

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT: February 3, 2020

### GENERAL

The lives of those lost on Ukraine International Airlines flight PS752, that crashed near Tehran on January 8, were honoured at vigils held on the Fort Garry campus on January 10 and at the Bannatyne campus on January 17. The following alumni and students were on board Flight PS752:

- Dr. S Pedram Moosavi BaFrooei, M.Sc./1997, Ph.D./2001;
- Dr. Mojgan Daneshmand, M.Sc./2002;
- Dr. Forough Khadem, Ph.D./2016;
- Amirhossein Ghassemi, current graduate student in Biomedical Engineering; and
- Amirhossein Ghorbani Bahabadi, current student with the International College of Manitoba (ICM).

In the face of this tragedy, two groups within the UM and larger community have begun to raise funds to honour the lives we have lost. A fellowship will be established as an endowment fund to honour the memory of all the victims of Flight 752 from Manitoba, which will be awarded annually to a graduate student in a STEM related field at the University of Manitoba. A scholarship also will be established to celebrate the legacy of Dr. Forough Khadem, and will support international female graduate students enrolled at UM in the STEM disciplines.

On January 27, the Sexual Violence Resource Centre (SVRC) was opened to the UM community. The centre will provide access to coordinated services and supports to students, faculty and staff who have experienced sexual violence. It also will implement a range of education, outreach and prevention strategies. The establishment of a sexual violence resource centre was one of the recommendations made in [\*Responding to Sexual Violence, Harassment & Discrimination at The University Of Manitoba: A Path Forward\*](#), the independent report commissioned by the University to identify ways to improve the University of Manitoba's effectiveness in addressing sexual violence, harassment and discrimination

The University of Manitoba will welcome Dr. Robin DiAngelo to deliver the Robert and Elizabeth Knight Distinguished Visiting Lecture, on the topic "White Fragility". Dr. DiAngelo is an educator, author and activist on critical racial and social justice education, who holds a PhD in multicultural education. The lecture takes place at 3:00 on February 6, in the Investors Group Athletic Centre. Attendees are asked to RSVP at [rsvp@umanitoba.ca](mailto:rsvp@umanitoba.ca).

The final Visionary Conversations of the 2019-2020 season will take place March 5 on the topic: "How can our community come together to combat the impacts of drug addiction?" at the UM Bannatyne Campus' Brodie Centre. More information, including the link to RSVP, may be found here: <http://umanitoba.ca/community/visionaryconversations>

## ACADEMIC MATTERS

- Fabio Ragnelli, music, performed with JUNO Award winning jazz quartet, Allison Au Group, at the world-renowned SF JAZZ Center, Half Moon Bay, and the 62nd Monterey Jazz Festival (the only Canadian group to perform at the three-day festival).
- Kwene Appah, Sociology, student, won the Erasmus+, a Student Mobility Scholarship from the European Union. She will be starting a semester of study at the Central European University in Budapest Hungary in January.
- Dawne McCance, religion, was elected as a fellow to *The Royal Society of Canada (RSC)*. The fellowship of the RSC comprises over 2000 Canadian scholars, artists, and scientists, peer-elected as the best in their field. These are distinguished men and women from all branches of learning who have made remarkable contributions in the arts, the humanities and the sciences, as well as in Canadian public life.
- Four student graduates from the Faculty of Arts were awarded the *Willard J. Condo Award*: Shannon Furness, Jessica Johnson, Gonzalo Agrimbau, and Maria Nallim. The Willard J. Condo Award, which is designed to encourage students with career interests in public service to make innovative, original contributions to the field of public administration by examining the structures, processes and outcomes of public policy, management, and government.
- The Asper Master Business Administration (MBA) team finished in second place at the Ethics Challenge in Halifax in November. A total of six teams participated in the competition.
- The desautels composition students spent a week in Iceland, collaborating with UM architecture students to work on a project based on sound and interactive technology.
- The Decolonizing Lens presented *Freedom Road* at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. *Freedom Road* is a National Film Board of Canada five-film series presenting powerful accounts of lived history from band members of Shoal Lake 40 Anishinaabe First Nation – where Winnipeg gets its water. A post-screening panel with band members Daryl Redsky, Roxanne Greene, director Angelina McLeod and Winnipeg-based historian Adele Perry (History), highlighted the complex, ongoing work of Shoal Lake 40 in resolving a brutal colonial legacy – one that is inseparable from the history of this place.

