

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: May 19, 2015

GENERAL

On April 23, the University of Manitoba held a reception for alumni in Halifax and the surrounding area. President and Vice-Chancellor David Barnard and Danielle Dunbar, Acting Associate Vice-President, Donor Relations, hosted the event which allowed the university to re-engage with alumni in a meaningful way, and to reconnect graduates with their alma mater.

An international meeting took place April 27 at the University of Minnesota, where Presidents from post-secondary institutions across Canada and from the Dakotas, Iowa and Minnesota discussed priority issues concerning promising practices and new developments in higher education, as well as opportunities for cooperation, as part of the first visit of His Excellency David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, to the Midwestern United States and Great Lakes Region. This dialogue, co-chaired by President David Barnard, focused on best practices in inclusiveness for education, innovative education practices in the 21st century and science and innovation collaboration. Also present from Manitoba were President Annette Trimbee of the University of Winnipeg and President Gervan Fearon of Brandon University.

The 26th Annual Traditional Graduation Pow Wow took place May 2, at which the academic achievement of the over 350 Indigenous University of Manitoba graduates in 2015 were celebrated and honoured.

Three University of Manitoba community members were among the 12 women celebrate at the 39th annual YMCW-YWCA Women of Distinction Awards: Chander Gupta, professor of obstetrics, gynecology and reproductive sciences, won the Eira “Babs” Friesen Lifetime Achievement Award; Safi-Harb, Canada Research Chair and professor of physics and astronomy, won in the Science, Technology, and the Environment category; and Carly Scramstad, student in the College of Medicine, won in the Volunteerism category.

The sold-out-Distinguished Alumni Awards Celebration of Excellence took place on May 12th at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. Thank you to the Board of Governors members who purchased tickets, the University was very excited to celebrate the achievements of its outstanding graduates that evening.

On May 13th the University held a gift announcement event to announce TD Bank Group's \$1 million gift in support of the TD Internship for Truth & Reconciliation at the National Centre for Truth & Reconciliation (NCTR). The event was held at the Archives & Special Collections, and TD was represented by Deputy Chairman Frank McKenna. Members of the NCTR's Governing Circle were also in attendance.

ACADEMIC MATTERS

- Digvir Jayas, vice-president (research and international) and distinguished professor, biosystems engineering will receive the Partners-In-Research Engineering Ambassador Award on May 26 in Ottawa. The award recognizes a Canadian researcher whose work has contributed to the field of engineering and their promotion of this research to the Canadian public.

- Michael Eskin, human nutritional sciences, will receive a prestigious award from the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) in the USA this July when he is inducted as Fellow of the Institute at their Annual Meeting in Chicago. The Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) Fellow designation is an honour bestowed upon an Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) member by their peers, recognizing exemplary professionalism in the field of food science.
- Randall Jamieson, psychology, was elected President of the Canadian Society for Brain Behaviour and Cognitive Science for 2015-2018. The Society is a non-profit organization whose primary function is to advance Canadian research in experimental psychology and behavioural neuroscience.
- Mike McMurray, rehabilitation sciences, is the recipient of the Top First Aid Training Partner award for 2014. This Training Partner award honours the outstanding achievement and commitment of Training Partners in their efforts to improve the lives of vulnerable people in their communities. The award is presented by the Canadian Red Cross. Mike has also been selected as a member of the Medical/Therapy Team for the FISU Games in Gwangju, South Korea from Jun 30th-July 16th, 2015.
- The College of Pharmacy received a special mention in the 2015 MacLean's University Preview Magazine, listed as one of three outstanding programs at the University of Manitoba, along with Business and Bio. & Medical Physics. Pharmacy was noted for their consistent success on the national licensing exams and considered one of the strongest programs in the country.
- The Asper School's Commerce Students' Association (CSA) received the Most Outstanding Council of the Year Award at the eighth annual Canadian Association of Business Students Roundtable Conference. The CSA also received the Legacy Event Award, which recognizes large-scale, student-run events that improve the reputation of Canadian universities, for organizing and hosting the National Business School Conference in November 2014.
- For the first time ever, student teams from the Asper School placed in the Top 25 semi-final round of Canada's Next Top Ad Exec, a national advertising and marketing case competition. The MBA and BComm teams were the only two teams from Western Canada to reach the semi-finals after competing against more than 3,000 students from 38 schools across the country. The BComm team also advanced to the final round and were awarded the \$5,000 Canadian Tire Award for Innovative Presentation.
- The College of Nursing hosted the exhibit "We Were So Far Away: The Inuit Experience of Residential Schools" which presents the Inuit experience of residential schools through the voices of eight courageous Survivors. As part this, the College of Nursing Students' Association signed a pledge on behalf of all nursing students to "commit to being positive role models that engage Indigenous individual, families and communities in culturally relevant health promotion and to choose to ally ourselves with Indigenous children, youth, and their families to create an environment that supports, affirms, and celebrates all students' cultural and ethnic identities." The Canadian Nursing Students' Association will also be incorporating a similar pledge in January 2015 at their national conference.

