Students set to vote in UMSU election

Students will be going to the polls March 1 to 3 to elect their University of Manitoba Students’ Union leaders for 2006-07.

However, the election will have a slightly different look this year. Rather than electing one president and one vice-president, students will vote for the presidential position, four new vice-president positions and five community representative positions. With the nomination period closing on Feb. 10, most of the positions are uncontested, however, students will still get a chance to vote by giving a yes/no vote to the candidate.

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Caitlin Brown, chief returning officer for the UMSU election, noted that while there is only going to be competition for the president and vice-president internal positions, the number of people stepping forward to fill the various positions actually means there will be more people taking part in the process this year – there are simply more positions to get people involved.

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Not often does one have the opportunity to see the importance of the University of Manitoba on the other side of the world. Dr. Digier Jayas, associate vice-president (research) and I have just returned from a trip to India. We were part of the Manitoba trade delegation led by premier Gary Doer that included representatives of the private sector, crown corporations and universities and colleges. But we went a bit earlier than the rest to visit sites where the University of Manitoba has a presence through research and development, and from where it has welcomed students. What we saw is an opportunity that is, in both components of our trip. Manitoba and Canada have identified India as strategically important to national and provincial interests. India is Canada’s largest trading partner in South Asia, second only to Japan, and it is rapidly moving to the forefront of the global economy because it is making major investments in knowledge-intensive sectors of its economy. Further, India knows the value of advanced education, and of research innovations that constitute the building blocks of economic development. I was proud of our premier for articulating several times that education is tied to the key to individual and societal economic advancement, and that a governmental economic strategy requires concurrently an education strategy. This message was certainly appreciated by his Indian audiences, whether they were comprised of representatives of state governments, or economists with PhDs who advise the prime minister of India on economic development.

On this trip I signed six memoranda of understanding to link the University of Manitoba with five Indian universities, and with one pharmaceutical company that seeks to invest in nutraceutical research. Some of these universities are the highly respected, well established ones, such as the Agricultural University in the forefront of the global economy because it is making major investments in knowledge-intensive sectors of its economy. Further, India knows the value of advanced education, and of research innovations that constitute the building blocks of economic development. I was proud of our premier for articulating several times that education is tied to the key to individual and societal economic advancement, and that a governmental economic strategy requires concurrently an education strategy. This message was certainly appreciated by his Indian audiences, whether they were comprised of representatives of state governments, or economists with PhDs who advise the prime minister of India on economic development.

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New external relations office for Bannatyne campus

BY DALE BARBOUR
The Bulletin

No doubt about it, the experiment has been a success.

Not long ago the faculties of Dentistry and Medicine, along with the Manitoba Medical College and the vice-president (external)’s office teamed up to create an external relations team on the Bannatyne campus.

The idea was to have people on site to look after communications, development and alumni services — a move that included moving positions from Fort Garry downtown to Bannatyne. With the initial three-year pilot project over, external relations on Bannatyne has been given ongoing support from the university. Vice-president (external) Elaine Goldie said there’s no question that the project was a success and that External Relations on Bannatyne has earned its place at the University of Manitoba.

The EROB team also has a new place to call home, as they celebrated the opening of their new offices at Brodie Centre on Feb. 10 — a set of offices that locates them right in the heart of the Bannatyne campus.

To that end the university has struck a task force that is looking at everything from communications, to how food services in the residences would be maintained and how the university itself would be maintained and how employees would continue to be paid in the event of a pandemic.

Should a severe pandemic occur in Manitoba, there is the possibility the province would deem it necessary to shut down the university to prevent it from being a transmission point for the influenza virus.

But shutting down the university is a little more complicated than just locking up the doors and walking away. Residence students would still need a place to live and employees would still need to be paid, meaning that some essential services employees would have to remain on campus.

A less dire situation would see the university continue operating through a pandemic, but it would have to deal with staff shortages and the real possibility that some people would be reluctant to report to work because they are worried or because they have to care for ill family members.

In both scenarios, the university would also play a critical role in educating people in how to minimize the spread of the influenza virus.

In the event of a worldwide pandemic, the World Health Organization would act as information central and make announcements about the pandemic. Provincial and city health departments would take the lead if a pandemic strain of the flu made it to Manitoba, but the U of M is already working with government departments and businesses to coordinate their efforts.

If a contagious and severe strain of the influenza virus emerges, it could take up to three months to sweep around the world, according to Manitoba Health.

Pandemic influenza is different from the ordinary flu that comes around every winter. For a flu virus to cause a pandemic it must be a new strain, meaning that people don’t have a built-up immunity. It causes illness in a high number of infected people, and it spreads from person to person. During the peak of a pandemic, absenteeism could range hit 35 per cent.

The university is hoping to have a full action plan in place by the summer.

University is creating influenza pandemic plan

The University of Manitoba is in the midst of laying out a detailed plan to outline what it would do in the event of an influenza pandemic.

“We hope that we never have to deal with an influenza outbreak,” vice-president (administration) Debbie McCallum said. “But if an outbreak does occur we will have an action plan in place that can be used in the event of other emergencies or disasters.”

The influenza pandemic plan will build on the university’s existing emergency plan with more operational details.

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University Roundup

With Canadians living longer and more people getting divorced, the proportion of Canadians who live alone is on the rise. As a result more single older adults are interested in dating — their goal more often than not is companionship.

University of British Columbia

Dating isn’t just for the young anymore.

It’s a matter of physics

The University of Western Ontario is considering a campus that would move its support services out of the centre of its main campus to free up space for academic use. The plan would involve building a new $27 million Support Services Building to house human resources, physical plant, Research Western and other services. The move would allow the vacated buildings in the core of the campus to be renovated and turned into academic space.