The Decolonizing Lens is a monthly film series co-organized by Jocelyn Thorpe, women's & gender studies and Kaila Johnston, national centre for truth and reconciliation, that brings together Indigenous filmmakers, their films, and their audiences

- The Dr. George Yee Laboratory of Anatomical Sciences opened at the Bannatyne Campus. The \$4.3 million renovation gives students and faculty in the Rady Faculty a modern facility boasting high fidelity screens, 3D capabilities and interactive tools from which to learn the intricacies of the human body.
- The Winnipeg Foundation Martha Donovan Fund is a \$250,000 fund created to provide leadership development opportunities for women in the Rady Faculty of Health Sciences. Over the next five years, \$50,000 will be made available on an annual basis.

- The college of pharmacy, in partnership with the James W. Burns Leadership Institute, kicked off its inaugural Pharmacy Leadership Series for students. The series of four seminars aims to provide students with transferrable knowledge that they can take and apply to their future roles as pharmacists.
- The Rady Faculty hosted 379 Grade 11 and 12 students at the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame's Discovery Day to learn what it is like to be a health professional or biomedical scientist. Students from 87 schools from across Winnipeg and around the province took part in interactive workshops exploring careers in medicine, rehabilitation sciences, nursing, dentistry, research, anatomy and other health sciences.
- The Max Rady College of Medicine Undergraduate Medical Education (UGME) program received full accreditation of its program leading to a Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree until 2027-28 and received one of the most positive results nation-wide since new accreditation standards were implemented in 2013.
- The Desautels faculty of music hosted Indigenous Intersections week October 7-11, 2019, featuring presentations and workshops that explored the work of Indigenous musicians and research on depictions of Indigenous persons in music.

## RESEARCH MATTERS

- Dr. F. Gigi Osler (Rady Faculty of Health Sciences) and PhD candidate and Vanier Scholar Taylor Morriveau (Graduate Studies; Rady Faculty of Health Sciences) were named among Women's Executive Network (WXN)'s 2019 Canada Most Powerful Women: Top 100 award winners.

Osler was recognized in the CIBC Trailblazers and Trendsetters category. Osler is the 151st President of the Canadian Medical Association (CMA), and the first female surgeon and the first woman of colour to take on the role. Through her leadership, the CMA began tackling equity, diversity and inclusion in medicine. Dr. Osler collaborated on projects such as The Lancet's work on advancing women in science, medicine and global health, and she led the first-ever CMA delegation to the 63rd Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations.

Morriveau received the WXN's KPMG Future Leaders Award, which recognizes women under the age of 30 who have distinguished themselves early in their careers. Her research centers on the genetic and environmental factors that contribute to early-onset of type 2 diabetes (T2D) among Manitoban Indigenous youth, where incidences are approximately 20 times higher than the national average.

- More than 140 UM undergraduate students had the opportunity to practice their presentation skills at the annual 2019 Undergraduate Research Poster Competition. The format provides a unique opportunity for students to present their research in an event that focuses on the discoveries these students are making. Judges assess each project based on official judging criteria determining winners for cash prizes in five different categories: applied sciences, creative works, health sciences, natural sciences, and social sciences and humanities. The competition is sponsored by the office of the vice-president (research and international).

