Scratch the surface of the AIDS epidemic in Africa and you'll find race and gender beneath the surface.

Stephen Lewis, the United Nations Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa from 2001-2006 spoke to over 600 people at the University of Manitoba on Jan. 17.

The title of his lecture was “The Silent Struggle – Gender and Race Beyond the Canadian Border.” But he opened with a question.

Why hasn’t the world done anything about the HIV/AIDS crisis in Africa?

To be sure, the University of Manitoba is on the ground in Africa and has been for years searching for ways to better understand the disease. The target of Lewis’s frustration was UNICEF, which just this month listed 2.3 million children under 15 years old infected with HIV and 15.2 million children under 18 who have lost one or both parents to AIDS.

Lewis didn’t question the numbers – he’s traveled through Africa, home to more than 60 per cent of the world’s HIV/AIDS cases, and has seen the devastation first hand.

What he questioned was why, some 25 years into the epidemic, the best UNICEF could offer was a tally of how many people have been infected.

“Where were these groups while everything was falling apart? Where was UNICEF?,” Lewis said. “Why does the World Health Organization feel it can research this data but doesn’t feel any responsibility for what’s happening on the ground?”

Lewis said there are anti-retroviral treatments available that work miracles for people suffering from HIV – but only a fraction of the people suffering from HIV infection in Africa have access to the treatments.

See GENDER/P 3
New facility lets researchers work in the ‘heart of the epidemic’

From Page 1.

The facility we are opening today will expand the scientific capabilities of this research group, and will be put to immediate use on the front line of the global battle against HIV,” Szathmáry said.

The $4 million facility was made possible by a $3.8 million investment from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) through its International Access Fund. Additional funding and in-kind support was provided by the Province of Manitoba, the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), the University of Manitoba and the University of Nairobi.

Housed in two wings of the new IIDC complex, it includes administrative space and a variety of highly specialized labs, including two level 3 bio-containment labs, which will be fully operational this summer.

One is a retrovirology lab designed for research and diagnosis of a range of infectious diseases, including HIV/AIDS. The other is an emerging pathogens lab that will perform diagnostics for haemorrhagic fever viruses such as Ebola.

“This is a shining example of international collaboration of which all Canadians can be very proud,” said CFI president and CEO Eliot Phillipson.

“This new state-of-the-art lab will enable a team of talented researchers to make important strides in their mission to solve one of the planet’s most pressing and tragic health problems.”

One of the new facility’s lead investigators is University of Manitoba distinguished professor Frank Plummer, Canada Research Chair in resistance and susceptibility to infections. Plummer is also scientific director general of the PHAC National Microbiology Lab in Winnipeg, which will be working closely with the new facility, and will be tactically linked to its emerging pathogens lab.

“This facility really marks a new beginning for infectious diseases research in East Africa, and will allow us to conduct cutting-edge HIV research right in the heart of the epidemic.” Plummer said. “We will also have a major impact in diagnosing haemorrhagic fever outbreaks in the region. Right now, suspect samples from endemic areas or those taken during epidemics are either assessed by mobile teams using field containment devices or are shipped elsewhere.

The new emerging pathogens lab will provide essential diagnostic capabilities for these viruses, saving critical time and allowing the scientific community to respond much more quickly.

The research partnership between the University of Manitoba and the University of Nairobi began in 1980, with a joint project focused on a disease called chancroid, and was later expanded to include HIV/AIDS. It has since become one of the world’s leading HIV/AIDS research programs, and has provided new prevention and control strategies now used internationally.

Recycle your cell phone here

If you are scratching your head trying to figure out what to do with your old cell phone... scratch no more! The University of Manitoba’s Telecommunications Group offers a cell phone recycling service. If you’ve got a cell phone you’d like to recycle, send it to the Telecommunications office at 155A Machray Hall.

Please ensure that it is clear that the cell phone is for recycling by labeling it appropriately.

If you would like to learn more about the program, call Terri Lamirande at 474-7892.

For information on other recycling programs on campus, call the Waste Prevention Office at 474-9068 or contact Ophelia Morris at wpo@umanitoba.ca.
The administrators of the Internationally Educated Teachers (IET) Pilot Program hosted a lunch and information session on Dec. 5 to unite dialogue among participating IET students, mentor teachers from Seven Oaks School Division, and Education faculty members.

The IET Pilot Program is unique to the University of Manitoba and is designed for new Canadian citizens with international teaching credentials who require additional university coursework in education to be certified to teach in Manitoba. A main focus of the program has involved placing IET students with mentor teacher partners in Seven Oaks School Division and allowing them to build their teaching skills in a Canadian classroom. In addition to their classroom experiences, IET students have also completed several undergraduate courses and customized workshops at the Faculty of Education.

The Dec. 5 event was designed to give voice to the experiences and perspectives of the IET students, explained IET Pilot Program coordinator Joyce Knight. "Each IET student spoke from the heart about their experiences, and described some of the challenges and successes encountered in the program.

IET student Sonia Khanna said that she joined the program because of the strong support of community partners, there will be a new intake of up to 12 IET students for September 2007. For more information about the IET Pilot Program please see: www.umanitoba.ca/education/iets/index.shtml
Bringing innovation to the public

Scholarship and creative works stand side by side with research

The linkage of innovation, technology transfer and prosperity is not new. The historian W.L. Morton, for example, attributed the enduring loyalty of Saskatchewan farmers to the University of Saskatchewan because they trusted the university’s agricultural scientists. Introducing these innovations—agricultural scientists introduced to farmers—brought greater yields at harvest time and this increased farmers’ incomes. The University of Manitoba also point to contributions made by its scientists, who have had local as well as global social and economic benefits. The breeding of canola and the development of Win Blot, the antibody used to prevent Rh disease of the newborn, are the most prominent in Manitoba’s innovation record, but the links between laboratory and marketplace are continuing to grow. Indeed, for every $1 million in research funding received, our university ranks among the top 10 Canadian universities in performance indicators of technology transfer success.

Such accomplishments command respect. Enhancing the public’s understanding of the public good of universities, and examples of innovations that make a tangible difference to peoples’ lives, is of the highest importance. Governments’ decisions to invest in university research make a difference to peoples’ lives, and examples of innovations that make a difference to peoples’ lives, and examples of innovations that make a difference to peoples’ lives, and examples of innovations that make a difference to peoples’ lives, and examples of innovations that make a difference to peoples’ lives, and examples of innovations that make a difference to peoples’ lives.

To find meaning in human expression, or to understand the human condition — as just two examples of inquiry undertaken by humanists, visual artists and social scientists — often generates intense public interest.

