Donations help African athletes

Student athletes in secondary and primary schools in South Nandi District in Kenya have received donations of sports equipment and clothing through efforts of the faculties of Medicine and Physical Education and Recreation Studies at the University of Manitoba.

The donation from University of Manitoba track and field athletes was a result of a request from the Terik people of western Kenya through the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) to the University of Manitoba and eventually Sport Manitoba. Researchers from the University of Manitoba are working in Kenya on projects related to the spread of HIV/AIDS.

In this area of Kenya, there are limited employment opportunities available, and the majority of the out-of-school youth in Terik are idle. The Terik Community Program views sports activities as a way to not only reduce idle time among young people but also assist in the general development of the community.

Sports contribute to the physical and mental well-being of the young people and provide opportunities for education.

Many of the community’s youth have tremendous athletic talent which, if fully tapped, may earn them scholarships to continue their studies locally or abroad.

Active sports programs are being developed through the provision of sports equipment, initiation and strengthening of sports exchange programs, training of coaches, holding annual sports events and promoting those who have excelled in sports for academic scholarships.

See MANITOBANS/P 3

Students find much to discover

BY KIMBERLEY CORNEILLIE
For The Bulletin

More than 350 high-school students flooded the atrium of Brodie Centre, Bannatyne Campus, to participate in the fifth year of Discovery Days on Friday, Nov. 18. This year’s Canadian Medical Hall of Fame’s Pfizer Canada Discovery Days in Health Sciences attracted 87 schools from across the province, 12 from rural communities such as Nelson House, Gillam and Flin Flon.

The students began their day at 8 a.m. with opening remarks from Judy Anderson, associate dean (academic), Faculty of Medicine. Following remarks, the students listened to keynote speaker Keith Fowke, associate professor of the department of medical microbiology. His speech, The quest for an HIV Vaccine; a journey from the Interlake to Africa, had students leaning on the edge of their seats as they learned that there may be a possibility of developing an HIV vaccine. Fowke’s research in Nairobi, Kenya, found that although there are thousands of sex workers infected with HIV, some who have been exposed hundreds of times have not been infected. Students used this opportunity to ask why.

Next, students participated in two of the 30 workshops available to them on the Bannatyne campus, St. Boniface Research Centre, the NRC Institute for Biodiagnostics and the Canadian Science Centre for Human and Animal Health. Students could select from simulated scenarios where they had the opportunity to act as the doctor, learn about oral health, or participate in a real-time outbreak scenario that put the students’ biology and investigative skills to the test.

“I found it very interesting. I liked being put into a scenario where I was the doctor,” said Tyler Hill, S4, Kildonan East Collegiate.

The Canadian Medical Hall of Fame is a national charitable organization that pays tribute to all those who have dedicated their careers to health care and the better health of all citizens. It partners with Pfizer Canada to deliver Discovery Days across Canada.

INSIDE STORIES

1 University of Manitoba faces challenges, offers opportunities
2 Clark gives his take on the democratic deficit
3 Communication is the key to proper cancer treatment
4 Sharma guides students through the laboratory
5 Care for a plunge bath? Displays delve into U of M’s past
6 HIV/AIDS research team honoured for its efforts
7

Opportunity and challenges defined U of M in 2005

It is hard to believe that the end of 2000 was almost upon us. I am not sad to see the year go, for it has been a long and difficult one. There are several issues I could identify in this regard, but only two demand my personal time on weekends and last evening hours: the ever-present financial concerns of the University of Manitoba, and the building of pride in our university.

When I founded this institution some nine years ago, we were not quite done with annual cuts to the operating budget. We were in the midst of the decade of slashed operating grants—and therefore slashed operating budgets—as across Canada. This process was done differently by province, dependent on the approach selected by each provincial government. In Alberta, it was a 20 per cent decrease of operating grants, in Ontario over $270 million was taken out of allocations to universities alone. In Manitoba the cuts to operating grants were done year by year, and continued into my first two years of office. Things changed with the election of a different government, but I doubt that it anticipated the challenges universities faced. Demographers predicted a resurgence of enrolments since 1996, but the preceding decade, and the cost of institutions had been run down in few years across the country, but the problem was seen today at both the Bannatyne and Fort Garry campuses. Renovations, new buildings, new initiatives are achieving the university in terms of faculty strengths, staff numbers, physical facilities and technological supports have been a challenge.

The good thing was that—and I believe this remains true today—by large the University of Manitoba has had the support of its community.

2 Bulletin

December 8, 2005

University Roundup

The University of Saskatchewan

Enrollment at the University of Saskatchewan is down slightly this fall. The university counted 19,639 students during a snapshot of student numbers taken on Oct. 12, down 124 students from the same time last year. The University of Saskatchewan has set a goal of increasing its student population to 21,000, including 18,500 undergraduate students and 2,500 graduate students.

From On Campus News

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Youth hockey pool got you down? Simon Fraser student Amy Summers has completed a thesis entitled, Hockey Pools for Profit: A Simulation Based Player Selection Strategy. Summers used statistics to develop a formula for drafting the best batch of players. In simulations, the team that had managed to either win the test pools or finished highest in a few weeks, I will be celebrating Christmas in the embrace of my family and friends. Whatever our tradition, those who delight in learning, are just not able to provide it to those who delight in learning, are just not available for so many in this world. Yes, I have plenty of troubles in Canada to keep my mind occupied evenings and on weekends, but in comparison with what others have to endure.

