New Active Living Centre plans unveiled

The buzz on campus is growing as students and staff learn about the University of Manitoba’s plans to build an ultra-modern 100,000 sq. ft. active living facility that will rival any in Western Canada.

Called the Active Living Centre, the new four-storey, open-concept facility with its luminous glass exterior will be erected adjacent to Frank Kennedy Centre at the corner of Dafoe Road and University Crescent and, because of its stylish modern design, is destined to be a centerpiece on campus.

“This is an extremely exciting project that will have an enormous impact on the university community,” says university president David Barnard. “Not only will the centre become a primary gateway to the heart of campus, but it will also enhance significantly the University of Manitoba’s commitment to a culture of active living.”

Scheduled to be completed as early as 2013, the Active Living Centre will replace the Gritty Grotto and will be able to accommodate up to 1,200 fitness buffs at the same time, making it the largest active living facility in Manitoba. The centre is also designed to be a hub of social activity with a large student agora where students, staff, and members of the community can hang out, jump online, and grab a bite to eat.

“There is no question that the Active Living Centre will enhance student experience at the University of Manitoba,” says Gary Thompson, director of Active Living. “In addition to the modern amenities, the space will cultivate a sense of belonging and community that is so important to an engaged student culture.”

The mission of the Active Living Centre and its related projects, explains Thompson, is to support students in their endeavor to develop healthy physical activity habits that they will practice for the rest of their lives and then model for the next generation.

“The University of Manitoba is doing its part to contribute to a healthier Manitoba,” he adds.

Active Living Centre highlights include its connected to the Frank Kennedy Centre at three levels, and by tunnel to the Faculty of Architecture, a 200-metre track that will circle the fourth floor and offer views of the floors below and the campus outside, large exterior windows will allow passers-by to view students, staff and members of the community working out, a large open fitness floor with the most modern cardio and weight equipment available, 12-metre climbing wall, three multi-purpose rooms for yoga, Pilates and dance, and disability-accessible features.

See the U of M YouTube channel for more at: >>youtube.com/YouManitoba
AIDS/HIV breakthrough may lead to vaccine
February 16, 2011

CBC Medical microbiology's Frank Plummer and microbiology's Adam Burgen were featured in a story about how a reduced immune system might actually be the best defence against the AIDS virus. Plummer and his team studied what happens if an immune system doesn’t fight back. The secret is trying to make an immune system pustula so the deadly virus never takes hold, said Plummer. Plummer has studied sex trade workers in Africa since 1985. “One of the signature characteristics of these [women] is that they have what we call a quiescent immune, or if you like, a ‘sleepy immune’ system,” Plummer recently told an audience at an international conference in Winnipeg. Plummer and his research team hope their discovery will lead to the creation of an HIV vaccine gel.

Eat well and smile
February 10, 2011
Ottawa Citizen

Many people with bad teeth and swollen, inflamed gums might be malnourished, even though their food intake is adequate. Malnutrition can be caused by having too much of the wrong kind of food as well as by having too little to eat. Either way, the effect on the development and condition of teeth, gums and overall health is profound. “We seem to be gravitating to a more unhealthy lifestyle and there are a lot of potential contributors to the level of inflammation of the entire body,” says Anthony Iacopino, dean of the U of M’s Faculty of Dentistry and director of the International Centre for Oral-Systemic Health. “Keeping your teeth clean and getting professional preventive care from the dental team is relatively easy and relatively cost-effective.”

Bio-identical hormone therapy raising flags
February 11, 2011

CBC Richard Boroditsky, a professor in the department of obstetrics, gynecology and reproductive sciences, provided context to an article on bio-identical hormone replacement therapy. The therapy also known as BHRT, is used to treat the symptoms of menopause and it depends on hormones derived from plants such as yam and soya. BHRT has been growing in popularity because of fears over risks from traditional hormone replacements, derived from the urine of pregnant horses. But other doctors are raising flags, warning that unless the hormone estrogen is balanced with progesterone, women could be putting themselves at risk of developing uterine cancer. “To say it’s bio-identical doesn’t mean it’s safe,” Boroditsky said. To avoid the risk of uterine cancer most women taking estrogen also need to take progesterone, he says. While most bio-identical therapies use progesterone creams, Boroditsky says women can’t be sure of the levels of hormones they’re getting. “We’ve known this for years, that if woman is un-opposed estrogen, she increases her risk eight to 10 times over the normal risk of developing uterine cancer. “To say it’s bio-identical doesn’t mean it’s safe,” Boroditsky said. To avoid the risk of uterine cancer most women taking estrogen also need to take progesterone, he says. While most bio-identical therapies use progesterone creams, Boroditsky says women can’t be sure of the levels of hormones they’re getting. “We’ve known this for years, that if woman is un-opposed estrogen, she increases her risk eight to 10 times over the normal risks of developing cancer of the uterus.”

Not so dry an event
February 7, 2011

CTV, CBC, Global TV Winnipeg Free Press

The U of M’s Drought Research Initiative, whose chair is environment and geography’s Ronald Stewart, took the first steps towards addressing climatic extremes in Canada by hosting a workshop for researchers and policy-makers. Climate extremes are arguably the most significant issue associated with climate change. The thought leaders at this workshop developed a consensus on the critical elements that should be included in a science plan on understanding and adapting to extremes. On Feb. 9, the Disaster Research Initiative held a workshop discussing Winnipeg flooding, its past and future. Emad Dag, director of the Natural Resources Institute, was quoted in media.

Headlines

“Civilian commission to oversee police, Criminologist to head nine-member body,” Winnipeg Free Press, Feb 12, 2011, story about sociology’s Rick Linden heading a commission that will advise government on police matters.

“Frederick Karl Kristjansson: A pioneer in genetics,” Frederic Karl Kristjansson. A pioneer in genetics, he was at the deputy minister level, most recently as Deputy Minister of Finance. Wright retired from his position as Deputy Minister of Finance on July 8, 2009, the 35th anniversary of his employment in the public service of Canada. He was presented with the Outstanding Achievement Award of the Public Service of Canada on June 30, 2005 by the Prime Minister of Canada.

The Pierre Elliot Trudeau Foundation announced ten new mentors for 2011, including University of Manitoba alumnus Robert Wright. All mentors are accomplished Canadians who will provide personal and professional guidance conducted by Trudeau scholars. Key areas where for the scholars include citizenship, Canada’s role on the global stage, human rights, dignity and the environment. Robert Wright has 35 years of experience in politics, policy and management.

