International Travel Grants Program (UWSSRC/SHRC ITP)
To provide support for researchers to take part in international conferences of major scholarly significance – open to researchers in disciplines supported by SHRC
15th March 2010

University Creative Works Grants Program
To provide support for highly creative work by University of Manitoba – highest priority is the provision of grants to new faculty members (those in the first 3 years of their appointment)
May 1

Leave Research Grant Program
To designate part of applicant’s salary as a grant-in-aid of research conducted while on research leave
2 months prior to leave

Self-funded Research Grant Program
To designate part of an applicant’s salary as a grant-in-aid of research conducted while not on leave from the University (within one calendar year)
September 30
January 21
May 31

The Dr. F. D. Pid I.T. Tholenkassen Foundation Program
To provide support for basic or applied research in the health sciences – highest priority is provision of support to new independent researchers who are not otherwise covered by the University
April 15

Samuel Winer Distinguished Visitor Award
To bring distinguished scholars who are making outstanding contributions to their field(s) of study to the University
May 1

To encourage the development of research, the University offers a number of research support programs. These programs are administered by the Office of the Vice-President (Research) on behalf of the University. For further information on these programs (i.e., program priorities and guidelines, application procedures, etc.), contact the appropriate person listed below or, for the deadlines of the programs, visit http://umanitoba.ca/research/ors/internalfunding_deadlines_forms.html.

For Information on the Programs Below, Contact Kateyen Kramarich-469-448 - Office of Research Services

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA RESEARCH SUPPORT PROGRAMS

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For Information on the Programs Below, Contact: student@umanitoba.ca
Golf tourney supports student food bank

The University of Manitoba 8th Annual All Staff Golf Tournament was held at the neighbouring Southwood Golf and Country Club on Aug. 25. Warmer weather and sunny skies made for a great day of golf. There were 112 people registered from many university departments at both the Fort Garry and Bannatyne campuses. Due to the immense popularity of the event, many teams had to be placed on a waiting list. In fact, all tournament spots were filled in a record time of three hours!

The tournament provided an opportunity for staff to get together but also supported the University of Manitoba Student Food Bank. The donations of dry goods and cash exceeded $1200. Jane Lastra, director of financial aids and awards, received the donations to help students in need throughout the year.

This year’s winning team with a score of 7 under par was Team Pooh, which included Sean Vint, Bert Requeima, Chuck Leclerc and Roger Lamontagne. The second place team with a score of 6 under par was Team Electrical Shop which included Derek Plante, Tom Holovach, David Treger and Lionel Care.

The women’s longest drive was won by Jackie Dewar. The men’s longest drive was won by Mark Mandziuk and the closest to the hole was won by Darryl Smith. Unfortunately, there were no winners for the $10,000 hole-in-one prize which was sponsored by the organizers of the tournament.

Linda Lavallee, Ed Matias and Chris Bohonis were in charge of organizing the event and making it a success. Although entries for next year’s tournament will not be accepted until an e-memo has been sent out by the organizers, staff are encouraged to plan for next year’s event.

Donations of both food and money to the University of Manitoba Student Food Bank can be made by attending the financial aid and awards office, 422 University Centre.

Summer session wraps up

As the 2008/09 regular session begins at the University of Manitoba, the numbers are in for summer session 2008.

Total enrollment in summer term declined by 162 students, or 1.7 per cent, over last year. There were 9,437 students registered in summer 2008, compared to 9,599 students in summer 2007.

Total credit hours in the 2008 summer term, including distance education and faculty administered courses, decreased by 4.2 per cent, from 57,811 in 2007 to 55,377.

The enrolment and credit hour reports are available at the office of institutional analysis web site, umanitoba.ca/admin/oia/, in the ‘current enrolment reports’ section.

The Bulletin Page 5
Creativity in a multi-media world

A Day in the Life of a multi-media communications specialist

BY DALE BARBOUR
The Bulletin

Greg Renegar is what you would call the full widget. He’s the multi-media communications specialist for University 1. It’s a position that has him doing everything from designing online forms to producing print publications and brochures.

“It is kind of a unique position in that I’m doing quite a diverse mix of things and that would probably scare a lot of people but it suits me,” Renegar said. “I’ve always enjoyed being able to create and build things and certainly whether it’s the print side or whether it’s the programming, there’s lots of opportunity for creativity, so that’s fun.”

He joined U1 last year but he’s been with the university for four years, primarily in the programming field. “With the programming background, I’ve been working to send out more automated material on U1 through the internet, and give new students the opportunity to sign up online for some of the orientation classes that interest them,” Renegar said.

