**Art and ideas**

Gallerist Robert Epp loves the creative atmosphere on campus.

**Page 7**

**Play space**

Environmental design students offer fresh ideas on how to create children’s play space.

**Page 12**

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**A Berry good IDEA**

The Associates, a group of more than 250 prominent business leaders who support the Asper School of Business at the University of Manitoba have announced Jim Balsillie, co-CEO of Research In Motion (RIM), the maker of the world renowned BlackBerry wireless solution, as the recipient of the 2009 International Distinguished Entrepreneur Award (I.D.E.A.).

“We are thrilled to announce that this year’s I.D.E.A. recipient is Mr. Balsillie,” said Arni Thorsteinson, chair of the I.D.E.A. committee for the Associates and president of Shelter Canadian Properties Limited. “Jim encapsulates the idea of I.D.E.A. as a world-renowned entrepreneur who stands among very few Canadians in terms of what he has done, and what we anticipate he is yet to do.”

Balsillie has been RIM co-CEO since 1992. In 2002, he founded the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI), a world-class global research institute focused on the restructuring of international governance. In 2007, Balsillie announced the creation of the new Canadian International Council (CIC) of which he is the chair. He founded the Balsillie School of International Affairs in 2008. Balsillie is a graduate of the University of Toronto and the Harvard Graduate School of Business. He is a chartered accountant and a fellow of the Ontario Institute of Chartered Accountants. He also holds numerous honorary doctoral degrees.

“The University of Manitoba is delighted that a Canadian of international business stature, who is also committed to higher education in many ways, is this year’s I.D.E.A. Award recipient,” said president David Barnard. The Associates created the annual I.D.E.A. Award 26 years ago to honour individuals who have achieved international stature, outstanding business success and who have made exemplary contributions to the economic life of Canada and the world.

See BALSILLIE/P 2

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**Shanty town lesson**

*By Dale Barbour*

The Bulletin

For Engineers Without Borders member Adam Fraser-Kruck, a hint of life in a shanty town hit home on Tuesday, Feb. 3, morning.

The group had set up a mock shanty town in the Engineering and Information Technology Centre on Monday, Feb. 2 and about a dozen members spent the night huddled inside it. The goal of the project, which lasted until Wednesday, Feb. 4, was to raise awareness about world poverty issues.

“...When I was lying there Tuesday morning, I could hear some people talking just a few feet away and they were saying, ‘A shanty town? That’s an eyesore. We should get rid of it.’ And I thought, wow, I’m being discriminated against.

Of course Fraser-Kruck knew the people were only joking. But the joke reflects the threat that people in real shanty towns live under. Their communities are often considered eyesores and blemishes in urban centres that would rather not admit that poverty lives on their doorsteps.

“...”

See PROJECT/P 2

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**Have we met?**

A sculpture of Chancellor William Norrie will now grace the William Norrie Centre.

**Page 3**

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**One University. Many Futures.**

University of Manitoba
In The News

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

60 year-old mom
February 12, 2009
Globe and Mail

The ethical questions arising from a 60-year-old woman giving birth to twins brought University of Manitoba ethics professor Arthur Schafer into the news. The Canada’s oldest mother known to have given birth. Schafer pointed out that the decision to have babies at that age may not be prudent or optimal but “in this country, let competent adults make procreative decisions for themselves.”

Surviving the recession
February 6, 2009
Business Edge Magazine

Another article exploring the impact of a recession in Canada included comments from Rob Warren, executive director of the Asper Centre for Entrepreneurship. Warren comments on how the current economic situation hasn’t been seen by Canadians for three or four decades.

Assessing the federal budget
January 28, 2009
 Winnipeg Sun

John McCallum, a University of Manitoba economist, was cited in the media concerning the recent federal budget announcement. Although McCallum says the budget will have less of an effect on Canada’s economy than larger influences such as classic and U.S. economies, he says the budget does what many economists suggest it should do during difficult economic times: spend on infrastructure, cut taxes, and finance them both with a deficit.

Sleeping with the enemy
January 25, 2009
 Calgary Sun

University of Manitoba criminologist Rick Linden was in the news discussing the idea of police agencies working with criminals in an effort to develop cases against other criminals. Although good guys rubbing shoulders with bad guys may be unpalatable for some during difficult economic times: spend on infrastructure, cut taxes, and finance them both with a deficit.

Making airlines accountable
January 24, 2009
 CTV

A new passengers’ bill of rights that will make the airlines more accountable when inconveniencing their customers is being proposed by Winnipeg MP Jim Maloway and getting a conditional nod from Commissioner of Transportation. Commission of the Canada’s oldest mother known to have given birth. Schafer pointed out that the decision to have babies at that age may not be prudent or optimal but “in this country, let competent adults make procreative decisions for themselves.”

From Page 1

“Jim Balsillie is a leader, innovator, entrepreneur and philanthropist,” said Associate member Pierre Blouin, chief executive officer of MTS Allstream, and emcee of the June gala. “He is a brilliant man who is most deserving of the 2009 I.D.E.A. Award.”

“The award will be presented to Balsillie at a formal dinner in Winnipeg on Tuesday, June 2, 2009, with an introduction by André Desmarais, president and co-chief executive officer of the Power Corporation of Canada. Balsillie will be presented at the gala with a custom-made pure gold medal produced by the Royal Canadian Mint that is created specifically for the award.

The Associates are committed to ensuring that the Asper School of Business remains one of the top business schools in Canada. The Associates support and promote interaction between the business community and faculty and students, culminating with the I.D.E.A. presentation.

Balsillie joins past I.D.E.A. recipients, including Israel Asper, Richard Branson, award founder Albert D. Cohen, Paul Desmarais, Ako Morita, Ross Perot, Heather Reisman, Dame Anna Roddick, Gerald Schwartz, Martha Stewart, W. Galen Weston and last year’s recipient, Peter Munk.

Balsillie is the epitome of an entrepreneur

The University of Manitoba hosted the 2009 Western Canadian Campus Recreation Conference on Feb. 6 and 7. Recre and play have always been seen as cornerstone of educational pursuits out of recognition that play/recreation/sport contribute to a balanced life and ultimately academic and professional success. As such, the conference theme this year was “Strategic Recess: Focused Play”.

