Researchers at the University of Manitoba will receive more than $9.9 million in new grants and scholarships from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC). The money will support research in a variety of areas, including green buildings in Manitoba, mosquito-borne diseases, and flood protection.

The awards total $9,936,997 and were included in a national announcement made in Toronto today by the Honourable Gary Goodyear, Minister of State for Science and Technology, and NSERC president Suzanne Fortier.

“Our Government's top priority is jobs, growth and long-term prosperity. To remain at the forefront of the global economy, our government is investing in the people and ideas that will produce tomorrow’s breakthroughs,” said Minister Goodyear. “Through these investments, we are creating the best-educated and most skilled workforce in the world.”

A total of 70 professors will share $9,054,497 in funding from the NSERC Discovery Grants program in the categories of individual, group, subatomic physics, and research tools and instruments. Three of those researchers will receive an extra $120,000 each through the Discovery Accelerator Supplements program. Thirty-five additional researchers at the graduate, doctoral, and post-doctoral level will receive a combined $521,500 in scholarships.

“This new funding reflects the high quality of research that is carried out every day at the University of Manitoba. We are home to a strong team of innovators,” said Digvir Jayas, vice-president (research and international) and Distinguished Professor at the University of Manitoba. “I am proud of our recipients and excited about the new technology and developments that will result from this research.”

“These scholarships and fellowship funds will make possible a wide range of research projects,” said John (Jay) Doering, dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies at the University of Manitoba. “This funding helps us to attract and retain some of the best up-and-coming researchers.”

In total, more than 3,750 scientists, engineers and students at universities across the country will share upwards of $410 million in grants and scholarships over terms ranging from one to five years.

NSERC is a federal agency that supports some 30,000 post-secondary students and postdoctoral fellows in their advanced studies. It promotes discovery by funding more than 12,000 professors every year and fosters innovation by encouraging more than 1,500 Canadian companies to participate and invest in post-secondary research projects.

>> For recipients and descriptions of projects, see: www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca
The Board of Governors of the University of Manitoba has approved a balanced operating budget of $572,936,930 for 2012-13 that addresses the priorities identified in the Strategic Planning Framework. It includes the University's broad missions of learning, discovery and engagement, and re-invests in crucial areas of institutional infrastructure. The University of Manitoba drives social, cultural and economic development in the province. Accordingly, even in difficult financial times, the University has shown its commitment to post-secondary education through its intention announced last year to increase our base grant by 5% in each of 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 and by allowing a level of flexibility to increase tuition fees commensurate with the rate of inflation. Our revenues have also increased because of continuing growth in enrolment (of course, with some attendant growth in costs). Further, the Resource Optimization and Service Enhancement (ROSE) Project has identified efficiencies that have generated financial savings while at the same time enhancing services, especially for students.

Increased grants, increased revenues and internal savings combine to allow us to address continuing commitments and also to make some new investments. Continuing commitments include negotiated salary progression, increased Access to Student Aid and increased mandatory pension payments and increased insurance premiums. Funding these priorities in 2012-13 will total $17,868,644. Included in this amount is $14.6 million for salary increase requirements, of which three-quarters will be allocated to academic units.

We have been able to make new investments in the amount of $8,397,756 without having to reduce funding to any unit. (Operating grant support for the Extended Education Division has been restored from a previously negotiated fee-sharing arrangement). Some of this new funding goes into the pillars of the Strategic Planning Framework: • Academic Enhancement/Academic Relevance ($1,653,000) • Indigenous Achievement ($70,000) • Enhancing the Student Experience ($1,530,000, including $1,000,000 in increased graduate student support) • Establishing the University of Manitoba as an Employer of First Choice ($200,000)

Investments have been made in ongoing core activities: • academic units ($181,000) and • selected collaborative cluster initiatives ($460,000 plus an additional $100,000 in one time funding).

To build a sound platform for the allocations already described, an investment of just under $5 million (about 1% of the operating budget) has been made in transforming organizational infrastructure. This is a year when we have the opportunity to make a significant improvement in this area.

The largest part ($2,993,756) has gone to External Relations. This is an indirect investment in the University as a whole, because the work of building partnerships and seeking support will result in additional funds from both public and private sources. In turn, this will allow the University to help institutions in other provinces and jurisdictions.

In total, one-time investments (exclusive of the one-time $1 million in one-time funding) to help meet the need for increased capacity and for addressing emerging new priorities for the University include:

• Information Services and Technology (which received just under $1 million in additional one-time funding) to cope with increasing external costs and growth of the physical infrastructure of the campus.

I want to thank all those who contributed to the budget process — the teams that produced the planning documents for each unit; deans, directors and others who made presentations; members of various committees who gave advice. The CBC.ca reported on June 6 that a majority of individual responses to the Board of Governors' consultation on the University of Manitoba (and all universities) in that past have commitments have continuing entitlements, the most obvious of which is the hiring decisions in the past having ongoing salary entitlements. But there is certainly judgment that is exercised in the budget process each year.

Those submitting material made judgments about what they will do with the resources under their control, while those who hear the presentations make judgments about relative priorities across units. There is a great deal of financial momentum because of continuing growth in enrolment (of course, with some attendant growth in costs). Each of us has a perspective on the importance of specific issues at specific points in time. The budget approved by the Board represents the best balance of responses to needs and opportunities as judged by myself and my colleagues who shared that responsibility.

