

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: April 17, 2018

GENERAL

On Wednesday, March 28, the University celebrated the contributions that students make to the community and the university at the annual Emerging Leaders Award event. Twenty-five undergraduate students and eighteen graduate students were honoured at this event as a result of their outstanding leadership and commitment to their communities. The award was introduced in 2006 to recognize students who are committed to furthering our educational mission by contributing to the social, cultural or economic well-being of communities on and/or off campus, while encouraging cross cultural understanding and demonstrating sustained leadership and initiative that is worthy of recognition.

On March 21, the University held its 6th Annual 3MT Thesis competition, an event that highlights the research and innovation nurtured at UM. Thirteen graduate students took three minutes each to explain their thesis work in front of a capacity audience in the Schultz Theatre in St. John's College. These bright minds mentored by the University's top researchers presented their impressive solutions to pressing global and societal issues, including developing a more patient-friendly MRI machine, improving resistance to superbugs, engaging the public in learning more about climate change, and the first place winner: Shervin Khalili Ghomi, a doctoral student in civil engineering, who has discovered a safer and more resistant way to construct buildings in regions prone to earthquakes. MC Paul Samyn, editor of the Winnipeg Free Press, closed the event by remarking what a wonderful reminder the evening had been of the value a research-intensive university like UM brings to the community.

Ten individuals were honoured at the Indigenous Awards of Excellence on March 8:

- Faculty Trailblazer awards were presented to Barry Lavallee, Director, Ongomiizwin Indigenous Institute of Health and Healing, Max Rady College of Medicine and Dr. Wanda Wuttunee, Professor, Native Studies.
- Support Staff Community Builders Awards were presented to Linda Diffey, Coordinator, Indigenous Health Longitudinal Course, Max Rady College of Medicine and Peter Pomart, Director, Indigenous Business Education Partners, I.H. Asper School of Business.
- Student awards were presented to:
 - Community Builders: Amanda Fredlund, Faculty of Arts and Kristen Pot, Faculty of Nursing;
 - Outstanding Achievements: Bobby McNair, Faculty of Science and Noah Wilson, Faculty of Arts;
 - Trailblazers: Alannah Mckay, Faculty of Arts and Carly McLellan, Max Rady College of Medicine.

With the arrival of spring comes the return of geese to the University of Manitoba. Members of the university community are reminded to “respect the goose” and follow a few basic tips: keep your distance, do not feed the geese and do not disturb their nests. Further information can be found online [here](#).

ACADEMIC MATTERS

- Dieter Schönwetter, dentistry, received the 2018 Association of Canadian Faculties of Dentistry Teaching Award. This national award honours Schönwetter's teaching excellence and, in particular, recognizes him as a local and national champion for teaching with technology, including being a leader with online textbooks.
- The Asper School of Business's 2017-18 Commerce Students' Association (CSA) was named this year's most outstanding business student association by the Canadian Association of Business Students (CABS). The prestigious national award recognizes a business student association and its executive team that "execute to the highest level".
- The Canadian Association of Business Students (CABS) also awarded President Matthew Thomson of the Commerce Students' Association (CSA) this year's Executive All-Star – President Award.
- Anastasia Szykh, asper school of business student, has been named the 2018 recipient of the prestigious G. Clarence Elliott Fellowship. Anastasia's research focuses on employee well-being and the small things that have a large impact on employee health and safety, including habits and mindfulness.
- The Asper MBA competition team scored a second-place victory at The John Molson MBA International Case Competition. Students analyzed and evaluated unpublished business cases using their MBA skills, knowledge and experience, and without the benefit of internet access.
- Joanne Keselman, vice-president emeritus, will receive the Lieutenant Governor's Award of Excellence in Public Administration on April 18, 2018.

RESEARCH MATTERS

- The winners of the Nahlah Ayed Prize for Student Leadership and Global Citizenship were announced on March 12. They are graduate students in peace and conflict studies Leslie "Katie" Muirhead and Anamika Anwasha. Muirhead co-founded a non-profit community-based organization called Kwagala Foundation in Uganda, which works with communities to find long-term, sustainable answers to the complex issues they face. Anwasha works with grassroots-level organizations in India on the issues related to gender-based violence against women, children and people of queer identities. Each year, two students (one international, one domestic) who demonstrate exceptional commitment and leadership skills, and whose actions help to bridge the local to the global, are awarded the prize. The award was established at the University of Manitoba by Nahlah Ayed [BSc(Hons)/92, MA/02, LLD(Honorary)/08] a CBC foreign correspondent, alumna and honorary degree recipient.
- The Terry Fox Research Institute announced that Dr. Sachin Katyal (pharmacology & therapeutics/CancerCare Manitoba) to be the first Terry Fox New Investigator Awardee (\$450,000) for his "quick-to-clinic" personalized medicine approach to better treat patients with the brain cancer Glioblastoma multiforme. He will use his award to analyze resistant brain cancer tumour cells to determine what DNA-damaging enzyme repair proteins are allowing cancer cells to survive

following chemotherapy and radiation treatments.

