Thinking about space

The sky wasn’t the limit when nearly 300 students from Aboriginal communities across Manitoba dropped into the University of Manitoba during reading week to find out what a university education could do for them.

“The purpose of the symposium is to encourage Aboriginal high school students to consider science-based disciplines when they’re making their plans for their post-secondary education and careers,” mathematics professor Tom Berry said.

The event was officially termed the Second Peguis First Nation Science, Engineering and Technology Symposium and it built on a partnership formed between the university and the Peguis First Nation School Board that began last year.

“We realized we had to address the issue of getting more of our students into science and technology careers,” Peguis First Nation School Board superintendent Edwin McCormiter said. To that end, they partnered with the university to have their students take part in a series of workshops.

See THIRSK/P 2
In The News

Grad named top chef

Feb. 5

The week of Feb. 5 local print, radio and television news featured former Arts student Makoto Ono, a chef at Gluttons who returned to Winnipeg after winning the title of best chef in Canada at the 2006 Canadian Culinary Championships in Whistler, BC.

Monet, Renoir and Gardner

Feb. 7

School of Art graduate Tim Gardner has 20 paintings hanging in the National Gallery of London, England in the good company of Reno and Van Gogh. Gardner, who worked on his watercolour and pastel works in Victoria, BC, and is considered a photo-realist painter. Tim Gardner: New Works will be in exhibit at the National Gallery until Apr. 15.

Student rally

Feb. 8

Winnipeg Free Press

Media closely followed a student-organized march on the multi-year provincial tuition freeze, especially in light of how students expressed mixed opinion on whether or not the freeze continues to benefit the quality of their education. Engineering students and faculty were widely quoted in one Winnipeg Free Press article, which explored how the studies of the faculty are gearing up for a vote to raise their own tuition fees to counter weaknesses in the faculty’s competitiveness in the Canadian university market, lower-than-average start-up grants for researchers, and a lack of TAs.

Rebuilding New Orleans

Feb. 10 onwards

A large group of University of Manitoba students repeatedly made headlines and newscasts for their mission to build homes during reading week in a New Orleans community devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Their role as home builders quickly took a turn how they were to focus on what it takes to be an astronaut. The assembled students, “is that astronauts don’t just come from other countries. They can come from your hometown.”

Phys-Ed becomes Kinesiology and Recreation Management

Meet the Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management. Senate approved the new name for the faculty – Kinesiology and Recreation Management – at its Feb. 7 meeting.

Headline News

Where else has the U of M been making news?

Here’s a look at just a few of our headlines over the past few weeks.

• “Flat known for art of ‘intelligent’ deal,” The Toronto Star, Feb. 6
• “Study says kids don’t get enough exercise,” The Winnipeg Free Press, Feb. 7

Thirsk: Astronauts come from your home town

From Page 1.

This year the program was expanded to include students from a dozen other Aboriginal communities and nearly 100 workshops put on by volunteers from around the university. McCorrister also pointed out that students were especially interested in the scientific and educational aspects of space travel.

Thirsk: “We need to be kindling an exploratory spirit in youth right now.”

Robert Thirsk, Canadian Astronaut

“[The message is] ‘We need to be kindling an exploratory spirit in youth right now, with an emphasis on science and math,’ Thirsk said. I expect by 2030 the next generation of astronauts will have landed on Mars. It will be the event of the 21st century.”

Thirsk lived in Manitoba as a boy and was inspired to be an astronaut after hearing the voice of John Glenn on the radio. Glenn was orbiting Earth from space and his transmissions were being broadcast live on the radio. Thirsk’s dream of reaching space culminated in 1996 when he flew as a payload specialist aboard space shuttle mission STS-79, the Life and Microgravity SpaceLab (LMSS) mission. During his 17-day flight aboard Columbia, Thirsk and his crewmates performed 45 international experiments devoted to the study of life and materials science.

“Thirsk is a much different personality than his own inspiration. The original NASA astronauts were drawn from a military background, whereas Thirsk and today’s astronauts are highly educated researchers. The goal has changed from getting to space to finding out what can be learned in space. But in some ways the experience is still the same. While almost all their time is spent working, Thirsk says the astronauts do occasionally receive a moment’s free time to catch their breath. Inevitably, they drift towards the space station’s or space shuttle’s windows. ‘We spend all of our spare time looking down at the beautiful earth below,’ Thirsk said.

Meet the Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management.

The Bulletin welcomes news tips and feature suggestions.

Call 474 8111 or e-mail Bulletin@umanitoba.ca.

The Bulletin welcomes news tips and feature suggestions.

Call 474 8111 or e-mail Bulletin@umanitoba.ca.

The Bulletin welcomes news tips and feature suggestions.

Call 474 8111 or e-mail Bulletin@umanitoba.ca.
ACCESS students explore health careers

Diversity of options available in dentistry surprises students

BY RENÉE BARCLAY
For The Bulletin

The Faculty of Dentistry recently took a standard tour, and turned it into a real learning experience for Aboriginal students interested in pursuing a health-related career.

The Faculty of Dentistry hosted nine University of Manitoba ACCESS program students, giving them hands-on exposure to the field of dentistry. The students are part of the University of Manitoba Health Careers ACCESS Program (H-CAP) for Aboriginal students intending to apply to one of the professional health faculties upon completing the necessary requirements.

Part of the H-CAP program involves a non-credit course called “Seminars in Health Careers.” Students tour the University of Manitoba’s various health care and health-related faculties to expose them to different career options.

“We give them as wide an exposure as we can. It helps them to make up their minds,” said ACCESS academic advisor, Larry McDermott, adding students are taken to the Faculties of Pharmacy, Nursing, Medicine, Dentistry and their related schools for the tours.

The Faculty of Dentistry has offered tours to ACCESS students for several years, but this was the first time it included a workshop to show them what a career in dentistry actually entails.

During the half-day session, the students learned how to do sutures, drill teeth, and prepare amalgam and composite fillings.

“We tried to reveal what dentistry really is by giving them hands-on experience. It allows students to get a good picture of what it is like to go into the dental profession,” said Noriko Boorberg Blight, who coordinated the workshop.

They were also given a tour of the faculty, including a demonstration in the faculty’s state-of-the-art dental simulation laboratory and an up-close look at the main clinic. Two ACCESS students currently enrolled in Dentistry also met with the students to offer their perception of the program and answer any questions.

Boorberg Blight noted that many ACCESS students consider other health care fields over dentistry as a career path because of a common misconception that dentistry does not present opportunities to work in the public health sector.

“They were really interested in the social impact and how (dentistry) might allow them to give back to the community,” Boorberg Blight explained, adding some of the students were surprised to learn that she herself provides oral health care to inmates at Stony Mountain Penitentiary.

As a result of the workshop, four ACCESS students expressed interest in possibly pursuing a career in dentistry.

“I had never really thought of (a career in) dentistry. This is really opening my eyes,” said Sheila Klyne, first year university student. “I like that you have the option of working your own hours.”

