In Brief

Brydon joins AIG+C

No part of everyday life goes untouched by globalization. No one knows this better than Diana Brydon, Canada Research Chair in Globalization and Cultural Studies; professor of English, Faculty of Arts; and director of the Centre for Globalization and Cultural Studies at the University of Manitoba. Her expertise has been recognized with her recent appointment to the inaugural advisory council of Lakehead University’s new Advanced Institute for Globalization and Culture (AIG+C). “I am delighted to join distinguished global colleagues on the founding advisory council. I look forward to future consultation on how work in this area might best be advanced through collaborative initiatives between our two universities and the others involved on the council. Plans are underway for me to visit Lakehead in Fall 2010 to advance our work together.”

Brydon is a world-renowned literary critic known for her comprehensive and novel contributions to postcolonial literary and cultural studies, as well as Australian and Canadian literary studies. As CRC, her research draws on humanities and social sciences methods and perspectives to examine globalization and what it means for Canadian culture.

AIG+C was founded “to provide a platform for advanced research on any subject of relevance to our transnational reality, including the roles that culture plays as inspiration, challenge, and economic stimulus.”

Upcoming

State of the Art: Pulmonary Medicine Research in Canada

Thursday, November 26, 2009
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Frederic Gaspard Theatre and Room 204 Brodie Centre
Bannatyne Campus

To register and view the full agenda, visit www.mich.ca

Information Session: Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED) Tax Credit

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Bringing Research to LIFE

And the winners are...

Poster competition showcases student research

BY JANINE HARASYMCHUK

Undergraduate students representing seven faculties at the University of Manitoba showed their research wares at the Fourth Annual Student Poster Competition on Monday, November 9, 2009. This year’s competition marked a change and expansion to four categories—applied sciences, health sciences, natural sciences, and the newly added category of social sciences/humanities.

We are thrilled with the participation across campus,” said Janice Ristock, Associate Vice-President (Research). “We’re working on further expansion in the categories to include creative works next year, to make it truly representative of the breadth of research and scholarly work conducted at the University of Manitoba.”

“I think it’s great for the university to provide such a platform to showcase our work,” said Tiffany Cheung, Faculty of Dentistry. “Students put a lot of time and effort into research and we are proud of that.”

Budding forensic scientists or avid CSI fans would be interested in Cheung’s project that reviewed her “Preliminary analysis of dental materials before and after incineration.” Cheung took first prize in the applied sciences category for her research.

“The identification of victims in fires often rely on forensic odontology,” said Cheung. “My research found that there is no significant change of the elemental content when dental materials are incinerated at a temperature that simulates cremation. In addition, I found that composite-resin, also known as tooth-coloured fillings, from five of the seven manufacturers in this project can be distinguished based on the elemental content. This project creates a known reference spectra for the brands analyzed and that can be used to match against samples from future forensic odontology cases.”

Other student research in the applied sciences category included a look at Manitoba’s Indigenous population and rheumatoid arthritis by Gabriela Montes-Aldana, Faculty of Science, to a look at third generation biofuels using clostridium thermocellum (a bacteria) with local hemp feedstock by second place winner Warren Blunt, Faculty of Engineering.

“This year’s competition again successfully showcased the wide variety of research undertaken by undergraduate students at the University of Manitoba,” said Elliott Scott, Professor & Associate Dean (Research), Faculty of Dentistry, and judge in the applied sciences category. “From hypothetical mathematical modellings of whale shark feeding behaviours to studies of forensic dentistry, the scope of research was amazing.”

Research by Maneesh Sud, Faculty of Medicine, was awarded first prize in the health sciences category. His project focused on “Upregulation of the mTOR and proteasome pathways in evil acute myeloid leukaemias.” Jarret Woodmass, also from the Faculty of Medicine, took second place for his research on “Treatment patterns and outcomes of pancreatic cancer.”

Elizabeth Skovopata, Faculty of Science, took first place in the natural sciences category for her research titled “Surface moment pining in iron-oxide-copper core-shell nanoparticles.” Fellow science student Alexandra Hrabowych was second place winner for her research on “Purification and characterization of tocopherol cyclic.” Tocopherol cycase is a critical enzyme in the biosynthesis of vitamin E.

In the newly added category of social sciences/humanities, Karen Delichte, Faculty of Arts, took first place for her project on “Gender differences in factors that prompt heavy gambling.” Mylene Gamache, Faculty of Arts, took second place for her research on the “Subversion et l’écrit des guérrières: The Cry of the Hysteric in French Fiction.”

Gamache described the poster as a representation of her undergraduate thesis work in the Women’s and Gender Studies Program. “I am exploring the aim to rewrite the hysteric— as an example of subservient feminine subjectivity— in contemporary French fiction. I have read three French novels and within each of them, I have identified characters who seem to be talking back to the historical, medical, and patriarchal discourse of hysteria (which endorses the notion that hysteria has generally been categorized as a ‘female’ disorder associated with uterine or otherwise neurological systems).” Gamache adds, “Furthermore, these characters seem to exceed the boundaries to which the hysteric has been historically circumscribed by virtue of their individual states of resistance and respective appeals to flight, fidelity, and desire.”

Watch for further details coming on the 2010 Poster Competition, set for October 13, 2010.

Winners in each of the categories:

Applied Sciences:
1st Prize- Tiffany Cheung, dentistry
2nd Prize- Warren Blunt, engineering

Health Sciences:
1st Prize- Maneesh Sud, medicine
2nd Prize- Jarret Woodmass, medicine

Natural Sciences:
1st Prize- Elizabeth Skovopata, science
2nd Prize- Alexandra Hrabowych, science

Social Sciences/Humanities:
1st Prize- Karen Delichte, arts
2nd Prize- Mylene Gamache, arts