



# On Campus News

ocn@usask.ca | news.usask.ca



## Life lessons

**Instructor Rick Retzlaff, left, and some of his second-year Introduction to Engineering Design students work on a prototype for a backpack retrieval device that could change the life of a Vancouver man confined to a wheelchair. It is part of a unique partnership between the students and the Tetra Society, a volunteer group that develops devices to enhance the lives of people with disabilities.**

Read the story on Page 7.

KRIS FOSTER

# Expanding campus child care

## Proposal for 90-space centre moves forward

COLLEEN MACPHERSON

The University of Saskatchewan has taken an important step toward its goal of doubling the number of child-care spaces available to members of the campus community.

At its meeting March 5, the Board of Governors gave initial approval to a plan to build a 90-space child-care centre in College Quarter. The building, said David Hannah, associate vice-president for student services, will be located south of the Williams Building and west of Souris Hall. Board approval will now move the project from the preliminary schematic design stage to detailed design and tender.

While the 90 new spaces will not address all of the pressure for child care on campus, “for students with families and

“For students with families and particularly for single parents, this might make the difference between going to university or not.”

David Hannah

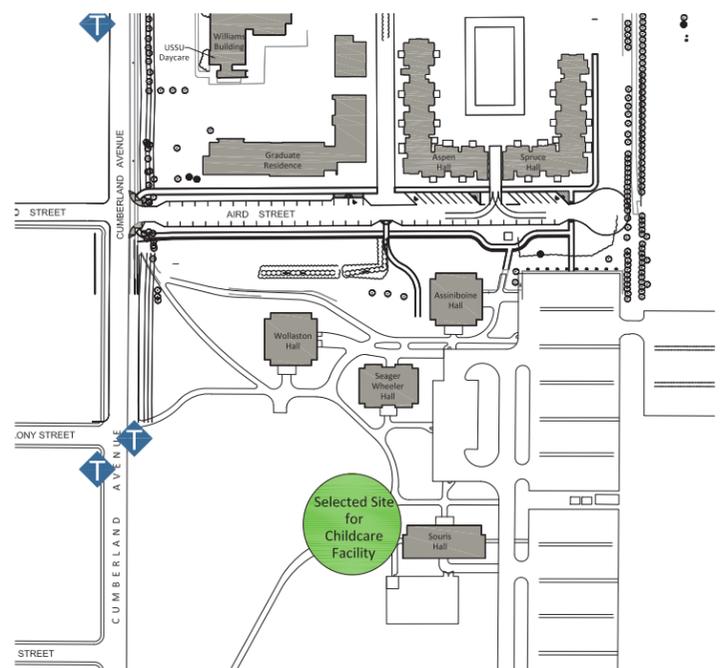
particularly for single parents, this might make the difference between going to university or not,” said Hannah.

Ideas for upping the number of child-care spaces by 110 have been under discussion for some time. An initial proposal was to expand the existing child-care centre in the Education Building to 88 spaces and build a new facility to handle the difference, said Hannah, but bringing the Education Building facility up

to new provincial standards for child care plus expanding within the building proved to be prohibitively expensive.

The decision was made about a year ago to abandon the two-facility approach and move to a single new building, even though regulations limit the number of spaces in a single centre to 90, 20 short of the 110-space goal, he said.

See Centre, Page 2



The proposed location for the new child care centre is McEown Park, near Souris Hall.

AOBDT



Bear debate Page 5



Expert advice Page 9



# Centre could open in fall of 2015

## From Page 1

And even that goal is modest; Hannah pointed to a January 2011 survey that indicated the demand for child-care spaces exceeds 800.

The proposal that went to the board would see a one-storey building in College Quarter that would have a small number of spaces for infants and toddlers. The majority of the spaces would be reserved for children ranging from 30 months to kindergarten age. The plan also includes a large outdoor play area. There has not been a final decision made on how the spaces would be allocated, but Hannah expects about 75 per cent would be reserved for students and about 25 per cent for university employees.

He said the cost of the building has yet to be determined "but the board wants to have an assurance that funding is in place before this project proceeds." The university has already received about \$1.4

million from the Ministry of Education, which oversees child care in the province, and Hannah said the remainder of the cost is expected to be covered by a proposed student fee, a contribution from the university and fundraising.

He added that the university does not intend to operate the child-care centre. Instead, it will provide the space at a nominal cost to an independent operator, "and our hope is to ask the USSU child-care centre in the Williams Building to operate this facility." That organization has proximity to the new building, experience and infrastructure, making it a good candidate to for the job, "but that still has to be worked out."

With the addition of 90 more spaces, the U of S would move to about "the middle of pack" among Canadian universities when it comes to the number of spaces per student population, he said. "This is really essential to improving



Hannah

accessibility to our university. That's why there is such focus on meeting this need among our students."

A detail proposal for the child-care building is expected to be on the Board of Governors' agenda later this year. The construction start date is set for February 2014, which would see the facility ready to receive its first children in the fall of 2015. ■

## STORIES FROM A SHIPWRECK

Butch Amundson and his team are busy making the tale of Saskatoon's most sensational shipwreck, when the SS City of Medicine Hat struck a pier on Saskatoon's Traffic Bridge, their own. Read this story and more on the university's online news site.



news.usask.ca

## Around the Bowl

The Office of the Provost and Vice-President Academic has announced the following appointments:

**Jim Germida** extended as vice-provost, faculty relations, to June 30, 2016.



Germida



Bangma

**Janet Bangma** to the position of acting associate dean, University Library, for the term of May 22-Sept. 30.

**Dr. Gill White**, associate dean, Regina programs, College of Medicine, extended for the period July 1-Dec. 31.



White

**Dr. Andries Muller**, acting assistant dean, Continuing Professional Learning, College of Medicine, extended until Aug. 31.



Roesler

**Bill Roesler** to the position of acting head of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology until June 30.

**Lynn Jansen** to the position of associate dean, Southern Saskatchewan Campus and Advancement of Global Health Strategies, College of Nursing, for a five-year term until Dec. 2017.

**George Mutwiri** as acting assistant executive director in the School of Public Health until July 20.

**Mark Keil** as acting head of the Dept. of Computer Science for a one-year term starting July 1.



Mishra

**Dev Mishra** as head of the Department of Finance and Management Science for a five-year term from July 1 to June 30, 2018.

**John Rigby** as head of the Department of Management and Marketing for a five-year term from July 1 to June 30, 2018.



Rigby

**Dr. Colum Smith** to the position of acting vice-dean, research in the College of Medicine for a six-month term from March 1 to Aug. 31.

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SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

# Gov't grant increased as expected but budget changes continue

The University of Saskatchewan's provincial operating grant for 2013-14 is close to what was expected but it does not alter the need to address projected budget shortfalls.

In its budget, released March 20, the provincial government announced an increase of \$35.8 million to the U of S, including an increase of about 2.1 per cent to the annual operating grant, cash for building renewal and maintenance, and support for specific initiatives. While she expressed appreciation for the province's investment, President Ilene Busch-Vishniac said in a news release the university would continue to focus on adjusting its annual operating budget with the aim of achieving financial sustainability.

"Our attentions will still be focused on streamlining and seeking efficiencies in what we do and strengthening our focus on the areas we have identified as most important," she said.

“Our attentions will still be focused on streamlining and seeking efficiencies in what we do and strengthening our focus on the areas we have identified as most important.”

Ilene Busch-Vishniac

Speaking to Council March 21, Busch-Vishniac said that from her perspective, "the university did very well," particularly considering the seven-per-cent cut to post-secondary funding recently announced in Alberta and other financial challenges faced by institutions across the country. The grant increase "speaks volumes about the commitment of our government to our continued success."

Ginger Appel, director of budget strategy and planning in the office of Integrated Planning and Assessment, said ongoing discussions with government

representatives about provincial growth forecasts and about U of S priorities assist the university in making projections at budget time. "Having that good working relationship helps us anticipate a bit more accurately what kinds of grant increases to expect. This year, we planned for about two per cent, which is what we received. The next step is to use what we know for sure about our government support to shape our operating budget for the coming year."

The grant increase announced in the provincial budget includes both operating and capital funding. Of note is \$4 million earmarked for continued renovation and construction of the Health Science complex as well as \$4 million for operating the facility. Funds were also



Busch-Vishniac

provided for an increase to the number of seats in the College of Medicine.

Busch-Vishniac noted in the release the U of S will continue to work with the province to secure funding for upkeep of university buildings as well as to address deferred maintenance issues.

Provost Brett Fairbairn also spoke about the budget in his report to Council, pointing out the government continues to provide funding for initiatives

like the Sylvia Fedoruk Canadian Centre for Nuclear Innovation, the Global Institute for Food Security, the water research chair and the cyclotron facility. He added the provincial government will help address accessibility for students through additional funding for student aid, the Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship and the Graduate Retention Program.

He also pointed out that the Board of Governors announced tuition rates for the coming academic year on March 14, almost a week ahead of the provincial budget, a move that supports the university's principle of not balancing the books with tuition. "We don't need to know what's in the provincial budget to set tuition fees."