Today is the feast of St. Nicholas, and in a few weeks, I will be celebrating Christmas in the embrace of my family and friends. Whatever our tradition, those who delight in learning, are just not available for so many in this world. Yes, I have plenty of troubles in Canada to keep my mind occupied evenings and on weekends, but in comparison with what others have to endure.

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The good thing was that—and I believe this remains true today—by large the University of Manitoba has had the support of its community.

Lending support has been a challenge. Technological supports has been a challenge. The technological upgrades, the problems.

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Clark wants the people put back in parliament

BY DALE BARBOUR
The Bulletin

Canada is a political creature. Nobody knows that better than the Right Honourable Joe Clark.

A two-time leader of the Progressive Conservative Party, secretary of state during the 1980s under Brian Mulroney, and prime minister in his own right during a minority government in 1979, Clark visited the University of Manitoba on Nov. 15 to chat with students in the afternoon and then deliver the Templeton Lecture on Democracy in the evening at the Winnipeg Art Gallery.

“Some countries are an act of nature, or a natural evolution, but Canada is an act of will,” Clark told the approximately 100 people who braved Winnipeg’s first major snowfall to hear him speak.

“Did it come together naturally and it doesn’t stay together naturally. We have to keep proving our worth to our constituent parts.”

And that’s why the legitimacy of Canada’s political institutions is so critical to the national will – it’s that belief in the legitimacy of the political systems that binds the country together, Clark said. In some ways Canada’s political system is an odd fit for the country, based as it is on a British system that was developed for a territorially small, cohesive state with class-based society.

“It can be argued that Canada has made the parliamentary system work, but I’m not sure whether that happened because of the system or in spite of it,” Clark said. “Either way, the system is not working now.”

And while some people have argued that Senator senators in initiating a system of proportional representation is the answer, Clark is more interested in how the government does business.

While the primary role of the Canadian parliamentary system is to hold the government accountable, its other role is to speak for Canada and reflect the wishes of the people.

“That’s what gives the system its legitimacy,” Clark said.

The problem in public opinion polls, lobbying, the tendency towards centralizing authority and media spin, a collection of influences that Clark called the four horsemen of the political system, are cutting into parliament’s connection with the people.

“Politics used to be very personal. When you went door to door you learned what people were thinking by asking,” Clark said. “The modern leader can keep the public at a distance. It’s hard to cultivate personal instincts in that atmosphere and it also puts parliament aside.”

Lobbying government follows a practice developed in the United States, but Clark said while the practice is not as developed in Canada as it is in the United States, the impact is potentially greater because of differences in the political systems.

“In the United States, the legislative (congress), and the executive (the president), form two different poles of power. Lobbyists approach both groups, all but ensuring debate.

“In the Canadian system the lobbyist will deal directly with the executive and there is no guarantee of a debate,” Clark said. “Public light can spill into the American process but be shut out of the Canadian process where power is so isolated.”

When parliament does get involved, it’s after the fact.

“Parliament’s power does expand in a minority government, that is evident today and during my experience,” Clark said. His own tenure as prime minister was cut short in 1979 when his government was defeated – a situation that Clark says was due more to their own inexpertise in government than to the foibles of minority government.

But the answer is to get the elected members back into governance – sitting at the table when decisions are being made, giving their views and reflecting the views of their constituents.

“There is no reason members couldn’t play a greater role in other areas, Native affairs, bank mergers, to name a few – areas that are not at the centre of the government’s mandate,” Clark said. “In the theory of Westminster, the role of the MP has been to hold the government to account. But in all of the eight elections I won I expected to have a role, not just hold the government accountable.”

Clark spent as much time answering questions from the audience as he did delivering his lecture. More than once he was complimented for his own involvement in Canada’s political scene and he was quizzed on whether he would ever consider returning to politics in some fashion or other.

Clark said there will be times when he can’t help but state his views on different issues, but overall he said he’s prepared to stand down.

“I’ve had my time at centre stage.”

Manitobans urged to build links with Kenyan athletes

Faculty of Arts dean Richard Sigurdson, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, and political studies professor William Neville take time out during Clark’s visit to the University of Manitoba on Nov. 15. Clark was in town to deliver the Templeton Lecture on Democracy.

You earned it, John Wesley Dafoe!

It was a long time coming but the University of Manitoba officially unveiled a portrait of its third chancellor, John Wesley Dafoe, this fall. Dafoe served as chancellor from 1934 to 1944. From left, Dafoe’s grandson, John Dafoe; the university’s ninth chancellor Isabel Auld; president Emőke Szathmáry; and current chancellor Bill Norris took part in the unveiling ceremony. The university began commissioning portraits of its chancellors under the tenure of Auld (1977 to 1986) and has been working its way back since then.
Szathmáry receives life-time achievement award

The Indo-Canadian community likes what president Emőke Szathmáry has been doing at the University of Manitoba. In fact, it likes what she’s been doing here and throughout her career so much that it honored her with a life-time achievement award during its annual dinner Oct. 30 at the Royal Crown.

The award was handed out by the India Canada Culture and Heritage Association, Inc. (ICCHA), a registered non-profit umbrella organization of the Indo-Canadian community.

Along with promoting the Indian community, tracing its history, and paying homage to the work of Mahatma Gandhi, the ICCHA also makes it a goal to recognize the excellence and contributions of individuals to the development of society.

The first Life-time Achievement Award was presented on Aug. 26, 2004, to Her Excellency Shashi U. Tripathi, who was then India’s High Commissioner to Canada, on the occasion of her unveiling India’s gift of the statue of Mahatma Gandhi to the Canadian Museum of Human Rights.