Each year a large amount of work goes into the budget process. Each year we should strive for efficiency in the process so that the necessary decisions are well-informed but that no more time is required from people who contribute to this for this purpose than is required. One way to do this will be to use common data that support some of the arguments that have been repeatedly presented as narratives in past budgets. But past processes over the next couple of years should become more focused as we are able to do this.

David T. Barnard, President and Vice-Chancellor, University of Manitoba
Medicine announces eight basic science core platforms

BY ILANA SIMON
For The Bulletin

Peter Nickerson, associate dean, research, Faculty of Medicine, Digvir Jayas, VP (research and international) and Christine Wise, executive director of the Manitoba Health Research Council, have announced Basic Science Core Platform funding to enhance health research capacity, discovery and innovation in Manitoba.

Over the next five years, the Faculty of Medicine, VPHIO, and MHRC will invest $2.4 million in core facilities. Combined with contributions of $900,000 by Manitoba Health and the province, eight core facilities were launched in May to support the academic and biotechnology sector organizations. The core platforms are key partnerships nationally and internationally with leading academic and basic science institutions.

The scope of the instrumentation supports research at the DNA, RNA, protein, cellular and whole organ levels as well as enabling basic, translational and clinical research by faculty and partners.

Building on the investments from CFI, U of M researchers will have access to the state-of-the-art tools needed to be competitive for national funding (e.g. CIHR, NSEF, CFI, CRC, NCE, and Prairie Innovation). The core platform teams, including key partners nationally and internationally with the biomedical research community in Manitoba.

Large-scale RNA and Protein Analysis for Immunological biomarkers in health and disease

Core Platform for Mass Spectroscopy Analysis of Proteins and Other Biomolecules

Platform leaders Sam Kung, Jiuyong Xie: Understanding how a protein functions in complex biological processes is key to basic biomedical research and identification of new drug targets for combating disease. The platform will facilitate discovery and validation of gene/protein functions in basic and translational research in Manitoba.

The goals of the GCDR are basic and translational research using molecular imaging approaches, and education and training of students and highly qualified personnel in genomics, imaging technology, and translation of imaging science and data into relevant clinical applications.

Large-scale RNA and Protein Analysis for Immunological biomarkers in health and disease

Core Platform for History, Histomorphology, and Ultrastructural Imaging (SHM) at department of human anatomy and cell science. Faculty of Medicine, core platform leader, Thomas Klonisch: This platform will offer histomorphology services including tissue processing of various of tissues, various protocols for histological staining procedures and imaging of histological sections and fluorescent imaging services for the detection of cytokkeletal components in cultured or biopsied tissue samples. Imaging systems will be educational modules, including annual graduate student training courses.

Core Platform for Flow Cytometry at 4th floor Apothe Centre and 5th floor BMSB; core platform leader Aaron Marshall, Keith Fowke: Flow cytometry is well established as a classical diagnostic tool and it remains an important tool for research in the analysis of cellular biomarkers and isolation of rare cell populations. The core platform will regularly organize educational workshops to educate the user base regarding available instrument capabilities and encourage uptake of the most powerful cell labeling technologies.

Core Platform in Mass Spectroscopy Analysis of Proteins and Other Biomolecules

Platform leader, Redwan Moqbel: The complex immune system and response to infection has a central role in many diseases and conditions. The platform will allow large-scale and robust detection of a wide range of immunological biomarkers at both mRNA and protein levels. While focused on immunologically related mRNA and protein biomarker studies, the core platform will be open to researchers from other disciplines.

Small Animal and Materials Imaging Core Platform in room 322 BSBM relocating to Central Animal Care, basement BSBM, core platform leaders, Deborah Friday, and Robert Halayko: The U of M Small Animal and Materials Imaging Core Facility will bring capabilities for both structural and functional imaging to a new level of performance. Building on the capital investments from CFI, the Imaging Facility, including instrument operation, research consultation, and knowledge dissemination (e.g. web site, animal care “wet labs”, and workshops/ courses on animal imaging) will be the responsibility of an imaging specialist to be hired as imaging facility coordinator.

University Nursing Week focuses on diversity, ubiquity of nurses

NURSES NEWS + KUDOS

BY MARIANNE MAYS WIEBE
The Bulletin

Nurses make up the largest group of health care providers in Canada, and from May 5 to 13, the Faculty of Nursing at the U of M and their colleagues around the nation in celebrating the profession for National Nursing Week.

The faculty recognized the remarkable diversity of the profession with a week-long program of events and speakers, including a researcher-in-residence who gave two lectures on community health intervention and research.

At a faculty breakfast on Monday to kick off the week’s activities, teaching awards were presented to three faculty members. The awards also recognize the importance of interprofessional education in the faculty.

This year the faculty hosted students for a day-long event from Seven Oaks School Division’s Wayfinders program. The day included time in the Simulation Centre and Skills Lab with a hands-on session, conducted by faculty member Bill Diehl Jones, on scientific inquiry and the scientific process for high school students. The Fraser Deb Fog in the Classroom Project has ongoing impacts, and had students participate in the resuscitation of a newborn. Students also learned how to change a dressing and use a hoyer lift.

