New CRCs awarded to rising stars and research leaders

BY KATIE CHALMERS-BROOKS

For The Bulletin

Their aim is to develop an Indigenous-based social work, find new ways to diagnose and treat life-threatening disorders, extend the lives of people with brain tumours and to improve the Canadian economy by helping entrepreneurs become more successful.

They have big research goals and now they have a combined $2 million to help make these a reality.

Three new Canada Research Chairs (CRC) have been awarded to U of M professors Michael Anthony Hart, Tamra Werbowetski-Ogilvie and Zhenyu Wu. They are considered research leaders or rising stars in natural sciences and engineering, health sciences, or social sciences and humanities. A fourth professor, Joerg Stetefeld, had his CRC designation renewed.

The appointments were announced recently in Ottawa by the Honourable Gary Goodyear, Minister of State for Science and Technology. Each received a $500,000 Tier 2 Chair over five years. The new CRCs will also receive a combined $368,594 from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), an independent corporation created by the Government of Canada to fund research infrastructure.

“I extend my congratulations to these researchers and applaud their ongoing efforts to advance our knowledge of the world around us,” said Digvir Jayas, VP (research and international) and Distinguished Professor at the U of M.

“They are leading the way in their field of study.”

Michael Anthony Hart, CRC in Indigenous Knowledges and Social Work, will connect with Elders to explore their cultural philosophies and practices which relate to helping. While much research has been done regarding the social challenges faced by Indigenous peoples in Canada, there remains little awareness of their helping perspectives as this portion of the population has been pushed to the periphery of society. Hart’s investigations will support the development of an Indigenous-based social work. His research will lead to new interventions that are culturally safe and relevant, and show how implementing Indigenous knowledges of helping practices could prove to be a way of overcoming colonialism.

Joerg Stetefeld, CRC in Structural Biology, studies the structure, function, and regulation of proteins involved in the extracellular matrix, a complex structure that surrounds and supports cells in mammalian tissues. His work will result in new diagnostic and treatment strategies for a range of human disorders like muscular dystrophy, arthritis, multiple sclerosis and tumours.

The goal of Tamra Werbowetski-Ogilvie, CRC in Neuro-oncology and Human Stem Cells, is to develop new biomarkers and therapeutic strategies for these particularly aggressive and often deadly forms of cancer in the hopes of treating tumours earlier, before they spread, using her expertise in human embryonic stem cell biology.

Zhenyu Wu, CRC in Entrepreneurship and Innovation, explores risk-taking behaviours of entrepreneurs and investors in new venture financing. Wu’s findings could help ensure these new ventures continue to survive and grow. His objective is to assess the risk-taking behaviour of the different parties involved, and to explain how decisions are made in light of this behaviour. This insight would help entrepreneurs succeed in their ventures, and ultimately benefit the Canadian economy.

The University of Manitoba is currently home to 47 Canada Research Chairs.

To participate, and to watch staff and students in action, visit the University of Manitoba’s Alumni Engagement Services at umanitoba.ca/alumni.
Human rights champion to visit

**Public Events**

- **‘Global Issues, Local Impact’**: Wednesday, March 28, 6:30 p.m., University Centre, MPA, Fort Garry Campus
- **‘Global Health’**: Thursday, March 29, 12:00 p.m., Frederic Gaspard Theatre A, Basic Medical Sciences Building, Bannatyne Campus

**5 Days** for awareness

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**Headlines**


“Students Compete to Design a Canadian Satellite,” Ottawa Citizen, March 11. The U of M team earned top marks in the Canadian Satellite Design Challenge in Ottawa. The teams will incorporate the design comments and will now begin the assembly, integration and test portion of the competition.

**’Drive For Free’ premiere**

The Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences will host a premiere of the made-in-Manitoba film *Drive For Free: The Alternative Fuel Revolution*. The one-hour documentary by filmmakers Noah Erenberg and Bruce Little follows the U of M, on their quest to make fuel from garbage such as non-recyclable Tim Hortons’ coffee cups. The screening takes place March 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the Robert Schultz Theatre, 172 St. John’s College. Refreshments at 6:30. For more information contact Maureen Paisley at 474-8790 or Crystal Jorgensen at 474-9435.

**RECOGNIZING HOLONDOM**

Winnipeg Free Press

March 6

The Canadian Museum for Human Rights presents an opportunity to gain prominence recognition to the Holodomor, in which millions of Ukrainians were starved to death by the former Soviet Union, said Myroslav Shkandrij, professor of Slavic Studies at the U of M. The Holodomor took place in the same vicinity of Europe as the Holocaust, which will have a permanent exhibit at the museum, and within the same time frame — within a decade — of that cataclysmic event for Jewish people. “The full story of Jews and Ukrainian suffering needs to be universally recognized,” Shkandrij said.

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**NEWS**

**We want more tests**

The Vancouver Sun

March 8

While many natural health products in Canada are thoroughly tested and carefully regulated, there remain a vast number of products on the market that are relatively untested or do not provide the benefits they claim to. “It’s unfortunate, but it’s true that a number of products available in the marketplace in the nutrition and nutraceutical industry have not been tested,” says Peter Jones, director of the Richardson Centre for Functional Foods and Nutraceuticals at the U of M. “We are not even sure they are 100% per cent effective in what they are supposed to do.” For that reason, he says, “it’s really critical that we go in and find ways to test.”

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**Cell phones become more annoying**

Winnipeg Free Press

March 14

Mobile advertising is still in its infancy, even though smartphone usage has taken off. Fang Wan, an associate professor of marketing at U of M said advertising on a smartphone requires a different approach than traditional online ads. “From a consumer’s perspective, obviously the mobile thing cannot be as cluttered as online,” said Wan who specializes in online consumer behaviour. Wan also said that mobile ads can feel more intrusive. Consumers have come to expect ads when they surf the web on a computer that they share with family members, but a mobile in their pocket feels a bit more private. “That personalization, that intimacy, can create more resistance (from consumers).”