Szathmáry was honored for her work with the university and her academic career. The citation on Szathmáry noted the following:

"You have been an inspiration to our community and a great support to the development of society. You believe strongly in academic excellence and equally importantly in community involvement. The Indo-Canadian Community is proud to recognize Szathmáry’s contributions and present her ICCHA’S Life-Time Achievement Award."

BISON SPORTS

BY CHRIS ZUK

Biston Sports Information Officer

Bison first-year swimmer Laurence Yestrau earned a spot on the Commonwealth team at the trials in Victoria. Yestrau was one of 11 women swimmers named to Team Canada.

She was selected on the strength of her bronze medal swim in the 50m backstroke. Yestrau finished the race in a time of 29.91, which was less than .10 off her personal best. The Commonwealth Games run from March 15 to 26, 2006 in Melbourne, Australia.

This will be Yestrau’s first Commonwealth Games.

PATRICK SELECTED AS CIS FOOTBALL ALL-CANADIAN

The Manitoba Bisons football team finished with a 4-1 [1] record and in third place in the Canada West conference during the 2005 regular season. The team had six Bisons named to the conference all-star team and now one of the players has been selected as a CIS Football All-Canadian.

Tackle Simon Patrick was named to the second team.

This is the first time a Bison was recognized as a CIS Football All-Canadian since 2002 (Shane Munson). Patrick is the first Bisons defensive player to earn this honour since the 2001 season when Rob Stewart was also named as an All-Canadian at the tackle position.

This year Patrick was tied for fourth in the conference and had a team-high four sacks this season. He was tied for second on team with four tackles for losses and had two fumble recoveries.

SHIRLEY REMPLE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

At the Shirley Rempel Memorial Scholarship fundraiser on Thursday, Nov. 17 at the Niakwa Golf and Country Club, the first scholarship was given to two hockey players.

Elizabeth Armstrong, third-year Nursing and third-year goaltender Dana Hoogsteen, Science with plans to move on to Education, are the first recipients of the scholarship.

Bison women’s head coach Jon Rempel presented the scholarships to both players during the fundraiser. Over 250 people attended with approximately $7,500 raised for the scholarship account, which will total $15,000. Cancer Care Manitoba should receive about $2,500.

Rempel’s mother Shirley Rempel passed away at the age of 60 from brain cancer last November. Shirley Rempel was a huge proponent of post-secondary education and she would have really enjoyed watching Jon coach. This award will keep her memory alive and at the same time help support female students as they work towards university degrees.

BISON GOLF AWARDED $25,000

The University of Manitoba Bison golf team was awarded a grant of $25,000 towards the expansion of the golf program courtesy of the RCGA Foundation’s $1-million University Golf Support Program.

This is the largest sum directed to the program over the six years of Bison Golf.

The grant is for three years, starting in the fall of 2005. Along with Manitoba, University of Laval, Humber College and University of Victoria golf programs also received $25,000 grants.
The University of Manitoba’s Outreach Award winners were recognized Nov. 23. A full list of the winners is included below.

Program puts the bite on cavities

Children’s smiles are sure to spread with provincial plans to expand an early childhood tooth decay project. The Healthy Smile – Happy Child Early Childhood Tooth Decay Prevention Project is a collaborative effort involving the Centre for Community Oral Health (CCOH) in the Faculty of Dentistry as one of the partners.

Manitoba Health Minister Tim Sale announced on Nov. 10 a $1.2-million commitment over two years to expand the project throughout the province.

“This is one of the most positive things we can do for the community,” Sale said. “It is a good day for the children of Manitoba.”

Shapiro’s career has included academic, research, advisory and government positions. As the director of Manitoba Health’s Continuing Care office, she implemented its single point of access continuing care program. Subsequently she acted as a senior policy advisor to the minister of health, and as chair of the Manitoba Health Services Commission. She has received numerous awards, including an honorary doctor of laws degree from the University of Manitoba in 2000. She has written extensively on the determinants of health among the elderly, the predictors of their use of health care services, and the impact of social policy on community and long-term institutional care.

Submitted by Janine Harasymchuk

Outreach Awards honour community work

Each year the University of Manitoba recognizes employees who have made exemplary contributions to the broader community.

The university congratulates the recipients of the 2005 Outreach Awards. The following people were honoured on Nov. 25.

Linda Lavallee assistant director, campus security
Lucette Barber coordinator, Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth and Resources
Betty Breksohko information literacy coordinator, Elizabeth Dafoe Library
James Kominowski archivist, Elizabeth Dafoe Library
Don Flaten department of soil science, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences
Birna Bjarnadottir department of Icelandic language and literature, Faculty of Arts
Enrique Fernandez department of French, Spanish and Italian, Faculty of Arts
Ishmael Bruce Centre for Community Oral Health, Faculty of Dentistry
Joan Durrant department of family social sciences, Faculty of Human Ecology
Debra Parkes Faculty of Law
Patrick Choy associate dean (research), Faculty of Medicine

Marian Kremer Faculty of Pharmacy
Ian Cameron department of physics and astronomy, Faculty of Science
Maggie Duncan equity services advisor, human resources
director, housing and student life, student affairs/ancillary services
Joe Danis director, housing and student life, student affairs/ancillary services
Timothy Podolsky English language centre, student affairs
Medical Information Line for the Elderly (MILE) (Three team members)
Debra Giesbrecht manager, University Pharmacy, ancillary services
Meera Thadani pharmacist, University Pharmacy, ancillary services
Sunita Persaud pharmacist consultant, University Pharmacy, ancillary services

Diabetes Education Resource Team for Children and Adults (DER-CA)
Elizabeth Sellers department of pediatrics and child health, Faculty of Medicine
Heather Dean department of pediatrics and child health, Faculty of Medicine
Hospital Employees that are part of the DER-CA Team: Gen Henderson, Norma Van Walleghem, Pat Bobko, Gillian Toth, Louise Rawluk and Nicole Ayward

Volunteers Required

The Faculty of Medicine’s Admissions Committee is seeking faculty members to interview applicants to the undergraduate medical education program.