Disciplinary committee report

The university discipline committee reported 452 incidents of academic dishonesty and inappropriate behaviour in 2005-2006. That number is up from last year when there were 423 incidents but similar to 2003-2004 when there were 323 incidents recorded.

The university had traditionally included incidents such as spreading computer viruses as inappropriate behaviour, however the category was dropped last year recognizing that the vast majority of incidents involving computer viruses are inadvertent.

Diversity of options available in dentistry surprises students

“Tours to ACCESS students for several years, but this was the first time it included a workshop to show them what a career in dentistry actually entails. During the half-day session, the students learned how to do sutures, drill teeth, and prepare amalgam and composite fillings.

“We tried to reveal what dentistry really is by giving them hands-on experience. It allows students to get a good picture of what it is like to go into the dental profession,” said Noriko Boorberg Blight, who coordinated the workshop.

They were also given a tour of the faculty, including a demonstration in the faculty’s state-of-the-art dental simulation laboratory and an up-close look at the main clinic. Two ACCESS students currently enrolled in Dentistry also met with the students to offer their perception of the program and answer any questions.

Boorberg Blight noted that many ACCESS students consider other health care fields over dentistry as a career path because of a common misconception that dentistry does not present opportunities to work in the public health sector.

“They were really interested in the social impact and how (dentistry) might allow them to give back to the community,” Boorberg Blight explained, adding some of the students were surprised to learn that she herself provides oral health care to inmates at Stony Mountain Penitentiary.

As a result of the workshop, four ACCESS students expressed interest in possibly pursuing a career in dentistry.

“I had never really thought of (a career in) dentistry. This is really opening my eyes,” said Sheila Klyne, first year university student. “I like that you have the option of working your own hours.”

Disciplinary committee report

The university discipline committee reported 452 incidents of academic dishonesty and inappropriate behaviour in 2005-2006. That number is up from last year when there were 423 incidents but similar to 2003-2004 when there were 323 incidents recorded.

The university had traditionally included incidents such as spreading computer viruses as inappropriate behaviour, however the category was dropped last year recognizing that the vast majority of incidents involving computer viruses are inadvertent.

Diversity of options available in dentistry surprises students

“Tours to ACCESS students for several years, but this was the first time it included a workshop to show them what a career in dentistry actually entails. During the half-day session, the students learned how to do sutures, drill teeth, and prepare amalgam and composite fillings.

“We tried to reveal what dentistry really is by giving them hands-on experience. It allows students to get a good picture of what it is like to go into the dental profession,” said Noriko Boorberg Blight, who coordinated the workshop.

They were also given a tour of the faculty, including a demonstration in the faculty’s state-of-the-art dental simulation laboratory and an up-close look at the main clinic. Two ACCESS students currently enrolled in Dentistry also met with the students to offer their perception of the program and answer any questions.

Boorberg Blight noted that many ACCESS students consider other health care fields over dentistry as a career path because of a common misconception that dentistry does not present opportunities to work in the public health sector.

“They were really interested in the social impact and how (dentistry) might allow them to give back to the community,” Boorberg Blight explained, adding some of the students were surprised to learn that she herself provides oral health care to inmates at Stony Mountain Penitentiary.

As a result of the workshop, four ACCESS students expressed interest in possibly pursuing a career in dentistry.

“I had never really thought of (a career in) dentistry. This is really opening my eyes,” said Sheila Klyne, first year university student. “I like that you have the option of working your own hours.”

Disciplinary committee report

The university discipline committee reported 452 incidents of academic dishonesty and inappropriate behaviour in 2005-2006. That number is up from last year when there were 423 incidents but similar to 2003-2004 when there were 323 incidents recorded.

The university had traditionally included incidents such as spreading computer viruses as inappropriate behaviour, however the category was dropped last year recognizing that the vast majority of incidents involving computer viruses are inadvertent.
Climate change requires global solutions

BY DALE BARBOUR
The Bulletin

Humans now possess the ability to create change on a global scale. The question is can we change our own institutions to help mitigate that change?

“For the first time we are completely dominating the global ecosystem and so institutions are increasingly critical,” Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources founding dean Leslie King said. She has spent the past ten years pondering that question as the lone Canadian executive committee member with the United Nation’s Institutional Dimensions of Global Environmental Change (IDGEC) Scientific Steering Committee.

“I was invited to a brainstorming session to see if we could figure out what role institutions play in the human environment relationship,” King said. “And that turned out to be the germ of this ten-year international project.”

King was serving as a board member of the Arctic Research Consortium of the United States at the time. Tackling this issue was inspired by noting that the environment was too good a subject not to get involved with.

“By institutions, in this case, do not mean something like a bank, but rather “systems of rules, decision-making procedures, and programs that give rise to certain practices, assign roles to the participants in these practices, and guide interactions among the occupants of the relevant roles” or more simply, “rules in use, practice.”

And if you think the words in that definition have been carefully weighed, you’re right – one of the first steps in the process was sorting out what exactly people mean when they think of institutions.

“One of our goals other than promoting research was to create a common language, definitions and methods. We needed to look at the nature of institutions, their impact and how we might improve the performance of institutions,” King said.

The focus on “systems” and “practice” recognizes that it’s not a corporation that interacts with the environment – the corporation is a building, people, or a number on the stock market, but rather the behaviour patterns of people shaped by institutions that have a profound impact on the environment.

The research considered what role institutions play in creating or solving global changes. Why are some institutions more effective at solving global change problems than others and can we design or redesign institutions to make them more effective in solving global environmental problems?

The research also looked at institutions from an analytic level, considering fit, interplay and scale, how well institutions fit with the biophysical system that they’re designed to intervene in, how the institutions link to one another or how difficult it is to delink them and their scale, whether institutions’ responsibilities that work at the micro-level can be scaled up or whether institutions at the macrolevel can be scaled down or whether there is one correct level at which to address different environmental problems.

In the second phase of the research, the IDGEC focused on two geographic regions, the Arctic and south east Asia.

“We needed places where we could test out these ideas and the make up of the committee – my own research interest was in the arctic – tended us in these two directions,” King said.

The project recently wrapped up its research stage at a three-day conference in Bali, Indonesia – bringing over 200 researchers together to synthesize what they had learned over the past ten years.

The goals of the conference were to answer the question: what do we know now that we did not know at the outset of the project, to harvest, synthesize, communicate the major findings, to look at the policy relevance and implications of those findings and to test out these ideas in the area. To determine policy relevance, the group had a variety of policy related workshops before, during and after the conference. High level decision-makers interacted with researchers on such topics as the post-Kyoto climate regime, the role of cities in addressing climate change, giving direction to the next UN Conference on Sustainable Development, the progress made by China and India in addressing climate change, and Coastal Zone Management.

The group also brought together 35 different countries to discuss and develop ideas for Sustainable Development’s Earth Negotiations Bulletin to mine their rich experience of international treaty making and to provide opportunities for interaction with scholars on the same topics.

