Science students Itaru Nishimura and Rong Rong Mao helped plant flowers in front of Machray Hall on Campus Beautification Day, May 25.

Making the U of M more beautiful

Equipped with rakes, shovels, gardening tools and a wholehearted desire to beautify the university, hundreds of faculty, staff, students and guests participated in the University of Manitoba’s ninth annual Campus Beautification Day on May 25.

Highlights included a tree-planting ceremony for Horst Frank, who retired in 1998 after 34 years of service in physical plant.

Frank was one of the principal organizers of the original Campus Beautification Day nine years ago.

Works crews were busy across the Fort Garry and Bannatyne campuses and lunch on the Quadrangle was also a welcome part of the day, not just for the first-class food provided by Aramark but also for the giveaway of ‘door’ prizes.

For a look at Campus Beautification Day check out Page 8 or go online to umanitoba.ca/beautification/.

Discover Africa

BY DALE BARBOUR
The Bulletin

Africa is a godforsaken mess. Don’t believe it? Just pick up a newspaper or turn on the news on any given day and check the headlines.

In fact, according to former Tanzanian president Benjamin William Mkapa, the news media would have it no other way – something pointed out to him and other African leaders at a recent colloquium focused on the negative image of Africa.

“A renowned former Africa correspondent for major print and electronic media in those countries admitted that editors were not interested in news stories which did not portray an African apocalypse,” Mkapa said.

“Those that were readily published and presented had to conform to an Africa with 4 Ds – deaths, diseases, disasters and despair.”

Mkapa was at the University of Manitoba on May 15 to deliver a public lecture on the changing face of African politics. Mkapa’s goal was two-fold: to show why Africa has had its share of challenges and to demonstrate that there are positive developments happening.

Africa’s period of colonial rule has left a stamp on the still young nations, Mkapa said.

“Whether we like it or not and whether the former colonial powers want to admit it or not, what most of those in leadership positions in Africa are, has roots in this colonial past,” Mkapa said.

The concept of an “African Big Man” – and Zaire’s Mobutu was one example – is often used to vilify African leadership. But as Mkapa noted what was a British governor if not a “big man” responsible for distributing leadership, patronage and rank.

See MKAPA/P 2.
Mkapa challenges stereotypes that surround Africa

From Page 1

"The experience that the first group of post-colonial leaders had of leadership was precisely that: leadership was about being the fountain of honour and the distributor of patronage and rank," Mkapa said. "That Africa ended up with "Big Men" at the state house is not entirely unrelated to this colonial legacy.

Add to that legacy borders that reflected European interests rather than African interests and a colonial education system that cared little for educating the next generation of leaders.

In the first years of the post-colonial era, Mkapa said European powers were often concerned with ensuring that African leaders were capable to their wishes, regardless of what that meant for the African population. The Cold War only aggravated the situation with Western and Eastern powers more concerned with African loyalty to their respective camps than the quality of the leadership.

"Proof, if any was needed, that this was indeed the case is that after the end of the Cold War in the early 1990s, the spectre of military coups began to disappear from the African continent," Mkapa said.

Mkapa noted that Africa, divided into 53 countries, is recognized as the need for regional cooperation. Groups such as the Southern African Development Community, which counts over a dozen member countries, are going beyond merely encouraging economic cooperation to mandating political tolerance, voter education and regular intervals for election.

By steps, the system is working, Mkapa said.

"In almost all African countries, not only in Southern Africa, each subsequent election, if not perfect, is still much better organized and better managed than the previous ones." But again, when journalists head to Africa to cover an election, the story of voters calmly going to the polls doesn’t have as much news appeal as one featuring riots.

Similar achievements are being made in the resolution of many, though not all, regional conflicts and 25 countries that signed the Constituent Act of the African Union have even gone so far as to offer to have their work towards good governance reviewed by their peers. On the gender front, African countries have made an effort to ensure that women are represented in government.

"I am not in any way suggesting that the face of African politics and governance is all radiance," Mkapa said. "There are still tragic cases such as Somalia."

But things are improving and have changed significantly in the past decade. The trick now is to get that story out.

