Taking the pulse of a province
Survey exemplifies interdisciplinary research

Kirk Sibbald

Few and far between are research projects that can bring together more than 30 faculty members, 40 students and engage an entire province.

That is the aim, however, of Taking the Pulse of Saskatchewan, an ambitious survey being undertaken by the Social Sciences Research Laboratory’s (SSRL) new survey facility.

Undergraduate students hired for the project hit the phones on March 5, conducting telephone surveys of more than 1,000 randomly selected residents across the province to gauge attitudes on several contemporary, and often divisive, topics. The survey is comprised of 42 questions, all of which fall under one of seven themes: sustainable resource development; crime and public safety; Aboriginal issues; the Saskatchewan economy; immigration and diversity; health, wellbeing and Saskatchewan families; and moral issues.

An agreement has been struck with Postmedia News and the CBC, so results of the survey will be unveiled through The StarPhoenix, The Leader Post, and CBC Saskatchewan this coming fall.

“This survey is really reflective of the diverse research interests and interdisciplinary nature of the social sciences,” said Jason Disano, director of the SSRL, noting that Taking the Pulse of Saskatchewan involves researchers from all seven departments within the Division of Social Science in the College of Arts and Science.

Encouraging interdisciplinary research, increasing community engagement and providing hands-on research opportunities for students are keystones of the SSRL, said Disano, and this survey ties into all three objectives.

To develop the survey questions and methodology, researchers worked in six thematic-based teams. Forty

Promise and potential: third plan approved

Colleen MacPherson

At the board’s annual reporting session following the meeting, Fairbairn told an audience in Convocation Hall that it is not the plan itself that will make the difference for the University of Saskatchewan but rather “the actions that we take as a result of our plans.”

Board Chair Nancy Hopkins said the plan, which details priorities and directions for the institution, “is in and of itself a strategic advantage for this university.”

In a brief presentation, Fairbairn outlined the consultations that began in the fall of 2010 as the third plan took shape. He pointed out its development was guided by the university’s strategic directions and foundational documents, and built on the accomplishments of the previous two plans. “The task now,” he said, “is to interpret our university’s enduring priorities over the next period of time and decide what they mean for us in 2012-16.”

The plan contains four areas of focus—knowledge creation, Aboriginal engagement, culture and community, and innovation in academic programs and services—that include 12 commitments, each of which is accompanied by a strategy, actions and measurements to gauge success. The areas of focus
Plan influences board priorities

From Page 1

are also reflected in the individual planning parameters set out in each of the university’s colleges and units.

In addition to driving the university’s academic and administrative agendas, Hopkins said it also influences board decisions and priorities. Just as previous plans “are always in the back of our minds, and on the front of the pages that come to us for our consideration, the same will be true as we move forward with the third integrated plan.

As the board reviews matters that will come before us over the next four years, it will do so in the context of the plan.”

Hopkins pointed out that in the previous planning cycle, with its emphasis on areas like the student experience and enhancing the university’s national and international research profile, the board was prepared “to assume the risk of moving forward” with projects prepared “to align in our focus.”

The integrated plan, she concluded, “is hugely important to the institution from many perspectives.”

In addition to defining priorities, Fairbairn said the plan serves to guide the university’s investments of time, energy and resources. So, as in previous planning cycles, the new plan is accompanied by two additional documents. One is the multi-year capital plan that aligns academic priorities with capital planning and management. It lists the university’s capital priorities for the coming four years as the infrastructure renewal and revitalization program called RenewUS; strategic capital projects; innovative use of the university land base; and support for growing distance education and distributive learning programs.

The second accompanying document, the multi-year budget framework, projects revenues and expenses over the four-year planning cycle. Fairbairn pointed out that “much of the picture remains unclear,” particularly around the provincial government grant, but the university has identified particular financial pressures. These include a highly competitive hiring strategy; pensions and deferred maintenance issue on infrastructure.

“We are mindful of those pressures,” he said. “We can see that over the next four years, if we took no action, those kinds of pressures would cause our expenditures to grow more quickly than our revenues. That’s not going to happen of course, because we will not let it happen.”

Speaking after the presentations, Fairbairn stressed that the document is not a budget but rather a framework based on “reasonable assumptions.” That framework identifies accumulating deficits that will require work on both the revenue and the expense side, he said, “but we’ve done this before, and we’ve done it while continuing to invest in our priorities.”

The financial framework will be a topic of discussion for Council and at an April 3 campus town hall meeting.

In concluding his presentation to the meeting, Fairbairn said it is important to see the new integrated plan as a group effort, “not the work of one set of hands or one mind but of many hands and many minds. It is our plan.” And the difference it will make will not be felt just on campus; the third integrated plan will mean “society will be better served by our university in Saskatchewan and far beyond. Students, communities and the public are going to be the beneficiaries of the work we do.”

Promise and Potential: The Third Integrated Plan 2012-2016 as well as the capital plan and budget framework can be viewed at www.usask.ca/plan.

Fairbairn reappointed

Brett Fairbairn has been reappointed to the position of provost and vice-president academic for a second five-year term that will begin July 1, 2013.

The university’s Board of Governors confirmed the reappointment as its meeting March 6, and it was announced the next day by President Peter MacKinnon. MacKinnon said a wide-ranging administration.

Feasibility Study

By office of the provost, and provided “personal and strategic feedback” that is reflected in the final version. That involvement will help ensure a smooth presidential transition and that “the board and the president are aligned in our focus.”

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Mass notification practices reviewed
New emergency email, text system ready to go

Colleen MacPherson

The university’s protocol for determining what information should be shared with students, staff and faculty about violent incidents on campus, and when, is under review following a New Year’s day situation in which a woman reported she was sexually assaulted in a McEwen Park student residence.

