STUDENT SUPPORT ON THE RISE

There are so many ways we support students to help them be the best they can be. The support is contagious as events like One Day for Students, the USSU Undergraduate Research Symposium and myriad of other awards grow year after year. All of this combines to set up our students for success for a lifetime to come.

SEE PAGES 8-10
University key partner in supercluster

Kris Foster

As a key partner in Canada’s agricultural supercluster, announced on Feb. 15 by the federal government, the U of S is going to get a major research boost.

“We certainly anticipate significant opportunities for research with industry partners related to plant-based protein, enhancing crops and ingredients and the protein value-chain,” said Bob Tyler, associate dean of research and graduate studies in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources. “This industry-led project will bring us together to work with 120 partners from across Canada. These are things we do now, but not in such a co-ordinated way with such broad partnership.”

The Protein Industries Canada supercluster—one of five national superclusters awarded a total of $950 million—will create new products that add value to crops such as wheat, canola, and lentils and other pulses, generating over $700 million in new commercial activity over five years and approximately 4,700 jobs over the next decade.

“The U of S has long been a world leader in agriculture research and this will amplify and enhance things we already do. It will provide very significant opportunities for faculty, graduate and undergraduate students, postdoctoral scientists and technical staff to conduct protein-focused crop and ingredient research to help supply protein to an increasingly hungry world,” said Tyler, noting that the supercluster is valued at more than $500 million when total cash and in-kind and venture capital investment from partners is included.

With world-leading expertise in plant genetics and breeding, crop production and processing, and molecular imaging and analysis, the U of S is set to help train hundreds of students—across multiple disciplines such as information technology, business leadership and plant sciences—as innovative leaders in the plant-based agri-food sector.

Tyler said the five-year project—which includes small- to large-sized enterprises, academic institutions, and other stakeholders involved in crop breeding, agricultural crop production, food and food ingredient processing, and their supporting services companies—will have outcomes and partnerships far beyond that timeline.

“The cluster will engage players not presently involved and create new industry partnerships,” Tyler said. “Industry provides funding and market insight that better enables ideas to get to market, to become innovations. That can’t be done solely on the public purse.”

Tyler said the university is well-placed to make significant contributions to the project because of its storied history of success in agricultural research, as well as noted facilities, schools and centres, including the Crop Development Centre, the Global Institute for Food Security, the Saskatchewan Food Industry Development Centre, Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy and the Canadian Light Source synchrotron.

“The unique combination of vital infrastructure and world-class researchers at the U of S will provide the companies participating in the supercluster with the innovative edge to accelerate commercialization and add value at every point along the supply chain,” said Maurice Moloney, executive director and CEO of the U of S Global Institute for Food Security.

Tyler said the long-term vision is for Western Canada to become a “Silicon Valley” of plant-based protein research—a market estimated to be worth $13 billion of which Canada currently has a minimal share—but there is a great deal of work before then.

Immediate next steps, Tyler said, include appointing a permanent board to oversee Protein Industries Canada, finalizing structures and funding, and getting the word out.

“We really need to spread the word,” he said. “We really need to make the research community aware of the opportunities this supercluster presents.”

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

A lot happens at the U of S during the weeks when On Campus News isn’t published. Here are a few of the top stories from news.usask.ca:

At the head of the table

In February, Executive Chef James McFarland, Executive Sous Chef Ahmed Mohammed and Sous Chef Douglas Mark participated in the country’s top culinary competition, Gold Medal Plates and Canadian Culinary Championships in Kelowna, BC. Even though McFarland did not come home with the top prize, he demonstrated why he is the first university chef to win the regional competition in order to move on to the national level.

Agriculture team cream of the crop

The U of S Range Team—comprised of 15 students from the College of Agriculture and Bioresources—won first place at the Undergraduate Range Management Exam in Sparks, Nev., in February. The exam provides an opportunity for undergraduate students to demonstrate higher order learning skills and synthesis knowledge of the art and science of rangeland management. The team did a variety of fundraising activities to secure the trip.

The first PAW 2018 poster competition

U of S graduate students Geteneshe Berhanu Teshome, Udoka Okpalaawake and Carolyn Gaspar were the winners of a poster competition held in conjunction with the Feb. 7th People Around the World (PAW) conference. PAW highlighted the impact, outreach and engagement of the university’s international research, while the poster competition demonstrated students’ engagement in community-based research nationally and internationally.

Bee health keeps researchers busy

At the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM), a group of veterinary pathologists have devoted their time and attention to the health of the honeybee and their colonies. Talking about honeybees often conjures up sweet thoughts of golden honey, idyllic meadows and perhaps even a beekeeper or two. But it turns out that bees, like any other species, have many pests and pathogens and need veterinarians, too.
U of S and City of Saskatoon sign historic agreement

On Feb. 27, the City of Saskatoon and the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to explore collaborations that will address issues related to urban planning, land development, reconciliation, transit and research collaborations, to just name a few.

Saskatoon Mayor Charlie Clark said that the agreement is a perfect fit because the city and the university already share many of the same values and aspirations, such as a commitment to community, a desire to explore innovations, an emphasis on diversity and a goal of living more sustainably.

“The university and city are interdependent, and our relationship has helped to define the evolution of our community,” said Clark. “As we look to the future, this MOU helps to improve our opportunities for collaboration, builds on each other’s strengths and positions us for success in a changing world.”

U of S President Peter Stoicheff said that while the university has historically worked to strengthen communities it serves through education, research and engagement, this agreement means efforts to partner will be even more purposeful and deliberate.

“Great cities have great universities—the partnership and collaboration we are celebrating today helps ensure we will have both for generations to come,” said Stoicheff. “The university community has a wealth of knowledge, expertise and human power—faculty, staff and students—that can help find solutions to issues addressing strategic infill, transportation needs and sustainability, to projects centered on recreation, joint research and student learning opportunities,” said Clark. “What we have committed to today is about the future, because in Saskatoon we have all of the elements in place to work with our university and lead the country in many of the biggest issues facing cities today.”

