New water fountains in U Centre create a splash

Several water fountains at the U of M have been upgraded to act as bottle filling stations.

The state-of-the-art EZH2O units are located in University Centre and aim to reduce waste from disposable bottles and paper cups as well as support sustainability on campus.

“We are excited about the new water fountains installed in University Centre as they not only provide students with a clean and accessible water source, but also increase the environmental awareness regarding water issues,” said Camilla Tapp, president of UMSU.

The new drinking fountains include a counter which displays a calculation of how many plastic bottles have been saved by their use.

The EZH2O fountains will eventually be seen throughout the campus and will be installed when any fountain needs replacing.

How does the refurbishment of water fountains fit into the sustainability initiative currently underway? Maire McDermott, sustainability coordinator, explained.

“Universal access to clean drinking water was raised repeatedly during consultation for the sustainability strategy,” she said.

“When UMSU asked about improving accessibility to some U. Centre fountains, it seemed like a perfect opportunity to address a host of issues: accessibility, the right to clean, potable water and reducing our waste.”

The water fountains came as the result of the cosmic alignment of desires. First UMSU and ancillary services wanted to install new water fountains because the old ones did not meet accessibility requirements. At the same time, McDermott was putting in a requisition to have the EZH2O fountains be the new standard when replacing old ones.

It is worth noting, she said, that providing access to fresh drinking water is one of priorities outlined in the draft sustainability framework. This draft framework is still up for review and anyone within the university community can head to the sustainability website to read the complete draft framework strategy and submit their comments and ideas.

The sustainability committee is wrapping up consultation for the strategy so the university community can look forward to even more sustainability initiatives soon!” McDermott added.

The final strategy is scheduled to be released sometime in the next few months.

Find the sustainability website at: umanitoba.ca/campus/physical_plant/sustainability

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THE U OF M IN THE NEWS

RIP Robert Turner
Winnipeg Free Press
January 28

A Winnipeg-based composer of more than 70 compositions has died. Robert Turner, professor emeritus of music at the University of Manitoba. He also studied music composition at the Royal College of Music in London and at Vanderbilt University's George Peabody College in the United States. His first major composition, “String Quartet No. 1,” written in 1949, was premiered by Aaron Copland and was praised by both Copland and Leonard Bernstein. Turner later composed operas, concertos, symphonies and string quartets. He became a professor at the U of M in 1968 and influenced several future composers, including Winnipeg's Glenn Buhr. Turner retired from teaching in 1985.

Oh, Canada

Academic restructuring process begins

U of M president and vice-chancellor David Barnard has announced an initiative for academic restructuring.

Suggesting that it would be the “start of a conversation” and referring to the “over-elaborated academic structure” of the U of M in comparison to many other Canadian universities, the president posted a statement on January 19 to explain why such a restructuring should be considered.

Given that U of M’s recent ROSE and OARs initiatives, he said, both still ongoing, “have been focused on transforming our organizational approach and structures in order to improve the way the university conducts its work, it is now time to move forward with a plan to simplify and improve our university’s academic structure, so we can continue to achieve our strategic vision.”

Some work designed to address the U of M’s current academic structure is already underway. Last year, the university began a process designed by deans and directors of faculties and schools with natural affinities of various sorts whereby deans and directors of faculties and schools with natural affinities of various sorts can more effectively achieve our strategic vision.”

“The process, work on new cross-faculty academic programming, the sharing of administrative resources and facilities and collaborative outreach activity has already begun.”

“Then (it) has shown us that more and closer ties among units can be beneficial to students, faculty and staff and to our community at large,” said Barnard.

The president has asked Joanne Keselman, VP (academic) to proceed, to work with deans and directors through the cluster groups and they, in turn, with their faculty, staff, students, alumni and external stakeholders, in order to identify viable options for reducing the number of faculties and schools from the current total of 20 to a number closer to the national average of 13 by 2017.

“Academic restructuring will be the way the university conducts its work, it is now time to move forward with a plan to simplify and improve our university’s academic structure, so we can continue to achieve our strategic vision.”

Some work designed to address the U of M’s current academic structure is already underway. Last year, the university began a process...
1,200 wins and counting
Bison men's volleyball coach Garth Pischke captured his 1,200th win on January 27, with a win against the top-ranked Trinity Western Spartans. His overall coaching record sits at 1,320-323, making Pischke the winningest head coach in volleyball in Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) history. During his 30 years as the Bison men's volleyball head coach, the team has qualified for the CIS National Championships 25 times, collecting two fourth-place finishes, four bronze, nine silver and nine gold CIS medals.

Oncology Nursing Society Announces Anne Katz as Oncology Nursing Forum Editor
The Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) has announced Anne Katz RN, PhD, as the new editor of the Oncology Nursing Forum (ONF), the society’s flagship journal. Katz is a clinical nurse specialist at the Manitoba Prostate Centre, an adjunct professor in the School of Nursing at the U of M, and a sexuality counselor for the department of psychosocial oncology, CancerCare.

Winning project
In an on-going initiative by the campus community called "Promoting Economic Security and Work-Family Balance for Rural and Northern Women in Manitoba," has been chosen by SWC as their best practice in rural and remote communities. The project, on which Susan Prentice, sociologist, has been working, will be showcased in an informational kit at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women this spring.

Peter Dueck goes west
After many years of service at the U of M, Peter Dueck, executive director of enrolment services, is leaving the university for a new position at Royal Roads University in B.C. In addition to his duties as director, Dueck, perhaps may be best-known as "the voice" of ceremony convocations. A farewell reception in honour of Dueck will be held on Thursday, March 1, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Hallich McLuhan Hall, 204 University Centre.

