Idle No More

Jared Brown, president of the U of S Students’ Union, addresses a crowd of hundreds who gathered at noon on Jan. 8 for an Idle No More rally and round dance. Among the speakers at the event that filled the entire food court and the staircases to upper Place Riel was Sheelah McLean, who along with three others, began the protest movement in response to the introduction of the federal government’s omnibus Bill C-45. Similar rallies have been held across the country.

The future of medicine
Lou Qualtiere on the reshaping of a college

There has been a sea change in the College of Medicine. What was a general sense of outrage and upset just last April has turned to acknowledgement and even optimism as the college tackles the job of transforming itself. And riding the waves along the way has been Lou Qualtiere, an acting dean of medicine who would really, really like to retire.

“Personally, for me, I took the associate dean of research position two and half years ago when I was on my way out,” said Qualtiere, “and I took this acting deanship for six months hoping we’d have a dean by now but that’s not working so I’m now looking forward to retiring in July.” That’s when the six-month extension of his appointment runs out and he and his wife can turn their attention to their shared love of horses and training English pointers.

“I’m not getting any younger. If I was going to read for my pastime, I wouldn’t be worried but as I get older, all the things I like to do, like riding, get that much more difficult.”

All that said, Qualtiere recognizes he has an important role to play in the coming months. Working toward a new vision for the college, set out in a document approved Dec. 20 by University Council, the dean along with faculty, senior university administrators, and government and health region partners will figure out how to make that vision a reality. It will not be an easy fix but Qualtiere is optimistic about what the future holds.

“The university is committed and I’m now seeing a commitment for change in the faculty. The elements are in place now to do what we need to do. I think that if we look back five or 10 years from now, we’ll see that we’re doing the right thing, 20 years too late but better 20 years too late than not at all.”

Changes to the college are intended to address longstanding issues on three fronts – accreditation of the medical education program, low research performance and the complexities of providing clinical service. Of the three, provision of clinical service presents the greatest challenge.

Defining Faculty
Looking back to last April, Qualtiere said faculty’s negative response to the original restructuring plan “scarred the hell out of everybody. It did get everyone’s attention but one of the major reasons everything blew up, and this is just my opinion, is many individual faculty felt their careers were threatened. They weren’t aware that they weren’t doing what the college needed to have done since in many cases, they were doing what they were hired to do, like meeting the provincial mandate of critical clinical service.”

Qualtiere explained that the university’s mandate is to provide education and do research, but the College of Medicine has also traditionally provided clinical service, particularly in medical specialties, to the health region. When a faculty member is hired to provide clinical care, the reality is there is precious little time for student education or research.

No one is denying the need for clinical service, he said, but education and research cannot be handled off the side of a desk, in the evenings or on weekends.

See College, Page 9
Symposium showcases student work

A new event is being organized by the University of Saskatchewan Students’ Union (USSU) to give undergrads the opportunity to showcase their work and experiences.

The USSU Student Project Symposium, a joint initiative between the USSU, the University Learning Centre, and Student and Enrolment Services Division (SESD), is set to take place Jan. 25, said Ruvimbo Kanyemba, USSU vice-president of academic affairs.

“We basically wanted undergrad students to have the chance to display the work they’ve done and the experiences they’ve had, whether a research project, a paper, an artistic work or an experience from studying abroad or a field trip,” said Kanyemba who got the idea for the symposium while campaigning for her position on the USSU executive.

“We basically wanted undergrad students to have the chance to display the work they’ve done,” she explained, adding that the symposium is taking place in conjunction with SESD’s On Campus Day which brings high school students to the U of S for a firsthand look at campus life.

All undergrad students in all areas of study can make submissions to present at the symposium, she continued. “It is open to everyone in anything, but since it is taking place in the Arts Tunnel, we only have room for 14 exhibits. We want to represent as many colleges as possible, so we are hoping grad students and faculty, who work with students in labs and classes, will encourage undergrads to make submissions.”

Students, faculty and staff will have a chance to view the displays and then vote on the “best based on a number of categories, and various prizes will be awarded, including tuition waivers.”

Kanyemba explained that beyond giving students a stage to present on, the event will shine a spotlight on the importance of experiential learning. “I hope it shows how there is a need for experiential learning. Academic knowledge is important and if it is coupled with experience it is enhanced.”

“We basically wanted undergrad students to have the chance to display the work they’ve done.

Ruvimbo Kanyemba
Eliminating travel ‘pain point’

Online tool improves booking, expense processes

Colleen MacPherson

University officials are finalizing agreements with service providers for a seamless online tool to manage travel bookings and expense claims, a replacement for the current process that the campus community rated through SPEP as having a “very high pain point.”

Laura Kennedy, associate vice-president of financial services, said the pain results from the mountain of paperwork and manual handling required, across the university, to create and track authority to travel and claims documents. In addition, processes are not as efficient as they could be because of the number of vendors and payment methods.

For example, staff can book travel on a university credit card through any one of 13 university-recognized agents but can also book travel on their own credit card through a variety of other agents. As a result, it is difficult for the university to collect detailed information from across campus about what exactly is being spent on airfare, hotel accommodation and other travel expenses with particular vendors.

“For the university, the value of having that detail is being able to leverage our total spending and improve our negotiating power with suppliers,” she said. “We will certainly get more favourable pricing and better discounts by consolidating our buying power, and we will also be able to take advantage of rebates from airlines.”

In 2011-12, travel expenses for university employees totalled $16.3 million. The need for improving the travel and expense system was identified early on in the Service and Process Enhancement Project (SPEP). That analysis led to the recommendation of a single online tool integrated with the institution’s financial system to create cost efficiencies and administrative improvements.

