



SILVER SUMMER

The opportunity to play full-tackle, American-rules football for Team Canada at an international competition in Finland was certainly the highlight of Carisa Polischuk's summer. Winning the silver medal was a bonus. The assessment analyst in the University Library talks about her passion for the game, her experience overseas and her advocacy efforts for women's tackle football in a story on Page 5.

KRIS FOSTER

Enrolment down slightly in fall 2013

KRIS FOSTER

For the first time in several years, total enrolment at the U of S is down for the start of classes.

Compared to last year, this year's enrolment figure of 20,726 is 0.38 per cent, or about 80 students, lower than the previous fall in all degree and non-degree programs, explained Russell Isinger, university registrar.

"We expect variation year to year, and while we've seen a slight decrease this year, we do consider this year's enrolment figure to be quite stable," said Isinger. "This provides us with a snapshot of enrolment to give us an idea of trends prior to our October census day when we gather official numbers."

Some of the trends that the numbers reveal are that while total undergrads (16,937) is down this year—1.14 per cent compared to last year—the number of graduate students (2,795) is up close to five per cent.

The overall numbers of international and out-of-province undergraduate students are up 1.44 per cent and 3.84 per cent respectively, Isinger said.

"We have recruited more actively in western Canada and internationally over the last five years, and that helps to explain those increases."

But there was a decrease, a little over five per cent, in the number of first-time international undergraduates in direct entry colleges, which Isinger attributes in part to the foreign service strike that is delaying

some international students from getting study visas. "The full extent of this won't be known until census day as more international students may have to withdraw if they cannot secure visas shortly." (See related story Page 3)

Students from closer to home here in Saskatchewan, he continued, declined as well, by almost two per cent.

“ This provides us with a snapshot of enrolment to give us an idea of trends prior to our October census day ...

Russell Isinger

"First-time students in the direct entry colleges from Saskatchewan are also down, so we are checking with government to see if the total number of

high school graduates is down so as to explain this decrease."

One area that Isinger called positive has to do with self-declaration of Aboriginal students.

"Over the past year, we introduced new business processes to better collect Aboriginal self-declarations," he said. "There are already 1,728 self-declared Aboriginal students—one of our highest totals ever—and this number typically increases by census day."

This, he cautioned, does not necessarily mean that the U of S is attracting more Aboriginal students, just that the university is making it easier for Aboriginal students to self-declare.

"The numbers look pretty comparable to last year, but we will have more and better information with census day in October." ■



President Ilene Busch-Vishniac welcomes students during Orientation Sept. 3.

DAVID STOBBE

Institute builds Chinese connections

MICHAEL ROBIN



Youbin Yu is the director of the Confucius Institute.

MICHAEL ROBIN

Youbin Yu ushers his guests into his office in the Arts Building, past a reception area adorned with bright red Chinese lanterns and a portrait of the famous teacher and philosopher for whom the Confucius Institute is named.

It has been a little over a year since the institute at the University of Saskatchewan opened. Yu is its director, seconded from his job as deputy dean of humanities and social sciences at the Beijing Institute of Technology (BIT). He shares the director's position with U of S sociology professor and China advisor, Li Zong.

Yu reports that demand for the institute's adult Chinese

language courses both on and off campus is growing, and a partnership with Saskatoon Public Schools will see Chinese classes offered in Brunskill and Greystone Heights Schools this year. Yu explained the institute has also started a social club on campus and made connections with the local Chinese Cultural Association in Saskatoon.

"We co-hosted a Chinese New Year celebration at TCU Place that drew more than 600 people," Yu said, "So many local people participating—this cultural exchange—it is exactly what we are trying to do."

Yu's passion for sharing Chinese culture began with his son's playmate in Botley, a village just outside Oxford, England where Yu was finishing his visiting scholar's research work.

"Before New Year's Day, I wrote a New Year's card to the family," he said. "The next day they came to my gate and they were very happy, and the boy says 'Allen'—that's my English name—you can even write Japanese!"

Yu was surprised, and explained the characters in his card to the family were Chinese, not Japanese, but he understood the confusion.

"They know cartoons from Japan, toys from Japan, and motor cars from Japan, so they connect everything—like the characters—with Japanese products. So they recognize Chinese as Japanese."

Yu and some of his like-minded colleagues at Oxford University decided to help fill the cultural void by forming a non-profit association to teach Chinese language and culture. The initiative, which continued after Yu finished his studies, made him an ideal candidate to work with the Confucius Institute.

The local institute is a co-operative effort of the U of S and BIT, sanctioned by the Confucius Institute headquarters in Beijing. Under the partnership, salaries and program expenses are shared by BIT

and the Confucius Institute, while the U of S, as the host institution, provides office and classroom space, and administrative support.

First established in its Beijing headquarters in 2004, the aim of the Confucius Institute is to promote understanding and friendship among China and other cultures.

Yu explained that the institute here builds on existing ties between China and the U of S, both on an institutional and personal level. The U of S has relationships with more than 30 Chinese academic institutions.

“ It's a platform for universities to co-operate in Chinese language teaching and cultural exchange.

Youbin Yu

More than 40 U of S faculty members in a wide variety of fields have links with China, collaborating with researchers and regularly recruiting Chinese graduate students to study here.

"A Confucius Institute is not an ordinary part or department of a university, although it's inside a university," Yu said. "It's a platform for universities to co-operate in Chinese language teaching and cultural exchange. For universities, they (Confucius Institute headquarters in Beijing) want to expand co-operation between the two universities in scientific research, teaching, and maybe staff training."

Yu himself was active as both a scholar and administrator before taking up his three-year post at the Confucius Institute here. A specialist in the philosophy of science, he hopes to collaborate with U of S colleagues, exploring possibilities in medicine, engineering, and social sciences.

"I want to have more opportunities to converse with local philosophers and maybe we can set up an exchange with BIT staff," he said. "I don't yet know what is possible, but I would like to see in the very near future what we can do." ■

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- development and delivery of distance learning and off-campus degree and certificate programs, and
- professional development and training to campus staff, groups and units.

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In Memoriam

John Bardwell, May 2

Frances Schoen, May 12

Robin Harrison, Arts and Science, May 19

Robert Lemke, May 20

Lyle Watson, Engineering, June 18

Richard Cassidy, Arts and Science, June 19

Michael Reiter, June 30

Niall McCloskey, July 11

Lois Jaeck, Arts and Science, July 13

Jim Barak, Arts and Science, Aug. 5

Terrance Beebe, FMD, Aug. 26

Students defer admission due to foreign service strike

✍ KRIS FOSTER

Many international students getting ready to study at post-secondary institutions in Canada this fall may have to put their plans on hold due to the strike of foreign service workers, at the government agency responsible for issuing student visas.

At the U of S, about 35 international undergraduate students who were newly admitted and scheduled to start classes this fall have had to defer their admission until January, said Alison Pickrell, director of enrolment and student affairs.

“The short-term impact is that newly admitted students who didn’t already obtain study authorization (from the foreign service) have to defer their admission,” Pickrell explained. “That number is about 35 students out of 400-450 new undergrads from outside of Canada.”

Until the work action is over, she continued, there is not a lot the U of S can do other than communicate with the students who are being affected and

provide as much information as possible.

“If the strike continues for the long term, this could affect Canada’s ability to recruit high-quality international students,” she said. “Recruiting international students is intense and competitive, and Canada has spent a lot of time and money on raising its profile as preferred destination for post-secondary education. If international students aren’t confident that they will get the study authorization needed, they might not apply.”

