

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT: May 20, 2014

### GENERAL

The Strategic Planning Committee participated in a two-day retreat on April 28 and 29 to discuss the feedback gained through the extensive consultation process underway through early 2014 regarding the development of the University of Manitoba's new Strategic Planning Framework. Almost 1,200 people participated in 53 input sessions held with faculty/school councils, administrative groups, special meetings of select Senate Committees, as well as forums for Indigenous scholars, staff and students, student groups, support staff, and alumni and donors. Work is now underway to develop a draft plan, which will then be available to the University community to provide input and tabled for consideration by both the Senate and the Board of Governors. A final Strategic Planning Framework subsequently will be prepared for consideration by the Senate Planning and Priorities Committee, Senate Executive, Senate and the Board of Governors.

On May 3, Indigenous graduates and alumni came together for the 25th Annual Traditional Graduation Powwow, which recognized over 230 Indigenous graduates as well as alumni from the 25 years the event has taken place at the University of Manitoba. It was a celebration of accomplishment as well as of the leadership of our students, who have prompted many changes over the past 25 years to ensure the University of Manitoba is a more welcoming place for Indigenous students and the Indigenous community.

Student Affairs and Human Resources have collaborated to develop and launch two new initiatives, designed to address issues of critical importance to supporting a positive working and learning environment. The first is the recent release of the mental health strategy *Success Through Wellness*. A Mental Health Facilitator will be hired for a three-year term to help implement the strategy and work with students, staff and faculty across the institution to create a community that is committed, caring, healthy, responsive, supportive and resourceful.

The second is the launch of a new Childcare Initiative. This important initiative comes in response to a 2013 report prepared by a UM childcare working group comprising of students, staff and faculty members. The report highlights some significant unmet needs of parents, including the limited availability of on and off campus childcare spaces. A review of best practices and business model opportunities is underway.

The inaugural Distinguished Alumni Awards - Celebration of Excellence was held at the Winnipeg Art Gallery on Thursday, May 1st. The evening was a spectacular success, with a full house, wonderful entertainment, moving tributes and emotional acceptance speeches. The response from those in attendance was extremely positive. This success was the result of an unparalleled effort by the entire team who brought their dedication, commitment, creativity and collaborative spirit to create this memorable evening. A special note of appreciation to the Alumni Board for their support, and in particular to the members of the selection committee.

## ACADEMIC MATTERS

- Rick Holley, food science, has been named a Fellow of the International Academy of Food Science and Technology for his outstanding contributions to the field of science and technology. The International Academy of Food Science and Technology (IAFoST) is a group of elected distinguished food scientists and technologists who collectively form a pool of scientific expertise in food science and technology.
- Dr. Regine King, social work, collaborated with the Canadian Museum for Human Rights and the Graduate Students' Association in organizing events in commemoration of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the genocide in Rwanda. Dr. King was featured in the Winnipeg Free Press for her efforts in raising awareness and also for her story as a Rwandan genocide survivor.
- Sarah Kirsch, music student, won second prize in the prestigious Doris McLellan Competition. Sarah impressed the international panel of judges in the varied program she performed with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra in the final round of the Competition.
- The University of Manitoba Chapter of Society of Automotive Engineers International (Aero) student team competed at the International Aerospace Competition in Texas and placed 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall. The team competed against 70 other teams from around the world.
- Nursing's undergraduate program was reviewed and was granted five-year approval by the College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba.
- *Architecture's Warehouse Journal Volume 22* has received First Prize for the prose non-fiction illustrated category from The Alcuin Society Awards for Excellence in Book Design. The *Warehouse Journal* is an annual non-profit Faculty of Architecture student-edited journal.
- On April 12, Dentistry hosted a *Sharing Smiles Day* – an event dedicated to caring for Manitoban's with special needs. The first-of-its-kind event emphasized the importance of oral health care while raising awareness of health care issues and need for all to have access to care.
- The opening of a hospital and dental clinic in the Republic of Zambia, along with an oral health care facility in Guatemala, marked the end of a long-running outreach project led by Dentistry's academic staff and alumnus. Dr. Aaron Kim, who is the clinic director at the College of Dentistry, began the projects as part of a humanitarian aid effort that received support from the International College of Dentists (Canadian Chapter).

