The University of Manitoba has teamed up with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the Manitoba government to support a new research collaboration to address fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD). The announcement was made on February 28 by Innovation, Energy and Mines Minister Dave Chomiak.

The Manitoba government will provide up to $750,000 from the Manitoba Research and Innovation Fund for this initiative.

“This new collaboration and partnership is absolutely essential if we want to find solutions to the complicated health challenges facing our world in the 21st century,” said Dr. Digvir S. Jayas, vice-president (research) and distinguished professor at the U of M. “Our researchers, working alongside colleagues at Hebrew University in Israel, will help unlock the key to preventing FASD and translate those findings into better treatments for people around the world.”

A total investment of $11.5 million this year will support ongoing prevention, education, diagnostics, support services and research. “We are pleased to support efforts to bring researchers together from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the University of Manitoba to study FASD and create long-term social, economic and health benefits for Manitobans,” said Chomiak.

Over the next five years, the province will match funds raised by the Canadian Friends of Hebrew University toward a new Canada-Israel FASD research consortium. The support for the Canadian Friends of Hebrew University and the FASD research consortium comes from the Science and Technology International Collaboration component of the Manitoba Research and Innovation Fund.

“We are continually strengthening our continuum of FASD services in Manitoba from prevention through to independent living,” said Healthy Living, Youth and Seniors Minister Jim Rondeau. “This new research collaboration holds exciting potential to move us forward more quickly and make a real difference in people’s lives. I look forward to seeing the overall work that results.”

With a comprehensive strategy integrating the work of eight provincial departments, Manitoba has been aggressively tackling the issue of FASD on many fronts, Rondeau said. Innovative programming includes new initiatives such as Project CHOICES, which is aimed at women who are considered at higher risk for an alcohol-exposed pregnancy, and Stepping Out on Saturdays, a respite day camp that assists FASD-affected children with social skills while providing their caregivers a break, he noted.

The Manitoba Research and Innovation Fund has provided over $90 million in research and innovation support for health and agriculture, technology and aerospace, cultural and new media industries and alternative energy developments.
In the News

Feeding the world: No easy fix
February 26, 2011
The Economist

The Economist newspaper recently came out with a special report on world food supplies and Vaclav Smil, distinguished professor, environment and geography, was quoted. Land, water, fertilizer are the three basic components of farming. Smil comments on the third. Agriculture’s third basic input is nitrogen. Historically, lack of nitrogen, not lack of land or water, has been its biggest constraint. The invention of a process to synthesize nitrogen cheaply into ammonium, a fertiliser, paved the way for the huge increase in food production in the 20th century. Vaclav Smil argues that this process, rather than the transistor or computer, was the century’s most important invention, and that 2.5 billion people would not be alive without it.

Who will target Canada next?
February 28, 2011
Canadian Business

Cross-border shopping once offered a multitude of thrills for Canadians: trawling for brand names at Macy’s, ogling cheap-chic housewares at Target, bargain hunting for factory discounts at a massive Tanger Outlet mall. But one by one, the American brands that once seemed so exotic to Canadian shoppers have expanded north. There will be no space for stereotypical Canadian niceties in a retail landscape dominated by big brands under foreign ownership, says U of M retail marketing professor Rob Warren. “Canadian retailers are going to be forced to be more competitive, or they are going to be forced out of business,” says Warren. “The retail pie is only so big, and it’s going to be the firms that are much more successful in identifying and servicing customer needs that will be successful, and that tends to be the bigger chains.” Warren said he doesn’t expect much of this competitiveness to be based on deep price cuts, since Walmart already dominates that market on both sides of the border. Instead, the companies that survive will be the ones who offer reasonable prices while upping their service level.

Getting harder to smile
March 1, 2011
Ottawa Citizen, Vancouver Sun, Edmonton Journal, Windsor Star, Calgary Herald, Montreal Gazette, The Star Phoenix

The fact we’re living longer and keeping our natural teeth longer is making seniors’ oral health increasingly complex. “For the whole segment of our population that’s aged — many of them in long-term care settings, personal care homes or homebound — very simple oral hygiene and oral care can make such a difference,” says Anthony Iacopino, dean of the U of M’s Faculty of Dentistry and the director of the International Centre for Oral-Systemic Health. According to Statistics Canada, Canadians’ life expectancy is now an average of 80.7 years, compared to 78.4 a decade earlier, and the population balance is changing. In Canada, 4 out of 10 people will be older than 65 by 2036. In 1996, there were 3.5 million seniors in Canada. By 2021, the number is expected to almost double to 6.9 million.

Headlines


Ernest Bevin

Earn a ‘medical diploma’ in just six weeks

BY ILANA SIMON
For The Bulletin

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to attend medical school? Your chance to find out could be the fourth annual Mini Medical School.