Stoicheff said that the relationship is based not only on location but also on the large number of people connected to the U of S who live in the city.

“The U of S is a significant economic driver for the city, with nearly 30,000 faculty, staff and students who live, work, volunteer, shop, participate in recreation and community events, and give back to the city,” said Stoicheff. “Beyond that, more than 38,000 U of S alumni call Saskatoon home, comprising about 15 per cent of the city’s population. So, it is critical that we are involved in giving back to our community.”

Important to the success of the agreement will be a working group that will determine future projects and areas of engagement, Clark said.

“This MOU is so much more than just reinforcing what we have already done,” said Clark. “It’s about a new approach of intentional collaboration and problem solving to create the best results for our community.”

While the agreement is new, both Clark and Stoicheff said they are confident in the potential outcomes showing great benefit to the city and university and being a model for similar partnerships in the city, province and country.

“We are proud to be a part of this vibrant community and today the long-standing relationship between the City of Saskatoon and the U of S becomes a formal partnership,” said Stoicheff. “Saskatoon and the U of S are leaders in Canada and in time our partnership will also set an example for other cities and their universities to follow.”
She hasn’t even officially started her own career yet, but Mayra Samaniego is already working on two different continents to inspire the next generation of young women in the field of computer science.

The prodigious PhD student at the University of Saskatchewan volunteers her time teaching computer code to girls and young women in workshops in Saskatoon and also recently returned from a month-long visit to Ecuador—her first trip home in three years—where she spoke to girls at her former high school about the world of opportunities that are available to them, just a click away on the internet.

“I strongly believe that we can make our dreams come true, no matter your geographical location or economical position,” Samaniego said. “But it requires hard work and dedication and to be persistent. Even though I want to research here in Canada, I would like to keep linked to my country, especially to my province and city. I want to show those young girls over there that all of their dreams can become true.”

Samaniego herself has come a long way, literally and figuratively, to conduct research at the U of S. While studying in South America, she quickly found that the internet eliminated borders and barriers and brought the future right to her door.

“I like to search new things on the internet and I saw the ‘Internet of Things’ (IoT) was a trending topic,” said Samaniego, who earned a bachelor’s degree in Ecuador before coming to the U of S. “And what I liked from the University of Saskatchewan is I saw on the website that they offered research opportunities in the lab. So, I contacted Dr. (Ralph) Deters because his research area was more in my area, which is distributed and mobile program- ming and ‘cloud’ computing. And then he offered me to work in the area of Internet of Things. I applied and was accepted and here I am.”

Now working under the guidance of Deters in the computer science department, Samaniego is one of 55 individuals from Ecuador and one of 3,001 international students at the U of S. Here in Saskatoon, she is now closer to the North Pole (4,200 km away) than she is to her home town of Chone near the equator (5,800 km away), adding climate to the cultural adjustment that she faced. Despite the cooler temperatures, she has been warmly welcomed in the campus community and in the city.

“One of things that I felt here, and that I read on the internet when I was searching for universities, is the support that this university gives to international students,” she said. “I felt supported when I arrived here. I remember they were very interested in making me feel like home, so that made me feel very good and that made the process easy. I am very thankful to this city of Saskatoon because I have met many people, Canadians and international people, who are very supportive.”

Samaniego was also supported by a number of U of S graduate scholarships, including earning a prestigious Dean’s Scholarship while working on her Master of Science, and has served as a sessional lecturer for the university.

Samaniego completed her master’s thesis, Virtual Resources and Internet of Things, in 2017 while working in Deters’ computer lab—Multi-User Adaptive Distributed Mobile and Ubiquitous Computing (MADMUC)—a creative hub that has featured graduate students from 25 different countries since opening in May of 2000.

“She is a very, very strong (PhD) candidate,” Deters said. “She recently won the Dean’s Scholarship, based on her strong performance in the master’s program. She did extremely well, she published, and her work is very, very innovative. And she has high potential for the future.”

In her PhD work, Samaniego is exploring cutting-edge blockchain technology, which powers the new digital currencies like Bitcoin and is also the key to unlocking the unlimited potential that IoT brings by connecting billions of devices.

“‘For me, the Internet of Things, IoT, together with blockchain, that is dynamite, because IoT has countless possibilities,’” said Samaniego, who is building new systems based on blockchain technologies to manage IoT networks. “With IoT, a sensor in your shirt could monitor your heart beat and blood pressure and send that data directly to your smart phone to remind you to take your medicine, monitor your blood sugar, or track the position of seniors (with Alzheimer’s) who need help. So, health care is one of the more interesting areas, but there are many others.

“My immediate goal is finishing my PhD and after that I would like to apply for a post-doc position and then get a faculty position here in Canada,” she said. “And the main reason is, here in Canada, we have more research opportunities than back home. So that’s my goal.”
Playing to learn and translating history

Research examines historical portrayals of Indigenous people in board games

EDEN FRIESEN

The shelf above Benjamin Hoy’s desk in his Arts Tower office is lined with glossy boxes rather than books; it’s a space where work and play intentionally overlap.

“Games help translate historical lessons into tin and pasteboard that children can play,” said Hoy, assistant professor of history at the University of Saskatchewan and author of two upcoming papers that examine historical and contemporary uses of board games.

“I started liking history—loving history—because I played games,” he said. But games are more than just fun to Hoy, the winner of a 2017 Provost’s Outstanding New Teacher Award. He understands them as a tool for education.

“I’d love it if historians were the main way that people learned about history,” he said. “But we’re not.”

Hoy’s recent work revolves around how people in the past used games to teach culture, politics and history, and how games today are used for similar purposes. He sees games as a medium that “adults often use to translate the past into a format children can experience and understand. In general, a child is not likely to go to war, but they can play the war and in the process learn about their culture.”

