



The Bulletin

University of Manitoba

What to do with caribou hooves

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Student has designs on Montreal fashion competition scholarship

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Life as a child in the factory of Oskar Schindler

page 9

Guitar Hero Wins Big

University of Manitoba student wins \$10,000 scholarship

BY MARIANNE MAYS WIEBE
The Bulletin

A University of Manitoba music student has been awarded the prestigious 2010 Domenic Troiano Guitar Scholarship. One \$10,000 scholarship is presented annually to a Canadian guitarist pursuing post-secondary guitar education in Canada or elsewhere. Jordan Laidlaw, a third-year performance student in the Faculty of Music, was informed in January that his entry won.

Applicants for the award are judged on dedication to their craft, previous successes and their talent. Submissions also include a two-song demo of the applicant playing guitar — either unaccompanied or lead guitar with backup or band — and a brief description of the music program to which the scholarship will be applied.

“I anticipate earning a Bachelor of Education as well as a Master’s of Music,” Laidlaw said.

Laidlaw, who is also a composer, included one of his own pieces. “It was one of my compositions that was viewed favourably by the trustees for the scholarship,” he said.

Trustees of the Domenic Troiano Guitar Scholarship include Alex Lifeson of Rush, Triumph’s Rik Emmett and the award’s co-founders, Jim Norris of *Canadian Music Trade* magazine and John Harris, president both of the Toronto-based music industry school Harris Institute for the Arts and of Metronome Canada.

Laidlaw was roughly 11 years old when he started to play guitar. He fell in love with the instrument after being enrolled in a public junior high school guitar program, and he continued private studies with Skender Sefa, now-president of the Winnipeg Classical Guitar Society. Laidlaw began to invest more time in practice — up to eight hours a day in summer.

Now, says Laidlaw, he practises approximately two hours per day alongside full-time studies and teaching guitar almost every day. In addition



A full time student, Laidlaw practises at least 2 hours per day. Photo by Heidi Friesen

to a Bachelor of Music degree, he’s also pursuing an education degree. Teaching is an important part of his musical life.

Primarily a classical guitarist, Laidlaw enjoys and plays a variety of genres, including rock. He says he listens to “oldies” by bands such as Journey, Queen and Guns N’ Roses.

His students are also attracted to the possibilities of rock guitar. Notes Laidlaw, “far more students would like to learn AC/DC, rather than Bach.”

Asked whether he’s ever tried the popular video game *Guitar Hero*, Laidlaw responded, “I played it once and that was enough!”

The Domenic Troiano Guitar Scholarship is named in honour of the Canadian guitar legend, one of Canada’s most highly regarded guitarists. Inducted into the Canadian Music Hall of Fame in 1995, Troiano was involved with bands such as The Mandala, Bush, The James Gang and The Guess Who.

The scholarship was founded by colleagues from *Canadian Music Trade* magazine and the Harris Institute after his death in 2005.

Laidlaw is the second University of Manitoba student to win the award in its five-year history. Paul Kosmac won in 2008.

Funding Injection for Health Research

Nine projects receive \$4.1 Million - include Alzheimer’s disease, HIV/AIDS, suicide bereavement, cardiovascular disease and Aboriginal health

Newly announced funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) will provide a welcome injection to nine new projects at the University of Manitoba. The projects involve twenty investigators and co-investigators in the Faculty of Medicine, with three projects located at our partner research institution, the St. Boniface Hospital Research Centre. The projects will be carried out over periods of one to five years.

“This new funding from CIHR is welcome recognition of both the high calibre of our health researchers and the importance of their work to all Canadians,” said Digvir Jayas, vice-president (research) at the University of Manitoba. “I congratulate all members of the research teams on their success in this funding competition.”

University of Manitoba researchers whose projects received new funding include Christopher Anderson, Lorrie Kirshenbaum, Elissavet Kardami with co-investigators Peter Cattini and Davinder Jassal, T. Blake Ball, Francis Plummer with co-investigators T. Blake Ball and Ma Luo, Xiao-Jian Yao, Michelle Driedger and co-investigators Judith Bartlett, and James Bolton with co-investigators Brenda Elias, Laurence Katz, Patricia Martens, Leslie Roos and Jitender Sareen.

Christopher Anderson, pharmacology and therapeutics and St. Boniface Hospital Research Centre, will receive \$651,921 over five years for the investigation of how brain cells communicate with blood vessels. The research will help identify mechanisms of brain blood flow regulation that could be defective in dementias associated with Alzheimer’s disease, Cerebrovascular Disease and stroke.

continued on page 2



UNIVERSITY
OF MANITOBA

One university.
Many futures.

In The News

With Still More to Come

February 6, 2010

Montreal Gazette, Globe and Mail, The National (CBC), Toronto Star, ABC.com, ScientificAmerican.com, Winnipeg Free Press, Canadian Press, Canwest News Service, CNS Regional News – Prairies, CBC.CA, Saskatoon Star Phoenix, Winnipeg Sun, Ottawa Citizen, Vancouver Sun, Truro Daily News, Hamilton Spectator, calgaryherald.com, CNS Regional News – Alberta, Guelph Mercury, Waterloo Region Record, Okanagan Saturday

University of Manitoba professor David Barber, the lead investigator of the Circumpolar Flaw Lead System study, which began in July of 2007 and involved over 300 scientists from around the world, shared the preliminary results of the team's findings with media. Gary Stern, Steve Fergusson and John Hanesiak, among others, were also quoted by media and shared their thoughts on the work they conducted as part of the CFL study.

The preliminary findings, for example, show that rapidly melting Arctic sea ice is changing the world's weather, releasing contaminants into the food chain and threatening the survival of whales and polar bears.

Killing Them Softly

February 18, 2010

The Winnipeg Sun, The Ottawa Sun, The Toronto Sun, The Calgary Sun, The London Free Press, The Edmonton Sun, The Welland Tribune, The Pembroke Observer, The Owen Sound Sun Times, The Brantford Expositor, Brockville Recorder And Times, Woodstock Sentinel-Review

Arthur Schafer, director of the University of Manitoba's Centre for Professional and Applied Ethics, shared his thoughts with media about euthanasia, saying that juries won't convict an accused in an assisted suicide or euthanasia case if they're convinced the motivation of the accused was genuinely merciful. The story comes on the heels of a newly released study that found, as all others have in the past two decades, that Canadians support legalizing euthanasia.

Not Yet Frozen, Not Yet Thawed

February 18, 2010

The Canadian Press

David Camfield, an associate professor of labour studies, spoke to media about the recent chilling of Manitoba's NDP government's relationship with provincial employees over the threat of a wage freeze. Recently, Finance Minister Rosann Wowchuk announced plans for wage freezes in all new public-sector contracts for the next two years. The news came as the province prepares to negotiate with two of its largest unions, which represent 24,000 nurses and civil servants. Camfield said he predicts the battle between the unions and the NDP will not escalate beyond a war of words.

Truly Soporific or Merely Serendipitous?

February 15 2010

Edmonton Journal, Winnipeg Free Press, The Daily News (Kamloops)

Art Historian Jim Bugslag and Music Historian Kurt Markstrom talked about a recent video on YouTube wherein a jazz musician claims to have found a lullaby encoded in Leonardo da Vinci's The Last Supper. Both professors raised doubts. "One would have to ask exactly why Leonardo might have gone to such a hermetically baroque extreme of providing ingenious future art historians with a statement that only they could understand," Bugslag said.

Headlines:

"A man who knows the burden of carrying a country's hopes", *Globe and Mail*, Feb. 22, 2010, story about Law alumnus Roger Bourbonnais twice playing for gold medals in Olympic Hockey.