So far, international student numbers look to be up compared to last year, she said, but “we won’t be able to tell the final number until census day in October when all those international students who registered but had to withdraw their classes have done so.”

The number of international graduate students affected by this strike is more difficult to determine because each department on campus manages its own graduate program. ■



Left: Sakej Henderson and Marie Battiste

Below: John Giesy



Royal Society of Canada honours academics

Three scholars and researchers from the University of Saskatchewan have received recognition for their work from the Royal Society of Canada (RSC).

Sakej Henderson, director of the Native Law Centre, and Marie Battiste, a professor in the College of Education, two of the country’s top Aboriginal scholars and Indigenous knowledge advocates, have been elected to the RSC, considered one of Canada’s highest academic honours. The RSC has also awarded John Giesy, Canada Research Chair in Environmental Toxicology, the Miroslaw Romanowski Medal

for his contributions to the resolution of scientific aspects of environmental problems.

Henderson and Battiste are the first Aboriginal scholars from the U of S to be elected to the RSC, and Battiste is only the fourth woman to be elected from the university.

Henderson is an expert on Aboriginal and treaty rights, and is widely recognized as an authority and advocate for the human rights of Indigenous people.

Battiste is a Mi’kmaq scholar whose career has been dedicated to research in both

improving outcomes for Indigenous youth and balancing knowledge systems in the academy.

Giesy has received a number of national and international awards over the past three

Read more about the RSC awards at news.usask.ca

decades, including a recent lifetime achievement award from the Paris-based Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment. He was elected a RSC fellow in 2010. ■

CAMPUS INCIDENTS

Report all information about incidents to Protective Services at 306-966-5555

Aug. 25-31

Tickets

- 1 for producing a driver’s licence other than their own
- 3 for operating an unregistered vehicle
- 4 for a minor possessing or consuming alcohol

Events of note

- A man was arrested for breach of conditions of his probation to not be on university grounds.
- A bike was reported stolen between Aug. 27 and 28 from the area around the Physical Activity Centre. The bike is valued at \$200 and is black. It was locked to the bike stand with a combination lock and chain. The owner was advised to use a more secure u-lock.
- Over the first three weeks of September, Protective Services’ crime prevention officer and patrol officers are staffing booths around campus to promote safety and security.

Sept. 1-7

Tickets

- 4 for driving an unregistered vehicle
- 14 for a minor possessing or consuming beverage alcohol
- 1 for being intoxicated in a public place
- 13 for consuming alcohol in a place other than a private place
- 3 for keeping/consuming alcohol in a motor vehicle
- 1 for a minor attempting to purchase alcohol
- 4 24-hour driver licence suspensions

Events of note

- Oleoresin Capsicum spray was discharged at a party in Aspen Hall. There are no suspects.
- Two people were detained and drug paraphernalia was seized at the weir.
- A poster depicting an offensive racial slur was posted on a door at the Administration Building.
- A fire extinguisher was set off in residence. A large amount of damage was done to the area and caused the residents to leave the floor. This is still under investigation.
- Protective Services has a zero tolerance for the illegal use of alcohol. We reminded everyone that the minimum age for possession and consumption of alcohol is 19. You are also not allowed to consume alcohol in a place other than a private place.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

A campus proposal



✍ PATRICK HAYES, U OF S ARCHIVES

University Archives, Presidential Papers, Series IV, B. 40.

Here we have a portion of the campus plan from October 1961 titled “Proposed Campus Development for 8,000 Students”. This document is located in the Spinks Presidential Papers. Over the following few years, the campus would be transformed by a construction boom. Several buildings were erected as per the plan including the Arts Classroom Wing and the Colleges of Commerce, Law and Education. Buildings that failed to materialize were the Fine Arts Building (slated to be located on what is now G-Lot or alternatively the space west of Education) and a proposed cluster of student residences and a Food Centre that were to be located where the Diefenbaker Canada Centre now stands. ■

NEW TO US



Holly Mansell

Holly Mansell joined the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition in February 2013, lured by an assistant professor position that offered the chance to teach, pursue research and even continue working as a pharmacist.

"I will be working in clinical practice one day a week in the transplant program," she said. "My research is transplant focused and I also get to teach. To me, it's the best of all worlds."

A native of Flin Flon, Manitoba, Mansell completed her undergraduate degree at the U of S before heading to Washington to work as a pharmacist and begin her doctorate at the University of Washington. She returned to Saskatoon in 2005 to work as a hospital pharmacist with the Saskatoon Health Region in the areas of critical care and kidney transplant. From there, she joined the Saskatchewan Transplant Program as a clinic pharmacist, gaining experience with the needs of liver, lung, heart and kidney transplant patients.

As a clinician, she maintained her research, often devoting evening and weekends to these pursuits. One of her current projects is looking at how to best manage immunosuppressant drugs.

"These drugs may cause side effects such as an increased risk of infection and malignancy, renal dysfunction, cardiovascular disease or diabetes," Mansell explained. "It's a balancing act. You want to give enough to suppress rejection, while minimizing toxicities."

Mansell hopes her own example of working as a clinician-researcher-teacher will inspire her students to be creative with their own careers.

"There are many things you can do with a pharmacy degree and a variety of areas you can specialize in. The profession of pharmacy is evolving and with that comes a lot of new opportunities." ■

NEW TO US highlights the work of new faculty members at the University of Saskatchewan. If you are new to campus, or know someone who is, please email ocn@usask.ca



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VIEWPOINT

Honour traditions but with inclusive ceremonies

EDITOR'S NOTE: The pipe ceremony held Sept. 3 was to launch Indigenous Voices, a staff and faculty development program in Aboriginal education.

I was unaware, until receiving an email about the Sept. 3 pipe ceremony, that some Aboriginal belief systems register the same horror of women's genitalia, as do the Abrahamic religions. (I assume that many of us are familiar, for example, with the pertinent—and misogynistic—passages from Genesis, Leviticus, Ezekiel, etc.) The instructions in the email cautioned that women on their "moon time" must not participate in the ceremony in various ways, apparently because their menstruating bodies might somehow render the "sacred objects" in that ceremony filthy. And even if not menstruating, women were instructed not to sit cross-legged. (Because, of course, a woman sitting cross-legged might be dangerous somehow.) Men, apparently, could sit in any way they chose, and touch anything they wished to, no matter what bodily functions they might be experiencing. Are you a menstruating woman? Please stay away. A man with a suppurating perineal abscess? Come on in, we've saved a seat for you!

I fully support the inclusion and advancement of Aboriginal students at the University of Saskatchewan. Working with this diverse community of young scholars is one of the most rewarding aspects of my job. However, I do not support activities that marginalize women—or anyone on campus, for that matter. Can you imagine an activity that similarly excluded disabled students, or students from Jamaica, or lesbians, or redheads? Would we stand for it? Of course not. And if you think I'm wrong about this, I invite you to organize an activity and substitute "student with a disability"

for "woman in her moon time." Good luck with that.

If we cannot adapt such ceremonies, in partnership with stakeholders in the Aboriginal community, to reflect the diversity and dignity of ALL people on campus, we should neither endorse nor permit them. Indeed, we should resist them—in the strongest ways possible—in the interest of equality and common decency. I am hopeful that the university will work to find ways both to honour traditions such as the pipe ceremony and encourage more contempo-

rary—and less exclusive—models of Aboriginal identity. Failure to do so merely reinstates a model of paternalism beyond which I hope we all have passed by now.