The interview sessions will be held:
Saturday, March 4th & Sunday, March 5th
Saturday, March 11th & Sunday, March 12th
Saturday, March 18th & Sunday, March 19th.

Orientation sessions will be held during the month of February, 2006.

Volunteers would be asked to commit one or more weekends.

If you are interested in participating, please contact the Faculty of Medicine by phone (204) 789-3213 or Fax (204) 789-5929 between Monday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. — 4:30 p.m. or e-mail selvanat@cc.umanitoba.ca

Closing date: November 30, 2005.

Travel support is available for a number of interviews from remote locations.

Evelyn Shapiro, senior researcher with the Manitoba Centre for Health Policy, professor and senior scholar in the department of community health sciences, and research associate of the Aging in Manitoba Longitudinal Study, was honoured with the establishment of the Centre for Community Oral Health (CAG). This award will recognize a CAG member that has mentored people in academia, health-related organizations, governments and other related sectors over a long period of time. The first award will be made at the CAG Annual Scientific and Educational Meeting in 2006. Marcus Hollander of Hollander Analytical Services Ltd. established this award and guaranteed its funding over the next few years.

For details call
474 8111

Advertise in The Bulletin

Outreach Award winners were recognized Nov. 23. A full list of the winners is included below.

Evelyn Shapiro

November 25, 2005
Communication is critical to cancer treatment

Faculty of Nursing professors Tom Hack and Lesley Degner have just seen the first results of their Sociobehavioural Cancer Research Network communications team published in the journal Psycho-Oncology.

“Effective communication at the time of diagnosis is crucial to helping them make informed choices. Physicians need to be willing to ask questions about what their patients want and expect can be key to successful communication between the patients and health professionals. Physicians need to be prepared to clearly tell their doctors what they need. Ideally, Degner said, they’ve produced a package of material that can be used for teaching and as a resource for people looking to do further research on the subject.”

“Why finding out what patients want and expect can be the key to successful communication between the patients and health professionals. Physicians need to be willing to ask questions about what their patients want and their emotional state, and not just ask questions about their physical health. Patients also need to be prepared to clearly tell their doctors what they need.”

However, results did vary. In many studies, over 30 per cent of patients preferred to defer to their physicians about treatment. That’s why finding out what patients want and expect can be the key to successful communication between the patients and health professionals. Physicians need to be willing to ask questions about what their patients want and their emotional state, and not just ask questions about their physical health. Patients also need to be prepared to clearly tell their doctors what they need.

Ideally, Degner said, they’ve produced a package of material that can be used for teaching and as a resource for people looking to do further research on the subject.

“What surprised me is how little is known about how to help professionals develop the skills to deal more effectively with patients,” Degner said. “There’s been very little research done in that area.”

Degner said she had hoped that by reviewing the literature they could produce a list of the best approaches for educating clinicians in communications techniques – but at this point, no one knows what works and what doesn’t.

That dearth of information made it easy for the communications team to pick their next subject – studying and promoting the use of communication interventions, such as audiotaping appointments with physicians, for wider use by patients and health professionals across Canada.

Now that the issue is out, Hack and Degner have rejigged the membership of the communications team to more effectively deal with its new goal. The audiotape, just one of the approaches they’ll be looking at, is something that patients can take home to review what the doctor has told them and, if they choose, to share the information directly with family members. It’s an approach that Hack has been experimenting with and one that has received good reviews from the oncologists and more than 1,000 patients with breast or prostate cancer who’ve participated in his studies. Although Hack and Degner are encouraged by their positive research findings and supportive feedback from oncologists and patients, their next goal is to encourage the adoption and implementation of communication interventions by clinicians in the field.

The patient-professional communication issue of Psycho-Oncology, Volume 14, Number 10, October 2005, is available online at www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/jhome/58607.

Postmedia News

The University of Manitoba Press book A National Crime: The Canadian Government and the Residential School System, 1879-1986 by J.S. Milloy, was selected as one of the top 100 most important Canadian books ever written.

The list was compiled by the editors of Canada’s pre-eminent review of books, The Literary Review of Canada, and will be published in LRC’s first two issues of 2006.

The University of Manitoba Press was the only Manitoba publisher and one of only a handful of presses outside Toronto to make the list. The University of Manitoba Press originally published A National Crime in 1999. The book has since become a national bestseller and is now in its fourth printing. A National Crime chronicles the history of the residential school system and its impact on the thousands of Aboriginal students who were uprooted from their families and forced through its “circle of civilization.”

Author John S. Milloy traces the ideological roots of the system and follows the paper trail of internal memoranda, reports from field inspectors, and letters of complaint, showing that the system was chronically underfunded and often mismanaged, and documenting in detail how this affected the health, education and well-being of entire generations of Aboriginal children.

University of Manitoba Press director David Carr was pleased to hear about the book’s placement on the list.

“We’re in with some very good company,” he said. “John is up there with the likes of Northrop Frye, Marshall McLuhan and Carol Shields. And he deserves it. His book has become an essential text in the understanding of the Aboriginal experience in Canada, and we are very proud to have published it.”