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There is no question that I react to Gardner’s paintings. I find an enduring quality in the young men he portrays, especially his brothers, as they seek to create an identity that is their own masculine preserve. What parent has not observed the push and pull of family versus young male independence in their sons’ lives? Gardner’s paintings are both fascinating and disturbing. Most, if not all, parents are probably on the receiving end of the dissonance. It is an issue for all parents, regardless of their sex, to think through a young man’s mind as he sits on an outcrop, contemplating the spread of a deep river valley and hills in the distance? How can something commonplace, a boy shooting baskets in a suburban leaft, light-filled basketball court, engender recognition and inspire hope for the future? The ability to capture others’ imaginations may not increase the nation’s productivity, but it is worth having just the same. I like love, which can be measured or weighed, insights that Gardner’s images provide are real, and make a difference.

Ronnie van Cruz and Nicole Duseigne are two of the bloggers featured on the University of Manitoba’s ‘new student blog’ website. We’ll be checking in with the bloggers regularly in the Bulletin, but for the full story go to umanitoba.ca/student/blogs/.

Ronnie van Cruz

As you all might already know, I am a young immigrant from the University Centre there were a number of different student groups that by different student groups or organizations that the students to take part. There was the Indian student group, the Filipino student group, the Chinese student group, the Italian student group, the French student group, the German student group, the Russian student group, the Ukrainian student group.

Preparing for a flu pandemic

As part of the University of Manitoba’s strategy in the event of a major flu pandemic, Flu Pandemic Awareness Week was held Jan. 15 to 19.

The awareness campaign involved the distribution of hand sanitizers and informational booklets, as well as the posting of hand sanitizers and informational booklets, as well as the posting of hand sanitizers and informational booklets, as well as the posting of hand sanitizers and informational booklets.

Awareness Week was held Jan. 15 to 19.

Preparing for a flu pandemic

The university also launched a pandemic website at umanitoba.ca/pandemic which provides information on pandemics, up-to-date links to government websites and the initiative to employees, students and administration.

The Pandemic Planning Committee, struck by Dr. Nieddu and President Alastair McCallum in February, is preparing for an influenza pandemic. In February, the university also launched a pandemic website at umanitoba.ca/pandemic which provides information on pandemics, up-to-date links to government websites and the initiative to employees, students and administration.

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Marks of Achievement

Earned some recognition or an award? The Bulletin wants to celebrate with you. Please e-mail information about your Marks of Achievement to barbourd@ms.umanitoba.ca. Feel free to include a picture of yourself. We’ll need a 200 dpi jpeg image. If you would like to chat about the details or picture, please call 474 8111.

Magsino awarded Pamana Ng Pilipino

Romulo Magsino, Faculty of Education dean emeritus, was awarded the Pamana Ng Pilipino (Legacy of the Filipino) by Republic of the Philippines President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo at a special ceremony held at the Malacanan Palace on Dec. 7. The award is presented on an annual basis to Filipinos who have brought honour and recognition to their home country.

Magsino was very excited and elating to receive the award, but also very humbling,” said Magsino. “They all really had tremendous achievements and service to their own communities.”

Magsino has been with the Faculty of Education since 1988 and was dean of Education from 1996 to 2001. He is well-known for his volunteer work and community activities, particularly for leading the development of the Philippine-Canadian Centre of Manitoba in 2004, and as deputy commander (Canadian Region) of the Order of the Knights of Rizal.

Some of Magsino’s other awards include a Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal (2002), and a Medal of Honour from the Government of Quezon Province.

Norrie receives P.L.M. honour

University of Manitoba Chancellor William Norrie was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Public Management by the Board of Regents and the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila (University of the City of Manila) president on Nov. 27.

In conferring the honour P.L.M. president Benjamin Tayabas, “recognized the exemplary achievements of Dr. Norrie as a community leader especially in terms of his deep concern for the public welfare of multi cultural communities and good governance in public office and higher education.”

Tayabas also referred to Norrie’s 28 years in public service as a member of the Winnipeg Public School Board and as mayor of the City of Winnipeg. Reference was made on the establishment of important cultural and economic ties with important south east Asian cities such as Iloilo and Davao in the Philippines.

The president also praised the Chancellor’s commitment to the Twin City Friendship Agreement between Manila and the City of Winnipeg which he signed with the late Mayor Bagatsing of Manila, a former president of P.L.M.

The University of the City of Manila (P.L.M.) is itself a unique institution. Established on June 19, 1965, it formally opened its doors on July 17, 1967. It was the first institution of higher learning to have its official name “Pamantasan,” a name in the Filipino language that connotes wisdom. It is also the first university to be funded by a municipal government.

In Manila during his acceptance address, Norrie spoke of his experiences as a graduate of Arts and Law from the University of Manitoba and his role in student government as president of the University of Manitoba Students’ Union. In conversations with the students following convocation he was also asked about his post graduate education and he spoke about his time at The Queen’s College in Oxford, England and his Rhodes Scholarship Award.

Out of country honorary doctors are not often awarded and so this award is an outstanding distinction for the University of Manitoba.

Rangers leave a legacy

After 65 years of service the Red River Rangers are disbanding. The executive team decided that a fitting way to dissolve the organization would be to leave a piece of history with the profession through a donation to the Faculty of Pharmacy’s “Prescription for the Future” Campaign. On Dec. 1, the Red River Rangers presented $20,000 to the Dean of Pharmacy, David Collins, in support of the faculty’s vision in order to benefit students, future pharmacists and researchers.

In honour of this contribution, a Tutorial Room in the new Apotex Centre on Bannatyne Campus will be named after them.

“The Red River Rangers have become an integral part of pharmacy history in Manitoba and their passing gift demonstrates the Ranger’s ongoing commitment to the province, and to the profession of pharmacy,” said Collins.

The Red River Drug Rangers initially formed as an organization in 1941 as a way to foster understanding among drug travelers and promote social activities. While over the years, the organization has remained very much a social organization, the focus changed and evolved. Among other things, its goals were to improve their relations with all branches of pharmacy and medicine, and to support worthy causes within the disciplines, including providing opportunities for educational betterment of their members and students.

The department of pathology will host a retirement tea in honour of Norman Pettigrew who resigned on Dec. 31 after many years of services at the Health Sciences Centre and the University of Manitoba. The tea will take place 5 to 7 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 7, Pedway Restaurant, Health Sciences Centre.

Book sale runs Feb. 7

The University of Manitoba libraries annual book sale runs 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7 in the Manitoba Room, Second Floor University Centre. The sale features thousands of books in the bargain section, including mystery, romance, sci-fi, biographies, magazine, pocket-books, academic books, and literature.

There will also be an individually priced section featuring collector, fine art books, and other unique items of interest. The libraries annual book sale offers for sale donated or with drawn items which are not needed by the libraries.