Mini Medical School is a six-week lecture series during which Faculty of Medicine professors and researchers offer the general public an in-depth look into current medical issues. The event runs from March 9 to April 20. "Mini Medical School provides the general public with information on the normal human body, disease processes and clinical challenges, allowing them to become more educated healthcare consumers," says José François, associate dean of continuing professional development in the Faculty of Medicine. "It also provides people, including potential future students, an opportunity to appreciate the full scope of activities in which the Faculty of Medicine is engaged."

This year’s lecture series theme, “Changing Channels: The Real Medical Show,” includes six engaging lectures. They are: "ER: Managing the Real Emergencies, First Responders, Resuscitation;" "Dr. Phil: Things You Can’t Solve Between Commercial Breaks — Depression, Depression;" "Nip & Tuck: It’s Not All Plastic, Reconstructive Breast Surgery, Laparoscopic Surgery;" "Dr. Oz: Easing Cadil, Colonoscopy, Setting Broken Bones;”; “House: The Elephant in the Room, Mysteries in Internal Medicine;” “Mystery Diagnostic Needle in a Haystack — Public Health.”

"Medically-themed TV shows are, and have always been, popular. But while the practice of medicine is not always as glamorous as what people may see on TV, it certainly is as interesting," says François.

In addition to the lectures, “students” enrolled in Mini Medical School receive a “diploma,” just like medical students, after the series wraps up. However, unlike medical school, there are no exams, only informative lectures to help people better understand their bodies and their health.

All lectures take place from 7:00 to 9:15 p.m. in Frederic Gaspard Theatre, University of Manitoba Bannatyne Campus, 727 McDermot.

Founded in 1893 as Western Canada’s first medical school, the University of Manitoba Faculty of Medicine has graduated more than 9,000 physicians who have become influential medical leaders, world-renowned health researchers and dedicated doctors. As Manitoba’s only medical school, the U of M Faculty of Medicine has educated and trained the majority of our province’s physicians.

For more information or to register go to: > > umanitoba.ca/medicine/minimed

The Bulletin of the University of Manitoba

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

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

Material in The Bulletin may be reprinted or broadcast, excepting materials for which The Bulletin does not hold exclusive copyright.
Dental researchers tackle chronic and common childhood disease

University of Manitoba dental researchers are working with colleagues from around the world to design a program that will reduce childhood caries among First Nations populations.

The unique program will launch this spring in communities across Ontario and Manitoba and it has been designed especially to reach First Nations women. First Nations populations have higher-than-average caries or at least minimize the amount of time. While the compureps provide excellent service, the service system is designed to add additional services and network services. Kocay is confident that the new plan will result in a more effective and efficient IST service structure across the board.

Imagine this scenario: You are sitting at your computer and the screen goes blank. No icons, just blank. You’ve jiggled the mouse, you’ve rebooted your computer, you’ve spoken to it in calm, soothing tones — nothing. In the past, you may have called your faculty’s compurep and waited for them to come online. Under the new shared services plan you will simply call the IST shared services desk.

The desk will be manned by trained IST support staff waiting to talk with you through your problem. They can also do a remote login to your computer, which you can authorize. Kocay’s team has implemented a new work-order management system and will soon install a new queue software package, which will place callers in a priority queue without having to wait on the line. To maximize efficiency, a support person will first work to solve your issue over the phone. It’s significant that by working in partnership with Kocay’s team, the University of Toronto. “We hope that by working in partnership with Aboriginal communities here in Canada we can create an intervention that will reduce the dental treatment needs of young children and motivate mothers to subscribe to better preventative oral health care.”

The five-year study is called “Reducing disease burden and health inequalities arising from chronic dental disease among Indigenous children: an early childhood caries intervention.” Co-investigator Robert Schroth from the University of Manitoba or the University of Winnipeg.

Ahava Halpern and Frank Lavitt

Entrance Scholarship for Law: The Faculty of Law will offer the Frederick Johnson Scholarship for entrance to University of Manitoba or the University of Winnipeg.

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SET for the future

BY MARIANNE MAY'S WEBE

The fifth annual Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) Day took place Friday, February 25 at the University of Manitoba.

The event attracted high school students and teachers eager to learn from university professors who are leaders in their research fields. This year’s participants got an exclusive look at what scientists will be up to 25 years from now as part of the event’s theme, “Science, Engineering and Technology of the Future.”

Pourang Irani, associate professor of computer science in the Faculty of Science, offered a glimpse into data visualization and interaction with his presentation, “When is a Picture Worth a Thousand Words?”

Irani is best known for the groundbreaking data interface tools he has helped shape using tabletops and interactive surfaces to collaborate and share digital information across distances.

Food and health of the future was the topic presented by Joyce Slater, assistant professor in the department of human nutritional sciences, Faculty of Human Ecology. Her discussion broached questions such as environmental changes and its effects on food quality and quantity, and whether our future food will be pre-made and ready to eat or tailored to our genetic makeup.