Kid power, fueled by engineering
WISE Kid-Netic Energy, a science and engineering community outreach program offered by the Faculty of Engineering at the U of M, has received the 2011 Actua & GE Canada Award for Leadership and Innovation. The award recognizes Kid-Netic Energy's excellence in the design and delivery of dynamic, interactive programming reaching more than 29,000 Manitoba youth in 57 communities in 2011.

Send your campus news and kudos to: bulletin@umanitoba.ca

Customer service at the heart of physical plant initiatives
BY LINDSAY STEWART GLOR For The Bulletin
The development of the single point of contact (SPC) database and the introduction of an online work requestor are just two of the exciting, service-oriented projects that have been established by Physical Plant through the ROSE program.

Physical plant's second initiative – the project management initiative – focuses on improving efficiencies in the management, design and tendering processes. The procedure for establishing cross-functional teams, mapping the scope of potential projects, and ensuring that all of the work we’ve done serves as a reminder that we are here to serve the university community.”

The appointment of an SPC within each department and unit has been a small, yet important process change that has made a big impact on service delivery. The online work requestor tool, which was created with the initiative, can be used to help employees to manage their work order process, as well as a complete record of their request. For those who prefer placing an order by phone, those calls, says Blackner, are still happily received.

In the interest of further increasing transparency and enhancing communication with customers, a client service update section was added to the physical plant website. Documents that can now be found online include:

- University project coordination services;
- Physical plant project cost estimates;
- Work order delivery;
- Billing rates;
- Single point of contact – information;
- Process evaluation form;
- Maintenance request website; and
- Service guidelines.

To determine how successful the work order initiatives are, physical plant will soon be circulating a customer survey, a measurement tool that will be used on an ongoing basis.

“I think that all of these steps go towards improving communication with our customers,” says Blackner. “Communication is what we’ve talked about from day one – this initiative has gone to improving the communication with our clients.”

Physical plant said. “In contrast, industrial capitalism cultures meet as many needs as possible where on the “needs-wants” spectrum they are part of the engineering program; as technical knowledge to work for society,”

“Engineers should have three things, he began: First-rate technical skills; the ability to be a creative- and critical-thinking professional; and the ability to connect ethical, political, and environmental and economic factors.

“Engineers try to catalyze wealth for the benefit of society,” and try to put technical knowledge to work for society,” he said. “That social factor is significant. It’s why, for instance, humanities courses are part of the engineering program, as an engineer, you have to connect with societal concerns.”

Challenged students to consider where on the “needs-wants” spectrum they would practice their career. “Traditional cultures meet as many needs as possible with as few resources as possible,” he said. “In contrast, industrial capitalism emphasizes the creation of a specialized society built on wants rather than needs.”
Pediatric research hits mark as a top Canadian health achievement

BY JANIE HARASYCHUK

The Bulletin

You could call it “paying it forward.” A trip to the Emergency Department (ED) is every parent’s worst nightmare. But what if the information documented as a result of your child’s visit could help a child with similar symptoms a few provinces away?

Terry Klassen and his research team of leading pediatric emergency physicians at Pediatric Emergency Research of Canada (PERC) have done just that, and the impact of their research is today recognized as one of the Top Canadian Achievements in Health Research in 2011. The award is bestowed jointly by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ).

Klassen, a founding member of PERC, generated important new knowledge that has substantially improved the outcomes of acute illness or injured children seen in EDs in Canada and around the world. PERC has had major advances in three common childhood problems: croup, bronchiolitis and mild head injuries. The most comprehensive achievement has had substantial influence on how croup is treated around the world.

Klassen is in pediatrics and child health at the Faculty of Medicine and director of research for the Manitoba Institute of Child Health (MICHI). The PERC team recognized with the award today include: David Johnson (University of Calgary), Martin Osmond (University of Ottawa), Amy Plint (University of Ottawa) and Lisa Hartling (University of Alberta).

“I congratulate Dr. Klassen and his colleagues across the country,” said Digier Jayaed, president (regional and international) at the University of Manitoba. “This achievement is as a result of a national collaboration and putting evidence into practice for the benefit of all Canadians.”

PERC recognized early on that many children with croup evaluated in general urban and rural EDs were not receiving optimal therapy. A series of randomized, controlled trials found that the use of corticosteroids for children with mild, moderate and severe croup was effective. Oral, intramuscular and inhaled doses have substantially cut the number of hospitalizations, and allowed children to return visits by half, resulting in reduced health care costs, parental stress and out-of-pocket expenses.

PERC has also been at the forefront of generating evidence for managing bronchiolitis. The group conducted the largest randomized controlled trial to date that involves infants with bronchiolitis. The study has shown that decongestants and a class of steroid drugs used to treat many inflammatory and autoimmune conditions — and epinephrine (commonly known as adrenaline) may interact in ways that enhance or magnify one or more effects when combined, resulting in a significant drop in hospital admission rates.

One of the challenging issues that spawned the nation-wide research network, which formed in 1995, was the huge variation in the use of computed tomography (CT) for children visiting EDs with cases of mild head injury. The CIHR funded study, which enrolled more than 4,000 child patients, resulted in a practical clinical decision rule that assists physicians in determining if a child suffering mild head injury requires a CT scan. This decision rule is currently in use in more than 100 Canadian hospitals, and if validated could result in a decrease in the number of young children facing unnecessary radiation exposure and potential long-term adverse effects.

The Top Canadian Achievements in Health Research acknowledge discoveries and innovations that have had the biggest impact on the health of people in this country over the last year. It is considered by many the most esteemed of the few awards given in the world in this field and uniquely awarded by Canadian national and international experts selected the final list.

The CIHR is Canada’s major federal funding agency for health research. Its objective is to excel, according to internationally accepted standards of scientific excellence, in the creation of new knowledge and its translation into improved health for Canadians, more effective health services and products and a strengthened Canadian health care system.