“We do not have a formal University of Saskatchewan policy in terms of campus notifications,” said David Hannah, associate vice-president of student affairs who sent information emails about the residence incident to campus Feb. 17 and March 2. Hannah, a member of the university’s crisis management team, said a number of factors influenced the decision to send the emails weeks after the event, timing that he admits sparked questions and criticism.

Hannah said the mass notification practice at the U of S is to alert campus if a reported incident poses “a continuing or imminent threat to members of the university community.”

That risk assessment is made on advice from Campus Safety and, often, Saskatoon Police Services, he explained. Mass notification is also an option when there is a pattern of incidents, like a rash of locker break-ins. Information about these kinds of events can help people make decisions about protecting their property, Hannah said.

In the January circumstance, Hannah said neither Campus Safety nor the police felt there was an imminent threat to anyone on campus. “There were some question marks around some of the information,” he said, “but in criminal matters, city police are the primary investigators so we weren’t in a position to go out and actively fill in the information gaps.” Despite the initial assessment, a family member of the complainant and other concerned individuals expressed a different view in a meeting with Hannah and Campus Safety officials.

“Theyprimary concern,” Hannah explained, “was the safety and well-being of other members of the campus community. They felt strongly that a notification (about the incident) should go out. That conversation caused us to wonder about whether imminent threat should be the criteria used to trigger these kinds of mass notifications.”

The question is whether the university has “a role to play in making a judgment of threat; maybe that should be up to each individual person,” he said. One solution could be to report every violent incident although Hannah did distinguish between, for example, two people fighting outside a campus bar late on a Saturday night and a mugging by an unknown assailant. Both are violent incidents but both do not necessarily require mass notification.

But reporting all incidents poses two potential problems, he said: people may become “desensitized” and ignore notices of serious threats, and “there is the worry that a notification might put a criminal investigation at risk.”

Consultation is underway with various campus stakeholders, including students, in an effort to develop a revised notification protocol. Hannah said it would likely define two levels of notification, “one where there is an imminent risk that needs action to be taken immediately.” The examples he used were a tornado warning or “a tiger loose in the Bowl.” Alerts of this kind need to be issued within minutes rather than hours, he said. The other notification would be less time sensitive, could be issued within hours of an incident, and would serve to raise awareness of an occurrence on campus, he said.

Hannah expects the protocol to be ready by fall of this year. As that work continues, the university is testing USafe, a new web-based Siemens Signal mass alert system that uses campus email and opt-in text messaging.

Brian Muchmore, crisis and emergency measures co-ordinator in the Risk Management and Insurance Services office, said the service is designed “specifically for emergencies” and that everyone needs to learn what and where messages need to go out within a matter of minutes.

USafe will eventually make use of other forms of communication to convey emergency messages, said Muchmore, including plasma screens in campus buildings. An engineering study by Siemens will be done to evaluate outdoor messaging requirements like loud speakers.

Terms end for three board members

The March meeting of the university’s Board of Governors marks the end of the terms of three members, although two may continue to sit at the table for some time.

Garry Standing, an education graduate of the U of S and a board member since 2002, and Art Dumont, a graduate of the College of Engineering who has been on the board since 2003 and served as chair, have both completed their terms as government-appointed members but their replacements have yet to be named.

Board Chair Nancy Hopkins explained that there is a protocol in place between the U of S and the government “to ensure board members are people the province and the university are delighted to have on the board.”

Various candidates are discussed with the Ministry of Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration, taking into consideration the skills required by university board members, said Hopkins. The final decision is made by the cabinet of government which, she said, had a very full agenda meaning the timing of the appointments is uncertain.

In the interim, Standing and Dumont will continue to serve on the board, a provision set out in the provincial legislation governing the university.

The third departing member is Scott Hitchings who served on the board in his capacity as president of the U of S Students’ Union (USSU). His replacement will be known after USSU elections this spring.

A man undaunted

Patrick Hayes, U of S archives

“...The University has thus far, at least, largely escaped the influenza epidemic. But we have not wholly escaped, for John Fraser died of the plague in this city on the 5th ultimate.”

(December 1918)

Thus opens The Sheaf obituary for law student John Fraser. Most of the estimated 50 million victims of the 1918-1920 flu pandemic (Spanish flu) were healthy young adults. John Fraser, “one of the most brilliant of Saskatoon’s advanced students,” was such a case. The star gridiron player was born in Scotland and entered the university in the autumn of 1914 earning a BA in 1917 and a MA in 1918.

He was in the College of Law when he died. His athletic and academic achievements were despite being “sorely disabled.” He had only one arm and that had but a single finger. He was a man undaunted “for such disabilities are as nothing to men made of the stuff of which he was made.” For the small and tight-knit university community, this was a sad and unexpected loss.
Preserving the bond of trust

I am writing with respect to the article published in the last issue of OCN describing the use of a deceptive practice in an MBA capstone class in strategic human resource management, where Business School faculty, notably the Business School Dean, lied to students about the fact that their professor was suspended. The point of this exercise was to convey to the students “how it felt to be treated arbitrarily by quote-unquote management”. Ironically, it turned out not to be a charade after all, as the students were indeed treated arbitrarily and disrespectfully. This explains the subsequent disquiet experienced by the participating faculty members. I believe the students are owed a formal apology from the Dean. The bond of trust between a student and a teacher is inviolable. One can’t teach students an ethical lesson by breaking this bond.

Robert Hudson, Professor, Dept. of Philosophy

Minister addresses inaccuracies

I want to address inaccuracies in an article in the January 2012 online Bulletin of the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) related to Saskatchewan’s proposed legislation to expand degree-granting authority. This legislation was built from extensive public consultations, and we will continue to consult with stakeholders to ensure an open and transparent process.