- The 2019 Research InfoSource rankings have UM moving up to 12th place in Canada's Top 50 Research Universities. As well, UM realized a 63 per cent increase in corporate research income growth, a marker for the success of our research-industry collaborative approach led by the Partnerships & Innovation team (formerly Technology Transfer Office).
- Research grants and contracts, both pre- and post-award management – will be moving to a paperless, single sign-on software system beginning in mid-2020. The Research Administration System (RAS) project will integrate more than 100 forms—including the Funding Application Approval Form (FAAF)—animal and human ethics, contracts and internal grants (and all the associated attachments), with reviews and approvals happening within RAS. The project began in 2018, with identification of the need to move to an improved business workflow for research administration, that will meet the needs of PIs as well as those reviewing and approving proposals. Project details and timelines can be found at [umanitoba.ca/research/ras](http://umanitoba.ca/research/ras)
- The second annual Research and Scholarly Excellence Celebration took place on December 10 in the new Smartpark Innovation Hub to honour the 2019 inductees of national academic societies, new and renewed sponsored and endowed research chairs, new Distinguished Professors, and other special awardees. Seventeen honourees in total were recognized. They were: Drs. Tracie Afifi, Harvey Max Chochinov, Eric Collins, Dorte Dahl-Jensen, James Davie, Frank Deer, Ross Feldman, Thomas Hack, Carl Ho, Ekram Hossain, Digvir Jayas, Rick Linden, Susan Logue, Dawne McCance, Nicole Rosen, Kristy Wittmeier and Mr. Randy Herrmann.
- Fifty-five research projects led by thirty-nine investigators received a total of \$5,307,763 in grant funding from multiple sponsors. Those projects receiving more than \$25,000 are:

PI	Sponsor	Title	Awarded
Azad, Meghan (Pediatrics and Child Health, CHRIM)	Molly Towell Perinatal Research Foundation	Exploring the impact of matching donor human to maternal secretor status on microbiome development in early preterm infants: A pilot study	\$30,000
Bassuoni, Mohamed (Civil Engineering)	City of Winnipeg	Improving the process for cold weather concreting: Mixture design and curing of concrete - A new approach	\$30,000
Court, Deborah (Microbiology)	Mitacs Accelerate	Bacteriophage endolysin proteins development	\$30,000
Cowley, Kristine (Physiology & Pathophysiology)	Canadian Paraplegic Association (Manitoba) Inc.	Developing strategies to optimize exercise responses in persons living with tetraplegia	\$48,623
Doupe, Malcolm (Community Health Sciences; Manitoba Centre for Health Policy)	Canadian Institutes of Health Research	Evaluating subacute care hospital transitions for older adults: Understanding how, why and for whom a planned intervention is working	\$200,000
Doupe, Malcolm (Community Health Sciences; Manitoba Centre for Health Policy)	Canadian Institutes of Health Research	Using evidence to inform healthy policy: Supportive housing as a case study	\$108,500

Duhamel, Todd (Kinesiology and Recreation Management)	Canadian Institutes of Health Research	Examining biomarkers of frailty and cardiovascular health in older women	\$105,000
El-Gabalawy, Renee (Clinical Health Psychology)	Canadian Institutes of Health Research	A preoperative virtual reality simulation of surgery to reduce perioperative psychiatric sequelae	\$105,000
Elias, Brenda (Community Health Sciences)	Canadian Institutes of Health Research	Translating to the Community (T2C): A social epigenetic study of FASD	\$1,503,226
Ferens, Kenneth (Electrical and Computer Engineering)	Mitacs Accelerate	Cognitive and computationally intelligent algorithms for the detection of cyber threats	\$240,000
Fernyhough, Paul (Pharmacology and Therapeutics, St Boniface Hospital Albrechtsen Research Centre)	Mitacs Accelerate	Development of specific peptide antagonists of muscarinic receptors to repair the nervous system	\$180,000
Fraser, Kevin (Biological Sciences)	Delta Waterfowl Foundation	Migration ecology and chronology of geese	\$35,000
Gole, Aniruddha (Electrical and Computer Engineering)	Mitacs Accelerate	Real-time modeling of virtual synchronous generator type VSC converters for power supply to offshore platforms	\$30,000
Hanson, Mark (Environment & Geography)	Mitacs Accelerate	Floating wetland treatments to enhance remediation (FLOWTER) Project	\$173,333
Henriksen, Christine (Clinical Health Psychology)	Health Sciences Centre Foundation	Living with hope: A preliminary investigation of a novel, CBT-based psychoeducational skills class for individuals with a recent suicide attempt	\$64,139
Hicks, Geoffrey (Biochemistry and Medical Genetics)	Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba	Vitamin A supplementation can significantly reduce or prevent Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder outcomes following acute prenatal alcohol exposure	\$59,995
Ho, Juliet (Internal Medicine)	Canadian Institutes of Health Research	Multi-center validation of non-invasive surrogate biomarkers of renal allograft outcomes	\$237,151
Hu, Pingzhao (Biochemistry and Medical Genetics)	NSERC Engage	Deep learning for prioritizing small molecules candidates for drug repositioning	\$25,000

