

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT: April 12, 2016

### GENERAL

The provincial election will take place on April 19, and the University is working to ensure that post-secondary education, the economy, immigration, and Indigenous achievement are among the issues crucial to the province's future that are at the forefront of the public debate during the campaign. This includes the Visionary Conversations event held in February, at which presidents, student leaders, faculty, and other stakeholders from Manitoba's post-secondary institutions considered the question of whether we collectively are placing the right value on higher education, letters to the leaders of Manitoba's main political parties seeking their party's respective positions on the \$150 million Front and Centre campaign commitment, tuition fees and research funding, as well as direct advocacy with all those seeking office.

On March 16, Dr. Janice Ristock was announced as the University's next Provost and Vice-President (Academic). Dr. Ristock will assume her new portfolio on July 1, 2016. She currently serves as Vice-Provost (Academic Affairs), following previous positions as Associate Vice-President (Research), Acting Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Associate Dean (Research and Faculty Development) of the Faculty of Arts, and Coordinator of the Women's and Gender Studies Program.

The University of Manitoba formally responded to the *Federal Budget 2016: Growing the Middle Class* on UM Today. The new Liberal government committed to fund a Post-Secondary Institutions Strategic Investment Fund which will provide up to \$2 billion over three years to support up to 50 per cent of eligible costs of infrastructure projects at post-secondary institutions and affiliated research and commercialization organizations. Also of note is the 50 per cent increase to the Canada Student Grants for academic year 2016-17 and a \$2.6 billion investment in primary and secondary education on reserves. The federal granting agencies received an additional \$95 million per year on an ongoing basis.

The University was sad to announce the passing of Dr. Isabel Auld, the University of Manitoba's first female Chancellor, on Sunday March 27. Dr. Auld's contributions to the University were considerable, serving on its Board of Governors and Senate for 14 years, and as Chancellor for nine. Among her many honours were honorary Doctorates from the Universities of Saskatchewan and Manitoba, Member of the Order of Canada, inclusion in Winnipeg's Citizens' Hall of Fame and being named Chancellor Emeritus of the University of Manitoba. Her contributions to the broader community were no less noteworthy, marked by decades of volunteer work in support of organizations dedicated to education, health, consumer and social services. She remained a committed and an active member of the University community throughout her life, and she will be greatly missed.

The next installment of Visionary Conversations on Campus will take place on April 27 at the Robert B. Shultz Theatre. We will ask the question "Is the End of HIV in Sight? Can the University of Manitoba's renowned scientists help us achieve this ambitious goal?" The discussion will be moderated by Steven Moses and our panelists will be Keith Fowke, James Blanchard, Marissa Becker and Ken Kasper.

## ACADEMIC MATTERS

- Frank Hawthorne, geological sciences was appointed Consultant for Gem materials by Cultural Properties Canada.
- Frank Plummer, medical microbiology, received the Canada Gairdner Wightman Award for his groundbreaking research in Africa in understanding HIV transmission.
- Sherry Farrell-Racette, native studies, Shawna Ferris and Jocelyn Thorpe, women's and gender studies, along with students were involved in showcasing the work of six Indigenous women filmmakers at the Native Women & Film 5. More than a dozen films by local, national, and international filmmakers were shown in classes and at the Winnipeg Art Gallery.
- Kris Dick, biosystems engineering, was in Honduras with his student group February 13-22 working at a school in rural Honduras. In five days, the team completed a rainwater collection system with sand filter, a kitchen enclosure using rammed earth polyvinyl chloride (PVC) columns and a new connecting system for metal roofing.
- Karlee Dyck, agricultural and food sciences' graduate student, placed first in the Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition. Karlee's thesis was "Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder: Are pregnant women getting enough nutrients to reduce the risk?" She will attend the Western Regional Three Minute Thesis competition on April 29 at UBC-Okanagan in Kelowna, BC.
- Ifeanyi Nwachukwu and Karlee Dyck, human nutritional sciences' graduate students, were nominated as two of three most promising life science students by the 2016 Life Science Association of Manitoba.
- The Asper School students held their Annual "5 Days for the Homeless" campaign and raised in excess of \$25,000 for RAY (Resource Assistance for Youth).
- A total of 42 students participated in Alternative Reading Week programs this February. During their reading week placements, students worked alongside community members and non-profit organizations in Winnipeg, Belize and Ecuador. These programs are examples of the experiential learning initiatives developed by Student Life where students connect classroom learning with real-life situations. Through hands-on learning, our students are making a difference in Manitoba and in other communities while learning about social, economic and political issues that transcend borders and nationalities.
- Student Life hosted the Emerging Leaders Dinner where 66 outstanding students were recognized for their contributions to the University of Manitoba, and the wider community. Nominated by peers, professors, and professional staff, the recipients of the Emerging Leader Award represented a very diverse population of undergraduate and graduate students from across all disciplines and campuses.
- Mayor Brian Bowman was the special guest speaker at Wahkotowin, a new speaker series launched by the Asper School's Association of Aboriginal Commerce Students (AACCS). Bowman discussed the future of commerce in Winnipeg and the importance of Indigenous inclusion and partnership.