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**The U of M in the NEWS**

**Paisley at 474-8790 or Crystal Jorgensen at 474-9435.**

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**Recognizing Holodomor**

Winnipeg Free Press

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Another successful nightmare

The event was organized by a Faculty of Nursing team led by Marilee Enns, and included Nicole Harder, Wanda Falk, Barb Goodwin and Theresa Bowser. Student lab technicians Erin Brownlee and Jennifer O’Neill-Salki and nursing students Paula Henuet and Candace Battick played major supporting roles. A great deal of time and effort was put into the event to make it as realistic as possible.

Nursing supervisors Barb Goodwin and Mike Stevenson provided support for our students for the entire event. The medical faculty team was led by Rob Brown and pharmacy students were supported by faculty members Chris Louizos and Nancy Kleiman.

Many faculty members visited during the evening and provided their support. ‘Patients’ were also visited by friends and family who brought flowers and treats.

The event ended the next morning with a breakfast for all participants.

E-PROCUREMENT: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

1. Users will have access to U of M negotiated pricing for the product they are looking for. Users can then purchase online with a click of their mouse.

2. The U of M is the first post-secondary institution to adopt Ariba eProcurement in Canada.

3. The tool will gather spend data, which will help the university identify potential partners and negotiate better pricing with suppliers.

4. The rollout of EPIC will begin with a pilot group rollout over a three to four month period. The start date will be announced once the system is ready for production.

As a web-based application, EPIC also helps users create and submit electronic requisitions, eliminating the need to fax paper forms, call in requisitions or visit a number of different supplier websites.

Having a strategic sourcing tool is more common in the corporate world, offers Bryson, but is a new concept to facilitating the opportunity during their final practicum. 

To learn more about The FWD:
>> movethenorthendfwd.wordpress.com

Send your campus news and kudos to: bulletin@umanitoba.ca
Visonary conversations: Too much, too little, two lakes

BY TOBY CYGMAN
The Bulletin

With the spring melt underway, flooding is on the minds of many Manitobans. As the snow disappears (seemingly overnight) and the rivers rise, rural and urban Manitobans alike are crossing their fingers and hoping the water stays where it should.

It was this issue and others related to water that was the topic of the most recent visionary conversation, “Too Much? Too Little? Two Lakes.” President and Vice-Chancellor David Barnard hosted the event which took place on the evening of February 15 at the Schultz Theatre in St. John’s College.

The first speaker of the evening was Annemieke Farenhorst, a professor in soil science in the Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences and the new NSERC chair in women in science and engineering. Her talk concerned the water supply, or lack thereof, on First Nations communities.

Ten per cent of homes in First Nations communities do not have running water. While the average Winnipegger uses 180 litres of water each day, the inhabitants of these First Nations communities often get by on 15 litres a day. Water that is collected from a community tap and brought home in buckets. This 15 litres is inadequate for proper hygiene and consequently, the inhabitants of these homes are more susceptible to infection and disease.

The recent establishment of the Water Rights Research Consortium will increase access to clean running water and sewage facilities in these communities.

David Lobb, the second speaker, took the discussion in a different direction. Lobb is also a professor in soil science, and is the senior research chair holder in watershed systems.

He discussed how agricultural land is a major contributor of run-off leading to flooding and how this has adverse effects on our water quality. We need to find better ways to manage the run-off, he said.

Tricia Stadnyk also talked about flooding, but about periods of low flow as well. There are “consequences on both sides of the coin,” she said. Stadnyk is an assistant professor in civil engineering and currently principal researcher on several studies examining the effects of climate change on Canada’s water supply with a focus on remote northern basins.

She pointed to the need for better prediction systems. This can be achieved, she said, by improving the monitoring systems and gathering more data.

The final speaker was Ron Stewart, who brought a meterological viewpoint through brain activity, in spite of an undetermined state of consciousness and vegetative and comatose states on March 15 at Bannatyne Campus as part of National Brain Awareness Week.

For two years, Owen has conducted imaging work as firm, as she herself recovered full consciousness, though not full movement. Her belief in the significance of the Owen’s brain-imaging work is firm, as she wrote him a subsequent note: “It was like magic; it found me.”

In 1997, Owen, then a neuroscientist in Cambridge, met the woman who would completely alter the way he conducted his research. Kate Brainbridge, 26 at the time, entered hospital after a severe viral infection overtook her immune system.

She remained in a vegetative state for the next six months. During that time, Owen did something that had never before been done: he checked for a specific, behavioural response in a comatose patient’s brain.

Scanning Brainbridge’s brain while she was in a comatose state allowed her to imagine playing tennis for “Yes” and navigating through their house for “No.”

Over the course of five years, the study found that approximately one in five presumed-comatose patients were able to communicate in this way.

Owen’s findings have revolutionized the study of consciousness and will have profound effects on the treatment of patients in vegetative states.

As for his first patient, Kate? She recovered full consciousness, though not full movement. Her belief in the significance of the Owen’s brain-imaging work is firm, as she wrote him a subsequent note: “It was like magic; it found me.”

Photo by Mike Latchalsc

President David Barnard with neuroscientist Adrian Owen on March 15.

President Barnard started off the question-and-answer period by asking the panelists if the water issues here are different than in other parts of Canada and the world.

“We’re in the middle of the continent,” Lobb said, and that drives the uncertainty. “Mother nature has her way with us,” Stewart added.

Questions and comments from the audience followed regarding a large variety of topics, from drainage and water storage to the wetlands and bottled water. To close the evening, Digvir Jayas VP (research and international) gave a brief summary of the evening.

