The Bulletin
University of Manitoba

New Chancellor announced Pages 2
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Faculty and Staff Honoured for Outreach Page 12

On the Rhodes Again

The University of Manitoba is pleased to announce that Tyler Grant, a student in 4th year engineering, is the recipient of a Rhodes Scholarship for 2010. This continues the excellent record for University of Manitoba students winning Rhodes Scholarships, bringing the total to 93 students, more than any other university in Western Canada. Grant is also the only Rhodes scholarship recipient from Manitoba this year.

A highly motivated and driven student, Grant has his eyes set on becoming a biomedical researcher and an orthopaedic surgeon. He was moved to learn more about biomedicine after watching his grandfather's recovery from hip replacement surgery. He finds orthopaedics a "worthy undertaking, particularly in light of the aging population and their expectation for mobility for life."

A graduate of Springfield Collegiate in Oakbank, Grant was not only good academically but was also athlete of the year six years in a row. He credits his high school physics teacher Kevin Kitching as a source of inspiration who made physics fun but also cared about the world, motivating and encouraging his students.

In the Faculty of Engineering, Grant helps with student activities and works as a teaching assistant. He's won numerous awards for his undergraduate research, presented papers at international conferences and will be graduating this coming spring, likely near the top of his class. He also is active on volleyball teams, volunteers with a food bank and is a highly proficient classical guitarist, having performed at the master class run under international instructors.

As for how he has managed to excel in scholarship, Grant explains he is a "big fan of prioritization." He actually has a large chalkboard in his

U of M gives city and province $1.8 billion boost

More than $1.8 billion in province-wide economic activity is stimulated by the University of Manitoba, according to a study released on December 4, 2009. The University of Manitoba Economic Impact Analysis, produced by PricewaterhouseCoopers and commissioned by the University of Manitoba, shows that the University has a far-reaching effect upon all Manitobans.

"The University of Manitoba has a real impact upon the lives of all Manitobans," said Debbie McCallum, vice-president (administration). "From direct economic benefits to cultural and social interactions that enrich and enhance lives, we make a difference."

The study found that 19,315 jobs have been or will be created in the province by the University of Manitoba, resulting in $745 million in labour force income alone.

"On an annual basis, the activities of the University of Manitoba contribute $1.5 billion to the economy of the city of Winnipeg and a whopping $1.8 billion to the economy of the province as a whole," said McCallum. "That amount is almost equal to the funds dedicated to upgrading Winnipeg’s roads, bridges and other infrastructure over the next six years."

Taxes generated by the university produce $286 million in annual revenue, and value-added impact from spin-off firms and other business expenditures amounts to nearly $1.1 billion. Operating, research and capital expenditures totaled $725 million in 2009.

As an example of how the University of Manitoba is reflected in the human landscape, the report notes that most of Manitoba’s practising engineers are graduates of the Faculty of Engineering. The University of Manitoba is also the foundation of Manitoba’s health research and services, with the vast majority of clinical personnel working in Manitoba are graduates and most health researchers hold academic appointments and are paid employees of the University.

The University of Manitoba receives more than 183,000 out-of-town visitors each year, who contribute more than $102 million to our provincial economy. Out-of-town students alone contribute more than $130 million in spending.

In terms of benefits realized from research and technological advances, it was estimated that ten spin-off companies generated an estimated $239 million.

President and CEO of the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce, Dave Angus also spoke to the large crowd at the event.

"The University of Manitoba does not merely provide a boost to the local economy, Angus pointed out, but it actually plays an underpinning role."

PricewaterhouseCoopers was commissioned in March 2009 to assess the economic impact of the University of Manitoba on the city and province, examining a host of qualitative and quantitative benefits.

PricewaterhouseCoopers noted that "Total initial expenditures associated with the University of Manitoba include operating and research expenditures made by the university, capital expenditures projected to be spent over the next five years, expenditures made by out-of-town visitors and students, and expenditures from spin-off companies.

continued on page 2
In The News

Where are the Thick Bits?

November 27, 2009

David Barber, Environment and Geography, and his colleagues conducted a study in the southern Beaufort Sea this past September and discovered that thin, "rotten" ice can electromagnetically mask as thick, multyear sea ice, thereby tricking satellites to report thick ice that isn't actually there. The results of the study have now been accepted for publication in the peer-reviewed journal Geophysical Research Letters, of the American Geophysical Union.

Giving the Right Tests


Alan Katz, research director for the department of family medicine, was one of 41 people involved in the development of a new Canadian Institute for Health Information study. The study found that fewer than one-third of diabetics routinely undergo the four basic tests used for monitoring disease progression. The tests are key to preventing complications. "It's a wake-up call," Katz says. "The ultimate consequence of lack of disease control is more blindness, more amputation, more kidney disease and more heart disease."

Healthy University Impacts

Winnipeg Free Press, Winnipeg Sun, CJOB December 5, 2009

The University is a $1.8-billion economic engine for the province and the region each year, according to an economic impact analysis done by PricewaterhouseCoopers on behalf of the University. The report said the university stimulates the province's economy in numerous ways, from wages and taxes paid, to capital expenditures and spending by students and visitors.

Headlines:

"I: Bets the DOE is Placing on Science to Break the Climate Change Deadlock, December 7, 2009, single out about climate change that refers to work done by Environment and Geogrophy's Vaclav Smil; he estimates that to look at 25 per cent of CO2 produced by power plants it would require moving twice the material the world's crude-oil industry does now.

"University of Manitoba support Ghanaian journalists with disabilities", Ghana News Agency, December 7, 2009, article discusses how the Faculty of Social Work will collaborate with the network of journalists for the promotion of Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa-Ghana Chapter (PROMOAFRICA).

Rhodes continued from page 1

Rhodes

bedroom on which he writes his tasks each week, ordering them from A through Z. D. His mother is a dedicated special needs educator, while his father is a professor in agribusiness at the University of Manitoba. He has a sister one year younger, one is in studies at Queen's University and the other is at the U of M in Environmental Design. "Our father taught us how to look for creative solutions to problems," Grant notes. "His students sometimes call him the "Nutty Professor" because he always has a lot of fun with his work and has a unique way of dealing with problems."

Grant's altruism may stem from his family tree. His great-grandfather, Charles Smith Rutherford, was a recipient of the Victoria Cross at the age of 26. In teaching, research and world-class, he wants to do the same thing, learning the way in which bones and joints work and then being able to say, 'I can fix that.'

Harvey Secter Elected New Chancellor

Mr. Terry Sargeant, Chair of the Board of Governors of the University of Manitoba is pleased to announce the election of Harvey Secter as Chancellor effective January 1, 2010. Mr. Secter, a highly respected business, community and academic leader, has a long history with the University, will be the 13th Chancellor of the University of Manitoba. The election of Mr. Secter took place at the December 8th meeting of the Committee of Election. This committee was established in The University of Manitoba Act for the sole purpose of electing a Chancellor. Its membership consists of all members of the Board of Governors and of Senate, and is chaired by the Chair of the Board of Governors.

Mr. Secter is an exceptional choice for this important position," says Terry Sargeant. "He brings with him a distinguished career as a businessman and academic, as well as his dedicated to the value of education in the pursuit of excellence. I know he will represent the University of Manitoba with pride."