U1, now into its tenth year, is quite literally the front door to the university. The unique program includes a front help desk, learning assistance centre, orientation group, advising group, and an intro to university course.

“The university is a big complex place, what we’re doing here is essentially at the forefront in Canada. We’re attempting to make that transition as easy as possible for students and to provide all the support and resources they need to be successful at the university and certain to date there’s data that shows it really works,” Renegar said. “I went to U of M myself many years ago and at that time I know I would have really found what U 1 offers incredibly valuable so it’s really satisfying to be a part of that now.”

Renegar’s own interest in technology goes straight back to his youth. “I always had a fascination with computers, I was of that generation where computers started to become consumer items, first mainstream machines, I was fascinated with them, spent a lot of time playing with them, creating programs, those sorts of things.”

The question he asks now when he’s designing his communications material is how can he best reach the university’s new students.

“We’re looking into video podcasts and we’ve got plans for doing some more interactive stuff, with the online advising, certainly informational podcasts and also, essentially, video versions of some of stuff on the web,” Renegar said. “We try to make things a little more interactive tapping the technology that students are using these days.”

It’s a balancing act; different people like to receive information in different ways.

“Technology can be seen as a magic solution to things, and used for technology’s sake. And I try not to fall into that trap,” Renegar said. “Our goal in implementing video podcasts, is to try to provide our content in a more visual medium that will suit certain learning styles.”

While most of his career has been spent in programming, Renegar said one of his first summer jobs when he was a student was doing desk-top publication. That was back when the 386 computer was in vogue, but the training stuck well enough that he was able to knock off the rust and add the skills to his new job with U1. The combination works really well given that even if a publication is intended for distribution in print, it often ends up online as a pdf.

“It’s always nice to coordinate the print side of things with the online side of things. There’s a huge overlap.”

Expect more change in the future, Renegar said the U1 website is currently fairly static, primarily providing people with an intro to the different groups and services involved in U1. But as podcasts and interactive forms come on stream, look for the website to become more interactive as well.

Retirement fosters new talents

For Eugene Burchill a quilt is one-part art and one-part science.

The retired chemistry professor is bringing his quilt art to the University of Manitoba for a two-day show Sept. 18 and 19 in the Arboog Room 205 University Centre. The show runs 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., both days, with an evening time, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Sept. 18.

“It started before I retired,” Burchill said. He was with the U of M’s chemistry department for more than 30 years. “I used to help draft templates and scaling patterns for my wife.” But eventually, he started to find his own voice in the quilting field.

It was a natural fit, Burchill had tapped computer technology in the 1970s and 80s to generate graphics and animation for his classrooms. In retirement, he simply turned that creativity into creating designs for quilts.

The initial designs tilt towards his background in chemistry reflecting patterns and some appear almost as a rainbow reflected through a prism. Other quilts reflect an interest in science fiction or even religion.

“In a sense all art should tell a story – it’s more than just ornamental,” Burchill said. “I don’t call it a hobby, it’s almost an obsession,” he added. “I find the quilt always look different from initial design you do on the computer.”

While coming up with the designs was a natural fit for him, Burchill said taking the next step and producing the quilt himself was a challenge.

“I hadn’t used a sewing machine for about 60 years, so I kind of held my breath at first,” Burchill said. “But the sewing I do is pretty straight forward.”

Perhaps his major achievement has been the design and construction of a suite of seasonal and festival banners for Epiphany Lutheran Church in Winnipeg (some thirty pieces in all). He has also donated quilt art to the departments of chemistry, plant science and biological sciences on the Fort Garry campus and the department of biochemistry and medical genetics at the Bannatyne campus.

All that jazz

The Domino Summer Jazz Concert brought over 500 people into the Taché Hall Auditorium on Aug. 21. From left, Anna-Lisa Kirby provided vocals, Andre Hayward was on the trombone and Steve Kirby was playing bass.
Aboriginal oral traditions are not only important for understanding the past but they form the basis for today’s land claims, for the interpretation of treaties, and for traditional knowledge; they also influence greatly contemporary literary and performance arts. Unfortunately, they’re also ripe for misinterpretation and misappropriation, which is why Renee Hulan, Saint Mary’s University, and Renate Eigenbrod, University of Manitoba, have released a new book entitled Aboriginal Oral Traditions: Theory Practice Ethics.

The idea for the book was born during Eigenbrod’s year of teaching at Acadia University where she became more familiar with the work of Baptist missionary Silas T. Rand and his collection of Mi’kmaq “legends” in the latter half of the 19th century.

