

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.

Simons bolsters patient treatment

Estelle Simons received the World Allergy Organization's Scientific Achievement Award "in recognition of outstanding scientific contributions in allergy and immunology which have aided clinicians around the world to treat patients more effectively."

The award was presented at the World Allergy Congress in Bangkok, Thailand in December 2007. The World Allergy Organization has 35,000 members in 74 countries.

Simons is a professor in the department of pediatrics and child health and the department of immunology at the University of Manitoba.

She is a past-president of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology, past-president of the Canadian Society of Allergy & Clinical Immunology, and past head of the Canadian Pediatric Society Allergy Section.



Estelle Simons

HIV study attracts world's attention

An HIV study led by the University of Manitoba's Stephen Moses has been named one of the year's top medical breakthroughs by *Time* magazine.

Moses was one of the principal investigators in research that found male circumcision can reduce the risk of HIV infection in men who have heterosexual sex. Moses, along with researchers from universities in the U.S. and Nairobi, conducted clinical trials on men in Kenya and Uganda and found that circumcised men were roughly 50 per cent less likely than uncircumcised men to acquire HIV during sex with women.

Time magazine's top ten lists can be found at www.time.com/time/specials/2007/top10.

Exhibit gets noticed

The Gallery One One One show *FitzGerald in Context* received an end of the year slap on the back from *Uptown Magazine*. The exhibit, put together by School of Art professor Marilyn Baker, was listed on the magazine's top ten list of art shows held in Winnipeg in 2007. The FitzGerald exhibit came in at number 5 and *Uptown* writer Stacey Abramson noted: "The University of Manitoba's School of Art's namesake received quite the exhibition in his name this year. It was a carefully researched and extensive collection of FitzGerald's work and experiences that gave all viewers a good understanding of the scope of his impact on Canadian art history."

Co-op program achievements

Last fall, biochemistry co-op graduate Matthew Klassen was awarded the 2006 Co-operative Education Manitoba Award for the University of Manitoba. He received this award for his third co-op work term spent working under Gary Kobinger, at the Canadian Science Centre for Human and Animal Health in Winnipeg.

While in the lab, Klassen worked on establishing a new laboratory technique to be used in vaccine development involving the synthesis of artificial genes entirely created from primers. He also developed a VSV-based vaccine against avian influenza A (H5N1) and a HIV vaccine based on a completely novel approach using pseudotyped HIV virus. He participated in a study on neutralization of Ebola virus and he is listed as a co-author for this study which was submitted for publication in February, 2007. Finally, Klassen initiated a project to isolate new viruses from porcine tissues for gene therapy and vaccine applications. The isolation of two novel porcine viruses has since been completed and these are now the subject of a patent application which includes Klassen as a co-author.

U of M graduates named to Order of Canada

Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada, recently announced new appointments to the prestigious Order of Canada, and four out of 61 appointees are University of Manitoba graduates, including one who is also a retired professor. Additionally, an honorary degree recipient of the University of Manitoba was named.

The Order of Canada recognizes Canadians with a lifetime of outstanding achievement, dedication to community and service to the nation.

University of Manitoba alumni Muriel Smith, O.C. has been named an Officer of the Order of Canada. Honorary degree recipient Clara Hughes, O.C., O.M. was also named as an Officer of the Order of Canada.

Carol Gay Bell, C.M., Marcien Ferland, C.M., and T. Kenneth Thorlakson, C.M. have been named Members of the Order of Canada.

"I am delighted that University of Manitoba graduates are being recognized with Canada's highest civilian honour," said University of Manitoba president Emőke Szathmáry, O.C., who was appointed to the Order of Canada in 2003. "University of Manitoba graduates are among the best in the world, and they continue to inspire all."

Muriel Smith, O.C. is being recognized for her efforts in promoting social justice in Canada and around the world, notably as a leader and a long-time volunteer with local, national and international organizations. Last fall Smith was honoured by the Governor General for her dedication to women's equality. She is a four-time graduate of the University

of Manitoba.

Clara Hughes, O.C., O.M. has been named for her achievements in sport, notably as Canada's only athlete to win medals at both the summer and winter Olympic Games, and for her contributions as an engaged and influential humanitarian. The University of Manitoba awarded Hughes with an honorary doctor of laws in 2006.

Carol Gay Bell, C.M. is a graduate from the university's Faculty of Arts. She has been named a Member of the Order of Canada for her contributions as an artistic director who has promoted and developed young actors, singers and dancers in Saskatchewan.

Marcien Ferland, C.M. has been named for his contributions to the preservation and promotion of the Franco-Manitoban and Métis cultures, as choir director, composer and founder of the Chorale des Intrépides. Ferland is a graduate of the university's Faculty of Arts.

T. Kenneth Thorlakson, C.M. has been appointed for his contributions as a volunteer and fundraiser dedicated to the preservation and promotion of Icelandic heritage and culture in Manitoba. Thorlakson is a graduate of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Manitoba, where he has continued in academics with a longstanding teaching position in undergraduate surgery.

The Order of Canada was established in 1967 and recognizes people in all sectors of Canadian society. A ceremony to receive the Order of Canada insignias from the Governor General will take place later this year.

Scowcroft among top Canadians

Jan Polak Scowcroft is on top of the world thanks to an attitude that has kept her engaged with projects locally and around the world. The computer engineering student was named in November to the *Globe and Mail's* top 100 women in Canada. It's an honour that came on top of being named as one of Canada's Top 20 Under 20 in 2006. Originally from Australia, Scowcroft is passionate about the Faculty of Engineering and the University of Manitoba and has volunteered for many outreach events including serving on the Centennial Homecoming Committee.

Last spring, as part of a University of Manitoba student chapter of Engineers Without Borders project, Scowcroft traveled to north-west Tanzania, to the Karagwa district to work with the Family Alliance for Development and Cooperation (www.fadeco.org).

FADECO works to promote sustainable socio-economic development at the community level. Jane will be involved in developing, transferring and adapting low cost technologies that are appropriate, cost effective and affordable to poor rural communities.

"I'm just thrilled to be able to use the education I am receiving in the Faculty of Engineering in a tangible way that will help others," Scowcroft said at the time, "it is the perfect opportunity to combine what I know with what I believe in."

Jane Scowcroft



Honours for teachers and students

University 1 hosted its second annual Celebration of Excellence in Teaching and Learning. Students, parents and instructors came together on Nov. 26 in the Marshall McLuhan Hall, University Centre, to celebrate their teaching and learning achievements. The audience was congratulated by Richard Lobdell, vice-provost (programs) followed by Christine Blais, director of University 1.

Blais presented this year's Teaching in Excellence Award recipients Jennifer van Wijngaarden and Elena Smirnova (both of the department of chemistry) certificates to recognize their nominations by the students. Bob Altemeyer was also recognized for his



Elena Smirnova

long standing commitment to excellence in teaching.

Since 2002, University 1 students have submitted nominations for instructors who teach any of the courses listed on the University 1 course list. Instructors must:

- 1) be instrumental in helping students make a successful academic and personal transition to the University of Manitoba, and/or
- 2) stimulate student's interest in the subject area he/she taught, and/or
- 3) be enthusiastic, organized, and facilitate effective learning

Honour Roll students were also recognized with certificates for achieving a term grade point average of 3.5 or higher on 12 or more credit hours.



Jennifer van Wijngaarden

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