Welcome to Aboriginal House
Open house showcases new building, Aboriginal spirit

Aboriginal House opened its doors to the public on Sept. 19, inviting the community to spend a day touring the building, playing traditional games or taking part in a fish fry.

Built at a cost of $6.7 million, the 15,000 square foot facility signifies the commitment and mutual respect shared between the University of Manitoba and the Aboriginal community. It is a gathering place for Aboriginal students, alumni, faculty and staff, as well as the campus and community at large.

‘Tenants of Aboriginal House include: Access programs; Office of University Accessibility; Aboriginal Student Centre; Aboriginal Student Association; and graduate students and sessional instructors in the department of Native studies.

‘For students, Aboriginal House will be a place that will foster support from peers, staff and Elders and provide a positive learning environment, respecting culture and heritage. ‘Aboriginal House will act as a home-away-from-home for those who have traveled far to be here; a place where their culture and traditions are recognized and celebrated. This building tells them they are important here, valued here and that this is a place where they can achieve their goals. In addition, non-Aboriginal students will be offered a place to come and learn about their fellow students and share their cultures and experiences,’ president David Barnard said.

‘Aboriginal House is a vision 25 years in the making – a dream come true. We have a new home that is visible and respectful of our culture and will be a welcoming place from which to teach and learn,’ Kali Storm, Aboriginal Student Centre director, said.

Ovid Mercredi, former national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, current chief of the Misipawistik Cree Nation and chancellor of University College of the North, was one of the guest speakers for the open house.

See ABORIGINAL/P. 2

Hello Pharmacy

The Faculty of Pharmacy was given a warm welcome to the Bannatyne Campus by the Faculties of Medicine and Dentistry and Schools of Medical Rehabilitation and Dental Hygiene on Sept. 18.

Robert Kerr, vice-president (academic) joined Tony Iacopino, dean of Dentistry; Dean Sandham, dean of Medicine; Emily Inchevery, director of the School of Medical Rehabilitation and Salme Lavigne, director of the School of Dental Hygiene, in welcoming Pharmacy to the Bannatyne campus in a special event held in the Brodie Atrium.

Med Rehab and Medicine senior sticks, Mike Wheeler, Jesse Dziad and Kaif Pardhan provided Pharmacy students with Bannatyne Campus survival tips, including the best places to grab a coffee. And Pharmacy senior sticks, Jodie Au and Barret Procyshyn responded, noting that Pharmacy students have quickly realized the joy of finding an open parking space in the morning.

The $30-million Apotex Centre has doubled teaching and research capacity, and relocated the Faculty of Pharmacy from the Fort Garry Campus to the Bannatyne Campus. Components of the new facility include advanced lecture theatres, a manufacturing lab designed to provide hands-on experience, a pharmaceutical care lab and research facilities. The Apotex Centre will host an open house Oct. 18 from 2 to 4 p.m.
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 deadlines that show how U of M faculty and staff impact the world around them.


According to a study conducted by researchers at the University of Manitoba, Canadian physicians increasingly have to deal with patients who are aggressive or refuse to accept their doctor’s diagnosis, often based on their own research on the Internet. Researchers suggest the troublesome situation could have significant implications for patient safety.

A labyrinth for Shields September 25, 2008 Toronto Star, Winnipeg Free Press, Portage Daily Graphic

Quotes from the works of author Carol Shields have been etched into two stone walls next to a garden labyrinth to be named in her honour at King’s Park near the University of Manitoba. Shields, who died at 68 of breast cancer in 2003, did most of her writing in her office at the University of Manitoba.

Surfing for love September 25, 2008 Globe and Mail

A new study, co-authored by Susan Frohlick, an associate professor of anthropology at the University of Manitoba, and Paula Migliardi of Winnipeg’s Sexuality Education Resource Centre, shows that women are finding a new approach to sexuality through online dating.

Food safety September 24, 2008 CBC, Toronto Star, Globe and Mail

Rick Holmes, professor of food microbiology and food safety in the department of food science at the University of Manitoba, continues to be in the national news providing commentary on the issue of food safety.

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.

• Cyber bullying reaches inside of homes.” Portage Daily Graphic, September 27, 2008, cites Karen Smith, from the University of Manitoba’s Faculty of Education, who specializes on cyberbullying.

• Former UMSU exec. running for the NDP” Manitoba’s Online, September 20, 2008, looks at former University of Manitoba Students’ Union executive Rachel Heinrichs, who is running as an NDP candidate in the Winnipeg South Centre riding.

Aboriginal House offers a ‘circle of support’

From Page 1

Mercredi said the opening of Aboriginal House shows just how far Aboriginal students have come.

“...If we had come here today, we might not have been able to do anything because there was no organization,” Mercredi said. But they created an organization that would eventually grow into the University of Manitoba Aboriginal Students Association, learned how to defend their rights as a people and eventually even managed to eke out a small meeting room.

“It was a little bigger than a telephone booth. It was just a small little office, but it was a place we could call our own.”

“...This building is an environmentally friendly circle of support. It is a place where we can just be and never feel alone,” University of Manitoba Aboriginal Students Association co-president Seraph-Eden Boroditsky said. “But it is also a tool to reach others with, spread knowledge and add to a more well rounded world view.”

Designed and built with a focus on sustainability and energy efficiency, Aboriginal House is a candidate for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Certification. LEED® is a rating system that certifies buildings based on energy and environmental performance, administered by the Canada Green Building Council, and is an adaptation of the US Green Building Council’s program. Projects are certified by third party review and audits. LEED® is a recognized designation that sets the building apart as a leader in the green building sector.

Aboriginal House is aiming for Gold certification. Aboriginal House is made of durable, natural and recycled materials, expressing the shared value of the gifts we receive from the earth such as stone and wood. It is the first building on campus to be heated entirely with reclaimed energy. A locally-quarried Tyndall stone wall traverses the true east-west axis and provides orientation into the building and within, rising from the earth in the east and returning to it in the west. The main entrance faces the rising sun and respects the East, a direction that signifies rebirth and new life to many Aboriginal peoples.

An all-inclusive facility, Aboriginal House welcomes all nations and invites pedestrians into the ongoing life of the centre. A central ‘Meeting Place’ area bridges the single-storey student lounge area and the two-storey office area. The significance of the Aboriginal medicine wheel is respected in this area and in the Circle Room.

“The new building is not only an Aboriginal student meeting place but a community meeting place in the widest sense,” says Fred Shore, executive director, Office of University Accessibility. ‘All are welcome to ‘join the circle’.”

Buy a shirt and support research

The University of Manitoba BookStore is one of 22 university and college book stores across Canada partnering with the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation this month to raise money for breast cancer research through the sale of “breast aware” t-shirts.

The t-shirt features the names of the universities participating in the campaign on the back, with “U of M Cares” and the pink ribbon on the front.

The campaign will run throughout October, which is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The U of M BookStore will sell t-shirts for $10 plus applicable taxes.

With the exception of production costs ALL the money collected will go directly to the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation.

Each of the 22 stores is committed to selling at least 1000 t-shirts, with a total of over 22,000 t-shirts sold in university and college book stores across Canada part-taking with the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation.