"Beat winter, fight better in summer", *Winnipeg Sun*, Feb. 22, 2010, story about Winnipeg army reservists asserting sovereignty in Canada's Arctic. Story circles around Master Cpl. Samantha Cross, a science student.

Funding Injection continued from page 1

Canada Research Chair in Molecular Cardiology Lorrie Kirshenbaum, physiology and St. Boniface Hospital Research Centre, will receive \$747,560 over five years to investigate cellular protective factors that may exist to reduce heart cell death. This will provide new important information regarding the molecular mechanisms that regulate cardiac cell survival during disease conditions.

Elissavet Kardami, with co-investigators Peter Cattini and Davinder Jassal, human anatomy & cell science, physiology, and St. Boniface Hospital Research Centre, will receive \$818,110 over five years to study abnormal heart growth and a protein believed to be involved in promoting that growth (FGF2) when synthesized as a larger size molecule during heart disease, as well as factors/strategies that may prevent and even reverse abnormal growth.

To investigate the protective factors of the human gene known as IRF-1 for potential development of an HIV/AIDS vaccine, T. Blake Ball, medical microbiology, will receive \$395,586 over three years. A group of women who are highly exposed to HIV/AIDS, but do not become infected may provide an answer. IRF-1 has been shown to help HIV replicate and is important in the immune response of humans to the infection.

Canada Research Chair in Resistance and Susceptibility to Infections Francis Plummer, medical microbiology, with co-investigators T. Blake Ball and Ma Luo, will receive \$358,392 over three years to identify and characterize the immunologically relevant HIV epitopes (cells involved in the human immune system response) that can be included in a T cell based vaccine.

Xiao-Jian Yao, medical microbiology, will receive \$100,000 for one year to investigate the molecular mechanism underlying HIV/host protein interactions and the role this plays in HIV replication. One of the goals of this project is to provide a proof-of-concept for the interactions as novel targets for the

development of new strategies to block HIV infection.

Canada Research Chair in Environmental and Health Risk Communication Michelle Driedger, community health sciences, will receive funding for two projects. With co-investigators Cynthia Jardine (University of Alberta) and Jennifer Keelan (University of Toronto), Driedger will receive \$318,065 over two years to examine how well the pandemic communication strategies of public health agencies worked. The project will deliver concrete recommendations of how to improve risk communication planning for future outbreaks to better meet the information needs of front-line healthcare workers and the Canadian public.

With co-investigators, Christopher Furgal (Trent University), Cynthia Jardine (University of Alberta), and Judith Bartlett (University of Manitoba), Driedger will receive \$604,326 over three years to examine the various factors that affect the trust of the public in decision-maker action on risk to the health of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples.

To examine the effect suicide has on surviving family members, James Bolton, psychiatry, with co-investigators Brenda Elias, Laurence Katz, Patricia Martens, Leslie Roos and Jitender Sareen, will receive \$137,296 over two years. Study findings will help identify the problems faced by suicide survivors, leading to better resources and treatment for people in need.

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) is the Government of Canada's agency for health research. CIHR's mission is to create new scientific knowledge and to enable its translation into improved health, more effective health services and products, and a strengthened Canadian health-care system. Composed of 13 Institutes, CIHR provides leadership and support to nearly 13,000 health researchers and trainees across Canada.



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.

Editor/Advertising/Production

Public Affairs

Phone: 474 8111 Fax: 474 7631
E-mail: bulletin@umanitoba.ca

Academic Advertising

Kathy Niziol

Phone: 474 7195 Fax: 474 7505
E-mail: kathy_niziol@umanitoba.ca

This issue's contributors: Mariianne Mays Wiebe, Pat Goss, Shawn Jordan, Sean Moore, Chris Reid, Chris Rutkowski

Schedule

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Fax: (204) 474 7631

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. There is no charge for running notices in the events column.

Send events notices to:
bulletin@umanitoba.ca

Advertising Policy

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

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

Events Listing

University of Manitoba

Events

- The Bulletin publishes events involving the university community at no cost.
- The deadline for the March 11 Bulletin is March 3 at 4:30 p.m.
- E-mail events to bulletin@umanitoba.ca.

Fort Garry Campus

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Department of Immunology Annual Graduate Student Research Presentation, Influence of Parasite-derived Arginase on the Quality of Memory Anti-Leishmania Immunity by Helen Muleme, Alec Sehon Seminar Room (477 Apotex Centre), 12 p.m., Thursday, February 25.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Department of Biological Sciences Seminar Series, Steve Whyard, Department of Biological Sciences, 527 Buller, 3:00 p.m., Friday, February 26.

Department of Economics Seminar, The Role of Simplification and Information on College Decisions by Phil Oreopoulos, E.P. Bettinger, B.T. Long, L. Sanbonmatsu, University of Toronto, Harvard, NBER, 307 Tier Building, 2:40 p.m., Friday, February 26.

UMIH New Faculty Colloquium Series Public Talk, Youth, Human Rights, and the Localization of Transnational Projects in Eastern Europe by Anna Fournier, Anthropology, 409 Tier, 2:30 p.m., Friday, February 26.

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

School of Art Lecture, The WAG at 100: Building for the Future by Stephen Borys, Scholar in Residence, Current Executive Director at the WAG, 207 FitzGerald Bldg, 4:00 p.m., March 2.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

Leon Leyson remembers, the youngest survivor on "Schindler's List" will tell his story of life as a child in the factory of Oskar Schindler, 343 Drake Centre, 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 3.

School of Art Visiting Artist Talk, Artist Tony Scherman visits Winnipeg in conjunction with the opening at the Winnipeg Art Gallery of his exhibition, Tony Scherman: A Major Acquisition. His encaustic paintings focus on major historical or pop culture events, with several series realized in portraits, Art Barn, 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 3.

UMIH Spotlight Series Public Talk, Slave owner, Missionary, and Colonization Agent: Tracing a Pattern of Paternalism from Barbados to the Canadian North-West, 1835-1884 by Ryan Eyford, PhD Candidate, History, 409 Tier, 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 3.

THURSDAY, MARCH 4

Centre for Professional and Applied Ethics lecture: "Bleeding Hearts and Tanks in the Streets: The Problem of Emergency Powers in a Democracy" by Professor Nomi Lazar, Assistant Professor in the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Ottawa. Private Dining Room, University College, 12:30-1:30, Thursday, March 4

Leon Leyson remembers, the youngest survivor on "Schindler's List" will tell his

story of life as a child in the factory of Oskar Schindler, 343 Drake Centre, 7:00 p.m., Thursday, March 4.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

Faculty of Music Jazz Master Class featuring Mulgrew Miller, 7:00 p.m., The Annex, Friday, March 5.

Colloquium in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, Update on the Manitoba Institute for Materials by Bill Caley, Director, Manitoba Institute for Materials, 330 Allen Building, 3:30 p.m., Friday, March 5.

Department of Economics Seminar, The Economics of Contingent Re-Auctions by S. Brusco, Giuseppe Lopomo, L. Marx, SUNY-Stony Brook, Duke University and Fuqua School of Business, 307 Tier Building, 2:40 p.m., Friday, March 5.

UMIH Spotlight Series Redux, What's a Girl to do when her Mode of Production and the Potency of the Men who ran it are Gone With the Wind?: The Historical Materialist Melodrama of Scarlett O'Hara by Robert Chernomas, Economics/GPE, 409 Tier, 12 p.m., Friday, March 5.