Mr. Secter received a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Manitoba in 1967. Following graduation, he directed the growth of Rick's Canada Limited, a family retail business, from a ten store chain to a multi-national retail operation of 150 stores. A leader in the Winnipeg community, Mr. Secter was also a member of the ownership group of the Winnipeg Jets. He pursued his business career full-time when he returned to the University of Manitoba as a student.

Graduating from the Faculty of Law with the Gold Medal in Law in 1992, Mr. Secter went on to pursue a Master of Law at Harvard Law School. He then become a visiting researcher and instructor at Harvard's Program on Negotiation where he assisted in teaching negotiation in negotiations and mediation. Mr. Secter also acted as an instructor at the University of Miami and at the University of Law from 1995 to 1999.

In 1999, Mr. Secter was appointed Dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Manitoba, a position he held for just seven years after he graduated from that same faculty. He served in this position with distinction until 2008.

Following his decade of service to the Faculty of Law, Mr. Secter retired in 2008. He continues his practice in mediation and arbitration. He serves on corporate boards as Director of FPGen General Partnership Inc., a Trustee of the FP Newspapers Income Fund and as a Director of James Richardson & Sons Limited.

Mr. Secter is also an active community philanthropist and volunteer. He is Past President of the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba and is a current member of the Premier’s Economic Advisory Council, the Board of the Health Sciences Centre Foundation, the United Way Advisory Committee, and the Assiniboine Park Foundation.

"I am pleased that Mr. Secter has been elected as Chancellor," says Dr. David Barnard, President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Manitoba. "Mr. Secter is a recipient of the Victoria Cross at the age of 26. In teaching, research and world-class, he wants to do the same thing, learning the way in which bones and joints work and then being able to say, 'I can fix that.'

Events

The Bulletin publishes notifications of events taking place at the University of Manitoba or events that are of particular interest to the university community.

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Schedule

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

The Bulletin welcomes submissions from members of the University of Manitoba. Submissions can include letters to the editor, columns, news briefs and photo suggestions. Material in The Bulletin may be reprinted or broadcast, excepting materials for which The Bulletin does not hold exclusive copyright.
Bannatyne Campus

- St. Boniface General Hospital and Research Centre

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

Neurodegeneration in diabetes, Dr. Paul Fernyhough, Departments of Pharmacology and Therapeutics & Physiology, 12:00pm, Alec Sehon Seminar Room, 477 Apotex Centre, December 10

Published Advanced, Ross Lab - Neil John Maclean Health Sciences Library, 5:00pm, December 10

Pediatric Grand Rounds, Theatre A, Basic Medical Sciences Building, 8:00am, December 10

Pediatric Research Rounds, Room 500 Boardroom, John Buhler Research Centre, 12:00pm, December 10

Pediatric Research Rounds, 500 Boardroom, John Buhler Research Centre, 12:00pm, December 10

Pediatric Neurology Rounds, CH181/83, Bannatyne Campus, 3:00pm, December 15

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16

Academic Half Day part 1, L397, Bannatyne Campus, 12:30pm, December 16

Academic Half Day part 2, L397, Bannatyne Campus, 1:30pm, December 16

Academic Half Day part 3, L397, Bannatyne Campus, 2:30pm, December 16

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17

Pediatric Grand Rounds, 8:00am, Theatre A, Basic Medical Sciences Building, December 17

MOCOMP ROUNDS, S211, Medical Services Building, 9:00am, December 17

Pediatric Research Rounds, Room 500, Boardroom, John Buhler Research Centre, 12:00pm, December 17

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

ENDNOTE Introduction, Ross Lab - Neil John Maclean Health Sciences Library, 12:00pm, January 13

St. Boniface Newborn Rounds, AG002-1, Bannatyne Campus, 11:00am, December 15

SUNDAy, DECEMBER 27

WMC Scholarship Winners Recital, Winnipeg Art Gallery, 2:00pm, December 27

FRIday, JANUARY 15

Opera Theatre Production, Gas Station Theatre, 8:00pm, January 15

St. Boniface General Hospital and Research Centre

Eco-Rep Program Calls for New Recruits

A small program with big impacts is hoping to become a big program with even bigger impacts.

Maire McDermott, the University’s Sustainability Coordinator, would like to expand Physical Plant’s Eco-rep program to include a representative from every department. McDermott explains the program, which started as a small initiative asking individuals from a few departments to promote campus sustainability and encourage sustainable behaviours within their office, is ready to go big.

The purpose behind the project was to communicate the message of campus sustainability to the university community more effectively. “It is very challenging to get information out through the more conventional channels like posters, e-mail and our webpage. The information gets lost in the sea of communication out there. Eco-reps are able to take the information on campus sustainability directly to their colleagues and customize it to suit their department,” says McDermott.

She adds that to date, there are approximately 15 departments participating with great results. “We’ve seen the impact this type of direct communication can have and so we are ready to go big and we are ready to have a big impact!”

Some of the activities in which Eco-reps participate include monthly meetings, disseminate information, post posters, act as a point person for information on campus sustainability and waste reduction initiatives and generally try to foster a green office atmosphere.

McDermott adds that once a departmental Eco-Rep program is well-established, she would like to take the program to Housing and Student Life to get resident students involved.

“If you are interested in becoming an Eco-Rep for your department, contact Maie McDermott, Sustainability Coordinator at 474-8166 or at sustainability@umanitoba.ca for more details.”

Fort Garry Campus

First Aid content PLUS musculoskeletal injuries, soft tissue injuries, sudden medical conditions, poisoning, heat and cold related injuries and head and neck injuries. Cost: $116 Day and Time: Saturday & Sunday, January 9 & 10, 9:30am-5:30pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

Statistics Seminar, Jean-François Angers, 2:30pm, 316 Machray Hall, Thursday, December 10

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15

Graduate Student Lecture, Dustin Pettigrew - Family Social Science, Canadian household spending data, Iceland Board Room, third floor, Dafoe Library, 12:30 to 1:30pm, January 8

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26

MENTS PD Faculty Workshop: Care of the Teaching Voice, E2-223 Engineering Building, 9:30am, January 14

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

Graduate Student Lecture, Dustin Geraardt, English, Film and Theatre, The Lingering Legacy of id Software’s Quake: A Glimpse into Thirteen Years of Darkness, Iceland Board Room, third floor, Dafoe Library, 12:30 to 1:30pm, January 15

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27

Annual Christmas at the Admin, presented by the University Singers and Women’s Choir, free admission, 12:00pm, Administration Building, Thursday, December 10

Electrical and Computer Engineering Department Seminar Series, Grid Cloud Resources Pricing: A Financial Option based Model and Application to Power Grids Dr. Rupaka Thulasiram, Department of Computer Science, E3-262 Engineering and Information Technology Centre, 2:00pm, Friday, December 11

Biological Sciences Seminar, Sylvie Renault, biological sciences: “Red-osier dogwood and salinity: how resistant is this cold-tolerant species?” 3:00 p.m., 527 Butler Building. Coffee and donuts will be served. All are welcome. Friday, December 11

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7

Eight Hours to Save a Life! Standard First Aid, Registration deadline Thursday, January 7, 4:00pm, Customer Service Desk, 145 Frank Kennedy Centre. This course covers the Emergency

Arts & Entertainment

Bison Men’s Chorus 25th Annual Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 13th at Charleswood United Church

4820 Roblin Blvd. 2:30 pm.

Admission is free but we will ask you to make a “free will” offering in Support of LITE (Local Investment Towards Employment) and the Manitoba chapter of Prostate Cancer Canada.
Centre for Public Global Health opens, receives major Gates Foundation funding

A group of researchers from the University of Manitoba faculty of Medicine hopes to support the Government of Karnataka in India, in partnership with the Karnataka Health Promotion Trust, to improve maternal, neonatal and child health outcomes after the University received funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

At the official opening of the Centre for Public Global Health (CGPH) at the University of Manitoba Bannatyne Campus, President and Vice-Chancellor Dr. David Barnard announced $8.4 million USD in funding from the foundation to promote maternal, neonatal and child health interventions in underserved populations in rural India where high morbidity and mortality rates are prevalent. The project will provide support to the Government of India’s National Rural Health Mission in Karnataka for a year demonstration project that will run through to September 2014.