"Those who really care about Africa have to make an extra effort to understand and then objectively assess," Mkapa said. "Do not look for the changing face of African politics in the media. Good news on Africa does not sell."

Board of Governors passes 2006/07 operating budget

BY DALE BARBOUR

The Bulletin

The University of Manitoba Board of Governors approved the university’s 2006/07 $410,222,04 operating budget at its May 25 meeting.

The operating budget draws $150,082,902 from tuition and various other student fees, $231,171,654 from the provincial Council on Post Secondary Education grant and various other provincial grants and about $75 million from various federal grants, the sale of goods and services, investment income and ancillary services, such as parking.

While the provincial CPSE grant increased 5.8 per cent this year, vice president (administration) Deborah McCallum said it fell short of the 8.9 per cent increase that the university had asked for.

To bridge that gap, the university was forced to raise funds in two areas: student fees and undergraduate institutional student tuition fees.

"Last year the board had approved three new fees: a registration fee, a student services fee and a library fee," McCallum said. "But those fees were suspended for a year when the province increased its base grant this year but because of the gap between that figure and what we had requested we had to find a way to cover the differential fee."

"The university also increased its undergraduate international student differential fee from 100 per cent to 180 per cent. To put that change another way, if a Canadian student pays $100 per credit hour in tuition, an international student would now pay $280 per credit hour -- up from the $200 per credit hour they would have paid last year. Despite the change, the University of Manitoba is still the most affordable major university in Western Canada for international students. International students at the University of British Columbia pay $554 per credit hour while international students at the University of Saskatchewan pay $579."

The University of Manitoba expects to raise about $4 million from the changes to the differential fee.

"In the end, the changes will raise $6.8 million for the university -- equivalent to what the fees contemplated last year would have brought in."

"Nobody wants to see fees increase," McCallum said. "We appreciate the 5.8 per cent increase the province made in its base grant this year but because of the gap between that figure and what we had requested we had to find a way to make up the difference."

The Board of Governors considered four different budget models in coming to its decision. The final choice was made an effort to balance the budget while still abiding by the province’s tuition freeze regulations.

Roddick set to receive entrepreneurial award

Dame Anita Roddick, founder of the internationally successful skin and body care retailer, The Body Shop, has been named recipient of the 2006 International Distinguished Entrepreneurial Award (IDEA).

"In recognition of her outstanding success and exemplary contribution to economic life and the lives of men and women around the globe, Roddick will be presented with the award by The Associates of the I.H. Asper School of Business at the University of Manitoba at a gala dinner in Winnipeg on June 6."

"We are delighted to recognize Dame Anita for her imagination and perseverance in building her business," said Arni Thordsteinsson, chairman of the IDEA Committee. "She truly exemplifies the spirit of entrepreneurship that lies at the heart of every successful business and which fuels vibrant economies everywhere."

The award includes a specially designed, five-ounce pure gold medal. The annual award provides an opportunity for the business and academic communities in Winnipeg to honour an individual who meets the exacting criteria of successful entrepreneurship.

Roddick will also be signing books at McNally Robinson’s Grant Park location at 1 p.m. on June 6.

The University of Manitoba’s 127th annual Spring Convocation continues with ceremonies today at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the Investors Group Athletic Centre and a final ceremony Sunday, June 4, at 3 p.m. at St. Boniface Cathedral for graduates of college universitaire de Saint-Boniface.

Today’s honorary degree recipients include: Peter Herrndorf, graduated with his Arts degree from the University of Manitoba in 1962, and since then his career in journalism, broadcasting and education established him as a leader in Canada’s cultural community. Morning session.

Robert Ledgington, U of M graduate, is the Vancouver-based firm of Ledgington & Partners' executive consultant and is one of Canada’s most celebrated interior designers. Afternoon session.
McMillan documents life in the ‘Land of the Dead’

BY MICHAEL MARSHALL
For The Bulletin

Every year, like a pilgrim heading to the apocalypse, David McMillan steps on a plane and flies to ‘the end of the world.’

