The Bulletin
University of Manitoba

Plunge into a whale of a book ...
Recommended reading to make the summer last

Gathering no moss
Geological Sciences rolls into centenary celebrations

Who will be a ballroom dancer?
Find out: Coffee With a Co-Worker

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Beauty and the beast

Brave new roles for archivists

Above: A mammoth 60 ton piece of steel is erected by two 300 ton cranes for the new University of Manitoba Pembina Hall student residence. Assembled on the ground, the steel “beast” measures 80 feet long, 17 feet high and eight feet wide; it has taken eight days to assemble the six individual pieces that comprise it. The new residence will be 13 storeys high and, adding to the building’s beauty and complexity, it will span over an existing two-storey building. It is scheduled for completion by August 2011.

Photo by Chris Reid

BY MARIANNE MAYS WIEBE

The image in most people’s minds when they think of archives is one of dusty files, alphabetization and ancient, yellowed books. But a picture of contemporary archives might surprise you. According to Tom Nesmith, a professor of history who directs the master’s program in archival studies at the U of M, today’s archives and archivists might be more accurately described as active, evolving constituents of and participants in the communities they serve.

Contemporary archivists are becoming more aware of how their decisions shape societal knowledge. They are knowledgeable about the history and development of — as well as the theoretical and practical implications for — archives and archiving. They may be as likely to use archiving and archival studies for human rights causes and in the fight for social justice.

In fact, it was an archivist who served as expert witness in two early legal cases of a major Canadian social justice issue: Willard Ireland was a B.C. provincial archivist when the first Aboriginal land claims were being taken to court, which led to the acknowledgment by the federal government that Aboriginal title did exist and eventually set the foundation for native self-government.

The legal cases are also the basis for thesis work by U of M archival studies master’s student Anne Lindsay, who is studying Aboriginal and indigenous people, social justice, human rights and how these relate to archives and archiving, in particular. Her research situates the cases in which Ireland served as witness “in the larger context of how archives have been useful to that pursuit [of social justice], and how [the continued on page 2
In the News
A Call for Energy Realism
National Public Radio
August 2, 2010

Environmental and geography professor Vaclav Smil was featured on the US’s National Public Radio (NPR). His book, Energy Myths and Realities, was the topic of discussion. In regard to energy sources and consumption, the various targets proposed by Nixon, Carter and Gore collided with the harsh reality that “energy transitions are inherently protracted affairs lasting decades, not years.” While we commonly think of the 1900s as the “oil century,” oil did not become the world’s largest primary energy supplier until 1965; and during the 20th century as a whole, it contributed slightly less energy than did coal. “In global terms,” says Smil, “1800 to 1900 was still part of the millennia-long wooden era, and 1900 to 2000 was (albeit by a small margin) the coal century”.”

Another Roadside Canola
New York Times
August 9, 2010

Scientists recently reported that genetically engineered versions of the canola plant are flourishing in the form of roadside weeds in North Dakota, marking one of the first instances of a genetically modified crop establishing itself in the wild. Alexis Knipel, who has just completed a doctoral dissertation on the subject at the University of Manitoba, shared his thoughts with the newspaper on the role of roadside biotech plants resistant to the herbicide Roundup have on how the roadside biotech plants resistant to the herbicide Roundup have

I Like to Ride My Bicycle
The Globe and Mail, Canadian Press, Trail Daily Times, Winnipeg Sun, Penticton Herald, Winnipeg Free Press, Moncton Times & Transcript, Brandon Sun, Cape Breton Post, Guelph Mercury, Waterloo Region Record
August 11, 2010

Internal medicine’s Ryan Zarychanski released a study showing that bike helmet laws are effective. His study indicates that provinces that force cyclists to don helmets have the highest helmet use. And more comprehensive the law, the better, it found. “The time to pass legislation was probably 10 years ago, but it’s not too late,” Zarychanski told the media. Helmet use is linked to a reduction in head injuries. But critics of mandatory rules often say laws can be a turnoff for would-be cyclists. That’s nonsense, say the authors of the study, which appears in the August edition of the Journal Injury Prevention. After studying health data, they found that helmet legislation introduced in two jurisdictions, PEI and Alberta, had no negative impact on bicycle use.

Give Me a D!
The Globe And Mail, Canadian Press
July 13, 2010

Internal medicine’s Bill Leslie, head of the advisory committee to Osteoporosis Canada, spoke with media about a report their committee recently released that said most Canadians need more vitamin D, but particularly those older than 50, who are most at risk of osteoporosis. They should take 800 to 2,000 international units daily, or more. Those younger need less, but still should be taking 400 to 1,000 IU. This is up to five times the amount that Health Canada currently recommends. This is up to five times the amount that Health Canada currently recommends.

Headlines

“The green slime can be toxic, experts say,” Winnipeg Free Press, August 11, 2010, story about blue-green algae in Lake Winnipeg and research of Greg McCullough who studies satellite photos of the algae growth on the lake and says the vast majority of toxin victims are cattle and dogs. “Capturing the past while sculpting the future,” Winnipeg Free Press, August 12, 2010, story about two School of Art students who won a national sculpture contest. U of M’s Sherri Rennie was named the overall winner for her piece Inner-city ‘Bred.’

Brave new roles, con’t.
The creation of the U of M archival studies program in 1991, he says, “reflected the need to educate archivists for the new roles they were beginning to play and new knowledge they needed, while continuing to draw on the historical knowledge they still required to fulfill those roles effectively.”
The program at U of M is unique in that respect, as the only one in Canada to offer graduate level training in the field of archival studies.

Prof awarded Order of Canada
Abba A. Muthi has been awarded Member of the Order of Canada for his contributions to and leadership in the field of civil engineering, notably for researching the use of advanced composite materials and fibre optic sensors in the construction and monitoring of bridges and other infrastructures.