Community service recognized

Helen Wang, an international student advisor at the U of M, was honored by Winnipeg Mayor Sam Katz for her volunteer efforts in making citizens of China feel welcome when they arrive in Winnipeg. She accepted the Mayor’s Award for Excellence in Community Service at a special ceremony on February 9.

“I feel honored to accept the award,” said Wang. “However, the amount of work that goes in to making new citizens feel welcome to our city involves hundreds of volunteers and countless hours. I’ve accepted this award on their behalf as well.”

Wang is also the editor-in-chief for The Manitoba Chinese Tribune. The 10-year organization consists of a group of volunteers who publish articles on a bi-monthly basis about the Chinese-Canadian community.

The amazing part is that our efforts in putting together The Manitoba Chinese Tribune are done on a voluntary basis,” said Wang. “That alone shows you we believe in supporting Chinese Canadians with news and cultural events not just in Winnipeg, but around the world.”
New initiatives within the human resources stream

Streamlining the hiring process to attract and retain the best and brightest staff to the University of Manitoba is just one of the initiatives being implemented in Human Resources to support the Resource Optimization and Service Enhancement (ROSE) project.

The Human Resources stream is one of the key components of the ROSE project. There are three initiatives that utilize technology to improve the recruitment process. The first is an upgrade of the Human Resource Information System (also known as VIP) to a web-based platform. Once this is complete, the Employee Self-Service Portal and Management Information Portal will be implemented which will improve HR interactions at the University of Manitoba. The third and equally important initiative is eRecruitment.

A robust recruitment system is critical to ensuring the University of Manitoba is identifying and attracting highly qualified people who will enhance the services we provide and contribute to our staff community. The recruitment process is often the first contact these prospective employees have with an organization. It’s crucial that this interaction be positive, timely and responsive so the recruitment process can be successful.

This process is also expensive and time-consuming, so it needs to work as efficiently as possible to help us find the right candidates and get them into positions quickly and easily. As the pool of qualified candidates continues to shrink, highly qualified people are often lost to other institutions and organizations due to the amount of time it takes to fill a position. As well, HR staff, hiring managers, and selection committees often spend countless hours reviewing applications, and staff are required to do the same. eRecruitment is designed to assist the hiring process by making it easier for both applicants and the University to get in touch.

An additional benefit of eRecruitment is the reduction in printing costs because those involved in the hiring process no longer have to view applications online. This alone represents a saving of $30 to $40 per cent in the cost of copying and distributing resumes, applications and related documentation.

Jan Spak is Director, HR Services and human resource stream leader with the ROSE project. He states that “one of the key strengths of eRecruitment is its overall simplicity and its communication with our applicants. Right now, the only communication we have with many applicants is the acknowledgement letter that will be delivered to them by eRecruitment. If a candidate is not successful, we typically do not have any further communication with the individual.”

Finally, the implementation of eRecruitment will streamline the hiring process, and it will minimize the loss of top candidates to other institutions or organizations. Some institutions estimate that eRecruitment has helped them to reduce the time to hire an applicant by up to 50 per cent. Recruitment paperwork, files and applications saves both time and money. Equally important, because applicants are required to provide complete information, those involved in the selection process have all of the required information when viewing the candidate’s file.

An additional benefit of eRecruitment is the reduction in printing costs because those involved in the hiring process no longer have to view applications online. This alone represents a saving of 30 to 40 per cent in the cost of copying and distributing resumes, applications and supporting documentation.

Spak says eRecruitment will provide applicants with a timely update on the status of their application, and this can include information as to whether they will be progressing to the next phase of the hiring process. The system allows for better communication right up to the offer of a job, and the individual being hired. Furthermore, the new system ensures a consistent method of communication for all departments within the university.

Spak adds: “The immediate follow-up with applicants provides another benefit: the University of Manitoba can become a more responsive employer, supporting our Outstanding Workplace Initiative.”

Patty Sanders, HRIS Manager, says the real savings of the new system is efficiency. “With fewer manual steps involved in the hiring process, we will reduce the amount of time it takes to hire an individual. We are essentially buying a tool that will help us to do our job better and more efficiently.” Both Spak and Sanders note that eRecruitment allows HR to build and maintain a valuable pool of qualified candidates, and to monitor how they move through the system. Its sophisticated tools can be used to quickly identify candidates with particular skills and experience that are urgently needed and/or in high demand. Ultimately, eRecruitment provides a clear indication of how well the recruitment process is functioning and it is meeting the needs of the university.

The implementation of eRecruitment online reaches a much larger target audience, given that there will be 24-hour global access to vacancy information. The gradual rolling out of eRecruitment online is September 2011. At this point, this will only apply to administrative positions. A similar system for hiring faculty members will be considered moving forward.

Schönwetter named associate editor

U of M’s Dieter Schönwetter has been appointed as the first associate editor for “Building Oral Health Training Capacity in Medical Education,” a major initiative funded by the Association of American Medical Colleges and the US government. This initiative will aid physicians understanding of the oral-systemic impact on overall health in order to prepare clinicians to provide comprehensive care that improves patient outcomes. Schönwetter is an assistant professor in the School of Dentistry and cross-appointed in the Department of Psychology. He is the co-editor of the Canadian Journal of Dental Education and has been appointed as the first associate editor for this initiative.

At the University of Manitoba, Schönwetter has cross-appointed to the Department of Psychology and to the Department of Dental Hygiene. Schönwetter has research interests in the fields of health psychology and public health. Schönwetter is a social psychologist who explores the cognitive and affective processes that influence health-related behaviors. Schönwetter is a well-known researcher in the field of graduate teaching and student learning and is particularly interested in the role of technology in teaching.

Schönwetter is the newest editor of this initiative which is sponsored by the Association of American Medical Colleges and the US government. Schönwetter is an assistant professor in the School of Dentistry and cross-appointed in the Department of Psychology. Schönwetter is the co-editor of the Canadian Journal of Dental Education and has been appointed as the first associate editor for this initiative.

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FAST: Funding functions and beyond

University Laval has partnered with the University of Manitoba to offer a unique program to train students to become leaders in the rapidly growing functional food and natural health products sector.

The program was launched February 23 by the head of the University of Laval’s department of nutritional sciences, James House, and the director of Université Laval’s Institute of Nutraceuticals and Functional Foods, Yves Pouliot.