University of Manitoba

For a year everyone was in a state of flux at the end of the three-year pilot program with a new communications person added but no central office for all of them.

Margaret Dankowski from the Aboriginal Community Campus tries out the department of physics display during Info Days 2006. Held Feb. 14 and 15, Info Days gives high school students and other interested groups a window into what goes on at the university and what programs are available.

From left, Dentistry dean Johann de Vries, vice-president (external) Elaine Goldie, and Medicine dean Dean Sandham cut a rather colourful ribbon to open the new External Relations on Bannatyne office on Feb. 10.

Until the move into the new office, people had been scattered between dentistry and medicine.

“The whole office is doing a better job,” Goldie said. “This puts our communications people in a centralized area where everyone can find them when they come to the campus,” Medicine dean Dean Sandham agreed.

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Dating isn’t just for the young anymore.
A Day in the Life of an exam coordinator

BY DALE BARBOUR
The Bulletin

Imagine directing traffic in a city with 945 streets and over 50,000 drivers – and you’re the only traffic officer.

Examination coordinator Debbie Monaghan’s job is a little bit like that. But instead of streets she’s dealing with 945 courses and instead of drivers she’s working with University of Manitoba students and staff.

The trick is making sure all of those students have a place to write their exams and aren’t stuck with a schedule that has them writing two exams at the same time or three exams in a row.

“First thing I do is to make sure there is a place to write exams,” Monaghan said. “Data sheets are sent out to all the departments listing every course they offer and asking them to check off whether there will be an exam, how long it will be or whether the department will be managing the exam itself.” Professors do occasionally shepherd their students through the exam process themselves, but typically those situations only occur when there’s a small class.

Once the information comes in, Monaghan’s job should be simple – just type the data into, proofread it and let the computer do the rest, punching out a schedule that does all of the courses and all of the students that have to write them. But with 945 courses and 51,840 exam writers in April alone – keeping in mind that most students write more than one exam – things are never that simple. The computer can make a schedule, but it’s up to Monaghan to ensure that schedule makes sense.

“We try to do as many exams as we can at the front of the schedule,” Monaghan said. In particular, the university tries to stack the larger courses at the front of the schedule, it helps the professors get their marking done by the end of the exam schedule and helps students get off campus and on to jobs or vacations as soon as possible.

The schedule has to avoid conflicts, but Monaghan says she goes one step further by requiring the schedule to avoid having students write three exams in a row and limit the number of students who have to write four exams over the course of two days or five exams over the course of three days.

All of those requests are punched into the system before Monaghan tells the computer to produce a schedule. Inevitably the question isn’t whether there will have to be tintering with the schedule but rather just how much tintering there will have to be.

“It’s never run clean,” Monaghan said. “I always have to go back and make some changes.”

Sometimes a conflict is unavoidable, in which case Monaghan gets involved directly by playing host for the student while he or she writes the exam.

The schedule can be tweaked in other ways: “People can petition to have an exam moved, but it’s very rarely done. All of the class has to agree to have the exam moved and the professor and the dean have to approve the move,” Monaghan said. In the rare cases a move is made, it’s usually in a small class for the obvious reason that it’s more difficult to get 300 people to sign off on a change than it is to get a dozen people.

Of course, scheduling the exams is just part of Monaghan’s job. She also has to find rooms for students to write the exams in and ensure that all of the exam tables are numbered appropriately. The exams are printed, packaged and distributed through her office. Confidence and Monaghan’s job also extends to the exams written off campus, so if a distance education student is writing an exam in Flin Flon, for example, Monaghan is involved with setting up the exam site and making sure the exam arrives at the exam site on time.

She originally signed on with the university part time in 1984 as a data entry clerk – back then, course choices were filled out manually by students and then given to a university employee to punch into the system. She soon moved up to be the exam coordinator’s assistant and then took on the top job herself.

“An interesting job because you get to know everyone on campus – from physical plant workers setting up an exam room, to students, to professors picking up their exams for distribution,” Monaghan said.

University of Manitoba. This season, there are 14 Bison men hockey players (six more will be announced at the end of the season) and four Bison women hockey player awarded based on exhibited superior athletic ability coupled with good academic standing and high level of leadership as a full-time student.

Men Paul Deniset, Jame Bowhayko, Chris Falloon, Billy Flett, Eric Fronstad, Dustin Hughes, Jared Lang, Warren McCutcheon, Kevin Saurette, Rob Smith, Aaron Starr, Krister Toews, Mike Van Die Bosch, Tim Weleminich
Women Leeanne Kisil, Stephanie Messenger, Amanda Schnell, Sarah Stebeleski

The Mike Ridley Awards were established in 1990 to honour the university’s first Bison hockey player to have his jersey retired. Ridley’s number seven hangs from the rafters of Max Bell Arena and was officially retired on Jan. 26, 2004.

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The following people are recipients of the 2005-06 Mike Ridley Awards

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Dentistry lends expertise to Children’s Museum

BY RENÉE BARCLAY

The Faculty of Dentistry and the Manitoba Dental Association (MDA) have teamed up with the Manitoba Children’s Museum to make oral health fun for kids.

The faculty and the MDA are sponsoring a traveling exhibit at the museum to provide a historical look at toothbrushes and ignite children’s curiosity about the importance of the oral hygiene.

The Branches, Bristles and Batteries: Toothbrushes Through Time exhibit features five interactive displays that illustrate the evolution of the toothbrush with samples dating back 4,000 years. Kids learn how to brush away plaque and identify healthy snacks, and a virtual station introduces Brushella the tooth fairy who helps children design toothbrushes.