## RESEARCH MATTERS

- On April 4, 2014 MP Rod Bruinooog announced on behalf of Minister Ed Holder, Minister of State (Science and Technology) the renewal of funding for Dr. Zahra Moussavi's (Electrical & Computer Engineering) Canada Research Chair in Biomedical Engineering. The funding totals \$500,000 over five years as a Tier 2 chair holder from the Canada Research Program. Moussavi's research focus is on the detection of the early signs of Alzheimer's disease. She is also developing innovative approaches for Alzheimer's treatment to either improve patient symptoms or slow the disease's progression. Another main focus of Moussavi's research is in the area of the detection and monitoring of obstructive sleep apnea (OSA). There are currently 46 CRCs at the University of Manitoba.
- On April 14, 2014 the Government of Canada announced \$1,037,488 in funding to four University of Manitoba research projects from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) John E. Evans Leaders Fund (JELF). The project investigators are: Dr. David Herbert (Chemistry, \$160,000) researching strategies for converting carbon dioxide to a renewable resource, Drs. Michael Jackson and Tiina Kauppinen (Pharmacology & Therapeutics, \$319,586) to study brain injury and neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer's, Dr. Zou Zou Kuzyk (Geological Sciences, \$159,537) for a new Arctic marine facility for potential oil spill recovery, and Dr. Joe LoVetri (Electrical & Computer Engineering, \$398,365) to study Microwave Imaging (MWI) systems for biomedical and agricultural uses.
- Distinguished Professor Frank Plummer (Medical Microbiology) was awarded the Killam Prize in Health Sciences by the Canada Council for the Arts. Plummer is credited with decades of work in the field of infectious diseases, specifically HIV/AIDS. His efforts have saved countless lives. The Killam Program offers five awards every year to outstanding Canadian scholars working in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, health sciences and engineering. The \$100,000 Killam prize is among Canada's most distinguished research awards.

Plummer has enabled the careers of his trainees, colleagues and collaborators. He co-founded the University of Manitoba-University of Nairobi Collaborative Research Program in the early 1980s and brought other academic institutions into the collaboration, including the University of Washington, Oxford University, University of Ghent, the Tropical Diseases Institute of Antwerp, and the University of Toronto. This consortium is the leading infectious diseases research initiative in sub-Saharan Africa. He has been instrumental in creating a supportive environment that enables scientists to carry out their shared mission to reduce the impact of infections on Canadians and global citizens.

Dr. Plummer is the fourth Killam Prize recipient to hail from the University of Manitoba. Previous winners were Lotfollah Shafai (2011), Frank Hawthorne (2008), and Ralph G. Stanton (1985). Dr. Plummer will receive the award at a ceremony at Rideau Hall on May 26, 2014.

- On April 29, 2014 the recipients of the 2013 Rh Awards and the 2013 Dr. John M. Bowman Memorial Winnipeg Rh Institute Foundation Award were celebrated at an awards presentation, reception, dinner and lecture event. The Rh Awards are given to academic staff members who are in the early stages of their careers and who display exceptional innovation, leadership and promise in their respective fields. The recipients are:
  - Applied Sciences – Dr. Shawn Clark (Civil Engineering)
  - Creative Works – Dr. Minna Rose Chung (Desautels Faculty of Music)
  - Health Sciences - Dr. Kirk McManus (Biochemistry and Medical Genetics)
  - Humanities - Dr. Hee-Jung Serenity Joo (English, Film and Theatre)
  - Interdisciplinary – Dr. Emmanuel Ho (Pharmacy)
  - Natural Sciences – Dr. Belay Ayele (Plant Science)
  - Social Sciences – Dr. Hari Babuji (Business Administration)

The 2013 Dr. John M. Bowman Memorial Winnipeg Rh Institute Foundation Award recipient is Dr. Cheryl Rockman-Greenberg (Biochemistry and Medical Genetics/Pediatrics). A public lecture was held following the awards dinner entitled: Genetic Disorders: From Rh Disease to the 21st Century. Dr. Rockman-Greenberg is an expert in genetic diseases who championed DNA-based diagnostics in Winnipeg. More than 20 years ago she was influential in establishing the first clinical lab specializing in the diagnosis of genetic disorders using DNA testing.

- Forty-two projects for 38 PIs were funded for a total award amount of \$1,726,962. Those investigators receiving more than \$25,000 in funding are:

PI	Sponsor	Title	Awarded
Barber, David (Centre for Earth Observation Science)	Churchill Gateway Development Corporation	CGDC letter support of Dr. Barber's sea ice studies Oct 22 2013	\$50,000
Berkes, Fikret (Natural Resources Institute)	St. Mary's University	Community Conservation Research Network (CCRN)	\$39,000
Busby, Karen (Law)	SSHRC	The right to clean water in First Nations: The most precious gift	\$200,000
Carlberg, Jared (Agribusiness & Agricultural Economics)	Manitoba Pulse Growers Association	Can increasing whole & fractioned yellow pea flour consumption in Canada reduce healthcare expenditures?	\$30,000
Cicek, Nazim (Biosystems Engineering)	Rosser Holsteins Ltd	Evaluation of a bedding recovery unit for dairy farm application at Rosser Holsteins Ltd.	\$50,000
Dick, Kristopher (Biosystems Engineering)	Insulated Panel Building Systems	Relative performance of IPB structural insulated panels and dimensional lumber wall systems	\$25,905
Fowler, Kent (Anthropology)	SSHRC	A ceramic perspective on the rural provisioning of nineteenth century capitals in the Zulu kingdom	\$74,978
Gole, Aniruddha (Electrical and Computer Engineering)	Mitacs Inc.	HVDC "superline" for improvement of angular stability of AC-DC system	\$30,000