Appel said university officials will do a detailed analysis of the grant announcement over the coming weeks with the institution's 2013-14 operating budget expected to go before the board for approval in May. ■

## Search is on for arts stage

by KRIS FOSTER

With the recent rejection of a bid to convert the Third Avenue United Church into a performing arts venue, the University of Saskatchewan is still searching for its stage in the community.

The university's involvement in the bid, explained David Parkinson, vice-dean of humanities and fine arts in the College of Arts and Science, was to anchor the proposed venue with its lineup of performing arts.

The Third Avenue United Church as a performance venue, Parkinson said, offered a unique opportunity for the university, answering the question "how do we, within our resources, expand cultural opportunities for people around Saskatoon? For instance, how can school groups, downtown workers or west-side residents have increased opportunities to experience the fine arts scene of this campus?"

Parkinson said that community engagement in the fine arts grows through the availability of a performance and exhibition venue off campus. "It's about inspiring the community and it doesn't get much more engaged than that. We want to continue having conversations with arts organizations and determine what our role can be. Our calendar of events is full and we're getting good audiences. We are poised for something a little



Parkinson

more engaged (with the city). It's just a matter of figuring out what exactly that is."

Despite the rejection of the redevelopment bid for the historic downtown church, Parkinson said he is still encouraged by the process because it got a very important conversation started at the U of S and in the City of Saskatoon.

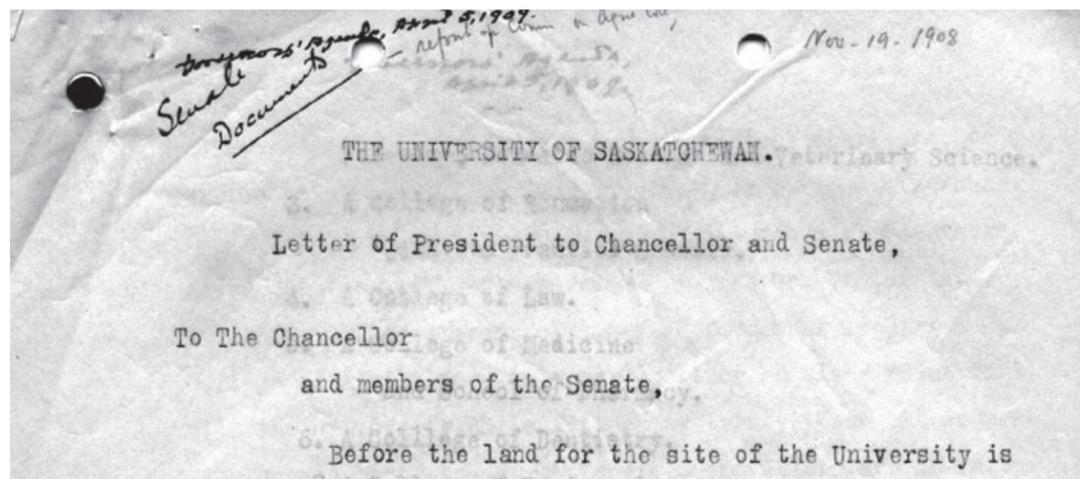
"It was very valuable because it helped us to refocus on what we have to offer (the community) in terms of fine arts. The prospect of Third Avenue stimulated interesting new thinking about our capacity and commitment to reach out to the city with our fine arts and performance exhibitions," he said. "I can think of several of our performing arts

See Venue, Page 8

### FROM THE ARCHIVES

## Vision of the future

by PATRICK HAYES, U OF S ARCHIVES



U of S Archives, B of G agenda, April 5, 1909.

In 1907, the University of Saskatchewan was created by an act of the Legislative Assembly. The exact nature of the institution had yet to be determined. On Nov 19, 1908 President Walter Murray submitted to the University Senate his vision of the future. It reads in part:

"Before the land for the site of the University is purchased and before any plans are prepared for the location of buildings, the Board of Governors should have a fairly definite idea of the work which the University is expected to undertake both immediately and in the more distant future.

I believe that our plans should be so framed that the University would never find it necessary to make a radical change in the arrangement of its campus in order to accommodate any phase of University work now attempted or contemplated by the best Provincial and State Universities. It seems to me that we may quite properly expect

our University in time to embrace

A College of the Liberal Arts and Science with Schools of Music, Art and Commerce.

A College of Agriculture with the Experiment Farm and Schools of Forestry, Domestic Science and Veterinary Science.

College of Education with its practice Schools.

A College of Law.

A College of Medicine and School of Pharmacy.

A College of Dentistry.

A College of Engineering.

An Extension Department making provision for local Technical Schools, Correspondence Classes and Lecture Courses in local centres.

Further we may expect these Colleges to require for their work of the more important departments separate buildings which should make ample provision for lecture rooms, laboratories and opportunities for research by graduates and staff." ■

[usask.ca/finances](http://usask.ca/finances)

# Changing the way education is delivered

✍ JAMES PEPLAR

In the summer of 2012, Acting Vice-Provost Teaching and Learning Dan Pennock began developing recommendations for an initiative he hopes will change the way the U of S organizes and delivers education to complement what the Saskatoon campus already does.

The Distributed Learning Strategy Development Project deals with classes and academic programming delivered in locations other than the Saskatoon campus, explained Pennock. Distributed learning is currently supported through many colleges and departments, each providing programming through co-delivery partnerships with regional colleges and work placements, satellite campuses and online courses. According to Pennock, the number of students taking U of S classes through distributed learning equals the enrolment in the university's second largest college.

"We have a lot of activity that's not guided by strategy," said Pennock, "and the goal is to expand our distributed learning in a guided, thoughtful way."

New program development will follow a "learn where you live" strategy, he said, by providing at least one complete program in the main undergraduate areas of learning like humanities and fine arts, social sciences, natural or physical sciences, business and health sciences. This will give remote students more degree options and, working with delivery partners means Aboriginal as well as rural and northern students can access support delivery methods like simulated face-to-face advising and video conferencing.

To ensure success of the project, Pennock said a new budget model would be explored. That model would see administrative processes for direct-entry colleges flow through the Centre for Continuing and Distance Education, and all distributed learning initiatives would be financially sustainable for both academic and administrative units.

The new vice-provost teaching and learning, Patti McDougall, is eager to follow Pennock's initial work. "The heart of the distributed learning strategy is to co-ordinate what we do so that we can do more," she said. "I'm very excited about the opportunity to better serve groups of students around the province." ■

James Peplar is a graduate student assistant in the office of Institutional Planning and Assessment.



SCIENCECARTOONSPLUS.COM

## President pledges to advance Aboriginal engagement

✍ LANA HAIGHT

Working to ensure Aboriginal students succeed at the University of Saskatchewan will benefit those students, but much more is at stake, said President Ilene Busch-Vishniac.

"If we don't help, we are dooming this province," she said March 15 after speaking at Taking Stock, a poster expo highlighting various campus programs and services geared to Aboriginal students.

Within 15 years, half of all children in Saskatchewan public schools will be Aboriginal, said Busch-Vishniac. It is critical that they be provided equal access and equal opportunity, and the U of S is committed to assisting them achieve academic success.

Aboriginal Achievement Week at the U of S, which culminated with Taking Stock, was "filled with wondrous, respectful, educational, celebratory engagement with First Nations, Métis and Inuit people and culture," said Busch-Vishniac.

Earlier in the week, someone remarked to the president that it would be nice if every day were Aboriginal achievement day. At Taking Stock, she told the audience in the Education Gym that it is not sufficient to recognize and celebrate differences only once a year but the vast array of programs and

“We can't take it for granted that just because we care on a daily basis how comfortable our First Nations, Métis and Inuit faculty, staff and students feel on this campus, that we shouldn't take time to celebrate.”

Ilene Busch-Vishniac

services for Aboriginal people and by Aboriginal people demonstrates just how much effort goes into Aboriginal engagement.

Aboriginal students are enrolled in every college at the undergraduate and graduate levels, she said. As well, the Colleges of Education and Law have led the way locally and nationally in the education of Aboriginal teachers and lawyers.

"We can't take it for granted that just because we care on a daily basis how comfortable our First Nations, Métis and Inuit faculty, staff and students feel on this campus, that we shouldn't take time to celebrate. And I'm very pleased we've done that this week."

Busch-Vishniac pointed out areas for improvement: the six-year completion rate for degrees among Aboriginal students is lower than for

non-Aboriginal students, and Aboriginal people are under represented based on the province's demographics among the university's staff complement.

"We cannot be proud until Aboriginal students see themselves mirrored in their teachers," she said.

Some changes are already in the works to include symbols important to the Aboriginal community at convocation ceremonies, on the university's website and the campus itself.

"These are just the beginning of our plans to renew our commitment and dedication to helping First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities achieve their educational goals," said Busch-Vishniac. "I pledge the U of S will not waver in its dedication to this mission." ■

Lana Haight is a Saskatoon freelance writer.

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### ocn On Campus News

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

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# Climate change, not hunting, the real threat to polar bears – Clark

✍ MICHAEL ROBIN

A U.S.-backed proposal to severely limit or prohibit all cross-border trade in polar bears was voted down by the delegates to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) on March 7, a development that relieved Douglas Clark.

