President Barnard outlines future course at town hall

University of Manitoba President and Vice-Chancellor Dr. David Barnard hosted a Town Hall meeting October 15 to share his vision for the university’s future with faculty staff and students. He also discussed two ongoing projects aimed at improving the University of Manitoba’s reputation as a great institution while also addressing financial pressures it currently faces. This marked the second time the president hosted such a meeting as part of his commitment to sharing information with the university community and encouraging its participation in ongoing projects. At the meeting, Dr. Barnard outlined his framework for a new strategic plan for the University of Manitoba, reaffirming the university’s commitment to academic enhancement, Aboriginal achievement, offering an excellent student experience and making the University of Manitoba an outstanding employer of first choice. The president also discussed two new projects currently underway. The projects, named ROSE (Resource Optimization and Service Enhancement) and OARS (Optimizing Academic Resources), will undertake to identify ways in which the university can improve services, enhance programs, reduce duplication and control costs.

“We have two challenges and complementary goals,” Dr. Barnard told the crowd of about 400 people who gathered in the EITC atrium along with another 100 who viewed the event via webcast from the Bannatyne campus. “One is to be better and the other is to address our budget challenge.”

Dr. Barnard explained that in order for the University of Manitoba to maintain the status quo in terms of programs, facilities and services, it will require an additional $36.4 million in operating funds from the province in the coming fiscal year. The shortfall comes as a result of the global economic recession, coupled with intense pressure being put on the university’s pension plan which was negatively affected by the recession and which is supporting retired staff who are living longer.

Dr. Barnard said he does not know how much the operating grant from the province will ultimately be, but he does know the government is dealing with a financial gap. “We will work closely with the new Premier to ensure the province is aware of our needs, but while we’re waiting, we want to try and take some control over our situation,” he said.

The two projects, both launched on October 5, will be led by steering committees made up of representatives from all administrative and academic units. Over the next six weeks, these committees will interview staff and faculty and review university processes to look for ways to eliminate duplication, share resources, assess appropriateness of controls, leverage technology and apply best practices. It is expected that the projects will identify both a number of quick wins – immediate improvements that can be implemented quickly – as well as longer-term initiatives which can be further developed moving forward.

Dr. Barnard called upon the university community to work together to deal make the projects meaningful and successful.

“I hope we’re all willing to try together to make the university a better place, even in difficult circumstances,” he said.

New funding to support H1N1 study

BY JANINE HARASYMCHUK
For The Bulletin

A University of Manitoba-led national team of researchers was awarded $200,000 in new funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) to study the mechanism of infection and the immune response of patients who experience severe respiratory illness (SRI) associated with the H1N1 flu virus.

The team is being led by Satyendra Sharma, professor and head of the section of respirology in the university’s department of internal medicine and head of respirology at the Health Sciences Centre and St. Boniface General Hospital.

On October 14 Federal Minister of Health Leona Aglukkaq announced support for a total of five new research projects designed to help further understand and address the H1N1 flu virus.

“Canada is a global leader in H1N1 flu virus research, including research with our international partners on a safe and effective H1N1 vaccine,” Aglukkaq said.

“The scientific research we are funding today will help ensure that our knowledge, approach and planning remain among the best in the world.”

Sharma’s project will provide insights into what leads SRI to result in the hospitalization of the patient. The team will study the immune systems of infected individuals, the spectrum of genetic activation in host cells upon H1N1 viral infection, and the genetic variation in both individuals with SRI and those with mild disease following H1N1 infection.

This approach will reduce both the number of people who become ill and those who die as a result of seasonal influenza.

“The research team led by Sharma and his colleagues is taking a unique approach to finding answers to the factors that lead to severe respiratory illness,” Aglukkaq said.

Aglukkaq said the two projects are funded today will help ensure that our knowledge, approach and planning remain among the best in the world.”

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New Funding to support H1N1 study
continued from page 1
associated with severe respiratory illness in at-risk populations,” said Digvir Jayas, Vice-President (Research) at the University of Manitoba. “This collaborative approach will give answers that can be used to reduce the severity of current and future pandemics.”

The research team is made up of collaborators across Canada and includes the Cadham Provincial Laboratory, University of British Columbia, University of Western Ontario; Hospital for Sick Children, University of Toronto; Institute for Biodiagnostics, National Research Council; McMaster University, Dalhousie University, Public Health Agency of Canada; and the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion.

The research announced last week – a total of $2.4 million to five projects over 2 years – is being funded through CIHR’s Catalyst Grant program, which provides short-term funding for targeted health research activities. The projects were selected through a rigorous, independent peer review process following a call for applications issued in July 2009.

The Bulletin
University of Manitoba

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

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

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

• The Bulletin publishes events involving the university community.
• E-mails to bulletin@umanitoba.ca or fax, 474 7631.
• The deadline for the November 5 Bulletin is Oct. 28 at 4:30 p.m.

Fort Garry Campus

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22
Faculty of Education Distinguished Lecture Series invites you to a free performance of An Illustrated History of the Anishnabe the must-see play by Ian Ross, Governor General’s Award Winning Playwright Produced by: Manitoba Theatre for Young People. 7:30-9, 290 Education Building, Thursday, October 22.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23
From Electron Spins to Photons: Physical Quantum Information Processing, Dr. Bill Cood, Institute for Quantum Computing, University of Waterloo, 3:30 p.m., 330 Allen Building, Friday, October 23.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30
Department of Physics and Astronomy Colloquium, Dr. Ian Desaules, Wanjun Jiang, and Xiaolong Fan - Graduate Students, Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Manitoba, “Highlights of Research in Magnetism at the University of Manitoba”, 330 Allen Building, 3:30pm, Friday, October 30.

OCTOBER 6-NOVEMBER 26
Unearls by Liv Valmestad, MFA, Department of Visual Arts, University of Manitoba, “What is an Unearl?”, October 6 – November 26.

OCTOBER 26 TO NOVEMBER 26
United Way Rainbow Auction 2009
Great Prizes packages on display for two weeks at University Centre from October 26th to November 6th. Tickets are 10 for $10 and or 3 for $5. Draw date is Friday, November 6, 2009 at 1:30 p.m., University Centre Main Floor.

Bannatyne Campus

— St. Boniface General Hospital and Research Centre

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5
10th Annual Dr. Arthur R. Birt Memorial Lecture: “What’s New in Pediatric Dermatology?” by Miriam Weinstein, pediatrics, University of Toronto and staff dermatologist, Hospital for Sick Children, Frederic Gaspard Theatre (Theatre A), Basic Medical Sciences Building, 730 William Avenue, 8 – 9 a.m. (Reception to follow) Thursday, November 5.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9
Clinical Health Psychology Colloquium, 9:30 am, PX236-238, Psychcentre. Dr. Saba Safdar will speak on issues relevant to the practice of cross-cultural psychology. All residents and staff are encouraged to attend. This event qualifies for continuing educational credit. Monday, November 9.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12
“Working together: Disabled people, clinicians, academics and researchers sharing knowledge and power to achieve relevant outcomes,” by Karen Whalley Hammell, occupational therapy, Theatre E, 770 Bannatyne Ave., 12 -1 p.m., Thursday, November 12.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6
“Canadian Election Campaigns: Do they pass the “smell test?” by Tom Flanagan, political science, University of Calgary, author of: Harper’s Team: Behind the Scenes in the Conservative Rise to Power, Concourse Lounge, University College, 12:30-1:30 p.m., Friday, November 6.

Graphene Nanoelectromechanical Systems, Dr. J. Scott Bunch, University of Colorado, 330 Allen Building, 3:30pm, Friday, November 6.