A glimpse at the future of “unimaginably small distances” was presented by Gerald Gwinner, associate professor of physics and astronomy in the Faculty of Science. According to Gwinner, the coming decades will see a huge effort by physicists to merge the two most famous theories, Einstein’s general relativity and quantum theory, into one overarching ‘theory of everything.” Such a theory, he says, is expected to be valid at the Planck scale, i.e., at length scales of 10^-35 meters, a billion trillions times smaller than the size of an atomic nucleus.

Tammy Ivanco projected possible developments in neuroscience and psychology with her topic, “How do you Mend a ‘Broken’ Brain?” Ivanco is associate professor of psychology in the Faculty of Arts and Faculty of Medicine. Her presentation highlighted the question of whether future research will be capable of “fixing the ‘broken’ brain.”

Two other professors targeted alchemy of a microbial nature with their presentation on biorefining organic waste. David Levin, biosystems engineering, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and Richard Sparling, microbiology, Faculty of Science, discussed biofuels and bioplastics developed from waste products.

This year’s event drew over 200 high school students and teachers.

Musical potential funded here

The winners of the Lawrence Genser Music Scholarship were announced at the final competition on Sunday, February 13. Conrad Siebert, tenor, won first prize and a scholarship of $1,500, and Ivan Bartel, pianist, took second place and a scholarship of $900.

Established in 1981-82 by the Genser family to celebrate Lawrence Genser’s 75th birthday, the scholarship is awarded annually by the Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music. The purpose of the awards is to encourage and recognize the high level of solo performance achieved by the students of the Faculty of Music.

Dr. Helen Glass Researcher in Residence

MANITOBA CENTRE FOR NURSING & HEALTH RESEARCH

Mary K. Canales, PhD, RN
Associate Professor
College of Nursing & Health Sciences
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

April 5, 2011
10:30 am
Room 370
Helen Glass Centre for Nursing
University of Manitoba

NOTE: Telehealth open registration: contact your site Telehealth scheduler to participate in this session. For more information contact the Telehealth registration desk at 975-7714, option 2

April 6, 2011
5:00 pm Reception
6:00 pm Presentation
The Fort Garry
222 Broadway
Winnipeg, MB

Othering and How to Engage with the Other

Dr. Canales will present an overview of her theory of othering as a framework for understanding difference. She will address how engagement with those perceived as different from can be a means for nurses to create a more socially just society.

Indigenous Populations and Cancer; Compare and Contrast Dialogue

Dr. Canales will present a review of 10 years of her research with Northwestern U.S. Native communities. She will highlight the importance of building trust with Native communities within the context of cancer research, particularly in developing culturally relevant and appropriate cancer education programs.

For information please call 474-9722

One university. Many futures.
umanitoba.ca
Briefs

Wikipedia-styled site takes aim at higher education: Inspired by WikiLeaks, a group of Australian activists has launched a website where people may leak documents about PSE. Those who run UniLeaks are pushing for openness in the face of what they view as the corporatization of PSE. It filters content instead of allowing users to post directly. - The Chronicle of Higher Education, UniLeaks.org

The Bulletin

University of Manitoba faculties and schools recognized students for their outstanding leadership skills at a special luncheon on March 2.

The first annual Young Leaders Luncheon, sponsored by the Alumni Association Inc. of the University of Manitoba, was held in Marshall McLuhan Hall over the lunch hour to honour student leaders — many who are on the cusp of graduation — and to thank them for pursuing their post-secondary education at the U of M.

Students in attendance were selected by their respective deans or directors for their demonstrated leadership skills in academic, volunteer and community-oriented pursuits while studying at the University of Manitoba.

Science alumnus David Tang, a self-described “young leader in training,” invited the audience to identify their passions and turn them into leadership opportunities. Tang reflected on his own journey as a student and how having solid mentors at the university led him to leadership roles with Let’s Talk Science, a volunteer outreach program at the U of M that promotes science literacy amongst school-age children throughout Manitoba.

U of M Chancellor Harvey Sector also addressed the crowd of about 80 students. Drawing on his many leadership roles in business and post-secondary academics and administration, Sector explored the traits of good leadership, and the changing nature of leaders from simply being those who provide answers to those who pose the right questions. He ended his presentation by offering the students advice on leadership from years of experience: “leadership is much more of a marathon than a sprint.”

By Marianne Mays Webe

The Bulletin

The people of the land of oil and water

Two films made by U of M profs Warren Cariou (English) and Neil McArthur (philosophy) will premiere at the Human Rights Film Festival in Winnipeg at the end of the month. Both documentaries, one 45 minutes in length and one 15 minutes in length, address the growing environmental problem of the oil sands in Western Canada.