“From my perspective, this is very good news,” said Clark, an expert on polar bear-human interaction and the U of S Centennial Chair in Human Dimensions of Environment and Sustainability.

While many animal welfare groups immediately expressed disappointment in the decision, Clark insists that further restricting international trade would do little to conserve the iconic animals and much to alienate northern peoples whose aid is desperately needed to help the species survive.

“Whatever you want to do with polar bears in the short term, you probably don’t want to alienate Inuit if they’re the ones who are more or less going to be in charge of the species’ long-term future,” said Clark, an assistant professor in the School of Environment and

Sustainability,

In a paper in the March issue of the journal *Marine Policy*, Clark and his co-authors argued against a proposal to up list polar bears under CITES. Such a move would have effectively shut down sport hunts and sale of bear hides taken under subsistence quotas, crucial sources of income for many northern communities.

Clark’s collaborators on the paper included representatives of two Inuit organizations and experts from the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), University of Alaska, Yale University and the University of Alberta. He explained that hunting is not endangering polar bear populations and in fact is carefully regulated. Territorial governments work closely with Inuit organizations, attempting to draw on biological and community knowledge to come up with sustainable quotas.

“Demand and price of hides does not play a factor in setting these quotas,” Clark said. “That’s what’s being missed in all of the international promotion about up listing polar bears. Inuit really self regulate and adhere to these quotas very well.”

Under the Canadian constitution and the legislation that created Nunavut, Inuit have control over much of the world’s polar bear habitat, and two thirds of the world’s polar bears. “They’re at the table out of goodwill because they believe it’s the right thing to do. Inuit hunters have the right to hunt as they see fit. Preserving goodwill and active Inuit involvement in these processes is absolutely critical.”

Research in Nunavut has shown that on average, Inuit



Polar bears captured on camera at a field camp in Wapusk National Park on the shore of Hudson Bay.

DOUGLAS CLARK



Clark

communities set aside only 22 per cent their quotas for sport hunters. There is no guarantee of success, and any unused hunting tags go back into the pool; in the Northwest Territories, those unused tags are cancelled. Clark explained that communities usually harvest their full quota of bears but sport hunters often do not, which means that allowing sport hunts actually reduces the numbers of bears killed each year. “That often really surprises

people once they realize how the Canadian system works.”

Clark and his collaborators assert that up listing polar bears under CITES allows governments to claim they are doing something to save polar bears by addressing peripheral threats while ignoring the big one—climate change and the habitat destruction it is causing. He said the bears need sea ice as a platform to hunt, and in 2012, that ice declined by a record 39 per cent.

“What I tell students now is if you’re not scared, you’re not paying attention, which is a bit of a harsh message, but people need to hear it. The world has not realized as a whole the magnitude of the changes that are going on up there.”

Polar bears may survive, he said, but policies to help them should not distract from the impacts of climate change, and must include the knowledge and participation of the Inuit who know the North best. ■



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

## Layoffs looming; up to 100 jobs lost

Up to 100 University of Saskatchewan employees are expected to receive layoff notices in the coming weeks as the university continues to trim its workforce, part of a comprehensive effort to address a projected \$44.5 million operating budget deficit.

In a media release and internal memo, both released March 25, Barb Daigle, associate vice-president of human resources, said the job losses will affect people in administrative and support positions. Layoffs that took place in January and February are expected to save the organization \$2.3 million

annually. The operating savings from the next round will be announced once the layoffs are done, she said.

Salaries and benefits account for about 75 per cent of the university’s total operating expenses each year.

The layoffs result from an institution-wide workforce planning process that is being used to ensure “positions are aligned with the university’s teaching, research and outreach priorities,” said Daigle. There is no hiring freeze currently in place at the U of S “but new hires will be carefully considered and focused in priority areas.” ■

### General Academic Assembly (GAA)

The president’s state of the university address

President Ilene Busch-Vishniac, chair of the GAA, invites you to attend the annual meeting of the GAA, where she will give her first report as president on the state of the university. This event is open to all faculty, staff and students.

#### Details.

**Wednesday, April 10 at noon in Convocation Hall**

Members of the GAA include the president as chair, members of faculty, elected students, deans, executive directors of schools, vice-presidents, the university secretary and the registrar.



For more information, visit [usask.ca/university\\_secretary/gaa](http://usask.ca/university_secretary/gaa)

# Game changers in the video industry

✍ KRIS FOSTER

Video games are big business. And as the industry continues to grow, so does the number and variety of careers one can pursue in the world of gaming.

"It's a big industry in Canada and worldwide," said Regan Mandryk, associate professor of computer science. "It's a \$25-billion industry in the US, which is bigger than the film industry. The highest grossing games are on par with the biggest Hollywood movies, but the average cost of developing a game is less than that of a low-budget movie."

Mandryk sees a couple reasons for this growth. "Gamers grew up. Those kids from the '80s playing video games in their basements grew up and are now in their mid-30s with purchasing power." And, the profile of a

gamer has also changed, she explained. Beyond the age change, which sees an average gamer somewhere around 35 years old, it is no longer just boys and men who play. "It's almost 50/50 male and female now."

The stereotype of nerdy teenaged boys playing fantasy games in their parents' basements is long gone. According to the Entertainment Software Association, 47 per cent of gamers are women and women older than 18 are a larger proportion, at 30 per cent, than boys 17 and younger at 18 per cent.

Mandryk said this shift in the profile is partly attributed to the second reason the gaming industry is so big these days, the advent of casual games like Angry Birds, Bejeweled and Plants versus Zombies. These games

can be played on a tablet or smart phone for a short amount of time while, for example, waiting for the bus.

There are a number of factors contributing to the growth of the industry and a resulting interest in this field among university students, Mandryk said. "Since we started our third-year game programming class, it has become one of the most popular in the department." Students, she said, are seeing an increased demand from employers for their qualifications.

"A lot of students enjoy playing games. If you can make a career doing what you love, why not? Computers, smartphones, and game consoles are everywhere, (and) there are tons of jobs out there. Computer-related jobs have some of the lowest unemployment rates."

And that is not just in the US, but in Canada as well. There are 348 gaming companies operating in Canada, and 77 per cent of those expecting to hire new graduates in 2013.

"We have some of the biggest players in Canada – Ubisoft in Montreal, EA Sports in Vancouver, Bioware in Edmonton," she said. "Not to mention the indie companies like Noodlecake Studios here in Saskatoon, who created Super Stickman Golf 2," which hit the number two spot on the iTunes app store last week. Noodlecake, she continued, is made up of eight



Regan Mandryk, associate professor of computer science.

✍ KRIS FOSTER

U of S grads, mostly from the computer science department.

Needless to say, graduates from the U of S computer science program have the opportunity to go onto varied careers in the gaming industry. To help them get into this field and related industries like web design, the department recently created a new BAsC in interactive systems design.

"Programmer is one the most common jobs in the game industry. There are also game producers and there are a lot of jobs in user research and human-computer interaction. These require a unique set of skills like psychology, statistics, computer science and visual arts. At the end of the day, it is a software industry, but there are also non-programmer jobs like artists and scriptwriters too."

There is a misconception

that comes with a career in video games, she continued. "It is a demanding field. People think it is playing games, but you work hard. There used to be a high level of burnout for young driven people. But because it is such a competitive field for the best employees, a lot of companies are changing that (burnout) mentality and creating great, creative workplaces."

Mandryk isn't certain how the industry will change, only that it will. What she is certain about is the ever-growing need for computer skills.

"Everything uses computers. We need to have computer literacy, just as you need to be literate in written communication. Not just programming, but computer literacy. Imagine how many jobs might be closed to someone for not knowing how to use a computer." ■

## USSU presents excellence awards

The U of S Student's Union (USSU) has announced the winners of its 21st annual Experience in Excellence Awards which recognize individuals and groups for efforts to enhance the student experience.

### Teaching Excellence Awards

**Beverley Kobelsky**, drama  
**Allan Dolovich**, mechanical engineering  
**William Robertson**, ITEP, English  
**Richard Katz**, psychology  
**Mehdi Nemati**, chemical and biological engineering

**Katharina Lohmann**, large animal clinical science

**Darcy Allen**, dentistry  
**Daniel Neilson**, computer science  
**Jason Zorbias**, political studies  
**Jitendrapal Sharma**, civil and geological engineering  
**Joyce Walker**, pharmacy (instructional support winner)

### Academic Advising Award

**Dave Muench**

### USSU Centre Awards

**Erica McFadden**, Pride Centre Doug Wilson Award  
**Christie Lynn McGregor**, Help Centre Award  
**Kara Kooy**, Women's Centre Award

### Freda Salikin and Doug Favell Staff Spirit Awards

**Lea Pennock**  
**Meredith Penner**

### Engaged Alumni Excellence Award

**Shannon Lindsay**

### Vera Pezer Award for Student Enhancement

**Galen Richardson**  
**Taletha Bennet**  
**Victoria Cowan**  
**Kinesiology Student's Society**

### Walter Murray Leadership Award

**Erica Lee**



**The Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching Effectiveness**

## We Are All Treaty People

### Online Treaty Module Faculty and Staff Professional Development



**We all come to treaty education from different places.**

Some of us may have a very sound understanding of treaties but most of us have had little formal treaty education. Regardless of our past we now have an opportunity to increase our knowledge by taking advantage of this online module.

