

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: April 18, 2017

GENERAL

The [Travel and Expense Steering Committee](#), chaired by Dr. Kelley Main, has released a report summarizing the responses to the stakeholder engagement process for the Travel and Expense Management Project. It was generated on the basis of feedback provided by faculty and staff about the current travel and expense management system, including process, policy and the Concur system and may be found on the [Travel and Expense Management project website](#). The Travel and Expense Steering Committee will use this feedback to inform recommendations to improve the university's travel and expense management system, it is expected that these recommendations will be submitted to the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) by June 2017 for review and consideration.

The Budget Model Redesign Initiative continues and the President recently accepted the Steering Committee's recommendation for a new and more decentralized budget model. Two information sharing sessions inviting faculty, staff and students were held in March to provide an update on the progress of the new model.

The Province recently announced that it will provide \$600,000 in capital funding to expand the Campus Day Care Centre and create 52 new spaces. The announcement comes less than a year after the Graduate Student's Association donated \$300,000 and University of Manitoba Students Union donated \$2.4 million to support this childcare expansion. Indigenous students will be given priority access to the newly created spaces. Work on the child care expansion project is expected to begin in late spring or early summer 2017, with the additional spaces ready for enrolment for the 2018/19 academic year.

On March 22, the federal government introduced its budget for 2017/18. New funds include support for Indigenous education and additional funding for post-secondary student grants and bursaries. External Relations is continuing to follow-up for additional information. The provincial budget is scheduled to be released on April 11, 2017.

Electronic voting was used for the University of Manitoba Student Union (UMSU) General Election and several student councils including Nursing, Science, Engineering International Students, Students of Fine Arts, University 1, Arts Student Body and St Paul's College resulting in outstanding turnout results:

- UMSU General Election: 27.8% turnout – 20 year high
- University of Manitoba Engineering Society (UMES) : 38.2% turnout – highest since 1987

The incoming executive will be led by incumbent UMSU president Tanjit Nagra.

ACADEMIC MATTERS

- Senior executive searches are in the process for the recruitment of a Vice-Provost (Indigenous Engagement) and a Dean of Graduate Studies and Vice-Provost (Graduate Education).
- UM Achieve is a new online resource that provides students with a way to track academic progress, map degree requirements, estimate time to degree completion and find alternative degree paths. UM Achieve was launched in March and is a resource to assist with academic advising and help students ensure timely completion of their academic goals.

- Johise Namwira, women's and gender studies student, was one of 338 young women chosen to attend House of Commons on International Women's Day (March 8th). Equal Voice organized representatives from every riding across the country; they met with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Party Leaders and former Prime Minister Kim Campbell.
- Maryam Al-Azazi, respiratory therapy student, was one of two students awarded the 2017 Nahlah Ayed Prize for Student Leadership and Global Citizenship. She has worked or volunteered with a variety of Winnipeg organizations including helping Syrian refugees and advocating for marginalized groups.
- A team of students from the University of Manitoba took home the \$20,000 grand prize at the Munich Re Cup, a prestigious national actuarial case competition. The team's first-place victory is the second in the competition's three-year history. The competition is open to all Society of Actuaries (SOA) Centres of Excellence across Canada. The Warren Centre for Actuarial Studies and Research at the Asper School of Business was named a Centre of Excellence in 2009.
- Asper MBA's business planning competition team, Paramergent, enjoyed amazing success on the March international competition circuit receiving second place overall in the fast pitch competition at the prestigious Brown-Forman Cardinal Challenge at the University of Louisville. The team also placed a close second in their division at Cardinal's business plan competition, and fourth at the U of M's Stu Clark Investment Competition. Paramergent is pitching a business plan for the first all-in-one mobile software application that paramedics can use to track and report a patient's pre-hospital journey and transmit the relevant information directly into a hospital's records.
- Asper School of Business hosted a panel discussion focusing on the critical need to engage Indigenous participation in Manitoba's economy. 20/20 Vision: Indigenous Participation: Key to Success of Manitoba's Future Economy brought together business, community and government leaders with expertise in Indigenous business and community engagement to explore directions forward during what is proving to be a pivotal moment in our national and provincial history.
- Two occupational therapy graduate students organized a community art show at The Madison, a supportive housing complex operated by Siloam Mission. The students used art therapy to help residents of The Madison develop life skills. The art show enabled the residents to display or sell their works to the public.
- The Faculty of Science held an Indigenous student and alumni evening event, "Building Community in Science." The first of a series of events being planned to engage with faculty's Indigenous alumni to help foster ongoing and future initiatives that will build and strengthen relationships as part of the University's strategic commitment to Indigenous achievement.