Jacobsohn, Eric (Anesthesia)	Montreal Heart Institute	Electroencephalography guidance of anesthesia to alleviate geriatric syndromes (ENGAGES-CANADA) study in cardiac surgery: A pragmatic, randomized clinical trial	\$40,000
Jiang, Depeng (Community Health Sciences, CHRIM)	Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba	The effect of PAX program in promoting mental health for children in Manitoba	\$59,560
Kazem Moussavi, Zahra (Electrical and Computer Engineering)	Mitacs Accelerate	Developing a virtual reality simulator and an algorithm to assess visual vestibular interaction (VVI)	\$90,000
Kelly, Lauren (Pediatrics and Child Health)	Research Manitoba	Adaptive design in pediatric clinical trials	\$126,200
Khoshdarregi, Mohammad (Mechanical Engineering)	NSERC Engage	Improved dynamic positioning of high speed robots for the acoustic treatment of aerospace structures	\$25,000
Kordi, Behzad (Electrical and Computer Engineering)	NSERC Engage	Improvement of mechanical and electrical strength of the cap-and-pin type string insulators	\$25,000
Kowalec, Kaarina (Pharmacy)	Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers	Understanding psychiatric comorbidity in multiple sclerosis using genetics	\$52,704
Lavoie, Josee (Community Health Sciences)	Canadian Institutes of Health Research	Sexual Health Empowerment (SHE) Project: Merging community and science	\$135,000
Levin, David (Biosystems Engineering)	Mitacs Accelerate	Floating Wetland Treatments to Enhance Remediation (FLOWTER) Project	\$160,000
Major, Arkadij (Electrical and Computer Engineering)	NSERC Engage	Compact and efficient laser source of UV radiation	\$25,000
Modirrousta, Mandana (Physiology & Pathophysiology)	Mitacs Accelerate	Assessing the impact of an immersive VR gaming experience on navigation ability and spatial cognition in an elderly population	\$45,000
Narvaez Bravo, Claudia (Food and Human Nutritional Sciences)	Mitacs Accelerate	Shiga-toxigenic <i>E. coli</i> persistence mechanisms and surface biofilm detection using near-infrared spectroscopy on beef processing facilities	\$213,333
Ng, Marcus (Internal Medicine)	Mitacs Accelerate	Using rapid eye movement (REM) sleep to enable and enhance clinical epilepsy surgery	\$60,000
O, Karmin (Physiology & Pathophysiology, St Boniface Hospital Albrechtsen Research Centre)	St. Boniface Hospital Albrechtsen Research Centre	Role of inflammatory response in human and animal health and disease	\$180,000