The conference assembled people who are passionate about providing recreational opportunities on their respective campuses and continuing to improve these services to meet the growing and changing needs of their clientele. The conference was geared towards students and professionals.

Project educates volunteers and public about poverty

“Some of the people are really into these issues, so it’s just phenomenal talking to them about it,” Fraser-Kruck said.

Living on $1 a day also educated the students about poverty issues. Their staples included fu-fu, a traditional Ghanian food composed of plantain and boiled cassava, a root vegetable. They also washed their clothes by hand and hauled their water through the tunnels from the Drake Building – just under a kilometre away – to get a sense of what it’s like when the water source isn’t a few steps away.

While the group is called Engineers Without Borders, it includes students from across the university. Fraser-Kruck is a fourth-year computer engineering student but other participants were drawn from the sciences, economics students, and Human Ecology.

“Engineers Without Borders really relies on people from all different fields, because we can all bring different skills sets to the project,” Rachel Kroeker, whose own background is in biochemistry, said.

Conference on recess and play

The Bulletin

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.

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Editor/Advertising/Production
Dale Barbour
Phone: 474 8111
Fax: 474 7631
E-mail: barbourd@ms.umanitoba.ca

Academic Advertising
Kathy Nziol
Phone: 474 7195
Fax: 474 7505
E-mail: kathy_nziol@umanitoba.ca

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The Bulletin can be viewed online at umanitoba.ca/bulletin

Jim Balsillie

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Now, a face to go with the name Norrie sculpture a perfect fit for William Norrie Centre

BY DALE BARBOUR
The Bulletin

Leave it to Bill Norrie. When the University of Manitoba hosted an event at the William Norrie Centre, 485 Selkirk Avenue on Feb. 2, to unveil a Leo Mol created bronze bust of the Chancellor, all of the speakers praised Norrie for his commitment to the city of Winnipeg, where he served as mayor between 1979 and 1992, and to the University of Manitoba, where he has served as Chancellor since 2001.

But Norrie was far more interested in using the event as an opportunity to praise the innovative programming going on at the William Norrie Centre, which opened in 2005 and operates as a partnership between the University of Manitoba and the University of Winnipeg.

“I wanted also to say it’s particularly fitting that this event is happening in this century,” Norrie said in an interview. “Reference has been made to my time as mayor and it was really during that time that I became aware of importance of communities. Furthermore, he chose to examine spirituality rather than religiosity, which may also have different mental health correlates. “Many people consider themselves spiritual but not religious,” he explains. “I am interested in studying the subjective experience of the sacred (one definition of spirituality) over religiosity (which may be defined as behaviour and experience stemming from a religious doctrine). I am particularly interested in the nature and effects of spiritual experiences. Where do they come from? What do they say about the human condition?”

To begin with, he found that temperamental features of spiritual practice that promote well-being remain unknown. What exactly is it about spirituality that facilitates mental health? Gary Hotson, PhD candidate in the department of psychology, examined this hot topic for his dissertation entitled “Spiritual Practices and Mental Health: Predictors of a Positive Relationship,” which he defended last year.

“Today this centre is home to over 200 students, with 170 under the University of Manitoba’s Intensity Social Work ACCESS Program and another 70 studying under the University of Winnipeg’s Education ACCESS Program,” Norrie said. “I think this is a unique and wonderful partnership developed by the University of Manitoba and the University of Winnipeg, and seeing these two universities come together really speaks well of the city of Winnipeg.”

The bronze sculpture unveiled at the event was created by Mol in 1995, and a duplicate sits among the sculptures in the Citizens’ Hall of Fame in Assiniboine Park. Mol had passed along the duplicate to Norrie – the two had become friends while it was being sculpted – but it was always meant for a public setting and Norrie said the unveiling was really an opportunity to honour Mol for all the wonderful pieces of art he had created.

“Of course, for the other speakers it was also an opportunity to honour Norrie,” Diana McGifford, Minister of Advanced Education and Literacy, said it was appropriate to be honouring Norrie in a building dedicated to educating people in central Winnipeg.

“We’re honouring Bill’s commitment to the city and education,” McGifford said. Norrie kicked off his career in public service when he was elected to the Winnipeg School Board in 1962 and he served 24 years on the Board of Regents of the University of Winnipeg including a term as chairman. As Winnipeg mayor, he focused on central Winnipeg with the Core area redevelopment initiative which led to Portage Place and the development of the Forks, now considered a showcase for Winnipeg.

“Bill Norrie brings knowledge, goodness and friendship to all his dealings,” McGifford said. “I’m pleased to see that the William Norrie Centre will now have a face to go with the name.”

Board of Governors chair Terry Sargeant and president David Barnard were also on hand to pay their respect to Norrie.

“Thank you Bill for being who you are,” Barnard said. “I would like to reiterate the university’s thanks to Bill and Helen Norrie and to Leo and Margaret Mol for their generosity, we’re all enriched in living in a community where people like this make their contributions and they have contributed to making Winnipeg and the University of Manitoba more lively.”

BY JENNIFER ROBINSON
For The Bulletin

While recent studies have demonstrated the positive association between spirituality and mental health, specific features of spiritual practice that promote well-being remain unknown. What exactly is it about spirituality that facilitates mental health? Gary Hotson, PhD candidate in the department of psychology, examined this hot topic for his dissertation entitled “Spiritual Practices and Mental Health: Predictors of a Positive Relationship,” which he defended last year.

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Hawthorne honoured by Carnegie Museum

Carnegie Museum of Natural History has announced Frank Hawthorne of the University of Manitoba as the recipient of the 2008 Carnegie Mineralogical Award. The award will be presented by Samuel M. Taylor, director of Carnegie Museum of Natural History, on Feb. 14 at the 2009 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show.

The award, established in 1987 by Carnegie Museum of Natural History and underwritten by the Hillman Foundation, honours outstanding contributions in mineralogical preservation, conservation and education that match the ideals advanced in the museum’s Hillman Hall of Minerals and Gems. It is considered one of the most prestigious awards in the fields of mineralogy, lapidary art and geology.