RESEARCH MATTERS

- On March 3, 2017, the provincial and federal governments announced \$2,732,998 to nine research projects at the University of Manitoba. The investment made by the Government of Canada is part of the Canada Foundation for Innovation's (CFI) John R. Evans Leaders Fund. This fund helps universities attract and retain the best and brightest researchers from around the world by giving them access to cutting-edge research tools.

- The recipients are:
 - Kristine Cowley and Katinka Stecina (Physiology), \$400,000 - Human Spinal Cord Injury Research Centre for Health, Balance and Motor Control
 - Rebecca Davis (Chemistry), \$320,000 - Laboratory for Asymmetric Organocatalysis
 - Chuang Deng (Mechanical Engineering), \$319,682 - In-situ Nano-mechanical and Nano-electrical Characterization of Low-dimensional Nanomaterials
 - Joseph Gordon (Nursing/Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba), \$319,670 - Comprehensive In Vivo and Culture-based Exercise and Metabolic Analysis Platform
 - Ian Jeffrey (Electrical & Computer Engineering), \$181,344 - Near Real-Time Electromagnetic Imaging
 - Sachin Katyal (Pharmacology/Research Institute of Oncology & Hematology), \$319,986 - Identification of Novel Therapeutics to Modulate DNA Damage Repair in the Treatment of Cancer
 - Peter Pelka (Microbiology), \$318,480 - Studies of Cellular Reprogramming by Adenovirus
 - Qiuyan Yuan (Civil Engineering), \$320,000 - A Tissue Engineering Platform for Fibrotic and Developmental Diseases
 - Adrian West (Physiology), \$233,836 - Infrastructure for Zero Waste Research Program

- On March 15, 2017, the University of Winnipeg and University of Manitoba announced the recent signing of a service agreement that will have the two universities collaborate on commercialization of technologies. The University of Winnipeg will have access to the expertise and services of the University of Manitoba's Technology Transfer Office.

The services provided include:

- Invention assessment for commercial and technical viability
- Patenting assistance and coordination with patent agents (if required)
- Market assessment and marketing of technology to potential receptors
- Discussion and recommendations on commercialization strategies with inventors
- Assistance in identifying corporate partners and with creation of startup companies (if required)
- License negotiations (if required)

The University of Manitoba currently provides similar services to: Brandon University, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Health Sciences Centre, St-Boniface General Hospital, Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba and CancerCare Manitoba.

- On March 13, 2017, TRIUMF announced the recent appointment of Distinguished Professor and Vice-President (Research and International) Dr. Digvir S. Jayas as Chair of the Board of Management. He has been serving the Board as Vice-Chair since April 2015. His appointment to Chair became effective November 29, 2016. Based in Vancouver, TRIUMF is Canada's national laboratory for accelerator-based science and nuclear and particle physics research.

The University of Manitoba has been a TRIUMF member since March 20, 2009 and is a key contributor of technology for FrPNC francium laser trap, ARIEL beam separation, the Ultracold Neutron project, the TRINAT Fundamental Symmetries program, and many other TRIUMF projects.

In the role of Board Chair, Jayas provides strategic direction and operational oversight for the laboratory and its partnerships. Jayas works in close collaboration with TRIUMF Director Dr. Jonathan Bagger in communicating the laboratory’s vision and engaging both member universities and federal agencies to help further TRIUMF’s goals and priority projects such as the completion of its flagship facility, the Advanced Rare Isotope Laboratory (ARIEL).