MONDAY, MARCH 8

Gaduate Nursing Association and Nursing Student Council is hosting a \$1 clothing sale to support a student studying to be a nurse in Kenya, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, Fletcher Argue, Monday, March 8.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

School of Art Visiting Artist Performance, AVATAR by Freya Olafson, Winnipeg artist reprises her solo performance that explores methods of creating, validating and disseminating one's identity through the use of technology and the Internet, Art Barn, 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 10.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

Department of Economics Seminar, The Effect of State Tax Preferences on the Living Arrangements of Elderly Individuals—Evidence from PSID by Jie Pan and G. Wagner, Loyola and University of Arkansas, 307 Tier Building, 2:40 p.m., Friday, March 12.

Faculty of Engineering Seminar by Vladimir Okhmatovski Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, E3-262 EITC (Senate Chamber Room), 2:00 p.m., coffee and cookies will be available from 1:30 p.m. in E2-361 EITC, Friday, March 12.

Colloquium in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, Black Holes and the Problem of Information-Loss by Saurya Das, CAP Lecture Tour Speaker 2010, Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Lethbridge, 11 Armes Building, 3:30 p.m., Friday, March 12.

Bannatyne Campus

and St. Boniface General Hospital and Research Centre

Medical rounds are typically targeted at university staff and professionals directly involved in the medical field.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Pediatric Grand Rounds, The Presurgical Patient With Congenital Heart Disease: Aiming for a nice shade of blue by Michael Narvey, neonatologist, Stollery Children's Hospital, Edmonton, Theatre A, Basic Medical Sciences Building (linked to St. Boniface NG002), 8:00 a.m., Thursday, February 25

Pediatric Research Rounds, The Influence of HLA Class II Antigens and Mother-Child HIV Transmission, Ma Lou, PhD, adjunct professor, Department of Medical Microbiology, Research Scientist, National Microbiology Laboratory, Room 500, Boardroom, John Buhler Research Centre, 12 p.m., Thursday, February 25

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Pediatric Nephrology Rounds, Academic Presentation, Regan Spencer. Rm JL397A, 12 p.m., Friday, February 26.

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

16th Annual Centre on Ageing Research Forum, Educational Research – Planning, Conducting, and Evaluating Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches by John Creswell, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 12 p.m., Frederic Gaspard Theatre (Theatre A), Bannatyne Campus. Following his lecture Dr. Creswell will conduct a workshop in S211 Medical Services Building from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m., Friday, March 26, registration by fax to 474-7576 or email jacob@cc.umanitoba.ca.

Arts & Entertainment

Gallery One One One

Gallery One One One is located on the main floor of the FitzGerald Building. It is open Monday to Friday, noon to 4 p.m.

Donor Recognition Series:

**The Frank Mikuska Donation
March 1 to April 1**

**Organized by Robert Epp, Gallerist, Gallery One One One
OPENING RECEPTION: 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 10**

Frank Mikuska Donation features 18 works selected from a donation by Winnipeg artist Frank Mikuska. Mikuska is best known for his powerful abstract prints, and experimental paintings using printer's ink that he made in the 1950s and 60s. The Frank Mikuska Donation includes ten abstract paintings by Mikuska, including two major ink on gesso paintings from the sixties, along with a selection of his seminal ink graphics from this period. Works by Mikuska's contemporaries are also represented.

Arch 2 Gallery

**FANTASY + PRECISION
Prof. Dietmar Straub, Prof. Anna Thurmayer
Faculty of Architecture
February 10 to March 19**

Architecture will always include conflicting urges between the imagination we try to bring under control and the discipline we strive to release. Yet a balance can be found between spontaneous innocence, which helps us embark on a project with almost naive optimism, and healthy scepticism that tempers excesses. What we are able to consistently learn and teach is the ability to see a location's potential and the ability to discover new aspects of something familiar.

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Faculty of Law - University of Manitoba

*Students do not give legal advice

Rethinking future considerations



Barret Hildebrandt is one of nine University of Manitoba students contributing regular blogs as part of the U of More campaign. You can read their stories and get a glimpse of student life at itsmyfuture.ca.

Hey everyone. I know it has been a while since my last post. It is a cliché but time does really seem to fly by when you are in full time school mode.

What's new? Well, a few weeks ago I got to travel down to Fargo and compete in my first ever indoor track

event outside of Winnipeg. I ran the 3000m (of course) and this was also my first indoor competition of the season since coming off the Philadelphia marathon in November. Based on my training and good workouts that I had been having over the holidays I felt that reaching my all time goal of running under 10 minutes was possible. The track in Fargo is shaped a bit different than ours in Max Bell as it is more oval shaped making the turns tighter. The building was also unusually warm inside for some reason

that weekend too. These factors along with it being a long day (arriving at 11am and not racing until 5:30pm) took their toll on my performance. I ended up finishing in 10:12, a good enough time to open up the season with but there is definitely room for improvement. This weekend we are hosting the Bison Classic, a meet where other universities in CanWest will be visiting. I will be making another attempt at the 3000m. Wish me luck!

Other than running as usual, classes are keeping me busier than ever before. This semester I am taking 6 courses to end my undergrad degree. Somehow most of the courses I am in are assignment heavy whereas I am used to the more exam heavy type courses. On one hand I am eager to graduate but on the other I am also a bit nervous about the change that comes with finally graduating. For a long time I thought that heading down the research path and doing my Master's degree was the way to go but now I am not so sure anymore. I am also considering enter the Education program and working towards becoming a Physical Education teacher. The thing about the Bachelor of Kinesiology degree is that it doesn't train you for any specific job. Rather, you learn subject matter in a variety of related areas and earn a well rounded education in



Highlight of the weekend: posing with Rocky Balboa

the topics of health, exercise and disease prevention, therapy, biomechanics, aging, etc. So, it is up to you to choose a particular area of interest and pursue opportunities in them. Time will tell where I eventually end up. I'll keep you posted.

Looking forward to reading week already. Don't have any plans to travel or anything like that but am anxious to get ahead in course work, run and maybe catch up on seeing some movies.

Arts & Entertainment

The Black Hole Theatre

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

The Department of English, Film, and Theatre and The Black Hole Theatre Co. present

HeadSpace by Mike Bell
7 p.m., March 9 and 16
8 p.m., March 10 to 13 and 17 to 20

The Black Hole Theatre Company concludes its 2009-2010 season with the premiere of HeadSpace by Winnipeg playwright Mike Bell. Commissioned by the Department of English, Film, and Theatre at the University of Manitoba, HeadSpace is a comic look at the phenomenon of social networking a la Facebook and Twitter. Bell takes the audience surfing through the World Wide Web, jumping from story to story to story, some true, some imaginary, some funny, some sad, all exploring ways in which technology shapes our brains and the way we see the world. Join The Black Hole Theatre Company for the world premiere of this exciting new play.

Tickets \$9.00 students/seniors, \$11.00 adults. 24 hour box office/reservations @ 474-6880. The Black Hole Theatre is located on the lower level of University College, Dysart Road, Fort Garry Campus. Free evening parking is available in Lot B.

Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music

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

Music events

- **Theatre production by the UM Musical Theatre Ensemble**, under the direction of Donna Fletcher at Gas Station Theatre. 8:00 p.m., Friday, February 26 and Saturday, February 27. Tickets at the door, \$15/adults, \$10/students.
- **Cantata Singers and Opera Theatre Class** at Alexis Gallery 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 2.
- **Mardi Jazz**, Centre Culturel Franco- Manitobaine, 8:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 3.
- **Keegan Dill, 4th year saxophone recital**, Eva Clare Hall, 8:00 p.m., Saturday, March 13.
- **Susanne Reimer, 3rd year voice recital**, Eva Clare Hall, 3:00 p.m., Sunday, March 21.
- **Cantata Singers**, St. John's Chapel, U of M Campus, 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 24.
- **XIE performs at MIND GAMES**, a multimedia installation project with Architecture and Computer Science, Engineering Atrium, 12:30 p.m., Friday, March 26.
- **The UM Wind Ensemble & Concert Band present music by Paul Hindemith and James Barnes**. Tickets \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for students, available at the door. Jubilee Place (MBCI), 180 Riverton Avenue, 7:30 p.m., Friday, March 26.
- **O Lux - The University of Manitoba Singers and Women's Chorus** under the direction of Elroy Friesen, Westminster United Church, 7:30 p.m., Saturday, March 27. Tickets \$12/adult \$5/students, available at the Faculty of Music Office.



MMSF/MHRC CLINICAL RESEARCH PROFESSORSHIP IN POPULATION MEDICINE

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Manitoba Medical Service Foundation, the Manitoba Health Research Council and the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Manitoba, invite applications from individuals as candidates for MMSF/MHRC Clinical Research Professorship in Population Medicine Award, to be effective July 1, 2010. The intent of the award is to attract clinicians into population research at the University of Manitoba for the general benefit of health research in Manitoba.

Candidates must be physicians licensed to practice in Manitoba and have a faculty appointment in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Manitoba and must be engaged in research related to the health of population groups in Manitoba. Candidates must have been engaged in independent research for not more than 7 years, should have received one or more grants from a national granting agency, such as the CIHR, and should have a satisfactory publication record in peer reviewed journals.

The Award is given for a period of three years. It may not be held concurrently with another personal career award and is not renewable. The award consists of a contribution of \$50,000 per annum to the awardee's salary during the three-year term. During the tenure of the award, the awardee must guarantee a 50% time commitment to research. The appointment will be subject to annual reviews.

A one-year term grant-in-aid to the appointee of up to \$20,000 may be made during the first year of the appointment.

Applicants shall use the CIHR New Investigator Application form which consists of a CV Module and a Research Module. The original plus eight copies of the application with supporting letters of recommendation must be submitted no later than April 1, 2010 to:

Dr. K. Coombs, Associate Dean (Research)
Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba
Room A108 Chown Building
753 McDermot Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3E 0T6

St John's College to award three honorary degrees this fall

Dr. Janet Hoskins, warden and vice-chancellor of St John's College is pleased to announce the names of the individuals to receive honorary degrees at the 144th Annual Convocation of St John's College, Sunday November 7, 2010:

Dr. Robert Kroetsch is to receive a Doctor of Canon Law (Honoris Causa) degree and will give the Convocation address. Kroetsch is one of the most prolific and influential of Canadian writers on whose work a vast body of scholarship has developed. His work is internationally known and translated and he is also well known for his generosity in encouraging and assisting upcoming writers. He was a professor at

the State University of New York and at the University of Manitoba, where he was made first a distinguished professor and then a distinguished professor emeritus. Kroetsch's contributions have been recognized by many awards, including a Governor General's Award for fiction, a Killam Award and the Order of Canada. He was a Visiting Fellow at St John's College from 2006 to 2009.

The Right Reverend Barbara Andrews is to receive a Doctor of Divinity (Jure Dignitatis) degree. Bishop Andrews graduated from the St John's College Faculty of Theology in 1997 with a Bachelor of Theology. She was ordained a deacon in the Diocese of

Rupert's Land that year and was ordained a priest the following year. She served in parish ministry and in an inner-city shared mission project where she pursued a passion for social justice. She also served as the executive director of Sorrento Centre. Bishop Andrews was consecrated Suffragan Bishop for the Kamloops-based Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior on October 18, 2009.

The Most Reverend James Weisgerber will be awarded a Doctor of Divinity (Honoris Causa) degree. Archbishop Weisgerber is the Archbishop of the Catholic Archdiocese of Winnipeg and the chancellor of St Paul's College. He has a long history of dedicated

ministry to the people of Saskatchewan and Manitoba, including a strong ecumenical focus. A major endeavour of Archbishop Weisgerber's ministry has been the reconciliation of aboriginal and non-aboriginal communities in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. In April 2009, while he was the president of the Canadian Council of Catholic Bishops, he organized the historic encounter in Rome between the Pope and a delegation of former students at residential schools, which went so far in helping to address the deep concerns of the aboriginal community.

Most ancient signs of life on earth found in sedimentary rock

A University of Manitoba researcher is one of an international team of geologists who have announced the discovery of what may be evidence of the oldest complex life formed on Earth. They found fossilized microorganisms that were deposited in ancient marine sediment about 3.2 billion years ago.

"These are the oldest large

microfossils with significant implications for the evolution of life," says Andrey Bekker, geological sciences.

Bekker, along with colleagues Emmanuelle Javaux of the University of Liège and Craig Marshall of the University of Kansas, published their findings in this week's issue of the journal *Nature*.

The researchers examined shale

samples from drill cores 600 metres below the surface in South Africa. They found unmistakable fossilized microorganisms that had been well-preserved. This effectively pushes back the earliest evidence of complex life that lived on Earth to at least 3.2 billion years, which means that life on Earth began to form within less than one and a half

billion years after planetary formation.

Previously, the oldest reliable evidence of advanced life found were fossilized bacteria in rock less than two billion years old.

He notes: "This discovery provides evidence that life was rather complex more than three billion years ago."

University of Manitoba Research Support Programs

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

University of Manitoba Research Support Programs

Name of Program	Purpose	Deadlines
<i>For information on the programs below, contact Andrea Craig 480-1819 – Office of Research Services</i>		
University Research Grants Program (URGP)	To support the growth of research at the University – highest priority is the provision of grants to new faculty members (those in the first 3 years of their appointment)	October 15 (New Staff) March 1 (Established Staff)
UM/SSHRC Research Grants Program (UM/SSHRC RGP)	To provide support for small-scale research projects in the social sciences and humanities – open to researchers in disciplines supported by SSHRC	October 15 March 1
UM/SSHRC International Conference Travel Grants Program (UM/SSHRC TGP)	To provide support for researchers to take part in international conferences of major scholarly significance – open to researchers in disciplines supported by SSHRC.	October 15 March 1
University Creative Works Grants Program	To provide support for highly creative works at the University of Manitoba – highest priority is the provision of grants to new faculty members (those in the first 3 years of their appointment)	May 1
<i>For information on the programs below, contact Brent Deere 474-8390 – Office of Research Services</i>		
Leave Research Grant Program	To designate part of applicant's salary as a grant-in-aid of research conducted while on research/study leave	2 months prior to leave
Self-funded Research Grant Program	To designate part of an applicant's salary as a grant-in-aid of research conducted while <u>not</u> on leave from the University (within one calendar year)	September 30 January 31 May 31
<i>For information on the programs below, contact Lindsey Troschuk 789-3493 – Office of the Vice-President (Research)</i>		
Samuel Weiner Distinguished Visitor Award	To bring distinguished scholars who are making outstanding contributions to their field(s) of research to the University for visits of up to one month	May 1

What to do with caribou hooves

by SEAN MOORE
The Bulletin

In the 1950s William Pruitt followed migrating caribou in the Baker Lake and Churchill region of Canada's North, keeping a hoof of each felled animal. The biologist was surveying the animals with the Canadian Wildlife Service and the hooves served him no immediate purpose, but some call him a hoarder since he kept just about everything, from bread ties to moose scrotums, because he thought time could instill anything with purpose. Pruitt died in December of 2009, before he saw what purpose time endowed his collection with.