The $1.65 million grant was awarded to Université Laval by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) to establish FAST (Food Advancement through Science and Training).

FAST is a multidisciplinary training program aimed at responding to the pressing needs for highly qualified personnel in the Canadian agri-food, natural health products and biopharmaceutical sectors.

The University of Manitoba is proud to take such an important role in training the future researchers of this burgeoning field,” says David Barnard, FAST director and Vice-Chancellor at the University of Manitoba.

“For years our researchers in a variety of disciplines have been at the forefront of functional food research, discovering how food can address medical issues. Now, with our friends at Université Laval, we will also develop highly qualified research students to continue these important endeavors,“ says Suzanne Fortier, President of NSERC.

“The FAST program will further increase cross-disciplinary research and help to broaden our research centres and provide students with hands-on opportunities to build knowledge and experience beyond regular training programs,” says James House.

“NSERC’s CREATE Program helps graduating students become highly sought-after professional researchers in the nutrition and biopharmaceutical fields, both in Canada and abroad,” says Suzanne Fortier, President of NSERC.

“The FAST program will not only improve the skill set of the next generation of Canada’s research talent, but also to support their retention in the health sciences.”

The health foods and related technologies sector is characterized by a multidisciplinary research and development environment that advances knowledge on the food and nutritional sciences, process engineering, and a strong focus on research and development related to the medical sciences. The new training opportunities generated by FAST will ease the transition of program participants to their future roles in the health foods and related technologies sector.

Aboriginal Medicine graduate honoured

The youngest Aboriginal graduate from the Faculty of Medicine in Manitoba has been awarded the National Aboriginal Achievement Award. Anderson DeCoteau is also the youngest president of the Indigenous Peoples Association of Brandon (IPAB). Under her leadership the IPAC secured an unprecedented budget for project funding. Anderson DeCoteau has played a key role in the development of a series of tools to be incorporated into the curriculum of medical schools across Canada. Projected short- to medium goal, to provide medical students with an understanding of the expansive list of barriers that prevent Aboriginal people from enjoying a good quality of life.

Anderson DeCoteau helped develop a framework and resources to help students understand the inherent barriers of a people suffering and continue to suffer from effects of colonization, oppression and discrimination. She currently leads the population health promotion unit of the Government of Manitoba, and is the acting medical lead.
‘Breaking New Ground’ strikes gold

BY MARIANNE MAVS WEBE
The Bulletin

A special project that brought together University of Manitoba Communications manager LeHan Janzen, U of M professor and Arctic researcher David Barber and the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra (WSO) has now been recognized with a gold medal.

“Breaking New Ground,” the WSO’s 19th Annual New Music Festival program in 2010, presented the collaborative efforts of Barber and two artists, a photographer and a composer. It included the premiere of the specially commissioned “Arctic Symphony” by WSO composer-in-residence Vincent Ho.

For its conception and implementation, the unique artistic project was awarded top honours in the “Projects & Programs — Special Events” category by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) in its annual District VIII communication awards competition on February 24.

When Barber suggested that he might like to incorporate a creative endeavour to tell the story of climate change in the Arctic, Janzen put in an unsolicited call to Ho, who is also an alumnus of the university’s Faculty of Music. She wanted to know whether he would be interested in joining Barber on his state-of-the-art research vessel, the CCGS Amundsen.

He jumped at the opportunity, and in summer 2008, he boarded the icebreaker as part of the ‘Artist on Board’ program through the Circumpolar Flaw Lead System (CFL) study being conducted by U of M researchers. There he was introduced to information from many of the world’s leading Arctic research scientists.

The U of M had been chosen in 2007 to lead the CFL, the largest and most significant climate change research project ever undertaken in the world as part of the two-year long International Polar Year. Involving over 300 researchers from around the world, the project made headlines in the modern era that a ship would attempt to over-winter in this barren, hostile environment. The research icebreaker was sailing and breaking ice — and new scientific ground in the understanding of the causes of climate change — in the high Arctic.

The creative venture that stemmed from the expedition was another first. Ho travelled to the ship and spent almost two weeks living with the researchers to experience the stark landscape and interact with the people who call the area home.

The idea was simply for Ho to produce a piece of new music that would be performed by the WSO. Little did he or Janzen know just how the project would expand and grow, into something quite extraordinary.

The composer returned from the experience with more than inspiration. His enthusiasm was contagious enough for the WSO to toss out its previous ideas for a 2010 theme and reorganize the weeklong festival around Ho’s experience and symphony and the theme of climate change.

He called the partnership historic. It is the first time a new music organization has joined forces with the science community to spread awareness of an issue such as raising environmental awareness.

“I was in a vast open area.” Ho said of his experience. “I was constantly being subjected to the environmental conditions of the region and I was continually surrounded by nature’s angelic beauty. It was there I felt the music needed to express this spiritual connection that had formed.”

As an introduction to Ho’s symphony, Barber David provided the audience with an informative and eye-opening talk on global warming and the Arctic environment. Underscoring his presentation were the stunning images taken by the photographer who accompanied the expedition.

Janzen said that she was pleased to help develop the partnership between the International Polar Year CFL project and the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, and attended the event to join in the standing ovation at the end of the night.

She cited the resulting collaboration between the sciences and the creative arts as a positive example of the vast potential for the university’s civic engagement and social responsibility.

CASE is an international organization for university staff who work in fundraising, recruitment, communications, government relations and related disciplines. Established in 1974, District VIII is the largest CASE of eight North American Districts geographically, encompassing the western Canadian provinces and territories in addition to states in the Pacific Northwest.

New director named

The U of M’s Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences has named a new director of the School of Agriculture.

Michele Rogalsky, a School of Agriculture diploma graduate, has been appointed as the new director of the School of Agriculture.

Karin Wittenberg, the associate dean of research with the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences, says the new director joins the diploma program at a time when it’s been growing.

The U of M Communications manager LeHan Janzen.

Call for Proposals

Major Outreach Projects

The Outreach Committee is committed to enriching and expanding the contacts between the University and all segments of the community, particularly through sharing more effectively its resources within the community. Support is provided for activities that engage the University, its people and programs, with external constituencies that enhance the public good and the University. Guidelines and Application forms can be found under the heading “Major Outreach Awards” on the Vice-President (Academic) & Provost website:

http://www.umanitoba.ca/admin/np_academic/commendations/awardforms.html

The maximum level of support is $5,000 – $7,000. Please note that Outreach funds are very limited. The deadline for submissions is Friday, April 15, 2011. Applications should be submitted to Dr. Karen R. Grant, Vice-Provost (Academic Affairs), and Chair, Presidential Advisory Committee on University Outreach, 208 Administration Building.