An afternoon panel, “A Day in the Life of a Nurse,” consisted of registered nurses who work in different practice areas, in this case, ICU, hospital and community medicine. They were also asked to present their perception of their pregnancy risk, and community medicine. She was also appointed to the Canada-India Partnership Alliance for Population Health, Canadian Institutes of Health Research in July 2008.

During her career research, she has led studies on a wide range of community health issues including tobacco use, falls among seniors, heart health, and maternal and child health. She has authored over 150 peer-reviewed and 120 total publications and presented 350 conference papers. Her work in global health has spanned four continents where she has led both development-oriented and research-focused projects.

During her time at the U of M, Edwards gave two public lectures. The first, “What Makes Community Health Interventions Work?” was presented on May 7 at the Hotel Fort Garry. A behind-the-scenes look at what makes community health interventions work using examples of community health research projects, the lecture was both local and internationally. Edwards queried common assumptions about how community health interventions work and discussed implications for researchers and practitioners.

Her second lecture was presented on May 9 at Helen Glass Centre. “In A Health Equity Agenda for Multiple Intervention Research: Challenges and Considerations” Edwards discussed the issue of health inequities. Using examples from the field of community health, Edwards examined research questions and methodologies used to conduct studies to consider either historical or dynamic contemporary influences on health inequities.

National Nursing Week is an annual event that coincides with International Nurses Day and Florence Nightingale’s birthday both on May 12.

Marianne Mays Wiebe
The Bulletin

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A history of success: Retirees’ Association and United Way

BY MARIANNE MAYS WEBE

The Bulletin

When Edward Kennedy, 2011 campaign chair for United Way of Winnipeg, wrote to thank the university for its outstanding effort in the recent campaign, President Barnard echoed his sentiments by thanking the university community.

It’s hugely significant that of the nearly $540,000 contributed by U of M faculty and staff to the campaign, about a full quarter of that amount — over $125,000 — was donated by members of the Retirees’ Association (UMRA).

“The impressive contribution of the University of Manitoba Retirees Association to the United Way clearly demonstrates the generosity of our former staff and the vital and close connections they have maintained with our community of learning, discovery and engagement,” says President and Vice-Chancellor David Barnard.

Current chair of the Retirees’ campaign for the United Way campaign Brian Macpherson notes that, in fact, the Retirees’ Association traces its own history back to the university’s involvement in the annual campaign.

The 2012 United Way Campaign: About a quarter — over $25,000 — of the full amount raised was donated by members of the U of M Retirees’ Association

The formation of the Retirees’ Association

In early 1996, John Mundie became the retirees’ representative on the University of Manitoba United Way Campaign, replacing John Steele.

He had retired in 1995, and when Eniko Szathmary was appointed as president and vice-chancellor of the university, she expressed her interest in bringing retirees into closer contact with each other and the university, based on her experience with other universities. She sponsored the first President’s Reception for Retirees, which took place on the Bannatyne campus with William Norrie as guest speaker.

Meanwhile, Mundie had brought together several other retired persons who had served in various positions at the university, including Helen Glass, Bob Hudson, John Markham, Vera Moroz, John Steele, Steve Stothers and Edith Williams. Bernice Furlong joined the group later in the year.

The group took on the name Retirees’ Committee. Bob Raeburn, director of university relations division at the time, worked on the task of exploring how the group could be further connected with the university. Eventually the arrangement provided retirees with a direct link to the university, its administration and resources.

“It was a way of maintaining retirees’ connection to the university,” says Mundie, “but it was also a way for retirees to stay in touch with one another.”

In 2004, the association drafted its constitution and was recognized by the university as having official status after its members went on to establish a national association (College and University Retiree Associations of Canada, or CURAC) alongside the local one.

According to its mandate, the purposes of the UMRA are: to act as a liaison between the retirees and The University of Manitoba; to promote and defend the interests of retirees in the pension and benefit plans of the University; to encourage and promote a spirit of fraternity and unity among the members of the Association, and to provide a means for continuing the associations which members enjoyed as employees of the University; to organize and promote recreational, educational, and other events of benefit to members; and to facilitate interaction with other retirees’ organizations.

The President’s Reception for Retirees has continued to be sponsored by the president’s office to this day. The 31st annual reception was held on Saturday, April 14 in Marshall McLuhan Hall at the Fort Garry Campus. President and Vice-Chancellor David Barnard provided an update on events and developments at the university, and speaker Jerry Gray, former dean of the I. H. Asper School of Business and current chair of the Board of The Friends of Upper Fort Garry presented “Building a Future For Upper Fort Garry.”

The bi-annual reception provides retirees, their spouses or partners and survivors of former faculty and staff an opportunity to maintain their connection with each other and the university.

The fall President’s Reception will be held at the Fort Garry Campus on October 13, 2012. The annual meeting of UMRA will also be held at this time.
Highlights from the 133rd Spring Convocation, May 2012

THIS YEAR’S SPRING CONVOCATION CELEBRATIONS BROUGHT A SENSE OF EXCITEMENT AND PRIDE to the U of M campus and included a special president’s reception luncheon for each ceremony. The 133rd annual spring convocation at Fort Garry Campus took place from May 29 until May 31 with six separate convocation ceremonies and honorary degree recipients. Honourary degrees were awarded to TV news anchorman and journalist Lloyd Robertson, philanthropist and volunteer Tannis Richardson, entrepreneur, philanthropist and innovator Sir Gordon Ying Sheung Wu, longest-serving president CEO of Manitoba Hydro Robert Brennan, architect Douglas Cardinal and Sister M. Cyril Mooney, recognized for her commitment to education and work in India. The Faculty of Medicine held its convocation on May 10 and awarded with an honorary degree to physician and philanthropist Dr. George E. Yee.
Hold the guilt, bring on the flavour! Taste the delicious A student receives her fresh, made-to-order meal from a food services worker at Fresh Food Company in Pembina Hall.