Founded in 1967, the University of Manitoba Press publishes innovative and exceptional books for scholars and lovers of quality Canadian nonfiction in the areas of Native studies, Canadian history, and Canadian literature and culture.

University of Manitoba Press book
is named one of Canada’s top 100

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The University of Manitoba Singers under the direction of Professor Henry Engbrecht invites you to attend Christmas at the Admin
The Annual Holiday Performance of Carols, Christmas Songs and Music presented by

Monday, December 12, 2005 from 12 noon-1 pm in the Administration Building, University of Manitoba

Dr. Emőke Szathmáry, President and Vice-Chancellor, invites you to attend Christmas at the Admin

The University of Manitoba Singers under the direction of Professor Henry Engbrecht invites you to attend Christmas at the Admin
A Day in the Life of a lab supervisor

BY DALE BARBOUR
The Bulletin

For animal science students, working in a lab is critical. Many of the students, regardless of what is going on in the classroom, have the opportunity to conduct their own research or receive an incentive to stay at the university. Chances are they have enough experience to know how to use the equipment. "We have to find out about the new person's field, how much space he or she needs," Sharma said. "So we'll show them how to do the thing in the lab and how the equipment will work," Sharma said.

Originaly from New Delhi, Sharma worked in the pharmaceutical industry in India for ten years as an analytical chemist before coming to Canada in 1995 to find a job with Norwest Labs as a chemist. He worked for seven years with Norwest before joining the University of Manitoba in 2003.

"In my life I've worked in all areas: medicine, food, soil," Sharma said. "The good thing about chemical engineering is that there are new things for you to learn and develop. I like looking at something and asking, 'How can we figure out what's going on in that?' and working with the equipment."

Working at the university offers all the benefits of keeping abreast of cutting-edge research, but the final incentive to stay at the university is the obvious one - the chance to work with students as they refine their skills and strike off into the field.

Here's how to work smarter

BY PAULINE FORTIER
Occupational Health Coordinator
For The Bulletin

In recent years, more than half of Manitoba’s Workers’ Compensation Board claims have been attributed to work-related musculoskeletal disorders. An ergonomic program was introduced at the University of Manitoba to help prevent or reduce these injuries. Quite often it is possible to reduce or eliminate these hazards by making minor changes to the workstation’s set up. The environmental health and safety office offers free ergonomic information sessions to all staff to help everyone understand the hazards and safe work procedures in their area. If you attend one of these sessions and continue to have problems, the occupational health coordinator will make on-site visits to assess your workstation.

If you are having problems with your workstation you might want to check a couple things. Is your mouse and keyboard on the same level? Are you alternating and could you spill acid on your body or have chemicals splash in your eyes and be blinded forever? Safety is serious business. So is how understanding how to work the equipment if the students want to be able to conduct their own research or contribute to research being conducted in the department.

To reduce glare, try positioning your monitor at a right angle from the window and away from direct lighting. Use a glare filter over the monitor or window and away from direct lighting. The level with your eyes. Tilt the top of your monitor approximately 20 to 26 inches (arm’s length) away. Be sure the top of your monitor is on the level with your eyes. Tilt the top of the monitor back to 20 to 26 degrees.

Here are a couple of tips on how to work smarter:

1. Place your monitor approximately 20 to 26 inches (arm's length) away. Be sure the top of your monitor is on the level with your eyes. Tilt the top of the monitor back 10 to 20 degrees.

2. Reduce glare, try positioning your monitor at a right angle from the window and away from direct lighting. Use a glare filter over the monitor or use lowwatt task lighting and close drapes and blinds. Be sure to blink and look away from the screen and to focus in the distance frequently. If you need bifocals and work at your computer for long periods, consider getting computer glasses. This may be the single most helpful thing you can do for your headaches!

3. Find a full list of tips on this government website. www.nh.gov/od/or/ds/ergonomics/computerworkgo.html

4. Did you know voice recognition programs are available? These programs are designed to allow you to speak to your computer and will do all the typing for you. If you spend hours working on your computer and then more hours at home after work preparing papers or a thesis, these types of programs may be just what you need!

5. If you have problems with strain from working at your workstation, do not wait, sign up for a workshop at 474-6633 and see if you can make a change to improve your area. If you can’t wait for a training session, call to make an appointment to get help right away. The longer you suffer in silence with a problem, the longer it will take to make a complete recovery.

Building the labs is something that takes place when the Faculty of Agriculture and Food Science hires new faculty – as an example, they just completed outfitting a new $500,000 lab to replace a government grant.

"We have to find out about the new person’s field, how much space he or she needs. So we’ll show them how to do the thing in the lab and how the equipment will work," Sharma said.

Another way to have enough experience to know how to use the equipment the new professor will be bringing in. In but not, it’s one more chance to expand their own knowledge base.

Here’s how to work smarter

University of Manitoba Italian instructor Carmine Coppolla has won the "Rocca Di Montemurlo" International Literary Prize created by the "Giorgio la Pira" cultural organization of Montemurlo (Tuscany, Italy). One of the main objectives of the prize is to encourage freedom in writing and to create new contacts between famous authors, new writers and budding talents. The panel of judges includes such luminaries of the Italian literary world as Roberto Pazzi and Pasquale Marrone.