Since 1994, the University of Manitoba professor of photography at the School of Art has made an annual trek to Ukraine to visually document the lingering aftereffects of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster that took place 20 years ago.

Specifically, McMillan spends his time in a ghost town called Pripyat, located deep in the ‘exclusion zone,’ an off-limits area that spreads 30 kilometres in every direction from the Chernobyl nuclear plant.

Built in the 1970s, Pripyat was a thriving, modern city of 45,000 people many of who worked at the nearby Chernobyl nuclear plant. After the reactor meltdown of April 26, 1986, the town was evacuated and has been uninhabited ever since.

“It’s really what the end of the world would look like,” explains McMillan of the empty city with its crumbling schools, hospitals, and government and cultural buildings. “It’s like a modern-day Pompeii.”

McMillan says he was overwhelmed by many of the things he saw during his first visit to the decaying Pripyat – which now stands like a monumental time capsule of the Cold War-era Soviet Union – but, as a parent, it was the kindergartens and schools that struck the deepest emotional chord with him.

“There were still little Plasticine figures that the children had made,” he explains of the abandoned projects in the kindergarten classrooms. Thinking about those children having to flee with their families and later dealing with increased incidents of thyroid cancer was heartrending for the photographer.

“It’s very sad.”

McMillan acknowledges that his desire to return to Pripyat every year might seem surprising, but he has developed a unique artistic relationship with the city.

“I’m not trying to make a record of things falling apart, it’s just that I’m very happy with the work I do there. I’ve photographed other subjects, but nothing has the same resonance,” he says.

Indeed, since McMillan’s jaw-dropping photos have become public he has exhibited his work in galleries around the globe and has received plenty of critical acclaim, as well as media and public attention.

Interest has increased in recent weeks because April marked the 20th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster.

Fortunately, McMillan has a website that exhibits some of his best photographs from Pripyat and the Chernobyl region. It has become one of the more popular sections of umanitoba.ca and can be found at http://home.cc.umanitoba.ca/~dmcmill/.

One positive aspect of returning to Pripyat every year, says McMillan, is witnessing the resilience of nature. Although buildings are falling apart and slowly being farmed for scrap metal and other materials, life is returning in the form of flora and fauna. Plants and animals are becoming the city’s new inhabitants.

As McMillan writes on his web page: “The exclusion zone is a remarkable and surprising place, not dead and static, as one would expect, but full of growth and change.”

The photographer says he plans to return to Pripyat this year, and in future years.

“There are people over there who still can’t figure out why I come back every year. They don’t get it,” he laughs.
What secrets do the Narcisse snake dens hold?

BY DALE BARBOUR  

From Adam and Eve on down, snakes have gotten a bad rap in Western society. But with her new book The Serpent’s Spell, city planning professor Rae Bridgman is putting a new spin on snakes. “I have a small mission in the book. I want to reinterpret snakes as not evil,” Bridgman said. The Serpent’s Spell was released earlier this spring. It’s not Bridgman’s first book. She’s written extensively in the field of urban anthropology. But The Serpent’s Spell, published by Great Plains Publications, is her first endeavour in the area of fantasy. With six children of her own, trying her hand at writing a children’s book seemed a natural move.

“My husband often reads to the children at night, so we’ll have the family sitting around reading and I thought one night I would enjoy writing a book for the kids,” Bridgman said. But to write a fantasy novel you need a world to base it in. Bridgman started putting that world together with pieces from her own experience – a medallion and gold ring found in an old chest on the family farm when she was a child formed the core of a mystery. But it was an encounter with snakes in Manitoba that would inspire the heart of the book.

“We moved here from Toronto in July of 1998, one of the first trips we took was to go out and see the snake dens at Narcisse. I was just amazed at seeing the thousands and thousands of snakes,” Bridgman said. The garter snakes stay in the Narcisse dens during winter and when spring comes the area is alive with writhing masses of snakes. But how much more interesting would it be, Bridgman thought, if those dens held a secret society focused around snakes? “The story follows from these sorts of questions.” Bridgman also found architectural designs of snakes tucked in buildings throughout Winnipeg, including the Kelly House on Adelaide Street next to the Exchange District. The house was designed and built by Michael Kelly, and is regarded as a heritage building. But from Bridgman’s perspective the lonely house, now surrounded by warehouses, forms the entrance to the mystical world of MiddleGate, home of Sophie Ibis and Wil Wychwood – the two young sorcerers that are the protagonists for The Serpent’s Spell. For Bridgman, making the jump from academic writing to fantasy writing has been a challenge and a pleasure.