The t-shirts are made by the University of Manitoba Book Store.

The Bulletin publishes notifications on events taking place at the University of Manitoba or events that are of particular interest to the university community. There is no charge for running notices in the events column. Send events notices to: barbourd@ms.umanitoba.ca

Advertisements published in 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

The Buffalo Red Thunder Singers helped welcome the public into Aboriginal House on Sept. 19.

The Buffalo Red Thunder Singers helped welcome the public into Aboriginal House on Sept. 19.
The University of Manitoba and the Manitoba Labyrinth Network unveiled two quote walls on Sept. 23 in the Carol Shields Memorial Labyrinth in King’s Park.

The quote walls are cast-in-place concrete walls with engraved granite tiles of differing textures set into the cement. The walls are three metres long and 1.5 metres high, and the tiles display a myriad of quotes from Shields’ works.

Shields, an extraordinary author and professor, did most of her writing in her modest office in the Fletcher Argue Building at the University of Manitoba. She was a professor of English at the U of M from 1980 until her retirement in 1999. Her book _The Republic of Love_ begins in the Practice House, the Georgian-style residence designed in 1938 for the home management program in the School of Home Economics, now known as Alumni House.

President David Barnard noted: “Carol Shields and her husband Don both had strong connections to the University of Manitoba. He was dean of the Faculty of Engineering for many years, and she will long be remembered for her teaching and writing while on faculty for more a decade and a half. It is indeed fitting that we are helping to honour her memory and her connection to the University through the development of these quote walls.”

“Anyone entering the Carol Shields Memorial Labyrinth will symbolically pass through Carol’s words,” said Anne Nesbitt, labyrinth coordinator. “This signifies our escape from daily life and the entrance to story, myth and imagination through the images woven by Carol, and the multisensory experience created here through sight, touch and environment.”

The unveiling also included K6 French immersion students from École St. Avila. The school has been involved with the Carol Shields Memorial Labyrinth’s construction since the sod turning.

The University of Manitoba is honoured to commemorate Shields’ work with the creation of this entranceway made possible through the generous support of the Faculty of Arts, Alumni Affairs/Alumni Association Inc., Investors Group, Great-West Life Assurance Company and Castle Rock CanAmerican Granite.

The Manitoba Labyrinth Network has currently raised $180,000 towards the Carol Shields Memorial Labyrinth.

The Carol Shields Memorial Labyrinth is selling bricks, boulders and benches to help raise the funds for further phases of the project.

Schools on Board program wins national award

When polar bears walk about your classroom, people take note. That’s why the University of Manitoba won the 2008 Canadian Excellence in Environmental Education Award.

Since 2003 the Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth and Resources has run “Schools on Board,” a national program that takes high school students and teachers from across the country and places them on a ship in the high Arctic with research-conducting scientists onboard.

The program’s director, Lucette Barber, received the award in Newfoundland on Sept. 26, from the not-for-profit Canadian Network for Environmental Education and Communication (EECOM), Canada’s only, national, bilingual, network for environmental education and communication.

“There is no better example of an environmental education program about the Arctic, in the Arctic and for the Arctic,” said Joanne Keselman, vice-president (research).

The program was created to promote, in an exciting way, Arctic sciences to high schools across Canada while demonstrating the abundance of career options such a field offers. Schools on Board operates on the CCGS Amundsen, Canada’s premier research icebreaker. During the latest International Polar Year, schools from 11 countries came on board.

"In the words of Carol Shields
Memorial labyrinth in King’s Park includes two quote walls"
The Bulletin is proud to welcome the university’s new faculty members. The Bulletin is profiling our new professors, looking forward to where they come from and where their teaching and research projects will take the university in the future.

Lisa Landrum
Assistant Professor
Department of Architecture
Faculty of Architecture
Lisa Landrum holds degrees in architecture from Carleton University (BArch 1995), and McGill University (March 2003). She is currently completing her theory and methodology of architectural design, focusing on the evolution of design theory and architectural theory. She is currently focusing on the development of architectural design theory through the works of contemporary postmodern theorists. Landrum performed seven years of diverse architectural work in New York City, and earned her professional registration in that state.

Her doctoral research explores architectural acts in the dramas of Euclid, Diogenes, Plutarch, and Shakespeare. Other research interests include: performative and theatrical modes of architectural representation, representation and modernity in architecture and performance. Landrum has presented and participated in various international workshops, exhibitions and conferences pertaining to her scholarly and creative work.

Khodr Shamseddine
Associate Professor
Department of Physics and Astronomy
Faculty of Science
Khodr Shamseddine received his BSc in physics from the American University of Beirut in June 1988 with High Distinction. Then he received a dual PhD in physics and mathematics from Michigan State University in December 1999. He joined the University of Manitoba on May 15, 2008 from the department of mathematics at Western Illinois University where he had been a tenured associate professor.

Shamseddine’s research focus is on non-Archimedean analysis and its applications in physics and other fields of science. Most recently (after joining U of M), he co-organized an international conference on the subject in the USA. He has more than ten refereed publications and has given more than 25 invited talks at conferences and universities.

Jared Wesley
Lecturer
Department of Political Studies
Faculty of Arts
Jared Wesley is currently completing a PhD in political science at the University of Calgary, having attained a master’s degree from the University of Manitoba and a bachelor of arts from the University of Alberta. His research focuses on political party system development on the Canadian Prairies, examining the source of the diversity we find in these three very different worlds. His secondary research areas include Canadian and American politics, comparative politics, and research methodology.

Dear Editor,

This is a response to the recent announcement of additional SSHRC funding at the University of Manitoba. Notwithstanding the glaring disparity between NSERC and the allocation of scarce funding to researchers located outside the Faculty of Arts appears rather suspect. According to the SSHRC website, the social sciences and humanities sciences provide a vital service in that they produce “knowledge and understanding [to] inform discussion on critical social, cultural, economic, technological, environmental, and health issues," as well as in their capacity to "provide communities, businesses and governments the foundation for a vibrant and healthy democracy" (newswise.ca). An ennobling mandate, indeed, and well worthy of government assistance. Why, then, has a significant proportion of the recent increase in funding been awarded to researchers in the Sciences and Engineering instead of the Faculty of Arts and the Asper School of Business?

Is it a prudent decision on the part of SSHRC to direct funding resources towards research with outcomes of considerable benefit to the private sector? More particularly, these awards produce a “trickle-down effect” in terms of graduate student assistance (monetary and otherwise) as well as departmental prestige. How unfortunate, then, that scholarship originating in the Faculty of Arts is deemed unworthy of assistance from the very governmental agency charged with funding research in the social sciences and humanities.

The various scholarly disciplines contained in the Faculty of Arts do more than merely confer undergraduate and graduate degrees each year. Collectively, they expound the virtues of a liberal arts education and provide a basis on which a democratic society may flourish. One wonders how Dr. Jayas (associate vice-president (research) at the University of Manitoba) can applaud this allocation of funding when such an indication of the value of these social sciences and humanities rests on their asking of “tough questions” and “investigation of alternate modes to deal with a variety of social issues.” Can one expect this clarion call of excellence to extend itself beyond the University of Manitoba or the Asper School of Business?