“The University of Manitoba is internationally recognized as a leader in global public health and we greatly appreciate the support for this important project. It positions the Centre for Public Global Health to address an important global public health issues on a global scale,” said Dr. Barnard.

While a new entity at the university, the leaders of the project have been involved in international health and development projects and research for over a decade. The work of the Director of the Centre for Public Global Health Dr. Jamie Blanchard, and Associate Director Dr. Stephen Moses has drawn international recognition and awards, including more than $450M in funding from the Gates Foundation to date.

“Over the past two decades, we have seen rapid globalization of public health challenges, and many academic public health institutions, like us, have expanded our research and service beyond our physical borders to meet these new realities,” said Dr. J. Dean Sandham, Dean of Medicine, University of Manitoba. “The Centre for Public Global Health will have an impact on a wide range of public health issues and contribute significantly to research, knowledge sharing, and positive outcomes at the international level.”

In addition to ongoing work on HIV/AIDS prevention, the Centre will focus on important public health issues such as other infectious diseases, maternal and child health, and emerging, non-communicable disease epidemics.

“This new project should have great impact in helping to reduce mortality among vulnerable mothers and newborns in India,” said Dr. Blanchard. “It will also extend our work on HIV/AIDS in India into the broader health arena.”

The Centre’s research focus is primarily on assisting in designing and delivering public health programs and services. “We focus beyond the disciplines to support those who will impact the largest number of people and the Centre’s research will be to support these end users,” said Jino Distasio, IUS director. “Nobody wants to see those without shelter or supportive service going hungry, cold and thirsty. That’s why we undertook a national study of this magnitude can allow us, collectively, to find a better, more holistic way to support those who are most vulnerable in our community. At the end of the day, it will be a good thing to see correctly more than 1,000 Canadians in stable housing, surrounded by the supports they need.”

Local leaders contend that 70 per cent of the homeless population in Winnipeg is Aboriginal. The Winnipeg research team will work in partnership and cooperation with three primary agencies that will deliver a “Housing First” approach (a focus on providing housing, then offering necessary services and supports); Mount Carmel Clinic, Ma Mii Chitsi Hitah Centre and the Aboriginal Health and Wellness Centre. The project team is supported and guided by the advice of an Urban Aboriginal Lens Committee, consisting of community elders and cultural teachers.

The overall intent of the four-year demonstration project is to test and assess whether a proven housing intervention is effective in the Canadian context, with the ultimate goal to work toward long term sustainability.

“Many cities, including New York, have definitively concluded that this is an effective intervention, with success rates in excess of 80 per cent, and it also a cost effective measure,” said Distasio.

Sareen added: “What surprises people most is not that being homeless and on the streets can cost more than sheltering someone and providing them with services and supports.”

clinical outcomes research and medical antiretrovirals.

A cornerstone of CGPH is the design and implementation of international health and development projects in several countries including India, China, Kenya and Pakistan, primarily in the areas of HIV/AIDS prevention. Current partners include the West China School of Public Health at Sichuan University in Sichuan, China, the Karnataka Health Promotion Trust in Bangalore, India, and the University of Nairobi in Nairobi, Kenya.

Established in the Faculty of Medicine’s Department of Community Health Sciences in collaboration with the Department of Medical Microbiology, the CGPH has six core full-time faculty members, including three recently recruited faculty members. In addition, the CGPH has three research associates that are completing their PhD elsewhere from various other university departments.

Identifying Solutions to Homelessness

More than 500 people in Winnipeg who are homeless and living with a mental illness are being recruited to participate in Canada’s largest-ever study to assess the effectiveness of housing interventions. The Winnipeg At Home Project is aimed at providing people with stable, long-term housing and support to help them stay in the community, rather than return to the homeless population. Using a $3.75 million grant provided by the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation, the University of Manitoba, and the University of Winnipeg’s Institute of Urban Studies (IUS) and the University of Manitoba’s departments of psychiatry and community health sciences form the core research team.

A group of researchers from the Department of Jazz Studies, University of Manitoba Faculty of Music, has been awarded a four-year, $120,000 project by the Canada Council for the Arts with an eye toward sharing the rich jazz history of Winnipeg. The Winnipeg at Home Project is led by Dr. David Barnard, University of Winnipeg chancellor, University of Winnipeg. “This new project should have great impact in helping to reduce mortality among vulnerable mothers and newborns in India,” said Dr. Blanchard. “It will also extend our work on HIV/AIDS in India into the broader health arena.”

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Academic Job Opportunities

Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management
Position: Assistant Professor/Lecturer Position number: 0711
Application deadline: January 18, 2010
For information: Dr. Phillip Gardiner, Director, HLP Research Institute and Canada Research Chair, University of Manitoba, 37T 2N2; Tel: (204) 474-8770; Fax: (204) 261-4802; E-mail: gardine2@cc.umanitoba.ca

Faculty of Arts
Department of Political Studies
Position: Assistant Professor Start date: July 1, 2010
Position number: LH 457
Application deadline: January 8, 2010
For information: Dr. George A MacLean, Head, Department of Political Science, University of Winnipeg, Winnipeg, R3T 5V5

Department of Women’s and Gender Studies
Position: Assistant Professor Start date: July 1, 2010
Position number: 10612
Application deadline: January 15, 2010
For information: Dr. Linda M. Wilson, Chair, Search Advisory Committee for Women’s and Gender Studies, 114 Isbister Building, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB, R3T 2N2.