Over the years, we have received requests for approval of degree-granting programs but have been unable to assess them because of a long-standing gap in public policy. The Degree Authorization Act, guided by three key principles, addresses these issues. First, it provides greater accessibility to quality educational programs for students. As our population and economy continue to grow, so too do our opportunities. It is vitally important to be responsive to the needs of students and their future aspirations.

Two, the Act ensures a robust quality assurance process. Increasingly, other jurisdictions are establishing quality assurance bodies which provide the necessary expertise to assess and evaluate degree programs according to a pan-Canadian framework established by the Council of Ministers of Education in Canada. Our quality assurance process will give learners here at home and those coming to Saskatchewan confidence that they are receiving a quality education.

Three, this legislation protects the long-standing reputations of the University of Regina and the University of Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan supports publicly-funded post-secondary education in the University of Regina and the University of Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan supports publicly-funded post-secondary education in the province. In the last four years, the Government has invested a record $2.8 billion dollars in post-secondary education.

As we engage in internationalization and enhanced relationships with other jurisdictions, our institutions look to build new partnerships and collaborations. The legislation will help define those relationships based on our connections with other jurisdictions, our institutions look to build new partnerships and collaborations.

We will continue to build on the educational excellence we currently are known for in this province. This act helps to ensure that.

Rob Norris
Minister of Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration

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The views and opinions expressed by writers of letters to the editor and viewpoints do not necessarily reflect those of the University of Saskatchewan News.

Letter

With spring convocation and the potential awarding of honorary degrees soon upon us at the U of S, the irrationality and impropriety of the recent University of Alberta (U of A) award of an honorary degree to Peter Brabeck-Letmathe, Chair of Nestlé, is on my mind. I can’t help but wonder why and how it is that such a controversial company executive deserves to be considered a “water management expert” worthy of an esteemed public recognition, while the company under his charge remains a target of international boycotts and legal cases for ongoing abuses. And I can’t help but wonder whether this award could have been granted here, at the U of S.

Protocols for awarding honorary degrees are similarly uncomplicated at both universities. Degrees are awarded on the basis of honoris causa (“for the sake of honor”) based on nominations, consideration by a committee, and then in camera voting by the Senate. The awarding of these degrees is centrally about the recognition of excellence and about service to the public good. The U of A site states that they expect that recipients honor the spirit of their “visio... to inspire the human spirit through outstanding achievements in learning, discovery and citizenship in a creative community, building one of the world’s great universities for the public good.”

But, in the case of Brabeck-Letmathe, what contribution to the public good was being honored? Boycotts of Nestlé that originated with the baby milk formula promotion scandals of the 1970s have not stopped. Universities, colleges, and schools around the world continue to ban Nestlé products from their cafeterias and vending machines. The International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN), representing hundreds of civil society groups in over 100 countries, continues to cite innumerable violations of the international marketing code on breastfeeding established in 1981—the most recent being the dozen or so NGOs in Laos that decried Nestlé’s violations.

Nestlé is also the world’s largest producer of bottled water and promoter of water privatization and because of that, civil society organizations from places as diverse as Brazil, Michigan, Maine, Washington, New Hampshire, and Arkansas Valley, Colorado are all in legal battles with Nestlé over water, not milk. Even the government of Alberta had to reign in Brabeck-Letmathe when he publicly and erroneously interpreted his conversation with Ministry of Environment officials, declaring to a European audience that Alberta’s water was for sale. Interviewed for a documentary, Brabeck-Letmathe declared that water is neither a basic human right nor a public good, and that those who believe so are holding “extreme” positions. Incredibly, this legacy has earned him an honorary degree from a public institution.

So what did the U of A stand to gain in naming this controversial figure? What was their intention? Strangely, it would seem that controversy was expected—indeed welcomed. In her response to the letter of protest, U of A President Indira Samarasekera answered: “The controversy that has ensued over this choice has not been unexpected. We, along with our colleagues on the Honorary Degree Committee, feel strongly that the university should promote and facilitate debate and discussion on critical global issues such as the problems of water scarcity, management and safety. Although a contentious choice, Peter Brabeck-Letmathe represents a global and growing view on water and has been recognized by highly regarded organizations to be a leading thinker on the subject internationa...”

The recognition by a “highly regarded organization” is the Swedish Industry Water Award, which is also highly self-serving and hardly representative of a “global and growing view on water”. But if controversy is what was wanted, mission accomplished. So much controversy has the decision generated that the U of A has had to create a blog stating their official reasoning for granting the degree. Letters, newspaper articles, editorials, emails and petitions have flowed in from across the globe. U of A faculty organized a teach-in and student protests were held. Public outcry has led to withdrawal of funds from some alumni. Yet the university ignored global public sentiment and granted the degree.

And I am left wondering, what was this about really, and who benefitted from it? Was this truly honoris causa? Or is this just another case of corporate cleansing? Perhaps something (else) is needed to ensure the U of S never makes the mistake that U of A just did.

Letter

Lori Hanson, Assistant Professor, Department of Community Health and Epidemiology
Students at the heart of STM building plans

Colleen MacPherson

St. Thomas More College (STM) is preparing for a major expansion that will serve to improve the experience for its students but will also help the University of Saskatchewan address some classroom shortages on campus.

Tenders will go out soon for a three-storey building right along College Drive that will be linked to the existing east wing of the college. Construction is expected to begin in June, said Derrin Raffey, chief financial officer and director of administration for STM, with completion of the estimated $8-million project anticipated for August 2013.

Raffey said the addition, which will include classrooms, study space, offices and research space, is largely oriented toward students. Current space shortages mean STM students can take only about 40-50 per cent of their classes in the current building. The addition includes about 100 sq. m of common area and break-out room for student use, “a place to study and engage in college life,” said Raffey. The new building will also allow the college to reconfigure existing space to be more student friendly, he said. That includes changes like providing private offices for advisors and campus ministry.