And if you think the words in that definition have been carefully weighed, you’re right – one of the first steps in the process was sorting out what exactly people mean when they think of institutions.

“The need is urgent and all this research will be meaningless unless, as we hope it helps us to transform our institutions to improve human environment relations and to address critical global environmental problems such as climate change, loss of biodiversity, and the global spread of contaminants,” King said.

Letters Policy

The University of Manitoba Bulletin welcomes letters to the editor from readers about matters related to content in the Bulletin, the university or higher education. Letters must be original and addressed to the editor. Opinions expressed are those of the writer. The Bulletin does not publish anonymous letters. Please include your name, affiliation and phone number. Letters should be submitted to barbourd@ms.umanitoba.ca. The Bulletin reserves the right to edit letters to address style, length and legal considerations.

Viewpoint Policy

The University of Manitoba Bulletin welcomes submissions for Viewpoint from members of the university community. Unless otherwise discussed in advance with the editor, articles should range between 600 and 700 words and should address issues related to the university or higher education. Speeches related to issues of interest to the university community, such as the writer to barbourd@ms.umanitoba.ca. The Bulletin reserves the right to edit or reject any submission that does not comply with policy. Opinions expressed are those of the writer.

Distinguished Lecturer Series

Has the school become the battleground for the souls of children?

a public lecture

Dr. Bart McGGettrick

Dr. Bart McGGettrick is dean emeritus of the University of Glasgow’s Faculty of Education, and was principal of St. Andrews College (Scotland) from 1985 to 1999. He has presented workshops and "master classes" on educational leadership in more than 80 countries. He has also directed projects in India, Lithuania, Jordan, United States, Canada, Argentina, Malaysia, and Poland. Some of his other research interests include: teacher education, assessment, personal and social education, education for citizenship, and values education.

Monday, March 5
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
Become a member of the support staff endowment fund

The support staff endowment fund is a University of Manitoba established trust for the purpose of supporting activities that are of a benefit to, and promote excellence among, the members of the support staff of The University of Manitoba.

The support staff endowment fund advisory committee was formed in 1986. Sufficient interest funds became available in 1988 for disbursement to support staff in the form of awards supporting personal and educational endeavours and projects. Monies have also been used for field trips of academic interest and a seminar series, all organized by support staff.

The committee strives for an equitable representation of unionized and non-unionized, male and female support staff from all university departments. Membership is for a three-year term. There are vacancies on the committee for this upcoming year.

We hope you are interested in joining this exciting and active committee. Please visit the SSEF website at umanito.ca/staff/endowment and click on the link “Membership Application” to download the PDF application form. Complete and submit the form to Linda Rzeszutek, nominations chair, Housing and Student Life, 106 Arthur V. Mauro Residence, Fort Garry Campus, by March 16. If you have any questions, please call Linda at 474 6404.

---

**APPOINTMENT**

Rennie Zegalski, president, board of directors, Alumni Association Inc., and Elaine Goldie, vice-president (external), University of Manitoba, are pleased to announce the appointment of Julie Mikuska. BA/80, as interim executive director/director of alumni affairs, until June 30, 2008. Mikuska has been with the university since 1988, with positions including manager of development communications and special events during the $237 million Building on Strengths campaign, and most recently executive assistant to the vice-president (external).

Mikuska has been chosen for some of the university’s most high profile events, including building openings, donor recognition events, Remembrance Day ceremonies and the annual general meeting. She has received a University of Manitoba Outreach Award, and has won more than 30 juried awards for publications, programs and projects related to public affairs and fundraising communications.

---

**Faculty of Medicine**

**Department of Community Health Sciences**

**Professor and Head**

The Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority invite applications for the position of Head of the Department of Community Health Sciences beginning July 1, 2007.

The Department actively participates in the undergraduate and residency training programs in the Faculty of Medicine and offers the M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees through the Faculty of Graduate Studies. It has a strong research track record with particular strengths in health policy and evaluation, Aboriginal health, occupational/environmental health, as well as aging and health.

It also provides a variety of services to communities, organizations and governments on a contractual basis. It houses major research groups including the Manitoba Centre for Health Policy (MCHP) and the Centre for Aboriginal Health Research.

Candidates must have a Ph.D. or M.D., substantial record and achievement in Community Health Sciences or related areas, and extensive experience in teaching and research as well as proven administrative experience. Candidates holding an M.D. degree must be eligible for registration with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba. Certification in Community Medicine by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada or the College of Family Physicians of Canada is required. The search will be limited to individuals currently holding tenured appointments at the University of Manitoba.

The incumbent department head, Dr. J. O’Neil, will be a candidate for this position. 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.

Interested candidates should submit a letter, quoting position no. B119/49 outlining interest and suitability for the position, curriculum vitae and the names of three referees by Thursday, March 8, 2007 to:

**Dr. J.D. Sandham, Dean**
Chair, Community Health Sciences Search Committee
Faculty of Medicine
University of Manitoba
A101 – 753 McDermot Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3E 0W3

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

---

**Faculty of Medicine**

**Department of Otolaryngology**

**Winnipeg Regional Health Authority**

**Department Head**

The Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority invite applications for the position of Head of the Department of Otolaryngology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba and Head, Section of Otolaryngology, Surgery Program, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority for a five-year term commencing August 1, 2007 or as soon as possible thereafter. This successful applicant will be, or expected to become, a GFT at the rank of Professor or Associate Professor. A stipend will be provided for the duration of the appointment.

Candidates should have a substantial record and achievement in Otolaryngology, and proven administrative experience. The Department is responsible for programs of education at the undergraduate and postgraduate level. The Head will work closely with the Surgery program of the WRHA, and its Otolaryngology sections. Candidates must be eligible for registration with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba. Certification in Otolaryngology by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada is required.

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, Canadian and permanent residents will be given priority.

Interested candidates should submit a letter, quoting position no. B118/49 outlining interest and suitability for the position, curriculum vitae and the names of three referees by Thursday, March 8, 2007 to:

**Dr. Brian Postl**
Co-Chair, Department of Otolaryngology Search Committee
Co Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
1800 – 155 Carlton Street
Winnipeg MB R3C 4Y1

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

Books
by University Staff

BY DALE BARBOUR
The Bulletin

Even a cutting edge idea deserves a make over.
And in The New Structural Social Work, third edition, Faculty of Social Work Dean Bob Mullaly takes the concept of social work, that he argued for in the 1993 edition of the book, and looks at what the past 14 years have taught him. Mullaly is internationally known for his theories of structural social work and anti-oppressive social work.

In its purest form The New Structural Social Work is an argument between two concepts of social work. "The traditional approach of social work is to focus on individuals and try to help them adapt to or fit back into society. The focus is on personal change and individual reform rather than social reform," Mullaly said.

The underlying theory behind the traditional approach is that the system is basically okay and that while social workers might tinker with the system, their real goal should be to help people fit into it.