He concluded by saying that solutions to these problems have to come from all levels. Governments, organizations and academic institutions need to share their knowledge in order to move forward on this issue.

Watch Visorory Conversations on U of M’s YouTube channel.

>>youtube.com/watch?v=caD2_T3Zq-0

Lecture: ‘Search for consciousness’

BY MARIIANNE MAYS WIEBE
The Bulletin

In three to four year period, their studies showed that a percentage of patients were able to provide a specific response through brain activity, in spite of an inability to physically move.

The study was further honed to test for specific communication. Through brain imaging of healthy brains, the team knew certain types of activity — even imagined — triggered measurable brain waves in specific, differentiated parts of the brain.

The team developed a model to solicit “Yes” and “No” responses by asking patients in vegetative states to imagine playing tennis for “Yes” and navigating through their house for “No.”

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Photo by Robert Blach

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BY TOBY CYGMAN
The Bulletin

Guantanamo Bay, the legal battle

BY MARIIANNE MAYS WIEBE
The Bulletin

The Faculty of Law hosted the 2nd Annual DeLloyd J. Guth Visiting Lecture in Legal History on March 8. Entitled “Habeas Corpus: Legal History and Guantanamo Bay,” the lecture by eminent lawyer and legal scholar James Oldham, Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, D.C., centred on his past ten years’ experience as Counsel of Record in Amicus Briefs of Legal Historians in three cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, where the medieval writ of habeas corpus featured in the context of non-criminal executive detention.

Nahlah Ayed Prize student winners announced

The International Centre for Students (ICS) has announced the 2012 winners of the Nahlah Ayed Prize for student leadership and global citizenship: Emmanuel Rotimi Ojo and Oluwatomi Layo Daoud.

Ojo is a PhD student in soil science and is actively engaged in a wide variety of leadership roles and co-curricular activities. He has been active in the Graduate Students Association and the ICS where he has been involved in orientations for new international students, the Leadership Development Series and the World W.I.S.E. Ambassador team. Daoud is a third year student in the Faculty of Medicine with a passion for international health issues.

This has led her to leadership roles as the Global Health Liaison for the faculty and her work with the Immigrant and Refugee Women’s Mentorship program, the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation and IRCOM, a facility that welcomes refugees from around the world. The Nahlah Ayed Prize is awarded annually to two U of M students who demonstrate leadership, passion and global citizenship through participation in activities that bridge local and global communities in response to emerging issues around the world.
The Bulletin

Take me to your leaders (of tomorrow)

BY MARIJANNE MAYS WIEBE
The Bulletin

On March 12, 12 outstanding students participated in all-day interviews with a selection committee to join the Leaders of Tomorrow Society at the U of M. The members of the society are individuals who have achieved prestigious entrance scholarships that recognize academic achievement and leadership potential of high school graduates entering studies at the university.

The event was also a welcome by current members of the society to the university, and featured an address by previous award recipient Mark Hearson, who goes on to study at Oxford as a U of M Rhodes Scholar later this year.

Hearson, a civil engineering graduate who specializes in transport engineering, says that the recognition of the scholarship is a "huge boost to confidence," adding that the program "helps you get started on a path to academic success as an undergrad and to define your goals early on."

"It makes you realize what is achievable on your academic path, because of the financial aid and the advisory support you receive as part of the group, but also because you are part of a group of highly-motivated, involved students," he said.

This year’s top six receive the Leaders of Tomorrow Award valued at $10,000; the remaining six will receive Leadership Entrance Scholarships. Recipients are chosen annually on the basis of leadership qualities and exceptional academic performance in high school, and their involvement in student affairs, intramural activities and their communities.

2010 recipient Alana Poon says that she felt like she became part of a university family upon receiving the award. "After I found out I had received the award, and met university officials and award holders from previous years, I felt so welcome. "They are there to help and see you succeed; they offer support as well as keeping you on track to be and do your best. Many other opportunities have come to me through the scholarship and program," she adds.

Previous recipient Andrew Konopelnys that being part of the scholarship program and group has been "extremely helpful, a welcome to university and an incentive to attend the U of M."

The first-year student, who has had a lifelong fascination with statistics, has taken a wealth of courses this year, including statistics courses. He is also working on a tutorial workshop for exam preparation and plans to become involved with student journalism and other extracurricular volunteer activities.

Leaders of Tomorrow students are eligible to renew their scholarships every year and often continue to participate in the program as unofficial university ambassadors. Subsequent scholarships are worth $2,000 per year.

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My co-op education

BY MARIANNE MAY'S WEBE
The Bulletin

The blizzard that preceded the so-called flood of the century was in full force in April 1997 when Michelle Curry and her mom donned their snowgear and set off for 7-11. Why? Curry credits both her love of weather and a sense of adventure: They were curious about the storm, and they just couldn’t stay indoors. Plus, she laughs, they wanted a Slurpee. “The streets were pretty deserted,” she recalls.

“My mom is very adventurous too,” adds the undergraduate student in physical geography and atmospheric science. “She’s always traveling. And I’ve always had a thing for weather. I’ve always just loved it.” Curry’s grandfather worked at Environment Canada when she was a child, and she remembers him sending off weather balloons as part of his work. It seemed very exciting. Her “thing for weather” led Curry to her academic goal of becoming a meteorologist and now has netted her an award as well: U of M’s Co-operative Education Student Champion Award. Last year, co-operative education coordinators of the U of M worked to establish an annual award to recognize students who demonstrate personal and professional development through participation in a co-operative education option. This year, Curry was presented the award as part of the university’s celebration of National Co-operative Education Week from March 19 to 23.

The co-op programs at the U of M provide students and employers with the opportunity to work together in a meaningful partnership. There are co-op programs in departments from the faculties of Agricultural and Food Sciences, Arts, Engineering and Science, the Asper School of Business and Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources.