I would have liked to attend but I felt that to do so would be to endorse the subordination of women. It's time to move beyond superstition and fully embrace the modern world in which we all live, one in which men and women of all races, ethnicities, and sexual orientations must have equal voices. ■

Kevin Flynn
Department of English

OCN Publishing Schedule 2013-14

No.	Issue Date	Deadline Date
3	Sept. 27	Sept. 19
4	Oct 11	Oct. 3
5	Oct 25	Oct. 17
6	Nov. 8	Oct. 31
7	Nov. 22	Nov. 14

ON CAMPUS NEWS

On Campus News is published 18 times per year by University of Saskatchewan Marketing and Communications. It is distributed to all U of S faculty, staff, graduate students and members of governing bodies, as well as to others in the university community, related organizations, some Saskatchewan government officials and news media.

Subscriptions are available for \$22 per year. Story and photo ideas are welcome. Advertising rates are available online or on request.

On Campus News aims to provide a forum for the sharing of timely news, information and opinions about events and issues of interest to the U of S community.

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

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Home Schedule

Football

Sept. 20, 7 pm vs U of A

Men's Soccer

Sept. 21 and 22, 2:15 pm vs U of C

Women's Soccer

Sept. 14, noon vs U of R

Sept. 21 and 22, noon, vs TWU/UBC

Sept. 28 and 29, noon vs Lethbridge/U of C

Huskie Headlines

SEPT. 5

Olver named interim wrestling head coach

SEPT. 9

Huskies player suspended for one game for late hit below the waist

SEPT. 11

Hillis ranked in CFL's top 15 prospects

SEPT. 11

Kolodzinski named CIS Special Teams Player of the Week

More Huskie news, features and profiles at huskies.usask.ca

The ultimate fan

Polischuk plays, advocates for women's tackle football

COLLEEN MACPHERSON

Even here in Rider Nation, it would be difficult to find anyone more passionate about football than Carisa Polischuk but she's not one for cheering from the sidelines; her favourite spot to be at a game is in the defensive backfield.

So it was almost a dream come true for the assessment analyst from the University Library to don the cleats, pads, helmet, and red and white jersey of Team Canada and be part of a silver medal-winning performance at this summer's International Federation of American Football (IFAF) Women's World Championship in Vantaa, Finland. A Canadian girl playing full-tackle American-rules football in Finland is a long way from La Ronge where Polischuk first realized she was made for football.

"Since the very first time I played football, which was Grade 3 recess with the boys, I've loved it. I could run, I could throw and I could catch, the three ingredients that allowed me to play with the boys but it's like the chemistry between a boyfriend and girlfriend – sometimes it works and sometimes it doesn't. For me, it worked."

There was no organized football for boys or girls in La Ronge but after moving to Saskatoon, Polischuk sought out every opportunity she could find to play the game – flag football, touch football, university campus rec league ball, "any kind of football I could get myself into."

The appeal, she said, "is the game itself, the chess match combined with the athleticism. Brains and brawn. It's not one or the other; you need both."

For 15 years, Polischuk quarterbacked her touch football team, displaying not only leadership qualities but a special touch with the ball. "I can throw a long bomb but it's my precision that earned me the spot."

Then, three years ago, with the establishment of the Saskatoon Valkyries of the Western Women's Canadian Football League, she finally got the chance to play a new kind of football—full tackle.

Going into tryouts, "I was 34 years old and thinking that I desperately want to be on the team, but am I too old? I was starting when most people are thinking about retiring. And it's one thing to play touch but I didn't know how to tackle. All these things go through your head."

Despite her doubts and a recurring back injury, Polischuk made the team and, along with all the other women, learned step by step how to tackle. "It's so much about technique and form," she said. "You don't just start by running down the field and tackling someone." Speed and strength play a part but it is form that ensures success, form that can only be honed over weeks, months and years of training and playing.

"As the coaches say, you know you love it when you practice as much as you do for so little playing time. But it's still worth it for that one tackle, that one interception, that one batted-down ball."

Of all the new skills she had to master, Polischuk said none was harder than the open-field tackle.

“When you're itching to make a tackle and the person dekes you out and blows by you, it's like, 'awww' but when you do make the hit, it's just like a hole in one.

Carisa Polischuk

"When someone's running at you full speed and you're running at them, it's an almost impossible tackle to make. When you're itching to make a tackle and the person dekes you out and blows by you, it's like, 'awww' but when you do make the hit, it's just like a hole in one."

In her second and third years with the Valkyries, Polischuk concentrated solely on defense. The team captain got a defensive touchdown this year, a rare occurrence in the league, and helped the team win its third consecutive championship in the nine-team league.

Through the 2012 season, Polischuk also played for Team Saskatchewan against other provincial and regional squads as part of the try-out process for Team Canada and the international championship which is held only every three or four years. A total of 10 Valkyries made the national team with Polischuk assigned to defensive corner and special teams.

With players from across the country, Team Canada did not come together until the women arrived in Finland in late June. An intense training camp there was followed by pre-tournament practice and then three football games in four days. Polischuk described it as "intense," possibly an understatement.

Game one was against a young and inexperienced Spanish team; Canada won 50-0



Carisa Polischuk, left, lines up against Team Spain in a IFAF World Championship game.

SUBMITTED

but they came away adoring the Spaniards' sportsmanship and love of all things Canadian. Spain cheered Team Canada on throughout the rest of the tournament.

Game two, against Finland, was more challenging.

"They surprised us right out the gate and then the nerves started kicking in. Suddenly it's half time and we weren't winning the game.

At the same time, we knew we weren't playing to our potential. In the second half, they were starting to get frustrated and we came back to win."

Final score: 34-12.

That moved Team Canada into the gold-medal final against the U.S. "Going in, we knew they were potent;" in two world championships, only the Germans were able to score against them, and Germany lost that game 107-7.

Looking back, Polischuk said it was "just one of those kinds of games when it just wasn't happening. We got close once but it was turned back on a penalty and it just took the wind out of our sails."

Canada lost 64-0 but she pointed out with a laugh that in the 2010 championship, Canada lost to the Americans 66-0 "so we've improved by a couple of

points."

Polischuk's overwhelming feeling about the world championship was pride "in being able to represent Canada and in that we're hopefully paving the way for future football players. If we're going to get throttled this year, so be it; some day there's going to be a Team Canada that's going to blow the States away."

She expects to play at least one more year for the Valkyries but Polischuk knows calling it quits in tackle football won't be easy.

"You almost can't explain what it's like to play on a football team with women of all shapes

See *Tackle*, Page 8

lead & learn

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Managing Conflict — Level I	Oct. 16 to 17	Brian Strom, Murray Walker
Leadership Development Program	Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26	Various Instructors
Developing a Coaching Mindset	Nov. 6 to 7	Shana Ring
Leadership for Managers & Supervisors	Nov. 12 to 13	Laurie Ballantyne
Leadership Communication	Nov. 15	Rachelle Brockman
Leading Innovation, Inspiring Creativity in the Workplace	Nov. 18	Susan Brooks, Bill Brooks
Building an Effective Team	Nov. 21	Toni Villiers
Technical Writing	Nov. 22	Jesse Stothers
Emotional Intelligence: Another Side of Smart	Nov. 28	Linda McCann
Leverage Your Understanding of Self & Others (MBTI® Step II)	Nov. 29	Diane Knoll
Professional Selling: Skills for Sales Success	Dec. 4 to 6	Fred Matiko

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Around the Bowl

Suraj Unniappan, associate professor in veterinary biomedical sciences, was awarded the Pickford Medal in Comparative Endocrinology from the International Federation of Comparative Endocrinology Societies. The award recognizes the contributions of a researcher less than 45 years of age.