Extended Education
Department of Distance and Online Education
Position: Instructor I or II Start date: March 1, 2010
Position number: 10765
Application deadline: January 10, 2010
For information: Dr. Emily Etcheyver, Chair, Occupational Therapy Search Committee, School of Medical Rehabilitation, University of Manitoba, R003-409 Tache Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R2H 2A6; Tel:(204) 235-3655, Fax: (204) 231-0302, daross@sogh. mb.ca

School of Medical Rehabilitation
Department of Occupational Therapy
Position: Instructor I or II Start date: February 1, 2010 or as soon thereafter as possible
Position number: 10765
Application deadline: January 10, 2010
For information: Dr. Emily Etcheyver, Chair, Occupational Therapy Search Committee, School of Medical Rehabilitation, University of Manitoba, R003-409 Tache Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R2H 2A6; Tel:(204) 235-3655, Fax: (204) 231-0302, daross@sogh. mb.ca

Faculty of Medicine
Department of Family Medicine
Position: Physician Start date: March 1, 2010
Position number: 07677
Application deadline: January 31, 2010
For information: Search Committee Chair, Department of Family Medicine, E0003-409 Tache Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R2H 2A6; Tel:(204) 235-3655, Fax:(204) 231-0302, daross@sogh.mba.ca

School of Medical Rehabilitation
Department of Occupational Therapy
Position: Instructor I or II Start date: March 1, 2010
Position number: 10765
Application deadline: January 10, 2010
For information: Dr. Emily Etcheyver, Chair, Occupational Therapy Search Committee, School of Medical Rehabilitation, University of Manitoba, R003-409 Tache Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R2H 2A6; Tel:(204) 235-3655, Fax: (204) 231-0302, daross@sogh.mba.ca

Faculty of Medicine & Graduate Studies
Physician Assistant Education Program Position: Assistant Professor, Physician Assistant Studies Start date: July 1, 2010
Position number: 07677
Application deadline: until filled
For information: Ms. S. Clarke, PAEP Search Committee, Assistant Dean, Medical Education, Office of Physician Assistant Studies, Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba, R127-770 Bannatyne Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3E 0W3
Aboriginal Values LEED® to Green Building
Sean Moore
The Bulletin

By combining Aboriginal values and international environmental practices the Aboriginal House has earned the University of Manitoba’s first Gold LEED® certification.

This is only the fifth building in Manitoba to receive its LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification from the Canada Green Building Council.

It is a significant achievement and it inspires us,” says Bill Schellenberg, manager of Architectural Services for the university.

The new building houses the Aboriginal Student Centre, the Access Program, some professors of Native Studies, the Office of University Accessibility and the University of Manitoba Aboriginal Student Association. It is a place of pride for the 1,600-plus Aboriginal students and staff on campus. Prairie Architects Inc., which included four University of Manitoba Aboriginal architecture students, was hired in 2004 to design the building. Dominion Construction, with an 80 per cent Aboriginal workforce, constructed the building.

“What makes this LEED building stand head and shoulders above the rest is the Aboriginal leadership and values that have been woven right in with the architecture and construction,” Marten Dufoix, chair of the Manitoba chapter of the Canada Green Building Council says.

Some of the building’s numerous energy-efficiency and Aboriginal features include the use of natural and recycled materials like locally-quarried Tyndall stone, its roundness to reflect the Mother Earth, natural daylight used to support interior lights, the seven interior poles to represent the Seven Sacred Teachings, and the fact that it is heated entirely by reclaimed energy, a first for the U of M.

The LEED® system was born from the energy crisis in the 1970s. Architects realized energy-hungry buildings made of glass and steel didn’t have to be the template and “green architecture” became the buzz around drafting tables. In 2000 the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) began its LEED® standard and its regulation book is now thicker than the Yellow Pages.

Avant garde program lets students showcase talents
Campus soon to be alive with student art and music thanks to UMSU/University collaboration

A new program designed to let student muralists, musicians, and sculptors share their talents with the university community is creating plenty of campus buzz for its collaborative spirit and ambitious approach.

Called A Collaboration to Promote Art and Music (CPAM), the program is a partnership between the University of Manitoba Students’ Union and the University of Manitoba, the result of which will be more student art in the tunnels, the installation of student sculptures on campus, and public performances by student musicians.

The goal of CPAM is to promote creative student talent on campus, as it is necessary to the artistic and aesthetic environment of the university, and it helps encourage and celebrate student engagement,” said Heather Laube, Vice-President of Student Services, UMSU, who, along with Alan Simms, Associate Vice-President (Administration), chaired the CPAM committee comprised of students, faculty and staff.

“The project stemmed from an initial idea the UMSU executive had last spring, hoping to brighten the campus with art work and music, especially in the tunnels. With great support from the university administration, we have seen this idea develop into a full-blown project to promote different types of creative work, such as murals, sculptures and music around campus,” added Laube.

When School of Art student Ben Bonner first heard about the program back in August, he was inspired by the possibility of having one of his pieces placed in the tunnels.

“I told them I would have done it for free, especially if it’s going to be here forever,” said the artist, whose entry Golem’s Pelt was one of two pieces chosen in the sculpture component of the program. Bonner will receive $5,000 to realize his piece.

Laura Magnusson, whose piece Goodnight Gutenberg was the other sculpture chosen, said it was “exciting that students are given professional opportunities to showcase their work on campus.”

“It’s nice way to allow our faculties (Art and Music) to exist in the larger context.”

Bonner agreed saying the program “makes the campus more dynamic, more interesting.”

“There will be student pieces around the university that people will bump into as they’re going to class. And maybe they’ll stop and look at them and think about them for a while and maybe be a bit late for class because of it,” he said.

The program is divided up into three components: Tunnel Vision, the creation of art and murals in select areas of the university’s tunnel system, Random Acts of Music, musical performance (solo or group) at select times and locations - indoor and outdoor - on both campuses, and Sculptural Experience, a juried competition for the creation and installation of two significant works of sculpture.

The winners of the Tunnel Vision and Random Acts of Music components have not yet been announced.

Bonner says he hopes that the program becomes an annual event.

“That’s a bit late for class because of it,” he said.

Ben Bonner, left, and Laura Magnusson

"I’d like the competition to go for a number of years and maybe have them create a bit of sculpture garden,” he said.

“We are very fortunate to have so many talented student artists and musicians at the University of Manitoba,” said Simms. “Plus, we’re showcasing across both campuses the incredible range of artistic talent of our students here.”

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One university. Many futures. umanitoba.ca
University bids adieu to committed administrator, fundraiser

After 25 years of exemplary service and extraordinary accomplishments, Elaine Goldie will retire from her position as Vice-President (External) on December 31, 2009.

Elaine joined the University of Manitoba as a fundraising coordinator in 1985 and has held several key positions since then. With her impassioned drive and tireless dedication she has played a pivotal role in raising roughly half a billion dollars for the University of Manitoba.

From her first major project, the Drive for Excellence Campaign, which exceeded by $13 million its ambitious goal of $42 million, to the success of the university’s most recent major capital campaign Building on Strengths, which raised $237 million – more than double what was originally anticipated – Elaine’s leadership has been instrumental in allowing the University of Manitoba to continue its level of excellence.

Elaine leaves the university on a high note with her team exceeding its previous year fundraising total in each of the last three years, including a record-setting $44.1 million in 2008/09.

In 1993 Elaine attained the post of Director of Development. She was appointed Executive Director (Alumni and Development) in 1998, and in 2001, became the University of Manitoba’s first ever Vice-President (External).

The positive relationships Elaine has developed and nurtured with alumni, the corporate sector, the local community and all orders of government have generated a spirit of partnership that has been crucial in generating support for the university.

“It has been a privilege and an honour for me to represent the University of Manitoba across Canada and in the United States, and most recently in China,” said Elaine. “I am always so proud to talk about our university’s rich history and our unlimited potential for the future. I wish everyone knew and recognized what I know about the University of Manitoba!”

