

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT: November 22, 2016

### GENERAL

Fall Convocation took place over three sessions this year, from October 18 – 20 2016, and provided an opportunity not only to recognize the academic achievements of graduating students but the contributions of three distinguished community members through the awarding of honorary degrees. During Fall Convocation, honorary degrees were awarded to Sandra Buhai Barz (D.Litt.), Chief Wilton Littlechild (LL.D.) and Wayne G. Wouters (LL.D.).

Three professors have been elected as Fellows of the Royal Society of Canada (RSC), the country's most esteemed association of scholars and scientists. The three scholars are:

- Canada Research Chair in Arctic System Science, David Barber (Environment & Geography), internationally recognized for his leading role in studying the changing sea ice dynamics resulting from the changing Arctic climate;
- Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Janice Ristock, a global leader in the development of LGBTQ studies and intimate partner violence and working with marginalized populations;
- Mechanical Engineering professor, Quan (Abraham) Wang, a pioneer in the use and application of smart materials and wavelets.

Election to the RSC is considered the highest honour an academic can achieve in the arts, humanities and sciences. The three professors are among 89 new Fellows elected for 2016.

The RSC also announced the election of two University of Manitoba professors as members of the College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists: Drs. Ekram Hossein (Electrical & Computer Engineering) and Andrew Woolford (Sociology). The College is Canada's first national multidisciplinary recognition system, which honours emerging and productive academics for their contributions to society, with an emphasis on those who take interdisciplinary approaches to their research.

Hossein is an internationally recognized authority in the area of wireless communications and networking. His pioneering contributions to modeling, analysis, and design of cellular wireless and cognitive radio networks have significantly impacted the research and development in this area and enabled advancement of broadband wireless technology.

Woolford undertakes research that sits at the forefront of genocide studies and has contributed to rethinking how genocide applies to Canadian settler colonialism. His current research is a community-led effort to use virtual technology to foster empathy for and knowledge about Canada's Residential Schools.

New Fellows, members and award winners from across the country were officially inducted and honoured on Nov. 18 in Kingston, Ontario.

Dr. Joanne Keselman was announced as Interim Vice-President (Administration), effective October 19, 2016. Dr. Keselman's many years of service to the University of Manitoba include a series of important administrative roles, including five years as Associate Vice-President (Research), eleven years as Vice-President (Research) and most recently, seven years as Provost and Vice-President (Academic).

She stepped down from this role effective July 1, 2016, and has modified her administrative leave in order to take on the role of Vice-President (Administration) on an interim basis.

As at November 16, 2016, members of the University of Manitoba Faculty Association (UMFA) remained on strike. Members of the community are advised to visit <http://umanitoba.ca/strikeinfo/> for the most current information.

## ACADEMIC MATTERS

- <http://www.metronews.ca/news/winnipeg/2016/10/11/university-of-manitoba-bee-house-contest-wins-award.html>
- Getahun Legesse, animal Science, and Kateryn Rochon, entomology, have been selected as mentees in the 2016-17 Beef Researcher Mentorship program. Each mentee has been paired with notable leaders in the Canadian beef industry which offers greater engagement with Canada's beef industry.
- Karin Wittenberg, Dean, participated as part of a panel of four Canadian deans addressing "The role science in food security", a MindShare session sponsored by Universities Canada and hosted at the University of Saskatchewan on October 12.
- On September 19<sup>th</sup> Lori Wilkinson, sociology presented at the United Nations (UN) General Assembly for Refugees and Migrants in New York. There were over 400 people on the 'short list', and Lori was one of only a few selected to speak with United Nations (UN) officials.
- On October 21<sup>st</sup> David Camfield, sociology and labour studies program appeared as a witness before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates, which is examining the future of Canada Post.
- Adolf Ng, director of the University of Manitoba's Transport Institute, was appointed to the editorial board of Ocean & Coastal Management in September. Ocean & Coastal Management (OCM) is an international journal dedicated to the study of all aspects of ocean and coastal management at international, national, regional, and local levels.
- A team of scientists from the University of Manitoba – led by chemist Dr. Frank Schweizer – created a hybrid antibiotic by tying together two different antibiotics with a molecular "rope". While each of the antibiotics in the hybrid have a low effectiveness on antibiotic resistant bacteria on their own, when combined in this new way they not only become effective again but attached the bacteria in a new way.
- The department of computer science entered a team – Kyle Morris (third year computer science) along with department head John Anderson, Professor Jacky Baltes, and postdoc Meng Cheng Lau – in the Institute of Electronic Engineers (IEEE)/Robotis Humanoid Application Challenge at the Institute of Electronic Engineers IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems in Korea that won second prize. The theme was magic tricks; partly to emphasize perception, interaction with people, and/or hand eye coordination. The University of Manitoba did a card trick that involved interacting with a person. Second prize this year was a \$1,000.00 US robot hand that will be put to good use in future research in the department.

