

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: November 25, 2014

GENERAL

The Council of Presidents of Universities of Manitoba (COPUM) has met twice since the role of Chair moved to the University of Manitoba. The group has established four working groups (articulation, Indigenous education, Campus Manitoba and Operational/Administrative) and engaged about recent conversations with the province. The group also met with former NT Premier Stephen Kakwfi and Ovide Mercredi to discuss the Canadians for a New Partnership declaration and opportunities to work together. All six university presidents agreed to sign the declaration.

As part of the U15 Group of Canadian Universities' ongoing international engagement activities, its members recently met in London with their counterparts from the Russell Group of Universities, the United Kingdom's group of research intensive universities. While in London, H.E. Gordon Campbell, High Commissioner for Canada to the UK and the U15-Group of Canadian Research Universities hosted a U15 Alumni Reception in London. I attended to represent the University of Manitoba and over 30 alumni in the London area attended the event as well.

A blessing ceremony took place on November 5 to prepare Chancellor's Hall to become the first home of the National Research Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NRCTR). The NRCTR also has launched its website and issued a call for applications for its first Director of Research. The University of Manitoba, in partnership with universities and other organizations across Canada, was selected by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada to safeguard all of the statements, documents, sacred objects and other materials collected over the course of its mandate. In time, the NRCTR will archive other Indigenous collections from across Canada and beyond.

I was recently in Ottawa with Tyler MacAfee, Director, Government and Community Engagement (GCE) for a full day of meetings and networking engagements to discuss Indigenous achievement at the University of Manitoba; the National Research Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NRC); and the role of the university in driving research, innovation and the economy.

On November 12, the University of Manitoba participated in Open Doors, Open Knowledge, an annual nation-wide event led by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC). This year, the University hosted an open house at the Richardson Centre for Functional Foods and Nutraceuticals, followed by a keynote speech from Paul Soubry, President and CEO of New Flyer Industries and a subsequent panel discussion between University researchers and industry leaders about partnership between the two sectors.

The University of Manitoba community has been advised of the need for fiscal restraint heading into the 2015/16 budget year and beyond, with an estimated reduction of approximately 4% needed for 2015/16. Spending decisions will be made carefully, with the intent of avoiding across the board cuts and preserving the fabric of the University. A dedicated website has been established at http://umanitoba.ca/admin/budget_2015-16/message.html that will be updated on an ongoing basis and will provide a comprehensive source of information regarding the budget process.

ACADEMIC MATTERS

- Peter Jones, agricultural and food sciences, has been appointed as a member of the Advisory Board of the Canadian Institutes for Health Research Institute for Nutrition, Diabetes and Metabolism.
- Eduardo Aquino, architecture, received a National Design Award from the Royal Architecture Institute of Canada in June for the project Jiggew [By the Water], realized in collaboration with Ojibway artist Pat Ningewance and Brook McIlroy Architects, part of the Thunder Bay Waterfront development.
- Royce Koop, political studies, was awarded the 2014 Seymour Martin Lipset Best Book Award for his work, *Grassroots Liberals: Organizing for Local and National Politics*. This is an annual award given out by the American Political Science Association that recognizes the book that the jury feels most contributes to contemporary scholarship on Canadian politics. The award is named for Seymour Martin Lipset, a noted political scientist and scholar of political sociology, comparative politics, and democracy.
- Gerry Friesen, professor emeritus, history, will be awarded the *J.B. Tyrell Historical Medal* by the Royal Society of Canada. The Tyrell Medal is awarded every two years for outstanding work in the history of Canada.
- Fraser Linklater, music, was awarded the 2014 National Band Award of the Canadian Band Association. This award recognizes individuals who have contributed to the promotion, growth, and development of the musical, educational, and cultural values of band throughout Canada. The Canadian Band Association is a national organization representing and supporting school, university, military and community bands, band directors, students, parents, administrators, the music industry, composers, arrangers and all those interested in bands and band music across Canada.
- Gordon Goldborough, biological sciences, has been appointed Chair of the Manitoba Water Council by the Lieutenant Governor in Council for a three-year term. The Manitoba Water Council reports to the Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship on various water management issues.
- Canadian Business ranked the I.H. Asper School's MBA program as 9th in amongst Canada's top ten programs. This distinction raises the local, national and international brand, profile and perception of not only the Asper MBA program, but the Asper School of Business and the University of Manitoba.
- Chantel Helwer, law student and navy reservist, received the Canadian Navy's female athlete of the year and Canadian Forces female athlete of the year at a recent ceremony in Ottawa. In addition, Chantel has qualified to represent Canada at the 2014 Commonwealth Fencing Championships in Scotland as the 2014 Manitoba provincial champion.
- Sarah Kirsch, music student (2012) and soprano, won first prize in the E-Gré National Music Competition which includes a cash award and a national concert tour.