The funds raised are used to purchase new materials which the libraries would not be able to acquire with their regular acquisitions funds.

Come out and see what you can find.

Planning an event? Let us know! E-mail Bulletin@umanitoba.ca
Ball keeps the lab running on time

A Day in the Life
of an X-Ray Diffraction
Lab Manager

BY DALE BARBOUR

For Neil Ball, it's all about having an eye for detail.

As the x-ray diffraction lab manager for the department of geological sciences, Ball is in charge of looking after details of running the lab. It means being technically proficient with every piece of equipment that comes into the lab – a part of the job that is about to get put to the test.

Geological sciences professor Frank Hawthorne is the academic lab supervisor and most of the equipment is geared towards his research in crystallography and mineralogy. Hawthorne just received a $1 million Canadian Foundation for Innovation grant and that money will go straight to the lab.

“We’ll be redoing the lab with a bunch of new state of the art equipment,” Ball said. “That will introduce a whole new set of challenges, because I’ll have to get used to speed on two or three new instruments.”

The lab is moved towards Hawthorne’s research, but he’s not the only one that uses it. Other faculty members tap the equipment for research and it is available to colleagues and specialist in the field from around the world. Ball plays traffic controller, assigning lab time, running the experiments or overseeing the people who will be performing them.

“Faculty members will submit samples for me to collect data on or they’ll have their undergraduate students do the work and I’ll train their people to operate the machine and run the software,” Ball said. He also demonstrates an instrumental techniques class in the lab, which accounts for the three-dimensional molecular models that line the walls of the lab and get pulled into action as teaching tools during the classes.

The x-ray diffraction equipment works by shining an x-ray beam on to the material of interest. As that beam bounces off the material it generates a distinctive diffraction pattern as a result of the atomic structure. That pattern is compared against a catalogue of diffraction patterns until a match is found and the material or mixture of materials, is identified.

“If there isn’t a match for the material’s pattern, it doesn’t necessarily mean they’ve found a new form of crystal or material but what it does mean is that they have to run a series of other tests to get a better handle on the material’s chemistry – the more information they have the more they can tell what the sample can’t be, which beings them one step closer to figuring out what it is.”

“We run the x-ray diffraction here to get information on the atomic structure of the material and then we can take it across the hall to the electron microscope lab to collect data on the material’s chemistry,” Ball said. “We can combine the structural and chemical data to fully profile the material at the atomic level.”

When the results of tests still fail to identify the sample, then they might just have something new – but the University of Manitoba alone doesn’t get to make that call. The material and the information about it is sent off for a peer review process.

Or course, it’s not always professors using the lab. Ball also runs tests for the general public.

“People sometimes walk in off the street and say, ‘I found this weird rock. Can you identify it?’” Ball said. “There’s no charge for the general public – it’s one part of the university’s community service role – and occasionally the rock does turn out to be a meteorite.

The details end of Ball’s job doesn’t just include running the lab and overseeing its equipment – it also includes the preparation work of preparing samples for the x-ray diffraction equipment.

The front line part of that work starts with a row of pretty standard looking microscopes.

“It’s a whole different world once you view the material under a microscope,” Ball said. “In some cases just by looking at the physical properties you can identify what the material is.”

When someone brings in a suspicious looking rock a portion of that rock is broken off and ground down to either a powder or to a single fragment that is smaller than the head of a pin. That tiny sample is then run through the x-ray diffraction process.

“The whole sample handling process requires a steady hand,” Ball said. Depending on which piece of equipment its being scanned by the sample sometimes needs to be fastened on to the end of a nearly invisible glass fibre – with tools that Ball and the lab assistants build themselves because they’re not readily available at the corner store.

Ball received his own undergraduate degree at the University of Manitoba and worked as a field geologist before coming back to sign on as a research technician.

“X-ray diffraction had been my field of study so when I was given the opportunity to pursue it, it seemed like a natural fit,” Ball said. “Like many people I had no idea it would become a career path, but the university is a great place to work and there’s been plenty of opportunity for professional development as the technology has advanced and the lab has grown.”

A Bison to watch over you

From left, Deidre Catcheway, with his children Cameron and Chelsea Maude from Skowman First Nation, elder helper Andrew Abigos, U of M elder-in-residence Roger Armitage and U of M vice-president (academic) Robert Kerr were on hand when the Grandfather Wood Bison head was unveiled at Investors Group Athletic Centre on Friday, Jan. 19. The Bison head was a gift from the Skowman First Nation to the University of Manitoba Bison women’s basketball team in recognition of the partnership the two groups have formed through the Running with the Bison community outreach initiative.

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The Bulletin
January 25, 2007
Finally, a book that’s written for curlers

Books
by University Staff

BY DALE BARBOUR
The Bulletin

At first glance, curling and golf look like they have nothing in common. Different seasons, team versus individual sport, ice versus grass and that’s not even getting into the difference between golf balls and curling rocks.

But as anyone who has ever stepped on the ice and thrown a curling stone and then teed up a ball on a golf course will tell you, the two games have everything to do with one another.

So it only makes sense that psychology professor Garry Martin, who in partnership with Derek Ingram published Play Golf in the Zone, has now come out with Curl in the Zone: The Psychology of Curling Made Easy. Maybe the only quirk in this sequence of events is that it took his daughter to make him do it.

“My daughter, Tana, has always been heavily involved in sports and she took my sports psychology course back when she was going to university,” Garry Martin said. So when Tana started curling at a semi-professional level, Garry sent along a copy Play Golf in the Zone.

She liked it. In fact she liked it so much she said the two of them should team up to create a new book focused specifically on curling. Two-time Canadian curling champion Kevin Martin was even brought on board to help test the techniques and with the help of the members of his own curling clinic provide feedback on how the techniques are working. Kevin Martin also provided a forward to endorse the book and let them use his picture for the front cover – pretty good as stamps of approval go.

The techniques in the book are something that Garry Martin has been working on for years. Tana can actually take some credit for launching Martin’s interest in sport psychology because he started pondering a better way to encourage athletes while watching his own children take their swimming lessons.

Curl in the Zone is really about the art of mental focus during the game – learning to clear out distracting negative thoughts during the game and focusing on what you want to do with each shot, rather than what you wish you hadn’t done with the last rock.

It sounds pretty simple and most of the techniques are – the trick is integrating them into the game enough so that they actually work.

“If you go to a driving range once, you’re not going to turn into a pro,” Garry Martin said. “It’s the same with psychology. But if you practice the mental techniques consistently throughout the first half of the season, by the second half you should see some results.”

“The feedback I’m looking for is what I get a year or two after they bought the book. That will be the interesting part.”