NATIVE STUDIES COLLOQUIA SERIES, FALL 2009
Writing a New Story: Colonialism, Governance and Culture. All presentations in 307 Tier, 12:30 - 1:20 pm.


October 4: Warren Cariou, Canada Research Chair, University of Manitoba (with Neil McArthur, philosophy): “Overburden: Aboriginal Voices in Alberta’s Tar Sands.”

BILOGICAL SCIENCES SEMINARS, FALL 2009
All seminars will be held at 3:00 p.m. in 527 Buller Building. Coffee and donuts will be served. All are welcome.

October 30: Barry Glickman, biology, University of Victoria: “Birds do poop in the forest, but does it matter? A short history of guano and an examination of the role of seabirds in maintaining our coastal forests”.

November 4: Warren Cariou, Canada Research Chair, University of Manitoba: “What’s New in Pediatric Dermatology?”

November 6: Martin Kneen, History of Science, University of Toronto: “What’s New in Pediatric Dermatology?”

November 12: Barry Glickman, biology, University of Victoria: “What’s New in Pediatric Dermatology?”

November 19: Tom Bier, political science, University of Calgary: “What’s New in Pediatric Dermatology?”

November 26: Warren Cariou, Canada Research Chair, University of Manitoba: “What’s New in Pediatric Dermatology?”

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TheBlack Hole Theatre

The Black Hole Theatre is located in the lower level of University College. For tickets call 474 6880.

Arrival and Departures
by Carol Shields
7 p.m., Tuesday, November 17 & 24
8 p.m., November 18 to 21 and November 25 to 28

Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music

The Faculty of Music hosts recitals and performances. Recitals and events are free unless otherwise noted.

Winnipeg Bach Soloists
Friday, October 23
7:30 p.m.

Soloists Rosemary van der Hoff and Mel Braun with Oleg Pokhanovski, Minna Chung, Laurel Ridd, Douglas Bairstow, Irmgard Baerg and Lottie Enns-Braun.

Canadian Mennonite University - Laudamus Hall
Tickets $15/adults, $5/students (available from McNally Robin- son Bookellers)

Wind Ensemble Concert
Saturday, October 24
7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Program Includes music by G. F. Handel, Lars-Erik Larsson, Ralph Vaughan Williams and Vincent Perichetti. Featured soloist is Melissa Schwartz on trombone.

Jubilee Place (MBCI), 180 Riverton Ave., Tickets at the door.

OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN

If you find yourself saying…
I have been treated unfairly
I don’t know what to do or who else to turn to
Something needs to be done
How can I resolve this problem?

... you should call or visit the Ombudsman

The University Ombudsman is a designated neutral who provides confidential and informal assistance for resolving University-related concerns, complaints or conflicts - especially those that are not being adequately addressed through usual procedures. The Ombudsman is available to all members of the University community at both the Fort Garry and Bannatyne campuses.

The Ombudsman provides information about University policies and procedures, fairness, and conflict resolution. The Ombudsman can facilitate and/or mediate disputes and work as an advocate for internal processes that are fair and effective.

The Ombudsman is also available on a consultative basis to provide input on handling a situation in your own department.

The Ombudsman has the authority to conduct investigations and make recommendations with regard to resolving problems or improving University policies or procedures.

Evelyn Bernstein, Ombudsman
406 University Centre
Phone: 474-8439
Fax: 474-7526
E-mail: Evelyn_Bernstein@UManitoba.ca
Website: http://www.umanitoba.ca/staff/ombudsman
2009 Campaign kicks off

Aiming to raise $475,000

Winnipeg has the second highest rate of child poverty in Canada, and 25 per cent of Winnipeg families live below the poverty line. Many agencies and individuals working to strengthen our community count on contributions to the United Way.

At the University of Manitoba, we have a strong tradition of supporting our community through the United Way and our campaign is one of the largest in the city. Last year’s contributions topped nearly $450,000.

This year, United Way volunteers want to increase that total and increase the University of Manitoba employee participation rate.

“This year’s United Way Campaign launch on campus was very fun, and well-attended,” says Marvin Kocay, 2009 co-chair. “President Barnard made an impassioned appeal that really drove home how important it is for all of us to contribute to the United Way.”

He adds: “Our contributions—no matter how small—help build community. And since the University of Manitoba is a big part of this community, we have the opportunity to really make a difference in people’s lives.”

At the Fort Garry Campus, the fundraising goal this year is $325,000, while at Bannatyne, it is hoped we can raise $150,000. Almost 100 volunteers are part of this year’s campaign on both campuses.

Kocay asks: “Please pledge as much as you can, and also know that every pledge, no matter the amount, is very important and much appreciated.”

All pledge forms are expected to be in by November 7, 2009.

A link on the University of Manitoba main website (umanitoba.ca) sends you directly to the 2009 United Way Campaign website.

For more information, please feel free to contact:

Norma Weind, United Way Rep
unitedway.norma@mts.net
(474-7994)

John Wiens, co-chair
jwiens@ms.umanitoba.ca
(474-9001)

Marvin Kocay, co-chair
Marvin.Kocay@umanitoba.ca
(474-9904)

2009 Campaign kicks off

Premier Selinger, University of Manitoba Graduate

BY CHRIS RUTKOWSKI
The Bulletin

The University of Manitoba is proud to congratulate Greg Selinger on becoming the new leader of the provincial New Democratic Party.

“I would like to offer my best wishes to Greg Selinger as the new Premier of Manitoba,” said David Barnard, president and vice-chancellor of the University of Manitoba. “He is yet another example of successful graduates that the University of Manitoba produces.”

He added: “We had a good working relationship with him as Minister of Finance and I look forward to working with the new Premier on post-secondary education, especially teaching, research and socio-economic concerns.”

Selinger graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1973 with a Bachelor of Social Work and taught in the Faculty of Social Work from 1984 until 1999, and was still affiliated with the university until resigning in 2007.

The University of Manitoba has graduated more political and government leaders than any other post-secondary institution in the province. These have included current Members of Parliament: Hon. Vic Toews, MP (Provencher) and president of the Treasury Board; Hon. Steven Fletcher, MP (Charleswood) and Minister of State for Democratic Reform; Rod Bruinooge, (Winnipeg South); Anita Neville (Winnipeg South Centre); Joy Smith (Kildonan); and Inky Mark (Dauphin-Swan River). In addition, one graduate is a Member of Parliament currently serving in another province: James Lunney (Nanaimo).

In addition, Janis Johnson is currently sitting in the Senate in Ottawa, and more than two dozen Provincial Members of the Legislature are graduates of the University of Manitoba.

In municipal politics, nine City Councillors are graduates of the University of Manitoba, as is Winnipeg Mayor Sam Katz.

St John’s College

143rd Annual Convocation

Sunday November 1, 2009 at 3:00 pm
Chapel of St John the Evangelist
St John’s College

Honouring

Doctor of Canon Law (hons causa) Recipients
M. Étienne Gaboury
Dr. Roy Miki (speaker)

Doctor of Divinity (hons causa) Recipient:
The Rev. Menno Wiebe

2009 Graduates & Award Winners

All are welcome to attend
Men and women living about six months longer

The Manitoba Centre for Health Policy released a report that studied the health of Manitobans and the results are positive. The RHA Indicators Atlas 2009 shows that, on average, men and women are living about six months longer when compared to a similar study five years ago.

“The fact is, in Manitoba health status is improving on average,” says Dr. Randy Fransoo who led the study. “The results of this report show that overall, the health of Manitoba’s population continues to gradually improve over time. Death rates are decreasing, and life expectancy is increasing.”