When Cariou and McArthur waded into the “land of oil and water” featured in the longer documentary film by the same name, they found a much more complex situation than they’d anticipated. What began as a project with a very specific political point of view, said McArthur, became more nuanced when they talked with the people affected. They decided to assign the more political take to a shorter second film, Overburdened, and focus on giving voice to the people most directly affected by the development that is driving Canada’s new role in the global economy.

Both Cariou and McArthur, who are originally from Saskatchewan, watched with concern when they saw that oil sands companies were expanding into their home province between 2006 and 2008.

Cariou had been researching the effects of the oil sands development for a new novel when he realized that there was a larger story to be told, and that it might be better told on film. He teamed up with McArthur, who had some previous film experience.

“I wanted everyone to see the enormity, the magnitude of what is being done in these oil sands mines,” Cariou said. “I could describe that in a book, but I don’t think it would have the same impact as showing people visually. I also wanted the Native people of the area to have the opportunity to tell their own stories about what it is like to live so near this massive development.”

For the film, Cariou returned home to the Cree and Dene community of La Loche and to the nearby Métis village of Buffalo Narrows in Saskatchewan, to talk to people about what they hoped the oil sands development would bring, and about their fears. He also traveled across the border to Alberta to speak to the people there who have lived with the oil sands development for more than 30 years.

McArthur says that the most surprising part of their journey was the ambivalence they encountered in the attitudes of the people they talked with. “It became apparent that this was not a straightforward story,” he said. The substantial economic opportunity for a community that has struggled with all kinds of issues sits alongside the struggle to preserve a traditional way of life, in the midst of the largest and most destructive oil recovery operation the world has ever known.

Ultimately, he noted, “We were amazed by the people we met in these Native communities. Though they are faced with tremendous challenges — environmental destruction, less of traditional land, transformation of their local economies — they proudly express who they are as Aboriginal people today, and they show an urgent desire to leave something of value for the coming generations.”

Photos courtesy of Land of Oil and Water

Top: The Rezz Dawgz, Fort Macay; middle: Cariou (right) and McArthur (centre) boating on the Athabasca; bottom: Syncrude sunset.
Giving that continues the story ...

BY MARIANNE MAYS WEBBE
The Bulletin

There is something about giving that makes you feel good. That was the message that was repeated over and over by U of M staff and faculty in their stories about why they give back to a public institution that also happens to be their place of employment.

University of Manitoba president Dr. David Barnard cites the intrinsic benefit as one among several that inspire him to participate in the annual giving campaign. “I was the first person from my family to go to university and received a scholarship to help me do so,” he explains.

“Someone’s generosity changed my life. My parents had a habit of philanthropic giving and they instilled that in me, so that I find a tremendous satisfaction in giving to worthy causes. Making access easier for future students is the project that Gurch [his wife] and I have chosen at the U of M.”

The annual faculty and staff giving campaign kicked off on March 3 at the Fort Garry Campus and March 4 at the Bannatyne Campus and continues over the next four weeks. This year’s theme is “With your gift, our story continues.”

Ashley Davidson, annual giving manager, says that the theme was chosen because of the way it incorporates the individual gift into the larger idea of community. “Our staff and faculty are so generous,” she says.

“In addition to their dedication on the job, many also support world-class teaching and research through charitable gifts to the U of M. Through the 2011 faculty and staff giving campaign, we wanted to focus attention on the difference that their talents and generosity make to our institution.”

She notes that there are many options of where to donate a gift. Some decide to give to a specific project such as Project Domino or the Taché Hall renovation, while others give back to their units directly.

Jane Watkinson, dean and professor of Kinesiology and Recreation Management, has decided to give to the new Active Living Centre project. She says, “We are challenged with some of the things we want to do — especially the extras. I give to active living partly because of the focus of our faculty and also because we know that physical activity plays an important role in health. The new centre can be a place where students and staff can be active and meet people, have a good time and feel a part of a community I think this building will change the campus.”

“The universities of Canada have been pretty nice to me, right from the time I started attending school, and then, of course, going on to a whole

Campus as a Community

The staff and faculty who work here know our university best. That’s why, in addition to their dedication on the job, many of them also support world-class teaching and research through charitable gifts to the U of M.

Archie Cooper and Joanne Dyer have each worked at the U of M for three decades. They are passionate about the mission of the university and want to encourage other faculty and staff to consider supporting the university philanthropically. That’s why they are co-chairs of the 2011 Faculty and Staff Giving Campaign – Campus as a Community.

A Conversation about Giving

Juliette (Archie) Cooper, PhD

Archie Cooper is a professor emeritus in the School of Medical Rehabilitation and a dedicated teacher and mentor. “Working with students is tremendous fun and incredibly stimulating,” she says.

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

Archie Cooper: I have had a wonderful, fulfilling career at the University of Manitoba and I want to recognize the opportunities I have been given in a tangible way.