Out of thousands of entries received from all over the world, Coppolla won first prize in the Poetry Category with his poem “La morte sciocca.” In addition to winning a monetary prize of 800 Euro, Coppolla has been asked to attend the official awards ceremony in Italy and to appear in interviews on Italian television. Verses from his winning poem will also accompany an exhibit of contemporary paintings. The award ceremony will take place on Dec. 10 in Montemurlo, in Tuscany, Italy.

The University of Manitoba presents

A nursing research odyssey: The inspiration, the process, and the future

public lecture

Dr. Lesley Degner
Professor of Nursing and 2005 Recipient of the Dr. John M. Bowman Memorial Winnipeg Rh Institute Foundation Award

Dr. Lesley Degner is an internationally recognized scholar and a leading researcher in the area of patient involvement in medical decision making. Dr. Degner will describe research in the field of knowledge elicitation designed to help nurses stay up-to-date in their practice while improving patient outcomes and the quality of nursing work life.

Thursday, January 5, 2006, 8 p.m.
343 Drake Centre, Fort Garry Campus, All are welcome.
For more information please call 474-7859
Events Listing

BY DALE BARBOUR

The Bulletin

There is more to the University of Manitoba than names and buildings.

While the university has long recognized the history of campus buildings and their namesakes, what has been missing are the stories about university life and the quirky details of how the university came to look the way it does.

Archives and special collections is hoping a new selection of plaques just installed around the university will change that.

“These are anecdotes about student life, interesting events that have happened at the university and interesting anecdotes about the namesakes of the buildings,” archives and special collections head Shelley Sweeney said.

Example! Taché Hall originally had separate men’s and women’s gymnasiaums featuring lockers, showers and tiny pools known as “plunge baths.”

The Agricultural Engineering building was originally constructed as the Manitoba Agricultural College’s Stock Judging Pavilion. It contained refrigerator rooms, a butcher shop, emergency stalls and the skyloft central area where the livestock was judged. A seating gallery surrounded the judging area so that larger classes could take part in the program.

In all 40 plaques were placed around the university to talk about the stock pavilions, plunge baths and a myriad of other subjects.

There are 120 different stories and images that can be rotated through the display cases.

Archival processor Brett Lougheed had the job of researching the anecdotes and images, while office assistant Michelle Strutt put the text and images together in an attractive design.

Lougheed said he was able to tap existing books about the university, including Jack Rumstead’s History of the University of Manitoba, and From Parkland to Urban Centre, a book detailing the history of the university’s building, and a variety of other sources including the Bulletin.

Some of what he found was surprising.

“At one time there was a plan in place to build a series of five lecture halls in front of the Buller Building,” Lougheed said. Don’t worry though, they wouldn’t have cut off the line of sight to the Buller Building – the lecture halls were all intended to be built underground.

Of course the positioning of the Buller Building is also noteworthy – its front lawn is only half the size of the Duckworth Quadrangle because when the Buller Building went up there was a transit line running behind it – nobody wanted to move the line so the building was built closer to the Administration Building than it would have been otherwise.

The entire project – from research through design of the plaques – cost about $10,000 with half the funding coming from the Heritage Grants Advisory Committee. Physical Plant was instrumental in the installation of the plaques.

Bannatyne Campus

AND ST. BONIFACE RESEARCH CENTRE

Lessons From The Liver/Transplantation Room For Anesthesiologists And Intensivists at Theatre A - 1st Floor - Basic Medical Sciences Building, 2:30 p.m., Monday, Dec. 12.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

Internal Medicine, End of Life Decisions by Kim Wiebe, assistant professor, internal medicine, Theatre A Basics Medical Sciences Building linked to NG002 St. Boniface Hospital, 8 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 13.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

Biochemistry and Medical Genetics, Role of the Male in the Regulation of the Sex Pheromone Production in the Female Yellow Mealworm Beetle Tenebrio molitor (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae) by Jaswinder Mangat, PX236/238PhysHealth Building, 12:15 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 14.

Bison Sports

MEN’S HOCKEY
Jan. 6 – SAIT at Manitoba, Max Bell, 7 p.m.
Jan. 7 – SAIT at Manitoba, Max Bell, 2 p.m.

MEN’S BASKETBALL

MEN’S VOLLEYBALL
Jan. 14 – Winnipeg at Manitoba, Investors Group, 8 p.m.
Jan. 18 – Winnipeg at Manitoba, Investors Group, 8 p.m.

WOMEN’S HOCKEY
Jan. 13 – Saskatchewan at Manitoba, Max Bell, 7 p.m.
Jan. 14 – Saskatchewan at Manitoba, Max Bell, 7 p.m.

WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL
Jan. 13 – Saskatchewan at Manitoba, Investors Group, 7 p.m.
Jan. 14 – Saskatchewan at Manitoba, Investors Group, 6 p.m.

SMOKING
Jan. 14 – Martins Invitational, Pan Am Pool, all day.

TRACK AND FIELD
Dec. 8 – Grand Prix #1 & 2, Max Bell, 6–9 p.m.
Jan. 18 – Grand Prix #3, Max Bell, 6–9 p.m.

TICKET INFORMATION
Single Game
Adults: $8
Students: $5
12 and under: free
Season passes
Adults: $55
Student: $30
Tickets available at all Bison home games, Frank Kennedy, Max Bell Equipment Desk.

Advertise your event in The Bulletin
For details call 474 8111

Got a tip? We pay rewards for stories that run.

www.umanitoba.ca/bisons/

December 8, 2005

University of Manitoba

Photo by Dale Barbour

Archival processor Brett Lougheed did the research for the university’s new historical displays while archives and special collections office assistant Michelle Strutt designed their appearance. The display plaques have gone up across the university.