- Open Farm Day at the Bruce D. Campbell Farm and Food Discovery Centre on September 18<sup>th</sup> drew over 500 visitors. Visitors could tour the Centre and the farm, participate in hands-on activities, and view displays by the Glenlea Long Term Crop Rotation and the Manitoba Pulse and Soybean Growers. The Discovery Centre was also a host venue during the Amazing Ag Adventure, a three-day hands-on event offered by Agriculture in the Classroom Manitoba for over 1000 Grade 4 and 5 students September 20-22. Students moved through 16 interactive stations at the Discovery Centre and at neighbouring Kelburn Farm exploring modern agriculture topics.
- The Second Annual Influential Leaders Challenge, launched in September by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), recognized 30 change makers and business pioneers driving positive change in the communities they serve. One of these pioneers was Sheri Governo (Master of Business Administration MBA/14), co-founder and vice-president of business development at Exigence Technologies. Exigence's patented technology kills microbes on environmental surfaces without antibiotics and "has the potential to make a huge difference in food safety and health care, and improve countless lives around the world."
- Daria Kalajdziewska, Instructor in the department of mathematics at the University of Manitoba and Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences (PIMS's) Manitoba Educational Coordinator, held the first ever Math Mania event in Manitoba in the gym at Westgrove Elementary School. After experiencing Math Mania events held by Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences (PIMS) British Columbia, she imported the idea to the University of Manitoba. The event was held at a school with a group of kids considered at high-risk of dropping out of school and the response wasn't just engagement but enthusiasm.
- A new initiative starting in 2016, Indigenous Scholars Fund. The propose of the fund is to support the recruitment of 5-6 new Indigenous scholars to further advance our commitment to Indigenous Achievement as stated in our Strategic Plan, 2015-2020, *Taking Our Place*.

## RESEARCH MATTERS

- On September 9, 2016 the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council announced support for four social science and humanities related research projects at the University of Manitoba. The funding was awarded through the Partnership Grants, Partnership Development Grants, Insight Grants and Insight Development Grants programs.

The Partner Institutions and their funded projects are:

- Stephane McLachlan (Environment & Geography), \$2,500,000 Partnership Grant for his project *Wa Ni Ska Tan*.
- Julieta Frank (Agribusiness & Agricultural Economics), \$98,622 Insight Grant to investigate the cost of liquidity in electronically traded agricultural commodities.
- Usha Mittoo (Accounting & Finance), \$92,220 Insight Grant for cross-sectional and cross-country study that will examine post-crisis financial regulation, financial flexibility, and firms' access to financing.
- Chad Lawley (Agribusiness & Agricultural Economics), \$174,783 Partnership Development Grant to examine returns on land conservation investment in Canada.

- A new research chair in Municipal Infrastructure was announced on October 25, 2016 funded by the City of Winnipeg, Province of Manitoba and fourteen industry/business partners, for a total of \$1,005,000 over five years. The chair holder is Ahmed Shalaby (Civil Engineering) who specializes in pavement design and highway materials. His research will focus on improving the materials and design of municipal infrastructure elements, ensuring roads are built at optimal life-cycle cost with the most appropriate and innovative materials.
- The 2016 Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships were announced on October 3, 2016 with University of Manitoba graduate students receiving four awards. The recipients of these prestigious awards are: Chantale Cenerini (Linguistics); Colin Graydon (Medical Microbiology); Mamneet Manghera (Immunology); and Kayla Moore (Civil Engineering).