Joanne Dyer: As faculty and support staff, we all do a lot for the university. For me, a financial gift to the university supports the people in our community… it is not a gift to the operating budget! A donation, one way or another, will make a difference to at least one member of our community – a student or a researcher – on a personal level.

Q: There are so many things you can support in Winnipeg or elsewhere. Why do you choose the U of M?

Joanne: Why not? I suspect I have spent more time at the University of Manitoba than I have at any other physical location. I am proud of what I do, where I work, and for the very reason that I exist – it is our community.

Archie: I earned three degrees at the U of M, my daughters and sons-in-law are all graduates of this institution and we recognize that we received an excellent education. I am proud of my alma mater – it is very deserving of my support!

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

Archie: There are so many opportunities to contribute to the university – to students, buildings, programs. Find an area that is important to you and think about how you can support it. Every gift, no matter what size, makes a difference!

Joanne: The options for contributions are endless. You can make your donation as specific (for example – to a named scholarship fund) or as general as you want.

Join your colleagues in supporting your university.
Visit umanitoba.ca/giving to find out where your donation can make a difference.
career at the university,” she said. Many also feel a significant tie to the mission of the university. Ada Ducas, librarian and head of Health Sciences Libraries and assistant professor in the Faculty of Medicine, says that her alliance to the university’s mission is central to her rationale for giving.

It is important to Ducas that her donation aid the university in achieving its goals. It’s also her principles that drive her decision to give back to her unit in particular: “I believe that libraries are one of the foundations of developing an educated person, and different libraries do different things, so I believe in supporting all of the libraries.” Working at the library, she has the added satisfaction of seeing students engage in their learning at the library, as both a place where they can come to work, and where they can pursue top-rate research.

When Marina Webster of libraries first joined the U of M, there was a staff giving campaign in progress. She says, “I listened to all of the benefits and thought, ‘Yes, why not?’” She sees charitable giving to the university as an option that might not occur to people who work here.

“I started my own practice of giving when I was working with the Salvation Army. I saw how lucky you’ve heard about today — the satisfaction that comes from giving. We all thank you, because through your giving, the story continues — for students, researchers and staff here at the University of Manitoba.”

Davidson adds, “We encourage faculty and staff to look around your university and find something you are passionate about. It’s not the amount of the gift that matters, it is the fact that you are giving. Collectively, our personal stories can be a tremendous force for good, fuelling a lifelong passion for education, research and the future.”

See videos of more stories: >> www.umanitoba.ca/admin/dev_adv/annual_giving/fac_staff.html

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Coffee With a Co-Worker

The Bulletin plays 10 or 20 questions with Dilantha Fernando

Give it your all. On the sunny window ledge in his office, Dilantha Fernando keeps the usual photos of family plus two shiny curling trophies. It may seem odd for someone originally from Sri Lanka to participate in such a typical Canadian winter sport, much less come out with a trophy, but he modestly notes that that he was part of was a good team.

In addition to his prizes, he has a chipped tooth to show for his team spirit. “Big enough to offer what any large city does, but small enough to feel like a community,” he says. In his field of plant pathology, Fernando looks for control strategies alternative to fungicides for the kinds of pathogens that afflict canola crops. Because the U of M is historically strong in the area of crop sciences, he does a lot of collaborating with colleagues from various departments, including microbiology, soil sciences and agriculture. But he also collaborates with colleagues as distant as China, and travels extensively as a keynote to various conferences and events in Asia, the US and Europe. In addition to his busy academic life, Fernando also keeps his life full with gatherings with family and friends and various community, sports and church activities.

What is your guiding principle? To work hard and do your very best in whatever you do. Give 100 per cent to a task you undertake.

Do you have a favourite childhood memory? Almost everything! Too many to list. We had the freedom those days to do lots of activities outside and unsupervised by adults.

Where did you grow up? I grew up on a tiny but very beautiful tropical island called Sri Lanka (formerly known as Ceylon) in Southeast Asia. It is also known as the “Pearl of the Indian Ocean.” I can vouch that it is much more beautiful than Hawaii! Sri Lanka is very famous for its tea.

Who was your childhood hero? Definitely my mother. She is a strong woman who guided me and my brother to have a sound education, and at the same time gave all the love and care any child should have while growing up. My dad too was a very caring and a loving person, and an inspiration to us as he was the sole bread winner in our family with a modest job. They are still concerned about me, and think I am still a small child! I also love pets.

Motto: ‘Lend hand and heart to others, especially to those in need.’

Name one thing that not too many people may know about you. I am a rather shy person. I also love pets.

What you appreciate or admire in another person: Honesty.

Something you think is highly underrated: The importance of mental health.

Your motto is: I lend a hand and lend a heart to others, especially to those who are in need.

