



# Do You Remember Your Teachers?

Do you remember one particular teacher who made a real difference in your life? Did he or she go that extra mile and help you during a crucial time in your educational development?

On May 1, outstanding graduating students from faculties at the University of Manitoba saluted teachers from kindergarten to university who have made an impact on their lives.

One common theme among students who nominated their teachers was "going above and beyond." Many students recalled their fond memories of teachers who stayed after school with them or coached them after school hours to personally assist them with projects, homework, sports or preparing for exams.

Jennifer Sykes is graduating from the Faculty of Education this year and selected Ms Geeta Persaud as her most memorable secondary teacher, from École Seven Oaks Middle School. "She created real experiences for kids, not simply work," Sykes notes. As for her university professor of note, Sykes picked Barbara McMillan. About her, Sykes says, "She brought the world into our classroom. Once, she brought a pile of soil into the classroom to help us learn ways to teach kids about biology. It really let us see how we could bring life into our schools."

In the Faculty of Pharmacy, Omo



Natali Serrano, graduating chemistry student (second from left), gives her tribute to teachers Dr. Frank Hruska, chemistry (far left) and Dr. Patricia Mitchler, Kelvin High School as Dr. Emöke Szathmáry looks on.

Famuyide is graduating with fond memories of her high school physics teacher, Raffaele Borelli. "As a teacher, he was always encouraging," she says. He was very supportive of you whether you were getting a 70 or a 90; what mattered more was seeing you try." Borelli remembers Famuyide as a neat young woman, hard working and never afraid to ask for help. "It's nice to get feedback that you actually make an impact in the classroom," says Borelli.

In the faculty of Science, Natali Serrano selected Dr. Patricia Mitchler from Kelvin High School as her memorable

teacher. Serrano explains that, "Dr. Mitchler's style really worked for me. Although she required detailed notes, she really made physics real to us in the classroom. I was impressed that I was actually able to measure the mass of an electron!" In university, Dr. Frank Hruska also made in-class work interesting. "He used humour in his classes and left a lasting impression on me. I came out of it having learned a lot, although at the time it seemed an impossible amount of work."

In a remarkable twist, Serrano acknowledged Mitchler, who herself nominated a teacher for recognition when she

graduated from the University of Manitoba. "Natali was a wonderful student," recalls Mitchler. "She was very dedicated, with a real talent for physics."

Mitchler says her model for her high school teaching style came from a teacher she had at St. Mary's Academy. "It's all about making connections with students at their level, sharing your life and creating a bond."

She adds: "Teachers don't often get to see the product of their efforts. But when it does happen, you get renewed hope, even through some of the frustrations that come in other aspects of your job. Having Natali come to see me and tell me I was her selection was very refreshing. It made my

day and was most meaningful because I had been in her position, too."

"This was one of the most memorable events of the university year," says Dr. Cheryl Kristjanson, director of University Teaching Services. "Every year, there are at least a few students' stories that really touched our hearts as they recalled the men and women who made such a difference in their lives."

For the complete list of honored teachers and professors, please see [umanitoba.ca](http://umanitoba.ca)

## Business Students Take Hong Kong; School Continues to Set Records



Advotech receives the grand champion award. From left: HKUST Prof. Steven DeKrey, senior associate dean & director of MBA Program, Asper School of Business students David Mowat and Taren Gesell, and HKUST Prof. Stephen Nason, contest chair.

Photo courtesy the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology International Business Plan Competition website

The University of Manitoba business team called Advotech and consisting of Asper School of Business students Taren Gesell and David Mowat and Faculty of Medicine student Chris Lu was recently named grand champion at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) International Business Plan

Competition. It is one of the world's leading graduate student entrepreneurial events, and is known for attracting business student entrepreneurs from top universities in Asia, North America and Europe.

Teams pitched their business plans to leading Hong Kong executives and

professional investors. Advotech defeated teams from Switzerland, Hong Kong and Oregon in the final round, bringing home a total of \$11,000 in cash. Advotech's plan called for the commercialization of two medical device technologies developed in Israel for the orthopedic market. Advotech's use of Israeli technology builds on the strong relationship developed between the Stu Clark Centre for Entrepreneurship at the Asper School of Business and leading research universities and incubators in Israel. Advotech also won the elevator pitch competition at HKUST.

The Hong Kong win comes at the heels of a benchmark year for the Stu Clark Centre for Entrepreneurship. Team Advotech recently won a round at the New Venture Championship, University of Oregon, and in February, it won the elevator pitch at University of Louisville's Cardinal Challenge Business Plan Competition. In March, three other Asper School of Business students brought home a total of \$45,000 in prizes and in-kind services from Carnegie Mellon University's 2008 McGinnis Venture Competition.

Since 1995, the Centre's teams have had 40 first-place finishes, keeping its director, Robert Warren, as the record holder for the business school advisor with the most number of wins at international business school competitions.

### University of Manitoba's Agriculture Row



**Doors Open at the University of Manitoba** this year will feature "Agriculture Row," one of the oldest and most interesting parts of the Fort Garry Campus. The tour will include the Agricultural Lecture Block, Taché Hall, the Georgian style Home Economics Practice House (now Alumni House) and the Art Barn among others. A historic photo exhibition and the recently published history of the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences will enhance the tour. There are many stories to be told about this area of the campus going back to its origin as the campus of the Manitoba Agricultural College. Tours begin at the west side of the Agriculture Building.

**Featured Buildings**  
Taché Hall (1912)  
Art School Barn (1912)  
Dairy Science Building (1913)  
Agricultural Engineering Building (1913)  
Agricultural Lecture Block (1913)  
Agriculture Building (1956)  
Home Economics Practice House (now Alumni House) (1939)

**Saturday, May 24, 2008**  
**Guided Tours at**  
**11am, 12pm, 1pm and 2pm**