Saleem, Ayesha (Kinesiology and Recreation Management, CHRIM)	Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba	Extracellular vesicles in prenatal fetal-maternal communication	\$60,000
Scribbans, Trisha (Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management)	Research Manitoba	Whole muscle and individual motor unit variability in the shoulder complex with fatigue and training	\$49,990
Shafai, Cyrus (Electrical and Computer Engineering)	NSERC Engage	MEMS sensor for metal-ion detection in water	\$25,000
Shalaby, Ahmed (Civil Engineering)	NSERC Engage	Use of recycled plastic to modify the engineering properties of asphalt binders for road paving	\$25,000
Shen, Garry (Internal Medicine)	Canadian Institutes of Health Research	To determine the impact of breastfeeding, maternal food intake and infant gut microbiota on the risk of obesity and diabetes in First Nations women and children in rural communities	\$100,000
Strachan, Shaelyn (Kinesiology and Recreation Management)	Canadian Institutes of Health Research	Self-compassion among people undergoing cardiac surgery: Associations with physical activity, other health behaviors and health outcomes.	\$105,000
Strachan, Shaelyn (Kinesiology and Recreation Management)	Canadian Institutes of Health Research	Examining the impact of a self-compassion intervention on physical activity behaviour and reactions to health risk among people at risk for Type 2 Diabetes: A pilot and Feasibility Study	\$145,000
Thompson, Shirley (Natural Resources Institute)	Mitacs Inc.	First Nations Philanthropy Engagement Research Project	\$180,000
West, Christina (Nursing)	Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba	Expressive healing network: Partnering to create meaningful change for children and families in bone marrow transplant	\$60,000
Zvomuya, Francis (Soil Science)	NSERC Engage	A greenhouse bioassay of advanced urease and nitrification inhibitors: Effects on ammonia volatilization and wheat biomass yield and N uptake	\$25,000

## ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- The Copyright Board has certified two Access Copyright final tariffs for the reproduction of materials in post-secondary education institutions for the years 2011-2017. The reasonableness of the tariffs may be subject to judicial review by the Federal Court. A certified tariff is not the same as a legislative change and the issue of whether the tariffs are mandatory is currently before the Federal

Court of Appeal (*Access Copyright v. York*). The certification of the tariffs do not mean there will be any changes to University of Manitoba copyright practices at this time. Most Canadian post-secondary educational institutions have taken the position that the tariffs are one option for copyright management but are not mandatory, as supported by Supreme Court of Canada case law. The Federal Court came to a different conclusion at the *Access Copyright v. York* trial. The Federal Court of Appeal's decision on this issue could be released in the near future.

- The Office of Sustainability continues to run the organics collection at the Fort Garry and Bannatyne campus. There are 45 collection bins in addition to UM Dining Services and all food service locations which are collecting pre-consumer organics. Almost 11 tonnes of organics have been diverted from landfill in the first six months of the program (approximately 10% of our total organics volume).
- The Office of Sustainability co-hosted an event with Sustainable Procurement Manitoba (SPM) focused on supporting low-carbon purchasing. Seventy-five people from a variety of sectors across Winnipeg attended the event featuring discussions on the importance of looking at low carbon purchases in your organization and some of the best practices associated with common products. David McLaughlin, former Director of Climate Change, Canada, for the International Institute for Sustainable Development and Dr. Bruno Silvestre, Professor in the Department of Supply Chain Management and the Director of the Transport Institute at the Asper School of Business, were the keynote speakers for the event.
- The Office of Sustainability has been working with an Indigenous Working Group to guide and offer feedback for methods of communicating traditional knowledge about the Fort Garry campus lands. Elders Stella Blackbird and Audrey Bone held a plants teachings to help gain an understanding of traditional healing, the important properties of the plants found in the riparian forest and sustainable harvesting methods. These teachings will be communicated to the university community through an educational banner installation set to be complete in February 2020. Raven Medicine Cloud was the name given to the project in a naming ceremony.
- The nomination period of the UM Sustainability Awards is now open. Categories include undergraduate, graduate, student group, teaching and staff awards. The Sustainability Committee will select the winners, which will be announced at Sustainability Night in early March.
- Human Resources partnered with the Support Staff Endowment Fund to offer the Support Staff Learning Exchange in Montreal from October 31 to November 3, 2019. Believed to be the only program of this kind in Canada, this year's exchange sent 21 UM support staff to meet with their counterparts at McGill University to share best practices for their roles. The UM has run this program since 1999 and many of the participants remain in contact with their counterparts to continue the exchange of ideas long after the formal learning exchange. It is an excellent way of sharing advancements and lessons learned that can lead to the refinement of services at both institutions.
- Alumni of the UM Leaders Learning Program (UMLLP) gathered on November 5 for a special workshop on "Settler Privilege" to explore how settler privilege continues to impact relationships and opportunities in contemporary Canada. The session included an inventory exercise on characteristics relating to settler privilege followed by discussion. This workshop was offered as part of our commitment to TRC Call to Action #57, Professional Development and Training for Public