Unniappan

This year's Canadian Lung Association Founders Award has been presented to **Dr. Darcy Marciniuk** of the Division of Respiriology, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine, Dept. of Medicine. The award recognizes exemplary innovation and commitment toward lung health.

Kelly Foley, a recently appointed assistant professor in the Dept. of Economics, was awarded the Robert Mundell Prize by the Canadian Economics Association, in recognition of a young author with a paper judged to be the best paper published in the *Canadian Journal of Economics* in the previous calendar year.

The Saskatchewan Population Health and Evaluation Research Unit has announced that **Nazeem Muhajarine**, professor in the Dept. of Community Health and Epidemiology, has accepted the position of director of the unit for a five-year term that began July 1. **Tom McIntosh**, associate professor of political science at the U of R, who filled the position of interim director this past year, will serve as associate director.



Walkner

Huskie Athletics and the College of Kinesiology have announced the appointment of **Mark Walkner** to the position of physical therapist. A graduate of the college, Walkner will work in the Sports Health Centre in the Physical Activity Complex.

Verna St. Denis, professor in the College of Education, is the recipient of the 2013 Special Recognition Award presented by the Canadian



St. Denis

Teachers' Federation. The award acknowledges meritorious contributions to education and the teaching profession. St. Denis was nominated by the Saskatchewan Teacher's Federation for her work on anti-oppression and anti-racism education.



Pratt

Brian Pratt, professor of geological sciences, has been elected vice president of the Geological Association of Canada, Canada's learned society that embraces all the geological sub disciplines.

The American Association of Anatomists has named **Dr. Baljit Singh** a fellow, recognizing his contributions to research and teaching in anatomical sciences. Singh, professor and associate dean research in the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, has also been appointed the Canadian representative to the Council

on Education of the American and Canadian Veterinary Medical Associations.

Carl Kuhnke has accepted the position of managing director of the Saskatchewan Center of Excellence for Transportation and Infrastructure (SCETI) in the College of Engineering beginning Nov. 1. Prior to this appointment, Kuhnke was the executive director of the Intelligent Transportation Systems Society of Canada (ITS Canada), a national advocacy agency for the development and deployment of smart transportation concepts.

The Canadian Society for Bioengineering presented a series of awards at its annual conference held on campus in July, including the 2013 John Clark Award to **Venkatash Meda**, associate professor of chemical and biological engineering. The Clark award recognizes outstanding work in industry, teaching, research and extension. Three students – **Jeff Pridmore**, **Devin Barros** and **Lane Forester** – won the undergraduate design project award while **Aubree Worobetz** and **Carolyn Osborn** received the undergraduate paper award. The graduate thesis award went to **Alvin Alvarado**.

The following appointments have been announced by the Office of the Provost and Vice-President Academic:

- **Noreen Mahoney** to the position of associate dean, students and degree programs in the Edwards School of Business for a five-year term that started July 1.
- **Dianne Miller** as head of the Dept. of Educational Foundations for 18 months starting July 1.
- **Aaron Phoenix** to the position of acting associate dean, academic in the College of Engineering until June 30, 2014.
- **Martin Phillipson** to an extension, until June 30, 2014, of his term as vice-provost, College of Medicine Organizational Restructuring.
- **Michelle Prytula** to the position of associate dean, undergraduate studies, partnerships and research in the College of Education until June 30, 2018.
- **Dr. Gill White** as acting vice-dean, medical education, College of Medicine, until Dec. 31.
- **Linda McMullen** to an extension of her term as acting vice-dean, Division of Social Science, College of Arts and Science until June 30, 2014.
- **Veronika Makarova** as head of the Dept. of Religion and Culture for a five-year term that began July 1.



KRIS FOSTER

FRESH FROM THE GARDEN

The kitchen staff at the University Club, including sous chef Jesse Papish above, have been harvesting fresh herbs from right outside their door this year, thanks to efforts of a number of people across campus and beyond. Club Manager Donna Cram, grounds personnel from Facilities Management Division and even members of the local permascape organization joined forces to build a herb spiral that has produced a bounty of fresh ingredients for the kitchen. Papish said additional herbs and edible flowers were grown in planters around the club patio, ensuring a constant supply of parsley, thyme, oregano, mint, basil, tarragon and other ingredients. The chefs will harvest and freeze herbs for winter fare like soups and stews.



The Saskatoon
Fireside Singers
present...



Les Misérables

TCU Place - Sid Buckwold Theatre
September 27 & 28 - 7:30pm

Get tickets at TCU Place Box Office,
or by calling 306-975-7799 or 888-639-7770
Online at www.tcutickets.ca · Info: www.tcuplace.com

This event is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All Authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.
421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019 · Phone: 212-541-4684 · Fax: 212-397-4684

Gates repaired, missing names finally added

COLLEEN MACPHERSON

A repair project this past summer to one of the University of Saskatchewan's iconic monuments created the opportunity not only to ensure the continued stability of the Memorial Gates but also to correct an omission made back in 1927-28.

As the name implies, the stone and bronze structure next to St. Andrew's College serves the dual purpose of marking the original entrance to campus and of memorializing the U of S students and faculty who lost their lives in the First World War. But the effects of time and ground heaving and settling left the gates with cracked mortar and shifting stones. The repairs were undertaken after an assessment of the structure revealed the situation was not as dire as

originally thought.

Andrew Wallace, associate director of space management and planning with the Facilities Management Division (FMD), said an engineering report done in 2006 recommended the entire structure be underpinned for support, a \$400,000 project "that was more than we could fund at the time." Then, a more recent survey was done and compared to the first, revealing the gates were no longer settling.

"If it had kept moving, we would have had to address that," said Wallace, "but in this case, there was no further movement so the repairs are worthwhile."

In July, stone masons from Gracom Masonry, the company that did the stone work on the new Health Sciences building



A stonemason carves the name of Herbert Ernest McRitchie in the Memorial Gates 94 years after the soldier's death.

COLLEEN MACPHERSON

and the Place Riel expansion, worked to replace crumbling mortar on the gates (called repointing), secure loose greystone and clean the Collegiate Gothic structure. Wallace said the cleaning was necessary to ensure the colour of the new mortar matched the old, "not the dirt."

While that work was going on, some very delicate carving

was done to add two names to the raised Indiana limestone cenotaph.

When originally constructed, the cenotaph listed 67 fallen soldiers but research done by Professor Emeritus Michael Hayden in the early 2000s revealed that two had been missed: George Israel Peters who was killed in action on June 3, 1917 and Herbert Ernest McRitchie who died of illness on March 2, 1919.

(Hayden's investigation also found 17 names that should have been included in the memorials on the walls of the College Building, now the Peter MacKinnon Building. Wallace said FMD is investigating ways to correct the omission.)

In all, 345 university students, staff, faculty and alumni served their country in the First World War, a number roughly equal to the entire

first-year class of 1913. In fact, in 1916-17 the Engineering Department was temporarily closed because all of its students and faculty had enlisted.