Pierce receives Slovak honour
Grant N. Pierce, St. Boniface Hospi-
ttal executive director, Research, has received the highest award from the Slovak Academy of Sciences at a recent meeting in Smolenice, Slovakia — the Jan jensius Gold Medal in Medical Sciences — in recognition of outstanding international research achievement in the field of medical research. The award was presented in June by the President of the Slovak Academy of Sciences. The

The program’s not necessarily well-
known on campus, he says, in spite of the fact that his subject professor Terry Cook, who taught part-time in the program from 1998 to 2010, have been invited as keynote speakers to conferences of academic and professional archivists around the world.

“I think we have a very exciting program here that has made the U of M known among archivists internationally for excellence in this field.”

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Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS) is the main scientific and research institution in Slovakia fostering basic and strategic basic research. The SAS consists of 69 scientific organizations and publishes 57 scientific and professional journals. More than 40 scientific and scholarly societies, which associate scientists and scholars from various disciplines, are affiliated with SAS.

Send events notices to: bulletin@umanitoba.ca

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

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Grant N. Pierce, St. Boniface Hospi-
What's in a BAIS? A degree that gives you choices

New degree program offers more options, flexibility

The Faculty of Arts, in cooperation with the Division of Continuing Education at the University of Manitoba, has created a new 90 credit hour program called the Bachelor of Arts Integrated Studies (BAIS). The degree is designed to fit the needs of working adults who have completed some post-secondary education or are employed and have developed a genuine interest in the arts. A university degree will also find the BAIS an attractive option.

This new program may be attractive to unemployed or underemployed people to open up new career possibilities and options,” explains Kathleen Mathess of Extended Education.

“The university degree offers incredible diversity of choices in fields of study, customized to fit anyone’s needs,” adds Linda Wilson, Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts. “We can accommodate the work schedules of people who are looking for a solid post-secondary educational experience.”

Instead of traditional Major/Minor requirements, the BAIS involves areas of concentration and a fixed set of foundation courses allowing for a more flexible path for degree completion, while still ensuring the appropriate writing and quantitative skills. Students can choose courses from any faculty at the University of Manitoba and develop an educational path that will provide the necessary credits for completion. Certificates and diplomas already held by students will be recognized.

If you’re a mid-career adult who never had the chance to start a university degree or to finish one, then the Bachelor of Arts Integrated Studies is for you. Now it’s possible for you to earn an undergraduate degree — the credential that more and more employers require in the workplace. If you want to advance within your profession, make a career change or broaden your interests, in a professional challenge, this program is a perfect place to start. And you can do it all while still working full-time. You’ll engage in exciting new learning and the intellectual challenges that lead to professional and personal growth.

A BAIS allows you to:

• complete a degree part-time while working full-time
• get credit for U of M certificates and degree courses already completed
• focus on courses relevant to professional and personal interests
• choose from convenient course delivery formats (e.g. face-to-face, blended, online)
• select courses from flexible schedules for working adults

DO ANY OF THESE DESCRIBE YOU?

• a graduate of one of these U of M Continuing Education certificate programs: Certificate in Human Resource Management (HRM), Certificate in Adult and Continuing Education (OACE) or Certificate in Financial and Management Accounting (AMA)
• a graduate of the Certificate in Management and Administration (C.I.M.) from any accredited post-secondary institution
• a graduate of a diploma program at the U of M or other post-secondary institution
• successfully completed some university courses and may or may not have completed a degree
• the job you want requires a degree, but you don’t have a degree
• unemployed or “underemployed” and know a degree will open up more job and career possibilities

Study: Smoking bans help children remain smoke-free

Enforced home and vehicle smoking bans appear to support youth in maintaining a resolve to not smoke, regardless of the smoking status of the parent,” said lead author Annette Schultz, an assistant professor in the Faculty of Nursing at the U of M, and an investigator at the Psychosocial Oncology and Cancer Nursing Research Group at St. Boniface Hospital Research.

Her study is published in the latest edition of Chronic Diseases in Canada. “The home environment is one social setting where parents may be able to influence their children’s susceptibility to smoking in the future.”

Lead author of a second study, Janet Nowatzki, a health outcomes analyst at CancerCare Manitoba, agrees. “In particular, parents who are smokers and have difficulties quelling, likely worry that they are negatively influencing their children. Imposing a smoking ban in their home is one thing they can do to help their children remain smoke-free.”

“The results of these studies certainly reinforce the importance of our ongoing ban on smoking in vehicles carrying children under 16,” said Jim Rondeau, Minister of Healthy Living, Youth and Seniors. “We know about the issue of secondhand smoke in cars, but now we also know that a ban lessons the chances that young people will ever start smoking. I have to thank the researchers for undertaking studies that provide practical information with the real potential to impact smoking rates.”

Prior to the teen years, youth are already forming attitudes about smoking, influenced by many factors and linked to future smoking behaviour.

Schultz’s study focused on determining associations between youth’s susceptibility to smoking and parental and sibling smoking, restrictions on smoking in the home and exposure to smoking in vehicles. Schultz and colleagues discovered that for non-smokers, the odds of being susceptible to smoking increased with having a sibling who smoked, whereas children whose parents smoked had a smoking ban and riding in a vehicle with a smoker.

Although it was not surprising to discover that parents and youth did not always agree on what was taking place in the household, it is important to acknowledge that there is room to improve on clearly establishing and communicating household bans, for both smoking and non-smoking parents,” said Nowatzki.

Based on the findings of these studies, CancerCare Manitoba is developing promotional materials to educate the public about the benefits of household and vehicle smoking bans.

Aboriginal culture through story

Cree Oral Stories class listens to stories by Louis Bird (also in inset photo); Bird co-taught the course with Warren Cariou (far right).

The course presented a different way to view Aboriginal culture, through the culture’s own teachings rather than through the lens of Western academic approaches.

Warren Cariou, Canada Research Chair in Narrative, Community and Indigenous Cultures and an associate professor in English, accompanied Bird in teaching the course. Hearing Cree spoken by his grandmother as a child, Cariou welcomed the opportunity to be part of the course, which took Bird’s stories and others, along with discussion of the stories, as its curriculum.