A shared interest with Hulan led to a conference on Aboriginal oral traditions at the Gorsebrook Research Institute in Halifax in April 2005, and, subsequently the book Aboriginal Oral Traditions, which draws on presentations from the conference. Eigenbrod said the book includes a certain emphasis on Aboriginal peoples on the east coast (not too often included in scholarship on Aboriginal topics) with essays by curator Stephen Augustine, scholar Andrea Bear Nicholas, filmmaker Catherine Martin and artist Alan Syliboy.

The book considers the theory, practice and ethics of working with Aboriginal oral traditions through a range of examples, everything from the oral aesthetics in literature and performance art to court cases and intellectual property rights issues.

An emphasis on orality in the form of story, song and ceremony and knowledge steeped in memory creates a difference from cultures which depend on the printed word, but as Hulan and Eigenbrod point out in their introduction, the book is intended to undermine the oral/written binary along with the valorization of the written and the still existing power imbalance of the two approaches. On the subject of ethical issues, Andrea Bear Nicholas, chair of Native studies at St. Thomas University, considers how Charles Leland reworked Wabanaki oral traditions.

It’s Text Time

Now at the U of M Bookstore

Pick up all your important texts – and every other Rogers service – with one easy stop. Right off the shelf!

Visit the U of M Bookstore today.
A new president, Vanier Cup champs and a gala concert that can be enjoyed by everyone are just a few of the highlights at Homecoming 2008, which runs Sept. 10 to 14.

The welcome reception for president David Barnard will held at the Winnipeg Convention Centre, 5 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 11. Following Barnard’s reception, members from the Marcel A. Desgranges Faculty of Music will take the stage for a 90-minute concert.

You don’t want to miss this opportunity to watch a free performance by some of Manitoba’s finest musical talents. RSVP at alumni@umanitoba.ca or call 474-9946.

The Homecoming Football Game takes place on Saturday, Sept. 13, with the doors opening at 1 p.m. and the kickoff at 2 p.m. You can watch the Vanier Cup champion University of Manitoba Bison challenge the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds and take part in a day full of fun activities.

After the game, head over to the Homecoming Reunion Dinner: the reception begins at 6 p.m. with dinner following at 7 p.m. at the Victoria Inn Hotel and Convention Centre. The annual reunion dinner is a great opportunity to reminisce with your former classmates and enjoy entertainment and a five-course dinner.

Other highlight events during Homecoming 2008 include Fort Garry campus tours on Friday, Sept. 12 and a wide range of faculty special events and tours.

For more information on attending events please visit umanitoba.ca/alumni.

### 50 Year Finale

What better way to close out a 50th anniversary year than with the biggest party of them all. The Faculty of Dentistry has confirmed plans for the 50 Year Finale, the faculty’s closing bash to mark its 50 years as part of the University of Manitoba.

Tickets are now available for the Nov. 22 gala event that includes a keynote address from Charles Winograd, CEO of CBC Royal Bank, one of Canada’s most prominent and successful businessmen.

“It is with tremendous excitement and pride that we confirm that our 50 Year Finale will take place on Nov. 22,” said Dentistry dean An-M. Iacopino. “We are thrilled to announce that the evening will feature Jan Brown as co-host and emcee. Jan Brown is the former president of the Canadian Business Federation and one-time president of the Canadian Bar Association. The 50 Year Finale will feature Jan Brown as co-host and emcee. Jan Brown is the former president of the Canadian Business Federation and one-time president of the Canadian Bar Association.

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5**

Centre For Research and Treatment of Atherosclerosis (CRTA) Seminar Series, A Versatile Hydrophobic Drug Delivery Vehicle by Robert O. Ryan, senior scientist, Children’s Hospital Oakland Research Institute, Oakland, California, professor and head, department of nutritional sciences and toxicology, University of California, Berkeley.

A229 Chown Building, videos-linked to R4613 Saint Paul Place Centre, 9 p.m., Friday, Sept. 5.

Medical Microbiology PhD Oral Examination, Mechanisms Underlying the Microbial Exposure-mediated Inhibition of Allergic Reactions: Crucial Roles of Dendritic Cells and Natural Killer Cells by Lei Jiao, 540 Basic Medical Sciences Building, 10 a.m., Friday, Sept. 5.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Obstetrics and Gynecology Grand Rounds, Obstetrics and Mental Health by Laura Calhoun, medical director, prenauch, and Carrie Lionberg, PhD, adult psychology, University of Manitoba, Theatre A Basic Medical Sciences Building, 7:45 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 10. Live webcast at www.umanitoba.ca/womens_health.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Pediatric Grand Rounds, A Few Really Important Things About Evidence-Based Medicine by Allan Garland, associate professor of medicine and community health sciences, Theatre A, Basic Medical Sciences Building, linked to St. Boniface General Hospital, 8 a.m., Thursday, Sept. 11.

