A unique reflection of the U of S
President seeking comments on draft vision statement

The latest draft of a new vision for the University of Saskatchewan is a comprehensive one, addressing virtually every aspect of the institution’s operations, and while its author knows it will not receive unanimous support, she hopes its final form includes “everything we need to capture to put a stake in the ground and say this is where we’d like to find ourselves.”

President Ilene Busch-Vishniac will lead a town hall discussion of Vision 2025: From Spirit to Action Oct. 30 to gather comments on the draft document, part of an extensive consultation process leading ultimately to a version that will guide the university’s plans and actions over the coming years. In an interview with On Campus News, Busch-Vishniac said she encourages people reading the draft to ask themselves whether it “effectively honours the traditions of the past as we move forward, does it emphasize the right things from their perspective as we move forward, and if you would be proud to be part of an institution with these values heading in these directions.”

Busch-Vishniac first suggested a new vision in her state-of-the-university address in April, and has since prepared and refined a number of drafts after consultation with senior administrators and members of the Board of Governors. The current version, available on her website, is now “locked in,” she said, to ensure everyone commenting on the same document.

“I can’t promise that we will arrive at something that has nothing that will be offensive to anyone on this campus because to do that would mean that we would produce nothing that had an edge to it. Among my aims for this vision was that it should reflect us uniquely,” Busch-Vishniac explained. “I want to make sure this vision is relevant for us, that it’s not the vision that works for Queen’s, or UBC or University of Alberta. Equally important to me is that it should not be my vision; it should be the institutional vision. The problem is that I can’t promise that we will arrive at something that has nothing that will be offensive to anyone on this campus because to do that would mean that we would produce nothing that had an edge to it or had any real aspirations.”

The draft outlines the mission, vision and values of the university, then goes on to detail principles for the future, opportunities to “leave a lasting legacy,” the role of the U of S in the province and country, its key partners and what the environment for success looks like. The document speaks clearly about the roles and expecta-
Goals need to ‘stretch us,’ be attainable

Vision calls for multi-year funding agreements

Employee athletes excel at games

CORRECTION

The name of the annual Whelen Visiting Lecture was misspelled in a story that appeared in the Oct. 11 issue of On Campus News. OCN apologizes for this error.
When John Hansen arrived on the U of S campus in July 2012, he saw many opportunities to pursue research in his area of Indigenous systems of justice, Aboriginal abuse.

“I didn’t really have anyone mentoring me then (at the beginning),” Dell said. “I think there are a lot of things that I would do differently, so I passed them along to him.”

She saw the relationship as a good fit, professionally and personally, as she research areas of Aboriginal justice, health and addictions intersect with Hansen’s interests and experience. On a personal level, he was filling a position left open by her friend and colleague professor Patricia Monture, who passed away in 2010.

Dell explained that as opportunities came up to apply for grants, she would pass them along to Hansen, together with examples of her own successful grant proposals to agencies like the Canadian Institutes for Health Research.

“I’m very fortunate in that I have this great faculty, this great mentorship team,” Hansen said. “They give me excellent advice on how to approach. They look at the big picture, they give me concrete examples of successful grants, and I’m able to devise my own by them showing me and taking the time to walk me through it.”

In addition to his internal grants, Hansen has co-authored a paper with Wotherspoon on the Idle No More movement.

Dell also caution that the mentorship team’s protégé, is wary of success. Every grant is a project that must be completed within a specific time frame, and too many projects can quickly overwhelm a new researcher.

“If you get a bad hire and that isn’t good,” she said. “You’re not happy in your job and you’re not productive in your work.”

Hansen is already looking at future research directions, exploring questions like overrepresentation of Aboriginal people in jails, bias in the criminal justice system, addictions among Aboriginal people, and historical issues such as residential schools and government policies.

“Many different things inspire me,” Hansen said. “Sometimes I see there’s something not right going on in the world and then I just have an interest to research, ‘Why is that happening?’ What can we do to change it, and how can we stop it from happening again?”