All 11 Regional Health Authorities (RHAs) participated in this report with contributions from representatives of The Need to Know Team - a collaboration between researchers. They helped select 105 health-related indicators which will inform healthcare planners and decision-makers to support policy changes geared toward improving health services in their communities.

Cathy Hynes is the Regional Manager for Decision Support in the NOR-MAN Regional Health Authority and is also a member of The Need to Know Team. She says this report and others like it from MCHP are extremely valuable.

“This report becomes the cornerstone of the work we do for our strategic planning process in our community health assessments and our five year plans,” says Hynes. “It’s the statistical piece that lets us tell the stories in our region.”

Researchers found the difference in life expectancy between the healthiest and the least healthy RHA has grown over time. The trend can also be tracked by income - those in the lowest income brackets had a shorter life expectancy than those with higher income. This is also true within urban settings where, on average, wealthy men live about 10 years longer than poor men and wealthy women live over five years longer than poor women.

“This report doesn’t directly answer why the poor are less healthy than the rich but it reinforces the message that the social gradient in health remains strong and is growing,” says Dr. Fransoo. “The wealthy are living longer, while the poor are not.”

This report updates an earlier one published in 2003. Similar to that report it takes a population-based approach which means the results come from anonymized data, routinely collected when Manitobans use the healthcare system such as during a doctor visit or hospitalization.

“The most recent data shows that the healthcare system in the province is working. While it’s unfortunate that the gap in health status appears to be growing, key services are responding to needs appropriately,” says Dr. Fransoo. “For example, residents of lower income areas - who are in the poorest health - had the highest rates of hospitalization and use of prescription drugs.”
One of the wonderful things about the University of Manitoba is the extent to which we speak of this university as a community. This can be an unusual sentiment to have about a workplace or a place of study, but it is one which I believe we embrace to our benefit - it suggests we all belong to a larger whole, all contributing in our own way.

Town Halls, like those held in other kinds of communities, provide an opportunity for talk with each other about issues of importance to us all. At the Town Hall on October 15, we focused on opportunities for our university to be excellent and to be seen as such, and on our financial situation.

The planning framework, approved earlier this year by Senate and by the Board, provides some structure for how we will make decisions about our future. While it does not represent a significant departure from where we were already heading, it does sharpen our focus.

Our path forward over the next few years will also be shaped by the broader financial context, which is unlike any that we have experienced in recent years. For many months, there have been reports about the global economic slowdown and its effects. Although in Manitoba we so far have been protected from the worst of these effects, we are not immune.

Each year, the Council of Post-Secondary Education asks us how much it would cost us to do again next year exactly what we’re doing this year. While we are unlikely to repeat our experience exactly, the calculation provides us with a sense of the gap between what we may need to spend, and what our income may be. We believe we would need $36.4 million to sustain our current programming and staff about two projects that recently got underway.

Together, they are designed to help improve services and programs, make optimal use of our resources, and address our budgetary constraints.

The Optimizing Academic Resources (OARs) project focuses on improving the use of our academic resources. It is being jointly led by Dr. Joanne Keselman, Vice-President (Academic) and Provost and Dr. Dipvir Jaya, Vice-President (Research). They already have set up three working groups that will identify ways we can reduce duplication; take advantage of opportunities for cooperation, collaboration and resource sharing; eliminate unnecessary regulatory barriers; and implement a more strategic approach to recruiting and retaining students. When proposals have been developed, the appropriate academic bodies will be consulted and it is hoped that by next summer, some will be ready for implementation.

The Resource Optimization and Service Enhancement (ROSE) project focuses on improving our services while reducing costs in a sustainable way. It is being led by Ms. Debbie McCallum, Vice-President (Administration) and Dr. Keselman and will include a review of all administrative processes to identify potential improvements to how we operate, like eliminating duplication, sharing resources, applying best practices, leveraging technology, or assessing the appropriateness of controls.

We have engaged the services of Pricewaterhouse Coopers to assist us with this project. While they are not leading the process, they bring with them their expertise in industry standards and in organizing a review of this nature. The initial six-week phase, which began early in October, will identify improvements that can be put in place quickly. It will also identify longer-term strategies to consider. After the first phase is complete, we will consider options for how we might proceed.

At this moment, we do not know what our funding level will be next year. We do know that by making efforts now to build efficiencies, optimize our resources and other expendable budgets, we will have more options when funding levels are announced in the spring. The measures we are undertaking now are meant to minimize the impact of potential reductions on the members of our community.

I would like to thank all those who already have shared their ideas for how we can improve, and their concerns about the implications of this process. I encourage you to continue to contact us through the website that has been established for this purpose.

While we are fortuitous that many members of our community have agreed to undertake this work, they will not be able to do it alone - they want and need your input.

In Atul Gawande’s book Better, he says this, which is, I think, very helpful in our current circumstances: “Arriving at meaningful solutions is an inevitably slow and difficult process. Nonetheless... better is possible. It does not take genius. It takes diligence. It takes moral clarity. It takes ingenuity. And, above all, it takes a willingness to try.” Let’s all work together to make the University of Manitoba even better.

For more information or to provide input: http://umanitoba.ca/admin/rose/
Our 42nd Fall Convocation
Recognizing students, staff and members of the community

Honorary Degree recipients

Honorary degrees are awarded for distinguished achievement in scholarship, the arts, or public service. Candidates for honorary degrees are nominated by members of the University of Manitoba and the public.

John C.S. Lau
B.A. (Hons.), M.A. (McMaster); M.P.A. (Queen’s)
A prominent executive who engineered one of the most remarkable turnarounds in Canadian corporate history. Mr. Lau is a committed philanthropist dedicated to advancing the cause of education, promoting health and wellness, and establishing mutually beneficial relationships with Canada’s First Nations people. President and Chief Executive Officer of Husky Energy Inc., one of Canada’s largest energy companies, Mr. Lau is responsible for Husky’s performance, strategic planning, and corporate policies. Under Mr. Lau’s leadership, Husky has become Western Canada’s largest producer of alternative fuel, manufacturing ethanol for blending with gasoline and other fuels. Mr. Lau is also recognized for his long-term commitment to Canada’s First Nations people. He has been bestowed Honorary Chief, “Chief Earth Child,” by the Frog Lake First Nation, Honorary Chief, “Chief Wolf Dog,” by the Blood Nation (Blackfoot), Honorary Chief, “Chief Black Bull,” by the Tsuut’ina Nation and Honorary Chief, “Eagle Overlooking the Land,” by the Kehewin Cree Nation. Mr. Lau has served on the Board of Governors of the University of Calgary and held positions on a number of related committees within the board. He has been a board member of the Alberta Economic Development Authority and has been appointed a Guest Professor and an Honorary Director of the Potential Gas Appraisal Centre at the University of Petroleum, Beijing. In addition, Mr. Lau has been highly involved in charitable events, including Honorary Patron of the Canadian Cancer Society, Honorary Patron of the Banff Centre, and Honorary Patron of the Alberta Children’s Hospital. He is a member of the Campaign for Canada’s Universities. Mr. Lau is a recipient of the Queen’s Golden Jubilee medal recognizing his contributions to the Canadian community. He has received Centennial medals from the Province of Alberta and the Province of Saskatchewan. Mr. Lau has been honoured with the Saskatchewan Distinguished Service Award for his contribution to the development of the Province of Saskatchewan and its people through leadership and personal activity. In recognition of outstanding service and commitment to post-secondary education, Mr. Lau received the ClearSight Wealth Management Friend of Education Award from the Canadian Council for the Advancement of Education, and a Champion of Public Education in Canada Award by the Learning Partnership.