The idea of the Memorial Gates was first proposed in 1923 by the Graduate Students' Society which raised about one third of the \$30,000 cost of the project. The gates were designed by David R. Brown of Brown and Vallance, the Montreal firm that developed the original plan for the U of S campus in 1909 and designed all of the university's early buildings.

In addition to the names of the fallen, panels on either side of the cenotaph list the battles in which university men took part. There is also an inscription that reads, "These are they who went forth from this University to the Great War and who gave their lives that we might live in freedom." ■



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

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

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



This year's Achievement Award will be made as part of SHRF's anniversary celebrations – highlighting 10 years of research excellence.

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

Deadline for nominations is October 15, 2013.



www.shrf.ca

Building a healthy Saskatchewan through health research

Tackle football needed at all levels

From Page 5

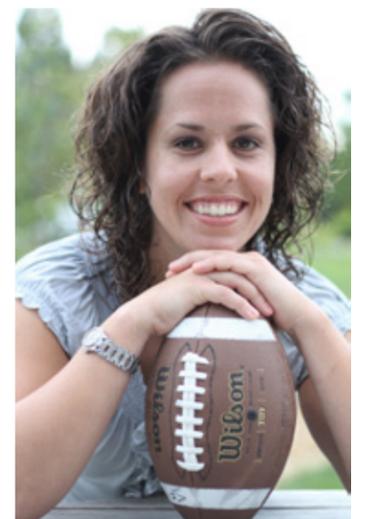
and sizes and ages. It's just this interesting sisterhood that's created and it's going to be hard for me to leave."

At the same time, she knows she and her teammates have been groundbreakers when it comes to women's tackle football.

"We don't not stink after a game and there's lots of trash talk, just like in men's ball, but it's an absolutely legitimate sport for women. I would be happy to see the same opportunities at every level for females as there are for males starting with flag football and working into tackle in high schools and at the university level.

"I will be happy when young girls don't realize there once was a time when they couldn't play."

While the profile of women's football is growing, it still has a ways to go. "The stupidest



Polischuk

KRIS FOSTER

question anyone has asked me when they found out I play football is, 'Do you play in the Lingerie Football League?'"

Polischuk's response was short and to the point: "Seriously? I'm going to tackle you." ■

Teaching takes flight

Sheehan stays relevant in class

✍ KRIS FOSTER

A great teacher could make the difference between a student coming to the U of S or pursuing post-secondary education in another province, country or even online. Knowing that keeps Norman Sheehan, the university's newest Master Teacher Award winner, motivated when he's in front of the class.

"It worries me, but it helps me work to keep class relevant and engaging so students want to come to class and always learn something while there," explained Sheehan, an accounting professor in the Edwards School of Business.

"I try to make the concepts interesting and relevant to the real world because I am competing for their attention—students have all these devices that can occupy their attention, like smartphones, tablets and laptops. How do you win the battle for their attention?"

Between in-class performance and developing teaching methods out of class, Sheehan, who was a professional accountant for a number of years before becoming a professor, has come up with a number of tips and tools to help him win that battle.

"We (in Edwards) are fortunate that we are in a professional school so I have to be relevant in what I teach," he explained. "I wouldn't say I am dynamic or captivating, but I am approachable and confident in knowing that what I am teaching is what students will need to know and will have to

do in the workforce."

Beyond the subject matter, Sheehan frames the class so that concepts can be demonstrated and explained at the beginning, practiced in the middle and then discussed at the end.

"I try to keep the introduction brief, about 20 minutes max, then have a group activity in the middle because students can't disengage when they are working in a group. For the last part, I get the entire class to discuss how each group approached the activity. Students are drawn to that and how they compare to other groups; natural competitiveness comes out."

Within this format, Sheehan uses group activities to challenge students and provide hands-on learning by practicing concepts the way they would be used by a real-world accountant.

"I don't tell, I show. When you show, there is deep learning happening. When I've designed or used an activity and it works and you see the light bulbs going off, then that's the best part."

One activity that results in a lot of light-bulb moments is a technique he came up with while teaching in Norway, and one he spent the next nine years perfecting.

"I didn't speak Norwegian well enough to get concepts across in a lecture format, so I needed to develop a different method."

What Sheehan came up with—and still uses in class

today—involves paper airplanes. He puts students into teams to work on folding and selling paper airplanes, and competing to make the most profit in class. In the simulation, Sheehan acts as a buyer and the students try to sell him paper airplanes as a way to demonstrate strategic approaches, profit and costs.

It is just one example of how Sheehan works to make the in-class experience for students stand out, he explained. Trends in post-secondary education, he continued, include rising tuition and larger class sizes countered by more and more online learning opportunities, many of which are free.

"That's why classes have to be engaging. It's more than just education, but about growth and peer groups. I ask what can I do that they can't get online and can only get in my class?"

That question keeps Sheehan motivated, and it is also a big part of the teaching



Norman Sheehan uses paper airplanes as a teaching tool.

LARRY KWOK

and learning research that he is aspirational and something undertakes. I can always work towards

"I always wanted to be a professor. Growing as a teacher because there is always more to learn and bring into class." ■

THANK YOU!
READ Saskatoon would like to thank the employees of the University of Saskatchewan for their support through the payroll deduction plan.

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*If you have come to help me,
 You are wasting your time.
 But if you have come because
 your liberation
 Is bound up with mine
 Then let us work together.*

- LILLA WATSON

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 Website: www.readsaskatoon.com

➤ **U of S Women's Welcome Coffee Party** for female faculty, administrative staff, research affiliates and partners of same.

Sunday, September 22, 2:00-4:00 pm
 W.A. Edwards Family Centre, 333 4th Ave. N.

Sign up for fun activities (books, bridge, cooking, needlecraft, bird watching, antiques, writing)

All welcome. **Contact:** Betty, 373-3938

INTERVAC COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE
 INVITES YOU TO THE ANNUAL PRESENTATION AND REPORT

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2013
 VIDO THEATRE
 120 VETERINARY ROAD
 7:00 PM
 RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

VIDO-INTERVAC LIAISON COMMITTEE
COMMUNITY
 www.intervac.ca

Coming Events

■ Courses/Workshops

Centre for Continuing and Distance Education

For more information, visit ccde.usask.ca or call 306-966-5539

Business and Leadership Programs

- Managing Conflict – Level I, Oct. 16-17
- Leadership Development Program (Tuesdays only), Oct. 29-Nov. 26
- Developing a Coaching Mindset, Nov. 6-7
- Leadership for Managers and Supervisors, Nov. 12-13
- Leadership Communication, Nov. 15
- Leading Innovation, Inspiring Creativity in the Workplace, Nov. 18
- Building an Effective Team, Nov. 21