In an upcoming paper, Hoy focuses on the representation of Indigenous North Americans in historical board games from around the world. He examines games as one of the methods through which children have been taught “the underpinnings of American culture.”

“Long before many 19th-century American children interacted with Indigenous communities, they were seeing advertisements that depicted them, they were playing with toys or they were playing games,” said Hoy. “That is one of the most interesting things about looking at games for kids. Children have very limited experiences, and games provide some of their first exposure to ideas about race.”

Part of Hoy’s research for the project involved a fellowship at the Strong Museum of Play in Rochester, N.Y. in 2016 where he had the chance to play century-old board games himself.

“It was wonderful, in the sense that I didn’t realize there were museums of toys,” he said. “Every day, walking through a museum where kids are screaming and having fun is a very different experience than a normal archival trip.”

As well as studying the historical use of games as tools for teaching children, Hoy sees great potential for games in a university classroom. He is currently publishing a paper about his experiences constructing games to make dull or misunderstood subject matter more accessible to students.

One of these challenging subject areas is smuggling across the 19th-century Canada-United States border.

“When students are reading about smuggling, their first impression tends to be, “Those...
It comes as no surprise that Suzanne Kresta wasted little time in rolling up her sleeves and getting right to work.

After all, the new dean of the College of Engineering at the University of Saskatchewan has always been just as comfortable out on the job site as she has been in the classroom. In her field, she gets to enjoy the best of both worlds.

“I fell in love with the profession and I thought that I would spend my entire life in a hard hat and work boots,” said Kresta, who officially began her five-year term as engineering dean in January after taking over from Donald Bergstrom, who had served as interim dean for the past two years. “I love being out in the field, and I have worked with 20 different industrial sectors over my 26 years as an academic. And working with companies is just a fabulous part of being the dean.”

Kresta has hit the ground running in her new post, immersing herself in the task of getting to know the people and the programs in a rapidly growing college that features 1,700 undergrads and 460 graduate students, 80 faculty and 61 support staff, and 12,000 alumni world-wide. The prestigious college has a history dating back more than a century on campus, and offers study in eight diverse disciplines of engineering: chemical, civil, computer, electrical, environmental, geological, mechanical, and engineering physics.

“When you move into a dean’s position, there are a lot of things to catch up on, there are a lot of people to get to know, because you are dealing with a very big, complicated portfolio,” she said. “So those first couple of weeks and months are about collecting data and figuring out where the big pieces are that need to be moved around … It’s like I have a thousand-piece puzzle on my dining room table and I don’t have the lid for the box, so I am just picking up pieces one at a time and sorting out where they belong.”

Building a sense of belonging for all faculty, staff and students and continuing to build bridges to industry are some of Kresta’s top priorities in her new role. Kresta is also a big proponent of the university’s commitment to an interdisciplinary approach to research that fosters creative college collaborations.

“One of the things that has delighted me about coming here is how integrated the college is into the things that Saskatchewan does best, and that is certainly something that I want to continue, expand and build on,” said Kresta, who is originally from Prince Edward Island and came to the U of S after 26 years of teaching chemical engineering at the University of Alberta (U of A). “I feel very welcome and at home in Saskatchewan and I am delighted to have taken on this role.”

One of Kresta’s biggest roles moving forward will be finalizing the college’s strategic priorities to align with the new university planning process currently underway.

“The university plan is very good for the College of Engineering,” said Kresta, whose college recently announced it is opening up 150 additional seats for new undergraduate students in the 2018-19 academic year. “The most important thing for us to accomplish as a college this year is to really sort out our strategic priorities. People have been working really hard on that since last summer. And moving forward with the action plan to go with the strategic plan is something that will really start to gain momentum within the next 18 months.”

“There are a couple of things that are already blossoming. We’re building industry partnerships that will help us continue to fund focused research chairs, innovative education, and research that builds the economy of Saskatchewan, and a leadership team that leaves us well-positioned to continue to grow, well into the future.”

Industry partnerships are Kresta’s speciality, having worked with one of the world’s major mixing equipment manufacturers for more than 20 years, and having worked on projects as diverse as drinking water, cosmetics, photographic film and oilsands extraction. An accomplished researcher in the field of turbulent mixing, Kresta’s academic and industry expertise also aligned when she completed two professional handbooks on industrial mixing.

She has earned major accolades for her work in the classroom, including being awarded the Engineers Canada Medal for Distinction in Engineering Education—the highest engineering education award in the country—as well as the Award for Excellence in Education from the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta. Kresta also received the A.C. Rutherford Award for Excellence in Teaching—the highest teaching honour bestowed upon a professor at the U of A.

With her proven track record of success, and two daughters who have followed in her footsteps into the engineering profession (“One builds airplanes and the other one builds race cars,” she said) Kresta is a role model for females in the field, and hopes to continue to build on the progress in a college that traditionally has had the lowest percentage of female enrolment (currently 20 per cent) on campus.

“Gender diversity is an ongoing issue for the engineering profession as a whole, so nationally there has been a commitment to 30 per cent new registrants being female by 2030 and all the provincial associations have signed on to this objective,” Kresta said.

“However, a dean cannot control the decisions that an 18-year-old makes when they apply to a university, nor should they. But what we can control is the quality of our first-year programs, the quality of our outreach programs, our connections to industry, and the kinds of opportunities that we offer, not just to young women, but to young men, to Indigenous people, to all of our students. I want to ensure that we are being inclusive.”
Like many university graduates, Kevin Dunn only had a vague notion of where his career path might lead him—he had no idea that his U of S degree in geography would help land him one of the most coveted travel jobs in the province: the Saskatchewanderer.