In conjunction with the Vice-Provost Teaching and Learning, the Office of the Provost and a number of other on-campus partners, the **GMCTE has developed a training module to help faculty and staff learn about the importance of treaties in Saskatchewan (and Canada), and why they matter for our activities on campus.**

**This module is comprised of:**

- An online component, which takes approximately an hour and a half to three hours to complete; and
- a three hour face-to-face workshop.

**Workshop date** is Monday, April 29.  
Please sign up for this session at:  
[usask.ca/gmcte/services/indigenous\\_education/treaties](http://usask.ca/gmcte/services/indigenous_education/treaties)

**For more information, please call 966-2231**

## Employee Assistance Program

Family Service Saskatoon provides our Employee Assistance Program, a program to support our health and well-being. It is fully funded by the employer and confidential counseling service is available to employees and their families.

The EAP can help with a crisis or other life challenges and changes. The program offers individual, couple and family counseling for a broad range of personal and work related concerns.

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Room 240, Research Annex, 105 Maintenance Road  
**Family Service Saskatoon: 653-3327**




[usask.ca/eap](http://usask.ca/eap)

# Engineering for life

## Students tackle device design challenge

✍ COLLEEN MACPHERSON

Rick Retzlaff's assignment for students in his second-year Introduction to Engineering Design class this term is giving them real engineering experience, but it could also change the life of a man confined to a wheelchair.

The instructor and class co-ordinator came up with the assignment after connecting with the Tetra Society of North America, a volunteer organization dedicated to developing assistive devices to enhance the lives of people with disabilities. As Retzlaff tells it, Tetra brings together "people who really like to build stuff with people who need stuff." When he heard about the organization, his first thought was, "this would make a great student project."

Through Tetra, Retzlaff was teamed up with Eric, a young office worker in Vancouver who is looking for a device that would enable him to easily access his backpack while in his wheelchair. In January, Retzlaff and his students watched a video about Eric and then met him via Skype for a question and answer session. Eric explained to the students his

physical limitations, the problem he needed solved (he cannot get his backpack onto his shoulders and when it is there, he cannot retrieve it) and how much he was willing to spend. "This is very much client driven," said Retzlaff, "which is as it should be in engineering."

The students, who were universally enthusiastic about the challenge, were divided into 17 teams and given the task of coming up with possible backpack retrieval devices, evaluating them, doing drawings and then building a prototype in the college's fabrication lab. And they will do it all for marks. Retzlaff said their grade will also factor in how well they use the design process, a written report, a presentation and a question period about the design.

"This is hands-on experiential learning," he said. "We haven't had a fabrication component in the curriculum for a lot of years but it's a big thing. It teaches them accountability in design through building, testing and demonstrating."

The students went to work.

“If this is not fun, we’re doing something wrong.”  
Rick Retzlaff

Retzlaff observed that "the majority were thinking of some kind of swing arm," but there were also ideas involving ropes, pulleys and even drawers under the wheelchair seat. Then, when he looked at the students' initial ideas, "three-quarters were unbuildable. I had to be a little blunt but they're thanking me for it now."

As the designs developed and the prototypes took shape, Retzlaff spent a lot of time shopping for the bits and pieces the students needed for their projects with support from the various sponsors of the "fab lab"—the potash company Mosaic, Rona and The Bolt Supply Company.

In addition to being an exciting project for both instructor and students—"if this



Retzlaff

is not fun, we're doing something wrong," said Retzlaff—the class has a point to prove. Retzlaff said a senior design group at the University of British Columbia took on Eric's challenge but was unable to come up with a solution.

By mid-March, the rush was on to complete the prototypes because Eric was scheduled to visit the college March 25 to meet the students, hear their presentations and test their prototypes. There will be independent judges on hand to rate the student presentations but "nobody has quite as much stake in this as Eric

does," said Retzlaff. "He is the ultimate judge."

(Unfortunately, this issue of *On Campus News* went to the printer before all of the prototypes were evaluated.)

No matter what the outcome, Retzlaff believes the partnership with Eric and Tetra has had an enormous benefit for the students. The experience of working through the process from concept to prototype helps them understand "there's more to engineering than just a good idea."

It is also an opportunity for them to think a bit differently, he said. Most engineering students "are not very good at broad creative thinking so when they have blinders on or are thinking in a linear way, I encourage them to think about chickens." What Retzlaff means is they should come at a challenge from a totally different angle, and that imagining chickens as part of the solution stimulates creative thinking.

"There's no engineering problem that can't be solved with chickens." ■



## Unleash Your Potential

### Robert and Brenda Gordon Business Catalyst MBA Awards

Five annual awards valued at \$10,000 each will be awarded to full-time Edwards MBA students who demonstrate a keen interest in transforming their good ideas into great businesses. Recipients will have non-business academic backgrounds and the desire to use the MBA to accelerate their progress towards participating in a strong and sustainable provincial and national economy.

In order to be eligible, students must:

- not have obtained a previous business discipline degree.
- provide a two-page statement outlining how they will parlay their prior training (e.g. engineering, medicine, arts, etc.) in tandem with an MBA into a transformative venture or innovative career path that benefits the province and nation. The statement should discuss the student's motivation for the MBA, leadership ability, and the type of positive outcome that could be expected from the combination of a good idea with sound business training.

Selection will be made on the basis of the overall merits of the MBA admission package as well as the submitted statement, as determined by the Award Committee.

# U of S singers, orchestra prepare for summer tour of Europe

by MARA SELANDERS

The Greystone Singers and Wind Orchestra are taking their talents overseas this summer, looking to both inspire current students and attract future ones.

"We want to think outside the campus and spread our influence," said Darrin Oehlerking, assistant professor and director of bands with the Department of Music. "It's great for recruiting and great for letting people know that we as a department and a university are here."

That certainly seems to be the case when observing the rich touring history in the Department of Music. The Greystone Singers and conductor Gerald Langner embarked on a journey to China three years ago,



Oehlerking

and also try to do at least one local or inter-provincial tour each year. The Wind Orchestra has also

previously performed in Austria, the Netherlands and the United States.

International tours like these are also about representing not only the department and the university, but also the country, said Oehlerking.

"We tried to choose repertoire that was distinctly Canadian, so that when we go international, we can bring a cultural element to the places we will visit."

There are many places to spread Canadian music and influence penciled into the itinerary; the tour includes Switzerland, Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium from July 7 to 16.

The idea for the tour initially

came from an application to a world conference in Valencia, Spain that was ultimately cancelled. However, due to the strength of the department's application, the company in charge of the conference invited the ensembles to perform instead at the renowned Jungfrau Music Festival in Interlaken, Switzerland and the World Music Festival in Kerkrade, Netherlands. Oehlerking said these festivals are opportunities to showcase music composed specifically for band and choir, and are wonderful opportunities for collaboration.

Collaboration is becoming increasingly important in the department, he said, noting the department's relatively

small size eases co-operation amongst ensembles, students and professors.

Colin Elliot, a member of the Greystone Singers and president of the department's student executive, has also observed another important aspect of collaboration.

"With the redefining of the fine arts and humanities right now, I believe that collaboration is extremely important," he said.

Fellow singer Sarah Marshall echoed this sentiment, and is looking forward to reconnecting with a friend who once sang in the choir but now plays French horn in the Wind Orchestra. "It will be really rewarding, and just fun, to play with him again."

The tour, while sure to be a memorable experience for all involved, would not be possible without significant fundraising efforts by tour participants. Both Marshall and Elliot spoke of how the ensembles put together a cookie dough and fruit cake sale, organized Christmas caroling engagements, hosted a talent show, and were behind one of the department's most lucrative Valentine's Day candy-gram campaigns to date.

Though it has been a rush to put things together, Oehlerking is confident that the tour will be very beneficial for the students, especially for those who have yet to travel outside of Canada.

"It's going to be a fantastic cultural experience, through music, that is going to be really special." ■

*Mara Selanders is an undergraduate student intern in the College of Arts and Science's Communications, Development and Alumni Relations office*

## Venue a test for Clarion project



Third Avenue United Church in downtown Saskatoon

KRIS FOSTER

From Page 3

events that would be marquee on the city's calendar of events."

The process also shone a spotlight on the community-wide interest in a project of this nature. "The interest in Third Avenue United was pretty broad and deep in town and there is still interest in the opportunities a place like Third Avenue presents. Many different people from many different backgrounds and with particular artistic investments and strengths came together for this project and were galvanized by this vision for Third Avenue Church. How do you keep that energy together and sustain it even if the building is no longer a possibility?"

Even if the proposal had been

successful, Parkinson continued, the university's involvement would have been a sort of "testing for the Clarion performing arts centre, something we continue to explore because it is broadly supported."