Director

University Teaching Services

The University of Manitoba invites applications or nominations for the position of Director of University Teaching Services (UTS).

UTS is a collegial faculty development unit that offers a wide range of programs to enhance teaching and learning at the University of Manitoba (umanitoba.ca/uts). The Director of UTS is a senior academic appointment. Candidates who currently hold a tenured or tenure-track appointment within the University of Manitoba are eligible to apply.

Reporting to the Vice-Provost (Academic Affairs), the Director supervises the work of the Associate Directors, and other program staff (4 FTE plus contract staff). The Director is responsible for exercising leadership in the planning, development, and administration of the faculty development programs of UTS in collaboration with the office of the Vice-Provost (Academic Affairs), the Faculty of Graduate Studies, and the university’s academic and associated support units. The Director also plays an active role in graduate teaching and management development within UTS. The Director is expected to be active in the national and international associations dealing with faculty development matters.

The Director plays a key role in the promotion of teaching at the University of Manitoba. His/her responsibilities fall into three major areas: (1) consultation with faculty, academic administrators, and academic units on learning and teaching issues; (2) the development and implementation of specific UTS programs (e.g., the Peer Consultant Program, the New Faculty Program, the New Faculty Orientation, the Certificate in Higher Education Training); and (3) the conduct, synthesis and dissemination of research on teaching and learning. The incumbent will be involved in confidential consultations with faculty, and will work with deans of faculties/directors of schools in curriculum design, faculty development, and strategies to enhance teaching and learning at the University of Manitoba.

Applicants should have a proven record of accomplishment in teaching and research, and excellent interpersonal and organizational skills. A completed Ph.D. is required, as is extensive experience in faculty, program and/or curriculum development. An understanding of and the ability to contribute to educational change within university cultures, the use of technology in teaching, and experience implementing programs to support the teaching and learning of faculty and students are assets.

The University of Manitoba encourages nominations of, and 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.

The appointment will begin on July 1, 2011; the term is five years (renewable). Review of applications will begin on March 11, 2011. Applications (including CV, a professional dossier, and the names of three references) or nominations should be sent to:

Karen R. Grant, Vice-Provost (Academic Affairs)
Chair, Advisory Committee, Director of the University Teaching Services
208 Administration Building, University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2
Fax: 204-275-1160

Application materials, including letters of reference, will be handled in accordance with the protection of privacy provisions of “The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy” (Manitoba).

Please note that curriculum vitae may be provided to participating members of the search process.

One university. Many futures.

University of Manitoba
U of M raises the bar on Winnipeg’s river trail

BY ANTHONY NEUSTATER
For The Bulletin

After being invited to participate, the U of M’s Faculty of Architecture has been preparing its construction for the 2011 Warming Huts Competition. The second annual competition featured winning designs from Tel Aviv, New York, Philadelphia and Vancouver. The local entry was led by professor Lancelot Coar and was made possible by a large volunteer group of students, faculty, engineers and visiting artists.

Stemming from research on ‘wobbly structures’ developed at the Centre of Architectural Structures and Technology (CAST) at the U of M, Coar proposed a site-specific architecture consisting of a lightweight, compressive fiberglass framing system skinned with a fabric membrane. This fabric was sprayed with water taken directly from the Assiniboine River, on which the structure sits.

The design process took on an experimental nature as the chosen structural system pioneered by Coar this summer had not yet confronted a Winnipeg winter. From testing the form on a scale model to testing structural elements at a one-to-one scale, much of the pre-construction effort focused on proving that the architecture could safely support itself, the ice skin covering, snow and the various wind loads and temperatures present on-site.

Although the site presented these challenges, it also offered opportunities for the architecture to become more ‘tuned’ and specific to the site and project. The frozen river was used as the foundation for the structure by first drilling 22 inches below its surface, and then inserting a one-inch diameter steel rebar. The river water froze around the rebar, acting in a similar way to concrete, hardening itself around the steel and bonding it to the ice. The fiberglass ‘bays,’ which were preassembled on campus, were tied down to the steel using gear clamps.

On the ice at The Forks, the volunteers realized that, due to variables on site, a certain amount of improvisation is needed in the construction of an architecture beyond what is drawn in the studio.

The wind conditions made it too risky to lift and move the structure with the fabric in place and the near frictionless surface of the ice made it impossible to adjust the structure lying down. Instead, each bay was individually attached to the foundations, then to each other, and then the whole structure was bent down to receive the fabric over the tips of the steel, highlighting the unique characteristics of the ‘wobbly structure’ that was being made.

While the warm weather has melted the ice away from the fabric, the warming hut is still open in the pier on the Assiniboine River at The Forks. The structure is organized to allow skaters to experience the warming hut in section, not as a destination, but as a passage.

The fabric acts as a screen for the projection of skaters’ shadows.

Top-seeded student

Silvia Barcellos Rosa, a PhD candidate in plant science at the University of Manitoba, was selected as the recipient of the annual $4,000 scholarship that accompanies the Seed of the Year Award handout by Western Grains Research Foundation. Her research involves the inheritance of leaf rust resistance from the Brazilian spring wheat line Toropi.

Bill Legge, the breeder responsible for the seed that won Seed of the Year for 2010, selected Barcellos Rosa as the scholarship winner and noted that she excels in both academics and research. “The results of Silvia’s research with Toropi could be extremely valuable to wheat producers in the future as wheat breeders incorporate it into new varieties for western Canada,” he said. She was also awarded the 2011 Jeannie Borlaug Women in Triticum Award, named after Jeannie Borlaug, daughter of Nobel Prize winner Norman Borlaug. It is awarded to deserving women scientists in early careers working with wheat.