- The last year has seen a number of substantial developments in the College of Medicine's Brandon satellite program. The first trainee has completed their family medicine residency training with the majority of their training completed through this satellite program. Four new residents per year will be trained through the program.
- The College of Medicine's Manitoba Office of Rural & Northern Health initiated a new program called "Home for the Summer". This program provides medical students with exposure to a rural family practice setting and will help to support the goal to increase the number of practicing family physicians in rural Manitoba.
- College of Pharmacy students, once again, ranked 1st in Canada on the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada's (PEBC) standardized qualifying examinations with 100% of the students passing. The Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) portion of the exam saw the pharmacy students ranked 3rd in Canada. For overall certification, 96% of our students were certified, placing us 2nd place overall compared to 96.3% for the top program.
- National Aboriginal Day events were celebrated at the Bannatyne Campus, which included the sharing of dance and music from First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities, a feast to commemorate the day, and the groundbreaking for the Traditional Healing Garden. Phase 1 in the development of the Garden has been completed, and the first harvest of traditional medicines by the Elder-in-Residence Margaret Lavalée was conducted this fall.

RESEARCH MATTERS

- Two esteemed engineering faculty members of the University of Manitoba were elected new Fellows of the Canadian Academy of Engineering (CAE) in 2014: Dean of Engineering Jonathan Beddoes and Professor Douglas A. Buchanan. Fellows are nominated and elected by their peers for their distinguished achievements and career-long service to the engineering profession. With the induction of these two professors, the University now has 10 CAE Fellows.

Beddoes has a career that spans manufacturing, research in industrial and government laboratories, as well as extensive experience in academia. He has led research on intermetallics and superalloys for elevated temperature gas turbine applications and aluminum alloys.

Buchanan is a professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and held a Canada Research Chair in Microelectronic Materials for 10 years. He is a Senior-Member of the IEEE, a member of the American Institute of Physics, and is recognized world-wide for his work on modern silicon chip technology.

- The Canadian Academy of Health Sciences inducted three University of Manitoba professors in 2014: Dr. Cheryl Rockman Greenberg (Pediatrics & Child Health/Winnipeg Regional Health Authority), Distinguished Professor Dr. Patricia Martens (Community Health Sciences/Manitoba Centre for Health Policy), and Dr. Pawan Singal (Physiology/Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences, St-Boniface Hospital Research). Fellows are chosen by their peers based on their demonstrated leadership, creativity, distinctive competencies and commitment to advancing academic health sciences. With the induction of these three professors, the University now has 25 CAHS Fellows.

Rockman-Greenberg is an internationally known researcher who has identified the molecular source of some of Manitoba's most devastating inherited diseases, including those prevalent among individuals of Aboriginal, Mennonite and Hutterite heritage.

Martens is a pioneer in the field of population health whose work on health status and healthcare use in Manitoba's rural, northern, and Aboriginal residents; mental health; and child health services has had a significant impact on the health and well-being of communities in the province and beyond.

Singal is known worldwide for his work on oxidative stress (when oxygen is improperly handled within a cell) and heart failure. He researches why after a heart attack many patients subsequently go into heart failure. His pioneering studies have furthered understanding on how various antioxidants have the potential to prevent or treat the damage associated with the oxidative stress and the toxins created.

- The University of Manitoba is honoured to host Dr. David F. Goldsmith, an occupational and environmental epidemiologist, as an American Fulbright Scholar during the fall 2014 academic term. As a Fulbright Scholar, Goldsmith is recognized as an established researcher who has been awarded the Fulbright Visiting Research Chair in Science, Technology, Engineering or Math at University of Manitoba, and will be focusing on environmental epidemiology and First Nation's health links while in Winnipeg.