As for next steps, Parkinson said he is not quite sure yet, but he certainly does not want to lose any momentum.

"My door is always open for these conversations. There are many interesting players in this town and some big investments. It's quite clear that Saskatoon's cultural vibrancy is out of proportion to its size."

The whole story of the process, Parkinson said, "reminds us all of how important this is for the vitality of our city and region and the importance of art." ■

Reta Cowley

"An Independent View"

We are pleased to present "An Independent View" which features a selection of watercolours and oil panels by Reta Summers Cowley (1910-2004). Regarded as one of Canada's top watercolourists, she studied art under several generations of major teachers from the west: Augustus Kenderdine at Emma Lake in the late 1930s, Walter Phillips at the Banff School of Fine Arts in the 1940s, and Eli Bornstein at the University of Saskatchewan in the early 1950s. Her unique approach to the landscape over six decades continues to resonate with prairie painters.

Reception: Saturday, April 6th, 2-4pm

Exhibition runs March 30th to April 18th, 2013

images are online at: [www.artplacement.com](http://www.artplacement.com)

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[www.artplacement.com](http://www.artplacement.com)



Reta Cowley, "Untitled (Rolling Hills, Gray Sky)", 1975, Watercolour on paper, 22 1/4" x 29 3/4"

# Building capacity for TransformUS

## Consultant ensures program prioritization starts well

✍ KRIS FOSTER

With membership on the TransformUS task forces set, program prioritization expert Larry Goldstein was recently on campus talking with those involved to ensure the process got off to a good start.

“The way I’ve designed my consulting practice is to try to build institutional capacity with every engagement that I undertake,” explained Goldstein, who worked with both task forces to establish operating principles, decision-making protocols, draft criteria and weightings to be used during the academic and service program prioritization process.

“The whole idea here is that we want to start this well. We do all of the work that I’m directly involved in on campus over these few days and in all likelihood you won’t see me again. I will have extensive telephone and email contact, but by and large they (the task forces) do the work by themselves now.”

Goldstein is clear that his involvement has nothing to do with determining outcomes. “I want this to be the University of Saskatchewan process not the Larry Goldstein process, not the Bob Dickeson process,” he explained, referring to he author of *Prioritizing Academic Programs and Services* on

“The vast majority of institutions are very good at adding programs to respond to new interests and not so good at eliminating things that have outlived their usefulness.”

Larry Goldstein

which TransformUS is based. “TransformUS is designed specifically by the people who are undertaking it to work for the university.”

Goldstein, who during his 35-year career in higher education has worked with more than 700 post-secondary intuitions on various challenges, said program prioritization is a necessary step for a few significant reasons.

“I wouldn’t call it a trend, but one of the major factors influencing this is that the vast majority of institutions are very good at adding programs to respond to new interests and not so good at eliminating things that have outlived their usefulness.”

When that factor is combined with a few other current realities, the need for program prioritization becomes quite clear, he said.

“Consider the implications

of the world economy and how that translates into reduced government funding. Then add to that the fact that higher education no longer enjoys the position of respect, in some sectors, that it used to and you have people questioning the value of higher education even though all the data support how important higher education is for lifetime success. People are questioning the cost against what you get for it.”

When post-secondary institutions are faced with all of those factors, they have to do two things, he said. “One, they need to focus better and two, they need to have some mechanism for ensuring that the investments they are making are in the most appropriate activities. And prioritization is a process for achieving that.”

There are two main motives for undertaking a prioritization process, he explained. “One is



Larry Goldstein

✍ KRIS FOSTER

to respond to an anticipated budget shortfall and the second is to make the university the best it can be in light of its current resource realities. That’s the motivation. This is not being undertaken for the objective of cutting things away from the university.”

To be successful, Goldstein continued, the process must be transparent and treat every program fairly, “and I’m seeing that in textbook fashion here at the U of S.”

To that end, each taskforce has developed criteria and weighting systems that are designed to work equally well for all programs and functions on campus. He added the template that will be used for evaluation was also designed

to give every program and function on campus the chance to demonstrate what it is contributing to the university and how it is helping the university be successful.

“My belief is this (prioritization) should be the first stage of any strategic planning process. The rationale for that is that very few institutions know how to finance a plan that they develop. They have wonderful ideas but no resources. This is assessment, planning and resource allocation all rolled into one. If you do this first, you identify the resources that will be freed up to be reallocated within the institution and you will have identified those things that have outlived their usefulness.” ■

# Student recognized nationally for leadership excellence

✍ WENONA PARTRIDGE

Victoria Cowan is leading the way as the first U of S recipient of the 3M National Student Fellowships, an award given to undergraduates in Canada for demonstrating leadership in education.

Cowan, a third-year English honours student, has been a leader on and off campus through her volunteerism as a peer mentor with the University Learning Centre, as a teacher-intern with Inspired Minds, and as a volunteer with the Otesha Project, an environmental

sustainability and youth empowerment organization. In addition to this recognition, Cowan also received the USSU’s Vera Pezer Award for Student Enhancement.

“It feels incredibly humbling,” said Cowan about receiving the award. “Throughout this process, I had to reflect on the influence of leaders and mentors who have inspired me and who could have easily been up for this award as well. I feel like this is an important stepping stone in deciding what direction to take after my undergrad.”

The nomination process involved preparing a narrative that outlined Cowan’s vision of leadership in higher education, along with evidence from other students and faculty. Cowan said that the nomination process “was illuminating. It showed me that an individual’s success is always a community effort.”

Cowan’s award narrative focused on experiential learning, which is central to her leadership practice. She believes that, although “experiential learning

is currently an exception rather than a norm, it is important to keep providing a diversity of learning environments in higher education.”

Patti McDougall, vice-

provost teaching and learning, said Cowan’s emphasis on experiential learning reflects “one of our key areas of focus for the teaching and learning environment. That makes this

(the 3M award) even more outstanding.” ■

Wenona Partridge works in the *Gwenma Moss Centre for Teaching Effectiveness*.



Cowan

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### 17 HIDDEN RIDGE TRAIL

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More pictures and info [www.woutersrealty.com](http://www.woutersrealty.com)

# Coming Events

## ■ The Arts

### A Sense of Place

On view on the first floor of the Murray Library until April 26 is *Saskatchewan: A Sense of Place* which includes a wide variety of materials from the province's early history, including immigration brochures, postcards, newspapers, local history books and event posters as well as some of the most famous Saskatchewan-themed literature.

### Elixer Ensemble Concert

The Elixer Ensemble presents France Par Excellence March 30 at 7:30 pm in Convocation Hall featuring works by Widor, Mozetich and Chausson. Tickets are available at [elixerensemble.com](http://elixerensemble.com)

### Kenderdine Exhibition

Continuing until April 27 in the Kenderdine Art Gallery in the Agriculture Building is *Souvenir Involontaire*, work by Melanie Rocan.

### College Art Galleries

On view until May 4 in the College Art Galleries in the Peter MacKinnon Building is *Janet Werner: Another Perfect Day*. Curated by Kent Archer, the exhibition highlights Werner's fictionalization of time, place and memory as her subjects are invented, adapted, distorted and localized in new contexts and the drama of her paintings.

## ■ Seminars/Lectures

### JM Boving Lecture 2013

April 9, 7:30-9:30 pm, 241 Arts, the Dept. of Economics presents Ricardo Hausmann, director of the Centre for International Development and professor of the practice of economic development at Harvard University, delivering the 2013 JM Boving Lecture in Economic Development. A public reception will follow. For information, phone 966-5197 or visit the department website.

### The Figure of the Student

March 28, 2:30-4 pm, Room 212 Arts, The Figure of the Student: A Convivial Colloquium is dedicated to mapping the protocols, procedures and possibilities of the future of the student in the contemporary context of the neoliberal university.

### Fine Arts Lecture Series

March 28, 7:30 pm, Convocation Hall, Donna Goodridge, professor of nursing and acting assistant dean for graduate studies, College of Nursing, presents *Invoking Apollo: Exploring the Therapeutic Potential of Music Within Health Care*

April 25, 7:30 pm, Frances Morrison Library auditorium, Walter Kreyszig, Dept. of Music, presents *Organology, the Key to Composition, Acoustics, Theory, Historiography, Pedagogy, Performance Practices, and Iconography: Johann Joachim Quantz (1697 - 1773) as a Pioneer of Interdisciplinarity*

### Idle No More Series

The College of Arts and Science and the Indigenous Students' Council presents a discussion series about Idle No More. Full details are on the college website.

April 3, 1:30-3:20 pm, Thorvaldson 105, What Can the University Learn from INM?

### Microbiology and Immunology

4-5 pm, Room B3 Health Sciences Bldg.