## RESEARCH MATTERS

- On March 1, 2016 the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) announced new funding to two Strategic Partnerships Projects at the University of Manitoba. Dr. Arkady Major, (Electrical and Computer Engineering) was awarded \$510,000 over three years to develop advanced techniques for efficient frequency conversion of laser radiation. Partnering with Major on the project is Dr. Roberto Morandotti from the Institut National de la Recherche Scientifique.

Two leading Canadian companies that manufacture industrial laser systems are also partnering on the project: Passat Ltd. and Attodyne Inc. Dr. Jörg Stetefeld (Chemistry and Centre for Oil and Gas Research and Development) with Dr. Gregg Tomy (Chemistry) were awarded \$582,500 over three years to develop right-handed coiled coil nanotube (RHCC-NT) as a new monitoring and remediation tool for Poly-Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs).

- Partners in Research (PIR) has awarded one of only seven national research awards to Dr. Noralou Roos [Community Health Sciences, Manitoba Centre for Health Policy (MCHP)] in recognition of her outstanding work in the field of her leadership in communicating across the academic/policy interface. Roos is receiving the 2016 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 will be honoured at the PIR National Awards ceremony on May 3, 2016 in Ottawa.
- The tenth annual Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) Day was held on campus on February 19, 2016, hosted and organized by the Office of the Vice-President (Research and International). More than 180 grade 11 and 12 high school students and their teachers participated in faculty-hosted hands-on activities: Hearts and Rec (Science), Pizza 101 (Agricultural and Food Sciences), Intro to Intelligent Robots (Science), Build-A-Bridge (Engineering), Greenhouse Gases from Agriculture at Glenlea Research Station (Agricultural and Food Sciences) and Analyzing Your Moves (Kinesiology and Recreation Management). Let's Talk Science student volunteers provided hands-on DNA extraction activities. The participants listened to three SET Talks given by Dr. C.J. Mundy (Environment and Geography), graduate student Jennifer West (Physics and Astronomy/Graduate Studies), and Dr. Zahra Moussavi (Biomedical Engineering). Students and teachers were very engaged throughout the day both in the activities, talks and via social media.
- On March 1, 2016 the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation held an event at Rideau Hall with the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, to celebrate the winners of the Imagine a Canada art and essay competition. The competition encouraged youth across the country to share their vision of Canada through the lens of reconciliation. For more information visit [umanitoba.ca/nctr](http://umanitoba.ca/nctr).

- Twenty-five researchers, leading 37 projects, were awarded funding from various external sponsors totaling \$1,072,870. Those projects awarded more than \$25,000 are:

PI	Sponsor	Title	Awarded
Blakley, Brian (Otolaryngology)	University Medical Group	Otology research	\$40,000
Bohm, Clara (Internal Medicine)	University Medical Group	Development and validation of a classification tool to document nursing workload in in-centre hemodialysis	\$50,000
Filizadeh, Shaahin (Electrical and Computer Engineering)	Mitacs Inc.	Modeling and HIL simulation of modular multi-level converters	\$30,000
Lawley, Yvonne (Plant Science)	Manitoba Corn Growers Association	MCGA research associate	\$185,033
MacDonald, Kelly (Internal Medicine)	Sellers Endow	Research start-up fund	\$167,500
MacDonald, Kelly (Internal Medicine)	University Medical Group	Research start-up fund	\$50,000
Murooka, Thomas (Immunology)	GlaxoSmithKline - CIHR Partnered Chair Program	Dynamics of cell-to-cell mediated HIV-1 spread in the lymph node	\$100,000
Passmore, Steven (Kinesiology and Recreation Management)	Manitoba Chiropractors Association Research Fund	Performance-based outcome measures, motor performance, and healthcare integration	\$50,000
Yang, Xi (Immunology)	GlaxoSmithKline - CIHR Partnered Chair Program	Dynamics of cell-to-cell mediated HIV-1 spread in the lymph node	\$235,000

#### ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- **UMFA BARGAINING** - the UMFA collective agreement expires on March 31, 2016. Some initial procedural discussions have been held between chief negotiators, and bargaining is expected to begin in earnest in April.
- Jeanette Mockford was the successful candidate for the newly created position, **NCTR Access and Privacy Coordinator**, which reports directly to the Access and Privacy Officer. The creation of this role and its fulfilment is an important step towards achieving our unit's SRP 2016-17 priority of "Providing expertise and support for the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR) in relation to access, privacy and information management."