Martin also addresses the training component of the game, suggesting that curlers follow their game routine when they hit the ice to practice.

“Maybe the only quirk in this sequence of events is that it took his daughter to make him do it. That will be the interesting part.”

Martin has used the psychology techniques to help athletes in a variety of sports, but having Tana on board helped adapt them to the world of curling. And it was a fun collaboration.

“It was a lot of fun. It was our first effort as co-authors and we both got a kick out of it,” Garry Martin said.

And as the results roll in, Martin says the feedback will provide him with a broader range of examples to take into his sports psychology class.

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Clinical Dentists
Full-time Continuing Positions

The Centre for Community Oral Health (CCOH) is a progressive, multi-site, not-for-profit organization that administers oral health outreach programs on behalf of the University of Manitoba. We require self-motivated, community minded dental professionals to work as part of our oral health team in Winnipeg and outlying dental programs.

Reporting to the CCOH director, the successful candidates will provide a wide range of clinical dental services within various long-term care institutions and community dental clinics in accordance with existing professional and program standards. Emphasis is also placed on oral health promotion and disease prevention.

Applicants eligible for Manitoba licensure should reply, in confidence, to: Dr. Doug Brothwell, Centre for Community Oral Health, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Manitoba, D108-708 Bannatyne Ave., Winnipeg, MB, R3E 0W2; Telephone (204) 789-5892, fax: (204) 789-3951; E-mail: brothwel@ms.umanitoba.ca.

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Distinguished Lecturer Series
Enhancing Achievement Through Family Engagement

DR. VIANNE TIMMONS

Dr. Vianne Timmons is vice-president of academic development at the University of Prince Edward Island. She has also served as dean of Education at the University of Prince Edward Island, and chair for the Department of Education at St. Francis Xavier University. Her present research focuses on family literacy in rural communities, aboriginal children, inclusion of children with special needs, and knowledge exchange.

Wednesday, February 14
7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Room 224, Education Building
University of Manitoba, Fort Garry Campus

All are welcome | Free admission
For more information please see: www.umanitoba.ca/education
Bison Sports

MEN’S BASKETBALL

Feb. 2 – Calgary at Manitoba, Investors Group Athletic Centre, 6:15 p.m.
Feb. 3 – Lethbridge at Manitoba, Investors Group Athletic Centre, 8 p.m.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Feb. 2 – Calgary at Manitoba, Investors Group Athletic Centre, 6:15 p.m.
Feb. 3 – Lethbridge at Manitoba, Investors Group Athletic Centre, 8 p.m.

MEN’S HOCKEY

Jan. 26 – UBC at Manitoba, Max Bell Centre, 7 p.m.
Jan. 27 – UBC at Manitoba, Max Bell Centre, 7 p.m.

WOMEN’S HOCKEY

Feb. 2 – Saskatchewan at Manitoba, 7 p.m., Max Bell Centre.
Feb. 3 – Saskatchewan at Manitoba, 7 p.m., Max Bell Centre.
Feb. 9 – Lethbridge at Manitoba, 7 p.m., Max Bell Centre.
Feb. 10 – Lethbridge at Manitoba, 7 p.m., Max Bell Centre.
Feb. 11 – Lethbridge at Manitoba, 7 p.m., All Day.

MEN’S VOLLEYBALL

Jan. 27 – Thompson Rivers at Manitoba, Investors Group Athletic Centre, 8 p.m.
Jan. 27 – Thompson Rivers at Manitoba, Investors Group Athletic Centre, 8 p.m.
Feb. 3 – Saskatchewan at Manitoba, Investors Group Athletic Centre, 8 p.m.
Feb. 4 – Saskatchewan at Manitoba, Investors Group Athletic Centre, 8 p.m.

WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL

Jan. 26 – Thompson Rivers at Manitoba, Investors Group Athletic Centre, 6 p.m.
Jan. 27 – Thompson Rivers at Manitoba, Investors Group Athletic Centre, 6 p.m.
Feb. 3 – Saskatchewan at Manitoba, Investors Group Athletic Centre, 6 p.m.
Feb. 4 – Saskatchewan at Manitoba, Investors Group Athletic Centre, 6 p.m.

TRACK AND FIELD

Feb. 3 – Car Gill Games (University), Max Bell Centre, All Day.
Feb. 9 – 10 – Car Gill Games (Age Class), Max Bell Centre, All Day.

SWIMMING

Feb. 1 – 4 – Manitoba-Saskatchewan, Pan Am Pool, All Day.

TICKET INFORMATION

Single Game
Adults: $8
Students: $5

12 and under: free

Season passes
Adults: $55
Students: $30

Tickets available at all Bison home games, Frank Kennedy, Max Bell Equipment Desk.

unmanitoba.ca/bisons/

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25

Centre on Aging Research Seminar Series, Of Phospholipid Fables and Fatty Acid Tales - Cardiolipin Metabolism in the Aging Process by Grant Hatch, 405 Buchanan Bldg, 2 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 25.

Institute for the Humanities: Thinking Out Loud, The book under discussion is evolutionary biologist Richard Dawkins’s The God Delusion. Janice Doe, director, Interdisciplinary Research Circle on Global Intimacies series run by the Institute for the Humanities, and Ken Mackendrick (religion) will give their comments. Terry MacLeod, host of Information Radio 990, will continue his role as the Thinking Out Loud moderator, introducing the book and managing the discussion.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26

Soil Science, The Role of Hydrology and Landscape-level Processes in Determining Wetland Productivity and Distribution in Western Canada by Lisette Ross, graduate student, department of soil science and Ducks Unlimited Canada, 344 Ellis Building, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Jan. 26.

Electrical and Computer Engineering: PhD Candidacy Examination, Interactive Tools for Analyzing, Rehabilitation and Assessing Balance and Mobility Limitations by Aimee Betker, E2-251 Engineering and Information Technology Centre, 8 p.m., Friday, Jan. 26.


Global Intimacies series run by the Interdisciplinary Research Circle on Globalization and Cosmopolitanism, Destroying Books to read from new books, Inventory and What We All Long for, 122 Drake Centre, 2:30 p.m., Friday, Jan. 26.

Chemistry, Topic TBD by Dr. E. Huebner, zoology department, University of Manitoba, 559 Parker Building, 2:30 p.m., Friday, Jan. 26.

University College Lectures, The Cowboy and King Lear: On the Origins and Evolutionary Biology of Genes underlying Quality Traits Organization and Molecular Evolution through SNP Genotyping, Genomic Resources, Carolyn Sifton Lecture Theatre, 150 Agriculture Building, 3:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 1.