Dell explained that formal mentorship may be all the more important with community based research, which builds crucial connections but often takes faculty out of the office and away from their colleagues.

This means the “coffee chat” and other natural spaces for mentorship no longer exist to the extent they once did. Connecting experienced researchers with new faculty helps fill this void.

“It’s very fulfilling to be able to share with them (protégés) and prevent them from some of the hardship, struggles and frustrations that I went through.”

The changes we’ve made ensure that students self declaring, in for example, a college in order to get into a particular program or apply for a scholarship specifically for Aboriginal students are self declaring to the university,” he said. “I don’t think the effect will be cumulative over the next few years because most of those self declarations are first-year students.”
Class of 1960 well served in medicine

As a proud graduate of the class of 1960 at the University of Saskatchewan, School of Medicine, I take exception to Dr. Buch Vinishac’s comment in the article “Medicine to receive accreditation with probation (OCN, Oct. 11, 2013) that “The College of Medicine was founded on a model that simply does not work for our medical school today.”

As students we were exposed to outstanding role models such as Drs. Louis Horlick, John Gerrard, Alan Brown, and Eric Nanson to name only a few. These individuals could still be exemplary teachers and clinician scientists if parachuted into today’s medical schools. They were committed to patient care and teaching undergraduate and postgraduate trainees. Research was not a primary goal of the school but we were provided with the tools to enter a career as a clinician scientist if that was our goal.

Several graduates of the class of 1960 have made major contributions to American and Canadian Schools of Medicine and another was a prominent leading figure in the Maternal and Child Health Department of the United States Government. Some of my classmates are still active and productive in today’s world. The model for the class of 1960 was to learn how to listen and interact with the patient and perform a comprehensive history and physical examination (skills which are sadly lacking in some young physicians today). This was followed by a caring and supportive treatment regime. That model I hope is still desirable for the current medical school students of the class of 2013.

The major changes in medical education since our time are the proven effectiveness of small group teaching, self-learning and the search for evidence based data to enhance patient care. Having been the co-chair of a curriculum renewal committee at a major Canadian medical school several years ago, I experienced firsthand the resistance to change by some but the remarkable acceptance by all students and faculty on implementation of the new curriculum. A revised curriculum at the U of S medical school should incorporate these improvements while not abandoning the principles that served the class of 1960 well.

Bob Haslam, C.M., M.D., FRCPC
Class of 1960, College of Medicine

Journal aims to encourage undergraduate research

A new online journal featuring research from undergraduate students in any discipline or college will help shine a spotlight on their work and encourage others to follow their lead.

The USURJ (U of S Undergraduate Research Journal) was created by and will be run by undergrads in association with the University Learning Centre (ULC). The bimonthly faculty-reviewed online journal issued its first call for submissions this fall and is planning its first issue for February 2014.

“We’re hoping it will make undergraduate research more visible on campus,” said medical student Scott Adams, who shares editor-in-chief duties with graduate student Daniella Bruni-Bossio.

“We are aiming for a balance among all disciplines,” Adams said. “Submissions might include research from a summer project, undergraduate honours theses, something written for a class. It’s meant to include original research not published elsewhere.”

He explained that USURJ is also meant to give undergraduate students a taste of what research offers, hopefully enticing them to pursue graduate studies and associated career options. While at first students will likely submit work they have already done, Adams hopes they will soon write with publication in mind.

“We’re very lucky to have Scott on board,” said Bruni-Bossio, a former professional actor who is currently working on an MFA in writing. “I think it balances us, as I have more of an arts and writing background, and Scott—even though he plays classical piano among other things—brings more of a science background, which is a nice combination.”

Scott Adams and Daniella Bruni-Bossio, editors-in-chief of the new University of Saskatchewan Undergraduate Research Journal
Installation of Chancellor Favel highlight of fall convocation

COLLEEN MACPHERSON

Convocation is always a time of pomp and circumstance but on Oct. 26, those in attendance at fall convocation will be witness to an additional ceremony – the installation of the University of Saskatchewan’s 14th chancellor.