YI LI
Assistant Professor
Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning
Faculty of Education
Yi Li is originally from Shanghai, China. She received her PhD in second language education in 2006 from the University of Alberta. Her doctoral dissertation was a narrative inquiry into the experiences and meanings of home and homelessness among international students in Canada.

Li’s recent postdoctoral research explored the experiences of hope for Chinese newcomers learning English in a Canadian high school. Her research interests include teaching English as an additional language, narrative inquiry, teacher education and development, international education, and hope.

Wellington Rody
Assistant Professor
Division of Orthodontics
Faculty of Dentistry
Wellington Rody earned his dental degree from the Federal University of Espirito Santo (Brazil), a certificate in orthodontics from the University of Minas Gerais (Brazil) and a master’s degree from the University of Washington (USA). In 1999, Rody was selected as a Magnuson Scholar at the University of Washington in recognition of his work on how bone-resorbing cells are developed when orthodontic appliances are adjusted. As a new faculty member, Rody will focus on research and teaching in the department of preventive dentistry.

Admittedly, the Bulletin is profiling our new faculty members for a good reason: They are our future! We are proud to celebrate with you. Please let us know if you would like to chat about the details or picture, please call 474-8111. Dear Editor,

Historical context: 2008

Letters Policy
The University of Manitoba Bulletin welcomes letters to the editor from readers about matters related to content in the Bulletin, the university or higher education. Letters must be original and addressed to the editor. Opinions expressed are those of the writer. The Bulletin does not publish anonymous letters. Please include your name, affiliation and a daytime telephone number. Letters submitted to bulletin@umany. ca. The Bulletin reserves the right to edit letters to address style, length and legal considerations.

Viewpoint Policy
The University of Manitoba Bulletin welcomes submissions for Viewpoint from members of the university community. Unless otherwise discussed in advance with the editor, articles should range in advance with the editor, articles should range from 500 to 700 words and should address issues relevant to the university or higher education. Speeches related to issues of interest to the university community are also welcome. E-mail submissions to barbourd@ms.umanitoba.ca. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject any submission that does not comply with policy. Opinions expressed are those of the writer.
Development of strategic plan begins

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY SECRETARY

President David Barnard presented a report to the Board of Governors at its meeting on Sept. 16, summarizing his first 100 days at the university, his plans for developing a new strategic plan and his desire for the university to think about what it will take for the university to be considered great in five, ten, 25 and 50 years from now. He noted that conversations will be taking place with deans, directors and heads of administrative units over the next several weeks, and that a strategic plan will be developed in consultation with the university community and presented to the Board over the course of the next several months.

STADIUM DISCUSSION

The Board reviewed the progress to date on discussions with David Asper and Creswin Properties on a possible football stadium development at the Fort Garry Campus. The proposal calls for the construction of a new 30,000 seat stadium, the refurbishment of the current stadium, the construction of a modern fitness facility to replace the current stadium, the construction of a 700-stall parkade. President David Barnard and vice-president Debbie McCallum responded to questions from the Board and noted that beyond providing a long-term lease of the land for the stadium, the university would not be providing any further funding to the project. It was noted that this proposal will be subject to all normal approvals within the university, and that the project provides an exciting opportunity to further connect the university with the greater community.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

The Board approved the revised student discipline bylaw and procedures, effective Jan. 1, 2009. The new bylaw will be posted at umanitoba.ca/governance by the end of this week. Information sessions on the new bylaw will be offered later this fall.

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ONE UNIVERSITY. MANY FUTURES

Faculty of Architecture students are getting ready for the release of the annual journal, Warehouse 17, on Friday, Oct. 3.

The 256-page, student-edited, colour publication focuses on how students see the next generation of architecture and, in the case of some projects, suggests a newer vision of Winnipeg. Much like an art book, Warehouse 17 is filled with images of models, photographs, and drawings.

Filled with an assortment of environmental, political and artistic architectural visions, the book reveals a brave new design world for both Winnipeg and beyond. Warehouse 17 will be sold for $8 at the University of Manitoba Bookstore, McNally Robinson, or by contacting the editor.

Showcasing Student Research Poster Competition

More than 55 student researchers will be showcasing their projects at the annual Undergraduate Poster Competition that is sponsored by the University of Manitoba, Office of the Vice-President Research and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC).

This will be a great opportunity for the university community, industry and the general public to see the relevance, value and outstanding caliber of research being conducted by the next generation of University of Manitoba Scientists and Engineers.

Prizes of $500, $300 and $200 will be awarded to the top three posters in each of three categories: physical sciences, biological sciences and applied sciences.

Friday, October 10, 2008
1:00 to 4:00 pm
Room 210 - 224 University Centre
University of Manitoba, Fort Garry Campus

All are welcome, and admission is free. Prizes will be presented at 4:00 pm.

For more information, contact Laura Galan
Phone: 204-474-7316
Email: galan@cc.umanitoba.ca

New Professorships

The Board of Governors approved the establishment of professorships in jazz performance, supply chain management and marketing and the proposal to establish a bachelor of science (honours) program in forensic science as recommended by Senate. This program proposal will be forwarded to the Council on Post-Secondary Education for consideration.

Operating Estimates

The Board approved the university’s estimates of operating requirements for the 2009-2010 fiscal year, as requested by the Council on Post-Secondary Education. It was reported to the Board that a base grant increase of 10.9 per cent ($28.5 million) or a combination of grant increase and tuition increase to sustain 2008-2009 programming levels.

The estimates were calculated factoring in negotiated salary increases and other anticipated inflationary costs.

Capital Projects

The Board approved the university’s major capital projects submission to COPSE. In this submission, COPSE asks the university to outline its’ top 20 capital infrastructure priorities. The university, in accordance with COPSE’s instructions, prepared the list of the top 20 projects for 2009-2010. The total cost of these projects is $717 million. The top priority is urgent capital and infrastructure issues that require immediate attention or remediation in the up-coming year. The cost of these projects is $135.58 million.

Centre for Professional and Applied Ethics

University of Manitoba

2009 Ethics Research Scholarships

The Centre for Professional and Applied Ethics invites applications for Research Fellowships for the 2008-2009 academic year from University of Manitoba faculty members holding tenured or probationary appointments. The Centre is housed within the Department of Philosophy, and has a mandate to promote interdisciplinary research on applied ethics in all areas of practical and professional life. Funding for these Research Fellowships is provided by: the Mary Catherine Cartwright Endowment of the Department of Philosophy and the Imperial Oil Ethics Endowment Fund.

Successful applicants will be appointed as Research Associates of the Centre and will be granted release time stipends for 3 hours of teaching or the equivalent. Alternatively, the applicant may choose to apply for financial support of up to $5,000. In that case, a draft budget will be required, detailing how the grant money would be spent. Recipients will be required to present their research findings at a public seminar/lecture sponsored by the Centre. A final written report describing the outcome of the research must be submitted within two months of the end of the term of the fellowship.