Last March, a request for proposal was issued. Subsequent evaluation of various tools and consultation with the university community resulted in the selection of two vendors – Concur Technologies Inc. for online booking and expense management tools and Uniglobe Carefree Travel Group (Calgary) in partnership with Uniglobe Travel Travel Ltd. (Saskatoon) for travel management services, said Kennedy.

Once the system is in place, travellers will be able to manage their full travel itinerary, including air travel, ground transportation and lodging, and use the fully automated expense reporting system and pre- and post-authorization. “Everything will be captured in one place,” said Kennedy, “to enable more travel information to flow automatically into the financial system.”

Initial implementation of the system is expected to cost $450,000, with $200,000 of that funded from the operating budget. There is an estimated incremental annual operating cost of $100,000, said Kennedy, but savings through improved rates on airfare, hotels and booking fee charges are expected to be $700,000 per year. Those savings, Kennedy added, “will be returned automatically to whichever department or unit booked the travel.”

It will take time to build a system tailored to university processes, and time to familiarize travellers with its use. Implementation of the system will start with a pilot group of frequent travellers who will be early users of the new system, and a full administrative unit and a college will be added to the pilot group before the system is rolled out to the rest of the campus community, likely by April 2014. Training will be provided along the way and employee feedback will be reviewed with an eye to continuous improvement, she said.

F R O M T H E A R C H I V E S

Early veterinarian

Patrick Hayes, U of S Archives

Norman Wright was born in Brantford, England on March 19, 1881. He emigrated to Canada in the early 20th century and settled in Saskatchewan. He attended the Ontario Veterinary College in Toronto, graduating with a diploma in veterinary surgery in 1907 and was subsequently appointed as a sessional lecturer at the University of Saskatchewan in 1912.

Before the establishment of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, veterinary hygiene was taught through the College of Agriculture. With the outbreak of World War I, Wright travelled to Britain in charge of a group of horses that was a gift from Saskatchewan to the British Government. He enlisted in the Imperial Army and served with the Veterinary Corps of the First Lahore Division in Mesopotamia, obtaining the rank of Major. After the war he returned to Saskatoon and resumed private practice and lecturing at the university. In 1938, he was promoted to professor of veterinary science. Wright retired in 1947 and died in 1953.

Hotel search set to begin

Colleen MacPherson

Visiting scholars, out-of-town researchers, sports teams and even parents of students in residence who want to attend convocation may soon have a place to stay that is only steps from the U of S main campus. The university is proceeding with plans to find a hotel company interested in building across College Drive from the main campus in College Quarter.

Judy Yungwirth, director of corporate administration, said a hotel is one component of a larger development of services in the College Quarter that could eventually include retail, residential and commercial space as well as a new ice rink.

“The addition of a hotel, retail and rink to College Quarter has been on the books for some time but has been on hold waiting zoning approval from the city. The university began the zoning application process for College Quarter with the city in 2010, Yungwirth explained. A bylaw was finally received Dec. 10 but the delay is understandable. “The city really wanted to get it right because this is a significant infill. Now this paves the way for us to enter into long-term leases and arrange with third parties for development on the site.”

A request for proposals (RFP) for a hotel will go out in January. The site has been identified – east of the parkade on College Drive where beach volleyball courts and seed barn are currently located – but the size of the hotel has yet to be determined. “We have discussed the possibility of about 120 rooms,” said Yungwirth, “but it will be based on whatever is financially feasible for whoever builds the hotel.”

She added the RFP will indicate it would be in the university’s interest for the hotel to include meeting spaces as well as long-stay rooms “but we’re not making it a requirement.” She added the university “is not interested in running a hotel,” but rather looking at a long-term lease arrangement for the land. The value of the lease will be determined by market research and there are not many arrangements the university has at Preston Crossing.

In terms of the quality of the hotel, Yungwirth said the expectation is it will “complement the university,” and it must meet the architectural standards already set out for College Quarter. Selection of a winning proposal is expected to be made by spring.

Unlike the Preston Crossing development where proceeds are directed to student scholarships, lease revenue from the hotel will be directed to further development of College Quarter, she said, “where the whole idea is to enhance the student experience.”

Hotel search set to begin

The university is not interested in running a hotel, but rather looking at a long-term lease arrangement for the land.

Judy Yungwirth

U of S Archives, A- 3166.

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Identity question

While reading the last issue of On Campus News (Dec. 7, 2012), I had two questions. Why is there such pressure on students to self-identify as First Nations (in reference to the “Clari-tying the Numbers” story on page 1 and 2) and no such attempt, that I know of, to determine first-in-family students, rural students, students of other backgrounds, impoverished students, or any other classifications? From what I recall, First Nations ancestry is already a question on the admissions form. Also, with the university’s financial difficulties, is it actually responsible to start another new construction project right now (in reference to “Awaiting bids for student centre construction” on page 27)?

Jasmine Liski
MA Student
Department of English

Story with a bullet

As we close in on the mark of half-a-million hits on the U of S news website, I decided to take a look at exactly what people are reading online.

With the newspaper, we can only ever be sure people are reading it if a) we see them; or b) we misspell a word and get mail about it online, however, there are many tools for measuring reading activity but for this investigation, I simply asked the analytics gods to display the stories that had the most views in 365 days. Here is what I found.

Topping the list of most often viewed stories between Jan. 7 last year and Jan 7, 2013, with 3,520 hits, was U of S-led team uncovers link between sex and the female brain that features Greg Adams, professor veterinary biomedical sciences, and his team’s discovery of a protein in semen that acts on the female brain to promote ovulation.

In second spot with 3,312 hits was Bye-bye beagles about Lynn Webster’s dog nutrition study in the WCVM. Third was a story about researchers receiving $4.4 million to explore environmental sustain-ability and in fourth, the announcement of Ilene Busch-Vishniac’s appointment as president. The fifth most popular story for the year was about Brian Pratt’s discovery of an impact crater in the Arctic.