After participating in the 2010 Arctic Youth Forum with Dave Barber, professor and Canada Research Chair in Arctic system science in the department of environment and geography at U of M, Curry was intrigued by the work being conducted at the Center for Earth Observation Science (CEOS) in the Arctic and wanted to be a part of it. Co-op director for the Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources, Leslie Goodman, whom Curry credits with supporting and recognizing her goals from day one, encouraged her to network with Barber. “Just have a conversation with him about his work,” [Goodman] said. Little did I know that would lead to a job offer to work as an undergraduate summer student research assistant position that summer!” notes Curry.

The Pathway to Addressing the Gaps
Interdisciplinary Research:
Keynote Address

Dr. Malcolm King
A member of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation (Ontario), and a health researcher at the University of Alberta focusing on respiratory diseases. As Scientific Director of the CIHR Institute of Aboriginal Peoples’ Health, Dr. King leads the development of a health research agenda aimed at improving wellness and achieving health equity for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples.

9:00am Thursday, May 3, 2012
E3-270 Engineering Bldg
Student presentations in E3-270 following Keynote Address
Poster presentations in Engineering Atrium (all day)

Participating Units in the Applied Health Sciences PhD Program Research Day
Human Ecology
Kinesiology and Recreation Management
Medical Rehabilitation
Nursing
The position involved three months of research in Winnipeg and five weeks of field work in the sub-Arctic. In July 2010, she participated in Leg1A of the ArcticNet field program, which included a cruise from Quebec City through Hudson Bay, ending in Iqaluit, NU, onboard the CCGS Amundsen.

While on the Amundsen, she maintained meteorological field equipment, launched weather balloons, recorded weather observations and helped with a water-sampling program.

“Every day onboard, I was seeing something and experiencing something new, from icebergs to polar bears, to whales and sea ice,” she says.

Of the most memorable was a face-to-face encounter with a seal. Curry had leaned well over the side of a small vessel to collect a water sample, she recounts, and suddenly looked up to find a seal inches away watching her with curiosity. “Like he was asking what I was doing in his world,” reflects Curry. “That was what I remember most vividly.”

“When you’re easily amused, like me, it doesn’t take much for nature to blow your mind,” she laughs.

The co-op experience also led her to work with Goodman to organize the first Atmospheric Science/Meteorology Career Day. The event brought together professionals from areas including broadcast meteorology, research and government.

In 2011, Curry took a second work-term research placement with John Hanesiak, professor of environment and geography (also with CEOS), who specializes in extreme weather events. The research was the basis for her poster at the 2011 U of M Undergraduate Research Poster Competition.

Curry reports that since transferring to the U of M in 2010 and joining the co-op program, “I have had the opportunity to learn and experience so many more things than I ever thought possible. I have grown tremendously through the experiences, both personally and in my professional development and education as well.”

What advice would she give to students starting their programs? “Put yourself out there,” she says. “Don’t be afraid to open yourself up to unique possibilities that are there, even if they don’t match what you thought your plan would be.

“When I first entered the program, I lacked the confidence to network, approach new experiences and to open myself up to the possibilities of my degree. Through working with Leslie and pushing myself to try new experiences each year I have grown more confident in myself than I ever thought possible and developed skills that will help me to succeed no matter what career path I choose when I graduate,” she says.

Melissa Cruz, of the biological sciences major co-op program, was awarded an honourable mention in this year’s competition. Among many other accomplishments, the strength of her research resulted in an invitation in 2011 to speak at a national conference of zoologists, one of very few undergraduate students who have been asked to do so.


Left: Field work at a weather station near Lake Manitoba; Above: A spectacular lightening show during the storm-chasing course.

GENDER EQUALITY: FACT OR FICTION?

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 2012

Join our expert panel for a discussion about what has changed for women, who has benefitted from feminism and what lies ahead.

ROBERT B. SCHULTZ THEATRE, ST. JOHN’S COLLEGE, FORT GARRY CAMPUS

RECEPTION IN GALLERIA - 6:30PM TO 7:00PM SPONSORED BY THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

PANEL DISCUSSION - 7:00PM TO 8:30PM

Please RSVP to: government_community@umanitoba.ca
What puts a smile on your face? Sunshine.

Dinner with friends — cooking at home or out at a restaurant? I love to experiment with new recipes and use my friends as my guinea pigs. Usually the food is a hit, sometimes it’s a flop, but it’s always great to visit with friends over food and a glass of wine.

Place you want to visit and why: I’d like to go to Hawaii for vacation and/or work, for the beautiful beaches and robust Indigenous communities.

You are always thrilled to spend any free time: Snowmobiling.

Where did you grow up? West Kildonan, Winnipeg.

A favourite childhood memory? Baking with my grandma and gardening with my grandpa.

A friend told me “you have to read” The Best Laid Plans. She was right. It is a work of fiction that was awarded both the 2008 Stephen Leacock Prize for Humour and first place in the 2011 “Canada Reads” competition. It deserves all of the recognition it has received.

One would not expect a book crafted around a disenchaunted political strategist, an irreligious old Engineering professor, a hovercraft and Canadian politics to have much staying power. However, Terry Fallis combines these unlikely elements to provide a laugh-out-loud satire that has just enough basis in reality to capture and maintain the reader’s attention. It leaves you wanting more.

More is provided in the sequel, The High Road, a finalist for the 2011 Stephen Leacock Prize, in which the original characters continue their improbable assault on the “system.”

Fallis’s experience as a former Liberal Party strategist gives him an understanding of the real workings in both Ottawa and Toronto. With that as a base he works his way with tongue firmly in cheek, through election campaigns, political scandals, improbable outcomes and parliamentary misfortunes. Reviews by former politicians suggest he cuts very close to the bone.