Two Research Fellowships are available. One is open to all University of Manitoba faculty members, and the Centre wishes to encourage applications from researchers in all areas of inquiry. The other is open only to members of the Faculty of Arts.

The Executive Committee of the Centre will act as the selection committee. Prospective applicants are encouraged to visit the Centre’s Web Site for further information: umanitoba.ca/centres/ethics/scholar2.html. You may also wish to contact the Director for additional assistance.

Applications, and all supporting material, must be submitted not later than December 15th, 2008, to:

Professor Arthur Schafer, Director
Centre for Professional and Applied Ethics
University College, University of Manitoba
220 Dysart Road, Winnipeg, MB, R3T 2M8

Phone: (204)474-9107; Fax: (204)261-0021
E-mail: schafer@cc.umanitoba.ca

One university. Many futures.
Roy goes in search of evidence

Books by University Staff

BY DALE BARBOUR
The Bulletin

Ranjan Roy considers how the field of psychotherapy needs to examine itself in his latest book Psychological Interventions for Chronic Pain: In Search of Evidence. “We need to be careful whenever there is a risk of a particular therapy emerging as a panacea, which is what has happened in our field,” Roy said. “Cognitive-behavioural therapy is very dominant.”

And for good reason, it is well researched, the outcome studies are positive and a lot of practitioners are comfortable using it. But perhaps that positive glow is exactly the problem.

“There is a tendency to discard everything else and use that particular type of intervention. Not just with chronic pain patients but with all kinds of psychological and medical disorders. It’s not that I’m against cognitive-behavioural therapy, far from it, I use it myself, but there is no therapy, there is no treatment, there is no pill that works for everything,” Roy said. The problem is that even with a well proven approach such as cognitive-behavioural therapy, the success rate is still only 70 or 80 per cent.

“So what happens with the other 30 or 20 per cent of the people,” Roy asked. “They go down as a treatment failure. I don’t think that we are particularly diligent about referring those patients somewhere else, or trying a different form of therapy. We find all kinds of reasons for that patient’s inability to succeed so it gets to be the problem of the patient rather than the therapy. “Far too often the councillor does not go back and review the approach,” Roy said. “That’s not peculiar to psychotherapy, it happens in medicine as well but medicine is science based. Psychotherapy is in bits and pieces but much of it is driven by your training.”

Psychological Interventions for Chronic Pain examines the range of therapies that are available for chronic pain patients. The goal is to provide a taxonomy of approaches for practitioners to consider when they’re looking at the unique needs of a patient.

“I offer alternative ways of addressing some of those issues, a couple of the other interventions are very well researched, interpersonal psychotherapy, which has been used extensively with people with clinical depression and has had a very high level of success,” Roy said. Other therapies considered include family and couple therapy, psychodynamic psychotherapy, grief therapy and multidisciplinary approaches.

“Fundamentally, I make a case for bringing science into psychotherapy,” Roy said. “I think the field has to acknowledge, and I have to acknowledge, that so much of psychotherapy is predicated on guruism and following a certain model that you’ve been trained in.” That doesn’t mean those approaches don’t have a scientific base, but rather that the practitioner isn’t necessarily relying on that body of knowledge when deciding on approach.

Ultimately, the approaches Roy examines vary widely in their scientific base. Some, such as solution focused therapy, have had great success, but the scientific evidence at this point is poor.

Does that mean we throw the baby out with the bath water?” Roy said. “No, but it means that more research is needed to establish it as a viable solution.”

Until that happens faith of the councillor continues to prevail.

Psychosocial Interventions for Chronic Pain is Roy’s 13th book. “I really got the courage to write this book when a very eminent researcher, Harold Mersey, reviewing another book I had written was very positive that I had moved away from one treatment fits all approach in that book so that kind of encouraged me to do this book,” Roy said.

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Canadian Proteome Society Regional Meeting

keynote lecture

“Innovative Mass Spectrometry Technology for The Study of Cell Signaling”

by

Donald F. Hunt
Departments of Chemistry and Pathology, University of Virginia

Sessions run
9 a.m. to 5 p.m., October 15, 2008
Theatre A, Basic Medical Sciences Building, Bannatyne Campus, University of Manitoba

Other speakers:
• Kevin Coombs, University of Manitoba
• Francis Lin, Stanford University School of Medicine
• Steve Haber, Cereal Research Centre, Agriculture Canada
• Oleg Krokhin, University of Manitoba
• David Knox, Public Health Agency of Canada
• Lynda Donald, University of Manitoba

For registration and abstracts, see:
www.etsymposium.com/cps/winnipeg/winnipeg.html

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Centre for Professional and Applied Ethics

presents

Canada in Afghanistan: Ethics, the War, and Wedge Politics

Is Canada changing Afghanistan or is Afghanistan changing Canada?

by

Steven Staples
• President of the Rideau Institute (Ottawa)
• Director of Security Programs for the Polaris Institute
• Author of: Missile Defence: Round One

Steven Staples will examine how Canada’s war in Afghanistan is changing Canadian politics, culture and identity.

When: Monday, 20th October, 12:30-1:30 p.m.
Where: Private Dining Room, University College

Everyone welcome.
What treasures lurk in your office? Western looks to compile list of artwork at U of M

A Day in the Life of an art collections coordinator

BY DALE BARBOUR The Bulletin

It might be a hidden gem, or it might just be a picture of dogs playing poker, but either way, Jenny Western would like to know what’s hanging on your wall.

Western is the university’s art collections coordinator and it’s a job that will have her ranging across the university to catalogue the diverse range of artwork.

“It’s a Sherlock Holmes sort of gig,” Western said. “So far it’s been really fun. I get to meet people and they’ll sort of take me on a little tour of the rooms and offices. In some cases there’s works that have been hanging in offices for years that have been quietly appreciated by people. It’s great to be able to see that. And once this position really gets rolling those works will be accounted for and appreciated more.

The position is targeted specifically at cataloguing artwork, ranging from paintings, to videos, new media works and sculptures. It doesn’t include items such as special book collections.

Currently, the university doesn’t know how much artwork it possesses. That’s not surprising: artwork has been donated or passed on to units and departments for information on how to care for new additions to the collection or decommission old works. But at this point, she’s still very much in the finding stage.

“In a way it is like antique road show because there are interesting discoveries of things that have been tucked away, at least that’s what I’m looking forward to,” Western said. “I love hearing their stories on how they acquired this artwork, a lot of it has been on campus for several years in people’s offices. I think that’s the exciting part of this position to maybe learn more about it.”

For each piece, she’ll be cataloguing the title, artist, and medium. But she’s not there to appraise the art and the university isn’t trying to remove the artwork from the departments.

“It’s not going anywhere, I’m not there to take it away. I’m just there to report it exists. It’s not about absorbing that into any other collection or moving it to another building,” Western said. Similarly, while she loves to see private artwork that people have brought into their offices, she won’t be cataloguing that material.

Western said the database should be a boon for artists or students looking to research or admire different types of artwork.

The position is part time, but a neat fit for Western who also works as a curator and writer, and has worked as curator of Brandon’s Art Gallery of South-Western Manitoba.