- Twenty-six researchers were awarded funding from various external sponsors totaling \$1,461,506. Those receiving more than \$25,000 per project are:

PI	Sponsor	Title	Awarded
Ayele, Belay (Plant Science)	NSERC	Development of hormone based genomic tools to accelerate wheat breeding for enhanced preharvest sprouting tolerance	\$105,867
Cardwell, Ryan (Agricultural and Food Sciences)	SSHRC	Determinants of public support for supply management: A randomized survey experiment	\$69,233
Eftekharpour, Eftekhar (Physiology & Pathophysiology)	Paralyzed Veterans of America	Increasing neuroprotection and regeneration after spinal cord injury	\$201,390
Filizadeh, Shaahin (Electrical and Computer Engineering)	Mitacs Inc.	Real-time modeling and simulation of alternative modular multilevel converter topologies	\$75,000
Frosk, Patrick (Pediatrics and Child Health)	Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba Inc.	Exploring genomic technologies for use in clinical medicine	\$30,000
Ireland, Laurie (Family Medicine)	Research Manitoba	Building access to specialist care for remote, rural populations through eConsultations (BASE)	\$100,000
Jafari Jozani, Mohammad (Statistics)	NSERC	Partial discharge source classification based on analyzing PD pulse waveforms using statistical pattern recognition techniques	\$25,000
Rajapakse, Athula (Electrical and Computer Engineering)	Manitoba HVDC Research Centre	Investigation of power system protection performance under special operating conditions	\$25,127

Restall, Gayle (Occupational Therapy)	CIHR	HIV stigma and discrimination in Manitoba	\$32,912
Roth, James (Biological Sciences)	NSERC	Polar bears and permafrost: Student-led climate change field research at the Arctic's edge	\$156,000
Stasolla, Claudio (Plant Science)	Mitacs Inc.	Enhancing water stress tolerance through phytoglobin manipulation	\$55,000
't Jong, Geert (Pediatrics and Child Health)	Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba Inc.	Kidscan: A network of clinical trial sites that facilitate multi-centre drug trials across Canada	\$90,000

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- The Province of Manitoba introduced new public sector compensation legislation and its impact on the University is being analyzed.
- On March 9, 2017, the City of Winnipeg in support of the TransCanada Trail and associated infrastructure including the Bike Kiosk, awarded the University a 2-year Community Incentive Grant worth \$30,000 to be received with completion of milestones. This funding will augment the approximately \$150,000 received from Western Diversification for the project.
- On March 10, 2017, the Province of Manitoba formally approved a \$40,000 Waste Reduction and Pollution Prevention (WRAPP) grant in support of the waste audit and composting investigation. Monies will be received with completion of milestones.
- In support of active transportation and healthy living opportunities, shower passes at a cost of \$2/day or \$10/month are now available at the Joe Doupe Center for Bannatyne staff and faculty.
- Maria Versace and Student Advocacy held two sessions on investigating misconduct in March 2017; one at Fort Garry and one at Bannatyne. Efforts are being made to better promote the program, with the target audience being department heads and associate deans. Next session dates will be in the fall 2017.
- On March 20th Jackie Gruber and Maria Versace attended the first meeting of the Sexual Assault and Violence Steering Committee (SAVSC), which replaces the Sexual Assault Working Group. Terms of reference and initiatives moving forward were discussed. The committee is a joint initiative of Student Affairs and Human Resources.
- The Office of Human Rights & Conflict Management released its 2015/16 annual report on March 21, 2017. The report has been distributed to various stakeholders both on and off campus and will be posted to the website.