"I reject that approach," Mullaly said. "Other view to be held by a minority of social workers but it's become much more popular today, is that society isn't a good one for large numbers of people and distinct groups have been disadvantaged." Mullaly said Canada has had over a decade of surpluses at the federal level, which eliminates the argument that due to government deficits, social programs should be cut. And politically, globalization has taken some of the intermister and has assumed a different nature and direction.

The New Structural Social Work considers these theories and up social world changes forcing them into a theory of what social work can and should be doing today. Rather than changing people, social workers should focus on changing structures in their practice.

"It gives social workers an understanding of the context in which they work. All these forces are in play and they impact on the environment in which people do social work," Mullaly said. "It's hard to make sense of things when you're trying to survive in the day to day business of doing social work. The problem is not deficient people; it is a deficient socio-economic-political system. But before you can do anything about a problem you have to understand it. That's what we're trying to do here."

The New Structural Social Work considers these theories and up social world changes forcing them into a theory of what social work can and should be doing today. Rather than changing people, social workers should focus on changing structures in their practice.

"It gives social workers an understanding of the context in which they work. All these forces are in play and they impact on the environment in which people do social work," Mullaly said. "It's hard to make sense of things when you're trying to survive in the day to day business of doing social work. The problem is not deficient people; it is a deficient socio-economic-political system. But before you can do anything about a problem you have to understand it. That's what we're trying to do here."


In some ways the three different editions track Mullaly's own understanding and development of structural social work. The 1993 edition focused on class and capitalism as the determining factors in creating social inequalities, while dabbling in feminism. The 1997 edition expanded its focus to include other forms of oppression such as patriarchy, ageism and racism.

"I've been trying to develop an umbrella framework for what's going on because once you get into competing forms of oppressed groups, I think it becomes self defeating," Mullaly said. The key is to understand that while there are differences among people who are oppressed there are also similarities involved in the oppression.

The third edition of the book fits in neatly with today's academic climate – recognizing the post-structural and postcolonial approaches that have become common in the humanities and which, in their own way, focus on trying to explain the inequalities in the world.

Of course, the world has changed in the last 14 years too.

"In 1993 we didn't have a good analysis of globalization," Mullaly said. "It was here but we didn't really understand what was going on or what it was that social workers could do to offset the negative consequences and maybe reverse it."

By the second edition in 1997, things were even tougher – with neo-liberal governments cutting social programs and social workers facing cutbacks in their own field while trying to assist people dealing with the loss of social programs in the larger community. For people looking to create a more egalitarian society, the mid-90's were a low point.

"Things seem to be more hopeful today than they were in 1997 – there's been major changes on the political and economic fronts," Mullaly said. Economically, Mullaly said Canada has had over a decade of surpluses at the federal level, which eliminates the argument that due to government deficits, social programs should be cut. And politically, globalization has taken some of the intermister and has assumed a different nature and direction.

The New Structural Social Work considers these theories and up social world changes forcing them into a theory of what social work can and should be doing today. Rather than changing people, social workers should focus on changing structures in their practice.

"It gives social workers an understanding of the context in which they work. All these forces are in play and they impact on the environment in which people do social work," Mullaly said. "It's hard to make sense of things when you're trying to survive in the day to day business of doing social work. The problem is not deficient people; it is a deficient socio-economic-political system. But before you can do anything about a problem you have to understand it. That's what we're trying to do here."

St. Paul's College and the University of Manitoba present

The St. Paul's College University Affiliation Lecture
distinguished Visiting Lecture Series
a public lecture on

“A Thread of Grace: Jewish Survival in Catholic Italy (1943-45)”

Dr. Mary Doria Russell
Monday, March 5, 2007
7:00 p.m., Fr. Jensen Theatre, Room 100,
St. Paul's College, University of Manitoba

At the end of World War II, nearly 50,000 native Italian and foreign Jews were hidden, cared for and protected by ordinary Italians in every walk of life during a brutal and vindictive Nazi occupation. When Germany finally surrendered, 20 months later, more than 85% of the Jews of Italy were still alive.

Mary Doria Russell, author of the award-winning bestsellers THE SPARROW and CHILDREN OF GOD, will speak about the historical reality behind her PULITZER PRIZE-nominated novel A THREAD OF GRACE, and about the extraordinary response of the Italian nation to the Holocaust. WARNER BROTHERS has optioned the novel The Sparrow into a screenplay and BRAD PITT is to play the lead role in the movie.

For more information contact: 474-8582 or www.umanitoba.ca/stpauls

Thinking of Building or Renovating? Visit us at:
wwwfortunehomes.ca

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Campbell Award
(for particularly meritorious service in outreach activities)

To mark the end of the term of Dr. Ralph Campbell as President of the University of Manitoba, his colleague and friend, Dr. Karen R. Grant, Vice-Provost (Academic Affairs), Chair of the Selection Committee, has been established a trust fund

To mark the end of the term of Dr. Ralph Campbell as President of the University of Manitoba, his colleague and friend, Dr. Karen R. Grant, Vice-Provost (Academic Affairs), has been established a trust fund

The award is offered to any staff member of the University who has demonstrated outstanding service in the area of community service and has demonstrated outstanding service in the area of community service.

Nominations for the Award will be accepted from all members of the University, alumni and members of the community.

No recipient of a Campbell Award is eligible to receive it a second time until a period of time.

The Campbell Award shall normally be presented at the University's June Convocation to a staff member of the University of Manitoba. The value of the award shall be that determined from time to time by the Board of Governors. In each of the past years, the award has been $1,000. If, in the judgement of the committee, there are two candidates of equal merit, the committee may recommend that the Campbell Award be divided between the two candidates.

Nominations for the Award will be accepted from all members of the University, alumni and members of the community.

No recipient of a Campbell Award is eligible to receive it a second time until a period of time.

The President's Advisory Committee on University Outreach will continue to act as the selection committee for the Campbell Award and to advise the president of the most appropriate recipients for this year. The committee will be made up of representatives from the board of directors, representatives from the board of directors, representatives from the administration, representatives from the administration, representatives from the community, representatives from the community, representatives from the community, and representatives from the community.

Nominations forms must be received by March 9, 2007. The nominations forms must be accompanied by three letters of support, including at least one letter from outside the University.
A Day in the Life of an Exchange Student Coordinator

BY DALE BARBOUR
The Bulletin

Who says getting an education and seeing the world can’t go hand in hand? “Many of our exchange students have traveled before. Now they want to keep seeing the world but they don’t want to put off their degree,” University of Manitoba student exchange coordinator Robin Dirks said. An exchange program provides the best of both worlds.

Most people are looking to get a cultural experience as much as they are looking to study,” Dirks said. And that goes both ways, even as Manitoba students are looking to see the world, international students are drawn to Manitoba to see what Canada has to offer.