“I always love digging into the history of artwork to help create meaning when I’m putting together an exhibit,” Western said. “So with this position, it’s wonderful to dive into the university campus and see what has been collected over the past how ever many years and what that has to tell us about the U of M.”

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We know what’s in the Gallery One One One vault, but art collections coordinator Jenny Western is hoping to find out about other artwork around campus. Ultimately, along with producing an artwork database, Western will be a resource for people looking for information on how to care for new additions to the collection or decommission old works. But at this point, she’s still very much in the finding stage.

“In a way it is like antique road show because there are interesting discoveries of things that have been tucked away, at least that’s what I’m looking forward to,” Western said. “I love hearing their stories on how they acquired this artwork, a lot of it has been on campus for several years in people’s offices. I think that’s the exciting part of this position to maybe learn more about it.”

For each piece, she’ll be cataloguing the title, artist, and medium. But she’s not there to appraise the art and the university isn’t trying to remove the artwork from the departments.

“It’s not going anywhere, I’m not there to take it away. I’m just there to report it exists. It’s not about absorbing that into any other collection or moving it to another building,” Western said. Similarly, while she loves to see private artwork that people have brought into their offices, she won’t be cataloguing that material.

Western said the database should be a boon for artists or students looking to research or admire different types of artwork.

The position is part time, but a neat fit for Western who also works as a curator and writer, and has worked as curator of Brandon’s Art Gallery of South-Western Manitoba.

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Events Listing

University of Manitoba

Let’s talk leadership Symposium will draw experts to U of M

Ever wonder what makes a good leader? Here’s your chance to find out.

The University of Manitoba will host a Leadership Symposium 1:30 to 4 p.m., Monday, Oct. 7 in the Manitoba Room, University Centre. The event will coincide with the installation of president David Barnard on Tuesday, Oct. 8, during Fall Convocation.

“I’ve invited a number of people to come and I’m asking them to address the question, ‘What kind of leadership creates the circumstances where people achieve great things?’ And I’m hoping to hear them say, this is what you need to do to make it possible to achieve great things,” Barnard said.

He employed the day as providing perfect advice for an incoming president, but ideally it will be information that everyone on campus can use.

The 24th President’s Reception for Retirees will be held on Oct. 2, Manitoba at Winnipeg, times vary.

Retirees can learn about functional foods

The 24th President’s Reception for Retirees will be held on Oct. 2, Saturday, Oct. 18 in Marshall McLauchlan Hall, 204 University Centre.

The guest speaker is Carla G. Taylor, professor, department of pathology, human anatomy and cell biology & biochemistry and of pathology, human anatomy and cell biology & biochemistry and Pharmacology, University of Manitoba. Dr. Taylor will be presenting her research on functional foods and their role in the prevention of chronic diseases.

For details call 474 8111

Bannatyne Campus

— ST. BONIFACE GENERAL HOSPITAL AND RESEARCH CENTRE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7
Pharmacology, Transporters In Drug Disposition And Disease Progression by Richard Kim, physiology and pharmacology chair, division of clinical pharmacology director, Centre for Clinical Investigation & Therapeutics, department of medicine, Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Western Ontario, Pharmacology Library A229 Chown Building, video-link to R4013 Saint Boniface Research Centre, 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, Oct. 7.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9
Immunology, Neural Stem Cell model for MeCP2 Gene Therapy of Rett Syndrome by Moigain Rastegar, Department of regenerative medicine program, Department of biochemistry and medical genetics, Basic Medical Sciences Building, 12 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 9.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15
Obstetrics and Gynecology Grand Rounds, Menopausal Hormone Therapy (H) Revised: “The Future Ain’t What It Used To Be” by Richard Borodinsky, medical director, Mature Women’s Centre, Victoria General Hospital, Theatre A Basic Medical Sciences Building, 7:45 a.m., Wednesday, Oct. 15.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16
Immunology, Effects of palifermin (recombinant human keratinocyte growth factor) in mouse models of graft-versus-host disease by Cindy Ellison, departments of pathology and immunology, Immunology Library 603/605 Basic Medical Sciences Building, 12 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 16.


Bison Sports

FOOTBALL
Oct. 11 – Saskatchewan at Manitoba, University Stadium, 1 p.m.
Oct. 18 – Calgary at Manitoba, University Stadium, 1 p.m.

SOCCER
Oct. 4 – UBC at Manitoba, University Stadium, 12 p.m.
Oct. 5 – Victoria at Manitoba, University Stadium, 12 p.m.

WOMEN’S HOCKEY
Oct. 17 – Regina at Manitoba, Max Bell, 7 p.m.
Oct. 18 – Regina at Manitoba, Max Bell, 7 p.m.

MEN’S HOCKEY
Oct. 3 – Lethbridge at Manitoba, Max Bell, 7 p.m.
Oct. 4 – Lethbridge at Manitoba, Max Bell, 7 p.m.
Oct. 10 – Saskatchewan at Manitoba, Max Bell, 7 p.m.
Oct. 11 – Saskatchewan at Manitoba, Max Bell, 7 p.m.

WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL
Oct. 3-5 – Non-conference tournament with Winnipeg, times vary.

MEN’S VOLLEYBALL
Oct. 2 – Manitoba at Winnipeg, Duckworth Centre, non-conference game, 12 p.m.
Oct. 9 – Winnipeg at Manitoba, Investors Group Athletic Centre, non-conference game, 12 p.m.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
Oct. 17-19 – U of M Reebok non-conference tournament, Investors Group Athletic Centre, 12 p.m.

MEN’S BASKETBALL
Oct. 17-19 – U of M Reebok non-conference tournament, Investors Group Athletic Centre, 12 p.m.

TICKET INFORMATION
Single Game:

Adults: $10
Students and Seniors: $5
12 and under: free
Season pass:

Tickets available at all Bison home games, Frank Kennedy, Max Bell Equipment Desk.

Advertise in the Bulletin
For details call 474 8111

What makes a successful leader? President David Barnard has invited some of Canada’s top leaders to the University of Manitoba to give us their opinions.

For details call 474 8111
**Fort Garry Campus**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2**


Distinguished Visiting Lecturer, Bowing to Necessity in your Idiom by Peggy Kamuf, Marion Frances Chevalier Professor of French and Comparative Literature at the University of Southern California, 507 Tier Building, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Friday, Oct. 3.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3

Distinguished Visiting Lecturer, open seminar with Peggy Kamuf, Marion Frances Chevalier Professor of French and Comparative Literature at the University of Southern California, 507 Tier Building, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Friday, Oct. 3.

Electrical and Computer Engineering PhD Oral Examination, Wavefront Reconstruction of Subsurface Radar Imagery Acquired Along Cylindrical Scan Trajectories by Daniel Flores-Tapia, E2 - 361 Engineering and Information Technology Complex, 1:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 3.

Mathematics Graduate Student Seminar, Relative Difference Sets by Goldwyn Millar, 124 Machray Hall, 2:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 3.

Chemistry, Non-covalent Interactions between Peptides from Immunoglobulin and glycolipids by Helene Perreault, chemistry, 539 Parker Building, 2:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 3.