“Frank is the first Canadian to receive the award and only our second non-U.S. awardee, the late Miguel Romero of Mexico being the first,” said Marc Wilson, head of the section of minerals at Carnegie Museum of Natural History. “It would be hard to choose a better academic mineralogist to honour.”

Hawthorne was born in Bristol, England, in 1946, and educated at the Royal School of Mines, Imperial College, London, and McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario. He was a post-doctoral fellow and held a Natural Science’s and Engineering Research Council of Canada fellowship at the University of Manitoba, Canada, where he is now Canada Research Chair in Crystallography and distinguished professor in geological sciences.

Frank Hawthorne

Access Awareness Awards honour university staff

BY BRANDY USICK
Director, Student Advocacy and Resource Services

Disability Services held its 8th annual Access Awareness Day on Feb. 5. The annual event celebrates accessibility at the University of Manitoba. An Access Awareness Ceremony reception was held to honour faculty and staff who were nominated by students for outstanding service in providing access and accommodations for students with disabilities. Award recipients were chosen based on their support, commitment and understanding of students with disabilities.

This year seven faculty and staff were nominated by four students. Names of the award recipients and excerpts from the nomination forms are provided below:

Sara Richer
Department of Anthropology

“Ms Richer made herself available and when I didn’t understand something, she took the time to explain it to me in a way that I was able to understand. She is very patient, caring and gave me confidence throughout the term.”

Darren Stebellesi
School of Art

“He is always supportive, respectful, and positive. He listens to my opinions and is encouraging. He answers all of my questions and gives me one-on-one attention. He guides me through projects, gives me advice, and allows me to be creative. He makes me feel accepted in class and treats me as an equal.”

Genia Bozyk
St. Andrews College

“Ms Bozyk is kind, positive, and understanding. She makes me feel at home and accepted among the rest of the residents. She allowed me to paint a mural on the TV lounge for my final assignment in fundamentals of drawing last year.”

Judith Choi, amphitrype paysagiste, veut enfin les relater de par une meilleure gestion de l'environnement.

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A new twist on spring break

There’s more to spring break than just ski trips and beach trips. In fact, for nine University of Manitoba students there’s going to be a whole lot more as they participate in Student Life’s alternative spring break in El Salvador.

“We have nine students from a range of different faculties participating,” Housing and Student Life director Joe Danis said. The students left Wednesday, Feb. 11 for El Salvador and returned home Sunday, Feb. 22.

During the spring break they’ll be living in Santa Caterina, but spending their days working in El Escalon, a nearby community.

“The primary project is to terrace the hillside leading to the community’s fresh water source,” Danis said. Currently the pathway is treacherous and at times prohibits members of the community from accessing fresh water.

A secondary project during the week will be assisting in building of water filtration units for local families. But the students will also have the opportunity to learn about the lifestyle and local culture of rural Salvadorians. They’ll be led through reflection sessions to deepen their understanding of the experience and to draw parallels to their individual programs of study.

Danis said one of the goals of the project was to ensure it was a true alternative spring break, rather than a photo opportunity at the worksite followed by tourism activities.

The international trip fits in with other service learning projects that Student Life offers, including a five-day trip to Bangladesh; a five-week trip that teams the students with a local non-governmental agency and a three-week trip that focuses on exploring the impact of religion on communities.
FEDERAL BUDGET OFFERS SOME GOOD NEWS

The University of Manitoba is still waiting to find out how much it will receive from the $2 billion in infrastructure funding announced for post-secondary schools in the 2009 federal budget.

The funding is intended for deferred maintenance and repair projects with preference given to projects that will improve the quality of research and development in the institution. The federal government expects its funds to be matched by the provincial government or another partner.

RESOURCES PLANNING

The University of Manitoba is in the midst of its resource planning and allocation process for 2009-2010. The university expects the 2009-2010 budget year will be impacted by a slight decline in enrolment, but will benefit from lower fuel prices. Overall, the university expects it will need an additional $28.3 million to maintain its current level of service while still balancing its books in the next fiscal year. That increase is primarily due to the inflationary cost of wages at the university. To meet that increase in cost the university will need a minimum provincial base grant increase of 10.9 per cent, a tuition increase, or some combination thereof.

- Senate approved, and recommended that the Board of Governors approve, the proposal for a full degree in peace and conflict studies during its Feb. 4 regular meeting. The master’s degree is expected to encompass the analysis and resolution of social conflicts, peace research that examines the structural roots of social conflicts, divisions, and inequalities; and strategies for building community and promoting social justice.

- The master’s degree would be in partnership with the University of Winnipeg and it was that partnership that raised concerns with some Senates members. Menno Simmons College of the Canadian Mennonite University will be teaching conflict resolution courses at the University of Winnipeg.

The concern for some Senate members, and the Senate committee on academic freedom, was that as employees of the Canadian Mennonite University, Menno Simmons College instructors and professors follow a different code of academic freedom than the University of Manitoba. The CMU code notes that academics also have a responsibility to encourage the students to which CMU employees of the Canadian Mennonite University will belong, and to which CMU members would still have the option to contribute $3 per credit hour for a mandate the government or another partner.

- Senate approved the establishment of an Endowed Chair in Renal Transplant at its Feb. 4 regular meeting. The research chair will provide leadership, scholarship, and mentorship in kidney transplantation at the University of Manitoba. The endowment interest from a $3 million endowment, which includes $1 million contributed by development of internal medicine members.

- WATERSHED SCIENCE

Senate approved the establishment of a Research Chair in Watershed Science at its Feb. 4 regular meeting. The research chair will provide leadership and coordination of activities to improve water quality in all water bodies in Manitoba, including Manitoba’s large lakes, i.e., Lake Winnipeg and Lake Manitoba.

The Research Chair will also play a leadership role in the planned development of a watershed Research Institute at the University of Manitoba.

- Senate paid its respects to Nora Jean Lewis, director of the animal care and use program at the University of Manitoba. Lewis passed away on Dec. 29, 2008 at the age of 62 after a courageous battle with cancer. Trained at the University of Guelph, Lewis worked at Guelph and the University of Saskatchewan before joining the University of Manitoba. She was instrumental in establishing the animal care and use program and was named the first UMFA Surgical and Research Ethical Consultant. She also paid its respects to Chancellor Emeritus Henry (Harry) Duckworth.