As the university’s exchange coordinator, Dirks plays traffic control agent for both groups. She’s based in the International Student Centre in University Centre and looks after the exchange programs that are directly run by the university.

“We probably have close to 150 partnerships with universities around the world,” Dirks said. And that just includes the programs run by the International Centre for Students itself – individual faculties often look after their own exchange programs.

For the students heading out from the university, Dirks is the first point of contact.

“People will come in and say, ‘I want to study in Australia,’ for example and we’ll find them an exchange program that meets their needs,” Dirks said. From there, she’ll help the students apply for the program, get their VISA in order and even book the ticket.

When exchange students arrive from other countries, Dirks helps them settle in and is a resource if they need any help during their stay. The university offers a buddy system that links incoming exchange students with students on campus. The buddies show them our footstep. For more information and registration: Aboriginal Student Centre at 474 8890; fax: 275 5142; or e-mail asc@umanitoba.ca. Also check the website at uumanitoba.ca/student/asc.

Exchange student coordinator Robin Dirks helps University of Manitoba students travel the world and helps visiting students settle into Winnipeg.

Elders Gathering returns

The sixth Annual Elders and Traditional Peoples Gathering will be held Feb. 23 to 25 in the Manitoba Room, Second Floor University Centre. The theme of this year’s elders gathering is Retracing our Footsteps. For more information and registration: Aboriginal Student Centre at 474 8890; fax: 275 5142; or e-mail asc@umanitoba.ca. Also check the website at uimanitoba.ca/student/asc.

The Queen Bee Motel
Convenient, quiet, professional

Work at the University of Manitoba • Sleep at the Queen Bee Motel
261 Pembina Highway. Phone (204) 269-4666, or 1-866-431-4666.

University College Presents
2007 W.L. Morton Distinguished Lecture

Dinosaurs and Culture

a public lecture by
Dr. Philip Currie
World-renowned Palaeontologist, Professor, & Canada
Research Chair (Biological Sciences), University of Alberta

Thursday, March 1, 7:30pm
Room 240 University College, U of M

Dr. Currie is the former Curator of Dinosaurs at the Royal Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada (1999) and a member of the Explorers Club (2001). As a researcher at the Royal Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology (Drumheller), he has published more than 100 scientific articles, 85 popular articles and twelve books, focusing on the growth and variation of extinct reptiles, the anatomy and relationships of carnivorous dinosaurs, and the origin of birds.

Free Parking & Free Admission
For more information call 474-9751

University College thanks the Faculty of Arts for the generous support of this event.

The Bulletin
February 22, 2007
Page 7

Pediatric Origins of Lung Disease: Triggers, Mechanisms and Outcomes
An international symposium presented by the Biology of Breathing Theme
Manitoba Institute of Child Health
Wednesday—Thursday, March 21—22, 2007
8:00 am—5:00 pm
Therapy, Inn at the Forks
Register at www.mich.ca

Wednesday, March 21, 2007
Dinner, in the Forks Purchase your ticket now at JBRC513!
Cocktails 6:30 pm Dinner 7:00 pm
Dr. Scott T Weiss
Professor of Medicine
Harvard Medical School
“Pediatric asthma: maternal risk factors, genetic links, and impact on lung”
Thursday, March 22, 2007
8:00 am—5:00 pm
Theatre A, Basic Medical Sciences Building
SESSION 1 The developing lung: insults and outcomes
Dr. Keith Tanswell
Chair, Division of Neonatology
Hospital for Sick Children
“Evolving concepts in bronchopulmonary dysplasia”
SESSION 2 Early Onset of Asthma: Clinical and Epidemiological Evidence
Dr. Giovanni Piedimonte
Department of Pediatrics
West Virginia University School of Medicine
“Respiratory syncytial virus infection, airway inflammation and the induction of asthma in children”
SESSION 3 Triggers and Biological Mechanisms: Asthma and Airway Remodelling
Professor Peter K. Jeffery
Emeritus Professor of Lung Pathology
Imperial College London at the Royal Brompton Hospital
“Remodelling & inflammation in asthma: adults, children & infants”
Dr. Jamila Chakir
Department of Medicine
University of Laval
“Bronchial fibroblasts and asthma: an altered phenotype underpins airway remodelling”
Dr. Darryl Knight
Department of Pharmacology & Therapeutics
University of British Columbia
“Mechanisms and consequences of abnormally airway epithelial function in pediatric asthma”

Sponsored by:

• CHIR National Training Program in Allergy and Asthma
• MerckFrosst
• ALATANA Pharma, a Nycomed Company
• ActaSanaera
• GlaxoSmithKline
• Manitoba Institute of Child Health
• Department of Pediatrics & Child Health, University of Manitoba

Contact:
Dr. Andrew J. Hatakey Ph 204-787-2062
Fax 204-787-1220
ahatakey@cc.umanitoba.ca
Ms. Shannon McKeer Ph 204-789-3968
Fax 204-789-3915
smcKeer@mich.ca

Free Parking & Free Admission
For more information call 474-9751

University College thanks the Faculty of Arts for the generous support of this event.

the new students around campus and share their own wealth of knowledge about the U of M.
“We do a lot for our international students and usually the exchange students want to take full advantage of the programs and make the most of their time here,” Dirks said.

The University of Manitoba attracts a wide range of exchange students – people from English-speaking and European countries are the staple and have the easiest time dealing with the language barrier, but the students are also commonly drawn from Mexico, South America and Japan and China.

“It’s a fun job. I get to see students at their most excited and enthusiastic,” Dirks said. Either they’re pumped about heading out to a new country or they’re excited to have just landed in Canada and want to see what the University of Manitoba has to offer.

“It’s always fun to hear their travel stories when they get back.”

Typically students go on the exchange programs for one or two terms. Deadlines are usually the end of January for fall terms and the beginning of September for winter terms.

“There are scholarships available,” Dirks added. Last year $60,000 was made available to students participating in the exchange program and additional money is often available through faculty-based programs.

Along with her day job, Dirks is completing a masters in social work – working with people provides a nice counterbalance to the course work.

“I love seeing how students experience new cultures and how they grow from these cross cultural experiences,” Dirks said. ‘A lot of times they’ll say the exchange has been a life transforming experience for them. It’s a privilege to be a part of that.’

Typically students go on the exchange programs for one or two terms. Deadlines are usually the end of January for fall terms and the beginning of September for winter terms.

“There are scholarships available,” Dirks added. Last year $60,000 was made available to students participating in the exchange program and additional money is often available through faculty-based programs.

Along with her day job, Dirks is completing a masters in social work – working with people provides a nice counterbalance to the course work.

“I love seeing how students experience new cultures and how they grow from these cross cultural experiences,” Dirks said. ‘A lot of times they’ll say the exchange has been a life transforming experience for them. It’s a privilege to be a part of that.’

“I love seeing how students experience new cultures and how they grow from these cross cultural experiences,” Dirks said. ‘A lot of times they’ll say the exchange has been a life transforming experience for them. It’s a privilege to be a part of that.’