BY MARIANNE MAYES WIEBE
The Bulletin

Focusing on one menu item at a time allows for engagement and partnership by food services and students at the local level in each university. The company has been partnering with student groups and sustainability units from local universities in order to best build the program.

Tina Horsley, ARAMARK’s director of sustainability and wellness, who visited the U of M earlier this spring and several Manitoba farms and producers last summer with members of U of M’s food services team, notes that ARAMARK is different on every campus.

“We don’t look the same on any campus, and don’t want to. We believe that every campus and campus community is different and try and find the right balance of local, sustainable and organic foods and concepts.”

She says that her favourite part of the job is “working with each community, student groups and leaders on campus. We are all very excited to work with the U of M community to embrace the many exciting opportunities to do things differently — to create more local, sustainable, vibrant and community-minded food systems and food cultures on campus!”

In fact, many of the ingredients that go into ARAMARK food are local, from City Bread, the Winnipeg supplier of all bread used through U of M food services, to free-range eggs and locally-grown produce, much of it organically grown.

ARAMARK’s new “Building a Better Menu” program. Its pasta base comes from Nature’s Pantry, a Manitoba company based in Steinbach. The fresh ground bison inside comes from Rockwood Bison Farm in Stonewall, Manitoba, the juicy tomatoes are produced locally at Greenland Gardens in Ste. Anne, Manitoba, and Bothwell Cheese from New Bothwell, Manitoba is melted all over the top.

Lasagna is the first menu item in the larger program, which is being launched in 10 pilot locations, including the University of Manitoba. The goal of the program is to get more local healthy and sustainable food on the menu and on customers’ plates — in other words, it is both about changing the company’s practices and about building awareness and customer education about food sourcing and healthy choices.

The “I eat local” program includes initiatives such as partnering with local growers and distributors to source local produce. All dairy products are sourced from dairy farmers in Manitoba, where they are hormone and antibiotic-free. In cases where sourcing from Manitoba isn’t possible, purchasing Canadian is — such as Alberta beef and pork. A percentage of all other beef, chicken, meat, fresh and frozen produce and grain products.

“We eat sustainable,” another ARAMARK initiative, ensures that its sourcing and purchasing practices become more sustainably sound. For instance, it has partnered with SeaChoice Canada and the Marine Stewardship Council on a sustainable seafood program to provide ocean-friendly and ecologically sustainable options.

Now eating on campus is about eating healthy, sustainable and — perhaps most importantly — delicious food.

These students got their ‘head start’ at U of M

BY MARIANNE MAYES WIEBE
The Bulletin

Head Start, formerly known as the Parents Program, took place June 2 on the Fort Garry campus. The name change reflects the demographics of the people attending the event: students, friends and family.

The annual event is provides students and families a “head start” in preparing to attend university.

Head Start is the launch of the overall student orientation process which culminates in two days of information, fun and festivities on September 4 to 5, 2012.

As part of the process of orienting new students, student life coordinated a day of events designed to provide information to students and their families about campus services, direct entry faculties and preparing for the university experience.

Attendees participated in information sessions, campus tours and seminars on everything they need to know about starting university. An academic information session facilitated by university faculty and staff kicked off the day; other seminars included “The Student Experience,” for students to learn about university life and tips to help them survive and thrive in the first year. The session also provided an opportunity to ask questions about university life.

The “Resources for Students” session focused on on-campus services for students, while “Supporting Your Student (Family & Friends only)” covered the transition to university and the differences between high school and university life in which students can develop strategies for success and how friends and family can help support their student.

The response to the program was overwhelmingly positive and the day was a resounding success, says director of student life Brendan Hughes. The enrolment in the event was open to pre-registration and reached maximum capacity of 1,600 participants well before the deadline.

>> See more at: umanitoba.ca/orientation

Photos Mike Latschislaw

Scenes from the day: President Barnard (photo top right) addresses the full house at Head Start on June 2. Other photos are of event attendees.
bus new era of campus food

Social responsibility meets food services

There are still plenty of misconceptions about university food services, but ARAMARK is working to address those misconceptions, first of all, by changing how they do business at — and with — universities.

Food services is not only shifting to socially responsible policies and practices for its food alone; it’s also radically changed the way it manages its environmental impact.

In addition to policies on sustainably grown ingredients, local sourcing and responsible food procurement, it has also identified a number of ways to “green” its other procurement practices, with initiatives such as disposable packaging, paper products, cleaning products and source packaging on both food and non-food items.

ARAMARK’s Green Thread program is a symbol of its “commitment to protect and improve the environment; it recognizes that the decisions we make today connect us to our future.”

Green Thread is based on six key areas of impact — sustainable food; supply chain/ responsible procurement; waste management; energy & water conservation; green building operations; and transportation — under which specific initiatives have been identified and are being implemented with supporting targets and performance indicators.