Cenerini's research focuses on understanding and supporting the vitality of Michif, the language of the Métis people. Graydon is investigating how LAG-3, a protein that suppresses certain components of the immune system, blocks the body's response to diseases. Manghera's research looks closely at how pieces of human DNA made up of retroviral genomes (called endogenous retroviruses) contribute to neuropathology in ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease). Moore is investigating the solute transport in saline aquifers and application to geothermal energy as a potential power source in the Canadian prairies.

The Vanier Scholarships recognize students who demonstrate leadership skills and a high standard of scholarly achievement in graduate studies in the social sciences and humanities, natural sciences and engineering and health. Students are nominated by their university. Nominees are evaluated by multi-disciplinary peer-review committees and selected by a board composed of world-renowned Canadian and international experts.

- The Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (CAHS) inducted Dr. Andrew Halayko (Physiology & Pathophysiology, Internal Medicine, and Pediatrics & Child Health, Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba), as a new Fellow on September 15, 2016. Halayko is an internationally recognized expert in understanding the biology and biophysics of airway smooth muscle in asthma and other chronic lung diseases. Halayko holds a Canada Research Chair in Airway Cell and Muscle Biology.

Fellows are elected by their peers based on their demonstrated leadership, creativity, distinctive competencies and commitment to advancing academic health sciences. Membership is considered one of the highest honours for the Canadian health sciences community. The objective of the CAHS is to provide advice on key issues relevant to the health of Canadians. With the induction of Dr. Halayko, the University of Manitoba now has 26 Fellows of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.

- The Canadian Medical Hall of Fame announced on October 6, 2016 that Dr. Estelle Simons (Pediatrics & Child Health, Immunology, Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba) is one of six Canadians chosen to be inducted in to the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame.

A physician-scientist, Simons is internationally renowned for research on pharmacologic management of allergic diseases, including anaphylaxis and asthma. Her dedication to scholarship, innovative research and education helped transform allergic disease management from empiricism to science, relieve suffering, and mitigate the impact of the global allergy epidemic. She led an

interdisciplinary team that conducted landmark investigations to establish the scientific basis for use of new medications that have since become safe and effective treatment for allergic diseases worldwide. Simons will be inducted in a ceremony that takes place on May 4, 2017 in Québec City. She joins a distinguished number of University of Manitoba professors and alumni who are laureates of the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame: Bruce Chown [MD/22], John Dirks [MD/57], Henry Friesen[MD/58], James Hogg [MD/62], Charles H. Hollenberg [MD/55], Arnold Naimark [MD/57] and Allan Ronald [MD/61].

- Thirty-nine research projects were awarded funding from various external sponsors totaling \$3,981,548. Those projects awarded more than \$25,000 are:

<b>PI</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Awarded</b>
Albensi, Benedict (Pharmacology and Therapeutics)	Research Manitoba	Characterization of an altered ammonia transport system that contributes to Alzheimers disease	\$73,500
Alfaro, Marolo (Civil Engineering)	Research Manitoba	Structural stability of highway embankments in Canada's north	\$40,000
Arora, Rakesh (Surgery)	Research Manitoba	Long term functional survival after surgery on the thoracic aorta in Manitoba	\$70,000
Azad, Meghan (Pediatrics and Child Health)	Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba Inc.	The impact of human-derived human milk fortifiers (H2MF) on gut microbiota development and oxidative stress in premature infants	\$40,000
Azad, Meghan (Pediatrics and Child Health)	Research Manitoba	Breastfeeding, human milk oligosaccharides, and the developmental origins of obesity	\$225,000
Bibeau, Eric (Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering)	Mitacs Inc.	Implementing and testing the first marine energy hybrid system water-to-wire in a remote coastal community on Vancouver Island	\$60,000
Bohm, Clara (Internal Medicine)	Health Sciences Centre	Effect of an exercise rehabilitation program on physical function and quality of life in incident hemodialysis patients: A randomized controlled study	\$30,000
Cenkowski, Stefan (Biosystems Engineering)	Mitacs Inc.	Prototype of a CHP system based on an upgraded gravity feed wood-pellet furnace integrated with a steam-powered micro-turbine for small-to mid-scale	\$57,500