Cariou says that the stories for the Cree people are also important for Aboriginal identity; “for the younger people to know who ‘I am?’ and ‘Where did I come from?’ In the contemporary world, I think it gives people a huge benefit, to give an anchor, to let them know where they belong.”

“But even if you are not Cree, or you’ve never been to Cree territory, the stories are so rich and surprising, and valuable for the way they immerse you in a different perspective. These are like the great stories of any tradition, the stories of Greece, or the great novels, or the sagas of Ireland. That’s so valuable.”

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Academic enhancement initiatives: Part 5

BY MARIANNE MAYS WIEBE
The Bulletin

Each issue of The Bulletin features two initiatives awarded funding by the Academic Enhancement Fund (AEF). Recipients were contacted for a response and a brief overview of their projects.

12 new projects have been funded. All support excellence and innovation in teaching, research, scholarship and creativity through the new program for academic enhancement at the University of Manitoba. Funding through the AEF fosters academic enhancement as one of four key areas identified by the strategic planning framework for development over the upcoming years, along with student experience, Aboriginal achievement and being an employer of choice.

The U of M 2009/2010 operating budget included an allocation of $1.6M for academic enhancement, 30 per cent of which was designated to support academic and research program innovation through the AEF. Initiatives awarded funding contribute to the university’s unique positioning in the project area(s), draw upon strengths from across the university, foster linkages within the its teaching, research and public service activities, contribute to areas of strategic importance to Manitoba and strengthen strategic linkages with local community and beyond.

The call for proposals from September 30, 2009 resulted in 27 applications which were assessed and ranked according their alignment with the overall purposes of the fund. Applications were evaluated by a committee established by the Vice-President (Academic) and the Vice-President (Research).

All full-time academic staff members with professorial or academic librarian rank were eligible to apply for support. Applications were sponsored and endorsed by at least two deans or directors of faculties or heads of colleges and were accompanied by a cover letter that addressed, among other things, the importance of projects to their units and to the university.

Featured funding recipients featured in this issue are Kelley Beaverford (interior design), with a project that addressed, among other things, the importance to Manitoba and strengthen strategic linkages with local community and beyond.

The scale and nature of the projects depends on the needs of the community, available funding, and the potential to support the learning objectives of the course. The types of projects include the design and construction of affordable houses, classrooms, clinics, and community gathering spaces.

Although each project is unique, they all involve multiple partners. For example, some of the partners for the project in Ghana are the Catholic Diocese of Damongo, Ghana, Contractor Claudius Bangfo, Ghana, Tools for Schools, Red Deer, Alberta, Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar, Architects Without Borders Canada, U of M’s Travel Study, and Faculty of Architecture’s Partners Program. Generous contributions were also made by family and friends of the participants of the course, local design firms and retail stores.

The specific goal of this AEF initiative are to: use SLGC as a case study in the development of a model that can be modified for disciplines other than design; contribute to a global network of educators informed by north-south partnerships; focus on projects concerned with economic, social and cultural rights; distribute and publish findings at conferences concerned with design, sustainability, human rights, service learning and internationalization; identify and work with CSOs that have a record of engagement in the partnering country or region and a complementary mission or purpose to the projects intended outcomes; strengthen partnerships; showcase projects, both local and international; and disseminate findings.

George MacLean, Manitoba Institute for Policy Research (MIPR): This initiative will lead to the creation of a new institute at the U of M. The MIPR will pursue collaborative and interdisciplinary research in the areas of public policy, public administration and governance. The institute will engage academics, government, the private and non-profit sectors and citizens of Manitoba on a wide variety of policy issues concerning Manitoba, Western Canada and Canada in general.

The MIPR was first envisioned in 2008, and its success so far is due to the support and participation of many in the university as well as the Manitoba government. With funding from the university, the Faculty of Arts and the Manitoba government, the institute will be the only one of its kind in Manitoba, bringing together university researchers and practitioners from federal, provincial, municipal and indigenous levels of government.

Currently appointments are being made for the institute’s project directory and operating administrators. An implementation oversight committee is also being created, and will include representatives of the community institutions involved in the institute’s work. The objective is to have an institute charter in place by fall, and to name a board of directors in the coming year. Other appointments will include research contracts and associate positions to carry out the work of the institute for the coming year.

The temporary physical home will be in Fletcher Argue.
Recommended Reading
Plunge into a whale of a book ...

A 2011 AUTUMN APPROACHES with staggering velocity, it seems urgent to squeeze in a few eleventh-hour summertime reads. Here are several books to help make it last. As your end-of-summer read, consider this long-form survey kicks off the Recommended Reading series, which will regularly feature book recommendations by individual members of the university community.

ISOBEL WATERS: Choosing among new releases overwhelms me, so instead I read books that fall into my open-access movement. In December, the University of Ottawa Press (UOP) made 36 of its books language in-print titles in a promising field, says a professor at Boston College's business school, who teaches several courses in botany and ecology.

Harvey Max Chochinov is a distinguished professor in psychiatry. When he's not caught up in end-of-year reading, Harvey Chochinov spends his time as a Tier I Canada Research Chair in Palliative Care and is director of the Manitoba Palliative Care Research Unit.

CHRISTINA PENNER: I just finished reading TheRoom and TheChair by Lorraine Adams. It's fun to read because it has many elements of a spy novel: a mysterious plane crash, investigative journalism, government cover-ups and officially non-existent military programs in Iran and Afghanistan. But it's written in sentences that often stopped me. These sentences are stilted and staccato. Prose that's tense but sensitive. Even a bit chilling. That's probably how I'd describe the novel, too.