Though this one seems to be almost fitting, it was right. It is a work of fiction that takes the reader’s attention. It leaves you with the high level of intellectual engagement with students, other faculty and support staff, and the teaching itself. “Teaching can be overwhelming and all-consuming, since you’re working not only on the substantive content of any course as a young academic, but building your presentation skills as well. But I love teaching and enjoy my students. I find it exciting to see students grow, to come from a non-expert perspective to having an ability to comprehend and to catch up on general news.”

Other activities: Snowmobiling, scuba diving, travelling. I unwind to trash T.V., TLC, A&E – don’t get me started on “Storage Wars.”

The Bulletin plays 10 or 20 questions with Brenda Gunn

Determined, organized, energetic — and out of breath! Brenda Gunn is one busy woman. Since becoming assistant professor in the Faculty of Law in 2009, Gunn has done plenty in addition to her teaching. “It’s been pretty non-stop,” she says, ever since she spent a recent milestone birthday in all-day interviews for her current job. “It was an intense day,” she laughs. “I didn’t necessarily expect to be interviewing for a position this soon in my career but the opportunity was too good to pass up — especially since the majority of the teaching would be one-on-one.”

It surprised, this willingness to share racism in what seems a “safe” place. It reminds me that there is still so much more (education work) to be done. Third. Getting involved with community groups — I am always inspired by the high sense of service and commitment.

Something you do better than anyone else or most people know you: I make fantastic guacamole.

Who is your childhood hero? Astro Boy.

What do you value in a friend? Honesty.

A movie you enjoyed, and why: A 2010 New Zealand movie called Boy, because it made me laugh and cry, and it just felt real.

Favourite music: Whenever I hear Latin music, I feel like I’m back on the chicken buses in Guatemala.

On the nightstand: In the Courts of the Conqueror: The 10 Worst Indian Law Cases Ever Decided by Walter R. Echo-Hawk, travel and snowboarding guides for Geneva, where I’m headed for a conference.

Other reading: Newspapers like The Globe & Mail, The Free Press for public perspective, and to catch up on general news.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Ron Britton.

RECOMMENDED READING

Ron Britton

ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS IS CURRENTLY PROCESSING the H. Philip Crabb fonds. Crabb (1889-1966) was an officer in the Royal Canadian Air Force and a prominent Winnipeg businessman.

During WWII he served overseas as a pilot and flight instructor with the Royal Flying Corps. During WWII he was commanding officer of 112 Army Co-Operation Squadron mobilizing it for active service. He served as squadron leader and group captain at Air Force Headquarters in Ottawa for the Directorate of Manning. He later became second in command of No. 4 Air Training Command at Calgary and then commanding officer of No. 9 Bombing and Gunnery School in Quebec.

In Winnipeg he formed his own companies, worked for the City of Winnipeg and was involved in the real estate industry, eventually becoming self-employed and investing not only in his private affairs but also in the development of Canadian aviation. He was a founding member of the Aviation League of Manitoba, the Aviation League of Canada, and the Winnipeg Flying Club.

He served as commissioner for the St. James — Winnipeg Airport Commission and was instrumental in the founding and naming of Stevenson Field which is now Winnipeg International Airport.

The collection holds a number of rare items from WWII including flying log books and cabinet notebooks with handwritten notes and diagrams. There are hundreds of photographs from 1915 to 1943 many of WWI pilots and airplanes along with several official RCAF photos. One of the most notable photographs is of Wing Commander Guy Gibson who received a Victoria Cross for leading the Dambuster Raid on the Ruhr’s dams in World War II with a dedication to Group Captain H.P. Crabb. Another is a photograph of Wing Commander G.R. Gibson & Air Marshall Billy Bishop, WWII ace, together in 1943 at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Montreal.

- Diana Saunders

> > umanitoba.ca/libraries/units/archives
UN Declaration handbook targets legal and general audiences

BY MARIANNE MAYS WEBBE
The Bulletin

For Brenda Gunn, advocating for the rights of Indigenous peoples in the context of international law is foundational to her work as a lawyer, an academic and as a community worker. That's why, since joining the Faculty of Law at the U of M in July 2009, the newly-minted assistant professor and UN human rights activist, known as “the only lawyer in the world who has spent her entire career on the side of human rights,” by the United Nations (UN) with its Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adapted in September 2007.

In 2011, having participated in several international meetings leading up to and following the UN Declaration, Gunn completed a major project, an introductory handbook entitled, “Understanding and implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.” The 36-page document provides an overview of the Declaration and how it can be implemented in Canada. The handbook is intended both as a technical or legal guide and as an overview for community workers and a general audience.

Gunn says that the UN Declaration is monumental, “because it is the only human rights instrument created with the participation of the rights holders themselves.” It took over 20 years to create and pass the document. The Declaration sets out the individual and collective rights of Indigenous peoples and their rights to culture, identity, language, employment, health, education and other issues. According to a UN press release, it “emphasizes the rights of indigenous peoples to maintain and strengthen their own institutions, cultures and traditions, and to pursue development in keeping with their own needs and aspirations.”

The UN describes the Declaration — which includes a resolution of many tensions, injustices and conflicts — as the right to self-determination and Indigenous institutions; the right to life, integrity and security; the right to culture; religious and linguistic identity; the right to education, public information and employment; the right to participate in decision making and informed consent; and the right to lands, territories and resources — as setting “an important standard for the treatment of Indigenous peoples that will undoubtedly be a significant tool towards eliminating human rights violations against the planet’s 370 million Indigenous people and assisting them in combating discrimination and exploitation.”

Gunn’s handbook also outlines a history of Indigenous rights, and the relationship between the Declaration and International Law, all in the context of Canada. In “Canada,” she notes, “it is widely accepted that customary international law applies directly as part of Canadian domestic law, unless there is a specific law in Canada that states otherwise.”