		applications using CFD simulation and experimental investigation	
Cha, Young Jin (Civil Engineering)	Research Manitoba	Scour monitoring method using ultrasonic based flow meter and advanced machine learning	\$40,000
Daayf, Fouad (Plant Science)	Mitacs Inc.	Characterizing fusarium species that affect major crops in Manitoba	\$90,000
Dakshinamurti, Shyamala (Pediatrics and Child Health)	Research Manitoba	Pulmonary arterial hypoxia and adenylyl cyclase mediated signaling in neonatal pulmonary hypertension	\$150,000
Dow, Karen (Civil Engineering)	Manitoba Hydro	Investigation of anchor ice release waves at Clark Lake/Split Lake	\$36,340
El-Gabalawy, Hani (Internal Medicine)	Research Manitoba	Epigenetic signatures in the development of rheumatoid arthritis	\$73,500
Fergusson, James (Political Studies)	National Defence and the Canadian Armed Forces (DND)	Part 3 NORAD Evolved - a multi-domain, multi-mission, multi-partner North American Defense Command Part 3 of 3	\$25,000
Ghia, Jean-Eric (Immunology)	Mitacs Inc.	The Semaphorins, a role in inflammatory bowel diseases	\$255,000
Gole, Aniruddha (Electrical and Computer Engineering)	Mitacs Inc.	GPU platforms for highly parallel EMT simulations	\$58,000
Gole, Aniruddha (Electrical and Computer Engineering)	Mitacs Inc.	Investigations into the stability of large power systems with embedded power electronic subsystems using frequency impedance scanning	\$30,000
Gordon, Joseph (Nursing)	Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba Inc.	Therapeutic targeting of skeletal muscle Nix in early-onset insulin resistance: A cellular and in vivo approach	\$40,000
Halayko, Andrew (Physiology & Pathophysiology)	Children's Hospital	Understanding the role of oxidized lipids in the	\$36,750

	Foundation of Manitoba Inc.	pathogenesis of asthma: A multi-scale approach	
Halayko, Andrew (Physiology & Pathophysiology)	Research Manitoba	Understanding the role of oxidized lipids in the pathogenesis of asthma: A multi-scale approach	\$36,750
Hatch, Grant (Pharmacology and Therapeutics)	Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba Inc.	Exploring the mechanism of cognitive defects in Barth Syndrome	\$39,267
Hill, David (Clinical Health Psychology)	Health Sciences Centre Foundation	Examining the long-term health outcomes of individuals found Not Criminally Responsible (NCR) and unfit to stand trial in Manitoba's forensic mental health system	\$64,790
House, James (Human Nutritional Sciences)	Mitacs Inc.	Development and assessment of vitamin-enriched granule extracts from egg yolk	\$133,333
Iacopino, Anthony (Dean's Office - College of Dentistry)	Mitacs Inc.	Enhanced and confirmation specific G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs) expression for autoimmune diagnostics	\$416,000
Jones, Peter (Food Science)	Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada	Evaluating the anti-hypertensive properties of whole hemp seed protein and hemp seed protein hydrolysate derived bioactive peptide consumption	\$232,148
Karimi-Abdolrezaee, Soheila (Physiology & Pathophysiology)	Canadian Paraplegic Association (Manitoba) Inc.	Preclinical efficacy of a bioengineered scaffold for co-application of neural stem cells and neuregulin-1 nanocarriers for functional repair of spinal cord injury	\$50,000
Kauppinen, Tiina (Pharmacology and Therapeutics)	Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada	The role of PARP-1 as a modulator of microglial responses in ischemic stroke	\$298,800
Ko, Ji Hyun (Human Anatomy and Cell Science)	Research Manitoba	In vivo imaging of levodopa-induced angiogenesis and its relevance to tardive dyskinesia in a parkinsonian rat model	\$225,000