“I love seeing how students experience new cultures and how they grow from these cross cultural experiences,” Dirks said. ‘A lot of times they’ll say the exchange has been a life transforming experience for them. It’s a privilege to be a part of that.’

“I love seeing how students experience new cultures and how they grow from these cross cultural experiences,” Dirks said. ‘A lot of times they’ll say the exchange has been a life transforming experience for them. It’s a privilege to be a part of that.’
Events Listing
University of Manitoba

Come celebrate 130 years!

The University of Manitoba was Western Canada’s first university when it was established in 1877 and we think that’s an anniversary worth celebrating.

Thinking Out Loud - Discussion of the beloved Heat: An Amateur's Adventures as Kitchen Slave, Line Cook, Pasta-Maker, and Apprentice to a Dante-Quoting Butcher in Tuscany by Bill Buford, Roisin Cossey, and David Churchill (both of the department of history) will be on hand to give their reactions to this intriguing and humorous study of life in a professional kitchen. Terry MacLeod (Host of Information Radio 990) will moderate. McNally Robinson Booksellers, Grant Park Mall, 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 22.

Friday, February 23
Elizabeth Dafoe Library Graduate Student Lecture Series 2006-07, The Exploits of Captain Poetry: Escaping the Book -- a Series of Fortunate Events by Sheila Simonson, English, Faculty of Arts, Iceland Board Room, Third Floor, Elizabeth Dafoe Library, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23.

Architectures, Ramanujan Graphs by Tim Nikkel, graduate student, 415 Machray Hall, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23.

Thinking Out Loud - Discussion of the book by the University of Manitoba students, the Manitoba University Student Union, 415 Machray Hall, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23.

Track and Field
Feb. 23-24 – Canada West Championships, Max Bell Centre, All Day.

Field and Track
Feb. 23-24 – Canada West Championships, Max Bell Centre, All Day.

Bison Co-Ed Cheerleading
Mar. 10 – MAC Cheerleading Competition, Investors Group, 10 a.m.

Ticket Information
Single Game
Adults: $8
Students: $5
Children under 12 free

Track and Field
Feb. 23-24 – Canada West Championships, Max Bell Centre, All Day.

Bison Co-Ed Cheerleading
Mar. 10 – MAC Cheerleading Competition, Investors Group, 10 a.m.

Architectures, Ramanujan Graphs by Tim Nikkel, graduate student, 415 Machray Hall, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23.

Thinking Out Loud - Discussion of the book by the University of Manitoba students, the Manitoba University Student Union, 415 Machray Hall, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23.

Track and Field
Feb. 23-24 – Canada West Championships, Max Bell Centre, All Day.

Bison Co-Ed Cheerleading
Mar. 10 – MAC Cheerleading Competition, Investors Group, 10 a.m.

Architectures, Ramanujan Graphs by Tim Nikkel, graduate student, 415 Machray Hall, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23.

Thinking Out Loud - Discussion of the book by the University of Manitoba students, the Manitoba University Student Union, 415 Machray Hall, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23.

Track and Field
Feb. 23-24 – Canada West Championships, Max Bell Centre, All Day.

Bison Co-Ed Cheerleading
Mar. 10 – MAC Cheerleading Competition, Investors Group, 10 a.m.

Architectures, Ramanujan Graphs by Tim Nikkel, graduate student, 415 Machray Hall, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23.

Thinking Out Loud - Discussion of the book by the University of Manitoba students, the Manitoba University Student Union, 415 Machray Hall, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23.

Track and Field
Feb. 23-24 – Canada West Championships, Max Bell Centre, All Day.

Bison Co-Ed Cheerleading
Mar. 10 – MAC Cheerleading Competition, Investors Group, 10 a.m.

Architectures, Ramanujan Graphs by Tim Nikkel, graduate student, 415 Machray Hall, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23.

Thinking Out Loud - Discussion of the book by the University of Manitoba students, the Manitoba University Student Union, 415 Machray Hall, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23.

Track and Field
Feb. 23-24 – Canada West Championships, Max Bell Centre, All Day.

Bison Co-Ed Cheerleading
Mar. 10 – MAC Cheerleading Competition, Investors Group, 10 a.m.

Architectures, Ramanujan Graphs by Tim Nikkel, graduate student, 415 Machray Hall, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23.

Thinking Out Loud - Discussion of the book by the University of Manitoba students, the Manitoba University Student Union, 415 Machray Hall, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23.

Track and Field
Feb. 23-24 – Canada West Championships, Max Bell Centre, All Day.

Bison Co-Ed Cheerleading
Mar. 10 – MAC Cheerleading Competition, Investors Group, 10 a.m.

Architectures, Ramanujan Graphs by Tim Nikkel, graduate student, 415 Machray Hall, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23.

Thinking Out Loud - Discussion of the book by the University of Manitoba students, the Manitoba University Student Union, 415 Machray Hall, 12:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23.
St. John’s College looks at Theology in the Church

St. John’s College will host the Currents in Biblical and Theological Dialogue: “Theology in the Church – Who Needs It?” March 2 to 5. This conference explores trends and directions in biblical and theological research in the prairie region. This year the conference is dedicated to the memory of the late H. Gordon Harland, well-known scholar and teacher of theology at the University of Manitoba, for whom church and theology were central concerns. Each conference includes a keynote speaker, and papers presented by scholars actively engaged in their fields. The event begins with a reception and includes lunch. Additional information is available at umanito.ca/colleges/st_johns/.

Bannatyne Campus

and St. Boniface Research Centre

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Antibiotic Resistance: Currents in Graduate Student Research Presentations: Immunology, Developing experimental models to study natural killer cell differentiation by Jianyu Tran, 12 p.m., and VSV/GG MAVG GP and VSV/GG ZEBOV GP induce rapid anti-viral state in mouse macrophages in type 1 interferon-dependent manner by Alex Siglaga, 12.30 p.m., Immunology Library, 604/605 Basic Medical Sciences Building, Thursday, Feb. 22.

Pediatric Research Rounds, Characterization of Disorders of the Skeleton by Alan Elliott, Department of Biochemistry and Medical Genetics, 500 John Buhler Research Centre, 12 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 22.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Pharmacology, Human Preepidemiological growth factor: a bidirectional signaling molecule by Thomas Klonisch, human anatomy and cell science, Pharmacology Library, A229 Chown Building, 9 a.m., Friday, Feb. 23.

Community Health Sciences, How can administrative claims data provide insight into “what works” at the population-level? Looking at a growing factor: a bidirectional signaling molecule by Thomas Klonisch, human anatomy and cell science, Pharmacology Library, A229 Chown Building, 9 a.m., Friday, Feb. 23.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Internal Medicine, Liver Disease and Traditional Chinese Medicine by Yuen Woong Goung, associate professor, University of Manitoba, Theatre A Basic Medical Sciences Building, linked to NG002 at St. Boniface Hospital, 8 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 27.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Medicine, The Clinical Significance of Endothelial Dysfunction by Todd Anderson, professor of medicine, University of Calgary, Chief, division of cardiology, Libin Cardiovascular Institute, Foothills Medical Centre, Senior Scholar, AHEMR, Calgary, Alta., Samuel Cohen Auditorium, St. Boniface Research Centre, linked to A229 Chown Building, 3 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 28.