A Green Thread sustainability assessment tool has also been developed, which enables all clients to perform assessments of its facilities and identify areas of opportunity to further protect and enhance our environment. The tool also supports the ARAMARK commitment to transparency.

It’s not always easy being green, as the song goes, given misconceptions, first of all, by changing how they do business at — and with — universities.

Higher Education Manitoba puts it, “It’s about integrity and community in the province. The U of M’s population makes it the third-largest “city” or region in Manitoba, the size of that consumer base. In Manitoba, the size of the operations corresponds to the size of universities and the customer base. There are a lot of meals served, and the size of the operation corresponds to the size of that consumer base. In Manitoba, the size of the operations corresponds to the size of the operations.

But as Daryl Lucyk, the district manager for ARAMARK Manitoba, points out, “It’s about integrity and responsibility to community.”

TOP 6 FAST & HEALTHY FOOD OPTIONS

1. Shawarma: Sultan’s Middle-Eastern cuisine is a new addition to UCentre. Halal-certified chicken shawarma wraps with healthy toppings, such as red onions, pickled beets, cucumbers and Tabbouleh salad.

2. Salad Bar: A great option for vegetarians and health-conscious customers.

3. Pasta station: Gourmet pastas cooked right there. W lid mushroom pasta, shiitake angel hair pasta, tiger prawn linguini and more!

4. Noodles & Soup: Choose from four delicious soup varieties with fresh baked breads, or design your own noodle bowl. Noodle bowl options change daily, with choice of vegetable or meat-based broth, and tofu, for a complete vegetarian meal.

5. Express: Salads, sandwiches, and veggie cups are all made fresh daily on site and Bento sushi is available at most locations.

6. Pembina Hall: Open to the public and located in Pembina Hall, the Fresh Food Company (FFCo) feeds hundreds of residence students a day. Build your own sandwich or wrap with healthy toppings, such as red onions, pickled beets, cucumbers and Tabbouleh salad.

Food services: local suppliers

Pasta: Nature’s Pantry, Steinbach, MB
Bread: City Bread, Winnipeg
Pastries, desserts: Gunn’s Bakery, Winnipeg
Free-range eggs — since 2011
Vegetables: Peak of Market, Connery River, MB
Mushrooms: Loveday Mushrooms, Manitoba
Potatoes: All MB, including tatertots and fries
Cheese: Bothwell Cheese, New Bothwell, MB
Dairy: Manitoba
Pork: Majority from Manitoba
Beef: Western Canada
Chicken: Some MB
Coffee/Tea: Fair Trade wherever possible except flavoured coffee; transitioning Expressos coffee brand to 100% Fair Trade certified coffee company for summer 2012

Sustainability measures:

Waste audits: waste reduction program; kitchen waste programs; EcoTakeout program; reduced source packaging; environmentally preferable packaging and paper products; implementation of energy and water conservation programs

For more information, see the website to be launched July 2, 2012: www.buildabettermenu.com


‘GROWING THE FUTURE, TOGETHER’

New CIO sees value in collaboration, consultation

BY MARIANNE MAYS WIEBE
The Bulletin

A major challenge for technology services these days, Mike Langedock says, is adapting to new technologies while investing in a solid, stable core.

“You need to invest in a forward direction,” clarifies the new chief information officer (CIO) of information services and technology (IST).

“Planning — rather than only reacting to needs as they arise; prioritizing objectives and doing those well — rather than trying to do all things to all people.”

Add to that a service-oriented approach and a strong commitment to the institution itself, two principles he holds dear, and it’s a sound equation.

Coming to U of M with over 30 years of IT management experience in the retail and corporate sectors (along with eight years at another university), Langedock values the collegiality that’s unique to the university environment.

In fact, he sees client engagement — communication, collaboration, consultation — as key to the success of IST and its strategic plan.

“Listening is important,” he says. “To be most effective, we need to listen to our clients to get a full understanding of their needs, so that we can offer them great technical solutions.”

And, of course, the bells and whistles and all the technology people see and use, from websites to email to social networking, isn’t all IST does. Much of the work resides in planning and building the underlying architecture, that solid and reliable core.

IST is an administrative unit reporting to the VP (administration), which provides computing and communications resources and expertise to support its university clients in their teaching, learning, research, administrative and community service endeavors by: providing information technology infrastructure and services; and by providing leadership and expertise in information technology solutions and services, and thereby, contributing to the creation, preservation and communication of knowledge in the community.

The unit has an annual budget of $21 million dollars with a staff complement of 160 full-time and 50 part-time employees.

The department consists of three divisions: computer and network services, enterprise systems and client services. A central business administration area is responsible for human resource management, budget control, purchasing and accounting.

Langedock maintains that the IT centre (the core) needs to simplified, standardized and secure over the long term but flexible and agile enough to adapt to the types of solutions clients want to use, a process that has already begun.

He likens the IT unit to a tree — you want to ensure that the rings and limbs developed over time are useful and extending from one strong core. That tree needs pruning and regular attention with an eye to core health. With the wealth of projects IT is involved in across campus, planning becomes essential.

“Strategizing how to best utilize IT skills and capacity of the unit is critical,” says Langedock. “If our responses and solutions are too idiosyncratic, the system becomes impossible to sustain or to maintain. It’s important not to be pulled in too many different directions.”

He applies the same principle to managing the staff, of over 160. He sees his first obligation to them, encouraging greater visibility, more engagement with clients and more accountability to well-defined objectives aligned to the strategic pillars, all with a focus on predictable and efficient IT delivery and solutions.