Andrew K. Bjerring
B.A.Sc. (British Columbia); M.A.Sc. (Toronto); Ph.D. (Western Ontario)
Dr. Bjerring is regarded as a pioneer and visionary whose work has resulted in a Canadian research and education network which is recognized as one of the world’s best. As President and Chief Executive Officer of CANARIE Incorporated, Dr. Bjerring was instrumental in developing and providing world-class networking to every Canadian university and research organization in the country. CANARIE is a not-for-profit corporation funded primarily by Industry Canada that facilitates the development and use of next-generation research networks and the applications and services that run on them. In less than 15 years, this network has increased in speed by a factor of nearly one million. This network has become an essential tool in Canadian research, and underpins the development and utilization of national research infrastructure. Under Dr. Bjerring’s leadership, the CANARIE organization has designed, developed, implemented and successfully operated five distinct generations of national research and education networks. Today, CANARIE connects all Canadian universities, a host of research institutes, federal laboratories, and related organizations in every Canadian province, the Yukon and the Northwest Territories. The CANARIE network is frequently cited by organizations in the United States, Europe, Asia and Australia as world leading in technology, architecture and vision. CANARIE has been recognized as a nation builder; its early iteration, CAnet, was a critical entry in the early stages of the Canadian Internet, because it ensured East-West connectivity when it would have been simpler and less expensive for the United States. CANARIE is a not-for-profit corporation funded primarily by Industry Canada that facilitates the development and use of next-generation research networks and the applications and services that run on them. In less than 15 years, this network has increased in speed by a factor of nearly one million. This network has become an essential tool in Canadian research, and underpins the development and utilization of national research infrastructure. Under Dr. Bjerring’s leadership, the CANARIE organization has designed, developed, implemented and successfully operated five distinct generations of national research and education networks. Today, CANARIE connects all Canadian universities, a host of research institutes, federal laboratories, and related organizations in every Canadian province, the Yukon and the Northwest Territories. The CANARIE network is frequently cited by organizations in the United States, Europe, Asia and Australia as world leading in technology, architecture and vision. CANARIE has been recognized as a nation builder; its early iteration, CAnet, was a critical entry in the early stages of the Canadian Internet, because it ensured East-West connectivity when it would have been simpler and less expensive for universities to connect south to the closest American city. By supporting and building a national backbone, Canadians were assured connectivity from coast to coast to coast and to northern cities including Yellowknife and Whitehorse. For several years, CAnet was the only Internet backbone in the country. Dr. Bjerring has been recognized as playing a critical role in this development and growth. From the early days of parallel and competing initiatives, to today’s world of partnering and collaboration, Dr. Bjerring has led the development of one of the finest networks in the world.

Richard L. Frost
B.A. (Hons.), M.A. (McMaster); M.R.A. (Queen’s)
Leading Canada’s first community foundation, Mr. Frost has helped promote the growth and sustainability of countless local charities and organizations. Currently the Chief Executive Officer of the Winnipeg Foundation, Mr. Frost is also recognized as an active volunteer and philanthropist. In 2008, the Winnipeg Foundation, with Mr. Frost at the helm, approved over $19 million in grants supporting over 650 charitable organizations. Prior to assuming his position at the Winnipeg Foundation in 1997, Mr. Frost undertook a career in public administration, working for the City of Burlington, the Region of Peel in Ontario. After that, Mr. Frost came to Winnipeg to work as the City Commissioner under the leadership of two mayors – Bill Norrie and Susan Thompson. Since 1997, Mr. Frost has led the Winnipeg Foundation with remarkable success. Founded in 1921, the Winnipeg Foundation is a member of the National Campaign for Canada’s Universities. Under Mr. Frost’s tenure, two gifts made to the Foundation in 2001 stand out as significant investments in Winnipeg’s future. First, a $10 million gift from Israel Asper, and later a $100 million gift from the Moffat family. These gifts, along with the thousands made every year to the Winnipeg Foundation, are a vote of confidence in the Foundation’s leadership, administration and its ability to make a difference for all members of the community. During Mr. Frost’s tenure as CEO, the Winnipeg Foundation’s assets have grown from $150 million in 1997 to $440 million in 2008. The Foundation currently holds more than 1,900 endowment funds and supports over 650 different charitable organizations across the spectrum of Winnipeg’s voluntary sector including community service, education, health, environment, heritage, arts and culture and recreation. Along with his leadership of the Foundation, Mr. Frost is also an active community volunteer. He has served on a number of regional, national and international boards including the CancerCare Manitoba Foundation, Community Foundations of Canada, the Winnipeg Economic Development Board and others. He has also served as a member of the Premier’s Economic Advisory Council. He was named by the Winnipeg Free Press as one of Manitoba’s most influential people in 2005 in the newspaper’s annual “Manitoba’s Power 30” ranking.
Celebrating our 42nd anniversary

Distinguished Professors

The title, Distinguished Professor, is conferred by the University of Manitoba on academic staff members who have demonstrated outstanding distinction in research, scholarship, creative endeavour, professional service and teaching. Up to three people may receive this honour each year, and not more than 20 professors may hold the title at one time.

Ani Gole

B.Tech. (Bombay); M.Sc. (E.E.); Ph.D. (Manitoba); P.Eng.
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Faculty of Engineering

As a researcher and practicing engineer, Dr. Gole is recognized as the foremost international authority on the modeling of electrical power systems. His work is credited for forming the basis of the international standard for the design of high voltage electrical power systems. Also, software Dr. Gole developed, either alone or cooperatively with graduate students or industrial colleagues, is used worldwide to design power systems. Every time Manitobans plug in an electrical cable or flick a switch, they are using Dr. Gole’s research. Dr. Gole has authored over 140 journal publications, conference papers and lectures. He has supervised over 60 graduate students and has been responsible for several millions of dollars in research grants. He is a respected educator and mentor who has had a significant impact on the lives of students.

Thursday, October 22 session.

Jan Oleszkiewicz

M.Sc. (Wrocław); M.Sc., Ph.D. (Vanderbilt); P.Eng.
Department of Civil Engineering
Faculty of Engineering

Recognized around the world as an expert in environmental engineering, Dr. Oleszkiewicz is also an outstanding researcher and educator. Dr. Oleszkiewicz conducted pioneering research on anaerobic digestion which led to Manitoba’s first full-scale anaerobic digester for industrial waste and Canada’s first demonstration of anaerobic digestion of municipal solid wastes. Dr. Oleszkiewicz is a leading researcher in the field of examining ways to remove nitrogen from waste water, and phosphorous from Lake Winnipeg. His research has contributed to a more profound understanding of the basic science behind waste water treatment as well as to improved technologies that have been implemented in water pollution control plants in Canada and around the world. During his 25 years at the University of Manitoba, Dr. Oleszkiewicz has authored over 130 scientific journal articles and presented at over 270 conferences in the area of environmental engineering. Dr. Oleszkiewicz initiated the University of Manitoba Student Chapter of Water Environment Federation which has become the largest and most active in Canada. He has also received several teaching and industry awards for his work.

Thursday, October 22 session.

Raymond Perry

B.A. (British Columbia); M.Sc., Ph.D. (Calgary)
Department of Psychology
Faculty of Arts

Dr. Perry is recognized for his contribution to understanding human motivation, his dedication to research and his commitment to sharing his knowledge with students. A faculty member at the University of Manitoba since 1971, Dr. Perry has studied the psychological foundations of emotional well-being, physical health, quality of life and mortality. His work has led to innovations in classroom-based motivation tools designed to assist failure-prone students to overcome learning disabilities. His research has also contributed to new insights into effective teaching practices in university classrooms and into the adjustment of faculty members to new institutions. Dr. Perry’s research has been published in countless leading psychology journals. He has authored more than 27 books and chapters, 130 journal articles and over 300 presentations. His accomplishments have been recognized by professional organizations and international awards. He has established numerous international research collaborations and created the Centre for Higher Education Research and Development at the University of Manitoba. He is an outstanding educator and mentor of young researchers and provides exceptional opportunities in his laboratory for their career development.