Right now I'm halfway through Seeking Whom He May Devour, by French writer Fred Vargas. Vargas's writing is a bit of an acquired taste: she has an idiosyncratic style, and her fascination with eccentric characters means that the plot is slow to develop. I'm on page 200, and her main detective, Commissaire Jean-Baptiste Adamsberg, has yet to become involved in the case, which may involve werewolf-types meraging French mountain villages. Vargas is trained as a medievalist, and there's more than a touch of fantasy and saga about her books, even the more straightforward mysteries set in Paris. Those who like her writing, like it a lot. Alison Calder is an associate professor in the department of English, film and theatre, where she teaches Canadian literature and creative writing.

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CLIFF EYLAND: I like to read poetry, but I have a special reason to read — and read again — a 1989 book of poems by the late Joseph Sherman entitled Shaping the Flame, Imagining Wallenberg.

Raul Wallenberg was the Swedish diplomat who saved thousands of Jews in Hungary in 1944 by issuing them Swedish passports. He came to the attention of Winnepinners in the 1980s and 1990s because local human rights activist David Matas was pestering the Russians to find out whether or not Wallenberg was still alive in some remote corner of the Soviet Gulag.

Sherman's writing is clean, spare and precise. I love it. The poems comprise a biography of Wallenberg, who was born into a prominent banking family, studied architecture at the University of Michigan, did some post-graduate drifting and found his life's mission in Budapest in 1944. Wallenberg used all of his artistic talent to make credible-looking passports, to design "safe houses," to perform with gusto in front of Arrow Cross thugs and to bluff his way past the Nazis, including the infamous Adolf Eichmann.

Years ago I read and collaborated on a show that involved his Wallenberg poems and my paintings. We called the show "Wallenberg Country." It was prompted by the concentration camps that were being set up in the former Yugoslavia in the mid-1990s. Cliff Eyland is an associate professor of painting in the School of Art and director of Gallery OneOneOne. He has relit the flame of collaboration to illustrate a new limited art gallery edition of Sherman's book Shaping the Flame, Imagining Wallenberg (Oberon).
BY BILL BRISBIN, BRENDA MILLER AND NANCY CHOW
For The Bulletin

The oldest geoscience department in Western Canada is celebrating its 100th birthday in 2010. So how did it all begin?

The department of geology was started with the appointment of R.C. Wallace as head in 1910. Wallace taught courses in mineralogy, petrology and petrography, and physical and historical geology. He also began field investigations of gypsum deposits and saline brines in the Interlake district and sulphide mineral resources of the Precambrian Shield. Over the next twenty years, the teaching staff grew.

Geophysics began in 1911 with the installation of a seismological station at St. Boniface College. The Geology Club was formed during 1916-17, and the first student field trips were launched in the following year.

The first recorded B.Sc. Geology degree was awarded in 1922 and the first M.Sc. Degree in Geology was conferred in 1924.

The university’s Broadway Campus was the home of the department during this period. Department offices were in an annex of the Science Building, and lecture rooms and labs were shared by the arts and science disciplines. Geology research equipment was limited to specimen preparation facilities, microscope labs and field equipment.

During the late 1930s to mid 1940s the university took steps to move all its facilities from the Broadway campus to the site of the Manitoba Agricultural College, later known as the Fort Garry Campus. The Department of Geology and Mineralogy moved into the Buller Building.

The years in the Buller Building, from 1947 to 1962, represented a successful transition to a robust department, with well defined objectives in teaching and research. In 1947, new faculty were added in the fields of crystallography, mineralogy, petrology, environmental geology and mining geology.

The name of the department was changed to Geology, Mineralogy and Geophysics in 1963, and it soon became obvious that the department’s continued growth would require considerably more space. Negotiations led to the acquisition of the old Chemistry-Physics Building, now the FitzGerald Building, where the department stayed until 1985.

In those 22 years, the department continued to grow. A complete building renovation resulted in new teaching and research labs and museum space. New appointments were added in remote sensing, igneous and metamorphic petrology, geochronology, groundwater geology and exploration geophysics.

The years in the FitzGerald Building were a time of expansion. The department’s growth continued and new faculty were added in the fields of crystallography, mineralogy, petrology, environmental geology and mining geology.

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The name of the department changed again, this time to the Department of Earth Sciences, in recognition of the additional fields.

Other areas of the geological sciences were added between 1970 and 1983, including Quaternary geology, pegmatite geology, carbonate sedimentology, metallogenesis, Precambrian volcanology, solid earth geophysics, paleontology, satellite imagery, petroleum geology, sedimentology, crystal chemistry and geochemistry.
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Department of Geological Sciences Centenary

Annual geology and geophysics field courses were introduced first at the Chemalloy Mine property at Bernic Lake in 1964, and then moved to the newly constructed Star Lake Field Station in 1971.

Two collaborative research initiatives stand out from the Buller years. Project Pioneer was a study of the Rice Lake-Beresford Lake area by the Department and the Manitoba Department of Mines. This innovative project applied a coordinated series of geological, geochemical and geophysical techniques to a single Precambrian area. The second initiative was the formation of the Centre for Precambrian Studies to implement multi-disciplinary research on larger areas of the Precambrian Shield.

As the department size spilled over its existing premises, plans for a new home began. On October 26, 1986 the Wallace Building was officially opened. The department’s name was changed to the Department of Geological Sciences. Again new appointments were made, notably in the new areas of electromagnetic geophysics and earthquake seismology.

In 2003 a new faculty was formed involving the departments of geological sciences and of environment and geography, and the Natural Resources Institute. The name of the new faculty was modified in 2005 to become the Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources, to reflect the endowment provided for its support. New appointments followed, including those in new areas such as isotopic geochemistry and tectonics.

Since the move to the Wallace Building, the Ed Leith Cretaceous Menagerie has been created and the R.B. Ferguson Museum of Mineralogy has been expanded. Research lab facilities have been redesigned using state of the art, analytical and data processing equipment.

Over the department’s history, many individuals have passed through its doors. In addition to faculty, technical and office staff have spent significant portions of their careers in the department to support and advance world-class research and to ensure that students receive the necessary advice and assistance. Research associates, post-doctoral fellows, adjunct professors and visiting researchers have made significant contributions to research and student progress.