The exhibit, which runs until April 30, kicked off with a preview night on Feb. 2. Members of the faculty, the MDA and other guests toured the exhibit following a reception and speeches.

“This exhibit makes oral health care both interesting and fun. With this display, children can become familiar with oral health,” said Lori Stephen James, president of the MDA. “As dentists, we are concerned with the overall oral health of children. We want them to treat it as a regular part of their daily routine.”

(The exhibit) shows there is more to dentistry than discomfort and anxiety when you go to the dental office,” echoed Randy Mazurat, associate dean (academic), Faculty of Dentistry.

The traveling exhibit comes from the Dr. Samuel D. Harris National Museum of Dentistry in Baltimore, Maryland, and Dr. Mazurat was instrumental in bringing it to Canada for the first time.

“They are extremely pleased that this exhibit is here in Canada,” he said.

For information, contact the Manitoba Children’s Museum at 924-4000 or visit www.childrensmuseum.com.

Now that’s a mouthful of teeth, Nita Mazurat checks out the Branches, Bristles and Batteries: Toothbrushes Through Time exhibit now on at the Children’s Museum.

This university loves learning

The university’s computer science co-op program asked University of Manitoba faculty, staff, students and friends to take part in an online Valentine’s Day survey that invited participants to share their love for learning. All of the responses have been published online at www.umanitoba.ca.

The illiterate of the 21st century will be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn - Alvin Toffler.

This quote says it all.

I love to learn because it gives me a sense of accomplishment.

I developed my love for learning through the magic of Sesame Street.

I love to learn because the world is full of wonders, some of which are readily apparent (like Van Gogh, or Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony, or Stonehenge), and some of which only become apparent after careful study (like prime numerals, or quarks, or mitosis). Learning helps to reveal these wonders, and these wonders – kind of like fractals – always unfold into more wonders, more questions, more answers, in a joyful infinite regression.

Was there a particular person who inspired my love of learning? Yes, Malcolm X, who transformed himself from a petty crook into one of the most eloquent and powerful and politically-aware speakers of the twentieth century.

As for the beginning or ending of learning, there isn’t really any such thing. Every ending is a new beginning, a new path on the journey of learning.

Sir Francis Bacon once said “Knowledge is power”. That’s why I choose to constantly learn. To become more powerful then ever before! *insert evil laugh*

I think I always had a thirst for knowledge (though I certainly let myself be distracted by other things for the first year or so of university). I always wanted to know how things worked and this is a fundamental for wanting to learn in my case. My learning has come in many forms – books, lectures, hands-on and I find that they really complement one another. There is something incredibly satisfying about figuring out a hard problem and/or a clever solution. Its hard but fun and the end result is very worthwhile!

Advertise in The Bulletin, for details call 474 8111

CRC Tier II Research Chair

Modeling Sustainable Agricultural Production Systems

The University of Manitoba is seeking applications or nominations for a Canada Research Chair www.chairs.gc.ca established by the Government of Canada to enable Canadian universities to foster world-class research excellence. The University’s Strategic Research Plan http://umanitoba.ca/admin/vp_research/strategyplan_current.pdf includes a Tier II Chair in the area of Modeling of Sustainable Agricultural Production Systems. Women are particularly encouraged to apply or to be nominated.

Candidates must be established scholars with demonstrated potential for becoming world leaders in their research area. They should have a strong commitment to conducting interdisciplinary research and the ability to develop a stimulating research environment which will attract excellent graduate and post- doctoral students. The candidate must possess a Ph.D. in a relevant discipline, such as animal, plant or soil science, biosystems/agricultural engineering, environmental science/engineering. The candidate should possess expertise in systems modeling with a good understanding of animal and crop production processes, and have five to 10 years of research experience, with a publication and national funding record that demonstrates an active and recognized program in biological systems modeling. Experience in teaching and mentoring graduate students and postdoctoral fellows is expected.

The initial appointment will be tenure-track at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor with limited undergraduate teaching responsibilities. Rank and salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Progression through the ranks is dependent on performance. http://umanitoba.ca/admin/human_resources/academic/umffa_salary_schedule.html.

The Tier II Chair in Modeling Sustainable Agricultural Production Systems (MSAPS) will focus on modeling the advanced research and technical work required to develop new knowledge in ecosystem processes (physical, chemical and biological) in order to identify solutions that will lead to sustainable agricultural production practices in Canada. Large areas of land in Canada have been substantially transformed by intensive animal agriculture and a mix of cropping and grazing systems. In the Prairies, an economically important and expanding pig production industry requires safeguarding of the environment to prevent nutrient and pathogen transfer, antibiotic resistance, and effects on air and water quality. This position will allow the University of Manitoba to provide national leadership through the integration of research efforts to develop agricultural production systems that are ecologically and environmentally sustainable.

The Canada Research Chair in MSAPS will have a key role in representing the University on provincial, national and international committees in the area of sustainable agricultural production systems, as well as a strong internal role in building and maintaining collaborations within the university.

This new position has been created as part of the University of Manitoba’s initiative in the creation of the National Centre for Livestock and the Environment (NCLE) with the vision of an integrated research approach applied to the development of sustainable livestock systems. www.umanitoba.ca/afs/ncle NCLE was established with a $8.8 million award from the Canadian Foundation for Innovation, in partnership with the province of Manitoba.