Blaine Favel was confirmed as chancellor at a meeting of University Senate in April and assumed his duties July 1. But, as University Secretary Beth Williamson explained, he cannot carry out one of his most important roles until he is formally installed.

“Mr. Favel’s installation will take place at the start of the morning ceremony so that he can then admit people to convocation,” she said. The word convocation comes from the Latin con, meaning together, and vocare, meaning to call, and is the collective term for graduates. The chancellor admits each graduate by saying “Congratulations I admit you.”

Some elements of the installation will reflect Favel’s First Nations background. The ceremony will begin with a smudging and Cree blessing by Larry Oakes, and the new chancellor’s stole is adorned with two medicine wheels. “It’s a nice intersection of where the university is going and the chancellor’s own heritage,” said Williamson.

She went on to explain that the term installation is derived from mediaeval and clerical traditions of universities where a cathedral dean had a stall or special seat, often with a canopy over top, in the chapel. On being appointed, the dean was conducted to the stall, literally installed.

The modern version of the ceremony involves an oath administered by the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan. Because the Lieutenant Governor is unable to attend Oct. 26, protocol dictates that the chief justice of Saskatchewan, The Hon. Robert G. Richards, handles the ceremony. He will ask Favel to pledge himself to performing the duties of chancellor and “to promise to defend the rights and to promote the welfare of the university and the members thereof.” When the chancellor responds “I do so promise,” the chief justice will say, “In the name of the University of Saskatchewan, I now install you, Blaine Favel, in the office of Chancellor of the University, and invest you with the responsibility pertaining to that office.”

Favel will then be presented with his vestments, a black gown with green velvet and gold trim along with the green velvet stole, by Williamson and Russell Isinger, the university registrar.

In two separate ceremonies Oct. 26, Favel will then admit 1,073 degree, diploma and certificate recipients into the University, and invest you with the responsibility pertaining to that office.

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The right of the afternoon ceremony will be the awarding of two honorary degrees. Canadian soprano Edith Wiens will receive an Honorary Doctor of Literature and Dr. Anne Doig will be presented with an Honorary Doctor of Laws. (Please see Page 8 for details about Wiens, Doig and other award winners.)

Williamson noted both honorary degree recipients are women, a reflection of “the move of our nation to recognize more women leaders.”

She added while there is “something extra” at both the morning and afternoon ceremony, those organizing convocation work hard “to find the balance between an appropriate amount of pomp and circumstance and not having it go on too long.”

Airplane room renamed

While it will always be known informally as the airplane room for the plethora of paper planes and assorted other objects stuck in its ceiling tiles, Thorvaldson 271 now has the official title of the Henry Taube Lecture Theatre.

The university’s naming committee approved the designation this fall to honour the only U of S graduate to ever earn a Nobel Prize as well as the 100th anniversary of the Department of Chemistry this year.

David Palmer, head of the department, said Taube took class in the theatre as he worked toward his BSc and MSc degrees in chemistry, which he received in 1935 and 1937 respectively. He went on to win the Nobel Prize in chemistry in 1983.

Palmer said he hopes the new name and the accompanying signage will prove inspirational for generations of students when they see they have a class scheduled in the Henry Taube Lecture Theatre.

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Beth Williamson

Letters and Dr. Anne Doig will be presented with an Honorary Doctor of Laws. (Please see Page 8 for details about Wiens, Doig and other award winners.)

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Vision 2025: From Spirit to Action

University of Saskatchewan President Ilene Busch-Vishniac will host a town hall to present the university’s draft vision document Vision 2025: From Spirit to Action. All members of the campus community are welcome to attend.

Following a brief presentation, there will be a discussion and Q&A period. Questions can be submitted ahead of time to uofs.vision2025@usask.ca or through twitter@UsaskPresOffice.

DATE: Oct. 30, 2013
TIME: Noon
PLACE: Convocation Hall

The event will streamed online at: http://live.usask.ca/?sn=3720

You can download Vision 2025: From Spirit to Action at www.usask.ca/president

www.usask.ca
The prickly side of Ernie Walker

Ernie Walker has many sides. He is a forensic anthropologist who helps the RCMP solve murders, and a professor who leads archeological field digs at Wamaskwin Heritage Park. But he also happens to have a prickly side that includes an enormous collection of cacti.