- Applications and nominations for the Merit Awards for UMEA members are now being accepted. The awards are for the calendar year 2008. Article 25 of the Collective Agreement between The University of Manitoba and The University of Manitoba Faculty Association provides for Merit Awards of $3,000 each. Awards will be available in four specified categories:
  a) Teaching - up to eight (8) awards;
  b) Research, Scholarly Work, and Other Creative Activities - up to eight (8) awards;
  c) Service - up to six (6) awards; and
  d) Any combination of Teaching, Research, Scholarly Work and other Creative Activities, and Service - up to eight (8) awards.

Applications and nominations must be made using the form available from:
- the University of Manitoba Faculty Association office; or
- humanresources@umanitoba.ca/admin/human_resources/staff_relations/academic/1144.html

The following must be received by the Joint Committees, c/o Human Resources Department, Administration Building no later than 4:00 p.m. March 27, 2009:

- FIVE Packages, each containing the following:
  a. Cover Letter or Letter of Support (clearly stating the reasons why an applicant should be given an award in a particular category);
  b. Completed Application/Nomination Form; and
  c. Any supporting documentation (such as curriculum vitae, summaries of evaluations etc.)

Late applications and nominations will not be considered. Please contact Marvel Showers at 474-7861 if you have any questions.

The Bulletin Page 5

Academic Schedules

The University has tweaked its academic schedule for 2009-2010. Winter term classes will now kick off on Wednesday, Jan. 6, one day after the university reopens on Tuesday, Jan. 5. The change also creates more minor revisions to the registration and mandatory withdrawal period.

Student Referenda

The Board of Governors approved the results of three student referenda at its Jan. 27 regular meeting. The money raised in the referenda will go towards endowment funds in the respective faculties. Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences students voted to contribute $122,760 over a three-year term, with degree students contributing $35.07 per credit hour and diploma students contributing $2.56 per credit hour. Nursing students voted to contribute $5 per credit hour for a total contribution of $297,000 over a three-year term. Science students voted to contribute $5 per credit hour for a total contribution of $1,575,000 over three years.

The university will be tweaking the

ballots it uses for student referenda. Students typically use the referenda to confirm or upgrade donations to their faculty foundations. In recent years the Board of Governors members had raised concerns about the number of spoiled ballots in recent referenda. The problem, as it turns out, was that the ballots were being a little too specific in asking students to mark their vote with an ‘X’. As a result, ballots where students checked their preferences were being rejected. The annual giving program, which helps students conduct the referenda, is recommending restrictions to be loosened to accept check marks as positive responses.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT

The Board of Governors is adopting the addition of a unanimous consent agenda to speed things along during board meetings. The idea is that routine items would be placed under the unanimous consent agenda which would allow the board members to bypass the base group. Board members would still have the option of pulling individual items out of the consent agenda to be considered in the regular manner before the Board.

ENGINEER CREDENTIALS

The Board approved the proposal for a post-baccalaureate diploma for the internationally educated engineers qualification program in the Faculty of Engineering, as recommended by Senate on Dec. 3, 2008. The program is intended to help internationally educated engineers receive their credentials in Canada.

TRIUMF

The Board of Governors approved the University of Manitoba’s full membership in the TRIUMF Joint Venture, Canada’s national laboratory for particle and nuclear physics located at the University of British Columbia. The U of M has been an associate member of TRIUMF for more than 20 years. The move to membership will give the university voting rights on TRIUMF’s management board and more accurately reflect the U of M’s involvement with the joint venture.
Goldsborough provides a new take on Manitoba’s history

Telling the story of everyday life

By DALE BARBOUR

The Bulletin


“It’s really a classic example of how things can snowball,” author Gordon Goldsborough said. “A few years ago my parents were downsizing and they passed along this old picture to me and said, ‘You might be interested in this.’” It was a picture of the founding meeting of the Union of Manitoba Municipalities held in Brandon in 1905. Tucked in among the crowd of men was John Fletcher Goldsborough, the delegate for the Rural Municipality of Macdonald and Goldsborough’s great-grandfather.

Goldsborough is a biological sciences professor and director of the University of Manitoba’s Delta Marsh Field Station. But he’s also a historian and a past president of the Manitoba Historical Society. So when he saw the picture he was intrigued and wrote a short article about the founding meeting for Manitoba History magazine in 2006.

The article promptly caught the eye of the Association of Manitoba Municipalities – the successor to the UMM – and encouraged them to approach Goldsborough and ask him if he, as an academic, might know anyone interested in writing a history of municipal governance in Manitoba.

“Kind of thought about it and then said, ‘I would like to do it,’” Goldsborough said. But he had a few caveats. The book wasn’t going to include an individual history on each municipal government in Manitoba, an impossible task given that there’s 198 municipalities in the province. It also wasn’t going to be a congratulatory history on each municipal government in Manitoba, an impossible task given that there’s 198 municipalities in the province.

Goldsborough shows how municipal governments have shaped Manitoba’s history in With One Voice: A History of Municipal Governance in Manitoba.

“I thought if I’m going to do this it’s going to be academically rigorous; it’s going to cover the good and bad in equal measure,” Goldsborough said.

The result is a distinct history of Manitoba.

“It’s really a history of everyday life,” Goldsborough said. That’s fitting given that municipal governments are often called the level of government closest to the people.

“If you ask people what the federal government does for them, they’re going to say it’s responsible for the GST or it sent Canada to war in Afghanistan,” Goldsborough said. Of course the federal government does more than that, but most of its activities don’t impact how people live on a day-to-day basis.

In contrast, municipal governments look after the roads, water supplies, emergency services. So if the municipal government isn’t doing its job, people wake up to find they don’t have any water and the roads are impassable because they haven’t been plowed since the last snow storm.

“If that happens you’re on your phone to somebody and you’re probably going to call your municipal councillor,” Goldsborough said. “The poor guys get phone calls at all hours of the day on all kinds of different things.”

Over the past century, municipal governments in Manitoba have weighed in on – and debated – everything from daylight savings time to the manufacture of margarine.