The University of Manitoba is located in Winnipeg, a cosmopolitan city with a population over 650,000. Winnipeg is a culturally diverse community and is known for its variety of summer and winter festivals. The city has all the facilities of a major centre, but with the atmosphere of a small, friendly city. It provides a high quality of life at modest expense and offers access to some of the most beautiful lake country and recreational facilities in North America. The public education system is very good, and a wide variety of private schools are also available. The City of Winnipeg website is www.city.winnipeg.mb.ca.

The University of Manitoba encourages applications from qualified women and men, including members of visible minorities, Aboriginal peoples, and persons with disabilities. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply, however Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.

Review of applications will begin on May 1, 2006 and will continue until the position is filled. All Chairs are subject to review and final approval by the CRC Secretariat.

Applications for position 05748, including a brief description of a 5-7 year research plan, curriculum vitae and the names and contact information of three referees, should be sent to:

The Dean’s Office, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences Room 256, Agriculture Building University of Manitoba Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2N2 danwilson@umanitoba.ca

Application materials, including letters of reference, will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (Manitoba).

University of Manitoba encourages applications from qualified women and men, including members of visible minorities, Aboriginal peoples, and persons with disabilities. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply, however Canadian and permanent residents will be given priority. Applications for position 05748, including a brief description of a 5-7 year research plan, curriculum vitae and the names and contact information of three referees, should be sent to:

The Dean’s Office, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences Room 256, Agriculture Building University of Manitoba Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2N2 danwilson@umanitoba.ca

Application materials, including letters of reference, will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (Manitoba).
Researchers break for a hockey night in Nairobi

BY DALE BARBOUR
The Bulletin

Now here's a road trip the Winnipeg Jets never had a chance to make.

The team behind the University of Manitoba-led HIV/AIDS research project in Nairobi, Kenya stepped away from their annual retreat in Nairobi this month and into a skating rink for a quick game of hockey.

That's right, hockey in the heart of Africa.

The story was detailed by Ben Singer in the Winnipeg Free Press earlier this month. The skating rink, perched on the third floor of a new mall and hotel complex, is the first of its kind Nairobi. All that was missing for a quick game of pickup hockey among the research team were skates for everyone.

University of Manitoba professor Keith Fowke came through on that end with some skates donated by his local church, Westminster United, and others purchased from a local thrift store. The Dakota Community Centre sharpened the skates for free.

The game was played during an annual retreat in Nairobi, allowing Fowke and other researchers who normally spend most of their time in Winnipeg to get together with their colleagues on the ground in Nairobi. United Nations workers and a contingent of people from Nairobi joined in the game.

“It was fun,” Fowke said. “It was pretty surreal. You travel to the hotel along the Mombasa Road. You can often see zebras walking by the road and there are palm trees growing along it. Then you go up to the hotel and they have a skating rink.”

The rink was built with skating in mind rather than hockey, so while they were playing Fowke said hotel staff even came out to watch and see what the game was all about.

The Winnipeg Jets, lead by Fowke and colleagues from Winnipeg, ended up beating the World Team 4-3. The skates Fowke collected will stay in Nairobi for the use of colleagues and locals.

While ice hockey is certainly a novelty in Nairobi, the local players still had a notion of what skating and the game is all about. Field hockey is popular in Kenya and many of the locals play in-line hockey.

The University of Manitoba has been working in Kenya since the 1980s in an effort to provide vital new information for HIV vaccine and drug development.

Take time out to read in University Centre

Join in the 24-hour Freedom to Read Marathon from 10 a.m., Thursday, March 2, to 10 a.m., Friday, March 3 in the Fireplace Lounge, University Centre.

It's easy – just sign up for a 10-minute slot at www.umfm.com/events. Then drop by the comfy couch at the Fireside Lounge, University Centre and read. There will be books on hand or people are welcome to bring something from their own collection.

Open House

Come and meet the NRI faculty, students and staff and get information on the Institute and our graduate programs.

March 9, 2006 @ 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Room 320 Sinnott Building
(accessible through St. Paul's College)

Everyone is welcome.

Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

Web Site: www.umanitoba.ca/institutes/natural_resources
A study of Mozart’s life, death and music

Books by University Staff

BY DALE BARBOUR
The Bulletin
Stefan Carter has always had two passions: a professional interest in medicine and a personal interest in music.

While Carter was working, medicine took first chair in his life with a career as a professor at the University of Manitoba and director of the vascular laboratory at St. Boniface Hospital.

But in retirement Carter has taken the time to turn more of his energy to his love of music with, Mozart: A Meditation on His Life and Mysterious Death, published by Heartland Press, being the most dramatic result.

What Carter’s book does is put everything you really need to know about Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart into the palm of your hand.

It’s a small book (the hardcopy comes in under 200 pages) that deals with Mozart’s life and his music. It deals with his experiences as a man and with what his music means to us,” Carter said.

He started researching the book in 1991, inspired by a series of books and events that commemorated the 250th anniversary of Mozart’s death.

Originally, he was just collecting notes for his own interest, but as he gathered more and more information about Mozart and even went so far as to read through the family’s letters, Carter realized he was putting together a book. When he retired a few years ago, the project picked up tempo and Carter said with the 200th anniversary of Mozart’s birth falling this year it seemed like the perfect time to release a new book on the composer. Winnipeg’s Heartland Publishers agreed and helped edit and model the final product.

The book traces nearly all aspects of the composer’s life from a snapshot of the period in which he lived, the Austrian Empire at the end of the end of the 18th century, to the family’s finances, to a look at the composer’s music and what has made its popularity so ageless.