“I’ve always enjoyed writing experimental ethnographies,” Bridgman said. But more often than not, scholarly writing is analytical and, by nature, a little bit dry. Writing for kids, on the other hand, means ramping up the action and dialogue. Bridgman’s training includes degrees in anthropology and classics – both of which play a role in The Serpent’s Spell.

Bridgman said anthropology is all about attempting to understand and navigate in other cultures – perfect training for trying to create a fictional culture of her own. “When you’re building a fantasy world, it has its own rules and the reader will hold you to those rules,” Bridgman said.

As for the classics degree, Bridgman sprinkles Latin phrases and their translations throughout the book – tagging each chapter with a lighthearted Latin phrase. Bridgman has also included 55 pen and ink illustrations, of her own design, to bring the characters to life.

If sorcery, snakes and young magicians all sounds familiar, blame J. K. Rowling, the author of the Harry Potter books. In many ways, Rowling is treading a familiar ground with the Harry Potter book series – but the huge success of her books has cast a shadow over other writers trying to enter the field. Bridgman, who has no problem citing Rowling’s books as an influence, says there’s a lot of upside to that shadow.

“Light as Rowling’s [work] has set a standard for others to follow. She’s developed an audience for this kind of writing. A lot of educators and librarians are very grateful because she’s enticed a lot of people to read that might not have otherwise,” Bridgman said.

Want to learn more?

Rae Bridgman’s The Serpent Society has Winnipeg roots. If you’re curious about the Kelly house and its colourful history of the Kelly family check out www.virtual.heritagewinnipeg.com/vignettes/vignettes_144W.htm#Wondering about the Narcisse snake dens? Check out www.gov.mb.ca/countryside/wr/wp/managing/snakes_narcisse.html

Bridgman’s own site can be found at www.raebridgman.ca

The Winnipeg Blue Bombers announced the signing of unrivalled free agent wide receiver Blair Atkinson on May 19. Atkinson has played the past three seasons with the University of Manitoba Bisons.

Atkinson, 25, had his best season with the Bisons during the 2005 campaign. He was the team’s leading receiver in yards (445), first in touchdowns (6), second in receptions (31) and second in receiving yard average (14.4). He was the Canada West leader in receiving touchdowns and seventh highest in conference receiving yards. The 6’4”, 210 lbs receiver had four catches for 45 yards in the 2005 playoff loss to Alberta.

Atkinson has already made an impact in the Bisons record book in his three seasons. He holds a share of the record for most receiving touchdowns in a game (3 - 2004), second highest TD total by a receiver in a season (6), second most receiving touchdowns in a career (12), fourth in receiving yard average in a career (14.8), seventh most receiving yards in a career (1145) and tied for seventh most overall touchdowns in a career (12)..

Bison football head coach Brian Dobie stated, “I am happy for Blair and he is definitely deserving of this CFL signing with the Blue Bombers. He was one of four to five players who created interest among the CFL teams during the Canadian College Draft in April. Bombers Receivers Coach Bobby Dyce has spoken well towards Blair and we wish him well at the camp.”

The Winnipeg Blue Bombers opened training camp May 21 at Canad Inns Stadium.

City planning professor Rae Bridgman spins a tale involving snakes, secret societies and magic in her new book The Serpent’s Spell.

Sneaker Day

Sneaker Day is set to run June 14 at the Fort Garry campus and June 21 at the Bannairey campus. The Fort Garry campus will again be awash in silly costumes and goofy walks. Recreation services fitness coordinator Ulla Liljegren said they’ve changed some of the rules of competition this year to make it easier for the judges to judge costumes and easier for the competitors to know what the judging rules are.