USCAD Fall Classes

- Visual Arts Survey I, Sept. 17-Dec. 10
- Printmaking and Traditional Image Making I, Sept. 16-Dec. 16
- 2D Design I, Sept. 18-Dec. 11
- Approaches to Expressive Colour I, Sept. 16-Dec. 16
- Drawing 1 (morning class), Sept. 16-Dec. 16
- Drawing 1 (evening class), Sept. 16-Dec. 16
- Life Drawing I, Sept. 18-Dec. 11
- Life Drawing II, Sept. 18-Dec. 11
- Drawing for Illustration II, Sept. 18-Dec. 11
- Drawing in Soft Pastel I (morning), Sept. 19-Dec. 12
- Painting I (morning class), Sept. 17-Dec. 10
- Painting 1 (evening class), Sept. 17-Dec. 10
- Developing Design in Painting and Mixed Media II (afternoon), Sept. 19-Dec. 12
- Painting/Towards Abstraction II, Oct. 18-20/25-27
- Painting/Towards Abstraction III, Oct. 18-20/25-27
- Open Project Painting II/III Critique and Advice, Sept. 14-Dec. 14
- Open Project II/III- Full Course Painting, Sept. 19-Dec. 12
- 3D Design I, Sept. 18-Dec. 11
- 3D Design I, Sept. 19-Dec. 12
- Sculpture I, Sept. 18-Dec. 11
- Sculpture I, Sept. 19-Dec. 12
- Sculpture II, Sept. 18-Dec. 11
- Modeling, Mold-Making and Casting for Sculpture II, Sept. 19-Dec. 12
- Photography I, Sept. 25-Dec. 18
- Advanced Photography II, Sept. 24-Dec. 17
- Digital Photography-Weekend Workshop, Oct. 4-5/18-19
- eBook Author, Sept. 23-Nov. 4
- Photoshop I, Sept. 19-Dec. 12
- Adobe Illustrator I, Sept. 14-Nov. 30
- Adobe InDesign I, Sept. 14-Nov. 30
- Stained Glass I, Oct. 4-6
- Glass Fusion II, Nov. 2-3
- Advanced Silversmithing, Nov. 15-17
- Experimental Portraiture, Sept. 27-29/Oct. 4-6
- Off the Wall: Mixed Media Sculptural Wall Pieces I, Nov. 15-17/22-24

Community Music Education Program

Suzuki Early Childhood, Parenting with Music and Music in Early Childhood classes start in September. Private lessons in traditional guitar, Suzuki guitar, traditional piano, Suzuki piano, and violin also start in September. For more information contact Nicole Wilton at 306-966-5625 or visit communitymusic.usask.ca

Crucial Conversations Workshops for U of S Employees

- Workshop 1-Oct. 21 and 28, Rm 224/225 Williams Building, fee \$490
- Workshop 2-Dec. 9 and 16, Rm 224/225 Williams Building, fee \$490

U of S Language Centre Programs

- Register now at ccde.usask.ca/learnlanguages or call 306-966-4351
- Pronunciation, Writing and Grammar, Spoken English, Reading or Listening Skills, Graduate-Level Writing. For more information, for a language assessment or to register: 966-4351, ccde.usask.ca/PTESL.
 - Multilingual Conversational Language Classes, Sept. 16 to Dec. 4

- French levels 1 to 8: \$205 (GST exempt)
- Italian level 1 and 2: \$215.25 (GST incl.)
- Spanish levels 1 to 7: \$215.25 (GST incl.)
- Portuguese level 1: \$215.25 (GST incl.)
- German levels 1 and 2: \$215.25 (GST incl.)
- Japanese levels 1 to 3: \$215.25 (GST incl.)
- Japanese for the Traveller: \$236.25 (textbook and GST incl.)
- Cree Level 1: \$225.75 (class materials and GST incl.)
- Spanish Turista: Nov. 1-3, Friday 6:30-9 pm, Saturday and Sunday, 9 am-5 pm, lunch provided. Cost: \$315 (GST incl.)
- Italian Level 1 and 2 Conversational Classes: Oct. 1-Dec. 4. Cost \$215.25 (GST incl.)
 - Italian Level 1, Tues. evenings 7-9 pm
 - Italian Level 2, Wed. evenings 7-9 pm
- Spanish Weekender for Real Beginners, Oct. 4-6, Friday 6:30-9 pm, Saturday and Sunday, 9 am-5 pm, lunch provided. Cost \$288.75 (GST incl.)

The Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching Effectiveness

Register at: usask.ca/gmcte/events

- Teaching Large Classes, Sept. 16
- Marking and Grading Essays, Sept. 18
- Over Easy Flipped Experience Short Course, Sept. 24
- Marking and Grading Labs (also for grad students and teacher assistants), Sept. 25
- Indigenous Voices Program: a faculty and staff professional development program on Aboriginal culture, history, knowledge and issues. Half-day experiential gatherings include: Shared Ground with Lamarr Oksasikewiyin, Sept. 25 (morning); Culture and Place with Sylvia McAdam Saysewahum, Oct. 2 (morning); and Ceremony and Story with Tyrone Tootoosis, Oct. 2 (afternoon)

Edwards School of Business Executive Education

For information call 966-8686, email execed@edwards.usask.ca or visit edwards.usask.ca/execed

- Sept. 15-20, The Labour-Management Relations Certificate Program
- Sept. 16-18, The Business Analyst's Course
- Sept. 30-Oct. 2, Team Leadership Skills for Project Managers
- Oct. 17-Mar. 8, 2014, The Masters Certificate in Project Management - Regina
- Oct. 18-Mar. 15, 2014, The Masters Certificate in Project Management
- Oct. 21-23, The Project Management Course
- Oct. 23, Women of Influence Breakfast
- Oct. 25, Edwards Seminar Series: Trust the Big Business Dividend
- Oct. 29-30, Process Mapping and Process Improvement Course
- Oct. 31-Nov. 1, Process Metrics, Management and Controls Course
- Nov. 4-5, Master Clinic on Solving Tough Problems
- Nov. 20-22, What the Non-Financial Manager Needs to Know About Financial and Managerial Accounting

Continuing Professional Learning – Medicine

For more information, call 306-966-7787 or visit usask.ca/cme

- Oct. 18-19, Saskatchewan Emergency Medicine Annual Conference (SEMCA), Hilton Garden Inn, Saskatoon
- Nov. 15-16, Practical Management of Common Medical Problems, Saskatoon Inn

ICT Training Services

For info or to register, email training@usask.ca or visit training.usask.ca.

- Adobe Acrobat Pro Introduction Course, Oct. 16 and 23, 1:30-4:30 pm, \$125 students; \$150 staff and faculty; \$185 others
- Adobe Acrobat Pro Introduction Course, Sept. 24 and 26, 1:30-4:30 pm, \$125 students; \$150 staff and faculty; \$185 others
- Adobe Illustrator - Introduction, Oct. 22 and Oct. 24, 1:30-4:30 pm, \$125 students; \$150 staff and faculty; \$185 others
- Adobe InDesign - Intermediate Course, Oct. 1 and Oct. 3, 1:30-4:30 pm, \$125 students; \$150 staff and faculty; \$185 others
- Adobe InDesign - Introduction Course, Oct. 29 and Oct. 31, 1:30-4:30 pm, \$125 students; \$150 staff and faculty; \$185 others