"It is a sobering though that Mozart might have survived had he not been treated by his physicians" Stefan Carter
in Mozart: A Meditation on His Life and Mysterious Death

"After the war, I lived with my uncle Edmund Carter-Rosenbauch, who was one of the best ophthalmologists in Europe, and that led me to become interested in medicine," Carter said. He traveled to Canada in 1948 and acquired a Msc and MD from the University of Manitoba. He went on to postgraduate training in cardiovascular function and vascular disease in Winnipeg, New York and at the Mayo Clinic and then returned to Winnipeg in 1958 to join the Faculty of the University of Manitoba.

It leaves one to wonder whether he might have pursued a career in music himself had the Second World War not stepped in. But that’s not a question Carter spends a great deal of time pondering. He’s maintained his interest in music whether from appreciating it as a listener or playing period instruments such as the recorder or the viola da gamba and more recently trying his hand at the clarinet. To him, music and medicine have always been comfortable bedfellows.

"There has always been a history of music in medicine," Carter said. From ancient times it was used to soothe the agitated patient and it was required training for medical people until 200 or 300 years ago."

MARKS OF ACHIEVEMENT

University of Manitoba Faculty of Architecture graduate Jason Kun was recently awarded Canadian Architect magazine’s Student Award of Excellence for his thesis project entitled AMP. Kun’s project proposed a prima- rily underground performance assembly, and cultural centre in the heart of Winnipeg’s historic exchange district at Old Market Square. It was the culmination of a series of explorations including experimental records, sonic collages, and sound installations that investigated the relationship between sound and architecture.

SWEENEY

Archives/special collections head Shelley Sweeney was appointed secretary-general for the Bureau of Canadian Archivists. Sweeney begins her term effective immediately and her term will continue in this role through June 2007.

BY DALE BARBOUR
The Bulletin
Stefan Carter has made his career in medicine, but his passion for music shows in his new book Mozart: A Meditation on His Life and Mysterious Death.

DANA MEDORO

"Zero at the Bone: Tracking Emily Dickinson’s Animals"
Friday, March 17th, 12:30 pm
449 Tier Building

Dana Medoro is an associate professor of English at the University of Manitoba and the author of The Meaning of America

RICHARD BULLIET

"Hunters, Herders and Hamburgers"
Monday, March 27th, 12:30 pm
Concourse Lounge, University College

Richard Bulliet is a professor of History at Columbia University and the author of seven books of non-fiction, including Hunters, Herdiers, and Hamburgers: The Past and Future of Human-Animal Relationships and The Camel and the Wheel

Sponsored by the Centre for Professional and Applied Ethics & the Institute for the Humanities

Everyone is welcome to attend
The Manitoba Bisons are alive and well in Canadian Interuniversity Sport National competition with playoff victories in basketball, volleyball and hockey.

The women’s hockey team defeated the Regina Cougars in a best-of-three series over the weekend. The Herd will now travel to Edmonton Feb. 24 to 26 to take on the Alberta Pandas in the Canada West final for the second year in a row.

The Bison women’s basketball team swept its best-of-three Canada West Divisional Semi Final series with the Regina Rams and will host Regina the weekend of Feb. 24 to 26.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24
Psychology, LOVE in the care of the Mentally Ill by Michael Elllef, associate professor and medical program director. Schizophrenia Treatment and Education Program (STEP), P412 Duff Roblin Building, 11:30 a.m., Friday, Feb. 24.


Asian Studies, Sexual Segregation and Sexual Attraction: Evidence from Taiwan by Arthur Wolf, professor of anthropological sciences. David and Lucille Packard Foundation Professor in Human Biology, Stanford University, 409 Tier Building, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 24.

As a result of the Herd clinching second place in the Great Plains Division – and the weekend but has clinched second place in the Great Plains Division and will host Regina the weekend of Feb. 24 to 26.

The Herd will face #1 Alberta on Friday, Feb. 24 and then either Trinity Western or Saskatchewan in the Bronze or Gold medal game on Feb. 25. All four teams have already clinched a berth in the 2006 CIS National Championship being held March 3 to 5 at McMaster University.

Meanwhile, the men’s hockey team had the conference bye over the weekend but has clinched second place in the Great Plains Division and will host Regina the weekend of Feb. 24 to 26.

Thursday, February 23
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23
Psychology PhD Oral Examination, Sociocultural Influences on Body Image Discrepancy Experiences and Psychological Well-Being in Canadian School Age Boys and Girls by Susan Buchanan, psychology, P412 Duff Roblin Building, 1 p.m., Thursday, February 23.

Microbiology, Everything you wanted to know about methanogenesis but were afraid to ask by Patrick Chong, PhD seminar, 527 Bellringer Building, 5:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 23.

Asian Studies, Practice Makes Perfect? Chinese Market Management Strategies by the Centuries by Hill Gates, professor emeritus, Central Michigan University, 409 Tier Building, 409 Tier Building, 2:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 23.


J.B. Rudnicky Distinguished Lecture, Worlds Apart? Life and Literature in Today’s Ukraine by Andrei Kurkov, novelist, screenwriter, and journalist. Kyiv, Ukraine, Cross Commons Room at St. John’s College, 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 23.

Thinking Out Loud Book Discussion, Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed by Jared Diamond with CBC’s Terry MacLeod as moderator and University of Manitoba faculty members Leslie King, dean, Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of the Environment, Earth and Resources and Tim Schroeder, philosophy, leading the discussion. McNally Robinson Booksellers, Grant Park Mall, 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 23.

Bison Sports

MEN’S HOCKEY
Feb. 24 – Canada West Quarter Finals, Manitoba vs. Regina, Max Bell, 7 p.m.
Feb. 26 – Canada West Quarter Finals, Manitoba vs. Regina, Max Bell, 7 p.m.
Feb. 27 – Canada West Quarter Finals, Manitoba vs. Regina, Max Bell, 7 p.m.