- Three delegations of international visitors were hosted in February 2018. Three Memoranda of Understanding and/or agreements were signed with international partners in February 2018.
- Seven research projects led by six investigators were awarded a total of \$127,500. Those projects awarded more than \$25,000 are:

PI	Sponsor	Title	Awarded
Cicek, Nazim (Biosystems Engineering)	NSERC – Engage	Identification and remediation of precipitation-related clogging in wastewater filter-beds	\$25,000
Kavgic, Miroslava (Civil Engineering)	NSERC – Engage	Development of a new hempcrete "wall" formulation with advanced hygrothermal properties	\$25,000
Paliwal, Jitendra (Biosystems Engineering)	NSERC – Engage	Fusarium head blight detection in wheat using digital imaging	\$25,000
Filizadeh, Shaahin (Electrical & Computer Engineering)	Mitacs Inc.	Investigation of hybrid cascaded modular multilevel converter	\$30,000

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- On March 8, 2018 the Office of Sustainability partnered with Engineers Without Borders Student Chapter, Arts Student Body Council, UMEarth, UM Students for the Environment and the Campus Food Strategy Group to host the first ever UM Sustainability Night. Over 160 attendees shared an evening of sustainability ideas and stories. The event consisted of Seven PechaKucha presentations from student researchers and professionals with subject matter ranging from greening the workplace to designing low-energy housing as well as an expert panel discussion on green buildings and landscapes. The night was capped off with a networking event for students and community members to connect with the presenters. Based on the positive feedback, another Sustainability night is being planned for 2019. More information about the presentations can be found here: <http://news.umanitoba.ca/sustainability-night-exploring-passion-for-the-environment/>
- Fulfilling a priority action of the Sustainability Strategy, the Office of Sustainability worked with a multi-stakeholder group comprising Parking Services, Accessibility Services, Risk Management, Campus Planning Office, Operations and Maintenance, and Architecture and Engineering to develop Parking Lot Design Guidelines for the University of Manitoba. The intent of the Guideline is to provide direction for new construction, retrofits and maintenance of campus parking lots. This guidance reflects the University's commitment to sustainability, accessibility and safety, and recognizes the value of efficient and effective parking infrastructure that is economically viable and maintainable.

- An informal advisory group to respond to goose season has been formed from last year’s experiences and is working with Operations and Maintenance and the Office of Sustainability on coordinating efforts to manage the human/wildlife interactions. Focus will be on:
 - A communication strategy, involving articles to advise the campus community of the geese and appropriate actions.
 - The deployment of signs to locations where geese inhabit regularly.
 - Use of barriers to discourage use of planters.
 - Proactive provision of access off roof tops for geese that nest on them.
 - A wildlife management plan RFP has been released and will be developed over the season for future use to manage many species of wildlife that inhabit the campus.

- The Operations and Maintenance team has commenced our preparations to prevent a potential flood from the rising Red River in 2018. The City of Winnipeg contacted the University in early March and provided some preliminary data on flood projections. Contact information has been shared for key parties at both the University and the City of Winnipeg. Operations and Maintenance staff has met and has reviewed the condition of the outfalls around campus to ensure that flood protection measures are in place. Two outfalls have been identified with issues and contingency plans are in place to mitigate any concerns. Currently there are no additional concerns identified, and we are not anticipating any negative impacts from the Red River levels this year.

- The City of Winnipeg experienced a major snowfall on March 4, 2018. This first major snowfall of the year continued until midday on March 5. Overall the campus was cleared of snow within three days, as planned, but due to the moisture content of the snow, accompanying cold temperatures, and the mechanical failure of several pieces of critical heavy equipment including a grader and a blade truck, some of the clearance operations were less than ideal. Parking lots and some entrances took longer than anticipated to clear and efforts were hampered by parked vehicles. Response to the snowfall has been reviewed with the crews and some adjustments have been made to the plan. The Service Disruption webpage and social media were used to communicate campus status and was extremely successful in sharing information.

- The Legal Office continues to work towards finalizing a lease for the new Innovation Hub building which is currently under construction. This lease will change the way Smartpark charges and collects interior common area costs across the park. Currently, tenants only pay interior common area costs related to their own building, however, the new lease will allow Smartpark to charge tenants for interior common area costs for the entire Smartpark. The reason for the change is due to the fact that Innovation Hub will have a large common area, which is intended to be used as “collision” space, or a space where incubation start-ups, tenants, and researchers across the park can share knowledge and ideas. Because tenants across the park will share in the benefit, they should also share in the cost. In addition to developing a new lease, we are also working with Smartpark to develop a template Letter of Intent and License Agreement to support the leasing of Innovation Hub.