Psychology, Applied Research on Behaviour Change, A 40-Year Journey by Garry Martin, distinguished professor of psychology, department of psychology, 343 Drake Centre, 8 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 1.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Soil Science, Wetlands: The Perfect Solution to Anthropogenic Pollution by Joe Ackerman, graduate student, department of biosystems engineering, 344 Ellis Building, 12:30 p.m., Monday, Jan. 29.

Institute for the Humanities: The Law & Society research cluster, Canada as Counter-Revolution: The Loal Order Framework in Canadian History by Jerry Bannister, history, Dalhousie University, 409 Tillier Building, 1 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 1.

Mathematics, Taxicab Numbers and Algebraic Geometry by Adam Garone, graduate student, 415 Mackay Hall, 2:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 2.

Institute for the Humanities: The Law & Society research cluster, Jerry Bannister, history, Dalhousie University, discusses his award-winning book The Rule of the Admirals, 207 Robson Hall, 2:45 p.m., Friday, Feb. 2.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Architecture, Redefining Human by Ted Hager, associate dean, School of Architecture, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Centre Space, J.A. Russell Building, University of Manitoba, 7 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 6.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

History, The Theory and Practice of Hospitality in Early Christian Monasticism by John Worley, professor emeritus, department of history, University of Manitoba, Private Dining Room University College, 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, Feb. 7.


Architecture, Planning with Indigenous Communities by Ted Jojola, University of New Mexico, Indigenous Planning Division, and Roger Maaka, Department of Native Studies, University of Saskatchewan, Location TBA, 7 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 7.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Computer Science MSc Thesis Defense, Global Illumination and Approximating Reflectance in Real-Time by Tyler Nowicki, E2-461 Engineering and Information Technology Centre, 2:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 8.

Advanced Plant Science, High-throughput SNP Genotyping, Genomic Organization and Molecular Evolution of Genomes underlying Quality Traits in Bread Wheat by Xiaqiu Huang, post doctoral fellow, CRC, Carolyn Sifton Lecture Theatre, 150 Agriculture Building, 3:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 8.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Animal Science MSc Oral Examination, Nutrient digestibility and performance responses of growing pigs and broilers fed phytase and xylanase supplemented wheat-based diets by Tofuyowo Yogeno, 219 Animal Science Building, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 9.

Chemistry, Battling Biofilms by Dr. S. Madhusha, Kane Biotech, 559 Parker Building, 2:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 9.

Religion, Images of the End Time: al-Ma‘āyyad (d.c. 1078 C.E.) on the ‘`Seal of the Satans” by Lisa Alexandrin, 111 St. John’s College, 2-4 p.m., Friday, Feb. 9.

Psychology, Multiple inversion effects in biological motion perception by Nikolaus Troje Canadian Research Chair in Vision and Behavioural Sciences, department of psychology and school of computing, Queen’s University, 412 Duff Robin Building, 3 p.m., Friday, Feb. 9.
The Bulletin publishes events involving the university community.

- E-mail events to barbourd@ms.umanitoba.ca or fax, 474 7651.

- The deadline for the Feb. 8 Bulletin is Jan. 31 at 4:30 p.m.

**Come Celebrate!**

The University of Manitoba Students’ Union has a host of events on tap for Celebration Week. Grab some pancakes from UMSU president Garry Sran in the morning and then take in the activities happening around campus.

**Bannatyne Campus and St. Boniface Research Centre**

Medical rounds are typically targeted at university staff and professionals directly involved in the medical field.

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 25**

**Immunology**
- The new technology transfer paradigm at University of Manitoba: results and opportunities by Garold Breit, executive director, Technology Transfer Office, University of Manitoba; Immunology Library 604/605 Basic Medical Sciences Building, 12 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 25.

**Centre on Aging Research Seminar Series**
- Of Phospholipid Fables and Fatty Acids - Cardiolipin Metabolism in the Aging Process by Grant Hatch, pharmacology and therapeutics, Faculty of Medicine, 405 Brodie Centre, Bannatyne Campus, 2 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 25.

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 26**

**Community Health Sciences, Interdisciplinary Research on Developmental Disabilities**
- At St. Amant Research Centre by with Dickie Yu, director, St. Amant Research Centre, associate professor, department of psychology, Faculty of Arts, Beverley Temple, researcher, St. Amant Research Centre, associate faculty, Faculty of Nursing, Shaheen Shooshari, researcher, St. Amant Research Centre, assistant professor, departments of family social sciences and community health sciences, Faculties of Human Ecology and Medicine, Toby Martin, research manager, St. Amant Research Centre, department of psychology, Faculty of Arts, Dr. Betty Havens Seminar Room R060 Medical Rehabilitation Building, 12 p.m., Friday, Jan. 26.

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30**

**Interval Medicine Grand Rounds, A Primer on Noninvasive Cardiovascular Imaging: Multimodality Imaging with Echo, MDCI, and CMR**
- By Darvinder S. Jassal, assistant professor, University of Manitoba, Theatre A Basic Medical Sciences Building, linked to NG002 St. Boniface Hospital, 8 a.m., Wednesday, Jan. 30.

**Arts & Entertainment**

**GALLERY ONE ONE ONE**
- Gallery One One One is located on the main floor of the Fitzgerald Building. It is open Monday to Friday, noon to 4 p.m.

**Kathleen Fonseca**
- Curated by Cliff Eyland
- January 18 to March 8

Winnipeg artist Kathleen Fonseca makes paintings, drawings and texts during her spiritualist scence performances. Curator Cliff Eyland will address her work in terms of previous Gallery One One One exhibitions – most notably the set of exhibitions of The Gothic Unconscious – and he will attempt to position such practices within contemporary culture. Although Eyland does not accept Fonseca’s claims that she is in contact with beings from the afterlife, nevertheless, in Eyland’s words: “Fonseca’s work can be taken as seriously as, say, a Renaissance depiction of the crucifixion. An appreciation of her work does not require sharing her beliefs about what she is doing.”

**The Black Hole Theatre**
- The Black Hole Theatre is located in the lower level of University College. For tickets call 474 6880.

**Rosecrantz and Guildenstern**
- by Tom Stoppard
- The Gas Station Theatre
- January 18 to January 27

Shows run nightly at 8 p.m., except on Saturday, Jan. 27 when there will be a 2 p.m. matinee 7 p.m. evening performance

The Black Hole Theatre Company’s contribution to StoppardiFest 2007 in January will be Rosecrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, perhaps the best known of Tom Stoppard’s works, and an ideal Stoppard play for a university cast. It’s smart, and revels in its cleverness, but at the same time is endearingly serious in its postmodernist search for the meaning of life, or absence thereof. Rosecrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead will be co-directed by professors Margaret Groome and Chris Johnson.