Liu, Song (Biosystems Engineering)	Research Manitoba	Biocide-coated magnetic nanoparticles designed for effective disruption of a biofilm as well as in-situ eradication of biofilms on the surface of medical devices	\$150,000
Lobchuk, Michelle (Nursing)	CancerCare Manitoba	Exploring caregiver guilt and self-care behaviors: "I know intellectually, but need that permission to get out and do something for me"	\$36,750
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Mahmud, Salaheddin (Community Health Sciences)	Dalhousie University	Canadian immunization research network	\$68,500
Nyomba, Gregoire (Internal Medicine)	Research Manitoba	Impact of human growth hormone on pancreatic $\beta$ -cell function during puberty and its role in the pathogenesis of pediatric obesity and type 2 diabetes	\$73,500
Rastegar, Mojgan (Biochemistry and Medical Genetics)	Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba Inc.	Investigating the potential application of an FDA-approved drug for Rett Syndrome	\$40,000
Shen, Garry (Internal Medicine)	Canadian Diabetes Association	Mechanism for inhibitory effect of Saskatoon berry-rich cyanidin glykans on diabetes-induced vascular inflammation	\$279,984
Singer, Alexander (Family Medicine)	Queen's University	Identifying military families and veterans in the Canadian primary care sentinel surveillance network (CPCSSN) database to study the health of military families and veterans	\$30,000
Vanan, Magimairajan (Pediatrics and Child Health)	Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba Inc.	Role of Sonic Hedgehog (SHH) pathway in promoting blood brain barrier (BBB) integrity in Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG)	\$39,980



Walker, John (Clinical Health Psychology)	Canadian Association of Gastroenterology	Understanding health anxiety in a chronic illness population: Longitudinal impact on disease activity, health care utilization, and quality of life in inflammatory bowel disease	\$38,875
West, Christina (Nursing)	Research Manitoba	The family transition through pediatric hematopoietic stem cell transplant: A prospective analysis guided by a family systems-expressive arts framework	\$220,531
Ye, Xibiao (Community Health Sciences)	Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba Inc.	Maternal medication use during pregnancy and cancer risk in offspring: A population-based case-control study	\$40,000

## ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- The Travel Booking and Expense Management review was formally launched on October 20<sup>th</sup> with the first meeting of the Steering Committee. The objectives of the review include:
  - Conduct meaningful and broad consultation with stakeholders.
  - Develop an understanding of what the common issues are with the tool, policy and process.
  - Develop recommendations for review by the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) to address the issues.

Feedback can be sent to [travel.review@umanitoba.ca](mailto:travel.review@umanitoba.ca). Steering committee, project information and updates can be found here:

[http://umanitoba.ca/admin/human\\_resources/change/6129.html](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/human_resources/change/6129.html)

- HR's Learning and Organizational Development worked with several partners to launch two communities of practice; one for Supervisors and the other for Executive Assistants. Communities of Practice are formed by individuals who have similar roles from across the institution, in order to create an opportunity for these important groups to get together and share best practices and network so that they feel more comfortable in their roles and better understand the impact that they can have.
- Leanne Shewchuk joined the University as Director, Office of Sustainability on November 7, 2016. Leanne comes from the Province of Manitoba where she held the position Manager of Special Projects and Environmental Services.