- The University of Manitoba, as well as those from Brandon University, the University of Winnipeg, Université St. Boniface, and Red River College, who volunteer with the World University Service of Canada Student Refugee Program in Manitoba, received the Lieutenant Governor's Make A Difference Community Award. The Program supports young refugees pursuing post-secondary education in Canadian universities and colleges. Since 1982, the University of Manitoba has sponsored 37 students.
- The College of Dentistry was presented with the 2015 Gies Award for 'Outstanding Innovation by an Academic Dental Institution'. The award was presented as part of the William J. Gies Awards evening held in conjunction with the American Dental Education Association's 2015 annual session and exhibition in Boston. The College received this honor in recognition of its new curriculum project: Oral-Systemic Health Education for Non-Dental Healthcare Providers. The College of Dentistry is the first in Canada to claim this particular Gies Award.
- The Office of Indigenous Achievement partnered with the Aboriginal Student Centre and the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba to bring together Elders, Knowledge Keepers, academics and community members for the inaugural Indigenous Awareness Week. The six-day event, which took place in March, focused on the history of Treaties and their relevance today, relationship building, and what Indigenous and non-Indigenous people need to do in order to move forward together as we shape the future of Canada.

RESEARCH MATTERS

- The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Strategic Project Grants Program awarded Dr. Martin Scanlon (Food Science) \$543,000 in funding for his research to help Manitoba wheat manufacturers boost Asian noodle production through improved manufacturing processes. The announcement was made by Rod Bruinooze, Member of Parliament for Winnipeg South, on behalf of the Honourable Ed Holder, Minister of State (Science and Technology). Scanlon and his collaborator Dr. John Page (Physics & Astronomy) will be working with a manufacturer VN Instruments to develop a prototype acoustic sensor system that will make rolling sheet manufacturing processes more efficient. In addition, the Canadian International Grains Institute will provide Scanlon and his team access to a functional pilot scale noodle manufacturing line to test the acoustic sensor system.
- Partners in Research (PIR) awarded two of only seven national research awards to Drs. Digvir Jayas [Biosystems Engineering, Vice-President (Research and International)] and Cheryl Rockman-Greenberg (Pediatrics & Child Health) in recognition of their outstanding work in their fields. Rockman-Greenberg receives the PIR Biomedical Science Ambassador Award which recognizes a Canadian researcher whose outstanding body of work over a period of time has contributed to the fields of biomedical science and/or clinical medicine, and their promotion of this research to the Canadian public. She is an expert in genetic diseases who championed DNA-based diagnostics in Winnipeg. Jayas receives the PIR Engineering Ambassador Award which recognizes a Canadian researcher for his or her outstanding body of work over a period of time which has contributed to the field of engineering, and their promotion of this research to the Canadian public. He formerly held a Canada Research Chair in Stored-Grain Ecosystems and conducts research related to drying, handling and storing grains and oilseeds and digital image processing for grading and automation of processing operations in the agri-food industry. The awards will be presented at a ceremony on May 26, 2015 in Ottawa.