There is one more statistic of note. The beagle story was posted online Dec. 7 and in just over a month, had climbed to second place among the most viewed stories for the whole year. It continues to get over 100 views per day and will soon secure top spot. We have never before seen a story receive that kind of attention.

I’m no expert at figuring out what attracts web surfers to certain stories but not others – a gripping headline maybe, or superbly written copy, or just dumb luck with search engine optimization. But if I had to guess, based on the popularity of our piece about beagles who have eaten their way to fame at the U of S, I would say one can never go wrong including a great photo of cute dogs.

Send letters to the editor or viewpoints to ocn@usask.ca

On Campus News

On Campus News is published 18 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. Some University of Saskatchewan government and media subscriptions are available for $20 per year. Story and photo ideas are welcome. 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. The views and opinions expressed by writers of letters to the editor and viewpoints do not necessarily reflect those of the University of Saskatchewan or the University of Saskatchewan Communications. 

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January 11, 2013

Freedom of expression: a defining value

A discussion about freedom of expression is worthy of, and timely for, the U of S. Freedom of expression is one of the core and defining values of a university and is part of our fabric and heritage. We have several strong statements on freedom of expression. The very first Principle of the policy on Student Discipline recently approved by both the University Council and the Senate (see University Secretary website) is in fact Freedom of Expression. The Learning Charter, a singular achievement for the U of S, fully supports freedom of expression (see Student Commitment 2: Think Broadly). Peter MacKinnon, in his inaugural speech, stated, “It is the merit of an idea that demands respect in a university, not a voice of command, a pronouncement of morality, or a threat of punishment. The commitment to disciplined inquiry, the freedom to explore, to experiment, to debate ... these are the values of the university...” Since freedom of expression is central to the nature and work of our university, a discussion is critically important.

In early December, a man came to the U of S distributing pamphlets the content of which most of us do not support. The campus-wide announcement that was issued carried an ambiguous meaning. Though this was not the intention, the message seemed to imply that we are constrained by law to merely tolerate freedom of expression. That is not the message we want to convey and certainly is not the belief we want to hold. So, having just experienced a kind of test, a discussion of freedom of expression at the U of S is also timely.

Concerns were raised at University Council about the harm done to individuals on campus who may feel targeted by certain views. These are valid concerns. For example, how might Jewish and Israeli students feel about a pro-Palestine booth in the tunnel or an article in The Sheaf or OCN? How might our Muslim sisters and brothers feel about comments related to terrorism such as Maclean’s magazine printed some years ago? How might we make this a safe and happy place to work and study if some ideas are offensive to people on campus? It is vitally important to our university and to society to get this balance right. If this were a simple matter with clear and easily identified boundaries, then the Supreme Court would not be hearing arguments on this question and about to make a judgment the rest of the county is waiting eagerly to hear. Of one thing I am quite sure – we must not resort to excessive censure nor diminish the value and robust practices of freedom of expression on our campus.

A discussion about freedom of expression at the U of S, our policies and practices, is critical to our mission and our identity and would be worthwhile at any time. Should a similar incident occur as took place this past December and an announce-ment deemed necessary, perhaps, as a direct result of our dialogue, it might say that our university community not only allows but celebrates freedom of expression, that we welcome diverse voices and open respectful debate on all issues, controversial or not and that we graciously extend to all the same freedom that once not long ago protected and nurtured us when we were speaking out.

Marcel D’Emo, Professor
Dept. of Community Health
and Epidemiology
Holroyd’s efforts aid education in Vietnam

Kris Foster

Cairn Holroyd and Ken Coates made their first trip to Vietnam in 2001 to adopt their daughter, Hana. They saw first hand a country in need.

“We spent a lot of time in rural areas and were moved by the poverty that we saw,” explained Holroyd, a professor of political studies.

In 2005, Holroyd returned to Vietnam and met with government officials in Hana’s home province of Thai Nguyen to discuss how she could help. “They desperately needed classrooms.”

The schools were built a long time ago or were constructed from poor materials. They were falling apart.

So Holroyd created the Vietnam Education Society (VES) to raise money to build new schools in rural Vietnam. The charity has raised more than $250,000 since 2005 and has funded the construction of a 10-room primary school, a multi-purpose community building, two early childhood development centres, a three-room primary school and a five-room primary school.

“We have gone back several times and have seen the difference new facilities make,” said Holroyd. “Better schools bring better teachers. In Cat Nê, home to the new 10-room school, multi-purpose room and one of the early childhood education centres, the government subsequently built a health centre and paved the main road. A grocery store and gas station followed. The school transformed a community that had previously received very little in the way of government-funded infrastructure.”

There are many people in Vietnam in significant need and “a little support can make a big difference. We asked a principal of a VES early childhood education centre how else we could help and she asked if we could pay for blankets and lunches. She told a story of a three-year-old who walked two kilometres to school everyday and only had half a sweet potato to eat.”

Holroyd and Coates, a Canada Research Chair in Regional Innovation at the U of S, took Hana back to visit in 2010 and “she was head and shoulders taller than children her age there. You really see the difference nutrition makes.” After that visit, Hana decided to donate her birthday money to VES.

More recently, the VES responded to a request to support a scholarship program aimed at young girls at risk of human trafficking, a major problem in Vietnam’s border provinces. Holroyd agreed to fund 30 scholarships and a three-day summer camp that teaches life skills and educates girls about the risks of trafficking.

“Young girls in Vietnam have a lot of pressure to make money and help support the family. The scholarships are aimed at keeping at risk girls in school by covering their school fees, books, extra tutoring and bicycles for getting to school. It ensures that going to school doesn’t cost the family money,” Holroyd said.

Keeping the girls in school is a big part of keeping them safe and is also chance to educate them about the dangers of trafficking.” But just as significant, it shows that someone cares about them and wants them to get an education. “The idea that someone on the other side of the world is cheering for them must be a good feeling.”