**Faculty of Music**

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

**Faculty of Music at the Daily Bread Cafe**
- Thursdays, 6 to 9 p.m.
- St. John’s College

St. John’s College is partnering with the Faculty of Music to establish a series of weekly musical performances live in the Daily Bread Cafe. The performances run every Thursday throughout the academic year from 6 to 9 p.m.

The performances will cover a wide range of tastes. Jazz, Opera, Classical, and New Music will all be featured, and performed by the aspiring musicians of the Faculty of Music.

Every 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month will feature Jazz.
Every 2nd Thursday of the month will feature Opera or Musical Theatre.
Every 4th Thursday of the month will feature Chamber and New Music.

**Music events**
- **Concert Band and Guests** – with guest chamber ensembles, Great Hall University College, 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 8.
- **“Creation” – Creation of the World (Milhaud), Hammersmith (Holst)**
- featuring Ellery Ferguson on percussion, Great Hall University College, 7:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 9.

Tickets for these events are available at the door $10 for Adults, $5 for students Contact Fraser Linklater at 261 8977 for further information.

- **University Singers Banquet, Marshall McClahan Hall, University Centre, 7 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 3.**
- **Tickets available by calling 474-6016 or ellery_friesen@umanitoba.ca.**

- **Jazz Orchestra, The Osborne Freehouse, 437 Stadbrook Ave. 8 p.m., Monday, Jan. 29.**

**Faculty of Architecture**

- The Architecture II Gallery is open from 8:30 to 4:30, Monday to Friday.

**Concrete Industries**
- Peter MacCallum
- January 11 to February 9

After apprenticing in a commercial photo studio in 1969, Peter MacCallum taught himself architectural photography by documenting art installations at Toronto artist-run centres. His collaboration with Rosemary Donogan on the “Spadina Avenue” project in 1984-5 set him on the path of developing personal subjects for his documentary photography based on research into social and industrial history.

MacCallum’s longest series, “Concrete Industries” from 1998 to 2004, is featured in his 2005 monograph, “Material World,” as well as in his current exhibition at Architecture II.

**Theology**

- **Creation of the World (Milhaud), Hammersmith (Holst)**
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UM/SSHRC RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM (RGP) COMPETITION: OCTOBER 15, 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D. Ballis</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Avoiding the means to exercise: Affective transfer from the conflict with</td>
<td>$6,990</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. Benbow</td>
<td>Environment and Geography</td>
<td>The Photograph at the Zoo: Picturing Family Building in Leisure</td>
<td>$3,352</td>
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<tr>
<td>R. Brownlie</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>&quot;A positive sense of origin and belonging&quot;: Oral History for Aboriginal</td>
<td>$4,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Crippen</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>The impact of leadership-perceptions by teacher-candidates on school</td>
<td>$5,914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. DeVorelue</td>
<td>Environment and Geography</td>
<td>Polarization and Polycentricity in Global Cities: Regional</td>
<td>$6,580</td>
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<tr>
<td>K. Levine</td>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td>Family Involvement in Career Exploration with Academically At-risk Children</td>
<td>$5,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>P. Perkins</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>The Travel Journals of Francis Jeffrey: An Electronic Edition</td>
<td>$5,816</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Street</td>
<td>Accounting and Finance</td>
<td>The Effect of Knowledge on Agricultural Productivity and Competition</td>
<td>$5,484</td>
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Total: $43,936

UM/SSHRC INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE TRAVEL GRANTS PROGRAM (TGP) COMPETITION: OCTOBER 15, 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Conference Title</th>
<th>Award</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>G. DeVorelue</td>
<td>Environment and Geography</td>
<td>Urban Arts</td>
<td>$650</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. Fronk</td>
<td>Anthropology</td>
<td>Thinking through Tourism</td>
<td>$1,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Williams</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Interdisciplinary International Conference for Indian Association for</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
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Total: $2,750

UNIVERSITY RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM (URGP) COMPETITION: OCTOBER 15, 2006 (New Staff)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Award</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E. Alexandrin</td>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>Traditions on Sainthood (Walayah) in the Medieval Kazeruni and</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>H. Bayavaramu</td>
<td>Business Administration</td>
<td>Organizational Learning: A Review</td>
<td>$4,316</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Beaulieu</td>
<td>French, Spanish and Italian</td>
<td>The Power of Memory, Cultures of Prose in Nineteenth Century French Font</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. Bookman</td>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>Global Migrant, Urban Culture</td>
<td>$4,848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. Broadhurst</td>
<td>Religion and Film</td>
<td>A State-of-the-Art Review</td>
<td>$4,720</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Cai</td>
<td>Electrical and Computer Eng.</td>
<td>Medium Access Control in Vehicle Networks</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Camancho</td>
<td>Geological Sciences</td>
<td>Constraining the rates of tectonic processes by isotopic means</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
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<td>S. Cardona</td>
<td>Microbiology</td>
<td>Novel Antibiotic Drug targets of Bacterial Pathogens of Cystic Fibrosis</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. Carvalho</td>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>Pairing of products with national symbols: Linking national identity to</td>
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<tr>
<td>F. Chen</td>
<td>Accounting and Finance</td>
<td>Understanding Knowledge Transfer and Knowledge Creation in a Global Context</td>
<td>$5,303</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Chlip</td>
<td>Classics</td>
<td>The Essenhes and Jewish Resistance to Roman Rule in Palestine,</td>
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<td>M. Docker</td>
<td>Zoology</td>
<td>Genetic study of isolated brook lampyrea populations: Identification of</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Drewes</td>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>Buddhist and Hindu Preaching Traditions</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Dueck</td>
<td>German and Slavic Studies</td>
<td>Post-Communist Cultural Trauma on Film</td>
<td>$6,793</td>
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<tr>
<td>M. Edwards</td>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>Critical Care Nurses' Role in Conflict Related to Treatment Decisions</td>
<td>$5,506</td>
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<tr>
<td>M. Faubert</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Rhyming Reason: The Poetry of Romantic-Era Psychologists</td>
<td>$4,259</td>
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<tr>
<td>M. Glennwright</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>The Development of Vatial Irony Comprehension</td>
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<td>M. Hershcovis</td>
<td>Business Administration</td>
<td>A Relational Model of Workplace Aggression</td>
<td>$6,936</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Jassal</td>
<td>Cardiac Sciences</td>
<td>The Interaction of Hypersensitivity and NO3-I on ventricular remodeling</td>
<td>$7,403</td>
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<tr>
<td>N. Koper</td>
<td>Natural Resource Institute</td>
<td>Effects of fragmentation on tall-grass prairie birds</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Kord</td>
<td>Electrical and Computer Eng.</td>
<td>Reduced-Size Scaling of Power Transmission-Line Systems</td>
<td>$6,377</td>
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<tr>
<td>R. Krue</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Coming to the fore: The emerging role of morphological awareness in</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Leinaweaver</td>
<td>Anthropology</td>
<td>Transnational Aging: Intergenerational Relations in the Arides and</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>K. MacKendrick</td>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>Masculinity and Flight Club: Psychoanalysis and Social History</td>
<td>$4,950</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Marsotto</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>The effects of rotation and inversion on face processing in Alzheimer Disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>M. Medved</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Autobiographical Narratives from Individuals after Neurotrauma</td>
<td>$5,475</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Millward</td>
<td>Women's Studies</td>
<td>A History of Recent Lesbian Place Making in Canada</td>
<td>$2,640</td>
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<tr>
<td>O. Glancewaj</td>
<td>Mech. And Manufacturing</td>
<td>Transient Liquid Phase Joining of Ni Base Materials</td>
<td>$7,370</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. Roscielle</td>
<td>French, Spanish and Italian</td>
<td>Transformation des enjeux de la voie et de la musique dans la literature</td>
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<td>T. Rossko</td>
<td>Interior Design</td>
<td>&quot;What is Islamic Architecture?&quot; in Search of an Islamic Architecture in the</td>
<td>$7,176</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. Sioostari</td>
<td>Family Social Sciences</td>
<td>Health and Health Care Utilization Patterns of People with Intellectual</td>
<td>$7,176</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. Sokolova</td>
<td>Geological Sciences</td>
<td>Structural structure, chemical composition and properties of a new natural</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
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<td>K. Sonpar</td>
<td>Business Administration</td>
<td>A Tale of Two Provinces: Regionalization Experiences of Rural</td>
<td>$4,382</td>
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<tr>
<td>L. Teds</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Tax-Induced Effects on Home Production Activities: An Examination of the</td>
<td>$5,702</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. van Lierop</td>
<td>Physics and Astronomy</td>
<td>Nanoparticle magnetism studied using bulk and local probe techniques</td>
<td>$3,543</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. van Wijngaarden</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Residual gas analyzer for studying reactive species in an electric discharge</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total: $217,524