In 1969 he left Memorial University in Newfoundland and arrived to the zoology department at the University of Manitoba. The Duff Roblin Building was constructed that year and he put the 100 or so caribou hooves he collected in a box in the building's attic, along with boxes of bear skulls and coyote skulls, baleen and bones, books and 20,000 neatly catalogued journal articles. (The books are so voluminous libraries hesitate to accept them because they lack the shelving space, although the Churchill Northern Studies Centre will take his collection of journal reprints and name the library after him.)

Indeed, he had so many things that when he moved here, in addition to filling vehicles with stuff, he rented and filled a train car. And for 60 years his stuff sat undisturbed in the Duff Roblin attic until a fire burned the building's third floor in 2009, forcing researchers to remove their things so crews could clean up and rebuild.



Biologist William Pruitt studied snow, but he also collected caribou hooves and hoarded many other things. His collection, spared from the damage caused by the Duff Roblin fire, is now aiding research.

The task of dealing with Pruitt's cache fell to his friend, former student, colleague and executor Rick Riewe, a zoology professor.

"He's a hoarder. Nothing ever got thrown out. He kept things because they were interesting not because he was studying them" – he studied snow – "and all his stuff was forgotten about till the fire. We thought it would have all been destroyed but it wasn't."

The University of Manitoba archives are in the process of receiving Pruitt's field notes, journals (his students' too), slides, and published materials. Shelley Sweeny,

head of archives and special collections, reckons it will be over 75 linear feet of material. A typical endowment from an individual is seven to 15 linear feet.

The skulls, bones and baleen now sit in a warehouse awaiting homes in museums and university collections. As for the hooves, they were shipped to Mitch Campbell, a wildlife biologist with the Nunavut government and Pruitt's former student. He was more grateful than surprised to receive a shipment of caribou hooves because it will give

him access to previously unobtainable information about such things as past caribou eating habits and genealogies of caribou herds.

"There's a difference between a hoarder and a visionary and Pruitt was definitely a visionary. He may have been collecting a lot of stuff, but he had a vision that technology will make that stuff extremely useful. Some of the big breakthroughs in understanding wildlife will come from studying these old collections. So Pruitt will keep contributing where others won't," Campbell said.

This view influenced Campbell who, in the early 90s, kept caribou teeth in his lab's freezer despite his manger's requests to throw them away. He hid the teeth and recently, thanks to new technologies, Campbell can now subject them to detailed isotopic study, something he never thought possible in the early 90s.

"Pruitt taught me so much. Any value I am to anyone as a biologist is because of him alone and I feel I can say that and not sound hokey."

Pruitt didn't like to discard. Moose scrotums became tobacco pouches; moose bladders became vessels for storing sourdough pancake batter in the field (sleep with it under your arm to get the batter just right for morning). He taught Riewe these tricks.

"We had a father-son relationship," Riewe said. "And all the jobs I got were based on the fact that I had this arcane knowledge he taught me rather than just zoology type information."



Photo by Sean Moore

Rare Book Room home to Literary Avant-garde collection

The University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections' Rare Book Room holds the Ukrainian Literary Avant-garde Periodical Collection. The collection includes such titles as *Nova heneratsiia* (*The New Generation*), *Chervonyi shliakh* (*The Red Pathway*), *Krytyka* (*Criticism*), *Pluh* (*The Plough*) and *Hart* (*Tempering*). All were published in Ukraine between the mid-1910s to the 1930s. A significant number of literary journals appeared in print during the 1920s – a time of great excitement and experimentation in the Arts. Ukraine as well as the other Soviet republics at the time were undergoing a national re-awakening of its language, literature, and culture. The theatre, the fine arts and the various literary movements looked westward to developing their crafts, – as a result new publications expounding this new experimental era began being published. Among the literary figures that were most closely associated with these publications include: Ivan Dniprov's'kyi., Volodymyr Sosiura, Pavlo Tychyna, Mykola Kulish and Mykola Khvyli'ovyi.

James Kominowski, Slavic Librarian/ Archivist



The University of Manitoba has launched its new podcast, Campus Cast. The podcast will be available on iTunes and in the U of M News Blog (<http://umanitoba.ca/news/blogs/>).

Campus Cast is a regular radio show where researchers and scholars talk about their work and how it relates to life. The episodes offer glimpses into one of the thousands of topics U of M faculty explore.

Three episodes have already been released. The first guest is James Hare, biological sciences, who talks about the ongoing squirrel war in Manitoba, which is not unfolding as expected,



and then he speaks about his research on squirrel communication.

The next show features economist Robert Chernomas whose book *The Gatekeepers* was recently released. The book and the podcast focus on Chernomas's research into the political slant of the *New York Times*, arguably one of the most influential newspapers.

And at the time of publication, the most recent episode available for download features musical historian Kurt Markstrom discussing such things as how vital German composer Johann Sebastian Bach is to today's rock 'n roll music.

Upcoming episodes will feature biologist Mark Fry discusses how fat changes brains and entomologist Terry Galloway talking about the world of bugs.

If you have an idea for a show, share it with us. Call 474-7963.



Student has designs on Montreal fashion competition scholarship

By **MICHAEL MARSHALL**
The Bulletin

Madelaine Calanza, a textile sciences student in the Faculty of Human Ecology, is the focus of this week's episode of the Campus Files. Madelaine is one of 25 design students from across the country - and the only Manitoban - who is competing in the Télió National Design Competition held in Montreal in March.

Madelaine will showcase her designs with the goal of landing one of the five available scholarships, totalling \$10,000, and get to rub shoulders with buyers from New York and Paris.

The Télió National Design Competition, which is held during Montreal Fashion Week, is open to current and active design students across Canada. Originally offered to Québec students from 2006 to 2008, Télió announced its

first nationwide competition in 2009 attracting over 385 students from 20 schools across Canada, including one from the University of Manitoba.

Students are given a theme and a selection of fabrics to choose from to create a unique design.

Find out more about Madelaine's quest by going to bit.ly/campusfiles and clicking on Episode 10, *So you think you can design*.



Photos by Sean Moore

Madelaine Calanza, a textile sciences student, works on the design she will be showcasing at the Télió National Design Competition in Montreal next month. Madelaine is one of only 25 design students across Canada to compete in the competition that has five scholarships totalling \$10,000 up for grabs.

Info Days 2010

Photos by Shawn Jordan



Grade 12 students learn about the department of English, Film and Theatre during Info Days last week.



Over 2000 students attended Info Days, visiting 70 booths and learning about the more than 100 programs the University offers.

Check out

Visit:
<http://bit.ly/campusfiles>

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Campus as a Community



Meet **Amber Anderson Skrabek**. As External Communications Specialist for the Faculty of Engineering, Amber knows how important donor support was to getting the Engineering and Information Technology Complex built. That's why she supported the campaign too.

Q: What makes you proud of the U of M?

A: We are the premiere educational institution in the province of Manitoba. We not only provide excellence in education and research, but we are an important economic driver for the province. I am very proud to be a part of such a vital community.

Q: Why do you support the Faculty of Engineering?

A: In my job I work closely with other donors, and am constantly exposed to the amazing activities of our alumni, faculty and students. What is happening in this building and on this campus has a long-standing impact in the world we live in. I want to be a part of that.

Q: What is your giving philosophy?

A: Working at the university has afforded me many opportunities I would not normally have had. I feel it is only appropriate to respond with giving that enables the university to continue to do what it does best... provide a top notch education to the best students in the province!