“I’m known mainly as the dead body guy for the RCMP,” said Walker, a professor in the College of Arts and Science who has worked on a number of high-profile cases including identifying remains at Robert Pickton’s pig farm in BC, and doing the analysis that led to the conviction of serial killer John Crawford.

“In that part of my life, I see Crawford. The prickly plants that numbers in the thousands. ‘My house is full and my backyard is full and they started overflowing,’ he said. ‘It was driving my wife crazy.’

So Walker made arrangements with the university greenhouses to ‘make some space for the overflow and the ones that are too large for my house. It’s not research per se, just an interest of mine. I come to the greenhouses religiously. It is great in winter when the weather is especially horrible.’

The collection in the greenhouse, called ‘Puerta del Sol’ or gateway to the sun, is a popular tour destination for school kids as well. ‘They come through for school tours and I often get notes from the kids telling me how much they like the cacti.’

Beyond cacti, Walker also collects other desert plants including yucca and agave, which, he pointed out, is used to make tequila. ‘I love tequila, but I don’t make my own,’ he said with a laugh, ‘I buy the good stuff.’

Walker has a hard time picking out just exactly what it is about the desert plants he loves in particular. ‘There are millions of things I find fascinating, from the ethnobotany of them to the ecology. But when they flower, they are absolutely beautiful. You have to love them if you’re willing to get stuck with thorns.’

A self-described ‘cactophile’ and old desert rat,” Walker gets down to Arizona once a year to get his fill of arid, dry weather, visit greenhouses dedicated to cacti and to look at the tree-sized saguaro cacti—‘like the Taco Time logo’—that can live to be 120-140 years old.

One has to wonder why a guy who loves the desert weather and the varied species of plant life that grow in those climates chooses to live in Saskatchewan, where only three types of cacti grow naturally.

“There is nothing like the summers in Saskatchewan,” he said with a smile. ‘It’s just too bad that there is also nothing like our winters.’

At least during those one-of-a-kind Saskatchewan winters, he still has the university greenhouses as his sanctuary.

See the detailed schedule of events at: www.usask.ca/technologyweek

Finance Week 2013: Financial Services Division | FSD

Congratulations, Lennard!

FSD is proud to recognize the significant contributions of Lennard Fox, who was selected as this fall’s recipient of the President’s Service Award. This award honours individuals who have enhanced the work environment by providing extraordinary service to the University community; who have inspired, supported and respected the endeavours of others, and have achieved this distinction through dedication and commitment.

Lennard has certainly exemplified the spirit of this award. Len joined Student Accounts and Treasury (SAT) in 1997 after completing his Diploma in Public Administration at the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies. As a poet, father and world bronze medal winning slow pitch player, Len brings his passion, joy (especially his laugh) and commitment to every endeavour. Len plays a lead role in coordinating the student sponsorships program for international and First Nation’s organizations and demonstrates professionalism, courtesy and compassion with everyone he helps.

What does SAT do?

Staff members in Student Accounts and Treasury collect tuition and other fees from students and make payment of one-time scholarship to recipients. They also administer a range of other student financial services including a tuition installment plan for graduate students employed by the university, third-party billing for sponsored students, tuition taxations, student refunds and special financial requirements for international students. Treasury employees manage the university’s cash, investments and foreign currency services.

Upcoming Training

Unifi Journal Voucher
November 19, 2013
1:30 - 2:30 pm
RM 281, John Mitchell Building

Unifi FAST Finance Reporting
November 26, 2013
1:30 - 3:30 pm
RM 281, John Mitchell Building

Register at training.usask.ca

usask/fsd
Knowledge gap
Improving emergency responses

Michael Robin

At first, the 2011 fire in the forest near Wollaston Lake’s airport was considered a threat. But within 24 hours, it grew to more than 1,300 members of the Hatchet Lake First Nation.