- Adobe Photoshop - Introduction Course, Oct. 15 and Oct. 17, 1:30-4:30 pm, \$125 students; \$150 staff and faculty; \$185 others
- Adobe Photoshop - Introduction Course, Sept. 18 and Sept. 19, 1:30-4:30 pm, \$125 students; \$150 staff and faculty; \$185 others
- Apple - iOS Tips and Tricks (iPad, iPhone, iPod), Sept. 25, 3-4:30 pm, \$0 students, staff and faculty; \$75 others
- Apple - Make the Most of Your Mac OS - Introduction, Oct. 10, 10:30-noon, \$0 students, staff and faculty; \$75 others
- BbLearn/U of S Course Tools - Fundamentals Seminar, Sept. 13, 2-3:30 pm, \$0 staff and faculty
- MS Excel - Introduction, Sept. 16 and 18, 9-noon, \$125 students; \$150 staff and faculty; \$185 others
- MS Outlook - Introduction, Oct. 9, 1:30-4:30 pm, \$0 students, staff and faculty; \$125 others
- MS PowerPoint - Introduction, Oct. 2, 1:30-4:30 pm, \$0 students, staff and faculty; \$125 others
- MS PowerPoint - Tips and Tricks, Oct. 8, 2:30-4:00 pm, \$0 students, staff and faculty; \$75 others
- SAS for Windows - Introduction Course, Sept. 24 and 26, 6:30-9:30 pm, \$0 students, staff and faculty; \$185 others
- Security: Network Penetration Testing and Countermeasures, Sept. 23-27, 9 am-4:30 pm, \$2250 students, staff and faculty; \$2550 others
- SPSS for Windows - Introduction Course, Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, 6-9pm, \$0 students, staff and faculty; \$185 others
- Faculty Workshops: contact training@usask.ca or 306-966-4866 for more information on these workshops geared to faculty.
- IT4U – Tech Help for Students visit it4u.usask.ca

■ Miscellany

Rutherford Curling

The Rutherford Curling Club has openings for curling teams in the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evening draws beginning Oct. 21. The draw times are 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Rutherford curling rink on campus. Anyone interested in curling or learning to curl, contact one of the following league co-ordinators: Monday league - Corrie Berndt, cb Berndt@sasktel.net; Tuesday league - Ray Butler, butlerd@sasktel.net; Wednesday league - Louis Roth, Louis.Roth@usask.ca

Pharmacy and Nutrition Centennial

The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition launch of its centennial year events takes place Sept. 20 at 3 pm on the steps of the Thorvaldson Building. (In the event of inclement weather, the launch will move to the Neatby-Timlin Theatre, Room 241 Arts.) A reception will follow in the lobby of Thorvaldson Building, with refreshments, popcorn and cupcakes. For more information, visit the college's centennial website at usuask.ca/pharmacy-nutrition/centennial

The Legacy of Henry Taube

As part of the centennial celebrations of the Dept. of Chemistry and to mark the 30th anniversary of its graduate Henry Taube receiving the Nobel Prize in chemistry, a special exhibit of material and memorabilia donated by the Taube family will be on view in the Murray Library until Sept. 20. *Alumnus and Nobel Laureate: The Legacy of Henry Taube*, curated by University Archives and Special Collections, includes photographs, correspondence and Taube's Nobel medal, which can be viewed for the first time in Saskatoon on the afternoon of Sept. 20. There will be a short program at 3 pm. The department's celebration continues Sept. 20 and 21 with an alumni gathering, tours of campus, presentations and a banquet. Details can be found on the department website.

Yoga and Other Spiritual Practices

Meevasin Valley United Church at St. Andrew's College is offering yoga and other spiritual practices from 7-9 pm on the first and third Thursday of each month. To register or for more information email revmvue@sasktel.net

Word on the Street

The Word on the Street, Saskatoon's annual book and magazine festival, takes place Sept. 22 from 11am-5 pm in downtown Saskatoon at 23rd St. and Fourth Avenue. The U of S is a sponsor of the event, which will feature a number of university authors. For more information visit thewordonthestreet.ca

■ The Arts

The Story of Avro Canada

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

Kenderdine Art Gallery

Opening Sept. 13 is *Jillian McDonald: Valley of the Deer*, a three-channel high-definition video installation shot on location in the Scottish highlands during a six-month artist residency. It responds to the landscape, traditional highland dress and music, oral folklore and pagan legends. The show runs until Dec. 21.

Gordon Snelgrove Gallery

Pure Sugar, an exhibition of transformed everyday objects by David Dyck opens Sept. 16 and concludes Sept. 27 with a reception starting at 7 pm. Using his mechanical engineering training, Dyck creates working prototypes that pay homage to "the irrational sensibilities and iconic works of the early 20th century European avant-garde."

Amati Quartet

The Amati Quartet opens its 2013-14 season Oct. 14 at 2 pm at Third Avenue United Church with a program that includes the famous Mendelssohn Octet, Brandenburg Concertos #3 and #6, and Vivaldi's Concerto for Four Violins. Young local musicians Arthur Boan (violin), William Boan (violin), Hans Deason (cello) and Heather Wilson (viola) will perform. Tickets are available through the Persephone Theatre box office.

■ Seminars/Lectures

Gairdner Foundation Lectures

- Oct. 15, 4:30 pm, 1150 Health Science E Wing, Dr. King Holmes, 2013 recipient of the Canada Gairdner Global Health Award, will deliver the faculty lecture entitled STI Research: Major Progress, Current Challenges and Future Opportunities
- Oct. 16, 9:30 am at VIDO, the High School Lecture will take place called A Fascinating Medical Career Can Take You in Many Directions

Colloquium Series

Classical, Medieval and Renaissance Studies colloquium series:

- Sept. 19, 4 pm, 200 St. Thomas More, Roisin Cossar, head of the Department of History at the University of Manitoba, will present *Defining Roles in the Clerical Household in Venice, 1348-1400*

Microbiology and Immunology Seminar

- Sept. 26, 4pm, A204 Health Sciences, Oleg Dmitriev presents Proton channel of ATP synthase: tinkering with a molecular turbine

Fine Arts Research Lecture

- Oct. 16, 12:30 pm, Quance Theatre, Education Building, Steven McCannon, Dept. of Music, presents *Intensified Recaptulations in Beethoven's Symphonies*

GIWS Lecture Series

- The Global Institute for Water Security features the following speakers in a series of lectures that take place at 4 pm in Convocation Hall:
- Sept. 18, John Selker, Dept. of Biological and Ecological Engineering, Oregon State University presents *Breakthroughs in Instrumentation*

- Sept. 25, Peter Troch, Dept. of Hydrology and Water Resources, The University of Arizona presents *Breakthroughs in Lab Experiments*
- Oct. 2, Keith Beven, The Lancaster Environment Centre, Lancaster University, presents *Breakthroughs in Uncertainty*

College of Law Speaker Series

- Sept. 16, noon, MLT LLP Lecture Theatre, Room 150, College of Law, Paul Clarke presents *Rights conflicts, public education and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*

ICCC Film Series

- Sept. 18, 6:30 pm, Broadway Theatre. The Interdisciplinary Centre for Culture and Creativity and the Broadway Theatre present *Exit Through the Gift Shop* sponsored by Philosophy in the Community and the Dept. of Philosophy. Following the film, the director of Saskatoon Community Youth Arts Programming will lead a conversation about art. For more information contact LaVina Watts, i.cccc@usask.ca.

Library Research series

- Oct. 1, noon-1pm Collaborative Learning Lab, Murray Library, Intro to Library Services/Tips and Tricks on effective search strategies for finding articles in literature databases
- Oct. 8, noon-1 pm, Collaborative Learning Lab, Murray Library: What is Plagiarism? will provide information to prevent inadvertent misuse of resources

■ Conferences

Global Connections Conference

Global Connections 2013 takes place Sept. 21 at Wanuskewin Heritage Park and is a leadership conference for U of S students in all colleges and department. Featured will be Idle No More co-founder Sheelah McLean from the College of Education and professional facilitator and activist Tracey Mitchell. More information and registration is available at the International Student and Study Abroad Centre (ISSAC) or by contacting c.young@usask.ca.