MEN’S VOLLEYBALL
Feb. 24 – Canada West Playoffs, Edmonton.
March 5-6 – CIS Championships, Hamilton.

WOMEN’S HOCKEY
Feb. 24-26 – Canada West Finals, Alberta.
March 9-12 – CIS Championship, Antigonish, N.S.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
Feb. 23 – Canada West Division Final, Manitoba at Winnipeg, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 24 – Canada West Division Final, Manitoba at Winnipeg, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 25 – Canada West Division Final, Manitoba at Winnipeg, 7:30 p.m. (if necessary).
March 3-4 – Canada West Final Four, TBA.
March 9-12 – CIS Championship, Fredericton, N.B.

TRACK AND FIELD
March 3-4 – Boeing Indoor Classic, Max Bell, All Day.

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.

Fort Garry Campus

Bison teams continue playoff run

The Manitoba Bisons are alive and well in Canadian Interuniversity Sport National competition with playoff victories in basketball, volleyball and hockey.

The women’s hockey team defeated the Regina Cougars in a best-of-three series over the weekend. The Herd will now travel to Edmonton Feb. 24 to 26 to take on the Alberta Pandas in the Canada West final for the second year in a row.

The Bison women’s basketball team swept its best-of-three Canada West Divisional Semi Final series with the Regina Rams and will host Regina the weekend of Feb. 24 to 26.

The #4 ranked Bison men’s volleyball team also swept its best-of-three Canada West Quarter Final series with the #5 ranked UBC Thunderbirds. The Herd will face #1 Alberta on Friday, Feb. 24 and then either Trinity Western or Saskatchewan in the Bronze or Gold medal game on Feb. 25. All four teams have already clinched a berth in the 2006 CIS National Championship being held March 3 to 5 at McMaster University.

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www.umanitoba.ca/bisons/
Global Violence, Global Justice

The Centre for Defence and Security Studies in conjunction with the department of sociology is hosting the Global Violence, Global Justice Conference at the Hotel Fort Garry on Feb. 24 to 25 in the Lavarendye Room. The conference is designed to examine in detail the causes, consequences, and responses to genocide and related atrocities in the world. The conference brings together experts on genocide from across Canada and the United States to examine Rwanda, Cambodia, the Balkans and the various tribunals constructed in response. The keynote address will be given by Hans von Sponeck, the former United Nations humanitarian coordinator for Iraq.

The conference is open to the public. For information contact the Centre for Defence and Security Studies at 474 6472 or visit www.umanitoba.ca/centres/defence.

Arts & Entertainment

Faculty of Music
The Faculty of Music hosts recitals and performances at Fort Garry Hall, located within the Faculty of Music building on Dafoe Road. Recitals and events are free unless otherwise noted.

Music Events

Student Jazz Ensemble, Music 'N Mavens, The Ready Centre, 125 Doncaster St. 12 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 25.

Gender Performance Competition, Final Round, 7 p.m., Friday, Feb. 24.

U of M Jazz Faculty Concert, Centre culturel franco-manitobain, 540 Provencher Blvd., 8 p.m., Friday, Feb. 24.

Third Year Voic Recital, Holly Irwinink, 8 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 25.

Music at Midday, New Music Compositions, 12:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 26.


Music at Midday, Brass Chamber Recitals, 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 1.

Grad Recital, Joel Kwiatkowski, jazz trumpet, 8 p.m., Wednesday, March 1. Music at Midday, Electroacoustic Course Recital, 12-30 p.m., Friday, March 5.

Grad Recital, Sarah Halmarson, voice, 8 p.m., Friday, March 3.

Gallery One on One

Gallery One One One is located on the main floor of the FitzGerald Building. It is open Monday to Friday, noon to 8 p.m.

February 16

Curated by Cliff Eyland

February 9 to March 10

The group, “20” or “Two Sicks” or “Twenty-Six” or “Too-sick” – there are endless variations – includes Cyrus Smith, David Wittyk, Shaun Morin, Melanie Rocan, Ian August, Fred Thomas, DJ Brace (Mike Topf) and guests. Except for Fred Thomas and DJ Brace. 26ers are all recent graduates from the University of Manitoba’s School of Art in Winnipeg.

Dr. Paul H.T. Thorlakson Gallery

The Iceland Reading Room, Elizabeth Dafoe Library, University of Manitoba Gallery hours: Mon. - Fri. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 25, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m., Sunday, March 5, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Music at Midday, Sarah Halmarson, voice, 8 p.m., Friday, March 3.

Joel Kwiatkowski, jazz trumpet, 8 p.m., Wednesday, March 1.

Grad Recital, Cliff Eyland

An Extraordinary Richness

The Works of Jacques Hinzdovsk

February 3 to March 5

The exhibition marks the twentieth anniversary of the untimely death of Jacques Hinzdovsk (1915 - 1985). It also recognizes the new Archives of the Ukrainian Canadian Experience, and the Slavic Collection, now in its 57th year.

Monday, March 5

Sarah Halmarson, voice, 8 p.m., Friday, March 3.

Joel Kwiatkowski, jazz trumpet, 8 p.m., Wednesday, March 1.

Electroacoustic Course Recital, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 24.

UIPPEd Lecture Series, 1:30 p.m., Thursday, March 2.

February 26

U of M Jazz Faculty Concert, Centre culturel franco-manitobain, 540 Provencher Blvd., 8 p.m., Friday, Feb. 24.