Without question the most important component of the department throughout its history has been the students, who provide the department with a sense of accomplishment and pride and ensure the department’s continued growth and success.

Department of Geological Sciences
CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS 2010

The department of geological sciences at the U of M has several exciting projects underway to commemorate its centenary.

Winnipeg Weekend 2010. A department reunion will be held at the University of Manitoba during the weekend of August 27 to 29, 2010. The reunion will include a “beer and bull” session in University Centre on Friday evening and an open house and formal welcome in the Wallace Building on Saturday afternoon/evening. On Sunday, alumni can visit the Star Lake Field Station.

Department History Wall and Mosaic Map of Manitoba Geology. These important displays will be added to the department to celebrate the centenary. The fundraising campaign is now underway to complete the projects.

GeoCanada 2010. A special technical session will be held at the GeoCanada 2010 Conference, May 10 to 14, 2010 in Calgary. The theme of the session will be geological processes over time in central Canada. The follow-up project is a special issue of the Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences.

Jack Gallagher Visiting Scientists. Two prominent geoscientists have accepted invitations to be Jack Gallagher Visiting Scientists during the centenary year. Mary-Jen Mihychuk, Corporate Relations Services, will visit in March, and Alan Green, Institute of Geophysics, ETH Zurich will visit in September. The program’s endowment fund was established by Jack Gallagher in 1990.

Updates for the Winnipeg Weekend and the other centenary projects are available at www.umanitoba.ca/geoscience and on our Facebook page (Geological Sciences, University of Manitoba).
Coffee with a co-worker

The Bulletin plays 10 or 20 questions with Natalie Danesovych.

Coffee or tea? Coffee with milk; hazelnut cream-flavoured coffee, really. Tea, weak and with no cream or sugar. A tea bag goes a long way at my house.

Though it doesn’t seem possible when you see her, manager of university special events Natalie Danesovych has worked at the university for more than 42 years. She began part-time work when she was 17 and became full-time staff in 1987; she will retire this August. Originally from Winnipeg, Danesovych lived in Vancouver for a short time and and says she really missed the sunshine. (As her office neighbour, I can attest that Natalie is generally pretty sunny herself! Ed.) From the sounds of it, she is already full of plans for life after U of M, including keeping up with her duties as Norwegian Honorary Consul in Manitoba and a school program for grades three and five called “Everyone Wants to Be a Viking.” Read on to find out more about this energetic, exuberant woman.

People on campus might know you because ... I have always walked to work.

Name a couple of items you have sitting on or posted at your desk. A picture of my husband David and son Kyle; a doll that was a gift from the Embroiderers’ Guild of Canada.

Favourite vacation: I would like to see the pyramids in Oslo!

If you could visit any place in the world, where would it be? Is it a mysterious, far-off place? I visited family in the Lofoten Islands, up past the Arctic Circle, and played golf in the midnight sun. I also had an audience with their majesties, King Harald and Queen Sonja at the palace in Oslo.

Mention one thing that not too many people may know about you. I like to dance and in my next life, I will be a ballroom dancer.

Anything else you’d like others to know about you? I would love to own a sports car. A convertible, of course.

Name a word you really like. Kindness.

What will you miss about working at the campus? I will miss the people, the friends I have made, the social network. I can’t believe I have been on campus over 40 years. I have had many wonderful opportunities and I have learned so much, for which I am very thankful.

Do you have any pets? One black cat, “Jack,” who thinks he’s a dog. In a movie about your life, who would play you? I asked a friend this question and she said Meryl Streep.

Name a word you really like. Kindness.

Your idea of fun is … As organized; I don’t have any idea what to do.

Do you have any pets? One black cat, “Jack,” who thinks he’s a dog. In a movie about your life, who would play you? I asked a friend this question and she said Meryl Streep.

Hidden talent? Sewing.

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From the Archives

Storyteller’s fonds of The Shaman’s Nephew

For those interested in the creative process undertaken by writers, from the inception of an idea to the published version of a story, the University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections’ recently acquired Sheldon Oberman fonds is surely akin to a treasure trove. Oberman (1949-2004), Winnipeg’s beloved storyteller and author, left behind a multitude of records that document his stories from beginning to end. The Shaman’s Nephew (1999), a book about Inuit artist Simon Tookoome’s life in the far north, is particularly well recorded; the fonds includes proposals and storyboards for the project, which began in 1989 when Oberman met Tookoome while on tour, drafts of the story, research materials consisting of slides of Tookoome’s art, correspondence, photographs documenting a presentation and signing of the book at McNally Robinson, and finally, countless newspaper and magazine reviews of the published story. One of the most interesting pieces included in the Oberman fonds is a letter from Tookoome, handwritten in his native language and translated into English by his daughter. This letter, like The Shaman’s Nephew itself, symbolizes the crossing of boundaries between two incredibly distinct cultures. Due to the existing records relating to The Shaman’s Nephew, researchers are given an intriguing and privileged glimpse into one writer’s creative journey. 

-Brenna McGregor, archival studies student and intern at the U of M, Dafoe Library Archives & Special Collections

Photo by Marianne Mays Vieira

Oberman and Tookoome with their book.
Recommended Reading, cont.

DAVID R. MOSSCROP: Being in the Faculty of Environment, Earth and Resources and part of the department of environment and geography, two books that I found interesting were Vadim Smid’s The Earth’s Biosphere: Evolution, Dynamics, and Change and Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed by Jared Diamond. Smid’s book is a great book that explains the work that shows the evolution of the earth leading to civilization. The discussion of how the atmospheric forms and its composition sheds new light on our current climate change with increasing levels of CO2, nowhere near the levels in prehistoric eras, but will well worth the effort. Collapse seemed to be a somewhat natural follow-on from Smid’s book. It has been called “brilliant, illuminating, and immensely absorbing” and “destined to take its place as one of the essential books of our time, raising the urgent question: How can our world best avoid committing ecological suicide?”