The addition will also address some access issues. There is no elevator in the current building that provides access to all five floors, a situation that will be rectified in the expansion.

With the 800 sq. m addition, STM will also be able to help the university address some critical space shortages across campus. Raffey mentioned in particular 80-100-seat classrooms. The two planned for the new building “are going to double the number of classrooms that size for the university.” As is the current case, priority in scheduling is given to STM but when not in use, all the college’s classrooms are made available to the campus community.

“An STM student is a university student,” Raffey said. “We’re all in this together.”

The existing building was officially opened in 1957, a replacement for the college’s original wooden structure, and two further expansions were done in the 1960s. STM has a long-term lease with the university but also because we’ll be able to contribute our share to the student experience on campus.”

Colleen MacPherson

Dr. Norman Temple

Professor of Nutrition
Athabasca University

“The Marketing of Dietary Supplements: Bogus Promises in a Bottle”

Tuesday, March 27, 2012
7 pm
Frances Morrisson Public Library Theatre
311-23rd Street East

This lecture is free and open to the public!

www.woutersrealty.com
Student paper gives many their start

In November 1912, the first issue of the *The Sheaf* was published. “The issue of this magazine marks a stage in the development of the university,” the editorial from that issue reads. “Some organ of expression is needed to bring a higher unity into the growing corporate life of the student constituency.”

Over the years, the style of language, format and tools used to create and print the publications have changed dramatically, but *The Sheaf* has always been a students’ publication.

In planning celebrations for its 100th anniversary, the U of S student newspaper is keeping this in mind. An all-years reunion will coincide with the anniversary date of the publication of the first issue of *The Sheaf* on the weekend of Nov. 2–3. *The Sheaf* alumni and *The Globe* and Mail cartoonist Brian Gable will be the keynote speaker at an afternoon event to which current *Sheaf* staff and high school journalism program students will also be invited.

Duff Spafford, the paper’s editor-in-chief from 1956–57 and former professor of political studies at the U of S, joined the *The Sheaf* centennial planning committee last year. “I feel like I’m representing the first 50 years of *The Sheaf*,” he said. Spafford is excited to reconnect with former colleagues, like author Bill Deverell and former politician Ann Edwards, but he’s also interested in meeting *Sheaf* alumni who came before him. He’s gotten in touch with several people who worked at the paper in the 1940s, some of whom have already expressed interest in attending.

*The Sheaf* will also publish a special centennial edition in the fall with the help of *Sheaf* staff and alumni volunteers, and they have developed a website for the November event with information, articles and a message board.

“For any company to reach this milestone is amazing,” said current *Sheaf* business and ads manager Shantelle Hrytsak. “Like any business, we have our ups and downs, but we’ve weathered the storms.”

*The Sheaf* is a stepping stone for students as they head into various professional careers. Students on staff for the 2012–13 year will have a unique chance to connect with hundreds of professionals that started in the same place. “It’s going to be an exciting year for anyone who will be working here,” said Hrytsak.

Ashleigh Mattern is a freelance writer and a former editor of *The Sheaf*.

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**The New Sun Conference on Aboriginal Arts: Living the Legacy**

Thursday, March 29 – Friday, March 30, 2012

The University of Saskatchewan presents: The New Sun Conference on Aboriginal Arts: Living the Legacy, a two-day conference to be held at the Wanuskewin Heritage Park featuring:

- **Stephen Augustine**, Curator, Canadian Museum of Civilization
- **Dana Claxton**, Artist and Assistant Professor (UBC)
- **Ruth Cuthand**, Artist and Art History Instructor (FAiK)
- **Marilyn Dumont**, Poet, Author, Educator (Alfahaca University)
- **Gray Buffalo Singers**, Gordon First Nation
- **David Garneau**, Artist and Associate Professor (UofR)
- **Felicia Gay**, Curator, Sessional, Art & Art History (UofS)
- **Louise Hallis**, Poet and Workshop Facilitator (Saskatoon)
- **Beverly Hungrywolf**, Author and Cultural Advisor (Blood Reserve)
- **Michelle Lavallee**, Assistant Curator, Mackenzie Art Gallery (Regina)
- **Neal McLennan**, Artist, Poet & Associate Professor (Trent University)
- **Curtis Peepeeetucutse**, Artistic Director, Sask Native Theatre Company
- **Adrian Stimson**, Artist, Sessional, Art & Art History (UofS)

**Conference Organizing Committee:**

- Deborah Lee, Aboriginal Engagement and Indigenous Studies Liaison Librarian (U of S); Mary Longman, Artist and Associate Professor (U of S); Len Findlay, Professor, Humanities (U of S); Lynne Bell, Professor, Art History (U of S)

The conference is free for everyone. More information can be found online at [iportal.usask.ca](http://iportal.usask.ca).

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**Conference Itinerary**

**Day One: Thursday**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 am</td>
<td>Opening: Grey Buffalo Singers, Prayer (Mary Lee)</td>
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<td>10:30 am</td>
<td>Introductory Remarks: Mary Longman, Artist and Associate Professor, Art &amp; Art History, University of Regina</td>
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<td>10:45 am</td>
<td>Michelle Lavallee, Assistant Curator Mackenzie Art Gallery</td>
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<td>11:45 am</td>
<td>Lunch Break</td>
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Day Two: Friday

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**March 16, 2012**

The University of Saskatchewan

*p*ortal.usask.ca
A substance popular with athletes looking to build muscle mass is showing potential for preventing osteoporosis, a disease that costs the health-care system in Canada almost a billion dollars a year, and that figure is expected to continue to grow as the population ages.

Through various studies with adults over 50 years of age, Phil Chilibeck, a professor in the College of Kinesiology, has been researching the effects of exercise in combination with the nutritional supplement creatine to determine how to best prevent osteoporosis.