As for the UN Declaration, she says, though it is not technically binding or enforceable in Canada, “there is an expectation that Canada, and all other states, will work to ensure that our laws and policies uphold the rights set out therein.”

On November 12, 2010, the Canadian Government issued a Statement of Support endorsing the UN Declaration.

The handbook, according to Gunn, is “the only instrument and the key principles of the Declaration is that the recognition of Indigenous peoples’ rights will improve state-Indigenous relations. The Declaration recognizes that denying the rights of Indigenous peoples is the cause of many tensions, injustices and conflicts.”

Gunn also teaches a course on articulations and protections for Indigenous peoples’ rights in national and international contexts. According to Gunn, “The course is based on the UN Declaration and Indigenous peoples have engaged in international law, and international law as a site to gain protection of their rights and interests.”

BY SEAN MOORE
The Bulletin

U of M archeologist and colleagues have confirmed it: about 13,500 years ago some North Americans cut the meat of the giant Jefferson Ground Sloth for the first time.

Prior to this feast in what is now Ohio, this 1.5-ton vegetarian giant that went extinct 10,000 years ago, was off the menu. There was no evidence of humans having hunted or butchered them. Then microscopic scratches on the bones were noticed and their analysis got researchers excited for three reasons: first, they were evidence for stone tool marks on the bones; second, this was the first evidence for hunting or scavenging of Ice Age sloths in North America; and third, the oldest evidence of prehistoric human activity in Ohio, which — 13,000 years ago — was when much of North America was still under a thick glacier and the sloth was butchered at the glacial front.

U of M archeologist Haskel Greenfield was invited by the paper’s lead author Brian Redmond, curator of archeology at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, to examine the 41 incisions marring the femur bone dated to be from 13,435 to 13,738 years ago. This is 700 years earlier than the oldest well-dated ancient human inhabitants of North America, the Clovis people. One of Greenfield’s specialties is examining microscopic marks on bones to determine if they were made by teeth, trampling, stone or metal tools, or perhaps even an errant shovel at the dig site.

“No other ancient giant ground sloths have shown any evidence of human’s hunting or butchering them, unlike other contemporary megafauna, such as mastodons, bison, or giant beavers,” Greenfield said. “But when I saw that these marks on the bones were made from stone tools, what went through my mind when I discovered this was, ‘Who wants to eat a ground sloth?’”

Greenfield notes that we do not know the exact context of this supper. People could have been starving and came across an already dead animal; it’s impossible to know since researchers only have the part of the skeleton originally dug up in 1915 and forgotten in a drawer until 1998. Greenfield got his first glimpse of the bone in 2008 on a visit to the Cleveland Natural History Museum, when he was invited to participate in the analyses.

“These humans could have hunted it. I don’t know. The only thing that is clear is that there are disarticulation marks; they were separating the limbs from each other; they were cutting the joints. And some marks show that they were filleting the meat off the bone.”

The “Fireslands Ground Sloth”, as the specimen is named, is one of only three specimens of Megalonyx jeffersonii known from Ohio. Based on measurements of the femur, tibia and other bones, it is one of the largest individuals of this species on record. It had an estimated body mass of 1,295 kilograms (2,855 pounds). The species went extinct 10,000 years ago. The Manitoba Museum has a giant sloth on display for those curious to see what sort of animal this Ice Age North Americans supped on for the first — and perhaps last — time.

Other co-authors are Brian Redmond (Cleveland Museum of Natural History), H. Gregory McDonald (US National Park Service) and Matthew L. Burr (Fireslands Historical Society).

A link to the published article can be found at: http://bit.ly/weqDEO
University of Manitoba

FORT GARRY & BANNATYNE CAMPUSES

LECTURES, SYMPOSIAS, SEMINARS

IMMUNOLOGY GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH PRESENTATION
Thursday, March 22 | 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.
"Mechanisms of Resistance and Susceptibility Following Intradermal Infection of Mice with Trypansoma congolense." In 477 Apotex Centre, Bannatyne.

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY COLLOQUIUM
Friday, March 23 | 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

NATIVE STUDIES COLLOQUIUM: COSMOPOLITAN INDIGENITY
Friday, March 23 | 12:30 to 1:20 p.m.
"Subverting the Global Food Economy Status Quo: Practicing Food Sovereignty in Stowaway Anishnabe First Nation" by Max Aulinger, MA student in Native studies, In 307 Tier.

JUDAIC STUDIES LECTURE
Friday, March 23, 2012 | 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.
"The Holocaust: Birth of a Prophecy and Leadership" by Rabbi Or N. Rose. In The Quiet Room, St. John's College (Room 111).

HLPRI SEMINAR SERIES
Friday, March 23, 2012 | 2:00 p.m.
Health, Leisure and Human Performance Research Institute. "Representing, managing and experiencing tourism" by Carla Santos, PhD, Illinois University at Urbana-Champaign. In 238 Investigator's Group Athletic Centre.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION
Monday, March 26 | 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

CRITICAL CONVERSATIONS: IDEA OF HUMAN RIGHTS MUSEUM SEMINAR SERIES
Monday, March 26 | 2:30 to 4:00 p.m.
"Hearing Children’s Voices: Having a say in what a Canadian Museum for Human Rights could be" by Stephanie Yamniuk, doctoral student, Faculty of Education. In 306 Robson Hall.

INSTITUTE FOR HUMANITIES LECTURE
Tuesday, March 27 | 2:30 p.m.
"Spectacular Entertainment, History Memory and Meaning in Public Discussion of the CBC’s 1979 Film, Reid" by Matthew McRae, U of M, research assistant, National Film Board candidate, Western. In 409 Tier.