NOTE: The October competition is restricted to new staff.

ACADEMIC JOB OPPORTUNITIES

A full listing of employment opportunities at the University of Manitoba can be found at www.umanitoba.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. Please include the position number when applying for openings at the university.

FACULTY OF DENTISTRY
Department of Dental Diagnostic and Surgical Sciences
Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
Position: Assistant professor
Start date: July 1
Application deadline: April 15
Position number: BH229/04799

For information: Dr. John Curran, head, department of dental diagnostic and surgical sciences, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Manitoba, 5345-790 Bannatyne Ave., Winnipeg, MB, R3E 0W2; phone 789-3754, fax 789-3913, e-mail: curranj@cc.umanitoba.ca.

FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES
Position: Assistant professor (peace and conflict studies)
Start date: July 1
Application deadline: Feb. 28
Position number: 05729

For information: Dr. J. Doering, dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies, 500 University Centre, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB, R3T 2N2.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE
Department of Family Medicine
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
Family Medicine Program
Position: Contingent, geographical full-time physician at the Kildonan Medical Centre, the residency training unit affiliated with Seven Oaks General Hospital
Start date: April 1
Salary: Commensurate with qualifications and experience
Application deadline: March 31

For information: Search committee chair, department of family medicine, F00503-409-409 Tache Avenue, Winnipeg, MB, R2H 2A6, phone 235 3655, fax 235 0302, e-mail: Alan_Katz@cpe.umanitoba.ca.

FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Department of Biological Sciences
Position: Department head, five-year term, at the rank of professor or associate professor
Start date: July 1
Application deadline: April 15 and continue until the position is filled
Position number: 05658

For information: Dr. Mark Whitmore, dean, Faculty of Science, University of Manitoba, 250 Machray Hall, Winnipeg, MB, R3T 2N2 e-mail mark_whitmore@cc.umanitoba.ca.
Team designs unique wireless sensor

BY FRANK NOLAN

Research Promotion

Throughout North America, bridges and overpasses are getting old. As these structures near the end of their expected service lives, safety and timely maintenance are becoming increasingly important, and accurate monitoring of their structural health is critical.

In the Faculty of Engineering, a team of researchers is developing innovative wireless sensors to measure strain and displacement in structures. The new devices can provide accurate, quantitative data about changes in the condition of a bridge or overpass over time.

Right now, the kind of information that is typically gathered about a bridge might include photographs, as well as a range of physical measurements that are written up on a chart to provide an evaluation,” said electrical and computer engineering professor Doug Thomson. “Our sensors would give very specific numbers, and you would get a very clear indication when the structure starts to change.”

In addition to Thomson, the team includes electrical and computer engineering researchers Greg Bridges, Lot Shafai, and Dan Card; grad students Mehran Fallah Rad and Rajat Jayas; and civil engineer Aftab Mufii, president of ISIS Canada (Intelligent Sensing of Innovative Structure), a National Network of Centres of Excellence based in the Faculty of Engineering.

One of the biggest advantages of the group’s new design is that it is passive, or un-powered. “This is a very important point, because about two thirds of the cost of traditional wired sensors is associated with the cabling required for power and communications,” Thomson said. “Also, if you have to replace a battery every six months, it can be very expensive, especially if the sensor is installed on a part of the structure that doesn’t have easy access.”

The wireless sensor consists of a hollow chamber, a central metal rod, and a connector that allows an electric signal to be fed inside via an antenna. The signal creates an electric resonance inside the cavity, which can then be measured. The concept, Thomson said, is very similar to the way a guitar string works.

“When the chamber is compressed, it resonates at a different frequency because the length has changed. It’s just like what happens when you change the length of a guitar string. By comparing the new frequency with previous ones, we can tell exactly how much the chamber has physically changed, which then tells us what’s happening with the structure it’s installed on.”

Thomson said there are only half-a-dozen groups in the world working on passive, wireless sensors, and he believes his is the only one working specifically with a radio frequency (RF) cavity design. The team is now preparing for the first field installation of the new design on a bridge in Nova Scotia.

“This will give us a chance to refine the design of both the sensor and the portable interrogation system used to read it,” Thomson said. “I’m very excited about this project, and I think it has a lot of possibilities. Of course, we still have a long way to go before you see these sensors attached to a lot of bridges, but that’s the goal.”

Network examines prairie droughts

BY FRANK NOLAN

Research Promotion

Researchers from across Canada gathered in Winnipeg from January 11 to 15 for a workshop focused on understanding and predicting prairie droughts. The meeting was organized by the Drought Research Initiative (DRI), a network established in 2005 by researchers from universities in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Quebec to examine data from the drought of 1999-2004.