### Bannatyne Campus

**– ST. BONIFACE GENERAL HOSPITAL AND RESEARCH CENTRE**

Pediatic research rounds, The role of T cells and MHC in the development of autoimmunity in the collagen induced arthritis model by Edward R. Rosloniec, 500 John Buhler Research Centre, 12 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 11.

Manitoba Institute of Child Health (MICI)/Department of Immunology, The role of T cells and MHC in the development of autoimmunity in the collagen induced arthritis model by Edward Rosloniec, department of pathology, University of Tennessee, Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Immunology Library 604/605 Basic Medical Sciences Building, 12 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 11.

Hospice and Palliative Care Manitoba, Life’s End – Caring, Compassion, and Mindful Presence in the Relief of Suffering by Tom Jackson and David Moller, sharing stories, photographs and music. Moller and Jackson will illuminate the experiences of illness, suffering, death and grief in the midst of poverty. This presentation will show how compassion, understanding and care can relieve suffering while promoting peace and dignity throughout the experience of dying, Victoria Inn, 1808 Wellington Ave., 7:45 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 11. No registration required. Donations gratefully accepted.

### Events Listing

University of Manitoba

**Join us for Homecoming!**

Whether you're a graduate from 1948 or a new student, Homecoming is a great opportunity to show your university colours!
Fort Garry Campus

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

History PhD Oral Examination, “Between Education and Catastrophe”: Public Schooling and the Project of Post-War Reconstruction in Manitoba 1944-1960 by George Buri, 412 Tier Building, 10:30 a.m., Friday, Sept. 5.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
Smartpark INTERACTIVE Breakfast Series, Leadership: A University President’s Perspective by David T. Barnard, president and vice-chancellor, Lobby 135 Innovation Drive, Breakfast for 50, Friday, Sept. 12. Free event. Seating is limited. Free parking. e-mail lee_m@cc.umanitoba.ca or call 474-7979 to reserve your seat today.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15
Plaque Dedication in honour of Dr. Nathan Mendelsohn (1917-2006). This ceremony will honour the contributions of Nathan Mendelsohn, distinguished professor emeritus. Mendelsohn was a member of the department of mathematics at the University of Manitoba for 57 years, and head of the department for nearly 25 years. He was primarily responsible for what is now known as combinatorial universal algebra, Faculty of Science General Office, 239 Machray Hall, 1 p.m., Monday, Sept. 15.

Merit Award Recipients
For 2006 and 2007

The Collective Agreement between the University and the University of Manitoba Faculty Association includes provision for merit awards, granted to Members to recognize outstanding achievement in a given calendar year. The amount of each award is $3,000.

The two joint University-UMFA committees responsible for administering the merit awards recently made their decisions for the calendar years 2006 and 2007. Each recipient received a joint congratulatory letter in June from University President Emilie J.E. Szathmary and UMFA President Brenda Austin-Smith.

2006 MERIT AWARDS RECIPIENTS

Social Sciences, Humanities and Fine Arts

Louise Renée, French, Spanish and Italian, Arts; Sergio Carvalho, Marketing, Asper School of Business; for teaching.

Yatta Kanu, Curriculum, Teaching and Learning, Education; Enrique Fernandez, French, Spanish and Italian, Arts; Corey Scott Mackenzie, Psychology, Arts; Douglas Brownridge, Family Social Sciences, Human Ecology, for research, scholarly work and other creative activities.

Jacquie Vorauer, Psychology, Arts; Rotimi Aluko, Human Nutritional Sciences, Human Ecology. Raymond P. Perry, Psychology, Arts; Stephan Jaeger, German and Slavic Studies, Arts; for any combination of teaching, research, scholarly work and other creative activities and service.

2007 MERIT AWARDS RECIPIENTS

Social Sciences, Humanities and Fine Arts

Vanessa Warne, English, Arts; Douglas Brownridge, Family Social Sciences, Human Ecology, Sergio Carvalho, Marketing, Asper School of Business; Rajesh V. Manchanda, Marketing, Asper School of Business; for teaching.

Raymond P. Perry, Psychology, Arts; Mohammed H. Moghadasi, Human Nutritional Sciences, Human Ecology; Nick Turner, Business Administration, Asper School of Business; Eyvind Jones, History; Arts; for research, scholarly work and other creative activities.