PREMIERE FILM SCREENING
Wednesday, March 28 | 7:00 p.m.
The Faculty of Science and Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences host the screening of made-in-Manitoba documentary, Drive For Free, on alternative fuel sources in Manitoba. Features David Levlin, biosystems engineering and Richard Sparring, microbiology. At 172 John’s College, the Robert Schultz Theatre.

STEPHEN LEWIS VISITS CAMPUS
March 28 and 29: For details see page 2 or http://stephenlewis.umanitoba.ca/index.html

20TH ANNUAL J. B. RUDYNCKY DISTINGUISHED LECTURE
Thursday, March 29 | 7:00 p.m.
"Bridelands: Europe between Hitler and Stalin" by Timothy Snyder, professor of history, Yale University. In Moot Court, Faculty of Law.

IMMUNOLOGY ANNUAL GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS
Thursday, March 29 | 12:00 to 1:25 p.m.
"Correlation of HLA Alloepitopes with the Development of De Novo Donor Specific Antibodies After Renal Transplantation" by Chris Wiebe, MSc program (Nickerson Lab) and "Correlation of HLA Alloepitopes with the Development of De Novo Donor Specific Antibodies After Renal Transplantation" by Chris Wiebe, MSc program (Nickerson Lab). In 477 (Alex Sehon Seminar Room) Apotex Centre, Bannatyne Campus.

PSYCHOLOGY COLLOQUIUM
Friday, March 30 | 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
"Hearing Children’s Voices: Having a say in what a Canadian Museum for Human Rights could be" by Stephanie Yamniuk, doctoral student, Faculty of Education. In 477 Apotex Centre, Bannatyne Campus.

HUMAN RIGHTS TALK
Friday, March 30 | 11:00 a.m.
"Culture + Equity = You! Hope for First Nations Children" by Cindy Blackstock, executive director of First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada, presented by UM’s Human Rights and Advisory Services office. In the Graduate Students Association Lounge, Room 217, University Centre. Part of UMSU’s month-long focus on equity issues, all welcome.

IMMUNOLOGY RESEARCH SEMINAR
Thursday, April 5 | 12:00 to 1:15 p.m.
"Immune downregulation of airway allergic and intestinal inflammatory responses" by Zhiheng Peng, pediatric with the Human Rights and Advisory Services office. In 477 Apotex Centre, Bannatyne Campus.

CENTRE ON AGING RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES
Tuesday, April 10 | 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
"The involvement of NF-kB signaling in memory impairment in Alzheimer’s Disease," Ben Albers, associate professor, pharmacology and therapeutics, Faculty of Medicine. In 405 Brodie Centre, Bannatyne Campus.

IMMUNOLOGY RESEARCH SEMINAR: VISITING PROFESSOR PROGRAM
Thursday, April 12 | 12:00 to 1:15 p.m.
Presentation by James Carlyle, department of immunology, University of Toronto, In 477 Apotex Centre, Bannatyne Campus.

NURSING SEMINAR
Tuesday, April 24 | 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
"Decisional Definitions: Mental Health Triage in the Emergency Department" by Diana Clarke. In 370 Helen Glass Centre for Nursing. Contact site scheduler to participate via TeleHealth. For more information contact 957-7714 option 2.

OFF-CAMPUS

BOOK LAUNCH
Monday, April 16 | 8:00 p.m.
Elizabeth Lawenk (sociology) will be launching her latest book, Racialized Policing: Aboriginal People’s Encounters with the Police. At McNally Robinson Bookstores at Grant Park.

ACADEMIC JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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 openings at the university.

FAULTY OF ARTS

Position: Canada Research Chair in Second/Foreign Language Acquisition
Deadline: April 30, 2012
Start Date: January 1, 2012
Position number: 14494 and 14495

For Information: Jeffrey Taylor, Dean, c/o Janice Gripp, confidential assistant to the dean, Faculty of Arts, 310 Fletcher Hall, 250-7714 option 2.

FAULTY OF DENTISTRY

Department of Preventive Dental Science
Position: Full-time tenure-track position at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor in the Division of Orthodontics
Deadline: April 22, 2012
Start Date: January 1, 2012
Position number: 14296

For Information: William A. Wiltshire, professor and head of orthodontics and chair of search committee, department of preventive dental science. Faculty of Dentistry, U of M, D341A – 780 Bannatyne Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3E 0W2, tel. 204-789-3856, fax 204-977-5699, email wa_wiltshire@umanitoba.ca

FAULTY OF MEDICINE

Department of Internal Medicine and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority Medicine Program
Position: Epileptologist located at the Health Sciences Centre
Deadline: May 30, 2012
Start Date: September 1, 2012
Position number: 14473

For Information: Chair, Neurology Search Committee, Health Sciences Centre, GC430-820 Sherbrook Street, Winnipeg, MB R3A 1R9

FAULTY OF MEDICINE

Department of Internal Medicine and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority Geriatrics Program
Position: Geriatrician
Deadline: May 30, 2012
Start Date: commencing immediately
Position number: 10521

For Information: Chair, Geriatric Search Committee, Health Sciences Centre, GC430-820 Sherbrook Street, Winnipeg, MB R3A 1R9

March 30, 2012

Year-End Cutoff Date
Please be advised that the year-end cutoff date in the BookStore, Pharmacy and Post Office is Friday, March 30th, 2012.

This is the last day to charge merchandise to your 2011/2012 budget.

events
The evidence is in — and online
Website provides journalists with evidence-based findings

BY KATIE CHALMERS-BROOKS
For The Bulletin
Award-winning scholar Noralou Roos learned early on how media might not always get it right.

She recalls from three decades ago how she felt a headline that ran with a story she was interviewed for misinterpreted what she had told the journalist. “I spent the first 20 years of my career being as boring as possible whenever the media would call,” says the community health sciences professor. “I certainly was not someone eager to work with them.”