Continued on Page 10.
University of Manitoba Bookstore: Counting Down in exchange for Free Books! The biggest sale of the year! UM Bookstores, Nov. 18 to 20. $8 starter titles for Books$ Used Book Buy Back Fort Garry Bookstore, Dec. 8 to Jan. 7.  

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9  
Chemistry, Studies of nanosystems: growth and probing using dynamic electron methods and surface engineering, 540 Parker Building, 2:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 9.  

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13  

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14  

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16  
Electrical and Computer Engineering, Packet-Level Performance Statistics in a Wireless Network Using Amplify-and-Forward Cooperative Diversity by Izearaw Issaryakhud, UBC, Senate Chambers, Engineering and Information Technology Complex, 10 a.m., Friday, Dec. 16.  

Mathematics Graduate Student Seminar, Techniques for local and global stability of epidemic models by Chandru Podeer, 415 Macdonald Hall, 2:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 16.  

Chemistry, Expression, Purification and Characterization of a Mycobacterial Gafactorfuransyltransferase by Todd Lowary, chemistry, University of Alberta, 540 Parker Building, 2:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 16.  

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20  
Physics and Astronomy, Dynamics of DNA-Mediated Transport by Melanie O'Neill, chemistry, Simon Fraser University, 350 Allen Building, 5:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 16.  

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19  

Engineering, Bioinformatics and Genome Data Mining for BioFuels and BioProducts by Dr. Kalia, environmental biotechnology, Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology, CNIR, Delhi University Campus, Delhi, India, Carolyn Sifton Room 130 Agriculture Building, 2 p.m., Monday, Dec. 19.  

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5  
Nursing, A Nursing Research Odyssey: The Inspiration, The Process, and The Future by Lesley Degner, Nursing and 2005 recipient of the Dr. John M. Bowman Memorial Winnipeg 8th Institute Foundation Award, 343 Drake Centre, 8 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 5.  

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6  
Community Health Sciences, Indian Residential Schools as a Factor in the Spread of Tuberculosis during the Early 20th Century by Paul Hackett, assistant professor, community health sciences, 507 Tier Building, 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 11.  

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13  

Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources Seminar Series, Water Soft Paths: A Method to Analyze the Fresh Water Component of Sustainable Development by David Brooks, Friends of the Earth Canada, 221 Wallace Building, 2:30 p.m., Friday, Jan. 13.  

To encourage donations, Security services will wrap the Christmas Gifts that you have purchased for your family and friends in exchange for a donation of a toy or money. Gift wrapping sessions will be held every Friday this month with a final session set for 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Dec. 19 at the Fort Garry Security Services Office, 97 Dafoe Road.  

Departments and faculties are welcoming their own toy donation drives and then contact security services for pick up at 474 9312, Fort Garry campus, or 789 3330, Bannatyne campus. Toy and donations can also be dropped off at the security services offices at 97 Dafoe Road, Fort Garry campus, and 5105 Medical Services Building, Bannatyne campus.  

If you have any questions about the toy drive, please call Cst. Naomi Green at 474 9512 or e-mail Naomi_Green@umanitoba.ca.  

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Need a quick break from writing your final paper or marking exams? Take a moment to explore some of the treasures the University of Manitoba Libraries has on display.  

Head to the Science and Technology Library in Machray Hall, where you’ll find an exhibit of rare scientific publications from years past. Curated by rare book cataloguer Christine Bone, the display includes some fantastic curiosities, some of which are hundreds of years old.  

Check out a first-edition, first printing of Roger Tory Peterson’s A Field Guide to the Birds, published in 1934, which revolutionized the way field guides were written.  

John Monroe’s The American Botanist and Family Physician, published in 1824, includes a wealth of information on “practical” cures for a host of ailments, from the nine cold baths required to relieve a child of heartburn, to the swallowing of a fishworm recommended as the treatment of heartburn.  

The exhibit also includes a first-edition, first printing of Charles Darwin’s On the Origin of Species, a 166th-century edition of Pliny the Elder and a number of other significant works.  

Bone notes the books on display are just a tiny sample of the 30,000 titles stored in the university’s rare book vault. They provide a glimpse of the range of historically significant, rare, or otherwise important titles the university has in its archives.  

For more information on the rare scientific publications on display, contact Christine Bone at 474 7893.
Connecting Canadian industry to scientists in Ukraine

By Frank Nolan, Research Promotion Officer

For the past ten years, the University of Manitoba has been at the centre of an international effort to provide research funding and partnership opportunities to Ukrainian scientists and engineers.

The Science and Technology Centre in Ukraine (STCU) is an intergovernmental organization that was established to enhance international cooperation and partnerships. Located in Kiev, Ukraine, the STCU was established in 1993 by Canada, Sweden and the United States, with the European Union replacing Sweden in 1998.

The Canadian arm of the project has been based at the University of Manitoba since 1995, and it was originally administered by Research Services. Ostap Hawaleshka, now Professor Emeritus in the department of mechanical and manufacturing engineering, was the first director of STCU. In 2002, STCU was taken over by the Faculty of Engineering, and the current project leader is Nabil Bassim, director of International Programs for the Faculty.

"STCU is an actual building in Kiev, that employs about 50 or 60 people," Bassim said. "It is owned jointly by the three founding members – Canada, the United States and the European Union – and all three countries contribute money to fund this centre. Its role is to act as the centre and the monitor of research projects funded by these governments for Ukrainian scientists who used to work on weapons of mass destruction under the former Soviet regime."