The team is working towards a services catalogue to further clarify those objectives.

Langedock says that he likes to imagine the university in three years: “What does it look like and how do we get there? That vision, he offers, is a collective rather than an individual one.

“We get there together,” he finishes.

IST, in brief

IST consists of three divisions: computer and network services (CNS), enterprise systems and client services. 

CNS oversees storage, network ports, wireless access points, buildings with wireless access and virtual and physical computers servers. 

Enterprise systems provides project delivery, enhancement and production support services for computer systems. Major administrative services supported include Aurora Student, Aurora Finance, FAST, Banner Xtender, VIP (in human resources unit), Raise’s Edge (in advancement services), Iinfo (in research), SirsiDynix (in libraries) and the Angel learning management system (currently transitioning to Desire2Learn). Other projects are included as well, many within the ROSE portfolio, such as student recruitment. It is also responsible for developing and maintaining the university website, the jump portal and the university’s mobile application. Monthly, enterprise systems receives 43,000 requests for project or enhancement services and supports over 200 databases in a mix of technologies.

Client services works with the university’s faculty, students and staff to maximize the value of information technology by providing access to services in a “one stop shop” environment. The department is comprised of three divisions: the help & solutions centre, audio-visual and classroom technology and the IST training centre, learning management & portal support.

The Help & Solutions Centre, located in 123 Fletcher Argue, averages 1,300 calls per month, along with 707 email requests and 345 walk-in requests. The centre acts as a single point of contact for the computer help desk, computer loans and Iridium identity management, the open area labs, wireless connection, Angel, Jump, email, telecommunications service requests, voice services, network service orders, audio visual support services.

The training centre, learning management & portal support division, delivers non-credit computer training to the campus, providing training and creating instruction in the use of key software applications used by faculty, staff and students. Audio visual and classroom technology supports classroom and event technologies, along with campus security technologies as well as maintenance, inventory, upgrades and design of these technologies.

Langedock: In IT, invest in a forward direction

Motto: Measure twice, cut once

Guiding principles: Service. I take the St. Paul’s High School (Jesuit) credo as my own: “Men for others,” keeping in mind that with great opportunity comes great responsibility.

What drives you in your work and in your life: A sense of purpose. I love a challenge. My family. Recognizing potential and putting best efforts forward to realize it.

Favourite place: Grand Beach is kind of a sanctuary for me and my family [a wife and three sons].

Who inspires you: John Paul II, for his passion for and dedication to the people. He made God relevant again.

Reading: Biographies, including the recent one about Harry Lehotsky, called The Urban Saint.

IST GET THE FACTS

• The unit has a staff of over 30 in three divisions: computer and network services (CNS), enterprise systems and client services

• CNS oversees 550 terabytes of storage, 11,000 network ports, 750 wireless access points, 50 buildings with wireless access (to be 63 in 2013) and 450-500 virtual and 300 physical computers servers.

• Enterprise systems oversees administrative systems such as Aurora Student and the libraries systems

• Client services includes the Help & Solutions Centre, audio-visual and classroom technology, the IST training centre, learning management & portal support

• Look for updates and other information about IST in upcoming issues of The Bulletin
The Manitoba Medical Service Foundation (MMSF) is a charitable organization closely affiliated with and supported by the Manitoba Blue Cross. The Foundation’s highest priority for funding is for new researchers, who are establishing themselves in Manitoba and do not yet have long term stable funding for their research. Consideration is also given to established researchers applying for support of a new project. Since 1971, the Foundation has contributed over $18 million toward furthering health research in Manitoba. This investment in health research and education will help to sustain future health benefits for Manitobans and Canadians, through the building of a health research community, the development of research innovations and the adoption of these improvements into the health system.

MANITOBA MEDICAL SERVICE FOUNDATION CHAIR RETIRES AFTER 36 YEARS

Mr. Allen Rouse, one of the original founding members of the Foundation, is retiring after 41 years of diligently and faithfully serving the MMSF as a volunteer Board member. For 36 of those years he served as its respected chairman. His guidance, leadership, and dedication to volunteerism carried the foundation forward from inception in 1971 into the 21st Century.

Allen worked diligently to lead and serve the Foundation, for the benefits of all of Manitobans, through the development of the MMSF, which funds health research and education. Even though Allen is retiring from the MMSF, he will continue to volunteer in the community at large.

Allen’s dedication to the community at large extends far beyond the MMSF. Allen was a volunteer member of several organizations including the YMCA, and is a member of the Legion and Kiwanis.

In 1986, he received The Martin Bergen Award which recognizes notable individuals for long-standing contributions to society and the community. He has also received the following awards: Canadian Centennial Medal, Kiwanis International Presidents Award, City of Winnipeg Community Award, Order of the Buffalo Hunt and the Sports Excellence Award from the Province of Manitoba.

It is with great gratitude for his vision and service that we say a fond farewell to Allen and wish him all the best in his future endeavours and retirement.