Elaine has made time to contribute her talents to her profession by serving on the Canadian Council for the Advancement of Education; to the corporate community as an Associate of the Asper School of Business; and to serve the people of Manitoba through her efforts on behalf of CancerCare Manitoba and the Manitoba Museum.

She has created a culture within her division that is motivated by values of excellence, respect and commitment to the mission of the university. She has developed a team that is dedicated, anticipatory, integral to the successful operations of the University of Manitoba and highly loyal.

Students and university colleagues have lauded her commitment. In 1997, she received a University of Manitoba Outreach Award, which honors staff who have been active in outreach activities. She was honored by the University of Manitoba Students’ Union in 2004 in recognition of outstanding dedication to the students of the University of Manitoba. In 2006, she received the Peter D. Curry Chancellor’s Award for the outstanding contribution to the development of the university.

Elaine Goldie graced the University of Manitoba with her hard work and commitment for 24 years.

On behalf of students, graduates, faculty and staff who call or have called the University of Manitoba their place of work or study, thank you Elaine for your unwavering commitment to making the University of Manitoba the special place it is.

The letters of Frederick D. Baragar (A08-156) provide a moving vision of Christmases marked during the First World War. He grew up in Elm Creek, Manitoba, received his BA from the University of Manitoba in 1914 and in 1915 he enlisted with the Canadian Field Artillery in the 2nd Canadian Expeditionary Force. He fought in a number of seminal battles such as the Somme, Vimy and Amiens, and he wrote many letters home to his family a merry Christmas: “how I wish to be home to tease Bill and hold Emily…” And by Christmas 1918 the tone has changed radically as Fred writes from Belgium. Tired and wet, he writes about the war being over; he does not write of Christmas at all but restricts himself to wishing his family a merry Christmas: “how I wish I could join you.” He is anxious to go home and leave the war behind him. His penmanship is difficult to read sometimes but transcripts for a number of these letters exist; a detailed description of the contents appear sometimes but transcripts for a number of these letters exist; a detailed description of the contents can be found in the Archives’ website under “Frederick D. Baragar.”

Shelley Sweeney is Head of the University of Manitoba Archives. Visit the Archives at umanitoba.ca/libraries/units/archives/ to find out where your donation can make a difference.

Christmas on the Front

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Campus as a Community

Meet Andrew Paterson. The Marketing Coordinator for Bison Sports and a self-described “sports nut”, Paterson is a big fan of the opportunities for active living at the University of Manitoba.

Q: Why did you choose to support the Active Living Fund at the U of M?

A: Of all the places to choose from, I wanted to make a difference here because it's related to my job and interest. It hits home especially because a new active living facility is greatly going to benefit the staff, students and the entire community.

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Q: Why did you choose to make this gift through payroll deduction? Why?

A: I chose to make the commitment, payroll deduction took care of itself for the rest of the year. This is the simplest and easiest way of doing my part.

Q: What is your giving philosophy?

A: The ability to give is a privilege. If you have the ability to make a difference, I encourage you to do so, especially because there are a lot of positive projects at the University of Manitoba. It makes as much difference to you as a donor as it does to the people receiving the gift.

Join your colleagues in supporting your university.

Visit umanitoba.ca/admin/dev_adv
Meet 6 New Faculty Members

Belay Ayele
Agricultural and Food Sciences
Belay Ayele joined the Department of Plant Science as an assistant professor in June 2009. Prior to joining the University of Manitoba, Belay was a postdoctoral fellow at Iowa State University and RIKEN Plant Science Center, Japan. He received his PhD from the University of Alberta. Belay has been awarded a number of scholarships and prizes including the JSPS postdoctoral fellowship. His research focuses on biofuel feedstock development and hormonal regulation of plant development with the ultimate goal of enhancing crop performance and yield. His research involves the use of physiological and molecular approaches.

Julieta Frank
Agricultural and Food Sciences
Julieta Frank joined the Department of Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics in January 2009. She received a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics (2008) and a M.Sc. in Statistics (2005) from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and a M.Sc. in Agricultural Economics (2002) from Cornell University. Julieta’s research interests are in the areas of price analysis, agricultural marketing, futures markets, market microstructure, risk management, and forecasting. Her recent work has focused on the effect of new information on price movements, estimation of unobserved transaction costs associated with operating in futures markets, and liquidity risk management strategies. Julieta has international experience working as a consultant and as an economics editor.

Mohammad Jozani
Science
Mohammad Jozani joined the Department of Statistics as an Assistant Professor on July 1, 2009. He obtained a B.Sc. degree in Statistics from Allameh Tabatabaei University, and M.Sc. and Ph.D degrees in Mathematical Statistics from Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran. Mohammad’s research has primarily been in Bayesian statistics, statistical decision theory, and estimation in restricted parameter spaces. Recently he has begun to do research in more applied areas such as ranked set sampling, credibility theory and image processing.

Donna Martin
Nursing
Donna Martin joined the Faculty of Nursing in July, 2009. She acquired a Ph.D in Nursing from the University of British Columbia in 2006 with a GSHRC doctoral fellowship and a doctoral trainee award from the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research. Donna’s research program is entitled, “Aboriginal peoples’ experiences in health care.” By partnering with Aboriginal groups and communities, these projects will generate new knowledge to reduce existing health disparities in this population. Other research interests include Aboriginal education, women’s health, de-colonizing methodologies and qualitative research methods. Donna enjoys teaching a variety of courses at the undergraduate level and looks forward to working closely with graduate students in the near future.

Stephane Durocher
Science
Stephane Durocher received his B.Sc. from the University of Toronto in 1997. He received his M.Sc. in 1999 and his Ph.D. in 2006 from the University of British Columbia. Stephane was an NSERC postdoctoral fellow at McGill University from 2006 to 2007 and at the University of Waterloo from 2007 to 2009. Stephane joined the Department of Computer Science at the University of Manitoba as an assistant professor in 2009. Stephane’s research is in computational geometry, with a specialization in geometric aspects of mobile computing and wireless networks. His recent work includes theoretical results motivated by applications in mobile ad hoc wireless networks and sensor networks, distributed routing algorithms, facility location and operations research, and spatial data structures. Specific areas of interest include mobile facility location, kinetic data structures, geometric models for wireless communication, geometric range searching, and negative results in local routing.

Xuemiao Hao
Management
Xuemiao Hao has been working as an Assistant Professor at the Warren Centre for Actuarial Studies and Research, Asper School of Business, University of Manitoba, from July 2009. He got his Bachelor degrees both in mathematics, and economics from Peking University, China, in 2002. He then pursued his graduate studies in North America and obtained his Master and Ph.D. degrees in statistics from University of Toronto and University of Iowa, respectively.

Xuemiao is interested in problems which have direct applications to insurance and finance and are theoretically interesting as well, particularly in the fields of risk theory, financial risk management, and applications of stochastic processes in insurance and finance. His research papers are published on some first-class journals in applied probability and actuarial science, such as Journal of Applied Probability, Insurance: Mathematics and Economics, and ASTIN Bulletin.

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Resource Optimization: Team Member Profile

The University of Manitoba has undertaken two resource optimization projects (entitled ROSE and OAKS) aimed at finding ways to improve service, reduce costs, and eliminate duplications. The teams are leveraging their knowledge and experience to improve processes and apply best practices. In the coming months, the Bulletin will feature interviews with faculty and support staff involved with the projects.