When people donate to VES, Holroyd ensures that 100 per cent of the money goes to the cause, she and her family covers all administrative costs. Holroyd said that a lot of support comes from family and friends, as well as other families who have adopted children from Vietnam. Additionally, VES has received significant support from Rotary Clubs in Canada as well as Vietnam-based partner East Meets West.

“It is overwhelming to see how much need there is in the world. VES works in just one part of one country. The more you look the more need you see and that is tough,” said Holroyd.

“But one has to start somewhere. By improving educational opportunities for children in rural Vietnam, we are helping them build a better future individually and collectively.”

Janice MacKinnon named to Order of Canada

U of S public policy professor Janice MacKinnon was one of 91 individuals appointed to the Order of Canada in 2012.

“It was thrilling, just wonderful, to get the phone call,” said MacKinnon who was named a member of the order for her contributions in public policy both provincially and nationally.

“It was really a surprise and such an honour to join a group of so many amazing people.”

From 1991 to 2001, MacKinnon served as Saskatchewan’s Minister of Finance, Minister of Social Services, Minister of Economic Development and government house leader. Her term in finance, from 1993 to 1997, was notable for her being Canada’s first woman to hold such a portfolio, and Saskatchewan became the first province in the country to balance its budget in the ‘90s.

Although recognized for her contributions in public policy, MacKinnon—who sits on numerous boards for many policy organizations and is the author of three books entitled The Liberty We Seek, While the Women Only Went and Minding the Public Purse—said her career in public policy was made possible because of her academic background and career.

“The appointment focused on my political career, but my academic background played a significant role in my public life. The skills from academic life, like analysis, getting to the root of the problem, and being able to understand how and what to communicate were so important in my role as finance minister. Whatever I did as a politician I could only do because of my background as an academic.”

Although MacKinnon is no longer a politician that doesn’t mean she isn’t involved in politics. “I left politics, but I still provide political commentary. I always find it a lot like football; it’s easier to comment than to play, but it’s necessary because public policy is so important to life in Canada.”

The Fifth Gertler Family Lectureship in Law Honouring the Robert McKercher Family

GUEST SPEAKER: Professor Laurel Terry
Penn State Dickinson School of Law
Tuesday, January 15, 2013 7:00 p.m.
Convocation Hall, Peter MacKinnon Building
107 Administration Place
University of Saskatchewan
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Global Trends in Lawyer Regulation
This lecture is free of charge and open to the public.

www.law.usask.ca
Little green blocks, a crest in Pantone 349 with yellow wheat sheaves in Pantone 116, and words rendered in Myriad Pro type, regular, semi-condensed or condensed. Individually, this is a rather disparate collection of elements but combined in the right way, they carry a powerful message that says, this is the University of Saskatchewan.

Ensuring that message is clear and consistent is the aim of the university’s recently released Visual Expression Guide, a how-to for using the U of S crest, wordmark, colours and graphic elements. “We want our visual identity and our messages to reflect who we are, to reflect our identity and our messages to the right way, they carry a powerful message that says, this is the University of Saskatchewan.”

The idea is not to create monolithic uniformity but rather to create consistency that serves to enhance our university’s reputation.

The Visual Expression Guide offers detailed do’s and don’ts along with ideas for using the logo, type and graphic elements in diverse and creative ways. The aim, said Muzychka, is to always create materials that have a similar “look and feel” that people will come to associate exclusively with the University of Saskatchewan.

For Brian Kachur, creative services specialist in marketing communications and creator of the guide, providing inspiration is as much a part of the document as information. “We used examples of work by designers across campus to give the widest possible representation of U of S materials and to showcase the skill level we have here,” said Kachur. “Design can sometimes get stuck in repetitive mode and the result can be a little boring so we hope all of the good work we’ve included will keep the brain churning. We want people to keep looking for creative solutions and producing quality materials rather than get stuck in the guidelines.”

It has taken some time to develop the guide, said Kachur. University designers have been working with the new green squares, a graphic element representative of the prairie landscape, since 2010. “We now have a good idea of what works and what doesn’t,” he said, but as with all things creative, the boundaries are broad. “We’ll continue to explore and find creative solutions that work and that’s what will keep our brand fresh. It’s not about re-branding; it’s about continually improving what we have.”

Muzychka said the guide will be valuable to everyone on campus involved in producing materials for the university but also to outside suppliers—“We’re embarking on bringing consistency to our sub-brands, those units that have an individual identity and don’t necessarily fall completely under the overall brand guidelines.”

“We want to ensure that units that are sub-brands reflect a strong association with the University of Saskatchewan and I think we can do that without these units losing their identity.”

Guidelines are also in the works for ensuring consistent visual identity for the U of S on the web, he added.

The new Visual Expression Guide is filled with information about the use of the university’s logo and graphic elements as well as inspirational ideas for designers.

We’ll continue to explore and find creative solutions that work and that’s what will keep our brand fresh.

Brian Kachur
The Next 36
Unprecedented opportunity for young entrepreneurs

By Colleen MacPherson

Jackie Cook and Jeff Wandzura know a good opportunity when they see one so when the two U of S students had the chance to put their entrepreneurial spirits to the test, they took it.

Last year, Cook, who is in her final year of commerce, and Wandzura, a four-year pharmacy student, became Saskatchewan’s first representatives in The Next 36, an innovative and intense program of learning and mentorship designed to develop a new generation of Canadian entrepreneurs. For Wandzura, being a member of The Next 36 was a rare chance “to move our careers to the next level.”

The first step to gaining entry into what can accurately be described a boot camp for young entrepreneurs is an application process that judges undergraduate student candidates from across the country and from various academic disciplines on character rather than on a particular business idea. Cook described being in a room in Toronto in late November 2011 for the final selection with top Canadian business leaders challenging individual candidates with questions like, “why should we take you and not someone else?” It was, she said, just the first of many situations that pushed her out of her comfort zone.

Once the 36 young entrepreneurs were selected, they were grouped into teams and instructed to come up with a business idea. Cook said that took place at 5 pm on selection day and by 7 am the next morning, we were pitching our idea to top venture capitalists.” What followed was the first phase of the program’s Entrepreneurship Institute, months of webinars with mentors and academics, classes, and assignments that paralleled the development of each team’s business venture. And it all had to be managed alongside regular U of S classes.

“It was school from 9 am to 5 pm, and then The Next 36 from 8 pm to midnight,” said Cook. In May last year, the two travelled to Toronto to spend four months in the second phase of the Entrepreneurship Institute building their businesses, managing $50,000 in seed money, networking, seeking capital and learning from the best in Canadian business. (Wandzura was founder and CEO of Mobicare, a mobile platform to assist Alzheimer’s caregivers with patient management, symptom tracking and medication, while Cook was founder and CEO of Triumph Mobile Rewards, a tablet-based software for small- and medium-sized businesses to run and monitor digital loyalty programs.)

Both agree it was a life-changing experience. “This is about solving problems and finding opportunities for change and to make a difference,” said Cook. “The Next 36 experience takes place in a relatively safe environment, under the watchful eyes of experts, it still presented significant challenges for the participants. For him, that challenge was making business decisions with imperfect information. He admitted that coming from a science background, he is always looking for black and white answers.

Cook found her biggest challenge in accepting failure and the honest critiques from investors and mentors as she and her team developed their venture. Both also agree The Next 36 is an opportunity more U of S students should explore, regardless of what academic discipline they have chosen. They see an entrepreneurial spirit that is alive and well in Saskatchewan, “and what we learned is an asset not only to our province but to Canada as well,” said Cook. They also want to dispel the myth “that if you want to do something important in Canada, you have to go to Toronto,” said Wandzura.

“There’s a huge amount of opportunity in Toronto,” said Cook. “It’s hard to say no to that, but we want to bring that opportunity to Saskatchewan.”

More information about The Next 36 is available at thenext36.ca.
Chillin’ for a good cause

Students at the Edwards School of Business are well known for fund-raising for the Children’s Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan (CFHS), and this past November, they raised over $40,000 in a single afternoon.

One of the major fund-raisers the students have used to generate over $190,000 to date for the CFHS has been Chillin’ for Charity. It is a component of the annual Jeux du Commerce (JDC) West conference where student groups from schools across Western Canada compete to raise money for a local charity. The Edwards team took first place in the JDC charity event the past two years in a row and is well on its way to another win by raising $40,150.88 this year.

The team set up a cold-water pool on the grounds of Saskatoon City Hall on Nov. 23 when it was -18 C but felt like -24 C with the wind chill. In all, 75 people took to the pool in this year in costumes that ranged from lifeguards to Oreo cookies.

JDC West Co-Captain Cole Thorpe said the downtown location attracted many members of the business community, and a BBQ was included to raise additional funds for the CHFS. “An event like Chillin’ for Charity would not be possible without the support of the local business community. Our Edwards JDC West team is very fortunate to have the support of local sponsors, especially our title sponsor BHP Billiton,” he says. “Federated Co-op Limited, title sponsor of the Edwards Business Student Society, has supported our annual charity event for the last two years by sending representatives to take the plunge. This year, two representatives raised over $1,000.”

This year, the team also had Conexus Credit Union agree to match the funds raising, doubling the proceeds. For the past five years, the school’s namesake, N. Murray Edwards, has also pledged to match all funds raised by Edwards students to a maximum of $25,000. “The support of Dr. Edwards not only acts as motivation for our student group but also the local community,” said Thorpe.

Murray and Heather Edwards also matched the donation from Conexus, bringing the total raised to over $40,000.

“We are immensely proud of the outreach and engagement at the Edwards School of Business and the Chillin’ for Charity event is a fantastic example of this,” said Dean Daphne Taras. “Our students have learned well the value of giving back to the community. The engagement of our local business leaders only strengthens the culture of outreach within the school’s larger community.”

Jessica Wallace is a freelance writer in Burnaby, B.C.
College on positive trajectory

From Page 1

as many dedicated faculty were doing. He stressed there should be no finger pointing, “doctors are doing what they were hired to do.” To implement the new vision means redefining college faculty as more than the mandates of the university – education and research.

“The college should not have to give tenure-track positions to faculty who, in point of fact, are hired to provide clinical service. This arrangement has not been serving the interests of the university … and that’s the big issue that’s been driving all of this.”

Supplying clinical service has left the college trying to do too much with too little. “We need to concentrate the money on the academic mission and try to work out an arrangement that would enable the health region to fill the gap after the college starts to withdraw its services. It’s clear that delivering clinical services. Our message has to be we’re willing to contract with whoever the health care partners want to do the teaching where it’s critically important or if they wish to do research, we can work with them too. Our college faculty can make teaching and research their top priorities”.

The vision document calls for college faculty to include physicians from across the province, community-based faculty who will help deliver medical education, said Qualtiere, but buy in is critical. “The current system for funding and engaging community-based facility has not worked very well. They are here.”

“When they’ve barely been recognized as faculty and rewarded appropriately”.

Qualtiere said a number of group meetings with community-based faculty are planned for the next couple of months “to find out what we need to do to make them an integral part of the college. We’ll come back with some plan that incorporates much of what we will hear from those consultations”.

The vision implementation plan, which must be presented to Council’s Planning and Priorities Committee by Aug. 15, will identify what the college’s faculty complement should be and what everybody should be doing, but not a mechanism for getting there, he said. “It’s going to be the university’s role to figure out how we’re going to get there.”

The government’s going to have to step in, the health region is going to have to step in – all three major partners who hold all the strings are going to have to help us redefine our mandate.”

The job that needs re-defining is that of department head, Qualtiere said. Departments will continue to be the key units of the college but deciding “what a department head should be doing in the future is critical to the educational mission. Somebody has to be in charge. Right now, we have nobody in charge or 10 people in charge, and it doesn’t work well. Department heads have to become the focus of the deliverables and accountability for the educational program in particular and that needs to be defined for everyone.”

On the Research Front

And then there is research, “an all together different kettle of fish.” As it currently stands, researchers within the college have mainly small individual grants and are publishing, a model that works for maintaining their academic appointments, said Qualtiere. But accessing pools of national funding is becoming increasingly difficult. “Individual faculty here are competing against research institutes from which they’ve got 10 to 11 doctors working on a project, a critical mass we only have in a few areas and consequently, we haven’t been doing well and will not do well in the future.”

To reach the performance levels of its peers, the college must create what the dean termed “islands of excellence” built around established and recognized expertise.

“We’re talking about the elite of the elite, the high achievers, and they don’t come without a serious investment of resources. We have to be able to offer them an attractive package in order to recruit them out of somewhere else and then support them once they are here. That’s relatively a new paradigm for this college and to take extraordinary resources out of a period of time to do this.”

The Accreditation Conundrum

The final piece of the new vision will be to move the education program out from under its current warning of probation or its accrediting bodies. Here, Qualtiere is looking long term because with an accreditation visit scheduled for March, “I doubt they’re going to be happy with the progress we’ve made.”

“Accreditors don’t judge you on where you think you’re going to be; they want to see where you are. They want to see results, and finally we’ve not been going to make any significant changes until about the time they get here.” For that reason, the dean said he is prepared for either a continuation of the existing warning or probation itself.

The education program would still be accredited even if probation is imposed, he explained, but probation “is a very serious warning to the college and to the funding people and the university that the program needs some major changes.” Everyone is working hard to make the necessary improvements; it’s just that the timing of the visit is out of synch with the implementation.

“So we still may not have bottomed out when it comes to accreditation but I believe the trajectory will start moving in the right direction quite quickly. We just need to keep moving ahead and in the fullness of time, this will be sorted out.”

What the Future Holds

Amid all the ups and downs that lie ahead, Qualtiere believes his most important job is to make sure the process does not get ahead of the people and a slowly changing culture. It is vital to ensure people’s understanding keeps pace with the planning and implementation of change.

“I’ve been active in putting the numbers out there, in saying maybe we aren’t doing such a good job collectively. And it was painful – I don’t like to put out all my laundry – but I think there’s now acceptance that we need to change. There is finally a realization we must begin to address the structural issues that are preventing this college from reaching a national mandate of excellence.”

Qualtiere reiterated that no one is to blame for the college finding itself in such dire straits. To have solved the problems earlier was beyond the capability of any one dean or any one provost. “This was a systems failure, he said, “the cumulative effect of 20-plus years of imbalance that took the college to a place in early 2012 where something significant needed to be done.”

But now, with the university on board and the health region and provincial ministries of health and advanced education at the table, Qualtiere is sure the college is on the right track. He is also cautiously optimistic about being able to finally retire in July.

We just need to keep moving ahead and in the fullness of time, this will be sorted out.

Lou Qualtiere

9

More Information

Consult the PCard Guidelines by visiting usask.ca/card, at either the Buying Goods & Services page or Guidelines & Procedures page.

PCard holders can attend a refresher session anytime by emailing payment_inquiries@usask.ca or calling 966-6704 or 966-8783.

For all other inquiries, contact Payment Services at 966-8323 or payment_inquiries@usask.ca.

Financial Services

PCard reminders

Basics

• PCard is a corporate procurement card

• Procures: buying goods and services

• Used for the purchase of goods and services – some restrictions apply

• PCard applicants are contacted to attend an information session, and typically receive their card at this session

• There are only two ways to buy goods and services at the university: with a PCard or purchase order

• PCard transaction limit: $5,000 (including taxes, shipping charges, currency exchange, etc.)

• PCard must be reconciled (charges verified and receipts and appropriate signatures provided) by the cardholder or an authorized individual on a monthly basis for those cardholders with transactions

Tips

For purchases of goods and services over $5,000, a purchase order is required – complete a purchase requisition to start the process. A purchase order is required for purchases under $5,000 that are applicable for PCard use where possible, faculty/ researchers should use administration support for PCard reconciliations if ordering by fax, use the PCard Fax Order Form found on FSD’s website ( Forms page)

Ordering Outside Canada

• fax the Shipping to Canada Instructions Card to Card Services

• Purchasing form to the supplier

• fax the PCard Fax Order Form to both the supplier and the university customs broker

PCard holders can attend a refresher session anytime by emailing payment_inquiries@usask.ca

For how to purchase items or eligible purchases, contact Purchasing Services at 966-6704 or purchasing.services@usask.ca

For all other inquiries, contact Payment Services at 966-8323 or payment_inquiries@usask.ca

Need help with UniFi? call 966-8783 or email unifisupport@usask.ca

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1019 10TH STREET EAST

Walking distance to U of S & a Broadway area, this stunning brand new, semi-detached 2,078 sq ft was professionally designed with upscale features. Great room with all the strings are going to have to help us redefine our mandate.”

The job that needs re-defining is that of department head, Qualtiere said. Departments will continue to be the key units of the college but deciding

"what a department head should be doing in the future is critical to the educational mission. Somebody has to be in charge. Right now, we have nobody in charge or 10 people in charge, and it doesn’t work well. Department heads have to become the focus of the deliverables and accountability for the educational program in particular and that needs to be defined for everyone.”

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“Accredi...
Microbiology and Immunology
- 4:30 pm, Room 3H
- "Interplay between the gut microbiome and systemic inflammation: implications for autoimmune and inflammatory bowel disease" by Dr. R. Johnson.

Microbiology and Immunology
- 4:30 pm, Room 3H
- "The role of gut microbes in shaping the immune system" by Dr. S. Doherty.

Microbiology and Immunology
- 4:30 pm, Room 3H
- "Host-microbe interactions in the context of infectious diseases" by Dr. J. Williams.

Microbiology and Immunology
- 4:30 pm, Room 3H
- "The impact of the gut microbiome on metabolic health" by Dr. L. Anderson.

Microbiology and Immunology
- 4:30 pm, Room 3H
- "Microbial communities in the gut and their role in health and disease" by Dr. M. Brown.

Microbiology and Immunology
- 4:30 pm, Room 3H
- "The gut microbiome and its influence on psychiatric disorders" by Dr. T. Smith.

Microbiology and Immunology
- 4:30 pm, Room 3H
- "The role of the gut microbiome in chronic diseases" by Dr. K. Taylor.

Microbiology and Immunology
- 4:30 pm, Room 3H
- "The impact of the gut microbiome on the development of autoimmune diseases" by Dr. A. Davis.

Microbiology and Immunology
- 4:30 pm, Room 3H
- "The gut microbiome and its role in the prevention of infections" by Dr. E. Green.

Microbiology and Immunology
- 4:30 pm, Room 3H
- "The gut microbiome and its influence on the immune system" by Dr. N. Brown.

Microbiology and Immunology
- 4:30 pm, Room 3H
- "The role of the gut microbiome in the regulation of the host's metabolic pathways" by Dr. B. Anderson.

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- "The gut microbiome and its role in the development of cancer" by Dr. J. Green.

Microbiology and Immunology
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- "The gut microbiome and its influence on the host's response to pathogens" by Dr. K. Smith.

Microbiology and Immunology
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- "The gut microbiome and its role in the regulation of the host's inflammatory response" by Dr. A. Brown.

Microbiology and Immunology
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Jan. 15–April 16, Tuesdays Fred Hofmann

Professional Selling: Skills for Success  
March 6 Linda McCann

The 7 Habits for Highly Effective People  
March 13 Jesse Stothers

Building an Effective Team  
Feb 27 Toni Villiers

Executive Education  
Edwards School of Business

Leadership Development  
March 12, 19, 26, April 2 Linda McCann

Emotional Intelligence: The Other Side of Smart  
Professional Selling: Skills for Success  
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Technical Writing  
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March 19–20 John Smith

Managing Concealment—Level I  
March 27-28 Dawn Lawrence

Life Balance Leadership  
In Saskatoon's 2nd Right Answer  
April 9 Patricia Katz

Bill & Susan Brooks

Advanced Presentation Skills  
April 17 Jay Wilson

The Power of Working Visually  
April 18 Shelley Kayes

International Certification for Mentoring—Level I  
June 5–6 Jesse Stothers

Business Writing & Grammar Workout  
June 5–6 Jesse Stothers

To register online go to ccde.usask.ca/learntolead or contact 966.5555.

June 2013

Use your PD funds to enhance your leadership, management and communication skills. For complete course information visit ccde.usask.ca/learntolead

January to June 2013

Introduction to Transportation  
Jan 15–April 16, Tuesdays Fred Hofmann

Building an Effective Team

Leadership Development

Emotional Intelligence: The Other Side of Smart

Professional Selling: Skills for Success

Technical Writing

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Managing Concealment—Level I

Life Balance Leadership

In Saskatoon's 2nd Right Answer

Advanced Presentation Skills

The Power of Working Visually

International Certification for Mentoring—Level I

Business Writing & Grammar Workout

Submission of Events

Information for Events will be accepted until deadline day.

Next OCR: Jan. 25, 2013
Deadline: Thursday, Jan. 17, 2013
usask.ca, Fax 966-6615 or use web submission form at www.usask.ca/ocr

OCT

January 11, 2013

11

Campus Incidents

Selected incidents reported by the Department of Campus Safety. Report all information about these and other incidents to Campus Safety at 966-5555.

Dec. 17-21

Among the tickets issued were:

• 1 for having a towed windows

• 24 hour suspensions

• 1 for disobeying a traffic control device

• 2 for driving without reasonable care for others

• 2 for operating an unregistered vehicle

• 1 for disobeying a stop sign

• 1 for entering premises when entry is prohibited

• 1 for driving while suspended

• 1 for entering premises when entry is prohibited

• A fire alarm in Marquis Hall was triggered by a burst radiator pipe. Damage was minimal.

• Three floors in Health Sciences were affected by water damage when several pipes froze, resulting in leaking water.

• A radiator pipe in the Physical Activity Centre burst, resulting in minor water damage.

• During a routine traffic stop, a male was arrested on multiple outstanding warrants.

• Officers received a report of three males taking a bag from a car that was parked in Lot 1. After a brief foot chase, the suspects were apprehended. The suspects were recovered and all three were turned over to city police for processing.

• A theft from a vehicle in Lot 13 was reported. Change and clothing were taken.

• A laptop was stolen from a room in Engineering. Value is $500.

• Officers investigated a motor vehicle accident at Arts Court. No charges were laid.

• A hit and run accident was reported in Lot 1. No suspects have been identified.

• A break-in to a vehicle was reported in Lot 1. No damage was done to the vehicle and nothing was stolen.

• A cell phone was reported stolen from a room in Engineering.

• Officers responded to one medical call.

Jan. 3-6

Among the tickets issued were:

• 1 for minor possession/consumption of alcohol

• 1 for using a cell phone while driving

• Officers investigated an attempted theft from the Law Building.

• Officers investigated a report of pry marks on several doors in the Agriculture Parkade. No access was gained. File is under investigation.

• First Aid Revivification Course: March 11, 8-4:30 pm

• Laboratory Safety: Jan. 12-16, March 13, 8:30-4 pm

• Occupational/Health Committee Level 1: Training: Feb. 4 and 17, 9-4:30 pm and 8:30-noon (Feb. 7)

• Radiation Safety: Jan. 21, 8:30-4 pm

• Safety Orientation for Employees: Jan. 28, Feb. 26, 8-4 pm

• Safety Orientation for Supervisors: Jan. 14-1, 4-8 pm, Feb. 13-1, 8-4 pm

• Transportation of Dangerous Goods (Non-excisable): March, 11-noon

• Transportation of Dangerous Goods (Excisable): March, 1-4 pm

• Transportation of Dangerous Goods by Air/road (Shopper): March 21, 8-30 am-4:30 pm

Edwards School of Business Executive Education

For information call 966-4666, email exec@ccde.usask.ca or visit ccde.usask.ca or ask campus safety at 966-5555.

• Warden, April 5-6, 9-noon, $125 students, $150 staff and faculty; $185 others

• Adobe Photoshop - Intermediate, Feb. 24, 9-noon, $125 students, $150 staff and faculty; $185 others

• Adobe Photoshop - Photo Retouching Course, Feb. 24, 3:30-5 pm, $75 students, $100 staff and faculty; $150 others

• ArcGIS: Introduction, Jan. 14 and 16, 6-9:30 pm, 50 students, staff, faculty; $150 others

• Baseline U of S G Course Tools - Instructor, March 1, 3-5 pm, $50 staff, faculty

• HTML Basics Workshop (with HTML 5 Overview), Jan. 25, 1-4 pm, 525 students, $50 staff and faculty; $100 others

• iPad Tips and Tricks (iOS 6), Feb. 21, 3-5 pm, 50 students, staff and faculty; $75 others

• iPad: Tips and Tricks, Feb. 21, 3-30 pm, $50 students

• ITU - Make the Most of Your Mac - Intermediate, Jan. 17, 3-4:30 pm, $75 students and faculty; $105 others

• ITU - Make the Most of Your Mac - Introduction, Jan. 15, 3-4:30 pm, $50 students

• ITU - Research Poster - MS PowerPoint, Jan. 23, 3-4 pm, $50 students

• Make the Most of Your Mac - Intermediate, Jan. 17, 3-4:30 pm, $50 students, staff and faculty; $75 others

• Make the Most of Your Mac - Introduction, Jan. 15, 3-4:30 pm, $50 students, staff and faculty; $75 others

• MS Access - Fundamentals, Jan. 15 and 17, 6-9 pm, $125 students, $150 staff and faculty; $185 others

• MS Excel - Fundamentals Plus, Feb. 26 and 29, 8-noon, $125 students, $150 staff and faculty; $185 others

• MS Excel - Fundamentals, Jan. 16, 17-19, 9-noon NO Feb 5 and 7, 1:30-4:30 pm, $125 students, $150 staff and faculty; $185 others

• MS Office 2010: What's New Seminar, Jan. 25, 1-3 pm, $50 students, staff and faculty; $75 others

• MS Outlook - Fundamentals Plus, March 26, 3-4:30 pm, $75 students, $100 staff and faculty; $125 others

• MS PowerPoint - Fundamentals, March 12, 3-4:30 pm, $75 students, $100 staff and faculty; $125 others

• MS Word - Fundamentals, March 5 and 7-9 pm, $125 students, $150 staff and faculty; $185 others

• MS Word - Fundamentals Plus, Feb 5 and 7 and March 26 and 28, 9-noon, $125 students, $150 staff and faculty; $185 others

• NVivo - Intermediate - Advanced, Jan 25, 9-4:30 pm, $100 students; $125 staff and faculty; $175 others

• NVivo - Introduction, Jan 24, 9-4:30 pm, $100 students; $125 staff and faculty; $175 others

• Research Posters - MS PowerPoint, Jan. 23, 3-4 pm, $50 students, staff and faculty $75 others

• SharePoint 2010 Introduction, Jan. 29, 3-30 pm, $75 students, $100 staff and faculty; $155 others

• ITU – Find Your Place in the Google Universe – How to Search Effectively

• ITU – Find Your Place in the Google Universe – Introduction to Google

• ITU - Make the Most of Your Mac - Intermediate, Jan. 15, 3-4:30 pm, $50 students

• ITU – Research Poster - MS PowerPoint, Jan. 23, 3-4 pm, $50 students
This year, On Campus News is using the back page to explore places on campus that are off the beaten path—often behind locked doors—and to introduce you to the people who work in them. Suggestions for this feature are always welcome; email ocn@usask.ca

Disposal squad

Through research, teaching and regular operation, the U of S creates a fair amount of hazardous waste material. Responsibility for picking up, processing and disposing of all the chemical, biological and radioactive waste falls to the team in the waste management division of Workplace Safety and Environmental Protection.

The Waste Management Facility at the end of North Road is where Jeff Lindsay, Abu Okonofua, Ken Johnson, Elsie Bird and Darrell Hart deal with about 110,000 L of chemical waste (a mix of solid, liquid, toxic and flammable), around 4,800 kg of animal tissue, 1020 kg of expired pharmaceuticals and between 5,000 and 10,000 L of radioactive material each year.

The facility—including a loading dock, labs and a number of material-specific rooms—is outfitted with eyewash stations, fume hoods, fire extinguishers and an array of other safety equipment to ensure employees are well-protected and able to carry out their work in accordance with strict provincial and national environmental and safety regulations.

Watch for a video tour of the waste management facility in the Jan. 18th e-newsletter On Campus Now