From longer ago, I like Laurence Gonzales’ Deep Survival: Who Lives, Who Dies, and Why. Gonzales’ first-hand scientific book on survival. Not directly related to climate change, but this book is extremely interesting as it reinforces how it is not just one thing at a time to lead to disaster, but rather a whole series of seemingly unrelated events that when put together in the right (or wrong) combination can have dire consequences. This book has become a great reference book for me and I suggest that anyone in the role of marketing, graphic design or branding should have a copy handy at their desk.

Through the second book I recommend is The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon. This book is written from the perspective of Christopher, an autistic fifteen year old, who discovers his neighbor’s dog impaled by a pitchfork. Christopher sets out on a detective hunt to find out how the dog was killed. Although the book’s feature isn’t so much on why the dog was killed but more on the way Christopher goes about finding the killer and the life changing event that occurs along the way. This is a wonderful story that can easily be read within a couple of days.

One last book I recommend is The Complete Graphic Designer by Ryan Hombre. This book provides ideas for design and gives a great overview of the issues designers face every day. It starts from a very basic level of design and works its way through the process to assist in creating a strong identity or branding campaign. This book has become a great reference book for me and I suggest that anyone in the role of marketing, graphic design or branding should have a copy handy at their desk. Brandy O’Reilly is an information officer at St. Paul’s College and the events coordinator for the Faculty of Architecture.

To recommend books for our “Recommended Reading” series, send an e-mail to bulletin@umanitoba.ca

Eugenia Foster is the chair of Brandy’s friends at the St. Paul’s College and the events coordinator for the Faculty of Architecture.

Project ROSE: UPDATE

The U of M has undertaken two resource optimization projects (entitled ROSE and OARS) aimed at finding ways to improve service, reduce costs, eliminate duplication, share resources, leverage technology and apply best practices. In each issue, The Bulletin features articles or interviews with faculty and support staff involved with the projects.

The ROSE (Resource Optimization Service Enhancement) project has reached an important milestone with the completion of the Design Phase, including the “To Be” designs or visions across all of the work streams. The next step for ROSE will result in selected designs being implemented. Another exciting achievement for ROSE is the launch of the IT Bannatyne Deskside Services Pilot, involving the Faculties of Dentistry, Medicine and Pharmacy.

“TO BE” Designs

The “To Be” designs — vision options — for all of the work streams have been completed through collaborative workshops processed the designs describing how current processes could function in the future by applying the detailed understanding of current processes, findings, opportunities, and strengths. A detailed benefits case for change is included, articulating improvements we can expect to achieve as a result of the recommended process changes.

Example

The student services work stream examined how for process optimization: Admissions, Student Recruitment and Financial Aid & Awards. Within admissions, the objectives were to increase student yield rates, reduce the level of service and reduce costs wherever applicable. The work stream studied many of the current processes and designed a future vision that incorporates the following key features:

• Development of an end-to-end process with a student portal-driven strategy
• Ability for students to check application status at any time
• Provisional offer letters based on self-declared marks
• Electronic file maintenance of all relevant student information (offer letter)
• Scanning of all paper-based documents into the system for processing
• Creation of a robust, easy-to-use database for efficient credit transfer processing

The time and manual effort in the processing of applications would be reduced. Students, the admissions office and departments would have improved status reporting and visibility into the admissions process. Strategic enrollment management would be possible with the ability to create reports and measure yield rates.

Next Steps

The future options, implementation plans and the benefits for change for each of the work streams were presented to the steering committee as the first step in the process to determine which options to move forward. Further discussions will occur with the project sponsors and university leadership. The final scope, timing and prioritization will be discussed in August. The university has decided on what the future phase will entail, details and support for the plans will be provided.

IT Bannatyne Deskside Services Pilot

The IT Bannatyne Deskside Services Pilot started on July 21, 2010 and will run until September 30, 2010. The pilot is providing central IT support to administrative users in the faculties of Dentistry, Medicine and Pharmacy at the Bannatyne Campus, aiming to enhance the service, support and efficiency in providing services.

The initiative is piloting a service model that could potentially be adapted and deployed university wide. This model has a centrally managed process — workload interactions are logged and monitored centrally, shared resources are pooled across faculties, standard processes are implemented and staff members have supports for career development. For more information about the pilot, please visit the pilot website: http://umanitoba.ca/stl/bannatyne-pilot/
**TRANSPORT INSTITUTE: THE 6TH SUPPLY CHAIN CONNECTIONS CONFERENCE**

**September 29 to 30, 2010**

Transportation requirements and alternatives for moving goods and people to and from northern places. Air, rail, road and water transportation are all involved in meeting the needs of northern communities and shippers, including the retail and resource sectors.

Join us in Winnipeg at the Delta Hotel on September 29 to 30, 2010 as we bring the key players on this issue together. Register online at www.umt.ca and take advantage of our early bird rate of $395 (Cdn) plus GST if you register and pay prior to August 20, 2010. After August 20, the regular registration fee will be $450 plus GST (Canadian funds). This cost includes: two breakfasts, two luncheons, all breaks PLUS the banquet on September 29. Contact: Kathy Chmelnitzki at 204.474.9097 or email transport_institute@umanitoba.ca for further details.

**RECYCLE YOUR BOOKS FOR CASH**
in front of the Fort Garry BookStore
August 16 to September 15

### Upcoming Faculty of Music Events

All music events take place in Eva Clare Hall unless otherwise indicated.

- **August 25, 8:00 p.m.**, Karl Kohut, master’s recital in Jazz Bass
- **September 15, 8:00 p.m.**, Crystal Schwartz, 3rd year Trumpet recital
- **September 23, 7:30 p.m.**, University Homecoming Faculty Gala Concert

Free tickets required: contact Alumni Association for information. Contact: Kathy Chmelnitzki at 204.474.9097 or email uofmchoirauditions.blogspot.com/

### Academic Job Opportunities

A full listing of employment opportunities at the University of Manitoba can be found at umanitoba.ca. 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 preference. Please include the position number when applying for opening at the University of Manitoba.