Department of Psychology/Health, Leisure, and Human Performance Research Seminar, A self-handicapping model of health and well-being by Danu Stinson, department of psychology, State University of New York at Buffalo, P412 Duff Roblin Building, 3 p.m., Friday, Oct. 3.

Physics and Astronomy Colloquium, Quantum Hall States Seen as Quantum Physics and Astronomy Colloquium, Winnipeg Institute for Theoretical Physics, Tuning the heavy light guitar: Notes on holography with mottles by Stefan Stricker, Institute for Theoretical Physics, Vienna University of Technology, 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 8.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9**

Advanced Plant Science Seminar Series, Plant Bio-Terrorism: Myth or Reality by Evan Gilliss, Msc student, Carolyn Sifton Lecture Theatre Agriculture Building, 3:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 9.

Physics and Astronomy Colloquium, Can a semiconductor operate as a human cell by Jean-Pierre Leburton, University of Illinois at the University of Southern California, 507 Tier Building, 3:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 9.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10**

Civil Engineering PhD Oral Examination, CEFPR Prestressed Concrete Prisms as Reinforcement in Continuous Girder Forms by Shahryar Davoudi, E2 - 361 Engineering and Information Technology Complex, 9 a.m., Friday, Oct. 10.

Chemistry, Structure and Properties in Borate Glasses by Steve Feller, department of physics, Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 539 Parker Building, 2:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 10.

Biological Sciences Seminar Series, New World canids: confusion, controversy, and conservation by Dennis Murray, department of biology, Trent University, 201 Duff Roblin, 3 p.m., Friday, Oct. 10.

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14**


**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15**

Centre on Aging Research Seminar Series, Baby Boomers’ Perceptions of Healthy Eating and Foods in the Marketplace by Christina Lengyel, department of nutritional sciences, Faculty of Human Ecology, 207 ibister Building, Fort Garry Campus, 12 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 15.

Native Studies, Flip Coin: An Opposite View of Art in Peru by Leah Fontaine, MA student, Native studies, 307 Tier Building, 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 15.

**Advanced Plant Science Seminar Series**, Regulation of embryo development in vitro by Claudio Sussola, plant science, Carolyn Sifton Lecture Theatre Agriculture Building, 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 15.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17**

Chemistry, Topic TBA by Rajesh Pillai, department of chemistry, 539 Parker Building, 2:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 17.

Mathematics Graduate Student Seminar, Applications of Klein’s theorem and its applications by Oleksandr Majdziel, 124 Machray Hall, 2:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 17.

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**Is this a world food crisis?**

The Global Political Economy Program at the University of Manitoba is hosting the World Food Crisis and Food Security conference from Oct. 8 to 10.

**Faculty of Architecture**

Based on a Dream

Hannes Lárusson

September 19 to October 24

Arch 2 Gallery

Hannes Lárusson links contemporary art and cultural heritage, the role and place of the artist in society and the connection between craftsmanship and ideology in his Based on a Dream exhibition.

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**Arts & Entertainment**

**REVOVER UPTOWN ONE ONE ONE**

With works by Sarah Crawford, Sarah Anne Johnson, and Lisa Stinner

September 25 to October 16

The REVOVER UPTOWN exhibition series also includes a revolving display of Art School Anatomies art and documentation of the Partition Walls and Windows of Gallery One One One. The line up over the past few weeks has included work by Charlie Scott, Diane Whitehouse and Richard Williams.

**Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music**

The Faculty of Music hosts recitals and performances at Eva Clare Hall, located within the Faculty of Music building on Dafoe Road. Recitals and events are free unless otherwise noted.

**Music events**

- **New Music for 8 Loud Speakers**, world premiere of music written especially for computer by U of M professor Orjan Sandved, Eva Clare Hall, Music Building, 12:30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 6.
- **Jammin The Dragon**, an open stage for improvised experimental music - hosted by the Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music’s own “XIE” (Experimental Improv Ensemble - pronounced “SHAY”), with special guest artists, Perrett/ Roy Studio, 290 McDermot Ave., 8 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 9.
- **Wind Ensemble & Concert Band**, Glenlawn Collegiate, St. Mary’s Road at Fermor, 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 16. Tickets available at the door: $10 for adults and $5 for students.
- **Studio FLAT**, Electroacoustic & Computer Music presented by music students. Eva Clare Hall, Music Building, 12:30-30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 17.

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**Doing our part to help Uganda**

University of Manitoba student group Architects Without Borders Canada (AWB) will be heading to Uganda. Four friends of Uganda to bring you the Celebrate Uganda Social, a fundraising social for the Stephen Lewis Foundation. The social is meant to raise awareness, support and funds for development projects in Uganda, a country that has experienced two civil wars, persistent poverty and an HIV/AIDS pandemic.

U of M students and graduates have been heavily involved in planning and hope to create a classic Manitoban social with a cultural twist. “The social is a fun way to raise funds for Uganda, while providing an opportunity to experience and learn about the country’s local culture,” says Natalie Rogers. AWB fundraising committee chair and University of Manitoba graduate student.

The Celebrate Uganda Social will be held at the Exchange Event Center, 291 Connaught Avenue in Winnipeg on Friday Oct. 10 from 8 p.m. to close. Tickets are $15 and available at the door. Attendees must be 18 years of age or older.
A full listing of employment opportunities at the University of Manitoba. 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, Aboriginal permanent residents will be given priority. Please include the position number when applying for openings at the university.

School of Art

Position: Ceramics Instructor at instructor level
Start date: Jan. 1, 2009
Application deadline: Nov. 3, 2008
Position number: 08483
For information: Ceramics Search Committee, School of Art, 203 Fort Garry Building, Box UMB, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB.

Faculty of Arts

Department of Classics

Position: Assistant professor in the area of solid mechanics
Start date: July, 2009
Salary: Commensurate with qualifications and experience
Application deadline: Nov. 20, 2008
Position number: 08497, 08498
For information: Dr. Patrick Choy, fixed prosthodontics search committee chair, D227B-780 Bannatyne Ave., Winnipeg, MB, R3E 0T6, phone 479-3942, e-mail: pchoy@umanitoba.ca.

ASPER School of Business

Department of Supply Chain Management

Position: Assistant professor in supply chain management
Start date: July 1, 2009
Salary: Commensurate with experience and credentials
Application deadline: Nov. 15, 2008
Position number: 08553
For information: Paul D. Larson, Professor and head, department of SCM, director, Transportation Institute, University of Manitoba, 614 Drake Centre, 181 Freedman Crescent, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 5V6, phone 473-6050, e-mail: larson@cc.umanitoba.ca.

Faculty of Dentistry

Department of Restorative Dentistry

Division of Fixed Prosthodontics

Position: Assistant professor in the division of fixed prosthodontics
Start date: May 1, 2009
Salary: Commensurate with experience and credentials
Application deadline: Jan. 1, 2009
Position number: 08554
For information: Dr. Igor Pesun, fixed prosthodontics search committee chair, D227B-780 Bannatyne Ave., Winnipeg, MB, R3E 0W2, e-mail: ipesan@cc.umanitoba.ca.