NEW CHAIR ANNOUNCED AT THE MANITOBA MEDICAL SERVICE FOUNDATION

The Board of Directors of the Manitoba Medical Service Foundation (MMSF) is excited to announce the appointment of Dr. Lindsay Du Val as our new Chair of the Board. She comes to us as a long-time medical professional specializing in Otolaryngology, as a friend of the research field, and most recently, as our Board Vice-Chairman. Dr. Du Val has served the Manitoba Medical Service Foundation as a Director since 2003 and as Vice-Chairman since 2010. She has extensive knowledge of MMSF standards and granting procedures. She has demonstrated her capacity to effectively manage organizational growth and to provide leadership to our team.

We are fortunate that our new Chairperson is such an experienced and highly qualified individual. We are pleased that Dr. Du Val has chosen to accept this important role and look forward to many years of creative and innovative work.

The Manitoba Medical Service Foundation’s Mission is to promote and fund scientific, educational and other activities to improve the health and well-being of Manitobans, focusing on support of new researchers. Our Vision is to continue to be an important source of support for health research and education, in collaboration with other Manitoba organizations. We are inspired by the accomplishments of the researchers who have received funding through the MMSF. We look forward to continuing our goal of supporting health-related research and education in Manitoba.

The Grant Recipient Application deadline is August 15th for funding for the subsequent year.

For more information visit our website
www.mmsf.ca

Proudly Supported by

MANITOBA MEDICAL SERVICE FOUNDATION

MANITOBA MEDICAL SERVICE FOUNDATION

The Bulletin Page 9
June 7, 2012
Page 9
events

University of Manitoba

FORT GARRY + BANNATYNE CAMPUSES

LECTURES, SYMPOSIA, SEMINARS

FAMILY MEDICINE RESEARCH DAY
Friday, June 15 | 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Celebrate the accomplishments of the residents as they present their academic projects. Presentations simultaneously in Theatres A and C throughout the day. Contact Collette Philippe (philippe@cc.umanitoba.ca) for a complete itinerary of presenters.

CEREBRAL PALSY
Tuesday, June 12 | 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
"On the Road to Recovery: A Journey Through the Process of Cerebral Palsy" by Author and Activist Julian Pellegrino. Lunch provided for attendees. Event open to all; no RSVP necessary.

LECTURE, SEMINAR,WORKSHOP
Tuesday, June 19 | 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.
"The Role of Technology in Psychological Assessment" by Dr. Robert M. Reznik. Contact Office of Continuing Education for details.

EVENTS, EXHIBITIONS, explorer public art installations

The new campus of the University of Manitoba Library is now open.

SUMMER SALE
June 11-23, 2012
A selection of the digitized collection is available online. The digital exhibit gives users a rare glimpse into the Winnipeg Lesbian Archives but in 2008 they were acquired by U of M Libraries and are now available in Archives and Special Collections.

The collection was accumulated and catalogued by the Winnipeg Gay and Lesbian Resource Centre which became the Rainbow Resource Centre in 1999. The new organization maintained custodial ownership over the Manitoba Gay and Lesbian Archives but in 2008 they were donated to the U of M, followed by a second accession in 2009 and a third in 2010.

The primary objective was to preserve the documentary, photographic and electronic heritage of gay and lesbian Manitobans and to support research and study by scholars and the public. This collection contains issues and information on gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, two-spirit and queer (LGBTQQ) history including: comprehensive works, bibliography, reference, gay and lesbian liberation movement; behavioural sciences; social sciences; and AIDS.

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Bringing Research to LIFE

Upcoming Events

Visionary Conversations

The Food we Eat

Join the experts as they talk about the safety and supply of the food we eat - from the local and the global perspective.

Wednesday, June 13, 2012

Robert B. Schultz Theatre
St. John’s College

Join the experts as they talk about the safety and supply of the food we eat – from the local and the global perspective.

Featured speakers:

Ryan Cardwell
(Agricultural Economics, Faculty of Agricultural & Food Sciences)

Rick Holley
(Food Science, Faculty of Agricultural & Food Sciences)

Joyce Slater
(Human Nutritional Sciences, Faculty of Human Ecology)

Shirley Thompson
(Natural Resources Institute, Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth and Resources)

RSVP to: government_community@umanitoba.ca

For more information, visit: umanitoba.ca/about/vc/

Save the date!

It’s never too early to start planning your submission to the:

Undergraduate Research Poster Competition

November 1, 2012

For more information, visit: umanitoba.ca/research/postercompetition

Parasitic wasp could be farmers’ best friend

Researcher says insect’s behaviour is like something out of a sci-fi thriller

Entomology Prof. Barb Sharanowski (far right) is an expert in insect systematics, which involves describing, classifying, and examining the evolutionary relationships among organisms.

BY KATIE CHALMERS-BROOKS For The Bulletin

Entomologist Barb Sharanowski wants to give farmers the tools—including a mobile phone app—to help them protect their crops using wasps in place of insecticides. Sharanowski investigates little-known species of parasitic wasps that attack and kill other insects, often from the inside out. They go after many of the same bugs that damage and destroy popular crops like canola. Sharanowski says the wasps could provide an efficient, natural alternative to spraying fields with harsh chemicals.

“It is something that can be done,” she says. But few farmers are familiar with this type of wasp, which is actually more abundant and diverse than the recognizable, stinging, yellow and black variety. Even scientists don’t know much about them yet. “They are extremely understudied,” says Sharanowski, noting the majority of these species remain “unknown to science.”

The wasps have been unleashed to control pests in orchards, vineyards, greenhouses and smaller crops. It’s not normally done on large-field Canadian crops.