"Creatine has been used for about 20 years," explained Chilibeck. "Because it supplies energy to muscle cells, it is typically used by athletes in strength sports to help build muscle mass (but) some studies showed that bone cells also used creatine for energy and bone formation, making them more active. We thought we could determine that effect.

Initially, Chilibeck ran a 10-12 week study that involved men over the age of 60. "We put participants in a weight training program, with half on a placebo and the other half on creatine," he explained. "What we found was that in addition to helping with muscle mass and strength, certain markers in urine samples indicated that those on creatine also had less bone deterioration." Chilibeck and his team decided to expand the study to include men and women over 50. Participants in this study are taking part in the same exercise program over the course of a year, with half taking creatine and the other half on a placebo.

In addition to tracking muscle properties, a piece of imaging equipment called a bone densitometer is helping the researchers measure hip and lumbar bone properties such as density and geometry, said Chilibeck. Funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation allowed the team to acquire software that enables the bone densitometer to better evaluate bone properties at the hip site.

"Because of the number of osteoporosis-related fractures, this is important research," he said. "A surprising number of people fracture their hips after the age of 50—about one in three women and one in five men will have a fracture related to having osteoporosis. Between surgery and recovery, a fractured hip is quite traumatic, and the associated costs are substantial. While women have a higher incidence rate, men generally do worse in recovery. Some even die from complications, it’s a serious problem with older people."

The hypothesis the team hopes to prove is that "while both groups will benefit from exercise in terms of bone geometry, the creatine group will have an added benefit in terms of increased bone density. We definitely know that exercise and weight training are good for the bones, but traditionally we have only looked at how density changes. We are trying to add a nutritional supplement to see if there is additional benefit on bone density, which is a predictor of osteoporosis. Hopefully we will have another weapon against osteoporosis."
Data could inform future policy

From Page 1

students—37 of them undergraduates—were hired to conduct the survey, and many will be retained over the summer to analyze and disseminate the survey data.

And because Taking the Pulse of Saskatchewan is going to be an annual project for the survey lab, it is expected the project will spur an ongoing, province-wide dialogue, as well as track any long-term shifts in perceptions towards hot-button issues within the province.

“By engaging the media as a partner in this study, we are indirectly engaging with the general public and, more importantly, making the results of this research more broadly available and accessible, building stronger ties to the community,” said Disano.

Carolyn Brooks, assistant professor of sociology and leader of the survey’s crime and public safety team, stressed that while this project has defined objectives, it is hardly an end in itself.

“Just by bringing together faculty from other departments, we have learned that some of us have similar teaching and research interests. So the interdisciplinary aspect of the project is already breaking down some boundaries,” she said.

There is also a likelihood that future versions of the survey will be developed with more input from community groups, said Brooks, and the data generated could possibly inform future policy development.

“A similar survey conducted in 2001 has been used by Saskatchewan Education to help shape curriculum development,” she said. “And by tracking shifts in public opinion, that may also inform some of the research being done here on campus so there are many potential pieces to this project as it grows and evolves.”

The SSRL consists of five complimentary research laboratories, providing social science researchers and students access to innovative infrastructure and supports. The lab consists of 20 computerized survey stations and a 16-seat focus group room. It was officially opened in late 2011, and made possible by grants from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) and the Government of Saskatchewan. The College of Arts and Science and Edwards School of Business also provided support.

The SSRL’s four other laboratories include a geographic information systems (GIS) laboratory, a qualitative research laboratory, a video therapy analysis laboratory, and an experimental decision laboratory.

“The SSRL is a trans- formative initiative for the social sciences on campus and there is nothing comparable at any other Canadian university,” said Harley Dickinson, vice-dean for the Division of Social Sciences in the College of Arts and Science. “Social science researchers from across campus can now implement cutting-edge research programs that address both academic and community-based issues, as evidenced by projects like Taking the Pulse of Saskatchewan.”

Kirk Sibbald is communications officer in the College of Arts and Science.

Club takes on university name

It has been years since the Faculty Club at the U of S was the exclusive domain of faculty, and members have decided it is a good time for a name change that reflects that fact.

On July 1, the name will officially change to University Club, explained Donna Cram, club manager, a move approved at the club’s annual meeting last October and by the university’s Board of Governors in early March. Alumni, staff and faculty have been welcome to join for some time “and so the new name better reflects the make-up of our membership,” she said.

The history of the club at the U of S stretches back to 1927 and for years, it occupied various rooms on campus, said Cram. In 1961, the club was officially incorporated and moved to its current location in the dean of agriculture’s residence, which was one of the first buildings on campus. The building was renovated in 1966, then again after a fire in 1972.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of construction of the original dean’s residence and 50 years since the club’s incorporation, she said, so the name change is another milestone in its history.

The club will host a special celebration reception April 2 that will include the release of a memory book put together by Don Kerr, professor emeritus in the Department of English.
Interested in participating in the governance of the University of Saskatchewan?

Consider offering to join a University Committee

Each year, the Nominations Committee of Council invites University of Saskatchewan faculty members and librarians to step forward and offer to serve on university committees. Our committees are the mechanism through which collegial university governance is achieved. Finding excellent people to serve on our committees is the job of the Nominations Committee. Our terms of reference direct us to find members who are broadly representative of the disciplines of the university. We select nominees for their experience, demonstrated commitment, and potential for a significant contribution to committee functions, and we strive for equity in representation.

Some vacancies must be filled by members of the University Council. Other vacancies are to be filled by members of the General Academic Assembly, to which all full-time faculty and librarians belong. Three of the academic committees also have sessional lecturer representatives.

Following are the committee vacancies which we are looking to fill for the 2012-13 academic year. We usually try to appoint people for three-year terms.