The CMJ showcases innovative research and ideas aimed at improving health for people in Canada and globally. It publishes original research papers, reviews, news, practice updates and editorials.
WIT AND WISDOM
Meet the dean of the Faculty of Science, Mark Whitmore

BY MARIANNE MAYS WIEBE
The Bulletin

Mark Whitmore, dean of the Faculty of Science.

Brevity is the soul of wit, said Shakespeare, and Mark Whitmore, dean of the Faculty of Science, is a man who keeps his wit firmly about him during an interview.

Though his own considerable achievements are kept tightly under wraps, he’s very happy to extol the faculty. He gives the credit to those around him, but Whitmore’s passion for science, students and his faculty are matched with an intelligent, steady approach to leading the Faculty of Science through a time of great change.

Over the past while, recounts Whitmore, the undergraduate labs and many research labs have been renovated, the new department of biological sciences has been created from three previous units, and both the Buller building and the old pharmacy building have been renovated. The faculty has also coped with the Duff Roblin fire, and there has been a lot of curriculum renewal, all guided by the Faculty of Science Strategic Plan.

Whitmore joined the U of M as dean from Memorial University where he’d served as deputy department head, acting department head and associate dean for the Faculty of Science. He holds a PhD from McMaster University in an area that is now called computational condensed matter physics. His research focuses on soft materials physics.

He has also been active in a number of regional and national initiatives. Currently, he sits on U of M’s board of governors, the board and executive committee of CANARIE, Canada’s advanced internet development organization, TRUMF, Canada’s national laboratory for particle and nuclear physics, BioNet Studies Canada, and a computing consortium in Atlantic Canada called programs at the U of M. “The research strengths of the faculty not only trains and educates future students at the undergraduate level in the sciences here are tremendous,” he notes. “The research strengths of this university necessarily are quite countless ways and equip them for both scholarly and future success.”

He reminds us that all students that go through the Faculty of Science, since all U of M students are matched with an intelligent, steady approach to leading the Faculty of Science through a time of great change.

Taking on the role of science dean, Whitmore says, has given him opportunity to more deeply consider the role of science in society. “It’s not only a capacity for critical thinking, he notes, though that’s certainly a factor.

“It’s the large-scale questions, increasingly, that affect our entire society, from the economic to the practical aspects,” he says. “The big questions, such as climate change and biodiversity, require social judgement, by the public, by decision-makers, and it’s vital that even non-science students understand science at a basic level.

“Science can provide advice and predictions based on knowledge and evidence about the choices we are making and potential trade-offs,” he adds. He cites the demise of the cod fishery as an example: more science and scientists could have played a more effective advisory role.

At a local level, he sees that the programs offered by U of M can only improve general science knowledge. “We do a great job,” he says.

“There’s an emphasis on innovation and modern technologies, that, “He listens, brings creative scientists together and is willing to see what happens. It’s not about one person. I think it’s probably an incredibly effective and respectful way to work with creative, intelligent people.”

Whitmore brightens when he asks what he finds inspiring. “Brilliant scientists,” he says. “Students and others who have accomplished much and have overcome big barriers to do so. A difficult childhood, a difficult background.”

He is also frighteningly hard-working, as someone adds. “But I have never seen him be anything other than completely focused on what he is doing.”

“I have never seen him make a mistake,” says “you bring people together, support from the federal and provincial governments, to work with institutions and think, to create, to debate and discover,” said U of M president and vice-chancellor David Barnard. “Thanks to the support we’ve received, we have been able to elevate the quality of facilities we provide for our students, our faculty and our staff.”

“We are also grateful for the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Knowledge Canada Infrastructure Program, a $1.5 million economic stimulus measure to maintain and improve research and training facilities at Canadian universities, colleges and CEGEPS. For the full story on the extensive renovations, see: umanitoba.ca/faculties/science/BSB_Buller_2012.html

The renovated Biological Science building has five new teaching labs and two, 40-seat lecture rooms which will serve 2,600 students annually from the Faculties of Science, Nursing, Kinesiology and Recreation Management, Human Ecology and Medicine.

The renovation of the Biological Sciences Building was at a cost of $13.26 million, of which KIP funding was $6.63 million and $6.63 million from the Province of Manitoba and other sources. The project converted the 30,000 sq. ft. former pharmacy building for use by biological sciences. The newly renovated and upgraded scientific facilities at the University of Manitoba are state-of-the-art advanced research and teaching laboratories. Upgraded laboratories expose students to leading-edge technologies that give them the level of education and hands-on science research experience they need.

Biological Sciences is situated within the cluster of science buildings (physics, chemistry, etc.) on the University’s Fort Garry campus. The Buller Building Science Laboratories were projects funded by the federal and provincial governments through the Knowledge Infrastructure Program (KIP).

“Investing in education and research opportunities is critical to the future success of our province,” said Premier Greg Selinger.

“Rather than speak about his own role, he defers to work being done by his colleagues within the faculty and by the 3,000 or so students in the Faculty of Science.

“Heparticularly lauds the research and the comprehensiveness and variety of the research and labwork; science facilities have been upgraded so as to provide students with the best possible research and educational advantages and experiences. There are also summer research jobs that allow students to maximize their experience.”

“Whitmore’s reserved nature may be well-known to those who work with him, but so too are his integrity, his kindness and his charm. “He’s very consistent, I never knew where (he then remains unnamed) who’s worked with him since he was recruited to the university as dean in 2004. “But also intensely private. He’s not one to put forward his agenda; his style is to listen and collaborate.”

With administrative work, he says, “you bring people together, work with institutions and things can happen. It’s really quite satisfying to see people accomplish when you bring them together.”