“These parasitic wasps are a means of natural control but we can’t really utilize them if we don’t know what we actually have,” says the assistant professor in the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences.

Sharanowski is researching their evolution and how they’re related to each other by extracting their DNA. She is uncovering and documenting their characteristics so she can educate the public, in particular the farming community. One way to do so would be through a mobile phone app that helps farmers in the field recognize species for their particular crops. It would include easily identifiable features like colour, shape, and size.

“They’re trained to look for the pests, not trained to look for the beneficial insects,” Sharanowski says.

These wasps already frequent farmers’ fields but planting certain flowers nearby might help further build populations by providing additional food sources. Sharanowski is researching which types appeal to the wasps.

She finds these insects fascinating, describing their parasitic behaviour as something out of the science fiction film Alien.

“Not only are they beautiful but their life histories are so interesting,” she says. “The fact that they live off other organisms is really cool but also they can alter the behaviour of their host to their advantage.”

They often plant their eggs inside their target insect along with a suite of venom and viruses. Caterpillars, aphids, beetles, moths, and flies are among their prey. Once the larvae are fully grown, these internal parasites bite their way out through the victim’s skin. They will then spin a cocoon to transform into an adult wasp. Meanwhile, the venom bouquet earlier delivered with the egg takes hold in the victim, sometimes causing paralysis or immune suppression. It can even alter the victim’s behaviour, causing the insect to protect the developing wasp at the expense of its own survival.

In some cases, the victim will sit atop the enemy cocoon, defending it until its death from starvation.

These ruthless wasps could also be used to stop the spread of invasive, exotic species of insects that have found their way to Canada in shipping crates. Sharanowski says. Non-native populations are on the rise given the prevalence of global trade. “The more that we can know about beneficial insects, the more likely we are to control future pests quickly.”

Sharanowski is identifying new species of these wasps, and has travelled the world collecting specimens, including South Africa, Central America, and Europe. To date, she has discovered and classified eight species. She named one Maxfischeria ameliae after her niece Amelia, who lives in Australia where the wasp was discovered.

Submitted Photo
By Marianne Mays Wiebe

The Bulletin

With a new, state-of-the-art residence building gracing the beautiful campus, living or staying in residence has never been more attractive at the Fort Garry campus at the U of M.

Few people may be aware that during the summer months, over 600 student choose to stay in residence at the U of M, taking advantage of the long Manitoba summer or studying at summer session.

Others affiliated with the university stay in residence as well, attending conferences or giving lectures. Summer accommodation for students and other guests is available from May to August 14.

There are monthly leases (30 days or more) available in three types of residences on the Fort Garry Campus: suite-style in the Arthur V. Mauro Residence; room with private washroom in Pembina Hall Residence (PHR); and dormitory-style at University College Residence (UCR).

Guests can choose to stay in a guest suites available in Arthur Mauro Residence or Pembina Hall Residence. Arthur Mauro features a furnished bedroom with double bed, a furnished living area with a 32” screen television, a furnished kitchenette area, private bathroom and shower, high speed Internet and laundry facilities in building. Daily housekeeping is available, and nightly and weekly rates are available upon request.

Pembina Hall Residence, U of M’s newest residence, opened on September 3, 2011. A high-rise building situated above the existing Pembina Hall Building and dining room, all 360 units are single rooms with an exterior glass wall providing plenty of natural light and floor to ceiling windows with sweeping views of Red River in the south-facing rooms and city skyline in north-facing rooms. Pembina Hall Residence guest suites are fully-furnished rooms with a private bathroom and shower, wireless Internet and laundry in the building. Daily housekeeping is also available.

Director of student residences Joe Danis says, “We were going for a unique look and style for this residence, and the amenities, along with the light and spectacular views certainly make it a wonderful place to stay.”

SPOTLIGHT ON RESIDENCES

Residences accommodations boast fabulous rooms with natural light, sweeping river and city views

• Suite-style - Arthur V. Mauro Residence (AVM) • Room with private washroom - Pembina Hall Residence (PHR) • Dormitory-style - University College Residence (UCR)

Accommodation for students or guests is available from May to mid-August. Rooms available in three types of residences:

• Suite-style - Arthur V. Mauro Residence (AVM)
• Room with private washroom - Pembina Hall Residence (PHR)
• Dormitory-style - University College Residence (UCR)

Rooms are also available in three types of residences on the Fort Garry Campus for conferences and groups:

• Suite-style - Arthur V. Mauro Residence (AVM)
• Room with private washroom - Pembina Hall Residence (PHR)
• Dormitory-style - Mary Speechly Hall (MSH)

For more information go to: umanitoba.ca/campus/housing/guests/conference.html

SUMMER ACCOMMODATIONS AT U OF M RESIDENCES

DID YOU KNOW?

Join our experts as we talk about the safety and supply of the food we eat – from the local to the global perspective.

Robert B. Schultz Theatre, St. John’s College, Fort Garry Campus

Reception in Gallery - 6:30PM to 7:00PM Sponsored by the Alumni Association

Panel Discussion - 7:00PM to 8:30PM

Please RSVP to: government_community@umanitoba.ca

Upcoming Visionary Conversations

Please join Dr. David T. Barnard, President and Vice-Chancellor, and the university community again in the fall as the Visionary Conversations speaker series continues. Our speaker series will resume September 12 during Homecoming.