“We’re also going to have more entertainment along the walk and Jay Oliver from 102.3 Clear FM is set to MC the event,” Liljegren said.

One change that people will need to take note of this year relates to lunch – for the first time people at the Fort Garry campus are being asked to register for their lunch and note of this year relates to lunch – for the first time people at the Fort Garry campus are being asked to register for their lunch and.

Want to learn more?

For more information, contact the Fort Garry campus Recreation Services office at 204-474-8600.

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Behind the scenes on Campus Beautification Day

A Day in the Life of a general services manager

BY DALE BARBOUR

The Bulletin

What’s a recipe for Campus Beautification Day?

Add 12,000 flowers, 350 cubic yards of top soil, 100 cubic yards of native tree mulch and 20 yards of Cedar nugget. Get a core team of physical plant employees to coordinate the effort and make sure all those ingredients are where they need to be.

Finally, add 1,200 University of Manitoba employees and students willing to do their part to make the campus beautiful.

The results, after this year’s edition which was held on May 25, speak for themselves.

“One of the highlights for me was the participation of the campus community and we had nice weather that was good for working in and good for our plants,” physical plant general services manager Michele Rogalsky said.

Rogalsky is the university’s point person when it comes to running Campus Beautification Day. She and her assistant manager Lyle Morin work with the university’s groundskeepers, and arborists, who in turn work with the 60 volunteers from across campus who rally volunteers in their individual units and decide which projects need to be done.

“One of the highlights for me was the commitment by the groundskeeping staff. They were here at six in the morning. They consider it their project and they really take it seriously,” Rogalsky said.

The physical plant staff are the backbone of campus beautification day – making sure the flowers, top soil and other supplies are delivered across campus, picking up the waste material at the end of the day and running the heavy equipment.

But of course they couldn’t do all the planning and cleaning up that gets done on Campus Beautification Day without the rest of the U of M’s staff.

“It’s great how it creates a sense of ownership among the staff and students that participate,” Rogalsky said. “We did a good job planning this year. The project ‘to do’ lists were a perfect match for the volunteer numbers. This year all projects were completed during Campus Beautification Day.”

Planning for Campus Beautification Day started in January, and Rogalsky said they’ve already sat down to discuss any wrinkles that should be smoothed out for next year’s operation.

She has a degree in economics and a diploma in agriculture and has worked with both the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences and the Faculty of Education in administrative roles.

But when Ed Rzeszutek retired from the job of general services last year, Rogalsky said it seemed like the perfect fit for her. Added to her administrative training, Rogalsky had worked on a family farm with her husband and spent more than her fair share of time in rural settings growing up.

“I really love dealing with the plants and the campus grounds,” Rogalsky said. “I had worked with Ed Rzeszutek on a number of projects over the years and I had always been impressed with the work he did.”

General services manager Michele Rogalsky looked after a number of the behind the scenes details that helped make Campus Beautification Day, May 25, possible.

Research grants support a variety of faculty projects

THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE RECEIVED AWARDS IN THE MARCH 1, 2006 COMPETITION OF THE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM AND THE UM/SSHRC RESEARCH GRANTS AND TRAVEL GRANTS PROGRAMS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R. Aluko</td>
<td>Human Nutritional Sc</td>
<td>In vivo detection and activity of exogenous food protein-derived peptides</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Birousk</td>
<td>Mechanical Eng.</td>
<td>Characterization of the dynamics of liquid jets issuing from circular nozzles</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>G. Bridges</td>
<td>Electrical &amp; Comp. Eng.</td>
<td>Solitary waves in nonlinear transmission lines: Generation and measurement</td>
<td>$7,220</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Crippen</td>
<td>Educ Admin, Fdns &amp; Psych</td>
<td>Expectation for leadership roles of teacher candidates</td>
<td>$3,901</td>
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<tr>
<td>L. Fitzmor</td>
<td>Educ Admin, Fdns &amp; Psych</td>
<td>Aboriginal perspectives in education: The impacts of the learning experience</td>
<td>$2,990</td>
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<tr>
<td>N. Hiden</td>
<td>Geological Sc</td>
<td>Microchemical analysis of teeth</td>
<td>$7,546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Hansiakin</td>
<td>Environ &amp; Geophysics</td>
<td>Development of a portable severe weather research platform</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Hausner</td>
<td>Microbiology</td>
<td>Characterization of novel mitochondrial group I introns</td>
<td>$7,475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P. Mani</td>
<td>Educ Admin, Fdns &amp; Psych</td>
<td>Bridging the gap between multicultural knowledge and practice: Experience of Counsellors</td>
<td>$7,475</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. Scally</td>
<td>Zoology</td>
<td>Dietary alteration in Alpha2a-Adrenergic receptor expression and function</td>
<td>$7,475</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Smyth</td>
<td>Pharmacology &amp; Therapeutics</td>
<td>The education of school leaders</td>
<td>$5,200</td>
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<td>J. Stapleton</td>
<td>Educ Admin, Fdns &amp; Psych</td>
<td>The gap between HRM practices and organizational performance: Individual and contextual</td>
<td>$6,640</td>
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<tr>
<td>X. Wang</td>
<td>Asper School of Business</td>
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<td>$78,755</td>
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Note: The March competition is restricted to established staff.