**FACULTY OF AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD SCIENCES**

**Department of Entomology**

Position: Tenure track position at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor in Plant Protection Entomology

**Start Date:** January 1, 2011

**Deadline:** October 15, 2010

**Position Number:** 11753

For Information: Dr. N. J. Holliday, Chair, Search Committee, Department of Entomology, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences, University of Winnipeg, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3T 2N2 Canada; (204) 474-6000; fax 474-7626; email Neil.Holliday@umanitoba.ca

**EXTENDED EDUCATION**

Position: Instructor I and II; up to four positions available: two probationary instructor I or II positions (#11676 and #11755) and two 3-year term instructor I/II positions (#11754 and #11822)

**Start Date:** October 1, 2010

**Deadline:** September 19, 2010

**Position Number:** 11676 and 11755; 11754 and 11822

For Information: Dr. Lori Wallace, Director, Extended Education, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3T 2N2, email lwallac@cc.umanitoba.ca, (204) 474-8010

**FACULTY OF DENTISTRY**

**Department of Restorative Dentistry**

**Position:** Tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Division of Endodontics

**Start Date:** January 1, 2011

**Deadline:** October 15, 2010

**Position Number:** 11677

For Information: Dr. Igor Pesun, Endodontic Search Committee Chair, D227B-780 Bannatyne, Winnipeg MB R3E 0W2; Electronic submission to pesun@cc.umanitoba.ca

**FACULTIES OF MEDICINE & GRADUATE STUDIES**

**Physician Assistant Education Program (PAEP)**

Position: Assistant/Associate Professor in the Department of Restorative Dentistry; Associate Dean for Clinical Operations and Patient Services

**Start Date:** November 1, 2010

**Deadline:** September 19, 2010

**Position Number:** 11862, KE680

For Information: Dr. Anthony M. Iacopino, iacopino@cc.umanitoba.ca, Dean, Faculty of Dentistry, D113-780 Bannatyne Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3E 0W2

**FACULTIES OF ARTS & GRADUATE STUDIES**

**Program Director, Office of Physician Assistant Education for an**

Open until filled

**Deadline:** September 19, 2010

**Position Number:** 11753

For Information: Mr. Ian Jones, Acting Program Director, Office of Physician Assistant Education, Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba, P.O. Box 177-770 Bannatyne Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3E 0W3, fax 204 272 3068

**FACULTY OF ARTS**

**Department of Sociology**

**Position:** Tenure-track appointment at the rank of Assistant Professor in the area of Health Sociology

**Start Date:** July 1, 2011

**Deadline:** October 1, 2010

**Position Number:** 11677

For Information: Dr. Lisa Comack, Head, Department of Sociology, 318 Hatcher Building, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2, email lcomack@cc.umanitoba.ca, (204) 474-9673

**Bison Sports Corner**

**72 U of M student-athletes have qualified for**

CIS Academic All-Canada status by maintaining a minimum grade point average of 3.5 (80%) in their field of study at the completion of the 2009-2010 season. This is the third consecutive season that over 70 Bison student-athletes earned this prestigious honor.

Highlighting the list include Bison women’s soccer and track & field athlete Jennifer Campbell, who completed her Bison career by earning this prestigious honor for five consecutive years. There are also six Bison student-athletes earning this honor for four consecutive Bison women’s sports: hockey players Chelsea Braun, Erica Holmes; women’s soccer players Kathryn Ateah and Lianna Bestwater plus men’s cross country/track & field athlete Barrett Hildreth and women’s track and field athlete Meaghan Wong.

“It is exciting to see so many of our student-athletes achieve this honor on more than one occasion throughout their career at the University of Manitoba,” said Colean Dufresne, Bison Sports Athletic Director.

The overall percentage of Bison student-athletes named as CIS Academic All-Canadians has been at 20% or higher over the last six consecutive years.

“These young men and women should be commended for truly exemplifying the true meaning of the words student-athlete by excelling both in the classroom and on the field of play,” said Dufresne.

- Chris Reid

**Events**

- The Bulletin publishes events involving the university community at no cost.
- The deadline for the September bulletin is September 1 at 4:30 p.m.
- E-mail events to bulletin@umanitoba.ca

**Upcoming Faculty of Music Events**

All music events take place in Eva Clare Hall unless otherwise indicated.

- **August 25, 8:00 p.m.**, Karl Kohut, master’s recital in Jazz Bass
- **September 15, 8:00 p.m.**, Crystal Schwartz, 3rd year Trumpet recital
- **September 23, 7:30 p.m.**, University Homecoming Faculty Gala Concert

Free tickets required: contact Alumni Association for information. Contact: Kathy Chmelnitzki at 204.474.9097 or email uofmchoirauditions.blogspot.com/

**ENSEMBLE AUDITIONS:** Students, faculty and staff from all faculties and community members are invited to audition for the faculty of music ensemble.

**Dates:** Monday, September 29 to 30, 2010

For an audition time, contact Nora Giesbrecht at 474-9310 or to book a choir audition visit http://uofmchoirauditions.blogspot.com/
New research links antibiotics during infancy to heightened risk of inflammatory bowel disease diagnosis in childhood

BY KATIE CHALMERS-BROOKS

University of Manitoba researchers have uncovered a major clue about which children may be more at risk for developing inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), a lifelong condition that continues to mystify scientists.

Their findings suggest infants given antibiotics before age one may be three times more likely to develop this chronic and painful disease. Comprised mainly of two ailments—ulcerative colitis and Crohn’s disease—IBD attacks the gastrointestinal tract, causing fatigue, recurring diarrhea, and bloody stool, and takes a significant toll on the quality of life of those affected.

Led by Charles Bernstein, professor of medicine and director of the university’s IBD Clinical and Research Centre, the study compared the antibiotic prescription rates during the first year of life for children who were eventually diagnosed with IBD, and the rates among children who don’t have IBD.