Thankfully, everyone eventually returned home safely and, for researchers Jim Waldram and Julia Scharbach, it presented a valuable opportunity for research with community partners.

“This is the perfect storm of factors that unfolded over a very quick period of time,” said Waldram, medical and psychological anthropologist at the U of S.

“Despite this, the government moved very quickly to get people out, and the armed forces moved in to get everyone out safely.”

Waldram explained that emergency personnel had 24 hours to evacuate the community, and it could not have come at a worse time. May 2011 had seen a late spring breakup, so travel by ice was unsafe and by water was impossible. Travel from the local airstrip, a vital lifeline in a community with no all-weather access road, was also hampered by the approaching fire and thick smoke. Finally, the community was in the middle of elections, creating uncertainty as to who was in charge.

Waldram explained that the community members were triaged using standard procedure: anyone old and infirm, or with respiratory problems, went first, then children, then able-bodied adults. Family members travelled by plane or helicopter to a staging area at Points North Landing. From there, they boarded Canadian Forces aircraft or buses bound for evacuation centres in Prince Albert and Saskatoon.

In the process, many children were separated from parents – and their supervision – while some seniors were cut off from their family support systems.

“Wollaston Lake is an isolated, largely Dené-speaking, dry reserve,” said Scharbach, a graduate student in anthropology. “Evacuating from Wollaston to Saskatoon or Prince Albert was hugely disruptive for many community members. Many don’t speak English and were unable to communicate with residents of the host communities, many were separated from family members and lost the social support that they rely on, and some experienced discrimination from members of the host communities.”

For Scharbach, the case brought to mind a gap in knowledge whose answer could benefit First Nations community and emergency response organizations in the north.

“Emergency evacuations from northern communities are a staple of most Canadian summers,” she said. “Often, we read about how these evacuations affect members of the host communities, in this case, residents of Saskatoon and Prince Albert, but we rarely learn about emergencies from the perspectives of the evacuees.”

She and Waldram, her supervisor, approached the Hatchet Lake First Nation to explore a research partnership with the community. A year after the fire and evacuation, Scharbach travelled to Wollaston Lake to interview 59 community members, working alongside three Dené-speaking translators and with community leaders to guide her work.

While she stressed her results are not official until approved by the Hatchet Lake chief and council, she shared some preliminary findings.

Topping the list is that family is the core of the Dené community, and that serving one’s family and community comes before concern for oneself.

“We found that community members describe the challenges of the fire and evacuation by focusing on the well-being of their families and community,” she said. “For example, fathers recall distress because they were unable to enact their roles of protecting and providing for their kin. They coped with this by focusing on the needs of fellow community members, many volunteering as security guards in the evacuation centers.”

Scharbach also found that people also used the opportunity to discuss some of the ongoing, chronic issues they see in their community like joblessness and teen pregnancy.

“I think this is interesting, as it implies that in addition to challenges produced by the way the evacuation was organized, ongoing problems in the community influenced residents’ vulnerability to the stresses of the fire and evacuation.”

The research is the core of Scharbach’s master’s thesis, and together with complementary work by Waldram, forms a report with 13 recommendations submitted to the Hatchet Lake First Nation.

One idea that stood out for Scharbach was suggested by several residents during her research: evacuate people to nearby communities where many people have family rather than to distant cities separated by chasms of distance, language and culture.

“I think that evacuating to a nearby northern community is a great idea, though it would require that northern communities and organizers develop emergency plans for these sorts of incidents,” she said.

Julia Scharbach at Wollaston Lake.