Ron Pluchinski, Specialist, Virtual Server Liaison for IST

From your perspective what does this project need to do in order to be successful?

I think one key element of success is commitment, and that commitment to achieve is demonstrated from all levels of staff up to and including senior administration and faculty. Another element of success is to leverage the existing experience, education and skills set of our colleagues. As an institution of learning we have significant intellectual capital within our organization and we need to leverage our internal expertise throughout this journey.

In terms of sustaining success, it’s important that we take the lessons and methodology we’re applying on this project and apply it to our everyday business. Lastly, success to me means keeping our clients and customers at the forefront of decision making. Improving service means improving the client’s experience and our success is predicated on their satisfaction. If one of the key deliverables of this project is to enhance the quality of service, what does good service look like to you?

From an IT perspective it means providing and maintaining quality systems while being accountable to our client expectations. I think it also being proactive and doing our best to drive proper technology decisions for the organization and to always do our best to meet the ongoing IT demands of the university.

In your view why is project ROSE important?

It is a great opportunity to review how we operate, taking into account current business processes and how they’re aligned with our client needs. For me, I think it’s critical that we step out of our day to day work and objectively ask ourselves questions around “how can we provide improved service” and “what opportunities are there to operate more efficiently?” ROSE can help us answer those questions.

What is your role within the project team?

During phase 1 I worked closely with my PricewaterhouseCoopers counterparts to provide information around IT services. I worked closely with my counterparts to help them identify potential areas for optimizing resources and reducing costs. I brought my background in IT and specifically my university experience to the project team.

What opportunities for improvement do you see in your area?

I think there is significant opportunity to apply recommendations for aspects of hardware and software purchases. There is potential to better apply the policy around procurement of hardware and software purchases. Additionally, there is an opportunity to ensure that support needs can be met for purchases.

I also think there are some fairly simple cost savings opportunities like enforcing the double-sided printing policy.

Topping the Charts

A team of four University of Manitoba MBA students placed second out of 522 teams at the Capstone International Fall 2009 Challenge. Arthur Berdichevsky, Glenn Karr, Dustin Springett, and Rob Tetrault, competed in the Capstone Simulation, a comprehensive, online interactive game for managing a company involved in both financial and non-financial management, planning, production, and finance. They also used advanced modules in marketing, human resource management, and total quality management. They were coached by Parishom Dass, associate professor of business administration at the Asper School of Business.

“This is very exciting. We have never done so well,” Dass said. Teams from North America, Europe, and Asia, are judged by their performance on a balanced scorecard consisting of financial, customer, internal business process, and learning and growth measures.

Law Students off to Paris for International Competition

Katie Hall and Alison Cathcart, third year law students in the Faculty of Law at the University of Manitoba, are traveling to Paris, France, to represent the university in a world mediation advocacy competition in February 2010.

For the first time ever, U of M Robson Hall law students participated this month in the Canadian National Mediation Advocacy Competition (CNMAC) in Toronto. This unique competition assesses law students on their advocacy abilities in mediation sessions, rather than in the courtroom. Students are evaluated on how well they are able to represent their clients in non-adversarial, consensual processes like mediation.

Hall and Cathcart, who were competing against law schools from across the country, finished second. Normally, only the winning team is invited to participate in the world mediation advocacy competition, run by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) in Paris. However, judges felt that Robson Hall’s second place finish was so remarkable that Hall and Cathcart were invited to represent the University of Manitoba at the ICC Mediation Advocacy Competition as well.

Katie and Alison are simply naturals,” she explains. “They are poised, brilliant, mediation advocates— incredibly professional and strong under pressure. Indeed, judges at the Canadian competition said that Katie and Alison were amongst the best advocates they had ever seen.”

The team is indebted to Challis, who is a founding partner and mediator with the Winnipeg firm Facilitated Solutions, which provided such expert and supportive coaching both in Toronto and in Winnipeg. The team also acknowledge the expert mediation advice they received from Janet Schmidt and David Dyck, also of Facilitated Solutions in Winnipeg.

Christopher Anworing, dean of law, observes: “I am delighted but not at all surprised by the performance of our students. We have long known that Robson Hall students are excellent and competitive on the world stage, and this is just further proof. We can’t wait to hear the results of the competition in Paris.”

Transit changes to start in January

Construction of the new Art Lab and residence building is expected to begin in January 2010 affecting traffic flow on Dafoe Road and Freedman Crescent. To help reduce congestion near the construction sites, beginning January 4, Winnipeg Transit service to the University Terminal on Dafoe Road (across from Tache Hall) will be temporarily changed. Routes 60, 61, 36, 75 and 76 will now be rerouted to MacLean Crescent where temporary shelters will be erected west of Tache Hall and Pembina Hall. Passengers of these two transit routes that would normally load at the University Terminal on Dafoe Road, will now board their bus on MacLean Crescent.

Routes 37, 51, 62, 70, 72 and 78 will continue to use the University Terminal on Dafoe Road as normal. All other bus stops on campus will be unaffected by the construction.

Katie Hall and Alison Cathcart, together with their coaches, law professor Jennifer Schulz and mediator Adrian Challis, leave for Paris in early February 2010. Schulz says she is very impressed by the performance of her students.

“Katie and Alison are simply naturals,” she explains. “They are poised, brilliant, mediation advocates— incredibly professional and strong under pressure. Indeed, judges at the Canadian competition said that Katie and Alison were amongst the best advocates they had ever seen.”

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Faculty and staff honoured for outstanding outreach activities

Eleven staff members of the University of Manitoba were recognized for their outstanding community involvement through Outreach Awards at a special reception on Monday, December 7, 2009. The awards were presented by the University’s vice-president of external relations, who: worked within Winnipeg’s Inner City; coached young athletes; and helped University of Manitoba students reach for the stars.