- The Legal Office and Access Privacy Office (in addition to several other University units) attended the October 27, 2016 Access and Privacy Meeting with National Administration Committee, All parties and the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation meeting to present and answer questions. The Access and Privacy Officer gave an excellent overview of *The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation Act* and how access and privacy is handled at the NCTR.
- The Supreme Court of Canada (“SCC”) determined that the *Fontaine et. al. v. Canada* case raises issues of national importance and granted leave to appeal on October 27, 2016. The SCC will decide whether to preserve or destroy the records created under the Independent Assessment Process (“IAP Records”) under the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement (“IRSSA”), and in particular the over 38,000 Indian Residential School Survivors’ claims for compensation. The NCTR supported the application to appeal to the SCC to preserve the IAP Records and filed several supporting affidavits. While the NCTR acknowledges the IAP Records contain highly sensitive and confidential information, we have taken the position that the IRSSA intended these records be preserved in accordance with the Federal statutory regime, which will ensure confidential preservation. It is important to the NCTR that a complete historical record of the Indian Residential School system and its legacy be preserved. NCTR will commence with the submission of more supporting affidavits.
- Under **The Accessibility for Manitobans Act (AMA)**, the University of Manitoba is committed to creating an inclusive and accessible community for all faculty, students and staff. In order to ensure all members of the University community have had the opportunity to provide feedback, two community consultations were held on October 19<sup>th</sup> at Fort Garry and October 21<sup>st</sup> at Bannatyne. Suggestions received helped to identify ways we can improve our organization, building upon our goals as identified in the University’s strategic plan, of providing accessibility and reasonable accommodation.
- The University grant from Centre for Disease Control / Partners for Health and Development in Africa (CDC) which has been managed through our NGO in Kenya was not renewed. The team in Kenya has struggled with closing this large program down and transferring clinic over to the new grantee, University of Maryland. A MOU with CDC and University of Maryland is expected to cover the transition period, but the cut-off and accounting for costs incurred up to the end date are presenting some challenges.
- A collaborative Residences Charges Centralization project between Ancillary Services and Financial Services to combine student tuition and residence charges under one main account has successfully concluded. The project improves the student experience by simplifying payment processes for the student.
- HR, IST, and Financial Services have collaborated to facilitate uninterrupted system access for striking UMFA-members to Concur and EPIC. The default system parameters would otherwise have removed access as these individuals moved to non-active status in VIP.
- In September all employees were notified that the University would run a new Phishing Awareness Program to educate faculty and staff on how to recognize phishing attacks and help prevent cyber security exploits at the University of Manitoba. The Phishing Awareness Program was designed to test our readiness for incidents through regular ‘fire drills’. During the month of October, as part of

National Cyber Security Awareness Month, employees periodically received simulated phishing emails that imitate real attacks, which lure Internet users to fake websites with authentic looking emails to introduce virus attacks or to steal passwords and other important personal information. The simulated emails were designed to give users a realistic experience in a safe and controlled environment, allowing employees to recognize and become more resilient to tactics used in real phishing attacks. There was no penalty for falling for one of the simulations. Each person was asked to take 30 to 60 seconds to read the brief educational material presented afterward, which will help each person identify and avoid a real attempt. Two phishing simulations were conducted during October. On October 6<sup>th</sup>, a simulated phishing email was sent to 5,784 staff and faculty containing a link to a simulated malicious website. 418 users clicked on the link (7%). On October 18<sup>th</sup>, a second simulated was sent to 5,784 staff and faculty which was more complex in that it was designed to entice users to click on a link within an email and then enter their credentials. On the second simulation, 182 users clicked on the link (3%), a reduction of more than 50%. However, 40 users (<1%) did enter their credentials. Based on these results, IST feels that the education and awareness campaign was successful but continued re-enforcement is still required. IST continues to work with MCO to deliver regular security awareness communications through UM Today and the various video screens positioned across the University.

## EXTERNAL MATTERS

- For the period of April 1, 2016 to October 21, 2016 the University has raised \$31,037,891 towards the 2016/2017 fiscal year.
- As of October 21, 2016 we have raised \$266,775,507 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 in the last reporting period include:
  - On September 19, Dr. Gail Asper [BA/1981, LLB/1984, LLD/2008] and Dr. Michael Paterson [BSc(Hons)/1982] announced a gift of \$2 million in support of the Taché Arts Project at a public celebration at Taché Hall's John J. Conklin Theatre. The theatre facilities in Taché Hall, including the theatre, and set, prop and costume workshops, have been named the Gail Asper Performing Arts Hall in recognition of the gift.
  - On September 22, the University of Manitoba Students' Union (UMSU) announced a \$15.9 million commitment to the University of Manitoba's Front and Centre campaign. The investment will increase campus childcare options, revitalize student spaces, double undergraduate research opportunities, and increase the number of scholarships and bursaries for Indigenous students.
  - On September 26, Dr. James [BComm/1953, LLD/2005] and Mrs. Sandra Pitblado celebrated the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Pitblado Scholars program in the Faculty of Law by announcing a new commitment of \$500,000 to the scholarship fund. They created the fund in 2001 with an initial gift of \$1 million. Since then, hundreds of Pitblado Scholars have been educated at the University of Manitoba and have gone on to achieve tremendous success.
  - Dr. Marjorie B. Blankstein, CM, OM [BA/1950, LLD/2014] made a gift of \$1 million which will establish a new leadership scholarship for Indigenous students, a new graduate emergency bursary for students in the Peace and Conflict Studies program, and support the international Storytelling Festival at the Arthur V. Mauro Centre for Peace and Justice.