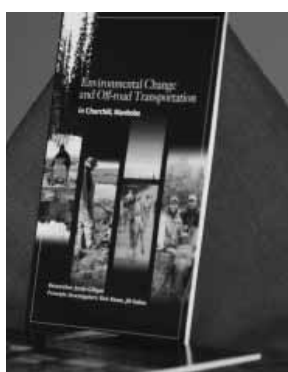
Join your colleagues in supporting your university.

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



Thin ice risky for northern Manitoba residents

U of M grad's research focuses on Churchill River and climate change



Justin Gilligan and his book *Environmental Change and Off-Road Transportation in Churchill, Manitoba*.

In Manitoba, northern communities are likely to be among the hardest hit by the effects of global climate change because of geography, connectedness to the land and limited resources to adapt to changing conditions.

Justin Gilligan is a University of Manitoba graduate of the Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Earth, Environment, and Resources and the Centre for Earth Observation and Science. Gilligan recently authored *Environmental Change and Off-Road Transportation in Churchill, Manitoba*. His research focused on our ever-changing environment, specifically in regards to the Churchill River and its impact on residents.

"Residents of Churchill live on the

east side of the Churchill River," Gilligan explained. "In the spring, they cross the ice to take part in their annual goose hunt. But due to changes in the timing of the freeze-up and break-up of ice on the Churchill River and Hudson's Bay, it puts residents in a dangerous situation."

The people of northern Manitoba take big risks crossing the river when the ice is too thin. In some parts of the river, Gilligan says thin ice makes it absolutely impossible to cross.

"If you look back in the 1970s or 1980s, the ice would never be broken-up like it is today," said Gilligan. "It was frozen solid. Residents never had to worry about situations they face now."

Academic Job Opportunities

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

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

Position: Assistant Professor

Start date: July 1, 2010

Salary: Commensurate with experience and qualifications
Application Deadline: March 25, 2010

Position Number: 11027

For Information: Search Committee Chair, Department of Computer Science, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg MB R3T 2N2 or phone (204) 474-8313, email: search@cs.umanitoba.ca

FACULTY OF DENTISTRY

Department of Oral Biology

Position: Assistant, Associate or Professor

Start date: July 1, 2010

Salary: Commensurate with experience and qualifications

Application Deadline: April 5, 2010

Position Number: 10864

For Information: Dr. R. Bhullar, Head, Department of Oral Biology, 780 Bannatyne Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3E 0W2, Fax: 204-789-3913, e-mail: bhullar@cc.umanitoba.ca

Coombs, Associate Dean of Research

(kcoombs@cc.umanitoba.ca) or Dr. Xin-Min Li, Director of the Neuroscience Research Program (xinmin_li@umanitoba.ca), Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba, Room A108 Chown Bldg, 753 McDermot Ave., Winnipeg, MB R3E 0T6, Tel: (204) 789-3375, Fax: (204) 789-3942.

FACULTY OF AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD SCIENCES

Department of Entomology

Position: Assistant or Associate Professor, Curator of the J.B. Wallis Museum of Entomology

Start date: July 1, 2010

Salary: Commensurate with experience and qualifications

Application Deadline: April 15, 2010

Position Number: 10948

For Information: Dr. M.L. Connor, Chair, Search Committee - SE, Department of Animal Science, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3T 2N2 Canada. Telephone: (204) 474-9219; FAX: (204) 474-7628; e-mail: mconnor@cc.umanitoba.ca.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Applied Health Sciences Ph.D. Program

Research Day Keynote Address:
Science, the Media and Communication
of Controversy and Risk



John Robert Finnegan Jr., Ph.D.

Professor and Dean
Assistant Vice President for Public Health,
School of Public Health, University of Minnesota

Dr. Finnegan joined the Public Health Faculty in 1986, where he developed a research and teaching program focusing on public health and the mass media. Today, he is a recognized scholar and researcher in the field, publishing in the scientific literature, serving often on National Institutes of Health (NIH) panels, and a frequent national and local speaker on related topics. His research in health communication has focused especially on the socio-economic and community origins of differences in population exposure to health information and their relationship to health outcomes.

9:00 am Friday March 5, 2010

Marshall McLuhan Hall, 204 University Centre

AHS Ph.D. Student Presentations & Poster Competition

(Presentations to commence following Keynote Address; posters on display all day, students will attend their posters from noon - 1 p.m)

Participating units in the Applied Health Sciences Ph.D. Program are: Human Ecology, Kinesiology and Recreation Management, Medical Rehabilitation, Nursing

Advertise in the Bulletin
For details call 474 8111

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA PROFESSORS ELECTED TO THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA



Dr. Digvir Jayas



Dr. Noralou Roos



Dr. Ron Stewart



Dr. Kenneth Standing

We are extremely proud to honour three University of Manitoba professors as new Fellows to the Royal Society of Canada: Dr. Digvir Jayas, Dr. Noralou Roos, and Dr. Ron Stewart. A fourth professor, Dr. Kenneth Standing, was named a medal winner by the Society.

Founded in 1822, the Royal Society of Canada is the most prestigious scholarly organization in the country. RSC Fellows are elected by their peers for outstanding contributions to humanities, sciences and social sciences.

This election brings the university's total to 43 RSC Fellows.



MMSF/MHRC DR. F.W. DU VAL CLINICAL RESEARCH PROFESSORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Manitoba Medical Service Foundation, the Manitoba Health Research Council and the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Manitoba, invite applications from individuals as candidates for the MMSF/MHRC Dr. F.W. Du Val Clinical Research Professorship Award, to be effective July 1, 2010. The intent of the award is to promote clinical research in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Manitoba for the general benefit of health research in Manitoba.

Candidates must be physicians licensed to practice in Manitoba with a faculty appointment in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba and must be engaged in research related to the health field. Candidates must be judged to be in the early stages of a successful research career as a physician scientist. Candidates must have been engaged in independent research for not more than 7 years and should have received one or more grants from a national granting agency, such as the CIHR, and should have a satisfactory publication record in peer-reviewed journals.

The Award is given for a period of three years. It may not be held concurrently with another personal career award and is not renewable. The Award consists of a contribution of \$50,000 per annum to the awardee's salary during the three-year term. During the tenure of the award the awardee must guarantee a 50% time commitment to research. The appointment will be subject to annual reviews.

A one-year term grant-in-aid to the appointee of up to \$20,000 may be made during the first year of the appointment.

Applicants shall use the CIHR New Investigator Award application form which consists of a CV Module and a Research Module. The original plus eight copies of the application with supporting letters of recommendation, must be submitted no later than April 1, 2010 to:

Dr. K. Coombs, Associate Dean (Research)
Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba
Room A108 Chown Building
753 McDermot Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3E 0T6

Life as a child in the factory of Oskar Schindler

The youngest survivor on "Schindler's List" will tell his story of life in Oskar Schindler's factory at two public lectures

Leon Leyson was 10 years old when the Nazi s occupied Poland and shortly after his father managed to get his family's names on the list of Schindler's workers, probably sparing them from extermination camps during the Second World War. Leyson worked 12-hour shifts in Schindler's factory, and Schindler called him "Little Leyson".

On March 3 and 4 Leyson will tell his stories in a lecture titled "On Schindler's list: Leon Leyson Remembers". He will talk about Poland before the war, during the war, the ghetto, the factory and Schindler's maneuvering to spare as many Jewish lives as possible.

Leyson was invited to the Fort Garry Campus by the Asper School of Business's MBA program and before his public lectures he will give a closed-door presentation to the MBA students about executive responsibility.



Leon Leyson

Professor Reg Litz is organizing this year's event.