Cultures of Reconciliation

The Humanities Research Unit presents a conference entitled *Cultures of Reconciliation: Academic, Artistic, Activist* Sept. 26-27 in the Grad Commons and the Mendel Art Gallery. The event is free and open to the public. For full program details contact Len Findlay at 306-966-2573 or len.findlay@usask.ca

Merging Minds

The College of Medicine is hosting its 2nd annual Global Health Conference entitled *Merging Minds for Global Health: A Multidisciplinary Call to Action*, on Sept. 20 and 21. The event provides an opportunity for students, health professionals and community members to analyze a wide range of global health issues. For more information and to register, go to saskglobalhealth2013.usask.ca

International Development conference

The Universities of Canada-UNDP Fellowship will host a one-day conference entitled *International Development: Minimizing the global impact of poverty* Oct. 7 from 8:30 am-4:30 pm in the Prairie Room, Diefenbaker Building. The event provides a forum to discuss the impact of the UNDP Legal Empowerment of the Poor (LEP) initiative. There is no fee to attend but participants must register. Lunch will be provided. For information, visit usask.ca/cgstr

➤ SUBMIT
Coming Events

Next OCN: Friday, Sept. 27, 2013
Deadline: Thursday, Sept. 19, 2013

ocn@usask.ca, fax 306-966-6815
or use web submission form at www.usask.ca/ocn

Tailored therapeutic technology offers hope in fighting HIV, cancer

 MICHAEL ROBIN

Jim Xiang greets his visitor with a firm handshake and a smile, enthusiastic to explain his latest work—a treatment that presents the tantalizing possibility of vanquishing the deadly scourges of HIV and breast cancer.

In his office in the new Health Sciences D Wing at the U of S, Xiang is surrounded by neat stacks of reference papers and manuscripts in various stages of publication. He brings up an illustrated presentation on his computer screen to explain his concept for a therapeutic vaccine technology.

“We restore the power (of the immune system),” he said. “We call this individualized or tailored therapeutics. Every individual, when we treat them, we give them their own weapon to fight their own disease.”

While traditional vaccines are given before you get sick to prevent disease, a therapeutic vaccine is aimed at boosting the immune system of someone already sick.

Xiang is a senior research scientist with the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency and professor in the College of Medicine’s Division of Oncology. Now over 60 years old, he admits he no longer pulls the 12-14-hour days typical of his earlier career. Still, grey strands are hard to spot in his thick black hair.

Xiang explains that in some ways, HIV (the virus that causes AIDS) and breast cancer patients

present similar treatment challenges.

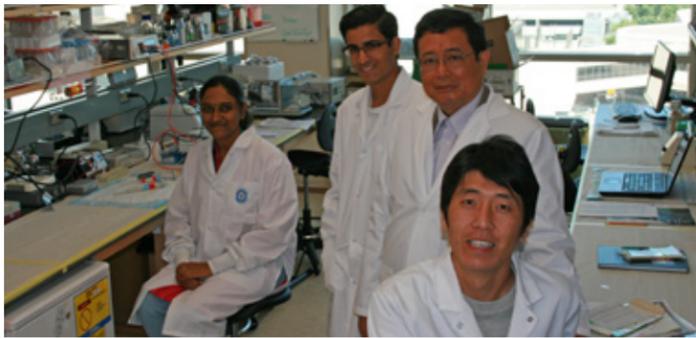
HIV-positive patients can take a cocktail of drugs that dramatically reduce the amount of virus in their body, allowing them to live near-normal lives. But this comes at a cost – tens of thousands of dollars per year for the drugs, plus side effects such as liver and skin problems, according to the World Health Organization.

Likewise, breast cancer patients can be treated with chemotherapy, radiation and surgery, but Xiang explained their doctors can never be absolutely sure they’ve cut out or otherwise destroyed all the cancer cells in the body.

Xiang’s vaccine would “mop up” the last bits of virus or cancerous cells, in effect curing the patient of disease. The U of S Industry Liaison Office is exploring the commercial potential of the technology, and Xiang is seeking funding and partners to develop it further.

At the heart of the new approach are dendritic cells. These cells are the messengers of the immune system, passing on information from CD4-T white blood cells (also known as helper T-cells) to another type of white blood cells called CD8-T cells. Also known as killer T-cells, these cells attack invading disease organisms such as viruses and bacteria.

An analogy would be detectives in a police force (helper T-cells) identifying criminals and



Jim Xiang (third from left) with research team members (l-r) postdoctoral research fellow Kalyanasundaram B. Kalpana, summer student Chit Singh and research technician Wei Li.

sending their pictures to the police station (dendritic cells). There, the information is made into many copies of a “wanted” poster and distributed to all police officers (killer T-cells) for enforcement.

HIV sabotages this system by attacking the helper T-cells – the detectives never make it to the police station, and the wanted posters never go out.

Xiang’s therapeutic vaccine solves this problem by essentially providing the criminal’s description directly to the police station. In practical terms, this means transferring genes from HIV to the dendritic cells. From there, the wanted posters (small bubble-like structures called exosomes) are churned out and supplied to the enforcer killer T-cells.

In cancer, specifically HER-2 positive breast cancer, the criminals have taken over and shut down the police station (dendritic cells). While the body’s detectives may know they are

visualized treatment is that it is difficult to put into mass production. To get around this, Xiang and his team are working to develop a system to produce exosomes based on genetic characteristics that are common to a lot of people.

If past success is an indication, he won’t be slowing down in his quest any time soon. So far, he has published about 200 papers and secured more than \$7.6 million in grants from agencies such as the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, and various charities devoted to cancer research.

“I enjoy science very much and I do it almost every day,” he said. “I like it, so I work very hard. I’m doing very well with both basic and applied science. I’m having fun and now I’ve reached the peak of my career.”

Xiang also enjoys some down time with his wife Tilly Ping, who retired two years ago from her job as a research technician at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

“I like to listen to music, and to watch basketball. I like the Lakers, although now they’re a bit down,” Xiang said. ■

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➤ DID YOU KNOW?

STUDENTS

The deadline for paying tuition for 2013-14 Term 1 (fall) is September 30, 2013. Late payment fees will be charged after this date. For more information about tuition and fee payments, see the Student area in the left-hand margin on the FSD website (www.usask.ca/fsd).

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➤ WHAT’S NEW

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Room with a View

This year's back-page feature explores the view of campus from various office windows, and the people who enjoy them. Do you have an interesting view? Let us know at ocn@usask.ca



Meeting the neighbours

Brad Flavell doesn't actually have much of a view. There are lots of windows in his office on the second floor of the Administration Building, but they are filled with little more than the greystone and glass of the northwest side of the Kinesiology Building.

Still, Flavell, the executive assistant to the chief information officer and associate vice-president of information and communications technology, appreciates the windows a great deal for the natural light they provide. "I'd be miserable without natural light," he said, "so I don't take it for granted."

Asked what he is able to observe across the way in Kinesiology, Flavell said the reflection from the glass makes it difficult to see into the building except on early winter mornings. Then, when it's dark out and the lights are on, "I can see comings and goings" but little else. But on one particularly dark winter morning and knowing there were people across the way, Flavell decided to commit a random act of window kindness.

"That day was in the dreary depths of winter, so I made a small sign that said 'Have a nice day' with a smiley-face emoticon on it and stuck it in the window facing the other building. I have no idea who's over there but a few days later, a sign appeared in their window with a smiley face and it said 'Thanks. You too.' I thought it was a very neighbourly thing to do."