- Forty-four research projects led by 39 investigators were awarded \$2,353,784. Those projects receiving more than \$25,000 are:

PI	Sponsor	Title	Awarded
Cowley, Kristine (Physiology & Pathophysiology)	Canadian Paraplegic Association (Manitoba) Inc.	Does neuromuscular electrical stimulation combined with passive load prevent or reduce hind limb bone loss in an animal model of spinal cord injury?	\$43,100
Irani, Pourang (Computer Science)	NSERC	Developing a virtual-reality assessment engine for training in tower crane operation	\$25,000
Kazem Moussavi, Zahra (Electrical and Computer Engineering)	NSERC	Feasibility study of developing a smart face mask t+o monitor and record respiratory flow	\$25,000
Khafipour, Ehsan (Animal Science)	Danisco (UK) Ltd.	Metagenomics analysis of the microbiome of pig digestive tract when fed a grain-DDGS based ration with or without supplemental enzymes	\$55,000
Khafipour, Ehsan (Animal Science)	Manitoba Pork Council	Impact of in-feed and intra-vaginal administration of probiotics during the last stage of gestation on reducing the risk of neonatal diarrhea in piglets	\$80,000
Mann, Daniel (Biosystems Engineering)	NSERC	Usability of the MacDon self-propelled windrower	\$25,000
Stadnyk, Tricia (Civil Engineering)	Manitoba Hydro	Probable maximum flood prediction under climate change for the Lower Nelson River	\$42,023
Teetzel, Sarah (Kinesiology and Recreation Management)	SSHRC	Transitioning to inclusive sport: Understanding barriers to transgender Canadians' participation in recreational and high-performance sport	\$40,387
West, Christina (Nursing)	Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba Inc.	The family transition through pediatric bone marrow transplant	\$32,458
Wilkins, John (Internal Medicine)	Research Manitoba	Support for Manitoba Centre for Proteomics and Systems Biology participation in Genomics Innovation Network	\$75,000

Wittenberg, Katherina (Dean's Office - Faculty of Agriculture)	Manitoba Pork Council	Control holding fund only - To provide funding for future research projects in swine-related research	\$777,000
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- Four international partnership agreements were recently signed. They are:

Country	Partner Institution	Agreement Type	Initiating Faculty
Brazil	UNISINOS-Universidade do Vale do Rio dos Sinos	Student Exchange	Asper School of Business
India	Amar Seva Sangam University	Practicum Placement	College of Rehabilitation Science/Faculty of Health Sciences
South Korea	Hankuk University	Memorandum of Understanding	Extended Education
Sweden	Karolinska University	Combined Memorandum of Understanding and Faculty Exchange Agreement	College of Medicine/Faculty of Health Sciences

- The University of Manitoba hosted one visiting delegation.

Country	Name of Institution	Date	Hosting Faculty
Ukraine	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine, Kyiv Poltava State Agrarian Academy Sumy National Agrarian University Dnipropetrovsk State Agrarian & Economic University Dokuchayev Kharkiv National Agrarian University 	March 16-17, 2015	Agricultural & Food Sciences

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- In recognition of the efficiency upgrades as part of the Active Living Centre construction, the University of Manitoba received a Manitoba Hydro Commercial Building Envelope Program incentive cheque in the amount of \$100,000.00. This incentive was for the installation of qualifying energy efficient windows.
- By making recent efficiency upgrades, conserving energy and contributing to a cleaner environment, the University's participation in a Power Smart for Business program earned the business recognition as an Efficiency Partner.