Dinner with friends: I am a fairly good cook. When I cook at home, I cook Sri Lankan cuisine. My friends love my Dhal (lentil) curry with coconut milk and the beef curry I make! I also go to many different restaurants and enjoy different types of food.

To work hard and give it your all.

One of the most unusual experiences you’ve had is: Visiting the Terracotta Warriors in Xi’an, China, which features thousands of ancient Chinese warriors, chariots and horses buried underground for well over two thousand years. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is located near the Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor of China, and was built to guard the emperor for his afterlife. It is definitely a world wonder!

Almost all my friends are in Canada. One thing that not too many people may know about me is how he characterizes it. He also travels back to Sri Lanka annually to visit family. “Big enough to offer what any large city does, but small enough to feel like a community,”

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From the archives: Taché Hall residence

Taché Hall, instalment 2. In the initial years after the Manitoba Agricultural College moved from Tuxedo to what is now the University of Manitoba’s Fort Garry campus, the student residence Taché Hall operated as the centre of social activities on campus.

The building combined dormitories with a dining hall, auditorium and two gymnasiums. The girls dormitory located in the east wing, was kept completely separate from the boys dormitory in the west wing; however, students dined together. They were assigned particular tables each week and meals were served at clearly defined times.

Early 20th-century dormitories typically housed two students per room and were furnished with two single beds, clothes cupboards, desks, chairs and lamps. Students were subject to curfews and mandatory study hours from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. each evening and were required to gain the permission of the dean of residence to leave campus. If approved they had to sign out upon departure and sign in again when they returned.

Students organized some of their own social events and despite the strict separation of boys and girls, occupants of both east and west wings periodically raided the opposite dormitory; students might find themselves tipped abruptly from their beds in the middle of the night. This tradition carried on at least into the 1960s.

Two students are shown hard at work in one of Taché’s dormitories in an early photograph of student life (above right), taken sometime between 1912 and 1924 (PC 276). Mounted on the wall behind them is the logo of the Manitoba Agricultural College.

The photograph (right) of the exterior of Taché Hall (A.11-08) was taken by Benjamin Morgan Williams, who worked at the Manitoba Agricultural College after moving to Winnipeg from Wales after the First World War. The photo was taken in 1922 or 1923, and was donated recently to the University of Manitoba Archives and Special Collections by Margaret Williams, Australian daughter-in-law of the photographer, when she was visiting Winnipeg. Margaret Williams is currently travelling as part of a multicultural exchange organization called Friendship Force International and was in Winnipeg in February to experience a prairie winter and to attend Festival du Voyageur.

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 special events.

- Andrea Martin, archival studies student and intern at the University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections

Top: Two students hard at work in one of Taché’s dormitories, taken sometime between 1912 and 1924. Photo below: Taché Hall in 1922 or 1923.
LECTURES, SYMPOSIA, SEMINARS

DEPARTMENT OF IMMUNOLOGY
ANNUAL GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS
Thursday, March 10 | 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
“Vitamin D Status and Innate Immune Capacity in Humans” by Natasha Clark, M.Sc. student, under the supervision of Kent HayGlas, and “The role of TSLP in modulating the anti-tumor immune response in a model of metastatic breast cancer” by Rachael Erdmann, M.Sc. student, under the supervision of Cynthia Ellison. In 477 apotex Centre, Bannatyne Campus.

NATIVE STUDIES COLLOQUIUM SERIES
WINTER 2011
Friday, Mar. 11 | 12:00 a.m. to 12:20

CENTRE ON AGING RESEARCH FORUM
Friday, March 11 | 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.
“Report on the State of Public Health in Canada 2010: Growing Older—Adding Life to Years” by David Butler-Jones, Chief Public Health Officer of Canada, Public Health Agency of Canada. In Theatre C, Basic Medical Sciences Building, 730 William Ave., Bannatyne Campus. Following presentation, all are invited to reconvene for an in-depth discussion on the report and luncheon in S211 Medical Services Building 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. RSVP (474-0754) for luncheon.

MANITOBA ORGANIC ALLIANCE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Tuesday, March 15 | 12:00 a.m. to 12:20 p.m.
“Let’s Talk: A Celebration of Food, Health and Agriculture” by Laura Rance, Mario Belgique, member of the Collége Belgique des Arts, des Sciences, des Lettres et des Beaux-Arts de Belgique, and founder of modern theatre semantics, and of the semiotics and communications journal, Dyopus. In 206 Tier Bldg. All welcome.

HLHP RESEARCH INSTITUTE SEMINAR
Tuesday, March 15 | 1:00 a.m.
“A Study of Leisure during adulthood 1987-2011 by Gaylene Carpenter, professor, department of psychology, University of Oregon. 238 Investor’s Group Athletic Centre. All are welcome!