“Winnipeg was the first municipality in Canada to adopt daylight savings time in 1916,” Goldsborough said. The effort lasted for just a few months and was a complete disaster because only a handful of other municipalities followed suit. It wasn’t until 1963 that Manitoba adopted Daylight Savings Time as a provincial standard.

With One Voice tracks themes as diverse as the attempt to exterminate all gophers in Manitoba to the extension of roads and electrical services in Manitoba.

But the book is really about Manitoba’s shift from being an agricultural province to one where most people live in urban centre – a trend neatly tracked by the graphs at the beginning of every chapter which show the changing balance between rural and urban populations.

The history of the Union of Manitoba Municipalities also tracks those transitions. Tensions between rural and urban municipalities led to a split in the group in 1949 with the creation of the Manitoba Urban Association. That split lasted for nearly 50 years until the two groups merged again in 1998 to form the Association of Manitoba Municipalities and to once again speak with one voice.

If you love that book ...

University of Manitoba city planning professor and fantasy author Rae Bridgman is releasing her MiddleGate books into the wilds of North America.

Bridgman is scattering her young adult fantasy series in cities throughout North America … on park benches, in coffee shops, or a library, anywhere someone might pick up a book and wish to read.

Bridgman will release 100 of The MiddleGate Books during the month of February, inspired by the time-honored concept of bookcrossing. The series will be distributed in order, beginning with the first in the series The Serpent’s Spell (copies 1 – 50), followed by Amber Ambrosia (copies 51 – 75) and Fish & Sphinx (copies 76 – 100).

Ideally the books will take on a life of their own and travel the world looking for new readers. A book is left on a park bench, in a restaurant, or at an airport, laundromat or library. Perhaps one friend gives it to another. The idea of leaving a book for someone else to find and read combines serendipity, adventure, altruism and literature in a unique mix that true bibliophiles find irresistible. With its similarity to releasing messages in a bottle or notes in helium balloons, bookcrossing hearkens back to fond childhood memories.

“This is an opportunity to celebrate February as I Love to Read Month and Freedom to Read Week (the last week in February),” Bridgman said.
Epp is drawn to the world of art
Gallery One One One offers launch pad for emerging artists

BY DALE BARBOUR

A Day in the Life of a gallerist

Robert Epp enjoys the creative energy that exists at the University of Manitoba.

Meet Frank Hursska, a recently retired chemistry professor who still teaches introductory chemistry at the U of M. Talk to him for just a few minutes and you’ll be tempted to take one of his classes. He is also a donor to the U of M, supporting such things as the Robin Connor Lectureship in the History and Philosophy of Science, student awards and the Institute for the Humanities.

Q: As a professor, you’ve already done a lot for the U of M. Why do you also give financially? A: People give because it’s a good thing to do. If you look around the university there is so much going on that it’s pretty easy to find something that you want to support.

Q: Why do you support student awards at the U of M? A: I received a scholarship from our Alumni Association when I started university, so it’s a way of giving back. It’s also a way of encouraging students to excel.

Q: Why are you proud to be part of the U of M? A: The University of Manitoba is a great place to be: I have the opportunity to teach, plus it’s like a little city – you can meet people who work in different areas and have interesting stories to tell.

Join your colleagues in supporting your university.

Visit http://umanitoba.ca/admin/devadv to find out where your donation can make a difference.

Info Days lands on Feb. 18 and 19

Held Feb. 18 and 19, Information Days provides students with the opportunity to experience and learn more about the University of Manitoba through tours, presentations on programs, and faculty information booths.

The two-day event will feature an info village with faculties and departments will be on display in the multi-purpose rooms in University Centre, career counselling presentations by the university’s career counselling specialists, info sessions presented by various academic units and student support services and a variety of tours throughout the campus.

CENTRE ON AGING
26TH ANNUAL SPRING RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

Dialogue on Aging

Monday, May 4, 2009
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Brodie Centre, 727 McDermot Road
Bannatyne Campus, University of Manitoba
All are welcome to attend.
For information contact: Centre on Aging
204-474-8754
aging@umanitoba.ca
umanitoba.ca/centres/aging

One university. Many futures.
Bison Sports

**WOMEN’S HOCKEY**
- Feb. 13 – Saskatchewan at Manitoba, Max Bell, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 14 – Saskatchewan at Manitoba, Max Bell, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 18-28 – Winter Universiaide Games.
- Feb. 21 – Male Celebrities, Max Bell, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 27 – Balmoral Hall at Manitoba, Max Bell, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 28 – Balmoral Hall at Manitoba, Winnipeg Winter Club, 7 p.m.

**MEN’S HOCKEY**
- Feb. 18-28 – Winter Universiaide Games.
- Feb. 21 – Free Outdoor Practice/Scrimmage, Bourkevale Community Centre, 12 p.m.
- Feb. 25 – (Age Classic), Max Bell, 7 p.m.

**WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL**
- Feb. 12 – Canada West Playoff: Division First Round Game One, Manitoba at Trinity, 5:30 p.m.
- Feb. 13 – Canada West Playoff: Division First Round Game Two, Manitoba at Trinity, 5:30 p.m.
- Feb. 14 – Canada West Playoff: Division First Round Game Three, Winnipeg vs. Winnipeg, Winnipeg, 7 p.m. (If necessary).
- Feb. 20-21 – Canada West Championship Final Four, 12 p.m. (To be decided).

**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**
- Feb. 12 – Canada West Playoff: Division Semi-Final Game One: Manitoba vs. Winnipeg, Winnipeg, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 13 – Canada West Playoff: Division Semi-Final Game Two: Manitoba vs. Winnipeg, Winnipeg, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 14 – Canada West Playoff: Division Semi-Final Game Two: Manitoba vs. Winnipeg, Winnipeg, 7 p.m. (If necessary).
- Feb. 20-22 – Canada West Playoff: Division Finals, 12 p.m., Location to be decided.

**TRACK AND FIELD**
- Feb. 13-14 – Manitoba Indoor Games (Age Classic), Max Bell, Max Bell, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 25 – Grand Prix #6, Max Bell, 12 p.m.