Thursday, October 22 session.

Professor Emeritus

The title Professor Emeritus is an honour that is conferred by the Board of Governors after retirement on individuals who have rendered distinguished service to the university and who have significant records in teaching, research, and scholarship.

James Thliveris

B.A. (Colorado); M.S. (Utah); Ph.D. (Oregon)
Department of Human Anatomy and Cell Science
Faculty of Medicine

A faculty member at the University of Manitoba since 1971, Dr. Thliveris is recognized as a skilled educator and for his work in the area of head and neck cancer research. Between 1993 and 2003, Dr. Thliveris served as Head of the Department of Human Anatomy and Cell Science. He focused his research on the role of toxic agents in lung structure and function and on the exploration of novel minimally invasive imaging techniques in head and neck cancers. His successful team-based approach to research reaches across interdisciplinary boundaries to include clinical and cutting-edge imaging technologies. During his tenure, Dr. Thliveris was also active in helping design and implement the medical admissions program and the pre-clinical curriculum. He is known for his skill as an educator and mentor to students from a variety of disciplines. He received the “Outstanding Teacher Award” in 2000, an award he was nominated for a total of five times. Dr. Thliveris continues to exhibit exemplary leadership in the design of new courses and the restructuring of existing courses to ensure students are being equipped with the knowledge and tools they require to meet the needs of modern medicine.

Thursday, October 22 session.

The Bulletin
October 22, 2009
Dr. and Mrs. H.H. Saunderson Award for Teaching Excellence

Theresa Sullivan

An accomplished researcher and academic in the Department of English, Film and Theatre, Dr. Medoro is recognized by her students as a role model and mentor. One student recalls Dr. Medoro set a positive tone for the academic year right from the start. “She cultivated the idea that it is perfectly acceptable for students to struggle through their ideas orally and that the class should help develop the speaker’s understanding of the subject matter through a fruitful exchange of ideas and information.” Students in Dr. Medoro’s class are encouraged to work collaboratively which results in a classroom dynamic that is interactive, supportive and constructive. Her willingness to work beyond the traditional seminar structure encourages student participation and involvement in their own learning. Dr. Medoro is also recognized for ensuring her students have opportunities to work alongside professionals in their field to further their awareness and experience. In addition to her dedication for ensuring her students have opportunities to work alongside professionals in their field to further their awareness and experience. In addition to her dedication to teaching and research, Dr. Medoro is also active in the community, working as an advocate for animal rights for many years. Her work both within and outside of the university setting inspires her students and offers them a positive role model for being an engaged and contributing member of the community. Wednesday, October 21 session.

Distinguished Service Award

Allen M. Snyder

An accomplished engineer and dedicated philanthropist, Mr. Snyder is recognized for his commitment to his profession and to his community. After receiving a degree in civil engineering and his M.B.A., both from the University of Manitoba, Mr. Snyder began his career at Manitoba Hydro. Over the last 30 years, Mr. Snyder has risen through the ranks at Manitoba Hydro to the position of Vice-President (Transmission and Distribution). Throughout his career, Mr. Snyder has been active within various professional organizations including the Canadian Electricity Association, the Canadian Hydropower Association and the Energy Council of Canada. He is also very active as a fundraiser in Winnipeg. He has dedicated his time and efforts to supporting fundraising campaigns for the Manitoba Theatre Centre, the Health Sciences Centre Foundation, Juvenile Diabetes, CancerCare Manitoba and Rotary International. Mr. Snyder was also co-chair of the successful Engineering and Information Technology Complex fundraising campaign. Thursday, October 22 session.

Distinguished Alumni Award

The Distinguished Alumni Award is an honour presented annually to a graduate who demonstrates outstanding professional achievement and community service, and who also maintains links with the University of Manitoba.

Nestor Burtnyk

A pioneer in computer animation, Mr. Burtnyk is recognized for revolutionizing three-dimensional graphics and laying the groundwork for sophisticated animation techniques seen in blockbuster films like Harry Potter and Lord of the Rings. Mr. Burtnyk began Canada’s first major computer graphics research project in 1968 at the National Research Council when computers were still in early development. In 1969, Mr. Burtnyk attended a conference in California where Disney Studio animators presented an overview of the process of creating Disney-style hand-drawn animation. Although he claimed to lack an artistic bent, Mr. Burtnyk returned to Ottawa and, with physicist Marceli Wein, developed “key-frame animation” which used hand-drawn computer images and was patterned on the Disney Studio’s process. Based on its demonstrated potential, Mr. Burtnyk and Mr. Wein encouraged experimentation by animators from the National Film Board. This technology, designed originally to make computers easier to use, is considered classic in the animated film industry, and inspired many to pursue careers in animation. The technology was used to create Peter Foldes’s 11-minute film “Hunger” for the National Film Board, which in 1974 won the jury prize at the Cannes Film Festival and became the first computer-animated movie to be nominated for an Academy Award for Best Short. In 1997, Mr. Burtnyk and Mr. Wein finally earned an Academy Award for technical achievement in computer animation. During his 45-year career at the NRC, Mr. Burtnyk also studied intelligent robotics and image processing directed primarily in support of applications of the Canadarm and its related technologies. He retired from active research in 1995. In 2000, Mr. Burtnyk was elected a Member of the Order of Canada for his pioneering work in computer animation. Wednesday, October 21 session.

Ms. Theresa Sullivan is an influential professor with a passion for learning which motivates and inspires her students and encourages their success. According to one student, Ms. Sullivan stands apart as a result of her dedication to her students – inside and outside of the classroom: “Ms. Sullivan does more than instruct her students. She goes above and beyond to help them become better people and better professionals in their chosen endeavours.” Another student praised Ms. Sullivan for the support she offers students in their fieldwork placements: “She continually went out of her way and put all of her effort into finding her students fieldwork experiences. She deserves this award because of her love for her job. It really shows.” Students also appreciate Ms. Sullivan’s nurturing manner: “She is famous for making delicious treats and bringing them for us in the midst of our cramming for exams,” noted one student. Ms. Sullivan is an instructor in the School of Medical Rehabilitation in the area of Occupational Therapy. Her research focus includes collaborative client-centred practice and professional reasoning. Her teaching areas include communication skills, professional development and ethics and legal issues.

Thursday, October 22 session.
Outstanding Leadership Award for Medicine Professor

BY BILL PETERS
For The Bulletin

Grant Pierce, professor of physiology in the Faculty of Medicine and Executive Director of St. Boniface Hospital Research, was recently awarded the Outstanding Leadership in Health Research Award from the Life Science Association of Manitoba (LSAM). The awards program recognizes leaders and innovators in the life science community, and this award recognizes individuals who demonstrate exemplary vision and leadership in life science research in Manitoba in such areas as public awareness, scientific discovery or commercial application.

Pierce was recognized for initiating the Canadian Centre for Agri-Food Research in Health and Medicine (CCARM), a unique partnership between the University of Manitoba, St. Boniface General Hospital and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, located at St. Boniface Hospital Research. Pierce is also principal investigator of cell biology within the Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences at St. Boniface Hospital, Associate Dean (Research) in the Faculty of Medicine, and cross-appointed to the Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Manitoba.

LSAM builds and supports Manitoba’s life sciences, manufacturing and research industries through sector associations, such as the LSAM, and cross-appointed to the Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Manitoba.