St. Boniface Hospital Research Centre Visiting Speaker, The clinical significance of endothelial dysfunction by Todd Anderson, Professor of Medicine, University of Calgary, Chief - Division of Cardiology, Libin Cardiovascular Institute, Foothills Medical Centre, St. Boniface Research Centre, 5 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 28.

THURSDAY, MARCH 1

Immunology, Antibiotic resistance strategies used by the nosocomial bacterial pathogen Serratia marcescens by Elizabeth Worobec, microbiology, Faculty of Science, SG002 at St. Boniface Hospital, 8 a.m., Thursday, March 1.

FRIDAY, MARCH 2

Community Health Sciences, HOOPS for Diabetes: A Community-Based Diabetes Management Intervention by Mandy Armstrong, nutritionist and health promotion specialist, project coordinator, HOOPS May 08/First Nation, Dr. Betty Havens Seminar Room, 8060 Medical Rehabilitation Building, 12 p.m., Friday, March 2.

Health, Role of the Na+ + H+ Exchanger in Heart Hypertrophy and Ischemia Reperfusion Damage by Larry Flegel, professor of biochemistry, Faculty of Medicine, University of Alberta, Samuel Cohen Auditorium, St. Boniface Research Centre, 5 p.m., Friday, March 2.

MONDAY, MARCH 5

Centre on Ageing, Improving Quality of Life for Patients with Dementia and Their Caregivers by Rolfe Sean Morrison, Hermann Merkin, professor of palliative care, vice-chair of research, department of geriatrics and adult development, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, NY, Samuel N. Cohen Auditorium, St. Boniface Hospital Research Centre, 7 p.m., Monday, March 5.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences, And Surger y Rounds, Ask The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba with Stl’atl’lapi, registrar, Heather Domke, president, Andrew Macdiarmid, president-elect, Terry Babick, deputy registrar, standards, Doreen Kelly, assistant registrar, general counsel, and Anna Ziomek, assistant registrar and qualifications/complaints consultant, Theatre A Basic Medical Sciences Building, invited to Sam Cohen Auditorium, St. Boniface Research Centre, 7-45 a.m., Wednesday, March 7.

FLATLAND

Anna von Gwinner

www.annavonwinner.da

February 19 to March 17

Architecture II Gallery

The Architecture II Gallery is located on the main floor of the Architecture II Building. It is open Monday to Friday from 8:30 to 4:30.

St. John’s College will host the Currents in Biblical and Theological Dialogue: “Theology in the Church – Who Needs It?” March 2 to 5. This conference explores trends and directions in biblical and theological research in the prairie region. This year the conference is dedicated to the memory of the late H. Gordon Harland, well-known scholar and teacher of theology at the University of Manitoba, for whom church and theology were central concerns. Each conference includes a keynote speaker, and papers presented by scholars actively engaged in their fields. The event begins with a reception and includes lunch. Additional information is available at umanito.ca/colleges/st_johns/.

Advertise in The Bulletin

For details call 474 8111
SET Day explores the future of science

BY FRANK NOLAN
Research Promotion

On February 16, Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) Day gave more than 200 students and teachers from 54 high schools across the province a rare glimpse into the future.

The first event of its kind to be held in Manitoba, SET Day featured presentations by leading researchers in six key fields: alternative energy, climate change, functional foods, nanotechnology, structural biology and astrobiology. The goal of the full-day event was to give the students and teachers an overview of current capabilities in each research area, and to speculate about how those capabilities might change in the next 25 years.

The event was sponsored by the Prairies Office of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Manitoba (APEGM), the Office of the Vice-President (Research) at the University of Manitoba, and the Faculty of Education.

“We really wanted an event that would excite students about research in science and engineering, not only today’s research, but the research we might be doing 25 years from now,” said Dinger Jaya, associate vice-president (research) at the University of Manitoba. “High school students learning about the history of science, and about what we can do right now, but we wanted to take that a step further by focusing on the future.”

After official greetings from Jayas and University of Manitoba president Emílio Brázmbry, SET Day kicked off with a presentation by plant scientist Anita Brûlé-Babel focused on alternative energy.

Titled Wheat-Fueled Cars and Wind-Powered Cities, the presentation detailed the advantages and disadvantages of various alternative sources of energy, including biomass conversion, hydroelectric power, wind, and solar power. Brûlé-Babel then focused on ethanol, describing her own research on creating new genetic strains of wheat specifically intended for ethanol production. She ended by outlining how future advances in her field, including sequencing the enormous wheat genome, could make ethanol an increasingly important energy source in the coming years.

Following Brûlé-Babel, David Barber, Canada Research Chair in Arctic system science, discussed his climate change research in a presentation titled Walking on Thin Ice. Barber, director of the Centre for Earth Observation Science (CEOS), described the impact global warming is having on Arctic sea ice, which is currently melting at a rate of 70,000 square kilometers each year, an area equal to the size of Lake Superior. Barber also highlighted the multidisciplinary nature of climate science, the challenges associated with conducting research in the Arctic, and the many research opportunities that will be available in the coming years.

The third SET Day presenter was Peter Jones, director of the Richardson Centre for Functional Foods and Nutraceuticals. In a presentation titled, Putting the Best Food Forward, Jones, Canada Research Chair in nutrition and functional foods, described the ways in which the human diet has gotten worse over the past 1,000 years. He also outlined the work scientists are doing to reverse this trend, including the development of nutrient-enriched foods, and nutraceuticals that contain concentrated forms of important dietary compounds. Jones also described how the field is expected to change over the next quarter-century as public interest in healthier foods continues to grow.

The afternoon session began with a presentation by Cyrus Shafai, electrical and computer engineering. Big Changes from Little Things showcased the wide range of futuristic products recently made possible by nanotechnology, including shirts that don’t get wet, self-cleaning windows, and odour-resistant sports wear. Shafai also described the many advances nanotechnology is expected to bring in the coming decades, including new medical implants, tiny surgical instruments, and carbon nano-tube technology that could be used to build an elevator to space.

Following Shafai’s presentation, Brian Mark, microbiology, focused the audience’s attention down to the molecular level and the world of structural biology. Life in Three Dimensions described the cutting-edge tools—including stadium-sized microscopes—scientists use to study biological molecules. He likened a cell to a large and complex city, and described how structural biologists are working to determine the three-dimensional structure of all of the “cellular citizens” needed for the cell to carry out its function.