- Written submissions with supporting affidavits and revised notice plan materials were filed on behalf of the National Center for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR) in relation to the Request for Direction (“RFD”) on the Notice Program to inform IAP and ADR claimants of their right to preserve their records at the NCTR, which was brought by the Chief Adjudicator of the Indian Residential Schools Independent Assessment Process (“IAP”) in the matter of Attorney General of Canada v.

Larry Phillip Fontaine in his personal capacity and in his capacity as the executor of the estate of Agnes Mary Fontaine deceased, et al. The RFD will be heard by the Ontario Superior Court of Justice on April 23 and 24, 2018. The NCTR is requesting approval of its revised notice plan material, and an order requiring that the NCTR be present at any community engagement sessions that take place in connection with the notice program, along with approval of funding from the Government of Canada in relation to NCTR's involvement in the notice program.

- Legal Counsel, has been working with the Office of Research Services to revise the Research Agreement Policy and Procedures. The main impetus for the revisions is to allow for a further extension of time for publications in the case of multi-center clinical trials and to clarify the distinction between technical services agreements and research agreements, as well as to clarify the definition of "grants".
- At the Board of Governors retreat on March 10th, on the Southwood Development Legal Structure the presentation reviewed why a separate entity was created, the due diligence undertaken, and the set-up of the new business trust. The presentation also addressed next steps and long term residual oversight by the University.
- The Access and Privacy Office is currently working with the Office of Research Ethics and Compliance to review, update, and create new training materials and guidance documents for University of Manitoba researchers, to ensure compliance with privacy legislation and all requirements related to the requirements under the Tri Council Policy on Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans.
- Karen Meelker, in her role as Access and Privacy Officer for the University of Manitoba and the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, has been invited to be the opening keynote address at the Alberta Access and Privacy Conference (June 26). Karen's topic will be Records and Reconciliation: The Right to Know and the Power of Truth.
- The Copyright Office has drafted a "Use of Copyright Protected Materials Policy" after consultations with numerous stakeholders including the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), Vice-President (Research and International), Libraries, IST, the Bookstore, and The Centre for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning. The policy specifies the responsibilities of the University and University Community, available supports, and creates a compliance framework to limit potential legal liability for infringements of the Copyright Act. The policy also clarifies consequences of copyright infringements and potential remedial actions that the University may take. The policy has now been approved by the Copyright Advisory Committee, CUPE, and UMFA, and will go before the Board of Governors for final approval.
- A Cyber Table Top exercise was completed in January using the real life vulnerability/threat (Global Meltdown/Spectre vulnerability).
- Faculty based Threat Risk Assessments (TRA's) are in progress and draft reviews to be completed by in June 2018
- Glenlea Substation wireless network upgrade is complete providing improved availability and capacity.

EXTERNAL MATTERS

- For the period of April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018 the University has raised \$38,460,752.14 towards the 2017/2018 fiscal year.
- Significant events and activities in the last reporting period include:
 - On February 28 UM hosted an alumni event in Hong Kong which was attended by the President, Vice-President (External), and Acting Associate Vice-President, Donor Relations. The event drew 50 alumni.
 - The 6th Annual 3MT Thesis competition (noted earlier);
 - A branding initiative is being undertaken over the next twelve months to explore how the University tells its story going forward. Consultation and stakeholder engagement will play a significant role in the direction ultimately taken. A Brand Advisory Council will be established to provide perspectives from a diverse range of internal and external stakeholder groups including faculty, staff, students and alumni. Market research is also underway with prospective students, parents of prospective students, alumni and faculty and staff to inform the project.
 - A project to redesign the University's website and implement a new web content management system is underway – with the goal of delivering an outstanding digital experience. The umanitoba.ca website is the University's primary digital asset and arguably the University's most important communications tool. The current site does not meet the expectations of our users, nor does it measure up to digital experiences elsewhere. Over 150 staff and students have been involved in stakeholder engagement sessions to date. The new website is anticipated to launch in the spring of 2019.
- The spring Seniors Alumni Learning for Life Program will run from April 4 – May 23 and is once again sold out (80 registrants).
- The Distinguished Alumni Awards Celebration of Excellence takes place on Thursday, May 10. Tickets are available for purchase online or by phone.
- On May 21 the University will host an alumni reception in Houston, Texas. Dr. Brian Postl, Dean of the Rady Faculty of Health Sciences and John Kearsley, Vice-President (External) will represent UM at the event while visiting alumni and donors in the area.
- The Board of Governors alumni representative election closes May 23. Twenty-six alumni are seeking election to fill the vacancy created when Shona Connelly's term ends May 31.