The College of Arts and Science presents
Ross King
Renowned author of Leonardo and the Last Supper, winner of the Governor General’s Literary Award for non-fiction

Two free public events

Monday, November 4, 10 AM
Coffee, discussion and book signing
Gordon Sniderco Gallery
191 Murray Building (next to the Main Library on U of S campus)

Tuesday, November 5, 7:30 PM
“My Writing Life,” lecture and book signing
College of Emmanuel & St. Chad Building
(Wiggins and College Dr.)
U of S campus

For more information e. cdlart@artsandscience.usask.ca p. 306.966.6188

Ross King

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On Oct. 26, the University of Saskatchewan will award 1,073 degrees, certificates and diplomas and install Blaine Favel as its 14th chancellor during the annual fall convocation ceremony. The event will also feature the presentation of two honorary degrees and a number of awards recognizing the accomplishments of member of the U of S community. Complete citations for the award and degree recipients featured here can be found online at awards.usask.ca
Survey revisits nursing in rural, remote Canada

Three faculty members in the U of S College of Nursing are part of a group of researchers revisiting the situation faced by nursing and other health-care professionals working in rural and remote parts of Canada.

Norma Stewart, co-principal investigator, and Mary Ellen Andrews and Kelly Penz, co-investigators, are part of the research team that will repeat a decade-old country-wide survey in order to assess changes in the rural and remote nursing workforce, including an increase in nurse practitioners in primary health-care settings. The project titled Nursing Practice in Rural and Remote Canada II will survey registered nurses and nurse practitioners as well as licensed practical nurses and registered psychiatric nurses in all provinces and territories in the country.

As nurses are the most common health-care providers in rural and remote settings and their professional roles have changed substantially in the last decade, it is important to understand nursing roles and capacity to ensure a sustainable workforce in the future, explained Stewart. This research will help determine how nurse in these settings can best be prepared, recruited and supported.

"I am very excited that we have this opportunity to build on our previous research and make a contribution to the sustainability of the nursing workforce in rural and remote Canada," said Stewart. "This project also builds research capacity and provides succession planning for researchers. Both Drs. Andrews and Penz were graduate students working with the previous survey and now they are tenure-track faculty committed to improving health human resource planning in rural and remote regions, especially in the area of primary health-care transformation."

The three-year research project is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and involves three principal investigators and 13 co-investigators from across Canada, including Julie Kosteniuk and Chandima Karunanayake from the U of S College of Medicine.

College of Nursing faculty members, left to right, Mary Ellen Andrews, Norma Stewart and Kelly Penz.

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Business and Leadership Programs
• Developing Your Coaching Mindset, Nov 6-7
• Leadership Communication, Nov 15
• Leading Innovation, Inspiring Creativity in the Workplace, Nov 18
• Building an Effective Team, Nov 21

Technical Writing, Nov 22

Emotional Intelligence: Another Side of Smart, Nov 28

Learning Your Understanding of Self and Others Using MBTI Step 1 Nov 29

Professional Selling: Skills for Sales Success, Jan 31

USCAD Fall Classes
• Glass Fusion, Nov 1-23
• Advanced Silverforming, Nov 15-17
• Off the Wall: Mixed Media: Sculptural Wall Pieces, Nov 15-17/22-24

Community Music Education Program
• Sunday School: Parent-Taught, Nov 5 at 9:30 am, St. Andrew’s College, main lounge.
• Sunday School: Self-Taught, Nov 5 at 9:30 am, St. Andrew’s College, main lounge.

The Law of the Natural Resources Jurisdiction in Canada
• Oct. 29, 10-11 am, Room 2105 WCVM

Standing Popular Seminar
• A free will offering.

Toscano thoughtfully and humorously presented Indigenous Healers and the conventional Biblical scholarship. There will be more opportunities for public lectures and workshops.

The Diefenbaker Canada Centre has mounted an exhibition that looks beyond the controversy of the Avro Arrow to the accomplishments of Avro Canada. Touch the Sky: The Story of Avro Canada, on view until Dec. 15, includes artifacts and documents from the life of the company and its many projects.

The Newman Showroom is Laura Abram’s submission entitled Queer Thinking? Art in focus. Abram is a leading Northern Artist and her work is on public view from Nov. 3 to 24.