A long-time colleague comments

Upgraded bio-sciences facility officially opens

BY CHRIS RUTKOWKI
The Bulletin

On January 27, 2012, the University of Manitoba publicly thanked the federal and provincial government for their financial support of the renovation and redevelopment of two major education and research facilities in the Faculty of Science. The Biological Sciences building and the Buller Building Science Laboratories were projects funded by the federal and provincial governments through the Knowledge Infrastructure Program (KIP).

“The research strengths of this university benefit students in countless ways and equip them for scholarly and future success.”

ACEnet whose creation he led. He has also served on the boards of Genome Atlantic, and Canada’s national high performance computing organization, C3.ca, and is this year’s chair of the Canadian Council of Deans of Science.

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“These investments created jobs in Manitoba at a critical time while simultaneously improving the infrastructure necessary for the University of Manitoba to maintain its reputation as a research leader,” said The Honourable Vic Toews, Minister of Public Safety. “Our government’s support for the knowledge economy across Canada has made a short term difference in the economy and sets the foundation for future prosperity.”

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Bruce Kidd presents on human rights in sports on January 27.

Social scientist and former long-distance Olympic athlete Bruce Kidd says that there is joy fun and decency to be experienced in sports, but it wasn’t — and isn’t — always that way. According to Kidd, the romantic view of sports as an inherently fair and universal practice is far from the actual history of modern sport.

Kidd, professor of Kinesiology and Physical Education at U of T, recently gave two talks on campus, the first sponsored by the Centre for Professional and Applied Ethics, tackling the issue of gender identification in sports, while the second, presented at the Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management, overviewed human rights in sports and its history.

Opening his talk, Kidd noted how pleased he was to speak about human rights in Winnipeg and at the U of M, given their rich history of human rights work.

From its inception in early industrial Britain, says Kidd, modern sport has been a classed and gendered practice. In the 19th century British upper-class men began to use sports to enhance their gender, class and national power.

Sport has been a site of struggle from the beginning, he continued. The struggle for gender equity, from first wave through second wave feminism, said Kidd, went from the aim of inclusion (women’s amateur sport started between the wars) to the more recent work of achieving equity for the funding of women’s sport.

Today, he said, we are still a long way from realizing equity for women in sport. In 1982, he said, for example, 40 per cent of women’s teams were coached by women; as of 2011 statistics, that percentage dropped to half, at 19 per cent.

Human rights and gender policing

One persistent issue for women in sports is gender policing, said Kidd. “There has been a long history of homosexual and lesbo-phobic slurs,” he continued. “If female athletes are ‘too good,’ their femininity is challenged. There is a lot of moral panic surrounding strong women in sports.”

The “gender verification” test that was instituted in response to strong Soviet block female athletes at the 1964 Olympics was finally abolished in 1999.

“Human rights and the loneliness of the long distance runner

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Mamawipawin, a Cree word that roughly means ‘the space where we gather,’ has an architectural design that reflects critical Indigenous teachings about Mamawipawin and the politics of the classroom. 

Kiera Ladner, Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Politics and Governance, has been thinking about a different kind of research lab for a long time. Rather than a typical science lab, or even a typical classroom, she envisioned a space that “doesn’t look like an institutional space, composed of podium and classroom, a front-of-class versus rest-of-class split.”

Such a structure, she said, suggests “one source of knowledge, and a deep ‘knower-learner’ split, rather than shared knowledge and opportunity, different gifts and a certain kind of equity.”

Part her search for a different space came from learning, teaching and knowledge philosophies and research protocols that diverge from that usual model. Her efforts are futile, she said, if her research doesn’t make sense to everyday people in the community. An elder usually will begin stories or teachings with a ceremonial smudge, she noted. “In a typical classroom, you have problems of ventilation and other spaces around you.”

The two circular spaces available on campus including that in Migizii Agamik (Aboriginal House), she continued, are great, but as an event rather than a research space. Excellent for what it is being used for, in other words, but not what Ladner needed on a continuous basis.

The idea for the space was born five and a half years ago, and as Ladner reiterated at the official opening, it took a lot of work by many people to bring it to realization. It opened officially on January 18 on the fourth floor of Stobart.

Ladner conducted community-based research into constitutional reconciliation and decolonization. Her hope is that her research and the new space will bring communities together — engaging grassroots, traditional leadership and political leaders in discussions about their visions of the future. What do they see as self-government? What is the meaning of Indigenous governance and traditional governance? Can traditional governance be recreated to meet modern needs?

Mamawipawin, or the Indigenous Governance and Community Based Research Space, was built through funding from the Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI), the Manitoba Research and Innovation Fund (MRIF), the U of M and with support from Apple.

Giving back to the future: U of M philanthropy

BY STEPHANIE FEHR
For The Bulletin

“I chose to support the U of M because there are a large number of faculty, students and staff who work with no fanfare, but work very hard,” says Jean Paterson, a senior scholar in human anatomy and cell science.

“It’s a very productive place in many research and teaching areas,” she adds.

Paterson is part of a growing number of faculty and staff who are making a charitable gift to the university in addition to their professional commitment to education and research.

As the education and research engine of the province, the U of M educates future professionals and community leaders and conducts groundbreaking research in areas of nanotechnology, functional foods, climate change and HIV/AIDS. The U of M also stimulates over $1.8 billion in economic activity in Manitoba.

These are big impacts, and the University is a powerhouse in the province thanks to the efforts of staff and faculty members, researchers and students. As part of the run-up to the annual faculty and staff giving campaign organized by the university’s philanthropy office, Paterson was asked why she supports the Neil John Maclean Health Sciences Library.

She says it’s because of the wide reach it has on researchers and students. “The money is not wasted, it will be used for the present and also to invest in the future,” says Paterson. “Our students are the future.”