The recipients for 2009 are:
- Mario Trenta, soil science, for his advocacy work with agriculture producers and industry youth and northern communities. Aficionado of science and agriculture, he has mentored students in the Aewits Biochallenge Science Fair and the Manitoba Science Science in Pinawa, and played an integral role in securing multi-million dollar funding for the new Churchill Northern Studies Program building.
- Mark Lawall, Lea Stirling and John Tamms, classics, serve as the governance team for the Classical Association of Manitoba and the Archaeological Institute of America (Winnipeg Society). Their efforts have made Winnipeg and the University of Manitoba a hub of classical studies and archaeological studies, and have forged strong, positive relationships between the University community at large and the University.
- Rick Freeze, educational administration, foundations and psychology, is a key player in initiating the Campus Life Program at the University of Manitoba. He has helped people with disabilities find a valued place on the campus and advanced the University’s mission to create a barrier-free campus for all students.
- Walter Kinsner, electrical and computer engineering, is recognized for his work with the 2009 Space Adventure Camp and courses in Space Workshop. The program featured lectures, hands-on projects, computer simulations, rocket launches, radio tracking and a question and answer session, via radio link, with one of Canada’s astronauts. Through this and other events, he has launched the imaginations of young people and raised the profile of the University, thereby enriching and enlarging the contacts between the University and all segments of the community.
- Lena Horne, textile sciences, is recognized for her efforts in promoting the textile sciences program of the University. As vice-president of the Society of Textile Science, she has worked alongside representatives from industry, government, and other educational institutions to forge a stronger bond between industry and the academy, to encourage the exchange of knowledge regarding textile science and to support research and development activities related to textile science and technology. She is also recognized for her leadership in moving the clothing and textiles halway museum based in the Faculty of Human Ecology to the Dugald Coutts Museum, part of the Costume Museum of Canada.
- Ken Bentley, faculty of theology and philosophy, is recognized for his involvement as a leader in the area of sport development and coaching at the local and provincial level; mentoring female Junior Bison Volleyball coaches; increasing the number of females participating and coaching at the elite level in the Province of Manitoba; and his continued efforts to increase the skill and competitive level of young female athletes and teams through his coaching at both the Club and University levels.
- Ganga Dakshinamurti, A.D. Cohen Management Library, is recognized for her work with various Indo-Canadian organizations such as the Mahatma Gandhi Centre of Canada, the India Association of Winnipeg and the Hindu Society of Manitoba. Her efforts have led to fundraising initiatives for the Victoria General Hospital and the Learning Environment Program for inner city youth, as well as the establishment of Mahatma Gandhi Day and an exhibit of memorabilia. Ganga held the position of Canada’s ambassador in the University of Manitoba Archives, and the establishment of an Academy of Hindu Studies housed in the Hindu Temple in Winnipeg.
- Muriel St. John, E.K. Williams Library, is recognized for her involvement in the Community Legal Education Association, the Pre-Bono Students Canada local chapter and the Manitoba Science Academy in Churchill, as well as the establishment of the Manitoba Science Academy in Churchill. Muriel has played an integral role in securing multi-million dollar funding for the new Churchill Northern Studies Program building.
- The recipients for 2009 are:
  - Roanna Hepburn, Inner City Social Work Program, is recognized for her community efforts in the Point Douglas area of Winnipeg and is committed social activist in Winnipeg’s North End, helping to make positive social change in that area. She was instrumental in the development of Powerline, a program in cooperation with the City of Winnipeg Police, which supports neighbours to look out for each other against unlawful and dangerous activities. She is a tireless advocate for social justice, working to improve the treatment of students, inner-city residents, and others who suffer the consequences of social and economic marginalization.
- Dr. Bill Norrie also received special Outreach award at the reception.
The University of Manitoba
Merit Award Recipients for 2008

Henry Engbrecht and Canzona team up to raise funds for the Henry Engbrecht Graduate Fellowship

By Heidi Friesen, Faculty of Music
For the Bulletin

Henry Engbrecht, Professor Emeritus, and conductor of Canzona, Winnipeg’s Baroque Choral Music Ensemble, will raise funds for the Henry Engbrecht Graduate Fellowship. Sales from the new Canzona CD, Canzona Sings German Hymns, are being directed to the Henry Engbrecht Graduate Fellowship (HEGF) which hopes to award up to $20,000 annually to a graduate student of Choral Conducting at the University of Manitoba.

“I was thrilled to have a fellowship established in my name. I fervently want to see others have the ability to follow their passions in music,” says Engbrecht.

Engbrecht retired from the Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music at the University of Manitoba in 2006 as the Professor of Choral Studies. He spent his entire career dedicated to music: 10 years directing private and public school choral programs, founding President of the Manitoba Choral Association, Chorus Master for the Manitoba Opera and 28 years at the University of Manitoba. The Fellowship was established in 2007. “We have a pool of excellence that we have begun to establish here,” says Elroy Friesen, former Engbrecht student and his successor as Director of Choral Studies and Activities at the University of Manitoba. “This fund will allow us to reach out nationally and internationally to teachers and students, to conductors and singers. The effect of that ever increasing pool will ripple right through the program, making Manitoba a centre of choral excellence.”

Carolyn Boyes, the first recipient of the HEGF, noted, “The Henry Engbrecht Graduate Fellowship has made it possible for me to pursue my long-time dream of studying towards a Masters Degree in Music… As an undergraduate I enjoyed singing for Henry in the University Women’s Chorus. Many years later, he adjudicated my choirs at the Winnipeg Music Festival. His support and encouragement made me feel that I would like to grow as a choral conductor. How fitting that now, because of the financial support of his fellowship, I am able to study to that end.”

CD’s are available for $20.00 (tax included) from:
• Faculty of Music Office General
• McNally Robinson Bookstores (Grant Park & Polo Park)
• Hull’s Family Stores (Graham Ave., Winnipeg and Steinbach)
• Fellowship Bookcentre
• D W Friesen Bookstore (Altona)

Information Session: Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) Tax Credit

Please join the University of Manitoba and The Province of Manitoba’s Ministry of Innovation, Energy and Mines at an information session on the Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) Tax Credit.

Please note that potential Industrial partners will be present.

Friday, December 11, 2009
2:00 - 4:00 pm
Robert B. Schultz Lecture Theatre
St. John’s College
92 Dysart Road, University of Manitoba

Meet and Greet Reception to follow in the Theatre Concourse
4:00 - 5:00 pm

Playing mind games

Design Studio built in Engineering Atrium features out-of-this-world sound

On November 20, students and staff at the University of Manitoba were wowed by strange sounds in the Engineering Information and Technology Complex (EITC) Atrium. Fitzell’s project stems, in part, from the Experimental Media Research Group (EMRG).

“In this case, students of Architecture, Computer Science and Music worked together to make a distinction between elements like space and time, using light and sound,” said Gordon Fitzell, assistant professor in the Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music.

“Several of the sounds originate with the space itself, and are merely being transformed, either through physical devices or electronic means,” Fitzell said.

This demonstration was intended to be a dry run for a more polished project and installation (also in the EITC Atrium) in March.

The installation tested a model for cross-disciplinary teaching as envisioned by the EMRG at the University of Manitoba.
In Brief

Trans fatty acids good for the heart

Research scientists at the University of Manitoba and St. Boniface Hospital have published a study suggesting that vaccenic acid – a natural trans fatty acid found in small amounts in milk and dairy products like yogurt and cheese – could actually help in reducing the incidence of heart disease. This finding indicates that we can no longer assume that all trans fats are harmful.

The study, published in the Journal of Nutrition in collaboration with scientists from the University of Laval, was led by physiology professor Grant Pierce, a member of the Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences at St. Boniface Hospital Research Centre. The work indicated that a diet fed to animals, including the trans fat vaccenic acid, helped protect against atherosclerotic plaque buildup in arteries – the primary cause of blockages resulting in a heart attack or stroke. The study measured actual reductions in arterial plaque by eating natural trans fats by as much as 31%.

Finding the Perfect Fit

Researchers create and test clothing made for older women's body shape

BY KATIE CHALMERS-BROOKS

Shopping for clothes that look good and fit well can be a daunting task for older women. Low-rise jeans and skinny-tanks designed for younger females seem endless in supply, but the pickings are slim for those seeking pieces that are fashionable and flattering on a more mature body shape.