For details call 474 8111

5th Annual Child Health Research Day

GROWING UP – GROWING BETTER
A Celebration of Manitoba Child Health Research

Thursday, November 12, 2009 | 7:30am to 5:00pm
Frederic R improvising Theatre (Theatro A), Basic Medical Sciences Building, University of Manitoba Bannatyne Campus, 750 William Avenue

Showcasing the latest in pediatric research conducted here in Manitoba and with collaborating partners across the world, this full-day event includes presentations from visiting internationally renowned researchers, Manitoba Institute of Child Health Researchers, and members of the local pediatric research community. This year’s program encourages presentations in the areas of Nutrition and Maternal-Infant Health, Links between Oral and Systemic Health, and the Maternal-Infant Axis in Childhood Disorders.

Scientific poster presentation and awards luncheon will be held in the Bannatyne Atrium from 11am to 1pm.

To register, and for program details and abstract submissions visit www.mich.ca
Abstract submission deadline for the poster presentation is Friday, October 30

St Paul’s High School

Honouring Dr Emőke Szathmáry

3 November 2009
Winnipeg Convention Centre
Reception 5:30 pm, Dinner 7:00 pm

St Paul’s President, Fr Alan Fogarty SJ, is pleased to announce that Dr Emőke Szathmáry, President Emeritus and Vice Chancellor of the University of Manitoba (1996–2008), is the 2009 Ignatian Challenge Award Honouree.

The proceeds of the annual Tribute Dinner support the establishment of the Dr Emőke Szathmáry Bursary Fund. Bursary Funds are an essential aspect of a Jesuit education at St Paul’s High School ensuring accessibility for all qualified applicants.

Dr Szathmáry has had a profound impact on our city, the university and, through her efforts, at the University of Manitoba and St Paul’s College on the development and accessibility of post-secondary Catholic education.

Join us on 3 November 2009 as we pay tribute to Dr Emőke Szathmáry’s outstanding community leadership and raise funds to ensure the accessibility of a Jesuit education at St Paul’s High School.

To purchase individual tickets and tables or to become a Tribute Dinner sponsor please call Randy Van de Mosselaer at (204) 831-2352 or rvandemosselaer@stpauls.mb.ca
Individual ticket purchasers from the University of Manitoba may request (at time of purchase) to be seated with colleagues and friends.

Campus as a Community

Meet Dustin Luckwell.
As a Staff Benefits Generalist, he’s keen to guide employees through the staff benefits process. As a graduate, he also understands the value of a U of M education.

Q: Why do you give to the U of M?
A: I’m an Arts graduate and I believe in the faculty’s motto ‘education for life’. By giving back, I can show my appreciation for a faculty that has prepared me for the world and made me an independent thinker. Plus, I can see the impact I make here on a daily basis. Even when I pick up The Bulletin I see the advances that are being made, the new ideas and thoughts that are taking place on campus.

Q: Why are you proud to be part of the U of M?
A: There’s an incredible capacity here to serve the community, our city and the country. There are so many people here but at the end of the day, we all mean something and that makes being a part of the university satisfying.

Q: What is your giving philosophy?
A: Every single gift is important because it means we can collectivley achieve anything and our capacity will know no boundaries. I believe it’s important to give back with your time and money and help out the next generation – help them become free thinkers and help them become charitable.

Join your colleagues in supporting your university.

Visit umanitoba.ca/admin/dev_adv to find out where your donation can make a difference.
Putting imaginations into orbit

BY SEAN MOORE

The Bulletin

Canadian astronaut Roberta Bondar spoke to 70 high school students at the University of Manitoba on October 14, inspiring the budding scientists with her aerospace experience and explaining the drawbacks of space cuisine.

On October 14, students from across the city came to the Fort Garry campus — students in Swan River joined the discussion by teleconference — to hear presentations from industry representatives, professors, Bondar and Keith Wilson, a U of M medical student who was one of the three Manitobans who were finalists during the last astronaut recruitment.

Bondar spoke eloquently about what outer space means to her, about how students should strive to be well-rounded, and about how she was pressed into the space program because of her support systems.

“Your family supports weren’t ready. All the attention is put on us but what is more fearful, for us, is what we are doing to our support systems.”

She then lightened the conversation by telling students that freeze-dried food lacks desirability.

“What they lie most about is freeze-dried food,” she said. “Well, I shouldn’t say ‘lie’ but we miss the crunch of food so much that we don’t put much water in it so we can get crunch.”

And although no students asked about her views on climate change, she ended the discussion with a brief discussion on the matter.

“I’m surprised no one asked me about climate change and water. They’re right about the water by the way; there is a lot of it. That’s most of what you see from space. And water is key to biodiversity.”

She then explained about how she saw the Ward Hunt Ice Shelf, the largest ice shelf in the Arctic, and how it’s disintegrating and what that means for biodiversity and Canada.

“You should all know about it as Canadians,” she exclaimed, noting the students should learn more from her website, robertabondar.com.

Bondar earned international prominence in 1992 when she joined the crew of the space shuttle Discovery and became the world’s first neurologist sent into orbit.

Globally recognized for her contributions to space medicine, she continued as head of an international space medicine research team working with NASA for more than a decade, finding new connections between zero-gravity environments and neurological illnesses such as stroke and Parkinson’s disease.

The event was hosted by the Faculty of Engineering, the Life Sciences Association of Manitoba, the Canadian Space Agency, the Manitoba Aerospace Human Resources Coordinating Committee and the WinCube Program, a project that involves undergraduate and graduate students in the development of a satellite that’s slightly larger than a Rubik’s cube and may one day detect earthquakes from low orbit.

Canada continues to be one of the most active nations in space with research activities on the shuttles, the International Space Station and research on the ground to support space activities. At the University of Manitoba, Engineering Professor Jack Cahoon has flown several times with Bondar in the “Vomit Comet” during his research on gravity level effect on grain refinement, and one of his microgravity projects flew on the space shuttle Endeavour and was tested on the MIR Space Station.

Professor Witold Kinsner’s students have also flown on the Vomit Comet in France to test an electromechanical subsystem developed at the University of Manitoba and McMaster University for Space Mail, a project examining ways to bring payloads from low-orbiting satellites to the ground without rockets.

After students heard the presentations on aerospace, some were enthused, some were confused, and some were undecided about their future paths.

“It was really interesting, especially Roberta Bondar because she’s so funny. Before coming here I wasn’t sure if I wanted to pursue something in aerospace so I just wanted to come see what it was like. I’m still not sure what I think of it all but it was, what’s the word? Informative,” said Shelby Millar, a Grade 11 student at Kildonan East Collegiate.
Creating Global Citizens

International Centre for Students connects students to the community and the world

BY MICHAEL MARSHALL
For The Bulletin

Tony Rogge glances out the window of his office on the fifth floor of University Centre. It’s a great view of the campus dressed up in fall colours, but his mind is elsewhere.

Malawi, Philippines, Skowman First Nation, China, and Bangladesh are just a few of the places that drift in and out of Tony’s thoughts, as is the case for staff and students of the International Centre for Students (ICS), it’s just another day at the office.

“We’re a relatively small and modestly resourced unit, but we have a lot going on,” he says.

No kidding. The new-look World W.I.S.E. Resource Centre has just opened, World Opportunities Week takes place next month, the Nahlah Ayed Prize for Student Leadership & Global Citizenship has been launched, World W.I.S.E. is introducing six short-to-medium term placements for U of M students in Malawi next summer, the ambitious Summer Institute for Student Leadership & Global Citizenship is set for next spring, to mention the fact that the ICS continues to run the University’s largest exchange program.

“We take our roles very seriously and professionally - and to do that, we need to work hard to complement what’s going on elsewhere, both in and out of the classroom. At ICS and World W.I.S.E., it’s all about collaboration.”