March 28, Sylvia van den Hurk, Dept. of Microbiology and Immunology, presents *Prevention of pediatric respiratory syncytial virus infections: new opportunities for vaccine development*

April 4, Peter Bretscher presents *Immunity and Anti-Immunity*

### Geography and Planning Colloquia

Fridays at 3:30 pm in Room 146 Kirk Hall

March 29, Al Morrison presents *Identifying the paleo-influence of beaver on mountain peatlands*

## ■ Courses/Workshops

### Launching an Academic Career

April 17, 9 am-4:30 pm, Room 146 Kirk Hall, the School for Environment and Sustainability presents a one-day workshop for PhD students and post-doctoral fellows to learn how to prepare themselves for life in academia. People from all academic units are welcome but spaces are limited. To register, contact Sharla Daviduik at [sharla.daviduik@usask.ca](mailto:sharla.daviduik@usask.ca) by April 10. For more information, go to [www.usask.ca/sens](http://www.usask.ca/sens)

### Advising Workshops

The Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching Effectiveness (GMCTE) presents a series of workshops to assist those who advise students on academic plans and decision processes. Full details about each session can be found on the GMCTE website.

April 2, 9:30-11 am and April 3, 1-2:30 pm, Protecting Privacy in Academic Advising. In this session, learn the definition of personal information and learn the basic rules for access and for denial of access.

### Centre for Continuing and Distance Education

For more information, visit [www.ccde.usask.ca](http://www.ccde.usask.ca) or call 966-5539

### Business and Leadership Programs

- Life Balance Leadership, April 9
- In Search of the 2nd Right Answer, April 11
- Advanced Presentation Skills, April 17
- The Power of Working Visually, April 18
- International Certification of Mentoring – Level 1, May 14
- Business Writing and Grammar Workout, June 5-6
- Leadership Development Program, Tuesdays, Oct. 29-Nov. 26

### USCAD Winter Classes

- Visual Arts Survey I, May 16, 24-26 and June 7-9
- 2D Design I, May 3-5 and 10-12
- Open Sculpture Studio, May 3-5 and 10-12
- Drawing I, May 31-June 2 and June 14-16
- Drawing II and III, May 24-26 and June 7-9
- Drawing and Painting the Portrait II, April 29 – June 12
- Painting I, April 30 – June 11
- Painting/Towards Abstraction II and III, May 3-5 and 10-12
- Creative Digital Photography I, April 29 – June 12
- Advanced Photography II, April 30 – June 11
- Photoshop III, April 30 – June 11
- Pinhole Photography and Alternative Process I, June 8-9
- Advanced Printmaking, April 30-June 11

### Master Gardeners

- Safe Use of Pesticides and Alternatives (MGCC), April 13, 9-noon; \$39.00 + GST
- Hypertufa Containers, April 13, 1-4 pm; \$39.00 + GST + \$11.55 materials fee
- New to Zone 2, April 13, 7-9:30 pm, Instructor: Egan Davis, CBC Radio Horticulturist
- Communications (MGCC), April 14, 9 am-4 pm; \$59.00 + GST
- Garden Fundamentals (MGCC), April 27 and April 28, 9 am-4 pm; \$84.00 + GST

### Community Music Education Program

Spring parenting with music and Suzuki early childhood classes are open for registration. Summer music camps are also open for registration. For more information, visit [www.ccde.usask.ca/community-music](http://www.ccde.usask.ca/community-music)

### U of S Language Centre Programs

- Part-time English Classes for studies or employment. Placement testing and registration for spring term on now. Call 966-4351 or go to [ccde.usask.ca/PTESL](http://ccde.usask.ca/PTESL)
- Pronunciation: Thursdays, April 4 – June 6
- Spoken English: Tuesdays and Thursdays, April 9 – May 30
- Writing and Grammar: Mondays & Wednesdays, April 8 – June 3
- Graduate-Level Writing: Mondays & Wednesdays, April 8 – June 3
- Reading Skills: Tuesdays, April 9 – May 28
- Listening and Note taking Skills: Thursdays, April 11 – May 30
- Multilingual Conversational Language Classes, April 8 to June 3

French levels 1 to 6: \$195 (GST exempt)  
 Italian Level 1 & 2: \$204.75 (GST exempt)  
 Spanish Levels 1 to 5: \$204.75 (GST exempt)  
 German Levels 1 & 2: \$204.75 (GST exempt)  
 Japanese Levels 1 & 2: \$204.75 (GST exempt)  
 Textbooks and workbooks are extra.  
 Register at [ccde.usask.ca/learnlanguages](http://ccde.usask.ca/learnlanguages) or call 306-966-4351.

### Educational Travel

For more information see [ccde.usask.ca/edttours](http://ccde.usask.ca/edttours)

- Athabasca Sand Dunes Wilderness Ecology Camp July 7-12 with tour guides Greg Fenty and Melanie Elliott. Cost: \$2050. Three spots left
- Churchill Manitoba Polar Bear Ecology Family Tour with Susan Blum Nov. 7-14. Cost: \$2495 adult, \$2195 child under 12 years (includes GST). Information nights will be held May 1 and June 6, 7-8:30 pm in the Williams Building.

### WSEP Safety Training Courses

Register at [usask.ca/wsep/web\\_course](http://usask.ca/wsep/web_course)

- Biosafety: classes available online
- Fire Safety: May 28, 1:30-3:30 pm
- Standard First Aid with CPR A: April 24 and 25, 8 am-4:30 pm
- Laboratory Safety: April 15, May 22, 8:30 am-4 pm
- Laboratory Safety for undergrad students: May 2, May 10, May 13, 8:30 am-4:30 pm
- Radiation Safety: April 11, 8:30 am-4 pm
- Safety Orientation for Employees: April 10, 8:30-11:30 am
- Safety Orientation for Supervisors: April 22, 9-noon; June 17, 1-4 pm
- Transportation of Dangerous Goods (Receiver): June 17, 11-noon

### Continuing Education and Development for Nurses

For more information, go to [www.usask.ca/nursing/cedn](http://www.usask.ca/nursing/cedn)

- April 2, Strategies to provide support when you, your colleagues or your staff are off-balance; Telehealth - registration required
- April 5 – 6, Physical Assessment Workshop; Saskatoon – registration required
- April 12 – 13, Oncology Conference, Travelodge Hotel, registration is required

### Edwards School of Business Executive Education

For information call 966-8686, email [execed@edwards.usask.ca](mailto:execed@edwards.usask.ca) or visit [edwards.usask.ca/execed](http://edwards.usask.ca/execed)

- April 10-12, The Business Analyst's Course, Regina
- May 31 – June 7, The Effective Executive Leadership Program, Wasquesiu
- June 24-26, The Project Management Course, Regina

### ICT Training Services

For information or to register, email [training@usask.ca](mailto:training@usask.ca) or visit [training.usask.ca](http://training.usask.ca)

Adobe Acrobat - Eportfolios, April 17, 1-2:30 pm, \$25 students; \$50 staff & faculty; \$75 others

Adobe Illustrator - Introduction, April 9 and 11, 1:30-4:30 pm, \$125 students, \$150 staff & faculty; \$185 others

Adobe Illustrator - Intermediate, April 23 and 25, 1:30-4:30 pm, \$125 students, \$150 staff & faculty; \$185 others

Adobe Photoshop - Introduction Course, April 2 and 4, 1:30-4:30 pm, \$125 students; \$150 staff & faculty; \$185 others

Adobe Photoshop - Photo Retouching Course, April 17, 1:30-4:30 pm, \$75 students; \$100 staff & faculty; \$125 others

Adobe Photoshop - A Photographer's Workflow, March 28, 1:30-4:30 pm, \$75 students; \$100 staff & faculty; \$125 others

BbLearn / U of S Course Tools - Fundamentals Seminar, April 10, 9-10:30 am, \$0 staff & faculty

iPad Tips and Tricks (iOS 6), April 16, 2-3:30 pm, \$0 students; \$50 staff & faculty; \$75 others

Make the Most of Your Mac - Introduction, April 3, 2:30-4 pm, \$0 students, staff & faculty; \$75 others

MS Word - Styles / Outlining / TOC's Seminar, April or April 12, 1:30-3 pm, \$0 students; \$50 staff & faculty; \$75 others

Security: Network Penetration Testing & Countermeasures, July 22-26, 9 am-4:30 pm, \$2250 students, staff & faculty; \$3800 others

Security: Secure Programming Designing and Developing Defensible Web Applications, May 13- 17, 9 am-4:30 pm, \$1950 students, staff & faculty; \$3250 others

SPSS for Windows - Introduction Course, April 22 and 24, 6-9 pm, \$0 students, staff & faculty; \$185 others

Faculty Workshops: contact [training@usask.ca](mailto:training@usask.ca) or 966-4866 for more information on these workshops geared to faculty.

Online Training Library: inquire about the purchase of Pro Licenses for access to training videos.

IT4U – Computer Training and Support for Students, contact <http://it4u.usask.ca>

Many courses are available to off-campus users. Visit [training.usask.ca](http://training.usask.ca) for more information.