Bernstein, along with Souradet Shaw, a research fellow at the centre, discovered 60 per cent of kids with IBD had received at least one antibiotic prescription before their first birthday, compared to 39 per cent of children who don’t have IBD.

“ IBD attacks the gastrointestinal tract, causing fatigue, recurring diarrhea, and bloody stool, and takes a significant toll on the quality of life of those affected.”

Shaw acknowledges there are limitations to the study, given its smaller sample size since pediatric IBD is rare, but says the findings “open the door for others to explore this association.”

“We haven’t proved causality, but we’ve gone a little.”

The sample size will continue to grow as more children are diagnosed. The researchers also plan on looking at specific types of antibiotics prescribed, antibiotics exposure later in life, and possible complicating factors such as a family history of the disease.

There is no cure for IBD but there are drugs to control the condition. These drugs are particularly costly so any advancement in this field could ultimately have a positive impact on the healthcare system, says Shaw.

Manitoba has one of the highest rates of reported IBD in the world, he notes. Shaw suspects this likely has something to do with genetics but the causes of the disease remain unknown. Scientists believe a genetic predisposition accompanied by “some sort of triggering factor” plays a role.

“What that factor is, nobody really knows and what genetics are involved nobody really knows,” says Shaw. “It’s kind of a big mystery. We’re just putting in one piece of the puzzle.”

IBD attacks the gastrointestinal tract, causing fatigue, recurring diarrhea, and bloody stool, and takes a significant toll on the quality of life of those affected.

Souradet Shaw says new findings could make doctors think twice about prescribing antibiotics to babies before age one.
Double win part of ‘high moment’ for School of Art

BY MARILIANNE MAYS WIEBE

The Bulletin

U of M art grads Sherrie Rennie (Sculpture 2010) and Laura Magnusson (Sculpture 2010) were winners in the national juried competition BMO Financial Group’s 1st Art! Invitational Student Art Competition 2010 and will participate in the fall exhibition at Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art (MOCCA), Toronto, from October 6 to October 31.

Rennie’s sculpture entitled Inner-city ‘Bred’ took the national grand prize. Her work was submitted by U of M head of sculpture Gordon Reeve, who says that the piece makes a comment about “what it means to come from a life of poverty. The sculpture is bread that is dry and mouldy. It’s about eating something that is just dust in your mouth.”

“This is someone who has walked the walk. A work of art has that kind of power.”

Rennie says that it was Reeve who told her to focus on making work that comes from her experience. “If you’ve lived it,” he said, “that’s what you should be doing. That’s the work that is strongest.”

In addition to the $5,000 Rennie received for her win, the national winner’s submission will become part of BMO Financial Group’s corporate art collection.

What I Know of Mermaids by Laura Magnusson was declared the Manitoban art collection. Her win, the national winner’s submission will be strongest.”

What you should be doing. That’s the work that is strongest.”

In addition to the $5,000 Rennie received for her win, the national winner’s submission will become part of BMO Financial Group’s corporate art collection.

What I Know of Mermaids by Laura Magnusson was declared the Manitoban provincial winner. Echoing the aesthetics of fairytale, the cabinet is intended to emulate the act of leafing through a book. Magnusson says that the sculpture is small reliquary that holds the “imagined remains of countless former selves,” and reflects on her childhood, “a time when the mind had yet to know better; a time before the death of giants and elves.”

13 winners in all — one successful student from every province and territory — were awarded $2,500 for her or his submission; the 1st Art! Invitational Student Art Competition celebrates exceptional achievements by studio arts undergraduate students in each province and territory in the country. Students are selected for entry in the competition by deans, instructors or administrators of their institutions, with final adjudication by six selection committee members including members of BMO Financial Group and artists, curators, educators, art dealers and gallery directors from across Canada.

In addition to their awards monies, each winner is given an all-expenses-paid trip to Toronto to attend the opening reception of the 1st Art! 2010 exhibition and his or her art piece will appear in a national advertisement.

U of M sculpture professor Gordon Reeve notes that the exceptional work by both graduates is an indication of the high level of talent in the undergraduate fine arts program, which expands this fall to include a new graduate program. “We’re at a very high moment in the U of M School of Art,” he says. “Some of the best artists in North America right now are from our school.”

Three University of Manitoba projects have won 2010 Prairie Design Awards. Administered by the Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta Architects Associations, the winners of this year’s Prairie Design Awards were announced at the recent Royal Architectural Institute of Canada/The Saskatchewan Association of Architects Festival held in Saskatoon in June 2010.

An Award of Excellence went to Cibinel Architects Ltd. for the H2Office in Winnipeg at University of Manitoba’s Smart Park. Awards of Merit were awarded to Cibinel Architects Ltd. for the Apotex Centre at the University of Manitoba’s Faculty of Pharmacy in Winnipeg and to LM Architectural Group for the University of Manitoba’s John A. Russell Building exterior envelope replacement.

Cibinel Architects is also the company responsible for other U of M architectural undertakings including the U of M Archives and U of M Bookstore renovations.

Sedulous

Sedulous (sed-uh-luhs) adjective: involving great care, effort and persistence. From Latin se (without) + dolus (trickery, guile). Ultimately from the Indo-European root del — (to count or recount) that is also the source of tell, tale, talk — and Dutch tale (speech, language).

Usage

“Elizabeth Bishop was sedulous, pernickety, quietly determined; she would work on poems for years.”

Elizabeth Bishop and Robert Lowell; The Economist (London, UK); Nov 20, 2008.

What I’m listening to

Black Mountain’s In The Future (2008) has been bending my mind all summer with their 21st century take on 1960s and 1970s rock and folkscapes. These Vancouverites will take you on a winding journey through the cosmos while periodically bringing you back to earth with tracks such as “Stay Free,” and “Angels.” If you are a fan of Neil Young, Jefferson Airplane, Black Sabbath and Pink Floyd — you need to go on this space odyssey.

— Jackie Duhard Communications Coordinator, Faculty of Education