"Every year our goal is to give students a moment to think about, something that will stay with them, and this year we are focusing on entrepreneurial managers with strong principles. This year's lecture will tell a few stories, one of which will be about a manager who saved lives."

The public lectures are as follows: Wednesday, March 3, at 1 p.m. in room 343 of the Drake Centre; and Thursday, March 4, at 7:30 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room of University Centre. The lectures will be about 90 minutes long.

The event is made possible thanks to support from the Jewish Foundation, the Winnipeg Foundation, the University of Manitoba Distinguished Lectures Series and the Asper School of Business.

Advertise in the Bulletin

For details call 474 8111

The Centre for Professional and Applied Ethics at The University of Manitoba

Public Lectures

"Bleeding Hearts and Tanks in the Streets: The Problem of Emergency Powers in a Democracy"

PROFESSOR NOMI LAZAR

Assistant Professor in the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Ottawa.
Author of: *States of Emergency in Liberal Democracies* (Cambridge)

Thursday, 4th March, 12:30-1:30

Private Dining Room, University College

"The Crack Made Me Do It: Can we hold addicts responsible for their actions?"

PROFESSOR GIDEON YAFFE

Associate Professor of Philosophy and Law, University of Southern California.
His books include: *Trying and Attempting Crimes* (Oxford, forthcoming) and *Liberty Worth the Name* (Princeton)

Friday, 26th March, 12:30-1:30

Concourse Lounge, University College

Everyone is welcome to attend these events.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA is pleased to announce New Associate Deans appointed in Faculty of Pharmacy



Yuewen Gong
Associate Dean
(Research)



Lavern Vercaigne
Associate Dean
(Academic)

The Faculty of Pharmacy is pleased to announce the appointments of Dr. Yuewen Gong as Associate Dean (Research) and Dr. Lavern Vercaigne as Associate Dean (Academic) effective January 1, 2010.

Dr. Gong, B.M. (Beijing), M.Sc. (Beijing), Ph.D. (Manitoba) received his Bachelor of Medicine in Traditional Chinese Medicine from the Beijing University of Chinese Medicine, the M.Sc. in pathophysiology from the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and the Ph.D. in Molecular Endocrinology in the Department of Physiology at the University of Manitoba. After graduation he completed postdoctoral trainings at the Mayo Clinic and the University of Manitoba. Dr. Gong joined the University of Manitoba in 1997 and was promoted to professor in the Faculty of Pharmacy in 2007. He has been involved in research and teaching in both undergraduate and graduate levels in the Faculty. The focus of Dr. Gong's research program is to understand the mechanism of liver fibrosis and cancer, and to develop treatments for these conditions.

Dr. Vercaigne, B.Sc. (Pharm) (Manitoba), Pharm.D. (Toronto) began his academic career in 1995 with the University of Manitoba Faculty of Pharmacy after receiving his Pharm.D. degree from the University of Toronto. While at the Faculty, Dr. Vercaigne has been extensively involved in curricular development and implementation. He has been an active member on the Curriculum Committee continuously for the last 10 years, serving as chair from 2000-2004 and again in 2010. On a national level, Dr. Vercaigne was a council member of the Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada (AFPC) for six years and served as its president in the 2002-2003 academic year. He is currently chair of the Committee on Exams and a member of the Board of Directors of the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC). Dr. Vercaigne has an active clinical practice and research program in collaboration with the Manitoba Renal Program. His research interest primarily includes management of central venous catheter infection and thrombosis in hemodialysis patients. In 2007, Dr. Vercaigne was awarded the Bonnie Schultz Memorial Award for Practice Excellence and in 2008, the Pharmacist of the Year Award by the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association.

The appointments are effective until June 30, 2011.

Former Olympic speed skater champions robots and other autonomous agents

BY MARIANNE MAYS WIEBE

The Bulletin

Computer Science professor Jacky Baltes didn't start his career working on robotics, artificial intelligence and machine learning. His first passion in life was speed skating, and as a three time national champion, he represented Germany at the 1984 Sarajevo and 1988 Calgary Winter Olympics.

Baltes was always interested in computers and robotics, and taught himself programming on an Apple II, which he had converted into a portable computer so that he could carry it to training camps and competitions. After the 1988 Olympics, he decided that it was time to get serious about becoming a computer scientist.

As professor at the Autonomous Agents Laboratory in the Faculty of Science, Baltes has been working with robotics for more than 10 years. Along with his students, he (and fellow computer scientist John Anderson), have been competing successfully in the international Robocup and FIRA competitions in places like China, the US, Korea and Austria, against much larger universities with major funding sources.

Baltes and his students work with many different types of robots. Some run



Standing (l-r): John Anderson and Jacky Baltes with their students in the Autonomous Agents Lab

on wheels and some are more human-like and walk.

"Working with the wheeled robots is easier," says Baltes, "because you don't have to worry about balance." One of the challenges for walking robots is the climbing-wall event, where the steps to ascend cannot be pre-programmed and the robot has to be able to maneuver up the wall dynamically. Again, reasoning that would be easier for a human than to program into a robot.

The most recent addition to the lab

has been Archie, the 1.2 meter tall humanoid robot built by the Vienna University of Technology at a cost of \$200 thousand. For the Autonomous Agents Lab, Archie was a windfall, but to put it in perspective, Archie competes against robots, like a recent Japanese team entered,

worth \$3 million. You'd have to have the determination of an Olympian to successfully compete against those odds.

Working with robots isn't all about toys and games; its purpose has a much more serious side in real-world applications. Robots are used in search and rescue efforts so that robots, rather than people, can be sent in to dangerous situations, like burning buildings, to search for survivors. We've all heard

about their use in everything from space exploration, car-assembly plants to bomb-disposal units.

Although working with robots involves many long hours, a lot of dedication and hard work, as Baltes and his students can attest, graduates from the program are recruited by all different kinds of companies for the problem-solving skills they develop during their tenure in the lab.

As Baltes explains: "Students not only have computer science skills, but must develop proficiency in areas such as engineering and physics. My students have been recruited by many companies including Canadian NRC labs and Bank of America. They have worked on animation in the film industry on such films as *Journey to the Centre of the Earth* (3D version), *Superman Returns*, *Happy Feet 2*, and the most recent blockbuster *Avatar*." They also developed a robotics art project for Reva Stone, a local artist: combining art and science.

The passion and drive that first took Baltes to the Olympics is now channeled, with his students, into robotics competitions, and the hard work has paid off as the team competes successfully around the world. In 2009, Baltes became a member of IROC, the International Robot Olympiad.

Ugly vs. pretty, and other topics

Students and graduates from the Faculty of Architecture have again teamed up with the Manitoba chapter of Architects Without Borders Canada (AWB) to offer design workshops for children.

The after-school workshops, held at Art City on Broadway Avenue on February 22-24, introduced children and adolescents to various aspects of design.

This year's workshops focused on urban-scale design: interaction and perception of the city.

Three distinct themes relevant to the

topic of city will be featured throughout the workshop: Ugly City vs. Pretty City, Light and Atmosphere, and Build and Destroy.

"Art City helps bring out the fun in architecture. Where else do you get to build a city and then try to demolish it all in the same week?," says AWB volunteer Tanya Peters.

"The participants at Art City are really proud of their community and it's exciting to facilitate workshops that can demonstrate how relevant architecture and design is to even the tiniest aspects of life."