Architecture alumna wins Prix de Rome

University of Manitoba graduate Samantha Lynch is the 2011 recipient of the Canada Council for the Arts’ Prix de Rome in Architecture for Emerging Practitioners. Awarded annually to a recent graduate of one of Canada’s eleven accredited schools of architecture, the $34,000 scholarship enables the winner to travel across the world, furthering their research and developing additional skills through an internship. Lynch began her studies with a Fine Art degree at the University of Ottawa, followed by a spell of travelling across America before completing a Masters of Architecture at the University of Manitoba. She will use the scholarship money to continue her work on the relationship between human activity, the architectural dimension and the time connection between these two elements through first hand examination of built projects in Western Europe. Lynch will also undertake an internship with Fat Koehl Architekten in Berlin.

Photo by Andrés Swanson
Generosity brings people together and helps build community. It benefits the giver and the receiver. It funds infrastructure and helps enrich our society.

Chris Klassen, a third-year mechanical engineering student, is one of the many students who benefit from the generosity of faculty and staff who support world class teaching and research through their efforts on the job, and also through their charitable giving to the U of M.

Today Chris sits down with law professor Darcy MacPherson to learn why he supports the U of M with charitable gifts.

A Conversation about Giving

Chris Klassen: You already do a lot for the U of M as part of your job. Why do you also give financially?

Darcy MacPherson: If you are involved in something and you don’t support it, how can you ask others to support what you are passionate about? For example, parents of Bison athletes support their kids, drive them around, make time to come watch games and then still make the U of M their priority by giving financially or by becoming involved as Booster Club members. That inspires me. You start to think of the difference you should make.

CK: Your gifts have been towards Women’s Basketball Awards and the E.K. Williams Law Library. Why did you choose these funds?

DM: I’m personally invested in these programs. I support the E.K. Williams Law Library because the printed page is becoming obsolete. And although online resources are great, books should never be obsolete.

CK: What would you say to encourage others to get involved and give?

DM: When an opportunity presents itself, give it a try. From a simple meeting with a colleague, I was asked to become involved with the Canadian Centre on Disability Studies. Five years later I became the President and Chair of the Board. That wouldn’t have happened if I said “no” in the first place. It really is great to give, get invested, make time and encourage your kids to do the same.

Join your colleagues in supporting your university. Visit umanitoba.ca/giving to find out where your donation can make a difference.

Campus as a Community

Cross-cultural experiences can occur anywhere: halfway across the world, three blocks from home, or anywhere in between. The trick is to recognize, reflect on and appreciate these encounters when they occur. Each year, the World Work, Internship, Study and Exchange (W.I.S.E.) Resource Centre and the International Centre for Students (ICS) organize the Global Colours Photo Contest to help do just that.

The competition challenges U of M students to submit photos that represent cross-cultural experiences they’ve had at home or abroad. The result is a spectacular array of photos and experiences that leave a lasting impression.

The goal of the photo contest is to promote cross-cultural understanding among U of M students, and to demonstrate the benefits of international education and experiences. Only U of M students may enter the contest, and photos must portray a cross-cultural experience that has affected the photographer in some way. Each student may submit a maximum of two entries.

Entries were displayed in the Gallery of Student Art (GSoA) during the week of January 31 to February 4 and prizes were awarded to the top three photos. Judging from the quality of photos, it must have been tough to award top spots to only three. Here are the winning photos and some of the other submissions.

1st Place: Sam McDougall (Kinesiology & Recreation Management). In many countries around the world, education is not a privilege that every child has. This little Vietnamese girl has the freedom to play all day while she’s young; her parents own a flower farm up in the mountains near a remote village, so there is simply no school for this child to attend. As she grows up,

2nd Place: Pauline Moss (Kinesiology & Recreation Management). ParentsMichael Barlow (Gerontology). A 9-month old baby from Canada is shown with a 2-month old baby from a remote village in Nigeria. The mother of the Nigerian baby is a flower seller, and the mother of the Canadian baby is a student at the University of Calgary. The two babies were brought together by the local hospital where the Nigerian baby was born.

3rd Place: Alix Fiset (English Literature). A young girl from the small village of Comox, B.C. is shown with her grandmother from the small village of Indimlax’s Village, B.C. in Canada. The two women are shown in front of a house that is a traditional Haida house built on the island of Haida Gwaii.

Other submissions:

1. A group of students from the University of Manitoba are shown with a group of children from the remote village of Indimlax’s Village, B.C. in Canada. The two groups are shown in front of a house that is a traditional Haida house built on the island of Haida Gwaii.

2. A woman from the University of Calgary is shown with a group of children from the remote village of Indimlax’s Village, B.C. in Canada. The two groups are shown in front of a house that is a traditional Haida house built on the island of Haida Gwaii.

3. A group of students from the University of Calgary are shown with a group of children from the remote village of Indimlax’s Village, B.C. in Canada. The two groups are shown in front of a house that is a traditional Haida house built on the island of Haida Gwaii.

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she'll learn how to help out on the farm, and then will probably be married off to another farmer, and continue her life in this way. She really has no other option. This makes me feel both grateful for my own education opportunities, and selfish for having so many freedoms at my fingertips, yet choosing not to take advantage of them.

2nd Place: Daren Zuk (Arts). This photo was taken on the top of Mt. Sinai during sunrise. The top of Mt. Sinai, being the place where Moses received the ten commandments from God, has a Biblical significance for many people of both the Jewish and Christian faiths. The person in the photo is the Bedouin boy who took my group up the mountain to see the sunrise. He told us that he does this climb sometimes five times a day, ascending and descending the same route that Moses would have taken some 3,000 years ago.

3rd Place: Jonathan Ventura (Environment, Earth, and Resources). Volunteering and living in Benin, West Africa, for five months made me realize that my perception of the world was so limited. Volunteering at a children’s rehabilitation centre was the most remarkable experience of my life. The centre had no ‘modern’ forms of technology, simply casts, and braces, but they performed miracles there. My duties as a rehabilitation assistant put me in positions where I had to help stretch limbs, and as a result putting children in extreme pain, which not only made them cry but me as well. They were deprived from birth, having mainly severe physical disabilities that would have been preventable by simple medical care. I will never forget those children, and how much love they had. If they are able to love everyone and anyone, I hope I can too.

Dr. André Helbo
University Libre de Bruxelles
Belgium Member of the Académie Royale des Sciences, des Lettres et des Beaux-Arts de Belgique
Member of the Collége Belge
André Helbo is the founder of modern Theatre Semiotics, and of the semiotics and communications journal Degrés, one of the most prestigious journals in the world in this field, and indeed the most prestigious in the field of theatre semiotics and performance. His work has been translated into Spanish, Korean, German and Dutch. He has published a dozen books on a variety of subjects, including theatre semiotics, performance, and Opera, and hundreds of articles. Dr. Helbo is also the President of the International Association of Theatre Semiotics which is celebrating its thirtieth anniversary in April, 2011 with an international conference. He will be delighted to meet informally with colleagues and students during his five day visit.