The group, “20” or “Two Sicks” or “Twenty-Six” or “Too-sick” – there are endless variations – includes Cyrus Smith, David Wittyk, Shaun Morin, Melanie Rocan, Ian August, Fred Thomas, DJ Brace (Mike Topf) and guests. Except for Fred Thomas and DJ Brace. 26ers are all recent graduates from the University of Manitoba’s School of Art in Winnipeg.

St. John’s College

St. John’s host events in its Quiet Room Gallery, Room 111. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Friday but please contact 474 9551 to confirm.

Dreaming of Birds

by Anna Smith

February 9 to March 23

Ann Smith was born in Vancouver, British Columbia. She holds a bachelor of fine arts (honours) degree from the University of Manitoba and currently resides and works in winnipeg, Manitoba. In Dreaming of Birds, Smith deals with fantastical imagery and an abundance of colour in order to evoke emotion. Animals often populate these mysterious environments and are found existing harmoniously with the people that are also present. The show will include approximately nine works that employ various mediums such as prinrinking, collage, watercolour and handmade paper.

Benet Concert

2 p.m., Sunday, February 26

The Chamber Orchestra at St John’s College will present a concert in honor of the 250th anniversary of Mozart’s birth. The concert will raise funds for the new Lecture Theatre at St John’s College. Admission: $10 adults, $5 students, children free; College Chapel, St. John’s College.

The Black Hole Theatre

The Black Hole Theatre is located in the lower level of University College. For tickets call 474 6880. All performances take place at 8 p.m. Tickets are $11 for adults, $9 for students.
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8
Native Studies, Self-Determination in Health: A Road to Community Wellness/ A Critical Look at Island Lake’s Eveniment: Model of Health Service Delivery by Debbie Grimes, Native studies MA candidate, 307 Tier Building, 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 8.

Institute for the Humanities: New Faculty UMH Affiliates Colloquium: Nineteenth-Century German Rabbis and Preachers and the Feminine Spirit of Judaism by Helga Baader, history and Social Strife (Finah) and the Anxiety of Exile in Eleventh-Century Shiraz by Elizabeth ALEXANDRIN, religion, 209 Tier Building, 2:45 p.m., Wednesday, March 8.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9
Natural Resources Institute Open House, 320 Sinnott Building, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., Thursday, March 9.

Plant Science: Bendelow Memorial Lectureship Advanced Seminar Series, Plant Health: Foundations for sustainable wheat-based cropping systems by R. James Cook, Endowed Chair in Wheat Research, erwado State University, Bendelow Memorial Lecturer, JRI Lecture Theatre 172 Agriculture Building, 3:30 p.m., Thursday, March 9.

Microbiology, Bacteriophage therapy: a new spin on an old "tail" by Crystal Berry, 527 Buller Building, 3:30 p.m., Thursday, March 9.

St John’s College’s 24th annual Marjorie Ward Lecture, Talking to the Dead: The lingual biography by Gray, author and historian, St John’s College Chapel, 8 p.m., Thursday, March 9.

Math, Max Gunzburger, editor-in-chief of SIAM Journal of Numerical Analysis and director of the school of computational science and distinguished professor Florida State University, will deliver lectures on March 9 and 10. For more details contact Prof. B Guo, 474 6488 or e-mail guo@cc.umanitoba.ca

FRIDAY, MARCH 10
Animals and Us: Rights, Responsibilities, Relationships Lecture Series, Noah’s Art: Ways in our Relations with Other Animals by Lesli Bisgould, Canada’s first and only full-time animal rights lawyer, College, 12:30 p.m., Friday, March 10.

Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources, Transportation Demand Management in Winnipeg by Serge Lacroix, Resource Conservation Ontario, 221 Wallace Building, 2:30 p.m., Friday, March 3.

Economics, Institutional Change in the Long-Run: The Ottoman Empire and France During the Early-Modern Period by Noel Johnson, California State University - Long Beach, 307 Tier Building, 2:40 p.m., Friday, March 3.

Biological Seminar Series, Environmental influences on diet ratio, a punitive indicator of CNS malaculization by Peter Hurd, assistant professor, psychology, University of Alberta, 2:01 Duff Roblin Building, 3 p.m., Friday, March 3.

Robin Connor Lectureship in the History and Philosophy of Science, “The Spade Was to Take up the Roots”: Colonialism and Traditional Root Cultivation in British Columbia by Nancy J. Turner, School of Environmental Studies, University of Victoria, 209 Tier Building, 3:45 p.m., Thursday, March 3.

SUNDAY, MARCH 12
Classics, Art and War at the Achaemenid Court by Michael Roaf, University of Manchester, 307 Tier Building, 12:30 p.m., Sunday, March 12.
Providing a full-service ‘micro-machine shop’

By Frank Nolan, Research Promotion Officer

If your research requires custom made micro-devices with features ranging from tens of nanometers to several microns in size, look no further than the Faculty of Engineering’s Nano-Systems Fabrication Laboratory (NSFL). This state-of-the-art lab can fabricate everything from simple silicon wafers coated with a microthin layer of gold, to complex micro-machines or finely etched glass plates for DNA separations.

"This is a common-use university facility, and we encourage anyone who can make use of our services to do so," said NSFL director Cyrus Shafai, electrical and computer engineering. Shafai recently described the lab’s capabilities to researchers at the Bannatyne Campus as part of the "Thai Lunch Hour Has 33 Minutes lecture series. His sold-out presentation highlighted the wide range of high-precision devices the NSFL can produce.

"It’s very much like a machine shop, only here we make very fine structures," he said. "What we make really depends on what you want to use it for."