Servants. Over 75 university staff and administrators have completed the UMLLP since its launch in February of 2016 and ongoing development opportunities are provided annually.

- On November 18, Learning & Organizational Development (LOD) hosted a Learning Lab on “Implicit Bias”, an interactive session covering topics relating to equity, diversity, inclusion, and interrupting bias to support university employees to follow best practices. The LOD Learning Labs are monthly short presentations on topics of interest and relevance for university staff. The Learning Lab was facilitated by the university’s Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Facilitator.

## **EXTERNAL RELATIONS**

- Gifts made in the current reporting period include:
  - Mrs. MaryAnn Lippay Kanee made a gift of \$100,000 in support of the MaryAnn Lippay Kanee and Stephen Kanee Judaic Studies Endowment Fund.
  - Mr. Gerald McDole [BSc/60] made a gift of \$100,000 in support of the Gerald McDole Graduate Entrance Scholarship.
  - Arts and Crafts Production Inc. made a gift of \$100,000 in support of The Gord Downie Secret Path Fund for Truth and Reconciliation at the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.
  - Miss Alice Cheung [BSc (Hons.)/76, MSc/77] made a gift of \$131,824 in support of the Opportunity Scholarship in Computer Science.
  - The late Dr. Stephen Dawyduk bequeathed \$143,350 in support of the University of Manitoba.
  - The College of Pharmacists of Manitoba made a gift of \$168,200 to the College of Pharmacists of Manitoba Fund.
  - The John and Gabrielle Pashniak Foundation made a gift of \$400,000 in support of the construction of the Stanley Pauley Engineering Building.
  - The Price Family Foundation made a gift of \$600,000 in support of the Price Graduate Scholarships for Women in Engineering.
  - TD Bank made a gift of \$1 million in support of the Manitoba Kidney Check Program.
  - The Winnipeg RH Institute made a gift of \$1 million in support of the Dr. John M. Bowman Chair in Pediatrics and Child Health.
  - The Winnipeg Foundation made a gift of \$1 million to establish the Winnipeg Foundation Innovation Grants in the Rady Faculty of Health Sciences, and an additional gift of \$250,000 to support the Martha Donovan Women’s Leadership Awards.
  - Dr. Michael Nesbitt [B.Comm./56, BA/57, LLD/15] made a gift of \$2.5 million in support of the construction of the Desautels Concert Hall.
  - The Asper Foundation made a gift of \$5 million to establish The Asper Foundation Entrance Bursary.
- On April 2, we will celebrate the success of the Front and Centre campaign and unveil our final campaign total.

- On December 11, President Barnard hosted a Visionary Conversations on the topic: *“What does a decolonized Canada look like?”* at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. Our panel included: Dr. Michael Yellow Bird, Dr. Cary Miller, Dr. Emma LaRocque and Dr. Katherine Starzyk. Over 400 alumni and community members attended to participate in this very important conversation.
- Nominations for the 2020 Distinguished Alumni Awards closed on January 17. Recipients will be announced in March and the DAA 2020 Celebration of Excellence event is scheduled for October 1, 2020.