“I knew I was interested in dealing with environment and human interactions, but I wasn’t sure what I wanted to do with it when I was finished,” said Dunn, who graduated five years ago from the U of S. “Many of the classes I took looked at the perspectives of urban and rural life, along with urban planning. There were ties with community development and Indigenous studies. And I knew this was something I wanted to explore, but wasn’t sure how.”

After working for the City of Saskatoon for several years, Dunn set his sights on becoming the next ambassador for the province. And, much to his own surprise, he was accepted as the newest Saskatchewanderer, a position supported by the Government of Saskatchewan and other partners since 2011, to bring profile to the province.

Now he gets paid to travel and meet people—a natural extension of his studies at the U of S.

“When I’m out exploring the province, there are ways in which my education will help facilitate the ways in which I will be communicating with the people I meet,” said Dunn. “Something that really motivated me to take this was a result of the classes that I took. There were a lot of instances of community participation where I got to engage with the public, and I knew that this was a field that I wanted to explore further.”

Each year, a different Saskatchewanderer is hired to travel throughout the province and record their journey. The previous wanderer logged 46,000 kilometres, and Dunn said he is excited to hit that same mark, especially given that he admittedly didn’t get to travel much when he was a student.

“It took a year or two after convocation before I got to start exploring the province, and visit the destinations I had heard so much about,” said Dunn. “Diefenbaker Dam is so close to Saskatoon, and there is so much to see in-between here and there.”

While the Saskatchewanderer position is limited to a year-long contract, Dunn hopes that the experience will help him transition into his next dream job.

“I’m taking a leap of faith this year,” said Dunn. “Going from steady employment to a contract is a bit risky, but I’m hoping that this stint as the Saskatchewanderer will lead to more travel opportunities and another job where I get to showcase all the amazing things our province has to offer.”

The places you’ll go

U of S grad lands Saskatchewanderer gig

Having spent several years at the U of S, Kevin Dunn is no stranger to student life. Now, as the Saskatchewanderer, he spends his time showcasing all the best things to see and do in the province—including his alma mater. Here are some of Dunn’s favourite spots on campus, from his time as an undergrad.

AGRICULTURE BUILDING
I was one of those students who was glued to the textbook. And I was drawn to anywhere on campus that was a quiet place to study. And the Ag Building is such a unique spot, and the lighting is spectacular. Plus, this area of campus was always a bit quieter for study spots.

THE BOWL
I loved walking through here—and it was always a hub of activity at the beginning of the school year.

GEOLOGY BUILDING
This is the first place I would take someone who was visiting the U of S for the first time. The dinosaurs are really something to see, and there are so many other sights packed into this spot. Plus, I’m a bit biased since I spent so much of my time here as a geography student.

THORVALDSON BUILDING
The lecture hall with the paper airplanes is probably the most unique room I’ve ever seen on campus, or anywhere for that matter. There’s really nothing else like it.

MURRAY LIBRARY
As a student, I was always drawn here. There’s lots of space for studying, but the building itself is huge and there are plenty of nooks and alcoves to explore.
Undergrad research a stepping stone to academic life

LESLEY PORTER

Whether it’s a poster, a project or a painting, undergraduate research is a way for young scholars to gain valuable academic experience and showcase their top-notch work.

These were key takeaways from the University of Saskatchewan Students’ Union (USSU) Undergraduate Project Symposium, held Feb. 5.

Now in its sixth year, the symposium’s goal is to highlight and engage with undergraduate students who participate in research, scholarly and artistic work.

The event is run by the USSU with support from the Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching and Learning and the undergraduate research initiatives unit within the Office of the Vice-President Research.

“The work that our undergraduate students are doing is amazing and it certainly deserves to be recognized,” said Jessica Quan, USSU vice-president academic affairs. “I think that’s the one thing that a lot of participants appreciate—the cash awards are one thing, but it’s also that recognition that they get.”

This year’s event featured a total of 32 entries. Apart from the traditional award categories—sciences and engineering, social sciences, humanities and fine arts, people’s choice, and signature research area—this year’s symposium introduced three new awards recognizing artistic engagement, city-building and Indigenous engagement (see sidebar for winners).

U of S President Peter Stoicheff and Gregory Burke, CEO and executive director of the Remai Modern, presented the University President and Remai Modern Award in Artistic Engagement. Stoicheff presented another award—the University President and Mayor’s Award in City-Building—alongside city councillor Hillary Gough.

It was two recent MOUs the university signed or was about to sign—with the Remai Modern and the City of Saskatoon, respectively—that led Quan to pursueing each of those awards.

“I saw that as being a tangible outcome of those MOUs and I was really pushing for it,” she said, adding that both parties were receptive.

Additionally, Vice-Provost of Indigenous Engagement Jackie Ottmann was at the symposium to present an award, sponsored by her office, for the project that best represented Indigenous engagement.

“Given that our university is moving in the direction of indigenization, from the student perspective there tends to be a lot of talk and big words being tossed around, but what’s the actual tangible outcome of them?” Quan asked. “Having an award, that immediate recognition, was a good way to move the process along, while also recognizing that this is important.”

Going forward, Quan would like to see more fine arts students participate.

“There tends to be a perception that it’s predominantly science-based projects, but we’re really trying to make an inclusive culture that really highlights the artistic discovery element,” she said.

This year, she connected with arts faculty members to encourage them to shoulder-tap students in their classes to submit their work. This also served as motivation behind the new Remai Modern award as well, and Quan hopes it acts as an incentive in years to come.

“I hope the award sets the precedent and we have it again next year so that slowly more arts students will start to participate in the event,” she said.