During his semester here he will be collaborating with the Manitoba First Nations Centre for Aboriginal Health Research and the Department of Community Health Sciences colleagues examining the impact of development and environmental changes on the health of First Nations and Métis peoples. Goldsmith comes from Georgetown and George Washington Universities in Washington DC. Fulbright Scholars are chosen based on excellence in scholarship, diversity, and community service. The program, which is renowned for being the largest and most prestigious academic exchange program in the world, aims to enhance binational collaborative research and encourage discussion on issues relevant to both countries involved.

- Dr. Annette Schultz (Nursing; Psychosocial Oncology and Cancer Nursing Research, St-Boniface Hospital Research Centre), in collaboration with Karen Thronson (Health Sciences Centre), a team of eight researchers, and several First Nations and healthcare community collaborators have received \$709,987 in funding from the Canadian Institute of Health Research Aboriginal Peoples' Health Institute, to further their research on First Nation Peoples heart health. The grant is entitled "Diversifying our Ways of Understanding Heart Health among First Nations Peoples in Manitoba: A Mixed Methods Study Governed by a Two-Eyed Seeing Approach" will be commonly known as: "Debwewin: The Sound of Our Hearts." A two-eyed seeing approach guides researchers to draw on the strengths of both Indigenous and Western knowledge to benefit everyone.
- On Sept. 16, 2014 the Government of Canada awarded a new Canada Research Chair in Efficient Utilization of Electric Power to Dr. Carl Ho (Electrical and Computer Engineering). Ho will receive \$500,000 in funding for this Tier 2 CRC over the next five years. He comes to Canada from Switzerland, where he established a strong industrial research program and demonstrated his ingenuity in developing novel grid-connected converters for renewable energy sources. His research

has been widely adopted and used in products such as solar inverters, uninterrupted power supplies and power electronic dimmers that have been sold worldwide. Ho's funding will support the establishment of a modern high power grid-connected converter laboratory. There are currently 43 CRCs at the University of Manitoba.

- The University of Manitoba Café Scientifique season began this fall with two sessions about important health prevention strategies: children's injuries and kidney disease. The Café Scientifiques are hosted and organized by the Office of the Vice-President (Research and International). The remaining Cafés take place at McNally Robinson Booksellers on November 24 (Graduate Students presenting on Endocrine Disorders: Overeating, Obesity and Diabetes); January 14 (Sitting is the New Smoking); and March 18 (Concussion Prevention). For detailed information on each Café visit umanitoba.ca/cafescientifique.
- The annual Undergraduate Research Poster Competition took place on October 30 with more than 75 undergrad students exhibiting and presenting their research posters. Many of the students were recipients of Undergraduate Research Awards, and the posters they were presenting were the result of research they had conducted with their advisors at the U of M over the past summer. For most of the undergraduate participants the event is their first chance to present the findings of their research projects. In addition to the high quality of posters on display, one of the striking things about the event is the breadth and variety of research. There are posters entered in five categories: applied sciences, creative works, health sciences, natural sciences, and social sciences/humanities. Details on the fourteen winners can be found at umanitoba.ca/postercompetition.
- Five international partnership agreements were recently signed. They are:

Country	Partner Institution	Agreement Type	Initiating Faculty
Brazil	Universidade de Pernambuco	Memorandum of Understanding	Extended Education
China	Fuzhou University	Memorandum of Understanding	Engineering
China	China Scholarship Council	Graduate Education	Graduate Studies
China	Ningbo University	Program Service Provider	IH Asper School of Business
Pakistan	World Vision, Pakistan	Memorandum of Understanding	College of Medicine

- Thirty-four projects received \$819,561 in funding from various sources. Those projects over \$25,000 are as follows:

PI	Sponsor	Title	Awarded
Deer, Frank (Curriculum, Teaching and Learning)	SSHRC	First Nations languages: A comparative study in culturally relevant sustainability	\$34,170
Durrant, Joan (Family Social Sciences)	Grand Challenges Canada	Preventing physical punishment of children: A community-based program to reduce adverse health outcomes	\$112,000