To volunteer yourself or to nominate someone else:

- download a nominations form from the Council website, or
- email nominations.committee@usask.ca by Monday, April 2, 2012.

### University Council Committees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>What does it do?</th>
<th>How often?</th>
<th>Information about expected vacancies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Programs Committee</td>
<td>Reviews and approves curriculum changes from all colleges, recommends major curriculum changes to Council, oversees policies relating to students and academic programs.</td>
<td>twice a month</td>
<td>Six vacancies including one annual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Support Committee</td>
<td>Reviews technology (software and hardware) issues for students and faculty, including capital plans, equipment upgrades, classroom upgrades and policy issues relating to the Library EMAP and ITS.</td>
<td>once a month</td>
<td>Four vacancies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bylaws Committee</td>
<td>Reviews Council bylaws including committee terms of reference, determines whether student academic appeals should proceed to hearing.</td>
<td>once a month</td>
<td>One vacancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Activities Committee</td>
<td>Nominees GAA and Council members for Council and university committees and panels.</td>
<td>once a month</td>
<td>Three vacancies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominations Committee</td>
<td>Nominees GAA and Council members for university committees and panels.</td>
<td>as required</td>
<td>Two vacancies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning &amp; Priorities Committee</td>
<td>Reviews and advises Council and the university administration on planning, budgeting, and academic priorities.</td>
<td>twice a month</td>
<td>Four vacancies including one annual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research, Scholarly &amp; Artistic Work Committee</td>
<td>Reviews and advises Council on issues related to research, scholarly and artistic work including advising on research grant policies and the establishment of research centres.</td>
<td>once or twice a month</td>
<td>Five vacancies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarships &amp; Awards Committee</td>
<td>Grants awards, scholarships and bursaries which are open to students of more than one college or school, advises Council on scholarship and awards policies and issues.</td>
<td>as required</td>
<td>Three vacancies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching &amp; Learning Committee</td>
<td>Reviews and advises on pedagogical issues, teaching evaluation, scholarship of teaching and learning, and policy issues relating to teaching and learning.</td>
<td>once a month</td>
<td>Four vacancies including one annual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-Chair of Council</td>
<td>The Nominations Committee of Council nominates a Council member to serve as Vice-Chairperson. The Vice-Chair is also a member of the Policy Oversight Committee.</td>
<td></td>
<td>One vacancy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Collective Agreement Committees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>What does it do?</th>
<th>How often?</th>
<th>Information about expected vacancies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University Review Committee</td>
<td>Reviews College recommendations for awards of tenure, renewals of probation, and promotions to Professor. Its recommendations are made to the President.</td>
<td>frequently November to March</td>
<td>Three vacancies Tenured faculty who have not served on the University Review Committee in the past three years and are not on a College Review Committee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renewals And Tenure Appeal Panel</td>
<td>From this panel, members are chosen for committees on Sabbatical Appeal, Promotion Appeal, and Tenure Appeal Committees, and for the President’s Review Committee.</td>
<td>variable</td>
<td>16 vacancies Tenured faculty with experience on a tenure committee, who have not served on the University Review Committee in the past three years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Other Committees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>What does it do?</th>
<th>How often?</th>
<th>Information about expected vacancies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Academic Hearing and Appeals Panel</td>
<td>Faculty representatives for hearing boards for student discipline and appeals are selected from this panel.</td>
<td>variable</td>
<td>Seven vacancies for members of Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy Oversight Committee</td>
<td>Ensures consistency and coordination in the development, approval and administration of all university policies.</td>
<td>once or twice each term</td>
<td>No vacancies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Committee on Chairs And Professorships</td>
<td>Brings the approving bodies of Council and the Board of Governors to a joint table to ensure that academic and financial concerns regarding Chairs and Professorships can be addressed simultaneously.</td>
<td>twice a year</td>
<td>One vacancy for member of Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate Roundtable on Outreach and Engagement</td>
<td>This an initiative of the Foundation Document on Outreach &amp; Engagement. It includes four faculty representatives.</td>
<td>variable</td>
<td>One vacancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation and Athletics Advisory Council</td>
<td>Recommends on recreation and athletic fees charged to students and reviews reports on expenditures.</td>
<td>variable</td>
<td>One vacancy (not from Kinesiology)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you have questions about any of the committees listed above, please ask a member of the Nominations Committee for more information:

### Nominations Committee of Council:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dwayne Brenna (Chair)</td>
<td>Drama 5185 Phone 8949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angela Bowen (Sec)</td>
<td>Nursing 1387</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruce Goulman</td>
<td>Plant Science 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ed Krol</td>
<td>Pharmacy &amp; Nutrition 4437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Gray</td>
<td>Biology 1387</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information, visit www.usask.ca/university_secretary/council/committees/nominations or call 966-5036.
Biochemistry Open Seminar
April 4-12, 12:30-2:00 pm, Room 8410 Health Sciences, Scott Napper, Dept. of Biochemistry and VIDO, presents Peptide Arrays for Kinome Analysis: Beef to Beer

Show Business
The Edwards School of Business is hosting Show Business: A Business and Society Film Series. Screenings are at 7 p.m. in EB 18, Goodspeed Theatre from 5-7:30 pm.

• April 5, The Shark Doctrine

Microbiology and Immunology and

• April 1, Genesis presents The Role of Epikolli in the Type Two Tax Stress System in Vibrio vulnificus

Geography and Planning Colloquia
Friday at 3:00 pm in Kirk Hall 146

• March 16, Amy Goodbrand presents “Boxing in the Backyard: Opportunities for a Community Based Research Project.”

• March 23, Rujune Lemvose presents Exploring water governance in Northern Saskatchewan: Opportunities for a Community Based Research Project.