**MEDICAL SCIENCE SPECIAL EVENTS**

- **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12**
  - Pharmacy, Effects of reserterol on cardiac hypertrophy in rats by Thomas Netticadan, research scientist, Canadian Centre for Agri-Food Research in Health Sciences, University of Manitoba, 10 a.m., Monday, Feb. 23.
  - Medical Microbiology, Investigating Enablers and Inhibitors of HIV-1 Replication by Allan Cochrane, University of Toronto, Theatre A Basic Medical Sciences Building, 2:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 23.

- **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18**
  - Obstetrics and Gynecology Grand Rounds, Agenesis of Ductus Venous, Case Report and Review of Literature by Shamsa Al Hinai, Resident, OB/GYN, Theatre A Basic Medical Sciences Building, 7:45 a.m., Wednesday, Feb. 18.

- **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19**
  - Physical Therapy Academic Rounds, A Systemic View of Constraint-Induced Movement Therapy (CIMT) for Upper Limb Function in Survivors of Stroke by Ted Steynerson, R209 School of Medical Rehabilitation, 1 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 19.
Fort Garry Campus

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13

PHILOSOPHICAL FRIDAY, SOCIAL KINDS AND CONCEPTUAL CHANGE: A Reply to Haslanger by Esa Diaz Leon, University of Manitoba, 539 Parker Building, 2:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 13.

CHEMISTRY, FOURIER TRANSFORM MICROWAVE (FTMW) SPECTROSCOPY OF HYDROCEL ULTIMATES COMPLEXED BY GALAXY SEED, department of chemistry, University of Manitoba, 539 Parker Building, 2:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 13.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES: Darwin Days Celebration, Darwin backwards while looking forward by Barry Glickman, professor of biology, University of Victoria, Robert B. Schultz Lecture Theatre, 172 St John's College, 7:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 13.


MADDIN, FUTURE EXPECTATIONS BY VENKATARAMAN THEFT OF INFANCY'S LUCENT PROMISE BY GUY RABLIUSKAUS, activist from Poplar River First Nation, 307 Tier Building, 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 25.

Bringong Brining to Life Speaker Series, When Family is Business and Business is Family. Making sense of the special world of the family business and business family by Reg Liz, professor, Asper School of Business, Robert B. Schultz Lecture Theatre St. John's College, 7 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 25.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Centre on Aging Research, Why Don't Older Adults Seek Professional Help for Mental Health Problems? by Corey Mackenzie, department of psychology, 312 Fletcher Argue, 2 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 26.

Central and East European Study Group, Jewish Refugees in the Eastern Group Central and East European Study Group, 312 Fletcher Argue, 2 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 26.

CHEMISTRY: The 2009 ARMS Lectures, Chemistry and Molecular Nanotechnology in Tomorrow's World by Fraser Stoddart, board of trustees professor of chemistry Northwestern University, 207 Buller Building, 2:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 26.


ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS 530 Elizabeth Dafoe Library.

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PARISH-FRIENDS OF FINE ARTS: A PROPHET OF MODERN ART, Curated by Marilyn Baker, Art History, School of Art January 8 to March 31, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Letters to Lionel LeMoine Fitzgerald from members of the Group of Seven and Others from the Fitzgerald Study Centre collection. With a special showing of paintings by Lawrence Harris from Gallery One One One, University of Manitoba and by Charles Balfour and Charles Boardley from the University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections. Call 474-9986 for more information.

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:

**XIIe plays live soundtracks to a selection of film, at Cinematheque, 100 Arthur Street in conjunction with GroundSwell, 8 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 12.**

**OLEG & FRIENDS CONCERT SERIES: “On Chopin’s Birthday ...” featuring violanists Oleg Pokhanovskii and Carolina Nagy-Schick, with Mikhail Pokhanovskii on viola, Milena Rose Chung on cello and Edmund Dawe on piano, Broadway Disciples United Church, 396 Broadway, 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 22. Single concert price: $20 for adults, $15 for seniors and $7 for students. Tickets: 474-8637 or 261-6424 or by e-mail: pokhanov@cc.umanitoba.ca**

**Charmeine Bacon, Graduate Flute Recital, Eva Clare Hall, 8 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 24.**

**Final Round of the Annual Muser Competition, Eva Clare Hall, 7:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 27.**

**Save the date and make plans to at- tend Research Day at the University of Manitoba, on Wednesday, Feb. 25.**

Review an array of posters, hear in- teresting presentations and earn Con- tinuing Dental Education credits at the 16th Annual Dentistry’s annual showcase of scientifc research.

This year’s event takes place on 2/F Brodie Centre. Registration begins at 11 a.m. from Bysoung Su, FADM, en- tirely “Simplified Adhesives: Is Easier and Faster Really Better?”

The day will conclude with the popular Art in Science exhibit and "Who's My Replica?" a freelance artist at Nell John Maclean Library Common Area in the Brodie Centre at the University of Manitoba’s Bannatyne Campus. Pro- ceeds from the sale of artistic images will go to support student research at the Faculty of Dentistry and School of Dental Hygiene.

There is no charge to attend.

Breakfast and lunch will be provided. RSVP by Feb. 20 to 789-3561 or e-mail to Joy at: otroo@cc.umanitoba.ca.
Events Listing

Continued from Page 9

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Elizabeth Dafoe Library Graduate Student Lectures, Violence and the North West Mounted Police by Fadi Ennah, department of sociology, Iceland Board Room, Third Floor, Elizabeth Dafoe Library, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 27.

Philosophical Friday, The Content of Wisdom in Plato and Stoicism by Dimitrios Dentrinos, University of Manitoba, 384 University College, 2:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 27.

Economics, Severity of Work Disability and Work by Umut Oguzoglu, University of Manitoba, 307 Tier Building, 2:40 p.m., Friday, Feb. 27.

Psychology, What works in bullying prevention: New methods and new approaches required by Wendy Craig, department of psychology, Queen’s University, P412 Duff Roblin Building, 3 p.m., Friday, Feb. 27.

SUNDAY, MARCH I

Classics, House and Household in Ancient Athens by Barbara Tsaikgko, Vanderbilt University, 257 University College, 3 p.m., Sunday, March 1.

Events Listing

Starting a business?
Don't know where to turn?

Get free information* from the L. Kerry Vickor Business Law Clinic at the Faculty of Law

The clinic is designed for entrepreneurs who require information* regarding new business organizations: incorporation, partnership, sole proprietorship and non-profit.