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Dwelle
Dwelle

• Oct. 30-31, Room 250, Bahen Centre, University of Waterloo

The Kaplan Music Instrument Collection
• Oct. 25, 3-4 pm, Room 1034, St. Andrew’s College

Graduate Student Commons, Emmanuel House, 10-12 pm, Wednesday, Nov 12, Copyright and Teaching

Keeping Current with Literature
• Nov. 5, 12-1 pm, Room 331, Station 20 West

Leadership Communication, Nov 15

Leading Innovation, Inspiring Creativity in the Workplace, Nov 18

Building an Effective Team, Nov 21

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Dwelle

• Oct. 30-31, Room 250, Bahen Centre, University of Waterloo

The Kaplan Music Instrument Collection
• Oct. 25, 3-4 pm, Room 1034, St. Andrew’s College

Graduate Student Commons, Emmanuel House, 10-12 pm, Wednesday, Nov 12, Copyright and Teaching

Keeping Current with Literature
• Nov. 5, 12-1 pm, Room 331, Station 20 West
Kelly Foley joined the U of S in July, 2012 as an assistant professor of economics, specializing in the socioeconomic determinants of education.

“Education is seemingly one of the biggest drivers, more than income, of well-being and socioeconomic status,” she said. “Education is linked to lower crime rates, better health outcomes. While the causality is not clear, there is strong correlation among all of those things.”

Foley grew up in Hamilton, part of a blue-collar family where she was the first to complete high school and pursue a university education rather than the more familiar journeyman ticket. She completed a bachelor’s degree in geography at the University of Waterloo and a master’s in public administration at Carlton University before switching to economics. She completed her MA and PhD at the University of British Columbia before taking a position at the Copenhagen Business School in Denmark.

Foley’s current research focuses on understanding the connection between family background and educational attainment among young people, particularly the decision to drop out of high school. She said that while much work has established a definite payoff for investment in early years education, less is known about the role of parents in supporting the success of high school students.

As a teacher, Foley admits to being something of a hard case, driving her school students.

“My students are seriously challenged, particularly the undergrads here,” she said. “It’s a massive pleasure to teach, especially the undergrads here,” she said. “They’re just special people. There’s something about the Saskatchewan stock, and the College of Agriculture and Bioresources had an 11.9 per cent increase in undergrads compared to last year. Isinger said it is apparent that the U of S because they were forced to defer their arrival at the U of S due to the summer strike by foreign service staff at the federal government agency responsible for issuing student visas. More than 50 international students were forced to defer their arrival at the U of S because they were unable to obtain the necessary paperwork.

Looking at three credit unit equivalents on census day, Isinger said it is apparent that even though there are fewer students overall, those attending the U of S are taking exactly the same number of credit units as last year.

Isinger said the university’s Strategic Enrolment Management Plan, currently in the approval stage, will contain recommendations “that will help the institution take some of the critical steps needed to meet its enrolment goals that have been set for the third planning cycle.”

A full report on census day results and the enrolment management plan will be presented to the November meeting of University Council.

That number, said the registrar, demonstrates the success of the university’s recruitment efforts in that province, particularly in Calgary.

International student numbers are up 4.9 per cent, said Isinger. The increase would have been even higher but for a late-summer strike by foreign service staff at the federal government agency responsible for issuing student visas. More than 50 international students were forced to defer their arrival at the U of S because they were unable to obtain the necessary paperwork.

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Indoor/outdoor

Lawrene Toews kept an eye on the progress of the Health Sciences building via webcam, her only option because her office window in the College of Medicine was boarded up during construction. Then, almost a year ago, the assistant to the acting dean of research moved with her colleagues onto the fifth floor of D Wing, into a space flanked by windows looking west over the city centre and east into the building’s spectacular atrium.

Her desk doesn’t face either set of windows “so it’s a real treat to get up and walk by if you’re going to talk to someone or get a coffee,” she said. “You can see what’s happening outside,” and Toews particularly appreciates the changing colours that accompany the changing seasons. The inside view is of people busy in their offices but it’s not a view she’s quite as fond of. “I don’t prefer heights myself but I know they did a good job of construction so I’m not afraid of getting too close to the windows.”

She’s also discovered since moving into D Wing that there are 118 steps in the atrium from the ground floor to the fifth, and if you climb them once a day for two weeks, it equals the height of the Eiffel Tower.