Twice a year, STCU provides between U.S. $2 million and U.S. $3 million in funding for a wide range of projects in Ukraine, including those focused on medical research, materials science, electronic technology, and agriculture. To date, Bassim said, STCU has provided more than U.S. $100 million to Ukrainian scientists and engineers.

The Canadian funds come through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

"All of the projects we fund are peaceful projects," he said. "Ukraine has made a commitment not to have weapons of mass destruction, and we insist that all of the projects have a noticeable impact in terms of improving the technology, the environment, human health, and so on."

STCU also works to build partnerships between Ukrainian researchers and Canadian industry. Under the Partnership Program, interested Canadian high-tech companies participate in missions to Ukraine, where they have the opportunity to network with scientists that might be able to work with them on applied research.

"To date we've done this kind of matchmaking for about 40 Canadian companies. We go once or twice a year with a group of companies from across Canada. Some of the featured areas right now are things like medical applications and instruments, photonics and nanotechnology," Bassim said.

A relatively new initiative is something Bassim started last year, which he calls "reverse missions." Under this program, Ukrainian scientists are brought to Canada to tour high-tech facilities and university research labs.

"I didn't have too much difficulty convincing CIDA of its merits and its potential," Bassim said. "Each trip targets a specific research area, like nanotechnology, aerospace and materials, or medical technology. The goal is to promote sustainable linkages between Canadian industry and Ukrainian scientists that should, hopefully, last for a very long time."
It takes a team of experts to battle HIV/AIDS
The HIV/AIDS research team led by Frank Plummer has been earning respect

On Nov. 30, the University of Manitoba recognized the HIV/AIDS research team that received a Grand Challenges in Global Health award earlier this year.

The recognition was part of the Global Impact: Manitoba’s Contribution to Infectious Disease symposium, a one-day event held at the Winnipeg Convention Centre sponsored by the St. Boniface Hospital and Research Foundation and the St. Boniface General Hospital. The event highlighted Manitoba’s global contribution to infectious diseases research.

The Grand Challenges in Global Health initiative was launched in 2003 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, in partnership with the National Institutes of Health, to harness the power of science and technology to dramatically improve health in the world’s poorest countries.

The initiative is supported by U.S. $450 million from the Gates Foundation, U.S. $27.1 million from the Wellcome Trust, and U.S. $4.5 million from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). Based on suggestions from more than 1,000 scientists, a total of 14 Grand Challenges were identified and published in the October 2003 edition of the journal Science. More than 1,500 project ideas were submitted from research teams around the world.

In June 2005, 43 projects, involving collaborators in 33 countries, were selected for funding. Three Canadian projects were chosen, including one based at the University of Manitoba, which received a Grand Challenges award in Global Health grant of U.S. $8.3 million.

The project leader is distinguished professor Frank Plummer, Canada Research Chair in Resistance and Susceptibility to Infections, and scientific director general of the National Microbiology Laboratory in Winnipeg. The team is expanding on previous work that identified groups of commercial sex workers in Kenya who do not become infected with HIV despite repeated exposure to the virus.

Researchers are examining the immune systems and genetics of these women to identify the basis for resistance, and the project will provide vital new information for HIV vaccine and drug development.

In addition to Plummer, the University of Manitoba team includes senior investigators Keith Fowke, Blake Ball, and Kun Luo from the department of medical microbiology and infectious diseases, along with more than 20 research fellows, students, technicians and administrative staff from the University of Manitoba and the National Microbiology Laboratory.

University of Manitoba researcher Particia Martens was recognized as one of Canada’s top health researchers at the fourth Canadian Health Research Awards gala held in Ottawa on Nov. 22.

The awards were hosted by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) in collaboration with the Health Charities Coalition of Canada (HCCC), Research Canada – An Alliance for Health Discovery (formerly the Council for Health Research in Canada) and Canada’s provincial health research organizations. The event was attended by Canada’s top health researchers as well as the Ujjal Dosanjh, minister of health and Alan Bernstein, president of CIHR.

“Each (award) recipient has demonstrated exceptional creativity, a willingness to overcome challenges and the ability to embrace new concepts,” said Dosanjh. “Each recipient has demonstrated exceptional creativity, a willingness to overcome challenges and the ability to embrace new concepts, all in the pursuit of new knowledge. Collectively, they are making Canada a healthier, more prosperous nation and their work will have a direct impact on Canadians and people around the world.”

Martens leads The Need to Know Team, which brings together researchers, regional health authorities and provincial planners to collaborate on research, from the development of research questions to ensuring that the results are used in evidence-based decision making and planning.

The Need to Know Team produced a provincial Indicators Atlas (2005) to assist regional health authorities develop five-year strategic plans; a mental illness report (2004) that attracted national attention for its finding that one in four Manitobans had at least one mental illness diagnosis between 1997 and 2002; and a report on sex differences (2005) that charted male-female differences in health, use of the health care system and quality of care. This type of information is vital to the successful planning of health care services.

For more information about these reports, please visit the MCHP website: www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca

For a complete list of award recipients, please visit the CIHR website: www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca

The HIV/AIDS research team lead by University of Manitoba distinguished professor and National Microbiology Laboratory scientific director-general Frank Plummer was honoured last month for his research efforts. The group includes, front row left to right, Kenya-based researcher Joshua Kimani, Blake Ball, medical microbiology and infectious diseases, Plummer, Keith Fowke, medical microbiology and infectious diseases, Ma Luo, medical microbiology and infectious diseases, and students, trainees, technicians and administrative staff from the University of Manitoba and the National Microbiology Laboratory.