The final SET Day researcher was Kathleen Londry, microbiology, who described the futuristic field of astrobiology in a presentation titled, The Study of Life in the Universe. Astrobiology is a growing field, and includes astronomers, biologists, chemists and geologists who are working to understand what makes a planet suitable for life, and whether or not such suitable conditions exist in places other than Earth. Londry described her own research on microbes that can survive in extreme conditions. Such organisms, she said, may offer clues about what life forms scientists might find elsewhere in our galaxy.

Keeping with the high-tech theme of the day, audience members were given remote devices that allowed them to answer questions posed by the researchers during their presentations. The audience responses were instantly displayed on a screen behind the presenter, making the event truly interactive.

After each presentation, participating students also took full advantage of question periods, and they gathered around presenters during scheduled breaks to learn more about their research.

In his closing remarks for SET Day, Education Dean John Wiens encouraged the students to share what they had learned with their classmates.

“It isn’t every day that you get to hear some of the best scientific minds in the world describing the future of research in their fields,” he said. “But that’s exactly what you heard today.”

The Office of the Vice-President (Research) is currently developing a SET Day Website, which will soon include audio recordings of all of the day’s presentations. Check back soon at: www.umanitoba.ca/research/set

Research News
umanitoba.ca/research

Bringing Research To Life

Research News is Published by the Office of the Vice-President (Research)
Comments, submissions and event listings to:
stefaniu@ms.umanitoba.ca
Phone: (204) 474-9020 Fax: (204) 261-3475
**Powerlines offer eco-opportunity**

**BY DALE BARBOUR**

The Bulletin

What do powerlines and yogourt containers have in common? The answer to that question just might be biodiversity.

Graduate student Lionel Leston, of the Natural Resources Institute in the Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources, is looking at power transmission lines to see if they hold the answer to creating a more diverse environment on the ground.

"Everybody hears about how we need to increase natural ecosystem diversity," Leston said. Traditionally much of the North American Midwest, including the prairie provinces, has been covered by several different kinds of native prairie or grassland vegetation. "But it is no longer the case," Leston said. "we've got a lot of urban and residential developments and prairie is under-represented in our parks and preserves. The current population of native grassland is the tall-grass prairie found in Manitoba, Ontario, and the eastern U.S. Less than one percent of the tall-grass prairie from a few centuries ago remains, and less than 0.1% of Manitoba's tall-grass prairie still exists. While Canadians care about biodiversity and try to protect it in parks, preserves may not provide enough space on their own to harbour species in the long term.

Those tall-grass prairie parcels that have survived are in small sections that lack the size to support a functioning ecosystem, or have been taken over by non-native grasses like Kentucky bluegrass or smooth brome typically seen growing alongside roads and under hydro transmission lines. The problem is that the non-native grasslands lack the ecological diversity held by a native tall-grass prairie, which means they aren't as useful for birds or insects. Few large properties are available to restore as tall-grass prairie.

"But if we take transmission lines (typically 30-50 m wide) and manage them as grasslands we could create tall-grass prairie habitats that extend for miles," Leston said. The areas under transmission lines are a natural fit because they have to be maintained as low vegetation anyway given that lines are a natural fit because they have to be maintained as low vegetation anyway given that trees cannot be allowed to grow under the lines.

The concept sounds good. The next step for Leston is to see if it could work.

"Before we go ahead and try to manage it as a natural grassland we want to see whether it's worth it to go through all that effort." To that end he'll be spending the next few summers conducting biodiversity surveys along transmission lines managed as mowed lawns, unmowed transmission lines where tall-grass prairie plants have been allowed to grow, and existing tall-grass prairie preserves. One of the main goals of this project will be to involve three or four insects captured in about 40 "traps" per site – essentially buried containers that will be used to trap insects. The theory is that a greater number and variety of insects at a site indicates a greater level of biodiversity. A greater abundance of insects may mean more food for grassland birds as well.

Of course, to gather all that data Leston needs a way of setting up to 1,200 traps and that's where the yogourt containers come in.

"If I went out and bought all the containers it would cost a few hundred dollars and it wouldn’t do them any favours because eventually the containers would just end up in the recycling bin," Leston said. But the University of Manitoba already goes through a lot of yogourt containers a day at Pembina Hall alone. They’re the perfect size for what Leston has in mind and while the university was dutifully recycling them already, adding a second use to their lifespan and sparing him from having to buy a duplicate batch is one way of doing the environment a favour.

"I talked to the kitchen staff, explained the project and they were happy to help out." Now Leston has to wait for the snow to melt so he can get into the field. Leston said he’ll be looking for a student to assist him with the sampling end of the project in the spring, so if getting out into the great outdoors sounds like a good summer project, e-mail Lionel Leston at lleston@hotmail.com.

---

**Enrolment settles in at 27,414 for 2006/07**

**SENATE BRIEFS**

February numbers are the second highest on record, topped only by the ‘92 people who graduated in 2006. Students graduating in February officially receive their parchments during Spring Convocation.

**DOORS OPEN**

The doors will be opening at the University of Manitoba May 26 and 27. The university is participating for the first time in Doors Open Winnipeg. Eight buildings on campus will be listed as part of the event with three of them opened for guided tours. The buildings of interest at the university include the Administration Building, Tache Hall, the original Engineering Building, Buller Building, Tier Building, Fitzgerald Building and the Human Ecology Building. Vice president (external) Elaine Goldie said the university will be looking for volunteers to help welcome visitors and lead tours.

**CHANCELLOR ELECTION**

The ad hoc committee of election, established by the Board of Governors and Senate, has set 4 p.m., Thursday, March 15 as the deadline for nominations for Chancellor. Nominations can be sent to the Office of the University Secretary. The committee of Election will meet on Wednesday, April 4 to elect a Chancellor. The Chancellor is the titular head of the university and confers all degrees. The Chancellor serves for a three-year term, but there is no limit on the number of terms a chancellor may serve.

Chancellor William Norrie’s current term as Chancellor expires on May 31 but he has advised that he will let his name stand for another term.

**PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE**

The University of Manitoba has established a presidential search committee. The committee includes members from the Board of Governors, Senate, the University of Manitoba Faculty Association, a support staff member, along with the university secretary, Board of Governors Chair and the Chancellor.

The search committee is expected to submit its recommendations to the Board of Governors no later than Oct. 51. The new president’s term will begin on July 1, 2008.

**IN MEMORY**

Senate paid its respect to William Thompson, 64, who died on Dec. 24. Thompson was an architectural historian with the Faculty of Architecture before retiring in 2002 after 33 years with the university. Thompson was active in many restoration projects throughout his career that saved historic sites in Canada. He also served as president of the Manitoba Historical Society and as vice president of Heritage Winnipeg.

Senate also honoured George Harold Porozny, who died on Sept. 20 at the age of 76. Porozny had worked for 25 years in the Faculty of Education as a business education professor. Prior to joining the University of Manitoba in 1976, Porozny had a varied career including working as a CIBA consultant in Singapore as a consultant with non-government agencies in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean.