Welcome
Ilene Busch-Vishniac begins term as president

Ilene Busch-Vishniac moved into the president’s office July 1 and shortly afterward, took time from her busy schedule to sit down with On Campus News to answer 10 quick questions.

Welcome to Saskatoon. Have you made any surprising discoveries about the city since you arrived?

Ethan and I were delighted to discover the Farmers’ Market, which is lots of fun, and we’ve discovered the Meewasin Valley trails. We have bikes but we’ve mostly been walking them. I have to say that crossing the river on the train bridge is about as high as I care to be above the ground, but the pelicans are lots of fun to watch. And we’re working our way through all the great restaurants in Saskatoon.

I assume you’re a bit weary of living out of boxes since you moved to Saskatoon in mid-May. What’s the best piece of advice you received there?

There are two things I’ve missed but for completely different reasons. The first is the detritus of a normal family life—our family pictures, memorabilia, the things we’ve collected over the years. We’re living in a condo that comes complete with furniture, dishes and even art on the walls. We walk in and it just doesn’t feel like home.

I also miss, on a weekly basis, my tools. I’m a mechanical engineer and when something needs fixing, I need my tools. My sunglasses have a tiny screw that needs tightening and I probably have 12 screwdrivers that will do the job but I can’t get at them. I even had to buy a Phillips-head screwdriver to put the vanity plate on my car (please see next Q & A).

Speaking of vanity plates, you’ve been spotted around driving town in a unique green car. Are these reports true?

Yes, they’re true. I see myself as the university’s chief advocate and cheerleader and when I arrived in Saskatoon, I wondered what the chances were that I’d be able to wander Saskatchewan without being recognized. Soon they’ll be slim to non so I decided to embrace my role. I have a Toyota Camry hybrid that was completely wrapped in U of S green and then I bought a vanity plate that reads “UofS4U.” Some people have stopped to ask me about the car, and a few assume it means I’m a Roughrider fan.

One of your first activities as U of S president was to attend the new president school at Harvard. What’s the best piece of advice you received there?

There were about 50 new presidents there so probably the most important thing was just the connections we made. The most important message came on our last day, from Drew Faust, the president of Harvard. What she told us is that as faculty members who do research, we write it up in a journal article or book, maybe give a talk or two, and then move on to a new body of work. As university presidents, we have to give the same message over and over—give a talk or two, and then move on to a new body of work. As such, she said, “The most important thing came on our last day.”

By working together, the organizers of some significant events taking place on the U of S campus in September are aiming to ensure a positive experience for everyone—students, employees and visitors alike.

“The U of S is increasingly building its innate collaborative culture,” said Ivan Muzychka, associate vice-president of communications. “It’s not always possible to fully co-ordinate activities but this September, we realized we had some important events interrelated by logistics or audience that would lend themselves to really promoting the university.”

Not only is the U of S starting the academic year with Ilene Busch-Vishniac as president, but a record number of students will be living in residences as well, he said. The annual Experience Us events draw many people to campus in early September, as will Homecoming, USSU Welcome Week and Vetavision, among others. “A big part of these events is welcoming a new group of students. We want to make a good first impression but we also see the wider community, our neighbours and our alumni as an integral part of September activities,” said Muzychka.

A committee led by Muzychka, Colin Tennent, associate vice-president of facilities, and David Hannah, associate vice-president of student affairs, has been working for several weeks to “avoid aggravations like double booking events aimed at the same audience” during what is being informally called Super September.

In terms of evaluating success, Muzychka said the group will be looking at attendance numbers and will be soliciting both formal and informal feedback from participants and organizers. “We’ll be asking questions like were buildings open, did you find a place to park, did things move in a smooth way. All of that information will help us in years to come because we want the start of the school year to be a good experience for everyone who is engaged with the University of Saskatchewan.”

September a chance for a good first impression

See President, Page 2

Muzychka
Out with the old

It took a lot of work with shovel and chain saw but the green ash tree in the middle of the University Club patio, which had suffered significant storm damage, was removed earlier this summer by university arborist Kirby Brokofsky and George Larrewe (not shown). In its place, Brokofsky planted a Ginkgo biloba, one of the oldest living tree species that he hopes will thrive in the shade and protection of the patio.

President enjoying exploring campus

From Page 1

and over and over again. It was a reminder to me to think about the message I’m trying to convey, and to consistently convey that message.

Have you got a trick to help you remember people’s names and what they do around here? Absolutely not. I’m terrible with names. I can remember conversations and recite them back to you verbatim, but I can’t remember names so if anyone has any advice, I’d be happy to hear it. I am, however, great at remembering phone numbers.

Is there any part of campus or a campus building that you haven’t seen yet but would really like to explore? After Ethan and I arrived, on weekends when it wasn’t raining—all two of them—I’d take it upon myself, with a map, to explore the campus so I have a very good idea where everything is located. I was given a wonderful tour of the Agriculture Building and I’m setting up tours in the fall for the other academic buildings on campus. What I haven’t done yet is explore the library, particularly the special collections. I think you get the real flavour of an institution when you know what’s in the special collections.

The U of S is using six “us” slogan words—adventurous, curious, studious, ambitious, ingenious and prestigious. If you could add another, what might it be? The one I see missing is joyous because we love what we do. Many people could be doing other things but we’re here because we love what we do.

Since we last spoke in December, you’ve become a grandmother but your granddaughter is many miles away. Have you discovered the miracle of FaceTime or Skype? Yes, we use FaceTime, Skype, we text and we phone but my granddaughter is only three months old. She’s not very good on the phone.

Another Saskatchewan winter is looming on the weather horizon. Have you figured out how to get from your office to the Starbucks in the Library without setting foot outdoors? I haven’t done that yet but once

Editor’s Note: In addition to her duties as president, Ilene Busch-Vishniac has received an academic appointment with tenure in mechanical engineering. Ethan Vishniac has also been appointed with tenure in the Department of Physics and Engineering Physics.
In the media spotlight

David McGrane finishes a morning interview with Global News about the Saskatchewan provincial election and heads straight to class to teach. His students are excited to hear about what’s going on in the news and McGrane initiates the class discussion with current events from the interview.

“My students love these anecdotes of current events, they enjoy knowing what is happening,” said McGrane. “Talking to my students about interviews can be used effectively … but I don’t like the cameras in my class—it is unfair to the students.”

McGrane, an assistant professor of political studies in the College of Arts and Science and St. Thomas More College, is one of the busiest faculty members the University of Saskatchewan has when it comes to media requests; in the past five years, he has done more than 500 interviews—a fact he keeps well documented on his website.

“I was surprised that I have done that many interviews,” said McGrane. “But during the busy election times, I can be doing five, six interviews a day and those add up.”

McGrane admits there is a lot to learn, conducting interviews. “You begin by knowing when the mic is on and when it’s off, and learning how to sit with a TV camera in your face. And sometimes the questions are just ridiculous, over the top, or speculative. But you learn how to answer them carefully and in a way that the media likes.”

The time commitment he gives to the media has not stopped McGrane from the often-rigorous work of a university faculty member that includes publishing, teaching and research. According to McGrane, the positives of doing interviews far outweigh the negatives.

“There are negatives of course—the time commitment, the difficulty in staying neutral but still saying something interesting, having to deal with people talking about you in online forums or comment boards. It can be tough.

“But it matters, especially as a faculty member in political science. Conducting interviews might not help me on the tenure track, but indirectly there is an appreciation. And it is a part of my job I really enjoy.”

Being in the media means being a public figure, so McGrane tries to make himself visible and available through Twitter, his own website, and with regular columns and opinion pieces in newspapers across Canada.

“You must be aware that you are a brand,” he said. “Being a public figure is all about reputation. And if you don’t like the attention, it can be tough.”

The brand McGrane has built for himself comes from his ability to comment at a moment’s notice on current events (in French and English), and reporters often say how much they enjoy working with him.

“He is such a great interview and a nice man,” said a local producer with CTV News. “We will certainly be in touch with Dr. McGrane again soon.”

But McGrane thinks the real carrot for media are the particular areas of expertise—Quebec, child-care policy, Saskatchewan public policy, and a particular interest in the New Democratic Party, high-profile issues that mean McGrane can be a busy man almost any time of year.

“But even he has to say no once in a while, although “you don’t want them to never come back … There is reputation management at play.”

Milburn returned as vice-chair

Susan Milburn will be serving for a third year in the position of vice-chair of the university’s Board of Governors.

The branch manager of Raymond James Ltd in Saskatoon, Milburn joined the board in 2006 as the University Senate representative. She is a past president of the U of S Alumni Association, having earned a commerce degree in 1978 and an MBA in 1980.

Her reappointment was confirmed when the university’s Board of Governors met June 26.

The Bowl was one of the original design elements of the campus. Originally flat, it was excavated in 1932 to give it its present bowl-shaped contours. The design we see today (flower beds and shrubs) dates from the 1960s. Each spring, an average of 20,000 flowers are planted in the Bowl. The flower bed design and contents are based on the winning submission from students enrolled in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources. This issue’s image is from June 1999 and shows groundkeepers planting one of the four featured flowerbeds. The winning student that year was Rachelle Poirier. Her “kite-and-tail” design used golden marigolds surrounded by blue ageratum.
... when you’re having fun

My, how time flies.

With this issue, this little newspaper marks the start of its 20th year of publication as a news and information source for employees of the University of Saskatchewan.

It was shepherded from concept to reality by then executive editor Heather Magotiaux who wrote in the inaugural issue that the paper was a response to employees asking for “more hard news about their workplace: what its current financial situation is, what its plans for the future are, and how their jobs can contribute to these plans.” It was to be a place for solid, unbiased information as well as a forum for sharing ideas, concerns and solutions. “So write in,” Magotiaux continued, a call familiar to all editors who have an opinion page to fill in every issue. “We want this publication to be a two-way means of communication.”

The first issue of OCN as a newspaper also heralded a new logo for the U of S, which dominated the Page 1 banner. And headlines from that issue included “Access program helps native people for the U of S, which dominated the Page 1 banner. And headlines from that issue included “Access program helps native people enter nursing.” “Library acquires new information system,” and “Stoicheff pens astonishingly bad Faulkner.” (Yes, ‘astonishingly’ is how the word actually appeared in the headline—it is too difficult to explain here.)

The look and the logo have changed quite dramatically over the years and no doubt will change again in the future. But here’s to the first 20 years of On Campus News.

Ed

Copyright agreement rejected

Kris Foster

The U of S has officially rejected a new licensing agreement negotiated last August in objection to a proposed fee increase to $45 per full time equivalent (FTE) student. The AUCC and Access Copyright negotiated a new licensing agreement, said Storey, and agreed to a fee of $26 per FTE—amounting to about $430,000 per year for the U of S.

“This was down from Access Copyright’s initial proposed fee, but still much higher than the old agreement, which worked out to about $10-$12 per FTE. We decided to remain outside of Access Copyright because we determined it wasn’t an essential tool anymore. But because we decided not to accept their agreement last summer, as far as practice is concerned, nothing changes. We will still need to rely on library licenses and will still need to seek transactional licenses directly which you can request through the bookstore for printed material,” she explained.

The biggest area that will now need to be monitored is how material is used in online environments, like PANS and Blackboard, she said. “We have been doing a number of education sessions just to remind everyone that online and digital information follows the same copyright requirements as printed material. There is a sense that posting something online is not the same as making copies, but in either case, the creator of the work needs to give permission.”

Storey said there are many places to turn to on campus with questions about copyright.

“Our office is there to help and we have a new website that is full of information to help you get started. The library and the liaison librarians are great resources as well,” as is a new usage rights database called Mondo that indicates what can be done with electronic journal materials, whether posting online or making copies for course packs.

For those of you contributing to SES through the payroll deduction plan, and are not currently receiving our news-letter, please let us know and we will gladly add your name to our mailing list by emailing info@environmentsociety.ca or calling 665-1915.

Again, thank you to those of you who contribute to the SES through the U of S payroll deduction plan. We appreciate the difference our University donors are making!

Allyson Brady, SES Executive Director

Staff support appreciated

The Saskatchewan Environmental Mental Society would like to thank everyone from the University community that donates to Saskatchewan the information and tools they need to make and to support these informed decisions.

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On Campus News News

On Campus News is published 20 times per year by University of Saskatchewan Communications. It is distributed to all U of S faculty, staff, graduate students and members of governing bodies, as well as to others in the university community, related organizations, some Saskatchewan government officials and news media. Subscriptions are available for $20 per year. Story and photo ideas are welcomed. Advertising rates are available online or on request. On Campus News aims to provide a forum for the sharing of timely news, information and opinions about events and issues of interest to the University of Saskatchewan community.

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Golden summer
Shirriff breaks record at masters games

After a major health emergency, a trip to swim in an Italian seaside resort might be the perfect way to enjoy la dolce vita. One U of S employee, however, found an even better way to savour it—by adding in the sweet taste of victory.

Janis Shirriff earned five medals at the 14th Federation Internationale de Natation (FINA) Masters World Swim Championships in Riccione, Italy this summer—one of them gold. Shirriff took first place in the women’s 100-metre backstroke event in the 50-54 age category. Her time of 1:14:15 set a new masters championship record by a full one-and-a-half seconds, and is only six-tenths of a second off the world record.

“I gilded in,” said Shirriff. “I kept thinking, ‘I feel so good. I feel so good.’ When the race ended, I thought, ‘I can keep going!’”

Shirriff also won silver in 200-metre backstroke and bronze in the 200-metre individual medley and eighth placed fourth in the 400-metre freestyle. Earlier in the competition, Shirriff also won silver in the 200-metre backstroke and freestyle. Earlier in the competition, Shirriff also won silver in the 200-metre individual medley and eighth in the 100-metre breaststroke. FINA awards medals to the top ten master swimmers in each event.

Accomplishments like these would be welcomed by any athlete, but they taste particularly sweet to Shirriff, a training supervisor with Information and Communications Technology (ICT).

A competitive swimmer since the age of seven, Shirriff had been training with the U of S Masters Swim Club since it started in the mid-1980s. A long-time, all-round athlete, she also biked and ran 10 kilometre races. Then, two years ago, a blood clot in her leg—and then lung—almost killed her.

Determined to compete again, Shirriff fought her way back into a regular training routine, despite considerable pain that continues to this day. The clot also forced her to give up travel for the better part of a year.

The first trip approved by her doctor was to a Canadian swim meet where she saw advertising for the world championships in Italy. Shirriff remembers exactly what she thought: “What have I got to lose?”

By last fall, she was swimming five times a week while continuing to run three times a week. She sought out competitive-level coaching and added an intensive strength and conditioning program five days a week. The combined training program saw her working out two to three hours a day:

“I had to force myself to take a day off,” said Shirriff.

The result was that she not only qualified for the world games, she landed a top five ranking in all her events.

This year’s world games attracted nearly 13,000 athletes for competitions in swimming, diving, water polo, open water and synchronized swimming. In her age group alone, there were up to 120 women competing in every event.

Shirriff left most of them in her wake. Over the course of the meet, she swam the fastest times of her life—including those of her early youth—in all but one event. Despite her gold medal win in backstroke, Shirriff still doesn’t consider herself a backstroker, admitting that her technique in the final stretch could have been better. She’s convinced that correcting it could have earned her the world record.

“I just missed it. So now I’ve got to go after that,” she said with a smile.

Jennifer Webber Forrest is communications officer in Information and Communications Technology.

MORE STORIES, PHOTOS AND COMMENTS ONLINE

An international team of scientists led by Gregg Adams at the University of Saskatchewan has discovered that a protein in semen acts on the female brain to prompt ovulation, and is the same molecule that regulates the growth, maintenance and survival of nerve cells.

news.usask.ca
CLS leases Ogle Hall for researcher residence

Out-of-town researchers using the Canadian Light Source (CLS) synchrotron will soon have convenient and comfortable accommodation within walking distance of the facility.

The University of Saskatchewan has agreed to a 20-year licensing agreement that allows the CLS to take over Ogle Hall for use as a researcher residence. The university bought their former student residence on campus. The CLS had previously been leasing 18 rooms from Lutheran Seminary.

Among them were its proximity, its proximity, or lack thereof, to the core of campus, renovation costs and how the building fits with the university's strategic priorities. In the end, it was decided its best use was as accommodation space for researchers using the synchrotron. The CLS had previously been leasing 18 rooms from Lutheran Seminary.

Under the terms of the agreement, the CLS will pay the university rent for the first 10 years that approximately equals the cost of renovating the facility that includes 52 dormitory-style rooms, social space, a cafeteria and a commercial kitchen. In the second 10 years of the licensing agreement, the rent will be increased to an amount that returns the university's investment.

The lease agreement was approved by the university’s Board of Governors in late June and took effect July 1.

"Now the only thing left to do is find a new name for the building," said Yungwirth.

Questions?
alumni.office@usask.ca

In the College of Medicine: Lou Qualtiere will serve as acting dean until a new dean is appointed; Nick Ovsenek will continue as associate dean, biomedical sciences and graduate studies until June 30, 2013; Dr. Laurentiu Givelichian as the unified head of the Department of Pediatrics for a five-year term; Venkat Gopalakrishnan as head of the Department of Pharmacology for a two-year term effective July 1; Dr. Gary Linas as acting head of the department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation for a one-year term; Peter Bretscher re-appointed as head of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology for one-year term; Michel Desautels re-appointed head of the Department of Physiology for two years; Dr. Gill White extended for one year as associate dean of the college's Regina programs; Dr. Bill Dust re-appointed acting head of the Department of Surgery for up to one year until a permanent head is appointed; and John Gordon as acting associate dean of research for up to six months starting Sept. 1.

Stephan Milosavljevic has been appointed director of the School of Physical Therapy for a five-year term starting Jan. 1, 2013. Cathy Arnold will serve as acting director until then.

Barbara von Tigstroem has been named associate dean of research and graduate studies in the College of Law. Her appointment continues until June 2015.

The following appointments have been announced for the College of Arts and Science: Linda McMullen to the position of acting vice-dean, Division of Social Science, until June 30, 2013, Alec Aitken as head of the Department of Geography and Planning for a three-year term that began July 1; Braj Sinha as head of the Department of Religion and Culture for one year; Jack Gray as head of the Department of Biology for a four-year term; Chris Soteros as acting head of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics until June 30, 2013; Susan Shantz continuing as head of the Department of Art and Art History until June 30, 2013; and Chary Rangacharyulu continuing to head the Department of Physics and Engineering Physics until year end.

In engineering, Leon Wegner has been named acting associate dean of research and partnerships until June 30, 2013.

Jim Kells, professor and head of the Department of Civil and Geological Engineering in the College of Engineering, has been elected to a one-year term as president of the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering (CSCE). Michael Szafron has been appointed assistant professor at the School of Public Health. Szafron's areas of specialty are the development of advanced stochastic models as well as the application of statistics to a range of topics in health science.
In the Edwards School of Business, Gary Entwistle has taken on the role of acting head of the Department of Accounting until June 30, 2013.

Vickram Misra has begun a second term as head of the Department of Veterinary Microbiology in the Western College of Veterinary that will continue until June 30, 2014.

Isotope hydrology specialist Jeffrey McDonnell has joined the U of S as a faculty member in the School of Environment and Sustainability and as associate director of the Global Institute for Water Security. Formerly with Oregon State University, McDonnell’s research specialties include watershed hydrology, run off processes, and modelling and isotope hydrology.

Mohindar Sachdev work in education and research related to power system protection.

Phani Adapa, the director of research and international relations in the College of Engineering, has received the 2012 Canadian Society for Biomedical Engineers Graduate Thesis Award for his doctoral work Density of Selected Agricultural Crop Residues as Feedstock for the Biofuel Industry. The award recognizes excellence in graduate student research in fields represented by the society.

Former U of S professor of physics and engineering physics Gary Davis, who currently heads the Joint Astronomy Centre at the Mauna Kea Observatory in Hawaii, received an honorary medal for 2012 for outstanding contribution to electrical and electronic engineering. Engineering professor emeritus Mohindar Sachdev won the 2012 recipient of the IEEE Power Medal for his work in education and research related to power system protection.

Medical student Gineva Mills took home two awards from the recent annual clinical meeting of the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada—the top award in the Student in Health Care category, and the Church and Dwight Canada Medical Student Award. The abstract was entitled: Mills, G, Pierson, R, Chizen, D., Transvaginal Ultrasonography at First Consultation Improves Diagnosis and Treatment of Infertility.

The University Library has announced the following appointments: Vera Spika as health sciences liaison librarian; Sonia Reid as project manager for bioengineers graduate student research in fields represented by the society.

Scott Hitchings, 2011-12 president of the USU, has begun a one-year term in the position of student liaison where he will work with student groups and the university to enhance the student experience.

The previous Information Technology Services (ITS) division has been eliminated, replaced by Information and Communications Technology (ICT), which is comprised of six units. Appointments to the positions of unit directors include: Monisha Shukla, ICT Applications; Glenn Hollinger, ICT Client Services; Troy Hartok, Information Strategy and Analytics; Ed Pokraka, ICT Planning and Governance; Chad Coller, ICT Platform Services; and Lawrence Dobranski, ICT Security. Dobranski joins the U of S after 20 years of experience in information security, most recently as with Infosys Technologies.

Ernest (Ernie) Hnatik, June 5
Allan Hyde, June 13
Peter C. Dooley (Economics), June 19
Gordon Wallborn, July 10
Paul Riemer (Civil Engineering), July 26
William (Bill) Sherman Wallace (Commerce), July 29
Verlyn Sabourin, Aug 16.
Meet the chief
Brent Penner takes over as director of Campus Safety

After close to 20 years with the Saskatoon Police Service (SPS), Brent Penner was thrilled to step onto campus as the new director of Campus Safety.

“It’s a beautiful campus and, by and large, everyone who comes to campus is coming here for a positive reason,” said Penner, a U of S grad and former Huskie hockey player, explaining why he was interested in the position. “The diversity of people who come here everyday to achieve positive results, that makes it a really neat place to be.”

All of those people, close to 30,000 coming and going everyday, he continued, made the U of S campus a small city. “I went from Saskatoon at around 270,000 to about 30,000 on campus. I hope with the smaller size I will get to know more people.”

Getting to know the campus community is one of Penner’s first jobs. “I need to talk to as many people as possible to find out what Campus Safety does well and more importantly, what is expected of Campus Safety and how we can deliver on that.”

Building those relationships is critical to the work the Campus Safety team does, he said. “For any community to be safe and feel safe, we need to rely on the people in the community to contact us if something doesn’t seem right. Everyone needs to be an active participant. There are only 30 Campus Safety staff for 30,000 people on campus, but we need them to know they can ask us for help, even if it is just directions.”

This is not Penner’s first connection to an educational setting; he also put in his time in Saskatoon high schools, the difference being he was not a student. Penner served as an SPS constable in the School Resource Unit, then a sergeant of the Crime Stoppers, School Resources and Cultural Resources Unit in high schools across the city.

“In those roles you needed buy-in and co-operation, and you needed people to work with you for positive results,” said Penner, who held the position of staff sergeant in criminal investigations prior to joining the U of S.

Penner, who has been on the job only a couple of weeks, is already getting some great feedback from the campus. “Everything I hear will help make this a great place to study and work. I hope people will feel free to contact me with their thoughts and expectations.”

By and large, everyone who comes to campus is coming here for a positive reason.

Brent Penner

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Through the annual Achievement Award, the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation honours those individuals who inspire us with their drive, leadership, and ingenuity.

From basic science discoveries to visionary health policy, Saskatchewan health researchers contribute to the well being of the people of this province, our nation, and our world.

Join us in celebrating Saskatchewan’s leaders in health research. Nominate someone deserving today! Nomination forms are available from the SHRF office or at www.shrf.ca.

Deadline for nominations is October 15, 2012.

Global institute addresses food security issues

Following the establishment of the Global Institute for Water Security and the Canadian Centre for Nuclear Innovation, the university is moving forward with a new entity to address the challenges of food security here and around the world.

The Global Food Security Institute (GIFS) received University Council approval June 21. According to its goal statement, it “will contribute Saskatchewan-led solutions for feeding an expanding world population.”

In the works since April 2011, the GIFS will build on strengths across the academy and aligns with the identification of food and bioproducts as a signature area of research at the U of S. Its three main areas of focus will be: creating technological innovation in terms of crops and cropping systems; addressing the science and policy questions that affect the global food supply system; and connecting Saskatchewan issues and know-how to other parts of the world.

An executive director, who will report to the vice-president research, will lead the institute. The proposal for the GIFS states that as a Type B centre, it will provide a framework for cross-discipline and cross-college research. The Council documents go on to say that about $100 million is spent annually in several U of S colleges and schools on a broad range of research, teaching and training.
School promotes professional skills

Kris Foster

The College of Engineering has been given the green light to establish a school of professional development by University Council.

This school within the college will “support faculty in the Graham Centre for the Study of Communication, which will also be housed within the school,” explained Ernie Barber, acting dean of the college. “It will create an academic unit and allow for academic appointments. It will really be like another department within the college that will have different areas of expertise that are important to all the engineers we educate.”

The areas that Barber pointed out as important include professional communication, entrepreneurship, project management, risk management and leadership. “These are skills needed by professional engineers to do their work. This enhances the education we provide, but it will also provide opportunities for outreach with the engineering community as we search for professional development course offerings,” Barber said.

Professor Richard Evitts has been named acting director of the school for a six-month term.

“This school will allow us to unleash our collective creativity and come to understand the importance of these essential life skills in the engineering profession,” Barber continued. “We now have a platform from which it will be easy to imagine curriculum enhancement for our students and provide leadership for innovative teaching and academic programming.”

Already home to faculty in the Graham Centre and three endowed chairs in the college—the D.K. Seaman Chair in Technical and Professional Communications, the Huff Chair in Innovative Engineering Education and the La Fond Engineering Entrepreneurship—the school will also provide opportunities for faculty members within the college to participate in its academic and scholarly programs.

Barber said that all of this expertise will open up a lot of areas to explore, like expanding academic offerings to include grad programs and course-based programs, but that immediate next steps include naming the school, establishing a faculty council and bylaws to govern the school, and developing standards for tenure and promotion.

“We acknowledge that this is a work in progress, but we also think we will surprise ourselves at what we can do here.”

Preston Crossing expanding

Work is well underway on the fourth phase of construction at Preston Crossing in Saskatoon, a retail development on U of S land that generates significant scholarship money for university students.

The list of new tenants that are expected to open their doors in December or early 2013 include GAP and Banana Republic outlet stores, The Shoe Company, Chatters, Cora restaurant, Osh Kosh and River City Sports. According to James Cook, manager of business opportunities in Corporate Administration, the Banana Republic and Gap outlet stores, Osh Kosh and Cora will be new to both the province and the city, and the River City Sports and The Shoe Company stores will be the first locations in Saskatoon.

Work on the store exteriors is expected to be done by Oct. 1 with interior finishing to follow, said Cook. Harvard Development owns and operates Preston Crossing in partnership with the U of S.

The fourth phase of Preston Crossing also includes Saskatchewan’s first Cabela’s, which opened in May, and the current expansion of Walmart. With the completion of phase four, revenue from Preston Crossing will allow the university to commit $1.79 million to student scholarships each year, said Cook.

1318 COLONY STREET
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Exceptional energy efficient home in prime U of S location! Built in 2005, this 2310 sq ft custom built home features great room, maple kitchen, inlaw suite, master & 5 additional bdrms, 3 full & 1 half bath. Covered & sunroom. Lower level has a family room plus a self-contained non-legal 2 bedroom suite. Double detached garage, Passive solar design, in-floor heating on all levels. Close to the U of S and Brunskill Elementary! $384,500

The following was provided by the Office of the President to all members of the General Academic Assembly on Aug. 13, 2012.

Under the University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995 (67/2), a special meeting of the General Academic Assembly is to be called by the president as chair at the request of 50 members or more for the specific purpose of requiring the Council to reconsider a decision to authorize of the Board of Governors to take certain actions. These actions include establishing or dissolving colleges, departments, or institutes, decisions pertaining to affiliation and federation, or dissolution of affiliation or federation, with educational institutions.

My office has received over 50 requests signed by members of the General Academic Assembly within the required time line, asking that pursuant to section 71 of the Act, a special meeting of the General Academic Assembly be called for the purpose of requiring Council to reconsider its decision of May 17, 2012, to authorize the Board to provide for the establishment of the three new divisions in the College of Medicine.

The specific motion approved at Council’s May 17 meeting is as follows:

That University Council approve a new academic governance model for the College of Medicine, along with consequential changes to Council’s bylaws, which would see the establishment of three new divisions: the Division of Clinical Research, the Division of Medical Education, and the Division of Biomedical and Population Health Sciences, and result in the adoption of the existing models of clinical instruction and research, as outlined in the attached “Concept Paper,” effective January 1, 2013.

It is further recommended that the Provost and the Dean of the College of Medicine report to University Council on progress made toward implementation of this new model at the September 2012 meeting of University Council and at regular intervals over the course of the 2012/13 academic year.

In accordance with my responsibility as chair of the General Academic Assembly under the Act, I hereby call a special meeting of the General Academic Assembly on Thursday, September 6, 2012, as follows:

The purpose of the meeting is to consider the following motion:

To require the Council at its next meeting to reconsider its motion of May 17, 2012 as it pertains to the establishment of three new divisions in the College of Medicine.

The membership of the General Academic Assembly is prescribed by the University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995. The University Secretary maintains a list of members. If you wish to determine whether or not you are a member you will find a list on the university’s website at uasis.cs/university_secretary/saa/index.php. If your name is not on this list and you believe it should be, or if you believe there is an error in the list, you must contact the University Secretary by Friday, August 31, 2012.

Following that date, names will not be added to or removed from the list.

In order to move expeditiously on this issue and also to meet the statutory requirements of both our legislation and Council’s bylaws, I have determined that this meeting should be held during the first week of September.

The meeting will take place on Thursday, September 6, in Convocation Hall, Peter Mackinnon Building, as follows:

11:30 a.m. - Registration opens
12:00 p.m. - Call to Order

The meeting will be open to both GAA members and observers; members will be asked to sign in and to be seated on the main (ground) floor, and observers will be seated in the balcony on the second floor.

More pictures and info www.wotwersrealtor.com

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Bending the Cost Curve in Health Care

The Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy will host the bending the Cost Curve in Health Care conference Sept. 27 and 28 at the Hilton Garden Inn. Saskatchewan. The event will address pressing questions facing decision makers in the Canadian health-care system. More information and registration is available at www.buildabettermw.ca.

Co-creating to Build a Better West

The U of S Centre for the Study of Co-operation is seeking to engage the community in co-creating to Build a Better West Conference Nov. 1-3 at the Radisson Hotel. Saskatchewan. Details are available at www.buildabetterwest.com.

Philosophy in the Community

• Sept. 12, 7 pm, The Railway 60th Anniversary Avenue. Professor Emerit E. O’Hagan presents, If Anything, in Human Nature.

Johnson-Shoyama Events

Details are on the school website • Sept. 10, 10 am, the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy presents Assessing the Impact of the Federal Primary Health Care Program: A discussion chaired by Louis Beresford, Dept. of Political Studies, and featuring speakers Troy Romanics, Dept. of Political Studies; Joe Gordon, health; and Dwayne O’Hearn, post-doctoral fellow, Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy; and Daniel Beland, Canada Research Chair in Public Policy • Sept. 14, 12-10 pm, Piano Room, Diefenbaker Building, Gerald P. Kieschnick, associate professor and professor of psychology, Semans College, presents They Pay You to Do That? Mental Health Coverage in the U.S. Health Care System • Sept. 18, 10-10 pm, Rose Okotillo, professor, Dept. of Bioresource Information, Business, and Economics, presents Where Is Place-Based Policy Appropriate?

Seminars/Lectures

• Sept. 19, 27, 35, Jacqui Fudge, chief, Canada Science and Technology Museum, “The Science of Play” • Sept. 19, 7 pm, Tuba and the Draw Time is 6:30 pm. The league continues in the Gordon Snelgrove gallery on Oct. 26 and 27, 10 am-2 pm during hike, bike and roll 2012. The event is free.

Courses/Workshops

Edwards School of Business


Seminars/Lectures

August 31, 2012

The Arts

Felicitous Space

Elven Morin’s exhibition Felicitous Space (Indian ink, charcoal, encaustic, oil, collage) continues in the Gordon Snelgrove gallery until Sept. 14 when a reception will be held from 5-7 pm.

Miscellaneous

Hike, Bike and Roll 2012

Free bicycle tours up to 4 U of S employees and students will be available at the west end of campus Sept. 9, 10 and 11 am-2 pm during Hike, Bike and Roll 2012. Opportunities will be available with support from in Motion, the event also includes the safe BMX and skate vehicles. The Gordon Snelgrove gallery provides a safe space for participants to learn and be on hand to provide information about bike safety and the rules of the road.

Celebration of Teaching 2012

• Sept. 16, 9-4 pm, Concourse Hall, hosted by the teaching and learning, along with the Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching Effectiveness host this event to recognize teaching award winners.

Curling Club

The Rollo’s Road Curling Club has openings for teams for the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday draws for the 2012-2013 season. The season is $200 per team and the draw time is 6:30 pm. The league is scheduled to begin the season Oct. 15. Contact the corresponding league leader: Monday – Corwin Bettis, corwin.bettis@sasktel.net; Tuesday – Ray Buttler, buttlerd@usask.ca; and Wednesday – Louis Rhoff, louis.rhoff@usask.ca

Pancake Breakfast

• Sept. 11, 7 am, South Commons, Alfalfa is hosting a pancake breakfast. Please note that is for U of S Alumnae Association is hosting a pancake breakfast this year to mark the start of the academic year. The event is free.

Travel Information Night

Sept. 5, 7-8 pm, Room 225, Williams Building, an Education Travel Program information night will include the November Polar Bear Eco tourism trip.
Campus Incidents

Report all information about incidents to Campus Safety at 966-5555.

Aug. 20-26

* Officers issued the following citations:
  * 4 for disobeying a stop sign
  * 1 for an unaccompanied learner driver
  * 1 for driving without due care and attention
  * 1 for operating an unregistered vehicle
  * 1 for driving without reasonable consideration for others

* Campus Safety participated in a province-wide enforcement project focused on intersection safety. As a result, the following tickets were issued:
  * 4 for disobeying a stop sign
  * 1 for disobeying a traffic control device
  * 1 for operating an unregistered vehicle
  * 1 for driving without due care and attention
  * 4 for disobeying a stop sign

* Officers were kept busy the night of Aug. 22 when there was a campus-wide power outage.

Welcome back to the U of S

September is an exciting time at the U of S. Make the most of your U of S experience—attend an event, explore the campus, check out our food specials, pick up your Huskie gear and meet our new president.

Here are a few of the events happening on campus this month:

For Staff and Faculty

September 14: Fall Carnival
Try your hand at the carnival games and enjoy some great food.
Time / 5 pm
Place / University Club
Online / usask.ca/uclub

September 20-23: College of Engineering 100th Anniversary Weekend
Celebrate 100 years of engineering at the U of S.
Online / engr.usask.ca/100year

For Students

September 4 and 5: Orientation
Learn more about your colleges’ expectations and have some fun with the college staff and student societies.
Online / students.usask.ca/orientation

September 19: Campus Career Expo
Meet with a variety of career professionals and develop your networking skills by marketing yourself to over 130 of Canada’s top employers.
Time / 10 am – 4 pm
Admission / Free
Place / Physical Activity Complex
Online / students.usask.ca/careerfares

September 21: College of Kinesiology 5th Annual KinSpin
Join us in the bowl for a beautiful 1km or 5km walk or run through campus in support of the College of Kinesiology special needs programs.
Time / 7 pm
Admission / $25 for U of S students and seniors, $35 for adults, free for those under 16
Place / U of S campus bowl
Online / huskie.usask.ca

Google view of campus

Google Street View was on campus Aug. 20 and 21 using a trike and vehicle to capture and map the university’s roadways and paths. Everything the Street View team captured is now with Google’s engineering department for processing. It will be six to 12 months before the U of S campus is available to view on Google Maps.

GIFS to support research, partnerships

From Page 8

activities related to food security. The institute will also build partnerships with other academic institutions as well as government and the private sector.

Seven academic units along with the Office of the Vice-President Research are contributing $160,000 for development costs of the institute, said the Council documents. Over the longer term, funding the GIFS is expected to also come from external partners and various funding organizations, said the council documents.
If you can’t stand the heat …

The university’s red brick heating plant, built in 1953 on the corner of Campus Drive and North Road, is a noisy, hot (and surprisingly colourful) place, even in summer. Dave Farion, above, chief engineer and plant manager, explains that no matter how high the mercury rises outside, there is always a boiler on line, churning out heat for year-round requirements like sterilization and steam tables. The plant’s six boilers and four chillers, which are monitored around the clock by 14 staff, provide heat and cooling to about 95 per cent of campus, including Royal University Hospital. And as the campus grows, so must the plant’s capacity; the most recent renovation, worth $16.5 million, added a water pre-treatment system.