Rick Linden, Sociology, Arts; Marie Speare, Science and Technology Library, Libraries; for service.

Murray Singer, Psychology, Arts; Janice Forsyth, Kinesiology and Recreation Management; Susan Prentice, Sociology, Arts; Chris Johnson, English, Arts; for any combination of teaching, research, scholarly work and other creative activities and service.

Life Sciences, Natural Sciences and Engineering

Nipon Rattanawangcharoen, Civil Engineering, Engineering; Daniel Mann, Biosystems Engineering, Agricultural and Food Sciences; Shawn Clark, Civil Engineering, Engineering; for teaching.

Torsten Hegmann, Chemistry, Science; Xi Yang, Immunology, Medicine; Ralph G. Stanton, Computer Science, Science; Abba Gumel, Mathematics, Science; for research, scholarly work and other creative activities.

Randy Herrmann, Engineering Access Program, Engineering; Dean Kriellaars, Physical Therapy, Medical Rehabilitation, Medicine; Peter Zahradka, Physiology, Medicine for service.

Jonathan Rempel, Kinesiology and Recreation Management; Stan Pierre, Kinesiology and Recreation Management; John Brian Dobie, Kinesiology and Recreation Management for any combination of teaching, research, scholarly work and other creative activities and service.

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Advertise in the Bulletin
For details call 474 8111

One university. Many futures.
Student research booms in dentistry

The Faculty of Nursing would like to announce the appointment of the following members to the Manitoba Centre for Nursing and Health Research (MCNHR) Advisory Board. Formerly known as the Manitoba Dental Research National Student Research Group (CADR-NSRG) to encourage undergraduate research work in the faculty.

MANITOBA CENTRE FOR NURSING AND HEALTH RESEARCH
Faculty of Nursing

The Centre on Aging invites applications for a Research Fellowship for the 2009/2010 academic year from University of Manitoba faculty members. The Centre on Aging conducts, stimulates, and promotes research on aging, provides an interdisciplinary focus for the research activities in aging at the universities in Manitoba and supports the teaching of students in aging. The Centre serves as the focal point for the integration and dissemination of research on aging in Manitoba.

The Centre on Aging Research Fellowship is designed to support aging-related research in any discipline. The Research Fellowship is open to all University of Manitoba faculty and consists of a $10,000 stipend. The stipend will typically be used for teaching release, research grants, or for costs directly related to the proposed research project, or as a combination of both.

A listing of previous Research Fellowship recipients is available on the Centre on Aging's web site at www.umanitoba.ca/centres/aging under Faculty Opportunities. Prospective applicants are encouraged to contact the Director for further information (474-8754).

CENTRE ON AGING
RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP 2009/2010
Deadline for Applications: November 14, 2008

FACULTY OF MEDICINE
School of Health Studies
Canadian Chiropractic Research Foundation
Professor: Professorship in Spine Biomechanics and Neurophysiology at the rank of assistant professor
Start date: January 1, 2009
Application deadline: Oct. 1, 2008
Position number: 08171
For information: Dr. Emily Etcheverry, chair, professorship in spine biomechanics and neurophysiology search committee, School of Medical Rehabilitation, University of Manitoba, R106-771 McDermot Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba R3E 0T6, phone 789-3418, fax 789-3927, e-mail: eetchev@cc.umanitoba.ca.

School of Medical Rehabilitation
Department of Physical Therapy Position: Instructor II
Start date: Jan. 1, 2009
Application deadline: Oct. 1, 2008
Position number: 08182
For information: Dr. Emily Etcheverry, chair, physical therapy search committee, School of Medical Rehabilitation, University of Manitoba, R106-771 McDermot Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba R3E 0T6, phone 789-3418, fax 789-3927, e-mail: eetchev@cc.umanitoba.ca.

The University of Manitoba encourages applications from qualified women and men, including members of visible minorities, Aboriginal peoples, and persons with disabilities. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. Please include the position number when applying for openings at the university.

FACULTY OF ARTS
Native Studies/Women's and Gender Studies Position: Assistant professor or associate professor with a specialization in humanities-based research related to Indigenous Women
Start date: July 1, 2009
Salary: Commensurate with qualifications and experience
Application deadline: Oct. 15, 2008
Position number: 07061
For more information: Dr. Janice Ristock, chair, and women's and gender studies search committee, Faculty of Arts, University of Manitoba, 507 Fletcher Argue Building, Winnipeg, MB, R3T 2N2.