Faculty of Human Ecology

Department of Family Social Sciences

Position: assistant professor in family economics health
Start date: July 1, 2009
Salary: Commensurate with qualifications and experience
Application deadline: Dec. 16, 2008
Position number: 07669
For information: Dr. Karen Duncan, chair (selection committee), department of family social sciences, Faculty of Human Ecology, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3T 2N2, phone 447-6702, fax 474-7592, e-mail family_sciences@umanitoba.ca

Faculty of Engineering

Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering

Position: Assistant professor in the area of solid mechanics
Start date: July, 2009
Salary: Commensurate with qualifications and experience
Application deadline: January, 2009
Position number: 08499
For information: Dr. Patrick Choy, fixed prosthodontics search committee chair, D227B-780 Bannatyne Ave., Winnipeg, MB, R3E 0T6, phone 479-3942, e-mail: pchoy@ms.umanitoba.ca.

Faculty of Medicine

Regenerative Medicine Program

Tier II Canada Research Chairs

Positions: Three (3) Tier II Canada Research Chairs in the area of regenerative medicine
Start date: As soon as possible
Salary: Commensurate with qualifications and experience
Application deadline: Nov. 10, 2008
Position numbers: 08500, 08501, 08502
For information: Dr. Patrick Choy, associate dean (research), Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba, Room 4108, Bannatyne Hall, 735 McDermot Ave., Winnipeg, MB, R3E 0T6, phone 789-3575, fax 789-3942, e-mail: pchoy@ms.umanitoba.ca.

Department of Internal Medicine

Section of Endocrinology

Positions: Two academic endocrinologists
Start date: Jan. 1, 2009
Salary: Commensurate with experience and qualifications
Application deadline: Nov. 15, 2008
Position numbers: 06499 and 06540
For information: Chair, Search committee, section of endocrinology & metabolism, Room 834A, John Buhler Research Centre, 715 McDermot Ave., Winnipeg, MB, R3E 3P4.

Department of Pediatrics and Child Health

Positions: Two contingent geographic full-time pediatric neurologists
Start date: As soon as possible
Salary: Commensurate with experience and qualifications
Application deadline: Jan. 2, 2009
Position number: 07570 and 08017
For information: Dr. Cheryl Rockman-Greenberg, professor and head, department of pediatrics and child health, University of Manitoba, CB208-840 Sherbrook St., Winnipeg, MB, R3A 1IS, fax 787-4807, e-mail: cggreenber@hsc.mb.ca.

Faculty of Science

Department of Physics and Engineering

Position: Department head, five-year term. The advisory committee invites applications and nominations of persons holding a tenured appointment at the University of Manitoba.
Start date: July 1, 2009
Application deadline: Oct. 31, 2008
Position number: BJ473
For information: Dr. Elizabeth Haar, chair (selection committee), Faculty of Science, 249 MacSorley Hall.

The University of Manitoba Libraries

Health Sciences Libraries

Position: Section head, Misericordia Health Centre Library
Start date: As soon as possible
Salary: Commensurate with qualifications and experience
Application deadline: Jan. 1, 2009
Position number: EA317
For information: Ms Karen Adams, director of libraries, The University of Manitoba Libraries, Winnipeg, MB, R3T 2N2.

For details call 474-8111

Classified Ads

The Bulletin welcomes Classified Ads. The rate for ads is $5 for the first 45 words.

EDITING AND PROOFREADING SERVICES.

FOR SALE close to university, 2100 sq. ft. 2 story home on 53 Meadow Ridge Dr., Richmond West. 4 bedroom, 25 lot. Large front yard with fireplace, oak thru-out. Mostly freshly painted. In ground pool. Attached double garage on 58 X 126 ft. landscaped and fenced lot. $359,000. Call 261-8267.

St. Mary Anglican Church in Charles- wood will be holding a GIANT GA- RAMIN at RUMMAGE on Friday, October 17, 2008 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, October 18, 2008 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall at 3850 Robinson Boul- evard at Haney (just over the Charles- wood Bridge). There will be WHITE ELEPHANT TABLES, BOOK TABLES, a $500 POND for KIDS, as well as household items, clothing and other miscellaneous treasures for sale.

FOUR BEDROOM furnished home in Waverly Heights. Four level split, two fully furnished bedrooms (mas- ter, king with ensuite), two fireplaces (wood, gas), big screen TV attached garage, deck, washer dryer close to grocery, shops. Bus very close, 5 minute ride to university. Available immed. $1800/mo. Contact: heathersberg@hotmail.com.

Advertise in the Bulletin
Bring Research to LIFE

Environmental excellence for Lucette Barber

Lucette Barber has won the 2008 Canadian Excellence in Environmental Education Award. Since 2003 the Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth and Resources has run "Schools on Board", a national program that takes high school students and teachers from across the country and places them on the CGS Amundsen in the high Arctic with research-conducting scientists onboard. Barber is the director of the program.

She received the award in Newfoundland on September 26, from the not-for-profit Canadian Network for Environmental Education and Communication (ECCOM).

The program was created to promote, in an exciting way, Arctic sciences to high schools across Canada for Environmental Education and for Research-conducting Scientists. School students and teachers from the days of Adam West. Chemistry, has not been as successful at doing this until, thankfully, now.

In the last 50 years, only three new classes of antibacterial drugs have been developed. Schweizer said. "This does not give you many avenues to explore. So now it seems the only way to come up with a novel agent is to go back to what's known, to some old drugs, and tweak some of them to see if you can restore their effectiveness." Schweizer is an expert in medicinal chemistry and Zhanel is an expert in superbugs. One day Schweizer called Zhanel and they got talking about antimicrobials. They discussed what sort of important things need to occur in the field and eventually they talked about aminoglycosides, a class of sugar-based antibiotics that has been around since 1944.

"They are thought of as being the most rapid killers of bacteria in the world," Zhanel said. "But they have two problems. One is that resistance to them has developed in Canada and every other country. And two, they put people into kidney failure because they are so toxic. Other than that, they are fantastic." The men developed a program to circumvent these problems. Schweizer reengineers the drug's chemistry, and Zhanel sees if they can kill the nastiest superbugs Canadian Intensive Care Units send him without harming human red blood cells – the canary of drug toxicity.

"We're still far from bringing drugs to patients but we've done some tough things so far," Zhanel said.

Zhanel's in vitro tests of Schweizer's superbugs, meet super drugs

BY SEAN MOORE Communications Officer

For most of its existence pseudomonas aeruginosa has lived in soil, gangland for microbes, where it developed such a thorough array of self-defenses it may just be the most attack-resistant organism on the planet. In the 1970s it was found in some hospitals, but today it's reckoned to reside in every one. It's a superbug resistant to antibiotics, and for the time being it only troubles easily-infected hospital patients.

For years it's been a favourite subject for Medical Microbiology's George Zhanel, and since 2006 he has collaborated with Chemistry's Frank Schweizer in hopes of finding novel drug therapies to curtail its – and other superbugs – zest. They recently published a paper in the Journal of Medicinal Chemistry.