<table>
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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>A. Calder</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Lethe</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Camfield</td>
<td>Labour and Workplace Studies</td>
<td>Sympathy Strikes in British Columbia, October 2005</td>
<td>$4,836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Cohen</td>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>Exploring public health nurses perspectives on their current and potential role in addressing child and family poverty in the Manitoba health care context</td>
<td>$4,527</td>
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<td>E. Johnson</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Influence of self-knowledge on self-regulation in first-year students</td>
<td>$4,336</td>
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<td>Y. Karu</td>
<td>Curriculum, Teaching &amp; Learning</td>
<td>Educational needs and barriers for African refugee students in Manitoba</td>
<td>$6,475</td>
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<tr>
<td>L. Kullfert</td>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>London Calling (the tune): The CRC, BBC, and programming, 1992-1995</td>
<td>$4,482</td>
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<tr>
<td>K. Markstrom</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>The Porpora Vespers, 1744</td>
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<td>T. Roshko</td>
<td>Interior Design</td>
<td>The vernacular architecture of Chong Kneas, Cambodia: Response to environmental stresses</td>
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UMSSHRC RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM (RGP) COMPETITION, MARCH 1, 2006

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>J. Adair</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>International Congress of Cross-Cultural Psychology</td>
<td>$2,571</td>
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<td>E. Braaksma</td>
<td>Libraries</td>
<td>World Library and Information Congress</td>
<td>$2,250</td>
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<tr>
<td>G. Daikhshimmit</td>
<td>Libraries</td>
<td>World Library and Information Congress: 72nd IFLA General Congress and Council</td>
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<td>T. Capeberg</td>
<td>Curriculum, Teaching &amp; Learning</td>
<td>56th Annual Conference on the International Group for the Psychology of Mathematics Education</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>G. Monks</td>
<td>Anthropology</td>
<td>International Council for Archaeozoology (ICAZ) 2006</td>
<td>$1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Neveu</td>
<td>Architecture</td>
<td>59th Annual Meeting, Society of Architectural Historians</td>
<td>$679</td>
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<tr>
<td>I. Sektor</td>
<td>City Planning</td>
<td>Second World Planning Congress</td>
<td>$3,991</td>
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<tr>
<td>I. Whicher</td>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>13th World Sanskrit Conference</td>
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<td></td>
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UMSSHRC INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE TRAVEL GRANTS PROGRAM (TGP) COMPETITION, MARCH 1, 2006
kB

**Events Listing**

**Take a look at Batik art**

University of Manitoba fine arts graduate Karen Johannsson showcases her work with Batiks in the Dreams & Memories exhibition which runs June 8 to August 31 at the Dr. Paul H.T. Thorlakson Gallery at The Icelandic Collection, Elizabeth Dafoe Library. Johannsson said she became fascinated with Batiks, a type of fabric art, while doing graphics for a television station in Iceland.