Of course, this is above and beyond the ICS’s day-to-day role of providing international students with guidance and support.

To put it all in focus, Tony starts with the name.

“It’s been my mantra to remind people that we are the International Centre for Students, not the International Students Centre, and that’s an important distinction,” he says. “Our core services are designed to assist international students, but to only focus on that is a bit outdated for an international campus like ours.”

In other words, the majority of students who walk through their door may be international students, but the ICS is determined to remind all students on campus that intercultural experiences are an integral part of education, and the ICS can help facilitate those experiences.

“Studies have shown that students who have had cross-cultural experiences, whether it’s three weeks or a year, are proven to be more persistent, focused problem solvers.”

Additionally, there is the inherent increase in maturity and confidence that comes with an immersive international experience, as well as that extra asset on the resume.

To put it another way, Tony and his team want University of Manitoba students to become better global citizens.

“Ways to Connect

Dr. James Orbinski, October 28, 2:30 p.m., E3-270. Orbinski is a world-renowned doctor and humanitarian whose research interests focus on the emerging discipline of global health, and equitable access to health care technologies. Orbinski was president of Medecins Sans Frontiers/Doctors Without Borders from 1998 to 2001, during which time the organization was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. He is founder of Dignitas International, the author of the award winning book An Imperfect Offering: Humanitarian Action in the 21st Century and subject of the compelling Patrick Reed documentary, Triage. Dr. James Orbinski’s Humanitarian Dilemma.

World Opportunities Week (WOW), November 3 to 5, highlights the diversity of opportunity that exists for students who want to internationalize their education and experience through academic exchange, studying abroad, volunteering overseas, participating in internships, teaching English, or taking working holidays.

Nahlah Ayed, November 3, noon, 205/207 University Centre. Honourary Degree recipient Ayed will present during WOW and talk about the value of being a global citizen, what that means to her and why it’s important to seek international perspectives as a student. Additionally, the new Nahlah Ayed Prize for Student Leadership & Global Citizenship is accepting nominations until December 4, 2009.

The Summer Institute for Student Leadership & Global Citizenship, April 28 to May 7, 2010, is a 10-day residential think-tank designed for U of M students interested in discovering and exploring issues related to student leadership and global citizenship through an international development lens. Application forms are available at World W.I.S.E.

The Faculty of Arts, Asper School of Business, Office for Student Life, Career Services and the Faculty of Graduate Studies have collaborated to provide another year’s free online subscription to the Big Guide to Working and Living Overseas.

Starting a business

Don’t know where to turn?

Get free information* from the L. Kerry Vickar 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 474-9549

We’ll be meeting weekdays in October, 2:00 p.m.

*Students do not give legal advice

The Bulletin October 22, 2009
The Post Secondary Club is not a ragtag group or a motley crew; it’s eight polite students from an inner-city school who want to go to university.

Membership is by invitation only and at a recent lunchtime meeting the RB Russell High School students momentarily discussed potential future members with the group’s facilitators – two school guidance counselors and Christine Pierre, a University of Manitoba student recruiter.

Nine years ago Pierre began a program that involves her going into high schools with a large Aboriginal student population to explain the benefits of a university education.

“I so often meet people who never think about going to university because it doesn’t seem like a possibility, and others dream of going but just don’t think it could ever happen,” she said. “What I’m working on here is a long-term recruitment project.”

The Post Secondary Club began last year when the students, originally 13 of them, were in Grade 10. This year the club is working on finding volunteer activities they can do to build their resumes so they can apply for scholarships and grants, and better their employment prospects. All students present at this early-October meeting already have volunteer experience.

“Oh, you are all amazing and leaders and I’m looking forward to this year,” Pierre tells them.

Pierre has brought more than 3,000 students to the University of Manitoba campus for tours and activities. The Post Secondary Club was last on the Fort Garry campus at the beginning of summer to learn what the Faculty of Engineering Access Program has to offer:

it provides supports to students throughout their degree (75% of the roughly 81 Aboriginal engineers who used an engineering access program came from the U of M)!

Two years ago he dropped out of Grade 10, a burdensome regret of his, but the Post Secondary Club has helped him look ahead rather than reflect on his past mistakes. He now wants to get his masters in nursing so he can teach it and work on his reserve in Garden Hill First Nation. Indeed he’s so focused he is the youngest person in the Health Care Aide Program, an evening class held in RB Russell school that involves a test every two days and a quiz every morning. On the last test before The Bulletin went to press, Monias scored 100 per cent.

“Before the Post Secondary Club I wanted to be a teacher but this group shows you other possibilities and made me think more,” he said. “Back in grade nine, if you told me I’d be in this club, I wouldn’t believe you. I really like it though.”

Kim Deeley, a guidance counselor at RB Russell, sits in on the Post Secondary Club sessions and she has noticed changes in the students over the years.

“Complete changes in confidence...Diana wouldn’t make eye contact and wouldn’t speak before. Tiffany has a little one but has come a long way and has gone through many difficult things. And Josh would have faded into the woodwork somewhere,” she said.

“I’m focused now: he knows what he wants to do and how to get there. I don’t think he would have applied for the Health Care Aide opportunity, and he actually said that, if he hadn’t have been involved with this group because it gave him an idea and made him realize that’s important and that he matters.”

It stories like this that please Pierre.

As an Aboriginal person, it’s so important to me to see increasing numbers of Aboriginal people accessing post-secondary education, regardless of which institution they choose. I am doing this so that more Aboriginal people will be empowered through education,” she said.

Head, Department of Food Science
Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences
The Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences invites applications and nominations for the position of Head of the Department of Food Science

The Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences, University of Manitoba invites applications and nominations for the position of Head of the Department of Food Science (position #AC666) for appointment as associate professor / professor with tenure. This position is open only to those who currently hold a tenured position within the University.

The Department of Food Science currently consists of eight academic staff and seven support staff. The Department offers an undergraduate program accredited by the Institute of Food Technologists and a graduate program leading to both a Master’s and Doctoral degree.

The Department also offers short courses primarily directed at upgrading the skills of personnel in industry and government and is directly involved in the research activities of the Richardson Centre for Functional Foods and Nutraceuticals located at the University of Manitoba’s SmartPark.

The Head of the Department of Food Science is expected to provide strong leadership, to administer and participate in the teaching, research, and public service activities of the Department and to promote collaboration with other university departments and food related organizations outside the University.

Applicants must have a Ph.D. degree in food science or a related discipline. The successful candidate will have demonstrated excellence in research, education and leadership and will have the capacity to project a vision for the Department. Effective date of appointment is January 1, 2011. The appointment is for a five-year term, unless specified otherwise at the time of appointment, with the possibility of renewal.

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.

Application materials, including letters of reference, will be handled in accordance with the protection of privacy provisions of “The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy” (Manitoba). Please note that curriculum vitae may be made simple for writers, authors and organizations.

One university. Many futures.

One university. Many futures.

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ONE DISTINCTIVE EVENING

Full house honours 2009 Alumni of Distinction in oral health

BY GRANT WARREN
For The Bulletin

A full house of alumni, friends and colleagues packed the Provencher Ballroom for the 2009 Alumni of Distinction awards at the Welcome Back Bannatyne event held on October 16 at the Fort Garry Hotel.

Dr. Tom Breneman and Hester Rumberg took centre stage as this year’s winners of the prestigious award co-sponsored by the University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association, the Faculty of Dentistry and School of Dental Hygiene. Both honourees received their award before a packed house of 225 that also featured a honourary membership to Mr. Burton Cummings. While a bout of the flu prevented him from his desire to entertain the attendees with a few selections from his new release ‘Above the Ground’ and an acoustic guitar that was auctioned off, the proceeds of the sales of the CDs and the guitar were contributed to support the Dr. J.M. Grahame Memorial Scholarship.