## ■ Conferences

### Humanities and Fine Arts Students Conference

The Humanities and Fine Arts Students Conference will take place April 5-6 and aims to foster interdisciplinary connections with the Division of the Humanities and Fine Arts, and celebrate the academic community through workshops, guest lecture and student presentations. For more information, contact [hfacsc2013@gmail.com](mailto:hfacsc2013@gmail.com) or go to the event page at <http://www.picatic.com/hfacsc2013>

### There is NO Planet B

Meewasin Valley United Church is sponsoring There is NO Planet B: In Honour of Earth Day April 13-14 at St. Andrew's College lounge. Keynote speaker Peter Prebble will speak about climate change and renewable energy from a global and local perspective on April 13. On April 14, Prebble and Anne Mathewson will discuss national and provincial environmental initiatives and legalities, including the omnibus Bill 45. The cost is \$60 and includes meals. For more information, email [mvcpc@gmail.com](mailto:mvcpc@gmail.com) or call 306-242-9851.

### Undergraduate Chemistry Conference

The 27th annual Western Canadian Undergraduate Chemistry Conference will be held May 9-11 at the U of S with research presentations in the areas of chemistry, biochemistry and educational chemistry by students from across Western Canada. Details can be found at [www.usask.ca/wcucc](http://www.usask.ca/wcucc)

### Oncology Conference

Continuing Professional Learning, College of Medicine, Continuing Education and Development for Nurses, and the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency present Oncology Conference April 12 and 13 at the Saskatoon Travelodge Hotel. For information and to register, visit [www.usask.ca/cme/](http://www.usask.ca/cme/) or call (306) 966-7795.

### Leadership Conference 2013

Leadership Conference 2013: Leverage Your Leadership Edge takes place May 8 and 9 at TCU Place in Saskatoon. Keynote speakers include Ken Blanchard, Jeremy Gutsche and Rick Mercer. For more information, go to [www.leadershipconference.usask.ca](http://www.leadershipconference.usask.ca)

## ■ Miscellany

### Science Rendezvous 2013

A new public festival called Science Rendezvous, a non-profit organization that partners with Canada's top research institutions to bring people and science together, will take place May 11 from 9:30 am-3:30 pm in the Thorvaldson and Agriculture Buildings. The day includes hundreds of events and interactive demonstration and exhibits from across Canada. Events include: SpectaCOLOUR Chemistry, hands-on activities and demonstrations on colour reactions; Glow Room, fun with fluorescence and phosphorescence; BOOM-bastic Science, activities that create popping sounds; and more. For more information, visit <http://www.sciencerendezvous.ca>

### St. Andrew's Gala Banquet

St. Andrew's College Annual Gala Banquet will be held May 1 at the Western Development Museum. The banquet will be followed by an evening of entertainment by Kids of Note. Tickets are \$100 (with a portion in tax-credit receipt) and are available by calling Melanie at the college at 966-8970. Deadline for tickets is April 24.

### Nasser book launch

Professor Emeritus Kay Nasser will launch his book *How to Achieve Your Dreams*, written for students, April 3 at 2:30 pm in the Place Riel North Concourse.

### Breakfast with the President

Ilene Busch-Vishniac is hosting President's Breakfasts at the University Club starting at 7:30 am on the following dates in April: April 5, April 12, April 26. Please call 966-7775 to make a reservation.

## Submit Coming Events

Next OCN: Fri., April 12, 2013  
 Deadline: Thurs., April 4, 2013  
[ocn@usask.ca](mailto:ocn@usask.ca), fax 966-6815  
 or use web submission form at [www.usask.ca/ocn](http://www.usask.ca/ocn)

## News Briefs

### Salaries frozen at U of C

CALGARY - The University of Calgary is taking definitive action to address a deficit gap that could reach \$113 million by freezing salaries for its senior executives and giving consideration to eliminating low enrolment programs. According to the Calgary Herald, the institution will also seek to significantly hike some tuition fees.

The U of C's provincial operating grant was cut by seven per cent in this year's budget. Freezing salaries, including those of the president and vice-presidents, is expected to save \$500,000 over the coming year, and it may seek permission for targeted tuition increases that exceed the cap set out by the province, that fee hikes be limited to the rate of inflation.

### Bringing PSE to Whistler

WHISTLER - A task force that spent months evaluating post-secondary education opportunities here, sparked by the \$270-million Whistler International Campus development, will present its findings to the public in April with a final report expected in June.

A report in the Whistler Question said the group heard presentations from various organizations and institutions willing to bring educational opportunities to the campus. The Whistler International Campus project has delayed putting forward an official rezoning application until the task force's process is complete.

### Building skills on campus

WINDSOR - A study involving students at the University of Guelph Students indicates that those involved with on-campus activities like student government, residence associations and peer mentoring are more likely to improve several skills valued highly by the labour market and post-secondary education.

Published by the Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario (HEQCO), The Peer Helper Program at the University of Guelph: Analysis of Skills Objectives found that students involved in these activities scored significantly higher in core skills like mobilizing innovation and change, communication, personal time management, problem solving and analytical skills. The authors caution, however, that as the Guelph program has minimum requirements for involvement and that those accepted may already be exceptional students.

### The smell of campus

DECATUR, GA. - Agnes Scott College will soon mail a booklet containing scented pages - the smell of pine to accompany a photo of campus trees, a whiff of mown grass with an aerial view of the Quad - to its 800 accepted applicants.

According to The Chronicle of Higher Education, the idea is to convey the experience of strolling the campus to students who have yet to visit the women's college. Scented varnish is used on the pages of the booklet - no "scratch and sniff" required.

### UVic considers biomass energy

VICTORIA - The University of Victoria is studying the feasibility of building a biomass thermal energy plant to provide a sustainable energy source for campus buildings, and to lower greenhouse gas emissions.

The university recently completed an Integrated Energy Master Plan that recommends such a plant, said a UVic release. The feasibility study will technical and economic viability of a plant, as well as potential academic and research opportunities.

# Campus Incidents

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

## March 11-18

Among the tickets issued were:

- 5 for operating an unregistered vehicle
- 1 for having alcohol in public
- 3 for having alcohol in a vehicle
- 1 for being intoxicated in public
- 3 for trespassing
- 1 for driving while suspended
- 1 for driving without reasonable consideration for others
- A collision between a university vehicle and a private vehicle that occurred off campus was reported to Campus Safety. There were no injuries.
- Individuals were found in possession of a controlled substance in Lot C on March 17.
- Two vehicles had their windows broken in U Lot sometime between March 9 and 12; some items were also reported stolen.
- A vehicle that was stolen from off campus on March 11 was recovered in U Lot on March 12 by Campus Safety officers.
- A different vehicle was reported stolen from U lot on March 16 though the owner had not been to see the vehicle since March 8.
- An individual was arrested for refusal to comply with a demand for a breath sample after officer's collected driving evidence indicating that the operator was driving while intoxicated. The person was turned over to Saskatoon Police for charges.

## March 18-25

Among the tickets issued were:

- 3 for having sunscreen on front side windows
- 1 for trespassing
- 2 for having an unregistered vehicle
- 1 for displaying an unauthorized licence plate
- 1 for using electronic communication equipment while driving
- 1 for a learner driving unaccompanied
- 1 for being intoxicated in a public place
- 1 for driving while suspended
- A mischief incident was reported to have occurred in an art studio sometime around March 22-23 when someone wrote obscenities on some canvas.
- Graffiti was observed on stop signs in the area of Place Riel Service Road and Campus Drive, and the Place Riel Service Road at Voyageur Court.
- Graffiti was observed on a utility box located on the east side of Lot F, near Innovation Boulevard, and on a utility box located north of the entrance to Lot P from Innovation Boulevard.
- Officers attended to a cooking-related fire in Spruce Hall Residence on March 24 around 7 pm. There were no injuries and damage was minor.

## Financial Services Division | FSD

### Training Overview

#### Regularly Scheduled

**Introduction to Accounting:** Two-hour course on basic accounting offered spring and fall  
**Journal Vouchers (JV):** Learn to use JVs to correct previous transactions, move expenditures/revenues between CFOAPALS, record sales, and more; every 4-6 weeks

**FAST Financial Reporting:** Learn basic FAST functions, including search criteria, views, finding detailed information, online invoices and fund balances; every 4-6 weeks

**Register:** training.usask.ca  
**Contact:** unifisupport@usask.ca or call 966-8783

#### On Request

FSD provides training and support on relevant issues to our campus customers on request.

**Contact:** unifisupport@usask.ca or call 966-8783

#### Online

##### Training videos:

- What's New in FAST Finance Reporting
  - Creating a Purchase Requisition in UniFi
  - Basic Navigation in UniFi Plus
- Go to [youtube.com/user/UniFiSupport](http://youtube.com/user/UniFiSupport) to access all three videos.

##### Documents:

- UniFi Plus - Basic Navigation
- Errors in UniFi Plus - Use the Auto Hint Line

Go to the UniFi Information page on FSD's website.

#### Periodic

Dates for the following are announced once scheduled. Find more information on the Training page on our website.