A case in point is Allan Ronald. Today a renowned infectious disease researcher, Ronald benefited from student awards at the university’s philanthropy office, Paterson asked why she supports the Neil John Maclean Health Sciences Library.

She says it’s because of the wide reach it has on researchers and students. “The money is not wasted, it will be used for the present and also to invest in the future,” says Paterson. “Our students are the future.”

A case in point is Allan Ronald. Today a renowned infectious disease researcher, Ronald benefited from student awards when he was a student at the University of Manitoba.

“It made a big difference to me,” says Ronald, who has supported research and other funds at the university. “I think scholarships and bursaries make students feel that someone cares.”

Fred Shore, assistant professor in the faculty and staff giving campaign launches on Feb. 27 at Fort Garry and Feb. 28 on Bannatyne and runs until the end of March.
COFFEE WITH A CO-WORKER
The Bulletin plays 10 or 20 questions with Lesa Cafferty

Coffee or tea? A thermos of Orange Pekoe tea all day, with milk and sugar.

What puts a smile on your face? What puts a smile on my face? I'm a great cook when it comes to meat and potato dishes.

Childhood hero? I looked up to my father. He was my hero.

Where did you grow up? Pinawa, MB

Favourite place to visit: Florida. I love the palm trees, the smell, the vegetation. I love being close to Sea World where the killer whales are (it was a childhood dream to train them).

Something you appreciate or admire in another person: The ability to stand your ground, and not being afraid to do a little bit of work.

Recent movie enjoyed? There's a few, but my absolute favourite movie is Twitter. Why? It's funny. I'm terrified of tornadoes but how angry Mother Nature can be is always intriguing me.

And an unforgettable experience: Winning the 1996 Manitoba Summer Games Individual gold medal in the sport of show jumping. Receiving a gold medal on the podium was the most incredible feeling and experience I've had, and it just drives me to want to be there again, this time somewhere as big as the Olympics.

Summer Games Individual gold medal in the sport of show jumping. Receiving a gold medal on the podium was the most incredible feeling and experience I've had, and it just drives me to want to be there again, this time somewhere as big as the Olympics.

What makes her smile: ‘The trust the horses have in me, the reward of coming through the finish line; it’s such a rush!’

Lesa Cafferty, glassblower, chemistry department, Faculty of Science.
New anthology celebrates Aboriginal writers from Manitoba

BY TOBY CYGMAN
For The Bulletin

Manitowapow: Aboriginal Stories From the Land of Water is not your average anthology. Flipping through its pages, you may find a recipe for bannock, an excerpt from a graphic novel or an essay by Louis Reid.

Assembled by Warren Cariou and Niigaanwewidam James Sinclair, this collection of Aboriginal writing from Manitoba was launched at a celebration event at The Forks in Winnipeg on Friday, February 4. The editors largely stepped aside to allow the writers to take centre stage. Beatrice Mosionier, perhaps best known for her best-selling novel In Search of April Raintee, was there to introduce the evening and the anthology for which she wrote a forward. Manitowapow features a wide variety of expected and unexpected materials from stories, poetry and plays to historical documents, songs and recollections.

“We wanted to try and represent, as much as we could, the diversity of the cultural communities in Manitoba,” says Cariou, an assistant professor in the department of English, film and theatre and a Canada Research Chair in narrative, community and Indigenous cultures.

Alongside co-editor Niigaanwewidam James Sinclair, a professor in the departments of English and Native studies who is in the final stages of completing his PhD in Anishinaabeg literatures and traditional expression, the two had to question the definition of writing and literature in order to put together the anthology. How could an oral culture, like much of Aboriginal culture, be represented on the page? How could systems of communication before writing be shown?

Recognizing these aspects of Aboriginal culture, Cariou and Sinclair include written down versions of oral stories in the anthology as well as a section at the beginning that shows and discusses traditional systems of communication before writing be shown.

In the foreword of Manitowapow, Mosionier writes that she hopes “[this anthology] will be a few more steps in a long and storied path of creativity in our Aboriginal communities.” The anthology is sure to inspire and with its proceeds going to create writing workshops for Aboriginal youth, the next generation of Aboriginal writers in Manitoba will be well-prepared to add their voices to a future edition.

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Contributor Katherena Vermette reads to the large audience assembled at The Forks on February 1 for the launch of a new anthology of Manitoba Aboriginal writing.

Research Awards in Aboriginal Health

The Manitoba NEAHR Program is currently accepting applications for the following research awards:

New Investigator (due February 28, 2012)
Graduate Fellowship (due March 1, 2012)
Summer Internship (due March 2, 2012)

Information and applications are available on our website:
http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/medicine/units/community_health_sciences/departmental_units/cahr/training/6016.html

The poems “mcPemmican™” and “mcTreaty™” by the late Marvin Francis (which appear in the anthology) are reprinted with permission from Turnstone Press.

The Manitoba RDC is offering grants for Masters and PhD students who are ready to begin their thesis or dissertation research, based on confidential Statistics Canada microdata. Awards are also open to postdoctoral fellows.

The Manitoba RDC offers researchers in Manitoba free access to confidential Statistics Canada microdata, as well as the workspace, software and equipment needed to analyze these data. Information about the RDC program, the process for accessing the data, and the datasets available can be found at: http://www.statcan.ca/english/rdc/index.htm

For further information, contact:
Ian Clara, RDC Analyst
rdc@cc.umanitoba.ca

Research Awards

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2012 RDC Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Award Program

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More information about the grants can be found at:
http://www.umanitoba.ca/centres/rdc/rdcaward.html

Applications are due in the RDC no later than March 15, 2012.