- The late Ms. A. Pamela Hardisty [BA/1941, DipEd/1942] made a gift of \$435,934 through her estate to establish graduate fellowships.
  - Members of the Department of Anesthesia in the Rady College of Medicine made a gift of \$250,000 to the University of Manitoba in support of a professorship in Anesthesia.
  - Parrish & Heimbecker Limited made a gift of \$200,000 in support of the Bruce D. Campbell Farm and Food Discovery Centre. Their gift will support a variety of initiatives including renewing and refurbishing exhibits, expanding kitchen work stations to allow more visitors to participate in food preparation, and providing additional program development in the areas of cereals growing, storing and transportation.
  - MacDon Industries Limited made a gift of \$200,000 in support of the Faculty of Engineering's fluid laboratory.
  - Mr. William G. Dickson [BSc(Hons)/1970] made a gift of \$160,000 to support the Youth in Care Tuition awards, the Indigenous Circle of Empowerment, and renovations to the Thin Section Lab and geophysics software upgrades in the Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources.
  - Manitoba's pharmacists made a gift of \$151,600 through the College of Pharmacists of Manitoba to enhance the Rady Faculty of Health Sciences' undergraduate Pharmacy program.
  - Bison Transport, Mr. Donald W. Streuber [BComm(Hons)/1980], Mr. Duncan M. Jessiman [BA/1958] and Mr. Peter Jessiman made a combined gift of \$200,000 in support of the I.H. Asper School of Business
- September 19 – 25, the University welcomed our alumni and friends back to campus for a weeklong Homecoming celebration. Over 30 events took place including Visionary Conversations, Queers, Cheers and Homecoming Years, the Homecoming Football Game and Celebration, Homecoming Dinner and the Chancellor's Tea. A Homecoming survey was sent to all individuals who were invited. The results will help shape the direction of future Homecoming programming.
  - On September 24, the University conducted a Front and Centre campaign update at the Homecoming Football Game. The celebration saw hundreds of students join the University of Manitoba leadership on field, where they celebrated a new Front and Centre campaign total of \$409,367,522.
  - On September 26, the Fall 2016 issue of UM Today The Magazine was launched with the theme of Disruption, exploring the idea of challenging the status quo from the University's role in society as an agent for positive disruption to the challenges and successes faced by both the LGBT and Indigenous communities as they emerge to change Canadian society. Highlighting this theme was our cover story featuring Mr. Kael McKenzie, Canada's first openly transgendered judge, and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau who was interviewed by President David Barnard. Response to this issue has been outstanding – the cover story in the online version received over 5,000 reads, our highest number yet.
  - On September 26, Ms. Sarah Guillemard, MLA, Fort Richmond attended a campus tour. Ms. Guillemard met with Dr. Frank Deer, Acting Executive Lead, Indigenous Achievement, and Ms. Christine Cyr, Director, Indigenous Student Centre to discuss the University's *Creating Pathways to Indigenous Achievement* strategic priority and the Indigenous Student Centre. In addition, Ms. Guillemard completed a tour of the Active Living Centre and the Taché Arts Project, conducted by Dr. Edmund Dawe, Dean, Desautels Faculty of Music; Dr. Paul Hess, Director of School of Art; and Dr. Bill Kerr, Associate Professor, Faculty of Arts.