“Definitely a success and the result of a lot of hard work from all involved,” said Dr. Scott Leckie, President of the University of Manitoba Dental Alumni Association.

“There is no question that we had three fabulous recipients this year.” Dr. Tom Breneman, the 2009 recipient in dentistry, has enjoyed a long and distinguished career of professional and community service. A former president of the Canadian Dental Association, Dr. Breneman has a history of community involvement in his home town of Brandon, Manitoba where he has led many community and charitable campaigns.

Dental hygiene’s recipient, Dr. Hester Rumberg is a recently-published author and also established a maritime safety foundation in addition to her successful teaching and speaking career in the oral health field. The UMDAA also awarded a honourary membership to Mr. Burton Cummings. Although the final tally isn’t in just yet, it is estimated that well over $5,000 in independent donations were received in support of the scholarship.

The alumni event Welcome Back Bannatyne gave awards of distinction to two Winnipeg oral health specialists and gave musician Burton Cummings an honorary membership into the Dental Alumni Association. Back row, L-R: Dr. Frank Hechter; Dr. Anthony Iacopino; Dr. Salme Lavigne; Front Row, L-R: Dr. Tom Breneman; Burton Cummings; Dr. Hester Rumberg.

Showcasing Student Research
STUDENT 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).

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

Prizes of $500 and $250 will be awarded to the top two posters in each of the four categories: applied sciences, natural sciences, health sciences and social sciences/humanities.

Monday, November 9, 2009
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 4:30 pm. For more information, contact Shelleigh Johannesson Phone: 204-474-7952 Email: johannese2@cc.umanitoba.ca

Musician Burton Cummings (left) attended the event and auctioned off an autographed guitar and CDs with proceeds going to the support of the Dr. J.M. Grahame Memorial Scholarship. Dr. Tom Breneman won the guitar with his bid of about $1000.

The Department of Statistics and the Faculty of Science

“THE CURIOUS WORLD OF PROBABILITIES”

PROFESSOR JEFFREY S. ROSENTHAL
Department of Statistics, University of Toronto

This lighthearted talk for a general audience will explore what happens when we’re not sure what will happen next. Everything from lottery jackpots to airplane crashes, casino gambling, lightning strikes, homicide rates, medical studies, election polls, poker games, coincidences, and the spread of disease is fair game. Come see how probability can shed new light on familiar situations. Jeffrey S. Rosenthal is the author of Struck by Lightning: The Curious World of Probabilities, a book about probability and randomness in everyday life, intended to inform and entertain readers without requiring any mathematics background.

Monday, November 9 at 7:00 PM
172 St. John’s College, Robert Schultz Lecture Theatre
Everyone welcome
Bringing Research to LIFE

In Brief

What’s in your toolbox?

Get on board with My Research Tools, a new online database that helps researchers not only find collaborators for their projects but funding as well. To make this unique web-based program as comprehensive and effective as possible, we still need more researchers to enter their custom key words which reflect their interests and expertise. Some information can be open to the public (including graduate students looking for jobs or media looking for experts) but the discretion is left entirely up to the researchers.

With a few keystrokes, researchers can find counterparts in other disciplines - or their own - who are working on projects in their field of study or are interested in doing so. The tool will even suggest matches.

Researchers can find collaborators in other disciplines if they choose to do so. Researchers are also invited to sign up for e-mail alerts of external funding opportunities relevant to their keywords or take advantage of the tool’s ability to track a project’s details, including financial information, in real-time. Within seconds, researchers have the ability to track a project’s details, including financial information, in real-time. Within seconds, researchers have the tool's ability to track a project’s details, including financial information, in real-time. Within seconds, researchers have the tool's ability to track a project’s details, including financial information, in real-time. Within seconds, researchers have the tool’s ability to track a project’s details, including financial information, in real-time.

Upcoming

Manitoba Institute of Child Health Research Day

Thursday, November 12, 2009

7:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Frederic Gaspard Theatre

(Area A)

Basic Medical Sciences Building

For more info: www.mich.ca

Café Scientifique

Autism: Solving the mysteries

Wednesday, November 4, 2009

7:00 PM

McNally Robinson, Polo Park

1465 Portage Avenue

For more info: www.umanitoba.ca/research

Respectful Research

U of M ‘ahead of the curve’ with new ethics program for research involving humans

BY KATIE CHALMERS-BROOKS

Researchers would only get so far in their quest to understand what makes people tick if they couldn’t involve human participants in their investigations.

One group of researchers at the University of Manitoba and other institutions across Canada depend on people willingly taking part in clinical trials and studies.

Researchers owe it to these participants to make the research programs they’re doing everything we can to ensure that people will continue to enjoy this good will of participants,” says Tefft, who is chair of the university’s Psychology/Sociology Research Ethics Board.

“People are willing to volunteer their time and – in some cases – even undergo unpleasant experiences if they know they will be treated well and if they think it’s going to contribute to the greater good.”

Tefft applauded the University of Manitoba for the recent launch of the Quality Assurance Program for Human Research, which will provide researchers with guidelines and ongoing education in ethics, and include voluntary and eventually random – audits. The program, developed by the Office of the Vice-President (Research), is in anticipation of there being a national governing body that would likely require universities to undergo accreditation for research involving humans.

Monica Woods, research quality assurance manager, says at this point researchers can voluntarily get involved.

“It’s a collaborative program where we work together with the researchers,” says Woods. “Already there is great research expertise within the university. We have many competent researchers who are aware of their responsibilities and are concerned for the welfare of people who voluntarily participate in research. We want to build on that and provide them with resources within their own institution.”

Tefft says the move suggests the university is forward-thinking. “To its credit, the U of M is trying to get ahead of the curve and be proactive, and in a voluntary way do something that probably will be mandated to do in the not too distant future,” he says.

The principal problem is that the governance of research in Canada today is fragmented and uneven,” the committee stated. The report indicated there are holes in coverage and may be “competing interests” since federal granting agencies who fund and promote the research need to act as a steward.

The report notes the push for a national governing body has not been without controversy - some say the added bureaucracy could impede a researcher’s work, cost too much, take too much time, and be cumbersome. The committee says they took all those concerns into account and argue that many organizations already have some sort of participant protection arrangement in place and adjusting to the new system would be straightforward. They say a common plan would actually improve researchers’ work and save time.

Nursing professor Roberta Woodgate, a member of a national team examining the governance of ethical health research involving humans, believes it’s important for Canada to develop capacity in research ethics governance.

She knows firsthand how crucial it is to have good research ethics, given the nature of her own research work. Woodgate has explored how parents decide to include their children with cancer in clinical trials and how research ethics board members, child health researchers, and the kids themselves perceive and assess the risks of involving children in research. Trust in the researcher and the university played a big part in both of her studies.

“It is imperative that we uphold the trust between the research community and the community as a whole,” Woodgate says.

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In Brief

Autism: Solving the mysteries

Canada’s three federal granting agencies - CHIR, NSERC and SSHRC - have developed the Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans. This document prompted universities to develop their own infrastructures to oversee the protection of participants. Researchers now submit proposals to research ethics boards, like the five that exist at the U of M.

While all these steps have led to improvements, there is still no cross-country unifying voice on the issue and no way to gauge how well each institution is doing, a national committee of researchers and research ethics board members said in a 2008 report. The Experts Committee for Human Research Participant Protection top priority, says psychology professor Bruce Tefft.

“It is imperative that we uphold the trust between the research community and the community as a whole,” Woodgate says.

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