For further information, contact:
Ian Clara, RDC Analyst
rdc@cc.umanitoba.ca

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events

University of Manitoba

FORT GARRY + BANNATYNE CAMPUSES

LECTURES, SYMPOSIA, SEMINARS

INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES LECTURE
Thursday, February 9 | 2:30 p.m.

NATIVE STUDIES COLLOQUIUM SERIES
Friday, February 10 | 12:30 to 1:20 p.m.

HLHP RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES
Friday, February 10 | 2:30 p.m.
“Postcards from the obesity factory: Impact on young women’s constructions of health” by Genevieve Kail. In 238 investor’s Group Athletic Centre.

ELIZABETH DAFOELIBRARY GRADUATE STUDENT LECTURE SERIES
Friday, February 10 | 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.
“Subverting the Global Food Economy Status Quo: the role of Traditional Ecological Knowledge in the Practice and Discourse of Food Sovereignty in Skowkan, Anishinaabe First Nation” by Maximilian Aulinger, department of Native studies, in the Board Room, 3rd Floor, Elizabeth Dafoe Library.

2012 ASINIBIO RESEARCH LECTURE (HISTORY)
Friday, February 10 | 2:30 p.m.
The department of history presents a lecture by Dr. Michael Salman, associate professor of South/Southeast Asian and United States history, UCLa. In the Cross Common Room, St. John’s College.

27TH ANNUAL J.B. RUDNYCKYJ LECTURE
Friday, February 10 | 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.
“Ukrainian Culture Under Stalin” by Serhy Yekelchyk, University of Victoria, B.C. In Archives & Special Collections, 330 Elizabeth Dafoe. For more information: 474-9896.

CRITICAL CONVERSATIONS: THE IDEA OF A HUMAN RIGHTS MUSEUM
Friday, February 10 | 3:30-4:45 p.m.
“The Re-biologization of Race: Bioslavery as Urban Nuclei” by Luigi Gallo, associate professor, the department of educational administration, foundations and psychology, Rm. 230, Faculty of Education, U of M, Winnipeg, R3T 2N2, tel. 204-474-9018, fax 204-474-7550, email ennsjc@cc.umanitoba.ca.

WINNIPEG INSTITUTE FOR THEORETICAL PHYSICS COLLOQUIUM
Thursday, February 16 | 3:30 p.m.
“Searching for Cosmic Strings in New Observational Windows” by Robert Brandenberger, Tier 1 Canada Research Chair, McGill University. In 330 Allen Blvd.

NATIVE STUDIES COLLOQUIUM SERIES
Friday, February 17 | 12:30 to 1:20 p.m.
“The Re-constructing of Race: Bioscience as Science Fiction and Fact” by Serenity Joo. In 307 Tier.

HLHP RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES
Wednesday, February 18 | 9:30 a.m.

PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY COLLOQUIUM
Friday, March 6 | 3:30 p.m.
“Rare Isotope Physics: From Atomic Nuclei to Exploding Stars” by Reiner Kuestenbrand, head, Science Division, TRIUMF. In 207 Buller Blvd.

INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES NEW FACULTY COLLOQUIUM SERIES
Tuesday, February 14 | 2:30 p.m.
“Recovering Sappho’s Lyric” by Mike Sampson.

Science Division, TRIUMF. In 207

The department of history presents a lecture by Dr. Michael Salman, associate professor of South/Southeast Asian and United States history, UCLa. In the Cross Common Room, St. John’s College.

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ACADEMIC JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

Department of Educational Administration, Foundations and Psychology
Position: Full-time, tenure-track position at the level of Assistant Professor in the area of educational administration. Deadline: March 26, 2012.

FOR INFORMATION: R.J. Boyd, department of family medicine, Room E6003, Saint Boniface Hospital, 409 Tache Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R2H 2A6, tel. 204-474-9018, fax 204-474-7550, email jaboym@sgb.mb.ca

FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Department of Family Medicine
Position: Full-time Academic Family Physician to work in Kildonan Medical Centre.

FOR INFORMATION: R.J. Boyd, department of family medicine, Room E6003, Saint Boniface Hospital, 409 Tache Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R2H 2A6, tel. 204-474-7550, email jaboym@sgb.mb.ca

FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Department of Family Medicine and
The J A Hillsides Northern Medical Unit Position: Two (2) unique positions are being offered collaboratively by the Department of Family Medicine and the J A Hillsides Northern Medical Unit; each position will work half-time.

UPCOMING MUSIC EVENTS

All events at Evac Hall (Marcel A. Desaulles Faculty of Music, 65 Dafoe Road) unless otherwise noted

For more music events: > umanitoba.ca/faculties/music/events/index.html

Some events subject to change; please check Faculty of Music website for updates

Friday, February 10 | 8:00 p.m. | Opera Theatre presents – Excerpts from popular operas are presented by the UM Opera Theatre Ensemble, under the direction of Katherine Twaddle. Concert repeats February 11. At Gas Station Arts Centre, 445 River Avenue. Tickets $15.00 for adults, $10.00 for students, and are available from the music faculty office or at the door.

February 13 and 14 | 8:00 p.m. | Wednesday Night Hang. A weekly jazz event and jam session featuring faculty members and students from the Faculty of Music. At The Orbit Room, 4-2077 Pembina. 18+

February 17 | 7:30 p.m. | A Night at the Opera: Wind Ensemble and Concert Band. At Jubilee Place at MBCI. Tickets at the door ($10/$5).

February 19 | 7:30 p.m. | Oleg and Friends Concert. The second of three concerts features work by Delius, Britten, Lennon and McCartney and Vaughan Williams. At Broadway Disciples United Church, 396 Broadway. Tickets available at the door or by calling 474-8637 ($20/$15/$7).