• March 30, Wen Yi Young presents Using MiMorgan based remote sensing over Greenland: Gaze Tow (305-204 BCE), the Five Elements and Feng Shui

The Arts

Anne of Green Gables
The Newman Players present Anne of Green Gables, a play by Peter DeLuca adapted from the novel by L.M. Montgomery and directed by Richard Medenwald on March 19. The O’Driscoll Auditorium. St. Thomas More College. Shows March 17-19 at 7:30 pm and a 2 p.m. matinee March 18. Tickets are available now or at the STM general office. Visit stc.campus.ca/centreforthearts

North Bay Art Gallery
Wednesday until May 5, Rural Readymade is a group exhibition organized by the College of Art and Design.

Kenderdy Art Gallery
The Mechanical Self, work by Cathie Ouel, Micah Lesker and Patrick Trier, in the Kenderdy. The Gallery in the Agriculture Building will be open until March 23.

Greystone Theatre
Greystone Theatre presents The Love of the Nightingale, a play by Timfeka Wermuth- baker and directed by Dayana Brena that examines the nature of violence and ecological silence, from March 21-31. For ticket information, contact the Greystone Theatre box office.

Verbal Judo
Campus Safety is offering Verbal Judo courses throughout the year. The intructor teaches the skills necessary to remain calm, and focused during any verbal encounter. Courses can be set up to accommodate individual departments or groups. For example, for more information, contact Dave Prod at 944-2480 or email campus.safety@usask.ca

WSEP Safety Training Courses
Register at wsep.usask.ca/wsep/web

• USSR: April 8, May 3, May 8, 3-4 pm, Universally Accepted Safety Training (UAST) and Maritime Standards
• USA: May 3, 2017, 12:30-3:00 pm, For more information, contact Dave Prod at 944-2480 or email campus.safety@usask.ca

Continuing Nursing Education
For a registration invoice or further information visit www.usask.ca/nursing/inquiries

• March, 1-8, Preventing and STOPping HIV: Weaknesses and Strengths of the Canadian Healthcare System

• March 15-16, Regina, Women and Children’s Health Provincial post-conference event_ Training of Trainers and a workshop training-us ca or visit training.us ca

Information Technology Services (ITS) Training Services for students and faculty. A list of training sessions usca or visit training.us ca

• Acer Aspire Pro X itros, April 12, 9 am, 1:30-2:00 pm, for students, $15 for faculty, $0 for students

• Acer Aspire X315, April 14, 1:30-2:00 pm, for students, $15 for faculty, $0 for students

• Acer Aspire Switch 10, April 22, 9:30-10:45 am, for faculty, $15 for students, $0 for students

• Acer Aspire Switch 10, April 22, 1:30-2:00 pm, for faculty, $15 for students, $0 for students

• Acer Aspire Switch 3, April 29, 1:30-4:00 pm, for faculty, $15 for students, $0 for students

• Acer Aspire Switch 10, April 29, 1:30-4:00 pm, for faculty, $15 for students, $0 for students

• Acer Aspire Switch 10, April 29, 1:30-4:00 pm, for faculty, $15 for students, $0 for students

Centre for Continuing and Distance Education
For information, go to www.cde.usask.ca.

Business & Leadership Programs
Facilitating Online Group Interactions, April 21, 9 am-4 pm, $150 for faculty, $0 for students

• Train the Trainer, April 30, May 1 and 2, Leadership Development Program, Oct. 8-9, 8:30-4:30 pm, $150 for faculty, $0 for students

USCAD Spring Art Classes

• Watercolour 1, Sat., April 13, 9:30 am-12:30 am

• Watercolour 2, Fri., Sat., April 13, 9:30am-12:30

• Glass Mosaic 1, April 20, 1-2:20 (weekend)

Indigenous People Program
For more information call Arts at 965-2007

• Working as an Aboriginal Artist, 9am-16 week course, 9 am-6 pm, 6 courses of 3 hours each

UI of Master Gardener Program

• Hands on Planting, March 17, 9-4 pm, instructor: Robert Johnson (USCA-certified arborist, owner Arbor Crest Tree Service Ltd)

• Getting Started, April 18, 9-4 pm, instructor: yogurt Campbell, horticultural consultant, Eden Design

• Hardy Fines and Ornamental Grasses, March 18, 1-4, instructor: Sara Willard, retired horticulturist, author and gardener

USIF Language Centre Programs
For more information, go to languages.usask.ca/participants or phone 965-4951

• USCSC Multilingual Vernacular Classes for Spring 2012, 2 days to June 16. Classes run once a week 6:30-9:00 pm for 8 weeks.

Monday evenings: French, French 2, Spanish 1, Spanish 2, Portuguese 1 and 2

Tuesday evenings: French 3, French 4, Spanish 1, Spanish 4, German 1, Japanese 1

• Wednesday evenings: French 5, French 6, Spanish 1, Spanish 5, Italian 1, Japanese 1

Part III English Classes

• Pronunciations – Thursdays, April 12 – June 14

• Spoken English – Tuesdays and Thursdays, April 17 – June 7

• Effective Writing and Grammar, Mondays and Wednesdays, April 16 – June 6

• TOEFL & IELTS Preparation, Tuesdays and Thursdays, April 17 – June 7

• Effective Reading Skills, Thursday, April 12 – June 7

• Advanced Listening and Note-taking, Thursdays, April 19 – June 7

• USIF – TEL Intensive Program, June 17 – Aug 11

Ecology Camps for Kids 2012
April 9-12, Rainforest Ecology Day Camp for Kids, ages 8-12, 9-4 pm, Room 306 Evans Building. $15 plus $5 for before and after care

July 25-28, 2012, Rainforest Ecology Day Camp for Kids, ages 8-12, 9-4 pm, Lab 2 Building, $225 + $5 for before and after care