FOR SALE close to university, 2100 sq. ft. 2 story home on 53 Meadow Ridge Dr., Richmond West. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bathrooms, family room with fireplace, Oak thru-out. Mostly freshly painted. In ground pool. Attached double garage on 58 X 126 ft. landscaped and fenced lot. $559,000. Call 261-8267.

MADISON-2 Bedroom, 950 sq. ft., 1 1/2 bathrooms, in a quiet area, close to university, 2100 Madison Ave, R3E 0T6, phone 789-3418, fax 789-3927, e-mail: eetchev@cc.umanitoba.ca.

ACADEMIC JOBS OPPORTUNITIES

A full listing of employment opportunities at the University of Manitoba can be found at ucanotfind. The University of Manitoba encourages applications from qualified women and men, including members of visible minorities, Aboriginal peoples, and persons with disabilities. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. Please include the position number when applying for openings at the university.

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Physiology professor Dr. Edwin Kroeger has received The Canadian Council on Animal Care’s 2008 Harry Rowell Award for Outstanding Service. The Harry C. Rowell Award for Outstanding Service to the Canadian Council on Animal Care is the highest honour given to individuals who have made truly exceptional contributions to the CAC and its programs. This is a very impressive Award given to only two other Canadians since its start in 2003.

Fulbright Award
University of Manitoba researchers Dr. Warren Cariou and Dr. C. Emdad Haque have been awarded 2008 Fulbright Visiting Chair Awards. Canada-U.S. Fulbright Visiting Research Chairs are awarded to prominent Canadian and American scholars who wish to conduct research, work with faculty and graduate students, and if they choose, offer guest lectures and teach while at select American and Canadian universities. Coincidentally, both professors will undertake their respective studies at Arizona State University (ASU).

Upcoming
Internal Grants Writing Workshop
Thursday, Sept. 11, 2008 1:30 pm - 2:45 pm
For more information, please contact Kathryn Bartmanovich at 480-1499 or Kathryn.Bartmanovich@umanitoba.ca
SSHRC Strategies for Social Sciences and Humanities Disciplines
with Dr. Rick Linden, Department of Sociology, University of Manitoba
Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2008 10am-11am
210 Helen Glass Centre
To register, please contact Brent Deere at 474-8390 or brent.deere@umanitoba.ca by Monday, Sept. 8, 2008

It’s not revenge... it’s science

BY SEAN MOORE
Research Communications Officer

Steven Whyard does something patio-goers and campers can only dream of: he sticks needles into living mosquitoes.
I take some satisfaction in injecting mosquitoes. Most of my students do too. We use micro needles and when we sit down and inject, there’s a sense of payback for all those mosquito bites,” the zoologist said.

Whyard studies the molecular pathways involved in mosquito reproduction and development and, in a separate study, the molecular pathways of West Nile Virus transmission. Ultimately, he wants to develop genetic techniques (specifically RNA interference) that can control mosquito populations so that indiscriminately harsh pesticides can be shelved.

“Don’t ever aspire to mosquito genocide. It’s not feasible either. Mother Nature has a way to ensure no species is eliminated that easily. Every effort we’ve made to control mosquitoes using pesticides has eventually failed because they acquire resistance. The challenge is to develop some new control methods to circumvent the increasing resistance.”

The key is to use a control method that has a diverse arsenal. Such a method is available if you take a genetic approach, for mosquitoes have 16,000 odd genes from which to select, and Whyard suspects, using data garnered from experiments on fruit flies, that at least a few dozen mosquito genes can now be targeted for “silencing”.

To silence, or turn off, a gene Whyard uses RNA interferences (RNAi).

RNAi is, among other things, a liaison between DNA and proteins – shuttling messages from the cell’s DNA within the nucleus to its cytoplasm, where proteins are made. By interrupting RNA’s role within cells, Whyard is turning off genes involved in the reproductive cycle or in the sexual development of the mosquitoes.

RNA is induced if a double-stranded form of RNA is introduced into the cell. Most RNA is single-stranded so this new form gets the attention of the cell’s internal “immune” system. Special proteins first dice the double-stranded RNA into segments 21 nucleotides (genetic letters) long and then the fragments are unzipped, and the cell scans of all its RNA molecules for any sequences that match the double-stranded RNA sequences. Once found, the proteins destroy the target RNA and the single gene is thus silenced.

There are about 3,000 species of mosquito worldwide and the ones in North America are generally not serious disease vectors. Although about 40 species can carry West Nile Virus in Canada and the USA, only a few species, such as our local Culex tarsalis are threats to humans.