Undergraduate Project Symposium winners

| People’s Choice Award and Signature Research Area Award |
| JESSICA PHELPS |
| Mercury concentrations in walleye (Sander vitreus) |
| The Vice-Provost’s Award in Indigenous Engagement |
| MICHELLE BRANDT |
| Nearshore seabed habitats and benthic biodiversity, Arctic Bay, Nunavut |
| The University President and Remai Modern Award in Artistic Engagement |
| ELIZABETH SMITH |
| Métis fiddle music: Going beyond the distinctive sound |
| The University President and Mayor’s Award in City-Building |
| BRYNN KOSTENIUK |
| How companion animals contribute to recovery from opioid addiction |
| Sciences and Engineering Placement Prizes |
| KELLY CHRISTOPHER |
| Seizing caesium: Phytoextraction of caesium from soil by brassicaceae family |
| Social Sciences, Humanities and Fine Arts Placement Prizes |
| BRYNN KOSTENIUK |
| How companion animals contribute to recovery from opioid addiction |
One Day for Students celebrates philanthropy

ROXANNE MCHATTIE

How do you give? On March 14, that’s the question being asked during One Day for Students, when the campus and wider community come together in support of students.

One Day for Students is an annual U of S event celebrating all types of philanthropy: donating time, treasure and talent.

“At the University of Saskatchewan, we really understand the root word for philanthropy, which is giving toward the welfare of others, or helping other people succeed in what they’re doing,” said Debra Pozega Osburn, vice-president of University Relations. “That’s the spirit of One Day for Students at our university.”

As part of this year’s festivities, students, alumni, staff and faculty are encouraged to take part in an art installation, dubbed “the sticky note project” to share encouraging words that answer the important question “How do you give?” The idea is that people feel motivated to give back in a variety of ways, whether that be financial, through volunteerism, or by donating services.

For those who wish to make a financial contribution, the day will raise funds for the Nasser Family Emergency Student Trust—a fund dedicated to helping students who may need a hand in a time of need.

“The Nasser fund is for urgent or emergency needs for students,” said Pozega Osburn. “It can be a family emergency, or it could be that your housing situation changes suddenly. These things happen to all of us, but when you’re a student, and you’re moving through your educational process, they can be devastating if they’re not addressed properly. Because these emergencies come out of nowhere, it’s really important that fund remains at a level where it can be accessed at a moment’s notice.”

The emergency fund was established by Professor Emeritus Kay Nasser and his wife Dora, who over the past 50 years have supported more than 500 students through scholarships, or by providing funds for students in emergency situations. On March 14, the Nassers will be matching all funds raised on One Day for Students.

Nasser said it was his own financial struggle to attain an education that inspired him to give back and help students along their educational journey. When he was young, his mother sold her wedding necklace to help pay for his tuition.

“This was my case, there may be others who have different situations where they really need money to go to either high school or university,” Nasser said. “It is very important to me that if I can help, I would like to help anyone who is in that position.”

As Nasser continued his own education, he relied on the support of scholarships to get him through. Now that he’s in a position to give back, he hopes students who receive scholarships will also someday return the favour and help another student who may be struggling.

SEE STUDENTS PAGE 10

Graduate student Naheda Sahtout was inspired to create an award for other graduate students after receiving awards herself.
Global grad student support grows

From sunny South America to the frosty Canadian prairies, Bruna Maria Remonato Franco’s academic journey was sparked by her dedication to animal welfare.

“I am passionate about animal welfare,” said Franco, originally from Curitiba, Brazil. “When I had the opportunity to do a PhD I was very interested because it seems like it’s my life goal, to feel like I’m doing something to help the animals to get a better life.”

Currently completing her PhD in animal and poultry science at the U of S, Franco is also a recipient of the Dean’s Scholarship, awarded yearly since 2005 by the College of Graduate and Post-doctoral Studies (CGPS) to graduate students with outstanding academic records and research potential.

Franco earned her veterinary medicine degree in Brazil. She worked as a veterinarian while completing a master’s degree in veterinary sciences specializing in farm animal welfare. Her husband received a scholarship to complete a portion of his graduate studies in Canada. While visiting him, she met with agriculture professor (and future graduate advisor) Karen Schwean-Lardner. After being accepted for her PhD program, Schwean-Lardner emailed her information about the Dean’s Scholarship.

“There were some requirements about grades and publications,” Franco recalled. “I thought, ‘OK, let’s give it a try.’”

Franco was already in Canada, so she worked with family and friends back in Brazil to arrange the necessary paperwork. Her efforts paid off when she was awarded the scholarship.

“I was so happy when I got it,” she said. “We have our daughter here, so we have to pay for daycare, which is not cheap, and other expenses we have.”

She added that without this funding, “it would be tight for us. So this helped us a lot. I have no words to say how grateful I am.”

Not long after, the college announced another half a million dollars would be committed to the scholarship fund to cover tuition costs of doctoral student recipients.

“This was amazing—another amazing gift for us,” said Franco. “I can concentrate on my studies and I know that at the end of the month I will have the money and what I need to pay for my family’s expenses, so I can be full-time here and focused on my PhD.”

On top of the Dean’s Scholarship, CGPS recently announced two new scholarships aimed at supporting top graduate and post-doctoral researchers.

“The awards I have received on their educational journey. Someone else values my work,” said Sahtout, who is currently completing her PhD in the Department of Chemistry.

“I was inspired to create an award for graduate students with disabilities to encourage them, and remind them that they shouldn’t feel that their disability is a barrier to pursuing higher education. I would hope they would feel proud of who they are and be willing to pursue whatever they want to accomplish in life,” said Sahtout.

Visit give.usask.ca/oneday to read about other U of S students who are giving back, as well as learn how you can get involved with One Day for Students on March 14.

Roxanne McHattie is a development communications specialist in University Relations.
Interested in governance of the University of Saskatchewan?
Consider offering to join a University Committee

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

Following are the committee vacancies which we are looking to fill for the 2018-19 academic year. We usually try to appoint people for three-year terms. Sessional lecturers are appointed for one year.