206 Tier Building
University of Manitoba, Fort Garry Campus
For more information, contact Dr. Fernando de Toro, 204 474-8141

This event is generously supported by the Office of the President, the Faculty of Arts, and the Department of English, Film, and Theatre.

One university. Many futures.
umanitoba.ca

February 24, 2011
The Bulletin
Coffee With a Co-Worker

The Bulletin plays 10 or 20 questions with Dianne Dugal

Coffee or tea? Coffee, with one milk and two sugars.

I'm not done yet. When her high school teacher was passing out application forms for university, she skipped Dianne Dugal. University wasn't for her, she said. But Dugal's interests and smarts ensured not only that she became educated but that she become a go-getter and a self-starter. She launched her own business that eventually brought her to the very place that her teacher had long before declared unreachable.

And so the university has become a place she values highly, for the opportunity it represents. Her own children have pursued education in various ways as well. What began as helping out with an audit turned into a career; working at the university has meant, for her, she says, the possibility of belonging, and fitting into a role that allows one to shine, to celebrate who you are and where you are. And is there anything that characterizes where she is now? Dugal looks at me with a gleam in her eye. "I know there's more to come," she says. "I'm not done yet!"

- Marianne Mays Wiebe

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From the archives

Taché Hall, completed in 1912, was the largest of the original buildings on the University of Manitoba's Fort Garry campus. In 1912 the new site belonged to the Manitoba Agricultural College which offered a school of domestic science for women and a school of agriculture for men. The campus was made up of only a few buildings: the residence Taché Hall, the Administration Building, and the Home Economics building, all of which remain on campus.

The architects, Samuel Hooper and V.W. Hoorwood, designed Taché Hall so it functioned as a social center as well as a residence. The building accommodated 500 students at a time and consisted of a West wing and an East wing (for boys and girls respectively), two gymnasiums, a swimming pool, a dining room, multiple sitting and reading rooms, and an auditorium. The residence was designed to resemble the Georgian style of the other buildings on campus; however, it is much more eclectic in terms of style than its contemporaries. Taché Hall combines Georgian, English Jacobean, neoclassical and Italian Baroque architectural styles. It was the first students to live in the new residence when it opened its doors in 1912 paid $8.50 per term. This fee included a room rental, board, and tuition.

This photograph (PC 80, Box 15, S39-2), taken shortly after the building was constructed, shows both the original grandeur of the residence as well as the isolation of the early campus.

In May of 2011, Taché Hall will cease being a student residence. It will undergo renovations to become home to music and art students. Taché Hall’s history will be celebrated on May 6 and 7, with events open to the public. This event is in a master's program at U of Saskatchewan and Aimee is studying to become an event planner. We also enjoy having homestay students live with us, who attend various programs at the University of Manitoba.

Nahlah Ayed Prize awarded

The International Centre for Students and World W.I.S.E. Resource Centre has announced the 2011 winners of the Nahlah Ayed Prize for Student Leadership and Global Citizenship as Kirstie Peden and Emem Ukpong.

The prize is awarded annually to two U of M students who demonstrate leadership, passion, and global citizenship through participation in activities that bridge local and global communities in response to emerging issues around the world.

For the past three years, Peden, a Faculty of Medicine student, has served as the chair of the World University Service of Canada Committee (WUSC) at the U of M and has been instrumental in its involvement in the refugee sponsorship program. She is a volunteer at Winnipeg’s WISH Clinic, a student-run health clinic in the inner city, and serves on the Manitoba Health Science’s Student Association. She plans to continue her work serving refugees and other marginalized groups as a doctor, and will pursue her interest in epidemiology and public health.

Ukpong is a student in family social sciences. A citizen of Nigeria, she is involved in many charities and active in her church. She is an advocate for Compassion International, an agency that lobbies for children’s rights around the world. She is also member of the Congress of Black Women of Manitoba, which aims to educate, empower, and mobilize African American women and children, and sits as a councilor for the Graduate Students Association.

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Name one thing that not too many people know about you. I owned and operated a legal document service for 8 yrs.

Favourite childhood memory? Fishing with my family at Cook’s Creek.

Your childhood hero: My dad. He had a saying for everything and always made me laugh.

Something you think is highly underrated: Optimism. Not everything is rainbows and ponies, but if you think positively, you can bring about positive results. Put on your happy face.

Underrated for Dugal? ‘Optimism. Put on your happy face.’

Most educational experience: Creating my own business from ground up. It helped me learn that your business is only as good as what you put in to it. It helped me develop a strong and loyal work ethic that I continue to hold today.

A place you’ve always wanted to visit: Tuscany, Italy. Staying at a villa, and driving in the rolling hills, vineyards and lavender fields. They are calling me!

With friends: I enjoy cooking comfort foods, like making perogies and baking pies.

Sweet or savory? I like both.

You are thrilled to spend free time doing: Driving. Just getting in the car and going for a drive. Where? We’ll know when we get there. It’s a time to think, talk, relax, and dream. And then, it always feels good to come home.

Name a word or phrase you really like and why: “No expectations.” Expect nothing and you won’t be disappointed. You might be pleasantly surprised. Dreams and Goals? Oh yes, dream away. Just don’t expect.

A recent hobby you’ve taken up: My daughter has offered to be my personal exercise trainer. We have good times, and a lot of laughs.

Anything else you’d like people to know about Dianne Dugal? I’m married, and my husband and I have four children between us. Nicole is a French teacher, Chris is a fourth year U of M student, Cherie is in a master’s program at U of Saskatchewan and Aimee is studying to become an event planner. We also enjoy having homestay students live with us, who attend various programs at the University of Manitoba.


What you value in your friends: Understanding.

Describe something eye-opening: When my parents passed away, it was eye-opening.
The University of Manitoba is the only Canadian institution involved in an innovative project to develop American Sign Language (ASL) content standards for students in grades K-12.

The U of M’s Charlotte Enns will act as a consultant on the project. Her previous work has made significant contributions to language development, multilingualism and standards of language acquisition in deaf children.