Call 474-9949

*Students do not give legal advice

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA RESEARCH SUPPORT PROGRAMS

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 go to the Contact Us link at: http://umanitoba.ca/research/custom/externalfunding_deadlines_forms.html

For information on the programs below, contact the General Office 474-8418.

NAME OF PROGRAM
UNIVERSITY RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM (URGP)
UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA SCHOLARSHIP RESEARCH PROGRAM (UMSSRC RSP)
UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE TRAVEL GRANTS PROGRAM (UMIC TRG)
UNIVERSITY CREATIVE WORKS GRANTS PROGRAM (UCWG)
LEAVE RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM (LRGP)
SELF-FUNDED RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM (SFRGP)
THE DR. PAUL H. T. THORSTEINSON FOUNDATION FUND
SAMUEL WIESEL DISTINGUISHED VISITOR AWARD

PURPOSE
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)
To provide support for small-scale research projects in the social sciences and humanities – open to researchers in disciplines supported by UMSSRC
To provide support for researchers to take part in international conferences of major scholarly significance – open to researchers in disciplines supported by UMSSRC
To support highly creative works at the University of Manitoba – highest priority is the provision of grants to new faculty members (those in the first 3 years of their appointment)
To designate part of applicant’s salary as a grant-in-aid of research conducted while on research leave
To designate part of an applicant’s salary as a grant-in-aid of research conducted while on leave from the University (within one calendar year)
To provide support for basic or applied research in the health sciences – highest priority is provision of support to new independent researchers who are first-time applicants to the Fund
To bring distinguished scholars who are making outstanding contributions to their field(s) of research to the University for stays of up to one month

DEADLINES
October 15 (New Staff)
March 1 (Established Staff)
October 15
March 1
May 1
2 months prior to leave
September 30
January 31
May 31
TBA
May 1

ACADEMIC JOB OPPORTUNITIES

A full listing of employment opportunities at the University of Manitoba can be found at 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.

CLAYTON H. RIDDEL FACULTY OF ENVIRONMENT, EARTH, AND RESOURCES

Department of Environment and Geography
Position: Instructor I
Start date: July 1, 2009
Application deadline: March 31, 2009
Position number: 08615

For information: Dr. Ronald Stewart, chair, search committee, c/o Aggie Roberecki, Department of Environment and Geography, Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources, University of Manitoba, 211 Dobby Building, Winnipeg, MB, R3T 2N2, e-mail to Aggie_Roberecki@umanitoba.ca.

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering or the Department of BioSystems Engineering
Position: NSERC Industrial Research Chair in Orthopaedic Biomedical Engineering
Application deadline: April 1, 2009
Position number: 09193

For information: Prof. J. LoVetri, chair, orthopaedic biomedical engineering appointments committee, Faculty of Engineering, University of Manitoba, Room E2-290, EITC, 75A Chancellor’s Circle, Winnipeg, MB, R3T 5V6, e-mail: lvo_Biomedical@ee.umanitoba.ca.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE

DEPARTMENT OF INFECTIONAL DISEASES
Position: Assistant professor
Salary: Commensurate with experience and qualifications
Application deadline: March 12, 2009
Position number: 09287

For information: Dr. Dan Roberts, chair, search committee, department of internal medicine, GC425 – 820 Sherbrook St., Winnipeg, MB, R3A 1G9.

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA STUDENT COUNSELLING AND CAREER CENTRE
Position: University Counsellor at the level of instructor I
Start date: July 1, 2009
Application deadline: March 12, 2009
Position number: 9355

For information: 474-8592, fax 474-7588.

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA MAY 2009 CLASSIFIED ADS

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

CLASSIFIED ADS
Bringing Research to Life

Walking along the Möbius strip

BY SEAN MOORE

Thousands of families currently own and operate a family business in Winnipeg, but if typical estimates are any indication, 70 per cent of them will not continue into the second generation, with only 10 per cent making it to a third generation.

Such a hovering suggests a family business, and for that matter a business family, is harder to sustain than first impressions let on. Perhaps then it is time to view the two entities through a different framework, one that better captures the relationships involved.

On Feb. 25, as part of the Bringing Research to Life speaker series, Reg Litz, professor of entrepreneurial studies at Keough School of Business, will present a free public lecture titled When Family is Business and Business is Family (details below), in which he will discuss how the metaphor of the Möbius strip can help business families, and family businesses, better understand the implications of the complex relationship they find themselves in.

“Far a long time now,” Litz said, “people have been trying to define a family business. In the last twenty years there have been literally dozens of different definitions for the family firm. After thinking a bit more about it, I thought, ‘hey, there must be another way to understand it.’”

Part of his inspiration for this came from the French philosopher Auguste Comte who proposed that there are three ways to learn about something: direct observation; experimentation; and comparing it to something you already understand. It was this last point that struck a chord with Litz when he read it years ago.

When a family becomes a business family, and a business becomes a family business, the walls usually separating work from home dissolve. What were once two independent systems become one. A family’s output in the way of, say, labour, now becomes the business input.

Likewise, the profits reaped from the business become the monetary input a family depends on. And this is where, Litz argues, the relationship becomes like a Möbius strip — a single continuous surface bounded by a continuous curve.

“When we think about family business the Möbius strip metaphor suggests that it, and its twin institution, the business family, result from a twisting toward and connecting to”

As a result, a new word is needed to talk about these coexisting institutions; this word, Litz argues, is house. Armed with a new lexicon, we can start asking questions about mortality. Why do houses fall?

The House of Vanderbilt. The House of the Barneys. The House of Mondavi. They all crumbled. Why? And did they have to?

“My work is focused on moving towards a more enlightened view of the larger system so as to better understand how and whether it ought to continue, and also to understand when, perhaps, it ought not to,” Litz said.

Family businesses start for a variety of reasons; an infinite array of precipitating moments can act on family members and push them into a successful business venture. But longevity has never come with a guarantee.

To learn more about how family businesses and business families walk along a Möbius strip, come to Litz’s free lecture on Feb. 25, at 7 p.m. in the Robert B. Schultz Lecture Theatre, St. John’s College.

For more information, call 474-9020.