For further information: 204-474-7999, email umih@cc.umanitoba.ca

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA LIBRARIES

Morisciaid Health Centre Library Position: Head, Science Division, TRIUMF. In 207

TOO MUCH, TOO LITTLE, TWO LAKES

Have your say

Conceptual design for pedestrian link over the Red River to the U of M

MMM Group Limited (MMM) is working with the City of Winnipeg to provide professional consulting services for a conceptual design study to identify options and a location for a pedestrian and cycle crossing over the Red River to connect St. Vital with Fort Garry in the vicinity of the U of M. It is looking for public input into the project to determine the possible locations and type of river crossing for the area.

The event includes two public interactive display sessions to collect feedback from the public. An on-line survey is available at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/activetransport

DATE AND TIME: Wednesday, February 8 at Dakota Community Centre, Great Hall, 188 Dakota Street, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. and Thursday, February 9 at University of Manitoba, Event Centre, 310-Research Road, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

For more information: umanitoba.ca/experienceresearch

Experience Research

A new initiative of the VP (research and international) office will provide undergraduate students with an opportunity to Experience Research this summer at the U of M.

This experience will be open to qualified, full-time undergraduate students in all areas of study.

For further information: umanitoba.ca/experienceresearch

For Information: Charlotte Enns, department head, department of educational administration, foundations and psychology, Rm. 230, Faculty of Education, U of M, Winnipeg, R3T 2N2, tel. 204-474-7550, email jaboym@sgb.mb.ca

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES

Position: Director
Deadline: February 24, 2012
Start Date: July 1, 2012

For Information: Tina Chen, Chair, Board of Management, UMIH, c/o Natalie Johnson, Institute for the Humanities, 407 Tier, U of M, Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2, tel. 204-474-9599, email umih@cc.umanitoba.ca
Bringing Research to LIFE

Upcoming Events

Critical Conversations: The Idea of a Human Rights Museum presents

Thinking about an Exhibit on Agricultural Migrant Workers

Monday, Feb. 13, 2012
2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Room 206, Robson Hall
Faculty of Law
University of Manitoba

For more information, contact Jennifer Chlopecki at: (204) 480-1452 or jennifer_chlopecki@umanitoba.ca

Heath Leisure & Human Performance Research Institute

Research Seminar Series

The physiology of resistance training, presented by guest speaker:

William Kraemer, University of Connecticut

Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2012 at 9:30 a.m.

224 Education Building

For more information, contact Nicole Dunn at: (204) 474-7451 or nicole_dunn@umanitoba.ca

Research Orientation Series

Week 12: Technology Commercialization

Thursday, Feb. 16, 2012
1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
ORS Boardroom
540 Machray Hall

Friday, Feb. 17, 2012
12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
405 Brodie Centre

Research shows: You may not be exercising as hard as you think (sitting all day isn’t helping either)

BY MELNI GHATTORA
For The Bulletin

The Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology recommends that adults should get at least 150 minutes of moderate-to-vigorous intensity aerobic physical activity every week. Complying with this gold standard guideline for physical activity puts you in the clear, right?

According to Danielle Bouchard, assistant professor in the Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management, there could be some ambiguity. As a result, an individual might have trouble correctly identifying moderate and vigorous activity.

“Right now there’s a big gap between what people are achieving and what they think they’re achieving,” she explains.

According to Bouchard, 60 per cent of Canadians report reaching the recommended amount of physical activity a week, but the reality is that only 15 per cent were actually achieving this.

If you work out five days a week for a minimum of 60 minutes each time, you would be considered physically active—assuming you reach the right intensity, which is hard to measure for most of us.

Part of Bouchard’s research program focuses on how to correctly identify physical activity intensity. She’s looking for a way that allows people to understand moderate or vigorous intensity it and how to easily identify it so people can consciously reach the Canadian Physical Activity Guidelines when exercising.

Her goal is to change how information is communicated to make it clearer. “It’s like the food guidelines, it used to say five to 10 servings and it was confusing for people. So which is it; is it five or is it 10?”

There is another big hurdle to overcome, however: A sedentary routine.

“The problem we are seeing is that while people focus on getting 30 to 60 minutes of daily physical activity, they are not taking into account the 23 hours spent being mostly sedentary” notes Bouchard. “It’s those other unaccounted-for hours that are harmful.”

Whether it is at your workstation, behind the wheel while long distance driving, or on your living-room couch — if you are sitting for too much of the day, you are at an increased risk of diabetes, heart disease, obesity, various cancers and an early death, research shows.

Chris Silvestru, an implementation specialist in the office of research services, is taking a stand on the problem of a sedentary work style, literally. Since August 2011, he’s been standing at his work station for a minimum of four of his seven-hour work day.

Although Silvestru does lead an active lifestyle, he didn’t adopt this work style as a means to stay fit. “I believe the human body is not designed for extended periods of time and it’s always been in the back of my mind,” he explains.

“I find that when you do things outside of the norm, there is usually resistance. This was a personal choice and I didn’t request any special equipment so I did it and my supervisor and colleagues have been really supportive.”

Bouchard can certainly relate. “Whenever we have faculty meetings, at some point I am going to stand and it’s kind of weird for some people. It’s not socially considered as normal behaviour.”

One can imagine the reactions to her office space. When Bouchard joined the U of M in July 2011, she didn’t opt for a regular desk; instead she requested a treadmill workstation.

“I use the treadmill anywhere from four to five hours a day and can burn about 600 kilocalories, going at a speed of one mile per hour, but it’s not really walking. I would call it moving. I probably burn more kilocalories than I would at a one-hour step class, and some might think ‘sounds good, sign me up!’” she laughs.

However, she says, at this low intensity, the heart is not increasing sufficiently to get all of the outcomes and benefits associated with regular physical activity.