Eaton, John (E.K. Williams Law Library)	Manitoba Law Foundation	E.K. Williams Law Library grant 2014/15 no. 13.09	\$82,000
Sherif, Sherif (Electrical and Computer Engineering)	Mitacs Inc.	Development of spectroscopic imaging technology for grain inspection	\$47,500
Suh, Miyong (Human Nutritional Sciences)	Province of Manitoba	Pilot study for food and nutrition intake trend in the First Nation's communities: Implication for fetal alcohol spectrum disorder	\$102,000
Sorensen, John (Chemistry)	Mitacs Inc.	Next generation fuels and fuel additives	\$40,000

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- On September 16th the Office of Sustainability in partnership with Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management launched a **shower-only gym membership** pilot project. Active commuters who are not gym members can now access a shower in Max Bell Centre (\$2/day, or \$10/month) after running, walking or cycling to the University. This opportunity makes use of existing infrastructure and delivers enhanced amenity for staff and students.
- **Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada data store** successfully relocated to the University's data centre. Currently it is operating in complete isolation until proper access protocols and procedures are determined. Enhancements to the security camera system in the data centre will ensure continuous monitoring of this area.
- **Windows XP Retirement Project** is complete with over 3,000 computers dealt with.

EXTERNAL MATTERS

- For the period of April 1, 2014 to October 30, 2014, the University has raised \$12,468,162.98 for the 2014/2015 fiscal year.
- Significant gifts and activities in the last reporting period include:
 - Dr. George Yee has made a commitment of \$500,000 to the Anatomy Laboratory in the College of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences.
 - Pauline and Roger Presland have made an additional commitment to the Aboriginal Business Education Program scholarships and bursaries. In total, they have committed \$400,000 this year.
 - Gail Asper has made a gift of \$2,000,000 to the Taché Arts Project.
 - The Toronto-Dominion Bank has committed \$1,000,000 to establish the TD Internships for Truth and Reconciliation.

- Updates on the Southwood Project (Visionary (re)Generation) were presented to the Interdepartmental Planning Board (IPB). The IPB meeting was attended by several Deputy Ministers from the Government of Manitoba. The updates were presented by Andrew Konowalchuk, Associate VP (Administration) and Rejeanne Dupuis, Acting Director, Campus Planning with support from Tyler MacAfee, Director, Government and Community Engagement.
- The new community engagement website was launched (www.umanitoba.ca/community). The website showcases the impact of the community engagement work carried out by University of Manitoba faculty and staff both here at home and around the world. It features stories about faculty and staff who are collaborating with the community and making a real difference in people's lives, from improving health care in India to discovering new ways to connect with vulnerable youth in Winnipeg. The site includes an engagement map depicting the locales around the world where university faculty and staff are engaged.
- The Distinguished Alumni Award nominations have now opened and we encourage everyone to consider nominating an individual they feel is an outstanding alum. The five award categories are Lifetime Achievement, Professional Achievement, Community Service, Services to the University of Manitoba, and Outstanding Young Alumni. Nominations will close on November 18th, and The Distinguished Alumni Awards Celebration of Excellence will be held on May 12th, 2015 at the Winnipeg Art Gallery.
- The University of Manitoba will be hosting an Alumni Reception in Hong Kong on Tuesday, December 2nd. President David Barnard and John Kearsy, Vice-President (External) will be in attendance.
- In mid-October the Marketing Communications Office launched a third iteration of the Trailblazer campaign. This new phase features the inspirational stories and impact of our outstanding alumni including Andriana Chuchman, Sasa Radulovic, Jennifer Jones, Dr. Tito Daodu, Robert Houle and Gerald Schwartz.

The campaign is running nationally in the Vancouver, Calgary, Ottawa, and Toronto airports, in print magazine ads in the Globe and Mail's Canadian University Report and Report on Business and in Air Canada's EnRoute Magazine. Print ads are also running in major daily newspapers including the Globe and Mail, Ottawa Citizen, Vancouver Sun and Calgary Herald. Additionally, online ads are running on CBC, Rogers and LinkedIn online networks.

Locally, the campaign can be seen in our airport, in outdoor billboards throughout the city, on Cineplex lobby screens and in the Cineplex Magazine.

- A complementary social media campaign called #tagatrailblazer has been developed. It encourages our social media community to nominate individuals they feel are trailblazers, tag them via twitter and Instagram, and challenge them to pass it on. Stats as of last Thursday had us reaching over 40,000 twitter accounts and around 250,000 Impressions.