In Brief

Local rock star honoured by Carnegie Museum

Distinguished Professor Frank Hawthorne, Canada Research Chair in Crystallography and Mineralogy, has received the 2008 Carnegie Mineralogical Award, given out by the Carnegie Museum of Natural History. The award, established in 1987 by the Carnegie Foundation of Canada, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, is considered one of the most prestigious awards in the fields of mineralogy, lapidary art and geology.

The award will be presented to Hawthorne on February 14th at the 2009 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show.

Hawthorne is an Officer of the Order of Canada, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, a foreign member of the Russian Academy of Sciences and has been given many awards for his scientific work, including the Killam Prize in Natural Sciences.

According to Thomson Scientific, Hawthorne was the most cited geoscientist in the world for the decade 1997–2007.

Upcoming

Happy self-deception day

BY JENNIFER ROBINSON

“I get very popular around Valentine’s Day,” laughs Marian Morry, psychology professor. She is referring to the annual pre-Valentine’s Day onslaught of media attention she receives regarding her research on romantic relationships.

Morry studies how individuals in relationships perceive their partners, which means that she is in a unique position to shed some light on the question, is love really blind?

According to Morry, individuals who are satisfied with their relationships tend to overestimate the similarity of their partners, and the more satisfied you are, the more commonalities you are likely to perceive.

“This makes sense in a way since when you start a new relationship, you don’t know the person very well, yet you are madly in love. Similarities suggest that you have things in common which will make the relationship work, Morry said.

Perceived similarities span a wide range of characteristics, including values, beliefs, and behaviours. But why would we want to deceive ourselves in this way?

“Being similar validates our own beliefs or traits and makes us feel good about ourselves. We can also more easily predict the behaviour of a similar person, and it suggests that the other should understand us better...so we are somewhat unrealistic, but it probably bodes well for our relationship.”

She points out that if we were to be more realistic about our partners, we would probably perceive their dissimilarities which would decrease the relationship’s potential for longevity.

Interestingly, both men and women are equally likely to perceive similarities that aren’t necessarily there when they are happy with their relationship.

Morry recently found that when we are attracted to someone, we tend to perceive them as similar -- yet slightly better -- in comparison to ourselves. She mentions that this also bodes well for the relationship since it makes us less likely to look for other partners. A similar yet slightly better version of yourself is a pretty tough act to follow.

While this may seem plausible in the early stages of a relationship, one would think that this exaggerated view of your romantic partner would disappear after you actually get to know the object of your deception. But Morry’s research indicates that this is not the case, since we perceive the person as being only slightly better, rather than putting them high on a pedestal from which they can easily fall.

Furthermore, she notes, couples are going to be somewhat blind to it. She mentioned that this also bodes well for the relationship since it makes us less likely to look for other partners. A similar yet slightly better version of yourself is a pretty tough act to follow.

Thus, while happy couples do have actual similarities, their self-deceptive tendencies (as documented by Morry) give some credence to the idea that while love may not actually be blind, it is probably at the very least visually impaired.
Rethink play space

BY DALE BARBOUR

Landscape architecture professor Dietmar Straub launched his design studio for the Discovery Children’s Centre in Winnipeg with one very simple premise: we can do a better job of creating environments for children.

“The open spaces associated with childcare and educational institutions in Winnipeg often seem to have been put together in an austere and seemingly cold and uncaring style on the basis of the maintenance and vandalism-related criteria,” Straub said. “The outdoor installations frequently amount to little more than the standard inventory of parking spaces, children’s slides and the odd patch of green.”

The Discovery Children’s Centre is located in Winnipeg’s West End on Hampton Street between Silver Avenue and Ness Avenue. The entire site covers about 2.7 hectares.

“We’re always looking for good opportunities that we can do as studio projects,” Straub said. In the Discovery Children’s Centre they found a like-minded group. “Ron Blatz, the centre’s executive director has a passion for the program, Keep No Child Inside. So we decided let’s work together, because if you don’t want to keep the child inside then you have to bring the child outside and look at what the child can discover.”

One of the restrictions for the fourth-year Environmental Design students when it came to putting together their designs was that they were not allowed to look at any playgrounds for inspiration.

“It was forbidden to look on playgrounds as precedents because if you do, then you can calculate what happens; the students start to drop in slides, and swings and build everything around them,” Straub said. “And suddenly the design is just like every other playground in Winnipeg.”

Instead, Straub said take out the slides and toys and build an environment for children.

“Once you start to play with the space, you can look at how to use vegetation to create space, how to use topography to create space, and you can look at the nature of such a site in the middle of an urban environment.”

“Very difficult,” environmental design student Brett Mack said. “You think of kids and you get a playground scenario in your head, so you had to unravel that and start from scratch and use landscape elements as cultural design elements.” In other words, make the environment the playground, instead of relying on a slide or set of swings to play that role.

Mack said it was a learning experience.

“It’s something we’ve never tackled before in terms of design, working with a particular demographic.” Mack said. “Usually you design for the public and you’re not focused on an age group.

But here, we have to remember that it’s for children.”

Fellow environmental design student Jason Hare agreed:

“We had a tangible group and we were designing for arbitrary people,” Mack said. “We had a tangible group and we had to feel out their needs and feel out what we need to do to accomplish that with this space.”

Blatz was an enthusiastic supporter of the project and was thrilled with the final presentations.

Ultimately, Blatz said there probably won’t be one winning design, but rather the children’s centre will draw together aspects of several different designs to create a final project that works for them.

The tougher challenge will be making that project reality.

Master’s students in the Faculty of Architecture often do design-build projects and the Discovery Children’s Centre would be an ideal candidate in the future.

But it will likely be a step-by-step process, Blatz said.

“We’ll sit down and figure out how we can phase this in. We’ll likely have to do some fundraising and then look at doing a different part of the project each year.”

Same space, different visions. Here’s a look at some of the results when environmental design students were asked to remake the space around the Discovery Children’s Centre. Clockwise from the top; Wonderland by Nefeli Mitrovgenis and Aiden Stothers; Two ideas of wilderness by Devin Segal and Chelsea Synychych; Shear Discovery by David Burns and Hailey Honcharik; and Luna Lawn by Ben Borley and Jason Hare.