There is an enormous gap regarding the credibility of ASL as a language of instruction in schools, explained Enns, department head of educational administration, foundations and psychology (EAF&P) in the Faculty of Education. Enns and her research assistant Kya Zimmer recently undertook the task of adapting the Assessing British Sign Language Receptive Skills Test into ASL.

In 2009, Enns was asked to participate in the project ‘Early Education Longitudinal Study.’ Thomas Allen of Gallaudet University in Washington, DC is conducting the study, in which the communication and cognitive development of preschool deaf children across America will be monitored over the three years.

The aim of the project is to outline content standards for the ASL skills that students should have at each grade level; this will allow teachers to better plan instruction by comparing student skills against the standards.

The researcher was chosen to participate because of her expertise in deaf education, language and literacy development, and ASL assessment.

Enns’ work will now contribute to tracking the success of bilingual deaf education programs, in particular, to monitor the progress of children acquiring signed language.

“IT is essential to develop an assessment tool of signed language skills. Although researchers have developed some checklists and experimental tests related to ASL, at this time a standardized measure of ASL does not exist,” said Enns.

“The goal is to involve me as a consultant and to use the ASL assessment tools I am developing with the participating children. This will also provide me with access to various test sites to complete the normative testing and move closer to the standardization of the ASL tests.”

Other team members include researchers from Boston University, University of California, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; California School for the Deaf-Riverside; Indiana School for the Deaf in Indianapolis and The Learning Center for the Deaf in Massachusetts. Dissemination of the final ASL content standards is slated for early 2013.

More about Enns’ work: > www.umanitoba.ca/education/annualreports/20082009/research.shtml

Charlotte Enns and her colleague Rosalind Herman from City University London, holding their signed language tests. Herman’s is the original British Sign Language Receptive Skills Test and Enns’ is the adaptation of the test into ASL.

Charlotte Enns and Rosalind Herman from City University London, holding their signed language tests.
University of Manitoba

Lectures, Symposia, Seminars

Department of Immunology Research Seminar
February 24, 2011, 12:00 to 1:30 p.m.
"Poxvirus Exploitation of the Ubiquitin Protease- and System: Assembly Required" by Michele Barry, PhD, professor, Tier I Canada Research Chair, Research Lead School of Cellular and Microbial Sciences, department of medical virology and immunology University of Alberta, Room 477 (Alex Sehen Seminar Room), 4th Floor Apotex Centre, Bannatyne Campus.

B.S. Rudnyckyj Annual Lecture
Friday, March 4, 3:00 p.m.
"Faces of State: the Last Veterans' Portraits and Voices by Jochen Hellbeck, historian, writer, professor of history Rutgers University. Sponsored by the University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections, the Slavic Collection, Elizabeth Dafoe Library and the Department of German & Slavic Studies. Free, with reception to follow. In Archives & Special Collections, 330 Elizabeth Dafoe Library, Fort Garry Campus.

Department of Immunology Annual Graduate Student Research Presentations
Thursday, March 10, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
"Vitamin D Status and Immune Function in Humans" by Natascha Clark, LSIP student, under the supervision of Kent HayGlass, and "The role of TSLP in modulating the anti-tumor immune response" by Jane Barter Moulaison. At St. John’s College Chapel.

Centre on Aging Research Seminar Series
Wednesday, March 2, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
"The possibilities for a decolonizing research agenda on Indigenous aging" by Silvia Silva, PhD, assistant professor, Faculty of Social Work and Michael Hart, PhD, assistant professor, Faculty of Social Work, Community and Human Development, department of medicine, and co-director of the centre for Aboriginal Health Research. In 539 Drake Centre, Fort Garry Campus.

Lecture
Presented by Health, Leisure & Human Performance Research Institute and Kinesiology & Recreation Management
Thursday, March 3, 10:00 a.m.
"The Geoparks in China" by Kejian Xu, Assistant professor, Faculty of Social Work and Michael Hart, PhD, assistant professor, Faculty of Social Work, Community and Human Development, department of medicine, and co-director of the centre for Aboriginal Health Research. In 539 Drake Centre, Fort Garry Campus.

Department of Immunology Annual Graduate Student Research Presentations
Thursday, March 3, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
"Expression and function of glutamate (NMDA) receptors on T cells in immune regulation in asthma" by Sonia Charran, MSc. student under the supervision of J.B. Rudnyckyj, professor, Tier I Canada Research Chair, Research Lead School of Cellular and Microbial Sciences, department of medical virology and immunology University of Alberta. Room 477 (Alex Sehen Seminar Room), 4th Floor Apotex Centre, Bannatyne Campus.

Events

University of Manitoba

FORT GARRY & BANNATYNE CAMPUSES

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Academic Job Opportunities

A full listing of employment opportunities at the University of Manitoba can be found atumanitoba.ca. U of M 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 a position number when applying for opening at the university.

GSA Annual Speaker Series

Tuesday, March 1, 12:00 to 3:00 p.m.

HNSC 720 Seminar Presentation
Tuesday, March 1, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Properties of pea protein isolates prepared through different treatments" by Dongfang Chao. 206 Human Ecology Bldg. All welcome.

Centre on Aging Research Seminar Series

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"The possibilities for a decolonizing research agenda on Indigenous aging" by Silvia Silva, PhD, assistant professor, Faculty of Social Work and Michael Hart, PhD, assistant professor, Faculty of Social Work, Community and Human Development, department of medicine, and co-director of the centre for Aboriginal Health Research. In 539 Drake Centre, Fort Garry Campus.