Hershcovis, Minette Sandy (Business Administration)	SSHRC	Observing workplace aggression: The influence of power on intervention and support behaviours	\$209,640
Johnson, Jay (Kinesiology and Recreation Management)	SSHRC	Transforming the Canadian sport culture: A national study of gender, race, sexuality and violence in sport hazing as barriers to sport participation	\$138,955
LoVetri, Joe (Electrical and Computer Engineering)	Mitacs Inc.	Calibration, characterization and optimization of microwave imaging system for grain monitoring	\$45,000
McCartney, Curt (Plant Science)	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	Genetic analysis of stem and leaf rust resistance in wheat	\$40,500
Ursel, Jane (RESOLVE (Research & Education for Solutions to Violence))	Winnipeg Foundation (The)	Winnipeg family violence court project	\$25,000
Wilkinson, Erin (Linguistics)	Gallaudet University	Collaborative research: Science of learning center on visual language and visual learning (VL2)	\$52,582
Woolford, Andrew (Sociology)	SSHRC	The eleventh conference of the International Association of Genocide Scholars, July 16-19, 2014	\$25,000

## ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- Migration from Novell to Windows file and print has begun with stability improvements to the Novell environment to ensure it will survive the transition. Planning of the new network environment is complete, and some test hardware for this \$604,000 project has been ordered.
- Security Audit of the University's data centre opposite the Protected B Data Classification requirements (classification the Government of Canada has bestowed on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission data) has been completed. The University of Manitoba facility fared very well with only minor physical changes (less than \$20,000) required, as well as some operational concerns. Planning is underway to implement all recommendations.
- The University of Manitoba has signed a four-year agreement with Oracle Corporation for a campus wide license for their industry leading database management system. This agreement allows the University to deploy the Oracle Database Management system software without limit to support activities associated with the research, teaching, administrative or community service functions. IST will work with the MCO and others to communicate the details of the new agreement to the campus community and how the software and support from Oracle can be obtained and utilized.

## EXTERNAL MATTERS

- As of March 31, 2014 the University has raised \$25,485,602.22 in the 2013/2014 fiscal year. This represents a 24.5% increase over the previous year.
- For the period of April 1, 2014 to May 2, 2014, the University has raised \$652,220.53 for the 2014/2015 fiscal year.
- Significant gifts and activities in the last reporting period include:
  - The Manitoba Law Foundation provided grants totaling \$264,000 that were directed to the E.K. Williams Law Library, the Legal Research Institute, the Pro Bono Student project and operating support for the Faculty of Law.
  - Students in the following units have made annual contributions through the referenda program for the 2013/2014 fiscal year:

Faculty/College	Areas of Support	Total Annual Gift
Economics Graduate Students	Graduate Students Endowment Fund	\$1,238.00
Asper Undergraduate Students	Management Student Services	\$814,277.00
Asper Graduate Students	Management Student Services	\$51,884.00
Human Ecology Graduate Students	Human Ecology Endowment Fund	\$2,745.00
Law Students	Law Student Endowment Fund	\$69,378.00
Occupational Therapy Graduate Students	Medical Rehabilitation Endowment Fund and Student Initiative Fund	\$24,875.00
St. Paul's College Students	Student Initiative Fund	\$27,120.00
Nursing Graduate Students	Nursing Endowment Fund	\$4,176.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>\$995,693.00</b>

- David Barnard, President and Vice-Chancellor and John Kearsey, Vice-President (External) met with Premier Selinger, Minister Allum and Anna Rothney, Secretary to Cabinet (Priorities and Planning) to discuss the provincial government's contribution to the University of Manitoba's comprehensive fundraising campaign.
- President Barnard, Dr. Digvir Jayas, Vice-President (Research and International), and Tyler MacAfee, Director of Government and Community Engagement, met with the Honourable Ed Fast, Minister of International Trade, in Winnipeg to discuss the University of Manitoba's Transformational Partnerships Policy and some issues pertaining to international education.
- President Barnard, Ry Moran, Director, National Research Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, and Tyler MacAfee, participated in a conference call with Deputy Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, Michael Wernick, to discuss funding and other pertinent issues for the National Research Centre.

- The sixth and final Visionary Conversations was held on Wednesday, April 30, 2014 at St. John's College on the Fort Garry Campus. The title of the conversation was "The Evolution of the Rights Culture: Should We Have The Right To Die?" The featured panelists were Dr. Harvey Max Chochinov, Canada Research Chair in Palliative Care, Faculty of Medicine; Dr. Mary Shariff, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law and Dr. Paul Henteleff, Advising Physician for Dying with Dignity and founding president of the Canadian Palliative Care Association, who was filling in for Professor Arthur Schafer who was ill. The event was at capacity with approximately 250 attendees.
- On May 8th the University of Manitoba will be hosting an Alumni Reception in New York City to coincide with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra's performance at the Spring for Music Festival at Carnegie Hall. Attendees to the reception include alumni from the New York area, as well as guests from Winnipeg who are travelling to New York to attend the concert.