Researchers in the faculty of human ecology’s department of textile sciences want to draw attention to the challenges of creating clothing that better fits the body shape of older women. Much of women’s wear today is geared towards the younger crowd, who, traditionally, spend more money on clothes. Often the clothing marketed toward older women is simply made baggier, so it lacks shapes and is ill-fitting. If mature women had better selection and styles available to them perhaps they would more freely dip into their wallets, says associate professor and textiles product development expert Lena Horne.

She is convinced there is an untapped market when it comes to providing women age 55-pluss with clothing designed to fit them well. It is untapped because we do not fully understand what clothing this market wants,” Horne says.

Her graduate students have developed and tested pieces that more accurately reflect an older woman’s body. They found measurements for their patterns by looking south of the border. In 1995, American researchers Ellen Goldsberry and Naomi Reich measured nearly 7,000 women age 55 and up from 38 states and developed a new set of sizing standards that takes into account how a woman’s body changes as she ages. Typically, a woman’s body tends to become thicker; her upper arms become less toned; her fat distributes differently and more of it settles in the abdomen; her posture changes as her shoulders become more rounded; and her backside loses muscle.

“So, the fit of pants, for example, is a great challenge,” says Horne. “If you really want to serve this market well, the product developer needs to invest time in studying the (sizing standards) because that’s your blue print for creating well-fitting clothes.”

A textile sciences student developed and tested a polyester pant prototype made with Goldsberry and Reich’s sizing standards and compared the fit with pants made using measurements from Canada’s standard sizing system for women of all ages. A group of older women wear-tested the pants and, overall, found the former were a much better fit.

Another student researcher developed a workout T-shirt that addresses concerns about maintaining modesty while exercising at a public gym, in addition to fabric breathability. It was also important it be flattering by giving the appearance of a lengthened torso. The T-shirt was designed with the American researchers’ sizing standards. “A large majority of the (female participants) were very satisfied,” says Horne. “There is a lack of age-appropriate clothing for older women who exercise regularly.”

Research focused on clothing and older consumers is a growing area of investigation, she adds, noting product developers and designers are beginning to pay closer attention to the older female garment market and how best to address women’s concerns. “We are beginning to understand the functional values that older women place on clothing, but the symbolic values are still not clear. We need to reach into our tool box and find the right tools to get at those problems,” she says. “We have the technology and the know-how to create well-fitting clothing. We need people who are willing to invest the time in understanding this group of consumers.”

Research into clothing for aging consumers with disabilities is another area that may soon gain momentum as the baby boomer generation gets older. Horne adds. “The product development process must take into account additional challenges like whether individuals have compromised ability to move their arms, making it difficult to dress themselves.”

Horne also believes textile technologies will continue to expand beyond clothing and into the therapeutic realm. “For example, textiles can be used as a medium to deliver a substance that reduces pain. The surface of textiles can be treated with finishes that immobilize or kill bacteria. Textiles can be engineered to transmit and receive signals,” she says. “There is a wide range of textile technologies that could be used to create innovative textile products for older consumers.”
Thick Arctic Sea Ice Goes Missing

Sean Moore
The Bulletin

Arctic sea ice has duped satellites into reporting thick multiyear sea ice where in fact none exists, a new study by University of Manitoba researcher David Barber has found.

In 2008 and 2009 satellite data showed a growth in Arctic sea ice extension leaving some to reckon global warming was reversing. But after sailing an ice breaker to the southern Beaufort Sea this past September Dr. Barber and his colleagues found something unexpected: thin, “rotten” ice can electromagnetically masquerade as thick, multiyear sea ice. And contrary to what satellites recently suggested, we are actually speeding up the loss of the remaining, healthy multiyear sea ice.

The results of the study have now been accepted for publication in the peer reviewed Journal Geophysical Research Letters, of the American Geophysical Union.

“These are very significant findings since the scientists and public all thought that sea ice was recovering since the

Barber and his colleagues discovered that multiyear ice and the “rotten” ice have similar near-surface temperatures, similar near-surface salinities, and both have similar open water and new sea ice fractions at the surface. So when satellites try to identify who’s who, the microwaves behave similar enough that cases of mistaken identity abound.

“Our results are consistent with ice age estimates that show the amount of multiyear sea ice in the northern hemisphere was the lowest on record in 2009 suggesting that multiyear sea ice continues to diminish rapidly in the Canada Basin even though 2009 aerial extent increased over that of 2007 and 2009,” the paper concludes.

“This has significant implications for assessment of the speed of global climate change impacts in the Arctic and for increased shipping and industrial development in the Arctic,” says Barber.

To watch Dr. Barber speak about his experience and the study visit: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LjaVp6AS5XU

Farewell Dinner for Chancellor Bill Norrie

The university celebrated the significant contributions of outgoing Chancellor Bill Norrie at a special dinner in his honour, December 3. The Chancellor’s many years of dedicated service to the university community and his generosity of spirit were fondly recalled by a number of speakers, including President Barnard.

Pictured at far left, Helen and Bill Norrie, Centre, Chancellor Norrie’s son, Fraser Norrie, at right, Chair of the Board of Governors, Terry Sargeant, Margaret Haney, Minister of Advanced Education and Literacy, Diane McCalford, and Ed Wojczynski.

From China, With Love

President David Barnard, along with deans and administrative colleagues from the University of Manitoba, joined researchers from the Faculties of Medicine and Pharmacy on a trip to China in late November. The group attended the 2nd International Symposium on Recent Advances in Basic, Clinical and Social Medicine, held at Shantou University in Guangdong Province from November 23 to 27, 2009. The Symposium was sponsored by the Li Ka Shing Foundation.

President Barnard and Shantou University President Xiaohu Xu gave opening addresses at the conference, which had more than 50 speakers from around the world. Topics included medical imaging, infectious disease, mental health issues, diabetes and funding for medical research. For one keynote lecture series, dean of medicine I. Dean Sandham introduced Joanne Embree who gave a presentation on Manitoba’s experience with H1N1 influenza to the international audience.

Patrick Choy, associate dean (development) in Medicine, was the conference co-chair with Frieda Law from Shantou University. Choy was treated to a Festschrift as part of the conference in honour of his research contributions and his work building academic exchanges and partnerships in China. The first Symposium in 2005 was also held in Shantou, and resulted in a special issue of the journal Biochemistry and Cell Biology.

The University’s Alumni Association organized a reception on November 22 for graduates in Hong Kong with the help of the local alumni group. Hong Kong alumni met David Barnard, Elaine Goldie, vice-president (external), faculty and deans Doug Ruth (Engineering), Richard Perron (Architecture), J. Dean Sandham (Medicine) who traveled to China for the Symposium and to meet with graduates, donors and prospective donors. More than 140 people turned out for the alumni event and they were treated to a piano performance by Edmund Dawe, dean of the Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music. Nearly 1,000 students from China currently study at the University of Manitoba, and more than 1,500 graduates live in China, mostly in Hong Kong.

Photos, clockwise:
Sharon Choi (BSA/B) shows Rita Mui (BComm(Hons)/B) president of the Hong Kong Alumni Association, a copy of an 1990 University of Manitoba newsletter
Elaine Goldie, vice-president (external), Clayton Dyck, associate professor in family medicine, and President David Barnard with alumni at the reception.
Symposium attendees get a tour of the Shantou University Library.
Colleagues, current and former students celebrate Patrick Choy with a Festschrift.