CHAPLAIN’S ASSOCIATION PEANUT BUTTER & JAM DAYS
Wednesday, Mar. 16 | 8:30 to 10:00 a.m.
Do You Have 10 Minutes To Spare? Please Come and Help Us Make 2,000 Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwiches for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Winnipeg and Winnipeg Harvest, University Centre, Lower Level, Near G5W Convenience Store. Everything but your time supplied.

CLINICAL HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY
Thursday, March 17 | 12:00 to 1:40 p.m.
“Introducing the Northern Cultural Assessment of Memory (N-CAM)” and the Grasshoppers and Greese (G & G): Neuropsychological Measures Designed to be Gentle, Enjoyable, Contextually Rich, and Sensitive to Cognitive Change in Aboriginal Seniors” by Margaret Croxall, professor, department of psychology, University of Saskatchewan.

NATIVE STUDIES COLLOQUIUM SERIES
Tuesday, March 15 | 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
“Future of Aboriginal Peoples Post-Peace Treaties” by Kim Clare and Yvonne Pompana, Faculty of Social Work, U of M. In Aboriginal House Boardroom.

ST. PAUL’S COLLEGE UNIVERSITY AFFILIATION LECTURE
Friday, March 25 | 7:00 p.m.
“Recouping the Ethnoarchaeological Peace Ethic for a Threatened Planet: The 21st Century Global Imperative” by Rev. Dr. Johnston McMaster, coordinator of the education for reclamation programme, Irish School of Eccumemics, Trinity College of Dublin. In Father Jensen Theatre, 100 St. Paul’s, College of Pediatrics & Child Health, University of Manitoba, Children’s Hospital, CE208 - 840. Sherbrook Street, Winnipeg, MB R3A 1S1, fax (204) 787-4265, email cmc@umanitoba.ca.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE
Neuroscience Research Program
Position: Four (4) tenure-track faculty positions are available at the rank of Assistant/Associate Professor
Start date: September 1, 2011
Deadline: April 1, 2011
Position Number: 10623, 10632, 10634, 10635.
For Information: Dr. Peter Nickerson, Associate Dean of Research (neurobio@cc.umanitoba.ca) Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba. Room A208 Chown Bldg, 753 McDermot Ave., Winnipeg, MB R3E OT6 Tel: (204) 789-3375 Fax: (204) 789-3942.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE & WINNIPEG REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY
Department of Pharmacology and Child Health and Child Health Program of Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
Position: A competitive geographic full-time position in the Section of Neonatology Start date: July 1, 2011
Deadline: May 5, 2011
Position Number: 12752
For Information: Dr. Cheryl Rockman-Greenberg, Department Head, Department of Pediatrics & Child Health, University of Manitoba, Children’s Hospital, CE208 - 840. Sherbrook Street, Winnipeg, MB R3A 1S1, fax (204) 787-4807, e-mail cgreenberg@exchange.hsc.mb.ca.

FACULTY OF DENTISTRY
Department of Preventive Dental Science
Position: Department Head, five-year term
Start date: January 1, 2012
Deadline: April 29, 2011
Position Number: GKB00
For Information: Dr. Anthony Iacopino, Dean, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Manitoba, D113 - 780 Bannatyne Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3E 0W2, email iacopino@cc.umanitoba.ca. tel: (204) 789-3249, fax (204) 789-3912.

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA RECYCLING AND ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS’ (UMREG) ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS WEEK MARCH 31 – WORKSHOPS
UMREG is a student service group that does all the beverage/container recycling and environmental education on campus (ie. blue and green bins). It is paid for and staffed by students of the university. Each Environmental Awareness Week educates students and staff about environmental issues that affect everyone. Environmental displays in UC.
Free hands-on workshops. Contact the University of Manitoba’s Recycling and Environmental Group at 474-9118 or umreg.eaw@gmail.com for more information about workshops and how to register.

UPCOMING MUSIC EVENTS
All music events take place in Eva Clare Hall unless otherwise indicated
March 11 & 12, 8:00 p.m., Sound Matters, a presentation of GroundSwell at Plug In (460 Portage Avenue) with featured artists Oleg Pokhanovski (violin) and Gordon Fitzell (electronics). Contact GroundSwell at 943-5770 for ticket March 14, 8:00 p.m., Allan Suban, Jazz Drum Set 3rd year Recital March 15, 8:00 p.m., Jessica Rodewald, 4th year Jazz Bass Recital March 16, 8:00 p.m., The Hang at The Orbit Room, 207 Pembina March 18, 8:00 p.m., Jazz Masterclass with Rufus Reed. The Music Annex, no charge for music students
March 19, 8:00 p.m., Paul De Gurse, 3rd year Jazz Piano Recital March 22, 8:00 p.m., Meg Specht, 3rd year Clarinet Recital March 23, 8:00 p.m., The Hang at The Orbit Room, 207 Pembina March 24, 7:30 p.m., Jeffery King, 3rd year Jazz Drum Recital. CCFM, 340 Provencher March 24, 9:00 p.m., Landen Seesahi, 3rd year Jazz Trumpet Recital, CCFM, 340 Provencher March 24 to 26, CLUSTER Festival. Contemporary sound and multidisciplinary arts festival featuring Winnipeg’s most dynamic performers.
>> More music events at umanitoba.ca/faculties/music/events/index.html

events

University of Manitoba
FORT GARRY BANNATYNE CAMPUS

Academic Job Opportunities

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

The Bulletin welcomes Classified Ads. Rate for ads is $5 for the first 40 words.