“I was unable to find a Tjanting (the tool with small holes for drawing with liquid wax) but the fine craftsmen in the prop department were able to craft me a tool by welding a rod to a candy-decorating cone and then putting a wooden handle over that. And thus, I started to experiment with the Batiks,” Johannsson said.

The interest in Batiks continued over the years and grew after Johannsson opened her Lipton Street Studio in 1998.

The collection of Batiks in Dreams & Memories are largely images from the Norse mythology and stories that

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**Fort Garry Campus**

**ST. JOHN’S COLLEGE**

St. John’s hosts exhibits in its Quiet Room Gallery, Room 111. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Friday, but please contact 474 8551 to confirm.

**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.

**DREAMS & MEMORIES**

by Karen Johannsson

June 8 to August 31

“Dreams & Memories,” looks at Batik works by Karen Johannsson. Opening on Thursday, June 8, 4 to 8 p.m. with artist and storyteller, Sue Proctor, in attendance.

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**Bannatyne Campus**

**AND ST. BONIFACE RESEARCH CENTRE**

**Academic Job Opportunities**

A full listing of employment opportunities at the University of Manitoba can be found at www.umanitoba.ca.

- **Academic pediatric infectious diseases physician**
  - **Position:** Academic pediatric infectious diseases physician
  - **Start date:** Oct.
  - **Salary:** Salary commensurate with experience and qualifications and is accompanied by a benefits package

Application deadline: July 1

Position number: A12 45Z

For information: Gisele Bourgeois-Law; acting head, department of medical education, Faculty of Medicine, 270 – 727 McDermot Ave., Winnipeg, MB, R3E 3P5.

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**Bannatyne Campus**

**ST. JOHN’S COLLEGE**

St. John’s hosts exhibits in its Quiet Room Gallery, Room 111. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Friday, but please contact 474 8551 to confirm.

**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.

**DREAMS & MEMORIES**

by Karen Johannsson

June 8 to August 31

“Dreams & Memories,” looks at Batik works by Karen Johannsson. Opening on Thursday, June 8, 4 to 8 p.m. with artist and storyteller, Sue Proctor, in attendance.

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**Fort Garry Campus**

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STAR researchers will study extreme Arctic weather

By Frank Nolan, Research Promotion Officer

If you think Winnipeg winters are harsh, just talk to John Hanesiak.

For the next four years, Hanesiak, Centre for Earth Observation Science (CEOS), will be getting up close and personal with some of the most severe winter storms in the Canadian Arctic.

Hanesiak is co-leader of Storm Studies in the Arctic (STAR), a research network focused on understanding severe weather systems in south-eastern Nunavut. The project includes other CEOS researchers from the University of Manitoba, as well as teams from McGill University, the University of Toronto, York University and the University of Western Ontario. Over the next four years, the STAR Network will receive $3.1 million in funding from the Canadian Foundation for Climate and Atmospheric Sciences.

The ultimate goal of the STAR Network is to develop more accurate models for predicting major storm events, particularly around Iqaluit on southern Baffin Island.

"This area experiences some of the most frequent and severe winter storms in the Arctic," Hanesiak said. "Systems come in from the west and south, as well as backwards from Baffin Bay, and there's a lot of open water that feeds heat and moisture into the atmosphere, so the storms that develop can be very powerful."

Research conducted by the STAR Network will be organized around four major themes. The first two involve collecting specific storm data, including measurements taken from the atmosphere, from the ground, and from the sea. The weather data will be collected in September and October of 2007, at the height of the storm season.

"We'll be setting up automatic weather stations at different elevations around Iqaluit, and we'll also be deploying pressure sensors upstream from the area," Hanesiak said. "We'll be launching weather balloons every three hours during storm events, so we'll obtain high-resolution data."

Hanesiak said that topography in the Arctic can play a major role in winds at the surface by funneling them through channels. Called gap winds, they can be hazardous to aircraft and people on the ground, and much of the data collected by the STAR team will focus on describing these winds in very fine detail.

Hanesiak's team will use remote sensing equipment that can provide temperature and humidity profiles every ten or fifteen minutes, as well as Doppler radar equipment that can scan the atmosphere at a range of fifty kilometres. The team will also be using a National Research Council of Canada research aircraft equipped with radar that can provide information about cloud structure, precipitation intensity and dynamical storm features.