School of Education, Executive of School
For information call 965-8866, email workshops.usask.ca or visit www. usask.ca/ceesv

• The Business Analyst’s Course, April 23

• The Summer Effective Executive Leader- ship Program, May 25 – June 1, Winkler Lake

• The Project Management Course, June 18 – 20

The Mossa Gwenn Centre for Teaching Effectiveness
For full details and to register visit www. usask.ca/ceesv

Workshops
March 30, 10:30-12:00 pm – Applying “Adaptive Mentorship” in Your Professional Life

Good Student Discussion Series – open to all instructors on campus
March 29, 9:30-10:30 am, “Waffles for Anniversaries” (Students) and Anniversaries in Teaching, Introduction to Course Design Workshop Series
March 21, 2:30-4:30 pm, Instructional Strategies
April 4, 2:30-4:30 pm, Assessment

Conferences

New Sun
The New Sun Conference on Aboriginal Learning, Leadership and Development, April 29 and 30 at Wanuskewin Heritage Park. This conference will highlight the talents of Aboriginal leaders, Elders and spiritual leaders and curates. Free registration and free bus transportation from Saskatoon will be provided from Place Riel to Wanuskewin both days.

Contact deborah@usask.ca for more information. Conference sponsors are The Calgary Foundation and New Sun Foundation of Saskatchewan Research Unit, Unif.

Breaking the Silence Conference
The fifteenth annual Breaking the Silence conference begins March 26-27 at the Broadway Centre in Saskatoon when Ivan Coyote presents as Good As We Can Make It. He will be talking about self-business and supporting others. And, actually making it happen.

March 26-27, plenary sessions, evening sessions will be held from 9-4:30 pm in the Edwards School of Business. For program details and registration information, visit www.usask.ca/ education/breaking-the-silence

Miscellany

Dean’s Dinner and Alumni of Influence Awards
The College of Arts and Science will be holding its third annual Dean’s Dinner and Alumni of Influence Awards Ceremony on March 18 at 5:30 pm at the Radisson Hotel. Alumni be honoured for 2012 include Carol Greymore, Blue Neary, Roman D值得, Shiklaka, Mary Spencer, Kenneth Horne, Frederic Mader, Familie Walls, Mollie Taylor and Carl Richardson.

For more information, please call 966-6388 or email den研究院@usask.ca

Canadian Federation of University Women
April 2, 7:30 pm at the W. A. Edwards Conference Centre, 1334 3rd Ave, CWUW Resolutions Debate

Other
March 16, 2012

OCT
Research varies for new CRCs

The University of Saskatchewan’s newest Canada Research Chairs (CRC) are working in a diverse range of areas, from solar cells and bacterial resistance to materials science and the causes of multiple sclerosis.

The federal government announced $6.6 million in CRC funding for the University of Saskatchewan March 13. This includes four new chairs and the renewal of two. Among the new funding recipients are: Mirek Cygler, professor of biochemistry, CRC in Molecular Medicine Using Synchrotron Light; Timothy Kelly, assistant professor of chemistry, CRC in Photovoltaics; Alexander Moewes, professor of physics and engineering physics, CRC in Materials Science using Synchrotron Radiation; and Bogdan Popescu, assistant professor of anatomy and cell biology, CRC in Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Research.

Renewal funding was provided to Lawrence Brawley, professor of kinesiology and CRC in Physical Activity in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, and Dean Chapman, professor of anatomy and cell biology and CRC in X-Ray Imaging.

Provost and Vice-President Academic Brett Fairbairn and Vice-President Finance and Resources Richard Florizone will hold a town hall to discuss the university’s financial position.

Join us at 11 am in Convocation Hall on Tuesday, April 3.

Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Rebecca Perehudoff

“Summer Landscapes”

Although a long-time resident of Chicago, Illinois, Rebecca is well known in the Canadian art scene. On a regular basis, she returns to paint from the Northern Saskatchewan forests and lakes near the family cabin at Emma Lake. There is a consistent lightness of touch in Rebecca’s work that comes from a familiarity with her subject and an inherent confidence and familiarity with the painting process. Rebecca has stated that “a connection with nature more than site per se is a wellspring for my art.”

Reception: Saturday, March 10th, 2-4pm

Exhibition runs March 10th - 29th, 2012

Images are online at: www.artplacement.com

The Gallery / art placement inc.
228 – 3rd avenue s. saskatoon, sk., s7k 1l9 664.3385
gallery@artplacement.com
www.artplacement.com

For the full story and photos, visit news.usask.ca

A speed Scrabble tournament March 7 in the Learning Commons generated a lot of interest and raised about $10,000 for READ Saskatoon’s literacy programs. To promote the event, David Parkinson, top, the self-described “underemployed” vice-dean of humanities and fine arts, set up a table in the Arts Building and took on Scrabble challenge like first-year student Ayla Smith. When it was all over, a team called the Word Workers representing campus bargaining units took top honours. They are, above from left to right, Brian Zamulinski (CUPE 3287), Katie McBride (CUPE 1975), Kathleen James-Cavan (Faculty Association) and Chloe Corcoran (ASPA).

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The W.P. Thompson Biology Building, shown here on the right in 1961, officially opened in 1960. Set back from the Bowl, the most striking feature of the building are the mosaic tile murals depicting the four main stages of cellular mitosis shown in the artist rendering inset above. The building underwent a transformation in 1986 when the Geology Building was constructed on its south side, turning the exterior murals into interior art in the new two-storey atrium that is home to the Natural Sciences Museum, and a life-size replica skeleton of a Tyrannosaurus rex.

Send your ideas

We are already thinking about a feature for the back page in our 2012-13 publishing year. In the past years, we’ve highlighted art, architecture, oddities and this view from here. If there is something you would like us to feature in this space, send an email to ocn@usask.ca