To volunteer or to nominate someone else:

For more information, please contact a member of the Nominations Committee of Council:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nominations Committee of Council:</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jim Greer (Chair)</td>
<td>2234</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pam Downe</td>
<td>1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Nicol</td>
<td>5261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donna Goodridge</td>
<td>306-884-1009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan Walker</td>
<td>5664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angela Bowen</td>
<td>8949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Bindle</td>
<td>6003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ali Honaramooz</td>
<td>7355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roy Dobson</td>
<td>6363</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information, visit usask.ca/secretariat/governing-bodies/council/committees.php or call 306-966-2192

<table>
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<th>Committee</th>
<th>What does it do?</th>
<th>How often?</th>
<th>Information about expected vacancies</th>
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<td>University Council Committees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Programs Committee</td>
<td>Reviews and approves curricular changes from all colleges, recommends major curricular changes to Council, oversees policies relating to students and academic programs</td>
<td>twice a month</td>
<td>3 vacancies + sessional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Activities Committee</td>
<td>Develops and reviews policies, programming, and strategic directions for international activities and programs</td>
<td>once a month</td>
<td>2 vacancies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominations Committee</td>
<td>Nominates GAA and Council members for university committees and panels</td>
<td>as required</td>
<td>5 vacancies (must be a Council member)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning &amp; Priorities Committee</td>
<td>Reviews and advises Council and the university administration on planning, budgeting, and academic priorities</td>
<td>twice a month</td>
<td>4 vacancies + sessional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research, Scholarly &amp; Artistic Work Committee</td>
<td>Reviews and advises Council on issues related to research, scholarly and artistic work, including research-related policies</td>
<td>twice a month</td>
<td>3 vacancies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarships &amp; Awards Committee</td>
<td>Grants awards, scholarships, and bursaries open to students of more than one college or school; advises Council on scholarship and awards policies and issues</td>
<td>as required</td>
<td>3 vacancies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching, Learning &amp; Academic Resources Committee</td>
<td>Reviews and advises on pedagogical issues, Indigenous content, support services for teaching and learning, and policy issues related to teaching, learning and academic resources</td>
<td>once a month</td>
<td>3 vacancies + sessional</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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| Collective Agreement Committees        |                                                                                |            |                                      |
| University Review Committee (URC)      | Reviews college recommendations for awards of tenure, renewals of probation, and promotions to professor | frequently November to March (evenings) | 3 vacancies |
| Renewals and Tenure Appeal Committee   | Hears appeals of URC decisions recommending against renewal of probationary period or award of tenure | March | 4 vacancies + one senior administrator |
| Promotions Appeal Panel                | Members of the Promotion Appeal Committee, Sabbatical Committee, and President’s Review Committee are selected from this roster | variable in the spring | 13 vacancies (must be full professor) |

| Other Committees                       |                                                                                |            |                                      |
| Recreation and Athletics Advisory Council | Recommends on recreation and athletic fees charged to students and reviews reports on expenditures | variable | 1 vacancy (Kinesiology faculty not eligible) |
| Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships | Reviews proposals to establish new chairs and submits to the Council and Board of Governors for approval | variable | 1 vacancy (must be a Council member) |
| Policy Oversight Committee             | Advises on the development and approval of university-level policies and procedures | four times a year | 2 vacancies (must be a Council member) |
Steve Laycock is back basking in the glow of the national sports spotlight, continuing the University of Saskatchewan’s rich history of championship curling connections.

The 35-year-old Laycock—a 2006 commerce graduate who now works in the People and Resources division at the U of S—won his fourth provincial men’s curling title in five years on Feb. 4 in Estevan to earn the right to represent Saskatchewan at the Brier and it is also in winning a world junior title and representing a Canadian university title for the U of S. Laycock said the university has been extremely supportive and flexible with his work schedule to allow him to compete at the highest level.

This year is Laycock’s seventh trip to the national men’s curling championship, a remarkable record of success that also includes winning a world junior title and capturing a Canadian university title for the U of S. “From first being a student-athlete who represented the U of S in winning the 2006 Canadian university curling championship and later representing Canada at the World Universiade Games in 2007, to now being an employee of the U of S and representing Saskatchewan at the Brier competing against the top teams in the world, it has been quite a journey,” said Laycock.

“When I first started developing an interest in curling, I dreamed one day of playing in the Brier. In my wildest dreams, I wouldn’t have guessed that I would get that opportunity seven times by the age of 35.”

Laycock is the latest in the university’s long line of championship curling connections which include Rick Folk playing for the old Huskies curling team in the 1970s and going on to become a two-time Canadian and world champion. Alumna Sandra Schmirler, who lost her battle with cancer in 2000, was a three-time national and world champion and won the first Olympic gold medal in the sport, while former U of S Chancellor Vera Pezer earned four Canadian women’s titles. Meanwhile, former provincial lieutenant-governor and renowned U of S medical researcher Sylvia Fedoruk, who passed away in 2012, was a three-time national champion.

Fond farewell for campus curling

This is not only the final year for hockey in Rutherford Rink, but also the farewell season for curling on campus.

With the venerable old hockey rink set to close when the University of Saskatchewan Huskies move into state-of-the-art Merlis Belsher Place, the aging curling facility will also be decommissioned as the Campus Recreation student leagues and U of S staff leagues make the most of this final season.

“We will have a social (Friday, April 6) when the league is done and invite anyone who has ever curled there, for our last hurrah, kind of thing,” said university faculty/staff league president Louis Roth, who has been curling on campus since 1982 and taught in the College of Engineering for 34 years before retiring in 2016.

“After 30-plus years of curling at the U of S, it will be nice to reconnect with past curlers for a meal and drinks to reminisce about the early days of our club,” he added.

The six-sheet curling rink—located adjacent to the hockey rink—was originally built in the 1960s, with the facility now well past its prime. While it was home to recreational curling, no academic programming will be affected.