The facility is completely self-contained, producing its own purified water onsite, as well as nitrogen gas for vacuum systems and for cleaning the materials used. The fabrication equipment is housed in a "clean room" that closely resembles a bio-safety lab, right down to the protective clothing worn by the researchers. The major difference, Shafai said, is that the clothing worn by personnel in a bio-safety lab is usually meant to protect the researchers, whereas, hands and boots required in the NSFL clean room are designed to protect the equipment from any dust and dirt that people might bring in.

Fabrication in the lab involves several basic steps: coating, lithography and etching.

"It starts with the base material you want to use, which is then coated with whatever you need for your particular device," Shafai said. "Right now, the coatings we’re working with are silicon and metals, including gold, titanium, chrome, copper, molybdenum and aluminum. This summer, we’ll be adding new equipment to enable silicon dioxide, silicon nitride and spin-coated polymer coatings."

Once the material is coated, lithography is used to create the desired pattern and the unwanted parts are etched out using acid or gas.

"It’s identical to the way computer chips are made," Shafai said. "Over the last 20 years or so, people began asking, why can’t we do this to make mechanical parts? That’s how the whole area of micro-machines really developed."

The financial implications of political uncertainty

By Frank Nolan, Research Promotion Officer

Researchers at the I.H. Asper School of Business have found that political uncertainty can have a significant effect on a company’s market value.

In a recent study, Janet and Cameron Morrill, accounting and finance, found that firms headquartered in Quebec traded at an average of 12 per cent less than comparable firms based elsewhere in Canada. Their research was published last year in the Journal of International Financial Management and Accounting.

"What it comes down to is that the political uncertainty in Quebec appears to cause firms headquartered there to be perceived as a riskier investment," Janet said.

The project grew out of a discussion the Morrills had with Oregon State University professor Roger Graham, who worked with them on the research.

"Roger had seen a newspaper article that said the Quebec government had blocked a takeover of a Quebec firm by one from outside the province, and he was wondering if that kind of political climate might lower the value of companies located there," Janet said. "Having lived in Quebec, we understood political uncertainty, and even though it was outside of our current research, we thought it was an interesting idea and began to look into it.

In addition to discovering that Quebec-based firms traded at a discount, they also found that the discount itself tended to vary over time.

"As political uncertainty becomes bigger, the gap tends to become wider," Cameron said. "For example, after the 1995 sovereignty referendum that was narrowly won by the federalist side, we found that the difference in value between Quebec firms and those headquartered elsewhere in Canada became much smaller."

After their paper was published, the Morrills began to investigate the implications of their findings from an accounting perspective. They thought that information about where a firm operates, such as where its sales occur, and where its facilities are located, might be relevant for firm valuation.

"Our first paper established that, at least in Canada where there are regions that have political uncertainty, it’s relevant to know where a firm’s headquarters are," Cameron said. "Our second paper considers where the operations are, particularly where the sales and employees are located."

We wanted to know whether that information helps to understand how the market is valuing those firms."

Their second paper examined how specific geographic information about a firm’s operations affected its stock market value. They compared the market valuation effects of assets and revenues of Quebec-based firms with those in the same industry that were located outside of Quebec. They found that firms with the highest activity in Quebec tended to be valued lower, even after taking into account the location of corporate headquarters. The results imply that moving corporate headquarters out of Quebec, as many companies did in the late 1970’s, might not be enough to insulate the firm’s value from the effects of Quebec’s political uncertainty.

In November, 2005, the second paper won the Vernon Zimmerman Best Paper Award at the 17th Annual Asian-Pacific Conference on International Accounting Issues.
Working with India

The University of Manitoba has signed new agreements with five post-secondary institutions in India and one of the country’s leading pharmaceutical companies.

The memorandum of agreement signed by the University of Manitoba and Alkem Laboratories Limited aims to increase collaborative research in the area of functional foods and nutraceuticals. The memorandum signing took place during the province of Manitoba’s recent trade mission to India. The U of M was one of the key participants in the trade mission.

Alkem, headquartered in Mumbai, is one of the ten largest and fastest-growing pharmaceutical companies in India, with exports to nearly 50 countries, and a product line that ranges from treatments for Parkinson’s disease, diabetes, cancer, and Alzheimer’s, to orthopedics and nutraceuticals.

The new agreement will further discussions about research collaborations between Alkem scientists and those at the University of Manitoba. Potential collaborations could include research related to the identification and evaluation of plant-based compounds for use in natural health products, the development of new extraction and production technologies for plant-based bioactive agents, and investigations related to the development and consumer acceptance of natural health and functional food products.

“Manitoba scientists are recognized leaders in the field of functional foods and nutraceuticals,” said Joanne Keselman, vice-president (research). “The collaborative research that could grow out of this new agreement with Alkem would have a significant positive impact, not only in terms of the economic benefits it would bring to Manitoba and India, but also in terms of the health benefits it could potentially deliver to the people of Canada, India and the world.”

The University has also signed new agreements with five post-secondary institutions in India designed to facilitate research collaboration and exchanges of students and staff. Signed in India between Feb. 10 and Feb. 15, the agreements are with:

- The University of Agricultural Sciences in Bangalore
- Guru Jambheshwar University in Hisar
- Dr. Mahalingam College of Engineering & Technology (MCET) in Pollachi
- Ritnand Balved International Education Foundation (Amity Institute) in Noida
- G. B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology in Pantnagar

With further discussions, the agreements with MCET and Amity Institute also have the potential to develop “two-plus-two” programs which would allow students to complete their first two years of training in India and then their final two years at the University of Manitoba.