EXTERNAL MATTERS

- For the period of April 1, 2016 to March 24, 2017, the University has raised \$41,365,042 towards the 2016/2017 fiscal year.
- As of March 24, 2017 we have raised \$276,891,321 in philanthropic gifts, tracking ahead of our cumulative goal for 2016/2017 of \$250 million. We are continuing discussions with the provincial government regarding a \$150 million commitment towards our \$500 million goal for the Front and Centre campaign.
- Significant gifts in the last reporting period include:
 - Guy Carpenter & Company Ltd. has renewed its support of the Guy Carpenter Chair in Agricultural Risk Management and Insurance with an additional gift of \$750,000 to extend the chair for a period of five years.
 - Mr. Richard Bird [BA/69] made a \$125,000 endowed gift to create the Ptarmigan Youth in Care Tuition Grant.
 - The Friends of Engineering made a gift of \$100,000 towards construction of the Stanley Pauley Engineering Building.
- On March 2 and 4, the University hosted Visionary Conversations Across the Nation events for alumni and friends living in Vancouver and Victoria. The event, titled "Acknowledging the Past, Creating our Future - a discussion focused on the importance of human rights in today's climate", was moderated by President David Barnard and featured Mr. Ry Moran, Director, National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation and Dr. Katherine Starzyk, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology.
- On March 9, the University hosted a Visionary Conversations event at the Bannatyne Campus. The event, titled "Why do we allow poverty to persist in Canada? - What role should corporations, individuals, governments and non-profit organizations play in reducing poverty?" was moderated by President David Barnard. Panelists included Mr. Donald Benham, Hunger and Poverty Awareness Manager, Winnipeg Harvest, Dr. Evelyn Forget, Professor, Community Health Sciences, Mr. Edward Kennedy, President and CEO, North West Company, Dr. Susan Prentice, Professor, Department of Sociology and Ms. Diane Redsky, Executive Director, Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre. Over 160 alumni, friends and community members attended to take part in the discussion.
- On March 21, President David Barnard and Mr. John Kearsey, Vice-President (External), met with Mayor Brian Bowman to discuss the City of Winnipeg's support for the Front and Centre campaign and other areas for partnership. The meeting included a discussion with Mr. Ry Moran and Dr. Frank Deer, Acting Executive Lead, Indigenous Achievement and a tour of Migizii Agamik.
- On March 23, the University of Manitoba hosted a reception to reconnect with alumni and friends living in Edmonton. The event took place at the Art Gallery of Alberta and featured student speaker Ms. Rebecca Kunzman [BA/06], first-year student, Faculty of Law.

- On March 28, President David Barnard and Dr. Jay Doering, Associate Vice-President (Partnerships), met with Mr. Sean Barr, Assistant Deputy Minister, Western Economic Diversification. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss campus infrastructure, research priorities, and Western Economic Diversification-funded projects at the University.
- The recipients of the 2017 Distinguished Alumni Awards will be honoured at the Celebration of Excellence on May 2 at the Metropolitan Entertainment Centre. The 2017 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients are:
 - Lifetime Achievement: John Patkau [BA/69, BES/69, MArch/72] and Patricia Patkau [BID/73]
 - Professional Achievement: Reva Stone [BA/68, BFA(Hons)/85]
 - Community Service: Sr. Lesley Sacouman [BA/75]
 - Service to the University of Manitoba: Isabella Wiebe [BMROT/86]
 - Outstanding Young Alumni: Desiree Scott [BA/16]
- Alumni Relations has received five approved nominations for the position of Alumni Representative to the Board of Governors. The election will open on Monday, March 20 and will run until Monday, May 22. Completed ballots can be obtained through Alumni Relations and submitted by mail, fax or email, or by delivering them to the Alumni Relations office during business hours. Ballots must include the voter's alumni number. Results will be determined on May 24, 2017. The candidates are:
 - Samuel Davidson [BComm(Hons)/15]
 - Marcelo Dubiel [BSc(ME)/11]
 - Jerome Knysh [BSc(IE)/84, ExtEd/87, MBA/90]
 - James Mansfield [MSC/90]
 - Derek Neufeld [BSc(ME)/11]