- On September 26, President David Barnard and Mr. John Kearsy, Vice-President (External) met with His Worship Brian Bowman, Mayor, City of Winnipeg, to discuss the Front and Centre campaign and areas for collaboration. Specific projects discussed were the Taché Arts Project and the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.
- On September 30, Members of the Committee of Presidents of Universities of Manitoba (COPUM) met with The Honourable Ian Wishart, Minister of Education and Training, to discuss a number of issues of strategic importance to Manitoba's post-secondary sector including tuition, Indigenous education, legislation on sexual violence on university campuses, university board appointments, the Manitoba Scholarship and Bursary Initiative, and the 2017-18 provincial budget.
- On October 13, the University hosted a reception for over 70 alumni and friends living in Hong Kong. Ms. Rita Mui Goodridge [BComm(Hons)/1982] from the Hong Kong Alumni Association, spoke to guests about the importance of staying connected with the university and about her experience travelling to Winnipeg this past spring to accept the Distinguished Alumni Award for Service to the University of Manitoba on behalf of the Hong Kong Alumni Association.
- On October 13, the University participated in a government relations session organized by U15 to discuss issues facing the post-secondary sector. Presenters included Mr. Hersi Hujaleh, Policy Advisor, Office of the Minister of Finance; Mr. John Burnett, Director of Policy, Office of the Minister of Science; Mr. Kyle Nicholson, Director of Policy, Office of the Minister of Immigration; Ms. Christina Rettig, Policy Advisor, Office of the Prime Minister; Ms. Vandana Kattar-Miller, Director of Policy Affairs (Regional Economic Development), Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED); and Ms. Allison McDermott, Director General, Innovation, Science and Economic Development – Science and Innovation Sector. Discussions were centred on the Post-Secondary Institutions Strategic Investment Fund, the recent federal innovation and sciences reviews, and the 2017-18 federal budget.
- On October 17, President David Barnard hosted Her Honour, The Honourable Janice C. Filmon, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, for a series of meetings to discuss Indigenous achievement at the University, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, and how the Office of the Lieutenant Governor and the University can work collaboratively to advance Indigenous success. The meeting was attended by Dr. Frank Deer, Acting Executive Lead, Indigenous Achievement, Ms. Christine Cyr, Director, Indigenous Student Centre, and Mr. Ry Moran, Director, National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.
- On October 18, Mr. Gord Downie, lead singer of the Tragically Hip, released his new project titled *The Secret Path* to raise awareness of Truth and Reconciliation and the plight of children who never made it home from Residential Schools. He has directed proceeds from this project (a CD, concerts, merchandise, a graphic novel, and a film) to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation. The promotion of *The Secret Path* project was done jointly between the University of Manitoba and Gord Downie and received significant media attention including coverage in the Globe and Mail, CBC, Huffington Post, Winnipeg Free Press, CTV News, Vancouver Sun, Billboard Magazine and Rolling Stone.

- On October 25, Ms. Elaine Hood, Senior Director, Post-Secondary Institutions Strategic Investment Fund, and Ms. Vanessa Peart, Manager, Western and Atlantic Strategic Investment Fund participated in a tour of the Taché Arts Project. The purpose of this visit was to see the outcome of the Knowledge Infrastructure Program, through which ARTLab received \$15 million in capital funding. The tour was conducted by Dr. Edmund Dawe, Dean, Desautels Faculty of Music; Dr. Paul Hess, Director of School of Art; and Dr. Bill Kerr, Associate Professor, Faculty of Arts.
- On October 26, Dr. Janice Ristock, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) represented the University at a provincial pre-budget consultation in Winnipeg South. Key messages included the importance of: Indigenous education; predictable, sustainable funding for the post-secondary education sector; funding for research and university infrastructure; the Churchill Marine Observatory and its role in northern economic development; and the key role that the university plays in driving economic prosperity.
- On October 28, nominations closed for the 2017 Distinguished Alumni Awards. The University is grateful to all of those who submitted nominations for exceptional graduates in our five categories: Lifetime Achievement, Professional Achievement, Community Service, Service to the University of Manitoba and Outstanding Young Alumni. The Distinguished Alumni Awards Selection Panel, Chaired by Chancellor Harvey Sectar, will meet in November to determine the 2017 recipients.
- On November 9, the University will host a reception to reconnect with alumni and friends living in Toronto. The event will take place at the Aperture Room in the Thornton Smith Building and will be hosted by Chancellor Harvey Sectar. Over 140 alumni and friends in Toronto have already confirmed their attendance.
- On December 6, the University will host a reception to reconnect with alumni and friends living in Calgary. The event will take place at the Calgary Marriott Downtown and will be hosted by President David Barnard.