With funding support from the Canadian Foundation for Climate and Atmospheric Sciences, DRI researchers are examining the physical characteristics of droughts, as well as how they form, how they evolve, and how they end.

“We have very good, comprehensive information about the 1999-2004 drought, including satellite data and a range of other measures,” said John Hanesiak, assistant professor in the department of environment and geography, and a member of the Centre for Earth Observation Science (CEOS). “Now we’re focused on how we can apply this knowledge and put it into context, with the ultimate goal of developing more accurate seasonal drought prediction models.”

Hanesiak leads the DRI research theme focused on analyzing and characterizing the drought of 1999-2004. University of Manitoba soil scientist Paul Bullock is also working on this theme, assessing the consequences of drought for the productivity of different types of crops. Even though the group has only completed one year of the five-year project, Hanesiak said they have already established that this drought had some unique characteristics.

“The large-scale atmospheric circulation was quite different, even within different years of this drought period,” Hanesiak said. “Each year had its own unique look. It was likely a combination of different things that kept the drought going, and it’s starting to look like there might have been almost a feedback among these various factors.”

The second theme involves studying the physical processes involved in droughts, and includes University of Manitoba civil engineering professor Allan Woodbury, who is studying groundwater models. DRI’s third theme is focused on combining the characterization from theme one and the physics from theme two to develop more accurate drought forecasting.

“Drought is a critical phenomenon on the Canadian prairies that affects everything from crop production to hydro-electric power generation, forest fires and waterfowl habitat,” said DRI network manager Rick Lawford, based at CEOS. “Many of our current climate change models suggest that the climate of the prairies may be drier in the future, so it’s no surprise that this has become a very hot topic. By looking at the large-scale dynamics of these systems and other smaller-scale processes, our studies will have broad application, and they will provide a benchmark for what a possible future large, multi-year drought could look like.”
The Chicago Bears and former University of Manitoba Bison Israel “Izzy” Idonije are heading to the Super Bowl this weekend after a 39-14 win over the New Orleans Saints.

Pischke earns 1,100th career victory

BY CHRIS ZUK
Bison Sports Information Officer

The Manitoba Bison men’s volleyball team kicked off the New Year in style with their second consecutive Excalibur Volleyball Classic tournament title at York University on Sunday, Jan. 7. They defeated the #3 Dalhousie Tigers 3-0 (25-18, 25-19, 25-23) in the Sunday final. The tournament not only had the Bison rolling through the tourney being unbeaten in five games, surrendering only three sets in total, but head coach Garth Pischke accomplished another milestone with his 1100th career victory (Semi-Final win over Laval 3-2 (25-25, 25-20, 25-22, 19-25, 15-7)) during the tournament in his 27th year at the helm of the Bisons.

Pischke was reached in Toronto and commented about the momentous weekend, “We played very well as a team and I am pleased how we started the second half with this tournament victory. I am also happy to earn my 1100th victory but it would not even be possible to reach without the hard effort and time commitment of the countless Bison players throughout the 27 years that I have coached at University of Manitoba.”

In the Championship match, the Bisons were led by tournament MVP Evan van Lankvelt and teammate Nathen Bews who combined for 31 kills.

Shaw Laboratories bolsters dental centre

BY RENÉE BARCLAY
For The Bulletin

Shaw Laboratories recently donated more than $40,000 worth of portable and permanent dental equipment to the Centre for Community Oral Health (CCOH) to use in its various outreach programs.

After learning that the CCOH was operating its Home Dental Care Program with dated equipment and without any backup equipment, Shaw Laboratories—a dental laboratory that fabricates the crowns, bridges, and dentures provided by dentists—arranged for the donation of six A-dec dental units, two portable chairs, and one permanent dental unit and chair. The portable equipment was purchased through an opportunity provided by the Rotary Club in the United States.

“You have people in need, and we GHF we needed to step up to the plate,” said Lorraine Bauer, president and CEO of Shaw Laboratories.

The new portable equipment will be used for the Home Dental Care Program, which caters to elderly and special-needs populations in Winnipeg by bringing dental care directly to those incapable of visiting a dentist’s office.

The Home Dental Care program provides year-round dental care services to seniors in 48 personal care homes, two hospitals and many private homes five days a week, with over 3,300 patient visits made each year.

Until now, the CCOH operated its different programs with six dental units in various states of repair. The addition of the six new units will significantly augment the services the Centre provides.

With the new permanent dental unit will be used for the School Dental Program in Norway House Cree Nation, where an oral health team, consisting of a dentist and two dental assistants, provide dental care for children in the community. Over 1,700 children are enrolled in the Norway House School.

“This is a very generous donation. It helps to ensure the continuation of programs for disadvantaged seniors and northern residents,” said Doug Brothwell, director of the CCOH.

Everyone should have an opportunity to go to the dentist,” said Todd Bauer, vice-president of Shaw Laboratories. He said the donation not only addresses health issues among the needy, but it fosters good business relations between Shaw Laboratories and the University of Manitoba.

Brothwell noted that the oral health professionals at CCOH will have no trouble adapting to the new dental units because the parts are consistent with older models used by the CCOH. The portable units are simple to set up, lightweight, and easy to carry. But they do not require plumbed water or suction lines, and can be run by a small generator, they are ideal for use in remote locations where electricity may be unavailable.

Oral health centre plans outreach trip to Ghana

BY RENÉE BARCLAY
For The Bulletin

The University of Manitoba, Centre for Community Oral Health (CCOH) will soon provide much-needed dental care to some of Africa’s poorest communities in Ghana.

This will mark the first international outreach trip for the CCOH, which is sending out a team of oral health care professionals to Ghana’s impoverished Eastern and Ashanti regions on Feb.

23. Access to dental care is extremely limited in Ghana, with only one dentist for every 175,000 citizens. The numbers are staggering when compared to Canada, where 1,788 people have access to one dentist.

“This is our pilot trip to get our feet on the ground and gain local knowledge of doing outreach dentistry in Ghana. It is a first step in establishing a long-term commitment to improving oral health in Ghana,” explains Doug Brothwell, director of the CCOH.

Using portable dental equipment, the team will use a triage system and a variety of dental professionals to model a team approach to providing basic dental care, including dental cleanings, extractions, fillings, and preventive treatments.

Organizers expect to provide care for approximately 1,000 people during the two-week trip in March.

Seven oral health professionals, including three dentists, a dental hygienist, a dental therapist and two dental assistants, are being sent to Ghana for this initial trip. The CCOH hopes to establish long-term relationships, with plans to regularly dispatch a volunteer team of dentists and hygienists from Manitoba. The goal is to provide dental humanitarian support and implement new training programs for local therapists and hygienists.