"The plane will be flying around inside the storms, and the information it provides, combined with the ground radar and our remote sensors, will give us an unprecedented amount of really good information."

The comprehensive surface and airborne measurements will also provide unique validation data for a new satellite called CloudSat, which was launched in May 2006. STAR measurements will be the only ones of their kind in the world that focus on CloudSat validation in the Arctic atmosphere.

The STAR team also includes CEOS director David Barber, Canada Research Chair in Arctic System Sciences. Barber's team will launch weather balloons from the Canadian Coast Guard Ship Amundsen and place buoys around the area to measure the impact of storms on sea ice.

Once the information is collected, the STAR team will begin the project's third theme, which is focused on developing more accurate storm prediction models.

"For each storm event, we'll look at how well the existing models worked," Hanesiak said. "Themes one and two are all about understanding the physics of what's going on, and in theme three we'll be applying our field data to the numerical computer models to improve the way they forecast storm events."

Running through all of the STAR Network's activities is the project's fourth theme, which involves working with local communities, as well as governments and northern agencies.

"The area around Iqaluit is experiencing significant growth, with new industrial, tourism and recreation developments," Hanesiak said. "We'll be working closely with the communities every step of the way, and we'll be involving local people to help us with our measurements and observations."

For more information about the STAR Network, please visit the project's Web site: www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/environment/ceos/data/projects/star/star.html
Volunteers help the university bloom

There were plenty of people in action on Campus Beautification Day, May 25. Counter-clockwise from left, Jesuit Centre secretary Gladys Broesky and campus ministry assistant Eliude Cavalcante plant flowers in front of St. Paul’s College; Horst Frank spades in the last few scoops of dirt on a tree planted in his honour in the Duckworth Quadrangle; president Emőke Szathmáry took a break from running the university to do some weeding; and library assistant Lorna Cameron, left, and Nora Giesbrecht, Faculty of Music, plant flowers next to the Music Building.

Submitted photo

From left, Senator Marie Chaput chats with the University of Manitoba’s Norma Alexander and Kurt Christoph during the Support Staff Endowment Fund exchange trip to Ottawa in April.

U of M support staff trade ideas with Ottawa counterparts

Forty University of Manitoba staff members had a chance to tour the nation’s capital April 27 to 30 and meet with their counterparts at the University of Ottawa as part of the annual support staff endowment fund exchange trip.

The goal of the support staff endowment fund is to encourage and support activities that promote excellence – including funding book purchases, training seminars, conferences and trips.

For University of Manitoba libraries staff Juliette Nadeau, Marcel Courchaine, Helen Macaulay and Susan Heidebrecht the trip was a chance to meet with the University of Ottawa libraries staff and see what the two groups could learn from each other.

As Nadeau noted in her report on the trip, the U of M does have the edge in some areas – the U of O was still relying on hand stamp due dates, for example.

The Ottawa staff, in turn, have a special week-long program that allows students to substitute food for library fines with the food then being donated to the university’s food bank.

University of Ottawa support staff are allowed a six-month refresher leave (paid at 75 per cent salary or 100 per cent if the employee continues working part-time) to attend courses relevant to their work. But the U of O staff do not have anything like the support staff exchange trip that the U of M offers – in fact it’s a program unique to the U of M.

The U of M is currently looking at how it can develop a learning commons, and Nadeau noted that Ottawa has made some major steps in that direction creating a well appointed study area and coffee shop in its library, complete with 50 laptop computers that students can borrow from the circulation desk.

Pay off from the trip has already begun with Courchaine implementing a technique learned from the U of O library to prevent theft of computer peripherals such as mice and keyboards.

The U of M group spent Saturday touring the city of Ottawa and met with politicians such as Manitoba senator Maria Chaput and Member of Parliament Stephen Fletcher. The group also had a chance to get to know one another and talk about their experiences in Ottawa.

For more information about the support staff endowment fund, go to umanitoba.ca/staff/endowment/