**Pcard Training:** Using your U of S procurement card; card applicants are contacted to schedule training  
**University Financial Fundamentals** (for Deans and Senior Administrators): Accounting fundamentals; the university fund structure; financial statements; financial administration roles and responsibilities; internal controls; and TABBS

**JV Support Clinics:** Hands-on assistance in a live, computer-lab setting

**Selling Goods & Services Workshop:** Recording sales of university goods and services

**Reviews & Documentation Workshop:** Processes and documentation for standard and supervisory monthly financial transaction reviews

**Customs and Brokerage Information Sessions:** Importing and exporting goods; broker, importer and supplier responsibilities; documentation; penalties; U.S. customs information; and more

**Cash Management Workshop:** Handling cash following the university's Managing and Controlling Monies policy

**Budget Process:** Introductory and advanced sessions related to the annual budgeting cycle for those involved in budgeting processes at the unit level

[usask.ca/fsd](http://usask.ca/fsd)

#### Need help with UniFi?

Call 966-8783 or email [unifisupport@usask.ca](mailto:unifisupport@usask.ca)



Next OCN deadline is **April 4**

Suites available at 830 and 840 Idylwyld Dr

- Unfurnished suites available at Phoenix Hills apartments
- **1 BD:** \$830
- **2 BD:** \$ 920 - \$970
- **3 BD:** \$1035 - \$1085
- Includes water, heat, F/S and free parking
- Walking distance from SIAS
- No pets allowed

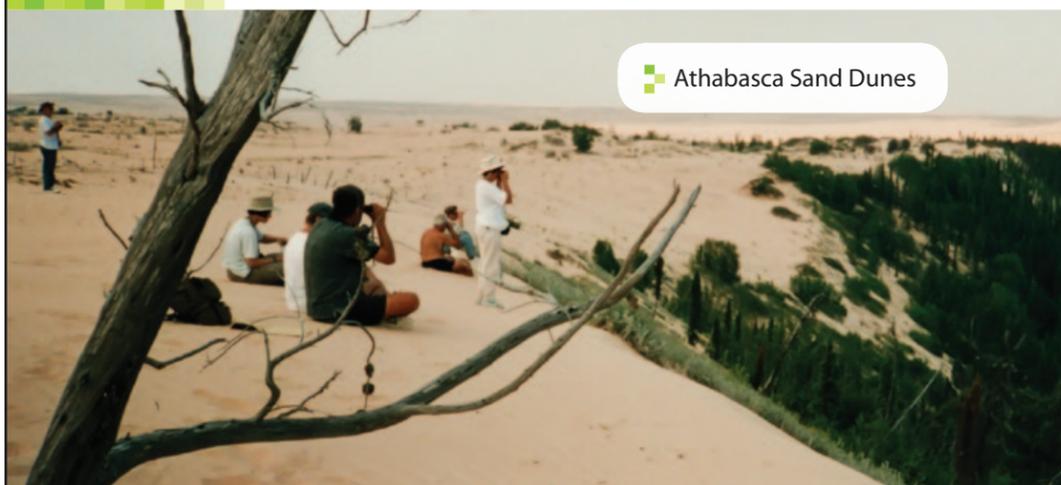
Suites available at 306 20th St E downtown

- Unfurnished executive suites available at Vienna apartments
- **1 BD:** \$950
- **2 BD:** \$1095
- **Studio:** \$810
- **Parking:** \$40 per month
- **Extra storage:** \$20 per month
- F/S, D/W, W/D included
- Suite has its own furnace and a/c
- Electricity and gas are not included
- No pets allowed

If you are interested please call **(306) 374-4333**

## explore & learn

Centre for Continuing & Distance Education



Athabasca Sand Dunes

What's on your adventure bucket list? If it's seeing polar bears in the wild, the spectacular **Athabasca Sand Dunes in Saskatchewan**, penguins in the **Galapagos**, or sacred **Machu Picchu**...join us in 2013.

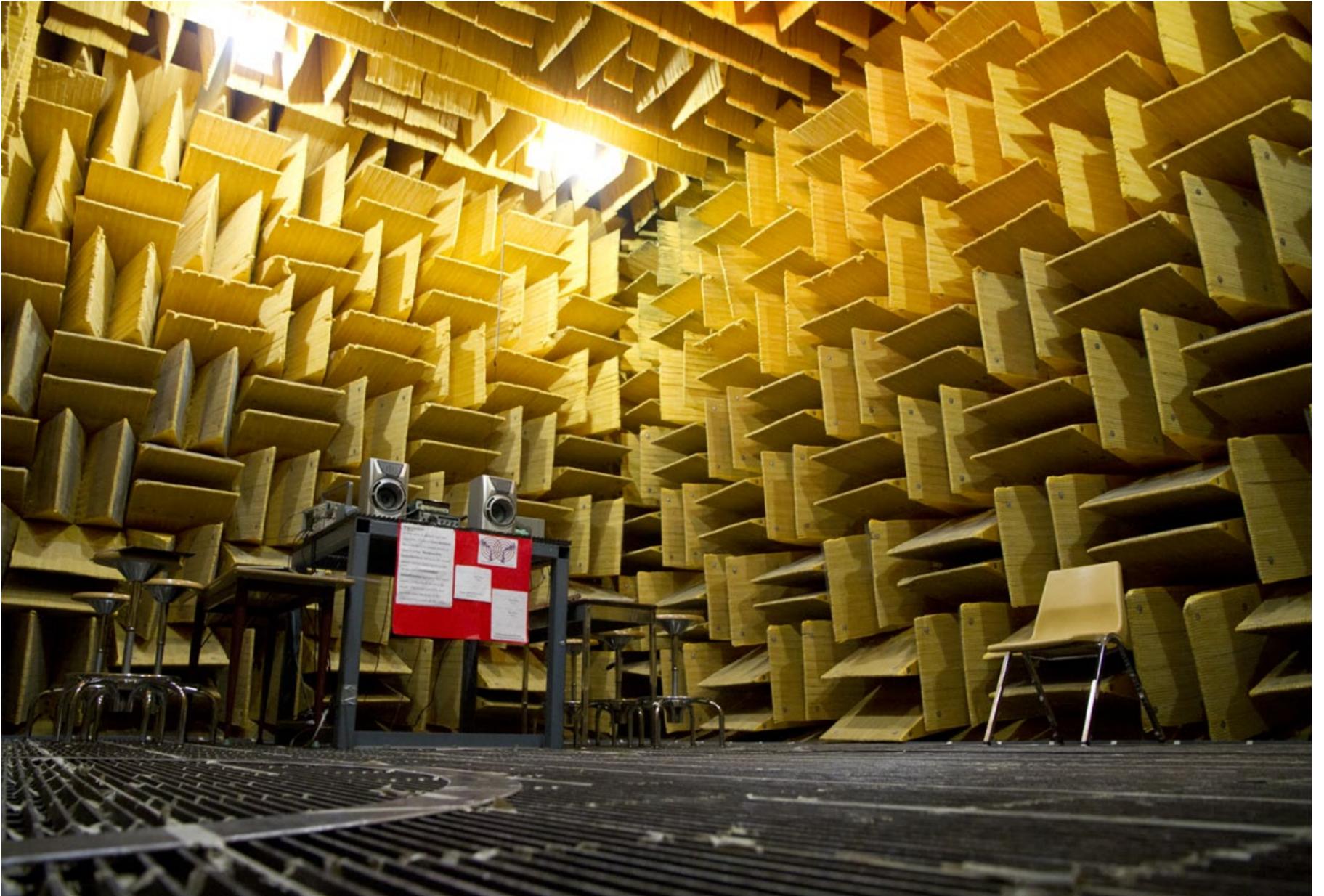
<b>Athabasca Sand Dunes</b> with Greg Fenty and Melanie Elliott	July 7-12, 2013
<b>Churchill MB Polar Bear Ecology Family Tour</b> with Dr. Susan Blum	November 7-14, 2013
<b>Peru, Ecuador (including the Galapagos Islands)</b> with Melanie Elliott	Late November 2013



To learn more visit [ccde.usask.ca/edtours](http://ccde.usask.ca/edtours) or call **306.966.5539** to register

# Sneak peek

This year, *On Campus News* is using the back page to explore places on campus that are off the beaten path—often behind locked doors—and to introduce you to the people who work in them. Suggestions for this feature are always welcome; email [ocn@usask.ca](mailto:ocn@usask.ca)



## The sound of silence

The fiberglass wedges that cover every inch of the walls and ceiling makes this one of the stranger looking, and sounding, places on campus.

The anechoic chamber in the College of Engineering was designed so that outside noise and interference can't get in, making it the perfect place to run all sorts of acoustic experiments, explained Rory Gowen, the undergraduate lab manager in electrical and computer engineering. "If you stand here quietly for long enough, your hearing becomes so sensitive that you can hear the sound of clothing against your skin. It is quite odd."

What's more, Gowen continued, when the chamber was built in 1978 as part of the college's renovations, it was built so that it is not connected to the actual building, but rather suspended by a damping system of springs, making it free of any external vibrations. "Because of this, engineers use this space for testing vibration-sensitive equipment."

While a busy destination during the summer months with weekly SCI-FI Science Camp tours, during the rest of the year the chamber is not frequently used. "I sometimes think about coming here to get some peace and quiet," Gowen said with a laugh.



Rory Gowen in the anechoic chamber

 KRIS FOSTER



**Rory Gowen will provide a video tour of the anechoic chamber in the April 5th issue of On Campus Now.**