Distinguished Visiting Lecturer
THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Signs of thought:
Symbolic understanding in
development and education



BRUCE D. HOMER

Associate Professor
Ph.D. Program in Educational Psychology
The Graduate Center, CUNY

Dr. Bruce Homer is a world-renowned expert on how children learn to communicate, from language acquisition to symbolic understanding. From birth, children are exposed to a diverse array of signs, including pictures, numbers, writing and language itself. These signs are initially means of communication but are later adapted as modes of thought. Homer's applied research includes the development of software and educational games to help children learn more efficiently.

Friday, March 5

3 p.m.

107 Drake Centre

University of Manitoba, Fort Garry Campus

All are welcome. Free admission.
For more information, contact
Dr. Judy Chipperfield at 474-6790

One university. Many futures.
umanitoba.ca



UNIVERSITY
OF MANITOBA

University of Manitoba Merit Awards for 2009

Applications and nominations for the Merit Awards for UMFA members are now being accepted. The awards are for the 2009 calendar year.

Article 25 of the Collective Agreement between The University of Manitoba and The University of Manitoba Faculty Association provides for Merit Awards of \$3,000 each. Awards are available in four specified categories:

- Teaching - up to eight (8) awards;
- Research, Scholarly Work, and Other Creative Activities - up to eight (8) awards;
- Service - up to six (6) awards; and
- Any combination of Teaching, Research, Scholarly Work and other Creative Activities, and Service - up to eight (8) awards.

Applications and nominations must be made using the forms available online at the Vice-President (Academic) and Provost website: umanitoba.ca/admin/vp_academic/awards_honours.html

Applications must be received by the Joint Committees, c/o Dr. Karen R. Grant, Vice-Provost (Academic Affairs), 208 Administration Building, **no later than 4:00 p.m., Thursday, April 1, 2010.** Late applications and nominations will not be considered.

Please contact Paula Chorney, paula_chorney@umanitoba.ca or 474-8170 if you have any questions.

One university. Many futures.
umanitoba.ca



UNIVERSITY
OF MANITOBA

Bringing Research to LIFE

In Brief

Human Wrongs: Making Things Right

A public forum with keynote speaker David Matas, international human rights lawyer and 2010 Nobel Peace Prize nominee, will take place on Wednesday, March 31 at the University of Manitoba (Manitoba Room 210, University Centre) from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m.

Matas will discuss his recent human rights advocacy and present the case of China. A panel discussion with Professors Karen Busby (Law), Andrew Woolford (Arts) and Jessica Senehi (Peace and Conflict Studies) will follow. Their topics, respectively, are: *Acting Out In The Public Realm: Thinking About Sexuality And Religious Rights Conflicts; The United Nations Genocide Convention and Aboriginal Peoples in Canada: Defining and Experiencing Genocide; and The Role of Storytelling in Human Rights Work*. There will be an opportunity for questions and discussion following the keynote and panel presentations.

Upcoming

Presentation:

The Canada Council for the Arts – Killam Presentation

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Room 530 (MBA Room)

I.H. Asper School of Business

Fort Garry Campus

For more information contact Brent Deere at Brent_Deere@umanitoba.ca

Bringing Research to Life Speaker Series:

HIV Vaccines: The Frustrations and the Hope

Wednesday March 17, 2010

7:00 PM

Room 290

Education Building

FREE ADMISSION

For more information call 474-9020

Budding Researchers on Your Mark...Get SET...Go!

U of M's annual SET Day gets high school students fired up about science and engineering

BY KATIE CHALMERS-BROOKS

Nearly 200 Manitoba high school students and their teachers got a firsthand glimpse at the power of research last week.

A handful of professors showed the teenagers the latest discoveries to come out of their labs and also provided a look into what research and technology is coming down the pike worldwide: from intelligent vehicles that sense and prepare for a collision to finding new sources of water on Mars.

Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) Day was held Feb. 19 on the Fort Garry Campus. The event is organized by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) delegate and the Office of the Vice-President (Research), and sponsored by Manitoba Hydro, the Province of Manitoba, NSERC, and the Association of Professional Engineers and Geologists of Manitoba.

Participant Deanna Wolfe, who made the trek from her family farm in Rivers, Man., plans on earning her degree in medicine and one day doing health-related research like presenter Judy Anderson. The head of the department of biological sciences, Anderson shared with the aspiring scientists how she and her colleagues discovered a treatment for people with muscular dystrophy by exploring how nitric oxide activates satellite cells (found in the muscle).

Seventeen-year-old Wolfe was impressed. "It's hard to believe you can give somebody a drug and rebuild their muscle," she said. "It's pretty cool."

Dave Chomiak, provincial Minister of Innovation, Energy and Mines, earlier took to the podium to encourage the young participants to set lofty goals for themselves, noting they could eventually be the researchers who make a big difference. "The sky is the limit. What you can dream can happen. Don't let anyone tell you otherwise," Chomiak said. "Today, you have a wonderful opportunity. Take advantage of it."

Participants from 35 schools took part in the day-long event, now in its fourth year. Teacher Noah Joseph from Miles Macdonell Collegiate – who brought along four Grade 12 students – said this field trip differed from others since it was the students who requested to come, each of them having shown a special interest in science and engineering.

Joseph said he liked how SET Day presenters made learning about scientific research fun. "The speakers here have been really entertaining. Not just that, but they're speaking about interesting subjects and presenting



Photo by Katie Chalmers-Brooks

Students take hands-on approach at SET Day 2010.

really relevant information," said Joseph, who plans on returning next year. "It's important that (the students) see the possibilities of a future in science and engineering, and things they're passionate about."

Prof. Martin Scanlon and research technician Michael Stringer of the Department of Food Science showed students how bubble and foam technology play an important role in the production of beverages and foods like soufflés and ice cream.

But controlling bubbles, given their inherent instability, and creating foamy food systems is no easy feat, explained the energetic duo, who came armed with props for experiments and also threw aerated chocolate bars into the audience for trivia winners.

Dayle Sanders, 17, from Nellie McClung Collegiate in Manitou, Man., said Prof. Dean Kriellaars' presentation *Lifestyles of the Facebook Generation* was an eye-opener. Kriellaars shared his research findings, including work he's done about the surge in caloric intake of Grade 12 students the summer after graduation. Sanders was struck by the "false ideas our generation has of dieting and health."

Kriellaars said of calories: "Any input over output, stays put." He explained that the younger generation will have a shorter lifespan because of a surge in Type 2 diabetes. Eating healthy and staying in motion is key. "Disease is related to inactivity," he said, showing scans of deteriorating bones.

Assistant Prof. Trish Stadnyk also provided the students with the tools to live more responsibly – by getting them up to speed on the looming global water crisis. "By 2030, 50 per cent of the world population will feel water scarcity," she said. "Here in Manitoba, we'll start to feel the demands of overusing."

Engineer Jeannette Montufar pressed the fast forward button as well to give students a peek at what's to come in transportation technology – like vehicles with start-stop engines to reduce idling, and in-vehicle voice prompts alerting a driver that another motorist is running a red light.

"Technology will make things possible," Montufar said, "but it is only a tool – you still need your brain, innovation, and creativity to make it happen."

See back page for more photos of SET Day 2010.

SET Day 2010

Dozens of high school students took part in Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) Day held Feb. 19 on the Fort Garry Campus. Turn to the previous page to read more.



Photos by Katie Chalmers-Brooks



Presenter Michael Stringer from the department of food science



Professor Dean Kriellaars from the department of physical therapy



Professor Trish Stadnyk from the department of civil engineering



Professor Martin Scanlon from the department of food science



Dave Chomiak, provincial Minister of Innovation, Energy and Mines



Above (from left): vice-president (research) Digvir Jayas, professor Judy Anderson from the department of biological sciences, and professor Jeannette Montufar from the department of civil engineering