Whyard currently works with another vector species, Aedes aegypti (not present in Manitoba) because the Culex species is a stubborn breed: in his first attempt to rear a clutch to adulthood, the caged mosquitoes refused to eat a blood meal and starved to death. He will tweak the rearing conditions and try again though.

Once Whyard finishes discovering suitable target genes for silencing, the question is how best to deliver the double-stranded RNA to the mosquitoes in the lab.

“We’ve been looking at a fast way to do it and it involves what’s known as a gene gun. We stick a plate of mosquito embryos under it, push a button, and tiny one micron beads are fired onto the plate.

“They’re coated with the DNA or RNA that you want to deliver into the cells. The gene gun blasts the beads right into an embryo and once the beads are in there, the double stranded RNA can detach from the beads and induce RNAi.”

So in a few seconds, the tool can render a thousand mosquitoes sterile. But how can sterile buggers be bred?

“We got a number of ways to keep them fertile while they are in captivity.

When we need a large number of sterile males, we can produce them in the next generation. We keep the sterility genes turned off until we throw the switch,” he said.

“One thing we can do is maintain two strains of mosquitoes that possess different parts of the sterility genetic construct. These two strains are fertile, but if they are crossed together, all of their progeny will be sterile.”

What’s more, since only females suck blood and therefore transmit disease, Whyard is investigating how he can manipulate the genetic pathways involved in sex determination so that he can tailor broods to be all-male.

But wait, there’s more.

Whyard is also investigating some novel compounds found in mosquito semen that may be of interest to medicine – antifungal and antimicrobial agents. And the seminal fluid also contains a sex peptide that goes straight to the female’s brain where it tells her she has mated and arrests her libido until she lays her eggs, much to the contentment of the male.

If this peptide were sprayed onto larval holding ponds, in theory, it could trick young females into thinking they were mated and they would not produce any offspring. And for some species of mosquitoes that only take a blood meal after mating, this peptide could curb their desire to bite, and that would make all of us, no doubt, content.
What should we reach for?

David Barnard takes up helm as university president

Meet
The President

BY DALE BARROUR
The Bulletin

There’s something of both the arts and sciences in David Barnard, the University of Manitoba’s 11th president. His own background is in computer science. He earned a PhD from the University of Toronto and went on to work as a software developer and manager. But he also has a graduate degree in Christian studies from UBC and has penned a book on the biblical King David.

And he has a penchant for poetry. When he was introduced to the university community last fall he wrapped his vision of leadership around Jan Zwicky’s poem “Musicians.” It wasn’t an arbitrary choice. The coherence and the beautiful sense of unity and independence portrayed in “Musicians” cuts to the heart of Barnard’s vision of leadership.

“I have this simple summary of what it means to be president,” Barnard said. “You set the tone. You work with other people to set the direction and you get good people. You get them resources and you get yourself and other obstacles out of their way.”

It is a vision he’s been working on his entire career, but being president of the University of Regina between 1998 and 2005 really brought the concept to fruition.

“There just seemed to be some great opportunities for Regina,” Barnard said. “We doubled the size of the university, quadrupled the research funding and raised more money than anyone in town thought could be raised in the capital campaign and we saw substantial increases in funding.”

“I think for me, the highlight was learning about team building. Creating a team, building a team, and lubricating the mechanism and making it all work,” Barnard said.

“We had a lot of great experiences, but if I were to look back and say what was the greatest and most important thing I learned there, it would be learning about how teams work.”

It was the intriguing possibility of what he could do at the University of Manitoba – along with a good sales pitch by the Board of Governors that convinced Barnard to say yes when the university’s search team came calling.

“This is a different kind of university. It has a broader mandate, it’s bigger, and it’s embedded in a larger community.”

“I’ve come here really wanting to say I would like, personally, and I would like the university, to be satisfied with nothing less than being great,” Barnard said. “I would like us to be asking the question: What will it mean for faculty, staff, students and members of the community to say about the University of Manitoba in 10, or 50 years that this is a great university making an important contribution to a great community?”

“What I would like to bring into this as my part of the conversation, is to say, ‘Let’s reach for something of significance.’ Let’s look and say, ‘What could this university be in this community and let’s go and make it that.’ This is not a question about where we are now; as the saying goes, many good things to say about that, but about where we want to be. I feel quite comfortable bringing that perspective as the question I want to ask. And then I need to listen to lots of people answering it to get a sense of what will we do specifically to get there and what will we not do.”

Barnard grew up in New Liskeard, Ontario, a town of about 5,000 people two hours north of North Bay and just shy of the Quebec border. His father worked for a regional phone company and their house gave him a spectacular view of Lake Temiskaming.

