

## 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](mailto: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.

### Thomas receives teaching award

Paul Thomas, Duff Roblin Professor in Government at the University of Manitoba, received the 2007 Pierre De Celles/IPAC Award for Excellence in Teaching Public Administration, during the Institute of Public Administration of Canada's annual conference held in Winnipeg. This prestigious teaching award was announced on Aug. 27 by Jocelyn Soulière, chair of the IPAC Endowment Fund.

"Professor Thomas was chosen because he is an exceptional teacher who has demonstrated the skills that were exemplified by Pierre De Celles", said Soulière. Thomas is the sixth recipient of the award, which is named for Pierre De Celles, the former director of the École nationale d'administration publique and president-elect of IPAC at the time of his death in 2000.

Thomas was nominated by Manitoba Premier Gary Doer as well as his former students, colleagues and the Manitoba Regional Group of IPAC. Soulière recounted that a student wrote about Thomas with affection and respect that he has "a passion for public administration and an ability to make complex material clear and enjoyable" and about "his constant willingness to help students."

Soulière noted Thomas' commitment to his students, his intellectual rigor and the relevance of his courses during his more than 37 years as a teacher.

Thomas began his career as a Parliamentary Intern in Ottawa, and continued in Manitoba ministries and agencies including Treasury, Telephone, Auditor-General, Ombudsman, Federal-Provincial fiscal arrangements. He advised premiers and senior officials over the years in addition to his teaching.



Paul Thomas

# Rethink how you build

## Alternative village planned for campus

BY DALE BARBOUR  
The Bulletin

The University of Manitoba will be home to an "alternative village."

Senate gave its approval to the Faculty of Engineering proposal at its Sept. 5 regular meeting. The village will be located next to Smartpark on the southern side of the Fort Garry campus – next to the Biosystems Strawbale Research Facility.

While it might sound like a 1960s commune, biosystems engineering professor Ron Britton said the alternative village's prime goal is to work with innovative building materials. But along the way it's going to be an outdoor laboratory where creative thinking – one might say alternative thinking – is going to be encouraged.

"We want to have a hands on and a head on approach," Britton said. "We think people can relate to the village concept where everyone knows what everyone else is doing."

There are practical reasons for creating an alternative village. Currently, if researchers at the University of Manitoba want to do a hands on test of with new building materials, they have to file with the city for a building permit – adding a layer of paperwork to every project. By creating an outdoor laboratory – which is really what the alternative village is – researchers have a designated area within which to test their buildings.

The site will have a standard R2000 insulation grade building constructed to provide a bench mark for the other structures on the site.

Other buildings already proposed for the site include a log building to monitor moisture behavior and thermal performance and an insulated concrete form structure.

At the end of the day it will look a lot like a village too. Each building is set to have a footprint of about 400 square-feet and they'll be built along a village Main Street.

The buildings are also expected to be below the height of the trees that run along the south side of the site, thereby minimizing the impact on neighbours.

The alternative village will be the first of its kind in Western Canada. While similar eco-village and farms exist elsewhere in Canada and the United States, there are none with North America that are located in the northern prairie climate of Manitoba.

## SENATE BRIEFS

### NEW BACHELOR PROGRAM

The Council on Post-Secondary Education has given its approval and financial backing to a new bachelor of health studies degree and a bachelor of health sciences degree in the Faculty of Human Ecology. The funding includes \$64,200 in the first year and \$110,000 per year in subsequent years.

### RESEARCH REVIEWS

The senate committee on university research has conducted a review of the Legal Research Institute and the Health, Leisure and Human Performance Research Institute and given its approval for both groups to continue for another five-year period. The senate committee reviews the various research institutes at the university to ensure that they are fulfilling their mandate and contributing to scholarly work at the university.

### GERRY MCDOLE PROFESSORSHIP

Senate approved the proposal for the establishment of the Gerry McDole Professorship in Improved Healthcare Delivery to Rural, Remote and Underserved Populations of Manitoba. The professorship taps a \$500,000 donation received from Astra Zeneca in 2005. The 2005 donation followed on the footsteps of a similar donation made in 2003 to establish the Gerry McDole Fellowship in honour of the company's retiring president Gerry McDole. The professorship's title will go before the Board of Governors for final approval.

### HISTORY CHAIR

Senate approved and recommended that the Board of Governors approve, the proposal for the establishment of a Chair in Modern History of the Middle East and North Africa. The new five-year chair will work closely with the Arthur Mauro Centre for Peace and Justice, the Centre for Globalization and Cultural Studies and the soon-to-be-established Human Rights Museum of Canada.

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## 16TH RECTOR INSTALLED AT ST. PAUL'S COLLEGE

Sunday September 23, 2007

11:00 a.m. Opening Mass of the Academic Year  
12:30 p.m. Installation Ceremony

Dr. Bracken is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Social Work and has taught and conducted research in social work and criminal justice, as well holding several administrative positions in the Faculty.

The College Bell Tower, a familiar campus landmark, has been silent since 2006. The bells will ring once again with their glorious chimes honouring the 16th Rector of the College.



Dr. Denis C. Bracken

Everyone is welcome to attend

For more information please visit our website  
[www.umanitoba.ca/stpauls](http://www.umanitoba.ca/stpauls)

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