“Since the hockey and curling rinks are served by the same outdated ice plant, the curling facility will be shut down when Rutherford Rink is closed and hockey is moved to its new home, Merlis Belsher Place,” said Chad London, dean of the College of Kinesiology. “Unfortunately, we will no longer have our own facility for the curling club, although there are a number of excellent community facilities that welcome new members.”

Tickets for the staff curling league windup are $20 and available by emailing Roth at: louis.roth@usask.ca
Hope, shipped to your door

LESLEY PORTER

According to the Canadian Mental Health Association, one in five Canadians will experience some form of mental illness in their life.

One University of Saskatchewan student-turned-entrepreneur is hoping to lessen the burden of mental health issues with a new subscription box service called Courage Box.

Subscription boxes have taken off in recent years, where customers can set up a monthly shipment of anything from comic books to pet treats to fancy patterned socks.

Created by third-year women and gender studies student Shawn Clouthier, Courage Box is a similar subscription service aimed at providing strategies for those with anxiety and depression to deal with their illness.

Clouthier started Courage Box in 2016. She recalled going through “an awful mental health period” that included dropping out of school, quitting her job and moving home. During this time, she started to look for a subscription box with self-help elements for mental health. She ultimately came up short and, with encouragement from a friend, decided to make her own.

While it may have been a hard time for Clouthier, something good came out of it.

“It created opportunity for me to do something like this because I didn’t have anything else to do,” she said.

She invested some of her birthday money and joined Women Entrepreneurs of Saskatchewan, a non-profit organization which provides resources for women-backed businesses in the province. The organization connected her with a business advisor and helped her craft a solid business plan. From there, she got a loan from Futurepreneur—a mentorship company for young people starting businesses—and crowdfunded the rest to get Courage Box off the ground. From idea to product, the process took about a year.

“It took longer than I thought—I was kind of naïve,” Clouthier said with a laugh.

Each box has a theme and is created in consultation with a mental health professional. The first box, which shipped in February, had 61 subscribers from across Canada (as well as one American subscriber). The box contained tools to assist with mood tracking and accurately naming emotions, and reciting positive affirmation and coping statements.

Going forward, Clouthier would like to broaden the reach of Courage Box. Expanding to other campuses is top-of-mind; she is conscious of shipping costs, which can be prohibitive. (Saskatoon and area residents have the option to pick up their boxes at the USSU Help Centre in the Memorial Union Building.)

A subscription costs $40 per month. If possible, she’d like to make Courage Box more affordable, perhaps through sponsored or donated boxes.

“I do think that your mental health is worth the investment, but people with mental illness are disproportionately affected by poverty, so it can be difficult for a lot of people to afford,” she said.

Clouthier acknowledges that Courage Box isn’t a replacement for professional help, but is more of a supplemental resource—shipped to your door, no less.

“I don’t think anything can really replace one-on-one time with a trained professional,” she said. “But it’s an additional resource for people to access, especially if the idea of accessing these resources is really daunting, or if you’re really busy.”

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Fast facts about mental illness

- The total number of 12-19 year olds in Canada at risk for developing depression is over three million.
- Approximately eight per cent of adults will experience major depression at some time in their lives.
- By age 40, about half the population will have or have had a mental illness.
- Almost one half (49 per cent) of those who feel they have suffered from anxiety or depression have never gone to see a doctor about this problem.
- Mental health problems and illnesses cost the Canadian economy at least $50 billion per year.

Sources: Canadian Mental Health Association; Mental Health Commission of Canada
Pedophilia: Emerging research

March 15–16, Saskatoon Inn, 2002 Airport Drive, Saskatoon. You’re invited to this groundbreaking, multifaceted gathering on First Nations, Métis and Inuit health, with topics chosen by our community partners. The U of S health science colleges and schools invite health professionals, Indigenous health service organizations, students, community partners and key Indigenous stakeholders to this two-day gathering.

To set the foundation for the event, the planning committee engaged Indigenous community members and invited them to identify health priorities. Identified priorities include mental wellbeing, access to services, chronic diseases and promising approaches to wellness. For more information, call 306-966-7823 or visit healthsciences.usask.ca/miyo-mahcihowin.

Jessie Caldwell Memorial Lecture
March 16, 7 pm, Room 132 Archaeology Building. Presented by the Saskatoon Archaeological Society, Dr. Mary Malaney from Brandon University will give a talk entitled Archaeological Science and the Archaeologist. Dr. Malaney is a graduate of the U of S, having received her Master of Arts degree from the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology in 1991. All are welcome to attend. Refreshments will be provided.

March 14, 2018   #onedayforstudents

Join us on March 14 to celebrate giving on our campus and in our community.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Shaina Lynden (BScKin’05), co-owner of Ryde YXE Cycle Studio
2:30 pm
Gordon Oakes Red Bear Student Centre
Free and open to the public

GIVE TO DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT
All funds raised will go towards the Nasser Family Emergency Student Trust with all donations being matched by the Nasser family!

Visit give.usask.ca/oneday for more information on how you can get involved.

March 15–16, GSA Commons. The Three Minute Thesis is an academic competition that challenges graduate students to present their research project within three minutes to a general audience. 3MT celebrates the discoveries made by research students and encourages their skill in communicating the importance of research to the broader community. The 3MT participants will be competing for first and second place, and the people's choice prizes at the local level, with the winner securing a spot at the regional competition. All academic and professional staff and students (undergraduate, postgraduate, and research) are welcome to attend this event. If you would like to compete in this year’s 3MT competition, please register at: http://www.gsa.usask.ca/events/3mt-and-conference.php. Registration deadline is March 10. Contact gsa.events@usask.ca for more information.