- The **Copyright Strategy Manager** has begun the process of institutional data collection, which will require a statistical analysis of our learning management system to determine overlap between print materials, digital materials, and the Access Copyright repertoire. The expected result is similar to that shown at the U of T, namely 60-70%. The Copyright Strategy Manager reported to the Copyright Advisory Committee on national lobbying efforts prior to the 2017 update of the Copyright Act and sits on the steering committee with solicitors from partner universities across Canada, and the goal is to take necessary steps to provide a measured counterpoint to the lobbying efforts (and at times misinformation) of Access Copyright, the Writers Guild of Canada and the Association of Canadian Publishers.
- In partnership with the Disability Issues Office (DIO) and various other Manitoban Post-Secondary Institutions, Student Accessibility Services and Student Advocacy, the Office of Human Rights and Conflict Management (OHRCM) hosted an **Accessibility Learning Event** on March 15th. Special guest Jutta Treviranus, Director of the Inclusive Design Research Centre, discussed good practices and resources for accessible web sites, learning platforms and libraries. This learning event was of interest to all public sector organizations preparing accessibility plans under [The Accessibility for Manitobans Act](#).
- The Legal Office has created a **process for the Office of Institutional Analysis** to create contest rules (which are a legal requirement) for surveys that include prizes for participation. The process has made it easier for researchers to add contest rules and it has streamlined the process which has allowed for a quicker turn-around time to up load the rules to the survey.
- As a result of the Architectural and Engineering Services **Energy Conservation Project**, the University has experienced a \$400,000 reduction in water consumption this year.
- The Office of Sustainability, in partnership with the Faculty of Architecture, Department of Entomology and the UM Parks Canada Campus Club student group launched the **BEE/HOUSE/LAB International Design Competition** on March 1, 2016. The competition challenges participants to create innovative and practical houses for wild bees as a way of taking action on bee population decline. Protecting pollinating species – bees, other bugs, hummingbirds and more – is critical as about 75% of flowering plants and a third of the world’s food crops rely on pollination. Many of these species, and notably bees, are under pressure from climate change, pesticides and pathogens and habitat loss. Through creative design that captures the imagination and deployment of winning designs on campus (with interpretive signage of course) the competition will raise awareness of threats to pollinators, create prototypes that would be easy for any homeowner/land manager to use – thereby promoting community action, and continue the work that the University has been doing to protect campus ecology and help pollinators. Metro News and CBC have both covered the competition launch, and additional media is anticipated when winners are announced on April 25 (Monday after Earth Day).
- During Winter Term, over 80 University students have worked on **32 sustainability projects on campus**. 19 projects with community partners and 13 projects through the Sustainability Research in Action (SRA) program coordinated by the Office of Sustainability and in partnership with faculties. Projects topics range from waste prevention and diversion, energy and water conservation, biodiversity, education, light pollution, food production, climate change, to green buildings. External partners include Canada Summer Games, City of Winnipeg, Lafarge,

Assiniboine Park Conservancy and Red River College. An online library for these projects is under development and on-campus project results will be shared with administrative units.

## EXTERNAL MATTERS

- For the period of April 1, 2015 to March 18, 2016, the University has raised \$106,720,112.84 for the 2015/2016 fiscal year.
- To date, we have raised \$234,270,942 in philanthropic gifts and received a \$150 million commitment from the provincial government towards our \$500 million goal for the Front and Centre campaign.

Significant gifts and activities in the last reporting period include:

- Research Manitoba made a \$300,000 commitment to support Multiple Sclerosis research and the Research Chair in Multiple Sclerosis.
  - Bayer Inc. and the Israels family each announced gifts of \$1 million to establish the Lyonel G. Israels Professorship in Hematology at an event on Bannatyne Campus on March 14, 2016. Approximately 50 guests attended the announcement, at which the University introduced Dr. Ryan Zarychanski [BSc/95, BSc(Med)/00] as the inaugural Israels Professor.
  - The John J. Conklin Theatre had its official opening on March 15, 2016 with the world premiere of *Doubtful House*, from Governor General's Award winner Ian Ross [BA/92]. A number of members of the Conklin family attended the event, with John Conklin's grandson, Murray Conklin [BA/66, LLB/69], giving remarks on the family's behalf.
  - President David Barnard hosted a reception in recognition of student referenda giving leaders on March 29, 2016. Students have given \$14.2 million to the Front and Centre campaign through the referenda program, with more than 30,000 individual students participating since the campaign began in 2010.
  - Prime Minister Justin Trudeau appointed seven new senators to the upper chamber on March 18. Two of the seven new legislators, Justice Murray Sinclair [LL.B./1979, LL.D./2002] and Raymonde Gagné [B.esA/1976, Cert.en Ed/1977] are University of Manitoba alumni.
- The 2016 University of Manitoba Distinguished Alumni Award recipients have been announced. We are excited to share their stories and honour them at the Celebration of Excellence on May 5 at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. More information is online at [umanitoba.ca/distinguishedalumni](http://umanitoba.ca/distinguishedalumni).
    - Outstanding Young Alumni: Diana Nicholson [BSc(BioE)/06]
    - Outstanding Young Alumni: Gary Wong [PhD/14]
    - Community Service: Karen Beaudin, OM [BA/92, BSW/11]
    - Service to the University of Manitoba: The Hong Kong Alumni Association
    - Professional Achievement: Emmie Leung [BComm(Hons)/76]
    - Lifetime Achievement: Edward Lyons, OC [BSc/63, BSc(Med)/68, MD/68]
  - The Seniors' Alumni Learning for Life Program began its spring 2016 sessions on Thursday, March 10 and will run until April 28. This program is for seniors 60-plus and is open to alumni and friends of the University of Manitoba.

- On April 6 the University of Manitoba hosted a conversation around Palliative Care and its importance to Canadians. The discussion was moderated by Dr. Harvey Chochinov, Canada Research Chair in Palliative Care and Director of the Manitoba Palliative Care Research Unit. The event was held at McNally Robinson Booksellers.
- A special gift announcement from the Richardson Foundation will take place on April 14, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in the Engineering & Information Technology Complex Atrium. The Richardson Foundation's gift will have a transformational impact on the success of students, professors, and researchers at the University of Manitoba.
- On April 20 the University will host a reception in Minneapolis to launch Front and Centre: The campaign for the University of Manitoba. This will be a valuable opportunity to meet and visit with alumni, donors and friends and to share with them the exciting initiatives taking place at the U of M.
- On June 9 the University will co-host an alumni reception at the home of Susan Brownstone-Brock and Thomas Brock in New York City, New York to launch Front and Centre. This is another valuable opportunity to meet and visit with alumni, donors and friends and to share with them the exciting initiatives taking place at the U of M.
- University of Manitoba provided Mayor Brian Bowman with an update on the Southwood lands development. In attendance were: Tyler MacAfee, Director, Government and Community Engagement; Andrew Konowalchuk, Associate Vice-President (Administration); Réjeanne Dupuis, Acting Director, Campus Planning Office; and Jonathan Hildebrand, Planner.
- Tyler MacAfee, Director, Government and Community Engagement, had an informal meeting with the Leader of the Manitoba Liberals, Rana Bokhari and Stephanie Harris, Executive Assistant to Rana Bokhari, to discuss the U of M's Indigenous Blueprint, Indigenous achievement, and the Front and Centre campaign. Ms. Bokhari stated that the Liberal Party would honour the \$150 million provincial government commitment to the campaign if they were voted into office after the April 19, 2016 election.
- David Barnard, President and Vice-Chancellor, Tyler MacAfee, and Ry Moran, Director, National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR), conducted several meetings in Ottawa as part of the Office of Government and Community Engagement's (GCE) outreach with the new federal government. U of M focused on engagement with senior government officials, ministers, and membership organizations: Colleen Swords, Deputy Minister, Indigenous and Northern Affairs; Les Linklater, Deputy Secretary to Cabinet (Operations), Privy Council Office; Andrea Lyon, Deputy Minister, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Deputy Minister University Champion for the U of M; Jean-Francois Tremblay, Deputy Minister, Infrastructure; The Honourable Kirsty Duncan, Minister of Science; officials from the Prime Minister's Office; and The Honourable John Manley, President and CEO, Business Council of Canada. Topics for discussion included key U of M priorities such as infrastructure funding for universities, Indigenous achievement, NCTR, co-op and work-integrated learning programs, and Arctic research.

- John Kearsley, Vice-President (External) and Tyler MacAfee met with Jean-Vianney Auclair, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Education and Advanced Learning, to discuss the provincial government's commitment to the Front and Centre campaign and how best to move forward with funding specific initiatives under the \$150 million umbrella.
- Tyler MacAfee met with Robert-Falcon Ouellette, Member of Parliament, Winnipeg Centre, to discuss how best to develop a relationship between MP Ouellette and U of M. It was agreed that GCE would make arrangements for MP Ouellette to have a tour of the Bannatyne campus, meet with faculty and staff who can speak to the role that the U of M plays in the downtown community, and talk about the Bannatyne campus master plan.