To breazily understand what they do, think of Batman. Essentially, he is just a dog-godrellent on his tool belt; the more tools he has the better he fares in a fight. Antibiotics are the same. But Hollywood has upgraded Batman's tools since the days of Adam West. Chemistry, however, has not been as successful at doing this until, thankfully, now.

In the last 50 years, only three new classes of antibacterial drugs have been developed. Schweizer said. "This does not give you many avenues to explore. So now it seems the only way to come up with a novel agent is to go back to what's known, to some old drugs, and tweak some of them to see if you can restore their effectiveness." Schweizer is an expert in medicinal chemistry and Zhanel is an expert in superbugs. One day Schweizer called Zhanel and they got talking about antimicrobials. They discussed what sort of important things need to occur in the field and eventually they talked about aminoglycosides, a class of sugar-based antibiotics that has been around since 1944.

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"We’re still far from bringing drugs to patients but we’ve done some tough things so far,” Zhanel said.

Zhanel's in vitro tests of Schweizer's drugs have shown reengineered aminoglycosides as a promising weapon. But altering their design is difficult. Imagine aminoglycoside as an airport terminal. Each gate protruding from the terminal is a hydroxyl (a hydrogen atom bonded to an oxygen atom), and since these are responsible for the drug's characteristic chemical reactions, any alterations bring big changes. It used to take about 15-synthesizing steps to isolate and change a hydroxyl, which is too lengthy and costly for drug companies to care for, but Schweizer has patented a way to do it in just two to four steps.

But this chemistry can also apply to peptides. He can take a peptide 50 amino acids long, find the critical bit, and create a peptide just five amino acids long. He can now also synthesize unnatural ones that bacteria have never seen before.

In one method called "Carbohydrate-templated amino acid synthesis", he takes a novel peptide and inserts it into a sugar scaffold that he puts on one of the terminal's gates.

The new structure allows the drug to act as a detergent – disintegrating the bacterium's membrane so the shotgun does not take aim at them. Schweizer is also looking at aminoglycoside peptide conjugates. This method inhibits the bacteria's main defense: enzymes that latch onto drugs and chemically neuter them. He attaches ultrashort antimicrobial peptides to aminoglycosides, and these peptides prevent the enzymes from working, allowing the drug to attach itself to the bacteria's RNA where it then halts its protein synthesis.

So, how do these retrofitted drugs fare in tests? Resistance is categorized by "minimal inhibitor concentrations" or MIC. The best drugs have an MIC of less than 1. Neomycin, for instance, is an aminoglycoside superbugs have developed resistance to. When faced with the superbug like MRSA, Neomycin had an MIC of 512. It is, in a word, useless. But after Schweizer tweaked it, the MIC dropped to 8. With P. aeruginosa, the MIC went from 512, to 52.

Schweizer has since gotten these numbers lower too. "So we’ve restored their activity, we think they’re less toxic, and now we need to do some mechanism studies, do some animal efficacy studies, some more toxicity studies, and then see where we are after,” Zhanel said.

"So yeah, this is some cool stuff, but now we want to take this to the next level."
A Winning Season!
U of M holds annual general meeting

The University of Manitoba held its annual general meeting on Sept. 16 in Theatre A Basic Medical Sciences Building.

The meeting gave president David Barnard, vice-president (academic) Robert Kerr, vice-president (research) Joanne Keselman, vice-president (external) Elaine Goldie and vice-president (administration) Deborah McCallum the opportunity to speak about the university’s successes over the past year.

It was, to borrow from the university’s annual report, a Winning Season. The full annual report can be viewed online at umanitoba.ca/annual-report.

Board of Governors chair Terry Sargeant was master of ceremonies for the annual general meeting. An excerpt of his speech is included below.

As you will soon hear, 2007-2008 was a hallmark year for the University of Manitoba. It was a winning season and we celebrate a number of successes including the Vanier Cup win by the Bison men’s football team.

We are all energized by the possibilities that lay ahead for the campuses with last year’s purchase of the Southwood land and with the launch of Project Domino; not to mention the change that has already taken place with the Faculty of Pharmacy move to this campus and with the opening of Aboriginal House, a gathering place for Aboriginal students, alumni, faculty and staff, and the community at large.

The generosity of graduates and friends is also having a transformative effect on the university’s infrastructure, teaching and research. Their support, and the momentum it carries, motivates us to do even more.

On the whole, the year was marked by an impressive range of new programs and facilities; student, staff and faculty recognitions and honours; research achievements and community partnerships; and you will hear more about them shortly.

All these achievements can only happen in the presence of dedication and support. I would like to thank our staff in each academic and administrative department. Your work in support of this institution is pivotal to the University of Manitoba’s success.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my colleagues on the Board for their commitment to the University of Manitoba. Working together as representatives from government, the community, business, faculty, staff and students, you support the university’s research and teaching, and every Manitoban will benefit in the long run.

This is also a time to publicly thank those members who have retired from the Board during the last year. We have benefitted greatly from their dedication and participation on the Board. They include: Gary Sran, Rachel Heinrichs and Matt McLean, appointed by the University of Manitoba Students’ Union; and Steven Hennessey, appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council. I wish them the best in their endeavors.

As they retire from the Board, we welcome four new members to our 2008-2009 Board: Richard Mahe, Aaron Glenn, Jonny Sopotiuk and Mitch Tripple.

Before I call upon the vice-presidents to give their reports, I would also like to thank Chancellor William Norrie and the university’s senior administration for their leadership and dedication to post-secondary education and the university community. As the Chair of the Board of Governors I would like to express our collective pride in this institution and our confidence in its administration.

The past year was truly exceptional. It is fitting that so many wins, achievements, and transformations came in the final year of Dr. Emöke Szathmáry’s tenure as the 10th president and vice-chancellor.

Our collective accomplishments reflect, and have been inspired by, her drive and passion for the University of Manitoba. On behalf of the Board, I want to take a moment to thank Dr. Szathmáry for her extraordinary leadership during her 12 years.

It is often said that the most important task that a board undertake is in the hiring of a chief executive officer for the organization. Last fall, the board, following a comprehensive search, approved the hiring of Dr. David Barnard as the 11th president and vice-chancellor. All the signs are that the board has succeeded exceedingly well with carrying out this task. Shortly after the announcement of his appointment David began to make regular trips to Winnipeg as part of his transition into his job which he commences full time last July. I would like to welcome him to the first of his many agms.

Terry Sargeant
Board of Governors’ Chair

The University of Manitoba held its annual general meeting on Sept. 16. Clockwise from the top right, it was the first AGM for President David Barnard and he discussed setting goals for the university’s future; Marcel Desautels, through the Canadian Credit Management Foundation, provided a highlight for the 2007-2008 year with his donation of $20 million to the newly renamed Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music; Tache Hall is one of a number of buildings that will be rejuvenated as part of Project Domino; the University of Manitoba continues to grow as a research-intensive university. As the graphs show invention disclosures and research income both grew in 2007-2008.

For the full story on the university’s successes over the past year check out umanitoba.ca/annual-report.