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Faculty of Medicine Neuroscience Research Program

Position: Four (4) tenure-track faculty positions are available at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor
Start Date: September 1, 2011
Deadline: April 1, 2011
Position Number: 12019
For Information: Professor Mark Gabbert, Chair, Annual Graduate Research Committee, Department of Neurology.
402 Fletcher Argue Building, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB R3T 5V5 or by email from Sandra_Ferguson@umanitoba.ca

Faculty of Medicine & Child Health Program, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority

Department of Pediatrics and Child Health, Section of Allergy & Clinical Immunology
Position: Clinical Allergy & Immunologist
Start Date: July 1, 2011
Deadline: March 31, 2011
For Information: Karen R. Grant, Vice-Provost (Academic Affairs), Chair, Advisory Committee, Director of the University Teaching Services, 208 Administration Building, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2, fax 204-275-1160

School of Medicine

Clinical Allergist/Immunologist

Position Number: 12557
For Information: Cheryl Rockman-Greenberg, MD, FRCP, FCEM, Professor and Head, Department of Pediatrics and Child Health
Children's Hospital, CBE002 - 840 Sherbrook Street, Winnipeg, MB R3A 1S1, tel. (204) 787-2441, fax (204) 787-4807, e-mail CGreenberg@hsc.mb.ca

Faculty of Arts

Department of History

Position: Full-time tenure-track appointment at the rank of assistant professor in Archival Studies
Start Date: July 1, 2011
Deadline: March 24, 2011
Position Number: 12444
For Information: Professor Mark Gabbert, Chair, Annual Graduate Research Committee, Department of History.
402 Fletcher Argue Building, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB R3T 5V5 or by email from Sandra_Ferguson@umanitoba.ca

University Teaching Services

Position: Director of University Teaching Services (UTS)
Start Date: July 1, 2011
Deadline: March 11, 2011
For Information: Karen R. Grant, Vice-Provost (Academic Affairs), Chair, Advisory Committee, Director of the University Teaching Services, 208 Administration Building, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2, fax 204-275-1160

Position: Assistant professor in Archival Studies
Start Date: July 1, 2011
Deadline: March 11, 2011
For Information: Karen R. Grant, Vice-Provost (Academic Affairs), Chair, Advisory Committee, Director of the University Teaching Services, 208 Administration Building, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2, fax 204-275-1160

Positions are available at the rank of assistant professor.

Faculty of Arts

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UPCOMING MUSIC EVENTS

All music events take place in Eva Claire Hall unless otherwise indicated

February 28, time TBA, Cantata Singers Concert, under the direction of Elroy Friesen, location TBA
March 1, 7:30 p.m., Richard Gillis presents a special trumpet recital with students and colleagues
March 2, 12:30 p.m., Middy recital features guest artist Diana McIntosh
March 2, 8:00 p.m., The Hang at The Orbit Room, 2077 Pembina. A jam session featuring jazz faculty. No cover charge, must be 18+ to attend
March 5, 8:00 p.m. & March 6, 2:00 & 8:00 p.m., Steve Kirby and jazz faculty members back up the Asper Jazz Series performance by Cyrus Chestnut (pianist) and Jackie Ryan (vocalist), at the Rady JCC. 477-7354 for tickets
March 7, 8:00 p.m., Mike Cann, 3rd year Jazz Bass recital
March 8, time TBA, Advanced opera students perform with the Cantata Singers, location TBA
March 8, 7:00 p.m., Tara Davidson Group perform. Tickets at the door.
March 9, 8:00 p.m., The Hang at The Orbit Room, 2077 Pembina
March 10, 8:00 p.m., eXperimental Improv Ensemble (XIE) hosts Jammin the Dragon, an open stage for improvised music with special guest Jean-Francois Laporte, location TBA
March 11 & 12, 8:00 pm, Serge Boucher, location TBA
March 12, 8:00 p.m., "Soul Matters," a presentation of GroundSwell at Plug In (460 Portage Avenue) with featured artists Oleg Pokansky (violin) and Gordon Fitzell (electronics). Contact GroundSwell at 943-5770 for tickets

> More music events at umanitoba.ca/faculties/music/events/index.html
Unraveling The Secrets of a Deadly Virus

BY MAUREEN PAISLEY

Microbiologist Brian Mark and his team of researchers at the University of Manitoba and colleagues at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, are studying the tick-borne virus Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever (CCHF). CCHF has a mortality rate of about 30%, and current treatment options are scarce. Most commonly transmitted by ticks, the virus can infect domesticated animals such as cattle and goats. The animals don’t get sick, but humans do: very sick, in fact, and humans, it appears, are the only species (outside of newborn mice) that get sick from the virus. Although some of the early reported cases of CCHF date back to 1944/45 in Crimea, the virus, and how it affects human immune system, was not well understood until the advent of modern analytical techniques such as three-dimensional (3D) protein x-ray crystallography. These techniques, and the high-tech equipment available to Faculty of Science researchers, now enable Mark’s team to visualize the 3D structure of a viral protein from CCHF as it interacts with proteins that are part of our innate immune system—ubiquitin and ISG15 (interferon-stimulated gene 15)—part of the body’s initial defense against the virus. One of Mark’s collaborators, Adolfo García-Sastre from the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, discovered the ability of CCHF to remove ubiquitin and ISG15 from cellular proteins to shut down the cell’s immune response: a major breakthrough. Mark’s team uncovered the molecular basis for how CCHF actually carries out this extraordinary viral defense tactic.

How does the virus work?

There is something called an ovarian tumor domain-containing protease: an enzyme that clips apart other proteins. Ovarian tumor domain proteases have been found in a wide range of species ranging from humans to yeast to fruit flies, and viruses. The CCHF virus may have scavenged an ovarian tumor domain protease from a host at some point in evolutionary history, and evolved the protease into what it is today: a factor that removes (clips apart) ubiquitin and ISG15 from host proteins, thereby inhibiting our innate immune response to the virus. Scary stuff.

How widespread is CCHF?

There are reports of the disease from more than 30 countries in Africa, Asia, southeast Europe and the Middle East. Individuals considered at risk are those susceptible to tick bites from Hyalomma spp. No need to worry here: these ticks aren’t endemic to Canada. Mark explains that, “CCHF is considered an emerging disease, and it uses a previously unknown tactic to avoid our immune system. It is possible that this viral defense mechanism is used by other viruses and is more widespread than we know.”

The team’s findings have recently been published in the prestigious Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, but the work continues. With an understanding of how the virus functions at the molecular level with the host cell, Mark and his colleagues are in a position to target the viruses’ weaknesses and to explore effective pharmaceutical interventions.

The Manitoba Health Research Council and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada funded Mark’s research.
It takes more than orders to command a group of men and women to bridge a gap. Making the right calls, working in stressful situations and fighting alongside my team, that’s real leadership.

Captain MICHAEL GODARD

WANTED:
ENGINEERING OFFICERS

RECHERCHONS:
OFFICIERS DU GÉNIE

« Donner des ordres, ça ne suffit pas à donner confiance à un groupe d’hommes et de femmes qui doit se frayer un chemin à travers un terrain miné. Prendre les bonnes décisions, gérer les situations de stress et combattre aux côtés de mon équipe, c’est ça, le véritable leadership. »

Capitaine MICHAEL GODARD