But fast forward to 2012 and Roos is the founder of an elaborate web-based project that reaches out to journalists writing about health policy issues. The website, EvidenceNetwork.ca, seeks to provide members of the media with the latest research findings in an easily digestible way and connect them with experts on deadline.

“Academics are always complaining that the evidence that they know from their research isn’t reflected in how newspapers report on issues. And when we were talking about it, we found it’s not surprising since the place that academics usually publish their research is academic journals that only other academics read,” says Roos.

To create the site, Roos and co-founder Sharon Manson Singer sought feedback from other academics in addition to journalists on how to present the evidence, ensuring the content was accessible to media without being oversimplified.

In layperson language, the site summarizes research relating to eight of healthcare’s hottest topics, from the link over time between public concern and how much money is spent on the healthcare system. Much has been predicted about the pending tsunami in healthcare costs as baby boomers age but research suggests spending will increase by only one percent annually.

She believes misunderstandings like these happen when the media are given individual facts and fail to look at the bigger picture. And what is reported can have big ramifications. Proof of this lies in research done by Stuart Soroka (who is also a member of EvidenceNetwork.ca). He found a link over time between public concern and how much money is spent on the healthcare system.

His evidence suggests that the media is in fact very important in how we think about many of these issues, so trying to get them accurately understood seems to be pretty important,” says Roos. “It’s an ongoing challenge to make sure journalists understand the site is neutral, non-partisan and not a place where anyone “is trying to push a position,” Roos says. “We are trying to get the evidence right and to make it accessible.”

The network also encourages the 55 academics they have on board from across Canada to write op-eds. They work with a media specialist and a news service to help with exposure and distribution. Since launching last March, more than 65 op-eds have been published more than 130 times in various newspapers, including The Globe and Mail and the National Post. The network’s Twitter account has 1,700 followers and includes the country’s leading health journalists.

“I think academics are finding it’s an effective way to communicate,” says Roos.

The project is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Manitoba Health Research Council. Roos is seeking additional funding to double the number of experts and add more topics to their database, including obesity and the effects of poverty on health. They also want to work with their journalist collaborators to develop a guide for journalism students to help them ask the right questions about health policy issues.
‘Millions of Brazilians’: The cello goes to Rio

BY HEATHER MADILL JORDAN
For The Bulletin

At a time of year when most of us are enjoying summer, several U of M professors travel south — all the way to Brazil.

Each year in August, professors from the Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music spend up to 16 days teaching, rehearsing and performing in and around Rio de Janeiro at the Rio International Cello Encounter (RICE), the world’s second largest free music event.

“We feel so welcome there, from the moment we land,” says Minna Rose Chung, cello professor. “There are audience members who I see every year, who recognize me and greet me by name.”

Chung, along with piano professors Judy Kehler Seibert and Laura Loewen and saxophone professor Allen Harrington, participate in RICE as volunteer teachers and musicians. Each day is full of master classes, rehearsals and performances.

“We travel sometimes three hours by bus to take music to the ‘favelas’ — rural areas, often very low-income,” says Chung. “We give a concert, we have a party — it becomes an entire afternoon of immersing these young kids in music.”

Outreach is a major part of the project for cellist and festival founder David Chew. With RICE, Chew aims to promote social integration in Rio de Janeiro through music. “The lessons and master classes are an essential part of the U of M coming to Rio,” said Chew in a recent Skype interview. “Many are inspired, especially when playing to young and underprivileged communities.”

The experience is full of memorable moments for Chung and the other faculty. “What’s extraordinary about the Brazilian audiences is that they are so open and appreciative,” says Chung. “They don’t judge you on any shortcomings that you as a musician might feel are being exposed. They are really just there to hear good music.”

All of the musicians involved in RICE feel that appreciation, especially when their rehearsal time is so limited. Kehler Seibert recalls performing with Wijnand Hulst, a cellist from the Netherlands. “We planned the repertoire via the Internet and premiered a work by U of M’s Michael Matthews and this year Harrington and Loewen will collaborate is another major draw for musicians. The festival draws together musicians, not just from Brazil, but from around the globe. Many of the collaborations have led to relationships and invitations to our faculty members to travel and perform.

Part of the mandate for the U of M faculty is to take Canada’s music to Brazil. Last year RICE premiered a work by U of M’s Michael Matthews and this year Harrington and Loewen will premiere a commissioned work for saxophone and piano by Canadian composer Vincent Ho.

Every one of the dozens of concerts through the 16-day festival is well attended, and venues are often standing room only. Audiences wait in line for hours, through any weather, to show their appreciation to the musicians — all of who are there for the same reason. The love of music.

For more on Project Rio, go to: > >umanitoba.ca/music/staff/ProjectRio.htm

PROJECT RIO is an initiative created to bring attention to the Winnipeg music community through a performance exchange with Brazilian conservatories. Plan to attend the PROJECT RIO concert on Friday, March 30, 7:30 p.m., in Eva Clare Hall, 65 Dafoe Road (Music Building), with reception to follow. A vast concert of Brazilian music and other composers for cello choir and collaborative string ensembles. Tickets available at the door, $30 regular/$5 student.

Yourself

Define yourself

For 30 years, I’ve had the privilege of teaching students in medicine, dentistry, medical rehabilitation and pharmacy. When I retired, I wanted to find a way to contribute to a resource that benefits all of these groups. For me that’s the Neil John Maclean Health Sciences Library. The library is an excellent resource for students, but it also serves as a hub for lifelong learning for health professionals.

I give to the University of Manitoba because I know the funds are used to extend knowledge, acquire resources and support students.

I define myself as a teacher, a researcher and as a believer in lifelong learning. How do you define yourself?

— Jean A. Paterson
Senior Scholar, Human Anatomy and Cell Science

umanitoba.ca/giving

University of Manitoba