- On May 2, the Office of Sustainability and the Campus Planning Office partnered to deliver a Jane's Walk event (free, public informational walk – part of a national event). Titled "Sustainable Campus: Today and Tomorrow" the walk featured a range of sustainability services, and education and research highlights on campus, and shared an update of the exciting directions being considered as part of Visionary Regeneration. With help from a student volunteer, the walk was promoted in and offered in a Mandarin-language version alongside English.
- Medicine Email Migration project has been completed with the decommissioning of Medicine Exchange and Blackberry Enterprise services.
- As part of the more comprehensive report on the OAG Audit
 - security tightened on Finance related servers
 - improved security and reporting from database audit trails to alleviate audit concerns.
- PMO-IT has been moved under the management of Mario Lebar in his new position of Director, Planning and Governance within IST.
- UEK (Updated): The Court in Maryland dismissed UEK's Amended Complaint in its entirety, without prejudice, based on forum non conveniens (i.e. they refused to take jurisdiction because Manitoba is a more convenient forum). UEK has an opportunity to appeal the decision or to refile the action in Manitoba. Our lead legal counsel in Maryland does not think either of the options are likely and we are awaiting confirmation that no action was filed before the appeal period expired on April 27, 2015.

EXTERNAL MATTERS

- As of March 31, 2015, a total of \$37,039,990 has been raised for the 2014/2015 fiscal year. This represents a 45% increase over 2013/2014 when a total of \$25,465,151 was raised.
- For the period of April 1 to April 30, 2015, the University has raised \$1,325,147.82 for the 2015/2016 fiscal year.
- Significant gifts and activities in the last reporting period include:
 - On April 7th the Active Living Centre Grand Opening Celebration took place with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, reception and guided tours of the new facility. Representatives from the federal and provincial government, and the Mayor of Winnipeg were on hand for the ceremony, as well as former Bison athletes Dr. Israel Idonije and Michelle Sawatzky-Koop. In addition, nearly 350 alumni, students, faculty, staff, and community members were in attendance. Major contributors were acknowledged during the ceremony, and signage in recognition of their gifts was in place for the event.
 - A gift of \$800,000 from Research Manitoba has been received in support of the Research Chair in Multiple Sclerosis.
 - Crosier Kilgour & Partners has committed \$100,000 designated to the EITC Facilities Fund in the Faculty of Engineering.
 - A gift in kind for the Department of Entomology in the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences has been received from the estate of Mr. William Preston. The gift was valued at \$112,389.25.

- April 7th marked the official grand opening of the University of Manitoba's new Active Living Centre. The centre received funding from all three levels of government and all were represented at the opening: Shelly Glover, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages; Peter Bjornson, Minister of Education and Advanced Learning; and Mayor Brian Bowman.
- On April 17th John Kearsy, Vice-President (External) and Tyler MacAfee, Director, Government and Community Engagement, met with Gerald Farthing, DM, Education and Advanced Learning, Scott Sinclair, Assistant Deputy Minister, Advanced Learning Division, and Carlos Matias, Chief Financial Officer, Advanced Learning Division to discuss options for the provincial government to support the Front and Centre campaign.
- On April 27th President Barnard co-chaired an international meeting at the University of Minnesota to discuss higher education and cooperation between universities in the U.S. Upper Midwest and Canada. The roundtable was part of His Excellency David Johnston's, Governor General of Canada, first visit to the Midwestern United States and Great Lakes Region.
- The University of Manitoba hosted the sixth, and last, in the series of Visionary Conversations of 2014-2015: Universities Today – Where do Centuries-Old Institutions Fit in Modern Society? Panelists included Dr. Jeffery Taylor (alumnus), Dean of Arts and Professor of History, Doug McCartney (alumnus), Senior Executive Director; Science, Innovation and Business Development; Department of Jobs and the Economy, Province of Manitoba and Dr. Sharon Macdonald (alumna), Associate Professor, Department of Community Health Sciences, College of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences and Director, Alan Klass Memorial Health Equity Program.
- MCO coordinated and executed communications regarding Provincial Budget 2015. This included President David Barnard's op-ed in the *Winnipeg Free Press* (April 29, 2015), as well as media interest the day of the budget announcement, and a budget story on UMToday.