He was the first in his family to head to university, but that’s not surprising. Universities were ripe with growth in the 1960s and early 70s as the baby boom generation headed off to get their education.

“I was interested both in languages and in sciences. I eventually applied for sciences and found that computer science was very attractive to me,” Barnard said.

“I loved the combination of mathematics and the fact that you could make things happen. Now, computers are just a commodity, everybody uses them. But for a lot of people who study computer programming, you try to make these objects do something and you try to make the programming language beautiful and elegant.”

Who says there’s no art in science? And of course, computer science neatly combined languages and sciences. As a field it wasn’t new at the time Barnard signed up. But how important it would become was still very much an unknown.

“I think a lot of us entered the field because we knew it was interesting and intellectually challenging,” Barnard said. “As opposed to what happened a little bit later when I was a professor. I found then that I was encountering a lot of people who decided to be in computer science because they knew they were going to be employable. Back when some of us were deciding to enter computer science, it wasn’t so clear what the scale of the industry and the scale of the sector was going to be.”

Joining for the love of the field made it an easier decision to move on into academia.

“When you have a sense of enjoyment and passion for the discipline, you want to continue in it and share that with other people,” Barnard said. After graduation he quickly joined Queen’s University.

“Queen’s was great. It was smaller than the University of Toronto, and it allowed me to get involved in lots of different things,” Barnard said. He moved back and forth between academic and administrative jobs at Queen’s, taking on positions that ranged from director, computing and communications services to head of the computing and information science department before moving on to hold a number of portfolios as associate to the vice-principal.

“We still have this model in our minds that faculty members will take on administrative roles for a limited term and then return to the academic ranks,” Barnard said. “But what happens to people like us we take these positions on and then start to enjoy it.”

“Getting something doesn’t mean giving up time in the classroom or in the lab is easy. ‘I don’t know of anybody who went to graduate school thinking I’m going to get a PhD and then become a university administrator,’” Barnard said. “Teaching is really energizing, especially when you have a passion for the discipline.”

But being in administration has other pleasures.

“If you can get a lot of vicarious pleasure out of making the circumstance where other people can teach, research and reach out to the community in a efficient way, then administration is great,” Barnard said.

While he was at Queen’s, Barnard did some distance education study to complete a University of British Columbia graduate degree in Christian studies.

“I grew up in a family where faith was very important, my parents were heavily involved in church related things,” Barnard said. “And I as I older I had questions, intellectual curiosity about things that seemed more complex than when they were presented me.”

It’s that sort of intellectual curiosity about theology that would lead him to write With Skilful Hand: The Story of King David, published in 2004.

He moved to Regina in 1996 to take on a VP position and then won the president’s job in 1998. When he stepped down seven years later it was after taking his own metaphorical walk in similar storm.

“There’s a deference that gets paid to the president and it’s easy to make the mistake of thinking that when people come to the president they’re really deferring to me, personally. Pride and hubris are scary things and I really thought it was time step away from this before don’t want to step away,” Barnard said. And it was time to try something new, before the president’s job started to become a routine.

Taking on a position as COO and Chief Technology Officer with iQmetrix gave him experience in private industry and brought him back to his roots in the computer industry.

Barnard has three children from his first marriage, (and granddaughter). He is now engaged to Gurch Madhur, who has two children of her own. Barnard and Madhur will be trading trips on the Trans Canada Highway over the next year as one of Madhur’s daughters wraps up her degree at the University of Regina. Madhur’s other daughter will enrol at U of M this fall.

While his term kicked off on July 1, Barnard will be officially at work at this fall’s convocation on Oct. 28. But on Oct. 27 he’ll host a symposium on Stolen. Some of Canada’s top leaders have been invited to the university to talk about leadership, team building and the University of Manitoba.

“It’s styled as advice to the president, but it’s valuable all around. What kind of leadership style allows people to achieve greatness,” Barnard said.

And make no mistake, the question of what the U of M should be reaching for now is it means to be great is already being asked.

Musicians

I pass a bunch of musicians in the street. It’s about 12:30, rehearsal just over, they’re standing around outside the side door of the church. A good rehearsal: and it’s April. They’re laughing, haring around, talking about shoes, or taxes, where to go for lunch, figures except what their heads are full of.

It’s a kind of helpfulness, you can see they’re still breathing almost in unison, like people the seashore has paused over and spared, their attention lifts, swerves, settles; even the gravel dust mangling at their feet is coherent.

Jan Zwicky

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Jennifer Campbell, The Bulletin