Therefore, it is imperative to understand that reducing sedentary time will never replace an exercise session at moderate or vigorous intensity.

The reality is we need both. As Bouchard puts it, “We need to think as much about sedentary behaviour as we have about physical activity.”

Photo by Melni Ghattora
Republic of keepin’ it real Canadian (eh)

BY MARIANNE MAYS WIEBE
The Bulletin

Republic of Doyle’s Allan Hawco visited U of M campus in late January. Hawco, who plays Jake Doyle and is also the show’s executive producer/showrunner/co-creator and head writer, visited the U of M campus with his co-star Mark O’Brien (who plays Des Courtney) on a cross-country tour to promote the show, which has just entered its third season.

Arlene Young, head of the department of English, film and theatre, said that CBC for Manitobans — find out why

Mark O’Brien of TV’s ‘Republic of Doyle.’

O’Brien (who plays Des Courtney) on a U of M campus with his co-star Mark O’Brien.

BY U OF M STAFF AND FACULTY

HOT 103’s ACE BURPEE COULDN’T
put David Arnason’s newest novel down. The popular radio personality chose Baldur’s Song for his book club and then proceeded to read it cover to cover without breaks. The novel, he says, is “perfect.”

Burpee was drawn to the familiar names and places and vivid descriptions Arnason captures in this novel set during Winnipeg’s boom-town days at the turn of the nineteenth century. The novel is told through the eyes of Baldur, a boy from Gimli. Both city and boy grow from innocence to savvy creatures of business as they mature, fall in love and survive the politics of a competitive, cutthroat society.

Baldur’s Song by David Arnason is published by Turnstone Press.

the audience. Young said that Hawco emphasized the strength and value of the Canadian creative community, and the importance of making Canadian TV and film, with Canadian settings and characters.

Many students were inspired by what he had to offer, said Young.

“This can either let American TV define what Canadians are, as stereotypes, or we can make our own shows, set in our own country — shows that reflect Canadian identity and reality,” he said.

The detective show is set in St. John’s, the city plays itself.

Canadians, while challenging stereotypes and educate Canadians, will be drawn to the familiar names and places and vivid descriptions Arnason captures in this novel set during Winnipeg’s boom-town days at the turn of the nineteenth century. The novel is told through the eyes of Baldur, a boy from Gimli. Both city and boy grow from innocence to savvy creatures of business as they mature, fall in love and survive the politics of a competitive, cutthroat society.

Blessed with an ear for music and a fine voice, Baldur finds his fortune but not his love. Smitten at an early age, Baldur is haunted by Lara — a girl of fiery spirit destined to be both his muse and tormenter. The daughter of an intimidating and well-connected businessman, Lara leads Baldur from the small Manitoba community of New Iceland to the bustling streets of early twentieth-century Winnipeg. Older neighbourhoods like the West End, Wolseley, West Broadway, and the Exchange District are immediately recognizable as readers navigate the dirt streets and boardwalks with Baldur in Arnason’s narrative.

This modern Icelandic saga is setting for Arnason who has taught in both the English and Icelandic departments at the U of M and has been a literary presence in Manitoba for many decades. He has published many books that deal with the Icelandic Canadian experience such as Marsh Burning (1980), a long poem that combines personal experience and the Nordic pantheon; Fifty Stories and a Piece of Advice (1982), which draws on Arnason’s upbringing in Gimli; and The Icelanders (1981), a book of photographs alongside Arnason’s memories and childhood stories.

Arnason’s many accolades include being a finalist for the Leacock Medal for Humour for his novel King Jerry and winning the Carol Shields Winnipeg Book Award for The Imagined City: A Literary History of Winnipeg. He founded the Journal of Canadian Fiction and is a co-founder of Winnipeg publishing house Turnstone Press. Baldur’s Song is a worthy addition to Arnason’s canon and shows that he continues to be a strong presence in the Manitoba writing community.

Toby Cygman

Baldur’s Song by David Arnason is published by Turnstone Press.

Books

Baldur’s Song

Thursday, February 16
217 University Centre – GSA Lounge
9:00am – Bannock and refreshments
9:15am – Opening, followed by readings from Gregory Scofield
11:00am – Louis Riel Institute presentation

This is a free event. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, please contact:
Andrea Bilash 480-1473
andrea_bilash@umanitoba.ca

Executive Lead for Indigenous Achievement, Office of the President & Dean, Faculty of Medicine
Invites you to attend

100 Years of Loss
The Residential School System in Canada

Mobile Exhibit

This bilingual exhibit is designed to raise awareness about the history and legacy of Residential Schools in Canada. 100 Years of Loss strives to sensitize and educate Canadians, while challenging stereotypes and fostering a dialogue between people.

Exhibit Opening:
Thursday, February 9, 2:00pm
Brodie Atium, 727 McDermot Ave., Bannatyne Campus
Open for viewing free-of-charge Feb 9-16
Everyone is welcome.

For more information, contact
Andrea Bilash 480-1473 or
andrea_bilash@umanitoba.ca

Executive Lead for Indigenous Achievement, Office of the President, Department of Native Studies & the Louis Riel Institute
Invites You to a Metis Learning Day

WHY CELEBRATE LOUIS RIEL?

LOUIS RIEL DAY is coming up for Manitobans — find out why his life and achievements are important to all Canadians.

Louis Riel Day is coming up for Manitobans — find out why his life and achievements are important to all Canadians.

Featured presenters:
• Gregory Scofield – one of Canada’s leading Aboriginal writers reading from his most recent collection of poetry, Louis: The Inarticulate Poems.
• Shirley Delorme Russell from the Louis Riel Institute will present a timeline of significant events in Louis Riel’s life.

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The Residential School System in Canada

Invites you to attend