Sabbatical home in Winnipeg, July 1/11 – June 30/11. Recent extensive upgrades to 2500 sq. ft. br. level w. dbl. garage on lge. fenced lot adjacent to UofM. Ideal for non-smoking-family, children. $2300mo. + bills. Email: monks@cc.umanitoba.ca.

> > > More music events at umanitoba.ca/faculties/music/events/index.html
Who are you calling bird brain?

A phrase once deemed an insult can now be viewed as a form of flattery

BY MELNI GHATTORA

In the midst of a heated argument, you’re called a “bird brain.” Anger rises from within and rightly so. Your intelligence has been insulted, your level of articulation chalked up to that of a bird. What you may not realize, nor the person lashing out the “insult,” is that you have been paid a compliment.

“There is this preconception of the ‘bird brain.’ Birds are stupid and they don’t have high cognitive functions and that’s actually completely wrong,” says Debbie Kelly, Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology. According to the researcher, who holds the Canada Research Chair in Comparative Cognition, some bird species engage in quite complex behaviour. “Many scientists are now using birds to understand complex cognitive behaviours; getting the word out to the community that there is value in studying birds is important,” says Kelly.

In 2005, an international consortium of neuroscientists met in the United States to discuss and present their findings on the avian brain. “This meeting was important as it allowed researchers to re-name structures of the avian brain using the same terminology that has been used for mammalian neuroanatomy,” explains Kelly. “One important result of this consortium was that the scientific director of the National Science Foundation put out a press release saying that studying the avian brain will be important for understanding human cognition and neuroanatomy in the future.”

Kelly, who developed a research lab using bird models, primarily studies pigeons and Clark’s nutcrackers. The Clark’s nutcracker belongs to the Corvidae family, which is considered to be a family of birds with a very high level of cognitive ability. Indeed a single nutcracker will make approximately 3,000 food caches in the autumn, and is able to remember the exact location of these food stores for up to six months later — compare this to simply finding your keys in the morning.

According to Kelly, birds are highly visual with a large portion of their brain dedicated to visual perception. “Birds represent a very good model for understanding how humans use visual cues in their environment to guide themselves, to navigate to a grocery store or to get back home, thus complementing and extending current rodent models,” she explains.

Kelly and her research team have developed a procedure in order to examine and understand spatial cognition in adult birds. “We know what cues they use and we’ve validated our procedures by comparing our results to those we obtained with humans and we find that humans and adult pigeons use very similar spatial cues,” she explains. “Now what we’re doing is testing our aged birds on the same tasks, to see whether they use spatial cues in the same way or not and we’re using the same tasks in aged humans.”

In Manitoba alone, 14 per cent of the population is over 65 years old and that percentage is going to increase. “We see that the quality of life is being reduced for individuals who are getting older and experiencing memory loss. So again, if we can use birds to try and understand what happens when people forget spatial information in their environment or how people can get lost in an environment that was once very familiar to them, we may better help individuals with memory decline.”

Kelly explains that researchers can study age-related memory loss in birds because they know exactly how old the birds are, what experience the bird has had, they know about their environment, about their genes, their nutrition and exercise, and can use them as a model to see what happens when they become geriatric.

“A lot of times, as a researcher who studies birds, I get comments like why are you studying birds, what can they tell us about cognitive degeneration in humans? But they really are a good animal model and in some cases they might provide additional information about cognitive decline that we can’t obtain using mammalian models,” says Kelly.

Join Dr. Kelly as she discusses her research at an upcoming lecture titled “A Bird’s Eye View of Spatial Cognition” on March 16, at 7:00 p.m. at McNally Robinson Booksellers, 1120 Grant Avenue, as part of the Bringing Research to Life Speaker Series.
“The morale and mental fitness of our soldiers are my primary concern. I joined to make a difference in their lives. But the thanks I get from them, well, that’s made a difference in my life.”

Captain CARRA WATSON

“Ma première préoccupation va au moral et à la santé de nos militaires. C’est pour faire une différence dans leur vie que je me suis enrôlée. Pourtant, ce sont souvent leurs remerciements qui font une différence dans la mienne.”

Capitaine CARRA WATSON