Best Description and Viewer's Choice.
Submit March 1–15, vote March 16–April 2.
More information: http://research.usask.ca/imagesofresearch

The 2018 College of Arts and Science Alumni of Influence Dean’s Gala and Award Ceremony
Friday, March 16, TCU Place, 35 22nd Street East, Saskatoon. Join Dean Peta Bonham-Smith, alumni, family and friends for a memorable evening. The 2018 Alumni of Influence recipients are Margaret Brooke (BHS’83, B.A.’85, PHD’77) (d.2016), Alexander Douglas (BA’39, MA’40) (d.1981), Katrina German (BA’00), Karla Guyn (MSC’94, PhD’01), Lindsay Knight (Arts’10, MA’13), Gordon Kurtenbach (BSc’84), Gregory Nelson (BA’88), Edward Neufeld (BA’50, Arts’51), Arthur Slade (BA’89), Sherman Wiebe (Sc’93, BSc’93), Alice Wong (BComm’84, MA’90). Cocktails at 5:30 pm, dinner at 6:30 pm and awards at 8 pm. For tickets, visit ao18.eventbrite.ca. For more information, visit artsandsscience.usask.ca/alumni.

2018 U of S 3MT Competition
March 15-16, GSA Commons. The Three Minute Thesis is an academic competition that challenges graduate students to present their research project within three minutes to a general audience. 3MT celebrates the discoveries made by research students and encourages their skill in communicating the importance of research to the broader community. The 3MT participants will be competing for first and second place, and the people's choice prizes at the local level, with the winner securing a spot at the regional competition. All academic and professional staff and students (undergraduate, postgraduate, and research) are welcome to attend this event. If you would like to compete in this year’s 3MT competition, please register at: http://www.gsa.usask.ca/events/3mt-and-conference.php. Registration deadline is March 10. Contact gsa.events@usask.ca for more information.

Group-based self-care training program
Graduate or professional students studying in health programs are needed to take part in a group-based self-care training program. Eligible students will be randomly assigned to either an immediate training group or a wait-list control group. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about self-care and how values can inform self-care. For more information, call 306-966-6731 or email selfcare.research@usask.ca.

Next OCN: April 13, 2018
Deadline: April 2, 2018
Edwards earns accreditation

The Edwards School of Business earned accreditation by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) International on Feb. 20.

Synonymous with the highest standards of quality, AACSB Accreditation inspires new ways of thinking within business education globally and, as a result, places Edwards among the top five per cent of business schools worldwide. Today, 810 institutions across 53 countries and territories maintain AACSB Accreditation in business.

“Thank you to the faculty, staff, students, alumni and the local business community for helping us earn AACSB Accreditation in our centennial year,” said Keith Willoughby, dean of the school. “It’s been a remarkable journey and cements our standing as a stellar business school.”

From humble beginnings as the first accounting school in Canada, the Edwards School of Business continuously strives to offer high-calibre business education that alumni and employers value around the world.

Willoughby said the distinction is the hallmark of excellence in business education and is also a provincial milestone.

“We are committed to continuing to develop business professionals to build nations through community engagement and providing an outstanding student experience,” he said, noting that the school has 1,700 undergrad students, 215 students in grad programs and another 2,500 enrolled in Executive Education programming.

AACSB International—founded in 1916, and the longest-serving global accrediting body for business schools—provides a framework of 15 international standards against which business schools assess the quality of their educational services.

Achieving accreditation follows a process of rigorous internal review, engagement with an AACSB assigned mentor and external peer evaluation, explained Willoughby.

“Accreditation demonstrates the tremendous quality and impressive impact of our program curriculum and faculty research,” Willoughby said.

Once a school earns accreditation, it enters a five-year continuous improvement review cycle, ensuring that it has the resources, credentials and commitment needed to provide students with a first-rate, future-focused business education.

“The Edwards School of Business’ commitment to earning accreditation is a true reflection of their dedication—not only to their students, alumni network and greater business community, but to the higher education industry as a whole,” said Stephanie Bryant, executive vice-president and chief accreditation officer of AACSB International.

Natasha Katchuk is a communications officer in the Edwards School of Business.

Games valuable teaching tools

FROM PAGE 5

people are criminals. I would never do something like that. And that makes it very hard to understand the historic setting,” said Hoy.

Hoy’s solution was to design a board game in which some players take the role of customs agents and others play as merchants. Based on archival records, the game offers merchant players strong incentives to smuggle goods.

“I don’t think there’s a single person who’s played the game who hasn’t chosen to smuggle,” said Hoy. The experience becomes a memorable lesson about “how historic context can shape decisions.”

Hoy’s work on games as teaching tools, both historically and in a contemporary setting, is just the most recent in a lifetime of passion for learning through play.

“I love history and I love games,” he said. “I love showing students the ways you can use history to understand the world you live in.”

The two papers will be published in upcoming issues of Western Historical Quarterly, and in Simulation and Gaming.

Eden Friesen is an English student intern in the College of Arts and Science communications office.
Pack your bags and set your sights on memory lane, because this year’s On Campus News back page features landmark moments and events from our storied 110-year history.

Have a particular event you’d like to see featured? Let us know about it at news@usask.ca.

With files from University Archives and Special Collections.

MARCH 13, 1925
FIRE IN THE ENGINEERING BUILDING

Constructed in three phases between 1910-1920, the Engineering Building was one of the first buildings on campus to be completed. Several years later, however, it was destroyed by a fire.

In the early morning hours of March 13, 1925, a fire started in the Engineering Building's tractor laboratory. The large, open-concept lab space was still quite new, having been added to the building in 1917 as part of an expansion.

Firefighters responded quickly to the site of the fire; however, the water pressure in the area was low. A booster pump was used, but ultimately the water supply was soon exhausted, leaving the building in smoky shambles. One area that withstood the fire was the ceramics lab, as it was lined with fire bricks to withstand heat from a kiln.

Reconstruction began soon after. A new steel frame was built, replacing the wooden post and beam structure used in the original construction. The concrete foundation was salvaged and re-used, as were some pieces of brick and windows.

The cause of the fire was never determined.